1. Basic Information

1.1 Desiree number: RO-0006.10
1.2 Project Title: Strengthening and development of capacity to enforce the phytosanitary acquis regarding protection against injurious (micro)organisms
1.3 Sector: Agriculture
1.4 Location: Romania – Bucharest – Ministry of Agriculture and Food (MoAF), National Phytosanitary Agency (ANF), Central Laboratory for Phytosanitary Quarantine (LCCF)

2. Objectives

2.1. Wider Objective:

Strengthen the Romanian phytosanitary administration's capacity to enforce protective measures against introduction into the country of harmful organisms of plants and plant products in line with the current EU practices

2.2. Immediate objectives:

- Restructuring and development of Central Laboratory for Phytosanitary Quarantine's network to cover activities requested by enforcement of the acquis;
- Align diagnosis methods used by the Central Laboratory for Phytosanitary Quarantine (LCCF) to the current EU practices
- Strengthen and develop technical diagnosis capacity of the LCCF to perform diagnosis and controls through supply of modern equipment for entomology, nematology, virology, bacteriology, mycology laboratories;
- Develop human resources through training in diagnosis methods practised by EU Member States;
- improvement of communication between the National Phytosanitary Agency, LCCF and its subordinated regional structures;
  - improvement of scientific information resources;
  - procedure for accreditation of laboratories under LCCF launched;

2.3 Accession Partnership and NPAA priority

2.3.1. Accession Partnership

- veterinary and phytosanitary sector: continue alignment and upgrade inspection arrangements, in particular at the future external borders
- adopt a law on control of pesticides in agriculture and start the establishment of control system for residual pesticides in agricultural products.
Medium-term
- reinforce CAP management mechanisms and administrative structures (monitor agricultural markets and implement structural and rural development measures, set up bodies and control mechanisms)
- reinforcement food control administration
- veterinary and phytosanitary sector: complete system of animal identification; implement quality control system (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point), animal waste treatment, modernisation of meat and dairy plants residue and zoonosis control programmes; complete inspection

2.3.2. National Programme for Adoption of the Acquis (1999)

Short-term (1999-2000)
- Legal harmonisation of sanitary control and residue control
- Personnel training for the implementation of new legislation and techniques
- Organisation and equipment of the Central Unit for Inspection and a Custom point for inspection

- extension of computerised information system for all 42 Plant Protection and Sanitary Veterinary Quarantine Institutes and 32 Custom Sanitary Veterinary Quarantine Institutes
- Upgrade of the Central Sanitary Veterinary Quarantine Laboratory
- Continuous equipment of the Sanitary Veterinary Customs Points

2.4. Contribution to National Development Plan ...........Not applicable

2.5. Cross Border Impact........................................................Not applicable

3. Description
3.1. Background and justification:
The central phytosanitary authority in Romania is the National Phytosanitary Agency (NPA) under the supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. NPA is the central phytosanitary authority responsible for drafting and enforcing legislation. The Central Laboratory for Phytosanitary Quarantine is the technical arm of the NPA and is in charge of analysing all samples sent in by the phytosanitary inspectors. LCCF cannot carry out all requested analyses (i.e. pesticide residue control) and therefore some work is assigned to other institutions such as the (Academy of Agriculture and Forestry Science (AAFS). At the central level NPA has 2 services (Plant protection and phytosanitary quarantine, Phytosanitary police and the regime of products for phytosanitary use). At the territorial level there are 42 Phytosanitary departments and 32 Border Phytosanitary Control Inspectorates.
With the start of the negotiations for accession Romania is making efforts to find the necessary resources to speed up the adoption and enforcement of phytosanitary acquis.

- The assistance is provided in the context of an ongoing twinning project (RO 98/IB-AG-01) whose main objective is the transposition into the national legislation of the acquis regarding plant health inspection and pesticide residue inspection. As the project states, by the end of this year a new law will be approved (which align Romanian legislation with Directive 77/93/EC regarding prevention of introduction and dissemination of injurious (micro)organisms), as well several Minister’s Orders harmonized with the Directives concerning the control over some dangerous injurious (micro)organisms. Although new legislation will be adopted soon, the implementation of these new regulations will not be possible without development of further diagnosis capacity on (micro)organisms specified in Directives (e.g.: Ralstonia solanacearum, Pseudomonas michiganensis spp. Sepedonicus, Epichoristodes acerella etc.). A similar situation was faced in 1999 when the Ministerial Order no. 26/1999/MAA transposing the Directive 93/85/EEC, could not be implemented due to lack of equipment (e.g. microscope for imuno-fluorescency). Also lack of other (semi)automatic equipment, leads to dramatic decrease of analysed samples and delays in obtaining relevant results regarding vine diseases.

- During the bilateral screening for plant health which took place in Brussels between 31.01-02.02.2000, both the presentation and the discussions revealed the insufficient capacity of exiting laboratories to carry out tests required by the acquis, at both central and regional levels. Therefore development of capacity to enforce the acquis is required at central and regional level through supply of equipment, technical assistance for the implementation of the acquis, training of the laboratory and inspection staff, regular provision of scientific information and literature. It has been agreed, during the screening exercise, that a more efficient use of available funds will be possible by focussing firstly on central laboratories (LCCF) and afterward on regional ones and therefore Phare support is requested to develop the capacity to enforce the legislation regarding protective measure against introduction of injurious (micro)organisms.

- A mission of DG XXIV in Romania, between 26 and 30 April 1999, concerning authorisation for exports of wine cuttings in Member States, has recommended “for provision of modern equipment for laboratories and staff training, in EU Member States, the team suggests to apply for financial PHARE support, as there are concrete possibilities”.

- The harmonization of the Romanian List of injurious (micro)organisms (quarantine), with the Directive 77/93/CEE will require a change to the existing List of quarantine institutions in Romania and will led to the obligation to study and diagnose a much larger number of quarantine (micro)organisms in Romania. LCCF is responsible for: analysis of the
phytosanitary risk and the diagnosis of quarantine (micro)organisms, establishment of the list of quarantine institutions, training personnel at territorial level. In order to obtain these results, it is necessary to:
- procure modern equipment for LCCF allowing increase of quality and efficiency of analysis;
- Harmonize analysis methods with EU practice;
- train the staff at EU standards levels.

Following restructuring LCCF should become a new and modern institution called to play a very important, complicated and demanding role as the leader scientific phytosanitary institution of the country. Its role will be to detect, evaluate and solve the current problems and the future needs and be ready to give solutions whenever problems occur on the country.

Numerous well-qualified scientists are necessary to work, utilise and exploit the equipment, which is usually expensive and depreciates quickly. Except of the permanent staff, there may be invited scientists, scientists under contract for certain research projects, university and postgraduate students doing practice and in the same place the plant health inspectors from the periphery will be trained.

Therefore more space is necessary for laboratories and offices. For the entomology an large room is needed for insect breeding (air-conditioned) and another smaller warm room about 6 m² also for the insects and a cage outside in the open space also for the insects.

Storerooms also are necessary. The present building (old) needs to be refurbished. New electricity and plumbing installations are needed and new benches, boards, drawers and shelves for the laboratories. However, even this old building is modernised, still the space is insufficient and may require further extension.

Scientists must have access to current scientific information e.g. books and periodical scientific publications, databases, web, scientific meetings in Romania and abroad, etc. A library must be created with books and scientific periodicals such as Review of Plant Pathology, Review of Entomology, Plant Diseases, Plant Pathology, Phyto-pathology, European Journal of Plant Pathology and many others. Databases in CDs must be purchased subscriptions to on line databases and a good access to the web. A large space is needed for the library, the bookshelves, the study tables, the computers and the librarians. The future needs must be foreseen. The space of the library must be sufficiently large in order to accept the expanding production of informative material (books, periodicals etc).

The acquired information must be afterward screened and communicated into the peripheral institutions and to scientists in the country (border inspectors, etc). The central institution should be able to produce editions and organise seminars. Therefore a versatile large room is needed for gatherings and
Therefore from the above it is concluded that a new building is necessary to host offices, laboratory rooms with working benches, apparatus etc, insect growing rooms, library, seminar room and store rooms. All laboratories need also a space in glasshouse (at least 40m$^2$ each) for growing their plants and in the same space there must be free benches tables etc. for specific work e.g. inoculations etc.

For need assessment of further laboratory space and facilities as well as for the glass house and design of their specifications external technical assistance is requires.

In a first phase investment and assistance is required to develop the LCCF. Investment and technical assistance will be provided by Phare programme to equip the LCCF, train the staff and support the restructuring and development while national fund should be provided for refurbishing the building and building new laboratory and office space.

Provision of training and procurement of equipment under this project will be co-ordinated with support provided under the parallel Phare 2000 project concerned with development of capacity to implement the acquis on wine.

3.2. Linked activities:

- Twinning Project Romania/Greece (RO 98/IB-AB-01) started on 15th November 1999 with main aim adoption of Phytosanitary Acquis.
- Phare Project RO 9804 03 EU alignment and policy reform.

3.3. Results expected from PHARE 2000 Project.

- Administrative capacity of the central phytosanitary structures strengthened and able to effectively enforce the new adopted legislation.
- Enforcement of the newly adopted legislation concerning measures against introduction of injurious (micro)organisms. For example: implementation of the Directive 77/93/CEE strengthening LCCF to diagnose the quarantine (micro)organisms in the future list of injurious (micro)organisms forbidden in Romania and EU; implementation of control Directives 74/647/CEE, 99/57/CEE, 93/85/CEE, 69/464/CEE.
- Structure of LCCF reviewed, plans for adjustment and implementing programme approved and enforced.
- LCCF staff trained in new laboratory methods and control practices and able to train in their turn, adequately, both the phytosanitary inspectors at borders and County level and other laboratory staff.
- New modern laboratory equipment installed in the specialised laboratories of LCCF and fully operational able to carry out tests required by the newly adopted legislation.
- Procedure for accreditation launched.
4. Institutional framework
The General Directorate for European Integration and International Co-operation in the Ministry of Agriculture and Food has the overall co-ordination and implementing responsibility of Phare assistance at the Ministry level. Implementing Authority for this project will be the National Phytosanitary Agency (NPA) under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and it will have the main responsibility for technical implementation of different project components.

The Director General of NPA will have co-ordinating responsibility and be accountable for the laboratory equipment and other procurement elements described above.

5. Detailed Budget

Estimated Budget: 2,500,000 ECU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHARE Support</th>
<th>Investments</th>
<th>TA</th>
<th>Total Phare (=1+1B)</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
<th>IFI *</th>
<th>Total *</th>
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<td>-</td>
<td>1,650,000</td>
<td>550,000</td>
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<td>Item 2</td>
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<td>350,000</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,650,000</td>
<td>300,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>550,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,550,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Implementation Arrangements
The project Implementing Agency is CFCU, while the Implementing Authority is the National Phytosanitary Agency under the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. The General Directorate for European Integration and International Co-operation in the Ministry will keep the overall co-ordination and implementing responsibility of Phare assistance at the Ministry level.

The National Phytosanitary Agency of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food will have the main responsibility for technical implementation of different project components.

The Director General of NPA will have co-ordinating responsibility and be accountable for the laboratory equipment and other procurement elements described above. However in the interests of operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness, purchases will be made on a call-off basis using a general DIS procurement contract managed by the PIU, MoAF.

For the technical assistance a Technical Assistance contract is preferred taking into consideration that in practical terms the Phare 1998 Twinning Project will ensure as well the evaluation and the specification for the necessary equipment for LCCF. Phare 2000 programme, will create the possibility to procure it and train the personnel. LCCF staff is very young, not enough trained in authorised laboratories in Member States, especially with new techniques and modern equipment. For example they will have access to a good library and get skills to organise a similar library in Romania, they will become familiar with new laboratory techniques working by colleagues with necessary skills to
use modern and adequate equipment, they can get an overall image about usual requirements in Member States and get an idea of the whole system, not only a specific method, and so on. Also we consider very useful the specialisation in certain fields, and their training as trainers, enabling them to train in their turn the staff of the territorial laboratories.

Implemenatation schedule

- Tender launching: August 2000
- Beginning of project: January 2001
- End of project: December 2002;

Term of reference will be prepared by the NPA with the support of PIU so that the tender can be launched end August 2000 and contract signed by December 2000. Procurements under this programme will be made under a single supply contract split in different lots and the contract.

7. Equal opportunity N/A

8. Environment N/A

9. Rates of return N/A

10. Investments criteria

10.1. Catalytic Effect

Most of the Directives were transposed in Romanian legislation, but their implementation is very slow by unsatisfactory equipment existing in LCCF; This project will substantially help to implement the Control Directives and the basic Directive 77/93/CEE concerning prevention of introduction and dissemination of injurious (micro)organisms.

10.2. Project will be co-financed by the National Budget.

11. Conditionality and sequencing

- procurement in time with reagents and specific consumables;

For all projects with the Ministry of Agriculture, Phare support is conditional on the Ministry of Agriculture providing sufficient qualified full-time personnel for project preparation and implementation. Prior to signature of the Phare 2000 Financing Memorandum the Ministry will provide information satisfactory to the EC Delegation in Bucharest concerning the allocation of appropriate human resources for the Programme Implementing Unit and the various specialised services concerned with specific Phare projects, and these staffing levels will be maintained throughout the duration of the programmes.
### Annex 1 Logframe matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project title RO-0006.10</th>
<th>Project number</th>
<th>Date of drafting February 2000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Procurements of equipment for the Central Laboratory for Phytosanitary Quarantine for its accreditation</td>
<td>Contracting period expires: 30.11.2002</td>
<td>Disbursement period expires 30.11.2003</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total budget 2.55 Meuro</td>
<td>Phare contribution 2 Meuro</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wider objective</th>
<th>Indicators of achievement</th>
<th>Sources of information</th>
<th>Assumptions and risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strengthen the Romanian phytosanitary administration's capacity to enforce protective measures against introduction into the country of harmful</td>
<td>Minimal number of technical derogation sought in Accession negotiations on phytosanitary acquis.</td>
<td>Commission and Romanian records of accession discussions scheduled to open in 2000</td>
<td>No major changes in EU acquis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immediate objectives</th>
<th>Indicators of achievement</th>
<th>Sources of information</th>
<th>Assumptions and risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Restructuring and development of Central Laboratory for Phytosanitary Quarantine's network to cover activities requested by enforcement of the acquis;  
• Align diagnosis methods used by the Central Laboratory for Phytosanitary Quarantine (LCCF) to the current EU practices  
• Strengthen and develop technical diagnosis capacity of the LCCF to perform diagnosis and controls through supply of modern equipment for entomology, nematology, virology, bacteriology, mycology laboratories;  
• Develop human resources through training in diagnosis methods practiced by EU Member States;  
• improvement of communication between the National Phytosanitary Agency, LCCF and its subordinated regional structures;  
• improvement of scientific information resources; procedure for accreditation of laboratories under LCCF launched | - equipment procured  
- new types of analysis obtainable  
- number/range of tests per worker  
- rapid communication system functioning  
- laboratories reorganized and expanded  
- minimal improved scientific informational resources  
- number of trained as trainers | - quarterly reports of experts  
- in coming invoices for equipment  
- existing equipment modernized spaces  
- periodical reports to EC Delegation inventories  
- analysis reports. | - procurement in time with reagents and specific consumables;  
- keep the trained staff. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Outputs</th>
<th>Indicators of achievement</th>
<th>Sources of information</th>
<th>Assumptions and risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Administrative capacity of the central phytosanitary structures strengthened and able to effectively enforce the new adopted legislation.  
• Enforcement of the newly adopted legislation concerning measures against introduction of injurious (micro)organisms. For example: implementation of the Directive 77/93/CEE strengthening LCCF to diagnose the quarantine (micro)organisms in the future list of injurious (micro)organisms forbidden in Romania and EU; implementation of control Directives 74/647/CEE, 99/57/CEE, 93/85/CEE, 69/464/CEE.  
• Structure of LCCF reviewed, plans for adjustment and implementing programme approved and | - number, range and accuracy of new tests and methods  
- rapid communication system functioning  
- number of trained personnel  
- number of training sessions organized in Romania | - quarterly reports of experts  
- analysis reports  
- training reports of the Romanian trainers | - keep the trained staff  
- availability of governmental resources |
- LCCF staff trained in new laboratory methods and control practices and able to train in their turn, adequately, both the phytosanitary inspectors at borders and County level and other laboratory staff.
- New modern laboratory equipment installed in the specialized laboratories of LCCF and fully operational able to carry out tests required by the newly adopted legislation.

Procedure for accreditation launched

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inputs</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- supply of laboratory equipment and facilities</td>
<td>- Six-monthly programme review reports by MoAF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- provision on formal and on-job training in</td>
<td>- Procurement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania and Member States</td>
<td>- contractors quarterly reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- technical assistance and training</td>
<td>- Quarterly reports of experts</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### Annex 2 Detailed implementation Chart for the Project RO-0006.10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detailed Project Implementation</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>Q4</td>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>Q2</td>
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<td>Tender launching</td>
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<td>Contract TA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment and facilities</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Training sustained by Romanian trainers</td>
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<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernization spaces and greenhouse</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Installing equipment and facilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>New tests</td>
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<tr>
<td>Inception report</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quarterly reports</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final report</td>
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- X: Activity in progress

Annex 3 Cumulative contracting and disbursement Schedule for the Phytosanitary acquis project (2.0 Meuro)

A. Contracting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>4 Q 00</th>
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<th>2 Q 01</th>
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B. Disbursement

<table>
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<th>1 Q 01</th>
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<th>3 Q 01</th>
<th>4 Q 01</th>
<th>1 Q 02</th>
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<th>3 Q 02</th>
<th>4 Q 02</th>
<th>1 Q 03</th>
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<tr>
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<td>0.70</td>
<td>1.28</td>
<td>1.31</td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>2.0</td>
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</table>
Annex 4

A pre-feasibility study, issued by “S.C.R.A Serv. Proiect SRL” during April – October 1999 concerning:

- modernization and expanding the LCCF building estimated the costs at 927,183 ECU;
- modernization of the quarantine greenhouse, is estimated at 101,200 ECU