

The thematic guides

15 comprehensive thematic guides (on education and youth, culture and media, employment and social affairs, research and development, industry and enterprises, external relations and development, commerce, energy, environment, transport, public health and consumer protection, justice and home affairs, information technology, agriculture and fisheries) will be produced in English and in Greek.

Each guide will comprise:

- information on the structure and functioning of the EU,
- presentation of the Europe for Citizens programme and how a project idea could be formulated and financed from the programme
- a complete listing of all other European programmes that could finance a project within the thematic area in question (e.g. education and youth),
- a detailed methodology on how to prepare and submit a project.

With this methodology, when a project idea comes up concerning e.g. youth activities, the interested party will be able with the help of the thematic guide "Education and youth" to find out all possible solutions for submitting a proposal either through the Europe for Citizens programme if this is possible, or through other EU programmes.

All information guides will be in a form of a CD Rom, in order for them to be able to be used in any PC, even without an internet connection.

A total of 1500 CD Roms of the comprehensive guides in Greek (50 copies of each of the 15 guides) and in English (50 copies of each of the 15 guides) will be produced.



How can Pro-I3T help you?

The usual question that an association like the Union of Cyprus Municipalities (UCM) or the Assembly of European Regions (AER) receives from its members concerning town twinning is: "I have this project idea. Can I finance it through town twinning and how?"

Pro-I3T will aim to reply to that question in a structured and detailed way, with up-to-date information, written in a simple way that can be easily understood by every municipal or regional officer or even simple citizens. Pro-I3T consists of two main components:

1. The production of 15 comprehensive thematic guides (see left). In addition to these guides, the already existing "[Guide to EU funding](#)" will be updated and translated in English. This comprehensive brochure has proven to be extremely useful for Cypriot local authorities, and its translation into English will give all European local authorities the possibility to use it. All information guides will be in a form of a CD Rom. This will permit to small local authorities that do not have access to IT, to get access to the

information material. The guides will also be uploaded on a website in order to make them available to the totality of local and regional authorities in the EU and beyond.

2. The organising of two training sessions (one in Cyprus and one in Brussels) which will aim to teach local and regional practitioners how to use the provided information material (CD-Roms, websites etc) and therefore how to improve the quality and the implementation procedures of their activities. The first training session will take place in September 2012 in Cyprus and it will take the form of an AER "training academy". This training method has been repeatedly implemented by the AER, a fact that guarantees the quality of the event. The second one will take place in October 2012 in Brussels, in the premises of the Committee of the Regions of the EU. This event will be open for participation to all European local and regional authorities and civil society stakeholders, not only members of the UCM and the AER. For more information on these events, please refer to the "Upcoming Activities and Events" section, on page 2.

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Proi3t.eu

A website is being set-up in the framework of the project.

The website will comprise the content of the 15 thematic guides (on education and youth, culture and media, employment and social affairs, research and development, industry and enterprises, external relations and development, commerce, energy, environment, transport, public health and consumer protection, justice and home affairs, information technology, agriculture and fisheries) in Greek and in English, so as to make it available to the totality of the local authorities of the European Union.

A provisional website with additional information on the project is currently available at: www.proi3t.eu

Upcoming Activities and Events

• April - May 2012:

Setting up of the Proi3t.eu website (see left).

• March - October 2012:

Drafting of the 15 CD-Rom Guides.

• 11 September 2012 (tbc):

First training session in Nicosia (Cyprus). Participants will be trained upon the use of the information tools of Pro-I3T as well as online partner search tools and the application procedures for the Europe for Citizens programme.

• 23 October 2012 (tbc):

Second training session in Brussels (Belgium). Participants will be taught how to work with European programmes (especially the Europe for Citizens programme), will explore the possibilities for twinnings among their members and with Municipalities from the rest of the EU, as well as discuss challenges and potentials of the future programming period.

Project Partners:

Union of Cyprus Municipalities

The Union of Cyprus Municipalities is the main association of Local Authorities in Cyprus. Its core functions are to contribute to the development of local government autonomy, as well as to act as spokesman of local government interests vis-a-vis the central government and other national institutions. It also takes an active stand in the relations between Cyprus and the European Union.

www.ucm.org.cy

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Assembly of European Regions

With more than 250 regions from 35 countries as members, the AER is the largest interregional organisation in Europe. It promotes the role that regions play vis-à-vis the citizens, the nation state and the EU, and supports regions in their role in connecting citizens with the EU. AER's overall aims are to: Organise dialogue, consultation & cooperation between all regions of Europe and promote regionalisation in Europe, encourage subsidiarity and regions' involvement in constructing Europe.

www.aer.eu

The "Europe for Citizens" programme

The aim of the "Europe for Citizens" programme is to bring Europe closer to its citizens and to enable them to participate fully in the European construction. Through this programme, citizens have the opportunity to be involved in transnational exchanges and cooperation activities, contributing to developing a sense of belonging to common European ideals and encouraging the process of European integration.

The programme supports a wide range of activities and organisations promoting "active European citizenship", especially the involvement of citizens and civil society organisations in the process of European integration. It has a total budget of EUR 215 millions starts on 1 January 2007 and ends on 31 December 2013. More information can be found at:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/index_en.php.