STANDARD SUMMARY PROJECT FICHE

1. Basic Information

CRIS Number: 2003/005-631.03

Title: Development of a Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program for the Boundary Bulgarian-Romanian region along the Lower Danube

Sector: EN

Location: Northeast of Bulgaria/Southeast of Romania

2. Objectives

2.1. Overall Objectives:

• To promote good neighborliness and stability in the CEEC border regions (and the Bulgarian-Romanian one in particular) by funding projects which will yield tangible benefits to the regions and communities on both sides of the border;
• To promote cooperation between border regions in both countries, helping these regions to overcome the specific development problems which may arise, inter alia, from their position within the national economies, in the interest of the local communities and in a manner compatible with the environment protection;
• To promote the creation and further development of cooperation networks on either side of the border and establishment of links between these links and wider Community networks;
• To promote economic and social cohesion in the CBC regions.

2.2. Purpose of the project:

• To implement Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program and short-term action plans for progressive reduction of emissions of pollutants of the common transboundary non-attainment areas [agglomerations] along the Lower Danube and to ensure the implementation and enforcement of The EU Framework Ambient Air Quality Directive [96/62/EC] and its Daughters Directives [99/30/EC, 2000/69/EC, 2002/3/EC etc.]
• To provide an example of the complex air quality planning process, as a learning exercise and as a model for solving transboundary air quality management issues according to art.8 paragraph 6 of above Framework Directive.

2.3. Accession Partnership and NPAA priority

Short Term

The development of AAQ Management Programs and Action Plans in compliance with Directive 96/62/EC is respectively a short-term and a medium term priority according to the Bulgarian NPPA.

NPAA:
Medium Term Priority
The program will assist the municipalities to control, and thus reduce the air pollution and improve the air quality according to the relevant EU standards in the medium and the long term.

2.4. Contribution to National Development Plan

NA

2.5. Cross Border Impact:

The AAQ Management Program will solve the disputes between both countries regarding the pollution origin and provide the required measures to control and reduce the air pollution in order to improve the air quality in the region.

3. Description

3.1. Background and justification:
The Framework Directive (FWD) on Ambient Air Quality (AAQ) Assessment and Management requires a preliminary to be done by the different states with regard to the pollutant levels for which AAQ standards have been established in the separate daughter directives.

In Bulgaria the preliminary assessment (PA) with regard to the pollutants covered by The First Daughter Directive 1999/30/EC (SO2, NOx and Lead, excluding PM10) has been finished in 2001. As a result the country’s territory has been divided in 124 AAQ assessment and management areas, out of which - 35 non-attainment areas, i.e. areas with exceedances of the established AAQ standards. For this 35 areas AAQ management programs according to art.8 FWD have to be developed.

Within this 35 areas there are 4 areas with mixed pollution (local and transboundary). Only for them the specific requirements of art. 8 paragraph 6 FWD should be applied, i.e. the AAQ management in this areas has to be closely coordinated between the two countries. The last means that the relevant AAQ management programs (for emission reduction and achievement of the established AAQ standards) should be developed and implemented jointly.

The above 4 transboundary areas consist of the cities Nikopol, Svishtov, Rousse and Silistra with their surroundings or they coincide with the Bulgarian part of the Lower Danube region for which though the financial assistance of PHARE CBC a JAQMS was established and an emission control system is to be established (to monitor the emissions of harmful substances at the source) – see also item 3.2 linked activities below.

The PA of AAQ with regard to the pollutant levels covered by the Second 2000/69/EC and Third 2002/3/EC daughter directives (CO, benzene, ozone plus PM10) will be finished by end 2004 through the JAQMS.

As a result, according to the Clean Air Act and it’s implementing regulations transposing the above directives the four municipalities will have to develop (within the 2 years after 2004) their own AAQ management programs. Having in mind the transboundary origin of part of the pollution within the area in question, the programs have to be fully coordinated with the relevant mirror programs developed by the Romanian side.
The only possible way to ensure that in practice is to develop the 8 mirror programs (4 on each side) as a Joint AAQ Management Program for the region of Lower Danube, in the mean time involving all national and regional competent on both sides.

The above will ensure the required level of cost effectiveness and the correct scheduling and prioritization of the separate improvement (emission reduction) measures (since in certain cases the achievement of an AAQ standard in one country will be much more easy and costly effective through relevant emission reduction measures /or combination of measures/ in another country).

In addition, the development of the Joint AAQ Management Program will ensure in the future the possibility to prepare ToRs and tender documents for the investments of utmost priority (including in the infrastructure) by which the emission levels will be reduced and thus the AAQ standards achieved.

In the mean time, if the results from the monitoring with the JAQMS prove that there is an exceedance of the established alarm thresholds for public information (according to Directive 1999/30/EC) action plans according to art.7 FWD will be developed for the concerned areas, i.e. municipalities.

3.2. Linked activities:
Current project will used the deliverables and experience of the following projects:

1. Service Contract No.94-0984 with DHV - The Netherlands
   Project Title: Transboundary Pollution Romania – Bulgaria


3. Project BG0107.04.01. Development of a Control (Monitoring) System for Emissions of VOC, PAHs and Heavy Metals from stationary sources in the Boundary Bulgarian-Romanian regions along the Lower Danube.

The JAQMS under the second project after it’s commissioning will provide the required reliable and representative assessment of AAQ in the region with regard to the pollutants in question and the third project will ensure the possibility of both countries to control harmful emissions at sources. Both activities [AAQ assessment and emission measurement and control] are a precondition for the development of an effective AAQ Management Program. Thus, the present project shall be regarded as a final step for the implementation of the above projects.

3.3 Results
1. Joint AAQ Management Program for improvement of the ambient air quality in the boundary region of Lower Danube [consisting of 4 separate programs – one for each non-attainment area] which should be approved by Bulgaria and Romania;

2. Short-term action plans for cases of exceedances of the established alert thresholds in the 4 non-attainment areas [Nikopol-T.Magurele, Svishtov-Zimnica, Russe-Giurgiu and Sillistra-Kalarash] which should be approved by Bulgaria and Romania;

3. Preliminary ambient air quality assessment [PAAQA] according to Directive 96/62/EC [and it’s “daughter” directives] over the project area;
4. According to the identified needs soft and hardware equipment, models and their application means supplied.

5. Guidebook on elaboration and implementation of AAQ management programs and short-term action plans for this type of areas;

6. Guidebook on PAAQA for this type of areas;

7. Training reference manual for use by the local authorities and REIs;

8. Pollutant dispersion model [calibrated for the specific Bulgarian and Romanian conditions] used during the air quality assessment process;

9. Detailed training program consisting of priority actions [to be done within the project] and follow-up activities [to be done by MOEW];

10. Trained Municipal AAQ management staff (10 persons from REIs and 10 persons from the Municipalities);

11. The-long term AAQ management programs and the Short-term action plans will be adopted by the relevant Municipal Council following their approval by REI, EEA and MOEW and the relevant authorities of Romania

3.4 Activities:

A) Detailed analysis and assessment of the air quality for the 4 pollutants in question in the non-attainment areas, including the following main steps:

1. Analysis of measurement equipment and measurement methods presently used in the project area;

2. Initial analysis of available air quality and meteorological data and overview of air quality and meteorological situation;

3. Initial analysis of the emissions’ situation;

4. Supplemental measurements of air quality [if needed];

5. Preparation for use of a traffic-emission program-module and of dispersion modelling;

6. Supplemental collection of meteorological data;

7. Compilation and completion of emission inventory;

8. Implementation of a geographical information system (GIS) of local emission sources;

9. Determination of ambient air quality situation;

10. Assessment of ambient air quality.

B) Development of a program for improvement of ambient air quality in the case of exceedances of limit values, including the following main steps:

1. Identification and examination of potential emission reduction measures;

2. Selection of suitable measures;

3. Scenarios for development of emissions until 2010;

4. Estimation of the development of air quality until 2010;

5. Prioritization of measures and financial analysis;

6. Drafting of a program of long-term measures;

7. Drafting of short-term action plan for measures in case of exceedances of alert thresholds;

8. Seminars/workshops on the drafts of nos. 6 and 7 with persons or organizations, which are important for implementation;

9. Information of the public on the drafts of nos. 6 and 7;

10. Finalization and adoption of the documents of the program of long-term measures and of the short-term action plan.
C) Elaboration of Application Forms in specific format in conformity with the requirements of the specific donors.

D) Preparation of a Training Program. Dissemination of basic knowledge on air quality assessment and management.

3.5 Lessons learned:
The conclusions and recommendations from the previous (see 3.2 Linked Activities) projects Reports concerning the need for activities, which are foreseen to be implemented under this project have been considered.

EC Phare financing was received in 1999 for the project “Project BG9916.02 Joint Air Quality Monitoring System in the Boundary Romanian – Bulgarian Towns on the Lower Danube Status report dd. August 2000 “. After it's commissioning the Joint Air Quality Monitoring System (JAQMS) will overcome the existing lack of relevant data and will provide the required reliable and representative assessment of AAQ in the region with regard to the pollutants in question.

Project BG0107.04.01. “Development of a Control (Monitoring) System for Emissions of VOC, PAHs and Heavy Metals from stationary sources in the Boundary Bulgarian-Romanian regions along the Lower Danube” envisage supply equipment for the Bulgarian Inspectorates for Environment (RI) in Montana, Vratsa, Pleven, V.Tarnovo and Ruse for control the air emissions from sources located in the border regions. This equipment will be used for the control of air emissions from pollution sources based on specific dispersion of the pollutants on both Danube borders. Thus this project will provide monitoring system and will ensure the possibility of both countries to control harmful emissions at sources.

The present project will be seen as a final step for the implementation of the previous above listed projects

Measures and decisions defined in the Commission Decisions of 17 July 2000 and 17 October 2001 concerning requirements of the relevant Directives were considered preparing this project as well.

4. Institutional Framework

- **Beneficiary Institution** - Ministry of Environment and Waters, Bulgaria;

- **Contracting Authority** - Ministry of Development and Public Works, Bulgaria.
5. Detailed Budget, in MEUR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENTS</th>
<th>PHARE support</th>
<th>Total Phare (I+IB)</th>
<th>National co-financing</th>
<th>IFI</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
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<td>Investment Support</td>
<td>Institution Building</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Development of a Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program for the Boundary Bulgarian-Romanian regions along the Lower Danube</td>
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<td>0.7</td>
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<td>Operational and administrative costs for additional measurement with mobile automatic air quality stations and meteorological data measurement.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
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<td></td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) The national co-financing comes from the National Budget and will be planned and requested by the CBC IA from the Ministry of Finance and allocated to the National Fund within the Ministry of Finance. The national co-financing is supposed to cover the operational and administrative costs for the implementation of the project.

6. Implementation Arrangements

6.1. Implementing Agency

The Bulgarian CBC Implementing Agency is the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW), which retains overall responsibility for the implementation of the project. This includes approval of ToR, of tender documents, of evaluation criteria, evaluation of offers, signature of contracts and authorization and payment of invoices.

The following institutions will be involved during project implementation [from the Bulgarian side]:

- Ministry of Environment and Water – Air Protection Department;
- Executive Environmental Agency – Air Monitoring Department;
- Pleven, Tarnovo and Rousse Regional Environmental Inspectorates;
- Nikopol, Svishtov, Rousse and Silistra Municipalities – Environmental Departments;
- Ministry of Health – Regional Epidemiological Inspections;
- Ministry of Transport – Regional offices of Executive Agency “State Automobile Inspection”;
- Ministry of Interior – Regional offices of Vehicle Traffic Control Directorate;
• Others [representatives of the main polluting industries, NGOs, etc.].

6.2. Non-standard aspects

The Practical Guide to PHARE, ISPA and SAPARD Contract Procedures will be strictly followed.

6.3. Contracts
1 (one) Service Contract with amount of up to 0.7 MEUR.

7. Implementation Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start of tendering</th>
<th>Start of project activities</th>
<th>Completion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

It was agreed that the RO side will financed the necessary preparatory activities for launching the tender for the service contract. Above implementation schedule is the worse case scenario. It is expected that earlier implementation will be possible, depending in capacity of the TA financed by RO side to deliver necessary output in time.

8. Equal Opportunity

Equal opportunity for men and women to participate in all the components of the project will be ensured.

9. Environment

Due to the fact that the project aims to the reduction of the air pollution in order to improve the air quality there is no requirement of Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

10. Rates of return

NA

11. Investment criteria

11.1. Catalytic effect:

Without PHARE assistance, the project would not be implemented in the near future, because of the lack of funds. Thus EU PHARE Funds are appearing as the economic assistance to the country and will mobilize economy during Pre-Accession period achieving better socio-economic effect.

11.2. Co-financing:

The project is co-financed by the national Bulgarian Budget by 0.2 MEUR, which will provide 28.5% of the total cost of the project as it is given in item No5.

11.3. Additionality:

No other financing sources from the private sector or from IFIs were available for financing this project.
After completion of the Project the owner of the Management Programs will be the Ministry of Environment and Water represented by the Regional Inspectorates in Pleven, Veliko Tarnovo and Russe,

11.4. Project readiness and Size:

The preliminary studies have been completed and the implementation of the project can be launched according to the implementation chart (Annex 2).

11.5. Sustainability:

The Northern Border Region and especially the region near the Danube River has been considered to be very sensitive to the air pollution.

11.6. Compliance with state aids provisions

The project respects the state aids provisions.

11.7 Contribution to National Development Plan

NA

12. Conditionality and sequencing

1. The project shall be executed in co-operation with Romania. Both countries have to take into consideration the results provided by an Independent Consultant’ assessment in order to establish common procedures for management of the monitoring system. The contract for TA for preparation of the TD under the FWC procedure will be funded by the Romanian mirror project as agreed with the Romanian Ministry of Water and Environmental Protection and confirmed by their letter dd. 01.08.2002 and by the minutes of the Meeting of Joint Air Monitoring Expert Working Groups of the Bulgarian and Romanian Ministries of Environment and Water held in Giurgiu on 22nd of April 2003.

2. The project comprises a Service Contract for each of both Bulgarian and Romanian parties. The Service contracts for the Programs will be signed following separate Tenders procedures in Bulgaria and Romania.

ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. Logical framework matrix
2. Detailed implementation chart
3. Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter
4. Reference to feasibility /pre-feasibility studies.
**Annex 1: Logframe Matrix for project: 2003/005-631.03**

**Project Title:** Development of a Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program for the Transboundary Bulgarian - Romanian- Regions along the Lower Danube

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall objectives</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>Sources of Information</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• To promote good neighborhood and stability in the CEEC border regions (and the Bulgarian-Romanian one in particular) by funding projects which will yield tangible benefits to the regions and communities on both sides of the border;</td>
<td>• Improvement of quality of life in the cross-border regions between Bulgaria and Romania;</td>
<td>• Protocols of cooperation signed between the two countries;</td>
<td>• Achievement of good co-operation in the implementation of the project by both parties;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To promote co-operation between border regions in both countries, helping these regions to overcome the specific development problems which may arise, inter alia, from their position within the national economies, in the interest of the local communities and in a manner compatible with the environment protection;</td>
<td>• Promotion of the higher quality of life in the border regions.</td>
<td>• Reports of the National Statistical Institute of both countries;</td>
<td>• Ability of the polluters to observe the adopted Directives;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To promote the creation and further development of co-operation networks on either side of the border and establishment of links between these links and wider Community networks;</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Annual Environmental Reports</td>
<td>• Other institutions concerned are willing to cooperate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To promote economic and social cohesion in the CBC regions.</td>
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<td>• Reports from local authorities and NGOs.</td>
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</table>

**Project Purpose**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Purpose</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>Sources of Information</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• To implement Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program quality management programs and short-term action plans for progressive reduction of emissions of pollutants of the common transboundary non-attainment areas (agglomerations) along the Lower Danube and to ensure the implementation and enforcement of The EU Framework Ambient Air Quality Directive [96/62/EC] and it’s Daughters Directives [99/30/EC, 2000/69/EC, 2002/3/EC etc.]</td>
<td>• EU requirements are met as defined in the First Daughter Directive 1999/30/EC • Institutional set-up is strengthened by training of people from REIs and municipalities • Decrease of level of air quality pollution of different pollutants and achievement of quality standards</td>
<td>• MOEW Green Book • EC Delegation in Sofia • Annual inventories • Daily, quarterly and annual Reports provided by the Regional Inspectorates</td>
<td>• Achievement of good co-operation in the implementation of the project by both parties;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• To provide an example of the complex air quality planning process, as a learning exercise and as a model for solving transboundary air quality management issues according to art.8 paragraph 6 of above Framework Directive.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Ability of the polluters to observe the adopted Directives;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Other institutions concerned are willing to cooperate</td>
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<tr>
<td>Results</td>
<td>Indicators of Achievement</td>
<td>Sources of Information</td>
<td>Assumptions</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fulfillment of the commitments taken by both parties the time schedule of implementation of the project; • Timely transposition and implementation of some of the Directives for air quality.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Joint AAQ Management Program for improvement of the ambient air quality in the boundary region of Lower Danube [consisting of 4 separate programs - one for each non-attainment area] which should be approved by Bulgaria and Romania;

13. Short-term action plans for cases of exceedances of the established alert thresholds in the 4 non-attainment areas [Nikopol-T.Magurele, Svishtov-Zimnica, Russe-Giurgiu and Silistra-Kalarash] which should be approved by Bulgaria and Romania;

14. Preliminary ambient air quality assessment [PAAQA] according to Directive 96/62/EC [and its “daughter” directives] over the project area;

15. According to the identified needs soft and hardware equipment, models and their application means supplied.

16. Guidebook on elaboration and implementation of AAQ management programs and short-term action plans for this type of areas;

17. Guidebook on PAAQA for this type of areas;

18. Training reference manual for use by the local authorities and REIs;

19. Pollutant dispersion model [calibrated for the specific Bulgarian and Romanian conditions] used during the air quality assessment process;

20. Detailed training program consisting of priority actions [to be done within the project] and follow-up activities [to be done by MOEW];

21. Trained Municipal AAQ management staff (10 persons from REIs and 10 persons from the Municipalities);

22. The long-term AAQ management programs and the Short-term action plans will be adopted by the relevant Municipal Council following their approval by REI, EEA and MOEW and the relevant authorities of Romania

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Means</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Improvement of ambient air quality according to EC Directives adopted as national legislation | • Ministry of Environment Green Book  
• Steering Committee of the project  
• Final Report | - The Ministry of Environment staff is co-operating on the implementation of the project;  
- Steering Committee of the project makes required decisions on time  
- All counterparts are co-operating and providing necessary information  
- Timely implementation of the Time schedule of the project by both parties and the External Consultant; |
| Decrease of level of ambient air quality pollution of different pollutants and achievement of normative standards | • 20 people from REIs and municipalities trained | |
| Preliminary ambient air quality assessment [PAAQA] according to Directive 96/62/EC [and its “daughter” directives] over the project area | | |
A) Detailed analysis and assessment of the air quality for the 4 pollutants in question in the non-attainment areas, including the following main steps:
1. Analysis of measurement equipment and measurement methods presently used in the project area;
2. Initial analysis of available air quality and meteorological data and overview of air quality and meteorological situation;
3. Initial analysis of the emissions' situation;
4. Supplemental measurements of air quality [if needed];
5. Preparation for use of a traffic-emission program-module and of dispersion modelling;
6. Supplemental collection of meteorological data;
7. Compilation and completion of emission inventory;
8. Implementation of a geographical information system (GIS) of local emission sources;
9. Determination of ambient air quality situation;
10. Assessment of ambient air quality.

B) Development of a program for improvement of ambient air quality in the case of exceedances of limit values, including the following main steps:
1. Identification and examination of potential emission reduction measures;
2. Selection of suitable measures;
3. Scenarios for development of emissions until 2010;
4. Estimation of the development of air quality until 2010;
5. Prioritization of measures and financial analysis;
6. Drafting of a program of long-term measures;
7. Drafting of short-term action plan for measures in case of exceedances of alert thresholds;
8. Seminars/workshops on the drafts of nos. 6. and 7. with persons or organizations, which are important for implementation;
10. Finalization and adoption of the documents of the program of long-term measures and of the short term action plan.

C) Elaboration of preparatory documents for application for international financing for certain measures.

D) Dissemination of basic knowledge on air quality assessment and management

| 0.7 MEUR service contract; | Team adequately staffed with qualified full-time experts | Support from other relevant institutions; |
| Documentation, equipment and other resources | | Recruit and retain adequately qualified staff. |

- Documentation, equipment and other resources
### Annex 2 – Detailed implementation chart

**Project title** *Development of a Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program for the Transboundary Bulgarian-Romanian Regions along the Lower Danube*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
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<td>J F M A M</td>
<td>J A S O N</td>
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<td>J F M A M</td>
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<td></td>
<td>J A S O N</td>
<td>J F M A M</td>
<td>J A S O N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Contract for Preparation of Program</td>
<td>P T T T T T T T C</td>
<td>I I I I I I I I I I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P = Preparation</td>
<td>T= Tendering</td>
<td>C = Contracting</td>
<td>I = Implementation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex 3 – Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter

*Project title: Development of a Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program for the Transboundary Bulgarian - Romanian Regions along the Lower Danube*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Components</th>
<th>Cumulative contracting schedule by quarter in MEUR (planned)</th>
<th>Total Phare Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Service Contract for Preparation of Program</td>
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<td>Total contracting:</td>
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<table>
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<th>Components</th>
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<td>2004</td>
<td>2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total disbursement:</td>
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Annex 4 – Reference to feasibility/pre-feasibility studies

*Project title: Development of a Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program for the Transboundary Bulgarian-Romanian-Regions along the Lower Danube*

1. Service Contract No.94-0984 with DHV – The Netherlands
   Project Title: Transboundary Pollution Romania – Bulgaria
   Final Report, October 1995
2. Project BG9916.02 Joint Air Quality Monitoring System in the Boundary Romanian – Bulgarian Towns on the Lower Danube
   Status report dd. August 2000