



January 2012

NEW FACE FOR THE DG ECHO WEBSITE

A revamped DG ECHO website is now available! The new website introduces some new, interactive features to enable DG ECHO to better promote its operations, policies and actions.

Visit our new and improved webpage at: http://ec.europa.eu/echo/index_en.htm

Do not forget to join the Facebook page; with 10.000 followers DG ECHO is almost on top of Commission DG's and services active in social media:

<http://www.facebook.com/ec.humanitarian.aid>

GLOBAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The Global Needs Assessment (GNA) is an invaluable tool used by DG ECHO to determine impartially and independently where to intervene.

The DG ECHO GNA categorises 139 developing countries (Low income countries as defined by the World Bank) on the basis of:

- the existence of a recent crisis (caused by conflict, natural disaster, or presence of a large number of refugees or IDPs), and
- the degree of vulnerability of the country's population (derived from national indicators). The combination of crisis and vulnerability indices allows the identification of the high priority areas.

Using the GNA methodology in 2011, the Commission identified 52 countries or territories currently experiencing at least one humanitarian crisis. Out of these, 23 countries emerged as "extremely vulnerable", which is an increase compared to last year (out of 49 countries in crisis, 22 were identified as "extremely vulnerable"). 19 of these 23 countries and territories are in sub-Saharan Africa, the others being Afghanistan, Chechnya, Haiti and Yemen.

DG ECHO has initiated a renewal of its GNA methodology. It should enable by 2012 a more frequent update (at least 3 times a year) and an experimentation of new vulnerability indicators (i.e. food insecurity and trade indicators).

The operational strategy for 2012 that has just been published reflects the findings of this assessment. You can consult the strategy at the following link: http://ec.europa.eu/echo/policies/strategy_en.htm

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

? **Partner:** How can I submit my request for second pre-financing payment?

! **DG ECHO:** When the first pre-financing amounted to 50%, a second pre-financing of 30% is possible but is optional. The request must be formally made by the partner to DG ECHO. You will find under article 5 of the Grant Agreement, the payment modalities relating to your action.

The second pre-financing can be made when 70% of the pre-financing payment has been committed. You can claim it when submitting the intermediate report, by adding an annex to the e-IR asking for the payment and by updating Section 4.3.2 (focusing on main means and costs committed) and Section 11 of the eSingle Form (financial overview).

If the request is made outside the submission of the intermediate report, an updated section 4.3.2 and financial overview (Section 11) will suffice to justify the request.

For Actions under A-control mechanism, an updated version of Annex A of the Single form on procurement procedures should be submitted by the Partner in all cases.

Ref: art. 5 of the special conditions of the Grant Agreement
http://www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/faq/3.6_pre-financing

EU CITIZENS AWARENESS ON HUMANITARIAN ACTION

According to the Eurobarometer statistics, 8 of 10 EU Citizens feel that it is important that EU funds humanitarian aid. However, only 4 out of 10 are aware that EU funds humanitarian actions. And less than 2 citizens out of 10 can name the EU/Commission as a donor. Similarly, 86% of EU Citizens consider important to be informed but only 18% do feel well informed.

It is therefore of utmost importance to continue and make known the efforts of DG ECHO and its partners to reach the most vulnerable.

This can be simply accomplished at your level in the field and at HQ by promoting DG ECHO action through communication, visibility and information activities.

DG ECHO Partners are subject to a limited funding threshold to be allocated to visibility in humanitarian action (0.5% of the direct eligible costs with a maximum of 8,000€).

Source: Eurobarometer 2010

Upcoming training sessions

Classical training:

Brussels (English): 16 - 20 January
Amman (English): 25 January - 1 February
London (English): 20 - 24 February
Bonn (English): 19 - 23 March
New Delhi (English): 9 - 16 May
Brussels (French): 11-15 June
Bangkok (English): 20-27 June
Nairobi (English): 04 -11 July

www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/doku.php/training/start

Thoughts from the field...



Life doesn't require that we be the best, only that we try our best

Distance learning training:

New! FPA LIVE Distance Learning Training

Check the dedicated page to find out when the tutor will be online to answer to your questions!

<http://www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/dl/fpalive>

Preparing the Action: The Single Form

16 January - 29 January
30 January - 12 February
13 February - 26 February

Completing the Action: The Final Reporting

16 January - 29 January
30 January - 12 February
13 February - 26 February

The eSingle Form: online - HQ

23 January - 5 February
6 February - 19 February
20 February - 4 March

The eSingle Form: offline - Field

23 January - 5 February
6 February - 19 February
20 February - 4 March

www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/doku.php/dl/start

A (very) short introduction to the FPA/FAFA

Apply now to follow this introduction which will take you through DG ECHO's main rules and procedures!