

ANNEX 2

ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2008

MEMBER STATE: REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
FUND: EUROPEAN RETURN FUND
RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS DIRECTORATE-MoI
YEAR COVERED: 2008

1. GENERAL RULES FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED UNDER THE PROGRAMME

The projects must meet the following criteria:

- comply with minimum criteria, set in Article 15 of the basic act;
- operate within the given priority target areas envisaged in the MAP and in this AP;
- be aimed at the right target groups defined in Art.7 of the basic act;
- comply with all RA's formal requirements, such as timely submission, signature by a competent signatory, use of the requisite templates;
- take gender, cooperation, democracy, non-discrimination and children's issues into consideration.

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

When applying the executing body method, the procedures that would be used shall be implemented under the national legislation.

Evaluation of project proposals and signing of grant agreements shall be carried out in accordance with COM Decree No. 121/31.05.2007 (under amendment with view to enlarging its scope regarding Return Fund and External Borders Fund).

http://www.eufunds.bg/docs/PMS_grants_121_eng.pdf

Contracts for supply/ services/ works shall be signed after a procurement procedure carried out in accordance with the Public Procurement Act or the Assignment of Small Public Procurement Ordinance.

<http://pravo0.ciela.net/act.aspx?id=0&idna=7F48E8B9&idstr=0&iditem=0&find>

<http://pravo0.ciela.net/act.aspx?id=0&idna=7F4916EA&idstr=0&iditem=0&find>

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

When applying the awarding body method, the procedures used shall be carried out pursuant to COM Decree No. 121/31.05.2007 (after its amendment). This Decree stipulates the procedure for selection, evaluation criteria, process of evaluation, and selection of projects in accordance with the principles of publicity and transparency, free and loyal competition, equality and non-admission of discrimination.

After signing grant agreement, grant recipients shall procure supply/services/works as a result of a public procurement according to the Public Procurement Act or the Assignment of Small Public Procurement Ordinance.

Issues not stipulated by the Public Procurement Act regarding grant awarding procedures conducted by NGOs, international organizations and private bodies under programmes cofinanced by EC are regulated by COM Decree No. 55/20.03.2007 (under amendment with view to enlarging the scope regarding Return Fund and External Borders Fund).

http://www.eufunds.bg/docs/PMS_55_eng.pdf

2. CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL SYSTEMS

N/A

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

The objectives set in this Annual Programme (AP) will develop and improve the activities connected with the return processes. The 2008 Annual Programme aims to address the MAP operational objectives as endorsed by the Commission. The 2008 AP is directed towards the objectives set in MAP Priority 1.

3.1. Actions implementing priority 1 “Support for the development of a strategic approach to return management by the Member States”

Within the framework of Annual Programme 2008 some priority actions are envisaged. These actions are part of the following operational objectives set in the Multiannual Programme 2008-2013:

Objective 2: Measures regarding the specific situation of vulnerable persons subject to return (minors, disabled persons, pregnant women, persons with mental disorder, persons who have been subjected to serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual harassment);

Objective 3: Implementing procedures for forcible return of illegally staying nationals of third countries with which the cooperation in the field of return is extremely difficult, in compliance with the national and international legislation.

The operational objectives will be achieved by the following actions:

3.1.1. Action 1 - Additional equipment for 2 selected premises of the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals in Busmantsi, necessary to provide appropriate conditions for specialized consultative work with vulnerable persons

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The abovementioned 2 premises at the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals in Busmantsi that need be appropriately equipped are envisaged for conducting information-and-consultation activities, the latter aiming to provide to vulnerable persons adequate information and specialised consultation about the possibilities for their return. It is in these 2 premises where staff of the Migration Directorate, namely psychologists/interviewers and/or representatives of NGOs do their job.

The premises envisaged for the above information-and-consultation purposes are located (situated) in Section 1 (i.e. the Administrative building of the Busmantsi Centre) and in Section 2 (the Women's and Families' Department). The aim is to equip the two premises with (overhead-) projector, screen, flip-charts and information boards. Besides, the premises in the two sections are to be furnished following the specific needs of this category of persons. More specifically the 2 premises currently are not easily accessible by disabled persons, which necessitate the installation of 2 access ramps for overcoming the levels' difference. Furthermore special disabled persons symbols/signs are needed to mark all the respective places at Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals in Busmantsi.

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate-MoI.

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

Under Action 1 the Responsible Authority shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 575/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with migration issues.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The implementation of Action 1 will provide appropriate conditions for the specific work with vulnerable persons, including disabled ones.

Indicators:

- Two adequately equipped premises at the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals in Busmantsi (Sections 1 and 2);
- Increased quality of, and number of consultations carried out with vulnerable persons;

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 30 000 euro

EC contribution - 75%: 22 500 euro

3.1.2 Action 2 - Specialised interpretation services connected with the consultative work for assisting vulnerable persons

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

Interpreters from/to uncommon (rare) foreign languages are necessary at the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals in Busmnatsi so that specifically tailored assistance and care for the needs of the vulnerable persons is provided when consulting this category of persons. Such interpretation from/to uncommon languages is needed during the accommodation of the foreigners at the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals, as well as during the initially and following interviews, while identifying problems, carrying out further consultations and when medical actions are needed.

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate - MoI

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

Under Action 2 the responsible authority shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 575/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with migration issues.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

As a result of implementing the action, the capacity of the Bulgarian Authorities for providing effective assistance to the vulnerable persons will increase. Thus, the observation of all humanitarian principles will be guaranteed.

Indicators:

- Increased number of consulted persons, speaking uncommon languages;

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 50 000 euro

EC contribution - 75%: 37 500 euro

3.1.3 Action 3 – Supply of motor vehicles for implementation of compulsory administrative measures on nationals of third countries with which the cooperation in the sphere of return is especially difficult

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

A total of 2 specialized vehicles for transportation of detained persons, 1 specialized vehicle with mobile platform for disabled persons and 1 sanitary vehicle with medical equipment /ambulance/ are to be purchased for the implementation of the imposed compulsory administrative measures/ compulsory escort to the border of Bulgaria of nationals of third countries which the cooperation in the sphere of return is especially difficult.

The provision of the above-mentioned vehicles will contribute to the better organization and to the increase in the effectiveness of the return management. The latter will lead to reduction of time for stay in the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals who have the necessary documents for travelling abroad and to which there are no obstacles from legal or technical matter for the implementation of the applied compulsory administrative measure.

The usage of a specialised vehicle will guarantee the observation of the European standards for work with disabled persons.

The purchase of a sanitary vehicle with medical equipment for the needs of the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals in Busmantsi is imposed by the need to deploy paramedical staff in escorts (removals) of foreigners with health problems. The vehicle will be used for the transportation of foreigners with specific health problems to the specialised medical centres as well.

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate -MoI

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

Under Action 3 the Responsible Authority shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 575/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with migration issues.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The purchase of the above-mentioned motor-vehicles will optimize the organization, the security and the effectiveness of the compulsory escort procedures to the country of origin.

Indicators:

- decreased time for stay in the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals;
- increased number of third-country nationals, escorted to the border of the Republic of Bulgaria

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 195 000 euro

EC contribution - 75%: 146 250 euro

3.1.4. Action 4 – Expenditures on the implementation of compulsory administrative measures against nationals of third countries with which the cooperation in the field of return is especially difficult

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

Through the implementation of Action 4 the time and the stay of third-country nationals will be decreased as well as the execution of the effective measures on escorting these persons outside EU will be supported. The expenditures of the Migration Directorate officials on escorting persons to the country of origin or safe third country will be financed.

Expenditures for returnees:

- Medical exams before the return operation (these exams are not part of the regular medical assistance provided to returnees yet exceptional one-off examinations intended to prepare the return and exclude any potential medical emergencies during the operation);
- Translation of documents (for identification of the third-country nationals, medical statements, etc.);
- Transport tickets to the country of origin or safe third country;
- Visas;
- Daily allowances.

Expenditures for escort team:

- Transport tickets to the country of origin or safe third country and back;
- Visas;
- Daily allowances;
- Medical insurance;
- Accommodation;
- Communication expenditures;
- Other type of expenditure related to the practical arrangement of the return operation with authorities of the country of origin, former stay or transit;
- Medical personnel and interpreters costs, if needed (transport, visas, daily allowances, insurance, accommodation).

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate - MoI

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

Under Action 4 the responsible authority shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 575/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with migration issues.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The result of the envisaged action will be an increase of the administrative capacity of the Migration Directorate concerning the compulsory escort of nationals of third countries with which the cooperation in the field of return is especially difficult.

Indicators:

- Decreased period of stay in the Temporary Accommodation Centre for Third-Country Nationals;
- Increased number of third-country nationals escorted to the border of the Republic of Bulgaria on annual basis.

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 149 000 euro

EC contribution - 75%: 111 750 euro

3.1.5. Action 5 – Elaboration of comprehensive assessment (analysis) of the situation in the Republic of Bulgaria, other member states and countries of origin in relation with the migration processes, as a precondition for the development of Integrated Return Management Strategy

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

Action 5 will include studying of the main trends in the migration processes in 2 member states; the main migration flows; problems and practices of return management in all its dimensions.

On the basis of the abovementioned study, a workgroup will be established in the Republic of Bulgaria with the participation of NGOs, international organizations and government bodies which will analyse the situation in the country. Using the results of the European practices study, the experts will outline the gaps, shortcomings, deficiencies of the illegal migration management and the future priority actions in the field.

The results and assessments of these actions will serve as a basis in the development of integrated return management strategy in the Republic of Bulgaria (within the framework of Annual Programme 2009).

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate - MoI

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

Under Action 5 the responsible authority shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 575/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with migration issues.

In accordance with the Bulgarian legislation Migration Directorate is in monopoly situation to conduct the state policy on the return of third-country nationals. In this capacity it will be a grant recipient and by public procurement the elaboration of migration trends and processes study will be awarded. The public procurement procedure provides the opportunity of large number of institutions such as NGOs, international organizations or any other institution whose proposal meets the selection criteria to apply.

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

The results of the study will be used by Migration Directorate which as a leader and in partnership with other institutions, NGOs, etc. will take profit of the results of the European practices study and will outline the gaps, shortcomings, deficiencies of the illegal migration management. The outcome of the activities will be submitted to other institutions having direct or indirect role in the management of migration processes (such as the State Agency for Refugees, the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, NGOs). On the stage of elaboration of Integrated Return Strategy, Migration Directorate will have leading role as a sole competent state authority in the field of return of third-country nationals.

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The result of Action 5 will be the development of comprehensive background materials for the elaboration of integrated returns management strategy.

Indicators:

- accomplished study in two member states
- elaborated analysis of the situation in the Republic of Bulgaria;
- main priorities of the return policy of Bulgaria identified.

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total 30 200 euro

EC contribution - 75%: 22 650 euro

3.2. Actions implementing priority 2 Support for the cooperation between Member States in return management

Actions under Objective 4 from the Multiannual Programme 2008-2013 shall be implemented within this priority.

Objective 4: Implementing procedures for return of third-country nationals in cooperation with other Member States and where appropriate with the FRONTEX Agency and other organizations

The following actions directed to the objectives in the Multiannual Programme shall be realized:

3.2.1. Action 6 - Establishing network for cooperation with the reception centres in the countries of origin through interaction with NGOs and other MS

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The reception centres in countries of origin were created by NGOs with the aim to promote reintegration of third-country nationals. These centres have been used by the MS in order to facilitate the process of return as well as the initial activities on the reintegration of the third-country nationals.

The activity envisages that a study on the existing centres in countries of origin be carried out as well as an assessment on the possibilities for interaction of Migration Directorate with these centres through cooperation with other MS in the field of return.

The study will comprise the existing expertise in the MS, the best practices in the field and the possibilities for their implementation in Bulgaria.

The results from the study will be presented at a seminar with the participation of officials from the Ministry of Interior, NGOs, international organizations, and other MS.

If found necessary, after the completion of the study, a working visit to a MS can be held so that the officials at the Migration Directorate become acquainted with expertise most applicable for Bulgaria.

The acquired information and experience will be used to carry out a pilot activity on the return of individuals to their country through the established network for cooperation with the reception centres.

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate- MoI

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

Under Action 6 the responsible authority shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 575/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with migration issues.

In accordance with the national legislation Migration Directorate is in monopoly situation while pursuing the state policy on the return of third-country nationals. In this capacity the directorate will be a grant recipient and by public procurement procedure will award the elaboration of a study on the existing centres in countries of origin as well as an assessment on the possibilities for interaction of the Bulgarian state authority with competences in the field of return – Migration Directorate – with these centres. The public procurement procedure provides the opportunity of large number of institutions such as NGOs, international organizations or any other institution whose proposal meets the selection criteria to apply.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The implementation of that objective shall create a solid basis for stable and lasting work relations and cooperation other MS, NGOs, and international organizations. Moreover, that shall enhance the effectiveness in the management of the processes on return.

Indicators:

- Increased number of partner centres for returnees;
- Increased number of information exchanged with other MS and third countries regarding the return procedures (number of documents exchanged);
- A seminar carried out and number of participants involved;
- A pilot mission conducted.

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 80 000 euro
EC contribution - 75%: 60 000 euro

3.2.2. Action 7 – Joint programme with MS for implementation of best practices regarding particular states or regions of origin and/or former stay

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The Action will be structured in 3 stages.

The first stage will comprise training by MS for officials of Migration Directorate (including representatives of its regional structures), national institutions (for example officials of the Administrative Court, Chief Directorate "Execution of Judgment"- Ministry of Justice) and

representatives of NGOs. An accent will be put on the practices which include integrated plans for return and their implementation for particular states and regions.

The second stage will aim at practical purposes. A visit to MS is envisaged for MD officials practicing in the field. The objective of their visit is to get acquainted with practical aspects of the return processes (procedures for identification, encouragement of voluntarily return, etc.).

The third stage includes elaboration of a program for cooperation between the Migration Directorate-MoI and the migration services of MS for implementation of best practices regarding the overall process of removal of foreigners.

On the basis of Action 7 the activities included in the joint programme for cooperation will receive financing under Annual Programme 2009.

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate - MoI

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

Under Action 7 the responsible authority shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 575/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with migration issues.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

Improvement of the cooperation with MS and enhancement of the administrative capacity of officials from Migration Directorate regarding the practical aspects in the field of return.

Indicators:

- Trained 25 officials of MD;
- 10 officials of MD participated in the second stage;
- Elaborated cooperation programme for implementation of the best practices.

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 80 000 euro.

EC contribution - 75%: 60 000 euro

3.3. Actions implementing priority 3 Assistance for specific innovative national/international instruments for the return management

The following operational objectives of the Multiannual Programme 2008-2013 will be implemented with priority during 2008:

Objective 5: Informing and consulting people subject to return in respect of the situation of their country of origin or safe third country

Objective 6: Development of the cooperation between the Bulgarian Authorities and the consular and diplomatic services in order to speed up the process of documenting the returnees

The following actions for reaching the MAP objectives will be implemented:

3.3.1. Action 8 – Information campaigns for third-country nationals while observing the humanitarian principles and respecting their human dignity

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

Information and advice for third-country nationals will be provided through this action while encouraging them for voluntary return. The campaign will comprise of printing of posters, brochures and other information materials in different languages and with appropriate design and their appropriate dissemination by the regional structures of the Migration Directorate and other authorities having regard to the migration issues.

In parallel, a video clip will be developed containing the message of voluntary returned foreigners to the country of origin as well as a documentary describing the opportunities and the advantages of voluntary return. The video clip and the documentary will be broadcasted in the Temporary Accommodation Centre for third-country nationals and will be circulated to

NGOs, the State Agency for Refugees, the regional structures of the Migration Directorates as well as to mass media.

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate-MoI, international organizations, NGOs, public or private bodies.

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

N/A

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

Carrying out campaigns for information of third-country nationals regarding the situation in the country of origin will contribute to respect of the human rights and dignity of the persons as well as to raising their motivation to return.

The actions offering innovative tools for information and emotional influence of third-country nationals are precondition for increase of the number of the informed third-country nationals as well as for encouragement of their choice to voluntary return.

Indicators:

- Disseminated 10 000 pieces of information materials;
- Number of documented broadcasts of the video clip and the documentary;

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 180 000 euro

EC contribution - 75%: 135 000 euro

3.3.2. Action 9 – Creation of new and more effective methods of work with representatives of diplomatic missions in Bulgaria while exchanging information regarding return

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

This activity will be implemented as cooperation in the form of working meetings with representatives of diplomatic missions or consular services in the Republic of Bulgaria (e.g. Afghanistan, Morocco, Lebanon, Jordan, Cuba, Russia, Nigeria, Iran, and Palestine). This will serve as a basis for acceleration of the process of exchange of information for the returnees.

After such meetings, a working group comprising officials of Migration Directorate will conceive effective new methods for work with diplomatic missions or consular services of those countries. These activities will be also supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria.

B. Expected grant recipients

Migration Directorate-MoI

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

Under Action 9 the responsible authority shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 575/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with migration issues.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The relations with the diplomatic representatives of the countries with the highest migratory potential will be deepened which will facilitate the process of identification of persons; the issue of travel documents will be facilitated; better coordination in solving difficult cases will be achieved and as a final result, achievement of maximum effectiveness in return management.

Indicators:

- number of meetings carried out with diplomatic and consular services;
- number of new methods adopted for interaction with those services;
- number of travel documents issued as a result of the implementation of the new methods.

E. Visibility of EC funding

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

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

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

EC instruments have not been used for similar actions so far.

G. Financial information

Total: 10 293 euro

EC contribution - 75%: 7 720 euro

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

In order to ensure good implementation of the activities under the Return Fund, preparatory measures, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and control measures as well as measures for the reinforcement of the administrative capacity for the implementation of the Fund are envisaged for financing in 2008.

Using the Technical Assistance financial means, the International Projects Directorate as Responsible Authority will be able to support the administrative management of the Fund and therefore create a good management system.

4.1 Purpose of the technical assistance

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

4.2 Expected quantified results

- Administrative capacities of relevant management and control Authorities enhanced - sufficient number of staff allocated, number of staff trained, clear administrative procedures introduced, relevant equipment provided;
- Effective functioning of the RF management and control systems - number of evaluation/monitoring/audit reports; number of projects implemented, % of financial allocations absorbed;
- Effective mechanism for projects selection established - all selected projects correspond to the priorities of the RF;
- Effective monitoring of actions exercised and corrective measures taken, if applicable - number of monitoring missions and follow-up reports;
- Information campaigns for popularization of the RF in Bulgaria carried out; Website of RF implementation in Bulgaria developed;
- Translations of RF materials and interpretation during RF related meetings or events;
- Manuals and Guidelines developed (consultants involved);
- Regular contacts with the EC and MS maintained (travel and subsistence expenses covered).

4.3 Visibility of EC funding

Any notice or publication by the RA and the Beneficiary/ies concerning the effective implementation, evaluation, management and control of the Return Fund in the Republic of Bulgaria, including those given at a conference or seminar, will specify that the relevant action has received EU funding.

The Beneficiary will take all necessary steps to publicise the European Union funding of the actions under the Return Fund MAP/APs. Visibility measures will comply with the relevant rules on the visibility of external actions laid down and published by the Commission.

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

5. DRAFT FINANCING PLAN

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan								
Table 1 - Overview table								
Member State: Bulgaria								
Annual programme concerned: 2008								
Fund: European Return Fund								
<i>(all figures in euro)</i>	Ref. priority	Ref. specific priority (1)	Community Contribution (a)	Public Allocation (b)	Private Allocation (c)	TOTAL (d= a+b+c)	% EC (e=a/d)	Share of total (f=d/total d)
Action 1	Priority 1	Spec. Pr. 1.2	22 500	7 500	0	30 000	75,00%	3,40%
Action 2	Priority 1	Spec. Pr. 1.2	37 500	12 500	0	50 000	75,00%	5,67%
Action 3	Priority 1	Spec. Pr. 1.3	146 250	48 750	0	195 000	75,00%	22,10%
Action 4	Priority 1	Spec. Pr. 1.3	111 750	37 250	0	149 000	75,00%	15,19%
Action 5	Priority 1	Spec. Pr. 1.3	22 650	7 550	0	30 200	75,00%	3,42%
Action 6	Priority 2	Spec. Pr.	60 000	20 000	0	80 000	75,00%	9,07%
Action 7	Priority 2	Spec. Pr.	60 000	20 000	0	80 000	75,00%	9,07%
Action 8	Priority 3	Spec. Pr. 3.1	135 000	45 000*	0*	180 000	75,00%	20,40%
Action 9	Priority 3	Spec. Pr. 3.2	7 720	2 573	0	10 293	75,00%	1,17%
Technical assistance			77 673	0	0	77 673	100,00%	8,80%
Other operations (2)			0	0	0	0	0,00%	0,00%
TOTAL			681 043	201 123*	0*	882 166	77,20%	100,00%

(1) if appropriate

(2) if appropriate

* The share of public and private allocation of funds may vary depending on the contractor's status – private or public body.

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