

ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2011

With changes to the financial breakdown pursuant to Art. 23 (2) of Commission decision 2008/456/EO

Approved by the head of the Responsible authority on 15.12.2011, 27.02.2012, 27.07.2012 and 08.01.2013

MEMBER STATE: REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA FUND: EXTERNAL BORDERS FUND RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS DIRECTORATE-MoI YEAR COVERED: 2011
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1. GENERAL RULES FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED UNDER THE PROGRAMME

A. General rules

The projects must:

- Comply with the provisions of article 3 and 4 of the basic act
- Comply with minimum criteria, set in Article 16 of the basic act;
- Operate within the given priority target areas envisaged in the Multiannual Programme (MAP) 2010-2013 and in this Annual Programme (AP);
- Comply with all RA's formal requirements, such as timely submission, signature by a competent signatory, use of the requisite templates;
- Take gender, cooperation, democracy, non-discrimination and children's issues into consideration.

The projects may complement, but not replace, the work and efforts of the government within the areas of action.

1.1 Executing body method

The process of drafting the AP and choosing the executing body method for implementation of a given action under AP 2011 is based on 2-step partnership procedure:

- first – a call for interests: an Information day has been held open to all EBF potential final beneficiaries and stakeholders (attended by representatives of the state administration - structures at the Ministry of Interior (Chief Directorate Border Police(CDBP) and Communication and Information Systems Directorate(CISD)), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Agency for Refugees as well as the international organizations and NGOs operating in Bulgaria (IOM, UNHCR, Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, Bulgarian Red Cross, Caritas, etc). Potential beneficiaries were asked to send to RA an indicative project fiche describing the project proposed for financing under EBF using a template provided by RA and approved in the RA's Manual of Procedures. As a follow up the potential beneficiaries have submitted to the RA proposals for the EBF 2011 Annual Programme, and
- second - a consultation process: an inter-ministerial Committee was set up by order of the Deputy Minister of Interior and attended by representatives of all MoI structures having specific responsibilities in the field of external borders control (Chief Directorate Border Police, Communication and Information Systems Directorate, Migration Directorate, Institute on Computer Technologies, EU and International Cooperation Directorate(EUICD), International Projects Directorate) and representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Committee was designated

with specific task - to identify the possible actions to be included in the AP and to elaborate draft of the AP 2011. On the base of the indicative project fiches proposed the Committee identified the actions to be included in the AP in accordance with the EBF priorities, the provisions set in the Basic act and the key actions identified in the MAP. These deliberations are carefully documented, tables of the endorsed and rejected projects were elaborated using templates approved in the RA's manual of Procedures. Protocol was signed by all members of the Committee.

Thus, throughout the entire programming exercise, and at the end of the day, the RA and the AP Drafting committee mentioned above consulted all the relevant governmental bodies and other stakeholders, public or non-public, not only on the AP (vis-à-vis the identification of all actions to be included therein in accordance with the priorities and examples of key actions identified in the MAP), but also on the options for each action implementation method.

Following the provisions of Art. 8 of *Commission Decision of 5 March 2008 laying down rules for the implementation of Decision No 574/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council*, the RA acts as executing body in the implementation of projects in situations where public monopoly is set by law. These projects shall be implemented in association with the competent national authorities on the basis of an agreement concluded between the parties for the period of implementation of the Multiannual programme under this fund.

Furthermore in compliance with the partnership principle set in art.12 of the basic act the elaborated draft AP 2011 was discussed and consulted on 28.10.2010 at the meeting of the Joint Monitoring Committee, which includes representatives of MoI (CDBP, CISD, EUICD) MFA, SAR, IOM, UNHCR, Caritas and NGOs.

The procedures under the executing body method shall be applied in accordance with the national legislation.

AP implementation procedure:

Once the AP is approved on substance by the EC, the potential beneficiaries shall be required to present detailed project fiche/fiches for the implementation of each action. The actions can be implemented by one or more projects depending on the content.

In the project fiche the beneficiary indicates the priority (and specific priority, if applicable) as well as the AP's action to which the project relates. The fiche states the purpose of the project, the expected results; a description is given of the methodology for project implementation, as well as financial information (detailed budget) and an implementation schedule. The fiche outlines that the eligibility of expenditures will be in line with Annex XI to Commission Decision 2008/456/EC. A template of detailed project fiche, including budget annex was prepared and included in RA Manual of Procedures in order to guide the beneficiaries.

The RA shall check the project fiche for compliance with the AP 2011, provisions of EBF implementing rules as well as the requirements set out in the RA Manual of procedures. Projects which do not meet the criteria shall be send back to the potential beneficiary for revision.

The start of projects implementation under AP 2011 is expected for the second quarter of 2011.

Relations between the RA and the beneficiary

The RA will implement the projects under AP 2011 in association with competent national bodies. Depending on the specific of the actions these bodies are:

- Chief Directorate Border Police (CDBP) - MoI,
- Communication and Information Systems Directorate (CISD)- MoI,
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The RA shall sign agreement for the implementation of a specific project with each authority/beneficiary that has approved project fiches. The project fiches along with the budget shall be attached to the agreements.

Relations between the RA, the beneficiary and the contractor

All supply, service or work contracts necessary for project implementation shall be signed after procurement procedure according the Bulgarian public procurement legislation.

Pursuant to Art.11 of *Commission Decision of 5 March 2008 laying down rules for the implementation of Decision No 574/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council*, the RA shall award a procurement contract to the tender offering best value for money and shall take care to avoid any conflict of interest.

Contracts shall be implemented by the beneficiary in association with a contractor selected after a procurement procedure carried out in accordance with the National Procurement legislation (Public Procurement Act or the Assignment of Small Public Procurement Ordinance.)

According to the requirements of the Public Procurement Act Forecast Procurement Notices should be published by 31st of March of the year. For AP 2011 the forecast notices will be published by the RA in accordance with abovementioned rule. Once the AP 2011 is approved by EC the tender procedures for supply or service contracts will be launched.

<http://pravo5.ciela.net/Document.aspx?id=2135482815&category=normi&lang=bg-BG&interpretedQuery=%d0%97%d0%9e%d0%9f>

<http://pravo5.ciela.net/Document.aspx?id=2135492182&category=normi&lang=bg-BG&interpretedQuery=%d0%9d%d0%92%d0%9c%d0%9e%d0%9f>

The aforementioned Act and the Ordinance are fully harmonized with Directive 2004/18/EC.

1.2 Awarding body method

N/A

1.3 Visibility

The Responsible Authority and all project beneficiaries, including the associated national bodies acting under the executing body method shall use the EU logo and distribute information on co financing both in the information that is distributed by participating authorities to prospective applicants through the authorities' websites and in information sent out by letters. All project proposal requests, guidelines, application forms and letters sent to applicants and other administrative documents include the EU logo. The agreement signed by recipients in connection with co-financing shall clearly stipulate the requirement for visibility of EBF co-financing.

Any notice or publication by the RA and the Beneficiary/ies concerning the AP 2011 actions, including those given at a conference or seminar, will specify that the action has received EU funding under EBF.

The Beneficiaries will take all necessary steps to publicize the European Union funding of the actions under the EBF. Visibility measures will comply with the provisions of Art.34 and Art.35 and Annex X of Commission Decision 2008/456/EC relating to information and publicity.

In particular, the Beneficiary will mention the European Union's financial contribution in information given to the final recipients of the relevant action, in its internal and annual reports, and in any dealings with the media. It shall display the EU logo wherever appropriate.

As stipulated in Art. 29 (1)q of the basic act the RA will be responsible for verifying the implementation by the final Beneficiaries of the provisions of Art 35 para 6 of the basic act.

B. State of play on the five strategic objectives 2011-2013

1. SIS II project

The preparation of the Republic of Bulgaria for joining the Schengen area, incl. integration to the new Schengen Information System (SIS II) has been started in 2006. The National action plan for SIS II accession was officially approved by the Minister of Interior in June 2006.

According to this plan the main part of the activities for joining Bulgarian N.SIS II to the new SIS II was planned in the National Indicative program 2007-2009 under the Schengen Facility.

The principal part of the necessary equipment and software for joining SIS II were purchased during the implementation of the signed contracts, financed under the Schengen Facility, in 2009 and 2010.

Because of the significant delay of the SIS II project the national decision of SISone4ALL project for SIS inclusion and in parallel N.SIS II development was taken and officially announced from Bulgaria during the JHA meeting in June 2009.

In view of the 2009 Bulgarian Road map, elaborated and approved by the EU Councils' working groups (SIS-TECH and SIS/SIRENE), for joining SIS I+R and the evaluation on the SIS/SIRENE readiness (December 2010), part of the abovementioned resources are used for the Bulgarian N.SIS inclusion to the currently working system SIS I+R.

With Council of ministers decree 17/15.02.2010 Bulgaria has invested considerable national resources for funding of the necessary activities for joining SIS I+ and subsequently SIS II, in addition to the EU aid under the Schengen facility.

In view of the declared date for accession to the Schengen area in March 2011, in parallel with the preparation for joining SIS I+, Bulgaria is under the technical preparation and software development of the national N.SIS II system for the inclusion to the new generation SIS II system.

The Republic of Bulgaria is investing considerable resources in the national N.SIS II system, in order to be ready for the technical migration from SIS I+R to SIS II.

According to the Council Conclusions on SIS II accepted during the JHA meeting on 7-8th of October 2010 the concerned party have to do the utmost to ensure that the project is fully implemented within the new time schedule and financial planning presented by the Commission. JHA also welcomes the possibility offered by the Commission to make the European External Borders Fund (EBF) available to the Member States to support the completion of the national system developments and urges the Commission to make the necessary arrangements in this respect.

The data recently provided by EC for development of the characteristics of Interface Control Document (version ICD 3.0), increasing of system capacity, etc. along with the other technical requirements to the national components of SIS II will be taken into consideration in the process of further development of the Bulgarian N.SIS II system. Regardless the implementation of the new ICD 3.0 is not expected to induce any major additional investment at national level, the new technical requirements may lead to additional developments.

Having in mind the abovementioned, Bulgaria realizes that at this stage the uppermost necessity is to provide for financial recourses for development and upgrading of the N.SIS II system bearing in mind that simultaneously with the real exploitation of N.SIS I+ system tests on N.SIS II system should be performed.

In compliance with the nowadays requirements for exploitation of SIS II it is expected that in order to cover the requirements of the system additional financing will be necessary which at the time being is estimated at about 3,6 MEUR.

Bulgaria foresees to provide the necessary financing both with national recourses and EBF funding. For the preparation of the national N.SIS II system the 2011 national budget foresees funding of the relevant activities amounting to 0,6 MEUR.

Under AP 2010 Bulgaria has already proposed Action 13 “Creating conditions for full implementation of the N.SIS and extending its capabilities” with budget of 1,55 MEUR.

In addition in the present AP 2011 under Action 13 “Further development of the national SIS components and creating conditions for full implementation of the SIS II” an amount of 1.370 MEUR is planned.

The recourses necessary for development and maintenance of the national N.SIS II will be included in the next EBF Annual Programmes. Furthermore Bulgaria may reallocate additional amounts to SIS II measures within the financial framework of the AP 2010 if such necessity occurs.

2. VIS roll-out

The National Visa Information System.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has set up biometrics counters at 51 consular posts and installation at other consular posts continues according to plan.

Bulgaria will be developing the collection of biometric data following the regions for implementation of the VIS as designated by the EU. At present, biometric data are collected from visa applicants at all Bulgarian consular posts in the North Africa region: Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt.

Biometric data are also collected in Jordan, Israel, Kuwait, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia and Kosovo. The biometric version of the VIS is to be implemented in Syria, Lebanon and Yemen (second region) until the end of 2010, and thereafter in the third region countries (United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Iran and Afghanistan) as well.

The national Visa Information System has been developed in conformity with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 767/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 July 2009 concerning the Visa Information System (VIS) and the exchange of data between Member States on short-stay visas (VIS Regulation) and is ready to be interfaced with the EU VIS.

Steps are being taken to modernise the technical equipment, install biometrics workstations and develop the communications systems between the diplomatic missions and consular posts abroad and the Visa Centre of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the purpose of fast communication and data transmission between them.

VIS roll-out at the borders:

The access that the border police officers working at the border crossing points (BCPs) will have to the VIS will be in two regimes - “verification of visas issued to third-country nationals” and “issuance of visas at the border”.

When applying the first regime, the check will be performed at first line border checks using the terminals of the new AIS “Border control”. The terminals and the relevant peripheral devices (including those for visa checks) have already been installed at all BCPs. In the process of the first line border checks that is being carried out at present, a check is being performed of the Bulgarian visas issued by the System for Visa Control (AIS “Visa”) of Consular Relations Directorate –MFA.

The visas that are to be issued at the BCPs will be issued at separate working stations, installed at second line and connected to the System for Visa Control. At the time being their communication installation is on-going.

The real date on which all BCPs will start working with VIS (respectively with its national component N.VIS) will depend on the date on which the Consular Relations Directorate – MFA will make the connection to VIS and exchange data between the National Visa Centre and VIS.

3. Consular co-operation programmes (according to the Visa code art.40 & 41)

State of play of Bulgaria's consular cooperation:

Bulgaria pursues consular co-operation with the rest of the EU and Schengen Member States both at the level of central authorities and at the local level in the countries where Bulgaria has consular posts and provides consular services.

Within the framework of consular co-operation, the diplomatic missions and consular posts of Bulgaria regularly provide the EU Member States with statistics about visas issued and refused and how their percentage varies in time. In the countries where a substantial number of Bulgarian visas are issued, steps are taken to harmonise the common information lists regarding the various types of visas and the documents supporting the purpose of the journey. Training courses and seminars are organised on a regular basis both for the officers at the central authority and for consular officials on site in the countries of accreditation. The purpose of this training is to enhance the capacity and quality of consular services, to provide thorough knowledge of the legislation related to consular services and of the European Visa Code.

Bulgaria's participation in various consular co-operation programmes is largely implemented at local level in the Bulgarian consular officials' countries of accreditation. Most of these activities boil down to participation in initiatives and programmes which have already been implemented by other Member States.

The minimum technical facilities directly or indirectly connected to consular co-operation have been purchased and installed at all Bulgarian missions. A database is maintained within the National Visa Information System regarding the persons who are undesirable in the country as well as the persons under international bans, persons who have attempted counterfeit, fraud, and submission of counterfeit travel documents or supporting documents at Bulgarian missions or at foreign partner missions which have notified Bulgaria of this. The central authorities and the Bulgarian consular posts abroad exchange this information on a regular basis with the rest of the Member States, as far as practicable, considering the lack of a centralised software capability.

Regarding the detection of counterfeit documents, attempted fraud in applying for a visa and immigration risk assessment, Bulgaria has trained and sent experts to a large part of its missions, who have set up the requisite workstations and, in case certain documents arouse the consular officials' suspicion, they process and analyse them and if any non-conformity is found the results are maintained in the database and are exchanged, as far as practicable, as part of consular co-operation with other Member States as well for the purpose of prevention of a recurrence at another consular post of a Member State.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is preparing an assessment identifying the third countries in which the Republic of Bulgaria does not have a diplomatic mission or consular post, where the receipt and initial processing (digitalisation) of applications and the collection of biometric data may be outsourced to external service providers, participation in Common Application Centres or use of co-location arrangements.

Development of Bulgaria's consular co-operation in 2011-2013:

Bulgaria persists in its efforts for a sustained and creative development of this aspect of consular work.

On a priority basis, we would need the development of common application centres in third countries, especially such presenting a heightened immigration risk, as well as development of information exchange at the central and local level within the VIS and VISION systems.

Bulgaria intends to further develop the Consular co-operation programmes using both national funds and amounts under EBF. Some of the actions under EBF AP 2010 and AP 2011 are related to delivery of technical equipment (see action 12 of the current programme) and to capacity building of the consular officials in the field of consular cooperation.

In the EBF AP 2010 Actions 12 and 15 Bulgaria has already proposed allocation of 0,65 MEUR for measures related to the national VIS components and equipping of the consular posts.

In the present AP 2011 over 0,87 MEUR are planned for upgrade and maintenance of the national VIS components.

Actions aimed at ensuring proper functioning of the national VIS components and Consular co-operation programmes will be planned in the following APs under EBF.

4. European Borders Surveillance System (Eurosur).

Bulgaria is making efforts for development of the national components related to the establishment of “Integrated system for surveillance of the EU external borders” (EUROSUR).

The national components of the EUROSUR are the National coordination centre (NCC) in Sofia and the integrated systems for surveillance of the maritime border and the border with Republic of Turkey with the relevant regional coordination centres. These centres are branches of the NCC. A contract for building up an integrated system for surveillance (ISCS) all along the Bulgarian Black Sea border (Blue border) was signed under the Schengen Facility at the total amount of 22 782 348 euro, incl. VAT. The system was handed-over to GD Border Police for exploitation in December 2010.

Under the same contract it is foreseen: establishment of local operative centres in Sozopol and in the suburbs of Varna; establishment of regional coordination centre in Bourgas, as well as supply of technical equipment for the National Coordination Centre in Sofia.

The construction works related to the National Coordination Centre in Sofia were executed by the end of 2010 on the basis of a contract financed with national recourses under Council of Ministers Decree No.17/15.02.2010.

In accordance with the Schengen Facility National Indicative Programme 2007-2009 a contract has been concluded in September 2010 for establishment of Integrated system for surveillance of the Bulgarian-Turkish border in the section between BCP Svilengrad and BCP Lessovo, funded by national recourses under Council of Ministers Decree No.17/15.02.2010, amounting to 12 453 262 euro, incl.VAT. The term of execution pursuant to the contract is until mid-December 2011.

In order to build up the ISCS on the remaining part of the Bulgarian-Turkish border - in the section from BCP Lessovo to the outfall of Rezovska river – funding has been planned under the External Borders Fund, Priority 1. The relevant activities were planned to be executed throughout the whole period 2010-2013. The activities programmed under AP 2010 will be financed under the Annual programmes 2011 and 2012 under EBF due to unsuccessful tender procedure executed in 2011 and the expiration of the eligibility period for implementation of AP 2010 on 30 June 2012.

A local coordination centre (LCC) in Elhovo and Perimeter signal guarding systems with 7 km. of length are envisaged for building under Action 1 of the present AP 2011. A total of 2 700 000 EUR are planned under AP 2011 comprising EU and national contribution.

AP 2012 will envisage the construction of the next component of the ISCS comprising local coordination centre in Boliarovo town and Perimeter signal guarding systems in the LCC Boliarovo zone of responsibility as well as perimeter signal guarding systems 9.5 km length in the LCC Elhovo zone of responsibility. The indicative budget is 6 140 000 EUR.

The construction of the last two components of ISCS will be funded under AP 2013 – one component with local coordination centre in Sredetz town and the other with local coordination centre in Malko Tarnovo town. Perimeter signal guarding systems with length of 16 km (LCC Sredetz zone of responsibility) and 14 km (LCC Malko Tarnovo zone of responsibility) will be established as well. The total amount of the last two components will be 10 882 000 EUR

Through the implementation of ISCS all along the Bulgarian-Turkish border a better efficiency will be achieved regarding the duly detection of attempts for illegal migration through the external border.

The total amount planned under EBF for the establishment of ISCS at the Bulgarian-Turkish border is 19 722 000 EUR.

Additionally, Action 2 under EBF AP 2010 envisages the establishment of an automated system for surveillance of the Bulgarian-Serbian border in the area of Border Police Station Kalotina through modernization and automation of the existing two surveillance posts, as well as by setting up of a new surveillance post and a local coordination centre situated at the BPS premises. The budget is 600 000 EUR.

In the course of the implementation of the a.m. components using EBF co-funding, if necessary under the next Annual Programmes will be envisaged additional actions guaranteeing the effective functioning of the Bulgarian national components of EUROSUR.

5. State-of-the-art technology (integrated border management concept)

The introduction of new technologies ensuring effective and efficient border checks is one of the operational objectives laid by the Republic of Bulgaria in the Multi-annual program 2010-2013 submitted to the EC, see p. 2.2 of the MAP, operational objective “Development of new technologies in the field of border management and control“.

The Republic of Bulgaria had already included actions for automated border control systems as well as registered travellers programs, in the still not approved Annual Program 2010 (Action 5 - Accelerate the processing of passenger flow and proper registration of persons passing through the air borders) and in the current Annual Program 2011.

In compliance with the strategy for implementation of the abovementioned operational objective the Republic of Bulgaria has included an action for setting up electronic desks allowing the automated border control of EU citizens travelling with electronic travel documents containing biometric data with indicative budget of 300 000 euro in the AP 2010. The action envisages enhancement of the capacity of the BCPs at the international airports aimed at smooth crossing of the external borders for EU citizens in accordance with art.3, para b of the basic act. Setting up electronic desks allowing the automated border control of EU citizens travelling with electronic travel documents containing biometric data is a measure directly related to the fifth strategic objective.

Setting up of the electronic desks on the one hand will decrease significantly the time for the EU passengers checks and on the other high level of protection at the external borders will be ensured. The action is a first phase of a multiannual project. Under AP 2010 it is envisaged to set up electronic desks for automated border control at international airports Sofia and Varna. Second phase will be implemented under next APs and will cover international airports Bourgas and Plovdiv.

An action aimed at development of system for registration of motor vehicles for statistical counting of the passenger flow on the external borders is included in the framework of the AP 2011. The action envisages establishment of system for registering of motor vehicles on external borders and introducing of algorithm for statistical counting of the passenger flow on the external borders. The main purpose is to register the number of the passengers without being checked by the “analysis of the risk” method and to receive the necessary data for the actual passenger flow on the external borders and the actual trends.

Action 2 of the current AP 2011 envisages to enhance the CDBP operative capacity through delivery of mobility equipment and operating equipment for conducting specialized police operations. The implementation of the action provides for delivery of cross country vehicles equipped with specialized technical meanings for real-time documents checking. The action aims at improvement of the operative and technical capacity of the CDBP to conduct effective police operations in the border area.

As of the moment all of the workstations of the Border Control AIS at the border cross points are provided with contemporary peripheral devices for control of document holders with biometric data as well as fingerprint scanners for checks of persons. AIS “Border control” which is installed at the BCPs, is compatible with VIS and SIS.

With the EU financial support, the Republic of Bulgaria will implement the abovementioned as well as other actions introducing state of the art technologies in accordance to the priority set by the Commission in the future annual programs under EBF.

2. CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL SYSTEMS (if appropriate)

N/A

3. ACTIONS TO BE SUPPORTED BY THE PROGRAMME UNDER THE PRIORITIES CHOSEN

3.1 Actions under Priority 1 - Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

3.1.1 Objective 1 of the MAP: Modernization and improvement of equipment for checks of and surveillance at external borders as well as improvement of related infrastructure.

3.1.1.1 Action 1 – Building up an Integrated system for surveillance (ISCS) along the border with Republic of Turkey.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The building of an integrated system for control and surveillance all along the Bulgarian-Turkish border is necessary as this section of the state border is exposed to the biggest migration pressure. A part of the ISCS – from BCP Kapitan Andreevo to BCP Lessovo is being built with national resources according to the Schengen Facility AP 2007, Objective 1 Measure 3, Action 1 (the contract has been signed and the implementation of the first stage

from BCP Kapitan Andreevo to BCP Lessovo has started in 2010). The remaining part of the system covering the Bulgarian-Turkish border from BCP Lessovo to the outfall of Rezovska river in the Black sea will be funded under the EBF.

A component of the ISCS with local coordination centre (LCC) in Elhovo and Perimeter signal guarding systems for control and surveillance -7 km length is envisaged for building under AP 2011. A total of 2 700 000 EUR are planned for AP 2011 comprising EU and national contribution. The activities that were programmed under AP 2010 will be financed under the AP 2011 and AP 2012 under EBF due to unsuccessful tender procedure executed in 2011 and the expiration of the eligibility period for implementation of AP 2010 on 30 June 2012.

The multiannual project foresees modernizing and improvement of the equipment for surveillance of a part of the external land border with the Republic of Turkey, along with improvement of the adjacent infrastructure.

The envisaged ISCS will consist of the following control and communication structure:

1. Peripheral surveillance systems which consist of:

1.1. Perimeter signal guarding systems (PSGS) - consist of seismic sensors for detection and fixing of illegal border crossing attempts, thermovisual cameras will be used for classification of the detected objects (for instance human, animal etc.);

1.2. Stationary surveillance posts (SSP) - automatic radiolocation systems which are operated from the LCC (with provision for local control) providing early warning, thermovisual cameras will be used for classification of the detected objects.

1.3. Mobile surveillance posts (MSP) will be used for border police operations - Cross-country vehicles equipped with thermovisual and TV cameras and panoramic device. The gathered information will be sent to the LCC and RCC.

2. Local coordination centre (LCC) will be equipped with servers and other equipment for processing of the information gathered by the abovementioned systems. It will be used for decisionmaking and management of the border police patrols on a tactical level.

3. Regional coordination centre (RCC) will be equipped with servers and other equipment for processing and recording of the gathered information. It will be used for decision-making and management of the border police patrols on a regional level.

Through the implementation of ISCS all along the Bulgarian-Turkish border a better efficiency will be achieved regarding the duly detection of attempts for illegal migration through the external border. The data provided by ISCS will be transmitted to LCC and RCC for the purpose of operational and tactical management of the mobile border police units. All data received by the ISCS will be transmitted to the Local and Regional Coordination centers and will be used for planning the activities of the mobile border police patrols at operational and tactical level.

It is also envisaged to integrate the videoinformation acquired by the surveillance systems installed in the helicopters delivered under the Shengen facility (Objective 1, Measure 4, Action 1) when flying in the ISCS zone of responsibility, so it can be used in RCC and LCC.

The interception and detention of the detected irregular migrants will be performed by border police patrols.

Therefore the technical capabilities provided by the ISCS combined with the border police patrols will ensure an effective border control system not only for an early detection of illegal border crossing attempts but also for the interception of the detected irregular immigrants.

The action under AP 2011 will be implemented by:

- Setting up a local coordination centre (LCC) in Elhovo.
- Installation of Perimeter signal guarding systems (7 km length);

- Establishment of a stationary post for technical and video surveillance – unmanned (independent, operated from a working place in the Local coordination centre in Elhovo);
- Installation of communication equipment securing the transmission of video information, data, etc. between the sections of ISCS, envisaged to be built under the present annual programme.
- Upgrade of the National Coordination Centre in Sofia - additional equipment for connection with the Regional coordination center in Elhovo and setting up of an additional workplace. The envisaged upgrade of NCC will be funded under AP 2011, AP 2012 and AP 2013.
- Upgrade of the Regional Coordination Center in Elhovo and setting up of two additional workplaces in it;
- Training for the CDBP personal with responsibilities to serve the components of ISCS set up under AP 2011.

AP 2012 will envisage the construction of the next component of the ISCS comprising local coordination centre in Boliarovo town, perimeter signal guarding systems with 13 km length, together with the other elements of the peripheral surveillance systems. Under the programme perimeter signal guarding systems with 9.5 km length in the LCC Elhovo zone of responsibility will also be established. The second stage of the envisaged upgrade of the NCC in Sofia and RCC in Elhovo town will be executed as well. The indicative budget is 6 140 000 EUR.

The construction of the last two components of ISCS will be funded under AP 2013 – one component with local coordination centre in Sredetz town and the other with local coordination centre in Malko Tarnovo town. Perimeter signal guarding systems with length of 16 km (LCC Sredetz zone of responsibility) and 14 km (LCC Malko Tarnovo zone of responsibility) respectively will be established as well, together with the other elements of the peripheral surveillance systems. The final third stage of the NCC and RCC upgrade will be funded under AP 2013. The envisaged integration the videoinformation acquired by the surveillance systems installed in the helicopters delivered under the Shengen facility (Objective 1, Measure 4, Action 1) when flying in the ISCS zone of responsibility will be funded under this programme. The total amount of the last two components will be 10 882 000 EUR.

The ISCS along the Bulgarian-Turkish border is an essential part of the Bulgarian national components of EUROSUR.

Through the implementation of ISCS all along the Bulgarian-Turkish border a better efficiency will be achieved regarding the duly detection of attempts for illegal migration through the external border.

The total amount planned under EBF for the establishment of ISCS at the Bulgarian-Turkish border is 19 722 000 EUR comprising EU and national contribution.

B. Expected grant recipients

Chief Directorate Border Police (CDBP)

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this Action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the surveillance and control of the EU external borders.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

Realizing the 2011 action will bring to establishment of the component of the ISCS with local coordination centre (LCC) in Elhovo and peripheral surveillance systems in its zone of responsibility.

Indicators:

- Perimeter signal guarding systems (7 km length) located along the state border line installed. .
- A stationary post for technical and video surveillance established
- Local coordination center in Elhovo established and put into operation
- Relative number of detained persons, attempting to cross illegally the section of the state border with Republic of Turkey, covered by ISCS;
- Communication equipment securing the transmission of data between the sections of ISCS in the Local centre in Elhovo zone of responsibility installed;
- First stage of the upgrade of the National Coordination Centre in Sofia and Regional Coordination Center in Elhovo completed.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

The Beneficiary will specify the European Union's financial contribution in information given to the public, in its internal and annual reports, and in any dealings with the media. It shall display the EU logo wherever appropriate.

All documents related to the implementation of the action and training materials shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo. Prominent plates of significant size will indicate the EBF funding at LCC, RCC, MSP, and SSP.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

The action complements the first part of ISCS along the external border with the Republic of Turkey (from BCP Kapitan Andreevo to BCP Lessovo) funded with national resources according to the Annual Indicative Programme for 2007, Objective 1, Measure 3, Action 1 under the Schengen Facility.

Therefore by the establishment of the components of the system under the NIP Schengen and under the EBF a complete integrated system covering all along the Bulgarian-Turkish border will be in place.

G. Financial information

Total: 2 700 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 2 025 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Surveillance (land border)
- Operating equipment
- Systems (ICT)

3.1.2 Objective 2 of the MAP: Extension of the operational and technical capacities and improving the quality of the prevention activities on the control of persons and vehicles in the border area.

3.1.2.1 Action 2 – Enhancing the CDBP operative capacity through delivery of means of transport, technical and specialized equipment for conducting specialized police operations.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The implementation of the action provides for delivery of cross country vehicles equipped with specialized technical means for real-time document checking. They will be used in border police operations as well as in international operations including operations organized and coordinated by FRONTEX. The implementation of the action will improve the operative and technical capacity of the CDBP to conduct effective police operations in the external border area.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP-MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with border control related to persons.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Enhancement of the operational and tactical capabilities for conducting border police operations;
- Increased capacity of Border police for participation in joint operations at international level, including operations organized and coordinated by FRONTEX;
- Prevention and detection of cases of illegal border crossings and detection of third-country nationals who do not meet the conditions of stay.

Indicators:

- Seven cross-country vehicles and technical equipment delivered and put into exploitation in border area of the external borders;
- Number of illegal migrants detected in the border area by using the equipment supplied;
- At least 20 border police officials trained to use the delivered equipment.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

The Beneficiary will specify the European Union's financial contribution in information given to the public, in its internal and annual reports, and in any dealings with the media. It shall display the EU logo wherever appropriate.

All documents related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo. The vehicles will have permanent prominent plates of significant size indicating the EBF funding.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Other EU instruments have not been used for similar actions so far.

G. Financial information

Total: 310 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 232 500 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Checks
 - Operating equipment
 - Means of transport

3.1.3 Objective 3 of the MAP: Development of new technologies in the field of border management and control.

3.1.3.1 Action 3 – Further development, up-dating and equipping the geoinformation activity in CDBP through collecting, editing, renovating and processing of digital geographical data and creating of digital models of the border line for the introduction of the standards and practices of border’s management in the EU.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The purpose of the multiannual project under the External Borders Fund is the creation of digital geographic database for the Bulgarian part of the EU external borders. These data will be used for applying modern technologies in the control of external borders.

The action under 2011 annual program provides for the purchase and delivery of equipment for processing of satellite and aerial imagery and software for processing. This equipment is in addition to the equipment provided for delivery under AP2010. Under this action there are also planned purchase and delivery of measurement and GPS geodetic equipment and sonar /echo sounder/ with the required specialized software.

The equipment and specialized software delivered under 2010 and 2011 annual programs will establish the basis, for creation of a geographical information system for the state border in the Unified European Coordinate System. The data in the geographical information system will be continually updated through adding and processing of new satellite and aerial imagery as well as direct geodetic measurements.

Photogrammetric equipment and specialized software to process satellite and aerial images will enable Chief Directorate of Border Police to update the information in the border area using remote methods and will allow current completion of the digital database. Photogrammetry is an extremely effective method when working on river and sea borders and allows monitoring of changes of the shores and islands.

Given that part of the external borders pass on midstream of border rivers, a purchase of specialized equipment for precise determination is envisaged.

The information obtained will be used in exchanges between EU Member States as well as with FRONTEX Agency.

No expenses under EBF are envisaged for taking of aerial photo imageries. They are obtained from the Ministry of Agriculture and Foods, in its task of creation of orthophoto map of Republic of Bulgaria and from the Ministry of Defence on the basis of signed protocol for cooperation which settles the matters of gratuitous data granting.

The action will be second phase of a multiannual project. The indicative budget for AP 2012 is 125 000 euro; for AP 2013 - 220 000 euro.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP-MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the border control

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used:

Established capability for creating digital models of the border strip with the use of satellite and aerial images, constant updating of situational elements in the border strip, by adding and processing of new satellite and aerial images.

Creation and maintenance of permanent geo-space data in a Unified European Coordinate System with a standard form for processing and exchange between EU Member States as well as with FRONTEX agency.

Indicators for results achieved during the period:

- Delivered equipment for processing satellite and aerial images and specialized software for processing as well as measuring and GPS geodetic equipment and sonar /echo sounder/ with the required specialized software;
- Established digital models and completing digital database for the border strip,
- Creation of geo-space data in a Unified European coordinate system.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

The Beneficiary will specify the European Union's financial contribution in information given to the public, in its internal and annual reports, and in any dealings with the media. It shall display the EU logo wherever appropriate.

All documents related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo. The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

The action complements the results, delivered under PHARE Programme - project 2000 BG 0005.02 and project BG2005/017-353.07.05.2.7.

The equipment purchased under project 2000 BG 0005.02 includes geodetic and navigational GPS equipment, digital geodetic level, computer and peripheral equipment, specialized colour scanner and plotter - formats A-0 and software.

As a result of the project the existing paper documentation has been replaced by documentation in digital form; geodetic measurements with high accuracy have been carried out and set the coordinates of specific points of the state border, but in local coordinate systems used only in Bulgaria.

Under project BG2005/017-353.07.05.2.7 a DGPS reference station with appropriate software and hardware have been delivered and put into exploitation, GPS navigation receivers with capabilities enabled reception of differential corrections from the DGPS station have been purchased.

As a result of the project a new principle for the control of real measurement and the exact length of the external EU borders has been introduced.

Action 3 of the Annual Programme 2010 under External Borders Fund complements and develops the actions done so far in the field of geo-information activities. The implementation of Action 3 will extend the existing geographical information and will transform the digital data base in the unified European coordinate system.

The activities and equipment planned under EBF are entirely new and not overlap the activities and supplied technique and equipment under PHARE programme - projects 2000 BG 0005.02 and project BG2005/017-353.07.05.2.7.

G. Financial information

Total: 170 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 127 500 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Surveillance
 - Systems (ICT)

3.1.3.2 Action 4 – Building up of National centre for fight against forged and falsified documents

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The purpose of the multiannual project is the establishment of National centre for detection of falsified and forged documents. The centre is necessary for enhancement of the efficiency of border control through detection of falsified and forged travel documents.

The action is envisaged to be implemented through multiannual project with a period of implementation within the framework of the AP 2010 and 2011 under the External borders fund.

The first phase envisages mainly renovation of premises for the National centre in Sofia and in the branches in the country.

Under AP 2011, it is envisaged to purchase specialized equipment for verification and control of documents for the Centre and its branches, and additional technical equipment used in documents' inspection:

- Video spectral comparators and PCs;
- UV lamps and magnifiers;
- Video cameras;
- Office furniture, IT and supplementary equipment for providing the necessary conditions for the operation of the specialized equipment at the premises of the Centre and its branches (persienne and air conditioners, etc.);

Training courses related to the usage of the equipment are to be held as part of the envisaged supply contract.

B. Expected grant recipients

Chief Directorate Border Police - MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with border control.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

By implementing this action, centralizing of the process of collection and analysis of the information, concerning falsified and forged documents will be achieved.

The capacity for identification and trend analysis of falsified and forged documents will be enhanced in the process of border control procedures.

Indicators:

- Equipment delivered and installed at the premises of the National Centre and its branches;
- training courses related to the usage of the equipment completed and staff trained - at least 22 officials;
- National centre for fight against falsified and forged documents built and equipped with modern technical means and the relevant software.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

The Beneficiary will specify the European Union's financial contribution in information given to the public, in its internal and annual reports, and in any dealings with the media. It shall display the EU logo wherever appropriate.

All documents related to the implementation of the action and training materials shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

Prominent plates of significant size will indicate the EBF funding at National Centre and its branches.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Other EU instruments have not been used for similar actions so far.

G. Financial information

Total: 528 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 396 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Checks
- Operating equipment

3.1.3.3 Action 5 Continuation of the process of modernization of the communication systems of the Ministry of Interior in order to enhance and enlarge the exchange of voice, images and data and to maintain the security and reliability of MoI data transfer network and the operational compatibility with similar networks in EU area.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action is second phase of a multiannual project. It is continuation of action 6 under AP 2010.

Further procurement and installation of hardware and software in addition to the already installed in the zone of the external borders is envisaged under AP 2011.

During the implementation of the Schengen Facility and PHARE programme elements of the communication network used for control and surveillance of the external borders were delivered. The established communication network is used not only for interpersonal communications, but also for data transmission.

The modernization of the communication network is a continuous process which enables the incorporation of the contemporary technical and electronic means (perimeter securing systems, stationary posts for technical and video surveillance, local coordination centres etc.) and their connection with the established communication centres.

The modernization of the communication network will enable the process of introduction of new technologies for surveillance, detection and tracking of people and vehicles illegally crossing the external border. Integrated management of the available resources is envisaged in case of local or large scale police operations in the border zone.

The implementation of the action will bring closer the information management, the decision making process and the information exchange between the Member States. The action will be implemented through delivery of specialized communication equipment and software licenses. This will extend the capabilities of MoI data transfer network.

Funds under this Action will be used for the extension and enhancement of the communication network that would contribute to the development of the required technical infrastructure for border surveillance envisaged within the framework of the future European Border Surveillance System (EUROSUR).

B. Expected grant recipients

Communication and Information Systems Directorate (CISD)- MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CISD shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the communication and information systems in the Republic of Bulgaria on the EU external borders.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

By implementing the action it is expected to achieve the following results:

Enhancement and extension of the TETRA base stations capabilities and the radio relay transmission. Increased security and reliability of the TETRA base stations on the external borders and the Black sea maritime border, as well as to ensure the operative compatibility with similar networks in other Member States.

Indicators:

- Equipment supplied, installed and put into operation;
- Links and channels for communication and information exchange improved by 30 %;
- Traffic capacity increased by 40 % in areas covered by the implementation of the action;

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

- PHARE project BG 0005.02 “Modernising Border Police Equipment at the Turkish Border”.
- BG 2003/005.630.01 “Modernization of the telecommunication equipment at the Blagoevgrad-Kulata railway line, under PHARE programme
- The BG 2004/016-711.08.06 “Further Strengthening of Border Control and Management of the Future EU External Borders through Modernisation of Technical Equipment, Development of Centralised Information Systems and Introduction of EU Best Practices and Standards in the Field of Border Control”.
- BG 2005/017-353.07.05 “Further Strengthening of Border Control and Management of the Future EU External Borders through Modernisation of Technical Equipment, Development of Centralised Information Systems and Introduction of EU Best Practices and Standards in the Field of Border Control”.
- Annual Indicative Programme 2008 under Schengen Facility Objective 3, Measure 2 “Development of Digital TETRA Radio Communication System along the Western border and extension of the existing network along the South-East border and “blue” border”

- Annual Indicative Programme 2008 under Schengen Facility Objective 3, Measure 1, Action 1, Providing resources for hardware and software for the development of communication network for the Special Centre for Temporary Accommodation of Third Country Nationals (illegal migrants) situated in Sofia (border crossing point of Sofia Airport) as well as in Lyubimetz (on the Bulgarian-Turkish border).
- Supply, installation and integration of mobile access system to the centralized automated information systems, via MoI TETRA network for creating the possibility for checks of persons at BCP Kalotina and BCP Kapitan Andreevo travelling by railway transport as well as for checks on second line in the external borders area, maintenance services and staff training (ongoing)

G. Financial information

Total: 800 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 600 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Checks
 - Systems (ICT)
- Surveillance
 - Systems (ICT)

3.1.3.4 Action 6 Enhancement of the capabilities for provision of Internet access at the external borders

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action is second phase of a multiannual project; it is continuation of action 7 under AP 2010. Additional technical and software means are envisaged for extension of the capabilities of the MoI data transmission network. This network will provide connectivity to other governmental and public networks for real time information exchange and Internet connectivity on the external borders and will be used for the purposes of data transfer, checks and information exchange amongst the Member states' networks (iFADO type).

The implementation of the action will provide for the necessary connectivity to centralized EU Internet based information systems at BCPs. The optimal method for securing of the abovementioned connectivity in a safe and manageable way is by the delivery and installation of specialized equipment.

Part of the indicative budget under this action could be used for ICAO PKD annual fee.

B. Expected grant recipients

Communication and Information Systems Directorate-MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CISD shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the communication and information systems in the Republic of Bulgaria on the EU external borders.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Created conditions for internet connectivity to centralized Internet based information systems at BCP's at external borders.

Indicators for the achievement of the results:

- Hardware and software supplied, installed and put into operation;
- Provision of access to centralized Internet based information systems at BCP's at external borders secured.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Pilot technical solution for access to public networks was elaborated and tested under the PHARE BG 0203.10 project. The present action will built on the knowledge and experience gained under the PHARE project and will enable end users in the border area to use the developed technical solution.

G. Financial information

Total: 145 200 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 108 900 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Checks
 - Systems (ICT)

3.1.3.5 Action 7 Development of system for registration of motor vehicles for statistical counting of the passenger flow on the external borders.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action envisages procurement of hardware and software for establishment of system for registering of motor vehicles at BCPs and introducing of algorithm for statistical counting of the passenger flow on the external borders. The main purpose is to register the number of the passengers without checking them by risk analysis and to receive the necessary data for the actual passenger flow on the external borders and observe the actual trends.

The statistics for the passenger flows through the BCPs are among the main factors outlining the trends in the movement of people through the EU external borders. The system is based on automated scanning of the vehicles crossing the border and sorting them out by type – automobile, lorry, bus, etc. Applying algorithms for calculation the passengers' number in the different types of vehicles and using coefficients for average number of passengers in a given type of vehicle, the number of passengers having crossed the BCPs is being calculated with a relative accuracy.

The system will be established by implementing multiannual project in two phases - implemented under AP 2011 and AP 2012:

- Under AP 2011 it is envisaged to supply and install the necessary hardware and software for registering of motor vehicles on six BCPs at the external land borders and introducing of algorithm for statistical counting of the passenger flow. Activities for testing of the system and the introduced algorithm for statistical counting are envisaged as part of annual programme 2011.

- Under AP 2012 the necessary software and equipment for the remaining five BCPs on the external land borders will be delivered.

B. Expected grant recipients

General Directorate Border Police - MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the surveillance and control of the EU external borders. The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

Introduced new technologies in the field of border management and control for registering of motor vehicles and statistical counting of the passenger flow on the external borders.

Indicators:

- System for registration of motor vehicles for statistical counting of the passenger flow on the external borders established on six BCP on the external borders.
- Algorithm for statistical counting of the passenger flow on the external borders introduced;
- Hardware and software for registering of motor vehicles on six BCPs at the external land borders delivered and installed.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

EU and other foreign donors have not been used for similar actions so far.

G. Financial information

Total: 118 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 88 500 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Checks
 - Systems (ICT)
 - Operating equipment

3.1.4 Objective 4 of the MAP: Introduction of modern systems assisting risks analysis in Chief Directorate Border Police activities.

3.1.4.1 Action 8 - Development of an information system for regular collection and processing of information for assisting risks analysis in Chief Directorate Border Police activities.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The multiannual project envisages development of a contemporary information system for regular collection and processing of information. The system will significantly enhance the risk analysis performed by the CDBP. It will facilitate the visualization of the general situation at the external borders and will increase the GDBP's capabilities for adequate reaction to migration risks.

The establishment of the aforementioned information system shall entail procurement and installation of hardware and software for systematic collection and processing of information.

- Under AP 2011 it is envisaged to procure software for systematic collection and processing of information concerning the migration flows and in particular the attempts for illegal crossing of the external borders. A methodology for information analysis will be developed based on EU best practices in the field, in line with the conditions and characteristics of the CDBP. Furthermore a server and 10 workstations will be procured. The abovementioned equipment will be installed in the RDBP at the external borders.

- Under AP 2012 it is envisaged to procure hardware and additional licenses, as well as their installation in the Border Crossing Points, Border Police Stations, Regional Border Police

Directorates at the external borders and Chief Directorate Border Police with indicative budget - 500 000 euro.

- Under AP 2013 it is envisaged to procure additional modules (upgrade of the information system) with indicative budget - 100 000 euro.

The entries in the information system will be based on the regular reports of the border police units, operational information, open sources information, etc. The information system should be operated by adequately trained border police officials.

The abovementioned specialized software is necessary for processing the information into quantitative and qualitative indices.

B. Expected grant recipients

General Directorate Border Police - MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the surveillance and control of the EU external borders. The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Implemented first stage of establishment of the information system for regular collection and processing of the information.

Indicators for the achievement of the results:

- Software for systematic collection and processing of information procured;
- Hardware (1 server and 10 workstations) delivered and installed in the RDBP at the external borders;
- Developed methodology for information analysis, in line with the conditions and characteristics of the CDBP.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

EU and other foreign donors have not been used for similar actions so far.

G. Financial information

Total: 100 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 75 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Checks
 - Systems (ICT)
- Surveillance
 - Systems (ICT)

3.1.5. Objective 5 of the MAP: Achieving a higher level of security in the Schengen area through the enhancement of the efficiency of border checks at Border Crossing Points at the external borders.

3.1.5.1 Action 9 Improvement of the technical means and equipment for border control at BCPs situated on the external borders, in accordance with the recommendations of the updated Schengen Catalogue of EU for border control on the external borders, removal and readmissions.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action under AP 2011 envisages improvement of the efficiency of the border checks through implementation of two projects:

The first project aims at enhancement of the technical capacity of the BCPs at external border by delivery of 250 units monocular microscopes with magnification 10-30x. The desks for border checks on the first line at BCPs on the external borders will be equipped in compliance with the recommendations of the updated Schengen Catalogue.

The purpose of the second project is the increase of efficiency in detecting persons hidden in motor vehicles (automobiles, lorries, busses, etc). The number of persons hidden in motor vehicles, illegally crossing the Schengen borders will decrease by the supply of 7 devices for detection of hidden persons in motor vehicles. The equipment will be used at the main BCPs at the external borders, as well as by CDBP's mobile groups for control of places in lorries with difficult access and concealed places in motor vehicles. Training is envisaged as part of the supply contract. The training of the border police personnel will be related exclusively to the proper exploitation to the delivered equipment.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP - MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with border control of persons.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

By the delivery of the equipment stated above a higher level of Schengen zone security will be achieved, on the basis of the enhanced efficiency of border checks of persons and motor vehicles along the external borders

Indicators:

- 250 pcs monocular microscopes with magnification 10-30x. delivered.
- 7 devices for detection of hidden persons (Movement Detection System) for the needs of mobile groups and for deployment at the main BCPs for control of motor vehicles for hidden persons delivered.
- At least 42 border police officials at BCP's trained to use the devices for detection of hidden persons as part of the supply contract
- Time required for border checks shortened.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

The equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

EU and other foreign donors have not been used for similar actions so far.

G. Financial information

Total: 250 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 187 500 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 1, Support for further gradual establishment of the common integrated border management system as regards the checks on persons and the surveillance of the external borders.

- Checks
 - Operating equipment

3.2 Actions under priority 2 - Support for the development and implementation of the national components of a European Surveillance System for the external borders and of a permanent European Patrol Network at the southern maritime borders of the EU Member States

3.2.1 Objective 6 of the MAP: Enhancing the operational capacity of the Border Police for air-surveillance of the external borders

3.2.1.1 Action 10 Establishment of Border Police Air Base

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The implementation of the concept for air surveillance of the EU external borders started by the delivery of one helicopter AW 109 in March 2010, purchased with national funds.

Within the framework of the Schengen Facility in the end of 2010 another two light class helicopters AW 109 Power and one middle class AW 139 were delivered for performing air surveillance tasks at external borders and when necessary to intervene in the zone of land and maritime external borders.

Following the goal of introducing the operational standards and best practices resulting from the operational cooperation between Member States in the field of border control the Bulgarian MoI envisages to implement a multiannual project aimed at building an air base for the national component for air surveillance at the external borders as part of the European integrated system for border security.

With the implementation of the multiannual project the necessary preconditions for effective air surveillance will be created, as part of the measures to provide reliable border control at the external borders and to develop further the national component for air surveillance of the borders.

Under the Acton 9 AP 2010 a project documentation for the construction of the Border Police Air Base is envisaged to be elaborated and an independent construction supervisory control to be hired.

It is envisaged that the construction of the Air Base itself should be financed under the 2011 – 2013 APs.

In the process of construction of the air base it is envisaged to be built:

- helicopter hangars;
- landing site and taxiways;
- ramps, specialized premises for maintenance of helicopters and aviation equipment;
- communication and infrastructure facilities for the air base;
- administrative building for the staff ;
- other service facilities.

Under AP 2011 it is envisaged to begin with the works of the GDBP's airbase in Sofia The construction of the air base will continue by funding in the following APs .

The location of the airbase in Sofia is due to the fact that Sofia is near the Bulgarian borders with Serbia and FYROM which is suitable for air surveillance of the western external borders.

The helicopters carrying out air surveillance tasks at the Bulgarian-Turkish and the maritime external borders will use the hangar and landing site in Elhovo (under construction) and the military airbase in Bezmer, which will be used jointly by CDBP and the army according to the common order № Iz-35/15.01.2011 of the Minister of Interior and the Minister of Defence.

The hangar in Elhovo is not equipped with the specialized premises for maintenance of helicopters necessary for complete technical maintenance of the helicopters. All complex technical inspections and maintenance activities will be carried out in the envisaged airbase in Sofia. Moreover the location in Sofia is suitable due to the availability of personnel with adequate education and professional experience as well as the existence of suitable infrastructure and supply lines.

The total indicative budget for the construction of the airbase is 6 780 000 under the annual programmes as follow: AP 2011 - 556 000 euro; AP 2012 - 2 750 000 euro and AP 2013 - 3 474 000 euro. Thus with the implementation of the APs 2011-2013 the GDBP's airbase in Sofia will be completed and put into exploitation.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP- MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the surveillance and control of the EU external borders

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Contract for construction works signed.
- Construction work on establishment of the airbase started.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

The visibility of EU funding shall be guaranteed in the following way:

- Placing the EU logo and the information on the EBF co-financing on all documents, publications, brochures and in the correspondence headlines, etc.;
- Placing a permanent prominent plaque of significant size no later than three months after completion of project at the buildings and facilities of the Air base;
- Placing the EU logo and information on the EBF co-financing on the website of the beneficiary;

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Action 10 under AP 2011 of the EBF is complementary to the implementation of Objective 1, Measure 4 of the National Indicative Programme 2007-2009 under Schengen Facility “Delivery of 2 helicopters (light type) and 1 average type, and building hangar and landing site in Elhovo”.

G. Financial information

Total: 556 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%:417 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 2, Support for the development and implementation of the national components of a European Surveillance System for the external borders and of a permanent European Patrol Network at the southern maritime borders of the EU Member States

- Infrastructure

3.2.2 Objective 7 of the MAP: Enhancing the operational capacity of the Border Police for control of the maritime external borders.

3.2.2.1 Action 11 Construction of border police port in Sozopol

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action aims at construction of the Border Police port in Sozopol in order to ensure all necessary conditions for secure, reliable and independent base of the CDBP’s patrol boats and other maritime technical facilities, safe maneuvering and sailing in due time of all patrol vessels from the port area to all destinations within the zone of responsibility of the Bulgarian Border Police. By implementing Action 11 the necessary conditions for protection and safety of the ships in heavy hidrometeorological conditions will be reached. Secure and reliable regime of admission in the port zone, area for detained ships, deployment of equipment for repairing ships and necessary logistics will be created.

The port will be used, apart from CDBP vessels, by patrol vessels of other EU Member States taking part in joint operations within the European Patrols Network /EPN/ under FRONTEX. There are possibilities for launching and joining FRONTEX operations/ patrolling with other Member States patrol vessels. In this way the Republic of Bulgaria will support its commitments to FRONTEX by building the seaport for Border Police in Sozopol, under “European Patrol Network” Project in the area identified as Border Police responsibility.

While AP 2010 envisages the elaboration of design documentation for the reconstruction of the Sozopol border police port as well as hiring independent construction supervision, the construction works of Sozopol border police port will be executed under AP 2011. The construction works will cover:

- Establishment of the relevant engineering infrastructure and communications.
- The available ferro-concrete pier will be entirely equipped.

- Administrative building for the Border Police staff and the relevant necessary office furniture and IT equipment
- Deployment of a fence with the necessary perimeter system for video surveillance and security and electrification of the BCP area.
- Additional port infrastructure. (zone for detained ships, parking lot, warehouse, individual and collective protective kits, etc.).

With the implementation of the abovementioned action under AP 2011 the multiannual project for establishment of border police port in Sozopol will be finished.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP-MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the surveillance and control of the EU external borders

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

With the implementation of the envisaged action the operative capacity of the Bulgarian Border Police for control on the maritime areas of the external EU borders will be enhanced. The necessary conditions for effective surveillance of the Black sea border area and management of the Border Police patrol boats will be secured. The administrative and logistic infrastructure and coastal port facilities for Border Police boats as well as communication infrastructure will be established.

Indicators:

Base for Border Police ships in Sozopol built and completed.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

The visibility of EU funding shall be guaranteed in the following way:

- Placing the EU logo and the information on the EBF co-financing on all documents, publications, brochures and in the correspondence headlines, etc.;
- Placing a permanent prominent plaque of significant size no later than three months after completion of project at the buildings and facilities of the Sozopol Border Police Port;
- Placing the EU logo and information on the EBF co-financing on the website of the beneficiary;

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

The action will complement the activities for delivery of police patrol vessels with support of EU funding during the implementation of projects as follows:

Project PHARE BG 0012.02 “Strengthening of Border Control on the Bulgarian Maritime Black Sea Border“.

- two patrol boats project FPB 21010;
- two inflatable boats with hard bottom HD-450;
- one sailing reinforced - concrete workshop for repairing border-police ships

Project PHARE BG 0203.11 “Further Enhancement of the Management and Control on the Future External EU borders (blue border)”:

– national co-financing for two patrol boats - project P-157 up to 200 t displacement – second hand.

- PHARE funding – one patrol boat project FPB 21010.

Project PHARE BG2004-016.711.08.06

- three inflatable boats with hard bottom:

Project PHARE BG 2004-006.070.03.02

- two small patrol boats project “class 500”.

Project PHARE BG 2005/017-353.07.05

- one ship – up to 100 t displacement - project FPB 28031.

Project Schengen Facility - Objective 1, Measure 2, Activity 3 of the Annual Indicative Programme 2007”:

- one maritime ship - 200 t displacement;
- two maritime ships - 60 t displacement;
- two maritime ships - 20 t displacement;

G. Financial information

Total: 1 000 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 750 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 2, Support for the development and implementation of the national components of a European Surveillance System for the external borders and of a permanent European Patrol Network at the southern maritime borders of the EU Member States

- Infrastructure

3.3 Actions under Priority 3: Support for the issuing of visas and the tackling of illegal immigration, including the detection of false or falsified documents by enhancing the activities organised by the consular and other services of the Member States in third countries.

3.3.1. Objective 8 of the MAP: Enhancement of the capacity of consular services in the process of issuing visas and the capacity of other services in third countries dealing with illegal migration.

3.3.1.1 Action 12 Supply of mobile workplaces to the System for Visa Control for temporarily accomplishment of consular services in such places where there are no permanent consular posts

- CANCELLED ON 15.12.2011

3.4 Actions under Priority 4 Support for the establishment of IT systems required for implementation of the Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas.

3.4.1. Objective 9 of the MAP: Extension and further development of the IT capacities and communication technologies for the full implementation of SIS II.

3.4.1.1 Action 13 Further development of the national SIS components and creating conditions for full implementation of the SIS II

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The implementation of Action 13 under AP 2011 will further develop and support the implementation of the commitments undertaken for joining SIS II by 2013.

The action is continuation of action 13 under AP 2010. The main purpose of the project is to improve the capacity of MoI automated information systems (AIS) including AIS Border control and the National component of SIS.

The action envisages delivery of technical equipment and software for connection through the MoI data transfer network in order to ensure the necessary technical conditions for the MoI units while using SIS II.

In view of the plans for joining SIS by 2011 and SIS II by 2013, the action will be focused on the following priorities related to AIS Border control and N.SIS:

- to provide for data integrity, accessibility and reliability;
- to further develop the abovementioned AIS in order to ensure reliable and secured uninterrupted functioning of the national SIS component;
- to facilitate and control the end users access to the abovementioned systems.

In addition a development of a specific IT environment needed to establish training versions of the AIS Border control and NSIS as well as activities for maintenance of the technical and software means that were supplied under Schengen Facility and EBF is envisaged.

B. Expected grant recipients

Communication and Information Systems Directorate - MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CISD shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole Bulgarian governmental authority dealing with communication and information systems of EU's external borders.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The following results will be achieved with the action implementation:

- Supply of technical equipment and software for NSIS and AIS Border control, including software for control of the end users;
- Installation of the delivered equipment;
- Specific IT environment needed to establish training versions of the AIS Border control and NSIS developed.

Indicators:

- Technical equipment and software delivered, installed and put into exploitation;
- Specific IT environment needed to establish training versions of the AIS Border control and N.SIS, developed;
- Contracts for maintenance of the hardware and software delivered under Schengen Facility and EBF.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Through the implementation of this activity the results of the implementation of projects financed with national funds and the Phare Programme and Schengen Facility will be upgraded and expanded.

- Phare Programme - Project BG 9911.02 - “Institutional Strengthening of Bulgarian Police: Update criminal information system and improvement of management techniques” (completed)
- Phare Programme- Project BG 0203.10 -“ Implementing the National Action Plan for adoption of the Schengen acquis: building a national information system in accordance with Schengen requirements” (completed)
- Phare Programme 2004-2006 - Project “ Modernization of the Bulgarian police and enhancing its efficiency”, Sub-project 1 (completed)
- Phare Programme 2004-2006 - Project “Further strengthening of border control and management of future EU external borders through modernization of technical equipment, development of centralized information systems for border control and the introduction of standards and best practices of EU border controls” Sub -project 2 (completed)
- Schengen Facility - AIP 2008, Objective 4, Measure 1 and Measure 2 (ongoing)
- Schengen Facility - AIP 2009, Objective 4, Measure 1 and Measure 2 (ongoing)
- From the Ministry of Interior budget 2009 - supply of equipment for AIS “ Border control” (ongoing)

G. Financial information

Total: 1 390 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 1 042 500 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 4, Support for the establishment of IT systems required for implementation of the Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas.

- SIS

3.4.1.2 Action 14 Introduction of new technologies, methods and techniques for increasing the level of security when using common IT resources from the information systems, providing data exchange with the EU

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action is continuation of action 14 under AP 2010.

The multiannual project will contribute to convergence of information management and facilitation of decision-making and information exchange between Member States, as well as improving the structure and processes to further enhance border security.

The AP 2011 action is related to delivery and installation of software and technical means necessary for:

- Development of a secured environment needed to protect the centralized automated information systems (AIS) of MoI, related to persons checks and external borders surveillance as a base for their reliability and security.
- Further introduction of contemporary IT means aimed at ensuring data protection and IT operations as an integral part of the storage, processing and exchange of information;

B. Expected grant recipients

Communication and information systems Directorate - MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this Action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CISD shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with communication and information systems of Bulgaria's external borders.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The implementation of the action will result in procurement and installation of specialized hardware and software and carrying out the relevant training.

Indicators:

- Specialized hardware and software delivered and installed;

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents and training materials related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Ministry of Interior of Bulgaria applies standards for security of the IT systems used for prevention and investigation of criminal activities, which were harmonised with the EU standards and best practices during the implementation of the:

- Phare Programme - Project BG 9911.02 - “Institutional Strengthening of Bulgarian Police: Update criminal information system and improvement of management techniques” (completed)
- Phare programme 2004-2006 - Project “Modernization of the Bulgarian police and enhancing its efficiency”, Sub-project 1 (completed)

Under the EBF support the results of the aforementioned PHARE projects will be upgraded and extended.

G. Financial information

Total: 200 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 150 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 4, Support for the establishment of IT systems required for implementation of the Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas.

- SIS

3.4.2. Objective 10 of the MAP: Improvement of the cooperation between Bulgarian consular services and other services in different Member States through the development of national VIS.

3.4.2.1. Action 15 Maintenance of the delivered technical equipment and software of the National VIS and interface of VIS and the EU consultation network VISION

A Purpose and scope of the Action

Within the framework of the Schengen Facility, projects were implemented in 2010 for development of the National Visa System and its interfacing with the EU Visa Information System and the VISION Consultation Network for Visa Applications.

Hardware and software for the needs of building and furnishing the National Visa Centre and the back-up National Visa Centre in Boyana were procured, installed and tested. These activities were implemented for the development of the National Visa System (Visa Control System) and its interfacing with the EU VIS and the Consultation Network for Visa Applications.

Achieving a sustained effect of the performance of these contracts and ensuring trouble-free operation of the equipment procured and, as a result of this, trouble-free operation of the National Visa System and its interfacing with the EU VIS and the VISION Consultation Network for Visa Applications requires arrangements for the maintenance of the equipment and software procured after the lapse of the one-year warranty period.

This action is to be implemented in accordance with EBF priority 4 Support for the establishment of IT systems required for implementation of Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas, as well as with priorities for use of the External Borders Fund, described in letter REF. Ares (2010)713894 – 18/10/2010 by the Head of Unit C4: Financial Support – Migration and Borders. According to Point 3 of the letter, eligible for financing are activities for the maintenance of information systems and equipment already delivered under EBF/SF. The procured equipment and the systems built, for which maintenance is to be provided, are purchased entirely with resources of the Schengen Facility.

B. Expected grant recipients

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this Action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CRD-MFA shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the sole governmental authority dealing with the visa issues.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The main result of the action will be an uninterrupted and trouble-free functionality of the National Visa System (the Principal and the Back-up visa centre), as well as its uninterrupted connectivity with the EU VIS and the VISION Consultation Network for Visa Applications and maintaining a possibility for permanent exchange of information between the systems.

Indicators:

- Contracts for maintenance of the delivered technical equipment and software signed.
- Proper functioning of the system - all error reports dealt with swiftly and resolved within 24 hours.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents and training materials related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

All equipment supplied under the action will be visualised with the EU logo.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

AIP 2008, Schengen facility, Objective 8, Measure 2, Action 1 - Delivery of equipment for both the MFA Main Centre and the Boyana Back-up.

G. Financial information

Total: 971 733,34 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 728 800 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 4, Support for the establishment of IT systems required for the implementation of the Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas.

- VIS

3.5. Actions under Priority 5 - Support for effective and efficient application of relevant Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas, in particular the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas

3.5.1. Objective 11 of the MAP: Further capacity building and improvement of qualification of staff employed at the external borders to effectively apply the relevant EU legal instruments in the field of external borders control.

3.5.1.1 Action 16 Training of the Border Police staff on the EU legal instruments as well as on the specific tasks in the process of border control and surveillance

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action aims at enhancement of the capacity of the CDBP officials as a substantial factor for effective border control and surveillance of the external EU border.

The Frontex Common Core Curriculum is implemented in the basic training courses (one year training for newly recruited officials) for border police guards since 2009. The training courses which are envisaged under EBF, correspond to the Common Core Curriculum, and are intended to extend and specialize the knowledge (abilities) of the border police guards, gained in the basic training. The training courses under EBF are specialized and will be attended by border police officials depending on their duties.

Specific training is necessary in some areas of border control activities such as: Implementation of EU legal instruments and more specifically on the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas, working with SIS and VIS, detection and identification of forged and falsified documents, trafficking in human beings, crime intelligence, development of profiles of travellers and risk analysis, foreign language training etc.

The aforementioned trainings related to the capacity building of the CDBP staff will increase the effectiveness and efficiency of the activities carried out in the field of border control and surveillance of EU external borders.

Under AP 2011 training courses are envisaged in the field of:

- Implementation of EU legal instruments and more specifically on the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas;
- Effective implementation of relevant EU legal instruments on documents control;
- Crime intelligence aiming at supporting the risk analysis for implementation of effective border control in order to prevent illegal entries in the Schengen area;
- Training aimed at detection and identification of forged and falsified documents;
- Foreign language training;
- Holding seminars and study visits to fairs at EU level aimed at the exchange of experience and updating information, included in curricula.

The action is part of multiannual project for capacity building and the implementation will continue under AP 2012 and AP 2013.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP - MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this Action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR).

The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the surveillance and control of the EC external borders.

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The action will result in improvement of the professional qualification of staff engaged with the external borders control and surveillance.

Indicators:

- at least 120 officials trained on effective implementation of relevant EU legal instruments on documents control;
- at least 60 officials trained on crime intelligence;
- at least 190 officials trained on implementation of EU legal instruments and more specifically on the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas
- at least 150 officials trained in modules for foreign languages
- at least 124 officials trained on detection and identification of forged and falsified documents.
- at least 2 officials visiting 2 events (seminars and study and study visits to fairs) aimed at the exchange of experience and updating information.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents,, training materials and certificates related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

This action will complement the trainings carried out under:

- PHARE projects 2004-2006 “Further strengthening of border control and management of future EU external borders through modernization of technical equipment, development of centralized information systems for border control and the introduction of standards and best practices of EU border controls”

- Schengen Facility funded projects are being implemented in accordance with Objective 7, measures 1 and 2 of the National Indicative Programme 2007-2009. By the end of 2010 more than 1400 officials will be trained on the Schengen acquis and about 300 officials will cover language training,

G. Financial information

Total: 379 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 284 250 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 5, Support for effective and efficient application of relevant Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas, in particular the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas

- Training

3.5.1.2 Action 17 Development of new modules and training materials necessary for introduction of AIS Distant learning - training for N.SIS end-users, training for exploitation of specialized equipment, foreign language training

CANCELLED - 27.02.2011

3.5.1.3. Action 18 Advanced training of the aircrew and ground personnel

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

This action aims at improving the professional competences of aircrew members with specific accent on the surveillance of the external borders of Bulgaria. The action is continuation of Action 17 under AP 2010.

The fulfilment of the common European border control standards in the field of air surveillance is stipulated in the Multiannual Program of the EBF. The training courses for air crew members and maintenance staff of CDBP’s aircraft will provide quality technical support following the adopted standards by EU/SAC. The implementation of this action will improve the training of the crew members and maintenance staff for the tasks of the air surveillance and of the external borders.

The action under AP 2011 envisages:

1. Specialized air crew members' training, including training of AW109 Power and/or AW139 helicopter pilots - VFR pilot type rating training, corresponding to the applicable requirements of EASA (JAR FCL2).

2. Engineers in aircraft maintenance training of AW109 Power and/or AW139 helicopter mechanics, corresponding to the applicable requirements of EASA (part 147).

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP - MoI

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CDBP shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with the surveillance and control of the EU external borders

The contracting procedures will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

Conducting specialized training for air crew members and maintenance staff of CDBP's aircraft

Indicators:

- at least 4 pilots on AW109 Power and/or AW139 trained in ground training;
- at least 4 pilots on AW109 Power and/or AW139 trained in simulator training;
- at least 4 pilots on AW109 Power and/or AW139 trained in flight training (minimum 3 hours);
- at least 6 members of the maintenance staff trained on AW139 and/or AW109 Power;

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

The Beneficiary will specify the European Union's financial contribution in information given to the public, in its internal and annual reports, and in any dealings with the media. It shall display the EU logo wherever appropriate.

All documents, training materials and certificates related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

Actions 17 under AP 2010 and AP 2011 of the EBF are complementary to the implementation of Objective 1, Measure 4 of the National Indicative Programme 2007-2009 under Schengen Facility "Delivery of 2 helicopters (light type) and 1 average type, and building hangar and landing site in Elhovo.

G. Financial information

Total: 444 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 333 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 5, Support for effective and efficient application of relevant Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas, in particular the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas

- Training

3.5.2. Objective 12 of the MAP: Enhancement of the capacity and qualifications of officials in consular and other services in third countries for the efficient application of EU legal instruments in the field of external border security and more specifically of the European Visa Code.

3.5.2.1. Action 19 Training of the Bulgarian consular officials for efficient application of EU legal instruments in the field of external border security and more specifically of the European Visa Code

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action will consist of training and enhancement of of practical experience of consular officials in the Schengen *acquis* with a view to achieving a uniform approach to the practical application of the common visa policy by means of traineeships. The implementation of this action is important considering the need to strengthen the administrative capacity of consular officials at the consular posts, to familiarise them in detail with the legislative framework of the European Union in the field of border control and visa policy, as well as to clarify certain practical aspects relevant to their work in the process of issuing visas. The following is planned within the framework of the action:

- Month-long annual traineeship for three officials of the Consular Relations Directorate at consular posts or central authorities of EU Member States.

The purpose of the traineeships is to master the experience of the competent services and institutions in other Member States in the process of examination of visa applications and making decisions on visas, building capacity and developing the requisite skills in the consular officials at the Ministry of foreign affairs and consular posts of the Republic of Bulgaria abroad in conformity with the requirements of the Schengen *acquis*.

(Article 3, paragraph 1 (d) and Article 4, paragraph 3 (d) and (h) of Decision No 574/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 May 2007 establishing the External Borders Fund for the period 2007 to 2013 as part of the General programme “Solidarity and Management of Migration Flows”)

There are plans for Bulgarian consular officials to undergo traineeship in EU Member States. Agreements will be made with the central authorities of other Member States for the start of month-long work traineeships for Bulgarian consular officials at their consular posts.

The knowledge and skills acquired during the month-long traineeships at consular posts of other Member States will contribute to the development of Bulgaria’s regional co-operation with other Member States in the sphere of issuing of visas and possibly in the implementation of common application centres, co-location arrangements and other forms of co-operation.

B. Expected grant recipients

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

C. Where appropriate, justification regarding project(s) implemented directly by the RA acting as an executing body

Under this action the Responsible Authority in cooperation with CRD-MFA shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the sole governmental authority dealing with the visa issues. The contracting procedures if needed will be conducted according to the national legislation in the field of public procurement.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Enhancement of the practical experience and knowledge of three officers of the Consular Relations Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in connection with the common visa policy of the EU: procedure and terms for issuing of visas, right to stay, collection and processing of biometric data, application of the provisions of the Community Code on Visas and the Manual to it and of the Schengen Borders Code. Better knowledge of the EU regulatory framework on visa and migration policy;

Indicators:

- Traineeships for three officials of the Consular Relations Directorate at consular post or central authorities of EU Member States carried out;
- Number of officials from National Visa Centre Department trained.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipients shall clearly stipulate their obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

The Beneficiary will specify the European Union's financial contribution in information given to the public, in its internal and annual reports, and in any dealings with the media. It shall display the EU logo wherever appropriate.

All documents, training materials and certificates related to the implementation of the action shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

The RA shall monitor the compliance with the requirements during the implementation of the projects.

F. Complementarity with similar actions financed by other EU instruments, if appropriate

EU and other foreign donors have not been used for similar actions so far.

G. Financial information

Total: 16 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 12 000 euro

H. Categorisation of the action according to the typology for the fund

Priority 5, Support for effective and efficient application of relevant Community legal instruments in the field of external borders and visas, in particular the Schengen Borders Code and the European Code on Visas

- Training

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

In order to ensure good implementation of the activities under the External Borders Fund, preparatory measures, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and control measures, as well as measures for the reinforcement of the administrative capacity for the implementation of the Fund are envisaged for financing in 2011.

Using the Technical Assistance financial means, the EBF designated authorities, will be able to support the administrative management of the Fund and therefore to ensure effective functioning of the MCS.

4.1 Purpose of the technical assistance

- The purpose of the TA is to support the effective implementation, evaluation, management and control of the External Borders Fund in the Republic of Bulgaria;
- The TA expenditures shall be incurred for strengthening the administrative capacity, including staff training of the Responsible Authority, the Certifying Authority and the Audit Authority, while implementing the EBF.
- The TA shall cover expenditure relating to the preparation, selection, appraisal, management and monitoring of actions (including computer equipment and consumables).
- Expenditure relating to audits and on-the-spot checks of actions or projects;
- Expenditure relating to evaluations of actions or projects;
- Expenditure relating to information, dissemination and transparency in relation to actions;
- Expenditure on the acquisition, installation and maintenance of computerised systems for the management, monitoring and evaluation of the Funds;
- Expenditure on meetings of monitoring committees and sub-committees relating to the implementation of actions (such as interpretation and/or translation);

4.2 Expected quantified results

- Administrative capacities of relevant management and control Authorities enhanced - sufficient number of staff allocated, number of staff trained, clear administrative procedures introduced, relevant equipment provided;
- Effective functioning of the EBF management and control systems - number of evaluation/monitoring/audit reports; number of projects implemented, % of financial allocations absorbed;
- Effective mechanism for projects selection established - all selected projects correspond to the priorities of the EBF;
- Effective monitoring of actions exercised and corrective measures taken, if applicable - number of monitoring missions and follow-up reports;
- Information campaigns for popularization of the EBF in Bulgaria carried out; one information activity presenting the achievements of AP 2011 organized (as per Art. 33 (2) (a) of Implementing rules of the fund);
- Translations of EBF materials and interpretation during EBF related meetings or events;

- Regular contacts with the EC and MS maintained (travel and subsistence expenses covered).

4.3 Visibility of EU funding

When using the Technical Assistance financial means either to support the effective implementation, evaluation, management and/or control of the External Borders Fund in the Republic of Bulgaria or to strengthening the administrative capacity of the Responsible Authority, the Certifying Authority and/or the Audit Authority, the EU logo shall be displayed on all concomitant materials; information on EU co-financing shall be duly mentioned in the relevant correspondence. The visibility measures undertaken when absorbing the EBF funds for technical assistance will be in line with the provisions of Art. 34 and 35 and Annex X of Commission Decision 2008/456/EC.

5. DRAFT FINANCING PLAN

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan

Table 1 - Overview table

Member State: Bulgaria

Annual programme concerned: 2011

Fund: EXTERNAL BORDERS FUND

<i>(all figures in euro)</i>	Ref. priority	Ref. specific priority (1)	Community Contribution (a)	Public Allocation (b)	Private Allocation (c)	TOTAL (d= a+b+c)	% EC (e=a/d)	Share of total (f=d/total d)
Action 1	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	2 025 000,00	675 000,00	0,00	2 700 000,00	75,00%	25,99%
Action 2	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	232 500,00	77 500,00	0,00	310 000,00	75,00%	2,98%
Action 3	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	127 500,00	42 500,00	0,00	170 000,00	75,00%	1,64%
Action 4	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	396 000,00	132 000,00	0,00	528 000,00	75,00%	5,08%
Action 5	Priority 1	Specific Pr.1	600 000,00	200 000,00	0,00	800 000,00	75,00%	7,70%
Action 6	Priority 1	Specific Pr.1	108 900,00	36 300,00	0,00	145 200,00	75,00%	1,40%
Action 7	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	88 500,00	29 500,00	0,00	118 000,00	75,00%	1,14%
Action 8	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	75 000,00	25 000,00	0,00	100 000,00	75,00%	0,96%
Action 9	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	187 500,00	62 500,00	0,00	250 000,00	75,00%	2,41%
Action 10	Priority 2	Specific Pr.3	417 000,00	139 000,00	0,00	556 000,00	75,00%	5,35%
Action 11	Priority 2	Specific Pr.2	750 000,00	250 000,00	0,00	1 000 000,00	75,00%	9,63%
Action 12	Priority 3	Specific Pr.2	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00		0,00%
Action 13	Priority 4	Specific Pr.1	1 042 500,00	347 500,00	0,00	1 390 000,00	75,00%	13,38%
Action 14	Priority 4	Specific Pr.1	150 000,00	50 000,00	0,00	200 000,00	75,00%	1,93%
Action 15	Priority 4	Specific Pr.1	728 800,00	242 933,34	0,00	971 733,34	75,00%	9,35%

Action 16	Priority 5	Specific Pr.1	284 250,00	94 750,00	0,00		379 000,00	75,00%	3,65%
Action 17	Priority 5	Specific Pr.1	0,00	0,00	0,00		0,00		0,00%
Action 18	Priority 5	Specific Pr.1	333 000,00	111 000,00	0,00		444 000,00	75,00%	4,27%
Action 19	Priority 5		12 000,00	4 000,00	0,00		16 000,00	75,00%	0,15%
Technical assistance			310 868,00	0,00	0,00		310 868,00	100,00%	2,99%
Other operations (2)			0,00	0,00	0,00		0,00	0,00%	0,00%
TOTAL			7 869 318,00	2 519 483,34			10 388 801,34	75,75%	100%

Kircho Kirov:

Acting Director of International Projects Directorate-MoI