

OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

“TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION”

1. INTRODUCTION

The “Technical Support for Implementation” OP for period 2007-2013 aims at covering the financing of preparatory, management, monitoring, evaluation, informative, publicity and control activities of the OP, as well as activities reinforcing management competence for the implementation of the actions of the Funds. The technical support actions of this new Operational Programme supplement the technical support actions undertaken in the framework of the Sectoral and Regional Operational Programmes.

2. BUDGET

The budget of the “Technical Support for Implementation 2007-2013” OP amounts to **EUR 225,882,353.00**, exclusively drawn from public resources. Of the total budget, **85%**, namely **EUR 192,000,000.00** concerns Community Resources from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and **15%**, namely **EUR 33,882,353.00** concerns National Resources.

3. OP STRATEGY – GOALS

The strategic planning of OP “Technical Support for Implementation” follows the general strategic approach for period 2007-2013. In particular, this strategy focuses on the need to exercise policies at a national and regional level, in such a manner so that our country’s Regions, as well as its cities in general, attract and retain new enterprises, simultaneously improving the living standard of its citizens and alleviating interregional and intraregional inequalities.

The empowerment of the management competence of public services, especially those entrusted with responsibility (as final beneficiaries or implementation bodies) in the framework of planning, managing and monitoring CSF projects, will contribute to increasing productivity and improving the quality of work.

The Programme’s strategy is expressed through **two General Objectives**, which concern:

- a) reinforcement of the executive bodies of the management and coordination system for the implementation of the sum of OP, so that they may cope without hindrance, and in an effective and productive manner, with their new increased obligations, through the funding of preparatory, management, monitoring, evaluation, informative and control activities of the Operational Programmes, as well as activities for the reinforcement of management competence regarding the implementation of actions that fall under the objectives of the Funds,
- b) strengthening of the management competence of beneficiaries, so that they may streamline their organisational effectiveness and fulfil the criteria for certification of management competence for the implementation of co-funded actions.

4. PRIORITY AXES, SPECIAL OBJECTIVES

The structure of the Operational Programme

The "Technical Support for Implementation 2007-2013" OP is co-funded by the ERDF and encompasses **one priority axis**, which calls for actions of a "horizontal" nature spanning the entire Greek territory and having a direct impact, through tangible and intangible results, on all regions of the country.

It should be noted that the expenditure incurred as a result of the "horizontal" actions corresponding to the eight convergence regions will be financed in the context of the OP. The expenditure incurred corresponding to the five transitional regions of the "Convergence" and "Regional Competitiveness and Employment" goals will be financed exclusively from National Resources.

Priority Axis 1: Support of executive structures, operations and beneficiary bodies

The strategy of the Priority Axis concerns the formulation and continuous securing of the appropriate organisational conditions for the realisation of ESPA's strategic goals.

The **Special Objectives** of the Priority Axis are the following:

1. Strengthening the executive bodies of the OP management and coordination system for the preparation, implementation and monitoring of the OP.
2. Strengthening the executive bodies of the OP management and coordination system for the conduct of controls, inspections and certifications.
3. Reinforcing the executive bodies of the OP management and coordination system with advisory support actions and by conducting studies and evaluations.
4. Reinforcing the executive bodies of the OP management and coordination system for the design, organisation and implementation of information and publicity campaigns.
5. Strengthening administrative organisation, staffing and operation of the executive structures of the management and coordinating system for OP implementation.
6. Strengthening administrative organisation and management competence of OP beneficiary bodies for the implementation of co-funded actions.
7. Strengthening the measures adopted by the E.U. in relation to the preparatory work, monitoring, administrative and technical support, evaluation, control and monitoring of the application of Community Regulation (EC) 1083/2006.

Of the above special objectives:

- no. 1, 2, 5 and 6 include actions that fall under priority code 85 "Preparation, application, monitoring and inspections" of thematic priority "Technical Assistance," as foreseen under Implemented Regulation (Article 11 and Annexes II and III) and have a total indicative budget of **EUR 186,176,471 (82.4%** of OP total public expenditure),
- no. 3, 4, and 7 include actions that fall under priority code 86 "Evaluation and studies, information and publicity" of thematic priority "Technical Assistance," as foreseen under Implemented Regulation (Article 11 and Annexes II and III) and have a total indicative budget of **EUR 39,705,882 (17.6%** of OP total public expenditure).