



İSTANBUL ON THE PATH TO EU PROJECT CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR THE TOWN TWINNING PROGRAMME





**“İstanbul on the Path to EU” Project
Town Twinning Programme
Call for Applications for Local Authorities in European Union**

Call for Applications for the “Town Twinning Programme” was published on February 20, 2013. The programme will be implemented within the scope of the “İstanbul on the Path to EU Project” which has been launched by Ministry for European Union Affairs in coordination with Istanbul Governorate, Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality and the Union of Municipalities of Turkey.

Aim of the Programme

The main aim of the Programme is to enable district governorates and municipalities of Istanbul to establish partnerships and make common projects with counterparts in the EU member states, thereby facilitating more effective implementation of the EU acquis by local administrations.

Within the programme, district governorates and municipalities of İstanbul will find opportunities to prepare common projects with their EU counterparts, get involved in the EU local administration networks, share knowledge and experience with their counterparts and enhance their technical capacities and understanding on the responsibilities of local governments as far as the EU policies are concerned.

Details of the Programme

The Town Twinning Programme was announced on 7 November 2012 with a call for application for the district governorates and municipalities in Istanbul. Application period ended on 14 December 2012. After the technical and administrative evaluation of 34 proposals, 10 pilot districts were selected. Profiles of these selected local authorities have been prepared and presented together with this Call for Applications. In these profiles, the socio-economic characteristics of the districts together with their proposed fields of cooperation are presented.

After the end of application period, Evaluation Committee will assess these applications submitted by the local authorities in the EU and select the pilot local authorities which will be matched up with district governorates and municipalities in Istanbul.

Selected local authorities from the EU and İstanbul will be invited to a three-day workshop in May 2013 in order to enable information sharing and establishment of sustainable partnerships among them. Twin cities/towns which will be matched in this workshop are expected to strengthen their cooperation by outlining the framework of future project and collaboration opportunities as a result of this workshop.



Costs being Provided within the Programme

The costs being provided within the programme are as follows:

- The costs of visits of the potential partners (both Turkish and EU) for town twinning workshop
- Travel and accomodation costs of first visits of EU partners to Turkey
- Travel and accomodation costs and per diems of first visits of Turkish partners to the EU.

Eligibility of Applicants: Who may apply?

Local authorities from the EU countries who are interested in establishing partnerships with the selected pilot districts in İstanbul are eligible institutions for the programme.

EU local authorities who are willing to cooperate and capable of providing expertise and guidance in the areas mentioned in the fact sheets of the ten pilot districts in İstanbul encouraged to apply and send their profiles by completing the application form by e-mail not later than **22th of March 2013**.

Call for applications, application form of Town Twinning Programme and fact sheets of pilot districts in İstanbul are available on the following internet sites: www.ab.gov.tr and www.istanbulab.com

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Indicative Time Table

Activity	Date*	Time*
Deadline for submission of Application Form	22 March 2013	18.00
Evaluation of Application Forms	25 March-5 April 2013	N.A
Notification of Award	8 April 2013	N.A
Town Twinning Workshop	13-17 May 2013	N.A.
Implementation of twinning project	June 2013- June2014	N.A

* **Provisional date.** All times are in the time zone of the European Union

This indicative timetable may be updated during the procedure. In such case, the updated timetable shall be announced to all applicants.