2008 discharge: European Training Foundation ETF

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PURPOSE: to present the final accounts of the European Training Foundation (ETF) for the financial year 2008.

CONTENT: this document sets out a detailed account of the implementation of the European Training Foundation's budget for the financial year 2008. It notes that the final budget amounted to EUR 19.2 million (compared to EUR 21.1 million in 2007) funded by a Commission subsidy and EUR 1.2 million funded by other bodies as assigned revenue.

As regards the staffing policy, the Foundation, whose headquarters are based in Turin (Italy) officially set out 96 posts in the establishment plan. 86 posts are currently occupied with 38 other posts (auxiliaries, local agents and contract agents) totalling 124 posts assigned to operational, administrative and mixed tasks.

In 2008, the Foundation's main activities concentrated on the following:

- **Activities**: the assistance provided by the ETF covers a large range of technical fields including: initial vocational training, lifelong learning, continuing (adult) education, human resources development in companies, employment policies, training of the unemployed, poverty alleviation and social inclusion, and training to encourage local development.

- **Support to the Commission**: in 2008, 111 new direct requests for support were received from the Commission. Most came from the delegations (49 %). The Commission's satisfaction rate with the ETF's response was 97 %. The most frequent applications were those in the field of policies and contributions in the preparation of European Neighbourhood Instruments (32 %), followed by formulation (21 %), programming (11 %), the identification of projects (10 %) and follow-up.

- **Operational activities**: are classified in outputs (2008 figures) according to the following categories:

  - Policy reviews and analysis: 73 outputs (37 in the context of the IPA, 20 in the context of the ENPI, 8 in the context of the DCI, 8 in the context of the ILP.

  - Capacity building actions: 83 outputs (35 for IPA, 32 for ENPI, 16 for DCI.

  - Support to programming cycle: 25 outputs (11 for IPA, 9 for ENPI, 5 for DCI.

  - Dissemination and networking: 32 outputs (13 for IPA, 9 for ENPI, 7 for DCI, 3 for ILP.

  - Effectiveness analysis: 10 outputs (6 for IPA, 1 for ENPI, 2 for DCI, 1 for ILP.

  - **Total: 223 outputs**.

Instruments used: IPA: Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance; ENPI: European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument; DCI: Development Cooperation Instrument ILP: Innovation and Learning Programmes.

The complete version of the final accounts may be found at the following address: http://www.etf.europa.eu/Archive