

## ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES

### Call for partners to Develop Innovative Actions on the Initiative Power of Citizens

ALDA is launching the **call for partners to Develop Innovative Actions on the Initiative Power of Citizens**, aiming at supporting actions for the promotion of the “*initiative power of citizens*” as established by the **Lisbon Treaty**. Article 11 of the latest Treaty allows for the first time a million people from a significant number of member States to invite the Commission to present proposals on matters in which citizens consider that an action of the EU could be appropriate to implement the realisation of the Treaties.

Given the importance of this new tool for citizens, civil society and stakeholders across the EU, the Commission carried out from 11 November 2009 to 31 January 2010 a broad public consultation on the basis of a [green paper](#) in order to seek the views of all interested parties on how the citizens' initiative should work in practice and following this public consultation, the European Commission adopted a proposal for a Regulation on the citizens' initiative ( To know more about this consultation, please visit:

[http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/secretariat\\_general/citizens\\_initiative/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/secretariat_general/citizens_initiative/index_en.htm))

Stating also that the European Union shall build up “*an open, transparent and regular dialogue with representative associations and civil society*”, the Treaty endeavours to improve the quality and the frequency of citizens' participation in the European decision and policy making.

In order to contribute to this goal ALDA is launching the present call for proposals, whose objectives are the raising of a deeper awareness on the potentialities of this new instrument, the support to good local governance, active citizenship and dynamic dialogue (both horizontal and vertical) and the raising of awareness on the shared role of people in the building of a common Europe.

Applicants are invited to develop innovative actions at the local level to familiarise the local communities with the Lisbon Treaty and its significance, underling the importance of article 11 as a tool for construct a pluralistic, multicultural and tolerant European society, and to show to citizens, in practice, what does the concept of “initiative power” mean and imply. The objectives can be pursued through whatever mean (profit making activities are not allowed).

To be eligible, applicants must be: ALDA's members, non-profit making NGOs or Local Authorities with legal status and legally established in an European Union country, Croatia, Albania or Former Yugoslav republic of Macedonia.

Grants will be maximum 50% of the total eligible costs (see guidelines in attachment) and the maximum funding from ALDA (Euro 1.000) must be accompanied by a minimum co-funding from the partners of Euro 1.000.

The deadline for the receipt of the applications is the **20<sup>th</sup> of August 2010**. Projects must start between 15<sup>th</sup> September and 15<sup>th</sup> October 2010 and must end not beyond the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2010, lasting from 2 to 3 months and a half. The results of the selection procedure will be communicated in September 2010.

You can find in annex the Application form to be used in order to submit your proposal.

Please, for further information and clarifications about the present call for proposals don't hesitate to contact: Marco Boaria at [marco.boaria@aldaintranet.org](mailto:marco.boaria@aldaintranet.org) or Alexandra Petcu at [alexandra.petcu@aldaintranet.org](mailto:alexandra.petcu@aldaintranet.org)