



September 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE NEW DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF DG ECHO, CLAU SORENSEN

I am delighted to have joined ECHO as of the 1st of July. The area we work in is among the most exciting the EU, and the wider international community, is involved in. It is also an area of work that places a premium on partnership and shared values. From my first day in ECHO, colleagues in the house have constantly underlined to me the importance of our partnership with organizations like yours in getting assistance to the people who need it most on the ground. I intend to honour this tradition of partnership, and to strengthen it wherever possible. I also hope to engage in a constant and honest dialogue with all of you - and dialogue means a two-way street, so I hope you will not be shy in telling us where we, as a donor, can do better and help make your work more effective.

I very much look forward to meeting all of you in due course. The ECHO partners' conference in October will be a first opportunity for me to meet many of you - but I will also attach particular importance to coming out to the field as much as possible, and I very much look forward to meeting many of your colleagues and seeing the outstanding work you do on that occasion.

With my very best wishes
Claus Sorensen

DG ECHO CONFERENCE 2011

DG ECHO is pleased to welcome its partners to the 2011 edition of DG ECHO's annual partners' conference. The event will take place on 18 & 19 October in the Charlemagne building of the European Commission.

All registrations should be submitted through an online registration form available at <http://www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/dec/2011/start>

Agenda, contents and supporting documents will be available soon on this web page, so check it regularly!

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

- ?** **Partner:** When you transfer equipment to a follow up action, who will cover the transfer costs?
- !** **DG ECHO:** The equipment costs will be eligible under the first Action but eligibility of the costs for transferring the equipment will eventually have to be considered in the second Action.

FAQ UPDATE

An updated list of Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") is now available on DG ECHO partner's website. The questions have been identified from real questions posed by both DG ECHO staff members and partners in the course of their work and they can be useful to help you out in clarifying the existing rules and procedures.

<http://www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/doku.php/faq/start>

1 YEAR OF DISTANCE LEARNING

Since its launch in July 2010, the Distance learning training has been quite a success. Up to date, 923 partners' staff (60% from the field and 40% from the HQ) have been trained on these modules:

- Preparing the Action the Single Form: 214
- Completing the Action the Final Reporting: 189
- The eSingle Form: 520

For a total of 132 DG ECHO partners' organisations and 4 implementing partners. Have a look at the calendar in the right column if you wish to attend one of the upcoming session!

New module 'A (very) short introduction to the FPA/FAFA' will be launched during the DG ECHO Conference. For more information and application procedures visit <http://www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/dl/start>.

A GROWING FPA FAMILY:

We have the pleasure to welcome a new partners to the FPA family: Internews Europe (FR) - <http://www.internews.eu>

Upcoming training sessions

Classical training:

Warsaw (English): 28 – 30 September
Brussels (English): 03 – 07 October
Nairobi (English): 19 – 26 October
Kinshasa (French): 19 – 26 October
Santo Domingo (Spanish):
16 – 23 November
Kabul (English): 21 – 28 November
London (English): 12 – 16 December
Brussels (French): 16 – 20 January

Further information about the training calendar and the registration procedures available at www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/doku.php/training/start

Thoughts from the field...



"Freedom is the right to be wrong, not the right to do wrong". J. Riefenbaker

Distance learning training:

Preparing the Action: The Single Form

5 September – 18 September
19 September – 2 October
3 October – 16 October

Completing the Action: The Final Reporting

5 September – 18 September
19 September – 2 October
3 October – 16 October

The eSingle Form: online - HQ

12 September - 25 September
26 September – 9 October
10 October – 23 October

The eSingle Form: offline - Field

12 September - 25 September
26 September – 9 October
10 October – 23 October

If you wish to register, please follow the instructions at www.dgecho-partners-helpdesk.eu/doku.php/dl/start