## Log frame

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche</th>
<th>Programme name and number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Phare end-user support for the participants of the mobility schemes of the Socrates II Community Programme</td>
<td>Contracting period expires: 30 November 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disbursement period expires: 30 November 2008</td>
<td>Total budget: 3.5 MEURO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phare budget: 3.5 MEURO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Overall objective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strengthening the European dimension of Romanian education and facilitate transnational access to European education by eliminating obstacles against the mobility of participants in Socrates II</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**List of other projects with same objective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Socrates II Community program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Project purpose**

Purpose: implementing the objectives of the Lisbon-Copenhagen process in Romania—with regard to improving transnational mobility for learning purposes

To be achieved by the following tasks:

**Task 1:** Eliminating the obstacle represented by the scarcity of the co-financing resources, facing students mobility in the Socrates/Erasmus Programme

**Task 2:** Facilitating the access of a larger number of teachers (pre-university level) to European in-service training courses within Socrates/Comenius

**Task 3:** Facilitating the access of a larger number of HEIs professors to the mobility within Socrates/Erasmus

**Task 4:** Increasing the number of the decision makers participating at mobility within Socrates/Arion

**Objectively verifiable indicators**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OV.1.1: - The average monthly grant will be increased from 184 Euro (without Phare funds) to 332 Euro (including 30 Euro from the students’ own sources)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OV 1.2 The number of the participant students will be increased by 5% compared to the previous academic year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OV 2.1: The percentage of Comenius teachers and Arion participants who will obtain the recognition of the participation in Socrates mobility by the corresponding number of transferable credits will be close to 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OV 2.2 The number of applications for Comenius 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources of Verification:**

- Reports of the involved Universities, concerning the use of PHARE funds, submitted to the NA.
- Reports made by independent experts and NA staff, at the end of the monitoring visits, submitted to MER, NC; during the visits, questionnaires, interviews and focus-group discussions with students, teachers and Erasmus coordinators will be used.
- Statistical reports made by NA, concerning the implementation of the Socrates programme, and submitted to MER, NC.
- Final activity-report submitted by each participant at Comenius 2.2 courses and Arion study visits to the NA.

**Assumptions**

- Comprehensive support of all institutions involved (NA, Universities, MER, NC, School Inspectorate).
- Strong coordination by the NA.
- Active participation of all key actors involved in the project (institutions, associations and individuals).
- Smooth transparency regarding the
projects will increase by 15%, as a result of a larger mobility of the educational staff

OV 3: The number of the participating Erasmus teachers will be increased by 5% (compared to the previous academic year)

OV 4: The number of Arion participants increased by 100% comparing to 2004-2005

- Monitoring visits made by the NA staff and/or inspectors in charge of the international cooperation activities, to dissemination activities organized by the beneficiaries of the grants, after the course; during the visits, questionnaires, interviews and focus-group discussions will be applied to the heads of the schools of the beneficiaries, to colleagues from the same department and to the pupils; at the end of each visit, a report will be drawn and submitted to MER and NC.

Selection procedure in universities.

- Receiving on time the Erasmus funds, the Comenius and Arion funds or the PHARE –end users supports funds.

- No frequent cancellation of Comenius 2.2 C or Arion courses/visits

Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>OVI 2.2.4 The number of applications for Comenius 1 projects will increase by 15%, as a result of a larger mobility of the educational staff</td>
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<tr>
<td>OVI 3.1.1: The number of the participating Erasmus teachers will be increased by 5% (compared to the previous academic year)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVI 3.1.2 The number of bilateral agreements concluded between departments within universities will be increased by 10% for the academic year 2007/2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OVI 4.1.1: The number of Arion participants increased by 100% comparing to 2004-2005</td>
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Assumptions:

- Comprehensive support of all institutions involved (NA, Universities, MER, NC, School Inspectorates).
- Strong coordination by the NA.
- Active participation of all key actors involved in the project (institutions, associations and individuals).
- Transparency regarding the selection procedure in universities.
- Receiving on time the Erasmus funds, the Comenius and Arion funds or the PHARE –end users supports funds.
- No frequent cancellation of Comenius 2.2 C or Arion courses/visits.
education and training for EU as well, for the Romanian decision makers, as a basis for drawing new educational policies

OV 4.1.2 Number of European cooperation projects at school level will be increased by 10% in 2007

the end of each visit, a report will be drawn and submitted to MER and NC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Means</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Activities Task 1:</td>
<td></td>
<td>Remark: the Phare funds within this project are strictly allocated to the additional grants to beneficiaries. All the activities are funded through the national budget and the Socrates overall budget.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-NA will organize two training and information seminars before and during the selection period</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>-NA will promote transparent information through all means</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Selection of the students run by HEIs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-HEIs will send intermediary and final reports to NA</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-NA will run monitoring visits within HEIs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Final report drawn by NA</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Activities Task 2:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>-Evaluation of final reports of each beneficiary by NA</td>
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<tr>
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Activities task 4:

- Dissemination of information through the Call for proposals 2007
- Adequately information of inspectors in charge of the international cooperation activities
- Selection of the applicants run by NA following the Arion rules
- Evaluation of final reports of each beneficiary by NA
- Monitoring activities run by NA and of inspectors in charge of the international cooperation activities
**Institution:** National Agency for Community Programs in the field of Education and Vocational Training (NACPFEVT)

**Title of projects:** Phare end user support for participants of the mobility schemes of the Socrates II Community program (non-standard projects; grant schemes complementing those already regulated by Socrates rules)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified Gaps or Recommended courses of intervention</th>
<th>Action for covering the Gap or Implement the Recommended intervention</th>
<th>Phare programming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low level of the overall budget allotted for mobility grants for students and teachers under Socrates II Community Program for Romania (as non EU Member State), compared to the high level of demand and to the necessity to comply with the strategic objective 3 of the Lisbon- Copenhagen process (Education and training 2010: “Increasing mobility and exchange”)</td>
<td>-Continuation of the financing scheme put in place in 2002 under a similar Phare end user support project -Extending the target public, so that not only Erasmus students should benefit from the additional Phare funds, but also teachers and decision makers in education, by complementing various Actions under Socrates Program (Comenius, Arion), in order to meet the Lisbon-Copenhagen objectives</td>
<td>2004/016-772.06.02 Phare end-user support for the participants of the mobility schemes of the Socrates II Community Program (FA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of competences of the local Community Programmes Bureaus (CPB) representatives within HEIs, regarding PHARE grant management, monitoring, evaluation and reporting rules</td>
<td>Bi-annual training and information seminars organized by NACPFEVT on this topics (financed under own resources)</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sources of identification:**

(1): Interim evaluation reports issued in 2003 by EMS and in 2005 by ECOTEC

We have to mention that both evaluation reports scored all the Phare end user supports projects ran by NACPFEVT as “highly satisfactory”; the first report mentions “the overall value of the Mobility Grants for students remained low…… There is a clear need for the continuation of such initiatives from the EU and regardless of the instruments used” (pg. 11) and the second mentions: “As the benefits of the programme clearly outweigh the relatively modest cost, suitable arrangements should be put in place to continue the programme beyond 2007’ (pg. 25). **No specific recommendations have been made regarding the implementation of the projects, neither in the reports, nor during the debriefing meetings; no other recommendations have been made during the two last SMSCs meetings.**

(2) Monitoring and audit missions run in HEIs by the NACPFEVT staff and subsequent reports
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(2) Monitoring and audit missions run in HEIs by the NACPFEVT staff and subsequent reports
PHARE 2005
Standard Project Fiche for
PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

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2. Description: .................................................................................................................... 8

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Basic Information:

1.1. CRIS number:

PHARE/2005/017-553.06.01

1.2. Country:

Romania

1.3. Title:

Participation in Community Programmes

Description:

On the basis of Association Council Decisions and Agreements, Candidate Countries may participate in certain European Community programmes and agencies. The Phare programme can be used to help a Candidate Country to meet on the basis of an increasing contribution from the Candidate Country part of the costs of participating in those programmes and agencies. As from 2001, these funds will be made available each year as part of the Phare national programme so as to co-finance the financial contribution to be paid by the country to participate in these programmes and agencies in the following year.

A maximum of 10% of the Phare National Programme may be used to co-finance participation in Community programmes other than the Research and Development Framework Programme (R&D). Participation in the R&D programme does not count towards the 10% limit.

Detailed Budget:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>Phare Support</th>
<th>Contribution from the national budget</th>
<th>Total Romania’s financial contribution to the programme</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</table>
The contribution from the national budget covers the difference between the total financial contribution of Romania to the programmes as indicated in the Association Council Decision or Memorandum of Understanding establishing the terms and conditions for participation in the Community programmes concerned and the Phare support.
Reserve – envisages covering part of the contribution to the following programmes:

- The existing Community Programmes in which Romania is likely to participate by 2006:
  - Erasmus Mundus (2004-2008)
  - Daphne II (2004-2008)
  - Framework programme for judicial co-operation in civil matters (2002-2006)
  - Promoting bodies in the field of education and training (2004-2008)
  - Promoting bodies in the field of youth (2004-2006)

- The new community programmes that will start in 2006 as a follow-up to the ones ending in 2005:
  - Gender Equality (2001-2005)
  - eContent (2001-2005)

Implementation arrangements:

1. The National Fund is responsible for the Phare part of the financial contribution to be paid by the country to participate in Community programmes.

2. Upon signature of the Financing Memorandum for the Phare National Programme, the National Fund will request from the Commission the transfer of the full amount of the Phare support indicated under section 3 above. These funds must be used to pay the Phare part of the financial contribution to be paid by the country to participate in Community programmes.

3. The various Commission services responsible for the different programmes or agencies will send to the Mission of Romania to the EU a request for the total financial contribution for the participation in a given programme or agency ("call for funds"). The National Fund should check the amount to be financed from Phare funds and then transfer that amount as per the call for funds to the
Commission service responsible. When making the payment for each programme, the National Fund should quote the reference number indicated in the call for funds for the programme concerned, and send simultaneously a copy of the payment order to the relevant Commission service.
Annex 1

Association Council Decisions:


Decision n° 3/2000 of the Association Council, between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part of 29 September 2000 adopting the terms and conditions for the participation of Romania in the Community programmes in the fields of training and education. Entered into force on 29 September 2000.

Decision n° 5/2001 of the Association Council, between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part of 15 May 2001 adopting the financial contribution of Romania to the programmes Socrates and Youth for the period of 2001-2006. Entered into force on 15 May 2001.


Decision n° 3/2000 of the Association Council, between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part of 29 September 2000 adopting the terms and conditions for the participation of Romania in the Community programmes in the fields of training and education. Entered into force on 29 September 2000.


Decision n° 4/2000 of the Association Council, between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part of 13 October 2000 adopting the terms and conditions for the participation of Romania in the “Youth” Community action programme. Entered into force on 13 October 2000.

Decision n° 5/2001 of the Association Council, between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part of 15 May 2001 adopting the financial contribution of Romania to the programmes Socrates and Youth for the period of 2001-2006. Entered into force on 15 May 2001.

4. Culture 2000

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Commission on 4 April 2005.
Decision no. 1/2002 of the Association Council, between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and Romania, of the other part of 19 February 2002 adopting the general terms and conditions for the participation of Romania in the Community programmes. Entered into force on 1 March 2002.

Starting with that date Memoranda of Understanding were signed for the new programmes.

Memoranda of Understanding:

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both Parties on 28 June 2002.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both Parties on 23 July 2002.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both Parties on 23 July 2002.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both Parties on 23 July 2002.

9. FP6 for RTD, including Euratom (2002-2006)
The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both Parties on 29 October 2002.

10. Incentive measures in the field of employment (2001-2005)
The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both Parties on 29 January 2003.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 18 November 2002 and entered into force on 1 January 2003.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Commission on 13 March 2003.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Commission on 13 March 2003.


The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Commission on 3 April 2003.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Commission on 18 July 2003.

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Commission on 29 August 2003.


The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Commission on 22 October 2004.

19. Action Programme to promote active European citizenship (2005-2006)
The Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Commission on 4 April 2005.

20. Marco Polo (2003-2010)
The Memorandum of Understanding was issued for signature.
Standard Project Fiche 2005 for Phare/Pre-accession assistance for

END-USER SUPPORT

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Basic Information

1.4. CRIS Number (2005):
PHARE/2005/017-553.06.02

1.5. Title:
Phare end-user support for the participants of the mobility schemes of the Socrates II Community Programme

1.6. Sector:
End-user support

1.7. Location:
Romania

1.8. Duration:
1 year

Objectives

1.9. Overall Objective(s):

Strengthening the European dimension of Romanian education and facilitate trans-national access to European education by eliminating obstacles against the mobility of participants in Socrates II

The project will lead to strengthening the European dimension of Romanian education and will facilitate trans-national access to European education by eliminating obstacles against the mobility of participants in Socrates II; this objective is in line with the Strategic objective 3 of the process so called “Education and training 2010” (Lisbon-Copenhagen) and Recommendation and Action Plan for Mobility: Opening up education and training to the wider world, with the specific objective: Increasing mobility and exchange

1.10. Project purpose:

Implementing the objectives of the Lisbon-Copenhagen process in Romania-with regard to improving trans-national mobility for learning purposes.
Therefore, more detailed, the purpose is to eliminate obstacles against student and teachers mobility determined, on one side, by the limited Socrates budget for Romania (as resulting from its status of associated country), comparing to the high level of the actual demand and, on the other side, by the scarcity of co-financing resources, available on national level; therefore, it is proposed to continue the mechanism and activities established in the previous PHARE end-users support projects in order to increase possibilities of access to European educational resources

1.11. Accession Partnership (AP) and NPAA priority

The 2004 NPAA, chapter – Education, training and youth, stipulates the Romanian participation to the Socrates II Community Programme as one of the major objectives on short and medium term. This Community Programme is regarded as important support for promoting the new policies in the field of education by increasing the quality, the innovation and the European dimension of the Romanian system of education. Also, the programme is viewed as an important tool for the implementation of the future 13 objectives in education and training established by the Lisbon Council. The NPAA stipulates also an increase in financing the mobility within Socrates, using Community funds.

1.12. Coherence with National Development Plan
(and/or Structural Funds Development Plan)

N/A

1.13. 2.5 Cross Border Impact

N/A

Description

1.14. Background and justification:

The Romanian participation to the Community Programs represents a major step in meeting the criteria towards EU accession in the field of education, training and youth. The Socrates Program was implemented in Romania based on the Additional Protocol of the Association Agreement between Romania and the European Communities signed in 1994. Romania was officially admitted to participate to the Community Programs in the field of education through the Association Council Decision no.2 /1997. The terms and the conditions for the Romanian participation to the second phase of the
Socrates Program were set in the Association Council Decision no.3 /29.09.2000.
The Phare End-User Support project will support:
a) the higher education students` and teachers` mobility in the Socrates program and it will focus on supporting the mobility of the Erasmus Action;
b) the pre-university teachers` mobility under the Comenius Action 2.2 C. – for the participation at in-service teacher training courses
c) the educational decision makers mobility under the Arion study visits

a) Higher education students
The statistics provided by the National Agency for Community programs in education and professional training (NA) show that the number of student candidates for Erasmus mobility is increasing every year. So, in the academic year 2000/2001, the demand doubled, comparing with 1999/2000 and therefore, the average Erasmus grant was about 293 Euro/month. Also in 2001-2002, the demand has doubled again (24900 student-months, comparing to 13600 student-months), which allowed an average grant of 286 Euro/month. For the academic year 2002/2003, the demand increased to 31500 student-months. At the same time, the number of participating universities has also increased, from 38 in 2000/2001, to 45 in 2002/2003.

For the academic year 2002-2003 (1-st year for the implementation of “PEUSP” RO-0109-01) the reports mentioned a total number of 2670 Erasmus students, with an average grant of 431 Euro/month (from both sources, Erasmus and Phare funds). Thanks to the PEUS project, the interest of Romanian students to participate in Erasmus program has increased and so has the number of participating universities. Starting with 2002/2003, many private universities became eligible to participate in Erasmus program, so that number of applying HEIs reached 47 in 2004/2005 (see table at page 4).

The request for additional Phare support is justified by the increasing interest of the Romanian students to participate in the Community programs, on the one hand and, on the other hand, by the scarcity of the co-financing resources in Romania, due to the socio-economic situation (the possible donors- families, local communities, local enterprises or companies, universities - have still very low possibilities).
More than that, the number of eligible universities has been increased by 19, therefore, in the academic year 2006/2007 we expect an increase of the demand in terms of number of student/months. Without the Phare support, even with the co-financing from the universities` own budget we estimate an average of 80 Euro/month for an Erasmus student, which makes totally impossible for the large majority of the Romanian students to take part in a Erasmus mobility.
By continuing the provision of additional grants, from Phare funds, all higher education students participating in the Erasmus program-and not only those coming from wealthy families-may benefit from increased subsidies to cover living expenses during the study period spent abroad. Consequently, access to the mobility projects will be not abruptly blocked.

b) University teachers within Erasmus

The mobility of university teachers offers a valuable opportunity to have a first-hand experience about how the education process takes place in the partner university. Moreover, the participants are supposed to deliver lectures for the students from the partner university. This provision represents in itself a challenge for Romanian teachers, as they may see immediately the reaction of the students with a somehow different background. Adding up to that the exchange of views with the teachers from the home university, it may be concluded that the mobility of university teachers represents a major vector towards reaching an European dimension in Romanian Universities.

However, the grants offered within the program for the above-mentioned activities may be rather symbolic ones without the Phare support (for example 226 Euro/week the average grant in 2002/2003). Usually the expenses must be covered from collateral funds (i.e. from incomes resulted from research activities). Consequently, during the past years, we have noticed an increased number of refusals from the teachers to participate in such mobility schemes as a direct result of the lack of extra-funding. Therefore it is proposed to continue the scheme of co-financing through Phare funds. In this case, the teachers will be more motivated to prepare and deliver lectures, given in a foreign language, thus extending their teaching abilities.

c) Pre-university teachers

The statistics provided by the NA on the participation of Romanian pre-university teachers at in-service teacher training courses under the Comenius 2.2. Action (ex Comenius 3.2 and Lingua B Actions) show a considerably increased interest among the potential beneficiaries.

In 1997 (the starting year of the SOCRATES program in Romania) the rate between the number of financed participants and the number of received applications was 90%, in 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 the rate is under 35% (e.g. 783 applicants and 230 selected participants in 2001-2002, 1300 applicants and 238 selected participants in 2002). In 2003 we received 1836 applications and, thanks to the Phare 2002 funds, we were able to allow to 485 selected teachers, (out of a total of about 400,000 teachers in Romania) to attend training events organized in EU Member States. It is to be mentioned that in the Member States the percentage of the funded places
(comparing to the total number of teachers) was at least three times more than in Romania (in 2002).

For Romanian teachers, the participation at the European in-service training courses provides crucial knowledge and necessary experience to support the reform of the pre-university level of the education system (which started in 1995), through:

- improving the curriculum management, by creating and implementing new optional cross-curricular topics;
- initiating and exercising team work, which could initiate a change in the organisational culture in schools;
- improving the teaching and learning of EU languages;
- accelerating the use of ICT in education and initiating the e-learning;
- improving the role of the teacher as ‘manager of the learning process’;
- co-operation with colleagues from other countries, in order to initiate Comenius partnerships for their schools;
- introducing the European dimension in education in their schools.

The participation at Comenius in-service training courses is viewed as an opportunity, for teachers and for the whole educational system, from another perspective, as well: the European Comenius course providers are more skills and methodological oriented, they encourage the cross-curricular approach and the interactive working methods with the teachers participants, which is in line with the new strategy of the Ministry of Education and Research. According to this strategy, all the certificates obtained by the teachers through the participation at Comenius 2.2C courses will be recognised and integrated in the national system of transferable credits for in-service training. The procedure for awarding the credits is already established by an internal regulation of the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth and is implemented in practice from October 2003 onwards.

More than that, the fact that a school succeeds to have a teacher participating at a Comenius course is often the single possibility of the school to find a partner for further European cooperation, for Comenius school partnerships. Therefore, schools approach this activity like the first open window towards Europe, especially schools from rural or disadvantaged areas.

The experience obtained by attending such courses is an important support for Romanian accession process in the EU, by changing mentalities and cultures. Therefore, national policy has been to give the opportunity to the largest possible number of teachers to attend Comenius courses. As a result of this policy, the grant/person is slowly decreasing and causing difficulties to the beneficiaries in terms of co-financing.

In order to allow the largest possible number of teachers to benefit from the European in-service training courses, the project proposes to continue the
financing combined scheme through Socrates/Comenius and Phare end-user support grant, so that in 2006-2007 the number of participating teachers should be about 580. Consequently, we could make some more steps in order to implement one of the most important objectives of the Lisbon strategy, i.e. “increasing mobility and exchange”

d) Decision makers participating in Arion study visits

According to the statistical data, in the school year 2002/2003 in Romania there are 15,226 pre-university educational institutions and 42 school inspectorates, in each of them working, on an average, approximately 25 inspectors. This is why the number of the potential beneficiaries of Arion program in Romania is 16,276 to which are added decision makers or policy advisors from the Ministry of Education and Research and from other institutions working in the field of pre-university education (the Institute of Educational Sciences, the National Service of Evaluation and Examination, etc.).

Although Arion program has been implemented in the member states of the European Union for 25 years, Romania has taken part in it beginning with 1997 (the starting year of the Socrates program in Romania). During the 7 years of existence of Arion program in our country (including the school year 2003/2004) there have participated to Arion study visits approximately 350 people, decision factors from the pre-university education, namely about 2.12% of the total. The annual percentage of the Romanian participants to Arion study visits (as compared to the number of potential beneficiaries) is only 0.32%. In the Member States the percentage is around 1%.

The far limited budget allocated by the European Commission to the Romanian participants (which allows about 50 participants/year) has made the National Agency to impose certain “restrictive” conditions (which do not exist in the EU Member States), such as:

- a person cannot participate but to one single Arion visit during his/her activity (except the visit organizers who can apply for a second time)
- the target group was limited (thus, in the last two years, the target group has been made up of: general school inspectors, deputy general school inspectors, inspectors in charge with international cooperation programs, management and institutional development inspectors, directors of the Teacher Training Centers, headmasters of some educational units, priority having those from the rural areas, decision factors from the Ministry of Education and Research)

Arion visits are a special opportunity for the process of educational reform in our country, offering the possibility of an important exchange of information and experience with professionals from different European countries. The participation of a decision factor, at local, regional or national level to an Arion study visit may cause much more rapid changes with better results, so as the reform in the Romanian pre-university education definitely lead to the harmonizing of Romanian educational objectives with the European ones.

The meeting of the decision factors from the Romanian pre-university education with their European counterpart leads not only to an exchange of information and experience as regards the educational systems in the European countries, but
also to finding solutions to some common problems, as well as setting up some new partnerships, with impact at local, regional or national level.

Therefore we would like to continue to add complementary Phare funds to the Arion grant for each participant in order to allow to a largest number of decision makers to be a beneficiary; it is to be noticed that in 2005-2006 the Phare funds allowed to around 100 decision makers to participate in Arion study visits- and for 2006-2007 we will continue to focus on the headmasters in the rural areas- to participate in such study visits; this is in line with the actual strategy of the Ministry of Education and Research to promote decentralization in schools and to reinforce the training of the managers in education.

1.15. Sectoral rationale
N/A

3.2.1 Identification of projects -
N/A

1.16. Results

1. Increased monthly subsidy for the participants of the mobility schemes of the Socrates II programme:
   a) an increase of the average monthly subsidy for the students participating in the Erasmus mobility scheme; the final reports concerning the implementation of Phare 2001 project related to the academic year 2002/2003) indicate an increase of the average grant to 431 Euro/month, based on a budget of 3 MEUR. Because of a decrease of the 2002 Phare budget allocated to Erasmus students (2 678 000 Euro, as compared to 3 M in 2001), there will be a slight decrease of the monthly grant in 2003/2004. Obviously, the HEIs were recommended by the National Council for Community programs and National Agency to complement the grant from their own sources. For the academic year 2004/2005 we estimate that the 3 MEUR budget allocated to Erasmus students, combined with a national strategy of co-financing, will allow an average grant of about 380 Euro/month, for an increased number of students.
   The total of the grant (Erasmus + End-user) will not exceed the maximum support authorised in the Socrates Programme framework, 500 Euro.
   For 2005-2006 we estimate a total number of 18 000 student/months, which means an average grant of 350 Euro/month/student (Erasmus + Phare + co-financing from the universities)
   For 2006-2007 we make the same estimation.
   b) an increase of average grant for participation of the teachers at in-service teacher training courses to 1450 Euro ( 700 Euro from Socrates, 700 Euro from Phare and 50 Euro from teacher resources). The total of the grant (COMENIUS + End-User) cannot exceed 1500 Euro/teacher for a period between 1 week and 4 weeks, as recommended in the SOCRATES programme.
c) an increase of average grant for participation of the university teachers in Erasmus mobility, from 205 Euro/week 2004/2005 to 347 Euro/week (Erasmus + Phare) in 2006-2007

2. Increased number of participants to the mobility schemes of the Socrates II programme Erasmus students

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic year</th>
<th>No of Erasmus students</th>
<th>No of HEIs</th>
<th>No of granted months</th>
<th>Monthly grant</th>
<th>Erasmus funds - Euro -</th>
<th>Phare end-user support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000/2001</td>
<td>1.899</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>10347</td>
<td>293 EUR/month</td>
<td>3.057.091</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001/2002</td>
<td>1964</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>12.000</td>
<td>286 EUR/month</td>
<td>3.156.170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002/2003</td>
<td>2670</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>14305</td>
<td>431 EUR/month</td>
<td>3.149 227</td>
<td>3.000.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003/2004</td>
<td>~ 2700</td>
<td>~ 45</td>
<td>~ 15.000</td>
<td>~ 400</td>
<td>~3.100.000</td>
<td>2.678.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004/2005</td>
<td>3219</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>~16000</td>
<td>380 Euro/month</td>
<td>~3 100 000</td>
<td>3.000.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005/2006</td>
<td>~ 3700</td>
<td>~ 50</td>
<td>~ 18000</td>
<td>350 Euro/month</td>
<td>~3 100 000</td>
<td>3.000.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/2007</td>
<td>~ 3700</td>
<td>~ 50</td>
<td>~ 17500</td>
<td>342 Euro/month</td>
<td>3 200 000</td>
<td>2 800 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| Erasmus teachers |
|------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Academic year    | No. of Erasmus teachers | No. of HEIs | No. of granted weeks | Weekly grant Euro | Erasmus funds-Euro | Phare end user support Euro |
| 2000/2001        | 594                | 38            | 1340             | 255             | 341272              |                      |
| 2001/2002        | 734                | 43            | 1479             | 226             | 335012              |                      |
| 2002/2003        | 734                | 45            | 1468             | 226             | 333103              |                      |
| 2003/2004        | ~ 734              | 45            | 1468             | 226             | 333103              |                      |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No of candidates</th>
<th>No of selected teachers</th>
<th>Comenius grant (Euro)</th>
<th>Average grant/teacher (Euro)</th>
<th>Phare end-users support (Euro)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998/1999</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>361</td>
<td>613 700</td>
<td>1700</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999/2000</td>
<td>624</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>616 000</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000/2001</td>
<td>740</td>
<td>309</td>
<td>494 400</td>
<td>1600</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001/2002</td>
<td>783</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>322 000</td>
<td>1400</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002/2003</td>
<td>1300</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>322 000</td>
<td>1350</td>
<td>Nil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003/2004</td>
<td>1836</td>
<td>485</td>
<td>322 000</td>
<td>1450</td>
<td>322 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004/2005</td>
<td>1821</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>325 000</td>
<td>1450</td>
<td>500 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005/2006</td>
<td>1935</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>325 000</td>
<td>1450</td>
<td>500 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/2007</td>
<td>~ 2000</td>
<td>465</td>
<td>325 000</td>
<td>1450</td>
<td>350 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of candidates</th>
<th>No. of selected participants</th>
<th>Arion funds Euro</th>
<th>Average grant/participant (Euro)</th>
<th>Phare end user support Euro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2003/2004</td>
<td>146</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>60 648</td>
<td>1213</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005/2006</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>59 922</td>
<td>1214</td>
<td>59 922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006/2007</td>
<td>~ 250</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>60 000</td>
<td>1150  Euro/visit</td>
<td>50 000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Improved skills and knowledge of the teachers at pre-university level, with up-to-date information and methodology provided by European teacher training institutions.

4. Innovation in teaching and, therefore, in the school life, will be encouraged

5. The European dimension at school level will be enhanced

6. The reform of the school education will be accelerated

7. Improved teaching skills of the Erasmus teachers and valuable exchange of experience, during the teaching weeks spent abroad, as a basis for a better cooperation between the two universities
8. Better knowledge of the other European educational systems and the future objectives in education and training for EU as well, for the Romanian decision makers, as a basis for drawing new educational policies.

1.17. Activities (including Means)

Target-ERASMUS students and teachers:

1. The National Agency will organise two training and informative seminars. The seminars will be included in the Working Program of the NA, to be approved by the European Commission and the Ministry of Education and Research, and financed through the Operating Agreement.

First seminar:
Title: Erasmus Action 2 –Phare. Seminar for Implementation of the PEUS Project
Location: Bucharest
Duration: 1 day (April 2006)-before the selection period
Responsibles: Erasmus Action 2 co-ordinators –National Agency-
Target groups: Erasmus Institutional co-ordinators, representatives of the students’ organisations, potential promoters - Second seminar:
Title: Phare End User Support Project. Seminar for Implementation of the PEUS Project
Location: Bucharest
Duration: 1 day (February 2007)-monitoring seminar
Responsibles: Erasmus Action 2 co-ordinators –National Agency-
Target groups: Erasmus institutional co-ordinators, regional co-ordinators, representatives of the students’ organisations, potential promoters (Romanian members of the AEGEE).

2. The NA will make public all the information concerning the project and will check the transparency of the information at the university level. Means: mass media, monthly bulletins and notifications from the Ministry of Education to the educational network. The funds for supporting this kind of activities will be made available through the Operating Agreement" from the budget of the NA.

3. The Universities will run the selection of the students and the teachers, according to the rules established by the National Council in January 2006. In July 2006 the universities must forward to NA the lists of selected students and teachers and the NA must provide these lists to the EC Delegation, for information. The possible changes in these lists, after the 1st semester of 2006, will be made available in due time to the NA and the Delegation.

4. The Universities will send to NA bi-yearly and final reports. The reports will contain special sections concerning the selection procedure and the management of the PHARE funds;
5. The NA, together with the experts appointed by the National Council, will run monitoring and audit visits at the participating universities (a sample of 10 universities);

6. Visits will be finalised by reports submitted to The Ministry of Education, Research and Youth and National Socrates Council. During the visits, interviews, questionnaires and focus-group discussions with students, teachers and Erasmus co-ordinators will be used to measure the impact of the project.

7. At the end of the project, the Universities will send to the NA final reports concerning the implementation of the project. On the base of these reports, NA will draft the final report and send it to all interested parts.

b) Target- COMENIUS 2.2. teachers and Arion participants:

1. The National Agency will disseminate the information regarding the additional Phare funds throughout all the information activities and training seminars scheduled in the Working Programme 2005/2006, before the deadline of the 1st of March 2006 (the deadline for submitting applications for Comenius 2.2 Actions); all the information will be available on the NA website and on the website of the Ministry of Education as well.

2. All the inspectors in charge of the international cooperations activities in each local inspectorate will be informed and trained by the regular meetings held at NA in order to disseminate properly the information among the teachers and decision makers.

3. The selection of the applicants will be carefully run by a selection commission assigned by the National Council and supported by the NA. The selection will be based on criteria established for COMENIUS 2.2C and Arion Actions and on national priorities established by the National Council. National Council is entitled to approve the final lists and to take the final decision concerning the financing. The NA will provide these lists and the standard selection-fiches to the EC Delegation for information in June 2006.

4. The NA will evaluate the final activity report of each beneficiary in order to draw an overview of the benefits- for the Romanian educational system- of the using of Phare additional support for participants at COMENIUS 2.2C and Arion Actions. This overview will be provided to the Ministry of Education, to the EC Delegation and to the National Council.

The NA, together with the inspectors in charge of international co-operation activities will participate at dissemination activities organized by the beneficiaries after the participation at European courses and study visits, will apply questionnaires and will organize focus-group discussions with pupils, other teachers and managers in the educational communities of the beneficiaries in order to evaluate the impact of this activities in the educational system.
overview report will be drawn, to be sent to the Ministry of Education, to the EC Delegation and to the National Council.

1.18. Linked Activities:

The project is jointly related on the Socrates II Community programs Erasmus, Comenius and Arion

1.19. Lessons learned:

See lessons learnt annex

In order to provide added value to the previous project, the Ministry of Education and Research took the initiative to integrate the participation of the pre-university teachers at Comenius 2.2C courses and of the decision makers in education at Arion study visits into the national system of continuous teacher training, by issuing a new Regulation. The Regulation stipulates that a number of transferable credits will be awarded according to the type of attended courses. The Regulation entered into force starting September 2003.

In order to ensure the necessary co-financing, the obligation to co-finance the participation in Erasmus or Comenius 2.2C or Arion mobility (30 Euro for students and 50 Euro for teachers and decision makers) is a contractual clause, present in every individual contract and strictly controlled during monitoring visits or during the checking of supporting documents attached to final reports (regular audit of files).

Institutional Framework

The target groups:
- students and teachers participating to the Erasmus mobility projects under the Socrates II Community Programme;
- teachers from pre-university level participating at in-service teacher training courses under the Comenius 2.2C Action.
- participants at Arion study visits.
- the Ministry of Education and Research

Implementing Authority

The Implementing Authority is responsible with:
- the national co-ordination and supervising the implementation in good conditions of the project;
- ensures the relation between the National Council, the National Agency and the EC Delegation in Bucharest.
The National Agency for Community programs in education and professional training is the Implementing Agency of the project, responsible for:

- implementing the selection and eligibility criteria stipulated by the National Council and the EC Delegation, for both, the selection of higher education students and teachers and pre-university teachers and Arion participants;
- setting up of the level of financing to the eligible institutions (Universities) conforming to the National Action Plan 2005/2006 for Mobility Activities under Erasmus (approved by the Commission and the Socrates Council) and the eligible beneficiaries (teachers, decision makers);
- drawing, signing and sending the contracts to the interested parties: HEIs and individual beneficiaries (teachers and decision makers);
- ensuring the visibility of the project in mass-media by press conferences, interviews in newspapers, publishing materials;
- training and informative seminars with the representatives of the implementing institutions and representatives of the end-users;
- monitoring and audit visits at the participating universities and at dissemination activities organised by the teachers and Arion participants who benefited from the additional grants;
- drafting and sending interim or final reports to whom it may concern (European Commission, EC Delegation, Ministry of Education, National Council).

The National Council for Community programs in education and professional training (NC) is responsible for:

- reconfirming or adjusting, if the previous year’s experience and bi-yearly reports from the HEI’s so require, the eligibility criteria used in the previous Phare projects for the selection of higher education students and teachers;
- establishing the national priorities for the selection of pre-university teachers in line with COMENIUS 2.2 C Action and the selection of the Arion participants;
- the nomination of the independent experts in charge with the audit visits to Higher Education Institutions in order to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the PEUS project in the universities;
- the approval of the final lists of beneficiaries for Comenius 2.2C courses and Arion study visits.

The Universities (HEIs) are responsible for:

- running the selection of the students and teachers according to the criteria established by the National Council and approved by the EC Delegation;
- sending to the NA the final lists concerning the selected students and teachers;
- the distribution of funds towards the final beneficiaries (end users), on the base of a standard individual contract;
- submitting to NA bi-yearly/final reports about the recognition of the studies made abroad, the selection procedures the management of the PHARE funds and aspects of the co-financing provided;
- make public all the information related to the additional Phare funds for the prospective Erasmus students and teachers.

**Institutional arrangements**

a) The contracts “Phare End-Users’ Support for students and teachers” will be signed between the Universities and the National Agency. The contracts are subsequent to the contracts signed between the NA and the HEIs in the framework of the Socrates-Erasmus Programme. The contracts will stipulate all the conditions, rights and obligations of the NA and HEIs related to the complying with the eligibility and selection criteria as well as the reporting procedures and audit visits. The NA will be responsible with the preparation and the sending out of the contracts to all the participant HEIs.

b) The contracts “Phare End-Users’ Support for teachers” will be signed between the NA and each beneficiary, together with the Comenius 2.2 contract. The contract will stipulate the obligation of the beneficiary to announce any related activities benefiting from the financial PHARE support.

c) The contracts “Phare End-Users’ Support for Arion participants” will be signed between the NA and each beneficiary, together with the Arion contract. The contract will stipulate the obligation of the beneficiary to announce any related activities benefiting from the financial PHARE support.

The National Council, in close co-operation with the National Agency, is responsible for the establishment of the selection procedure for the end users of the PHARE support and the nomination of the independent experts who, together with the NA staff, will monitor and evaluate the implementation of the PEUS project in the universities.

**Constraints:**

- Potential financial difficulties in the year 2005, in receiving on time the SOCRATES funds or the PHARE end-users support funds.

**Detailed Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Phare</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
<th>National Cofinancing*</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>End User Support</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contract 1</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
<td>3.5 MEUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Co-financing**

All the end users (Erasmus students) will add 30 EUR/month to their final grant from their own resources.

All the end users (Erasmus teachers, COMENIUS 2.2 teachers and Arion participants) will add 50 EUR/month to their final grant from their own resources.
Implementation Arrangements

Implementing Authority:
Ministry of Education and Research
Contact person: prof.univ.dr Dumitru Miron
Secretary of State
G-ral Berthelot 28-30
Tel. (0040) 1 313 61 99, fax: (0040) 1 312 48 77
e-mail: dmiron@mec.edu.ro

1.20. Implementing Agency:
National Agency for Community programme in education and professional training
Contact person: Monica Calota, director, PAO
Adrian Georgescu, Deputy Director, deputy PAO
B-dul Schitu Magureanu nr.1, Bucharest, Romania
Tel. ++40 21 311 35 05, ++40 21 312 11 87
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1.21. Non-standard aspects

The Phare-end user support is a non-standard project for the support of the final beneficiaries (higher education students and teachers, pre-university teachers and decision makers in education) of mobility schemes of the Socrates-Erasmus Programme.

1.22. Contracts:
There will be two payments: 1st payment in the 3rd Q of 2006 and the second one in the 1st Q of 2007.
Estimation: 1st payment from the National Phare funds to the National Agency (total amount: 2 940 000 EURO)
- about 52 contracts between the National Agency and the HEI’s
- about 568 contracts between the National Agency and the COMENIUS 2.2 beneficiaries
- about 120 contracts between NA and Arion participants
- estimation: 2nd payment from the National Phare funds to the National Agency (total amount: 560 000 EURO)

Implementation Schedule

Start of tendering/call for proposals
2nd Q 2005
a) Start of project activity for ERASMUS students and teachers
   3rd Q 2006
   Project Completion for ERASMUS students
   3rd Q 2007

b) Start of project activity for COMENIUS 2.2 teachers and Arion participants
   3rd Q 2006
   Project Completion for COMENIUS 2.2 teachers and Arion participants
   2nd Q 2007

Equal Opportunity

In applying the principle of Equal Opportunities within the Community policies, all the developed activities will ensure the equality between women and men and will eliminate inequalities resulting from various other factors (physical or mental disabilities; racial, cultural, ethnic or religious discrimination, socio-economic disadvantage etc.).

Environment
N/A

Rates of return
N/A

Investment criteria:
N/A

Conditionality and sequencing

Milestones of the project in terms of impact:
- Information campaign run by NA; January 2006 for COMENIUS 2.2 teachers and Arion participants and first seminar-April 2006 for ERASMUS students and teachers;
- Transparent selection of the end-users -march 2006 for teachers, decision makers and July 2006 for students and university teachers;
- Signing the contracts between NA and beneficiaries (Universities, teachers, Arion participants); specific payments
- Monitoring the process and processing the reports of the visits by the NA;
- Second seminar –February 2007
- Processing the interim reports sent by the Universities (NA)
- Monitoring visits at dissemination activities organized by the end-user teachers and Arion participants after the return from the course: September-October 2007
- Evaluation of the final reports of the teachers: August-September 2007
- Evaluation of the final reports of the Universities: October-November 2007
- Final reports: NA