STANDARD SUMMARY PROJECT FICHE

1. Basic Information

1.1 Désirée Number: SL 0009.03

1.2 Title: Small Project Fund SL/A 2000

1.3 Sector: Regional Development

1.4 Location: Slovenia (Podravje, Koroška, Savinjska, Gorenjska, Pomurje)

2. Objectives

2.1 Wider Objective

Sustaining SPF as a means of joint CBC SLO/A Joint Regional Development

2.2 Immediate Objective:

- Select various small and medium size projects
- Timely and efficient implementation of projects

2.3 Accession Partnership and NPAA priority

The aim of the project is in compliance with the measures as identified for the Phare CBC in the Commission Regulation of December 1998, especially with articles 5 j to n.

In reference to the Accession Partnership, this project aims to support the integrated approach with addressing regional disparities in order to participate in the EU pre-structural programmes. By strengthening and development of people-to-people border initiatives this project stimulate real cross-border co-operation viewed as one single unit.

In relation to the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis, the project meets the following objectives and targets that are in reference to the fields 1.2.12.1, 1.2.12.3, (Regional Development):

- slowing down the depopulation of rural/peripheral areas
- strengthening the institutions within the specific programme for the adjustment in the field of structural policy, based on consultancy, education and exchange of experts
- ensuring conditions for monitoring the effectiveness of regional policy measures

2.4 Contribution to (Preliminary) National Development Plan

The actions, financed through the SPF are in the line with the following PNDP priorities:

*Development objectives and investment priorities*

- 3.1.2. National investment priority No.2: Economic infrastructure
- 3.1.3. National investment priority No.4: Human resource development
- 3.1.4. National investment priority No. 4: Agriculture restructuring and Rural Development
- 3.1.5. National investment priority No. 5:Environmental protection
- 3.1.6. National priority No. 6: Regional development

2.5 Cross Border Impact
The Phare CBC SLO/A 2000 Small Projects Fund will have the following CBC impacts:

- sustaining the existing CBC small and medium size »people-to-people« initiatives and development of joint new initiatives
- exchanging of experts and know-how, maintaining links with the neighbouring institutions.

The project is in conformity with the Joint Programming Document Slovenia – Austria 2000 – 2006, chapter 7. Small Project Fund.

3. Description:

3.1 Background and justification

This project involves people-to-people exchanges in the field of economic, cultural and social life of the border area. Non-profit, decentralised organisations such as professional and special interest associations in the regions are shown to have a positive impact on creating a number of long-term direct links. The SPF proves to remain a flexible instrument, managed at local level to ensure maximum level of subsidiary.

Among the eligible joint actions across the borders (service and/or supply contract) are:
- local economic development, including tourism;
- co-operation promotions in health, particularly the sharing of resources and facilities on a cross-border basis;
- development or establishment of facilities and resources to improve the flow of information and communications between border regions, including support for cross-border radio, television, newspapers and other media;
- cultural exchange;
- local employment, education and training initiatives;
- environmental protection.

3.2 Linked Activities

Interreg III A, Austria/Slovenia Small Project Fund.

3.3 Results

Identification, implementation of small and medium RD projects

3.4 Activities:

The Contractor will act as Secretariat for SPF and will strictly follow the Guidelines of the SPF, which has to be approved by the Steering Committee, NARD and endorsed by the EC Delegation.

4. Institutional framework:

Small Projects up to 20.000 EUR will be handled through a unilateral Small Projects Fund procedure – and those project over 20.000 will be handled through the Joint Cross Border Structure – Joint Technical Secretariat and Joint Steering Committee.

For projects up to 20.000 EUR:

A SPF Secretariat will be nominated by the Director of the National Agency for Regional Development (NARD).

Calls for projects will be made and the project fiches will be reviewed by the Secretariat and will then be submitted for approval to the Small Projects Fund Steering Committee. Applications for
payment shall be received by the SPF Secretariat and, if in order, shall be passed to the CFCU for payment to the beneficiary. The flow of funds will be from the European Commission to the National Fund in Slovenia to the CFCU and then to the Secretariat for disbursement to the beneficiaries.

For projects over 20,000 EUR:
The project Fiches will be received by the Antenna Bureau / NARD and, following review, will be transferred to the Joint Technical Secretariat and from there to the Joint Steering Committee, who shall approve the project. Applications for payment will be sent to the Joint Secretariat.

The beneficiaries are border municipalities and other new and existing regional institutions (e.g., Chambers of Commerce, Agricultural Institutes, Business and Technology Parks, NGOs and NPOs). With the exception of the new institutions which might be established during the course of the implementation of the new CBC programme, all institutions are mostly very well acquainted with the Phare and other EU procedures since majority of them was actively involved in the previous CBC programmes.

5. Detailed Budget:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE OF THE PROGRAMMES</th>
<th>Investment Institution</th>
<th>Institution Building</th>
<th>Total Phare (=I+IB)</th>
<th>Recipient*</th>
<th>IFI</th>
<th>TOTAL Phare + SL (MEUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Small Projects Fund</td>
<td>DIS HQ</td>
<td>DIS HQ</td>
<td>1 MEUR</td>
<td>0,34 MEUR</td>
<td>1,34 MEUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1 MEUR</td>
<td>0,34 MEUR</td>
<td>1,34 MEUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The beneficiaries provide the co-financing of the min. 25% of total funds.

6. Implementation arrangements

6.1 Implementing Agency

The Contracting Authority will be the Ministry of Economic Relations and Development, National Agency for Regional Development (NARD).
Address: Kotnikova 28, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia – Mr. Ivo Piry, Director
Tel. 00386 61 178 36 70, fax. 00 386 61 13 13 360

The Implementing Agency responsible for contracting and financing following the Phare Decentralised Implementation Procedures will be the Central Financing and Contracting unit of the Ministry of Finance.

Ministry of Finance, Central Financing and Contracting Unit
Address: Beethovnova 11, 1000 Ljubljana, Mr Peter Škofič, PAO
Tel.: 00386 61 178 62 05, fax 00386 61 178 62 04.

Ministry of Economic Relations and Development, National Agency for Regional Development
Address: Kotnikova 28, 1000 Ljubljana, Mr Ivo Piry, Director
Tel.: 00386 61 178 36 70, fax 00386 61 13 13 360.

The Paying Agency: Ministry of Finance, National Fund
Address: Beethovnova 11, 1000 Ljubljana, Ms Mojca Grošelj
Tel.: 00386 61 178 62 05, fax 00386 61 178 62 04.
Project is implemented following the approval of specific guidelines for SPF by the Delegation. Guidelines are submitted by the appointed steering committee involving representatives from the border regions as active members as well as observers consisting of the representatives from the bordering country, Contracting Authority and EC Delegation as well one observer from Styria and one from Carinthia. The Steering Committee also appoints an expert panel to assess project proposals, agrees on priority measures, structures and procedures. Other institutions involved in SPF are:

- secretariat, which provides technical and professional support as specified in the SPF guidelines (such as issues call for proposals, assist in project preparation, process the projects received, contracting, monitoring, reporting etc.),
- Contracting Authority which has overall responsibility to the Commission for the expenditure of funds
- the project applicants or beneficiaries are the eligible organisations such as municipalities, county or district level organisations, inter communal co-operation organisations, Chambers of Trade and Commerce, local enterprise development agencies, foundations, associations and other NGOs and NPO’s from the eligible region.

The project applicant also provides the necessary co-financing of the projects.

6.2 Twinning
Not applicable.

6.3 Non standard aspects
The DIS Manual will be strictly followed.

6.4 Contracts
Expected number of contracts:

1 Service contract

7. **Implementation schedule**

7.1 Start of tendering/call for proposals

Completion and approval of tendering documents: January/February 2001
Start of tendering January/February 2001

7.2 Start of project activity

2\textsuperscript{nd} quarter of 2001

7.3 Project completion

2\textsuperscript{nd} quarter of 2001

8. **Equal opportunity**

Majorities of the project activities are service oriented but also the supply contracts are envisaged. Pending on the expertise required it be upon the contractors to provide a qualified expertise requested to implement the services/supply contracts. The gender breakdown of trainees and consultants employed can be taken into account by the Implementing Authority
which will request the services, if the EC Commission especially requests such a breakdown. Management of the project from the Implementing Authority and other state and regional partner institutions is equally represented by both genders.

9. Environment *(Investment projects only)*. NOT APPLICABLE

10. Rates of return NOT APPLICABLE

11. Investment criteria

11.1 Catalytic effect:

Without Phare funds the guarantee for successful establishment of SPF scheme is questionable.

11.2 Co-financing

It is foreseen that the project applicant co-finance the projects in minimum amount of 25% of total funds.

11.3 Additionality

The Phare intervention does not displace other finances.

11.4 Project readiness and Size:
The projects must be ready to start at the beginning of foreseen commitment period (02/2001). The according procedure is described in point 4. (Institutional framework). In any case the size of projects is limited to 100,000 EUR. The project complies with the foreseen scheme of Phare contribution to Slovene-Austrian bilateral cross border co-operation.

11.5 Sustainability
After the project completion the regional actors involved will assure the sustainability of the projects.

11.6 Compliance with the state aids provisions
Each state grant allocated by Slovenia, as stipulated in Article 65(4) of the European Treaty, is to be taken into account in the first four years of the treaty validity that Slovenia is to be considered as an area which is equal to Community areas, described in item 92(3) of the Treaty on the European Union (TEU). All actions financed by Phare will be carried out in line with the Phare DIS and will respect the state aid and competition provisions of the Europe Agreement.

11.7 Contribution to National Development Plan

see the point 2.4
12. **Conditionality and sequencing:**

Timely and correct provision of Terms of references and tendering documents follows the DIS system are preconditions for the successful completion of the tendering process prior to commencement of the activities envisaged in this document. Activities with preparing the necessary tendering documents will start immediately with the approval of this programme, providing the procedures remain stable and taking into account assumptions and risks as described in the logical framework of this document. Phare funds for the small projects funds are only granted if the project applicant ensures the co-financing for the specified activities. After steering committee is appointed by the Contracting Authority (within 2 to 3 weeks) and after the SPF guidelines are approved by the steering committee and endorsed by the EC Delegation (3 weeks), tendering for selecting of the projects can begin (3 months including contracting).
Annexes to Project Fiche

1. Log-frame matrix

2. Detailed implementation chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Service Contract</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>ToR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tender Dossier</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Contracting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disbursement</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Annex 3:

Cumulative commitment and disbursement schedule (MEUR) for Phare funds only

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Disbursement | 0.3 | 0.55 | 0.85 | 1.0 | 1.0 |

Annex 4:

Relation of project with previous Phare activities and with on-going projects financed from other sources, including govt. budget

- The Small Projects Fund will be built upon the existing funding instrument that is SPF Guidelines (included in the JPD SLO/A 2000-2003). Similar type of actions will be supported within this programme as in the CBC SLO/A 1995-99 for the »people-to-people« exchanges in the fields of economic, social and cultural, environmental and other co-operation.

Annex 5:

List of relevant laws and regulations:

- *Zakon o društvih (ZDru), (Ur.l. RS, št. 60/95 in 49/98)
- Societies Act (Ur.l. RS, No 60/95 and 49/98)

- *Zakon o preprečevanju omejevanja konkurence (ZPOmK), (Ur.l. RS, št. 56/99)
- Prevention of Restriction of Competition Act (Ur.l. RS, No 56/99)

- *Zakon o spodbujanju skladnega regionalnega razvoja (ZSRR), (Ur.l. RS, št. 99)
- Act on Promotion of Balanced Regional Development (Ur.l. RS, No 99)

- *Zakon o spodbujanju razvoja demografsko ogroženih območij v Republiki Sloveniji (ZSRDO), (Ur.l. RS-I, št. 48/90, 03/91; Ur.l. RS, št. 72/92)
- Act on Development Promotion in Demographically Endangered Areas (Ur.l. RS-I, No 48/90, 03/91; Ur.l. RS, No 12/92)
**Annex 6:**

Reference to relevant Government Strategic plans and studies:

- Strategy of the cross-border development Slovenia/Austria (available at the Phare CBC PIU)
- White Paper on Regional Development in Slovenia (available at the Ministry of Economic Relations and Development)
- Cross-border Inventory Slovenia/Austria (CBC 1995 project, available at the Phare CBC PIU)
- Regional Development Strategy for Styria (available at the Maribor Development Agency)
- Regional strategies and action plans (currently existing only for the region of Styria and can be obtained at RDA in Maribor)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme name: Phare CBC SLO/A 2000</th>
<th>Programme No.: SL-</th>
<th>Date of drafting: May 2000</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project number SL0009.03</td>
<td>Total budget: 1.34 MEUR</td>
<td>Phare Contribution: 1 MEUR</td>
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</table>

### Wider Objective

**Indicators of Achievement**
- Number of joint activities within border region
- Number and scope of direct and indirect CBC impacts in the short and long period

**How, When and by Whom Indicators Will be Measured**
- Programme Assessment Reports
- Regional, state and CEC/EU Statistical and Analytical Researches
- Number and quality of approved projects

**Assumptions and Risks**
- Sustainability of the project after its completion
- Number of joint CBC SLO/A RD

### Immediate Objective

**Indicators of Achievement**
- Number of joint activities within border region
- Number and quality of the projects selected and implemented

**How, When and by Whom Indicators Will be Measured**
- Number of joint CBC SLO/A projects
- Regional, State and CEC/EU Statistical and Analytical Researches and Feasibility Studies

**Assumptions and Risks**
- Commitment of the implement. framework and border partner institutions to the project objectives
- Timely preparation of the project documents and commitment to the contracting conditions
- Select various small and medium size projects
- Timely & efficient implement. of projects

### Outputs

**Indicators of Achievement**
- Number of contracts signed

**How, When and by Whom Indicators Will be Measured**
- NARD, MF CFCU
- Reports of the contracted companies

**Assumptions and Risks**
- Acquaintance of contractors with Phare procedures

### Inputs

**Means**

**Costs**

**Pre-condition**
| Assistance of the NARD to the project executors (e.g. Secretariat of SPF, instructions to the experts) | Service Contract | 1 MEUR | FM signed |