

NATIONAL PROGRAMME ISF

IDENTIFICATION OF THE DESIGNATED AUTHORITIES

Competent authorities responsible for management and control systems

Authority	Name of the authority	Head of the authority	Address	E-mail address	Date of designation	Activities delegated
Responsible authority	International Projects Directorate - Ministry of Interior	Maya Petkova, Director	29 "6-ti Septemvri" Str. Sofia 1000	dmp@mvr.bg		
Audit authority	Internal Audit Unit – Ministry of Interior	Ivan Petkov	29 "6-ti Sepremvri" Str., Sofia 1000, Bulgaria	zvo.18@mvr.bg		

Management and control system

The system is developed and is based on the existing administrative capacity of the Ministry of Interior (MoI) under SOLID funds. The International Projects Directorate at MoI is envisaged to be the Responsible Authority (RA) for the ISF, acting only in awarding body mode. The function of the Audit Authority (AA) is envisaged to be carried out by the Internal Audit Unit at MoI which is functionally independent from the RA. There is no direct hierarchical relation between the AA and the RA and the AA has full autonomy in its opinions and declarations as per Art. 13 of Delegated regulation (EU) No 1042/2014. The Deputy Prime Minister for EU Funds and Economic Policies at the Council of Ministers was appointed as Delegating Authority with Council Decision 98/21.04.2015. The AA shall report directly to the Delegating Authority. No delegated authorities are planned to be designated.

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The programme was prepared following the priorities identified in the national strategies in the respective fields:

In the field of borders and visa:

1. Integrated Border Management Strategy 2014- 2020: The overall objective of the strategy is further development of the border control by -ensuring the security of the EU external borders; ensuring the smooth crossing of the persons; enhancement of border police cooperation.
2. National Strategy on Migration, Asylum and Integration (2015-2020).

In the field of prevention and combating crime and risks and crisis:

1. National Security Strategy of the Republic of Bulgaria as an underlying document for the agreed formulation, planning, implementation, coordination and control of the national security policy;
2. Crime Prevention Strategy of the Republic of Bulgaria 2012-2020;
3. Strategic guidelines for prevention and counteraction to corruption 2015-2020 (drafted);
4. National strategy for counteracting money laundering 2011-2015;
5. Cybersecurity strategy of Republic of Bulgaria (drafted in 2014);
6. National strategy for mitigation of disaster risks 2014-2020.

The priorities identified in the above stated national strategic documents are in compliance with the key policy issues identified in the policy dialogue on the Home Affairs Multi-annual Financial Framework 2014-2020 between Republic of Bulgaria and the European Commission and the future full accession into the Schengen area is taken into account.

The key issues and actions identified in the programme are in compliance with the objectives and eligible actions defined in the respective EU Regulations.

The Multiannual programme (MAP) of Republic of Bulgaria under the ISF is focused on the following main objectives:

ISF Bulgaria initial main objectives are:

1. Strengthening the management of the external borders ;
2. Customer-friendly service to visa applicants;
3. Countering organised crime;
4. Countering terrorism;
5. Protection of critical infrastructure.

The goals laid down in the Specific objectives of the ISF multiannual programme of Republic of Bulgaria will lead to the achievement of the following results:

Specific objective 1:Support a common visa policy – approx. 5,9 MEUR of ISF:

- National Visa Information System (N.VIS) upgraded and further developed (including VISMAIL);
- Renovated and modernised consular offices; improved professional qualification of the consular staff;
- Enhanced capacity for application of EC directives in the field of design and exploitation of the uniform protected documents.

Specific objective 2:Support for external borders – approx. 17,9 MEUR of ISF:

- Enhanced capabilities for effective surveillance of EU borders and checks at the Border crossing points (BCPs).
- National Schengen Information System (N.SIS) upgraded and further developed;
- Preparatory “smart borders” activities in line with the contemporary developments on EU level applied on national level;

Specific objective 3:Operating support – approx 15 MEUR:

- Proper functioning of the equipment and IT systems for border control ensured.
- Trouble-free functioning of N.SIS ensured;
- Trouble-free functioning of N.VIS ensured;

Specific objective 5: Preventing and combating crime – approx. 17 MEUR:

- Anti-corruption measures: Independent monitoring system on anti-corruption measures undertaken by the law-enforcement bodies introduced;; video surveillance in police patrol and traffic vehicles expanded;
- Prevention and counteraction to transnational crime, organised crime and terrorism, financial and economic crimes, corruption through new operative equipment improved. Forensic and police intelligence gathering equipment, equipment for prevention of bomb terrorism modernised; Capacity of the physics and chemistry examination of explosives and their ingredients and operative equipment enhanced.
- Radicalization awareness amongst public and first-line practitioners raised; Expertise of all relevant national actors to detect and prevent radicalization leading to terrorism enhanced;
- IT and communication systems for exchange of information among national and relevant Union law enforcement authorities upgraded. Specialised trainings schemes for law enforcement authorities promoted and developed;
- Victims of THB effectively supported by initiatives for early identification and prevention;

Specific objective 6: Risk and crisis – approx. 13,6 MEUR:

- National cyber security system developed; National Cyber-Security body, Operative centre for coordination and control on the application of the cybersecurity policies on operational level, Cyber scientific research centre for transfer of knowledge and CERT centres established;

The national early warning system further developed; adequate protection of the European critical infrastructure ensured incl. through specialised trainings.

2. BASELINE SITUATION IN THE MEMBER STATE

Summary of the current state of play as of December 2013 in the Member State for the fields relevant to the Fund

1. Visa

The N.VIS has been developed in conformity with the requirements of Regulation (EC) No 767/2008 and is ready to be interfaced with the EUVIS since 2010. Further development of N.VIS is needed due to the changes made in EUVIS for addressing the amendments in the Visa Code and creating conditions for carrying out on-line requests in EUVIS by the consulates. The necessary conditions for receiving and processing biometric data collected by an external service provider should be established. Maintenance for the existing infrastructure

should be provided as well. Additional resources are also needed to ensure the migration to the VIS Mail 2.

Until 2014 NVIS biometric version is installed at all 87 consulates and all BCPs. In 2010, 60 consulates (35 under Schengen Facility (SF)) were equipped according to the Schengen requirements. The total number of visas issued increased by 13% for the period 2012-2013. This demands increasing the number of biometric desks in some consulates (e.g. Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, etc.). In relation to the preparation for full application of the provisions of the Schengen acquis, other 25 consulates should be renovated. Independent and secured satellite communication link to the National visa center (NVC) set up for consulates in regions with low quality internet connection or possibilities for secured VPN (Virtual private network) tunnels.

In 2014 the consulates staff totals 195. The overloaded consulates are supported by seconding Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) staff or by hiring natives. For 2014 a total of 63 officials were seconded for approx. 35 days each. Before being seconded the officials pass one month training and improvement of the qualification of the staff in the EU acquis and visa processing is needed.

Other national needs which shall be addressed under ISF are focused on delivery of technical means and software for design and pre-printing of Schengen visa sticker, elaboration of cost-benefit analyses of the possibilities for consular cooperation measures.

2. BORDERS

EUROSUR: Bulgaria joined EUROSUR in July 2012. The national components are the National Coordination Centre (NCC) in Sofia and its branches—the Regional coordination centres (RCC), Local coordination centres (LCC) and the Integrated Surveillance System (ISS).

The NCC was established in 2010 with national funds. It collects and processes the information received from the border police units and coordinates them; provides 24/7 surveillance through the ISS and exchanges operative information with NCCs of other MS and FRONTEX. NCC has 15 officials. The national situational picture (NSP) needs to be upgraded. As of 2015, two joint projects with the NCCs of Romania and Greece have started aimed at exchange of situational picture for the neighbouring border sectors.

The ISS has two components – maritime (along the Black sea, financed under the SF, operational since 2010) and land along the Bulgarian–Turkish border.

The maritime ISS has 2 LCC in Sozopol and Varna and 1 RCC in Burgas.

The land ISS is built in two stages:

-the section between BCP Svilengrad and BCP Lessovo, is operational since 2012. The system has 1 RCC, 1 LCC, 6 stationary surveillance posts /SSP/, 5 mobile surveillance posts /MSP/, 35 km of peripheral surveillance system /PSS/, communication system for connection of all system components;

-the second part, financed under the EBF, shall be put in exploitation in June 2015 consisting of: 5 SSPs; 59,5 km PSS; 4 MSPs; video surveillance systems at BCP Lessovo and Malko Tarnovo; 4 LCCs; enlargement of the RCC in Elhovo; upgrade of the NCC for connection to the RCC; integration of the information from the border police helicopters.

The land ISS covers the total length of the Bulgarian-Turkish border.

Automated surveillance system at Kalotina - Bulgarian-Serbian border was established under EBF in 2012.

In addition, specialised equipment for border control is also used: mobile thermo vision cameras, radar posts, maritime/river vessels, other technical means such as scanners, systems for detection of hidden persons, 3 ABC gates etc. which shall be maintained and replaced.

In 2013/2014, the number of the persons attempting to exit the country at the BCP Bregovo at the Bulgarian- Serbian border has increased 18 times compared to 2012 which requires establishment of surveillance system in the border area near Dragoman.

Motor vehicles: The usage of modern motor vehicles at the external borders supplied under the SF, EBF and national budget improved the mobility and the effectiveness of the border control. Due to the increased migratory pressure at the BG-TR border during the last 2 years the available transport equipment is extremely insufficient. The use of modern motor vehicles will result in improving the mobility and the effectiveness of the border police patrols and reducing the time for intervention.

Vessels and helicopters: At present, border police uses 3 helicopters, 13 maritime vessels /1-PHARE, 5-SF/, 14 river vessels /6-SF/ and 1 ferro-concrete workshop /PHARE/. Border police port was built under the EBF in Sozopol.

IT equipment: The network and IT equipment purchased with national funds in 2009 are outdated and should be replaced.

N.SIS: The transition process from SIS I to SIS II was completed successfully in April 2013. Since October 2013 Bulgaria participates technically in the exchange with SIS systems of other MS. Under EBF considerable amount was allocated for N.SIS-5,1 MEUR. Following the principle of complementarity and continuity as well as the full accession to the Schengen area, requires further expansion of N.SIS capacity.

Information exchange: A trilateral contact centre between Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria is being established at BCP Capitan Andreevo. Joint EU funded project for exchange of information between the border control services of the three countries has started in 2014. Another specialised centre for joint border control with Romanian border police on Danube River is to be established with ISF funds.

TETRA: As of 2014 under PHARE, SF, EBF, Norwegian financial mechanism and the national budget a total of 130 sites are built for TETRA (Terrestrial trunked radio) base stations and 90% coverage was achieved in 10 km from the external land borders. Further expansion of the coverage under ISF is envisaged;

AIS Border control: The second generation of the system was established with national funds in 2010. It processes and stores information for the passengers, travel documents and vehicles at external borders. The system shall be expanded with functionalities for processing, archiving and comparing digital photographs of persons.

PKI (Public key infrastructure): According to audit recommendations new PKI infrastructure was implemented as a pilot project at BCP Oltomantsi (Bulgarian-Serbian border) under the EBF and shall be expanded at all BCPs at external borders.

Common Union Standards: Upgrade of the work stations for online identification of persons, situated at the BCPs of Republic of Bulgaria and used by CDBP services is needed in order to ensure effective border control.

The envisaged annual resources from the national budget for border management and migration processes amounted to 74.169 MEUR (2015) and 3.3 MEUR (2014- 2015) in the field of visa policy.

ISF POLICE:

1. Preventing and combatting crime-approx. 53% of the ISF Police funding is envisaged to be invested in measures under Art. 3 of Regulation (EU)513/2014 and particularly in prevention of corruption; improvement of the national capacity of pre-trial police investigations and related forensic examinations, countering transnational, serious, organised crime and terrorism, financial and economic crimes, further development of national IT systems, specialised trainings for law enforcement authorities. In particular, Bulgaria needs to:

-support the national anti-corruption policy: According to the 2015 CVM report for Bulgaria, the recent Eurobarometer survey for Bulgaria shows that 97% of all respondents identified corruption as an important problem. Following the CVM long-term recommendations, Bulgaria is reviewing and updating its national anti-corruption strategy. According to the priority 2 of the currently adopted National strategy for preventing and counteracting corruption 2015-2020, Bulgaria plans to invest ISF funds in further strengthening joint investigations of the Prosecution office, MoI and the State Agency for National Security (SANS), a model that shows early results and whose effectiveness is expected to increase with development of the operational and technical capacities, the CVM report says. In addition following priority 4 of the strategy expansion of video surveillance in patrol and traffic police vehicles is envisaged, an anticorruption measure already introduced in MoI in the beginning of 2015 as well as establishment of independent monitoring system on anti-corruption measures undertaken by the law-enforcement bodies in order to satisfy the public society expectations on improving the effectiveness of the anti-corruption public bodies work.-improve the effectiveness of pre-trial police investigations and forensic examinations: in order to effectively tackle the serious and organized crime, incl. terrorism, cybercrimes and corruption, Bulgaria plans to spend approx. 4,6 MEUR for specialised equipment. The necessity comes from the requirements set in Council conclusions on the vision for European Forensic Science 2020 and includes delivery of technical equipment for the forensic laboratories allowing successful integration to the common European process for development of common forensic space incl. accreditation of Research Institute of Forensic Sciences and Criminology under ISO17025. In addition, the specialised technical means for

getting intelligence information need to be modernized. New technical means are needed for improvement of the existing capacity of the physics and chemistry examination of explosives and their ingredients as well.

-effectively counter transnational, serious, organised crime and terrorism, financial and economic crimes:

The national needs in the field come from the objectives of the national security strategy in 2011 and a national plan for countering terrorism in 2008. Moreover Bulgaria faced terrorism assault in Bourgas in 2012 and undertook measures to prevent and counter the violent radicalization. Complementary to these measures and having in mind the fast growing global threat from terrorism and radicalization, Bulgaria plans to use ISF for increasing the public awareness through information campaigns for civil society as well.

-upgrade the law enforcement IT and communication systems:

The fast development of the IT and communication sector requires upgrade of the national communication and IT systems in law enforcement sector. Annually the national budget provides approx. 1 MEUR for maintenance and upgrade of the systems which are complementary to financing from the ISF /incl. for the national counterterrorism centre and developing secured web portal for obtaining digital data under the national Law on Measures against Money Laundering and the Law on Measures against Financing of Terrorism).

-improve the qualification of law enforcement officials through organization of specialised trainings focused more on LETS (*Law enforcement training scheme*) strands 1 and 2 and particularly trainings for first-line practitioners. Moreover, specialised trainings developed under ISF will be done in full complementarity and cooperation with CEPOL.

2. Risks and crisis (appr. 42% of ISF Police)

- critical infrastructure(CI): Currently, a total of 70 national assets are designated as strategic and a part of the national CI. According to the draft of the national cybersecurity strategy Bulgaria shall apply common national cybersecurity policy with EC and NATO. The strategy outlines the needs and the corresponding measures for improving the stability of the CI, reducing risks and guaranteeing secure cyberspace for the society, business and public administration. With the funding, allocated to Bulgaria under the ISF, Bulgaria shall co-finance the development of the cybersecurity system such as the establishment of a National Cyber-Security Body, CERT centres as central contact points for preventive and reactive measures, establishment of Cyber scientific research centre for transfer of knowledge, trainings of experts and trainers, international cooperation on EC level, etc.

In addition, according to the National strategy for mitigation of disaster risks 2014-2020 Bulgaria has to develop an effective system for management, monitoring, early warning and alert, to establish an information system for data collecting and processing for already designated CIs on national and regional level, to expand its National system for early warning and notification, which currently is set in 10 district cities).

In 2005 a Centre for professional training for reaction to disasters and accidents was opened in Montana. Since 2011 the Centre is a regional NATO centre under the International programme for chemical, nuclear and biological protection. Annual international trainings are held under the Mechanism for civil protection of EC. It is necessary that the number of training modules be increased incl. for the CIs protection and CBRN incidents.

Needed is also the modernization of the National and regional operative centres for protection and their integration for reaction to emergencies as an important precondition for effective reaction to the CBRN accidents. This will contribute to the effective coordination and management on national level and with the EC, NATO, UN coordination centres. The budgeted national allocations for 2015 stand at approx.:

Specific objective 5- Law enforcement: 277 MEUR;

Specific objective 6: National civil protection: 90 MEUR for 2015.

3. PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

Specific objective	1 - Support a common visa policy
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With regard to BG efforts to become fully-fledged member of the Schengen area, the following needs have to be addressed: guaranteeing the security and reliability of the National Visa System (incl. the development and upgrade of the hardware and software of the system); delivery of new equipment and renovation of the consular services; staff qualification in the Union acquis; intensifying the consular cooperation, conformity of the BG Schengen Visa Sticker (SVS) to EC requirements for the period 2014-2020. All these actions shall guarantee the legitimate travel and the high quality of service to visa applicants, equal treatment of third country nationals and tackle illegal immigration.

As regards the visa policy, Bulgaria will continue to provide investments in this area. Bulgaria will continue to look into cooperation with other MS to increase consular coverage especially after the accession to the Schengen area as well.

National objective	1 - National capacity
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The funding priorities in the 2014-2020 period are:

- Further development of the software and hardware of N.VIS and the interfaces for EU VIS and migration to the VIS Mail.

- Renovation and modernization of consulates as well as installation of additional biometric desks at consulates with greatest number of visa applications incl. those in Nigeria (Abuja), Turkey (Ankara, Bursa, Istanbul, Edirne), Kazakhstan (Astana), Lebanon (Beirut), India (Delhi), Indonesia (Jakarta), Armenia (Yerevan), Egypt (Cairo), Ukraine (Odessa, Kiev), Kuwait (Kuwait), Belarus (Minsk), Russia (Moscow, Saint Petersburg), China (Beijing, Shanghai), Gauteng (Pretoria), Kosovo* (Pristine), Uzbekistan (Tashkent), Georgia (Tbilisi), Iran (Tehran), Vietnam (Hanoi),

- Establishment of independent and secure satellite communication link to the National Visa Centre (NVC) with Visa services centre (VSC), incl. alternative communication channels with consulates with limited access to Virtual Private Network (VPN) network.

- Action aimed at addressing the necessary changes of the software for the personalization process of the uniform Schengen visa sticker on national level according to the requirements of applicable EC Regulations. The action will be implemented in line with the contemporary developments (steps taken) on EU level.

Desired results:

- N.VIS Further developed in accordance with the contemporary development of the technical requirements and the relevant EU legislation, including VIS MAIL phase 2 ;

-Technical means of Bulgarian consular services abroad modernized. Consular premises renovated /min 25 of 87 consulates);

- Necessary changes of the software for the personalization process of the uniform Schengen visa sticker on national level applied.

Desired outcomes:

- Efficient operations and customer-friendly service to visa applicants;

- Full implementation of VIS including VIS MAIL phase 2 available and in operation; VIS roll-out in all consulates worldwide.

(*) This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

National objective	2 - Union acquis
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The funding priority is aimed at trainings of officials, applying the *Union acquis* in the field of visa policy, e.g.:

- Enhancement the qualification of the consular officials for effective application of EU legislation

The financial support shall provide further development of the qualification and skills of the consular officials in the field of EU VIS legislation, Visa Code/processing of Schengen visas and work with N. VIS. Study visits are envisaged to exchange best practices with other consulates of Schengen states in third countries, qualification and train-the-trainers courses in consular service centres of other MS and in Bulgaria. The implementation of the action will be focused particularly on processing of short stay visa applications.

Desired results:

- Enhanced capacity of consular officials through study visits in MS consulates in third countries, training courses and exchange of best practices ;

Desired outcome:

- Efficient operations and customer-friendly service to visa applicants.

National objective	3 - Consular cooperation
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Bulgaria intends to examine, as a preparatory phase, the opportunities for taking a part in different forms of consular cooperation as laid down in Art. 41 of Regulation № 810/2009 of 13 July 2009 establishing the Community Code on Visas (i. e. Common Application Centres, co-location or any other form of consular cooperation). Specific actions for consular cooperation with Schengen MS will be performed after the accession of Bulgaria to the Schengen area.

Specific objective	2 - Borders
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The **Integrated Border Management Strategy (2014-2020)**, is focused on meeting the requirements towards the control of the EU external borders as well as on the introduction of compensatory measures in the border area after abolishing the border control of the future Schengen internal borders.

The strategy aims shall be addressed by modernising the existing technical infrastructure, introduction of new technical equipment incl. IT systems and provision of sufficient number of well-trained personnel for effective and full implementation of the Schengen acquis. The short term national objective is full integration into the Schengen area.

Maintaining the technical readiness to join the Schengen area imposes particular requirements on Bulgaria's law enforcement authorities. The technical equipment and systems would grow old and Bulgaria should make efforts to guarantee the proper functioning of the serious capital investments so far. In addition, the police should be ready to address the future challenges to work in line with Schengen *acquis* requirements, i.e. securing the EU borders while respecting the freedom of movement and observing the human rights. Illegal migration, trafficking in human beings and organized crime are considered as risks to society, thus making an effective control of external borders a top priority at the EU and national level.

As part of the east Mediterranean route which passes through Turkey and branches out to Eastern Greece, Southern Bulgaria and Cyprus, the Bulgarian border with Turkey is one of the EU external borders with highest and constant migration influx toward EU.

The effective tackling the irregular migration require further development of the Integrated Surveillance System, increased cooperation with neighbouring countries, overall security of SIS II and introducing the Smart Borders Package.

Additional requirements are imposed by **the National strategy in the field of migration, asylum and integration (2011-2020)** where countering the illegal migration is one of the main priorities of the Bulgarian policy in the field of security and management of the migration processes.

The **National Schengen Action Plan** also emphasizes on the necessity of financial resources for the introduction of compensatory measures in the border area after Bulgaria joins the Schengen area.

A trilateral joint contact centre (Bulgaria-Turkey-Greece) will be commissioned by the end of 2015 at BCP Kapitan Andreevo. Representatives of border police, customs and other relevant authorities of the above stated countries will coordinate joint actions in the area of countering of illegal immigration, smuggling, border control violations etc. The establishment of the joint contact is funded with national resources of the participating states.

National objective	1 - EUROSUR
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The funding priorities in the 2014-2020 period is:

- Development of Automated system for surveillance along the Bulgarian-Serbian border and the local coordination centre in Dragoman.

From the beginning of 2013, the number of persons trying to irregularly cross the area of responsibility of Regional Directorate Border Police Dragoman rose 18 times compared to 2012. The analysis of the situational picture based on the registered cases in border police database shows that the most vulnerable area for irregularly crossings is the area of responsibility of Border police unit Bregovo as Bulgaria is considered by third country nationals as a transit country to Europe. Furthermore with the implementation of the action Bulgaria will establish RCC in Dragoman and will connect the LCCs in Bregovo and Kalotina with NCC in Sofia.

- Development of the National coordination centre in Sofia through delivery of new technical and information systems /incl. hardware and software for the National situational picture and renovation /expansion/ of the National coordination center;

The National coordination centre processes, analysis and provides information for the border control activities of the border crossing points /the results from border checks, the incidents of the air borders as well as information about the border crossings traffic/. At the beginning of 2014, a joint two years project with the National coordination center of Romania has started aimed at exchange of situational picture for the neighboring border sectors. A similar joint project has started in the second half of 2014 with Greece.

Desired results:

- Enhanced surveillance capabilities in the area of responsibility of Border police unit Bregovo at the Bulgarian – Serbian border. LCC Bregovo established. RCC Dragoman established, connection with NCC established;

- National coordination center upgraded and National situational picture analysis layer developed.

Desired outcomes:

- - Decreased number of illegal border crossings through the border with Serbia;

Improved information exchange with National coordination centers of other Member States and FRONTEX.

National objective	2 - Information exchange
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The funding priorities in the 2014-2020 period are:

- Expansion of AIS “Border control” with functionalities for processing, preserving and comparing of digital photographs of individuals crossing Bulgarian BCPs. AIS "Border control" is a national Entry/ Exit system, with access interface of the border police officers at BCPs to the files to National AIS Quest, N.SIS, FIND (*Technical solution to run checks against Interpol’s data base of stolen and lost travel documents*) and the National Visa System.

The action aims at supply and installation of equipment and software for expanding the functionalities of the border control system. The technical means and software will be used in the Main computer and communication centre, the Back-up computer and communication centre of the Ministry of Interior and the border crossing points as well. The implementation of the action shall provide access of users /having access to the system/ to the information regardless their location.

- Improvement of the access security and reliability of Ministry of Interior data transfer network and the operational compatibility with similar networks along EU external borders as SIS, VIS, EURODAC, FADO (False and Authentic Documents Online), networks of EUROPOL and INTERPOL and others It is necessary that Bulgaria fulfils the system security audit recommendations for developing PKI infrastructure of all BCPs at external borders along the Bulgarian-Turkish border, meaning delivery and installation of specialised hardware and software. An antivirus software for the systems at BCPs at external borders is also needed.

- Expansion of the TETRA system coverage for improvement of the cooperation and exchange of information in the area of responsibility of border police at the EU external borders.

The action envisages delivery of specialized TETRA equipment, modules and software for expanding coverage at border zones in order to improve the possibilities for exchange of voice and data in real time, to provide uninterruptedness of the communication system of MoI based on TETRA standard and operative compatibility with similar EU networks as well.

Desired results:

- Further expansion of AIS “Border control” with additional functionalities for processing, preserving and comparing of digital photographs;
- PKI infrastructure further developed to all border crossing points at the external borders;
- TETRA system coverage at the EU external borders expanded.

Desired outcomes:

- Improved border control at the external borders;
- Security and reliability of communication systems and networks for border control ensured.

National objective	3 - Common Union standards
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The funding priorities in the 2014-2020 period are:

- The border system for control of fingerprints in real time is part of the Bulgarian national automated dactyloscopic identification system. The system is created for the needs of border police and contains the fingerprints of the two forefingers and picture of persons that have violated the border regime of the State, and also the two forefingers of criminals and missing persons announced by Interpol and the national law-enforcement services. The check is done in real time through scanning with live scanner the forefingers of the left and the right hand of the inspected person. Upgrade of hardware and software for work stations for online identification of persons, situated at the BCPs of Republic of Bulgaria and used by CDBP services. Updating the local devices will ensure the effective border control and in particular online identification of persons fingerprints at BCPs.
- Training of border police staff and strengthening the cooperation between joint contact centres through exchange of best practices and experience, incl. activities related with analysis and evaluation of threats, risks and impacts.

The action is aimed at closer cooperation in information exchange and receiving anticipating information for earlier recognition of risk situations along the common borders in order to counter the transborder crimes through exchange of best practices and mutual trainings /Bulgaria has established joint contact centres with Greece, Romania, Serbia and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Desired result:

- Work stations of border police services connected to the national automated dactyloscopic identification system replaced;
- Improved professional qualifications, knowledge and practical experience for staff engaged with activities related with analysis and evaluation of threats, risks and impacts.

Desired outcome:

- Ensuring effective control at the EU external borders through enhancement of the technical capacity for online identification of persons' fingerprints at BCPs;
- Border police cooperation with the relevant services of the neighbouring countries improved.

National objective	4 - Union acquis
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The funding priorities in the 2014-2020 period are:

- Training of the Border Police staff on the EU legal instruments as well as on the specific tasks in the process of border control, including foreign language training;
- Improvement of the administrative capacity for applying the most contemporary technologies for development of the national components of the information systems for Entry/Exit System (EES) and Registered Traveller Programme (RTP).

Desired result:

- Improved professional qualifications and knowledge of the border police staff engaged with the external borders control.

Desired outcome:

- Carrying out border guards' tasks in accordance with European law and standards, facilitating border crossing of bona fide travellers whilst preventing irregular immigration at the external borders.

National objective	5 - Future challenges
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The funding priorities in the 2014-2020 period are:

- Border equipment, such as ABC gates, self-service kiosks, equipment at Consulates such as fingerprint readers, equipment taking facial image, mobile kits, etc; Payment of ICAO PKD annual fees for 2016-2022 period.
- National infrastructure, such as end-user adaptation of border control applications for EES/RTP, hosting space for national EES/RTP, network to connect the national uniform interface to the national EES/RTP, connecting border control posts to the national EES/RTP through national mobile communication network, security infrastructure etc.

Desired results:

- Actions complementing EU “smart borders” package implemented;
- Additional electronic gate for automated border control at Sofia international airport set up;

Desired outcomes:

- TCNs entry to the EU facilitated, sped and secured.

Funding priorities:

- Delivery of specialised equipment for effective border control. The following indicative types of border control equipment are envisaged to be purchased: systems for detection of hidden persons, patrolling and specialised vehicles, document readers meeting the ICAO standard 9303 at BCPs, office equipment, mobile systems for border control etc.

The delivery of new contemporary technical means will increase the number and effectiveness of border police operations at external borders.

- Development of integrated system for video surveillance at BCPs at external borders.

- Building of specialised centre for joint border control with Romanian border police on Danube River vessels traffic in Vidin. The action will address the future abolition of border control and the special status of the Danube River as defined in the Danube Navigation Convention, i.e. guaranteeing the free passing of the vessels entering the river from East and West while ensuring effective border control according to the requirements of the Schengen Border Code.

- Modernization of the regional forensic laboratories' equipment for technical expertise of documents and delivery of new technical equipment for the needs of the National centre for fight against forged and falsified travel documents in Sofia and its branches in Burgas and Svilengrad.

The analysis of the current situation shows that the equipment of the regional forensic laboratories is outdated and must be replaced in order to respond to the Schengen Code recommendations 44 and 46 thus impeding the implementation of ENFSI recommendations and EU regulations for introduction of ISO/IEC EN 17025:2005 standard.

- Delivery of river vessels for border control along the Bulgarian river borders (Maritza and Rezovska rivers at the Bulgarian-Turkish border). The indicative number of fast floatable means to be purchased is 6-8 small boats. Additional equipment for the boats (life vests, ropes, hooks, protectors, etc.) and platforms for their land transportation is also envisaged;

- Development of N.SIS by provision of additional functionalities for the Main and Back-up Computer and Communication Computer centres. The main part of N.SIS technical and software tools was supplied and installed in the period 2009-2012.

High-class technical equipment and software for N.SIS shall be supplied under the action.

Desired results:

- Border control equipment modernized;

- N.SIS infrastructure (technical and software means) upgraded in accordance to the contemporary developments at EU level;

Desired outcomes:

- Improved detection and reaction capability (interception of detected immigrants/facilitators).

SIS II disposing of a full disaster recovery/business continuity plan.

Specific action	2 - FRONTEX equipment
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Supply of one mobile land surveillance vehicle.

The vehicle will be of all terrain type (4x4) and equipped with electro-optical equipment: day TV camera, term vision camera (non cooled type) and laser rangefinder. The sensors for surveillance will have minimum range of detection of single human body – 4 km.

The equipment will have the technical ability to archive the gathered surveillance information on a local storage. It will be equipped with the necessary communication systems that will ensure communication with coordination centres at the respective operational zone.

Additional technical characteristics of the equipment:

- Diesel generator for supplying;

- Air conditioning system, providing optimal temperature within mobile surveillance system during all seasons when the engine of the vehicle is not working;

- The mobile system for land surveillance will be equipped with set of instruments and spare parts for emergency repairs in order to be transported to the nearest unit for full diagnostics and repair of the damaged equipment. Awarded amount 391 500 euro.

Specific objective	3 - Operating support
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Balgarija hereby confirms its compliance with the Union acquis on borders and visa.

Balgarija hereby confirms its compliance with Union Standards and guidelines for good governance on borders and visa, in particular the Schengen catalogue for external border control, the Practical Handbook for borders guards and the Handbook on visa.

National objective	1 - Operating support for VISA
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In the forthcoming programming period 2014-2020 it is necessary that financial allocations for maintenance of technical equipment and software for the N.VIS and the Consular service centres be provided.

The main Visa equipment of CSCs was installed in 2008-2010 under SF projects. The analysis shows that the uninterrupted functioning of N.VIS in all regions requires yearly maintenance of the technical equipment and software for the needs of N.VIS, supplied under the SF, including repair and replacement of the failed components of the N.VIS, Back-up VC, and the equipment of the CSCs. It's necessary that the versions of the operating systems, Mail servers, Relational Database Management Systems, etc., should be upgraded. For the period after 2015, Bulgaria needs additional resources for N.VIS maintenance, in particular for the following actions:

- Provision of diagnosis and monitoring of information systems processes;
- Repair and replacement of failed components of the equipment of NVC, Back-up VC and CSCs;
- Supply of up-to-date software for N.VIS (licenses updates, new versions, etc.);

Targets:

- Efficient operations and customer-friendly service to visa applicants;
- Full implementation of VIS, including VISMAIL available and in operation;
- Use of the VIS for the issuance of Schengen visas at the border and preparation for the introduction of fingerprint verifications at the border.

National objective	2 - Operating support for borders
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The following actions are envisaged:

- Maintenance of ISS at Bulgarian – Turkish border, section BCP Kapitan Andreevo – BCP Lessovo /built under the Schengen Facility/ for the period 2015-2020. This section of the integrated system /59 km/ is put into exploitation in 2012;
- Maintenance of the TETRA communication system built under Schengen facility and EBF at the external borders;
- Maintenance of the ISS “Blue border” for the period 2015-2020. This system was built under SF;
- Maintenance of the automated surveillance system at Bulgarian-Serbian border in the area of responsibility of Border Police Unit Kalotina for the period 2015-2017. The system is built under EBF and put into exploitation in 2012;

- Maintenance and repairs of border police premises and buildings. The action envisages maintenance and repairs of the border police buildings and premises. The expected expenses are: replacement of water-mains, heating systems, electric main, lightning and air-conditioning systems, etc.

- Maintenance of specialised equipment for border control /incl. helicopters, ships, ABC gates, vehicles, etc./;

- Maintenance of N.SIS. Under this action, the maintenance of the following N.SIS equipment and software provided under PHARE, SF and EBF is envisaged: provision of uninterrupted functioning of N.SIS. The development of these systems will ensure the full integration to SIS II.

Targets:

Uninterrupted functioning of ISS communication systems for border control and N.SIS.

Specific objective	5 - Preventing and combating crime
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The funding priorities identified under the Specific objective 5 are in compliance with the following national strategic documents:

1. the National security strategy, adopted in 2011;
2. the Crime prevention strategy 2012-2020;
3. the Strategy for countering money laundering 2011-2015;
4. National strategy for preventing and countering corruption 2015-2020.

The aforementioned strategic documents along with the objectives set out in Art.3 of the Regulation (EU) No 513/2014 of the European Parliament and the Council are the main pillars for identifying the national priorities under SO5 during the policy dialogue held in July 2013 with the Commission, namely: improving the effectiveness of the anti-corruption measures; countering financial and economic crimes; increasing the capacity of pre-trial police investigation and related forensic examinations; fight against radicalisation towards terrorism and violent extremism; improving national capacities for fight against trafficking of firearms and trafficking in human beings. According to the national needs identified in the baseline situation, the major EU funding under this specific objective will be invested in measures for increasing the capacity of pre-trial police investigation and related forensic examinations. Significant financial means shall be directed toward measures for improving the national communication and information systems for exchange of information of national and EU level (incl. EUROPOL), in the fields of countering financial and economic crimes, serious and organised crime as well.

The national targets set under Specific objective 5 include:

- Implementation of anticorruption measures according to the policy dialogue;
- Development of the capacity for pre-trial police investigation and the related criminalist investigation;
- Improved technical equipment and enhanced expert capacity to combat money laundering, financial and economic crimes and all serious and organised crime through financial investigations.
- Improved interaction and exchange of information between competent national authorities, and with EU partners and relevant international organizations.
- Increased capacity for provision of specially obtained surveillance information to the investigative and intelligence structures, to the pre-trial proceedings bodies and to the court, in full compliance with the requirements of the Criminal Procedure Code, the Specialized Surveillance Means Act.
- Effective support to victims of crime (incl. THB).

National objective	1 - C - prevention and combating
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Funding priorities:

- Anti-corruption measures:
 - improving the effectiveness of joint investigations on corruption by specialized inter institutional units of the SANS, the Prosecution Office and MoI through improving the information provision of joint teams actions and integration of new analytical software;
 - diminishing the level of corruption among the patrol and traffic police through integration of video surveillance and checking devices in the patrol vehicles
- Measures to improve the capacity of pre-trial police investigation and related forensic examinations through:
 - delivery of technical equipment for the forensic laboratories for successful integration to the common European process for development of common forensic space incl. accreditation of its laboratories under ISO17025;
 - supply of equipment for prevention of bomb terrorism and for improving the capacity of the physics and chemistry examination of explosives and their ingredients;
 - supply of equipment and introduction of new operative methods for improving the effectiveness of gathering intelligence information and evidences;

-improving the effectiveness in collecting intelligence information and evidences through contemporary technical means and operative methods;

- Measures for countering crossborder, serious, organised crime and terrorism, incl. radicalisation, financial and economic crimes through:

-building of computerized shooting training centre for the specialised units of MoI;

-information campaigns held for prevention of the radicalisation /incl. elaboration and dissemination of video and other information materials/; development of Uniform coordination platform and the Internet portal; promotion of RAN results;

-supply of PC configurations and specialized intelligence software, purchase of vehicles and personal equipment for the national bodies in the field of countering drugs trafficking;

-3 joint investigations in THB field

-supply of technical means for the officials, directly working in countering THB

-delivery of stationary metal detectors for explosives at the international airports; supply of technical equipment for effective operative investigation activities with neighbor partner services.

Desired results: Accreditation of labs (under ISO 17025) achieved; Specialised equipment for countering crossborder, serious, organised crime,terrorism,financial and economic crimes delivered and information campaigns in field held; 3 JITs in THB field set up; min.600 patrol and traffic police vehicles equipped.

Desired outcomes: More effective anti-corruption measures applied; workable and effective national forensic capacities according to EU standards developed; the national technical resources in the field of countering serious, organised crime, terrorism improved.

National objective	2 - C - exchange of information
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Funding priorities:

- Measures for maintenance and further development of national information systems e.g. Automated information system (AIS) “Operative analysis”; AIS “Investigation”; Common register of MoI Geographic Information System; Central AIS “Documents” linked with European and international organisations in the security sector;

Measures for improving pre-trial police investigations capacity:

- Further development of the National DNA and AFIS database capacity through update of the software and hardware; upgrade of the software and hardware of the Bulgarian IBIS as a prerequisite for connecting to IBIN;

-Improvement of the administrative and operative coordination and the cooperation/information exchange between relevant institutions on national level for prevention of serious crime and protection of the national security.

Measures enhancing the national capacity for fight against financial and economic crimes /money laundering/ including:

- Examination of the EU best practices in the development of software systems for financial-intelligence information analysis. Establishment and commissioning, including through integration with already existing data bases, of specialized software for financial-intelligence analysis of information received in accordance with the Law on Measures Against Money Laundering and the Law on Measures Against Financing of Terrorism. Delivery of the necessary hardware and connection of the afore-mentioned system with the already existing filing registration system. Development of secured electronic connection system for exchange of financial-intelligence information with the law enforcement authorities and Prosecution Office.-

Measures for prevention of terrorism, serious, organized crime and radicalization:

-purchase of equipment for the National Counterterrorism Centre, necessary for elaboration of analysis on radicalization processes in Bulgaria as well as for facilitating the exchange of information with the public and social partners;

-supply of IT equipment for the staff directly involved in SOCTA elaboration as well as for the staff implementing the national priorities in the EC framework for fight against serious and organised crime;

Desired results: National information systems further developed; pre-trial police investigations improved; the number of the revealed financial and economic crimes /money laundering/ increased; improved technical and administrative capacity in countering terrorism, serious, organized crime and radicalization.

Desired outcomes: Enhanced resilience of network and information security systems; Improved exchange of information and cooperation between the different communities involved (including the public sector, private companies, law enforcement and academia).

National objective	3 - C - training
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Funding priorities:

- Trainings in the fight against cyber-crime:

- training courses for analysis of network traffic, systems for prevention and detection of cyber attacks, administrating of firewalls and applying security policies for experts administrating specialized computer systems for data collection and analysis;

- training of experts investigating crimes and misuses in cyberspace;

- Training of border police officials in estimating risks and threats at the international airports in cooperation with other Member States with experience in the field; elaboration of methodology for Profiling in order to reveal persons, probable terrorists;
- Exchange and training of employees working in the field of the security of information, information systems and networks in order to provide technological compatibility of the police authorities with relevant structures on EU level;
- Training of trainers, joint trainings with claimants under the Law on the special intelligence means, organization of conferences, exchange of best practices and experience with partner authorities of other EU Member States and third countries;

Desired results: Specialised trainings in countering cyber-crime, security of information, information systems and networks organized and held;

Desired outcomes: Training schemes in order to improve technical and professional skills and knowledge incl. through specific law enforcement exchange programmes for fostering genuine European law enforcement culture promoted and developed; Increasing the effectiveness of public bodies in, radicalisation towards terrorism and violent extremism, cyber-crime.

National objective	4 - C - victim support
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Funding Priorities:

- Promoting and developing measures, mechanisms and best practices for early identification and support to the victims of trafficking with a focus on the vulnerable groups

The envisaged calls for proposals procedures will be opened to all relevant governmental and non-governmental organizations with competence in this field.

Desired results: Effective measures and mechanisms for early identification and prevention of THB implemented;

Desired outcomes: More effective protection of victims of terrorism achieved.

National objective	5 - C - threat and risk assessment
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Funding priority:

- Assessment of threats of organised crime and corruption:

This funding priority is subdivided in two actions:

- Establishment of an independent monitoring system for evaluation of the results from the application of anticorruption measures on national level. Under this action it is envisaged to involve relevant international and/or non-governmental organisations to exercise monitoring of the anti-corruption measures undertaken by the relevant national authorities in the field. Respectively, the monitoring system will include independent third-party observation involving monitoring by non-governmental or international organisations/bodies different from the authorities applying the anti-corruption policy. This action falls under priority 4 “Countering corruption in judiciary, Ministry of Interior (MoI) and control bodies” of the National strategy for preventing and counteracting to corruption 2015-2020.

- Improvement of the results from the fight against organised crime through elaboration of threat and risk assessments of organised crime. The threat and risk assessments shall be elaborated on annual basis from the independent bodies .

The actions shall be implemented through open calls for proposals.

Desired result:

- Independent anti-corruption monitoring system established;
- Annual monitoring reports for the results/effects from the application of the anti-corruption measures elaborated;
- Annual reports for threat and risk assessments of organised crime elaborated.

Desired outcome:

- More effective anti-corruption system on national level introduced;
- Enhanced capacity of the law enforcement bodies acting in the area of prevention and counteracting organised crime.

Specific objective	6 - Risks and crisis
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The funding priorities identified below under Specific objective 6 are in compliance with the following national strategic documents:

1. Cybersecurity strategy of Republic of Bulgaria (drafted in 2014);

2. National strategy for mitigation of disaster risks 2014-2020.

The protection of the critical infrastructure is a milestone of the national security policy. According to the cybersecurity strategy Bulgaria shall apply common national cybersecurity policy with EC and NATO. This policy will be focused on CI protection, achievement of high level of cybersecurity, development of the administrative capacities of the responsible national institutions to counter cyber threats. Among the national priorities, identified in the strategy which are in line with the objectives of the Specific Regulation 513/2014, Art. 3.2 b are the protection of the critical infrastructure and prevention and counteraction to crimes in cyberspace. The cybersecurity strategy outlines measures for improving the stability of the CI, reducing risks and guaranteeing secure cyberspace for the society, business and public administration. The measures shall be aimed at achieving the following objectives: secure and reliable exchange of information in cyberspace, development of the capacities of governmental structures with responsibilities in the field of cybersecurity, improvement of the coordination mechanism on national level. The model of the national cybersecurity system includes the establishment of a National Cyber-Security Body, CERT centres as central contact points for preventive and reactive measures, establishment of Cyber scientific research centre for transfer of knowledge, trainings of experts and trainers, international cooperation on EC level, etc.

In addition the National strategy for mitigation of disaster risks 2014-2020 focuses also on development of effective system for management, monitoring, early warning and alert(incl. finishing the ongoing process of designation of the national CI and ECI; to make investments in TETRA system in order to provide fast and accurate response in the area of ECI assets and the development of the early warning system as well as developing professional training modules.

The abovementioned strategic measures are aimed at meeting the identified needs in the baseline situation and therefore at achieving the outcomes negotiated during the policy dialogue in the field, namely:

- Enhanced resilience of network and information security systems.
- In line with the European Cyber-security Strategy, improved capacities to prevent, investigate and combat cyber-crime, especially payment card and online fraud.
- Improved exchange of information and cooperation between the different communities involved (including the public sector, private companies, CERTs, law enforcement and academia).
- Active participation and contribution to EC3;
- Designation of relevant ECI;
- Ensuring adequate protection of critical infrastructure.

National objective	1 - R - prevention and combating
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Funding priority:

- Exchange of best practices between national and international institutions for elaboration of national and sector strategic risk assessments in relation to money laundering/financing of terrorism. Implementation of methodology for elaboration of such analysis as well as hiring experts for practical implementation of this methodology. The national anti-money laundering strategy (2011-2015) explicitly analyses the actions which should be applied for reducing risks related to money laundering and financing of terrorism. One of the main means for achieving high level of efficiency of the prevention and counteraction to money laundering is the elaboration of national and sector risk analysis. The analysis should identify and measure the main weaknesses on national and sector level, to determine the appropriate mechanisms for their management (reduction) and to measure the residual risk. Up to 2015 such analysis has not been elaborated. In order to elaborate the aforementioned analysis, an appropriate methodology should be applied consistent with national specifics in the field as well as exchange of best practices with other national and international bodies having experience in the field of sector risk analysis.

Desired results:

- National sector risk analysis for money laundering elaborated; methodology for elaboration of the analysis developed/purchased;

Desired outcomes:

- Achievement of higher level of conformity with the international standards in the field of prevention and counteraction to money laundering/financing of terrorism.

National objective	2 - R - exchange of information
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Funding priorities:

- Development of information system for collecting and processing of data for designated Cis:

It is necessary that specific actions be undertaken for the development of information system for collecting and processing of data for designation of CI and related sites on the national and regional level as well as strengthening of the administrative and operative capacity for the CI protection incl. trainings /delivery of specialised software and hardware/.

- Development of the Uniform automated register for control on dangerous means of common character in its communication part in order to prevent and detect crimes.

- Maintenance of the Uniform automated register for control on dangerous means of common character, related to changes in the EU and national legislation.

The Uniform automated register for control on dangerous means of common character is web-based platform with possibilities for exchanging information with other information systems. Since 2013 when the system was put into exploitation, a total of 32112 permits for carrying and using firearms and documents have been issued in compliance with the requirements of Directives 91/477, 93/15, 2007/23, 2008/43, 2008/51, 2012/4 and the national legislation in the field.

The development of the system includes: change in the form of the issued permits for carrying and using firearms; improving the communication with other state and EU communication systems especially in its part related to identification and tracking of explosives and joining the MS network for exchange of information according to art.12 of Council Directive 93/15/EEC and its amendments, etc. The development of specialised software and hardware test platform is the minimum needed.

Desired results:

- Information system for collecting and processing of data for designated CIs developed.
- Uniform automated register with options to electronically exchange information with more EU and national institutions developed;

Desired outcomes:

- Designated National and European Critical Infrastructure (ECI) better protected.

National objective	3 - R - training
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Funding priorities:

- Trainings in the field of CI protection incl. two training modules: the first one for employees, directly involved in counterintelligence and information protection of the strategic sites and elaboration of risks estimation and analysis. The training includes recruitment of international experts and representatives of international organizations and institutes dealing with the protection of the critical infrastructure and critical information infrastructure (EPCIP, ENISA, leading European institutions in the field, etc.); the second module is aimed at training of trainers on analysis and estimation of risks related to the protection of the critical infrastructure in order to increase its security;
- 3-days training for CI sites personnel on the analysis and estimation of risks related to the protection of the critical infrastructure in order to increase its security. The training is planned to be run by the trainers from the second module of the above mentioned project.

Desired results:

- min 72 employees directly involved in counterintelligence and information protection of the strategic sites trained;

- One week training for 11 trainers held; 3- days training for 55 CI sites personnel organised and held;

Desired outcomes:

- Ensuring adequate professional qualification of personnel for achieving high level protection of national assets designated as strategic and a part of the national CI.

National objective	4 - R - victim support
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No actions are envisaged under this National objective.

National objective	5 - R - infrastructure
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Funding priorities:

- Measures for development of the national cybersecurity system including:

Establishment of National Cyber-Security Body (NCSB) for the application of the national and the EC policy in the field incl. an Operative centre for coordination and control on the application of the cybersecurity policies on operative level.

- Establishment of Cyber scientific research centre for transfer of knowledge: development of models of communication systems, CI tested for cyber-attacks, collapses, etc; introduction of world models for cybersecurity, testing of vulnerabilities of the communication and information systems in controlled environment; supply of server systems for modelling of the communication and CI information systems; building of real and virtual ranges, etc; purchase and maintenance of data analysis software; participation in international forums in the field of cybersecurity scientific research and EC3 working groups as well;
- Development of the national capacities for protection of the critical infrastructure, prevention and counteraction to destructive influences on the communication and information systems /establishment of CERT for the critical information infrastructure and CERT for AIS and networks, processing classified information/.
- Development, modernisation and enhancement of the capacity of the professional training centre of MoI in Montana in the field of CI protection; /introduction of new training modules and developing of the existing ones CI & CBRN protection courses and exercises/.

- Development and modernisation of the National Operative Centre and the regional operative centres (establishment of main /basic/ infrastructure for reaction in emergency situations incl. the enlargement of the TETRA system coverage, necessary for provision of communication among the structures for the protection of national CI and the population.)

Desired results:

- The training centre in Montana expanded through the introduction of new training modules;
- Coherent national cybersecurity system on strategic and operative level developed;
- Minimum standards for cyberspace security by the Cyber scientific research centre elaborated;
- EC3 work meetings attended.

Desired outcomes:

- Ensuring adequate protection of national and ECI critical infrastructure sites.

National objective	6 - R - early warning and crisis
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Funding priorities:

- Further development of early warning systems for management of actions during emergency situations related to the ECI infrastructure according to the National strategy for diminishing disaster risks /.

Desired results: Coverage of the early warning system expanded on national level;

Desired outcomes: Ensuring adequate protection of critical infrastructure.

National objective	7 - R - threat and risk assessment
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No actions are envisaged under this National objective.

In 2013 an Ordinance was adopted for the procedures and the competent authorities responsible for designation of the critical infrastructure and its assets and the respective risk assessments on national level as well. The ordinance says that the Minister of Interior coordinates the activities related to the designation of the critical infrastructure. The designation of the critical infrastructure assets is assigned to the competent ministers and the bodies under Art.19, para. 4 of the Bulgarian Administration Act. The risk assessment of the designated critical infrastructure assets is responsibility of the owners/operators of these assets.

In addition, in 2013 another Ordinance was adopted for designation of the European Critical Infrastructure assets and the measures for their protection. The Ordinance determines the procedures for designation of ECI on Bulgarian territory and the measures for their protection. According to this Ordinance each owner/operator of a designated ECI asset develops operator's plan for security of the asset incl. risk and threat assessments in line with the scenarios for serious dangers, the vulnerability of each element of the ECI, the possible consequences and the necessary investments for enhancing the asset security.

The owners/operators of the ECI assets are responsible for implementing the measures set in the operator's plan. The plans are agreed with the Minister of the Interior.

INDICATIVE TIMETABLE

Specific objective	NO/SA	Main action	Name of action	Start of planning phase	Start of implementation phase	Start of closing phase
SO1 - Support a common visa policy	NO1 - National capacity	1	Development of N.VIS and the interfaces for EU VIS and VISION	2017	2018	2022
SO1 - Support a common visa policy	NO1 - National capacity	2	Reconstruction of CSC and installation of additional biometric desks at CSC	2017	2018	2021
SO1 - Support a common visa policy	NO1 - National capacity	3	Establishment of independent and secure satellite communication link to the NVC with VSC	2015	2016	2022
SO1 - Support a common visa policy	NO2 - Union acquis	1	Improvement of consular officials' qualification in visa field (visa acquis)	2016	2017	2022
SO2 - Borders	NO1 - EUROSUR	1	Development of ASS along the Bulgarian-Serbian border and LCC in Dragoman.	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO1 - EUROSUR	2	Development of NCC by delivery of new technical and IT systems incl. for NSP	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO2 - Information exchange	1	Expansion of AIS Border control	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO2 - Information exchange	2	Improvement of the access security and reliability of Mol data transfer network	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO2 - Information exchange	3	Expansion of the coverage of the integrated radio communication system TETRA of Mol	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO3 - Common Union standards	1	Work stations for online identification of persons, CDBP services	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO3 - Common Union standards	2	Training of the Border Police staff on the EU legal instruments	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO4 - Union acquis	1	Training of border police staff and improving the cooperation between joint contact centres	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO5 - Future challenges	1	Improvement of administrative capacity for applying EES and RTP	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO5 - Future challenges	2	Elaboration of development environment for national	2015	2015	2022

Specific objective	NO/SA	Main action	Name of action	Start of planning phase	Start of implementation phase	Start of closing phase
			components of EES and RTP			
SO2 - Borders	NO5 - Future challenges	3	Automated system for border control (ABC gate)	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO6 - National capacity	1	Development of N.SIS	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO6 - National capacity	2	Delivery of specialised equipment for effective border control	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	NO6 - National capacity	3	integrated system for video surveillance at BCPs at external borders	2015	2015	2020
SO2 - Borders	SA2 - FRONTEX equipment	1	Supply of one mobile land surveillance vehicle	2015	2015	2020
SO3 - Operating support	NO1 - Operating support for VISA	1	Maintenance of NVIS	2015	2015	2020
SO3 - Operating support	NO2 - Operating support for borders	1	Maintenance of the ISS	2015	2015	2020
SO3 - Operating support	NO2 - Operating support for borders	2	Maintenance of specialised equipment for border control	2015	2015	2020
SO3 - Operating support	NO2 - Operating support for borders	3	Maintenance of N.SIS	2015	2015	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO1 - C - prevention and combating	1	Measures to increase the effectiveness of joint investigations on corruption	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO1 - C - prevention and combating	2	Measures to improve pre-trial police investigations and forensic examinations	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO1 - C - prevention and combating	3	Measures for countering crossborder, serious, organised crime and terrorism	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO2 - C - exchange of information	1	Development and maintenance of the IT and communication systems	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO2 - C - exchange of information	2	Measures for prevention of terrorism, serious, and organized crime	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO2 - C - exchange of information	3	Measures enhancing fight against financial & economic crimes /money laundering/	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO3 - C - training	1	Training of border police in estimating risks and threats at the international airports	2015	2016	2020

Specific objective	NO/SA	Main action	Name of action	Start of planning phase	Start of implementation phase	Start of closing phase
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO3 - C - training	2	Trainings in the field of the security of information systems and networks	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO3 - C - training	3	Trainings in the fight against cyber-crime	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO4 - C - victim support	1	Call for proposals in the field of victims support	2015	2016	2020
SO5 - Preventing and combating crime	NO5 - C - threat and risk assessment	1	Assessment of threats of organised crime and monitoring of corruption	2015	2016	2020
SO6 - Risks and crisis	NO1 - R - prevention and combating	1	Risk assessments/methodology for money laundering/financing of terrorism	2015	2016	2020
SO6 - Risks and crisis	NO2 - R - exchange of information	1	Development of information system for collecting and processing of data for designated CIs	2015	2016	2020
SO6 - Risks and crisis	NO2 - R - exchange of information	2	Development of the Uniform automated register for control on dangerous means	2015	2016	2020
SO6 - Risks and crisis	NO2 - R - exchange of information	3	Maintenance of the Uniform automated register for control on dangerous means of common character	2015	2016	2020
SO6 - Risks and crisis	NO3 - R - training	1	Trainings in the field of CI protection	2015	2016	2020
SO6 - Risks and crisis	NO5 - R - infrastructure	1	Measures for development of the National cybersecurity system	2015	2016	2020
SO6 - Risks and crisis	NO5 - R - infrastructure	2	Development and modernisation of the National and the regional Operative Centres	2015	2016	2020
SO6 - Risks and crisis	NO6 - R - early warning and crisis	1	Further development of early warning systems	2015	2016	2020

5. COMMON INDICATORS AND PROGRAMME SPECIFIC INDICATORS:

Specific objective	1 - Support a common visa policy			
Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
C1 - Number of consular cooperation activities developed with the help of the Fund	Number	0.00	0.00	Projects
C2.1 - Number of staff trained in common visa policy related aspects with the help of the Fund	Number	0.00	190.00	Projects
C2.2 - Number of training courses (hours completed)	Number	0.00	300.00	Projects
C3 - Number of specialised posts in third countries supported by the Fund	Number	0.00	0.00	Projects
C4.1 - Number of consulates developed or upgraded with the help of the Fund out of the total number of consulates	Number	0.00	25.00	Projects
C4.2 - Percentage of consulates developed or upgraded with the help of the Fund out of the total number of consulates	%	0.00	28.00	Projects

Specific objective	2 - Borders			
Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
C1.1 - Number of staff trained in borders management related aspects with the help of the Fund	Number	0.00	70.00	Projects
C1.2 - Number of training courses in borders management	Number	0.00	7.00	Projects

Specific objective	2 - Borders			
Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
related aspects with the help of the Fund				
C2 - Number of border control (checks and surveillance) infrastructure and means developed or upgraded with the help of the Fund	Number	0.00	200.00	Projects
C3.1 - Number of border crossings of the external borders through ABC gates supported from the Fund	Number	0.00	120,000.00	Projects
C3.2 - Total number of border crossings	Number	0.00	17,000,000.00	Projects
C4 - Number of national border surveillance infrastructure established/further developed in the framework of EUROSUR	Number	0.00	2.00	Projects
C5 - Number of incidents reported by the Member State to the European Situational Picture	Number	0.00	830.00	National Coordinaton Centre at the Chief Directorate Border Police

Specific objective	5 - Preventing and combating crime			
Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
C1 - Number of JITs and EMPACT operational projects supported by the Fund, including the participating Member States and authorities	Number	0.00	3.00	Projects
C2.1 - Number of law enforcement officials trained on cross-	Number	0.00	180.00	Projects

Specific objective	5 - Preventing and combating crime			
Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
border-related topics with the help of the Fund				
C2.2 - Duration of the training (carried out) on cross-border related topics with the help of the fund	Person days	0.00	410.00	Projects
C3.1 - Number of projects in the area of crime prevention	Number	0.00	13.00	Projects
C3.2 - Financial value of projects in the area of crime prevention	EUR	0.00	9,520,500.00	Projects
C4 - Number of projects supported by the Fund, aiming to improve law enforcement information exchanges which are related to Europol data systems, repositories or communication tools (e.g. data loaders, extending access to SIENA, projects aiming to improving input to analysis work files etc.)	Number	0.00	6.00	Projects

Specific objective	6 - Risks and crisis			
Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
C1 - Number of tools put in place or upgraded with the help of the Fund to facilitate the protection of critical infrastructure by Member States in all sectors of the economy	Number	0.00	34.00	Projects
C2 - Number of projects relating to the assessment and management of risks in the field of internal security supported by the Fund	Number	0.00	1.00	Projects
C3 - Number of expert meetings, workshops, seminars,	Number	0.00	0.00	Projects

Specific objective	6 - Risks and crisis			
Indicator	Measurement unit	Baseline value	Target value	Source of data
conferences, publications, websites and (online) consultations organised with the help of the Fund				
S1.1 - Establishment of national cyber security body, cyber scientific research center, CERT for critical information infrastructure and CERT for AIS and network processing classified information	unit	0.00	4.00	Project

6. FRAMEWORK FOR PREPARATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME BY THE MEMBER STATE

6.1 Partnership involvement in the preparation of the programme

The procedure for elaboration of the multiannual national programmes is in conformity with Art. 12 of the Regulation EU 514/2014 of the European parliament and the Council.

With Decision from 10 April 2013, the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria designated the Ministry of Interior as a leading institution for the development of the national multi-annual programmes under Internal Security Fund. The Minister of Interior was commissioned to create the necessary organisation for developing programmes with the participation of the relevant organisations, according to the objectives and thematic scope of the fund /directorates at the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the State Agency for National Security /SANS/ and the State Agency Technical Operations /SATO/. In purpose to organise the inter institutional work on programme elaboration, the Minister set up two working groups – one for developing the Instrument for financial support for external borders and visa and the other for the Instrument for financial support for police cooperation, preventing and combating crime and crisis management. The working groups are chaired by the Deputy Minister of Interior.

On 16 July 2013 a policy dialogue was held between Bulgaria and the European Commission concerning the overall funding objectives/priorities for the national programmes.

Additionally, in May 2013 in order to popularise the new fund, the Ministry of Interior published on its website as well as in one daily newspaper information about the ISF and an invitation to the NGOs for submission of proposals for priority strategic objectives which should be addressed under the national programme in order the national needs to be satisfied.

On the basis of the outcome of the policy dialogue, the regular meetings of the working groups and the information campaign, the draft of the ISF National Multiannual Programme has been elaborated in full compliance with the Specific regulations.

6.2 Monitoring committee

The monitoring committee shall be set up in order to monitor the progress of the ISF national programme implementation, to consult and/or take decisions related to revision of the programme and/or to approve the monitoring reports.

The monitoring committee shall be established with an ordinance on a ministerial level and shall be chaired by the Deputy Minister of the Interior responsible for managing the EU funds. The committee members and their substitutes shall be representatives of the relevant stakeholders. The relevant stakeholders representatives shall be designated on the basis of predefined and approved criteria by the Deputy Minister of the Interior responsible for managing the EU funds.

On the basis of the past experience under the EBF, the monitoring committee shall assemble minimum twice a year and on the ad-hoc basis, if necessary.

6.3 Common monitoring and evaluation framework

The Monitoring unit at the International projects directorate (IPD) will monitor the implementation at project level, incl. the execution of the signed grant agreements with the beneficiaries. It will also be in charge of the operative checks and on-the-spot verifications.

The data on projects and indicators will be collected mainly through regular monthly meetings with the beneficiaries, on-the-spot checks and examination of the mid-term and final reports sent by the grant recipients.

Additionally, a computerised system, developed under the EBF and RF, shall be used for the monitoring of indicators and information required for tracking progress in achieving targets agreed in the national programme.

The evaluation shall be outsourced and assigned to experts functionally independent of the Responsible Authority and Audit Authority. That shall be a subject of public procurement. The RA and the beneficiaries shall engage to assist the evaluation process.

6.4 Partnership involvement in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the national programme

The implementation of the ISF programme shall follow similar partnership principles as during its preparation. The main approach taken for partners will be broad publicity, ensured through providing the relevant information on the RA's website as well as through newspapers publishing. Also, a permanent role shall be played by the Monitoring Committee in order to monitor the progress of the ISF national programme implementation, to consult and/or take decisions related to revision of the programme and/or to approve the monitoring reports.

As under the EBF, the involvement of partners in the implementation of the programme will be ensured by regular public information events open to all interested parties/public and private organisations, NGOs/.

The main partners involved/consulted shall be the state authorities /specialized units at MoI, MFA, SATO, SANS/, NGOs, public and private organisations.

In addition, prior to launching the calls for proposals, there will be public consultation of the draft Guidelines to the applicants and supporting documents, incl. the draft grant agreement. The comments received from different stakeholders will be assessed and if applicable considered before publishing the calls for proposals.

Notwithstanding the method of implementation, the principles of equal treatment and non-discrimination shall be ensured and applied.

6.5 Information and publicity

According to the articles 14(2)(j) and 53 of Regulation (EU) No 514/2014) and the publicity measures effectively used under the EBF, the publicity related to the absorption of ISF fund will be provided through:

1. Publicising the ISF multiannual programme on the Internet site of the RA /including a list of actions/, designated authorities /if applicable/ and the beneficiaries, providing unlimited access to the programme;
2. Informing potential beneficiaries about funding opportunities, results and impacts of the implemented actions under the programme through information campaigns, organized by the RA /information events and/or newspapers publications/;
3. Providing updated information on the final beneficiaries, the name of projects and the amount of the Union funding allocated to them on the RA website.

Nevertheless, the RA shall only publish information, which is not restricted due to its confidential nature. All information and publicity measures shall follow strictly the Commission delegated and implementing acts, defining the technical characteristics of the information and publicity measures.

6.6 Coordination and complementarity with other instruments

The complementarity and coordination with the European Structural and Investment Funds includes three main components:

1. Participation of representatives of the Ministry of Interior in the thematic working groups for the elaboration of the national operative programmes, financed under the European Structural and Investment Funds.
2. Setting up of inter-institutional working groups, chaired by the deputy Minister of Interior /the Ministry of Interior is designated as a leading ministry in the development of the national multiannual programme under ISF/ with participation of representatives of the potential beneficiaries in the Internal security sector /specialised units at MoI, MFA, SATO and SANS/.
3. Regular meetings of the Monitoring committee for ISF. As representatives of the relevant authorities discuss projects under ISF, they are also able to detect any possible synergies and complementarily, or double-financing and overlapping with initiatives and projects, financed under other EU funds or national resources.
4. Participation of representatives of the Ministry of Interior /MoI/ in the Monitoring committees for the national operative programmes, financed under the European Structural and Investment Funds, incl. the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and EU Civil Protection Mechanism.
5. Regular monthly meetings of the Responsible authority for ISF with beneficiaries under the national programme tracking the implementation of projects under with EU financial instruments /incl. IPA cross-border programmes/ and or other donors outside EU.

6. Permanent commission to examine project proposals and partnerships is set within the Ministry of the Interior – the commission approves the participation of MoI structures in projects under with EU financial instruments /incl. IPA cross-border programmes/ and or other donors outside EU incl. to avoid double financing. A representative of the International Cooperation Directorate at the MoI shall participate as a member in the Commission and shall provide information on a regular basis as regards EU policies and initiatives, synergies and complementarity of financial support to third countries.

The head of the Responsible authority is designated as a deputy chairman of the Commission.

Furthermore a bilateral meeting was held in May 2014 between representatives of the Ministry of Interior and the managing authority within the Ministry of Finance of the Operational programme "Good governance" where some projects of the law enforcement authorities are envisaged for being financed during 2014-2020 period. Another bilateral meeting was held with the managing authority for the Programme for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (2014-2020).

6.7 Beneficiaries

6.7.1 List of main types of beneficiaries of the programme:

There are two main types of beneficiaries under the Internal Security Fund programme:

- 1) State authorities – ministries / Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs/, agencies /State Agency National Security, State Agency Technical Operations/;
- 2) Non-governmental organisations;
- 3) International public organisations

6.7.2 Direct award (if applicable)

In line with the draft of the delegated regulation with regard to the designation and management and control responsibilities of the RAs and with regard to the status and obligations of AAs, direct award is planned in cases where a public body has de jure or de facto monopoly established through administrative jurisdiction due to security reasons. Direct award is envisaged as follows:

- SO1: NO1-NO3 (Consular Cooperation Directorate - MFA and Bulgarian Identification Documents-MoI);
- SO2: NO1- NO6 (CDBP and CISD – MoI);
- SO3: (CDBP and CISD – MoI; MFA);
- SO5: NO1-NO3 (State Agencies for Technical Operations, State Agency for National Security, Ministry of Interior);

- SO6: NO1 (SANS), NO2 (CISD and Chief Directorate Fire Safety and Civil Protection – MoI), NO3 (SANS and Chief Directorate Countering Organised Crime (CDCOC)-MoI, NO5 (CISD, Chief Directorate Fire Safety and Civil Protection and CDCOC – MoI; SANS, SATO), NO6 (CISD and Chief Directorate Fire Safety and Civil Protection – MoI).

7. THE FINANCING PLAN OF THE PROGRAMME

Table 1: Financing plan ISF-Borders

Specific objective / national objective	Total
SO1.NO1 National capacity	5,595,750.00
SO1.NO2 Union acquis	281,250.00
SO1.NO3 Consular cooperation	
TOTAL SO1 Support a common visa policy	5,877,000.00
SO2.NO1 EUROSUR	975,000.00
SO2.NO2 Information exchange	2,430,000.00
SO2.NO3 Common Union standards	210,000.00
SO2.NO4 Union acquis	202,500.00
SO2.NO5 Future challenges	615,000.00
SO2.NO6 National capacity	13,072,500.00
TOTAL NO SO2 Borders	17,505,000.00
SO2.SA2 FRONTEX equipment	391,500.00
TOTAL SO2 Borders	17,896,500.00
SO3.NO1 Operating support for VISA	2,973,000.00
SO3.NO2 Operating support for borders	12,011,130.00
TOTAL SO3 Operating support	14,984,130.00
Technical assistance borders	2,000,000.00
TOTAL	40,757,630.00

Table 2: Financial Plan ISF-Police

Specific objective / national objective	Total
SO5.NO1 C - prevention and combating	9,520,500.00
SO5.NO2 C - exchange of information	6,656,250.00
SO5.NO3 C - training	262,500.00
SO5.NO4 C - victim support	263,043.00
SO5.NO5 C - threat and risk assessment	225,000.00
TOTAL SO5 Preventing and combating crime	16,927,293.00
SO6.NO1 R - prevention and combating	172,500.00
SO6.NO2 R - exchange of information	401,250.00
SO6.NO3 R - training	225,000.00
SO6.NO4 R - victim support	
SO6.NO5 R - infrastructure	11,673,750.00
SO6.NO6 R - early warning and crisis	1,102,500.00
SO6.NO7 R - threat and risk assessment	
TOTAL SO6 Risks and crisis	13,575,000.00
Technical assistance police	1,500,000.00
TOTAL	32,002,293.00

Table 3: Total annual EU commitments (€)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	TOTAL
ISF-Borders	0.00	9,516,909.00	8,899,428.00	6,592,546.00	5,828,341.00	5,926,159.00	3,994,247.00	40,757,630.00
ISF-Police	0.00	7,216,518.00	6,147,640.00	5,197,172.00	4,480,321.00	4,480,321.00	4,480,321.00	32,002,293.00

Justification for any deviation from the minimum shares set in the Specific Regulations

EUROSUR: Since all necessary infrastructure and equipment for the Bulgarian-Turkish border shall be purchased and developed under the EBF, the expenditure envisaged under ISF for EUROSUR will be the development of the integrated surveillance system along the Bulgarian- Serbian land border in the area of responsibility of Regional Directorate Border Police Dragoman (establishment of Regional Coordination Center for Bulgarian-Serbian border in RDBP Dragoman and LCC and surveillance systems in the zone of responsibility of BPU Bregovo). The two sections of the Bulgarian-Serbian border (at BPU Kalotina and BPU Bregovo) are high-risk points for irregular border crossing on “exit” and will be equipped with surveillance equipment (BPU Kalotina already equipped under EBF) and connected with National Coordination Centre (NCC) in Sofia. Some technical improvements of the National Situational Picture as well as expansion/modernisation of the NCC in Sofia are also envisaged. Therefore the envisaged 2,42 % of European financing under the national programme will be enough for cost effective implementation of EUROSUR related actions addressing the urgent issues at the Bulgarian-Serbian border and development of NCC.

Documents

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
Operating support visa	Operating support visas detailed information	29-Jun-2015		Ares(2015)2739739	operating support visa	30-Jun-2015	nushnekr
Operating support borders	Operating support borders detailed information	29-Jun-2015		Ares(2015)2739739	operating support borders	30-Jun-2015	nushnekr