1. Basic Information
   1.1 CRIS Number: 2002/003-434
   1.2 Title: Developing the capacity of environmental NGOs, through transfer of best practice from NGOs in the EU15
   1.3 Sector: Environment
   1.4 Location: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia

2. Objectives
   2.1 Overall Objective(s):
      - To assist NGOs to develop their full potential as partners in the implementation of environmental policy
   2.2 Project purpose:
      - This project will work to transfer some of the best practice of EU15 NGOs to the PHARE country NGOs, through a programme of grants for short-term twinning between EU15 and PHARE NGOs and capacity exchange programmes.
   2.3 Accession Partnership and NPAA priority
      - Enhancing the implementation of Community environmental legislation.
   2.4 Contribution to National Development Plan
      - N/A
   2.5 Cross Border Impact
      - N/A

3. Description
   3.1 Background and justification:

   All of the NPAAAs and the regular reports stress the importance of proper implementation of the environmental acquis, and respect for the commitments made during the negotiations. While the official responsibility for compliance lies with the administration of the candidate countries, particularly in the domain of environment, the NGO community has a very important role to play in this task. NGOs in EU Member States complement the work of the administration by signalling infractions, collection information, coordinating pilot projects and educating citizens about their rights and obligations. DG Environment experience has shown that complaints from NGOs are the most important source of
information about the application of Community environmental legislation in the Member States.

In the candidate countries, environmental NGOs played a role in the change of government in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Since then, NGO activity has developed further. However, the environmental NGOs have not yet acquired the full range of necessary organizational and institutional skills. While they have developed some competence in signalling infractions in certain fields, they need to develop the capacity and learn how to work as full and complementary partners of the administration in implementation of the environmental acquis.

This project will raise the capacity of the NGOs, through transfer of experience from the successful environmental NGOs in the EU15 countries to environmental NGOs in the PHARE countries, through mentoring and information exchange.

This project was developed following discussions on various occasions with the candidate country NGO Dialogue, a forum whose purpose is to consult and inform NGOs from the candidate countries on environmental policy developments in the enlargement process. The present proposal was presented at the November 2002 meeting of this group and received a very enthusiastic endorsement. NGOs will continue to be informed on the progress of this proposal in subsequent NGO Dialogue meetings.

3.2 Linked activities:

The NGO Dialogue was established in 1999, with the objective of consulting and informing the environmental NGOs in the candidate countries about the enlargement process. It has met twice each year and is expected to have two more meetings in June and December of 2003, after which it is not expected to continue in its present format due to enlargement. The present project will be a follow-on activity, in meeting some of the specific needs identified by the NGO Dialogue.

3.3 Results:

- More efficient and effective NGOs in the PHARE countries
- Models for other NGOs in the region
- Better links with EU15 NGOs.
- Improved cooperation and communication between NGOs and environmental authorities, industry and the general public.

3.4 Activities:

- Design and launching of call for proposals for NGOs for short term twinning or exchange programmes between EU15 NGOs and PHARE country NGOs, for capacity building, based on information available from the NGO forum and other sources that indicate needs
- Evaluation of applications, based on announced criteria
Disbursement of Funds and Monitoring of projects
Final evaluation through workshop and report.

The grants will be administered by DG ENV through a call for proposals, while a contractor will be selected through a tender procedure to assist in monitoring and evaluating the results of the project.

3.5 Lessons learned:

The NGO Dialogue has served an important role in diffusing information to the environmental NGOs in the candidate countries. It has also allowed these NGOs to move from a phase of information reception to active questioning and participation in consultations on policy development. However, it has been observed that these NGOs still do not have the basic capabilities to assume the role played by NGOs in the EU15 countries. This can only be corrected through more intensive capacity building, best facilitated through exchange of experience.

4. Institutional Framework

NGOs are, by definition, not part of the administrative institutional framework, however one of the specific objectives of this project is to assist NGOs to develop their role as complementary partners of the environmental administration.

5. Detailed Budget

Strictly follow the following format.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phare Support</th>
<th>Investment Support</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
<th>National Cofinancing</th>
<th>IFI*</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Institution Building</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract 1</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>600,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contract 2 etc</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>600,000</td>
<td>600,000</td>
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* In cases of co-financing only
Note: expenditure for equipment should be put under Investment

6. Implementation Arrangements

6.1 Implementing Agency
   - Implementation will be sub-delegated to DG Environment, unit ENV-2.
   - Responsible desk officer: Anne Burrill, +32-2-2954388.

6.2 Twinning
   - N/A

6.3 Non-standard aspects
   - Grant contracts to be signed following call for proposals administered by DG ENV

6.4 Contracts
One service contract for approx. 80,000 Euro will be tendered, by DG Environment, according to PHARE rules. This contract will provide assistance in monitoring and evaluating the results of the twinning exercise.

7. Implementation Schedule

7.1 Start of tendering/call for proposals
   - March 2003

7.2 Start of project activity
   - November 2003

7.3 Project Completion
   - June 2005

8. Equal Opportunity

   The European Commission is fully committed to a policy of equal opportunity. In all activities during this project, but particularly in training, steps will be taken to ensure the equal participation of men and women.

9. Environment

   N/A

10. Rates of return

   N/A

11. Investment criteria

   N/A

12. Conditionality and sequencing

   This project has no specific conditionality, although its success will be dependent on update by the relevant NGOs.
ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. Logical framework matrix in standard format (compulsory)
2. Detailed implementation chart (compulsory)
3. Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter for full duration of programme (including disbursement period) (compulsory)
## Annex I: Phare log frame

### LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project

| Developing the capacity of environmental NGOs, through transfer of best practice from NGOs in the EU15 |
|---|---|---|
| Programme name and number | Environment and enlargement |
| Contracting period expires | Disbursement period expires |
| Total budget : 600.000 € | Phare budget : 600.000 € |

### Overall objective
- To assist NGOs to develop their full potential as partners in the implementation of environmental policy

### Objectively verifiable indicators
- NGOs more capable of performing the tasks necessary to participate in the implementation of the environmental acquis

### Sources of Verification
- Reports on implementation from countries and information collected through accession monitoring process

### Project purpose
- This project will work to transfer some of the best practice of EU15 NGOs to the PHARE country NGOs, through a programme of grants for short-term twinning between EU15 and PHARE NGOs and capacity exchange programmes.

### Objectively verifiable indicators
- Number of twinning grant projects successfully completed.

### Sources of Verification
- Reports from these projects and from the selected contractor.

### Assumptions
- Sufficient uptake by NGOs, including interest by EU15 NGOs in participation in the project.

### Results

### Objectively verifiable indicators

### Sources of Verification

### Assumptions
- More efficient and effective NGOs in the PHARE countries
- Models for other NGOs in the region
- Better links with EU15 NGOs.
- Improved cooperation and communication between NGOs and environmental authorities, industry and the general public.

### Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Means</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design and launching of call for proposals for NGOs for short term twinning or exchange programmes between EU15 NGOs and PHARE country NGOs, for capacity building, based on information available from the NGO forum and other sources that indicate needs</td>
<td>The activities will be coordinated through a service contract, overseen by DG Environment. The contractor will be required to obtain DG Environment approval on the draft call for proposals, including the criteria for evaluation. All registered PHARE country NGOs will be eligible to submit proposals. Proposals will be awarded on merit, but with the objective of ensuring at least two awards per PHARE country if minimum requirements are met. The selection of proposals will be in accordance with the</td>
<td>Sufficient quality of applications for twinning activities</td>
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<td>Evaluation of applications, based on announced criteria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disbursement of Funds and Monitoring of projects</td>
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<td>Final evaluation through workshop and report</td>
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</table>

### Assumptions
- Reporting to the Commission in the framework of the Regular Reports and other monitoring instances, prior to accession.
- Commission services responsible for receiving project applications for specific programmes.
- Willingness of government administrations and industry to welcome NGOs as partners.
- Continued progress of the PHARE countries in the accession process.

- Number of NGOs with clear work programmes and financial sources.
- Number of applications to Community programmes that actively involve NGOs as partners (with industry or authorities).
- Number of joint projects between EU15 and PHARE NGOs.
PHARE practical guide.

- A team of experts will evaluate the proposals and recommend awards, but the final decision will be made by DG Environment.
- Part of the budget will be reserved for a final workshop including all beneficiaries to evaluate the results of the project.
Annex 2: Detailed implementation chart for Project fiche 2  "Developing the capacity of environmental NGOs, through transfer of best practice from NGOs in the EU15"

<table>
<thead>
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<td>1. Capacity Building in</td>
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<tr>
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<td>None</td>
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**Legend**
- Tendering (including development of tender dossier) T
- Contracting                     C
- Implementation                  I
Annex 3: Contracting and disbursement schedule (MEUR) for Project fiche 2 "Developing the capacity of environmental NGOs, through transfer of best practice from NGOs in the EU15"

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