



# PREVENTION OF AND FIGHT AGAINST CRIME

## ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2007

### INTRODUCTION

On 12 February 2007, the Council adopted Decision No 2007/125/JHA establishing the programme Prevention of and Fight against Crime as part of the general programme Security and Safeguarding Liberties<sup>1</sup>.

The objectives of the programme are the following:

- a. to stimulate, promote and develop horizontal methods and tools necessary for strategically preventing and fighting crime and guaranteeing security and public order such as the work carried out in the European Union Crime Prevention Network, public-private partnerships, best practices in crime prevention, comparable statistics, applied criminology and an enhanced approach towards young offenders
- b. to promote and develop coordination, cooperation and mutual understanding among law enforcement agencies, other national authorities and related Union bodies in respect of the priorities identified by the Council in particular as set out by the Europol's Organised Crime Threat Assessment
- c. to promote and develop best practices for the protection of and support to witnesses
- d. to promote and develop best practices for the protection of crime victims

While the Union focused on legislative action during the establishment phase of the area of freedom, security and justice, and complemented this by financial support on a rather small scale, the work of the Union in this area should now enter into a phase in which operational concerns are more prominent. Particularly with regard to terrorist threats, security issues have acquired a new urgency, thus requiring a more operational and comprehensive approach.

On the basis of The Hague Programme adopted by the European Council in November 2004,<sup>2</sup> prevention of and fighting against terrorism and other forms of crime on a European level will need to be further reinforced and extended. This includes the reinforcement and streamlining of Member States' efforts, putting greater emphasis on sound application of legislative and political measures.

European added-value interventions in this field can be achieved, in particular, by the Union acting as a catalyst. EU-funded cooperation raises awareness of common challenges and threats and other shared issues and values between Member States, thus facilitating the emergence of common approaches in fields traditionally close to national sovereignty.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Decision of 12 February 2007 establishing for the period 2007 to 2013, as part of General Programme on Security and Safeguarding Liberties, the Specific Programme "Prevention of and Fight against Crime", OJ L 058, 24.2.2007, p.7.

<sup>2</sup> The Hague Programme: Strengthening Freedom, Security and Justice in the European Union (OJ C 53, 3.3.2005, p. 1); Council and Commission Action Plan implementing the Hague Programme (OJ C 198, 12.8.2005, p. 1).

Furthermore, financial support can ensure a fair sharing of responsibilities between Member States to reinforce solidarity amongst them and bring overall benefits in terms of the value for money offered by an EU-wide approach.

## BUDGET

An amount of 44,656 million € has been entered for this programme into the general budget of the European Union for 2007, under budget heading 18 05 09 .

This annual programme covers the priorities in 2007 and consists of the following parts and types of actions:

<b>Part</b>	<b>Types of actions</b>	<b>The budget envisaged</b>
A	Action grants, i.e. co-financing of transnational and national projects	€18,556 million
B	Operating grants to non-governmental organisations	€0,6 million
C	Action grants foreseen within framework partnerships	€16,9 million
D	Grants to bodies in monopoly situations	€3,5 million
E	Public procurement contracts to be undertaken by the Commission	€5,1 million
		<b>Total: € 44,656 million</b>

It is envisaged that calls for proposals will be published on the European Commission's website.

## EXPECTED RESULTS

All the initiatives will contribute to the achievement of the general as well as the specific objectives of the programme. The effective and efficient development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of European Union instruments and policies mean especially:

- an increase in expertise in specific areas and developing statistics and indicators
- development of new methods and techniques for operational and training use and of ability to apply them
- strengthening of monitoring and evaluation of legal and operational instruments
- exchange and dissemination of information, experience and best practices between Member States and applicant countries and, where appropriate, certain other third countries

The preliminary and operational actions should also contribute to:

- development of cooperation and strengthening of confidence-building between law enforcement authorities, facilitation of the coordination of their activities, and strengthening their capacity to combat crime and terrorist activity, particularly in cases with a cross-border dimension
- stimulation of cooperation and coordination between law enforcement bodies and other organisations and involvement of the private sector in taking action to prevent crime and terrorist attacks.

## **TARGET GROUPS**

The programme targets the following groups:

- local, national, international and EU law enforcement bodies and other public authorities in charge of prevention, detection, prosecution and fighting criminal offences as well as producing relevant data and assessments;
- private law bodies contributing to the prevention of and fight against crime and reinforcement of security;
- professional organisations and other components of civil society in general.

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## **A. ACTION GRANTS TO BE AWARDED THROUGH A CALL FOR PROPOSAL (TRANSNATIONAL AND NATIONAL PROJECTS)**

Following a call for proposals, action grants may be awarded to transnational and/or national projects. The total budget for such action grants following a call for proposals is €18,556 million. Grants may be awarded in 2007 to projects in the following areas:

### **I. PRIORITY AREAS**

#### **1. HORIZONTAL APPROACHES AND CRIME PREVENTION MEASURES**

The foreseen global budget for projects carried out in this part is €9,056 million.

- (1) Innovative projects in view of developing a system for measuring crime and criminal justice.<sup>3</sup>
- (2) Strengthening prevention of organised crime through horizontal approaches such as public-private partnerships, administrative approaches to fight organised crime,<sup>4</sup> and the transfer of best practices to restrict the social and economic effects of crime.
- (3) Strengthening and professionalizing the prevention of general crime (domestic violence, urban, juvenile and drug related crime), taking into account priorities identified by the European crime prevention network (EUCPN).<sup>5</sup> Identification and evaluation of good practices and successful interventions in crime prevention, particularly when based on statistical evidence.
- (4) Strengthening prevention and fight against organised crime through cooperation of authorities within the EU with corresponding authorities in third countries, with a view to the EU strategy on the external aspects on the Union policy on freedom, security and justice.<sup>6</sup>
- (5) Developing an Intelligence-led Law Enforcement Mechanism (ILLE)<sup>7</sup> based on thorough threat and risk assessments.
- (6) Protecting victims and supporting and protecting witnesses and other persons ready to co-operate with justice. Development of police and judicial cooperation with social

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<sup>3</sup> COM(2006)437 final - Communication from the Commission: Developing a comprehensive and coherent EU Strategy to measure Crime and Criminal Justice: An EU Action Plan 2006 – 2010.

<sup>4</sup> For instance, activities related to the recommendations of a seminar as endorsed by the Council on 2 December 2004 on the prevention of criminal organisations from penetrating legal markets with the help of administrative procedures.

<sup>5</sup> Council Decision of 28 May 2001 setting up a European Crime Prevention Network - OJ L 153, 8.6.2001.

<sup>6</sup> Strategy for the External Dimension of the Area of Freedom, Security and Justice, adopted in December 2005 by the Council (Doc. 14366/3/05 JAI 417 RELEX 628) on the basis of the Commission Communication COM(2005)491 of 12.10.2005. Action oriented papers were also adopted in specific areas.

<sup>7</sup> The concept of ILLE, a mechanism and model for rational decision making on law enforcement priorities, aims at ensuring that such decision-making is based not only on the best available information, but also on a careful and methodical analysis of that information. See the relevant Council conclusions on 12 October 2005.

services, schools and hospitals in cities, to strengthen mechanisms of protection of victims and adequate treatment and rehabilitation of perpetrators.

- (7) Developing effective strategies and initiatives to extend the reach of policies regarding counter-terrorism, the prevention of violent radicalisation and recruitment to terrorism especially among youth, the renunciation of violence and terrorism and the containment of incitement to racial or religious hatred.<sup>8</sup>
- (8) Enhancement of European detection capabilities and capacities<sup>9</sup> - development of targeted activities in specific areas related to the detection tools, including but not limited to, development of standardisation, testing and certification schemes, interoperability of detection systems, enhancement of mobility and portability of detection tools.
- (9) Promoting exchanges among law enforcement officials, training, seminars, sharing of knowledge and/or best practices aimed at mutual confidence, strengthening criminal investigation and/or improving policing standards.
- (10) Linguistic support activities aiming to increase language comprehension among actors working in the third pillar fields: language training, translation and assistance and support for oral and written communication.

## 2. PREVENTION OF AND FIGHT AGAINST CRIME IN SPECIFIC AREAS

Foreseen global budget for projects carried out in this part is €9,5 million.<sup>10</sup>

- (1) Financial crime, including terrorist financing – development and implementation of existing and new instruments regarding money laundering, corruption, identity theft, fraud (in particular fiscal fraud and fraud on non-cash means of payments).
- (2) Environmental crime - strengthening Member States' confidence in each other's law enforcement system.
- (3) Trafficking in cultural goods – development and fostering of cooperation among the relevant actors, i.e. law enforcement services, and cultural (public and private) partners.

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<sup>8</sup> COM(2005) 313 final - Communication from the Commission concerning Terrorist recruitment: addressing the factors contributing to violent radicalisation, and Council document n° 14781/1/05 - The European Union Strategy for Combating Radicalisation and Recruitment to Terrorism

<sup>9</sup> COM(2006) 474 final - Green Paper on Detection and associated Technologies in the Work of Law Enforcement, Customs and other Security Authorities.

<sup>10</sup> Please note that an annual work programme for the specific programme "Prevention, Preparedness and Consequence Management of Terrorism and other Security related risks" established by the Council Decision 2007/124/EC EUROATOM of 12 February 2007, OJ L 58, 24.2.2007, p.1, covers also matters related to terrorism. The main difference between the two programmes is linked to the distinction in competencies between the first and the third pillar of the European Union.

- (4) Counterfeiting and piracy - strengthening the coordination of investigations and exchange of best practices
- (5) Illicit drug trafficking - Contributing to the implementation of the supply reduction policy of the EU Drugs Action Plan 2005 – 2008<sup>11</sup>, covering law enforcement co-operation, control of chemical precursor diversion and international co-operation (actions 18 to 27, 36 and 46, according to the identified conditions).
- (6) Trafficking in Human Beings - prevention, protection of and assistance to victims, prosecution and punishment of offenders, coordination and cooperation mechanisms as well as the collection of reliable data.<sup>12</sup>
- (7) Trafficking in firearms – further developing co-operation, co-ordination of investigations, training and exchange of best practices, including actions aiming at further development or better implementation of legal instruments.
- (8) Sexual exploitation of children - strengthening the application of and, where necessary, further developing of legal instruments countering the sexual exploitation of children and child pornography.
- (9) Radiological Terrorism – development of trans-national radiological initiatives and best practices in the field of prevention, detection and response to the threat of radiological and nuclear terrorism, including issues related to the insecurity for radiological material.
- (10) Biological Terrorism – development of operational and technical law enforcement cooperation and related applied research with a view to enhancing capabilities to prevent and respond to biological terrorist threats.
- (11) Explosives and Detection – development of private sector initiatives to engage and participate in the European Public - Private Strategy for the Security Enhancement of Explosives, Detonators, Precursors and Related Technologies.<sup>13</sup>

## II. CONDITIONS AND MODALITIES

In line with the Financial Regulation and the basic act, the following conditions and modalities will apply.

### 1. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

- a) The maximum rate of EU co-financing by the Commission is 70 % of the total eligible costs of the project.

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<sup>11</sup> EU Drugs Action Plan (2005-2008) adopted in Council on 5 June 2005, OJ C 168, 8.7.2005, p.1

<sup>12</sup> EU plan on best practices, standards and procedures for combating and preventing trafficking in human beings, adopted in Council on 1 December 2005, OJ C 311, 9.12.2005, p.1

<sup>13</sup> COM(2005) 329 final - Communication from the Commission on measures to ensure greater security in explosives, detonators, bomb-making equipment and fire-arms  
COM(2006) 474 final - Green Paper on detection and associated technologies in the work of law enforcement, customs and other security authorities

- b) EU grants are given for non-commercial purposes only and projects must be strictly non-profit making.
- c) As a general rule, the co-funding is provided in two instalments: a pre-financing payment on signature of the grant agreement and the balance on receipt and approval by the Commission of the final report and final financial statement.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible grant applications must meet the following criteria:

- a) Projects must be submitted by bodies or organisations with legal personality established in the Member States. Applications from natural persons are not eligible. Bodies and organisations which are profit oriented may submit projects only in conjunction with non-profit oriented or state organisations.
- b) Projects must relate to one of the general objectives of the programme<sup>14</sup> and fall within the programme priorities as above in Section I.
- c) Transnational projects must involve partners in at least two Member States, or at least one Member State and one other State which is an acceding or a candidate country. Third countries and international organisations may participate as partners, but are not permitted to submit projects.
- d) National projects are eligible as starter and/or complementary measures to transnational projects, or if they contribute to developing innovative methods and/or technologies with a potential for transferability to actions at Union level, or develop such methods and technologies with a view to transferring them to other Member States and/or to acceding and/or candidate countries.
- e) Project proposals seeking EU co-funding of less than €50.000 will not be eligible to receive a grant. There is no maximum limit, but the amount of co-financing requested and its appropriateness as to expected results will be assessed as one of the award criteria.
- f) Projects cannot be already completed and should be scheduled to start not before the day following the deadline for the submission of the applications and not later than 31.12.2007.
- g) Projects cannot last more than three years.

## 3. EXCLUSION

Candidates shall be excluded from participating in the call for proposals if they are in one or more of the situations listed in Articles 93 and 94 of the Financial Regulation.

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<sup>14</sup> Articles 2, 3, 4 of the basic act

#### 4. SELECTION CRITERIA

In accordance with Article 116(1) of the Financial Regulation and Article 176 of the Implementing Rules, proposals for projects shall be evaluated on the basis of the following selection criteria:

- (a) the applicant's operational and professional competencies and qualifications required to complete the proposed action (including evidence of its know-how and that of its partners and of its ability to access the information or participants in the way proposed in its application);
- (b) the applicant's financial capability, i.e. stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain his activity throughout the period during which the action is being carried out and to participate in its funding, based on the submitted documents (such as the balance sheets showing the annual incomes and expenditures, cash flow, debts, and the amount of cash available)

Only proposals which satisfy the selection criteria will be examined further.

#### 5. AWARD CRITERIA

Proposals that are eligible and meet the selection criteria will be assessed by the evaluation committee and they will be ranked on the basis of the following award criteria:

- (a) **Conformity.** Projects will be assessed on the extent to which they fall within the priority areas identified in Section I above and in the relevant EU strategic documents and/or action plans. For each project, it should be demonstrated that its objective reflects a clearly identified need for action according to the EU's policy priorities in the field of prevention and fight against crime. **(25 points)**
- (b) **Quality** of the proposed action regarding its conception, organisation, presentation, methodology, expertise, expected results and strategy for their dissemination. In particular, the ability of the project to attain the desired objective(s) will be assessed. **(25 points)**
- (c) **Value for money.** Amount requested for financial support and its appropriateness as to expected results. **(15 points)**
- (d) **Impact** of the expected results on the general objectives of the programme and on measures taken in the different domains as specified in Articles 3 and 4 of the Council Decision. **(15 points)**
- (e) **European dimension.** Wide geographic scope of the project, in terms of partners, participants and the target groups, will be favoured. For national complementary projects, this criterion is replaced by the geographical scope of the measure they complement. For other national projects (starter measures and other actions), it is replaced by the potential geographical scope of follow-up measures. **(10 points)**
- (f) **Economies of scale.** Larger projects, in terms of, for example, ambition and participants, will be favoured. **(10 points)**

## 6. TIMETABLE

The following schedule is envisaged:

Publication of a call for proposals	April 2007
Deadline for submission of proposals	July 2007
Opinion of the Programme Committee	October 2007
Decision by the Commission	October 2007
Commitments and grant agreements	from October 2007

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## **B. OPERATING GRANTS TO NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS**

### **1. GENERAL**

Following a call for proposals, operating grants may be awarded to non-governmental organisations and bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest according to Article 162 of the Implementing Rules to the Financial Regulation. The total budget for operating grants is €0,6 million.

### **2. PRIORITY: PREVENTION, PROTECTION, PURSUIT AND RESPONSE TO TERRORISM**

NGO activities should supplement EU efforts to prevent, protect, pursue and respond to terrorism. Actions should mainly concern preventing, at local level, the emergence of radicalising tendencies. They should develop mechanisms related to renunciation of violence and terrorism. They can consist of analysis of psycho/socio-economic factors contributing to violent radicalisation or can develop partnerships with representatives of public and private media and other organisations active in the field of counter-radicalisation, including religious communities. These activities will complement other projects carried out in this field.

### **3. CONDITIONS AND MODALITIES**

- (a) The maximum rate of EU co-financing is 70% of the expected total eligible costs of the functioning of the body in 2007.
- (b) The grants will be paid in two instalments: a pre-financing (not exceeding 80% of the total grant) on signature of the grant agreement, and the balance on receipt and approval by the Commission of the final report and final financial statement.
- (c) Exclusion criteria: see Articles 93 and 94 of the Financial Regulation
- (d) Selection criteria: on the basis of the supporting documents, and in accordance with Article 176(2) of the Implementing Rules to the Financial Regulation, proposals will be examined regarding the organisations' operational, professional and financial capability.
- (e) Award criteria:

Proposals will be assessed and ranked on the basis of the following criteria:

(a) Consistency of the organisations proposed activities with the priorities set out in Section 2 above.	30
(b) Quality of the planned activities.	30
(c) Likely multiplier effect on the public of these activities.	10
(d) Geographic impact of the planned activities.	15

(e) Value for money. Cost/benefit ratio of the proposed activity	15
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#### 4. TIMETABLE

The following schedule is envisaged:

Publication of a call for proposals	April 2007
Deadline for submission of proposals:	June 2007
Opinion of the Programme Committee:	June 2007
Decision by the Commission:	July 2007
Commitments and grant agreements:	From July 2007

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## C. ACTION GRANTS BASED ON FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIPS

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Framework partnerships will be established following a call for proposals for such partnerships according to Article 108 of the Financial Regulation and Article 163 of the Implementing Rules, to provide for **long term cooperation with partners** who share common general objectives and have a mutual interest with the Commission in undertaking the actions mentioned below.

Thereafter, an award of grants to framework partners for operational activities with a potential significant effect on cross border co-operation of framework partners in the area of prevention and fight against crime is foreseen.

The total maximum amount for individual grants to be awarded within framework partnership agreements in 2007 is €16,9 million.

### 2. JUSTIFICATION

Framework partnerships are foreseen in particular for those actions for which:

- there is a **need for flexibility and/or rapid action in urgent or crisis situations** due to the very nature of the action (for instance, often it is not possible to plan details of a criminal investigation in criminal matters in advance on a long term basis);
- there is a **need to work on a regular and stable basis with a network involving a certain number of beneficiaries**: a network of 'key' players to work alongside the Commission on a regular and stable basis may need to be set up in order to implement some of its policies effectively;
- there is a **need to award grants for recurring actions to a limited group of beneficiaries (or to those with a monopoly)**, with the main objective of streamlining the administrative procedures for awarding grants to the beneficiaries concerned.

In the area of prevention and fight against crime, these scenarios arise particularly with regard to law enforcement agencies and other public bodies.

### 3. ACTIONS TO BE CARRIED OUT WITHIN FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIPS

Co-funding of the following actions, within Framework Partnerships with public bodies, is foreseen in 2007:

### 3.1. DEVELOPING RELEVANT KNOWLEDGE AND TOOLS TO MEASURE CRIME, VICTIMISATION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AT EUROPEAN LEVEL

In order to establish a system for acquiring knowledge at EU-level on citizens' experience of crime victimisation, modules for EU level victimisation surveys, initiated by Eurostat in 2006, shall be further developed, translated, tested and applied in all Member States, acceding and candidate countries. This will be implemented through grants awarded within framework partnership agreements established with the relevant national statistical bodies (as defined in the European Statistics Code of Practice), which have the responsibility for statistics on crime and criminal justice at national level. It is intended that the procedure for the selection and award of grant agreements will be handled by Eurostat, through sub delegation from DG JLS. The foreseen budget for the first phase, to be awarded through grant agreements during 2007, is €3 million.

### 3.2. LAW ENFORCEMENT CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION

- (1) **Operational Cooperation** - Initiation, establishment and management of operational cross border actions. The foreseen budget is €3,5 million.
  - (a) Setting up of Joint Investigation Teams (JITs) and conducting JIT operations. The objective for 2007 is to support 10 cross-border actions. This will also cover support to Europol and/or Eurojust for providing operational and logistical assistance to the establishment and management of JIT.
  - (b) Supporting the development and implementation of current and planned Comprehensive Operational Strategic Planning for the Police (COSPOL) initiatives. This action can cover additional logistical support for the execution of COSPOL initiatives.
  - (c) Supporting the customs authorities of the Member States to undertake 4-6 Joint customs operations (JCO) at EU level each year. These operations contribute to the fulfilment of the need described in Article 30 of the TEU. These JCO are operational, targeted measures of a limited duration for combating the smuggling of prohibited or restricted goods, such as narcotics, psychotropic substances, firearms, weapons of mass destruction or disruption.
  - (d) Establishing a best practice guide for the promotion and expansion of the use of special forms of cooperation for customs administrations as provided by the Naples II Convention – outsourcing, questionnaire, workshops and publication.
  - (e) Evaluation regarding Member States' implementation of customs law enforcement cooperation and mutual assistance (Naples II Convention).
  - (f) Training on the implementation of the Naples II convention for non-customs authorities (judicial and other competent authorities), in particular on the use of Article 24 on special joint investigation teams.

- (g) Examination of prospects for an integration of the Prüm Treaty into the European Union framework. Towards an improved cooperation.
- (2) **Permanent or temporary cross border cooperation infrastructures.** The foreseen budget is €500.000.
- (a) Establishing of temporary (targeted, time-limited) or permanent cross-border structures for law enforcement/security service cooperation, including customs and other authorities. These structures are intended to become the trans-national pivot for specific operational action, thematic and/or strategic cooperation.
  - (b) Developing technical infrastructures to support temporary or permanent cross-border cooperative structures.
- (3) **Cooperation with Europol.** Support to the Member States' law enforcement authorities in their cooperation with Europol (including its cooperation with third countries with a view to the implementation of the external JLS strategy). The foreseen budget is €800.000.
- (a) Strategic and operational use of communication instruments (legal and technical, current and planned), in particular via the Europol Liaison Officers' network, and the Europol Information System (EIS)
  - (b) Information-flow monitoring initiative in support of enhancing the two-way information flow between Europol and Member States, and presentation of the added value of the information exchange in terms of operational efficiency, quality of available data, and law enforcement output.
  - (c) Support the transformation of the Europol Organised Crime Threat Assessment (OCTA) report into an instrument to assist operational police cooperation actions and activities across the Union.
  - (d) Support to activities aiming at improvement of regional law enforcement cooperation with/in Western Balkans to combat organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking.

### 3.3. COOPERATION FOR THE PREVENTION, PROTECTION, PURSUIT AND RESPONSE TO TERRORISM

- (1) **VIOLENT RADICALISATION** - Implementation of the European Strategy for the Prevention and Response to Violent Radicalisation and Terrorist Recruitment<sup>15</sup>. The foreseen budget is €1,25 million.

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<sup>15</sup> COM(2005) 313 final - Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council concerning Terrorist recruitment: addressing the factors contributing to violent radicalisation; Council doc. 14781/1/05 - The European Union Strategy for Combating Radicalisation and Recruitment to Terrorism

- (a) Developing and delivering programmes for school curricula (age group 12-16 years) in support of preventing radicalisation and renunciation of violence and terrorism
  - (b) Develop training programmes for prison staff in support of efforts to reduce factors and influences that are likely to radicalise prisoners
  - (c) Study on the implementation of the strategy on the prevention and response to violent radicalisation and terrorist recruitment
  - (d) Exchange of best practises, strengthening cooperation and developing measures to counter the use of the Internet for violent radicalisation and recruitment or other terrorist purposes
- (2) **EXPLOSIVES AND DETECTION** – Implementation of the European Public - Private Strategy for the Security Enhancement of Explosives, Detonators, Precursors and Related Technologies<sup>16</sup>. The foreseen budget is €550.000.
- (a) Development of non-regulatory approaches. These public sector initiatives will include those that aim at engaging the private sector with a view to a possible public-private partnership on security enhancement of explosives, detonators, and related technologies,.
  - (b) Development of targeted policies in specific areas related to the security of explosives, including (but not limited to) detonators, tagging technologies, traceability technologies and precursors to explosives.

### 3.4. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF AVAILABILITY<sup>17</sup>

- (1) Establishment of mutual support infrastructures under the aegis of a dedicated expert group to study, deploy and operate networks and relevant equipment, in particular by developing initiatives based on a capacity gap analysis. The foreseen budget is €300.000
- (2) Development and establishment of networks, software and hardware to store and retrieve information whilst ensuring interoperability (establishment of interoperable databases). The foreseen budget is €1,9 million.

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<sup>16</sup> COM(2005)329 final - Communication from the Commission on measures to ensure greater security in explosives, detonators, bomb-making equipment and fire-arms  
COM(2006)474 final- Green Paper on detection and associated technologies in the work of law enforcement, customs and other security authorities

<sup>17</sup> See COM(2005)490 final - Proposal for a Framework Decision on exchange of information under the principle of availability (COM 2005)490 final) provides for enhancement of law enforcement cooperation by laying down the obligation for competent authorities to allow mutual direct access to their databases following request of information. The Commission proposal, conceived as a set of general rules for the exchange of information under the principle of availability, should be applied to specific categories of information (DNA, fingerprints) by means of specific legal instruments.

- (a) Development and installation of software to access and search information in a multi-platform environment (installation of software to manage and exploit interoperable databases)
  - (b) Development and establishment of secure networks to access and query information collections irrespective of the location or platform of the user (secure networks for access and search of databases)
  - (c) Development and implementation of interconnectivity solutions allowing single searches on multiple information collections, including existing databases (interconnection of databases)
  - (d) Providing training for administrators and users of hardware, software, networks and interconnectivity solutions as mentioned above.
  - (e) Study on secure e-mail solutions and the use of internet and other dedicated information delivery systems by law enforcement authorities.
- (3) Indexing systems at national and/or European level. The foreseen budget is € 2,5 million.
- (a) Development and deployment of methodologies, typically in the form of installation of software solutions, to extract index or reference data from information stored in databases, and to store the extracted data in a physically or logically distinct data collection, that can be autonomously queried, and without jeopardising the possibility of the controller of the information to control and to block access to the full information (deployment of indexation methodologies).
  - (b) Development and establishment of hardware to store and retrieve index data whilst ensuring interoperability between index data collections (establishment of interoperable index databases)
  - (c) Development and establishment of secure networks to access and query index or reference data collections irrespective of the location or the platform of the use, and providing return answer in the form of a hit/no-hit notification (secure network for access and search of index databases)
  - (d) Development and implementation of interconnectivity solutions allowing single searches on multiple index or reference databases, including on existing index databases (interconnection of index databases)
  - (e) Providing training for administrators and users of indexation methodologies, hardware, networks and interconnectivity solutions as mentioned above.

### 3.5. FINANCIAL INVESTIGATION TRAINING STANDARDS TO COMBAT ORGANISED CRIME AND TERRORISM

Promotion of financial investigation as a law enforcement technique throughout the EU is vital to ensure that law enforcement services have the appropriate knowledge, know-how, analytical and other skills to trace, analyse and ensure effective cooperation as regards criminal money and other asset trails moving across borders within the EU and beyond. This is needed both to facilitate confiscation of criminal proceeds as well as to provide additional opportunities for the investigation of serious crime, including terrorism.

The development of EU standards for financial investigation training, the subsequent promotion of these standards with national police and other colleges and the delivery of this training to law enforcement investigators, will help generate greater use of financial investigation throughout the EU and increase the ability of financial investigators from different Member States to cooperate more effectively in the fight against organised crime and terrorism. The foreseen budget is €2,0 million.

### 3.6. GENERAL CRIME PREVENTION

Competent public national authorities can apply to carry out the following actions identified in association with the European Crime Prevention Network (EUCPN).<sup>18</sup> The foreseen budget is €600.000.

#### (1) ASSESSMENT OF CRIME PREVENTION RELATED ACTIVITIES

- a) The survey on **costs of crime** will develop the "Willingness to Pay" principle, based on estimation of economical effects and direct costs of crime that results from the harm caused to victims. In other terms, costs of crime are determined on the basis of what the population is willing to pay for crime prevention activities. The survey will be carried out in all Member States, by using on-line panel approach. The study on **variations in crime** should analyze crime prevention lessons to be learned from low or decreased crime in the MS.
- b) Following discussions held in 2006, a grant will be awarded for a wide-ranging and extensive review of Member States initiatives across Europe on working with designers and industry to "**design out crime**", identifying any barriers experienced in taking the work forward (such as dealing with international companies / insurers).

#### (2) RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Evaluation of activities carried out in all Member States regarding the contribution of restorative justice to prevention of crime with the view of identifying effective and efficient policies and the factors of their success. Emphasis should be placed on determining the extent of the role of offender management in the restorative justice model. The identified good practice examples should be disseminated, in particular, through the EUCPN website.

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<sup>18</sup> Council Decision of 28 May 2001 setting up a European Crime Prevention Network - OJ L 153, 8.6.2001.

### (3) EUCPN WEB SITE MANAGEMENT

Support to the EUCPN web site, which will provide functionalities for collecting and sharing information, research material and best practices on Crime Prevention activities at European level in a secure membership area.

## 4. CONDITIONS AND MODALITIES

### 4.1. Eligible organisations

Applications for framework partnership agreements may be presented by public bodies established in the Member States and with responsibilities in the area of prevention of and fight against crime, and/or national statistics in this area. Applications from natural persons and private bodies are not eligible.

### 4.2. Funding Conditions

The expected duration of the framework partnership agreements is 4 years. As the above mentioned actions are of great importance for the European Union as well as for the Member States, the maximum rate of co-financing for the individual projects is 95% of the total eligible costs. However, any applicant proposing co-funding of more than 70% will have to duly substantiate and justify why it should receive co-funding at this higher rate for an individual project.

### 4.3. Selection of partners

The applicants must prove that they have the operational capacity to conduct activities as indicated in Section 3. The call for proposals for framework partnerships will further specify the eligibility, exclusion and selection criteria on the basis of which the partners will be selected in accordance with the procedures laid down in Title VI of the Financial Regulation.

### 4.4. Award procedure for the individual grants

Individual grants will be awarded to framework partners either on the basis of:

- **a call for proposals restricted** to partners for whom the type of the planned action is contained in the action plan annexed to the framework partnership agreement; or
- **the direct submission of proposals to the Commission by partners**, notably in cases where they work in a network with pre-selected partners, provided that one of the exceptions laid down in Article 168(1) of the IR applies (e.g. monopoly for the type of action envisaged, identification in the basic act as recipient of a grant).

Proposals that are eligible and meet the selection criteria will be assessed by the evaluation committee and they will be ranked on the basis of the following award criteria:

- (a) **Conformity.** Projects will be assessed on the extent to which they fall within the priority areas identified in Section I above. For each type of project, it should be

demonstrated that the objective of the project reflects a clearly identified need for action according to the EU's policy priorities in the field of prevention and fight against crime, as specified in relevant EU strategies and action plans.

**(25 points)**

- (b) **Quality** of the proposed action regarding its conception, organisation, presentation, methodology, expertise, expected results and strategy for their dissemination. In particular, the ability of the project to attain the desired objective(s) will be assessed. **(25 points)**
- (c) **Value for money.** Amount requested for financial support and its appropriateness as to expected results. **(15 points)**
- (d) **Impact** of the expected results on the general objectives of the programme and on measures taken in the different domains as specified in Articles 2 and 3 of the Council Decision. **(15 points)**
- (e) **European dimension.** Wide geographic scope of the project, in terms of partners, participants and the target groups, will be favoured. For national complementary projects, this criterion is replaced by the geographical scope of the measure they complement. For other national projects (starter measures and other actions), it is replaced by the potential geographical scope of follow-up measures. **(10 points)**
- (f) **Economies of scale.** Larger projects, in terms of for example ambition and participants, will be favoured. **(10 points)**

The Commission will conduct an evaluation of the proposals submitted on the basis of the above mentioned award criteria, and will be free to approve or reject the submitted proposals.

For 2007, the following schedule is envisaged:

Call for proposals on framework partnerships:	February 2007
Deadline for submission of proposals:	March 2007
Decision on award of partnership agreements:	April 2007
Conclusion of partnership agreements:	From April 2007

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## **D. GRANTS TO BODIES IN A MONOPOLY SITUATION**

In accordance with Article 110(1) 2<sup>nd</sup> subparagraph of the Financial Regulation, Article 168(1)c) of the Implementing Rules, it is foreseen to award grants without a call for proposal for the following actions to bodies with a *de jure* or *de facto* monopoly, as substantiated below. The maximum budget envisaged for grants awarded without a call for proposals is € 3,5 million.

### **1. ACTIONS**

The following specific actions are foreseen for co-funding for bodies in a monopoly situation.

#### **1.1 DEVELOPMENT OF FIU-NET**

The FIU NET is intended to improve the effectiveness of the EU anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing effort by developing a computerised system for enhanced co-operation and exchange of financial intelligence information between the Financial Intelligence Units (FIU) of all Member States.

The current implementation of the FIU.NET (Version 1.2) is based on an architectural design of 2001, which needs to be modernised. It is envisaged to develop a new generation of systems, further referred to as Version 2.0, the key concept of which is ‘managing information exchanges’. Version 2.0 will first and foremost be a tool for handling, monitoring and supervising large amounts of both simple and complex information exchange processes between FIUs.

The grant agreement will be concluded with a national authority to be agreed on by the MS participating in the FIU NET, partnered by a number of Member State co-financing FIUs. An experts meeting of the Council Working Group (MDG) concluded in November 2001 that the FIU NET, led then by the NL Justice Ministry, was the only concrete initiative of its type in existence. Therefore, the previous FIU NET Grant Agreement was awarded on the basis of a *de facto* monopoly situation as referred to in Article 168(1)(c) of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation.

The envisaged budget for the FIU.NET activities is €2,4 million.

#### **1.2. ATLAS COOPERATION**

With the objective of strengthening and developing cooperation, where necessary through organisational and operational arrangements, between Police, Customs, Security Services and Special Forces in the Crisis Management of terrorist incidents, ATLAS encompasses 29 authorities of the 25 EU Member States. Applications for co-funding shall be presented for a project composed of the activities mentioned below by one national authority and its partners, with the consent of all participating Member States. The scope and content of the ATLAS cooperation will be based on the prior identification and assessment of the technical and operational needs in the development of the following actions. Foreseen budget is € 0,6 million.

- 1.1. Development of the ATLAS cooperation structure with a view to enhance its operational effectiveness and preparedness.

- 1.2. Provide the ATLAS cooperation structure with the appropriate management structures and tools to support its functioning in crisis situations.
- 1.3. Provide the ATLAS cooperation structure with monitoring and training tools to adjust its operational structures where required and increase their resilience.
- 1.4. Acquisition and sharing of tactical equipment to support special operations.

Within the EU, the dedicated ATLAS cooperation structure is the network that permits relevant specialised services of the Member States to attain levels of cooperation necessary to confront the terrorist phenomenon, and to develop and maintain cooperative links that will allow them to support each other in times of emergency. Direct support for the ATLAS cooperation will encourage the development of the inter-professional ties within this single framework. The authorities participating in ATLAS are thus in a de facto monopoly situation as referred to in Article 168(1)(c) of the Implementing Rules of the Financial Regulation.

### **1.3. COOPERATION WITH EUROPOL**

With the objective of supporting Europol in its cooperation with law enforcement authorities in the Member States, grants of a total amount of up to €0,5 million are foreseen to undertake the following specific actions on the basis of the procedures of Europol Convention Art 35, in conjunction with Articles 3 and 16 of the Europol Financial Regulation:

- a. Developing existing or programmed communication instruments (legal and technical), and especially the Europol Liaison Officers' network, and the Europol Information System (EIS)
- b. Information-flow monitoring initiative in support of enhancing the two-way information flow between Europol and Member States and presentation of the value added of the information exchange in terms of operational efficiency, quality of available data, and law enforcement output.

Europol is in a de facto monopoly situation as referred to in Article 168(1)(c) of the detailed rules for the implementation of the Financial Regulation.

## **2. CONDITIONS AND MODALITIES:**

- a) The maximum rate of co-financing by the Commission is 70 % of the total eligible costs of the project.
- b) Eligible expenditure must be incurred within 3 years of the starting date of the project.

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## E. CONTRACTS

### I. CONTRACTS FOR OPERATIONAL ACTIONS

The total budget envisaged for contracts and administrative agreements is € 5,1 million. Publication of calls for tenders for the following actions is envisaged in the course of the year 2007. For the purpose of supporting the actions described in Parts A-D, the Commission intends to undertake the following actions in 2007 through framework contracts, administrative agreements and/or contracts following public procurement.

1. With a view to evaluating, monitoring and developing legal, operational and political instruments, it is intended to place contracts for **studies, evaluations and impact assessments** in the areas specified by the basic act. With a total foreseen budget of € 2 million, they will include issues on law enforcement co-operation, general crime prevention, statistics, cybercrime, passenger name records, illicit trafficking in human beings and arms, environmental offences, financial and economic crime, and counter-terrorism. In particular, the following topics are envisaged:
  - Assessing effectiveness of Member States' practices in identification, tracing, freezing and confiscation of criminal assets.
  - Establishment of an EU Network of Passenger Name Records units - legal, technical and organisational possibilities to set up a European central capability to deal with the threat analysis of Passenger information for border and internal security purposes.
  - Countering fiscal fraud as a tool of terrorism and organised crime financing in a view of development of new EU initiatives.
  - Relations between the Member States' legislation on prostitution and the situation concerning trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation.
  - Comparison of Member States legislation on specific environmental offences and applicable sanctions.
  - Impact assessment on implementation of Art 10 of UN Firearms Protocol.
  
2. **Meetings, conferences and seminars** should assess and develop objectives of the programme in particular concerning the following issues:
  - Crime and criminal justice statistics aiming at developing common definitions and procedures.
  - High-level strategic meetings on Public Private Partnership against organised crime and terrorism - "The PPP Platform" and more targeted subgroup meetings on specific issues.
  - Volume crime prevention, in association with the relevant bodies and structures.

- Vulnerabilities of non profit organisations to terrorist financing and other criminal abuse.
- Promoting better information exchange between law enforcement and other relevant parties - Law Enforcement subgroup within the Fraud Prevention Experts Group.
- Possible cooperation among the private payment bodies, financial services industry and law enforcement agencies with the scope to combat fraud, money laundering and terrorist financing.

Their logistic support will be outsourced whilst the agenda, the content and the outcome will be managed by the Commission. Foreseen total budget is €0,7 million.

3. **Other actions** should be carried out (mainly through public procurement contracts) for a foreseen budget of €2,4 million, regarding in particular:

- Preparation, conduct and evaluation of the Eurobarometer surveys and opinion polls on radicalisation and recruitment for terrorism, security, corruption and organised crime. Foreseen budget is 350.000 €
- Development of software for support to open source monitoring for law enforcement purposes, particularly intelligence gathering and investigation of crimes. Such support may include licenses for software, training, and heightening awareness. Foreseen budget is 500.000 € Up to 300.000 € of this may be assigned through an administrative agreement to the Joint Research Centre for direct actions.
- Emergency support in case of unforeseen calamities, particularly in the context of terrorism. The Union should be able to support rapidly and substantially targeted and visible responses to imminent threats and dangers, and/or to cope with crisis situations (supplementing the relevant law enforcement effort by Member States). Foreseen budget is 400.000 €
- Identification, through peer validation, of relevant public and private sector actors and stakeholders in the field of security of explosives and detonators - implementation of the European Public - Private Programme for the Security Enhancement of Explosives, Detonators, Precursors and Related Technologies. Foreseen budget is 100.000 €
- Operation of JLS secure area and Crisis Room, including the purchase and maintenance of computing hardware and software for ongoing operational needs. Also included are licences and subscriptions for relevant information sources. Foreseen budget is 600.000 €
- Towards the collection of national statistics on crime, and publishing as EU statistics, i.a. analysis, quality assessment. Foreseen budget is 100.000 €
- Launch an EU-wide Anti-Trafficking Day with an international anti-trafficking logo to raise general awareness. Foreseen budget is 150.000 €

- Support for help lines providing assistance to trafficked persons, especially in view of the creation of an EU wide helpline. Foreseen budget is 200.000 €

## **II. ACCOMPANYING MEASURES ( FOR INFORMATION )**

According to Article 6(3) of the basic act, the Commission may finance administrative and technical assistance activities regarding the management of this programme through public procurement.

In particular, this may include the operation of a helpdesk and/or call centre providing information and advice on the programme for applicants and beneficiaries and the public activities regarding the exploitation and dissemination of project results, the organisation of meetings.

The execution of these activities is subject to the available resources on budget line 18 01 04 17.

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