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Planning Bureau



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for the
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GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS

AHDR	Association of Historical Dialogue and Research
EC	European Commission
EEA	European Economic Area
EU	European Union
FM	Financial Mechanism
FMC	Financial Mechanism Committee
FMO	Financial Mechanism Office
GA	Grant Agreement
GOL	Grant Offer Letter
GPS	Global Positioning System
IAS	Internal Audit Service
MC	Monitoring Committee
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding (Kingdom of Norway-Republic of Cyprus)
NGOs	Non Governmental Organisations
NFP	National Focal Point
PA	Paying Authority
PB	Planning Bureau
PP	Project Promoter
PIP	Project Implementation Plan
PIR	Project Interim Report
PM	Project Manager
PPD	Public Procurement Directorate, Treasury
QS	Quantity Surveyor
NMFA	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
GIS	Geographical Information System
SC	Steering Committee
UN	United Nations

A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The present Annual Report is prepared by the Planning Bureau acting as the National Focal Point for the implementation of the European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Mechanism according to article 3.3 of the Reporting and Monitoring Guidelines and in accordance with Article 5 of the MOU signed between the EFTA States and the Republic of Cyprus on 16 September 2005 in relation to the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism (FM) for the period 2004-2009 under which an amount of €1,206,000 has been made available to Cyprus.

The report reflects the implementation of the EEA FM during the period of November 2009-September 2010 (with a cut off date of 6 September 2010) and contains information with regard to the progress made towards the implementation of individual projects, the implementation of the NGO Fund, on cross cutting issues, publicity measures, commitments and disbursements and actions/activities planned for the next reporting period.

This report is characterised by the completion of the tendering and contracting procedures and the signing of the relevant contracts for the project (CY0011) "Revitalizing the Buffer Zone - An Educational Centre and Home for Cooperation, which had suffered various delays in the previous reporting period. The assistance provided under the EEA FM covers two individual projects and the NGO Fund. More specifically one project is solely funded by the EEA Financial Mechanism and one project as well as the NGO Fund are co financed by both the EEA and Norwegian FMs. A list of the approved projects under the EEA FM is highlighted in grey in the table below:

EEA Financial Mechanism 2004 - 2009 - FINAL ALLOCATIONS					
Project Title	Grant Approved €	Allocation between Financial Mechanisms		Co-financing €	Name and legal status of PP/ Intermediary
		FMC	NMFA		
CY0011: Revitalising the buffer zone: An Educational Center and Home for Cooperation	749,920	332,740	417,180	272,884 (172,884)**	Association of Historical Dialogue and Research (AHDR) NGO
CY0012: Preparation of an Integrated Management Plan for the Pafos Forest, in Cyprus	447,226	447,226	-	89,274*	Dept of Forests (Govt Dept)
CY0013: Cyprus Archaeological Digitisation Programme – CADiP	281,809	-	281,809	113,158*	Dept of Antiquities (Govt Dept)
CY0014: Restoration of Salamiou village old school building, for use as a regional centre for environmental education	624,784	-	624,784	110,256 (22,050)*	Salamiou Village Council (Community/Local Authority)
CY0015: A zero CO2 emissions electricity generation prototype (ZeroCO2)	748,856	-	748,856	137,679 (27,535)*	University of Cyprus (Body governed by Public Law)
	2,852,595				
CY0017: NGO Fund	1,499,967 (146,250) Mgt Fees	404,991	1,094,976	167,033*	First Elements Euroconsultants Ltd/ Euroconsultants SA
TOTAL:	4,352,562	1,184,957***	3,167,605		

* To be covered by National Funds

** Includes also financial contribution under the Swiss Mechanism (€118,324)

*** Does not include FMO management costs and costs for appraisal, monitoring and ex post evaluation

Both of the individual projects are currently under implementation since the PPs have successfully completed the tender and contracting procedures. In addition all 33 subprojects under the NGO Fund are under implementation and are expected to be completed by October 2010. It is noted however that one of the individual projects (CY0011) has faced considerable delays during the tendering procedures resulting to a very tight implementation time schedule. The Planning Bureau as the National Focal Point continues to exercise close monitoring through the bimonthly meetings established between the NFP and the Project Promoters (PP) in order to discuss the progress of the projects and suggest solutions for overcoming any problems that may arise. Overall 14 such meetings took place during the period between November 2009 and September 2010.

Relating to the cooperation with the audit firm Deloitte, this has progressed as planned. The auditors have audited 1 monthly payment request for the NGO House project and 4 PIRs for the two projects and the NGO Fund during the reporting period.

Since 2008 the Paying Authority submitted 7 PIRs to the FMO for a total amount of €853,056 whereas all requested amounts have been reimbursed to Cyprus soon after without the need for further clarifications or corrections.

Two PIP Modification Requests concerning the projects CY0011 and CY0012 have been submitted to the FMO according to the relevant procedures set by the FMO and were both accepted. The need for these requests arose in order to reflect the delays in the initiation of the CY0011 project, the subsequent extension of the project's duration and the increased projects costs, following the completion of the tender procedures. In the case of the CY0012 project, the modification was needed in order to utilise savings so as to cover part of the increased actual cost of the service and equipment contracts resulting from tendering procedures. As a result two revised Project Implementation Plans were prepared and approved by the FMO, which are now considered as the new project baselines for the specific projects.

Overall it is noted that during the reporting period there has been a considerable progress in the implementation of the FM since following the delays in the project's CY0011 tender procedures, all the projects are currently into the actual implementation stage.

Based on the above, it is believed that the expected results of the individual projects will be fully achieved and they will have a positive impact on the sectors covered by the projects. Concerning the NGO Fund subprojects, since their implementation is now at an advanced stage, it is expected that the aims of the Fund will be fully achieved.

The effort for the next reporting period will be concentrated on the successful completion of all individual Projects and the sub projects under the NGO Fund. It is noted that all relevant players ie NFP, the PA, the Audit Firm Deloitte, the PPs and the Intermediary for the NGO Fund, are working towards the implementation of the common aim which is the timely completion of all the projects and the disbursement to the Cyprus Government of all approved amounts under the FM.

B. REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

B1. Implementation Framework and Regulatory environment

During the reporting period, the NFP under its task to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of the assistance offered through the FM and on the basis of the implementation framework and regulatory environment of the Mechanism, took the following actions:

- (a) The cooperation with the audit firm responsible to implement audits for the projects approved under the Financial Mechanism on behalf of the NFP, is proceeding as planned and according to the audit planning document prepared by the firm. They have proceeded with the audit of 1 Payment claim for the CY0011 project whereas there were 4 PIRs audited and equivalent number of reports were submitted to the NFP for further processing. The NFP submitted all audited PIRs to the Paying Authority.
- (b) On the basis of the Irregularities Guidelines, the NFP has submitted to the FMO three regular reports within the time limit set out in the Irregularities Reporting Guidelines ie within two months following the end of each quarter. Within the reporting period there were no irregularities to report.
- (c) Bimonthly meetings continued to take place between the NFP and the Project Promoters (PP) in order to discuss the progress of the projects and suggest solutions for overcoming any problems that may arise. This arrangement proved to be of a significant value specifically for the project facing substantial delays and problems during the tender, contracting and implementation procedures, since in many cases the NFP could assist in overcoming time consuming procedures (e.g. approval of planning and construction permits, compliance letters , project modification requests etc). These efforts were also enhanced by daily exchange of phone calls, emails and letters.
- (d) The NFP continued to ensure that all actions taken by the PPs for tendering/contracting for the individual projects were in compliance with the Public Procurement Directives. In this respect all tenders carried out so far for the various project components received a relevant Letter of Compliance from the Public Procurement Directorate of the Treasury (PPD) which is the national competent Authority for procurement Issues. These Compliance Letters are issued (i) at the stage of the preparation of the tender documents and before publication is made and (ii) for the evaluation reports and before the contracts are awarded and signed.
- (e) Since all individual projects approved had gone through a state aid screening by the Commissioner for the Control of State Aid prior to their submission to the SC, no further State Aid issues were raised. The same applies for the sub-projects implemented under the NGO Fund since these were submitted by the NGO Fund Intermediary to the State Aid Commissioner for screening of their compliance with the State Aid Rules prior to the Selection Meeting.
- (f) The NFP ensured that in the case of the individual projects all procedures emanating from the relevant environmental directives were followed. It is noted in this respect that no further issues were raised for the approved projects following their appraisal by the external appraisal agents.

In addition an external Monitoring and an evaluation mission took place during the reporting period for the project CY0017. Specifically for the monitoring mission, the meetings were arranged from 17 to 22 May 2010 by the company "Baltic Project Consulting". The draft Evaluation Report was submitted by the FMO and the Intermediary and the NFP submitted their comments on 2 July 2010. The final monitoring report was submitted to the NFP on 31 August 2010.

As regards the evaluation mission, it took place during the period 3-17 March 2010 by the company "PITIJA". The purpose of the evaluation was to provide an independent evaluation of the contribution of the EEA and Norwegian Grants 2004-2009 to the NGO Sector. The NFP and the Intermediary submitted their comments on 15 June 2010. The final report has not yet been submitted to the NFP.

As regards problems encountered during the reporting period and proposed solutions, the major problem relates to the delays in the procurement procedures resulting to a very tight implementation time schedule for the project CY0011. The solution to such problems is the close monitoring on behalf of the NFP and the readjustment of the project timeframe by the PP in order to take account of the delays.

In addition a common need occurred during the reporting period for the individual projects to proceed with PIP modification requests towards the FMO, so as to reflect reallocations of funds between activities and budget headings, and/or revised time plans and /or increased project costs. As a result two revised Project Implementation Plans were prepared by the PPs, submitted through the NFP and approved by the FMO which are now considered as the new project base lines.

B2. Individual Projects

The approved two projects cover the priority areas set by the FM of Sustainable Development and Conservation of European Cultural Heritage. The PPs include a government department and an NGO.

During the reporting period, both projects were under implementation since all relevant contracts were signed. The list of all contracts signed for the approved projects is shown as Annex 1.

For project CY0011, a major development was the completion of the tendering and the contracting procedures for the reconstruction of the building and the initiation of the actual works in February 2010. This however raised two major issues of concern ie the tight implementation schedule of the project and the need for the PP to provide from its own resources an amount equal to €204.000 to cover for the increased construction costs. As a result close monitoring is exercised by the NFP so that the PP secures all additional funding necessary for the timely completion of the project.

As a general statement on the progress in respect of the status of the individual projects, it can be stated that the project CY0011, is facing a tight implementation schedule and a close monitoring by the NFP through meetings, letters, emails etc is exercised in an effort to expedite all steps for its successful execution and timely completion. As regards the project CY0012, the PP is currently implementing the project without any particular problems.

A more detailed analysis of the status of the projects appears below:

Progress on each individual project:

CY0011 – Revitalizing the buffer zone- An Educational Centre and Home for Cooperation

The purpose of this project is to restore a building of historical importance and the establishment of its functionality as an intercultural centre with the overall objective to conserve European cultural heritage with a view to initiate sustainable livelihoods in the buffer zone. The revised estimated total eligible cost is €1,227,258 and the revised estimated project's duration is 39 months. The grant approved under both FMs amounts to €749,920 (EEA: €332,740, Norwegian €417,180). The PP is the Association of Historical Dialogue and Research, (AHDR), a bi-communal NGO which will cover the remaining cost from own funds and donations.

Project activities

The project includes the following activities and results:

Acquisition of a building in the buffer zone (for a value not exceeding €427,153);
Restoration and equipment of the selected building in the buffer zone; Landscaping of the plot; Publicity measures.

Tender procedures and Project progress

During the period covered by the Annual Report, the PP completed all the procedures for:

- i. The issuing of the Planning Permit which was issued by the Nicosia Municipality on 8 December 2009.
- ii. The issuing of the Construction Permit for which an application was submitted as soon as the Planning permit was issued and was approved by the Nicosia Municipality on 2 February 2010.
- iii. The tendering and contracting for the restoration of the building which was initiated on 30 October 2009 and resulted in the signing of a contract of an amount of €676.440 on 25 January 2010. The construction works commenced on 8 February 2010 and will be finalized by February 2011.

The completion of the tender procedure highlighted two major issues that had to be resolved:

- (i) Extension of Project Duration
Due to the substantial delays faced during the stage of the issuing of the Planning Permit and the subsequent delay in launching and contracting the tender for the renovation of the building, the actual works were initiated in February 2010 instead of January 2009 as originally planned. As a result, the revised timeframe for the completion of the project is April 2011 instead of August 2010 as stated in the originally approved PIP.
- (ii) Increase in the Total Project Budget
The completion of the tender procedures, resulted in an increase in the construction costs by over €200.000, compared to the budgeted amount which was mainly due to an increase in the amount of demolitions and reinforcement needed and the purchase of roof tiles that were not included in the first estimate. This led to an increase of the total cost of the project from €1.022.804 to €1.227.258. The increased cost has to be provided from the PP's own resources according to the agreements signed between the parties. In this connection, the PP exercised efforts to secure additional funds from the

Ministry of the Interior through various financial incentives that are available according to the regulations on “Listed Buildings” such as subsidies towards reconstruction costs, taxation motives (i.e. exemption of property tax, exemption of transfer fees) etc and also through the sale of the available plot ratio, an action approved by the EEA/EFTA donor states on the 15 December 2010 following lengthy discussions on the issue. The PP submitted the application for both the sale of the plot ratio and the financial incentives to the Ministry of the Interior which was approved on 3 May 2010. According to the approval granted, the value of the plot ratio is €232.647 and the financial incentive equals an amount of €90.000. These funds will enable the PP to cover the additional construction cost whereas, on the basis of the EEA/ EFTA Donors suggestion, any remaining surplus will be used for energy saving activities not included in the current budget estimate thus contributing further towards the project’s long term sustainability. Following this, the PP proceeded, on 9 May 2010, with the announcement of the sale of the plot ratio through the daily press which resulted in the signing of two contracts with a construction company for an amount of €232.000, representing the total of the value of the plot ratio approved by the Ministry of Interior.

The fact that the PP did not have the necessary additional funds and that it would have to cover the project remaining cost from the above mentioned funding sources, could create liquidity problems since the procedures to secure such funds are time consuming. As a result of the above developments and in an effort to alleviate the project’s funding and liquidity constraints, the donors under the EEA/Norwegian Financial Mechanisms decided to support the PP through the following measures:

- The €100.000 advance payment from the Financial Mechanisms will be set off as late as possible, which will result in no retention amount for the Project Completion Report (PCR).
- The reimbursement of eligible expenses from the Financial Mechanisms and other originally approved co-financing sources will continue until these funds (€1.022.804) have been fully used. The EA has to cover the cost overrun, which will be a non-reimbursable expense. With this arrangement the EA will be provided with additional time in order to secure the necessary funding for the cost overrun.
- The transfer of certain amounts from other activities towards the activity of construction, in an effort to cover part of the increased construction costs.

In addition to the above, the NFP decided also to proceed with the gradual release (in three installments) of the €100.000, which is reserved by the Bank as a Bank Guarantee against the co-financing obligations of the EA. Following a request by the NFP and given the expenses the PP incurred during the period April 2008 –July 2010 mainly for consultancy fees and construction works, the first two instalments of the bank guarantee amounting to €70.000 have been released by the bank. This was preceded by an addendum of the pertinent Article 10 of the Implementation Agreement which was signed between the NFP and the PP on the 9 April 2010.

As another measure to facilitate cash flow, the NFP has urged the PP to enhance their efforts for securing the soonest possible additional funding from various Organizations / Embassies in the form of donations.

It was also agreed between the PP and the NFP that in order to facilitate the PP’s cash flow, the NFP would reimburse the PP on a more regular basis and upon the submission of the invoices issued by the contractor instead of the periods defined in the PIRs. For this purpose,

the PP submits to the NFP payment claims which are being examined by the independent auditors (Deloitte Ltd) and once their approval is given, the payment is made by the Planning Bureau. The claims are subsequently used for the completion of the PIR for the respective reporting period. So far one such Payment Claim was submitted and processed for an amount of €149,808.

As far as current construction works are concerned despite some delays related to the initial refusal of the T-shirt shop owner to evacuate the building, this problem has been resolved and the construction works are proceeding as planned and within the original time plan of 12 months. Specifically the contractor has so far proceeded with the demolition and construction of a new roof, removed obsolete brick walls to the ground and first floor and re erected new walls according to drawings. He also finalized the first electrical installation, installed timber frames to internal doors and laid the screed on the floors.

According to the latest information provided by the PP, due to unforeseen additional works, the total cost of the reconstruction of the building could increase by €85.000(+VAT). These works relate to additional costs for the roof, the poor quality of the interior walls and the floor, to the decision to proceed with the construction of the lift infrastructure (not included in the initial cost estimate) etc. It is noted in this respect that an amount of €35.000 was already included in the contract for such unforeseen works. In case this amount is finally exceeded, the PP intends to cover these additional costs through the UNDP ACT Programme's contribution of €100.000 that was agreed between the PP and the Programme Manager of the UNDP ACT Programme. This amount was derived as savings within the project "Multiperspectivity and Intercultural Dialogue in Education", which the PP is currently implementing under the UNDP ACT Programme, for an amount of €1.1 m.

During the reporting period one PIR was submitted to the FMO (PIR 2) for a total amount of €1.806. However during the next few months this amount is expected to increase significantly since the amount reimbursed to the PP by the NFP under the Payment Claim mentioned above, will be reflected in the next two PIRs.

PIP modification

An updated PIP had to be prepared by the PP in order to:

- (i) reflect the €100,000 provided as an additional advance payment by the FMO in July 2008 and which the FMO decided to set off as late as possible, resulting in no retention amount for the Project Completion Report (PCR),
- (ii) update the entire time schedule of the activities due to the delays occurred in the acquisition of the property and during the planning permit application,
- (iii) reflect financial transfers between activities and between budget headings and
- (iv) update the eligible total cost following the above transfers and latest cost updates based on the contracts signed, to 1,227,258 euro. This includes 204,454 euro cost overrun compared to the original budget, which will not be reimbursed from the FMs (i.e. non-reimbursable eligible expense) and will be covered entirely by the PP.

All of the above were included in two consequent project modification requests that were submitted to and approved by the Financial Mechanism Office (FMO) on 17 February and on 17 March 2010 respectively. All changes were then reflected in a revised Project Implementation Plan (PIP) which was drafted with the guidance and assistance of the FMO.

Bi-monthly meetings

Regarding the monitoring of the progress and implementation of the project, five bi monthly meetings took place between the PP and the NFP during the period between October 2009 and September 2010 (16/11/2009, 1/2/2010, 22/4/2010, 24/6/2010, 31/8/2010). These meetings contributed in overcoming problems faced by the PP during the various stages of the project implementation (ie financial constraints of PP, increased costs, sale of the plot ratio etc.). The minutes of these meetings are copied also to the FMO for information of the Donor States.

Risk Assessment

From all the risks identified at the application stage only the risk related to the particular crossing point of Ledra Palace being closed by initiative of either side has not materialized so far. All other risks did materialize and various actions were /are taken for their mitigation. More specifically, regarding the risk relating to the delay in granting the planning permit by the Nicosia Municipality this did materialize with a consequent substantial delay in the initiation of the reconstruction works. The PP in an effort to minimize the possibility of not completing the project within the eligibility period revised the construction period from 15 to 12 months which was reflected in the tender documents and the contract signed between the PP and the Contractor.

The impact of the risk concerning the relative inexperience of the Board of the AHDR with managing conservation projects has been minimized since a full project management team of professionals has been employed (i.e. project manager, architects, engineers, QS and certified accountants). However despite of the efforts of the project management team, there are still weaknesses and deficiencies specifically as regards monitoring and reporting obligations as well as in the financial management. As a result the NFP is in close contact with the PP so as to guide and facilitate the whole process in the best possible way. At the same time the PP has decided to strengthen the capacity of the project management team by assigning part of its duties such as PIR preparation, to the Project Manager employed by the AHDR under the UNDP ACT project mentioned above.

Further to the above, new risks have been identified during the implementation procedure including (i) possible delays that could arise due to the location of the building and (ii) the sustainability of the project especially in view of the possibility of increased cost for reconstruction works and liquidity problems the PP could face in meeting the payment orders issued by the contractor. The PP in an effort to minimize the first risk included such a possibility in the tender documents so that it could be taken into consideration by the contractor from the early stages of the construction works. So far this does not seem to have imposed any additional burden to the time schedule of the project. On the contrary, the second risk identified did materialize as soon as the tender procedures were completed and the increased cost of the construction works had to be provided by the PP. In minimizing the negative effect this could have to the completion and sustainability of the project, both the Donors and the NFP adopted various measures as explained in detail under the section of the project progress above, whereas the PP enhanced its efforts to secure additional funding from other donors as well as by applying for the various financial incentives for the category of “listed buildings” with considerable success.

It is noted however that the PP’s efforts should be further enhanced so that the project sustainability is strengthened and secured well beyond the completion of the project. In this respect the PP has already employed a specialized project manager under the UNDP ACT project who will inter alia be responsible for the promotion of activities and actions that will ensure the sustainability of the NGO House.

CY0012– Preparation of an Integrated Management Plan for the Pafos Forest

The purpose of the project is the sustainable utilization of forest resources and benefits in the Pafos Forest, with the overall objective of improved forestry management and protection of biodiversity. The estimated eligible cost amounts to €536,500 whereas the Grant amounts to €447,226 (or 83.86% of the total eligible project costs) and will be covered under the EEA Financial Mechanism. The duration of the project is estimated to 30 months. The PP is the Department of Forests.

Project Activities

The project includes the following activities and results:

Start-up, procurement of services and equipment; Elaboration of a draft management plan; Elaboration of monitoring plans for endangered species; Elaboration of final draft management plan; Consultation of draft plan and final draft plan with all stakeholders; Publicity, training and approval of the final plan.

Tender Procedures

During the reporting period, the tender procedures for the remaining items of equipment and services were completed and the relevant Certificates of Compliance were issued by the PPD. More specifically:

- Tender procedures were completed, and contracts were signed on 12 November 2009, for the acquisition of the following equipment items: 4 personal computers and a plotter.
- Tender procedures were completed and contracts were signed on 22 December 2009 for the GIS software (4 units) and the training of staff.

Project Progress

The service contract for the preparation of the Management Plan for the Pafos Forest, foresees inter alia, the preparation of 10 Monitoring Plans, all of which were delivered by July 2010. A number of the monitoring plans are already under implementation on a trial basis so as to ensure that they meet the needs and are realistic. The Descriptive Part of the Management Plan was submitted in February 2010 (earlier than planned) whereas the Prescriptive Part is due in September 2010. It is expected that during the same month, another deliverable (the Management Plan for the Moufflon) will be submitted as well. The Contractor prepared also the relevant specifications of the GIS and the relevant tender procedure was launched and completed. The system was installed in March 2010 and input of data is currently taking place.

All deliverables submitted by mid 2010 (i.e. 10 monitoring plans and the Descriptive Part of the Management Plan) were reviewed and approved by the Project's Steering Committee in August 2010. The most demanding period for the project is expected to be between September 2010 and February 2011 during which a large number of deliverables are due for submission by the Contractor. The PP will proceed with internal allocation of the deliverables to a number of officers so that the review and approval process is not delayed.

The PP has also secured all equipment items including 4 GIS software, 5 GIS hardware and 2 jeeps and has proceeded with the insurance of all equipment procured, as per the obligations included in the GOL.

During the reporting period two PIRs were submitted to and approved by the FMO (PIRs 2 and 3) for a total amount of €154.779.

As far as the indicators identified in the PIP, the status of the results is as follows:

- Training of staff:
 - Number of Forest Dept and Game Fund staff capable to identify and map forest habitat types: the baseline was 4 and the target was set at 14. However, training of a bigger number of staff was deemed necessary for the requirements of the Project, since the need to gather a big amount of field data in a relatively short time, for submission to the Contractor, arose. Therefore, 60 foresters have received training in total.
- Acquisition of equipment: All of the equipment planned has been obtained with slight deviations as to the number of units which have been reported in the relevant PIRs.

PIP Modification

In February 2010 the PP submitted to the NFP a request for a project modification for financial transfers between budget headings and activities in order to utilize savings so as to cover part of the increased actual cost of the Service and Equipment Contracts resulting from tendering procedures.

The Project Modification request was approved by the NFP and submitted to the FMO on 16 March 2010. The FMO approved the modification request with its letter dated 30 April 2010. All changes were reflected in a revised PIP.

Risk Assessment

The identified risks in the PIP with regard to start-up, procurement of services and equipment (**Activity 1**) relate to possible delays, insufficiencies or errors in the tender process which could lead to delays in the project progress and/or poor quality of the Experts Team and of the equipment purchased. In general, all the tenders were completed as planned and no significant problems or delays occurred. In addition the risks for the quality of the experts Team and of the equipment did not materialise either.

The risk of delayed gathering of forest data (**Activity 2**) was handled with success, with the decision to start collection of forest vegetation data in September of 2008, instead of May 2009 and the work was completed in May 2009. Further risks identified within the PIP for this activity include the reluctance of other government departments to provide timely necessary information (e.g. meteorological data, geology of the area etc). This risk did not materialise, as there is smooth cooperation between the various departments involved with the PP and the experts' team.

Finally, the risk of poor quality of work by consultants was identified, however this has not been an issue, as all deliverables so far (quarterly progress reports, webpage, monitoring plans, the descriptive part of the Management Plan, etc) have been prepared and submitted as per the set timeframe and were of an acceptable quality.

Bi-monthly Meetings

During the reporting period, four bi-monthly meetings have been held at the Planning Bureau (on 26/11/2009, 28/1/2010, 30/3/2010 and 18/6/2010), during which briefing was provided by the project manager on all aspects of the project, the project progress was discussed and future actions agreed.

B3. NGO Fund

The objective of the Project CY0017 – “Management of the Fund for Non Governmental Organisations (NGO Fund), co-financed by the European Economic Area (EEA) Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism”, is to support the participation of civil society organisations in the reduction of economic and social disparities in the Republic of Cyprus by providing financing to NGO projects in two selected priority areas, i.e. Health and Childcare and Empowerment of Young People in Civil Society. Furthermore, according to the NGO Fund Set Up, a minimum of 20% of the funding will be made available for bi-communal projects that would benefit both communities within the priority areas.

The total assistance allocated to the NGO Fund project is €1.667.000. The EEA Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism contribution, amounts to €1.500.000, representing 90% of the Fund and the remaining €167.000 (10%), corresponds to the required co-financing of the Fund, which is covered from the national budget. The management fees (€146.250) of the NGO Fund Intermediary, i.e. “First Elements Euroconsultants Ltd-Euroconsultants S.A”, are paid from the total Fund allocation.

Project Progress

In total, 33 subprojects are being financed under the NGO Fund (a list of all subprojects is attached as Annex 2). During the reporting period, the implementation of the sub-projects intensified and by the report’s cut-off date 10 sub-projects had been completed. The remaining sub-projects are due for completion in October 2010. In general, no major horizontal problems were encountered during the Fund’s implementation with the exception of the quality of Quarterly/Interim Reports submitted by the end recipients, which on many occasions had to be revised before being approved. No specific problems were encountered in the sub-projects’ implementation apart from slight modifications in the timing of their activities or minor delays which however do not affect the achievement of their targets/objectives. By the report’s cut off date, the following activities took place:

- the Intermediary has been monitoring the progress of all NGO Fund projects through the Quarterly and Interim Reports which are prepared by the end-recipients. Furthermore, the Intermediary is in touch with all the end-recipients through telephone and email contacts and performs on the site visits for the best monitoring of the projects.
- Up to the end of July 2010, the Intermediary paid the end-recipients the total amount of €998.634, as pre-financing payment (1st payment – all 33 end-recipients received a pre-financing amount equal to €608.201 and 2nd payment – 21 end-recipients whose Interim Reports were approved by the Intermediary received €390.433).
- The Intermediary has also classified all NGO Fund projects in four categories by degree of risk. Through this risk categorization, the possible problematic projects are identified and wherever needed corrective measures are suggested. Out of the 33 sub-projects, 17 were classified as Very Low Risk, 10 as Low Risk, 6 as Medium Risk and no project was classified as High Risk.
- The Intermediary continually updates its website with sub-projects’ information and activities.

The Planning Bureau, as National Focal Point, monitors the Intermediary through the Monitoring Reports, which are prepared by the Intermediary every two months, as well as

through tables for the monitoring of the Fund's accounts. These reports are discussed during the bi-monthly meetings held between the Planning Bureau and the Intermediary.

In order to receive the re-granting funds, one Project Interim Report (PIR no.2) was sent to and approved by the FMO in the period under review, and another one (PIR no.3) is planned to be sent in September 2010. The amount of €651.953 was received by the FMO for the second pre-financing payment.

Bi-communal Projects

The bi-communal projects are in majority achieving great success in reaching both communities. One example is the activities of EDON (under project NGOFUND/CY/012), where hundreds of youth from both communities attend and share thoughts, experiences and beliefs. Furthermore, the projects involving the collection of information from both communities reached out to both target groups. It is noted that very few projects, where the joint venture of institutions from both communities was the initial plan, have faced problems involving institutions from both communities due to political reasons. One example of this is the International Thalassaemia Federation project (NGOFUND/CY/110) where the Janaemia software would be installed in hospitals from both communities and run and operated from both partners in the project. However, due to political reasons the Turkish Cypriot partner could not install the software therefore they gained rights of access to the software which still enables the use of the software and the entry of TC patients' data on the system. In general, the bi-communal projects involve a large number of target groups from both communities and where this seems difficult, a solution is found in order to maintain the bi-communal character of the project.

Bilateral Projects

Ten out of the 33 selected projects (30,3%) are bilateral projects with partners from Norway and Iceland. These projects are progressing well, with excellent cooperation among the partners. One example is the PEGASUS project (NGOFUND/CY/050) of the Avgorou Community Volunteerism Council which involves an educational trip to Norway of a team of Community youth. Most of the bilateral projects involve the transfer of knowhow and experience from the EEA partners to the applicants and the exchange of experiences among them.

Risk Assessment

As regards the "Risks" identified at the start of the sub-projects' implementation for the deviation of their activities from the original time plan due to delays and for potential risks pertaining the activities and the completion of the sub-projects, the Intermediary developed an action plan that monitored and followed up activities throughout the sub-projects' implementation period, by categorising sub-projects with degree of risk. Through this plan, the Intermediary conducted visits/meetings and daily telephone calls with end-beneficiaries and in the cases that assistance was needed, suggested corrective action proposals for the situations that were problematic for the implementation and the successful completion of the sub-projects. By taking these measures, the Intermediary managed to mitigate the above risks and finally almost all sub-projects have progressed according to their time plan.

Furthermore, the risk identified regarding delays due to improper or incomplete reporting by the end-beneficiaries, did indeed materialize. Despite the fact that the Intermediary had organised a Project Management Workshop to explain to all end-beneficiaries the reporting procedures and has been in constant communication with all concerned for the prompt submission of good quality quarterly and interim Reports, yet the quality of most of the reports was not of the expected level. To this effect, the Intermediary is providing feedback

and further comments to submitted Reports which require revising, so that these reports could be approved.

Indicators

Since almost all Project indicators as described in the Project Implementation Plan (PIP) were met and in some cases surpassed from the previous reporting period covered under the 2009 Annual Report, this reporting period has only one targeted value to meet, that is the number of end-users directly or indirectly benefiting from projects implemented under the NGO Fund. Up to now and on the basis of the information submitted by the NGOs in their quarterly and interim Reports, it is estimated that the target number of end-users directly or indirectly benefiting from the projects implemented has been exceeded.

Bi-monthly Meetings

During the reporting period, five bi-monthly Monitoring meetings (on 18.11.09, 27.1.10, 29.3.10, 3.6.10 and 26.8.10) were held between the representatives of the Intermediary and the NFP, in accordance with the Implementation Contract. At the end of each bi-monthly meeting, the NFP prepared a table of recommendations for the necessary actions to be taken by the Intermediary for the implementation of the project before the next bi-monthly meeting which was sent to the Intermediary together with the meeting's minutes. This table is reviewed at the following bi-monthly meeting and updated accordingly.

Extension of Project's Duration

An addendum to the contract "Provision of Services for the Management of the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO Fund) co-financed by the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism and the Norwegian Financial Mechanism signed between the NFP and the company "First Elements Euroconsultants Ltd" was approved in May 2010, extending the contract's duration from 22 to 31 months, that is up to the 28th of February 2011.

The extension was necessary in view of longer than expected time for preparation and submission of the Block Grant Application and for the approval of this Application by the Donors as well as for the establishment of the selection committee. These resulted in delay in commencing the activities of the sub-projects. Since most of the sub-projects have 12-month duration with completion date by October 2010, the submission and approval of the Final Reports and final payments to end-recipients will take place by January 2011. It is estimated therefore that by February 2011, the Intermediary will be able to prepare and submit the Project Completion Report and the NFP will carry out the final payment. The above extension will be reflected in a revised PIP and to this effect all relevant procedures will be followed in due course.

Evaluation Report

Within the framework of Evaluation by the FMO of all the NGO Fund projects financed under the EEA and Norwegian Financial Mechanisms (FMs), an expert from the independent company PITIJA of Slovakia, visited Cyprus in March 2010 (3-17.3.2010). The overall objective of this evaluation was to provide an expert independent evaluation of the contribution of the EEA and Norway Grants 2004-2009 to the NGO sector in Cyprus. The expert met with representatives from a number of NGOs whose projects are financed under the Fund, the NGO Fund Intermediary, the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Athens and the National Focal Point. During the meetings with all stakeholders, the expert discussed all issues concerned and received all relevant documents for preparing her Report.

The draft Evaluation Report was submitted by the FMO to the National Focal Point on the 1st of June 2010, requesting comments on the Report. The comments of the NFP and the Intermediary were sent to the FMO within the two week deadline, but the Final Evaluation Report has not been received by the Annual Report's cut off date.

It is noted that in the draft Evaluation Report the recommendations were general and mainly for all beneficiary States operating NGO Funds. However, some references on Cyprus were not correct and the NFP and the Intermediary submitted their comments for correcting these inaccuracies. The main comments concerned the political issue in Cyprus, the situation of the civil society in Cyprus, the support to the end beneficiaries from the Intermediary and the bilateral partners. Despite the fact that the final report has not been received yet, the FMO has informed the NFP that these comments will be adopted and will be reflected in the final version to be distributed in a workshop in Brussels on 8 September 2010.

External Monitoring Mission

In May 2010 (18-21.5.2010), an External Monitoring Mission for the NGO Fund project, took place by the company "Baltic Project Consulting". The interviews of the parties concerned (representatives from the NFP, the Intermediary and four NGO Fund end-recipients), were held by the expert Ms Lolita Cigane. The Report was prepared by Ms Cigane and was sent to the NFP for comments by the FMO on 9 June 2010. The comments of the NFP and the NGO Fund Intermediary were sent on 2 July 2010 to the FMO. The Final Monitoring Report was forwarded to the NFP on 31st August 2010.

It is noted that the Monitoring Visit concluded, inter alia, that (i) the objectives of the NGO Fund are being fulfilled and that the Fund is managed efficiently, (ii) the project progresses well in accordance to a revised and realistic time-plan, (iii) there is good cooperation between the Intermediary and the National Focal Point.

The recommendations of the expert were (i) before the completion of the NGO Fund project, the Focal Point and the FMO should seek a detailed assessment and recommendations from the NGO Fund Intermediary, who has gained experience on how to manage the NGOs in realising their projects, for future management of the Fund, (ii) in case of continuation of the NGO Fund in the next programming period, the thematic areas eligible for funding to be expanded to include a broader scope of NGOs and (iii) the Intermediary to improve clarity in the reporting requirements to end-recipients.

The NFP and the Intermediary accepted these recommendations.

B4. Information and Publicity Activities

General Publicity of the FM

The NFP continues to update regularly its special webpage providing information to the public regarding the implementation of the FM. Within this framework, the minutes of the sixth and seventh Monitoring Committee Meeting held in September 2009 and April 2010 respectively, as well as those of the fourth Annual Meeting of December 2009 were placed on the NFP special webpage. In addition photos of some of the Projects were included in the webpage and links with specific project websites were created.

Publicity carried out by the Individual Projects

Regarding the publicity activities for the individual projects, these were carried out in accordance with the publicity plan described in the project application taking into account the project progress during the reporting period. Publicity activities have been intensified during the reporting period, in particular for the project for which the tendering procedures were pending and is now in the implementation stage. More specifically regarding the Project “Revitalising the buffer zone: An Educational Centre and Home for Cooperation” a series of publicity measures have been implemented that have contributed significantly to the visibility of the project both in Cyprus and abroad, as follows:

- (a) Enrichment of the PPs webpage with information on the project (http://www.cyprus-tube.com/historicaldialogue/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=77&Itemid=94), in anticipation of the new webpage that will be launched in November 2010.
- (b) Production of 2 video blogs on the Home for Cooperation available at the dedicated webpage (<http://www.cyprus-tube.com/historical-dialogue/>).
- (c) Presentations by the PP of the Home for Cooperation in the framework of the following events:
 - Council of Europe workshops on “Multiple views – Multicultural Nicosia: The use of interactive methods in teaching history ”(Venues: Ledra Palace, Fulbright Centre, Goethe Institute) on 6-7 November 2009 in Nicosia.
 - Council of Europe Symposium on "The image of the Other" on 26-27 November 2009 in Athens.
 - “The elders hold meetings with Cypriots in the buffer zone” on 8-10 December 2009.
 - Two-day Council of Europe educational seminars and workshops on “Developing intercultural communication skills when learning history in a multicultural context: pupils’ assessment in focus” on 16-17 March 2010 in Nicosia.
 - Conference “A Bridge too Far? Teaching Common European History themes, perspectives and level” on 22-28 March 2010 in Nijmegen, The Netherlands.
 - International History Education Symposium “What does it mean to think historically?” on 7-8 May 2010 in Nicosia.
- (d) The “Music – Poetry – Film Jam” publicity event took place in front of the Home for Cooperation on 19 and 20 December 2009.
- (e) A billboard was erected at the site of the project.

For the project CY0012 “Preparation of an Integrated Management Plan for the Pafos Forest, in Cyprus”, all activities envisaged under Phase 1 of the Publicity described in the application form were promoted and were described in detail in the 2009 Annual Report. During the reporting period, the following actions were promoted:

- A publication took place in a specialised magazine (“Agrotis”) issued by the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and the Environment (Issue no. 448, for the period January-March 2010) (see Annex 3).
- The special webpage of the project (www.pafosforest.eu) was kept continually updated and enriched with news regarding the project progress.
- Three information signs about the project were placed in strategically selected entrance points of the Pafos Forest.
- Logos of the FM were placed on the equipment procured under the project.

The PP will intensify the publicity actions as the project is nearing completion, with the preparation of printed material, the presentation of the Draft Management Plan to local authorities in open meetings and a press conference for presentation of the Draft Management

Plan to all stakeholders (e.g. government departments, local authorities, NGOs, academic institutions, media).

Publicity for the NGO Fund

The NGO Fund Intermediary keeps updating the established website in the English language dedicated to the Fund which contains all relevant information (on launching of the Fund, application materials and documents, workshops, press releases, photos etc) .The Website was launched on 9 December 2008 and the relevant address is <http://www.eeangofund.org.cy> .The Intermediary has also submitted a publicity plan to the NFP, which serves as the basic tool for the publicity of the NGO Fund in Cyprus.

As part of its publicity activities, the NGO Fund Intermediary has enriched the NGO Fund website with specific information on each sub project including a description of the end recipient, the project and the contacts of the coordinator. The website is also kept updated with news of the subprojects in the form of press releases and photos from the implementation of various activities. Further, the Intermediary has ensured that the dissemination activities of sub projects follow the EEA Grants and the NGO Fund Publicity Guidelines and has assisted a number of events organised by end recipients in their projects. A number of press articles were published (see Annex 4) to cover for various events that took place under the various sub-projects such as :

- Project no: NGOFUND/CY/034
Project title: Creation of a Snoezelen Room
'Filleleftheros', 21/2/2010
- Project no: NGOFUND/CY/012
Project title: Let's Become the Generation of Reunification
'Filleleftheros', 16/1/2010
- Project no: NGOFUND/CY/080
Project title: Pregnancy in Congenital Heart Disease
'Filleleftheros', 21/11/2009
- Project no: NGOFUND/CY/022
Project title: Upgrading of the Services Provided and Methods used at "Kivotos" Foundation for Children with Special Needs
'Filleleftheros', 18/11/2009
- Project no: NGOFUND/CY/020
Project title: Empowerment of the ADHD Community
'The Cyprus Weekly', 11-17/1/2009
- Project no: NGOFUND/CY/087
Project title: Ouranio Toxo
'Politis', 5/1/2010

The Intermediary is also in the process of organising the Fund final event which is planned to be held at the Presidential Palace in October 2010. During this event, which will be open to the public, end recipient NGOs will exhibit their work promoting at the same time the aims and the objectives of the Fund.

B5. Assessment of the distribution of the Grants among the priority sectors

In the framework of the EEA FM, the Individual Projects being promoted cover the priority sectors of Conservation of European Cultural Heritage and Promotion of the Sustainable Development. Furthermore, the NGO Fund covers primarily the priority sectors Health and Childcare and the Empowerment of young people in the Civil Society. Despite the small number of projects, the Grants are distributed to a wide spectrum of the priority sectors and in this way, the impact of the projects will reach a far larger number of target groups ranging from educators to pupils, from local communities to academics and from researchers to children and youth.

The overall benefits for the priority sectors in question are expected to be substantial. As regards the Conservation of European Cultural Heritage, the main results of the project in this priority sector (i.e. CY0011-NGO House) will be the improvement of the tools for the management of cultural heritage and the restoration of a cultural heritage building with establishment of its functionality for purposes contributing to the sustainable development of the surrounding areas. These results will contribute to a more integrated heritage-based policy for environmental and resource planning and management for sustainable development. Furthermore, the results of the project will enhance the role of cultural heritage in contributing to social cohesion, upgrading the quality of life of people and improving the development of declining areas such as the buffer zone. The target groups of this project therefore are mainly the public at large and in more specific terms, the inhabitants of the area where the project is being implemented, i.e. the deprived area around the buffer zone. The impact of the project of the NGO House will additionally benefit the target groups of Educators, researchers and pupils as it will provide the premises for an intercultural Educational Centre and will thus contribute to promoting communication and cultural relations between people with no discrimination from different ethnic, religious or linguistic backgrounds.

The main result of the project in the priority sector of Sustainable Development (CY0012 - Pafos Forest) will be the upgrading of the tools for the sustainable management and planning of forest resources. This will contribute to the better management and preservation of natural resources and to increasing the attractiveness of rural areas with a view to reversing the adverse demographic developments faced by these areas. One of the main target groups are the inhabitants of the surrounding villages and it is expected that the impact from the project will be substantial. It is for this reason that the PP as well as the contractor plan to present the Draft Management Plan to the local authorities in open meetings before its finalisation.

As regards the NGO Fund, the main result of its operation relates to the support and promotion of NGO activities in the sectors of Health and Childcare and Youth. The approach of targeting only two specific thematic areas from different perspectives is likely to generate a measurable impact. The priority sector that mainly benefits from the NGO Fund is the sector of Health and Childcare through the promotion of initiatives of volunteer organisations, who act as service providers in this area, thus strengthening their role in social cohesion and inclusion (17 proposals out of the 33 approved proposals concern this area and another 10 approved proposals concern both priority areas). It is noted in this respect that the Fund has provided the opportunity to NGOs to realize projects that they have previously been unable to undertake due to the lack of sufficient funds. Furthermore, the Fund has made available 48,5% of the funding for bi-communal projects that will benefit both communities within the priority sectors, with a view to encourage bi-communal contacts a target that has been reached in the majority of these projects. It is expected that the impact of the NGO Fund on the target group of the NGOs in Cyprus will be substantial both in view of its size (1.6 mln Euro can

assist a significant number of NGOs) as well as of its nature, since the demanding set up of the Fund itself, contributes to the enhancement of their capacity to implement projects for the benefit of their members and of the civil society in general. In addition the impact is enhanced due to the diversity of the projects, with a combination of both infrastructure and 'soft' projects in various districts and areas of Cyprus and with a range of varied activities.

B6. Assessment of the impact of projects on Cross-cutting issues:

Taking into account that during the current reporting period all projects including the NGO Fund are well under implementation, their impact on the cross cutting issues is assessed as positive. More specifically the following are noted:

Sustainable Development Environmental

Regarding the environmental impact of the construction works under the project CY0011, it is noted that the contractor removed the asbestos sheets according to the instructions of the competent government department which were then treated and disposed of in an environmentally sound manner.

As far as the Pafos Forest (CY0012) is concerned it is expected upon its completion to have a positive impact on environmental sustainability and more specifically, it will have positive effects in respect to biodiversity and maintenance of flora and fauna as well as increase the environmental services provided by the forest

Economic

Even though the nature of the projects, does not entail a significant impact on the economic dimension of the sustainable development however they could contribute to economic prosperity through their sustainability and successful operation.

Social

The various projects will contribute to the promotion of the social aspect of sustainable development to a great extent. All projects will increase public understanding of sustainability and will influence positively the citizens' sustainability behaviour. They will also contribute to a more integrated policy/planning/management for sustainable development.

Regarding project CY0011, through the establishment of the Home of Cooperation, new opportunities will be provided for the NGOs and individuals to design and implement innovative projects which will help build the foundations for empowering civil society and building lasting relationships island wide. Cypriots will be encouraged to demonstrate the benefits of cooperation across the existing divide and awareness about the need for social sustainability for all Cypriots irrespective of religion, ethnic group or language barriers will be enhanced.

For project CY0012 it is noted that from the early stages of the implementation of the project the expectations and sustainable needs of local population in relation to forests were considered and addressed sufficiently through contacts with local authorities and completion of relevant questionnaires.

Concerning the Project CY0017 (NGO Fund), its very nature and the fact that one of its two priority areas concerns Health and Childcare, ensure its positive impact on social sustainable development. All projects implemented under the Fund are aiming to improve and extend their services to society, improve the living conditions of the under privileged social groups whereas a large proportion of the selected subprojects concerns health issues and their implementation will therefore create positive effects for public health.

Gender Equality

Even though the nature and character of the individual projects and of the NGO Fund, do not allow for a substantial impact on the gender equality issue, nevertheless since the legal framework in force transposes fully the *acquis communautaire* in the area of equal opportunities and rights, the respect of the relevant laws ensures that the PPs represented are equal opportunity employers and fully respect the gender equality principles and their importance. A general characteristic of the projects is that the project teams include both men and women and in this sense the principle of equal participation and representation of women in the decision making is promoted. In addition some of the projects that involve the participation of civil society organisations will have a greater impact on gender equality since current experience shows that the NGOs' involvement in policy formulation and implementation of gender equality has increased substantially and their contribution has been vitally important in ensuring that the needs of all women are taken into account. As NGOs tend to have a high woman participation profile, these projects provide the opportunity to women to participate in all phases of project implementation. Such projects are the NGO Fund (CY0017), and the Home for Cooperation (CY0011) in which women are in positions of responsibility at the project management level. As regards the latter project, the education to be offered at the Educational Centre will have as a cross cutting issue gender equality and empowerment of women. Not only the teaching staff will be gender balanced, but the content of the curriculum will emphasise issues of gender equality and human rights.

Good Governance

The principles of Good Governance apply for the implementation and management of the approved projects which are characterised by transparency and openness. The projects' economics and budget are transparent to the National Audit Authorities and to those of the FM as well as to the independent auditors (Deloitte and Touche) commissioned by the NFP in order to verify payment claims and submit relevant Reports to the Paying Authority.

As regards adherence to national and European Commission Procurement Rules, the PPs are obliged according to the Implementation Contract signed between them and the NFP, to follow the Public Procurement Law of 2006 (L.12(1)2006) which is fully harmonised with the EU Directives, for procurement of goods, services and construction works funded under their respective projects. In this respect good governance is further strengthened through the issue of certificates of compliance by the Competent Authority for Procurement issues (Public Procurement Directorate of the Treasury) at the various stages of the contracting procedure. All contracts signed within the reporting period, have secured such certificates.

The NFP continued to take measures for the prevention of corruption by:

- (a) Involving the civil society organisations (Social Partners and NGOs) in the national monitoring process. Seven members out of the 14 members of the monitoring committee that has been set up by the NFP, come from these sectors. The responsibilities of the MC include among others the reviewing and assessing of the overall progress of projects, the recommendation of corrective actions, wherever necessary and the approval of the Annual Report(s) to be submitted by the NFP. Within this framework, two monitoring Committee

Meetings were held during 2010 in order to examine the progress of projects (March and September).

- (b) requesting the PPs and the NGO Fund Intermediary, to report on irregularities during the implementation of the FM. During the reporting period four irregularities reports were submitted by the NFP to the FMO covering the last quarter of 2009 and the first three quarters of 2010. No irregularities have been recorded during the reporting period.

As regards the impact of each individual project and of the NGO Fund on the cross cutting issue of Good Governance, it is noted that as described above, a general characteristic is that they all respect the legislative and political requirements for transparent procedures especially in the area of public procurement. Another general characteristic is their contribution to better public access to information. In addition the impact of the projects will be greater as they improve the participation of civil society into the decision making process: the Pafos Forest (CY0012) with the participation of the local communities and the civil society organisations in the dialogue with the authorities responsible for the management of the Forest and the Home for Cooperation (CY0011) with the involvement of NGOs as beneficiaries of the project. As regards the NGO Fund (CY0017) the impact will be substantial on the NGOs themselves in that it will contribute to the improvement of their accountability and capacity for efficient project implementation.

B7. Assessment of the effects of projects on Bilateral Relations

The results of the projects will contribute towards the enhancement of bilateral relations between the EEA EFTA countries and Cyprus. Each project though will achieve this through different activities, as follows:

- The exchange of expertise and transfer of knowledge which will promote the enrichment of ideas and consultation with experts and NGOs from the EEA/ EFTA countries.
- The interchangeability of information can encourage further research which can be based on bilateral schemes.
- The participation of experts and consultant Officers from the EEA/EFTA countries, in facilitating the implementation of the projects.

Even though none of the individual projects have entered into partnerships with other entities from the donor states, the PPs highly recognise the assistance received and promote this assistance through various publicity measures. On the contrary more tangible effects from the projects on the bilateral relations between the EEA EFTA states and Cyprus are seen from the subprojects under the NGO Fund, since 10 out of the 33 approved projects are bilateral projects that are implemented with partners from Norway and Iceland. The total budget for these projects is €444,588 or 29% of all approved projects. They cover both NGO Fund priority areas, namely Health and Childcare and Empowerment of young people in the Civil Society and most of them involve the transfer of knowhow and experience from the EEA partners to the applicants and the exchange of experiences among them.

B8. Commitments and Disbursements

In accordance with Article 5 of the Agreement between the EFTA States and the EC on the EEA Financial Mechanism 2004-2009, an amount of €1,260,000 shall be made available to Cyprus. The total available funds after allowing for Financial Mechanism's management costs for appraisal monitoring and ex-post evaluation amount to €1,184,957. During the reporting

period all the available amount has been committed to the two (2) individual projects and the NGO Fund.

By the cut off date the amount disbursed by the FMO under the EEA Financial Mechanism equals to €853,056 (72%). This disbursement level is considered satisfactory and it is anticipated that by the end of the eligibility period all activities will be completed and the respective amounts will be claimed within 2011.

Annex 5 shows in detail the financial status of the Financial Mechanism Funds.

The PA has not reported any problems related to the disbursements. Seven PIRs were in total submitted to the FMO for reimbursement for the Projects CY0011 and CY0012 and for the NGO Fund. All PIRs were approved and all amounts claimed, were reimbursed by the FMO. It is noted that, once the expenditure claimed in the PIR has been verified by the Independent Auditors this is pre-financed by national funds. The amount received from the FMO in respect of each PIR is deposited in the Government General Account.

B9. Work Plan 2010-2011

The most important stages until the end of April 2011 with regard to the implementation of the FM are expected to be as follows:

Individual Projects

- Completion of implementation of project activities for the following projects:
 - Preparation of an Integrated Management Plan for the Pafos Forest, in Cyprus
Completion of project activities: February 2011.
 - Revitalizing the buffer zone-An Educational Centre and Home for Cooperation
Completion of construction works for the Buffer Zone project: February 2011.
- Various information activities according to the projects' publicity plans including inauguration days.

NGO Fund

- Completion of sub-projects implementation: October 2010
- Publicity activities to be held by the NGO Fund Intermediary: By February 2011.

Monitoring Committee Meetings

Two monitoring Committee Meetings will be held during 2011 in order to examine the progress and assess the completion of the implementation of all projects (March and September 2011). The latter meeting will also review and approve the last Annual Report on the implementation of the FM for the period 2004-2009.

Bimonthly Meetings

The NFP will continue to hold every two to three months (based on the progress of each project) meetings with each of the project promoters and the NGO Fund Intermediary in order to discuss implementation progress and possible problems that might arise until project completion. During the meetings, the technical and financial progress towards the achievement of the objectives set out in the Grant Offer Letter and the PIP will be reviewed.

Submission of PIRs

The PPs will submit PIRs to the NFP and after their verification by the Independent Auditors, these will be forwarded to the PA. The PA will proceed with payment claims to the FMO for reimbursement. In addition, the NFP will continue to process monthly payment claims in respect of the Project CY0011 and pre-finance incurred eligible expenses pending PIR submission and reimbursement by the FMO. All individual projects as well as the NGO Fund have as final eligibility date the 30th April 2011. As a result the final PIRs for all projects/Fund will be submitted to the FMO by 31 October 2011.

Submission of PCRs

The PPs upon the completion of their projects and submission of the last PIRs will prepare the Project Completion Report for each respective project/Fund which will provide the basis for evaluating the performance of the project and serve as the basis for the disbursement of the Grant retention amount as defined in the Grant Agreement. The submission of the PCRs is expected to take place between the end of 2011 and the beginning of 2012.

Submission of Annual Report

The Annual Report will be prepared by the NFP and submitted to the FMO one month prior to the Annual Meeting.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held in Nicosia in the last quarter of 2011 to draw final conclusions on the level of success of the implementation of the FM.

Audit Plan

The Internal Audit Service will carry out various audits for 2011, as per the audit plan in Annex 6.

On the Spot checks

The PA, in the context of its audit program, will undertake on the spot checks on projects co-financed by the Financial Mechanisms during the last quarter of 2010. The sample will include completed projects funded by the NGO Fund and the selection of the projects will be based on risk assessment analysis. In the case that is deemed necessary on the spot checks may also be carried out on individual projects. The objective is to ascertain that actions carried out are lawful, correct, the work for which the claim is submitted has actually been carried out and paid for and that there is compliance with the provisions of the relevant Regulations and Guidelines.

B10. Review of Annexes B and C of the MoUs

Articles 7 and 8 of the Memorandum of Understanding on the implementation of the EEA Financial Mechanism 2004-2009 stipulate that Annexes B and C shall be subject to review at the annual meetings. During the reporting period, no issues have arisen with regard to any modifications that need to be effected on the two Annexes.

C. ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Despite the delays faced by the one of the projects, regarding their tendering and contracting procedures, during the reporting period, there has been a substantial progress in the implementation of the FM since all projects are at an advanced state of implementation.

C1. Outstanding Issues

As regards the individual projects, the following outstanding issues are noted:

CY0011 – Revitalising the buffer zone - An educational centre and Home for Cooperation

- Need for securing additional funds in order to strengthen the project's sustainability.

As regards the remaining individual projects and the NGO Fund, there are no outstanding issues.

C2. Recommendations for the future reporting period

	Recommendation	Action	Timing
Individual Projects	Close monitoring of the implementation of the following individual project with tight time plan so that any problems are resolved immediately and delays are kept to a minimum: - CY0011 : Revitalising the buffer zone – An educational centre and Home for Cooperation.	Project Promoter	Continuous
	Close monitoring of the following project for early problem identification and immediate corrective actions for successful completion: - CY0012 : Preparation of an Integrated Management Plan for the Pafos Forest, in Cyprus	Project Promoter	Continuous
	Continuation and strengthening of efforts exerted by the PP of the following project for securing additional funds through donations etc in order to strengthen project sustainability: - CY0011 : Revitalising the buffer zone – An educational centre and Home for Cooperation.	Project Promoter	Continuous
NGO Fund	Close monitoring for successful implementation of sub projects	Intermediary	Continuous
General	Close monitoring of individual projects and of the NGO Fund for early problem identification and immediate corrective actions so that they are timely and successfully completed.	NFP	Continuous

D. ANNEXES

ANNEX 1

EEA – Norwegian Financial Mechanisms Grants 2004 – 2009
Contracts signed

No.	Project Title	Contract Title	Duration (months)	Amount in €
1.	Revitalising the buffer zone: An Educational Center and Home for Cooperation - CY0011	<u>Contract 1</u> “Acquisition of the Building”	-	454.490
		<u>Contract 2</u> “Project Management of Renovation works of the Project”	27	19.536 (incl.VAT)
		<u>Contract 3</u> “Consultancy Services”	22	60.400 (incl. VAT)
		<u>Contract 4</u> “Accounting Services”		3.000 (incl.VAT)
		<u>Contract 5</u> “Legal Services”		3.992
		<u>Contract 6</u> “Reconstruction of Educational Center and Home for Cooperation”	12	676.440 (incl. VAT)
				1,217,858
2.	Preparation of an Integrated Management Plan for the Pafos Forest, in Cyprus - CY0012	<u>Contract 1</u> Service contract “Preparation of an integrated Plan for the Pafos Forest”	24	321.770 (incl. VAT)
		<u>Contract 2</u> Various Supply Contracts “Equipment”	-	82.460 (incl. VAT)
				404.230
3.	Cyprus Archaeological Digitisation Programme – CADiP - CY0013	Recruitment of four Archaeologists	19	151.967
		<u>Contract 1</u>	24	230.000

No.	Project Title	Contract Title	Duration (months)	Amount in €
		“Supply, Installation, Implementation, Training, Operational Support and Maintenance of Hardware and Software System for the Requirements of Cyprus Archaeological Digitization System”		(+VAT) (280.858)
				381.967
4.	Restoration of Salamiou Village old school building, for use as a regional centre for environmental education - CY0014	<u>Contract 1</u> Works Contract “Restoration of the Building”	14	691.128 (incl. VAT)
		<u>Contract 2</u> Project Management	24	8.543
				699.671
5.	A zero CO2 emissions electricity generation prototype (ZeroCO2) - CY0015	<u>Contract 1</u> Equipment		402.488 (incl. VAT)
		<u>Contract 2</u> Purchase of Windturbine		205.850 (incl. VAT)
				608.338
	NGO Fund - CY0017	<u>Contract 1</u> “Management of the Fund for NGOs for the Republic of Cyprus”	22	146.250 (no VAT)
		33 Sub-Projects	12	1.520.511
				1.666.761

* The table above does not include various other contracts of a value less than €3000 eg for publicity purposes

ANNEX 2

LIST OF SUB-PROJECTS UNDER THE NGO FUND

Nr.	Title	Applicant Organisation	Partners	Empowerment of Young People in the Civil Society	Health and Childcare	Bi-communality	Bi-lateral relations	Project Budget €	NGO Fund Grant €	Funding Rate %
2	Antidote Plus	Theatre Antidote LTD	LARNACA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	59,781	52,667	88.10
3	Youth & Family Support Centre	LARNACA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT AGENCY	-	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	59,047	51,666	87.50
9	Evaluation of the development of hearing-impaired children after cochlear implantation and training parents and educators by specialised tutors on supporting the development and inclusion of deaf children in the general educational system and the society	Pancyprian Association of Parents of Children with Hearing Loss	-	No	Yes	No	No	52,296	47,066	90.00
10	PROMITHEAS - Multi-purpose Youth Centre	Sports and cultural union Promitheas	UNITED DEMOCRATIC YOUTH ORGANISATION	Yes	No	Yes	No	83,780	52,027	62.10
12	Let's Become the Generation of Reunification	United Democratic Youth Organisation	-	Yes	No	Yes	No	119,000	59,024	49.60
14	Multicultural Policy in Child Caring and Adoption	Cyprus Institute of Church and State Relations	Cyprus Centre of European, International Affairs	No	Yes	Yes	No	49,786	44,658	89.70
16	Cervical Cancer Prevention	Mendel Center for Biomedical Sciences	-	No	Yes	Yes	No	54,443	48,998	90.00
20	Empowering the Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Community	ADHD Cyprus	ADHD samtökin	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	59,520	48,807	82.00

Nr.	Title	Applicant Organisation	Partners	Empowerment of Young People in the Civil Society	Health and Childcare	Bi-communality	Bi-lateral relations	Project Budget €	NGO Fund Grant €	Funding Rate %
22	Upgrading of the services provided and methods used at "Kivotos" foundation for children with special needs	"KIVOTOS"	PAPHOS MUNICIPALITY	No	Yes	No	No	64,526	55,014	85.26
29	Unit for Early Hearing Diagnosis	Center for Preventive Paediatrics	Hearing Health Professionals	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	67,460	60,512	89.70
30	"Research on the relation of the Greek and Turkish Cypriot community between 1920-1974"	Athletic and cultural association Kavazoglu and Misiaoulis	UNITED DEMOCRATIC YOUTH ORGANISATION	Yes	No	Yes	No	61,000	53,253	87.30
34	Creation of a Snoezelen Room	Theotokos Foundation	-	No	Yes	No	No	53,549	48,194	90.00
45	Civil Society Growth, Strengthening and Empowerment Project	NGO Support Centre	The Management Centre of the Mediterranean	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	56,723	47,761	84.20
46	Mediation and Negotiation Skills as Forces of Development the Health and Youth Sectors in cyprus	Cyprus Mediation Services	Uzlasim Dernegi, National Mediation Service	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	48,363	43,430	89.80
47	Pachna Childcare facility	Pachna Community Volunteerism Council	-	No	Yes	No	No	59,602	53,642	90.00
50	PEGASUS	COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY OF VOLUNTEERISM OF AVGOROU	Hoyenhall School	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	27,225	18,974	69.69
56	A Roof for Tradition and Culture	Greek Lyceum of Famagusta	-	Yes	Yes	No	No	65,400	58,860	90.00
57	THEATRE IN THE PROMOTION OF GENDER EQUALITY AWARENESS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	MEDITERANNEAN INSTITUTE OF GENDER STUDIES	Rooftop Theatre Group, Cyprus Family Planning Association	Yes	Yes	No	No	23,425	20,731	88.50

Nr.	Title	Applicant Organisation	Partners	Empowerment of Young People in the Civil Society	Health and Childcare	Bi-communality	Bi-lateral relations	Project Budget €	NGO Fund Grant €	Funding Rate %
59	The SANNA Project: Empowering Children and Youth through Language Revival	Association "Hki Fi Sanna"	Peace Research Institute, Cyprus Centre, Várdobáiki Sami Centre	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	60,829	49,940	82.10
62	Software application development for the creation of an equal opportunity environment for the vulnerable social groups	Pan Cyprian Volunteerism Coordinative Council	Itanos Consulting Organization	No	Yes	No	No	60,186	51,158	85.00
65	Children of Cyprus and Human Rights	HFC: "Hope for Children" Office for Children's Rights	Commissioner for Children's Rights	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	40,611	33,017	81.30
79	Development and Improvement of the Services of the Red Cross Home for Children with Disabilities	Cyprus Red Cross Society	SOR Foundation	No	Yes	No	Yes	59,613	53,652	90.00
80	Pregnancy in Congenital Heart Disease	Association of Parents and Friends of Children with Heart Disease	Thallo Foundation for Specialized Pediatrics	Yes	Yes	No	No	46,560	39,576	85.00
85	EDUCATORS AND PARENTS AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION AND HANDLING OF VIOLENCE IN THE FAMILY	Cyprus Family Planning Association, Pancyprrian Federation of Parents Association of Primary Education	Yes	Yes	No	No	46,000	41,400	90.00
87	Ouranio Toxo	Nicosia Municipality Multifunctional Foundation (NMMF)	-	No	Yes	No	No	67,464	49,560	73.46
88	Empowerment Through Political Participation	Foundation of Social and Political Sciences	-	Yes	No	Yes	No	47,810	42,551	89.00
94	Extension of capacity of Lion's Child Care Centre	Lions Infant and Childcare Centre of Strovolos Industrial Estate	-	No	Yes	No	No	262,000	49,780	19.00

Nr.	Title	Applicant Organisation	Partners	Empowerment of Young People in the Civil Society	Health and Childcare	Bi-communality	Bi-lateral relations	Project Budget €	NGO Fund Grant €	Funding Rate %
95	Palehori Youth Cultural Centre	Iraklis Palehoriou	-	Yes	No	No	No	102,500	51,250	50.00
98	Building Capacity to Deliver Results	Open Therapeutic Community of Addicted Persons "Tolmi"	-	No	Yes	No	No	50,931	45,838	90.00
102	Our Children Matter Initiative	The Cyprus Association of Cancer Patients and Friends	CYPRUS PEDIATRIC SOCIETY, Cyprus Dieticians & Nutrition Association, KIVOTOS ELPIDA	Yes	Yes	No	No	85,433	40,153	47.00
106	Educating Medical Personnel in Haemovigilance	Cyprus Thalassaemia Society	Ministry of Health	No	Yes	No	Yes	34,340	30,906	90.00
110	Thalassaemia Specific Electronic Communications	Thalassaemia International Federation	THALASSAEMIA DERNEGI	No	Yes	Yes	No	65,290	52,885	81.00
112	PROYENT	University of Nicosia Research Foundation	Mediation Association	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	31,668	23,561	74.40

ANNEX 3

Copy of Article for the project CY0012

Ετοιμασία του Διαχειριστικού Σχεδίου του δάσους Πάφου

ΤΑΚΗΣ ΤΣΙΝΤΙΔΗΣ
Ανώτερος Συντηρητής Δασών
στο Τμήμα Δασών

Μέσα στο φθινόπωρο του 2008 άρχισε η υλοποίηση Προγράμματος που συγχρηματοδοτείται από το Χρηματοδοτικό Μηχανισμό του Ευρωπαϊκού Χώρου (Νορβηγία, Ισλανδία, Λιχτενστάιν) και από εθνικούς πόρους. Τίτλος του Προγράμματος είναι «Ετοιμασία Ολοκληρωμένου Διαχειριστικού Σχεδίου για το Δάσος Πάφου». Ανάδοχος Φορέας είναι το Τμήμα Δασών με συμμετοχή του Ταμείου Θήρας, της Υπηρεσίας Περιβάλλοντος, του Γραφείου Προγραμματισμού, της Ομοσπονδίας Περιβαλλοντικών Οργανώσεων και της Ένωσης Κοινοτήτων. Στη συνέχεια του άρθρου δίνονται όλες οι απαραίτητες πληροφορίες σχετικά με το σημαντικό αυτό Διαχειριστικό Σχέδιο.

Οι κύριοι στόχοι του έργου είναι οι εξής:

- Εκπόνηση διαχειριστικού σχεδίου για το Δάσος Πάφου.
- Εκπόνηση διαχειριστικού σχεδίου για το Αγρινό.
- Ετοιμασία 10 σχεδίων παρακολούθησης για ισάριθμους προστατευόμενους τύπους οικοτόπων και ειδών χλωρίδας και πανίδας.
- Δημιουργία ηλεκτρονικής γεωγραφικής βάσης δεδομένων για τη διαχείριση των φυσικών πόρων του δάσους.
- Απόκτηση εξοπλισμού (οχημάτων, ηλεκτρονικών υπολογιστών, γεωγραφικά συστήματα πληροφοριών - GIS κτλ.).
- Εκπαίδευση προσωπικού (Τμήματος Δασών, Ταμείου Θήρας και Υπηρεσίας Περιβάλλοντος).

Γενικά στοιχεία του Έργου

- Περίοδος Υλοποίησης: 1.09.2008 – 28.02.2011 (30 μήνες).
- Προϋπολογισμός: €600.000.
- Ανάδοχος Φορέας: Τμήμα Δασών.
- Συμμετέχοντες Φορείς: Ταμείο Θήρας, Υπηρεσία Περιβάλλοντος, Γραφείο Προγραμματισμού, Ομοσπονδία Περιβαλλοντικών Οργανώσεων και Ένωση Κοινοτήτων.
- Άλλες Υπηρεσίες: Τμήματα Γεωλογικής Επισκόπησης, Αναπτύξεως Υδάτων, Κτηματολογίου και Χωρομετρίας, Πολεοδομίας και Οικήσεως, Επαρχιακές Διοικήσεις Λευκωσίας, Λεμεσού και Πάφου, ΚΟΤ κ.ά.



Γεφύρι Τζελεφού: Εντικό γεφύρι, προστατευόμενο αρχαίο μνημείο στις παρυφές του δάσους Πάφου

Το Δάσος Πάφου

Είναι το μεγαλύτερο δασικό σύμπλεγμα της Κύπρου με έκταση 60.000 εκτάρια ή 600 Km², που καλύπτει το 11% του εδάφους της ελεύθερης Κύπρου. Επεκτείνεται από τον Καθοπαναγιώτη και Λεμύθου στα ανατολικά, μέχρι τον Πύργο Τηλήνρας και Αργάκα στο βορρά, τη Λυσό και Παναγιά στα δυτικά και την Αρμίνου, Άγιο Νικόλαο και Φοινί στα νότια.

Φιλοξενεί τα πιο εκτεταμένα πευκοδάση, τα μοναδικά φυσικά δάση του ενδημικού κέδρου και τα πιο πλούσια πλατάνια και παραποτάμια ή παρόχθια δάση (πλάτανου και κληθράς). Είναι ο μοναδικός βιότοπος του ενδημικού αγρινού και πολλών άλλων ενδημικών, σπάνιων ή προστατευόμενων ειδών πανί-

δας. Η κληρίδα του περιλαμβάνει σπάνια και προστατευόμενα φυτά, μεταξύ των οποίων και 4 ενδημικά που δεν απαντούν πουθενά αλλού στην Κύπρο ή στον πλανήτη: *Ranunculus kykkoensis*, *Eryssimum kykkoticum*, *Cedrus brevifolia* και το *Origanum cordifolium*.

Στο Δάσος Πάφου υπάρχουν περίπου 35 Κοινότητες που επηρεάζονται άμεσα από τη διαχείρισή του, αφού τους προσφέρει διάφορα οφέλη, όπως εργοδότηση, δασικά προϊόντα, αισθητικές αξίες, αναψυχή, νερό για ύδρευση και άρδευση, καθαρό αέρα κ.ά.

Ο υδρολογικός ρόλος του Δάσους είναι αξιόλογος αφού τα πολλά ποτάμια που το διασχίζουν τροφοδοτούν 11 υδατοφράκτες, ενώ αναρίθμητες δασικές πηγές δίνουν το καθαρό νερό τους για ύδρευση. Από το 1945 έχει κηρυχθεί σε απαγορευμένη περιοχή κυνηγιού για προστασία του αγρινού. Δύο περιοχές του, η Κοιλάδα Κέδρων και οι Μαύροι Γκρεμιοί έχουν κηρυχθεί ως Φυσικά Αποθέματα (Nature Reserves) για απόλυτη προστασία της φύσης. Ολόκληρο το Δάσος έχει ενταχθεί στο ευρωπαϊκό Δίκτυο ΦΥΣΗ 2000 και αυτό δημιουργεί υποχρεώσεις ως προς τον τρόπο διαχείρισής του.

Πρόδος του Έργου

Η υλοποίηση του Έργου εξελίσσεται σύμφωνα με το εγκεκριμένο χρονοδιάγραμμα. Τα εγκαίνια του Έργου τέλεσε ο Υπουργός Γεωργίας, Φυσικών Πόρων και Περιβάλλοντος κ. Μιχάλης Ποηυνείκης, στις 30 Απριλίου 2009, στη Λευκωσία. Το πρώτο εξάμνη αφιερώθηκε στην ετοιμασία εγγράφων διαγωνισμών κυρίως για την αγορά υπηρεσιών εμπειρογνομόνων για την ετοιμασία των Μελετών που περιλαμβάνονται στο Έργο, αλλά και για την αγορά εξοπλισμού.

Δασικοί υπάλληλοι της Περιφέρειας Πάφου μετά από σχετική εκπαίδευση, χαρτογράφησαν μετά από 8 μήνες εργασία πεδίου τη δασική βλάστηση σε ολόκληρη την έκταση του Δάσους αξιοποιώντας δορυφορικές εικόνες και ειδικό εξοπλισμό. Παράλληλα, προσωπικό του Ταμείου Θήρας, συλλέγει πληροφορίες για το αγρινό και την πτηνοπανίδα.

Το πιο σημαντικό βήμα στο Έργο ήταν η υπογραφή των συμβολαίων και ανάθεση της εκπόνησης των Διαχειριστικών Σχεδίων και άλλων προβλεπόμενων δραστηριοτήτων, μετά από ανοικτό διαγωνισμό, στις 10 Μαρτίου του 2009. Ο ανάδοχος είναι κοινοπραξία Ελληνικών φορέων, ενώ η ομάδα εμπειρογνομόνων αριθμεί 13 ειδικότητες, ως εξής: Συντονιστής Δασολόγος, Δασική Οικολογία, Δασικές Πυρκαγιές, Υπαίθρια Αναψυχή, Δασική Διαχείριση, Αγρινό, Βοτανική-Οικοτόπους, Πτηνολόγος, Ερπετολόγος, Νυχτερίδες, Εντομολόγος, Γεωγραφικά Συστήματα Πληροφοριών, Κυπριακή Δασοπονία. Τα μέλη της ομάδας έργου είναι ερευνητές ή ακαδημαϊκοί, καθώς και επιστήμονες με πρακτική εμπειρία.

Ο εξοπλισμός που προβλέπεται στο Έργο έχει ήδη αποκτηθεί. Οι επαφές με τις τοπικές αρχές και άλλες αρμόδιες υπηρεσίες συνεχίζονται. Το έργο παρουσιάστηκε σε δύο συγκεντρώσεις που έγιναν στις 8 και 9 Σεπτεμβρίου στην Αγία Μαρίνα και στον Κάμπο Τσακκίστρας. Διάφορα ερωτηματολόγια έχουν ετοιμαστεί και διανεμηθεί, ενώ παράλληλα αναρτήθηκε ιστοσελίδα του έργου στο διαδίκτυο (www.pafosforest.eu).

Το Διαχειριστικό Σχέδιο του Δάσους Πάφου

Το Σχέδιο αυτό χωρίζεται σε δύο μέρη, το Περιγραφικό και το Μέρος που θα περιλαμβάνει τις διαχειριστικές προτάσεις. Το πρώτο μέρος αναμένεται να παραδοθεί το Μάρτιο του 2010, ενώ ολόκληρο το Διαχειριστικό Σχέδιο τον Οκτώβριο του 2010. Θα παρουσιαστεί δημόσια, στο κοινό, στις



Αγρινό (*Ovis gmelini ophion*), η διατήρησή του απαιτεί σχεδιασμένη διαχείριση



Eryssimum kykkoticum: 1.000 φυτά του είδους σε ολόκληρο τον πλανήτη, σε μια κοιλάδα του Δάσους Πάφου

Κοινότητες, στις άλλες Υπηρεσίες και στην Επιστημονική Επιτροπή. Αφού οριστικοποιηθεί θα εγκριθεί από τον Υπουργό Γεωργίας, Φυσικών Πόρων και Περιβάλλοντος. Η υλοποίησή του θα αρχίσει, αμέσως, από το 2011 με λήξη το 2020, οπότε και θα αναθεωρηθεί και πάλι σύμφωνα με τα δεδομένα που θα υπάρχουν. Μια ενδιάμεση αναθεώρηση μπορεί να γίνει και στο μέσο της δεκαετίας, αν κριθεί σκόπιμο. Η υλοποίηση του Σχεδίου θα γίνεται από το Τμήμα Δασών και θα παρακολουθείται από Διαχειριστική Επιτροπή που θα προεδρεύεται από το Τμήμα Δασών και στην οποία θα συμμετέχουν και άλλες Υπηρεσίες, οι Τοπικές Αρχές και Περιβαλλοντικοί Σύνδεσμοι.

Το Διαχειριστικό Σχέδιο του Αγρινού



Hieeraetus fasciatus: Σπένιος αετός, που βρίσκεται στο χείλος της εξαφάνισης



Το κυπριακό κέδρο (*Cedrus brevifolia*): φυσικές συστάδες του βρίσκονται μόνο στο Δάσος Πάφου και πουθενά αλλού στον κόσμο

Θα ετοιμαστεί από τον εμπειρογνώμονα που είναι καθηγητής Πανεπιστημίου της Θεσσαλίας, με πληροφορίες και στοιχεία που θα δοθούν από το Ταμείο Θήρας. Η απασχόληση του αφορά όλες τις πτυχές της διαχείρισης, αναλύοντας και αξιολογώντας τα σημερινά δεδομένα, αριθμούς, συνθήκες και προβλήματα, όπως η λιθοροθρία και οι ζημιές στις καλλιέργειες και θα διατυπώνει σαφείς και μετρήσιμους κατά το δυνατόν, διαχειριστικούς στόχους. Θα καταλήγει με τη διατύπωση μέτρων που θα πρέπει να υλοποιηθούν για να επιτευχθούν οι στόχοι, κοστολόγηση των μέτρων, χρονοδιαγράμματα και τρόπο υλοποίησης. Το Σχέδιο θα συζητηθεί από τη Συντονιστική Επιτροπή Διαχείρισης του Αγρινού και θα εγκριθεί από τους Υπουργούς Εσωτερικών και Γεωργίας, Φυσικών Πόρων και Περιβάλλοντος, με ισχύ για 10 έτη. Θα υλοποιείται από το Ταμείο Θήρας, ενώ βασικές του πρόνοιες θα ενσωματωθούν στο Διαχειριστικό Σχέδιο του Δάσους.

Τα Σχέδια παρακολούθησης

Τα Σχέδια Παρακολούθησης θα περιγράφουν τον τρόπο που θα λαμβάνονται απαραίτητες μετρήσεις πεδίου για συγκεκριμένα είδη πανίδας, χλωρίδας και οικοτόπους, με στόχο να μπορεί να εκτιμηθεί το επίπεδο της κατάστασης διατήρησης (conservation status) του είδους ή του οικοτόπου, που είναι και η απαίτηση της Οδηγίας των Οικοτόπων. Το προσωπικό των αρμόδιων Υπηρεσιών θα εκπαιδευτεί στην εφαρμογή αυτών των Σχεδίων και στην ανάληψη / αξιολόγηση των πληροφοριών που θα λαμβάνονται. Όλα τα Σχέδια θα υλοποιηθούν πιστοτικά κατά τη διάρκεια του προγράμματος.

Οφέλη από το Έργο

- Είναι το πρώτο ολοκληρωμένο διαχειριστικό Σχέδιο προστατευόμενης, αλλιά και δασικής περιοχής στην Κύπρο.
- Θα συμβάλει στην εκπλήρωση υποχρεώσεων της Κύπρου προς την ΕΕ.
- Το προσωπικό των Υπηρεσιών θα εκπαιδευτεί σε θέματα διαχείρισης και παρακολούθησης.
- Για πρώτη φορά εισάγονται διαφανείς και συμμετοχικές στη διαχείριση των κρατικών δασών, οπότε οι τοπικές κοινωνίες και οι περιβαλλοντιστές θα έχουν πλέον λόγο στις αποφάσεις που θα παίρνονται. ■

Annex 4

Copies of Press Articles for the NGO Fund

Project No.: NGOFUND/CY/087
Project Title: Ouranio Toxo

Newspaper: Politis – Tuesday, 5.1.2010

Πολυδύναμο Δημοτικό Κέντρο

Πρόγραμμα «Ουράνιο Τόξο»

Το Πολυδύναμο Δημοτικό Κέντρο Λευκωσίας ανακοινώνει τη λειτουργία του προγράμματος "Ουράνιο Τόξο".

Η λειτουργία του "Ουράνιου Τόξου" πραγματοποιείται με χρηματοδότηση κατά 90% από τα ταμεία της Ισλανδίας, Λίχτενσταϊν και Νορβηγίας μέσω του Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου και των Νορβηγικών Μηχανισμών και της Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας μέσω του Γραφείου Προγραμματισμού.

Το "Ουράνιο Τόξο" έχει ως βασικό στόχο τη δημιουργική απασχόληση παιδιών μετά τη λήξη του σχολικού προγράμματος και κατά τη διάρκεια των σχολικών διακοπών, μέσω ενός προγράμματος εκπαιδευτικών δραστηριοτήτων (θέατρο, γυμναστική, τέχνη, βοήθεια με τα σχολικά μαθήματα) με απώτερο σκοπό την αποδέσμευση των εργαζόμενων γονέων των παιδιών, κυρίως των μητέρων τους, διευκολύνοντας την ένταξη ή παραμονή τους στην αγορά εργασίας και τη συμφύλιωση της οικογενειακής και επαγγελματικής ζωής.

Στο Πρόγραμμα μπορούν να συμμετάσχουν παιδιά ηλικίας 5 έως 12 ετών, με περιοχή διαμονής το Δήμο Λευκωσίας (και ιδιαίτερα την εντός των τειχών πόλη) που προέρχονται από μονογονεϊκές ή / και πολύτεκνες οικογένειες. Το "Ουράνιο Τόξο" θα λειτουργεί καθημερινά, από Δευτέρα μέχρι Παρασκευή, από τη 1:30 μ.μ. μέχρι τις 5:30 μ.μ. κατά τη διάρκεια του σχολικού έτους, και από τις 7:30 π.μ. μέχρι τις 4:00 μ.μ. κατά τη διάρκεια των καλοκαιρινών διακοπών.

Για περισσότερες πληροφορίες και για τη συμπλήρωση εντύπου εκδήλωσης ενδιαφέροντος για συμμετοχή στο Πρόγραμμα, οι ενδιαφερόμενοι μπορούν να αποσταθούν μεταξύ των ωρών 07:30 - 17:30, στο τηλ: 22 877856 - 22 877860.



ΠΟΛΙΤΗΣ
Τρίτη, 5 Ιανουαρίου 2010, p. 59



Project No.: NGOFUND/CY/020

Project Title: Empowerment of the ADHD Community

Newspaper: The Cyprus Weekly – 11-17 December 2009

THE CYPRUS WEEKLY

DECEMBER 11 - 17, 2009

MARKET NEWS 15

ADD-ADHD Cyprus Walk-In Centre opens

ADD-ADHD Cyprus yesterday officially opened its Walk-In Centre at 8, Stavrou St, Nicosia. The Expanded Centre in Cyprus is devoted to helping those with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (AD/HD) through a multi disciplinary team.

This Walk-In Centre is the culmination of nine years of hard work by an

amazing group of volunteers who strive to improve the lives of all of those affected by AD/HD," said Susan Chrysostomou, Founder and Executive Director of ADD-ADHD Cyprus.

ADD-ADHD Cyprus is a voluntary association that provides support, information, education and advocacy to support its vision of an integrated and

empowered AD/HD community.

AD/HD is a neurobiological disorder that experts estimate affects 3-5% of school age children. Children and adults with AD/HD experience chronic difficulties with inattention, impulsivity and/or hyperactivity.

Without early identification and appropriate treatment, AD/HD can

have serious consequences that include school failure and drop out, depression, failed relationships, underachievement in the workplace, and substance abuse.

With the Walk-In Centre, ADD-ADHD Cyprus will expand its services to the AD/HD community.

In addition to monthly meetings, and lectures,

a website (www.add-adhd.org.cy) and newsletter, we will now offer an AD/HD library, regular parent/teacher training, life skills, special education lessons (primary & secondary), occupational therapy, speech and language therapy and also psycho educational assessments. Special thanks goes to the EEA NGO FUND for funding the

programme "Empowering the ADHD Community in Cyprus" as well as the collaboration with the ministries of Education and Health, which have encouraged us in our mission", explained Susan Chrysostomou.

For more information, please contact Susan Chrysostomou, ADD-ADHD Cyprus, +357 22 445502 or +357 99 651993.

Project No.: NGOFUND/CY/022
 Project Title: Upgrading of the Services provided and
 Methods used at "KIVOTOS" Foundation for children with
 special needs

Newspaper: Phileleftheros – Wednesday, 18.11.2009

Χρήματα της Ευρώπης για την «Κιβωτό»

Θα εγκατασταθεί ένα καινούργιο και τεχνολογικά αναβαθμισμένο πολυαισθητηριακό δωμάτιο

ΧΡΗΜΑΤΟΔΟΤΗΣΗ ύψους 55 χιλιάδων ευρώ έχει επιτύχει η Πάφος για πρόγραμμα στήριξης παιδιών με ειδικές ανάγκες από την Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση στο πλαίσιο του προγράμματος «Υγεία και Φροντίδα του Παιδιού». Η χρηματοδότηση εγκρίθηκε για το Ίδρυμα «Κιβωτός», το οποίο υπέβαλε τη σχετική αίτηση σε συνεργασία με τον Δήμο Πάφου.

Μιλώντας κτές στον «Φ» ο δημοτικός σύμβουλος και πρόεδρος του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου Νεολαίας Πάφου, Χρύσανθος Σαββίδης, τόνισε ότι η «Κιβω-

τό» και η δημοτική αρχή εγκρίθηκαν στο πρόγραμμα χρηματοδότησης μη κυβερνητικών οργανισμών στο πλαίσιο του οικονομικού μηχανισμού της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης και του Νορβηγικού Μηχανισμού 2004-2009 για την Κυπριακή Δημοκρατία.

Οι χώρες που ηγήθηκαν της χρηματοδότησης των μη κυβερνητικών οργανισμών, τόνισε ο κ. Σαββίδης, είναι η Νορβηγία, η Ισλανδία, τα Λιχτενστάιν και η Κύπρος.

Το έργο τα οποία εγκρίθηκε για την

«Κιβωτό» περιλαμβάνει αναβάθμιση των υπηρεσιών και των μεθόδων που χρησιμοποιούνται για παιδιά με ειδικές ανάγκες ηλικίας μέχρι 21 ετών στο ίδρυμα.

Περιλαμβάνονται επίσης αγορά σύγχρονου τεχνολογικού εξοπλισμού και εκπαίδευση και επιμόρφωση προσωπικού και γονέων.

Ο Χρύσανθος Σαββίδης ανακοίνωσε ότι βόλεσε της απόφασης για ευρωπαϊκή χρηματοδότηση, ένα καινούργιο και τεχνολογικά αναβαθμισμένο πολυαι-

σθητηριακό δωμάτιο θα εγκατασταθεί και θα χρησιμοποιείται για την ενθάρρυνση της επικοινωνίας και της συνεργασίας με τη βελτίωση της αντίληψης, την προφορά δύσκολων λέξεων, την ενεργό δράση και ανάπτυξη σε γενικά, την ενδυνάμωση της μνήμης και άλλα.

«Ο καινούργιος εξοπλισμός της Κιβωτού», είπε ο πρόεδρος του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου Νεολαίας, «θα υποβοηθήσει στην αντιμετώπιση κοινωνιολογικών προβλημάτων, στην ανάπτυξη

συντονισμού κινήσεων και στην ανάπτυξη της αυτοκριτικής τους».

Η «Κιβωτό» στεγάζεται σε κενό κλειστό στην εθελοντική συνεισφορά κάποιων δημοτών. Στο τμήμα Πάφου της οργάνωσης περιβάλλονται σήμερα στα 30 παιδιά με προβλήματα αβάρης μορφής, ενώ όπως είπε ο δημοτικός σύμβουλος του ΔΗΚΟ εκκρεμούν άλλες 18 αιτήσεις γονέων για ένταξη των δικών τους παιδιών στα προγράμματα της «Κιβωτού».

ΝΤΟΦΑ ΧΡΙΣΤΟΛΟΥΤΑ

Project No.: NGOFUND/CY/012

Project Title: Let 's Become the Generation of Reunification

Newspaper: Phileleftheros – Friday, 16.1.2010

Δικοινοτικό πρόγραμμα από την ΕΔΟΝ

Η ΕΔΟΝ ανέλαβε την πραγματοποίηση ενός δικοινοτικού σχεδίου - προγράμματος υπό τον τίτλο «Let's become the generation of reunification», που συγχρηματοδοτείται από την Ισλανδία, το Λίχτενσταϊν και τη Νορβηγία μέσω του Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού του Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονομικού Χώρου (ΕΟΧ) και του Νορβηγικού Χρηματοδοτικού Μηχανισμού και της Κυπριακής Δημοκρατίας. Η επαναπροσέγγιση, τονίζει η ΕΔΟΝ, ήταν και παραμένει πολύ ψηλά στις πολιτικές προτεραιότητες της

και αποτελεί κεντρικό σημείο αναφοράς στην όλη δραστηριότητα και δράση που αναπτύσσει για επανένωση του κυπριακού λαού.

Στα πλαίσια του σχεδίου εντάσσεται μεγάλος αριθμός εκδηλώσεων που έχουν χαρακτήρα δικοινοτικό όπως το παγκύπριο και δικοινοτικό περιφερειακά φεστιβάλ της ΕΔΟΝ, η ετήσια παγκύπρια εκδρομή στο Τρόοδος, το δεκαήμερο επαναπροσέγγισης το οποίο περιλαμβάνει συζητήσεις στογγυλές τραπέζης και διασκέψεις τύπου.

Project No.: NGOFUND/CY/034
Project Title: Creation of a Snoezelen Room

Newspaper: Phileleftheros – Sunday, 21.2.2010

21 ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ 2010



Ο πρόεδρος της Νορβηγίας στο Ίδρυμα «Θεοτόκος»

Ο πρόεδρος της Νορβηγίας Sverre Stub επισκέφθηκε το Ίδρυμα «Θεοτόκος» στις 2 Φεβρουαρίου 2010 για να αξιολογήσει τη βοήθεια στην οποία συνέβαλε και η χώρα του και μάλιστα κατ' εξαίρεση, σε μεγαλύτερο βαθμό, για να μπορέσει το «Θεοτόκος» να κατασκευάσει και λειτουργήσει χώρο πολυαισθητηριακής αγωγής (snoezelen) με στόχο να βοηθήσει τα παιδιά με βαριά νοητική υστέρηση στην εκπαίδευση και γενικά στην καλύτερη προσαρμοστική τους αγωγή. Στη φωτογραφία ο πρόεδρος ξεναγείται από τον πρόεδρο του ιδρύματος Αμέριο Αργυρίου.

Project No.: NGU-FUNU/CY/080

Project Title: Pregnancy in Congenital Heart Disease

Newspaper: Phileletheros – Saturday, 21.11.2009

Εγκυμοσύνη και συγγενείς καρδιοπάθειες

Ιατρικό Συνέδριο με διακεκριμένους επιστήμονες από το εξωτερικό

Η ΠΡΟΟΠΤΙΚΗ μιας εγκυμοσύνης για τις νεαρές γυναίκες με εκτετατές καρδιοπάθειες ήταν κάτι ανέφικτο και οι διοτιθέτες ήταν από τους γιατρούς τους, ήταν να αποφύγουν, κάτι τέτοιο. Σήμερα, η προοπτική αυτή είναι πλέον εφικτή, δεδομένου ότι γίνεται σωστός προγραμματισμός και η μέλλουσα μητέρα βρίσκεται κάτω από την κατάλληλη επίβλεψη. Οι νεαρές γυναίκες με φυσικό όργανο λειτουργία ή με ελαφριά αμυοδινομυοκαρδιοπάθεια, μπο-

ρούν να τεκνοποιήσουν χωρίς ιδιαίτε-
ρους κινδύνους. Σημαντικές διαφο-
ρές υπάρχουν, πολλοί όγκοι καρ-
διοπαθειών με σημαντικά αμυοδινομυο-
κά προβλήματα. Οι ασθενείς καρ-
διοπαθείς απαιτούν στην εγκυμοσύ-
νη, μπορεί να επιβαρυνθούν την αμνο-
δινομυοκαρδιοπάθειά τους με πιθανές
ροβρές και επιπλοκές επιπλοκές. Ση-
μαντικές περιπτώσεις χρειάζεται εφε-
δών, διαφόρων ειδικοτήτων με ειδί-
κευση και ειδικές γνώσεις στον τομέα
αυτόν, για να μπορέσουν οι γυναίκες να
φέρουν σε πέρας την εγκυμοσύνη και
να γίνουν τις καρδιές της μητρότητας με
ασφάλεια. Οι ειδικές με σύγχρονη καρ-
διοπάθεια και εγκυμοσύνη είναι το θέ-
μα που θα συζητηθεί ιατρικό συνέ-
δριο που διοργανώνουν σήμερα στη
Λευκωσία, από τις 9 π.μ. - 4 μ.μ. στο Πο-
λιτιστικό Θέατρο της Επαρχίας Μονής Κυ-
κου στον Αρχαγέλιο, το κέντρο Εξειδι-
κευμένης Παιδιατρικής, στο Παιδί» και

ο Διευθυντής Ιστών και Φύλων Καρ-
διοπαθών Παιδιών, Σκοπός του συνε-
δρίου είναι να ενημερωθεί και ευαι-
σθητοποιήσει τους Κύριους γιατρούς
για τα θέματα που αφορούν την εγκυ-
μοσύνη σε γυναίκες με συγγενείς καρ-
διοπάθειες. Τα θέματα που θα συζητη-
θούν θα αναπτυχθούν διακεκριμένοι για-
τροί από το εξωτερικό, ενώ θα γίνει προ-
σέλευση να δημιουργηθεί μια ομάδα
από γιατρούς διαφόρων ειδικοτήτων
στην Κύπρο για την παροχή αυτής της

εξειδικευμένης φροντίδας στις γυναί-
κες αυτές, το πρόγραμμα χρηματοδο-
τείται από την Ισπανία, Λιχτενστάιν και
Νορβηγία μέσω του Χρηματοδοτικού
Μηχανισμού του Ευρωπαϊκού Οικονο-
μικού Χώρου, του Νορβηγικού Χρημα-
τοδοτικού Μηχανισμού και της Κυπρια-
κής Δημοκρατίας. Στο πλαίσιο αυτού του
έργου θα πραγματοποιηθεί ακόμα ένα
συνέδριο το 2010 καθώς και εκστρα-
τεία ενημέρωσης.

ΚΙΚΑ ΚΑΖΙΜΙΔΟΥ

Annex 5

FINANCIAL STATUS OF THE EEA FM AS AT 31/08/2010

**EEA AND NORWEGIAN FINANCIAL MECHANISM
PAYING AUTHORITY
TREASURY OF THE REPUBLIC**

FINANCIAL STATUS OF FINANCIAL MECHANISMS FUNDS

			EEA FM			NORWEGIAN FM			National Budget		PP CO-FINANCING	
Projects	Estimated Eligible Project Cost	Contracted until April 2010	EEA FM Allocation	Disbursed by FMO	%	NORWEGIAN FM Allocation	Disbursed by FMO	%	National Budget Co-financing	Disbursed	Project Promoter Co-financing	Disbursed
CY0011 - Revitalising the "Buffer Zone": An Educational Center and Home for Cooperation	1,022,804.00 ¹	1,217,858.00	332,740.00	246,829.00	74%	417,180.00	309,467.00	74%	54,560.00	604.00	218,324.00 ²	1,064.00
CY0012 - Preparation of an Integrated Management Plan for the Pafos Forest in Cyprus	536,500.00	404,230.00	447,226.00	246,278.00	55%	0.00	0.00	n/a	89,274.00	49,161.00	0.00	0.00
CY0013 - Cyprus Archaeological Digitisation Programme - CADiP	394,967.00	381,967.00	0.00	0.00	n/a	281,809.00	84,481.00	30%	113,158.00	33,922.00	0.00	0.00

CY0014 - Restoration of Salamiou village old school building, for use as a regional centre for environmental education	735,040.00	699,671.00	0.00	0.00	n/a	624,784.00	298,758.00	48%	22,050.00	10,544.00	88,206.00	42,178.00
CY0015 - A zero CO ₂ emissions electricity generation prototype (ZeroCO ₂)	886,535.00	608,338.00	0.00	0.00	n/a	748,856.00	81,096.00	11%	27,535.00	2,982.00	110,144.00	11,928.00
TOTAL FOR PROJECTS	3,575,846.00	3,312,064.00	779,966.00	493,107.00		2,072,629.00	773,802.00		306,577.00	97,213.00	416,674.00	55,170.00
CY0017 - NGO Fund	1,667,000.00	1,666,761.00	404,991.00	359,949.00	89%	1,094,976.00	973,195.00	89%	167,033.00	143,574.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL GRANT	5,242,846.00	4,978,825.00	1,184,957.00	853,056.00	72%	3,167,605.00	1,746,997.00	55%	473,610.00	240,787.00	416,674.00	55,170.00

NOTES

1. Total cost amounts to €1.272.722
2. This amount includes Project Promoter co-financing of €100.000 and Swiss Contribution of €118.324
3. Cut-off date is 31/08/2010
4. The contracted amount does not include staff salaries and other expenses for which no contracts need to be signed

Annex 6

Audit Plan

In accordance with the Rules and Procedures, the financial control and auditing of projects should be conducted in compliance with applicable rules ensuring the efficient and correct use of available funds, the complete and sufficient audit trails in all institutions and the effective financial control and audits of approved projects. These tasks are undertaken by the Internal Audit Service through the auditing of approved projects financed from the Financial Mechanisms as well as through the conducting of on the spot checks. The Internal Audit Service ensures on the basis of risk analysis that the projects are audited to an adequate extent.

The weighted risk criteria used for the selection of projects to be audited involve the following:

- Complexity relating to the implementation of the project and its complexity (type of expenditure/project/contracts)
- Project budget amount/amount of Grant approved
- The risk associated with the PP (nature of the PP/prior experience in the implementation of EU co financed projects)
- Relativity of project with the PP's normal line of business

Based on the results of the Risk Assessment Model conducted, the following two projects that have ranked as first and second respectively and will be audited by 2011:

- (1) CY0011-Revitalizing the buffer zone- An Educational Centre and Home for Cooperation – PP: Association of Historical Dialogue and Research
- (2) CY0014-Restoration of Salamiou Village old school building, for use as a regional centre for environmental education- PP: Salamiou Village Council

Although the NGO Fund due to its specificities, was not included in the above mentioned Risk Assessment procedure, it was decided that the NGO Fund will be audited. The audit may be carried out from three distinct perspectives as follows:

- The selection/procurement procedure for the NGO Fund Intermediary (at the level of the NFP)-carried out in September 2009
- A system audit at the level of the NGO Fund Intermediary, if deemed necessary
- Project audits at the level of individual projects selected

2010 Audit Plan (Fourth Quarter)

The Internal Audit Service has planned for 2010 to carry out project audits on projects selected under the NGO Fund that will be completed. These Projects will be selected for audit using the random sampling method and the project audits coverage will range approximately between 10%-15% of the Fund.

As regards the audit of the individual projects, a complementary audit will be carried out for the Project CY0014, "Restoration of Salamiou Village old school building", upon its completion. As far as the audit for the second individual project CY0011, Revitalizing the buffer zone- An Educational Centre and Home for Cooperation, is concerned, this will concentrate on the contracting/public procurement procedures followed. This audit was planned for 2009 but due to the delay in the launching of the tendering process, it will be carried out during the fourth quarter of 2010.