

Funding Strategy

Version 2 – 09.06.2015

1. Funding principles

- ECSA is a charity organization.
- All money raised will support the goals of ECSA as decided in the constitution.
- The development of bids will follow the working programme – and not vice versa.
- Sponsors are welcome as long as the targets of those companies, charities etc. do not contradict ECSA goals or ethical standards.
- The steering committee will decide which bids to follow. It also has the responsibility to actively look for funding opportunities.

2. Areas to receive funding

There are two main areas of funding needs:

- 1) the basic functions of ECSA including communication within ECSA as well as with the community, policy, and other stakeholders, preparation of General Assemblies, developing the working programme, overseeing the budget, and
- 2) the more action and output oriented activities such as developing pan-European monitoring programmes, performing workshops and conferences, experimental approaches and so on.

3. Sources of funding

- 1) OWN FUNDS (membership fees*, in-kind contributions, conferences, consulting...)

The nature of membership, various forms and payment possibilities need to be addressed and set. Although the individual options should be flexible to attract different possibilities (institutions, individuals, trial periods...), the system needs to be fixed to exclude discrepancies which could affect the efficiency of raising funds and could provoke discomfort among members.

With an increasing number of steering committee members, the work may be distributed to different locations throughout Europe. Key would be an intense communication, e.g. (bi-)weekly skype calls of the members itself or supporting staff in the respective institutions.

Events, short courses, and workshops may raise fees in order to cover the travel and communication costs of ECSA members.

2) FUNDING SCHEMES (EU calls, EU structural funds for NGO's, local and national Calls – own bids and project overheads)

Focusing on NGO support funds and EU Horizon 2020, but also on other areas of EU Funding (EU Culture...) is imperative, but ECSA has to communicate (softly) to the members that it is imperative for them to include ECSA in their bids and proposals as partners. Having a vast network of members, ECSA should utilize this to provide a large dissemination capacity and upscale potential (from local to national to EU-wide) that would be very competitive towards other bids' capacity in this area.

ECSA should establish a database in which partners would be able to add the funding schemes and proposals that: 1. are relevant, 2. are to be considered, 3. they will be applying to ... This should be put online (with semi – open access for members) and the format should have possibilities for members to give feedback on their interest / intent regarding a specific call.

ECSA can profit from funding opportunities, for example calls within Horizon 2020. ECSA can take a leading role or act as a partner. The steering committee will decide for which call to go but also distributes the work load of a bid.

The overheads of national as well as European programmes are taken to finance communication , networking and other activities necessary to fulfill the goals of ECSA. The projects profit from the capacity pool of ECSA, and ECSA gains some power to implement its strategic plan.

3) PRIVATE (private investors, sponsors)

Slightly deviating from what was discussed and informally adopted, we believe that even though municipalities (cities, towns) should be considered as the potential contributors, but given the nature of member institutions and its reach, medium-size and large private companies should also be allowed to take part and an effort should be made in that direction. The primary fields of interest should be biotechnology, pharmaceuticals and technology. A special effort should also be made towards attracting private funds or sponsors (e.g. Allianz Fundation...).

Sponsoring requires a strategy on its own as ethical aspects should be considered.

4. Fundraising Strategy

1) ECSA Core Funding for basic functions of ECSA and its secretariat

In order to develop a long term perspective, basic function should be financed reliable. The finaniciation should be a mix of

- Membership fees
- Sponsors
- Bids for organizational development

Issue	Estimated Costs	Current membership feed	Remarks
Rent for room, IT infrastructure, staff costs (1 scientist, 1 admin), travel, communication, consumables	Ca. 12.000 Ca. 300 Ca. 70.000 Ca. 40.000 Ca. 5.000 Ca. 1000 Ca. 5.000	Institutions currently pay 100 Euro, Individuals 40 Euro	Currently, in-kind- contribution mainly from MfN, donation from SEPA; EASME Life Bid asking for support for 2015
Total	Ca 135.000 / a	Ca. 3.000	

2) ECSA activity funding

ECSA aims to spread the idea of citizen science and to involve citizens to support EC environmental goals. There are several possible projects , subtargets and activities as described in the working programme.

To facilitate ECSA's participation in consortia, the Steering Committee will elaborate Terms of Engagement in Project Proposals for ECSA that will be published on the ECSA website and communicated to those who request our participation. The SC will also provide a List of Sample Activities for ECSA to perform in project proposals in accordance with its Working Programme and with estimated costs. This list may be used for internal use to communicate to the member organizations the framework of activities ECSA can execute in projects, but should also be made available on various websites promoting (EU) calls where interested organizations present themselves and are looking for partners (e.g. http://culture.teamwork.fr/partner_search/ , <http://www.net4society.eu/public/pss.php>).