



TWINNING NEWS No 48

BUILDING EUROPE TOGETHER

1 June 2011

Public Temporary Employees in a Twinning project

Experts in Twinning projects should be permanent civil servants or officials of mandated bodies. However, temporary public employees may exceptionally be hired by MS administrations or mandated bodies, if no civil servant or official is available to act as expert in a Twinning projects.

The expert must be temporarily recruited by the administration or mandated body. S/he must have the necessary experience and must not be subject to any conflict of interest. The contract between the expert and the recruiting administration or mandated body must show that the expert is integrated into the contracting organisation, identifying the permanent civil servant or official to whom s/he reports and who is fully responsible for the quality of services provided by the expert.

The duration of the employment of a temporary public employee should not be limited to the duration of the Twinning project. The contract of the temporary public employee should run for at least six months before his/her involvement in the project.

A Public Temporary Employee, differently from a private expert under a Service Contract, works in the institution on a regular, daily basis, with defined functions, a line manager and colleagues who can provide the necessary backup in case of absence.

MS Administrations and Mandated Bodies should not act as umbrella organisations using private sector experts in Twinning projects.

Calculation of the RTA Salary

The RTA is paid by his/her payroll institution during all the duration of the Twinning Project. In specific cases (see Annex B2 – Twinning Manual) the salary can be topped up with an additional allowance, corresponding to the difference between the Gross Salary of an official of the Commission of grade AD*5, step 1, and the amount representing the gross salary of the RTA plus the pertinent subsistence allowance (half per diem).

When due, the additional allowance is financed from the Twinning Budget.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia under decentralised management

A warm welcome to the colleagues of the Central Finance and Contract Department in Skopje, who will act as Contracting Authority for all Twinning Projects financed from the 2009 programming year onwards.

New selection fact sheet to be used for IPA projects

The selection factsheet for IPA has been updated. Additional information will be provided when the Beneficiary informs Member States of the outcome of the selection process.

The new version incorporates the scoring system previously in use in the ENPI framework. The previous system whereby proposals were graded "Adequate/Partially Adequate/Non adequate" will be replaced by a points system with 0 to 5 points given for each aspect considered.

Best practice: how to involve the Junior Partner representative in a Twinning Project

In order to fully integrate the representative of the Junior Partner into the project, it might be useful that s/he can also act as Component Leader, so that also the use of human resources can be optimised.

Best practice: Support to the Parliament of Croatia for the Preparation for EU Accession

IPA 2007 Twinning Light Project "Support to the Parliament of Croatia for the Preparation for EU Accession" - January to July 2010.

The project was implemented by the Croatian Parliament in co-operation with the Hungarian National Assembly with valuable inputs from various European parliaments. Project implementation started in February 2010 and included 19 activities over 6 months. Budget € 240,045).

The overall objective of the project was to prepare the Parliament of Croatia for EU accession. The TWL project has contributed significantly to the improvement of the parliament's capacity to help pass EU law efficiently based on good practice from EU Member States. Also, the Twinning partners have helped the Sabor and the Government work better together on EU-related decision-making both before and after accession.

It has enhanced the knowledge of the parliamentary staff on EU matters and has as well produced proposals for a better information of the public opinion on the parliamentary activities related to EU.

Thanks to this project the Sabor, as the representative body of Croatian citizens, has become more intensively involved in raising the interest of Croatian society in the EU. This will contribute significantly to the creation of an informed public opinion on the future EU membership of Croatia.

Best Practices

If you have a "best practice" from your project to share, please send your article (maximum 300 words) to the functional mailbox elarg-twinning@ec.europa.eu.

All the suggestions are welcome.

Frequently Asked Questions in Twinning Community Tool

There is a Frequently Asked Questions document on the Twinning Community Tool platform that aims to help Twinning stakeholders to answer FAQs.

A broad range of questions is included for example: RTA salary, RTA Assistant situation or visibility costs. The document is available in the Library of the TCT.

The Registration process to access TCT is always opened to all Twinning stakeholders for projects in the IPA region. (See box above).

Twinning Community Tool

The Twinning Community Tool (TCT) is based on CircaBC and provides a collaboration tool that allows users (from within and outside the Commission) to exchange files, comments and links on a unique platform.

The main purpose of TCT is to create a virtual network of Resident Twinning Advisers, National Contact Points, EU Delegations and other relevant stakeholders of Twinning.

If you belong to one of the above categories and wish to participate to the network, please send a mail with your name, role, organisation and a valid e-mail account to the address: elarg-twinning@ec.europa.eu.

You can always contact the Twinning Coordination Team in Brussels, should you or your staff require additional information:

DG Enlargement

Unit D.2: Institution Building Unit

Andrew RASBASH

Head of Unit Tel: +32-2-295.92.43

andrew.rasbash@ec.europa.eu

Holger SCHROEDER

Deputy Head of Unit Tel: +32-2-298.44.55

holger.schroeder@ec.europa.eu

Twining Coordination Team:

Paolo GOZZI

Twining and SIGMA Tel. +32-2-295.0755

paolo.gozzi@ec.europa.eu

Jordi RODRIGUEZ RUIZ

Twining and SIGMA Tel. +32-2-299.03.21

jordi.rodriquez-ruiz@ec.europa.eu

Twining Team Secretariat:

Birgit PERSSON

Tel. +32-2-296.46.76

birgit.persson@ec.europa.eu

Marc PATUZZO

Tel. +32-2-296.11.21

Marc.patuzzo@ec.europa.eu

Functional e-mail boxes:

elarg-twinning@ec.europa.eu - for proposals sent by the National contact points for Twinning to the Twinning co-ordination team

elarg-twinning-stc@ec.europa.eu - for sending draft Twinning contracts and draft Twinning contract addenda to be examined by the Twinning steering committee

elarg-twinning-reports@ec.europa.eu - for sending all Twinning quarterly and final reports

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/how-does-it-work/technical-assistance/twinning_en.htm.

Fax numbers of the Twinning Team:

+32-2-296.47.12 / +32-2-296.76.94