1. Basic Information

1.1 Désirée Number: BG0007.01.01
1.2 Title: Development of telecommunication infrastructure of the Bulgarian and Romanian electricity companies for improvement of data exchanges between their Dispatching Centers and UCTE
1.3 Sector: Energy
1.4 Location: Bulgaria

2. Objectives

2.1 Wider Objective:

To support the integration of both countries in the European Union by complying with the EC Directive for the open electricity market.

2.2 Immediate Objective:

- To improve the Power Systems Interconnection on both sides of the border up to the Union for the Coordination of the Transport of Energy (UCTE) standards;
- To ensure the necessary telecommunication infrastructure for the integration with the UCTE grid systems;
- To support the integration of both countries in the European Union by complying with the EC Directive for the open electricity market;
- To assess the hardware, software and telecommunication equipment required for information exchanges between the National Dispatching Centers from Romania and Bulgaria and of these ones with the UCTE Accounting Center;
- To increase the reliability of both Power Systems.

2.3 Accession Partnership and NPAA priority

Accession Partnership – medium term priority: preparation for the internal energy market

This project is a necessary part of the preparation for the internal market through the preparation of the Romanian and Bulgarian electricity systems for interconnection with the UCTE interconnected Western and Central European network.

2.4 Cross Border Impact

The project has a substantial cross border impact through the improvement of electricity interconnection on both sides of the Romanian and Bulgarian border. This project, which is a mirror project with a Romanian project, will assist in improving the reliability of the electricity networks in both countries, and has implications for wider electricity trade through membership in the synchronised European UCTE network.
3. Description

3.1 Background and justification:

This project is part of a joint project within the framework of the PHARE Cross Border Co-operation Programme which has been agreed by both the Romanian and Bulgarian authorities as a priority.

NEK’s electric power system is interconnected to the electric power systems of neighbouring countries. It creates the infrastructure for bulk electricity exchanges. Furthermore, transmission lines at 400, 220 and 110 kV interconnect NEK’s network with Romania, Ukraine, Moldova, Serbia, FYROM and Greece.

The dominant trend in the Balkan region, including Romania and Bulgaria, is the interconnection of all national grids with UCTE (Union for the Coordination of the Transport of Energy). Increasing the number and the capacity of interconnections between the countries of the Balkan region and the countries of UCTE has a dual significance: politically the Central and Eastern European countries are seeking their integration to the European Union and therefore, are moving to a full participation in the Trans-European Energy Networks in accordance with the Maastricht Treaty; economically, UCTE countries are interested in co-operating with the non-member Balkan countries.

Moreover, the synchronous interconnection of power networks of different countries within the UCTE revealed considerable benefits in the form of investment savings, increased reliability and quality of supply, reduction of transmission system losses and opportunities for electricity trade which can be beneficial to all involved countries.

At the general assembly of UCTE in Vienna on the 17th of April 1997, the requests of NEK (Bulgaria) and CONEL (former RENEL - Romania) for the synchronous parallel operation with the synchronous area of the UCTE were taken into consideration. According to the UCTE recommendation "Preliminary operation trials before the direct integration of new networks with the UCTE grid systems" a Technical Committee UCTE Bulgaria-Romania was created to ensure the transaction of the necessary measures. It was engaged explicitly that, also in the case of Bulgaria and Romania, there should be applied basically the same criteria as with CENTREL (Association of the electricity interconnection utilities in Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary). The above mentioned Committee has prepared and agreed The Catalogue of Measures for the integration of Bulgaria and Romania. Both countries have fulfilled most of the recommendations of the Catalogue.

One of the recommendation from the Catalogue of Measures not met till now is directly related to proposed project scope: the development of telecommunication infrastructure of CONEL and NEK for improvement of data exchanges between Dispatching Centers and UCTE Accounting Centre.

At present, the National Dispatching Centres (NDC) of both countries do not have on-line data exchanges between them and with the UCTE Accounting Centre, to which
both Dispatching Centres are temporary affiliate (EKC Belgrade). The telecommunication between the Dispatching Centres of both countries is based on leased telephone lines (leased from the national telephone companies) and on PLC (Power Line Carrier) equipment. The reliability and the data capacity offered by these means are unsatisfactory and most especially do not comply with the UCTE requirements.

The National Electricity Companies CONEL and NEK are committed to improve the current situation in order to comply with the aforementioned UCTE-requirements. For this, it is necessary the development of the telecommunication infrastructure by implementing the appropriate hardware, software and communication equipment in both countries for data exchange between the National Dispatching Centres of Romania and Bulgaria, and of these ones with the UCTE Accounting Centre. This will ensure the permanent synchronous operation of both power systems with UCTE and the development of the Trans-European Energy Network.

3.2 Linked activities:

- The project is part of a major project to prepare the Romanian Power Systems and the Bulgarian power system to be interconnected with the Western European Grid UCTE, according to the requirements of the Catalogue of Measures elaborated by the UCTE Technical Committee for Romania and Bulgaria. The Catalogue of Measures has been agreed this year by both countries and by the members of the UCTE Technical Committee.
- Balkan Energy Interconnection Task Force is undertaken through funding from the DG TREN – Energy Synergy Programme. This study, which was completed in 1997, identifies the energy investment projects that are of primary importance for the development of the European energy market, and particularly the electricity market. This project was identified as a priority among other projects being classified “category A” for the electricity sector.

3.3 Results:

The project will have two principal results: firstly the project will assist in the compliance of Bulgaria towards the catalogue of measures required for the improved interconnection between Romania and Bulgaria in the context of preparing these two countries electricity systems for full interconnection with the synchronised UCTE network.

The second concrete result of the project will be improved reliability through the parallel operation of the Romanian and Bulgarian power systems, through the on-line data exchange which will allow more economical and reliable operation of both power systems.

3.4 Activities:

For fulfilling the objectives stated below the proposed project must be developed in two phases:
• **Phase 1 - Technical Study** based on the agreement between both parts in order to identify the best technical and financial solution for the improved telecommunication infrastructure, the total investment cost and the technical specifications of the necessary equipment to be procured for interconnection of power networks. The proposed study must also identify the data interface of both National Dispatching Centres with the UCTE Accounting Centre and the technical and financial solution for data communication with the Accounting Centre. This study will also include the preparation of technical specifications for the Phase 2.

• **Phase 2 – Implementation of the project** that implies procurement and equipment assembling, supervision, commissioning and training. The following investments are foreseen under this project:
  
  - Optical fibre telecommunications mounted on transmission ground wires either on the 400 kV transmission line from Tantareni to Kozludui, or on the 220 kV transmission line from Isalnita to Kozludui.
  - Terminal equipment for fibre optic telecommunications
  - Interface equipment for data acquisition and transmission to the Bulgarian national dispatch centre, and also to the UCTE accounting centre.
  - Hardware and software at the national dispatch centre in Sofia (and Bucharest under the mirror investment).

4. **Institutional Framework**

The Key institutions for the implementation of this program are CONEL for the Romanian side and NEK for the Bulgarian side. Both institutions are relevant public companies that perform import, transport, transit and dispatching of electricity in each country.

5. **Detailed Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(MEURO)</th>
<th>Phare Support</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
<th>National Co-financing (*)</th>
<th>IFI</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>1.2</td>
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<td>1.7</td>
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<td><strong>1.5</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.5</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2.0</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) from NEK

6. **Implementation Arrangements**

The Project shall be managed under the Decentralised Implementation System (DIS). The Implementing Agency is the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW). A Programme Authorising Officer (PAO) will be nominated for the Programme by the National Authorising Officer (NAO) after consultation of the National Aid Co-ordinator (NAC).

The CBC Implementing Agency retains overall responsibility for the implementation of the whole programme. This includes approval of terms reference, of tender
documents, of evaluation criteria, of evaluation of offers, signature of contracts, authorisation and payments of invoices.

The project beneficiary institution is NEK EAD. The project beneficiary institution is responsible towards the CBC Implementing Agency and the State Energy and Energy Resources Agency for the operational management of the project: preparation of terms of reference, of tender documents, of evaluation criteria, of evaluation of offers, of contracts, of invoices for payment. For works contracts under FIDIC rules, an official of NEK acts as the Employer and the invoices have to be certified by an independent Engineer contracted and financed by the Programme.

NEK reports monthly to the CBC Implementing Agency and the State Energy and Energy Resources Agency (with direct copies to the EC Delegation) with monthly disbursement and commitment schedules and with sufficient detail to allow assessment of progress made and remaining work to be accomplished.

NEK liaises with the EC Delegation through the State Energy and Energy Resources Agency for all issues related to the operational management of the project.

The project team within NEK will is adequately staffed with 2 qualified full-time experts. Appropriate technical assistance to the project team is to be ensured, financed by the Programme.

Works will be tendered to prequalified contractors with relevant financial capacity, and technical and FIDIC experience.

6.1 Contracts

For Phase 1: one Phare contract for Services within the funding arrangements of Phare – CBC programmes, through framework contract (another service contract in Romania is foreseen under the Romanian project fiche).

For Phase 2: one contract is expected for the works that will be undertaken in Bulgaria (another contract for the work that will be undertaken in Romania is foreseen under the Romanian project fiche).

7. Implementation Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phase 1: Start of technical study</th>
<th>Completion of study</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/ 2000</td>
<td>02/ 2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2: Tendering for supplies</td>
<td>Implementation of investment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>03/2001</td>
<td>10/2001</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Equal Opportunity

In the whole process of preparation and implementation of the projects no discrimination between men and women will be made.
9. **Environment**

None of the works contained in this project would have any significant environmental effect. This project does not involve the construction of new transmission facilities, but rather the upgrading of communication equipment and lines, which will utilise existing interconnection lines.

10. **Rates of return**

Concerning similar projects proposed for the national electricity transmission network (as opposed to this interconnection with Romania) a recent study concluded that computer based dispatch of generation, and the minimisation of the system losses which stem from this improved dispatch, can yield savings of 2-5% in generation costs. In addition labour costs can be reduced through the improved telecommunications and national dispatch. Taken together the ESBI study concluded that a programme of investment in improved telecommunications and a national dispatch (SCADA) upgrade would yield an IRR of 10%. This did not include any allowance for leasing of unused fibre optic capacity to third party users.

11. **Investment criteria**

11.1 **Catalytic effect:**

According to their geographical position, Romania and Bulgaria have many high voltage interconnection lines. Both countries have decided to apply for the interconnection to the West European Grid – UCTE.

The implementation of such project is extremely important for both countries representing a necessary step to be accomplished for UCTE interconnection and for the increasing of the operation reliability of both power systems.

11.2 **Co-financing:**

Co-financing: it is anticipated that Bulgaria will contribute funding. The Phare Programme will finance the main part of the project according with the available budget for the CBC Programme for 2000, the rest approx. 25% of the total budget will be financed by NEK.

11.3 **Additionality:**

No other Funding agencies are contributing to the project. Only PHARE –CBC Fund may support the implementation of such “mirror” projects.

11.4 **Project readiness and size**

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The project is technically straightforward and no special difficulties are foreseen in the implementation of the project. The technical study will confirm the technical solution proposed, and will prepare the technical specifications for the procurement of the investment proposed.

11.5 Sustainability

The investments funded under this project will become an integral part of the interconnected electricity transmission systems for the two countries, and as such the project is fully sustainable after the end of the project. Ongoing maintenance and operation costs will be borne on the Bulgarian side by NEK, as the national transmission and Dispatch Company.

11.6 Compliance with state aid provisions

It is confirmed that all aspects of the “Development of Telecommunication infrastructure of CONEL and NEK for improvement of data exchanges between their Dispatching Centers and UCTE” Project are open to competitive tender within the European Union and Phare recipient countries, and all Phare procedures regarding competition and transparency are fully complied with.

12. Conditionality and sequencing

The present project, together with the “mirror” project in Bulgaria that covers the hardware, software and communication equipment required for information exchange between the Bulgarian National Dispatching Centre with Romanian National Dispatching Centre and with UCTE Accounting Centre, are mutually agreed by local institutions and beneficiary organisations especially by the UCTE Technical Committee for Romania and Bulgaria.

As the project consist of two-mirror part in Romania and Bulgaria, we expect that common tender procedures will be performed for the procurement of equipment (with two lots) and two separate contracts will be signed (one contract by each country, for the works to be undertaken in its own territory).

The project is divided into two phases. The first phase is the completion of the technical study. The investment phase can only start after the completion and approval of the technical study, including the satisfactory completion of the technical specifications, which is necessary before the procurement phase can start.

Annexes to project Fiche

1. Logical framework matrix
2. Detailed implementation chart
3. Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter
4. Reference to feasibility /pre-feasibility studies.
### Annex 1 - LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Code</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Date of Drafting</th>
<th>Contracting Period Expires</th>
<th>Disbursement Period Expires</th>
<th>Total Budget</th>
<th>PHARE Contribution</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>BG0007.01.01</td>
<td>Development of telecommunication infrastructure of the Bulgarian and Romanian electricity companies for improvement of data exchanges between their Dispatching Centers and UCTE</td>
<td>PHARE CBC 2000 BG/RO</td>
<td>April 2000</td>
<td>December 2002</td>
<td>December 2003</td>
<td>2.0 Meuro</td>
<td>1.5 Meuro</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wider objective</th>
<th>Indicators of achievement</th>
<th>How, when, and by whom indicator will be measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To support the integration of both countries in the European Union by complying with the EC Directive for the open electricity market;</td>
<td>Improve the on-line data exchange between the Dispatching Centers of both countries with the UCTE Accounting Centre.</td>
<td>Both Dispatching Centers, from Romania and Bulgaria, will monitor on-line data exchange between the two power systems. By monitoring and Reporting Progress and Final Assessment:  - PHARE CBC- PMU  - European Delegation</td>
<td>Continued commitment to UCTE interconnection and to the liberalisation of the European Energy Market.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate objectives</td>
<td>Indicators of achievement</td>
<td>How, when, and by whom indicator will be measured</td>
<td>Assumptions and risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To improve the Power Systems Interconnection on both sides of the border up to the UCTE standards;</td>
<td>Compliance with the recommendations from the Catalogue of Measures for the interconnection of the Romanian and Bulgarian Power Systems to UCTE, in conformity with the UCTE Technical Committee Requirements.</td>
<td>The equipment will be mounted in each power systems, the online information will be available to be checked at both National Dispatching Power Systems and at the UCTE Accounting Center; The UCTE Technical Committee will verify the fulfilment of the task from the Catalogue of Measures and will certify the accomplishment of the Project implementation, in conformity with the UCTE rules. Financial accounts of electricity exchanges between the two power systems and the UCTE interconnected power systems. Deadlines included in implementation charts and contracts: PHARE PIU at NEK PHARE SEERA PIU PHARE CBC – PMU European Delegation</td>
<td>The ability of the consultant to perform all the tasks, according to the Terms of References, within the established requirements, time schedule and projected funds. The acceptance by the UCTE Technical Committee of the technical solution and equipment specifications proposed by the consultant in the Technical Study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To ensure the necessary telecommunication infrastructure for the integration with the UCTE grid systems;</td>
<td>Better reliability in parallel operation of both power systems in connection with UCTE requirements considering the necessity of on-line data exchange, requirement not fulfilled in present.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To assess the hardware, software and telecommunication equipment required for information exchanges between the National Dispatching Centers from Romania and Bulgaria and of these ones with the UCTE Accounting Centre.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To increase the reliability of both Power Systems by interconnection of the systems;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outputs</td>
<td>Indicators of achievement</td>
<td>How, when, and by whom indicator will be measured</td>
<td>Assumptions and risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New hardware, software and communication equipment in both power systems on the electricity interconnection lines and at National Dispatching Centers (NDC) and at the UCTE Accounting Center, on-line information from the two power systems at both NDCs.</td>
<td>➢ Supplied and installed new equipment in both power systems (on the interconnection lines, in the NDCs and at the UCTE accounting Center &lt;br&gt;➢ Certification by UCTE of new metering equipment and of new information provided by both power systems &lt;br&gt;Training on the job of technical staff from the National Dispatching Centers of both countries.</td>
<td>By monitoring, reporting and inspection of the two sites in Romania and Bulgaria and at the UCTE Accounting Center. &lt;br&gt;Progress and final assessment&lt;br&gt;• PHARE PIU at NEK&lt;br&gt;• PHARE SEERA PIU&lt;br&gt;• PHARE CBC – PMU&lt;br&gt;• European Delegation</td>
<td>The experience and ability of the consultant for the first stage/contractor for the stage two, to perform all the tasks within the established requirements, time schedule and project funds.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**INPUTS:**

- At least 8 man-months of EU expertise and supervision
- Identify, supply and installation of the new hardware, software and communication equipment
- On-the-job training of the technical personnel
Annex 2 - Detailed Implementation Schedule

BG0007.01.01 - Development of telecommunication infrastructure of the Bulgarian and Romanian electricity companies for improvement of data exchanges between their Dispatching Centers and UCTE

| 2000 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2001 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2002 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Technical Study
1. Contracting (Framework Contract)
2. Completion of technical study

Implementation of investments
3. Approval of Tender Documents
4. Tender period
5. Signature of contract
6. Procurement and installation
7. Commissioning and operation
Annex 3 - CUMULATIVE QUARTERLY CONTRACTING SCHEDULE in MEuro/

**BG0007.01.01 - Development of telecommunication infrastructure of the Bulgarian and Romanian electricity companies for improvement of data exchanges between their Dispatching Centers and UCTE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Expected Contractual Commitments (Quarters)</th>
<th>Budget Allocation (Phare Funds)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
<td>II</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Total (Phare funds)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Disbursement (Payment) Schedule (Quarters)</th>
<th>Budget Allocation (Phare Funds)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td></td>
<td>I</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Study</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total (Phare funds)</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex 4- Reference to feasibility / pre-feasibility studies

BG0007.01.01 - Development of telecommunication infrastructure of the Bulgarian and Romanian electricity companies for improvement of data exchanges between their Dispatching Centers and UCTE

There is no project performed to define the requirements and to propose a technical and economic solution for the telecommunication infrastructure between Romania and Bulgaria. There are only the Terms of References for such a study agreed by both involved countries Romania and Bulgaria.

A feasibility study under Phare – CBC programme (BG9402-02-01) was performed for the improvement of the conditions of parallel operation between the power systems of Greece and Bulgaria. The main objective of this project was to improve the communications and the data exchange between the National Dispatching Centers of both countries.
STANDARD SUMMARY PROJECT FICHE

1. Basic Information

1.1 Désirée Number: BG0007.01.02

1.2 Title: Construction of a Winter Camp on the Danube River within the Territory of Bulgaria - II Stage.

1.3 Sector: Transport

1.4 Geographical Location: Bulgaria’s Northern Border Region

2. Objectives

2.1 Wider Objective(s):

- To develop the economy of the border regions by enhancing the trade and the economic co-operation
- To motivate the creation and development of corresponding transport links on both sides of the Bulgaria/Romania Border.

2.2 Immediate Objective

The construction of the winter camp will bring following benefits to Bulgaria and Romania:

- will ensure the safe entrance of vessels to the entrance of the Rousse-port and to the entrance of the RO-RO terminal during winter
- will decrease the number of emergencies with river vessels for both countries;
- will expend the transport infrastructure of the region as there is no similar winter camp in the CBC Region;
- will improve the provided services for the vessels
- will improve of the water quality and of the micro environment of the region

2.3 Cross Border Impact

- Improvement of the navigation safety on the Danube river
- Positive impact to the environment
- Decrease of the unemployment into the CBC region by the construction and the maintenance of the Winter Camp
- Cover the need for a Winter Camp in the CBC region

3. Description:

3.1 Background and justification
The PHARE Cross Border Co-operation Programme will support the construction of the second stage of a Winter Camp in Rousse, which will allow Vessels, navigating on the Danube river spending the winter in safe conditions. The winter camp is situated in the port of Russe, and a natural prerequisite for construction of the site is the existing Bezimen-island and the constructed bulkhead structure between the island and the riverside, that establish a natural non-arranged winter camp. The Design has been prepared upon request of the beneficiary Institution, the Agency for Survey and Maintenance of the Danube River (ASMD) in Rousse under the Ministry of Transport.

The overall construction of the Winter Camp consists of two Stages.

**The first stage** with an overall cost estimation of 1.92 MEURO (1.6 MEURO Phare contribution and 0.32 MEURO Bulgarian contribution) was financed by the Programme BG9916 (Phare 1999 Cross Border Programme with Romania) consisted of:

- Works contract with a partial building of a vertical quay gravitational wall (126 m.) with the relevant infrastructure as water supply and drainage system, kiosk switchgear and a local site lighting system.
- Supervision Contract for the a.m. Works contract

Thanks to the first stage of the construction of the site, 6 additional river vessels with measures 12/71 meters and tonnage up to 900 tons will have the possibility to spend safely the winter period (capacity increased from 10 to 16 ships).

**The second stage** which will be financed by this Programme with an overall budget of 5.1 MEURO (3.5 MEURO Phare contribution and 1.6 MEURO Bulgarian contribution) consists of:

- Works contract including finalisation of the vertical gravitational wall (558 m) with the relevant infrastructure to it: water supply and drainage system, local site lighting system, telephony and vertical planning.
- Supervision Contract for the a.m. Works contract

Afterwards the second stage of the winter camp is completed, the number of the vessels with the a.m. dimensions that will have the possibility to spend the winter there will be increased by 10 (up to 26 ships).

3.2. Linked activities

Under the Programme BG9916 the first stage of the project was financed with an overall cost estimation of 1.92 MEURO (1.6 MEURO Phare contribution and 0.32 MEURO Bulgarian contribution). This project consisted of the construction of a vertical quay gravitational wall (126 m.) with the relevant infrastructure as water supply and drainage system, kiosk switchgear and a local site lighting system and with the relevant Supervision.

3.3 Results

**The main benefits of the project are:**

- improvement of the safety at the entrance of the Rousse-port and at the entrance of the freight loading terminal due to the quayage of the vessels, navigating on the Main Danube directly into the winter camp
- decrease of the emergencies number with river vessels for the both countries;
• improvement of the water quality and of the micro climate of the region;

3.4 Activities

The project includes two main components:
• Civil works for construction of the Winter Camp
• Works Supervision services

The PHARE contribution will finance up to 3.5 Meuro, the rest of the financing up to 1.6 Meuro will be financed by the Bulgarian State Budget. For the Bulgarian contribution an additional contract will be signed with the same awarded company by PHARE procedures.

4. Institutional Framework

The construction of the Winter camp above for the first stage is supported by the PHARE CBC Programme, the Agency for Survey and Maintenance of the Danube River (ASMD) - Rousse and by the Ministry of Transport and Communications of Bulgaria.

The construction of the site is co-ordinated with the respective Rumanian authorities on the XXIVth session of the Bulgarian-Rumanian Commission for the Danube river, as well as with the respective city authorities of the Rousse City Hall. There is a full detail design readiness available for the site, as well as a valid issued construction permission by the relevant authorities.

5. Detailed Budget (in MEURO)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Investment</th>
<th>Institution Building</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

(*) from the national budget

6. Implementation arrangements:

6.1 Implementing Agency

The Project shall be managed under the Decentralised Implementation System (DIS). The Implementing Agency is the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW). A Programme Authorising Officer (PAO) will be nominated for the Programme by the National Authorising Officer (NAO) after consultation of the National Aid Coordinator (NAC).

The CBC Implementing Agency retains overall responsibility for the implementation of the whole programme. This includes approval of terms reference, of tender documents, of evaluation criteria, of evaluation of offers, signature of contracts, authorisation and payments of invoices.

The project beneficiary institution is the Department Transport Policy the Ministry of Transport. The project beneficiary institution is responsible towards the CBC Implementing Agency for the operational management of the project: preparation of terms of reference, of
tender documents, of evaluation criteria, of evaluation of offers, of contracts, of invoices for payment. For works contracts under FIDIC rules, an official of the Department acts as the Employer and the invoices have to be certified by an independent Engineer contracted and financed by the Programme.

The Department reports monthly to the CBC Implementing Agency (with direct copies to the EC Delegation) with monthly disbursement and commitment schedules and with sufficient detail to allow assessment of progress made and remaining work to be accomplished. The Department liaises directly with the EC Delegation for all issues related to the operational management of the project. The existing project team within the Department is adequately staffed with 2 qualified full-time experts. Appropriate technical assistance to the project team is to be ensured, financed by the Programme.

Works will be tendered to prequalified contractors with relevant financial capacity, and technical and FIDIC experience.

The Project is supported by a regional programme of the Rousse City Hall for ennoblement of the waterside strip of the Danube river. The Rousse City Hall has secured the needed terrain for construction of the site and based on the approved by the relevant authorities detailed design has issued a construction permission for the site.

6.2 Non-standard aspects

The DIS Manual will be strictly followed

Since the 2000 CBC Programme is providing additional financing to the 1999 programme to cover extension of the scope of work for the winter camp, the following tendering procedure will be followed:

- Concerning the works, a unique open tender will be launched for Phase 1 (CBC 1999 BG/RO) and Phase 2 (CBC 2000 BG/RO)
- One company will be selected according to the standard Phare procedures
- Two different contracts will be signed with the selected company, one worth around 1.6 Meuro (from 1999 Financing Memorandum) and one worth around 3.5 Meuro (from 2000 Financing Memorandum)

7. Implementation schedule:

Start of tendering: July 2000
Start of project activity: December 2001
Project Completion: December 2003

8. Equal opportunity:

In the whole process of preparation and implementation of the projects no discrimination between men and women will be made.

9. Environment:

EIA completed. The EIA was produced by an independent licensed expert and available at the Ministry of Transport and Communications.
10. Rates of Return

- The efficiency and of the safety of the river navigation on the Danube and its down stream will be improved by about 85%;
- Significant decrease of the emergency situations by about 65%;
- The technical maintenance and repair of river vessels will be improved by about 80%;
- The losses for the ship-companies caused by emergency situations will be decreased by about 55%;

11. Investment Criteria:

- **Catalytic Effect**: Bulgaria is currently in the process of conversion to a market led economy system. As an integral part of this process, Bulgaria is actively pursuing a policy of greater accessibility to trade and economic links with its neighbours Greece, FYROM, Romania and Turkey. Its geographical position inevitably means that international traffic will cross its borders. The construction of the winter camp in Rousse and the fact that there is no similar winter camp structure in the Danube region, concealing the Black See area to the city of Budapest in the Republic of Hungary is very important for the international trade routes and especially for the navigation along Danube.

- **Co-financing**: it is anticipated that Bulgaria will contribute funding. The Phare Programme will finance 69% of the main part of the project according with the available budget for the CBC Programme for 2000, the rest 31% of the investment will be financed by the Bulgaria State budget.

- **Additionality**: For the Erection of the Winter Camp in Rousse only Phare funding is being sought or utilised. No other funding agencies are contributing to the Project.

- **Project readiness and Size**: There is available a complete detailed design, concerning all parts of the project, which is approved by the Expert Technical-Economic Group at the Ministry of Transport and foresees construction in stages. EIA is ready. Construction permission is available. Afterwards the 2nd stage of the winter camp is completed, 26 river vessels with measures 12/71 meters and tonnage up to 900 tons will have the possibility to spend the winter there.

- **Sustainability**: The Northern Border Region is acknowledged to be isolated by its geographical situation. This combined with a general lack of access has severely disadvantaged the Region. Therefore, it has been selected as an eligible region for the social cohesion component at Phare National Programme. Following studies by international consultants it is expected that an increase in communication and transport facilities will stimulate the economic activity of the Region.

- **Compliance with state aids provisions**: It is confirmed that all aspects of the project are open to competitive tender within the European Union and Phare recipient countries, and all Phare procedures regarding competition and transparency are fully complied with.

12. Conditionality and sequencing:

- The Bulgarian authorities will provide the co-financing needed and complete the project in the agreed timeframe.
- Design complies with the provisions of EC Directives.
Land acquisition is financed by the Bulgarian authorities. The Bulgarian authorities undertake to notify to the European Commission before the signature of the works contracts that related land acquisitions have been completed.

Security arrangements at the border, especially for construction through the restricted area will be specified in the tender documents.

Every infrastructure project will be publicised according to a publicity action plan to be prepared by the Ministry of Transport and endorsed by the Commission before tendering the works.

The Ministry of transport will make all data and inspection equipment fully available to the constructor in charge in order to complete the detailed design.

Annexes to the Project Fiche

1. Log-frame in standard format
2. Time implementation chart
3. Cumulative contracting and disbursement schedules
4. Reference to feasibility/pre-feasibility study
Annex 1 – Logframe matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BG0007.01.02 - Erection of a Winter Camp along Danube (2nd Stage)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contracting period expires: 31/12/2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Budget (MEURO): 5.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Wider Objective
- Winter camp for winter pass of a 26 river vessels
- Improvement of the navigation safety on the Danube
- Positive impact to the environment and to the climate
- Infrastructure development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will BE Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Targeted approx. max. measures of one vessel: 12x71 meters, approx. max. measures of one vessel at present: 6x12 meters</td>
<td>How: winter camp available</td>
<td>The Project is completed successfully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergencies number</td>
<td>When: end of the project on 12.2003</td>
<td>No specific risk of rise of the Danube - level over elevation 21.60 meters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>By Whom: Ministry of Transport and Communications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Immediate Objective
- Winter camp for winter pass of a 26 river vessels by completion of the 2nd stage of the project
- Improvement of the region infrastructure
- Improvement of the entrance of the Rousse-port
- Decrease of the unemployment into the region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will BE Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Targeted approx. max. measures of one vessel: 12x71 meters</td>
<td>How: available vertical and slope quay gravitational wall</td>
<td>First stage of the project is completed successfully</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approx. max. measures of one vessel at present: 6x12 meters</td>
<td>When: end of 2nd stage of the project on 12.2003</td>
<td>No specific risk of rise of the Danube - level over elevation 21.60 meters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure present</td>
<td>By Whom: PHARE, Ministry of Transport and Communications</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment percentage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigation safety, measured by the emergencies number</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Outputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>How, When and by whom Indicators will be measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>How, When and by whom Indicators will be measured</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inputs</td>
<td>Indicators of Achievement</td>
<td>How, When and by whom Indicators will be measured</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| • winter camp for winter pass of a 26 river vessels by completion of the 2nd stage of the project | • targeted approx. max. measures of one vessel: 12x71 meters  
• approx. max. measures of one vessel at present: 6x12 meters | • How: available vertical and slope quay gravitational wall  
• When: end of 2nd stage of the project on 31.12.2003  
• By Whom: PHARE, Ministry of Transport and Communications | • Whole Project is completed successfully and the winter camp is successfully constructed  
• no specific risk of rise of the Danube - level over elevation 21.60 meters |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inputs</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>How, When and by whom Indicators will be measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • natural winter camp for winter pass of 16 river vessels after completion of 1st stage  
• a complete detailed design, concerning all parts of the project  
• The Project will be supported by a regional programme of the Rousse City Hall for ennoblement of the waterside strip of the Danube river. The Rousse City Hall will secure the needed terrain for construction of the site.  
• The Ministry of Transport and Communications undertakes the financing of ca. 20% of the total costs for construction of the site.  
• The construction of the site is co-ordinated with the respective Romanian authorities on the XXIVth session of the Bulgarian-Romanian Commission for the Danube river, as well as with the respective city authorities of the Rousse City Hall. | • approx. max. measures of one vessel: 6x12 meters  
• approval of the design by the Expert Technical-Economic Group at the Ministry of Transport  
• support present  
• available construction permission  
• percentage of partial financing taken: 20%  
• co-ordination present | • How: by compliance to the stated indicators  
• When: at start of the project  
• By Whom: Ministry of Transport and Communications, PHARE | • successfully completed 1st stage of the project  
• project for the construction of the winter camp is completed  
• all relevant co-ordinations are available  
• no specific risk of rise of the Danube - level over elevation 21.60 meters |
Annex 2 - Detailed Implementation Schedule

*BG0007.01.02 - Erection of a Winter Camp along Danube (2\textsuperscript{nd} Stage)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Authority Responsible</th>
<th>Detailed Implementation Schedule (Months)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PLANNED</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Transport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supervision Services</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Transport</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annex 3 – Cumulative contracting and disbursement schedules

*BG0007.01.02 - Erection of a Winter Camp along Danube (2\textsuperscript{nd} Stage)*

### Cumulative Contracting Schedule (Quarters)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANNED</th>
<th>Budget Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| (1) Works Contract | 0 | 0  | 0   | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 |
| Total Programme    | 0 | 0  | 0   | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 |

### Cumulative Disbursement (payment) Schedule (Quarters)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PLANNED</th>
<th>Budget Allocation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>250 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| (1) Works Contract | 250 000 | 500 000 | 1 000 000 | 1 500 000 | 2 000 000 | 2 500 000 | 3 000 000 | 3 500 000 |
| Total Programme    | 250 000 | 500 000 | 1 000 000 | 1 500 000 | 2 000 000 | 2 500 000 | 3 000 000 | 3 500 000 | 3 500 000 |
Annex 4 – Reference to feasibility/pre-feasibility study

BG0007.01.02 - Erection of a Winter Camp along Danube (2nd Stage)

• A complete detailed design, concerning all parts of the project, which is approved by the Expert Technical-Economic Group at the Ministry of Transport is available: “Erection of a Winter Camp along Danube (I and II stage) - Technical and Economical Analysis”, Produced by Demi 95 Ltd. In the conclusion, it is stated that:

The completed studies and the financial and economic calculations indicate that the construction of the 1st and the 2nd stages of the project are economically profitable. The project is financially stable with the financial means provided by the PHARE and the Ministry of Transport and Communications, since it guarantees the meeting of all payments and a positive final cash balance for all years of the period of the forecast. Moreover, after the completion of the 2nd stage of the construction and after putting the project in operation the effective activity of the Administrative Agency for Maintenance of the Navigation Course and Survey of the Danube River, town of Rousse, will increase. The construction of the project will positively influence the social situation in the region of the Municipality Rousse - 25 new jobs will be created. The results Indicate the good effectiveness of the project.”

• Environmental Impact Assessment is ready. The EIA was produced by an independent licensed expert and available at the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

• Construction permission is available.
1. **BASIC INFORMATION**

1.1 Désirée Number: **BG0007.03.01**
1.2 Title: **FACILITATION OF DANUBE BORDER CROSSING**
1.3. Sector: **Justice and Home Affairs**
1.4 Location: **Bulgaria/Border posts on the Danube river.**

2. **OBJECTIVES**

2.1 Wider Objective(s):
The facilitation of crossing the border between Romania and Bulgaria (in particular, reduction of waiting time at the borders), through the harmonisation of procedures, the improvement of co-operation and exchange of information between the relevant services of the two countries and the improvement of existing infrastructure.

2.2 Immediate Objective:
- To harmonise the procedures and the practices used by the Romanian and the Bulgarian agencies at the border, in line with EU standards and best practice;
- To improve co-operation and regular information exchange between the Bulgarian border control authorities and with their Romanian counterparts;

2.3 Accession Partnership and NPAA priority

**AP**
- Short-term priorities: Institutional building in the field of customs control; strengthening of the phyto-sanitary and veterinary controls and particularly the external border inspection services; improvement of border management.

**NPAA:**
- Short-term priorities:
  - Development of integrated information system for the basic border posts.
  - Reorganisation of five basic border posts, including Rousse.
  - Measures to improve the organisation and management of border control.

Mid-term priorities:
- Reinforcement of border control.

3. **DESCRIPTION:**

3.1 Background and justification

The Romanian and Bulgarian Governments are strongly committed to align their legislation with the EU legislation. The Customs administrations in both countries are well advanced: the Customs primary (Customs Act/Customs Code) and secondary (Application Rules/Customs Regulations/) legislation is compliant with the EU legislation. Now, both Customs administrations give high-priority to the development of the third-level legislation (Instructions to Officers), which will improve the consistent implementation of their Customs legislation, at national level.

However, concerning border crossing activities the harmonisation of procedures should be further continued to the level of working practices: co-ordinated opening hours and traffic management, joint contingency plans for dealing with unusual cases (illegal immigration, nuclear materials, hazardous chemical etc.), joint activities, standardised documentation etc.

A Joint Co-operation Committee Bulgaria-Romania was established, which decided in its 1st meeting the organisation of a Joint Technical Meeting, dealing with the importance of the actions related to justice and home affairs, and the standardisation of custom procedures, including veterinary and phyto-sanitary controls.
Since July 1998, simultaneous implementation of intensive control on transit freight, with reinforced teams and in co-ordination between both sides, took place mainly in the field of goods with possible dual-use and nuclear materials.

Since 1 February 1999, as a first stage of harmonising the Customs procedures, Customs officers worked with their colleagues on the other side of the border, at the Giurgiu and Rousse Customs houses. Similar, since April 1999, this initiative was extended to the Calafat and Vidin Customs houses.

In the last period, Bulgarian and Romanian senior Customs officials considered the possibilities for information exchange concerning the freight-flow from both countries and, subsequent agreement was reached: to collect in Rousse Customs house the information from the Vidin and Oria hotel border post, and to collect in Giurgiu the similar information for the Romanian bank of the Danube. The exchange of such type of information sets obstacles to fraud, on one hand, and contributes to the reduction of waiting times at borders and the facilitation of transit, on the other hand.

The purpose of this project proposal is to assist the Bulgarian authorities to increase the effectiveness of the cross-border operations on the Romanian frontier, by providing the necessary support and expertise to develop and institutionalise harmonised procedures and working practices, to increase the exchange of information between the Bulgarian agencies and their counterparts in Romania, to improve the inter-agency co-operation at the national level and across the border, with the view to reduce the waiting time at the border for the trade operators and tourists. The activities of the project will concentrate on the Ruse-Giurgiu border post together with the Bulgarian-Romanian border posts of Oryahovo-Beket, Silistra-Kalarash, Durankulak-Vama Veke and Yovkovo-Negro.

3.2  Linked activities

3.2.1 EU Phare - at national level
Harmonisation of Bulgarian Customs legislation
This twinning project aims at reviewing the Customs legislation and, especially, the related legislation in a comprehensive way vis-à-vis the EU legislation and to propose and promote necessary amendments.

Computerisation of Bulgarian Customs
Phare national project BG 98.06.02 on development and implementation of the Integrated Customs Information Systems (ICIS) nation-wide. The project is currently in the tendering phase.

Strategy for rationalisation of border posts operations
Phare national project BG 98.06.03 addresses the improvement of border posts operations through the rationalisation of use of existing inspection equipment (assessment, redistribution) and the provision of drug detection dogs, including the training of dog handlers, and inspection equipment, in accordance with the findings of the initial assessment.

3.2.2 EU Phare - at Multi-country level
Transit North-South
This project provides technical assistance to fulfil the necessary legal, organisational and procedural requirements for the alignment to the provisions of the Common Transit Convention.

Measures to Improve Efficiency at Border Posts (MIEABP)
This project aims at implementing risk analysis, selectivity and profiling technique in the Customs operational environment, enabling the targeting of high-risk consignments and traders, on one hand, and the facilitation of legitimate trade, on the other hand.

Customs Information and Intelligence
This project provided technical assistance for the establishment of Intelligence Units within the Customs administration and data analysis tools for the use of information available in-house for Intelligence purposes.

Joint UNDCP – Phare Drug Law Enforcement Programme for South-eastern Europe (phase 1)
This programme seeks to improve and strengthen the effectiveness of law enforcement to combat drug trafficking in South-eastern Europe. It focuses on strengthening national capacities to dismantle drug trafficking organisations, to detect illicit drug manufacturing laboratories, to detect illicit drugs at border crossing points and to prosecute drug traffickers in Bulgaria, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Romania. Among other activities, the programme has enhanced the capacity of Customs and Border Police to apply selectivity and profiling techniques for control of road vehicles, addresses the commitment at policy level to increase co-operation in cross-border controlled delivery operations, and has enhanced the professional network at border crossing points level and at the level of heads of specialised Police and Customs drug enforcement services.

3.2.3 Other donors
World Bank – Trade and Transport facilitation in South-east Europe
This programme, designed to complement the EU programmes in Romania, Bulgaria, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, provides in Bulgaria/Rousse funding for construction of an administrative/
communication building for the Border Police and in Vidin the improvement of access roads and infrastructure of the border post.

3.3 Results

Assessment of current situation
- Detailed assessment of current situation;
- Needs of each agency analysed in detailed
- Terms of Reference and Tender Dossier developed for each other two project components.

Harmonisation of procedures and working practices
- Legal basis for the inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination at the national and bilateral levels;
- Harmonised procedures and working practices at national and bilateral level;
- Improved traffic management;

Information exchange
- Legal basis for exchange of information at the national and bilateral levels;
- Exchange of information between the Bulgarian authorities at border posts and between them and their Romanian counterparts.

3.4 Activities:

3.4.1 Assessment of current situation

This project proposal involves the Bulgarian authorities involved in border posts operations: Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Finance/Customs. It addresses inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination of procedures, working practices and exchange of information, on the national level and bilaterally with Romania, complementary to the similar Cross Border Co-operation project.

Consequently, the elaboration of Terms of Reference (ToRs) for the components below should be based on a proper assessment of the current situation in the areas addressed by this project, on a detailed analysis of the needs of each agency and on the proper definition of the assistance needed to achieve the objectives of this project and to produce the expected outputs.

Consequently, this component will provide

- short-term assistance to
  - assess the current situation concerning the content of the components below;
  - identify the needs for assistance of each agency;
  - liaise with the respective project in Romania to identify the Bulgarian needs concerning bilateral activities;
  - define the assistance needed to achieve the objectives of the project, concerning each project component;
  - develop the ToRs and the necessary documentation for the contracting of each project component below.
- If necessary, co-ordination meetings at national and bilateral level;
- If necessary, support for an external programme manager (see point 4.)

3.4.2 Harmonisation of procedure and working practices

As already described in the Background section, Romania and Bulgaria, similar to all other Partner Countries, made significant efforts to align their legislation with the EU legislation. The process is now almost completed, but from the facilitation of trade viewpoint it is necessary that procedures and working practices of all agencies on both sides of the border (Ministry of Interior/Border Police and Ministry of Finance/Customs) be harmonised.

This covers a broad spectrum including harmonised procedures and use of standardised forms/documentation (bi-lingual to the extend possible), harmonised traffic management, joint activities and/or delegation of competence joint contingency plans for dealing with unusual cases (illegal immigration, nuclear materials, hazardous chemical etc.), to co-ordinated opening and shift hours, equivalent number of personnel in accordance with the dynamic of traffic (peaks) etc., with the final goal to facilitate the crossing of the border for trade operators and tourists, while reinforcing the border controls, through the use of the harmonised risk-assessment and selectivity tools techniques.

This component will provide the Bulgarian authorities involved in border posts operations with:

- short-term assistance to
- assess the legal basis for the activities of Bulgarian border control authorities and, eventually, to propose amendments;
- identify the basis for the harmonisation of procedures and working practices, at the national level and with the Romanian counterparts;
- develop and implement solutions/recommendations for the improvement of co-operation and co-ordination between the national agencies, and between them and their Romanian counterparts;
- improve the traffic management;

- implementation of harmonised procedures and working practices, in accordance with the agreed recommendations/solutions;
- development programme for staff involved in border posts operations (joint training courses, seminars, exchange of experience with EU Member States etc.);
- co-ordination meetings at national and bilateral level;
- if necessary, limited resources for the publicity of the project.

3.4.3 Information exchange and Technical facilities

The Bulgarian authorities responsible for border post activities, primarily the Ministries of Interior and of Finance/Customs are making significant efforts to develop and implement nation-wide IT systems, according to the specific activities performed by each institution.

From the traffic and trade facilitation viewpoint, it is deemed necessary that these systems exchange information between themselves and with the systems of the correspondent Romanian authorities, with a view to minimise the time of documentary and the number of physical inspections. However, the facilitation dimension of border post operations should be based on the use of risk-assessment, selectivity, profiling tools and techniques, and intelligence systems.

This will increase the efficiency of border controls in the field of illegal immigration and refugees, illegal traffic of goods (including drugs, historical and cultural valuables, intellectual piracy referring to false documents, stolen motor vehicles), traffic of serious criminals, etc.

This component will provide

- short-term assistance to
  - assess the legal basis for the exchange of information between the Bulgarian authorities and the relevant Romanian authorities and, eventually to propose amendments to the respective national legislation;
  - identify, analyse, define and document the necessary interfaces between the Bulgarian authorities and the Bulgarian side of the interfaces with their Romanian counterparts, including the development of compatible procedures, rules, protocols, security mechanisms etc. for their co-operation;
  - develop, pilot and implement the agreed interfaces;
- appropriate software and associated equipment to allow information exchange between the Bulgarian agencies at the border and with the Romanian counterparts, e.g.
  - specialised interfaces between the Bulgarian Border Police and Customs administration and the local area network and equipment to support them;
  - specialised interfaces between Bulgarian and Romanian Border Police and, correspondingly, the Bulgarian and Romanian Customs administrations and the wide area networks and equipment to support them (optical cable link between the Rousse and Giurgiu border posts and wireless connections for the remaining border posts on the Danube, file and communication servers for each border posts, UPSs-Uninterruptible Power Sources etc.);
- development programme for staff involved in the use of these systems, i.e. joint training courses, seminars, exchange of experience etc.

4. Institutional Framework

The Bulgarian Border Police and the Customs Administration will support the implementation of the proposed project by assuring the necessary organisational environment, making available the necessary personnel and covering the cost of the national experts, the necessary building infrastructure, including the training centres, and the related running and administrative costs.

A management structure with Romanian and Bulgarian partners will be established for the implementation of this project. A project manager (an official representative from one of the two countries or an external consultant) who will liaise with all parties from Bulgaria and Romania will be nominated.
5. **DETAILED BUDGET (IN MEURO)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>Phare support</th>
<th>Total Phare (I+IB)</th>
<th>National co-financing</th>
<th>IFI****</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Assessment of current situation</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>0.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Harmonisation of procedures and working practices</td>
<td>0.30</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>1.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Information exchange &amp; Technical facilities</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>1.25</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>1.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.10</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.40</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.25</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.15</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) *In relation to software, related developments, equipment, installation, testing and documentation.*

(**) *In relation to changes in management, procedures, legislation, enforcement, training and general activities and services as result of investments.*

(***) *The funds under “National co-financing” column reflect the Bulgarian authorities’ inputs to this project as outlined in section “Institutional framework”.*

(****) *World Bank’ Trade and Transport Facilitation in South-east Europe (TTFSE) – Infrastructure improvement in Rousse, as per section 3.2.3.*

6. **IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

6.1 **Implementing Agency**

The Project shall be managed under the Decentralised Implementation System (DIS). The Implementing Agency is the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW). A Programme Authorising Officer (PAO) will be nominated for the Programme by the National Authorising Officer (NAO) after consultation of the National Aid Co-ordinator (NAC).

The CBC Implementing Agency retains overall responsibility for the implementation of the whole programme. This includes approval of terms of reference, of tender documents, of evaluation criteria, of evaluation of offers, signature of contracts, authorisation and payments of invoices.

The project beneficiary institutions are the Border Police within the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the General Customs Directorate within the Ministry of Finance. The project beneficiary institutions are responsible towards the CBC Implementing Agency for the operational management of the project: preparation of terms of reference, of tender documents, of evaluation criteria, of evaluation of offers, of contracts, of invoices for payment.

Project beneficiary reports monthly to the CBC Implementing Agency (with direct copies to the EC Delegation) with monthly disbursement and commitment schedules and with sufficient detail to allow assessment of progress made and remaining work to be accomplished.

Project beneficiary liaises with the EC Delegation all issues related to the operational management of the project.

The project team within the beneficiary institutions will be adequately staffed with qualified full-time experts.

Works will be tendered to pre qualified contractors with relevant financial capacity, and technical and FIDIC experience. Additionally, for the better co-ordination of the project a Project Steering Committee (PSC) will be established, comprising representatives of all involved agencies. The PSC will monitor, supervise and co-ordinate the overall progress and implementation of the project.

6.2 **Non-standard aspects**

The project will be managed under DIS rules.
6.3 **Contracts**
The project components will be implemented through contracts awarded as result of open tender procedures.

7. **IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE**
7.3 Project completion: August 2003.

8. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**
Equal participation of women and men in this project will be ensured.

9. **CONDITIONALITY AND SEQUENCING**
This project proposal has been prepared in a way that fully takes into account the Commission’s Pre-accession Strategy, the ongoing initiatives within the Phare Programme and that ensures that no overlap with initiatives within other programmes can occur.
The two conditionalities are the following:
- Establishment of a management structure with Bulgarian and Romanian partners
- Nomination of a project manager (a single programme manager for the two countries)
- All interfaces and softwares to be procured under component n°3 shall be fully compatible with the forthcoming Bulgarian BICIS information system and with the operating Romanian ASYCUDA information system.

**ANNEXES**
1. Logical framework matrix in standard format
2. Detailed implementation time chart in standard format
3. Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter for full duration of project.
4. List of relevant Laws and Regulations
## ANNEX 1 - LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX

### BG0007.03.01 - Facilitation of Danube border crossing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wider Objective</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement*</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The facilitation of crossing the border between Romania and Bulgaria.</td>
<td>Decreased waiting time at the border. Decreased time of documentary and number of physical inspections at the border.</td>
<td>European Commission/EC Delegation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Department for European Integration (DEI) and Regional Development Agency (RDA) at the end of the project.</td>
<td>Government maintains consistent policy and supports the inter-agency co-operation. National legislation in line with EU legislation and best practice enacted. Close co-ordination with other initiatives in the sector.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Immediate Objectives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. To harmonise the procedures and the best practices used by the Romanian and Bulgarian agencies at the border.</td>
<td>National legislation supporting the inter-agency co-operation and co-ordination at national and bi-lateral level. Procedures and working practices harmonised. Improved traffic management assures decrease of waiting time at the border.</td>
<td>EC Delegation, RDA, DEI and the Ministry of Finance/CFCU during the implementation of the project, including the feedback of the Trade community.</td>
<td>Full commitment of the Bulgarian border control agencies and of their Romanian counterparts. Consistent support of the co-ordinating ministries. Timely approval of recommendations/solutions by the relevant Bulgarian and Romanian authorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. To improve co-operation and regular information exchange between the Bulgarian border control authorities and with their Romanian counterparts.</td>
<td>National legislation supports the exchange of information between the national border control agencies and with their Bulgarian counterparts. Regular exchange of information between the Bulgarian border control agencies and with their Romanian counterparts. Decrease of waiting time at the border.</td>
<td>EC Delegation, RDA, DEI and the Ministry of Finance/CFCU during the implementation of the project, including the feedback of the Trade community.</td>
<td>Full commitment of the Bulgarian border control agencies and of their Romanian counterparts. Consistent support of the co-ordinating ministries. Timely approval of recommendations/solutions by the relevant Bulgarian and Romanian authorities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Contracting period expires:** December 2002
- **Disbursement period expires:** December 2003
- **Total Budget:** 3.15 MEURO
- **Phare contribution:** 2.5 MEURO
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement*</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Comprehensive assessment of current situation;</td>
<td>• Assessment Reports produced;</td>
<td>The Project Steering Committee (PSC) and the Project Implementation Unit (PIU), together with the CFCU and the European Commission’ services will regularly review and monitor the evolution of the project implementation, the indicators of achievement, the outputs and the implementation plan, including the feedback of the Trade community.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Terms of Reference (ToRs) for project components;</td>
<td>• ToRs for project components developed, in accordance with Phare standards, rules and procedures;</td>
<td></td>
<td>Commitment of the border control agencies.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Tender Dossier for project components;</td>
<td>• Tender Dossier for project components developed, in accordance with Phare standards, rules and procedures;</td>
<td></td>
<td>Co-ordination with the following past and ongoing assistance :</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Legal basis for inter-agency co-operation at the national level;</td>
<td>• Legal basis for inter-agency co-operation at the national level reviewed and, whenever necessary, amendments proposed and promoted;</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Phare national projects in the Customs sector;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Legal basis for inter-agency co-operation at the bilateral level;</td>
<td>• Legal basis for inter-agency co-operation at the bilateral level reviewed and, whenever necessary, amendments proposed and promoted;</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Phare national projects in the Border Management sector;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Procedures and working practices harmonised at the national level;</td>
<td>• Harmonised procedures and working practices currently used at the national level;</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Phare Multi-country Customs Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Procedures and working practices harmonised at the bilateral level;</td>
<td>• Harmonised procedures and working practices currently used at the bilateral level;</td>
<td></td>
<td>• UNDCP-Phare Drag Law Enforcement Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Improved traffic management;</td>
<td>• Traffic management improved, in line with EU standards and best practice;</td>
<td></td>
<td>• World Bank’ Programme on Trade and Transport Facilitation in Southeast Europe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Legal basis for exchange of information between the border control agencies at the national level;</td>
<td>• Waiting time at the border reduced;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Legal basis for exchange of information between the border control agencies at the bilateral level;</td>
<td>• Legal basis for exchange of information between the border control agencies at the national level reviewed and, whenever necessary, amendments proposed and promoted;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Exchange of information between the border control agencies at the national level;</td>
<td>• Legal basis for exchange of information between the border control agencies at the bilateral level, reviewed and, whenever necessary, amendments proposed and promoted;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Exchange of information between the border control agencies at the bilateral level.</td>
<td>• Information exchanged regularly between the border control agencies at the national level;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Information exchanged regularly between the border control agencies at the bilateral level.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Inputs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Financial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Internal contribution: 0.25 MEURO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Phare national contribution: 2.5 MEURO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Inputs

| World Bank: 0.40 MEURO. |

## Indicators of Achievement*

- Internal budget approved.
- Financing Memorandum approved.

## How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured

- The Ministry of Finance/CFCU and the European Commission’s services.

## Assumptions and Risks

- Commitment of the Bulgarian Government.
- Approval of the European Commission.
- Budgets approved and available.

*Must be quantified and measurable*
### ANNEX 2 - DETAILED TIME IMPLEMENTATION CHART FOR THE PROJECT

**BG0007.03.01 - Facilitation of Danube border crossing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPONENT</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OND</td>
<td>JFMAMJ</td>
<td>JASAOND</td>
<td>JFMAMJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programme set-up</td>
<td>Programme Implementation Unit (PIU) ♦</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Assessment of current situation</td>
<td>D  C  I  I  I  I  I  I  R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Harmonisation of procedures and working practices</td>
<td>D  D  D  C  C  C  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Information exchange</td>
<td>D  D  D  C  C  C  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  I  R</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:**
- D = Design
- C = Contracting
- I = Implementation
- R = Review
ANNEX 3 - CUMULATIVE CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

BG0007.03.01 - Facilitation of Danube border crossing

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CONTRACTED</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>0.35</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.50</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISBURSEMENT</td>
<td>0.11</td>
<td>0.32</td>
<td>0.33</td>
<td>1.04</td>
<td>1.40</td>
<td>1.52</td>
<td>1.85</td>
<td>2.20</td>
<td>2.35</td>
<td>2.46</td>
<td>2.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX 4 - LEGAL BASE OF THE PROJECT

BG0007.03.01 - Facilitation of Danube border crossing

**COMMISSION REGULATION (EC) № 2760/18.12.1998** concerning the implementation of a programme for cross-border co-operation in the framework of the PHARE programme - art. 5, p. 1 (f)"Actions related to justice and home affairs Community policy";

**AGREEMENT ON COOPERATION TO PREVENT AND COMBAT TRANS-BORDER CRIME** – between the Governments of Bulgaria and Romania; on preventing, investigating and repressing trans-border crime; for the improvement of the effectiveness of prevention, detection and prosecution of cross-border criminal violations for the active members of ICPO – Interpol for police matters, World Customs Organisation for customs matters, the SECI countries, as well as for the exchange of criminal information in partnership with their enforcement authorities and the Interpol General Secretariat; SECI – Interpol co-operation.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF REPUBLIC OF ROMANIA ON COOPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CUSTOMS MATTERS**, signed on 10 November 1998 in Bucharest. Under this Agreement Bulgaria and Romania will provide assistance to each other in the prevention and investigation of violations of the customs legislation in the field of commercial fraud and drug-trafficking and information will be provided on request and will be used for the purposes of the proper implementation of the customs legislation.

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN BULGARIA, ROMANIA AND TURKEY FOR COMBATING TERRORISM AND ORGANISED CRIME** signed in Antalia, Turkey.

The cooperation in the areas covered by this Agreement will be carried out by exchange of information and coordinated joint activities. The development of a computerised information system in the field of the cooperation in the fight against terrorism and organised crime is also foreseen in the future.

Particular attention is paid to the cooperation in the field of fight against drug-trafficking and smuggling of weapons, ammunitions, explosives, poisonous chemical, biological and nuclear substances as well as against illegal actions with these materials.

There is a special accent on joint activities of the competent border authorities of the three countries in the field of fight against illegal border crossings of persons and groups.


Charter of organisation and operation of a SECI Regional centre for the combating of trans-border crime


**ART. 94 OF THE BULGARIAN MINISTRY OF INTERIOR ACT** - the "...protection of the state border and the control over the enforcement of the border regime, which is performing its border zone functions in the border checkpoints areas, the inland sea waters the territorial sea, the adjoining zones the continental shelf, the Bulgarian section of the Danube River and other waterways and basins" is the whole responsibility of the Border Police National Service.
1. Basic information

Desiré number: BG0007.04.01

Title: Joint Small Projects Fund

Sector: Socio Economic Development

Geographical Location: Bulgarian and Romanian border regions:

The Small Project Fund will finance small projects for the following NUTS III regions: Vidin, Vratza, Montana, Veliko Tarnovo, Pleven, Rousse, Silistra and Dobrich.

A mirror Small Project Fund will be financed by the Romanian CBC Programme for the following NUTS III regions: Mehediniti, Olt, Dolj, Teleorman, Calarasi, Giurgiu and Constanta

2. Objectives:

The Joint Small Projects Fund (JSPF) supports the key objectives of the Bulgarian- Romanian CBC Programme, namely to help the border regions to overcome specific development problems resulting from their relative isolation in the framework of national economics; the JSPF also supports the establishment and development of co-operative networks on both sides of the border and the creation of linkages between these networks and wider European Union networks.

2.1. Wider Objectives

The JSPF aims:

• to support the further development of the economic potential of the border regions by strengthening existing structures, and through the utilisation of the tourism potential;
• to reduce the peripheral character of these areas, thereby improving the quality of life and creating a co-operative network on both sides of the border;
• to contribute to the development and strengthening of an effective implementation structure for the programme.

In pursuing these objectives, the JSPF provides a flexible approach to funding smaller-scale actions, which are defined on the basis of local/regional needs, and which have a cross-border impact.

2.2. Immediate Objectives

The projects shall support development in particular in the fields of small-scale people-to-people activities across the border and tourism development. In overall terms, the JSPF will seek to:
• the development of cultural co-operation between neighbouring regions on both sides of the border;
• the support and increase in numbers of cross-border meetings of various groups of the population, especially of youth;
• the support of educational activities for institutions and individuals involved in local/regional development, in local government and in organisations of public interest;
• the raising of the level of public awareness and information on cross-border co-operation affairs and on the process of European integration.
• encourage local involvement in the Phare CBC Programme and to support small-scale actions which may form the basis for larger cross-border co-operation projects;
• build and develop the specialist resources of local and regional institutions involved in regional development, groundwork and implementation of cross-border projects in line with EU practice;
• stimulation and support to the creation of permanent structures among the local and regional organisations in the border region in question, particularly organisations with membership for both sides of the border;
• enhance possibilities for cross-border tourism attraction and linkages between the tourism support infrastructures on either side of the border;
• develop and enhance co-operation between the communities on either side of the border with a view to joint improvement of economic development, living conditions and on-going contact.

2.3 Accession Partnership

The JSPF plays a key part in the process of preparation of the Bulgaria and Romania for accession, in particular through the capacity building dimension of local/regional actors. These funds are part of a process of creating ”integration-minded” border regions. The project represents thus an important element in the preparation of Bulgaria and the Romania Republic for the adoption of Structural Funds. In addition, the project supports the social and economic integration between the border regions of candidate countries.

2.4. Cross-border Impact of the Project

The Programme will contribute to the removal of existing disparities between regions on both sides of the border and thus to the gradual alignment of economic and social development. This is particularly important in view of future integration into the European Union. Full membership will require the approximation of levels of economic activity and living standards in particular in border regions in order to avoid undue problems connected to the removal of borders and the introduction of the principle of free movement.

The SPF emphasises projects with a cross-border impact and encourages the development of linkages between the communities /organisations/ institutions on either side of the border. In general, the ”people-to-people” character of the individual projects and the general direction of the fund guarantee a high degree of cross-border relevance of the scheme.

The Regional Steering Committee will be composed of representatives of the relevant Bulgaria and Romania border regions.
3. Description:

3.1 Background

Within the previous Phare CBC Programme between Bulgaria and Romania for 1999 it exists a Preparation of Co-operation Development Plan, covering the regions on both sides of the border. After its elaboration a long list of priority projects will be envisaged in two main sectors:

- Infrastructure improvement of the border area;
- “Soft measures” for business co-operation, enterprise development, technology transfer and marketing for small and medium size enterprises, training, employment, measures for health and cultural exchanges, improvement of information flow and communications between border regions etc.

The Small Project Fund will finance projects from “Soft Measures” sector, created in parallel or after elaboration of Co-operation Development Plan.

To summarise, the inclusion of the SPF into the programme is a logical step forward in the overall context of the Romania Republic’s and Bulgaria’s future accession to the EU, and in the specific context of the development of cross-border co-operation and evolution of the Phare CBC Programme in the pre-accession context.

3.2 Results

The establishment of a JSPF, which will provide financial support to small-scale “people-to-people” actions in the border regions.

3.3 Activities

General Criteria for Eligibility

In general terms the eligible actions should meet the following conditions:
- have a strong and evident cross-border aspect (joint projects, especially where co-financed jointly by Bulgaria and Romania project partners, will be particularly prioritised)
- be financially assessed realistically and transparently
- be ready for implementation
- availability of co-financing. Minimum co-financing will be 10% of the cost of the project in case of soft projects (even in kind), and 25% in case of small investment projects (in cash only)
- under no circumstances be in contradiction with the long-term development plans of the municipality or the region (projects that are part of an overall strategy/plan for the development of the region/town/municipality will be prioritised)
- contain innovative approaches (e.g. pilot projects)
- comply with the minimum level of project support (1 000 Euro) and with the maximum level of project support (300 000 Euro according to the draft JPD guidelines)
On this basis, the Bulgarian Implementing Agency and the Romanian Implementing Authority will develop more detailed operational guidelines in consultation with the appointed Regional Steering Committee.

Small-scale “people-to-people” Projects

The general aim of the sub-programme is to support “people-to-people” projects and non-investment projects within the Phare CBC Programme. The purpose of the support of these projects is to broaden the field of activity of the CBC Programme, to encourage local involvement and to facilitate the implementation of small-scale actions that constitute the basis for larger cross-border co-operation projects.

The Fund will support small-scale people-to-people actions across the following priority areas.

**Cultural Exchanges:** Those cultural exchanges that already exist and that are being newly established between local groups on both sides of the border region. Meetings and exchanges among youth; artistic and supporting activities; folk events and similar actions with the emphasis on the establishment of traditions and long-term co-operation;

**Local Democracy:** Schemes will be supported that help create and intensify the skills of organisational structures in local and regional public administration and other elements of a democratic society (chambers of commerce, trade associations, trade unions, NGOs). Relevant training courses and information will be provided supporting exchange visits, project preparation and procedural matters. Joint projects may also involve the elaboration of materials for distance learning and so forth. Exchange of know-how and experience in education at various levels will also be supported.

**Planning and development studies:** Projects providing a basis for planning within a border region. Projects can be supported that create the preconditions for joint planning in a border region, for framing joint research programmes, for drawing up joint strategies for regional development in a border area with the aim to jointly define the development priorities and so forth. Development of project applications and feasibility studies are also included;

**Economic Development:** support for small projects focusing on economies, which enhance the economic base of the border region. For example proposals for the development of small-scale enterprise, marketing initiatives, markets, exhibitions and advertising events, and so forth; the creation of cross-border co-operation structures and partnerships among supporting organisations;

**Environment:** Projects focusing on specific problems of the environment of the region, such as the drafting of studies, assessment of problems, environmental training, actions aimed at increasing public environmental awareness and so forth.

**Tourism:** The SPF will provide funding for a range of ”soft” actions for tourism development - studies, planning, institutional strengthening measures, specific SME training and related HRD programmes.

**Administrative support for operating the fund**

Concerning administrative support for operating the fund, the Phare contribution may finance indirect (overhead) costs up to 7% of total amount eligible costs (maximum 35 000 Euro).

**4. Institutional Framework**
The JSPF will operate under the General Guidelines for SPF and detailed guidelines that will be developed for the JSPF in Bulgaria and in Romania, and which will have to be approved by the Commission. These guidelines will include a standardised application form, common eligibility criteria, common selection criteria and common rules for publicity.

1. Call for proposal: the Implementing Agency (the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works -MRDPW) will manage to launch and advertise the call for proposals in the Bulgarian eligible regions. This call for interest will be synchronised with the one that will be launched in Bulgaria. The application forms will be standardised for the two countries.

2. Registration of Bulgarian project proposals and checking of formal criteria by counties

3. The Bulgarian project proposals are evaluated by an evaluation committee, taking into account the compliance with priorities specified within RDPs and NDP; This evaluation committee is formed by counties’ and experts already nominated within the Joint Working Group. The EC Delegation reserves the right to nominate a representative as independent observer to this evaluation.

4. Decision of the evaluation committee will have to be approved by the Regional Steering Committee (county Presidents, Phare CBC Bulgarian PMU and Romanian PCU Directors, representatives of each border Development region, representatives of the relevant line Ministries, experts nominated within the Joint Working Group, and the EC Delegation).

5. Budget (in MEURO):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bulgarian Allocation</th>
<th>Investment (**)</th>
<th>Institution Building(**)</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
<th>Recipient (*)</th>
<th>IFI</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joint Small Project Fund</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(*) co-financing is needed and will be one criteria for eligibility of projects. Minimum co-financing will be 10% of the cost of the project in case of soft projects (even in kind), and 25% in case of small investment projects (in cash only).

(**) the split between IB and Investment is purely indicative, since we do not know the projects that are going to be financed at this stage

6. Implementation arrangements:

The Project shall be managed under the Decentralised Implementation System (DIS). The Bulgarian Implementing Agency is the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW). A Programme Authorising Officer (PAO) will be nominated for the Programme by the National Authorising Officer (NAO) after consultation of the National Aid Co-ordinator (NAC).
The CBC Implementing Agency retains overall responsibility for the implementation of the whole programme. This includes: approval of terms reference, of tender documents, of evaluation criteria, of evaluation of offers, signature of contracts, authorisation and payments of invoices.

7. Implementation schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Establishment of the Regional Steering Committee</td>
<td>09/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First calls for proposals:</td>
<td>12/2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completion of projects</td>
<td>12/2002</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Equal opportunity:
In the whole process of preparation and implementation of the projects no discrimination between men and women will be made.

9. Investment Criteria:
Catalytic Effect: Bulgaria and Romania according to their geographical position share a common infrastructure and economic problems. The implementation of projects within "Small Project Funds" is extremely important to improve the relations between both countries and to promote cross-border co-operation from both countries as well as preparation of projects ready for financing in the future.
Sustainability: The development of Bulgarian Northern Border Region is part of the Government’s strategy for achieving the good relations with its neighbours and relationship with the EU accession countries. Bulgaria and Romania have signed several bilateral treaties to underline and intensify bilateral relations.
Competition: It is confirmed that all aspects of the above mentioned studies is open to competitive tender within the European Union and PHARE recipient countries, and all PHARE procedures regarding competition and transparency are fully complied with.

Annexes:

1. Logframe planning matrix for project
2. Implementation Time Chart
3. Cumulative Quarterly Commitment and Disbursement Schedule
## ANNEX 1 - LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immediate Objectives</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>Sources of Information</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Strengthening of local co-operation across the border;</td>
<td>• Intensity of cross-border links, number of cross-border actions;</td>
<td>• CBC Implementing Agency (Bg) and Implementing Authority (Ro);</td>
<td>• Efficient programme management (implementation, monitoring assessment);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Stimulation and support to creation of permanent structures among the local and regional organizations in the border regions;</td>
<td>• increase in regional / local capacities to design and implement development programmes and projects;</td>
<td>• monitoring and assessment reports;</td>
<td>• continued commitment of the Government towards the priorities of the programme and regional development;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• building and developing specialist resources of local and regional institutions involved in regional development and cross-border cooperation;</td>
<td>• growth of tourism sector in border regions.</td>
<td>• reports of the PCU (Ro) and PMU (Bg).</td>
<td>• continued commitment of regional and local actors;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• contribute to the development of local/regional economic and employment development;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• availability of qualified staff and institutional support;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• contribute to the development and strengthening of an effective implementation structure.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• functioning cooperation between all relevant partners;</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• functioning coordination between CBC-RO and CBC-BG;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• sustained interest of the border region population in development and cooperation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results of Project</td>
<td>Indicators of Achievement</td>
<td>Sources of Information</td>
<td>Assumptions and Risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Establishment of Small Projects Fund;</td>
<td>(6) SPF in operation and used; Regional (Development) authorities’ personnel trained, regional institutions qualified; number of people-to-people actions carried out; number of economic actions carried out; number of tourists/visitors in border regions</td>
<td>(7) PCU (Ro) and PMU (Bg) reports; project completion reports; monitoring and assessment reports; programme evaluation.</td>
<td>(8) Availability of qualified experts and contractors; well functioning cooperation and coordination between PCU (RO) or PMU (Bg), Regional Steering Committee, CBC Regional Office, beneficiaries and other involved parties; CBC Regional Office well staffed with competent personnel;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People-to-people cross border links increased and intensified; enhance the economic base of the border region. cooperation between local authorities and NGO in border regions strengthened; institution-building in border regions, qualification in regional development; enhancing cross-border tourism attraction and linkages between the tourism support on either side of the border.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


## ANNEX 2 - Implementation Time Chart

**BG0007.04.01 - Joint Small Project Fund**

|------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|

T: Call for Proposal

C: Contracting

I: Implementation

D: Disbursement
### ANNEX 3 - Cumulative Quarterly Commitment Schedule

*BG0007.04.01 - Joint Small Project Fund*

#### Cumulative Quarterly Contracting Schedule in EURO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>500.000</td>
<td>500.000</td>
<td>500.000</td>
<td>500.000</td>
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<td>500.000</td>
<td>500.000</td>
<td>500.000</td>
<td>500.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>500.000</td>
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<td>500.000</td>
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<td>500.000</td>
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#### Cumulative Quarterly Disbursement Schedule in EURO

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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>150.000</td>
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<td>375.000</td>
<td>425.000</td>
<td>475.000</td>
<td>500.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>500.000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>25.000</td>
<td>75.000</td>
<td>150.000</td>
<td>225.000</td>
<td>300.000</td>
<td>375.000</td>
<td>425.000</td>
<td>475.000</td>
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