STANDARD SUMMARY PROJECT FICHE

1. Basic Information

1.1 CRIS Number: 2002/000.610-07
1.2 Title: Enhancement of phytosanitary controls on harmful organisms of Plants and Plant Products
1.3 Sector: Agriculture - SK/02/IB/AG/03
1.4 Location: Slovak Republic

2 Objectives

2.1 Overall Objective

Implementation of phytosanitary legislation in compliance with EU standards and best practices.

2.2 Project purpose

Strengthening of the phytosanitary control on the future EU external border – relevant staff adequately trained.

2.3 Accession Partnership and NPAA priority

Accession Partnership

Ensure alignment of veterinary and phytosanitary legislation and upgrade inspection arrangements, in particular complete the establishment of the Border Inspection Posts at the future external borders.

NPAA priorities:

- Complete phytosanitary facilities in the laboratories for control of imported products from third non-EU countries
- Secure training for phytosanitary diagnosticians on the application of approximated legislation

Amend the Phytosanitary Care Act

The amendment is aimed at achieving full harmonisation with the acquis in the phytosanitary sphere. It came into force on 1 January 2002.

2.4 Contribution to National Development Plan: N/A

2.5 Cross Border Impact: N/A
3 Description

3.1 Background and justification:

The Slovak Government considers the upgrading of the control laboratories as one of the priorities of the NPAA. A draft Comprehensive Border Management Strategy was elaborated under the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior. The upgrade of phytosanitary border inspection posts used for imports of plants from third non-EU countries origin and non-associated countries is an important part of this Strategy.

Uncontrolled imports of goods from these countries represent potential hazards for spreading of plant pests and finally represent a high risk for the public health. Some facilities for phytosanitary controls are still in unsatisfactory conditions. Their upgrading constitutes a high priority to be tackled in the short-term.

A relatively large quantity of the phytosanitary goods transit through the Slovak Republic. They may be source of infection, often latent, and may cause considerable damages in agriculture production. In order to prevent the spread of infections in phytosanitary goods, they can be planted for short-term isolation in quarantine glasshouses, until it has been ascertained the attendance of the quarantine organisms.

The institution responsible for diseases and pest diagnostic is the Section of Diagnostic and Molecular Biology of the State Phytosanitary Administration - Central Control and Testing Institute for Agriculture (CCTIA). This institution is directly controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture, which is responsible for phytosanitary area.

The overall phytosanitary inspection system consists of the border inspection and the inspection carried out by specialised certified laboratories of State Phytosanitary Administration and Central Control and Testing Institute for Agriculture being an important part of inspection and control activities in line with EU standards. In order to enforce the newly adopted legislation in the phytosanitary field (official border inspection, sampling, control analysis) in compliance with EU standards and best practices, it is necessary to continue with the strengthening and modernisation of appropriate infrastructure facilities.

Applying a new system of phytosanitary controls against the introduction of harmful organisms of plants and plant products from the third non-EU countries, according to the standards applied in the Community, requires that controls are performed in the place of origin and the following controls in the border inspection points (complete documentation, identification and physical control) at the future external border of the EU. In order to meet these requirements, the Slovak authorities have amended the Act No. 285/95 on Phytosanitary Care with a following adoption of new implementing rules from November 2001. This Act entered into force in January 2002.

The project is focused on:
A. Construction of 2 quarantine glasshouses in Haniska
B. Improvement of the capacity of phytosanitary inspections in line with the acquis and EU standards - training.
3.2 Linked activities:

BIPs at external borders of associated countries have been inspected and evaluated by EU and TAIEX experts. Central diagnostics laboratories (Section of Diagnostics and Molecular biology of the State Phytosanitary Administration Central Control and Testing Institute of Agriculture) have been inspected by EU Mission and TAIEX experts in 1998, 2000 and 2001.

National Programme SR9513
Project SR9513.02.01 - Phare financed technical assistance and training for the Ministry of Agriculture and relevant counterpart institutions Central Control and Testing Institute in Agriculture (CCTIA) responsible for phytosanitary protection and Slovak Agriculture, including also policy advise and structural recommendations for further development including the necessary technical infrastructure.

National Programme SR9706
Project SR9706.02.01 - Technical Assistance to Veterinary and Phytosanitary Administrations. Study visits, training and local legal technical assistance was provided in the area of veterinary, phytosanitary and food inspection law.

Project SR9706.02.02 - Equipment for Phytosanitary and Veterinary Infrastructure. Laboratory and IT equipment, devices and technologies to improve the technical infrastructure in the phytosanitary, veterinary, breeding and food inspection, cross-border check points, their linkage and communication was provided through the project. The installation of the equipment in the beneficiary institutions was completed in April 2000.

National programme SR9808.01
Twinning project SR98/IB/AG/01 - Support for Harmonisation and Implementation of the Internal Market Legislation and Institutional Development - twinning Assistance to the harmonisation of the phytosanitary and veterinary legislation was provided. Evaluation and advise on the upgrade of BIPs at airports, water ports and railway was carried out. One of the activities of the project was to propose the establishment of the Integrated Information System in compliance with EU requirements, including its design and technical specification.

Project SR9808.02 - Support for Harmonisation and Implementation of the Internal Market Legislation and Institutional Development - Investment component – supply of laboratory and IT equipment with the aim to support the control institutes responsible for harmonisation of agricultural legislation and land consolidation.

National Programme SK0005
Border Inspection Posts Strengthening at the eastern border with Ukraine - Technical assistance is focused on advice and support to the elaboration of technical specification for the technical upgrading of the border inspection facilities. The investment component (880.000 EUR) is focused on delivery of laboratory and IT equipment.
3.3. Results:

1. The quarantine glasshouses (in Haniska) built-up and adequately equipped.

2. The staff is trained on EU control methods.

Through past Phare assistance (SR9706.02.02) IT equipment was delivered to BIPs and laboratories of CCTIA and (SR9808.01.01) - phytosanitary communication network installed and the information phytosanitary network and co-operation between laboratories and BIPs is fully operational. In addition, in the framework of the 2000 NP, the interconnection between the BIPs and the laboratories of CCTIA will be upgraded and completed.

Through construction of the quarantine glasshouses for the phytosanitary control of goods imported from the third non-EU countries, the Slovak Republic and as well the EU Member States will be protected from quarantine pests from the third countries, plants will be controlled on the infestation of the quarantine pests and transit of the consignment will be possible only after the checkout, especially in the case of latent infections of the virus extraction. The staff will be trained to execute all inspections according to EU standards. The staff of CCTIA will be prepared for external accreditation within the EU accession. This will lead to a significant improvement of the protection of the Slovak territory against the outbreaks and spreading of the plant pests and it will contribute to the completion of the harmonisation process in the Slovak Republic with the acquis in the phytosanitary field.

3.4 Activities:

The following activities are foreseen within the project:

1. Construction of quarantine glasshouses according to the EU standards in Haniska (Eastern Slovakia - future EU external border).

The quarantine glasshouses must have adequate capacity for receiving the specimen. They must be equipped with quality air filtration, sufficient lighting to be able to continue with the phytosanitary vegetation, adequate humidity conditions and force anterooms, so that e.g. the little quarantine pests and diseases cannot spread. The accessories equipment will be built-up as basic laboratories for preparing the process of dotting and testing specimen.

1. Training programmes for the phyto inspectors and the diagnostician staff of the central phytosanitary institutions and elaboration of a project of the quarantine glasshouses according to the EU standards in Haniska.

The phyto inspectors and the diagnosticians will receive training on the implementation of the EU legislation related to phytosanitary control of goods entering the Slovak Republic at the future EU borders, including practical execution of border inspection as well as on the management of EU methods and the related operations.
The Slovak diagnostic experts working at the Central Control and Testing Institute of Agriculture will participate in training/seminars on EU analytical methods with the aim to prepare the accreditation for the phyto inspection (Central Control and Testing Institute of Agriculture) before accession.

Means: Twinning light - Pool of short-term experts aiming at ensuring the capacity building of the phytosanitary inspectors as well as the diagnostics experts in line with EU standards in the area of phytosanitary control. They will assist the Slovak authorities in completing implementation of the relevant directives by ensuring preparation and consecutive dissemination of efficient training programmes. They should have several years of experience in the field of phytosanitary control and profound knowledge of the relevant EU legislation. Proven training and management skills will be an asset.

3.5. Lessons learned

Past Regular Reports and TAIEX reports have highlighted the need to enhance the quality of control laboratories for pests and diseases diagnostics for Plant and Plants Products originating from third non-EU countries, preventing in this way the spreading of dangerous quarantine pests.

4. Institutional Framework

The overall responsibility for phytosanitary control lies with the Ministry of Agriculture. The latter has delegated the administration for phytosanitary control to some specialised state institutions (State Phytosanitary Administration – phytosanitary part of Central Control and Testing Institute for Agriculture), which are directly managed by the Section of Agriculture, Food and Trade of the Ministry of Agriculture SR.

The co-ordination of the project activities will be provided - by the Phare Programme Implementation Unit in co-operation with the Section of Agriculture, Food Industry and Trade at the Ministry of Agriculture. The overall project implementation will be supervised by a Steering Committee composed of experts from the Ministry of Agriculture and the relevant beneficiary administrations.

The key activities of the Central Control and Testing Institute for Agriculture (CCTIA) are as follows: official control of imported and domestic production of plant material (pests, phytopathogenes and GMO plants), pesticides (residues and registration), seeds and varieties, control of feeds and animal nutrition. The main office is located in Bratislava with regional institutes in Zvolen and Košice. Experimental activities are carried out by the Institute in 16 plant varieties testing stations. Official controls on the phytosanitary sector are carried out by inspectors at the borders (23 points) and districts (36 districts).

Official organisational structure:

- State phytosanitary administration:
  - a. Section of diagnostics and molecular biology
  - b. Section of plant protection
  - c. Section of pesticide testing and registration
- Section of varietal testing
• Section of agrochemistry and plant nutrition
• Sections of seeds and planting material
• Section of feed and animal production
• Section of environmental protection
• Regional station Zvolen and Košice

5. **Detailed Budget**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Phare Support</th>
<th>Investment Support</th>
<th>Institution Building</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
<th>National Co financing *</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B. Quarantine glasshouses/equipment</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Twinning light - training on new diagnostic method</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.5</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.15</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.65</strong></td>
<td><strong>0.4</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.05</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. **Implementation Arrangements**

6.1. Implementing Agency
CFCU
Mlynské Nivy 61
821 09 Bratislava
tel.: 421 7 53418093 fax: 421 7 53418095
PAO: Mr. Milan Michalicka

6.2 Twinning
Central Control and Testing Institute of Agriculture
Matuškova 21
831 01 Bratislava
Director: Ing. Pavel Filkorn
Tel. No.: +421 2 54775369

The Ministry of Agriculture will be responsible for the co-ordination of the project activities.

6.3 Non-standard aspects: not envisaged

6.4. Contracts
Twinning light covenant - 0.15 MEUR
Construction contract glasshouse: 0.5 MEUR

7. **Implementation Schedule**

7.1. Call for proposals: 3rd Q 2002
7.2. Start of tendering: 1st Q 2003
7.3. Start of project activities: 2nd Q 2003
7.4. Project Completion: 1st Q 2004
8. **Equal opportunities:**
   Equal opportunity principles and practices in ensuring equitable gender participation in the project will be guaranteed

9. **Environment:** N/A

10. **Rates of return:** N/A

11. **Investment criteria:** N/A

12. **Conditionality and sequencing**

   **Implementation milestones and sequencing**
   1. Glasshouses built by the end of 2003

   2. Slovak relevant staff trained and able to apply effectively all adopted Council Directives of the EU related to laboratory control of the pests. The EU Directives are adopted in the amendment of law on Phytosanitary Care No 471/2001.
## Annexes to Project Fiche

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Annex</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Logical framework matrix in standard format</td>
<td>ANNEX 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detailed implementation chart</td>
<td>ANNEX 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter for full duration of programme (including disbursement period)</td>
<td>ANNEX 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List of relevant Laws and Regulations (optional)</td>
<td>ANNEX 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reference to relevant Government Strategic plans and studies (may include Institution Development Plan, Business plans, Sector studies etc) (optional)</td>
<td>ANNEX 5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## LOGICAL FRAMEWORK PLANNING MATRIX FOR:

Enhancement of phytosanitary controls on harmful organisms of Plants and Plant Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total budget (MEUR): 1.05</td>
<td>PHARE budget (MEUR): 0.65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Overall objective:

Harmonisation of the SR administration in Agri-food sector

**Objective verifiable indicators**

Degree of the harmonised legislation the with the EU legislation in % (adopted stuctures, procedures and best management practice)

**Sources of verification**

Screening Reports, Regular Reports of the European Commission

**Assumptions**

The progress of alignment with EU acquis in the area of agriculture ongoing

### Project purpose:

Strengthening of the phytosanitary control on the future EU external points in the Slovak Republic - assurance laboratory control by EU Directives.

**Objective verifiable indicators**

Diagnostic control system are fully operational in line with EU regulations Number of outbreaks of plant reduced SR provides specialised data to EU structures

**Sources of verification**

Screening reports generated by relevant DG, MOA SR Official records of MOA SR, CCTIA, TAIEX reports, DG reports

All relevant agriculture producers aware of the control procedures

### Results:

1. The phytosanitary control laboratory system and system of quarantine glasshouses is upgraded with new equipment and trainings on new control EU methods, control laboratory methods are accredited
2. The staff of the phytosanitary authorities ready to conduct the diagnostician control in line with EU standards
3. The information phytosanitary network and cooperation between laboratories and BIPs will be functional.

**Objective verifiable indicators**

1. Control laboratories conduct control in line with the EU standards and best practice,
2. Phyto laboratory staff use all working procedures according to EU standards (after training)

**Sources of verification**

Project final report
Take over protocols (after completing the construction and equipment phase)
EC reports from Mission TAIEX Reports

All relevant agriculture producers aware of the control procedures

### Activities:

1. Modernisation of the control phytosanitary laboratories and system of quarantine glasshouses, accreditation labs
2. Training programmes for the phyto laboratory staff (EU standards) of the central phytosanitary institutions

**Specification of costs**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Means</th>
<th>Specification of costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Modernisation of the control phytosanitary</td>
<td>Supply of equipment</td>
<td>0.5 MEUR (+0.4 MEUR co-financing)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laboratories and system of quarantine</td>
<td>Twinning</td>
<td>0.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>glasshouses, accreditation labs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Training programmes for the phyto laboratory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>staff (EU standards) of the central phytosanitary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>institutions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Precondition:** Slovak relevant staff trained and able to apply effectively all adopted Council Directives related to laboratory control of the pests
### Detailed implementation chart

**Enhancement of phytosanitary controls on harmful organisms of Plants and Plant Products**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Component</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1st Q</td>
<td>2nd Q</td>
<td>3rd Q</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarantine glasshouses</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twinning - Training of control phytosanitary laboratory staff</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CUMULATIVE CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE (in MEUR)

Enhancement of phytosanitary controls on harmful organisms of Plants and Plant Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>I</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contracted</td>
<td>0.15</td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IV</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disbursed</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>IV</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0.65</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**ANNEX 4**

**LIST OF RELEVANT LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

**PHYTOSANITARY SECTOR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HARMONISATION OF SLOVAK LEGISLATION</th>
<th>EU LEGISLATION- Relevant Directives which will be implemented within the project</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Reference to sectoral studies:

- Report of results of project Analytical Quality Assurance in Ministry of Agriculture laboratories (annually, MoA)
- Report of monitoring quarantine organisms for EPPO (Central Control and Testing Institute of Agriculture)
- The draft Comprehensive Border Management Strategy (elaborated under the responsibility of the Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic (May 1999))