

SUMMARY

EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD AND PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT

CROSS BORDER COOPERATION

SUMMARY

OF

INDICATIVE PROGRAMME (IP) 2011-2013

Executive summary

Regulation no 1638/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 24 October 2006 laying down general provisions establishing a European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (referred to as the ENPI Regulation) provides the legal basis for establishing Joint Operational Programmes for Cross Border Co-operation (JOPs), covering border regions of the EU and of the neighbouring countries sharing a common border. The ENPI Cross Border Cooperation Strategy Paper 2007-2013 (CBC SP) adopted in March 2007 outlined the strategic framework for such programmes. This framework was intended to guide local, regional and national authorities from the eligible areas in the preparation of the JOPs and their implementation and monitoring.

Building on the response strategy defined in the CBC SP, the Cross Border Cooperation Indicative Programme (CBC IP) for 2007-2010 proposed to establish 15 CBC programmes covering the EU land borders and sea crossings of significant importance with neighbouring countries as well as the three common sea basins. It also set the overall objectives that the programmes should pursue and the financial allocations for each programme.

The Mid Term Review (MTR) examined the need for potential changes in CBC priorities as provided for in the Strategy Paper, the socio-economic and political developments in the ENPI area as well as the results of the preparation and initial implementation of the CBC programmes. It took also stock of the delays incurred in the preparation and implementation of the programmes.

Of the 15 planned JOPs, 13 were adopted in time, have launched calls for proposals and have selected or are in the process of selecting the projects to be financed. Activities in the period 2007-2010 focused largely on the preparation of the JOPs, reaching an agreement on their content, having them adopted by the Commission and signed by partner countries. This process took longer than expected and programmes started to be implemented only in late 2009. Therefore, lessons learned in this MTR concern mostly the preparation of the JOPs, the establishment of the programme implementation structures and the preparations of the calls for proposals.

There were very important political developments in neighbouring countries, in particular the most recent wave of pro democracy upheavals in the Southern Neighbourhood. There were also important developments in the relations between the EU and neighbouring countries, including the establishment of regional initiatives at the EU external borders (i.a. the Eastern Partnership, the Union for the Mediterranean and the Partnership for Democracy and Shared Prosperity with the Southern Mediterranean), as well as launching of the EU internal regional

initiatives (e.g. the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region). However the MTR highlighted that the four key objectives of the CBC as described in the Strategy Paper (1. economic and social development of the border regions; 2. addressing common challenges in fields such as the environment, public health and the prevention of organised crime; 3. ensuring efficient and secure borders; 4. promoting local cross border “people-to-people” actions) remain valid also in this evolving context. The lessons learned so far, the new developments in the region and the EU emerging priorities can be addressed within the existing response strategy. There is therefore no need to revise the Strategy Paper. The MTR also confirmed that the indicative list of results and indicators identified in the period 2007-10 has proved useful in steering the preparation of the programme documents and remain relevant for the period 2011-13.

On that basis the new Indicative Programme concentrates on:

- updating the list of programmes and their geographic definition to reflect the non-establishment of two programmes, the decision of some partner countries not to take part in certain programmes and other minor changes in some territories’ participation to the programmes;
- updating the annual breakdown of the indicative financial allocations for each of the programmes to reflect their delayed start;
- reducing the indicative allocation of the Baltic Sea Region programme to reflect the decision of the Russian Federation not to take part in it;
- reallocating part of the ENPI funds, becoming available due to the non establishment of two programmes and the reduction of the allocation of the Baltic Sea Region programme to the benefit of the relatively underfunded CBC Black Sea Basin and the CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programmes as well as for other actions funded under the ENPI.

Table 1. The updated financial table of the functioning CBC programmes (millions EUR)

	2007-10	2011-13	Total 2007-13
<i>Land-Border Programmes</i>			
1. Kolarctic/Russia	12.455	15.786	28.241
2. Karelia/Russia	10.233	12.970	23.203
3. SE Finland/Russia	15.959	20.227	36.186
4. Estonia/Latvia/Russia	21.070	26.705	47.775
5. Latvia/Lithuania/Belarus	18.407	23.330	41.737
6. Lithuania/ Poland /Russia	58.272	73.857	132.129
7. Poland/Belarus/Ukraine	82.120	104.082	186.202
8. Hungary/Slovakia/Ukraine/Romania	30.271	38.367	68.638

9. Romania/Moldova/Ukraine	55.885	70.833	126.718
<i>Sea-Crossing Programmes</i>			
10. Italy/Tunisia	11.110	14.081	25.191
<i>Sea-Basin Programmes</i>			
11. Black Sea	11.623	14.074	25.697
12. Mediterranean	76.565	123.435	200.000
13. Baltic Sea Region (ENPI contribution)	8.800	0	8.800
Total (positions 1-13)	409.778	537.747	950.516