1. Basic Information
1.1. CRIS number: 2002/000-196.04.01
1.2. Title: Integrated Information System for Seed Certification and Marketing
1.3. Sector: Agriculture
1.4. Location: Poland

2. Objectives
2.1. Overall Objective
Implementation of legal acts, rules and activity methods of service responsible for seed certification and control of seed marketing obligatory in Poland with those being in force in the European Union.
Achievement by Polish services responsible for seed certification and control of seed marketing of the operational level and efficiency consistent with the level of services in European Union Member States.

2.2. Project purpose
Implementation of regulations concerning seed marketing according to the European Community regulations.
Implementation of registration system and control of producers, importers, and distributors of seed.
Implementation of the system for collecting, processing and transmitting information by Seed Inspection Service.
Implementation of official labelling system of seed.

2.3. Accession Partnership and NPAA Priority
An effective realisation of the Poland’s ad4aptation process in the domain “Agriculture” in accordance with Accession Partnership and the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis is associated with the necessity of an institutional development of compatible Governmental administration structures, which are responsible for the acceptance of the acquis and institutional solutions in the sphere of realisation of precisely defined tasks.

2.3.1. The note in Accession Partnership
The project is in compliance with the medium term priority – improvement of administrative and institutional structures that serve agriculture and rural development purposes: Continued alignment of veterinary and phytosanitary legislation.

2.3.2. The note in National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis
Polish government assumed priority for Harmonisation of phytosanitary border control and phytosanitary regulatory framework, market in seeds, quality of propagating material and registration of varieties of agricultural plants in the National Programme of Preparation for Membership in the EU (Part 7 “Agriculture”, Priority 7.3). In this priority, whose objective is to complete the implementation of EU legislation in the range of co-organisation of seed market and of seed quality in intermediate perspective, the problem of seed market and seed quality was included in Task 2 Harmonisation of provisions governing the issues on the market of seeds and quality of propagating material.
Future membership of Poland in EU requires harmonisation of rules and standards of services responsible for certification and control of seed, including implementation of official labelling system for seed material, with legal acts and practice of relevant services in the EU countries.
Such a need was emphasised in: “White Book” of Cannes (part 5 “Agriculture”, article 2.B.2 “Plants and plant products”) and in the Commission Opinion on the Polish application for membership in the EU (AVIS chapter 2 “Agriculture”, volume 2, part 4 B “Regulations concerning seed”).

3. Description
3.1. Background and Justification
The project constitutes an integral element of a complex strategy concerning Polish adoption of the Acquis Communautaire in the area of seed production. Its assumptions were presented in National Programme of Preparation for Membership in the European Union and include the following activities:
• Implementation into Polish legal system regulations in the range of: registration of seed material producers; system of production, certification and seed marketing of crops not cultivated in Poland; system of production, certification and marketing of propagating materials other than seeds.
• Regulations of marking and labelling issues.
• Creation of information system.
• Training courses for employees.

A process of Polish agriculture’ adjustment to the requirements rising from a fact of its’ integration with the EU agriculture is a multilateral activity that has its dimension in the following adjustments: legal; organizational; infrastructure.

The project relates especially to the creation of a more efficient national system for certification and control of seed marketing.

In order to implement new legal and institutional solutions along the lines of NPPC, it is necessary to improve the effectiveness of state administration. The problems in the agricultural sector related to seed certification and control of seed marketing will need to be solved with the help of intellectual, organisational and technical resources which are currently at the disposal of the Seed Inspection Service.

Project PSO 98/PL/9/2 final paper stated that the Seed Inspection Service need to improve its Information System. This concern development of the software and rebuild the computer infrastructure. The project "Implementation of Integrated Information System for Seed Certification and Marketing in Accordance to the European Community Standards" is the substantial part of the project "Implementation of the Seed Official Labelling System According to the European Community Standards" which was submitted in the PHARE 2000 and rejected because of the lack of funds. The Seed Inspection Service, according to the program of implementation the new law, has started in the year 2001 to build some basic parts of the system.

Taking into consideration all challenges rising from NPPM and the priorities accepted by the Polish government, there is an urgent need of an improvement of the national seed certification and seed marketing control.

Realisation of those objectives requires the elaboration and implementation of integrated information system in SIS.

System of seed certification and seed marketing control not meeting present challenges may slow down a process of Polish agriculture’ preparation for requirements arising from the integration with the EU.

Implementation of the national seed law (law of 24 November 1995 on the seed industry - OJ No. 149, item 724; 1997, OJ No. 121, item 770; 1998, OJ No. 106, item 668; 2000 No. 12, item 136 and No. 88, item 984 - and Regulation of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on the detailed rules of official labelling - OJ No. 77; item 828; 2001) impose on the Seed Inspection Service obligations of:

• official registration of producers and entrepreneurs trading in seeds;
• collecting and publishing information on certification and seed marketing;
• issuing and delivering official labels to entrepreneurs trading in seeds;

The most favourable solution, according to the Polish and EU experts, is to assure harmonisation in the pre-accession period. It should be accomplished within 2 years (2002-2003).

The following criteria have to be met in order to achieve the goals and tasks listed in the project:

• Familiarity with seed certification systems and seed marketing control,
• Sufficient potential, specialized staff and material infrastructure,
• Availability of financing as stipulated in the project,
• Statutory responsibility for seed certification and seed marketing control.

It is assumed that Polish legal acts (law of 24 November 1995 on the seed industry - OJ No. 149, item 724; 1997, OJ No. 121, item 770; 1998, OJ No. 106, item 668; 2000 No. 12, item 136 and No. 88, item 984 - and Regulation of Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development on the detailed rules of official labelling - OJ No. 77; item 828; 2001) enacted according to the EU requirements, existing and being under preparation, constitute a base for activities of the project. The content of training courses planned for this project will base on the European Union law.

These acts will form the background for the legal acts of the Minister of Agriculture issued under the delegation of the new Polish legislation (mainly veterinary and phytosanitary law).

3.2. Linked activities

Support has been given from the PHARE funds and bilateral assistance sources for the training of the Seed Inspection Service staff and for the laboratory equipment support, in the following projects:

Project PL 9506-01-03
Harmonisation of the Polish phytosanitary law to the EU phytosanitary law.
Project PL 9607-01-08
Technical support in implementation of GLP rules and norm 45001 requirements in some of the laboratories subordinate to Seed Inspection Service. The project enabled undertaking of activities aiming at implementation of directives concerning seed marketing obligatory in EU.

Training project. The training was conducted in the area of EU plant legislation. Participants – employees of regional SIS units.

Project PL 9607-01-10
Seed production, seed and plant related products – technical support in implementation of EU system solutions. The project enabled undertaking of activities aiming at implementation of directives concerning the seed marketing obligatory in EU.

Training project. The training was conducted in the area of EU plant legislation. Participants – employees of General Inspectorate of Seed Inspection Service and Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Project PL 9704-01-09
Technical assistance and laboratory equipment for Seed Inspection Service.

Project PSO 98/PL/9/2
Improving the Polish inspection for seed potatoes.

3.3. Results
A. Increased knowledge and professional qualifications of SIS staff.
B. System of official registration of seed producers in accordance with EU regulations.
C. Creation of Integrated Information System in Seed Inspection Service.
D. Supplying SIS units with computer equipment.
E. Creation of corporate IT network as activity platform of integrated information system.
F. Creation of the e-Learning system for SIS staff.

It is envisaged that the project will increase the qualification of SIS staff. This highly qualified personnel will then provide training to other SIS employees. Thereby the project will be continued by SIS and will enable constant increase of SIS staff professional qualifications.

The integrated system of information on certification and seed marketing will enable SIS to perform:
- efficient management of verification service and control of seed marketing in decentralised public administration system;
- monitoring of regional SIS units activities and automatization of existing reporting system;
- considerable reduction of duration of information passage between SIS units, especially between Voivodship Inspectorates, decision centre and laboratories;
- easy access to information with simultaneous securing of data confidentiality;
- traceability of data concerning seed lot marketing;
- ensuring protection of plant variety rights;
- improvement of the system of seed labels printing and issuing.

The realisation of the project (training + software + equipment) enable undertaking of activities aiming at the implementation of the transformed Polish seed law in accordance to the EU requirements.

3.4. Activities
MAIN UNDERTAKINGS
1. Organisation and realisation of training courses for Seed Inspection staff.
2. Elaboration of general outline and implementation of integrated information system on seed certification and seed marketing.
3. Purchase of equipment and improvement of existing technical infrastructure in Voivodship Inspectorates of Seed Inspection according to PHARE procedures.
4. Creation of corporate IT network.
5. Adaptation of premises in Inspectorates of Seed Inspection Service.

DETAILED UNDERTAKINGS:

a) Realisation of immediate objective 1 includes organisation of:
- computer training courses for the wide range of SIS staff (340 SIS employees) as well as training materials (including: texts of lectures, overheads, slides, scripts, brochures and other materials related to specialised problems),
- specialised training courses for 148 SIS employees, related to the integrated information system in SIS as well as training materials (including: texts of lectures, overheads, slides, scripts, brochures and other materials related to specialised problems),

2002/000-196.04.01 Integrated Information System for Seed Certification and Marketing - p.3
- training for 5 SIS specialists on the subject of Poland’s e-integration with EU, specialised and carefully prepared training for the corporate IT network, integrated information system and the e-Learning system administrators as well as training materials (including: texts of lectures, overheads, slides, scripts, brochures and other materials related to specialised problems),
- e-Learning system for the SIS staff based on the SIS WWW Internet server.

E-Learning would be a platform for virtual education and internal training of all SIS employees in IT network. E-Learning provides an effective and attractive way of learning and easy in use tools for managing the content of educational materials (prepared by SIS professionals) and users of the system.

It is envisaged that the project will increase the qualification of the SIS staff. This highly qualified personnel as well as the further development of the e-Base of the e-Learning system will then provide training to other SIS employees. Thereby the project will be continued by SIS and will enable constant increasing of SIS staff professional qualifications.

b) Realisation of immediate objectives 2, 3 and 4 provides for elaboration and implementation of integrated information system in SIS.

- in the range of seed producers registration it will be the implementation of a system compatible with solutions used in EU Member States. The remaining part of information system will be worked up especially for SIS in accordance with its needs:
  a/ creation of databases and software necessary for proper functioning of field and laboratory seed certification, field and laboratory verification of seed-potatoes, field certification of plant-breeding material and control of seed marketing,
  b/ creation and implementation of information exchange mechanism between all SIS units within corporate IT network, combining voice and data services over local and wide area networks
- purchase of computer equipment and organisation of corporate IT network.

Creation of integrated information system is a continuation of adaptation processes undertaken in previous years.

Purchase of computer equipment for each SIS unit and organisation of corporate IT network will be a continuation of the current work.

c) Realisation of immediate objective 5 provides for:

- additional network wiring of the local area networks,
- adjustments required for the proper installation of the corporate IT network.

4. Institutional Framework

Following institutions will be involved into the project’s implementation: Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, Seed Inspection Service as a beneficiary. The project is of a national scope. The institutional beneficiaries are as follows: General Inspectorate Seed Inspection Service; 16 Voivodship Inspectorates. Seed Inspection Service is an official and independent administrative body subordinated to the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development, responsible for State duties related to certification and seed marketing. At present the SIS organisation structure comprises: General Inspectorate of the Seed Inspection Service; 16 Voivodship Inspectorates. The total supervision over the project has the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. Taking into consideration legal situation of services responsible for seed certification and control of seed marketing it is anticipated that results of the project shall lead to improvement in functioning and efficiency of institutions engaged in its realisation. The programme should prepare these institutions to introduction of changes related to the seed sector into EU. This will include training activities targeted on Poland’s integration with the EU. These plans will be realised (among the others) by complete implementation of the integrated information system and introducing the corporate IT network. Investment supervision will be performed by CFCU. Director of MARD Department for Agriculture Development will be responsible for the implementation of the project. Project will be supervised by experts from General Inspectorate of Seed Inspection Service. During the project duration and after the completion of the project the General Inspectorate of the Seed Inspection Service and 16 Voivodship Inspectorates will own the procured investment.
5. Budget (MEUR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>PHARE financing</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Investment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training courses</td>
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<tr>
<td>computer equipment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1.59</td>
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</table>

The Polish authorities assure that the cofinancing is available either through the reserve budget foreseen specifically by the Ministry of Finance for this purpose or through the budget of the relevant Ministry.

6. Implementation arrangements

6.1. Implementation Agency

Central Financing and Contracting Unit will be responsible for conducting open tenders, negotiating agreements, and realisation of contract payments on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, which is responsible for preparation, management and implementation of the project.

CFCU: Foundation „Co-operation Fund”, Gór nosłaska 4 a, 00-444 Warsaw, Mr Wojciech Paciorkiewicz, CFCU Director, Tel. +48 22 622 00 31, Fax +48 22 622 9569.

Project Authorising Officer (PAO): Mr. Pawel Samecki, Undersecretary of State, Office of The Committee for European Integration, (Ujazdowskie Street, 00-918 Warsaw, phone: +48 22 455 52 41)

6.2. Twinning: n.a.

6.3. Non-standard aspects

PHARE Practical Guide procedures will be followed.

6.4. Contracts

Contract 1: Training, 0.41M€
Contract 2: Computer equipment, 1.59M€

7. Implementation schedule

7.1. Start of tendering: IV quarter 2002
7.2. Start of project activity: I quarter 2003
7.3. Project completion: III quarter 2004

8. Equal opportunities

Women participation results from employment structures of SIS, where women constitute over 50% of the staff. Participation of women in the project will be measured by percentage of women participating in training courses and seminars.

9. Environment

Realisation of the project does not influence natural environment.

10. Rates of return

Basically, no co-efficiency can be applied. Due to the fact that the certification and seed marketing control is free of charge, the calculation of accurate return on investment co-efficient is not possible. However, theoretically, to the part concerning implementation of corporate IT network, bearing in mind certain factors as for example the reduced labour input, the coefficient value can be estimated as financial rate of return: 2% IRR below 17%.

The elaboration of the project was based on the opinion of General Inspectorate of Seed Inspection expert and solutions offered by leading teleinformatic companies were taken into consideration.

11. Investment criteria

The equipment purchases are going to be based on the technical specification prepared according to the requirements listed in the EU Directives (77/93, 94/3, 92/90) as well as technical parameters indispensable for the proper functioning of the systems.

11.1. Catalytic effect

Project realisation is closely related to accession priorities. Project will have catalytic effect in form of full implementation rules of seed marketing, obligatory in EU.

Seed Inspection Service undertook activities aimed at achieving the level of activity and efficiency consistent with European Union seed standards. However, investment needs overpass the financial
abilities in this range. Support from PHARE funds will enable appropriate preparation of service responsible for certification and control of seed material at the moment of planned accession.

11.2. Co-financing
The project will be co-financed from Seed Inspection Service funds. After completion of the project, SIS will assume the costs of functioning of the system.

11.3. Additionality
Project will not replace other sources of financing.

11.4. Project readiness and Size
Project scale fulfils CFCU criteria. It was based on detailed technical specification of equipment. Project is ready for realisation.

11.5. Sustainability
Project realisation is harmonised with accession process. It is aimed on achievement of EU requirements and standards. The cost related to maintenance of integrated information system for Seed Inspection Service after project completion will be covered by national budget.

11.6. Compliance with state aids provisions
Project stays in compliance with state aids provisions of EU.

12. Conditionality and sequence

12.1. Conditionality
To ensure an efficient realisation of the project, MARD and SIS will delegate responsible employees and will ensure an adequate organisation of work for activities connected to the project. A correct realisation of the project will be ensured by a co-ordination of activities of the above mentioned institutions.

12.2. Sequencing
In order to ensure efficient realisation of the project in part concerning investments, MARD will guarantee the appropriate organisation of activities. Detailed obligations within the project are as follows:

1. Adaptation of premises in seats of Voivodship Inspectorates and the General Inspectorate of Seed Inspection Service,
2. Purchase of equipment according to PHARE procedure,
3. Creation of corporate IT network,
4. Elaboration of integrated information system in Seed Inspection,
5. Training courses for Seed Inspection staff.
### Annex 1 - LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX FOR PROJECT

<table>
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<th>2002/000-196.04.01 - Integrated Information System for Seed Certification and Marketing</th>
<th>Date of Drafting</th>
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<td><strong>Total Budget:</strong> 2.70 MEUR</td>
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### Wider Objective

<table>
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<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>Sources of Information</th>
<th>Assumption and Risks</th>
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<tr>
<td>Implementation of legal acts, rules and activity methods of service responsible for seed certification and control of seed marketing obligatory in Poland with those being in force in the European Union. Achievement by Polish services responsible for seed certification and control of seed marketing of the operational level and efficiency consistent with the level of services in European Union Member States.</td>
<td>Legal regulations, organisation and standards of activity of service responsible for certification and seed marketing, fully harmonised with those obligatory in EU. The law on seed marketing and implementing regulations amended. Achievement of ability to conduct certification and control of seed marketing according to rules obligatory in EU.</td>
<td>Deep understanding and involvement of Polish officials in process of preparation of agricultural sector to integration with EU. Priority given to seed quality in the process of integration.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Immediate Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
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<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementation of regulations concerning seed marketing according to the European Community regulations. Implementation of registration system and control of producers, importers, and distributors of seed.</td>
<td>System of traceability of data concerning seed lot marketing implemented. Legal protection of plant variety rights ensured. Infrastructure for services responsible for certification and seed marketing prepared. Information transfers and access to databases ensured.</td>
<td>Treating of seed marketing problems as priority in process of European. Integration. Close relation with Seed Services of EU Member States. Appropriate legal acts issued on time. Knowledge of sampling, certification and control of seed standards obligatory in EU. Proper use of EU Member States patterns. Adjustment of patterns to domestic conditions.</td>
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</table>

### Outputs of SubProjects

<table>
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<th>Indicators of Achievement</th>
<th>Sources of Information</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
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2002/000-196.04.01 Integrated Information System for Seed Certification and Marketing - p.7
Increased knowledge and professional qualifications of SIS staff. System of official registration of seed producers in accordance with EU regulations. Creation of Integrated Information System in Seed Inspection Service. Supplying SIS units with computer equipment. Creation of corporate IT network as activity platform of integrated information system. Creation of the e-Learning system for SIS staff.

Implemented registration system of seed producers. Implemented Integrated Information System in SIS. Installation of computer equipment complete with software. Organised IT network. Completion of training activities for SIS inspectors concerning effective use of information system. Training for SIS experts concerning official registration of seed producers completed. Training for SIS inspectors concerning the use of Integrated Information System in SIS software completed. Installation of IT equipment at the SIS units according to technical specification.

Documents of MARD. Analyses and evaluation of General Inspectorate of SIS. Tests held at the end of training courses for inspectors. SIS documents. Reports concerning projects. Monitoring reports from project implementation. Questionnaires for training participants.

Inputs Indicators of Achievement Sources of Information Assumptions and Risks


Documents of MARD. Analyses and evaluations of General Inspectorate of SIS. Reports from completion of the project.

Proper and high quality training programmes. High quality technical support. Professionalism of lecturers. Employment of persons with good professional qualifications. Readiness of Polish official institutions to bear the costs of undertakings.

Annex 2 - Implementation, contracting and disbursement schedules

<table>
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<td>Implementation schedule</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disbursement schedule</td>
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Legend: D= design of sub-projects / C= tendering and contracting / I= contract implementation and payment