PHARE/2005/017-553.03.07

PROJECT FICHE FOR PHARE 2005

for

Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System
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1. Basic Information

1.1. CRIS Number:
PHARE/2005/017-553.03.07

1.2. Title:
“Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System”

1.3. Sector:
Statistics

1.4. Location:
Romania

1.5. Duration:
16 months

2. Objectives

2.1. Overall Objective:
- Reinforce the Romanian Statistical System through adoption of the current and new acquis communautaire.

2.2. Project purpose:
- Development of institutional capacity to assure enhancement of harmonization process with the EU standards and regulations and the improvement of the access to the statistical information for the public at large. To be achieved by the following tasks:

Task I – Social statistics development
Task II – Economic statistics development
Task III – Endowment for capacity strengthening

2.3. Accession Partnership and NPAA priority

In the Accession Partnership it was stipulated the following:
- “Further improve quality and coverage of statistics by ensuring that adequate resources are made available to strengthen statistical capacities, including at regional level”;
- “Define a long-term strategy for statistical development”.

In the Road Map 2002 it was stressed the following:
- “Romania should focus further efforts on upgrading statistical methodologies and improving the quality and completeness of data”.

In 2004 Regular Report on Romania towards accession it was stipulated:
- “…in demographic and social statistics, statistics on income and living conditions – including poverty – need to be further developed”;
- “In order to complete preparations for membership, Romania’s efforts should now focus on further methodology development and improving the quality and completeness of data especially in the areas of national accounts, business statistics and agriculture statistics”;
Macro-economic statistics are produced on the basis of the European System of Accounts (ESA 95) methodology with a good level of compliance but further efforts are needed to improve the quality and timeliness of data;
- Attention should be paid to improving the quality and accuracy of business statistics in general.

In the Negotiating Paper for Chapter 12 – ‘Statistics’ it was stipulated that:
- Romania is ready to examine the ongoing development of the statistical acquis and periodically inform the Conference for Accession or the Council for Association on the legislation and the measures adopted for the implementation of the new statistical acquis”.

2.4. Coherence with National Development Plan
N/A

2.5. Cross Border Impact - N/A

3. Description
3.1 Background and justification:

Romanian statistics recorded major progresses related to the compliance with European norms in this field, being now prepared to switch from consolidation to the refinement of the own statistical system. This compliance with the European standards supposes a continuous strengthening of the Romanian Statistical System through the implementation, at the highest level of detail, of the European regulations, either new or older ones, concerning Statistics.

Task I – Social statistics development
a. Pilot Survey on Adults Education (AES) and Health Interview pilot Survey (EHIS)
- During the third quarter 2003, the National Institute of Statistics carried out the complementary survey “Specific features of the continuous education” as an attached module of the “Households labour force survey”. To obtain the needed information for analysing the ways of permanent training (formal, non-formal and informal) of adult population (in age of 15 and over) from different points of view like educational level, study field, length and number of hours allocated for training, attendance reason, period of day (in relation or not with every person’s working program) etc, the Pilot Survey on Adults Education (AES) is absolutely necessary. It will comply with any specifications (methods, classifications, questionnaires, etc.) concerning the planned EU AES agreed between Eurostat and the EU Member States by the time of its implementation.
- In 2000, within the Phare National Programme RO 9073-01 STATISTICS, the sub-project 1.1 “Social statistics”, the National Institute of Statistics carried out a Health Interview Survey (HIS). Data resulted from the survey are comparable at international level, the survey providing information on the 12 areas (items) recommended by EUROSTAT at the time.
In 2001 EUROSTAT urged the Member States to carry out health interview surveys that would provide additional information for 18 areas (items) according to the methodological guide drawn up by EUROSTAT.
By means of the 2001 Phare Multi-Beneficiary Programme PP “Public Health Statistics” INS restructured the data obtained in the health survey carried out in 2000 according to the EUROSTAT guidelines – providing data for 15 areas (among them there were indicators on which there were no information).
At the end of participation of the INS/Romania within the 2003 Multi-Beneficiary Programme PP “Health and disability statistics” and “Health care labour accounts” a methodology in line with that of Member States and Candidate Countries regarding health status of the disabled population and manpower in health statistics is to be set up.

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In order to obtain statistical data, based on which to be able to describe the health state of the Romanian population, a statistical sample survey in the population households needs to be designed and implemented, in full compliance with the EUROSTAT guidelines for the European Health Interview Survey (EHIS), according to the Community’s Statistical Programmes for 1998-2002 and 2003-2007 and especially to the new Programme on public health for 2003 – 2008.

b. Development and improvement of social protection statistics
The data on social protection in the European Union are drawn up according to the European System of Integrated Social Protection Statistics (ESSPROS) methodology. The ESSPROS methodology is a harmonised system providing a way of analysing and comparing social protection financial flows (expenditure and receipts). The methodology is described in detail in the ESSPROS Manual 1996.

Within the Multi-Beneficiary Programme Phare 2001- Pilot Project, first steps on the way of harmonising the Romanian social protection statistics with the EU ones were undertaken, the following activities have been carried out and finalised by INS:

(i) Identification of social protection schemes according to the ESSPROS Manual 1996 and the links between functions and social protection schemes.
(ii) Questionnaire on quantitative data was fulfilled with the available information by each scheme for both expenditures and receipts, for the reference year 2000 and 2001.
(iii) Questionnaire on qualitative data was fulfilled by scheme and detailed benefits for the reference year 2000 and 2001
(iv) Questionnaire on the number of beneficiaries of pension for the old age function was fulfilled for years 2000 and 2001.

The improvement of the quality of social protection statistics and finding or setting up the most appropriate data sources for the partially or totally missing information, suppose:
- to develop methods of estimation for obtaining the requested breakdowns, i.e. more refined data according to ESSPROS requirements;
- to design and implement a pilot survey on social protection expenditures and receipts of the non-profit organisations, in order to obtain the missing data.

c. Automated data collection system
At present, data collections for the surveys in the social statistics field are made using face to face interview, interviewers using paper questionnaires. Data-entry is made at the county level, using specialised software designed by the INS specialists. The files are transmitted through mail at INS headquarters.

The use of computer assisted data collection system for all the surveys carried out based on interviews offers the following facilities: assists the surveyor in solving complex cases; allows for easy navigation among all modules and sections of the questionnaire; allows for the interviewers access to previously collected data; the electronic questionnaire is easily changeable without supplementary costs; it ensures all training elements for surveyors; it ensures the improvement of data quality.

Task II – Economic statistics development
a. Prepare for new developments in agricultural statistics
Within the 2000 Phare National Programme, the component regarding the Compliance of agricultural statistics with the EU norms and standards, set up the premises for the implementation of the new agricultural statistical system in Romania, based on sample surveys, according to the acquis communautaire.
In 2004, the new agricultural statistical system was implemented, by carrying out surveys on:
- land use, using remote sensing (LUCAS)
- crop production
- livestock and animal production.
The agricultural statistical system has to be strengthened by the approach of some modules concerning: fodder balance sheets, vegetables production, production of flowers and ornamental plants, according to the new acquis communautaire.

b. Short term-statistics on service prices
Council Regulation (EC) no. 1165/98 concerning short-term statistics stipulates the transmission to Eurostat of a significant number of indicators which are not traditionally collected by countries as Romania. Among these indicators the price index for services is to be found and according to the above-mentioned Regulation, the reference year should be 2005. INS does not have the necessary experience for collecting and producing such an indicator and taking into account the difficulties related to data collection for the service sector, a project on this matter is needed.

c. Complete the evaluation methods for measuring the informal sector
At the beginning of ‘90s, the hidden economy became a problem for Romania too. The increase of the number of enterprises and own account workers, unreliable financial reports of economical actors, uncertainty about what are the active economical actors in the country, the inexistence of adequate system of taxation, a lack of well functional government-bodies like the taxation and custom-bodies, are some of the reasons of the growth of the hidden economy with very significant impact on the level of GDP.
The scope of the estimation of non-observed economy is to ensure the exhaustiveness of GDP, according to the methodological concepts of SNA 93 and ESA 95. The methodology used by National Institute of Statistics for the estimation of non-observed economy (NOE) was improved every year, according with the new available data sources. The non-observed economy estimates in INS covers:
- the formal sector, including:
  - estimation of black labour; the method used is based on the comparison between the labour force supply and demand in order to identify the persons who carry out a legal activity in a unit from formal sector, but are not declared to authorities.
  - estimation for tax evasion, only for VAT.
- the informal sector: the NOE is estimated for all the activities performed by family associations and self-employed, whose data come from the Ministry of Finance.
On the basis of the Labour Force Survey (AMIGO) the information on the number of persons who work in family associations and self employed is estimated based on principle according to which the incomes realised by non-wage workers (persons from family associations and self-employed) cannot be less that the average wage earned by employees in the same activity, in small units. The income declarations of registered self employed persons and family associations obtained from Ministry of Finance are compared with the value of these calculations. As a result of this analysis, the incomes are adjusted, and the tax evasion of the units registered into the informal sector is completely removed.

d. Seasonal adjustment of quarterly national accounts / Flash indicators (estimates) / Institutional sectors
The significant and extremely rapid changes in Romanian economy, after 1989, have emphasised the need for measuring these changes and computing some macroeconomic aggregates, especially the GDP, not only annually, but also based on a shorter term. In order to meet these requirements, ever since 1997, the National Institute of Statistics has started publishing estimates of quarterly GDP, in current and constant prices (the prices of previous year’s corresponding quarter).
Taking into account that infra-annual data sources are limited in terms of volume and degree of detail, quarterly GDP is only computed by means of 2 methods: production method and expenditure method. Data comprised in quarterly national accounts are not seasonally adjusted.

e. Improvement and harmonisation of integrated environmental statistical data
The drawing up of an integrated economy - environment accounting involves establishing some connections between pure environment statistics and accounts and national accounting,
respectively the use, first of all, of the rules, concepts and classification of the national accounting system, in other words the creation of satellite accounts for national accounts. This activity started with the 1997 National Phare Programme which put the basis of a system for data collection in the field of environment protection. The activity was further developed by the 2001 National Phare Programme aimed to create environment statistics adapted to European norms and standards and continues through the 2003 National Phare Programme dedicated the establishment of a satellite account for environment protection expenditure. There is a lot of community legislation on environmental accounts to take care in the very next future.

f. Improvement of the business statistics data
The current system of data collection and processing for business surveys is not prepared to respond to the new requirements of Eurostat regarding the quality measurements. Quality management needs to measure automatically the non-response (total and partial), the impact of the imputation and redressments, the outliers’ impact, the coefficient of variation. Currently, the system of quality management is done partially manually and it is not developed the system of the control of the coherence with other business surveys. The comparison with other business surveys results (STS, LFS, etc) achieved only at the level of final results involves a long-lasting reviewing process in case of inconsistencies. Even if there is a consistency between aggregated results, there is a risk that, at lower aggregation levels, tendency inconsistencies could occur, thus affecting the quality of statistical production.

The redesigning of the whole system of production of business statistics, focused on SBS, from the perspective of total quality measurement is the most efficient way of approach in the field. From 2001 Phare Multy-Beneficiary Programme - Data Collection, INS Romania benefited of the results of the Project “Imputation of data non-response of large enterprises using administrative sources”. All these results (methodology and IT tools) will be preserved and integrated in the new system of SBS data processing.

g. Development of core regional statistical indicators
In Romania, the need for elaboration and application of new concepts of high quality, regarding the region development policy has become more and more important. Important steps have been done in setting up the legal and institutional framework, specific mechanisms to support their economic and social development by financial assistance on behalf of Romanian Government and European Commission.

At present, new principles for the regional development approach are promoted which consist of decision decentralization, focusing the efforts, extension of the partnership and planning, which allows the authorities and local and regional communities to actively involve themselves depending on real necessities and possibilities. In such context, an important objective is a higher satisfaction of the statistical data and information users' requirements, which are relevant for the regions of development.

h. Improving the access to the statistical information for the public at large
At the moment, INS dissemination system is developing as follows:

- the statistical information dissemination through the documents and publications elaborated according to Programme of the statistical surveys;
- dissemination using files EXCEL, WORD, ASCII, as well as on electronic support (diskettes, CD-ROMs);
- dissemination of a certain data volume through the INS official site.

In the INS is functioning a database with synthetic statistical indicators and time series -TEMPO (carried out with Phare funds) functional only at the local level. At present, various metadata exists in statistical publications, classifications server, TEMPO database. This situation leads to certain difficulties in retrieving methodological information, with a negative impact on the quality of statistical information, since a common dictionary of systems and procedures related to methodological meta-data is missing.

Currently, INS disseminates the classifications and nomenclatures under its responsibility, via INTERNET. These classifications and nomenclatures (NACE, CPA, PRODCOM, etc) are
loaded into the SENIN server maintained by INS. There are classifications and nomenclatures which are managed and disseminated by other institutions (Ministry of Public Finances; Ministry of Justice; Ministry of Education and Research; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development). From the user’s point of view is difficult to find information related to this field.

Task III – Endowment for capacity strengthening

This segment is supporting mainly the subproject I c – Automated data collection system, as well as the subprojects II d - Seasonal adjustment of quarterly national accounts and II h - Improving the access to the statistical information for the public at large, from IT point of view.

3.2. Sector rationale (for sector programmes only)

N/A

3.3. Results:

Task I – Social statistics development

a. Pilot Survey on Adults Education (AES) and Health Interview pilot Survey (EHIS)

Pilot Surveys (on adults education - AES, Health Interview Survey-EHIS) designed and implemented.

b. Development and improvement of social protection statistics

A complete operational system of compilation of social protection statistics according to ESSPROS requirements implemented.

c. Automated data collection system

Test for a computer assisted data collection system for all the interviews based social surveys carried out.

The results of these sub-projects consist in methodologies and surveys according to EU standards, publications of data surveys, reduction of time span for surveys carrying out and relevant staff trained.

Task II – Economic statistics development

a. Prepare for new developments in agricultural statistics

Agricultural statistical system (components: vegetables, fodder, flowers and ornamental plants production) improved.

b. Short term-statistics on service prices

The methodology for the service price indices implemented and indicators in the field lined up to the EU norms.

c. Complete the evaluation methods for measuring the informal sector

- Adequate surveying methods in order to evaluate the size and characteristics of informal sector designed, developed and tested.

d. Seasonal adjustment of quarterly national accounts / Flash indicators (estimates) / Institutional sector

Quarterly national accounts compilation methodology in full compliance with ESA '95 methodology set up.

e. Improvement and harmonisation of integrated environmental statistical data

- Integrated environmental statistical data improved and harmonised and a set of satellite accounts built up.
- Proposal for revision of the institutional framework in the environmental field done.
f. Improvement of the business statistics data
The system of structural business surveys in accordance with the requirements of the new SBS and FATS Regulations redesigned.

g. Development of core regional statistical indicators
A system of regional statistical indicators developed in compliance with the EU requirements.

h. Improving the access to the statistical information for the public at large
The transparency of the statistical information increased through a database opened to the public. A national system of classifications and nomenclatures of statistical interest set up.

The results of Task II consist in methodologies and surveys according to EU standards, publications of data surveys, relevant staff trained, methodology for drawing up the fodder balance sheets, fodder balance sheets for the year with available data, data on service price indices computed, a set of satellite accounts in compliance with international official system (SEEA) and EU requirements, increasing of the public access to the INS web site.

Task III – Endowment for capacity strengthening
Equipment (20 laptops; 2 security equipment) and 10 licenses supporting the subprojects above mentioned purchased, installed and functional.

3.4. Activities:

Task I – Social statistics development
This task will be carried out through a service contract for technical assistance, social statistical surveys and training.

a. Pilot Survey on Adults Education (AES) and Health Interview pilot Survey (EHIS)
- Designing and implementing of a pilot survey on adults education.
- Designing and implementing of a pilot Health Interview Survey-EHIS.

b. Development and improvement of social protection statistics
- Designing and implementing of a pilot survey on social protection expenditures and receipts of the non-profit organisations.
- Defining the methods of estimation for obtaining the European requested breakdowns.

c. Automated data collection system
- Designing the new electronic version of the questionnaires and the specific software for automatic data collection.
- Training of the interviewers to use portable PCs.
- Testing of the system on a pilot household survey on 1 county.
- Evaluating the automated data collection system into the social statistics system.

Task II – Economic statistics development
This task will be carried out through a service contract for technical assistance, social statistical surveys and training.

a. Prepare for new developments in agricultural statistics
- Designing and implementing of pilot surveys on area cultivated and production of vegetables, flowers and ornamental plants and fodder.
- Development of the fodder balance sheets methodology and drawing up of fodder balance sheets for the year with available data.

b. Short term-statistics on service prices
- Set up a methodology for the service price indices and organize the training on the methodology.
- Designing and implementing of a pilot survey for the branches whose transmission of the results is a priority according to the Council Regulation no. 1165/98.

c. Complete the evaluation methods for measuring the informal sector
- Identification of the activities and employment types within informal sector.
- Set up the data sources and the indicators for the informal sector assessment.
- Designing and implementing of pilot surveys in households, on self-employed and family associations and in small enterprises.
- Development within National Accounts statistics an improved method of estimation of the informal sector using the data obtained from the new implemented surveys in the field.

d. Seasonal adjustment of quarterly national accounts / Flash indicators (estimates) / Institutional sectors
- Implementing the proper model (TRAMO/SEATS, X12RegARIMA) for drawing up and testing the compilation methodology.
- Set up the methodology and selecting the proper methods for Flash indicators of GDP and testing them.
- Set up the methodology for quarterly accounts of institutional sectors and testing it.
- Organising two training courses: on econometric methods and dedicated software and on seasonal adjustment methods and software.

e. Improvement and harmonisation of integrated environmental statistical data
- Drawing up the national methodology to achieve satellite accounts regarding natural resources, pollutant emissions in concordance with the System of Economic and Environment Account (SEEA).
- Designing and implementing of a pilot survey in order to complete the information for drawing up the satellite accounts.
- Drawing up and editing the national accounts matrix including emissions and waste, following the National Account Matrix including Environment Account (NAMEA) model.
- Organising training courses for the development of integrated economy-environment statistics.

f. Improvement of the business statistics data
- Redesigning the methodology for structural business surveys (SBS).
- Set up the methodology for quality measurement for each stage of SBS data processing.
- Set up the database UNIT - the central database of enterprises micro-data, with UNIT modules.
- A pilot survey SBS 2006 (only services - NACE M, N,O- and Foreign Affiliated units) carried out.
- Training of the INS staff in the matter.

g. Development of core regional statistical indicators
- Inventorying of the available indicators and nomenclatures at the regional level from statistical and administrative sources.
- Drawing up a strategy for implementing the regional statistical key indicators.
- Designing and implementing two pilot surveys on missing key indicators including the design and the methods for data collecting and processing.

h. Improving the access to the statistical information for the public at large
- Development of an application to allow the access through Internet to the INS database with synthetic statistical indicators and time series (an access engine).
- Development of databases in order to obtain a dynamic output, direct by users.
- Training of the INS experts responsible with the data gathering co-ordination and database updating.
- Set up the METHODOLOGICAL META-DATA database in view to disseminate information via Internet in connection with the Classification Server.
- Designing and implementing IT systems in order to update the nomenclatures and classifications installed.
- Regrouping and getting agreement with all Romanian institutions of the classifications and nomenclatures used by them and put these on the INS website including the definition of the national system of classifications and nomenclatures of statistical interest according to the European principles on statistical classifications

Task III – Endowment for capacity strengthening

This task will be carried out through a supply contract for the purchase of equipment and licenses, as follows:
- laptops for the subproject Task I c – Automated data collection system;
- licenses for the subproject Task II d - Seasonal adjustment of quarterly national accounts;
- security equipment for the subproject Task II h - Improving the access to the statistical information for the public at large.

3.5 Linked activities:

The 1997 National Phare Programme – “Statistics” covered the most important statistical fields and focussed on the statistical methodological tools to be implemented in order to meet the EU requirements in the field (social statistics, national accounts, environment statistics, regional statistics, agricultural statistics, etc.).

The 2000 National Phare Programme – “Compliance of agricultural and regional statistics with European statistical system” was dedicated to the creation of the basis for the sustainable agriculture statistics and for regional statistics in compliance with European norms and standards.

The 2001 National Phare Programme – “Compliance of Romanian statistics with the European statistical system” aimed at the refinement of the overall statistical system as to enable it to meet the needs of the Romanian economy and EU requirements. One of the components of the programme was dedicated to the environment statistics where four specific sub-components had a specific focus: waste and water (with the implementation of direct surveys), air emission and sustainable development indicators.

The ongoing 2003 National Phare Programme – “Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system” is dedicated to the improvement of the base for sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system and to the consolidation of the Romanian statistical system towards reaching compliance with EU norms and standards. Among the components of the programme, the national accounts (especially the segment of satellite accounts in the field of environment protection expenses) and the social statistics (survey on income and living conditions) are to be found.

The Phare Multy-Beneficiary Programmes for 2000, 2001 and 2002 covered technical assistance, pilot projects and data collections for all the statistical fields as well as bilateral actions with EU Member States and the ongoing 2003 Phare Multy-Beneficiary Programme is orientated to the technical assistance and data collections for the statistical fields as follows: national accounts, business statistics, social statistics, agricultural statistics and environment statistics.

3.6 Lessons learned:

See annex 8

The Phare 2000 programme for statistics, although entirely contracted and smoothly on going at this time, incorporated a strong effort from the part of the beneficiary as well as from the national bodies involved in the process of contracting, to many separate contracts being needed. The recommendation made by the Sectorial Monitoring Sub-Committee was to design future programmes avoiding the split of the work into too many contracts.

From the previous experience, it becomes obvious that projects concerning purchase of equipment should be accompanied with the activities concerning training of the possible users.

4. Institutional Framework

The National Institute of Statistics is the main body responsible for the overall management of the programme as well as the Implementation Authority. When developing and implementing the projects the National Institute of Statistics will closely co-operate with the main institutions involved particularly with the Ministry of Public Finances, National Bank of Romania, Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development, the Ministry of Environment and Water Management, etc., according to their profile of activity.
The main pillars of the mechanism will be:

- The Steering Committee (SC)

A steering committee will be set up. The SCs will be responsible for the technical co-ordination between the programme and the other activities undertaken under the Phare horizontal programme and other possible donors in the statistical fields covered by the programme. The SCs will endorse proposals made for preparing, organising and conducting all aspects of the work under this programme. The SCs will ensure through working groups a proper co-ordination among the various services of the National Institute of Statistics, as well as a systematic information of all parties on the work achieved.

The Steering Committee will consist of the following members:

- the National Institute of Statistics;
- Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development;
- the National Bank of Romania;
- the Ministry of Public Finances;
- the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family;
- the Ministry of Environment and Waters Management;
- the Ministry of European Integration;
- the Ministry of Education and Research;
- the Ministry of Health;
- other bodies upon the case;
- the Delegation of the European Commission as observer;
- the Central Finance and Contracts Unit as observer.

The chairman of the SC will be the National Institute of Statistics president (PO). The technical secretariat of the above mentioned Steering Committee is assured by the programme implementing unit (PIU) of the National Institute of Statistics.

- The Working Groups (WG’s)

The WG’s established by the SC and chaired by the National Institute of Statistics will consist of representatives from the National Institute of Statistics and of the represented bodies for each individual project, upon the case.

### 5. Detailed Budget

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Phare/Pre-Accession Instrument support</th>
<th>Co-financing</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Funds (*)</td>
<td>Public Funds (**)</td>
<td>Other Sources (**)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Year 2005 - Investment support jointly co-funded</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task 3 – Endowment for capacity strengthening</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment support – sub-total</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of total public funds</td>
<td><strong>max 75 %</strong></td>
<td><strong>min 25 %</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Year 2005 Institution Building support</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The beneficiary will co-finance 25% of the procurement contract (0.03 MEUR) against 0.06 MEUR - Phare funds.

6. Implementation Arrangements

6.1. Implementing Agency
The CFCU is responsible for contracting and accounting of the project.

PAO is Carmen ROȘU, General Director of CFCU, 44 Mircea Voda Blvd., telephone (4021) 326 87 03, fax (4021) 326 87 30.

The PO will be Clementina Ivan Ungureanu, the President of the National Institute of Statistics, 16th, Libertatii Ave, sector 5, Bucharest, telephone: (4021) 312 4875; fax no: (4021) 312 4873;

The Deputy PO will be Constantin Secăreanu, the vice-president of the National Institute of Statistics, 16th, Libertatii Ave, sector 5, Bucharest, telephone: (4021) 314 09 97; fax no: (4021) 335 73 73.

5.4. Twinning

No twinning covenant is envisaged.

5.5. Non-standard aspects

No non-standard aspects are envisaged, the PRAG will be strictly followed.

5.6. Contracts

There will be three contracts in the programme:

Social statistics development contract which means technical assistance, social statistical surveys and training: 1,090,000 EUR

Economic statistics development contract which means technical assistance, economic statistical surveys and training: 3,500,000 EUR

Endowment for capacity strengthening contract which means equipment purchase (including co-financing): 80,000 EUR

A joint tender for the financing and co-financing will be organised.

6. Implementation Schedule

Start of tendering: 1Q/ 2006
Start of Project Activity: 3Q/ 2006
Project Completion: 4Q/ 2007

7. Equal Opportunity

Equal opportunity principles and practices in ensuring equitable gender participation in the Project will be guaranteed. As of 31 December 2004, the National Institute of Statistics counted 76% women out of the total number of employees, whereas in statistical offices of counties the share was of 79%. Vacancies are equally open to both genders; women are represented at all levels of management.

8. Environment - N/A

9. Rates of return - N/A

10. Investment criteria

11.1 Catalytic effect - N/A
11.2 Co-financing - see the budget table in section 5
11.3 Additionality - N/A
11.4 Project readiness - N/A
11.5 Sustainability - N/A
11.6 Compliance with state aids provisions - N/A

11. Conditionality and sequencing

Both technical assistance components, social and economic surveys and training should naturally start after the necessary IT equipment is bought under the supply contract.
ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. Logframe in standard format
2. Detailed implementation chart
3. Contracting and disbursement schedule, by quarter, for full duration of project (including disbursement period)
4. Reference list of feasibility/pre-feasibility studies, indepth ex ante evaluations or other forms of preparatory work.
5. Reference list of relevant laws and regulations
6. Reference list of relevant strategic plans and studies
7. Indicative cost calculation
8. Lessons learnt
**LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR PROJECT FICHE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Project Title</strong></th>
<th><strong>Project Number:</strong> PHARE/2005/017-553.03.07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System</td>
<td>Contracting Period Expires: 30 Nov. 2007 Disbursement Period Expires: 30 Nov. 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total Budget: 4,68 MEUR Phare budget: 4,65 MEUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall Objective</strong></td>
<td>Relates to Copehagen criterion and acquis chapter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reinforce the Romanian Statistical System through adoption of the current and new acquis communautaire.</td>
<td>List of other projects with same objective:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Accession Partnership</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Road Map 2002</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- 2004 Regular Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Negotiating Paper for Chapter 12 („Statistics”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- 2003 National Phare Programme – “Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Phare Multy-Beneficiary Programmes for 2002 and 2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Independent EU grants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Purpose</strong></td>
<td><strong>Objectively verifiable indicators</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Development of institutional capacity to assure enhancement of harmonization process with the EU standards and regulations and the improvement of the access to the statistical information for the public at large.</td>
<td>I. Data quality internationally comparable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To be achieved by the following tasks:</td>
<td>II. Data quality internationally comparable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task I – Social statistics development</td>
<td>III. Equipment purchased and operational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task II – Economic statistics development</td>
<td>I. Data collections and publications of INS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task III – Endowment for capacity strengthening</td>
<td>II. Data collections and publications of INS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>III. Acceptance report for equipment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- The ongoing projects will be successfully implemented and will reach the foreseen objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Going further with the harmonization process in the</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project Title</strong></td>
<td>Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Contracting Period Expires:</strong></th>
<th>30 Nov. 2007</th>
<th><strong>Disbursement Period Expires:</strong></th>
<th>30 Nov. 2008</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Budget:</strong></td>
<td>4,68 MEUR</td>
<td><strong>Phare budget:</strong></td>
<td>4,65 MEUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Results</strong></th>
<th><strong>Objectively verifiable indicators</strong></th>
<th><strong>Sources of verification</strong></th>
<th><strong>Assumptions</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Task I**

- Pilot Surveys (on adults education, Health Interview Survey-EHIS) designed and implemented.
- A complete operational system of compilation of social protection statistics according to ESSPROS requirements implemented.
- Test for a computer assisted data collection system for all the interviews based social surveys carried out.

**Task II**

- Agricultural statistical system (components: vegetables, fodder, flowers and ornamental plants production) improved.
- The methodology for the service price indices implemented.
- Adequate surveying methods in order to evaluate the size and characteristics of informal sector designed, developed and tested.
- Quarterly national accounts compilation methodology in full compliance with ESA '95 methodology set up.
- Integrated environmental statistical data improved and harmonised and a set of satellite accounts built up.
- Proposal for revision of the institutional framework in the environmental field done.
- The system of structural business surveys in accordance with

**Task I**

- Surveys methodologies in the concerned fields harmonised with EU standards designed.
- Surveys harmonised with EU standard implemented
- Results of the surveys largely disseminated.
- Publications of results surveys edited.
- Reduction of time span of data collection, checking and validation checked.
- Relevant staff trained.

**Task II**

- Surveys methodologies in the concerned fields harmonised with EU standards designed.
- Surveys harmonised with EU standard implemented
- Results of the surveys largely disseminated.
- Publications of results surveys edited.
- Methodology for drawing up the fodder balance sheets established.
- Fodder balance sheets for the year with available data compiled.
- Data on service price indices computed.
- Relevant staff trained.

**Related acquis and required indicators will be maintained.**

I. Related acquis and required indicators will be maintained.

II. Related acquis and required indicators will be maintained.
**Project Title**  
Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Number:</th>
<th>PHARE/2005/017-553.03.07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contracting</td>
<td>30 Nov. 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Period Expires</td>
<td>Disbursement</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30 Nov. 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Budget</td>
<td>4,68 MEUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phare budget</td>
<td>4,65 MEUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

the requirements of the new SBS and FATS Regulations redesigned.

g. A system of regional statistical indicators developed in compliance with the EU requirements.
h. The transparency of the statistical information increased through a database opened to the public. A national system of classifications and nomenclatures of statistical interest set up.

**Task III**  
Equipment purchased, installed and functional.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task III</th>
<th>Equipment purchased, installed and functional.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Functionality</td>
<td>- A set of satellite accounts in compliance with international official system (SEEA) and EU requirements. - Public access to the INS website users increased.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task III</td>
<td>Acceptance report for equipment. III. Staff able to use properly the purchased equipment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Activities**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task I</th>
<th>Means</th>
<th>Assumptions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. - Designing and implementing of a pilot survey on adults education.</td>
<td>I. Technical assistance - service contract</td>
<td>I. Tendering documents to be approved in due course in order to timely contracting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Designing and implementing of a pilot Health Interview Survey-EHIS.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. - Designing and implementing of a pilot survey on social protection expenditures and receipts of the non-profit organisations.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Defining the methods of estimation for obtaining the European requested breakdowns.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c. - Designing the new electronic version of the questionnaires and the specific software for automatic data.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Training of the interviewers to use portable PCs.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Testing of the system on a pilot household survey on 1 county.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Evaluating the automated data collection system into the social statistics system.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Task II

**a.** Designing and implementing of pilot surveys on area cultivated and production of vegetables, flowers and ornamental plants and fodder.

- Development of the fodder balance sheets methodology and drawing up of fodder balance sheets for the year with available data.

**b.** Set up a methodology for the service price indices and organize the training on the methodology.

- Designing and implementing of a pilot survey for those branches whose transmission of the results is a priority according to the Regulation.

**c.** Identification of the activities and employment types within the informal sector.

- Set up the data sources and the indicators for the informal sector assessment.

- Designing and implementing of pilot surveys in households, on self-employed and family associations and in small enterprises.

**d.** Implementing the proper model (TRAMO/SEATS, X12RegARIMA) for drawing up and testing the compilation methodology.

- Set up the methodology and selecting the proper methods for Flash indicators of GDP and testing it.

- Set up the methodology for quarterly accounts of institutional sectors and testing it.

- Organising two training courses: on econometric methods and dedicated software and on seasonal adjustment methods and software.

**e.** Drawing up the national methodology to achieve satellite accounts regarding natural resources, pollutant emissions in concordance with the System of Economic and Environment Account (SEEA).
**Project Title**
Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Number:</th>
<th>Disbursement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project title:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Number:</td>
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<tr>
<td>PHARE/2005/017-553.03.07</td>
<td>Disbursement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contracting Period Expires: 30 Nov. 2007</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disbursement Period Expires: 30 Nov. 2008</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Budget: 4,68 MEUR</td>
<td>Phare budget: 4,65 MEUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Designing and implementing of a pilot survey in order to complete the information for drawing up the satellite accounts.
- Drawing up and editing the national accounts matrix including emissions and waste, following the National Account Matrix including Environment Account (NAMEA) model.
- Organising training courses for the development of integrated economy-environment statistics.

**f.** - Redesigning the methodology for structural business surveys (SBS).
- Set up the methodology for quality measurement for each stage of SBS data processing.
- Set up the database UNIT - the central database of enterprises micro-data with UNIT modules.
- A pilot survey SBS 2006 (only services - NACE M, N, O- and Foreign Affiliated units) carried out.
- Training of the INS staff in the matter.

**g.** - Inventorying of the available indicators and nomenclatures at the regional level from statistical and administrative sources.
- Drawing up a strategy for implementing the regional statistical key indicators.
- Designing and implementing two pilot surveys including the design and the methods for data collecting and processing.

**h.** - Development of an application to allow the access through Internet to the INS database with synthetic statistical indicators and time series (an access engine).
- Development of databases in order to obtain a dynamic output, direct by users.
- Training of INS experts responsible with the data gathering coordination and database updating.
- Set up the METHODOLOGICAL META-DATA database in view to disseminate information via Internet in connection with the Classification Server.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Project Number: PHARE/2005/017-553.03.07</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System</td>
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<tr>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Total Budget:</th>
<th>Phare budget:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,68 MEUR</td>
<td>4,65 MEUR</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Designing and implementing IT systems in order to update the nom nomenclatures and classifications installed.

- Regrouping and getting agreement with all Romanian institutions of the classifications and nomenclatures used by them and put these on the INS website including the definition of the national system of classifications and nomenclatures of statistical interest according to the European principles on statistical classifications

**Task III**
Purchase of equipment, as well as the licenses.

**III. Supply contract**

**III. Tendering documents to be approved in due course in order to timely contracting.**

Pre-conditions: None
2. DETAILED TIME IMPLEMENTATION CHART

Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
</tr>
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<td>Activities</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Technical assistance 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Purchase of equipment</td>
<td>D D D D D D D C C C C C C C I I I I I I I I I I I I</td>
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</table>

D = Design  
C = Contracting  
I = Implementation
3. CUMULATIVE CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE (4.65 MEUR-Phare funds and 0.03 MEUR-co-financing)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE:</th>
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<th>30/06/06</th>
<th>30/09/06</th>
<th>31/12/06</th>
<th>31/03/07</th>
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<td>DISBURSEMENT</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. No feasibility studies have been made.

5. List of relevant Laws and Regulations
   - Council Regulation No. 322/97 of 17/02/97, Community statistics (Statistical Law)
   - Council Regulation No 2223/96 of 25/06/96 concerning the European System of National and Regional Accounts ESA 95
   - Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council concerning Structural Business Statistics

6. Reference list of relevant strategic plans and studies
   - The 2004-2006 strategy for the development of the national statistical system and the activity of INS.
Annex 7

**Indicative cost calculation – National Phare Programme 2005**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Type of equipment</th>
<th>No. of pieces</th>
<th>Unit value Euro</th>
<th>Total value Euro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Laptop with license included</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1.800</td>
<td>36.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Task I, c</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Security equipment</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>17.000</td>
<td>34.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Task II, h</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>License</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1.000</td>
<td>10.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Task II, d</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>80.000</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

75% Phare = 60.000 Euro

25% co-financing = 20.000 Euro
## Annex 8 - Lessons learnt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identified gaps or recommended course of intervention</th>
<th>Action for covering the gap or implement the recommended intervention</th>
<th>Phare Programming (project reference)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Necessity to obtain a complete operation of the Intrastat system at the moment of the Romania accession into the EU (1,4) | • Designing the Intrastat methodology  
• Designing and implementation of the Intrastat IT system  
• Raise the ability to operate of the actors participating in external trade statistics compilation | Phare 2004: Design and implementation of the Intrastat system - RO 2004/016-772.03.07  
- Technical assistance for building the Intrastat system  
- Equipment and specialised licenses procurement for Intrastat system |
| Not enough human resources alloted to INS for accomplishing the tasks related to its responsibilities in relation with Intrastat (1,2,3) | • Supplementing INS with specialised staff for Intrastat and proper location (incl. a new organizational chart) | (X) |
| Need to develop the methodology and to improve quality, complexity and timeliness, mainly in the fields of national accounts, environment statistics, business statistics, regional statistics (1 | • Complete the evaluation methods for measuring the informal sector  
• Seasonal adjustment of quarterly national accounts  
• Harmonization of integrated environmental statistical data  
• Improvement of business statistics  
• Development of core regional statistical indicators  
• Set up of an automated data collection system  
• Improve the access to the statistical | Phare 2005: Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System RO – XXX  
Technical assistance for statistical surveys and training.  
Supply |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Information for the public at large</th>
<th>Endowment for capacity strengthening</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Need to harmonize the Romanian statistics to the new segments of Acquis Communautaire in statistics (3)** | **Phare 2005:**  
- Reinforcement of the Romanian Statistical System  
RO – XXX  
- Technical assistance for statistical surveys and training.  
Supply |
| • Development of the pilot surveys on: adult education, health interview, social protection statistic; development of certain modules on agricultural statistics; production of short term statistics on services prices |  
1) Romania progress report (chapter 12 Statistics), 2004  
2) Accession sub committee meeting (minutes), Bucharest, May 2005  
3) Eurostat mission of cooperation evaluation (mission report), Bucharest, May 2005  
4) IT strategy  
(X) to be solved through Government Decision |