

Annex 2
ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2010

MEMBER STATE: REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA FUND: EXTERNAL BORDERS FUND RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY: INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS DIRECTORATE-MoI YEAR COVERED: 2010
--

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

The projects must:

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

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

1.1 Executing body method

The process of drafting the AP and choosing the executing body method for implementation of a given action under AP 2010 is based on a consultation process (a call for interest) with all potential final beneficiaries and stakeholders, namely structures at the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Potential beneficiaries were asked to send to RA a indicative project fiche describing the project proposed for financing under EBF using a template provided by RA and approved in the RA's Manual of Procedures. In addition, an inter-ministerial committee was set up by order of the Deputy Minister of Interior attended by representatives of MoI structures carrying specific responsibilities in the field of external borders control - Chief Directorate Border Police, Communication and Information Systems Directorate, Institute on Computer Technologies, the RA-International Projects Directorate (all officials in the Programming Department) as well as representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Committee was designated with specific task - to identify the possible actions to be included in the draft AP and to elaborate draft of the AP. On the base of the indicative project fiches proposed the Committee identified the actions to be included in the AP in accordance with the EBF priorities, the provisions set in the Basic act and examples of key actions identified in the MAP. These deliberations are carefully documented, tables of the approved and rejected projects were elaborated using templates approved in the RA's manual of Procedures and protocol was signed by all members of the Committee.

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

For AP 2010 all actions are envisaged to be implemented under executing body method. Following the provisions of Art. 8 of *Commission Decision of 5 March 2008 laying down rules for the implementation of Decision No 574/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council*, the RA acts as executing body in the implementation of projects in situations where public monopoly is set by law. These projects shall be implemented by RA, but in each action the RA will act in association with the respective competent national authorities on the basis of an agreement concluded between the parties for the period of implementation of the Multiannual programme under this fund.

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

AP implementation procedure:

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

In the project fiche the beneficiary indicates the priority (and specific priority, if applicable) as well as the action to which the project relates. The fiche states the purpose of the project, and the expected results; a description is given of the methodology for project implementation, as well as financial information (detailed budget) and an implementation schedule. The fiche outlines that the eligibility of expenditures will be in line with Annex XI to Commission Decision 2008/458/EC. A template of detailed project fiche, including budget annex was prepared and included in RA Manual of Procedures in order to guide the beneficiaries.

The RA shall check the project fiche for compliance with the AP 2010, provisions of EBF implementing rules as well as the requirements set out in the RA Manual of procedures. Projects which do not meet the criteria shall be send back to the potential beneficiary for revision.

The start of projects implementation under AP 2010 is expected for the fourth quarter of 2010.

Relations between the RA and the beneficiary

The RA will implement the projects under AP 2010 in association with competent national bodies. Depending on the specific of the actions these bodies are:

- Chief Directorate Border Police (CDBP) - MoI,
- Communication and Information Systems Directorate (CISD)- MoI,
- Consular Relations Directorate (CRD) – MFA.

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

Relations between the RA, the beneficiary and the contractor (if necessary)

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

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

Contracts shall be implemented by the beneficiary in association with a contractor selected after a procurement procedure carried out in accordance with the National Procurement

legislation (Public Procurement Act or the Assignment of Small Public Procurement Ordinance).

According to the requirements of the Public Procurement Act Forecast Procurement Notices should be published by 31st of March of the year. For AP 2010 the forecast notices were published by the RA. Once the AP 2010 is approved by EC the tender procedures for supply or service contracts will be launched.

<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.

1.2 Awarding body method

N/A

1.3 Visibility

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

Any notice or publication by the Responsible Authority and the Beneficiary/ies concerning the AP 2010 actions, including those given at a conference or seminar, will specify that the action has received EU funding under EBF.

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

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

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

2. CHANGES IN THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL SYSTEMS

N/A

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

The actions envisaged within the framework of the AP 2010 aim at implementation of the operational objectives set in the MAP 2010-2013.

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

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

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

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The building of an integrated system for control and surveillance all along the Bulgarian-Turkish border is necessary as this section of the state border is exposed at the biggest migration pressure. A part of the ISCS – from BCP Kapitan Andreevo to BCP Lessovo is being built with national resources according to the Schengen Facility AP 2007, Objective 1 Measure 3, Action 1 (the contract has been signed and the implementation of the first stage from BCP Kapitan Andreevo to BCP Lessovo has started in 2010). The remaining part of the system covering the Bulgarian-Turkish border from BCP Lessovo to the outfall of Rezovska river in the Black sea is envisaged to be funded under the EBF by multiannual project in the period 2010-2013.

A component of the ISCS with local coordination centre (LCC) in Elhovo and peripheral systems for control and surveillance in a section with 26 000 m. length and at a depth of 15 km from the line of the state border is envisaged for building under AP 2010 and AP 2011. For this purpose a total of 4 000 000 EUR are planned (1 300 000 EUR for 2010 and 2 700 000 EUR for 2011) comprising EU and national contribution.

The AP 2010 action envisages:

- Establishment of a local coordination centre in Elhovo – indicative budget of 200 000 EUR;
- Installation of perimeter securing systems located along the state border line – 700 000 EUR;
- Supply of communication equipment securing the transmission of video information, data, etc. between the sections of ISCS – 400 000 EUR.

Under AP 2011 it is expected to additionally provide for 2 700 000 EUR for the construction of the ISCS component with LCC Elhovo.

It is envisaged in AP 2012 to be included action for construction of the next component of the ISCS comprising local coordination centre in Boliarovo town and peripheral systems for surveillance in a section with 35 544 m length and at a depth of 15 km from the line of the state border with indicative budget - 7 000 000 EUR.

The construction of the last two components of the ISCS is envisaged to be funded under AP 2013 – one component with local coordination center in Sredetz town and the other with local coordination center in Malko Tarnovo town. Peripheral sensor systems with length of 22 096m and 142 838 m respectively at a depth of 15 km from the line of the state border will be established as well. The total amount of the two components will be 12 000 000 EUR.

Through the implementation of ISCS all along the Bulgarian-Turkish border a better efficiency will be achieved regarding the duly detection of attempts for illegal migration through the external border. The ISCS along the Bulgarian-Turkish border is essential part of the Bulgarian national components of EUROSUR.

The total amount planned under EBF for the establishment of ISCS at the Bulgarian-Turkish border is 23 000 000 EUR.

B. Expected grant recipients

Chief Directorate Border Police (CDBP)-MoI

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

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

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

Realizing the action will bring to the modernization and improvement of the equipment for surveillance of the external land borders along with an improvement of the infrastructure.

Indicators:

- Built module of ISCS with LCC in Elhovo and peripheral systems for control and surveillance in a section with 13 000 m. length and at a depth of 15 km. from the line of the border
- Increased number of detained persons, attempting to cross illegally this section of the state border with Republic of Turkey;
- Increased number of detected attempts for illegal migration through the external borders.

E. Visibility of EU funding

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 1 300 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 975 000 euro

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

3.1.2.1 Action 2 – Establishment of Automated system for technical surveillance of the Bulgarian-Serbian border in the area of Border Police Station (BPS) Kalotina

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action envisages the establishment of an automated system for technical surveillance of the Bulgarian-Serbian border in the area of Border Police Station Kalotina through modernization and automation of the existing two surveillance posts, as well as setting up of a new surveillance post and a local coordination centre situated at the BPS premises.

Transition to unmanned work regime of the technical surveillance posts, introduction of remote management from a local center, gathering and archiving of information in real time, and management of the border patrols and the conducted specialized police operations are foreseen.

The action envisages:

- Establishment of Local Coordination Center (LCC) Kalotina – 40 000 EUR;
- Modernization and automation of the existing two surveillance posts – 200 000 EUR;
- Setting up of a land-based post for technical and video surveillance – unmanned (working independently and operated from the LCC) – 300 000 EUR;
- Communication equipment for transfer of video information, data, etc. between the modules and to the LCC – 60 000 EUR.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP-MoI

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

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

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Established automated surveillance system in the area of Border Police Station Kalotina;
- Enhanced border security at high risk external border section in accordance with the Schengen *acquis*;
- Increased number of persons detained while attempting to illegally cross the state border with Serbia;
- Increased number of intercepted attempts for illegal migration through the external EU borders.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point E of Action 1

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

The existing two surveillance posts at the area of BCP Kalotina were established with EU support under PHARE Programme. The abovementioned action under EBF will complement the efforts done so far and will strengthen the border security covering longer section of the border and establishing a Local Coordination Centre.

G. Financial information

Total: 600 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 450 000 euro

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

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

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

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

The action under AP 2010 foresees purchase and delivery of equipment for processing of satellite and air photo images, as well as specialized geodesic and geoinformation software and hardware, necessary for the creation of digital models of the border line and steady renovation of the situation's elements through adding and processing new satellite and air photo images, processing of digital geographical data base. The digital information will be in the Unified European Coordinate System. In this way, the submission of the data base to other Member States of the EU will be possible, as well as exchange of information with FRONTEX Agency.

Under the AP 2010 are envisaged:

- Supply of equipment for processing of satellite and aero photo images (complete photogrammetric station, images processing software).
- Supply of specialized geodesic and geoinformation software and hardware for processing of digit geographic database.

The indicative budget planned for AP 2011 is 170 00 EUR, for AP 2012 - 125 000 EUR, for AP 2013 - 220 000 EUR.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP-MoI

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

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

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

- Equipment for processing of satellite and aero photo images supplied;
- Software and hardware for processing of digital geographic database installed.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point *E* of Action 1

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 115 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 86 250 euro

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

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

Setting up a National centre for fight against falsified and forged documents is necessary for the improvement of the control, enhancement of the efficiency, prevention of criminality and fulfilment of the criteria for membership in Schengen with regard to documents' control.

The information will be collected, generalized and analyzed in this centre. On the basis of this information, bulletins and signals will be made for all the services concerned in the country, as well as in the EU.

Seminars with the participation of national and European experts in the abovementioned field will be carried out in order to ensure and maintain a steady level of present information in reference to falsified and forged documents. Similarly, the last trends in producing of documents and introducing of new materials and protections will be followed by attending specialized exhibitions, organized in the MSs of the EU.

A continuous educational process will be carried out in the centre in order to familiarize all the officials of MoI, having regard to the protection of the external borders of the EU with the original documents and the methods for uncovering and discerning of falsified and forged documents. It is envisaged minimum 4 courses per year to be conducted, in which lecturers from MSs of the EU will take part. For the time left the halls will be used for self-training of the officials.

The action is envisaged to be realized through a multiannual project with a period of implementation within the framework of the MAP under the EBF 2010-2013. The first phase envisages mainly renovation of premises for the National centre in Sofia and in the branches in the country. In addition technical means necessary for the inception stage will be delivered.

The action under AP 2010 envisages:

- Renovation of premises set for the National centre within the existing buildings of the Chief Directorate Border Police - MoI in Sofia;
- Renovation of premises set for the National centre within the existing buildings of the MoI for the establishment of 2 branches - at the sea border, as well as at the Bulgarian-Turkish border;
- Supply of equipment necessary for the inception stage of the National centre establishment;
- Carrying out seminars and trainings related to the proper usage of the equipment for check-up and control of documents.

The technical means envisaged in AP 2010, Action 4 include laptops, multimedia, colour laser printer, USB devices (Memory Sticks) 16 GB, specialized software, decoders to read the hidden information in documents, specialized catalogues for documents and others.

The second phase is expected to be implemented under AP 2011 and envisages supply of the specialized equipment of the Centre and its branches with technical devices for check-up and control of documents, purchase of office equipment and technique, provision of additional technical means, used for the documents' check. The specialized equipment includes video spectral comparators and their managing computers, microscopes, cameras, UV lamps, magnifiers, etc.

Indicative budget planned for next stages: AP 2011 - 553 000 EUR, AP 2012 - 87 000 EUR, AP 2013 - 87 000 EUR.

B. Expected grant recipients

Chief Directorate Border Police - MoI

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

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

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

By realizing this action, centralizing of the process of collection, generalization and analysis of the information, concerning document crimes and trends will be achieved. Thus, the training and the professional qualification of the officials, carrying out border control on the external borders will be enhanced.

Indicators:

- Premises of the National Centre in Sofia and its branches renovated;
- Equipment delivered;
- Number of workshops conducted;
- Number of training courses related to the equipment completed and staff trained;

E. Visibility of EU funding

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

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

The premises renovated will have information plates indicating on EU co-funding under the EBF.

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 176 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 132 000 euro

3.1.3.3 Action 5 - Establishing automatic border control for EU citizens.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action envisages enhancement of the capacity of the BCPs at the international airports aimed at smooth crossing of the external borders for passengers in accordance with art.3, para b of the basic act.

Setting up electronic gates allowing the automated border control of EU citizens travelling with electronic travel documents containing biometric data will enhance further the smooth crossing.

The total number of persons crossing the external borders in the four international airports (Sofia, Varna, Bourgas and Plovdiv) in 2008 and 2009 is respectively: 6 404 079 and 6 106 220. The passenger flows at these airports from/to Schengen states is 4 146 440 in 2008 and 4 132 537 in 2009 and from/to destinations out of the Schengen area is 2 257 639 in 2008 and 1 973 683 in 2009.

The setting up of the electronic gates on the one hand will decrease significantly the time for the EU passengers checks and on the other high level of protection at the external borders will be ensured.

The action is a first phase of a multiannual project. Under AP 2010 it is envisaged setting up electronic gates for automated border control at international airports Sofia and Varna. Second

phase planned for AP 2012 and AP 2013 envisages establishment of electronic gates allowing the automated border control at international airports Bourgas and Plovdiv.

B. Expected grant recipients

Chief Directorate Border Police - MoI

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

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

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

As a result of the action it is expected to set up electronic gates for automated border control at international airports: Sofia – up to 4 gates, Varna – up to 4 gates.

The automated border control set by these gates is aimed at smooth crossing of the external borders for EU citizens.

The new equipment will speed up the processing of passengers holding travel documents with biometric data and will optimise the work of border police officials in a manner that one official will serve and control a number of electronic gates. Modernisation of passengers statistical data collection and processing will help methodological gathering of information in order to increase the efficiency and facilitate risk analysis.

Indicators:

- Number of electronic gates set up;
- Number of EU passengers checked;
- Time for passengers' checks shortened;
- Decreased number of officials engaged in first line border control at the BCPs at international airports.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point *E* of Action 1

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

Up to the present such activities has not been funded by EU sources.

G. Financial information

Total: 300 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 225 000 euro

3.1.3.4 Action 6 Continuation of the process of modernization of the communication systems of the Ministry of Interior in order to enhance and enlarge the exchange of voice, images and data and to maintain the security and reliability of MoI data transfer network and the operational compatibility with similar networks in EU area.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action will contribute to the harmonization of the information management, will facilitate the decision making and the information exchange between MSs and will improve the

structure and the processes of further strengthening of border security. The action will also enhance the possibilities to maintain and guarantee a secure network for transmission of data, images and voice by:

- Improvement and enlargement of its capacity of transmission;
- Enhancement of its security and reliability;
- Creation of operational compatibility with similar networks within the EU area.

The supply of specialized equipment dedicated to enhancing the capabilities of MoI data transfer network including provision of interface between the MoI stationary and mobile network is envisaged. It should result in a higher transmission capacity of the data transfer network to the border crossing points.

The first phase under AP2010 envisages supply of a part of the necessary specialised communication devices (basic optical switches and routers), which will be specified in accordance to the technical features of the high-speed communication channels to be secured to the BCPs.

The other components needed to extend the communications and the MoI data transfer network are envisaged to be specified and supplied in the next project phases under AP 2011, AP 2012 and AP 2013.

B. Expected grant recipients

Communication and Information Systems Directorate- MoI

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

Under this action the Responsible Authority in association with Communication and Information Systems Directorate-MoI shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC.

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

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

- Supply of hardware and software for strengthening the capabilities of MoI data transfer network;
- The capacity of transmission of the data transfer network to the border crossing points increased.

Indicators for the results achieved during the period:

- Equipment supplied, installed and put into operation;
- Links and channels for communication and information exchange improved by 30 %.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point E of Action 1

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

The implementation of the Action will upgrade and enlarge the results achieved through the implementation of projects financed by national resources, PHARE Programme and Schengen Facility as follow:

- PHARE Programme 2004-2006 – Project “Modernization of the Bulgarian Police and strengthening of its efficiency” sub-project 1 (completed)
- Schengen Facility AIP 2009 Objective 4 Measure 4 (ongoing)
- MoI 2009 budget – supply of equipment for AIS ”Border control” (ongoing)

G. Financial information

Total: 500 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 375 000 euro

3.1.3.5 Action 7 Supply of specialized equipment for real time exchange of information and provision of access to public networks outside MoI.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

In order to achieve the objective set out specialized equipment will be supplied for real time exchange of information and provision of access to public networks outside MoI there will be an Internet connection at the external border for the use of applications for data exchange, checks and information between the networks in the EU area (iFADO type).

The action envisages:

- Supply of equipment and software necessary to enhance the control over the end users and the security while accessing the Internet;
- Supply of specialized equipment providing protection and security to the end users while exchanging information on the Internet;
- Provision of international Internet traffic for the relevant exchange of information 24/24 hours per day.

This action will be first phase of a multiannual project. The other phases are expected to contribute to the process of development of the iFADO system in order it to reach all the end users along the borders.

In the first 2010 phase IT equipment and basic software needed to start the exploitation of iFADO will be supplied. The envisaged IT supply includes delivery of application servers, data base servers, etc.

In order to fulfill the provisions of Regulation (EC) No 2252/2004 Bulgaria has included biometric identifiers in the national passports. Aiming at verifying the data in the passport of other countries and following Regulation (EC) No 562/2006 on the rules governing the movement of persons across borders, Bulgaria intends to join the ICAO PKD and it is envisaged to charge the initial fee and the necessary annual fees under the AP 2010 action 7, pursuant to the EU policy in the field.

B. Expected grant recipients

Communication and Information Systems Directorate-MoI

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

Under this action the Responsible Authority in association with Communication and Information Systems Directorate-MoI shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC.

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The implementation of the action will create possibilities for the border crossing points to access centralized European systems by using Internet medium (like iFADO). The optimal way to create such kind of conditions for access in safe and controlled manner is the supply of the a.m. resources.

The following specific results are envisaged under the AP 2010 action:

- Supply of equipment and software increasing the control over the end users and the security while having access to Internet services;
- Installation of the necessary equipment ;
- Internet traffic provided;
- Participation in ICAO Public Key Directory.

Indicators for the achievement of the results:

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

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point *E* of Action 1

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 470 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 352 500 euro

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

3.1.4.1 Action 8 Improving the quality of the first line border checks at the external borders crossing points

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The Objective envisages bringing the border stamps used by the Bulgarian Border Police into full conformity with the requirements of Decision SCH/COM-EX (94) 16 rev SCH/Gem-Handb (93) 15 (CONFIDENTIAL) of the Schengen Steering Committee. Preparation and supply of 1980 Schengen stamps for entering the area and the same number of stamps for leaving the area are foreseen. The stamps will include requisites in full analogy with those used by the other EU Member States and thus the identification of false stamps by the competent authorities of the Member States will be increased.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP - Mol

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

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

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

By the implementation of this action better identification of the Bulgarian border stamps by competent authorities of other MSs will be achieved by means of replacing the photopolymeric stamp pressure elements with metal ones. Thus the quality of stamps will be increased and the control of their authenticity will be improved as well as the expenditures for periodic replacement of photopolymeric elements will be dropped.

Indicators:

- Number of Stamp pressure elements purchased;
- Reduced number of identified attempts for copy/forgery of Bulgarian border stamps.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point E of Action 1

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 594 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 445 500 euro

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

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

3.2.1.1 Action 9 Establishment of Border Police Air Base

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

In the framework of EBF Multiannual Programme, regarding establishment and further development of the national component for air surveillance of the external borders as a part of the common European system for external borders security it is envisaged to establish Border police air base. In the process of construction of the air base it is envisaged to be built: helicopter hangars, taxiways, ramps, communication and infrastructure facilities for the air base, administrative building for the staff and other service facilities.

The first phase of the multiannual project shall be implemented under AP 2010. It is envisaged to develop project (design) documentation for the construction of the Border Police Air Base and to hire independent supervisory control. The project documentation concerns the

construction of helicopters ramps for basing, specialized premises – hangars, as well as specialized premises for maintenance of helicopters and aviation equipment.

It is envisaged that the construction of the Air Base itself should be implemented under the 2011 – 2013 APs. Under the action for AP 2010, however, it is envisaged to develop project (design) documentation for the construction of buildings, facilities and infrastructure for the Border police air base, as well as to hire contractors for supervision activities (construction supervision, investor's control and author's supervision), which are obligatory according to the Bulgarian construction legislation.

The indicative budget of the AP 2010 Action 9 is defined in compliance with the average design and supervision prices in Bulgaria. The budget is calculated as function of the expected indicative costs of the construction works planned and the average prices for design and supervision (for similar types of buildings and facilities) according to the public specialised bulletin in the field of construction (edition as of August 2010).

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP- MoI

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

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The expected results under AP2010 action are:

- Elaboration of design documentation for the construction of Border police air base
- Hiring independent supervisions of the works.

Indicators in relation to action in AP 2010:

- Prepared design documentation for construction of Border police air base;
- Contracts for construction supervision signed.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreements signed by the grant recipient and the contracts for project design and supervisions shall clearly stipulate the obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

All documents related to the implementation of the action including design documentation, supervisory reports, etc. shall have the EU logo and contain information on EU co-funding under the EBF.

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 250 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%:187 500 euro

3.2.1.2 Action 10 Enhancement of the capacity of the Border police for conducting air surveillance at the external borders in cooperation with Member states experienced in the field

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The implementation of the action will contribute to enhancing the capacity of the of Border police in the field of air surveillance according to Member states' best practices.

The air surveillance is an essential element of the tactical measures in the process of surveillance the external borders area.

Following the objective of introducing the operational standards and best practices resulting from the operational cooperation between the member states in the field of border control and surveillance, Bulgaria focuses on the implementation of projects aimed at establishment of the national component for air surveillance of external borders as part of the European Integrated System for border control and surveillance.

CDBP has at its disposal 1 helicopter (delivered in 2010) to conduct air surveillance operations of the EU external borders. Another 3 helicopters will be delivered under the Schengen Facility till the end of 2010, equipped with the necessary special equipment for air surveillance.

The purpose of this action is to elaborate a methodology for conducting surveillance operations of the external land and maritime borders of Bulgaria, using helicopters, including management and coordination with mobile units of Border police on the ground, taking into account the ground features and the geographical specifics of the Bulgarian part of the EU external borders.

It is envisaged to develop the methodology in accordance with best European practices in this field, by a working group comprising representatives from CDBP and experts from the services for control and surveillance of the borders of EU member states, experienced with the use of helicopters for this purpose.

Within the action operations for air surveillance in areas of the Black Sea border and the Bulgarian–Turkish border in accordance with the methodology developed are planned. The aim of the operations is to test the new methodology and to outline amendments if necessary. Therefore, the operations are planned as activities with participation of experts from the services of control and surveillance of the borders of EU member states, experienced with the use of helicopters for this purpose.

By the implementation of Action 10 it is expected to create the necessary prerequisites for inclusion of CDBP's teams in conducting joint operations with use of helicopters, coordinated by FRONTEX.

This Action includes:

- Development of a methodology (tactical concept) for conducting surveillance police operations of the external border area using helicopters, including management and coordination with mobile units of Border police on the ground.
- Conducting a limited number of surveillance operations using the draft methodology with a view of testing the new methodology with helicopters of the Bulgarian Border police with participation of experts from the services of control and surveillance of the borders of EU member states, experienced with the use of helicopters for this purpose.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP-MoI

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

Under this action the Responsible Authority in association with CDBP-MoI shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC. The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with border control.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The expected results are:

- Strengthening of the CDBP capacity in helicopters' use in the surveillance operations of the EU external borders, including by the approved rules for the conduct of such operations and joint management of the CDBP ground and air teams.
- Creation of the necessary conditions for inclusion of CDBP teams in joint operations with use of helicopters, coordinated by FRONTEX.

Indicators:

- Developed methodology for conducting air surveillance operations of the external borders, consistent with the best EU practices;
- Number of conducted test operations for air surveillance of the Black sea border and Bulgarian-Turkish border.

E. Visibility of EU funding

The agreement signed by the grant recipient shall clearly stipulate the obligation to fulfil the requirement for visibility of EU funding.

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

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

Under PHARE project BG 2006/018-343.07.05 a Conception for air surveillance was developed, which now serves as a base for the development of the national air surveillance component.

Under PHARE project BG 2005/017-353.07.05 one helicopter was delivered with national resources in 2010 and another 3 helicopters will be delivered till the end of 2010 under Schengen Facility funds.

Action 10 complements and further develops the results of the aforementioned activities, with the elaboration of methodology for practical application of the air surveillance activities. The experience in planning and executing of air surveillance operations in compliance with the EU best practices gathered by the CDBP officials during the implementation of the action will strengthen the capability of GDBP to execute operations coordinated by Frontex including at the southern maritime borders.

G. Financial information

Total: 150 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 112 500 euro.

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

3.2.2.1 Action 11 Establishment of border police port Sozopol

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

A multiannual project for establishment of border police port in Sozopol is planned under AP 2010 and AP 2011. The works planned cover renovation of the premises and setting up the necessary infrastructure and facilities for the development of border police port meeting the relevant requirements.

AP 2010 action envisages the elaboration of design documentation for the reconstruction of the Sozopol border police port as well as hiring independent construction supervisions (construction supervision, investor's control and author's supervision) which are obligatory according to the Bulgarian construction legislation.

The construction of the Sozopol border police port are planned under EBF AP 2011 with an indicative budget of 1 000 000 EUR.

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP-MoI

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

Under this action the Responsible Authority in association with CDBP-MoI shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC. The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Interior as the sole governmental authority dealing with border control.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The expected results under AP2010 action are:

- Elaboration of design documentation for reconstruction of Sozopol border police port;
- Hiring independent supervisions of the works.

Indicators in relation to action in AP 2010:

- Prepared design documentation for reconstruction of Sozopol border police port;
- Contracts for construction supervision signed.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point E of Action 9

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 40 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 30 000 euro.

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

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

3.3.1.1 Action 12 Equipping consular services with modern technology for fulfilling specific tasks.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action aims at enhancing the capacity of Bulgarian consular services for detection of falsified and forged documents in the process of visas issuing by supply of equipment for document checks.

This Action is considered as implementing Priority 3 because the envisaged equipment will enhance the capacity of the consular officials in their activities of visa issuing and will raise their capability to detect false and falsified documents as a method to tackle illegal migration.

Having in mind the Council Recommendation of 29 April 1999 on the provision for the detection of false or falsified documents in the visa departments of representations abroad and in the offices of domestic authorities dealing with the issue or extension of visas (1999/C 140/01), Bulgaria intends to equip all of its consular post according to the prescriptions given by the above mentioned Recommendation. The Recommendation determines in a very proper way the necessary equipment for document checks. As laid down in the Recommendation the decisive factor for the provision of equipment shall be not so much the size of the office or the number of visas which it issues as the actual risk of falsification and counterfeiting occurring during the visa procedure. The aim is to detect the counterfeiting or falsification of passports on which visas are to be entered, passport substitutes, requisite invitations and other proof which is material to the visa procedure. By equipping its consular posts according to the Recommendation, the Bulgarian consular officials are in position to detect the counterfeiting or falsification of passports on which visas are to be entered, passport substitutes, requisite invitations and other proof which is material to the visa procedure. The envisaged level of technical provision of the consular posts is as follows:

Equipment envisaged of the consular post with low risk:

- Ultra-violet light source- Portable ultra-violet lamps
- Magnification/lighting- Hand-held lenses, or transparent slide - oblique light source
- Combined document testing device equipped with magnifier, transmitted light and oblique light sources
- Special testing devices- Retroviewer (to check reflective materials)
- Test lenses, filter screens, etc. to check for latent security features in standard documents;

Equipment envisaged of the consular post with intermediate risk:

- Ultra-violet light source- Portable and fixed ultra-violet lamps
- Magnification- Low-power stereozoom microscope
- Light source with flexible fibre-optic light guide
- Light box for examinations using transmitted light
- Special testing devices- Retroviewer (to check reflective materials)

- Test lenses, filter screens, etc. to check for latent security features in standard documents;

Equipment envisaged of the consular post with high risk:

- Ultra-violet light source- Portable and fixed ultraviolet lamps
- Magnification- Stereozoom microscope
- Light source with flexible fibre-optic light guide
- Light box for examinations using transmitted light
- Special testing devices- Retroviewer (to check reflective materials)
- Test lenses, filter screens, etc. to check for latent security features in standard documents
- Infra-red scanning equipment- Infra-red document examination apparatus
- Devices for the machine inspection of documents- OCR scanning devices (with verification of check digits)
- Machine authentication devices (e.g. for kinegram patterns)

B. Expected grant recipients

Consular Relations Directorate - MFA

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

Under this action the Responsible Authority in association with Consular Relations Directorate – MFA shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC (IR). The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the sole governmental authority dealing with the visa issues.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The implementation of the activity will enhance the capacity of consular services in third countries for detection of false or falsified documents in the process of visa issuance and coping with illegal migration.

Indicators in relation to action in AP 2010:

- Equipment for detection of falsified and forged documents delivered;
- Consular officers trained for use of the equipment delivered;
- Number of consulates reached with the action.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point *E* of Action 1

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

The action complements the results of the implementation of Objectives 8, Measure 3, Action 3.1 of Schengen Facility. During the implementation of the aforementioned action under 35 consular posts have been equipped according to the Schengen best practices. The equipment delivered includes: intercom video systems, fire notification systems, video control systems, external video cameras, internal video cameras, conversation systems, telephone systems, access control systems, diesel generators etc.

No equipment for document checks has been delivered under the Schengen Facility funding.

G. Financial information

Total: 200 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 150 000 euro

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

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

3.4.1.1 Action 13 Further enhancing the conditions for implementation of the N. SIS and extending its capabilities in order to meet the technical requirements for SIS II.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

Through the AP 2010 action improvement of the conditions for guaranteeing of secure and expanded access to automated information systems of the Ministry of Interior related to SIS is expected to be achieved. The purpose and scope of the action are justified by the need to provide better conditions for reliable and continuous operation of information systems in MoI, related to the operation of the National component of Schengen Information System (N. SIS II).

The action is a first phase of a multiannual project which is aimed at implementation of all necessary measures for establishment of the national component of SIS II in compliance with the updated technical requirements and the schedule set by EC in 2010.

Having in mind the priority to put into operation SIS II by March 2013 in AP 2010 Bulgaria envisages delivery and installation of the necessary technical means and software in order to prepare the migration to SIS II as follow:

- Servers,
- Disk storage,
- Software for operation of the central component of N.SIS II
- Monitoring software, as well as technical means for securing of environment for end users.

In addition the action includes the migration of the network infrastructure for data transmission in the structural units of CDBP - from separate domain with confidence to the mvr.bg domain, based on MS Windows 2003 (Active Directory) to an organizational unit in the domain mvr.bg. This activity encompasses service and supply of equipment such as domain controllers needed to integrate the Border Police structures to the existing domain infrastructure of the Ministry of Interior.

In the next phases of the multiannual project it is envisaged: the delivery of additional hardware and software necessary for SIS II connection, an upgrade and maintenance of the national component of SIS (established under Schengen Facility) in accordance with the data recently provided by EC for development of the characteristics of Interface Control Document (version ICD 3.0), increasing of system capacity, etc. along with the other technical requirements in the process of further development of the Bulgarian N.SIS II.

B. Expected grant recipients

Communication and Information Systems Directorate - MoI

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

Under this action the Responsible Authority in association with Communication and Information Systems Directorate-MoI shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC.

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The implementation of the action envisages speeding up the access of the users to N.SIS, shortening the N.SIS data processing time and increasing the security of end users access to N.SIS. As a result of the delivery of the hardware and software it is expected the necessary conditions for migration from SIS I+R to SIS II to be created.

Indicators for results achieved during the period are:

- Hardware and software for the needs of the National component for migration to the SIS II delivered and installed;
- Technical equipment for end users of the N SIS delivered;
- Integration of Border Police structures to the existing domain infrastructure of the Ministry of Interior, based on Microsoft Active Directory Windows 2003;

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point *E* of Action 1

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

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 1 550 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 1 162 500 euro

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

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action is a first phase of a multiannual project planned to ensure secure and reliable operation of the IT systems used in MoI for control and management of flows of persons at external borders through extension of the IT security, encryption of definite connections, anti-virus protection of the MoI users of the SIS, VIS, FADO and AIS Border control.

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

The project envisages achieving maximum safety environment for the development and use of automated information systems (AIS), facilitating border control management and as a base for secure functioning of the N.SIS.

This project will upgrade the achievements in the field and further enhance the protection and security of the IT resources and networks used for SIS, VIS, FADO and AIS Border control by:

- Ensuring data protection and IT operations as an integral part of the storage, processing and exchange of information;
- Training of highly qualified professionals who can implement new technologies for increased security in the IT environment.

The action under AP 2010 includes:

- Gap analysis, assessment and proposals for improvement of the IT security processes;
- Supply of hardware needed to monitor and assess the network traffic and the network protection at central level and licences for monitoring of data base management systems, operational systems, etc.
- Training for usage of the hardware and software delivered for monitoring, assessing and protection of the IT resources and networks.

Next phases envisage the supply of specialised equipment and software on the basis of the assessment done during the AP 2010 implementation.

B. Expected grant recipients

Communication and Information Systems Directorate - MoI

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

Under this Action the Responsible Authority in association with Communication and Information Systems Directorate-MoI shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC.

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

With the implementation of the AP 2010 action it is expected to be achieved the following results:

- Assessment of the IT environment according to the security requirements and drafting a plan for deployment of highly efficient decisions;
- Supply of specialized equipment and software needed to monitor and assess the network traffic and the network protection;
- Training at central and regional level on the issues of security of IT environment of the Ministry of Interior, related to the IT systems for control and management of flows of persons at external borders.

Indicators for results achieved during the period are:

- Developed risk analysis report and recommendations for improvements;
- Specific and reasoned proposal for additional equipment and software needed and a plan for its implementation.
- Specialised equipment delivered;
- Software installed and tested
- At least 10 trained professionals in the field of information security and standards;
- At least 10 trained professionals to work with products purchased in order to maintain high security of the IT environment;
- At least 10 trained professionals to work with the products purchased, providing control and audit of IT security.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point *E* of Action 1

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

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

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

Under the AP 2010 action 14 the results of the aforementioned PHARE projects will be upgraded and extended through introduction of the common MoI IT security rules to the end users in the Border Police units. This way the maximum secured environment for development, functioning and usage of SIS, VIS, FADO and AIS Border Control will be reached.

The issue concerned in the Action 14 was not financed under Schengen Facility or under other EU funds.

G. Financial information

Total: 300 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 225 000 euro

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

3.4.2.1 Action 15 Development of load balancing system both within the National Visa Centre at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), and within the Boyana Visa Back-up Centre, as well as between the two sites

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The purpose of the action is to ensure reliable and effective functioning of the Main and Back up visa centres and to further enhance their capacities as National VIS component after connection to the EU Visa Information System (VIS) through:

- Supply, installation and configuration of application switches for load balancing between application servers in MFA Main Computer Centre and Back-up Computer Centre, as well as between the two sites, for efficient and fast processing of information requests.
- The aforementioned application switches for load balancing will receive and distribute between application servers the information requests when visa checks and biometric verification of visa holders are performed.

B. Expected grant recipients

Consular Relations Directorate - MFA

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

Main result of the Action will be the achievement of balanced workload within the MFA Main Visa Centre and in the Boyana Back-up one, and between both sites.

Indicators:

- Software and hardware delivered and installed;
- Developed workload balancing system to cope with burden overload within the MFA Main Centre and in the Boyana Back-up Centre, and between the two sites

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point E of Action 1

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

The action complements the results achieved under the Schengen Facility Objective 8, Measure 2, Action 1 for delivery of hardware and software for both the MFA Main Centre and the Boyana Back-up Centre. The Action under AP 2010 envisages enhancement of systems and improvement of interaction between the different components of equipment deployed under the Schengen Facility.

G. Financial information

Total: 450 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 337 500 euro.

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

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

3.5.1.1 Action 16 Enhancement of the capacity of the Distant Learning Automated Information System (AIS) with training modules for MoI staff responsible for tasks related to checks and surveillance at the external borders.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action is a first phase of a multiannual project which envisages ensuring of conditions for training as constant process through enhancement of the capacity of the existing MoI Distant Learning AIS in order to cover trainings related to:

- System administrators and operators, AIS and networks' security administrators and end users of SIS, VIS, FADO and AIS Border control;
- Foreign languages training; EU legal instruments in the field of external borders and trainings for specialized equipment usage for MoI staff responsible for tasks related to checks and surveillance at the external borders.

Distant Learning AIS has been developed at MoI and is currently under operation.

The action under AP 2010 envisages elaboration of specialised training modules and materials for the existing Distant Training AIS as well as delivery of additional means for upgrading and extending its capabilities. Under this action it is envisaged to elaborate and put into operation additional modules for N.SIS and AIS Border control end users.

The modules will consist of training materials to be used by all N.SIS and AIS Border control end users at their workplaces. The modules will cover the issues related to the usage of the SIS. The Distant Learning AIS will not use real data of the N.SIS and AIS Border control in use.

Next phases are envisaged for elaboration of additional modules for training of the MoI staff responsible for tasks related to border control at the external borders.

B. Expected grant recipients

Communications and Information Systems Directorate - MoI

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

Under this Action the Responsible Authority in association with Communications and Information Systems Directorate-MoI shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC.

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

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 expected result of the action under AP 2010 is creation of the necessary conditions for distant learning of the administrators and end users of N.SIS and AIS Border control.

Indicators:

- Number of officials trained;
- Training modules and knowledge control tests introduced;
- Means for upgrading and extending of the Distant Learning AIS delivered and installed;
- Trained end users, system administrators and operators, AIS and networks security administrators of the N SIS and AIS Border Control.

E. Visibility of EU funding

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

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

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

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

The above Action's implementation results will further build upon results already achieved under Phare and Schengen facility projects, and will expand impact of the latter.

- 2004-2006 Phare National Programme – Project “Modernisation of Bulgarian Police and strengthening of its effectiveness”, Sub-project 1 (completed)
- 2004-2006 Phare National Programme – Project “Further enhancement of the border management and control through modernization of the technical equipment, development of centralized border controls informational systems, and introduction of best practices and standards in the field of border control”, Sub-project 2 (completed)
- Schengen Facility, objective 7, measures 1 and 2 - to be finalized till the end of 2010.

G. Financial information

Total: 95 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 71 250 euro

3.5.1.2 Action 17 Advanced training of the aircrew members and engineers on the helicopter exploitation

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

This action will contribute to the preparation the Bulgarian Border Police staff for carrying out air surveillance tasks on the external borders and to develop competences of aircrew members with specific accent on the surveillance of the external land and maritime borders of Bulgaria.

The action envisages:

- Training program (training courses) for helicopter crews and engineers responsible for ground maintenance of the helicopters;
- Training in the use of special equipment (surveillance systems, night vision goggles, etc.).

B. Expected grant recipients

CDBP-MoI

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

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

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The expected result is increasing the qualification of the helicopter crews and engineers responsible for ground maintenance of the helicopters.

Indicators:

- Number of courses held;
- Number of officials trained.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point E of Action 16

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

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

G. Financial information

Total: 200 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 150 000 euro

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

3.5.2.1. Action 18 Improving staff qualification of the Consular Relations Directorate and the Bulgarian consulates.

A. Purpose and scope of the Action

The action is aimed at improving the qualification of the consular officers abroad and the Consular Relations Directorate staff. It will consist of training of consular officials in the field of Schengen *acquis* with a view of achieving a uniform approach to the practical application. The implementation of the action addresses the need to strengthen the administrative capacity of consular officials, to familiarise them in detail with the legislative framework of the EU in the field of border control and visa policy, as well as to clarify certain practical aspects relevant to their work in the visa issuing process.

The following is planned within the AP 2010 action 18:

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

The purpose of the training is to master the experience of the Bulgarian consular officers in consular services of other Member States in the visa issuing process in conformity with the requirements of the Schengen *acquis*.

Agreements are envisaged to be signed with the central authorities of other Member States for conducting one month-long work traineeships for Bulgarian consular officials at their consular posts. It is envisaged the similar month-long work traineeships to be included in the next APs as well.

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

- Training of consular officers deployed in the Bulgarian consulates abroad.

The training will focus on theoretical and practical knowledge required for handling biometric version of SVC and the VIS and the VISION Consultation Network after Bulgarian accession to the Schengen area. Training modules concerning the Visa Code provisions as well as detection of falsified and forged documents will be included as part of the training sessions.

The training is in compliance with Art 3, para 1 (d) and Art. 4, para 3 (d) and (h) of the basic act.

Initially similar trainings were planned to be carried out by the implementation of projects under the Schengen Facility Annual Programmes 2008 & 2009 but at the end of the SF contracting period (31.03.2010) no such contracts were concluded. That is why the realisation of the trainings under this Action is so important.

The action is part of a general training programme for consular officers which will be implemented in the 2010 - 2013 period according to the objective 12 set in the MAP.

B. Expected grant recipients

Consular Relations Directorate (CRD) -MFA

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

Under this action the Responsible Authority in association with CRD-MFA shall act as executing body in compliance with the requirements set forth in Art. 7-8 of the Implementing Rules of Decision 574/2007/EC. The activities will be implemented exclusively by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as the sole governmental authority dealing with the visa issues.

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

D. Expected quantified results and indicators to be used

The implementation of the action will increase the practical experience and knowledge of Bulgarian consular officials for the efficient application of EU legal instruments in the field of external border security and will contribute to the development of consular co-operation programmes.

Indicators:

- Traineeship for one official of the Consular Relations Directorate at consular post of EU Member State carried out;

- Number of consular officials trained.

E. Visibility of EU funding

See point *E* of Action 16

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

Up to the present EU funds have not been used for similar activities.

G. Financial information

Total: 100 000 euro

EU contribution – 75%: 75 000 euro

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

In order to ensure good implementation of the activities under the External Borders Fund, preparatory measures, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and control measures, as well as measures for the reinforcement of the administrative capacity for the implementation of the Fund are envisaged for financing in 2010.

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

4.1 Purpose of the technical assistance

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

4.2 Expected quantified results

- Administrative capacities of relevant management and control Authorities enhanced - sufficient number of staff allocated, number of staff trained, clear administrative procedures introduced, relevant equipment provided;
- Effective functioning of the EBF management and control systems - number of evaluation/monitoring/audit reports; number of projects implemented, % of financial allocations absorbed;

- Effective mechanism for projects selection established - all selected projects correspond to the priorities of the EBF;
- Effective monitoring of actions exercised and corrective measures taken, if applicable - number of monitoring missions and follow-up reports;
- Information campaigns for popularization of the EBF in Bulgaria carried out; one information activity presenting the achievements of AP 2010 organized (as per Art. 33 (2) (a) of Implementing rules of the fund);
- Translations of EBF materials and interpretation during EBF related meetings or events;
- Regular contacts with the EC and MS maintained (travel and subsistence expenses covered).

4.3 Visibility of EU funding

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

5. DRAFT FINANCING PLAN

Annual Programme - Draft Financial Plan								
Table 1 - Overview table								
Member State: Bulgaria								
Annual programme concerned: 2010								
Fund: EXTERNAL BORDERS FUND								
<i>(all figures in euro)</i>	Ref. priority	Ref. specific priority (1)	Community Contribution (a)	Public Allocation (b)	Private Allocation (c)	TOTAL (d= a+b+c)	% EC (e=a/d)	Share of total (f=d/total d)
Action 1	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	975 000	325 000	0,00	1 300 000	75,00%	16.58%
Action 2	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	450 000	150 000	0,00	600 000	75,00%	7.65%
Action 3	Priority 1	Specific Pr.3	86 250	28 750	0,00	115 000	75,00%	1.47%
Action 4	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	132 000	44 000	0,00	176 000	75,00%	2.25%
Action 5	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	225 000	75 000	0,00	300 000	75,00%	3.83%
Action 6	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	375 000	125 000	0,00	500 000	75,00%	6.38%
Action 7	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	352 500	117 500	0,00	470 000	75,00%	6.00%
Action 8	Priority 1	Specific Pr.2	445 500	148 500	0,00	594 000	75,00%	7.58%
Action 9	Priority 2	Specific Pr.3	187 500	62 500	0,00	250 000	75,00%	3.19%
Action 10	Priority 2	Specific Pr.3	112 500	37 500	0,00	150 000	75,00%	1.91%
Action 11	Priority 2	Specific Pr.2	30 000	10 000	0,00	40 000	75,00%	0.51%
Action 12	Priority 3	Specific Pr.2	150 000	50 000	0,00	200 000	75,00%	2.55%
Action 13	Priority 4	Specific Pr.2	1 162 500	387 500	0,00	1 550 000	75,00%	19.77%
Action 14	Priority 4	Specific Pr.1,2	225 000	75 000	0,00	300 000	75,00%	3.83%
Action 15	Priority 4	Specific Pr.2	337 500	112 500	0,00	450 000	75,00%	5.74%
Action 16	Priority 5	Specific Pr.1	71 250	23 750	0,00	95 000	75,00%	1.21%
Action 17	Priority 5	Specific Pr.1	150 000	50 000	0,00	200 000	75,00%	2.55%
Action 18	Priority 5		75 000	25 000	0,00	100 000	75,00%	1.28%
Technical assistance			448 981	0.00	0,00	448 981	100,00%	5.72%
Other operations (2)			0.00	0.00	0,00	0.00	0,00%	0.00%
TOTAL			5 991 481	1 847 500	0,00	7 838 981	76,43%	100%

(1) if appropriate

(2) if appropriate

Ivan Sharenkov:

Director of International Projects Directorate-MoI