

## 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) have been drafted in Greek and will be translated in English.

Each guide comprises:

- 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.



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## The Thematic Guides are now available!

A few days before the first training session of our project, that will take place on September 11, at 09.00, in the Holiday Inn Hotel in Nicosia (Cyprus), the Thematic Guides of the project are already in the final stage of their preparation (for the time being only in Greek).

But what's the use of the Thematic Guides? Anyone who has tried even once to look for an EU programme in order to fund an activity of a local or regional authority, will be able to understand: The European Union has dozens of programmes from which one could raise funds, but there is no one website or publication where all these programmes are presented together in a simple and comparative way. Thus, finding the appropriate funding programme becomes a very difficult endeavour, which can often only be overcome with the -usually costly- help of a knowledgeable individual (employee or consultant).

The Thematic Guides of the Pro-I3T project, not only solve this problem by bringing together all EU funding programmes in one place, but can also help you choose the most suitable one for your action, understand its function and logic and ultimately make a project proposal in order to receive funds.

To see how this can be achieved, we should take a look at the four chapters, that each guide comprises:

- The first chapter of each guide contains information on the structure and functioning of the EU. The usefulness of this chapter is substantial, as the understanding of the entity that will co-fund your activities, is vital in order to actually persuade them to finance you.
- The second chapter of each guide contains a presentation of the "Europe for Citizens" programme and explains how an idea for a project or action could be correctly formulated and co-funded by the programme. "Europe for Citizens" can finance simple activities of towns and their citizens, which may touch upon almost all the sectors of daily life. It is therefore a programme which forms an excellent starting point for those seeking funds for their actions.
- The third chapter of each guide contains a complete list of all other European programmes that could co-finance an action and
- The fourth chapter contains a detailed methodology on how to prepare and submit a successful project proposal.

## Proi3t.eu

The proi3t.eu website is now up and running, giving you access to all our news and documents. The website also comprises 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. Soon, the texts will also be available in English, so as to make them available to the totality of the local and regional authorities of the European Union.

For more information, please visit: [www.proi3t.eu](http://www.proi3t.eu)

## Upcoming Activities and Events

### • September - December 2012:

Reviewing and Translation of the Thematic Guides.

### • 11 September 2012:

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. Best practices from various European Regions will also be presented.

### • 23 October 2012:

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](http://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](http://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](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/index_en.php)