



EUROPEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD AND PARTNERSHIP INSTRUMENT

ENPI EASTERN REGIONAL INDICATIVE PROGRAMME 2007 – 2010

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Head of unit: Hilde Hardeman

Co-ordinator: Steve Bullock

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1 EC-ENPI Eastern Regional Strategy Paper

The EC-ENPI Eastern Regional Strategy Paper (RSP) 2007-2013 was formally adopted by the Commission on 7th March 2007. Member states and other donors were consulted during the drafting process.

The principal objectives of EC regional assistance to the ENPI Eastern region are:

- To facilitate and advance cooperation in areas of mutual interest and benefit between the partner countries themselves and between the EC and the partner countries. This complements the objectives of respective national strategies for developing increasingly close relationships with ENP partner countries, going beyond past levels of cooperation, towards gradual economic integration and a deepening of political cooperation, and also complements the objectives of the Four Common Spaces with Russia
- To provide assistance towards the common ENP and Common Space objectives where there is a clear advantage in such regional-level assistance. This advantage can take the form of being better able to meet outcome objectives, including fostering greater cooperation within the region, achieving economies of scale and/or avoiding duplication of effort.

The RSP provides an overview of future priority areas for regional-level intervention. The national Country Strategy Papers (CSPs) proposed for each country provide overviews encompassing all instruments and programmes.

This ENPI Eastern Regional Indicative Programme (IP) 2007-2010 defines in more detail the focus of intervention under the Eastern Regional envelope of the new European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument (ENPI). In addition, there will also be an equivalent ENPI Southern Regional Strategy and indicative programme covering the ENPI countries of the Mediterranean and Middle East, along with an ENPI-wide Regional Strategy and indicative programme covering all ENPI countries.

The five Central Asian Republics which were covered under the previous 2000-06 Tacis RSP and IP will, from 2007, be covered in the first instance by the Regional Strategy Paper for Central Asia and the associated Indicative Programme, and through EU assistance to Central Asia under the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI). To ensure continuity with the Regional Cooperation Programme 2000-2006, and the associated assistance under the Tacis Regional Programme, the five Central Asian Republics of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan may also benefit from funding through the ENPI Eastern Regional Programme on the basis of Art. 27 of the ENPI Regulation¹.

The principles for funding the Central Asian Republics' participation in ENPI Programmes through the ENPI Eastern regional programme will be that, in each case:

- 1) There should be clear added value in cross-regional cooperation in terms of building on existing linkages, activities or structures, or on increasing cooperation between the regions;

¹ "To ensure the coherence and effectiveness of Community assistance, the Commission may decide when adopting action programmes of the type referred to in Article 12 or the special measures referred to in Article 13, that countries, territories and regions eligible for Community assistance under the Pre-Accession Instrument or the financing instrument for development cooperation and the overseas countries and territories associated with the Community are eligible for measures under this Regulation where the project or programme implemented is of a global, regional or cross-border nature."

- 2) Where the ‘centre of gravity’ of the activity is in the ENPI Eastern region, with the majority of activities taking place within the ENPI Eastern region, it may be funded through the ENPI Instrument.
- 3) Where activities primarily take place in, or primarily benefit the Central Asian republics, they should be funded from the DCI Instrument;
- 4) There must be a clear and coherent link with the DCI Central Asia Regional Strategy and Indicative Programme.

Assistance under the ENPI Eastern Regional programme during the 4 years covered by this indicative programme will focus on five key priority areas. These are: i) Networks, particularly energy and transport networks; ii) Environment and forestry; iii) Border and Migration Management, the Fight against International Crime, and Customs; iv) People-to-people Activities, and; v) anti-personnel landmines, explosive remnants of war, small arms and light weapons

The coherence of EU policies, complementarities within the EU and with other donors as well as complementarities between the different EC programmes and instruments will be pursued in all areas of cooperation.

2 Indicative budget

During the period covered by this ENPI Eastern Regional Indicative Programme (2007-2010), a total EC grant of €223.5 million² will be made available. It should be noted that these indicative allocations apply to the entire 4-year period of this indicative programme as a whole, and it is therefore likely that individual Annual Action Programmes will contain differing allocations in each given year.

Priority area 1: Networks (25-35%)

Sub-priority 1: Transport

Sub-priority 2: Energy

Sub-priority 3: SME Regional Cooperation

Priority area 2: Environment protection and forestry (25-35%)

Priority area 3: Border and Migration Management, the Fight against Transnational Organised Crime, and Customs (20-30%)

Priority area 4: People-to-people Activities, Information and Support (10-15%)³

Priority area 5: Landmines, Explosive Remnants of War, Small Arms and Light Weapons (5-10%)

Re-allocations between priority areas will be possible within the limits allowed by the relevant legal basis.

Interest rate subsidies can leverage investments by international financing institutions in the environment, energy and transport sections, as explained in the ENPI Eastern Regional Strategy Paper 2007-2013.

² Of this allocation, at least €1.5m has been earmarked specifically for cooperation with EBRD and EIB, and a minimum of €0.8m has been earmarked for Information and Support activities.

³ A minimum of €0.8m is allocated for Information and Support Measures under this priority

3 Priority area 1: Networks

3.1 Strategic context and justification

A strengthened economic and regulatory integration among the EU and ENPI countries under the ENP/"Four Common Spaces" should result in the coming years in increased and more stable trade and investment relations between the EU and this region. For this reason, it is of crucial importance, and in the mutual interest of the EU and ENPI partner countries, to further develop transport links, including energy and transport. This accords with the objectives of the upcoming Commission communication on the extension of the TEN-T axes, the conclusions of the Baku Ministerial Regional Transport conference of November 2004 and the agreement reached between the EU and the Russian Federation on the Four Common Spaces.

In the energy sector, the EU and the twelve partner States agreed at the "Baku Ministerial Regional Energy Conference", held in parallel with the Transport Ministerial Conference on their mutual interest in: supporting the gradual development of regional energy markets and their regulation in the Caspian littoral states and their neighbouring countries in order to facilitate, in the future, a gradual integration between these energy markets and the EU market; enhancing the capacity to attract funding for new energy infrastructure; embarking on energy efficiency policies and their implementation; and using the existing INOGATE Programme structures for facilitating the objectives of this enhanced cooperation.

The importance of enhanced regional cooperation in the energy sector has also been recognised for achieving sustainable economic and social development as well as contributing to peace, stability and prosperity in the region.

Enhanced trade and investment is at the heart of both the European Neighbourhood Policy, and the Four Common Spaces agreed with Russia. Better access to European markets, and increased foreign investment opportunities in partner countries, can offer opportunities for sustainable economic development in partner countries. The facilitation of networks between EU and ENPI SMEs by the EU will promote a mutually beneficial information exchange and enhanced foreign direct investment and export opportunities.

For the area as a whole, it should be noted that the national programmes will also provide support, in particular for legislative approximation and sectoral reform. In the implementation of this Regional IP, it will therefore be necessary to ensure close and effective coordination with actions financed from the country indicative programmes concerned.

To ensure the coherence and effectiveness of Community assistance in the energy sector, participation of relevant countries and regions should be ensured when appropriate, namely as regards the activities of the "Baku Initiative" and the Energy Community.

3.2.1 Sub-priority 1: Transport

a) Long-term impact

To enhance long-term cooperation between partner countries in the region with the EU and between partner countries by addressing key transport issues and through the regional convergence of policies and approximation to EU norms and standards.

b) Specific objectives

- To link partner countries to EU-bound transport Networks, linking with the Trans-European Networks (TEN-Ts) and Pan-European Corridors in line with the recommendations of the High Level Group on the extension of trans-European transport axes to neighbouring countries and regions.
- To provide regional level assistance for the progressive integration of the transport markets of the Central Asian and ENPI Eastern countries, the gradual regional convergence of policies and approximation to EU norms and standards, the effective implementation of international agreements in the transport sector, including those concerning transport security, environmental standards, the improvement of legal certainty and safety standards in the road and rail transport sectors, and the improvement of interoperability in the rail sector
- To improve performance and services in the areas of aviation safety and to align air traffic management, and maritime and aviation security with international standards.
- To introduce intermodality between land modes and with Short sea Shipping, including such as the EU concept of the ‘Motorways of the Sea’ and the use of internationally accepted International Maritime Organisation’s Facilitation (IMO FAL) forms.

c) Expected results

- Enhanced transport flows; institutionalised cooperation in the field of transport security, notably in relation to aviation, maritime, and land transport and regarding the supply chain security, and the implementation of all international (ICAO, IMO, UNECE, WCO, ILO etc.) and EU safety and security recommendations for all modes of transport.
- The identification of a feasible work programme for enhanced cooperation on rehabilitating existing and creating new priority transport infrastructure based in particular on the recommendations of the High Level Group (notably, the connections between TENs, TRACECA, Pan-European corridors and other corridors), to allow for the financing of commercially and environmentally viable investments of common interest.
- Concrete measures taken demonstrating an increased understanding of the environmental impact of transport activities and the development of environmental control mechanisms.
- Concrete measures taken demonstrating an increased understanding of the impact of the EU enlargement on the flow of goods between the EU, the Black Sea/Caspian littoral States and neighbouring countries.
- Measurable progress, through enhanced cooperation in the areas of road and rail transport, on issues such as harmonised social rules, rules on access to professional, technical requirements, road safety, rail interoperability and the transport of dangerous goods, including hydrocarbons, with the aim of gradual harmonisation of networks
- Strengthened bilateral relations and regional cooperation in the area of aviation on common policy objectives, and the improvement of air navigation services, safety performance, air traffic management, flight safety operational requirements and airport safety regulation.

d) Indicators of achievement

Long-term impact level

Further expanded and sustainable cooperation and cooperation mechanisms between partner countries in the Transport field; considerably increased transport flows.

Specific objectives level

- Increased IFI, commercial and government investments attracted for infrastructure projects.
- Implementation of the recommendations of the High Level Group on the extension of trans-European transport axes to neighbouring countries and regions
- Increased integration of the transport markets of the ENPI Eastern and Central Asian countries.
- Increased approximation towards the EU legal framework and standards, and effective implementation of international agreements in the transport sector, including those concerning transport security.
- The implementation of best practice and international standards in air and maritime safety.

3.2.2 Sub-priority 2: Energy

a) Long-term impact

To enhance regional cooperation and cooperation with the EU and possibly the Energy Community in the fields of energy supply and demand, the safety and security of energy systems, and the gradual integration of energy markets.

b) Specific objectives

- To improve energy supply and demand management through the regional integration of efficient and sustainable energy systems, including energy efficiency, technology transfer and diversifications of sources within the region and with the EU.
- To enhance the safety and security of energy supply through:
 - the extension and modernisation of existing infrastructure,
 - the substitution of the earlier generation of nuclear power plant infrastructure with safer and environmentally-friendly conventional power generation capacity,
 - the development of new energy infrastructure, particularly network interconnections,
 - The implementation of modern operation monitoring systems.
- To promote the financing of commercially and environmentally viable investments of common interest to be identified on the basis of objective and pre-defined criteria.
- To ensure the progressive approximation of norms and standards and convergence of policies with a view to creating a functioning integrated energy market in line with the legal and regulatory frameworks.

c) Expected results

- Improved energy management and infrastructure
- Increased operational safety and reliability , and reduced environmental impacts of energy systems
- Increased IFI financing
- Progress with reforms in the energy sector
- Increased trade, investment, technology transfers and diversification of sources in the region and with the EU

d) Indicators of achievement

Long-term impact level

- Enhanced regional cooperation in the Energy sector, including increased trade, investment, technology transfers and diversification of sources.
- Improved safety and security
- Gradual integration of energy markets
- Amelioration of GNP/unit energy ratio (energy intensity ratio) to OECD/IEA comparable levels;

Specific objectives level

- Quantifiable progress in improving the safety, efficiency, sustainability and environmental impact of energy systems
- Increase in leveraged IFI funding
- Reforms implemented in the energy markets of the individual countries.

3.2.3 Sub-priority 3: SME Regional Cooperation

a) Long-term impact

To bring about closer cooperation between EU and partner country SMEs, and between partner country SMEs so as to enhance sustainable economic development.

b) Specific objectives

- To establish closer links between SMEs in the EU and ENPI countries, in order to promote mutual trade and investment,
- to enhance relations with EU counterparts so as to increase mutual trade, transfer of technology (Best Available Technology (BAT)), and investment;
- To exchange of best practices and experience.

c) Expected results

- Closer linkages between businesses in the ENPI and the EU countries and sustainable partnerships and relations between SMEs, supporting the exchange of experiences and relations.
- Greater understanding and increased capacity of European and ENPI SMEs.
- Enhanced prospects for foreign direct investment and export capabilities, particularly for SMEs.

d) Indicators of achievement

Long-term impact level

- Increased economic opportunities for partner country/EU cooperation.

Specific objectives level

- Existence of working structures for building and maintaining of business links and relationships.
- Number of new contacts for SMEs.

4 Priority area 2: Environment protection and forestry

Strategic context and justification

Environment protection, including biodiversity conservation, nature protection and land degradation, and the sustainable management of natural resources are key issues for the region. Support for regional cooperation will focus on key processes in the forest and water sectors, on regional cooperation in addressing industrial pollution and climate change, and on information and civil society cooperation in the environment field. In this important field, research is a key component for adequate policy making and implementation. In this context, a viable research infrastructure is required and assistance from the EC may be provided.

Action in the environment field also brings significant economic and social benefits. Effective environment policies boost economic efficiency and raise productivity, for instance through the use of cleaner and more modern technology and management techniques, and through compliance with internationally recognised standards. This facilitates access to foreign markets. It enhances the climate for foreign investment and attracts new processes that yield economic benefits by reducing the wasteful use of energy, water and raw materials. It reduces future clean-up costs. It cuts the risk of accidents and environment-related diseases, which cause human distress, disruption of the reform process and loss of productivity.

In the Water sector, EU assistance will provide support for the regional aspects of the EU Water Initiative (EUWI), including integrated water resources management and cross-border river basin management. Assistance may also focus on the prioritisation of actions in the sector, the leveraging of IFI investments in water infrastructure, and cooperation concerning regional seas, in particular the Black Sea. Regional support for compliance with Multilateral Environmental Agreements is linked to these international cooperation areas.

Climate change is one of the four priority areas of the EU Sixth Environment Action Programme, and has a growing importance in the context of an enlarged EU. Regional assistance will therefore focus on the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol and its flexible mechanisms, i.e. joint implementation and

clean development mechanism and emission trading, and for regional studies and workshops in support of these priorities. This work will follow up on the climate change component in the Tacis Regional Indicative Programme 2004-2006.

In November 2005 in St-Petersburg, the Ministerial Conference on Forest Law Enforcement and Governance for Europe and North Asia (FLEG) adopted a Declaration confirming that the issue of forest management and timber trade was an area of national concern on the broader national governance and development agenda. EU regional assistance in this area will focus on the priorities identified in the Indicative Action Plan of the FLEG Ministerial Process, formulating joint strategies to combat illegal logging and imports of illegally logged wood, and strengthen regional cooperation in forest law enforcement between governments and the private sector.

Environmental research is one of the fields where the cooperation was more effective in the past. The successive European Framework Programmes for Research and Development helped to promote the integration of scientific communities in the environmental research area. In the future, initiatives could be strengthened in those sectors having a priority for the Eastern Countries, such as biodiversity, forestry, climate change, water, land degradation, waste, and urban development. Scientific and technological research cooperation may therefore be a valuable tool to cope with environmental problems and may also include tools and methodologies for monitoring, decision making and evaluating impact on health.

Awareness raising and regional and sub-regional cooperation between civil society groups is particularly important in the environment sector, especially as high level cooperation may sometimes be difficult. There are good prospects for cooperation on the environment, and bottom-up changes in attitudes and practices can lead to real change. Regional Assistance in this area may include continued support to raise environmental awareness in the region and promote civil society co-operation with due regard for existing mechanisms such as the Regional Environment Centres (which are expected to operate autonomously after 2009).

a) Long-term impact

To improve the sustainable use and management of natural resources including biodiversity conservation, nature protection, and measures against land degradation, to reduce effects of climate change, and to increase environmental cooperation and awareness.

b) Specific objectives

- To support the regional aspects of the EU Water Initiative, and to regional seas including:
 - Integrated water management and cross-border River management.
 - Support to cooperation on the Black Sea and other regional seas in the ENPI East region, focussing on institutional support and prioritising of investments and leverage of IFI funding
 - Leverage IFI investment in water infrastructure
 - Strategic work to prioritise and prepare actions.
- To give regional support to the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, including
 - Assistance in monitoring and reporting and the Kyoto mechanisms (Joint Implementation and Clean Development Mechanism (CDM)
 - Regional assistance on policy adaptation and emissions trading

- To support the improved and sustainable management of forests and forestry resources, and other natural areas, and greater regional cooperation through assistance for regional aspects of the indicative actions under the FLEG Ministerial process, including:
 - Adjusting forest law and regulations to combat illegal logging and corruption and to create the conditions for sustainable forest management and forest use with flexible, cost effective solutions.
 - Identification of the most vulnerable trans-boundary areas in relation to illegal timber trade and cooperation on ways to reduce their vulnerability to cross-border trade in illegally harvested products, through customs law enforcement, timber tracking systems along the chain of custody, and improved public data bases on cross- border trade.
 - To support the conservation of biological diversity, nature protection, and measures against land degradation
- To raise environmental awareness in the region through regional and sub-regional civil society cooperation.

c) Expected results

- Enhanced implementation of the EU Water initiative.
- Improved implementation, monitoring and reporting on the Kyoto Protocol.
- Improved practice and sustainability in the forestry sector, and increased regional cooperation through the FLEG process.
- Increased biodiversity conservation, nature protection, and measures against land degradation
- Increased environmental awareness and civil society cooperation.

d) Indicators of achievement

Long-term impact level

- Increased regional cooperation and commitment in the sustainable use and management of natural resources, reduced effects of climate change, and increased environmental cooperation and awareness

Specific objectives level

- Increased IFI investment in the water sector.
- Establishment of trans-boundary river management mechanisms and increased cooperation on regional seas.
- Increased implementation of Kyoto monitoring mechanisms.
- Reduced emissions of greenhouse gases in the partner countries.
- Implementation of forest law reforms.
- Reduced illegal logging and trade in illegal timber.
- Increased preservation of biodiversity.
- Reduced land degradation.
- Increased environmental awareness and civil society cooperation.

5 Priority area 3: Border and Migration Management, the Fight against Transnational Organised Crime, and Customs

Strategic context and justification

As stated in the ENPI Eastern Regional Strategy Paper, the EU considers security and good governance to be key objectives. One of the central elements of the European Security Strategy⁴ is the need to “promote a ring of well-governed countries to the East of the European Union and on the borders of the Mediterranean...” In the context of the implementation of the Hague Programme, the EU aims at spreading the values of its area of Freedom, Security and Justice with its partner countries. In addition, the EU is committed by international conventions to support the fight against organised crime, including trafficking and spread of illicit small arms and light weapons, and terrorism, including the fight against proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. Cooperation on border and migration management is an essential complement here, and contributes to regional stability.

While assistance in the fields of asylum and migration, transnational organised crime, and judicial reform is provided under national-level EU Programmes, regional-level assistance is an essential complement, in that it increases regional cooperation, the potential for sustainable cooperation mechanisms, and economies of scale for certain activities such as training.

Many borders between partner countries in the region are still poorly controlled. This is partly due to the changing role of border guards, as countries make the transition towards market economies and democracy, and partly because their border guards are under-resourced. This, combined with the geographic location of the region between the EU and Asia, weak institutional capacity in migration management, and the poor human rights record of some countries, means that assistance in the field of legal and illegal migration is necessary.

Asylum and migration and the fight against international, organised crime, financial crime, and terrorism is also linked to border issues. Parts of the region constitute key trafficking and smuggling routes for illicit small arms and light weapons, WMD-related material, illegal drugs and human beings. While addressing this requires national-level interventions, including in legal and judicial frameworks, and tackling corruption, and is linked to improved border management, progress in this sector can also be made through the assistance for regional cooperation between law enforcement bodies and through the establishment of regional systems to cement and enhance this cooperation.

While the reform of Customs services is primarily an issue requiring action at a national level, regional-level interventions, such as regional training in systems and best practice, can complement this, with the added benefit of enhanced regional cooperation in this area.

a) Long-term impact

To enhance border, migration and asylum management systems and cooperation, and to combat both organised crime and international terrorism through the optimisation of all existing instruments, notably on trafficking and smuggling of illicit small arms and light weapons, WMD-related material, drugs, and human beings, and money laundering, including implementing effective Financial Intelligence systems.

⁴ The European security Strategy was endorsed by the December 2003 European Council

b) Specific objectives

- To create and improve integrated border management systems
- To improve the management of migration, including asylum
- To enhance regional cooperation and exchange of information and experiences across borders within the region, as well as with EU MSs.
- Complementing national capacity building programmes through regional capacity building and transfer of know-how.
- To improve co-operation between customs administrations particularly at the border and increased use of common practices.

c) Expected results

- More efficient, safe and effective border management, leading to improved stability and security in the region.
- The establishment and improvement of regional or sub-regional cooperation mechanisms for cooperation among law enforcement bodies, border guards, judicial authorities and in the field of asylum and migration management.
- The increased effectiveness and technical capacity of law enforcement bodies, judicial authorities, border guards, asylum and migration services, and customs services.
- Better understanding and information regarding migratory flows, and increased cooperation in this area

d) Indicators of achievement

Long-term impact level

Enhanced border, migration and asylum management systems and cooperation, and the combating of both transnational organised crime and terrorism through increased cooperation in the region.

Specific objectives level

- Regional training programmes/sessions.
- Increased detection rate of illegal immigrants.
- Increased speed at border crossings.
- Effective procedures for determining refugee status in line with international standards.
- Increased number of asylum applications processed as a proportion of total applications.
- Increased cooperation activities and the establishment of cooperation mechanisms.
- Increased financial crime detection rate.
- Improved identification of victims of trafficking in human beings.
- Increased detection rate of traffickers.
- Improved technical equipment and expertise.
- Establishment of migration monitoring systems.
- Improved and harmonised data especially in the area of migration.

6 Priority area 4: People-to-people Activities, Information and Support

6.1 People-to-People activities

Strategic context and justification

In the course of the previous programming period, it has become apparent that, while political and official level cooperation between some countries of the region, and between them and the EU, may be difficult due to the prevailing political situation between countries, there is good potential for cooperation between civil societies in these countries and in the EU. The nature of previous EU assistance has made EU support for such cooperation difficult, outside of narrowly defined sectors. This priority seeks to provide a relatively small percentage of regional funds to assist in cooperative or collaborative activities between civil society organisations at a regional and sub-regional level, thus enhancing bottom-up cooperation between countries in the region and the EU. Other non-state actors such as representational platforms, private sector organisations, professional organisations, trade unions, educational organisations and religious groups may also be included. Areas for such cooperation could include, but are not limited to, sectors such as scientific research, health and communicable diseases, consumer policy, education and training, the social sector, disability awareness, environmental awareness, support to vulnerable groups, the integration of women into social and economic life, etc. This complements the ENPI Neighbourhood and Partnership Programmes which operate between partner countries and the EU and IPA countries, and which are funded through the ENPI CBC programme.

a) Long-term impact

To enhance regional cooperation by facilitating of people-to-people contacts.

b) Specific objectives

To enhance cooperation between people and civil-society organisations from different countries in the region, and between them and the EU, leading to the establishment of sustainable contacts and collaborative initiatives, actions, and mechanisms.

c) Expected results

- Civil-society and people-to-people contacts across borders.
- Events bringing together organisations and people from different partner countries.
- Possible joint trans-boundary civil-society initiatives.

d) Indicators of achievement

Long-term impact level

- Increased and sustainable trans-boundary people-to-people contacts.

Specific objectives level

- Establishment of EC-facilitated trans-boundary people-to-people contacts.
- Number of successful trans-boundary events.
- Facilitation of initiatives or mechanisms for trans-boundary civil society cooperation.
- Sustainability of such initiatives and mechanisms.
- Number of joint actions carried out by civil society organisations.
- Number of international groupings formed.
- Increased awareness of the trans-boundary aspects of civil society issues and activities.

6.2 Information and Support

Strategic context and justification

A reinforced programme will be created for information about the ENP in the partner countries (and the EU/Russia Strategic Partnership in Russia), reaching both opinion formers and the general public, with a special focus on non-state actors. This activity will also aim to promote understanding of the countries by EU policy makers and stakeholders and the promotion of understanding of EU policy towards the region by policy makers in the region through appropriate NGO and non-state partners capable of running information activities and exchange of knowledge.

Support may also be given to appropriate NGO and non-state partners capable of running information activities and exchanges of knowledge aimed at raising awareness of the region in Europe and/or raising awareness of EU policy in the region. These activities could include conferences, seminars, publications, information campaigns, awareness-raising events and exchange visits.

Support measures necessary for implementing the ENPI Regulation and achieving its objectives will be funded, making for increased efficiency and effectiveness in aid delivery.

A minimum of €9.8m is allocated for Information and Support Measures.

a. Long-term impact

Awareness and positive appreciation of the ENP; Effective and efficient support for the ENP.

b. Specific objectives

Improved mutual understanding between the citizens in the EU and the partner countries.
Effective and efficient implementation of the ENPI programmes.

c. Expected results

Increased awareness of the ENP in the partner countries.

Smother implementation of the programmes financed under the ENPI regulation in support of the ENP and of the Strategic Partnership with Russia.

d. Indicators of achievement

Visibility in the partner countries of the programme and of the actions and partners involved, as shown by opinion research;

Knowledge of, and attitude towards, the ENP in the partner countries as shown by opinion research;

Efficient and effective implementation of assistance under the ENPI, as shown by monitoring and evaluations.

7 Priority Area 5: Anti-personnel Landmines, Explosive Remnants of War, Small Arms and Light Weapons

Strategic context and justification

As a result of the conflicts of the region over the last twenty years, most countries in the ENPI Eastern region face continuing challenges in dealing with the consequences of the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms, light weapons, ammunition and their excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread. These threats are further compounded by the lingering presence of anti-personnel landmines and other explosive remnants of war. These armed legacies represent a particularly random and indiscriminate threat to civilian populations.

Since 2001, actions against anti-personnel landmines have been covered by the APL regulation⁵. Since then there have been two EU Mine Action Strategies and Indicative Programmes, 2002-2004, and 2005-2007⁶. These strategies had their own indicative funding under the APL regulation. At the First Review Conference of the Mine Ban Treaty, “*The 2004 Nairobi Summit on a Mine-Free World*”, the EU sent a message of determination and trust in the ability of the international community to achieve total control of the threats posed by the landmines. With the simplification of external assistance regulations, it is appropriate for ENPI to finance future assistance in this area, and a regional funding mechanism represents the most effective way in which this can be done in the ENPI Eastern region. This assistance will follow on from the European Union Mine Action Strategies, but may, if necessary, also include activities for the elimination of explosive remnants of war and of the illegal spread and availability of small weapons and ammunition as well as for the non-proliferation of WMDs and their delivery mechanisms.

While support in this area should normally be subject to efforts made by the beneficiary countries towards Mine Ban Treaty accession and CCW and its relevant Protocols accession, where there is a

⁵ EC 1724/2001 & 1725/2001 of 23rd July 2001

⁶ See, http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/mine/intro/strategy.htm

humanitarian necessity for actions in this area, the humanitarian concerns will prevail over such an expectation.

a) Long-term impact

To reduce the impact of landmines, explosive remnants of war and small arms and light weapons in the context of increased local security and regional confidence.

b) Specific objectives

- To reduce the threat posed by unregulated and indiscriminately placed weapons.
- To alleviate victims suffering and aid socio-economic reintegration.
- To enhance the local and regional impacts of effective management capacity.

c) Expected results

- Achievement of the above objectives, in continuity with previous EU Mine Action Strategies and with the EU SALW Strategy

d) Indicators of achievement

Long-term impact level

A reduced threat and improved capacity to deal with unregulated and indiscriminately placed weapons

Specific objectives level

- Reduced threat from unregulated and indiscriminately placed weapons in the region
- Successful alleviation of victims suffering
- Increased local and regional capacity.