1. **Basic Information**

1.1 **Désirée Number:** RO-0109-02

1.2 **Title:** Phare end-user support for the student participants of the Socrates II Community Programme Erasmus mobility schemes

1.3 **Sector:** Community Programmes

1.4 **Location:** Romania

2. **Objectives**

2.1 **Overall Objective(s):**

The project will facilitate access of Romanian students to educational and training resources in Europe by ensuring additional funding for all Romanian students participating in the mobility schemes of the Socrates II Community Programme.

2.2. **Project purpose:**

To eliminate obstacles against student mobility determined by the scarcity of co-financing sources, through setting up an additional grant mechanism.

2.3 **Accession Partnership and NPAA priority**

The 2000 NPAA, chapter no.3.2.1 – Education, training and youth, stipulates the Romanian participation to the Socrates II Community Programme as one of the major priorities on short and medium term. This Community Programme are 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.

3. **Description**

3.1 **Background and justification:**

The Romanian participation to the Community Programmes represents a major step in meeting the criteria towards EU accession in the field of education, training and youth. The Socrates Programme is 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 Programmes 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 Programme were set in the Association Council Decision no.3 /29.09.2000.

The Phare End-User Support project will support the student mobility in the Socrates programme and it will focus on supporting the mobilities of the Erasmus Action 2.
“The Impact of Socrates Programme in the context of Educational Reform in Romania 1997-1999”, study carried out by the Romanian Institute for Educational Sciences concludes that for the academic year 1998-1999, the number of student mobilities was about 1250 for an average study period of 4.8 months/student and for an average grant of 359 euro/month. For the academic year 1999-2000, the number of the student mobility was about 1695 for an average study period of 5.2 months/student and for an average grant of 258 euro/month. Because in the academic year 2000-2001 the mobility demand had doubled, the medium Erasmus grant is about 147 euro/month.

If the universities go for the option to send less students, they are in the position to not accomplish their take-up rates and they could also jeopardise the Bilateral Agreements with the EU partner institutions. The Romanian authorities, together with the Socrates Romanian Agency, developed mechanisms for penalising the universities which did not accomplished their take-up rates (5% for the HEIs which did accomplished their take-up rates between 80-90%, 10% for the HEIs which did accomplished their take-up rates between 70-80%, ...,20% for the HEIs which did accomplished their take-up rates less than 60% etc.)

The amount of the scholarship regularly offered by the Romanian Government for the students with very good scholar results is about 30 euro per month. The other donors could be the families, the local communities, local enterprises and companies, but the number of the local sponsors willing to support the students during their study periods is still very low in Romania and the final beneficiaries of the Socrates Programme encounter difficulties in finding extra-sources for co-financing their grants during the study period in one of the countries of the European Union.

The request for additional Phare support is justified by the increasing interest of the Romanian students to participate in the Community Programmes, as well, with the academic year 2000 /2001, private accredited universities will be eligible to participate in these programmes and the number of the applying HEIs will reach to 50 (see the data at page no.3)

In order to eliminate the obstacles for participants and to ensure equal access to studies abroad to all students, irrespective of their financial background, it will be necessary to provide support which could alleviate the final beneficiary’s financial burden.

3.2 Linked activities:

The Tempus I Programme (1990-1994) (Trans-European-Mobility Scheme for University Studies) had also achieved its objectives in reforming the Higher Education structures and management within intensive East-West and West-East mobilities.

The Socrates I Programme (1995-1999) had as its main objective to strengthen the European dimension in education by promoting the co-operation and mobility in the field of education, stimulating the exchanges between the education institutions, promoting the learning of the foreign languages.

3.3 Results:
Increased monthly subsidy for the participants of the mobility schemes of the Socrates II programme: an increase of average monthly subsidy from 149 € to 349 € (170 € from Phare and 30 € from students resources). The total of the grant (Erasmus + End-user) cannot exceed the maximum support authorised in the Socrates Programme framework, 500 €/month.

Increased number of participants in the Community Programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic year</th>
<th>No of students</th>
<th>No of HEIs</th>
<th>No of granted months</th>
<th>Erasmus funds</th>
<th>Phare end-user support</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1998/1999</td>
<td>1.250</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>6.053</td>
<td>2.863.015</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000/2001</td>
<td>cca. 1.900</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>cca. 12.000</td>
<td>3.057.091</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001/2002</td>
<td>cca. 2.000</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>cca. 14.500</td>
<td>cca. 3.000.000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002/2003</td>
<td>cca. 2.400</td>
<td>cca. 50</td>
<td>cca 17.650</td>
<td>cca. 3.000.000</td>
<td>3.000.000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.4 Activities:

1. The National Agency Socrates (NAS) will organise two training and informative seminars before the selection period. The seminars are included in the Workprogramme 2001/2003 of the NAS, approved by the European Commission and the Ministry of Education and Research, and financed through the Operational Agreement.

First seminar:
Title: Erasmus Action 2 –Phare. Preparatory Seminar for Implementation of the PEUS Project
Location: Bucharest
Duration: 1 day (April 2002)
Responsibles: Erasmus Action 2 co-ordinators –National Socrates Agency-
Target groups: Erasmus institutional co-ordinators, representatives of the students’ organisations, potential promoters (the network of the Romanian members of AEGEE).
Guests: representatives of the CFCU, representatives of the Hungarian NAS for best practice dissemination.

Second seminar:
Title: Phare End User Support Project. Seminar for Implementation of the PEUS Project
Location: Bucharest
Duration: 1 day (February 2003)
Responsibles: Erasmus Action 2 co-ordinators –Socrates 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 NAS 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 available through the “2001 –2003 Operating Agreement” from the budget of the NAS.

3. The Universities will run the selection of the students, according to the rules established by the National Socrates Council in respect of the Erasmus programme and approved by the EC Delegation. In July 2002 they must forward to NA the lists of selected students and the NA must provide these lists to the EC Delegation. The possible changes in these lists, after the 1-st semester 2002, will be made available in due time to the NAS and the Delegation.

4. The Universities will send to NAS semestrial and final reports. The reports will contain special sections concerning the selection procedure and the management of the PHARE funds;

5. The NAS, together with the experts appointed by the National Socrates Council, will run monitoring and audit visits at the participating universities;

6. Visits will be finalised by reports submitted to the CFCU. During the visits, interviews, questionnaires and focus-group discussions with students and Erasmus coordinators will be used to measure the impact of the project.

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

4. Institutional Framework

The target group: students participating to the Erasmus mobility projects under the Socrates II Community Programme.

The Ministry of Education and Research
- the national co-ordination and supervising the implementation in good conditions of the project;
- ensures the relation between the National Socrates Council, the National Socrates Agency, the CFCU and the EC Delegation in Bucharest.

The National Agency Socrates (NAS):
- the Implementing Authority of the project;
- implementing the selection and eligibility criteria stipulated by the Socrates National Council and the EC Delegation;
- setting up of the level of financing to the eligible institutions (Universities) conforming to the National Action Plan 2002/2003 for Mobility Activities under Erasmus (approved by the Commission and the National Socrates Council);
- drawing, signing and sending the contracts to the interested parties: CFCU and HEIs;
- 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;
- drafting and sending interim or final reports to whom it may concern.

The National Socrates Council (NSC)
-setting up the selection procedures and eligibility criteria for the participant students, according to the rules of the Commission for the Erasmus programme;
-the nomination of the experts in charge with the audit visits to Higher Education Institutions.

The Central Financing and Contracting Unit (CFCU)
- the Implementing Agency of the project;
-specific payments directly to the HEIs, conforming to the contracts signed with these institutions.

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

1. The Memorandum of Understanding will be signed between the CFCU, the National Agency Socrates and it will be endorsed by the EC Delegation in Bucharest. The Memorandum will provide information about priorities, level of financing, criteria for provision of end-user support, decision making, reporting to CFCU and auditing, monitoring and evaluation stipulations.

2. The contracts for Phare End-User Support will be signed between three parties: the Universities, the Socrates National Agency and the CFCU. On the basis of these contracts, the CFCU will make the specific payments directly to the HEIs concerned. The contracts are subsequent to the contracts signed between the NAS and the HEIs in the framework of the Socrates-Erasmus Programme. The contracts will stipulate all conditions, rights and obligations of the CFCU, NAS and HEIs related to the complying with the eligibility and selection criteria as well as the reporting procedures and audit visits. The NAS will be responsible with the preparation and the sending out of the contracts to all the participant HEIs and CFCU.

3. The Socrates National Council, in close co-operation with the National Agency Socrates, are responsible for the establishment of the selection procedure for the end users of the PHARE support and the nomination of the independent monitors.

Selection criteria to be used by the universities:

All the applicants for additional subsidies through the PEUS project must fulfil out the eligibility criteria prescribed by the European Commission for the Erasmus Action 2. All the participant students to the Erasmus Action 2 will receive the additional funds provided through the PEUSP.
The National Socrates Council will nominate independent experts who, together with the Socrates NA staff, will monitor and evaluate the project running;

Constraints:
- Students’ lack of trust regarding the Erasmus programme, motivated by troubling delays in receiving the Erasmus funds each year and by the small average of the monthly grant.
- Potential financial difficulties in 2002, in receiving on time the Erasmus funds or the PHARE end-users support funds.

5. Detailed Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phare</th>
<th>End User Support</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
<th>National* Cofinancing</th>
<th>IFI</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contract 1</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cofinancing*: all the end users (Erasmus students) will contribute to the final amount with 30 EUR/month.

6. Implementation arrangements

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

Implementing Agency

Socrates National Agency
Contact person: Dan Grigorescu, Director
Monica Calota, Deputy Director
B-dul Schitu Magureanu nr.1, Bucharest, Romania
Tel. ++40 1 311 35 05, ++40 1 312 11 87
Fax: ++40 1 311 35 00
E-mail: Dan.Grigorescu@socrates.ro, Monica.Calota@socrates.ro

The Central Finance and Contracting Unit will be the Contracting Authority and responsible for transferring the funds from the National Fund to the Socrates National Agency.

6.2 Twinning: not applicable

6.3 Non-standard aspects
*The Phare-end user support is a non-standard project for the support of the final student beneficiaries of mobility schemes of the Socrates-Erasmus Programme.*
6.4 Contracts

Estimation: about 50 contracts with the HEI’s (total amount: 3,000 MEURO)

7. Implementation Schedule

Start of tendering/call for proposals
2nd Q 2001
Start of project activity
3rd Q 2002
Project Completion
3rd Q 2003

8. Equal Opportunities

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.).

9. Conditionality and sequencing

Milestones of the project in terms of impact:
- Signing the Memorandum of understanding between CFCU, NAS and the EC Delegation in Bucharest;
- Information campaign run by NAS; first seminar-April 2002
- Transparent selection of the end-users-July 2002
- Signing the contracts between NAS and Universities; specific payments
- Monitoring the process and processing the reports of the visits by the NAS;
- Second seminar –February 2003
- Processing the interim reports sent by the Universities (NAS)
- Final reports: Universities, NAS

Conditionality:
The PEUS project will succeed under the following conditions:
- signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the relevant bodies;
- close co-operation between NAS, Universities, National Socrates Council;
- transparent and clear procedures in running the selection of the students and in the management of the funds, at the Universities’ level;
- a constant process of monitoring, run by the National Agency Socrates.

ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. Logical framework matrix in standard format (compulsory)
2. Detailed implementation chart (compulsory)
3. Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter for full duration of programme (including disbursement period) (compulsory)
4. Memorandum of Understanding between CFCU and Socrates National Agency of Romania
### LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR *(add project name)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wider Objective(s)</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement*</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The project will support Romania to strengthen the European dimension in education and to facilitate wide transnational access to educational and training resources in Europe by eliminating important obstacles against the mobility of the participants to the Socrates II Community Programme.</td>
<td>• The number of the Romanian Universities participating to the Socrates-Erasmus programme will be increased with 15% <em>(compared to the previous situation: 39 Universities in 2000-2001)</em>&lt;br&gt;• The number of the participating Erasmus students will be increased with 25% <em>(compared to the</em></td>
<td>• Semestrial and final reports of the involved Universities, concerning the use of PHARE funds, submitted to the National Agency Socrates (NAS) and to the Ministry of Education and Research (MER).&lt;br&gt;• Reports made by independent experts and NAS staff, at the end of the monitoring visits, submitted to MER and to the National Socrates Council (NSC); during the visits, questionnaires, interviews and focus-group discussions with</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Programme name: and number: Phare End user support for the student participants of the Socrates II Community Programme Erasmus mobility

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contracting period expires: 30.11.2003</th>
<th>Disbursement period expires: 30.11.2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Number</td>
<td>Total Budget: 3(MECU)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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*The table above is a planning matrix for a project related to educational support, specifically focusing on supporting Romania to strengthen its European dimension in education and facilitate transnational access to educational and training resources in Europe. The project aims to increase the participation of Romanian universities and students in Socrates-Erasmus programmes, where the number of universities and students will be increased by 15% and 25% respectively compared to previous years. The achievements will be measured through reports submitted to the National Agency Socrates (NAS) and the Ministry of Education and Research (MER), as well as through independent expert reports made during monitoring visits.*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Immediate Objective (Purpose)</th>
<th>Indicators of Achievement*</th>
<th>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Eliminating the obstacle represented by the scarcity of the co-financing resources, facing students mobility in the Socrates Programme, by setting up an additional grant mechanism. • Providing equal opportunities for all the students, regardless of their social and economic situation.</td>
<td>• The number of applicants will increase with at least 30% (compared to the number of applicants in the previous year). • The number of the participating Erasmus students will be increased with 25% (compared to the previous academic year).</td>
<td>• Semestrial /final reports of the involved Universities, concerning the use of PHARE funds, submitted to NSA and MER. • Reports made by independent experts and NSA staff, at the end of the monitoring visits, submitted to MER and NSC; during the visits, questionnaires, interviews and focus-group discussions with students and Erasmus coordinators will be used. • Statistical reports made by NSA, concerning the implementation of the Socrates programme, and submitted to MER, NSC.</td>
<td>• Assumptions: • Comprehensive support of all institutions involved (NAS, Universities, CFCU, MER, NSC). • Strong coordination by the NAS. • Active participation of all key actors involved in the project (institutions, associations and individuals). • Risks: • Difficulties in running transparently the selection procedure. • Lack of trust regarding the Erasmus programme, motivated by the financial situation of the year 2000: the Erasmus funds, destined to cover the students mobilities from September 2000 to July 2001 have been received in April 2001. • Potential financial difficulties (delays) in receiving on time the Erasmus funds or the PHARE—end users supports funds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results (Outputs)</td>
<td>Indicators of Achievement*</td>
<td>How, When and By Whom Indicators Will Be Measured</td>
<td>Assumptions and Risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| • Increased monthly subsidy for the participants to the Socrates Community Programme.  
• Rising the number of the students mobilities  
• Changing the mentality of the actors involved in the project, concerning the issue of co-financing in the Socrates Programme. | • The average monthly grant will be increased from 149 EUR (Erasmus) to 349 EUR (170 EUR from PHARE and 30 EUR from the students resources)  
• The number of the participant students will be increased with 25% (compared to the previous academic year). | • Semestrial reports of the involved Universities, concerning the use of PHARE funds, submitted to the NSA and MER.  
• Reports made by independent experts and NSA staff, at the end of the monitoring visits, submitted to MER, NSC; during the visits, questionnaires, interviews and focus-group discussions with students and Erasmus coordinators will be used.  
• Statistical reports made by NSA, concerning the implementation of the Socrates programme, and submitted to MER, NSC. | • Assumptions:  
• Comprehensive support of all institutions involved (NAS, Universities, CFCU, MER, NSC).  
• Strong coordination by the NAS  
• Active participation of all key actors involved in the project (institutions, associations and individuals).  
• Risks: -Difficulties in running transparently the selection procedure.  
- Lack of trust regarding the Erasmus programme, motivated by the financial situation of the year 2000: the Erasmus funds, destined to cover the students mobilities from September 2000 to July 2001 have been received in April 2001.  
- Potential financial difficulties (delays) in receiving on time the Erasmus funds or the PHARE –end users supports funds. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Assumptions and Risks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • Setting up the institutional frame for running the project:  
  - Signing the | • Assumptions:  
• Comprehensive support of all institutions involved (NAS, Universities, CFCU, MER, NSC). |
Memorandum of understanding between Central Financing and Contracting Unit (CFCU) and National Agency Socrates.

- The National Agency Socrates (NAS) will set up the level of financing to the eligible institutions (Higher Education Institutions-HEIs) conforming to the National Action Plan 2002/2003 for Mobility Activities under Erasmus (approved by the European Commission and by the National Socrates Council-NSC).
- The National Agency Socrates (NAS) will draw, sign and send the contracts to all interested parts: the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) and CFCU.
- On the basis of these contracts, the CFCU will pay directly to the beneficiaries.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annex 1 : Logframe Matrix for project: RO0109.02</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Strong coordination by the NAS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Active participation of all key actors involved in the project (institutions, associations and individuals).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Risks: -Difficulties in running transparently the selection procedure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Lack of trust regarding the Erasmus programme, motivated by the financial situation of the year 2000: the Erasmus funds, destined to cover the students mobilities from September 2000 to July 2001 have been received in April 2001.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-Potential financial difficulties (delays) in receiving on time the Erasmus funds or the PHARE –end users supports funds.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HEIs the subsidies for the end-users support.

* the National Socrates Council, in close cooperation with the NAS, will establish the selection procedure for the Erasmus students (all the selected Erasmus students will benefit of the PHARE support).

*the National Socrates Council will nominate independent experts who, together with NAS staff, will monitor and evaluate the project running.

*the NAS will organize 1 training and informative seminar with the Erasmus coordinators in Universities, before the selection period. At this seminar will be also invited representatives of all the students’ organizations (including AEGEE, those Romanian members are organized by the NAS in a Erasmus promotion net-work).

*the NAS will make public all the information concerning the project (in mass media by press-conferences, interviews, publishing materials) and will check the transparency of the information at the University level.
*The Universities will run the selection of the students, according to the rules established by the NSC.
*The Universities will send to NAS semestrial reports. Reports will contain special sections concerning the selection procedures and the management of the PHARE funds.
*the NAS, together with the experts appointed by the NSC will run, during the whole academic year 2002/2003, monitoring and audit visits at the participating universities. Visits will be finalized by reports, to be submitted to the SNC and to the Ministry of Education and Research (MER). During the visits, questionnaires and focus-group discussions with students will be used to measure the impact of the project.
*The NAS will organize 1 seminar with the Erasmus coordinators, representatives of students’ organizations and other promoters (AEGEE) concerning the life-cycle of the project (between the 2 semesters of the academic year)
*at the end of the project, the Universities will send to the NAS final reports concerning the implementation of the project; on the base of these reports, NAS will draft the final report and send it to all interested parts.

* Must be quantified and measurable
## Annex 2: Detailed Time Implementation Chart for Project Number RO-01.XX-XX

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>code of activity</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Preparation of the standard application</td>
<td>J 1</td>
<td>M 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Submitting the application</td>
<td>M 2</td>
<td>M 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Signing the Memorandum of Understanding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Information Campaign ran by NAS</td>
<td>J 4</td>
<td>M 4</td>
<td>M 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>NSC will set up the selection procedure for end users</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Approval of the procedure by EC Delegation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Informative and training seminar ran by NAS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Selection procedure ran by the Universities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Universities will provide the list of beneficiaries to EC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>NAS will draft, sign and send the contracts to all parts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>CFCU will pay the PHARE funds to the contracting Universities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Universities will distribute the grants to the students on the base of standard individual contracts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Monitoring and audit visits run by NAS and external experts approved by NSC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>1st semestrial reports sent by Universities to NAS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Training seminar for monitoring the lifecycle of the project</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Final Reports of Universities submitted to NAS</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Final Report of NAS submitted to MER and NSC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Comment*: Possible changes in the selection lists will be sent to NAS and EC Delegation

*Milestones of the project in terms of impact*
Annex 2 - Detailed implementation chart for project: RO0109.02

- Signing the Memorandum of understanding between CFCU and NAS;
- Information campaign ran by NAS;
- Transparent selection of the end-users
- Signing the contracts between CFCU, NAS, Universities;
- Processing the interim reports sent by the Universities (NAS) Second Seminar
- Second Seminar
- Final reports: Universities, NAS

NAS: National Agency SOCRATES
NSC: National SOCRATES Council
MER: Ministry of Education and Research
Annex 3 – Cumulative contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter for project: RO0109.02

Phare end-user support for the participants of the mobility schemes of the Socrates II Community Programme
RO 0109.02

**CONTRACTING and DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE (MEUR 3)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between

The Central Financial and Contracting Unit

And

The SOCRATES National Agency of Romania

Whereas on 29\textsuperscript{th} of September 2000 the EU/Romania Association Council adopted the decision providing the terms and conditions for Romania’s participation in the Community Programmes in the field of education and vocational training Socrates and Leonardo da Vinci;

Whereas on November 2000, the European Commission and the Government of Romania signed in Bucharest the PHARE National Programme for Romania;

Whereas FM 01 provides for financial support to Romanian beneficiaries of the mobility schemes of the Socrates Community Programme. The amount allocated for this purpose is 3 MEUR;

Whereas FM 01 establishes the fact that the Central Financing and Contracting Unit (CFCU) has the overall responsibility for the implementation of the End-User Support Programme;

Whereas it is established under the FM 01 that the implementation arrangements for the use of the funds will be further detailed through a Memorandum of Understanding between the relevant bodies;

Whereas the Socrates National Agency has already been established in Romania to ensure the implementation of the decentralised part of the Socrates Community Programme;

Whereas all payments to the Romanian Universities will be made by the CFCU.

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1 (Purpose)

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding is to lay down the provisions to ensure sound financial management and proper coordination with the aim an efficient
implementation of the programme, i.e. the provision of additional end-user support to Romanian participants in the SOCRATES Programme.

Article 2 (Amount available)

Out of the PHARE 2001 National Funding for Romania an amount of 3.000 MEUR will be allocated for providing additional financial support to Romanian participants students selected under the SOCRATES-Erasmus Programme in 2002 and supposed to participate in the Programme in the academic year 2002/2003.

Eventual non-used funds for providing support to Romanian participants selected under the SOCRATES Programme in 2002 will be used to support participants selected in 2003 and participating in the Programme in the first semester 2003/2004.

Article 3 (Priorities, Level of Financing, Estimation of Financial needs and Work Programme)

On this basis, the SOCRATES National Agency estimates the global financial needs for the SOCRATES end-user support as follows:

| ERASMUS Student Mobility 2002/2003 | EUR 3.000.000 |

The CFCU will prepare, on the basis of the above and with the assistance of the SOCRATES National Agency sufficient supporting documentation for the request of funds from the National Fund. This will be done in accordance with Article 6 of the Memorandum between the Romanian Government and the European Commission on the establishment of a National Fund.

Article 4 (Bank Account)

A separate interest-bearing account in Euro entitled “End-User Support” will be open by the CFCU at (…BANK…) for the purposes of the implementation of the PHARE end-users support project (PEUS). Interests on the account will be reported regularly to the European Commission and should be returned to the Commission.

Article 5 (Criteria for the provision of end-user support)

To be eligible for end-user support, the applicants shall meet the following conditions:
All the applicants for additional subsidies through the PEUS project must carry out the eligibility criteria prescribed by the European Commission for the Erasmus Action 2. All the students participating to the Erasmus (Socrates Programme) will receive the additional funds provided through the PEUS;
Annex 4 – Memorandum of Understanding between CFCU and Socrates
RO 0109.02

All the applicants shall have been selected for support under the SOCRATES-ERASMUS Community Programme, and is, therefore included in the final list of the SOCRATES selected students;
All the applicants shall commit himself to use the end-user support exclusively for the purpose of the Erasmus mobility;
The aggregated sum of the SOCRATES subsidy and the additional end-user support to be received by the Romanian participant shall not exceed EUR 500 per month and EUR 5000 for the whole study period. Moreover, the end-user undertakes the obligation of a monthly EUR 30 contribution to the costs of his study period.
The applicant shall commit himself to reimburse, at the end of the project and in any case before the expiry of Financing Memorandum for 2001 any funds which would not have been spent, or which would have been spent in contravention to the above-mentioned rules, to the CFCU.

Article 6 (Decision -making)

Phare end-user funds will be allocated to the applicants in accordance with the following decision-making process:

The SOCRATES National Agency will decide on the funding from both the Community Programme source (ERASMUS Funds) and the Phare end-user funds taking into account the limits of available funding;

The SOCRATES National Agency prepares a contract on End-User Support. The contract contains all conditions and obligations of the Beneficiary( i.e University), including the following elements:
-a formal declaration whereby the Beneficiary commits himself to use the funds for his participation in the SOCRATES-Erasmus Action 2;
-a formal declaration whereby the Beneficiary commits himself to reimburse, at the end of the project and in any case before the expiry of Financing Memorandum for 2001 any funds which would not have been spent, or which would have been spent in contravention to the rules mentioned in Article 5 immediately on request , to the CFCU.

Bank accounts where funds can be transferred……

Contracts will be signed by the SOCRATES National Agency, the Beneficiary (University) and the CFCU.

Article 8 (Payments)

Payments to the Beneficiaries will be made directly by the CFCU upon receipt from the Director of SOCRATES National Agency a request for transfer the funds that will include:
Name and address of the Beneficiary (University);
Amounts to be transferred;
Bank details;
Contracts signed by all parties as mentioned in Article 7. All payments shall be made before the expiry date of the period for disbursements.

Article 9 (Reporting to the CFCU)

SOCRATES National Agency shall forward to the CFCU a twice report on the financed activities that have been completed during the reported period of time. The report will contain a quantitative assessment based upon the reports submitted by the Universities (the Beneficiaries) to the SOCRATES National Agency. The SOCRATES National Agency should underline the difficulties of the operation and/or may suggest possible solutions in the report. In addition, the SOCRATES National Agency shall send the Final Audit and Performance report to the CFCU until 31.12.2003.

Article 10 (Auditing, Monitoring, and Evaluation)

The accounts and operations of the implementing Agency relating to the implementation of this programme may be checked at regular intervals by an outside auditor contracted by the Commission without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Commission and the EC’s Court of Auditors as referred to in the General conditions relating to the provision of PHARE assistance.

The Commission services shall monitor the implementation of the project on the basis of regular reports by the implementing Agency to follow the progress of the project and its components.

End-user contracts, copies of invoices received from the Beneficiaries (Universities) and all document linked to the projects, moreover the interim and final audit reports will be kept by the SOCRATES National Agency for at least 5 five years after its submission. These records will be made available, in their entirety, for the convenience of inspectors, auditors and any other agents acting on behalf on the CFCU and/or the EU Commission.

Article 11 (Final provisions)

The expiry date of this Memorandum of Understanding is 31 December 2003.

Director CFCU

Director SOCRATES National Agency