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REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSTRUMENT FOR STRUCTURAL POLICY FOR
PRE-ACCESSION (ISPA)
2003**

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Foreword

This annual report on the activities of the Instrument for structural policy for pre-accession (ISPA) covers the calendar year 2003.

It provides information on the fourth year of implementing ISPA.

For a number of beneficiary countries, the year 2003 has also been the last year of ISPA implementation before becoming eligible for Community cohesion policy instruments. In this respect, the report will demonstrate that ISPA has proved to be an effective and important tool for preparing beneficiary countries¹ for EU membership. ISPA will continue to perform its mission in those countries which have not yet become a Member state of the European Union.

The reporting format reflects the requirements of article 12 of the ISPA Regulation². It has been adapted to take account of the comments made by the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions.

It is hoped that the report will also serve as a useful reference document for everyone interested in the promotion, prior to accession, of economic and social cohesion in the Central European candidate countries including those which have joined the EU in May 2004.

¹ Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia.

² Council Regulation (EC) 1267/1999 of 21 June 1999.

Summary

1. ISPA BUDGET

The budget for the ISPA instrument is provided for by two budget lines, B7-020 and B7-020A. The first line contains the means for co-financing projects (measures)³ in the beneficiary countries in the environment and transport domains as well as for providing technical assistance (TA) to identify and prepare projects. Measures to assist the beneficiary countries in strengthening their institutional and administrative capacity -including the move towards fully decentralised management (EDIS)- are funded from this line as well. Line B7-020A foresees funding for actions at the Commission's initiative. For 2003, €1 129 million was allocated from the Commission budget to the ISPA instrument and an amount of €8.35 million was transferred from line B7-020A to line B7-020.

Table 1: ISPA budget in 2003

Budget line	Commitment appropriations	Commitment appropriations incl. transfer from B7-020 to 020A	Commitments implemented	Payments implemented
B7-020A	11.500.000	3.150.000	3.150.000	5.461.855
B7-020 for projects	1.117.500.000	1.125.850.000	1 125 804 651	423 506 936
Total	1.129.000.000	1.129.000.000	1.128.954.651	428.968.791

2. PROJECT FUNDING

2.1. New ISPA projects

In 2003, the Commission adopted 75 new ISPA measures concerning 60 investments in environment infrastructure (mainly in the water, wastewater and waste sub-sectors) and 15 in transport infrastructure (rail and road projects). Among these projects, the Commission approved 23 new technical assistance measures for project preparation, 17 of which were for preparing environment projects and 6 for preparing transport projects. As a result, the total ISPA contribution to projects funded in 2003 amounted to nearly €1.25 billion, representing an average grant rate of 68.5% of a total eligible project cost of €1.82 billion. The remainder was financed by the applicant countries from national sources at central, regional, and/or local level, as well as by international financial institutions (IFIs). Almost 65% of the ISPA contribution was awarded to the environment sector.

³ The terms 'projects' and 'measures' both designate the unit of ISPA assistance to the beneficiary countries and are used interchangeably in this report. Unless otherwise stated, they refer to assistance for capital investments as well as to technical assistance measures.

Table 2: New project decisions in 2003

	Project decisions n°	Total eligible cost €	ISPA contribution €	Grant rate %	Commitments €
Environment	60	1.186.315.685	805.923.669	67.94	404.132.994
Transport	15	630.908.020	439.109.946	69.60	210.084.838
Total	75	1.817.223.705	1.245.033.615	68.51	614.217.832

Note: The project decision amounts reflect the total ISPA contribution awarded to projects, while commitment amounts give the total of what is yearly committed from the budget (2003 in this case).

2.2. Projects funded during 2000-2003

Since the start of ISPA, the Commission has adopted 324 project grant decisions. Of the projects assisted, 212 related to the environment sector (including one flooding relief project), 102 to the transport sector, and 10 to TA measures for achieving decentralised implementation (EDIS)⁴. In total, the ISPA contribution amounted to €7.03 billion, representing 65.2% of a total eligible investment cost of €10.78 billion. It follows that, in the first four years of ISPA, the Commission has allocated more than 90% of the funds set aside for ISPA for the period 2000 to 2006. By the end of 2003, 61.7% of the decided ISPA contribution has been committed, with the commitments having been distributed in a balanced manner between the environment and transport sectors.

Table 3: Project decisions in 2000-2003

	Project decisions n°	Total eligible cost €	ISPA contribution €	Average grant rate %	Commitments €
Environment	211	5.175.000.000	3 371.300.000	65.1	2.171.400.000
Transport	102	5.566.500.000	3 620.700.000	65.0	2.130.700 000
Flooding relief	1	35.294.118	30.000.000	85.0	30.000.000
EDIS	10	8.015.537	8.015.537	100.0	7.800.000
Total	324	10.784.900.000	7.030.100.000	65.2	4.339.900.000

2.3. Payments

Significant progress has been made in implementing ISPA measures. Whereas, initially, delays in tendering and contracting hampered the payments of second advances and of requests for reimbursement, this situation has now improved. As a result, in 2003, ISPA payments totalled nearly €424 million, which represents an increase with 14% over the payments made in 2002 (€388 million).

⁴ Extended decentralised implementation system (see also point 4).

By the end of the period 2000-2003, more than €1 billion has been paid out, representing some 25% of the budgetary commitments over this period.

Table 4: Payments in 2003 (€)

For projects committed in					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Environment	81.747.970	12.285.431	66.309.253	3.597.170	163.939.824
Flooding relief	-	-	11.745.361	-	11.745.361
Transport	111.491.265	73.833.755	74.358.144	6.554.262	266.237.426
EDIS	326.000	711.103	1.509.002	-	2.546.105
Total	193.565.235	86.830.289	154.921.760	10.151.432	423.506.936

3. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

3.1. Forms and delivery of technical assistance

The recourse to technical assistance measures has proved to be an essential element for ensuring a successful programming and implementation of ISPA projects. These measures have focussed on project preparation, project implementation, accompanying institutional strengthening, and, more recently, the structural (re)organisation of utilities in the domains of the ISPA intervention, thereby enhancing sustainability of project implementation.

3.2. Technical assistance at the initiative of the beneficiary country

In 2003, the Commission decided on 23 TA measures for project preparation representing a total eligible cost of € 112 million with ISPA contributing €84.8 million. Several of these measures included the restructuring of the local utility (final beneficiary) up to modern standards in terms of management and operation. In addition, most of the ISPA beneficiary countries that joined the EU in 2004 have used TA funds to finance preparatory studies for projects that will be submitted for future funding from the Cohesion Fund. The total number of TA measures for project preparation approved since 2000 now stands at 62, representing a total eligible cost of €198.2 million of which 80% has been financed from ISPA.

Table 5: Technical assistance measures at the initiative of the beneficiary countries 2000-2003 (€)

	No of projects	Total cost	Total eligible cost	Total ISPA contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment	30	122.418.837	121.424.827	94.438.270	47.086.015	6.803.101	75.305.476	12.385.350
Transport	32	85.719.924	84.759.924	64.485.219	17.376.319	10.839.126	52.469.037	14.185.705
EDIS	10	8.098.575	8.098.575	8.098.575	745.609	2.661.893	7.783.655	4.549.222
Total	72	216.237.336	206.283.326	167.022.064	65.207.943	20.339.331	132.557.168	31.120.277

3.3. Technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission

Since the beginning of ISPA, technical assistance activities at the initiative of the Commission have been concentrated on enhancing the beneficiary countries' capacity to prepare, appraise and implement ISPA projects in accordance with the standards required for the management of Community funds.

In 2003, the budgetary allocation for this strand of technical assistance amounted to €11.5 million. Of this amount, the Commission committed €3.15 million for activities launched in 2003 (essentially for reinforcing the EC Delegations).

A. Technical Assistance activities financed under the "TA Action Programme 2001"

This programme comprises multi-annual activities covering the period 2001-2003, with disbursements foreseen until the end of 2004. In the course of its implementation, a re-scheduling of the funds towards reinforcing the administrative capacity in the ISPA beneficiary countries in the field of tendering and contracting has been undertaken. Also, as it became clear that certain activities needed to be continued in 2004, the Commission has extended the duration of the programme, until 30 April 2004 for the new Member states, and until 30 June 2004 for Bulgaria and Romania.

B. Activities undertaken outside the "TA Action Programme 2001"

New resources have been made available to cover the administrative costs of technical staff recruited to reinforce the EC Delegations' procurement and supervision capacity. Task assignments for the appraisal of ISPA projects continued under the two existing framework contracts with international consulting firms as well as under the contract signed with the European Investment Bank (EIB).

4. MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

4.1. Project monitoring

The key finding of project monitoring during 2003 is that, on average, further improvements have taken place in terms of hands-on capacity of the beneficiary countries as regards effective implementation. Further efforts are required though to overcome weaknesses, which are sometimes persistent. Most importantly, additional financial and human resources for the planning, preparation and management of ISPA measures, in particular in the environment sector, are required.

4.2. Financial management and control

Beneficiary countries are required to establish internal financial control systems and procedures that can ensure the accuracy of declared expenditure, adequate internal audit capability, sufficient audit trail and appropriate treatment of irregularities. Between May 2003 and January 2004, the Commission has carried out a third cycle of systems audits in these countries to assess the adequacy of these systems and procedures and their compliance with the Community requirements. The targeted countries were those for which an EDIS application was not expected to be received before the indicated deadline of 1 November 2003, as well as Bulgaria and Romania. Preliminary conclusions of the audit cycle suggest that significant progress has been made in the large majority of beneficiary countries but that improvements in essential areas such as internal control and internal audit are still required. A recurring problem in many countries is the lack of trained and experienced personnel.

4.3. EDIS

EDIS stands for the process envisaged for the beneficiary countries to move towards an “extended decentralised implementation system” for ISPA. By the end of 2003, 5 countries completed the stage 3 compliance assessment, of which 3 fulfilled the conditions and criteria in order to receive the (partial) accreditation from the Commission in Spring 2004. Two countries were processing stage 3, whereas 2 countries had completed the stage 1 gap assessment. One country failed to complete the first stage.

4.4. Risk assessment

Despite that, as yet, not all key elements of the financial management and control systems in both the sectors of environment and transport are in place in all beneficiary countries, the Commission is reasonably confident that this will be progressively be the case. All beneficiary countries have been recommended to complete the third stage of the EDIS roadmap which consists of obtaining a positive opinion from external auditors. A series of seminars were organised in 2003 and at the beginning of 2004 in order to explain and detail the requirements with respect to these systems. Finally, in the course of 2004, the Commission will verify whether the management and control systems in the new Member states meet the standards required by the Cohesion Fund regulation.

4.5. European Court of Auditors findings

In Autumn 2003, at the occasion of the presentation of its 2002 Annual report, the Court of auditors stated that auditing pre-accession assistance to the candidate date countries has led the Court to a generally positive assessment of the conformity of expenditure. Though it observed also a need to further improve the supervision and control systems for EU aid, it pointed to the fact that most of the beneficiary countries had worked hard in recent years to set up such systems.

4.6. Co-financing partners – EIB, EBRD and NIB

The EIB and the EBRD⁵ have remained the privileged partners for providing loan financing for ISPA projects in 2003. As far as the Nordic Investment Bank (NIB) is concerned, this bank intervenes in priority in ISPA projects in the Baltic states. The expertise of these banks in project preparation and implementation continued to be useful for improving the quality of projects funded from ISPA.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO COMMUNITY POLICIES

5.1. Public procurement

From the start of ISPA, the fulfilment of the legal requirements for sound, fair and transparent public procurement as enshrined in the PRAG has proved to be a major challenge. In 2003, training on specific procurement issues has been organised as well as practical tools (guides) been published to carry out tendering and contracting in accordance with national law harmonized according to EU standards. The experience suggests that the strengthening of public procurement systems and procedures in the new Member states should be continued under the Cohesion Fund.

5.2. Environment policy

ISPA contributes significantly to the implementation of environmental policy in the beneficiary countries. Experience gained through project development and implementation has reinforced administrative capacity and accelerated sector reform in the environment sector. In particular, administrative capacity has been strengthened in regard to environmental investment planning and prioritization. Steady progress has also been made in proper implementation of the EIA directive, including aspects related to public consultation. In addition, a pilot project promoted higher quality of public service in public utilities in the waste and water sub-sectors. In these various ways, the ISPA programme has contributed towards significant progress in environmental protection in all of the beneficiary countries.

5.3. Transport policy: from TINA towards new TEN-T guidelines

The transport networks in the beneficiary countries, agreed in accordance with TINA (Transport Infrastructure Needs Assessment), are constructed around the framework of pan-European transport corridors. These networks have been used as the planning basis for the national transport strategies for ISPA purposes and each ISPA transport

⁵ European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

project needed to form part of the TINA network. Similarly, these networks are now being used for Cohesion Fund purposes in the new Member states' and fulfil a core function in their National Development Plans, which are the programming tool for the use of structural funds from 2004 onwards.

In April 2003, the Accession Treaties amended the TEN-T (Trans-European transport network) guidelines to accommodate the extension of the network to the acceding countries. As a consequence, as of May 2004, the new Member states are immediately eligible for Community funding, in particular for TEN-T funds and the Cohesion Fund.

6. CO-ORDINATION AMONG PRE-ACCESSION INSTRUMENTS

The Commission ensures close co-ordination among the three pre-accession instruments, PHARE, SAPARD and ISPA. The PHARE Management committee plays a special role in the general co-ordination of the three pre-accession instruments. Further co-ordination is being implemented through the (PHARE) Joint monitoring committee, the inter-services Co-ordination committee and the periodic meetings with the EC delegations in the beneficiary countries.

TECHNICAL ANNEXES

**TO THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INSTRUMENT FOR STRUCTURAL POLICY
FOR PRE-ACCESSION (ISPA)
2003**

Executive summary

The year 2003 was of particular importance as it was the last year that the 8 ISPA countries that have become new Member states in May 2004 benefited of assistance from ISPA. Many efforts were therefore put into assisting these countries to prepare for the smooth transition to EU cohesion policy instruments, in particular for the Cohesion Fund. Pursuant to a clause in the Act of Accession, all ongoing projects approved under ISPA become automatically Cohesion Fund projects after accession. Beyond providing financial support for the renewal and upgrading of the infrastructure base in the environment and transport sectors, much attention was paid to the preparation of a pipeline of quality projects as well as to further strengthening institutional and administrative capacity in those fields where weaknesses subsist. The challenges regarding the effective management and implementation of EU funds can be demonstrated by the fact that, under the Cohesion Fund, allocations for the new Member states will more than treble: from €0.75 billion per year under ISPA to €2.8 billion per year for the period 2004-2006. For their part, Bulgaria and Romania will remain eligible for ISPA and benefit from gradually increasing allocations until the end of 2006 as well. Similar efforts are thus required for the latter countries in order warrant an adequate programming and implementation of the ISPA funds.

Together with the presentation of the major ISPA findings for 2003, the key messages below attempt to strike a balance of four years of implementation of ISPA.

KEY MESSAGES

ISPA: an instrument to assist infrastructure investments in the EU priority fields of environment and transport

- Since its launch in 2000, ISPA has provided grants to 324 large-scale environment and transport infrastructure investments¹ in the applicant countries of Central and Eastern Europe. The grant total amounted to €7.0 billion for an total investment cost of over €11.6 billion, of which €10.8 billion was considered as eligible for support, implying an average grant rate of 65%. As a result, about 90% of the funds for the entire period 2000-2006 were already allocated to projects that were ready for implementation. For the new Member states, this means that part of the Cohesion Fund allocations are already covered by eligible projects.

- 212 projects concerned large-scale environment infrastructure, essentially in water supply, sewerage systems, wastewater treatment and waste management, and included one flood relief project as well. In the transport sector, priority was given to 102 projects along the pan-European transport corridors, including cross-border infrastructure such as railways, roads, airports, traffic monitoring systems, etc. In 2003, the Commission decided on 75 new projects for a total ISPA contribution of €1.25 billion, representing more than 68% of a total eligible investment cost of €1.8 billion.

¹ The terms 'projects' and 'measures' both designate the unit of ISPA assistance to the beneficiary countries and are used interchangeably in this report. Unless otherwise stated, they refer to assistance for capital investments as well as to technical assistance measures.

- Between 2000 and 2003, €167 million for 72 accompanying technical assistance measures was made available to assist in the preparation of projects and applications, and to enhance the administrative capacity of implementing bodies, including for decentralised implementation (EDIS²) for which 10 measures were adopted. Further assistance was provided in 2003 to strengthen the beneficiary countries' capacity to prepare new projects, whether it be for funding under the Cohesion Fund, in the case of the new Member states, or for funding under ISPA, in the case of Bulgaria and Romania.

- From the start, the Commission observed the principle of distributing the ISPA funds equally over the environment and transport sectors and, within the latter sectors, of favouring rail as a more sustainable transport mode against roads. As a result, of the €4.3 billion committed since 2000, 50% has been allotted to environment projects and 49.1% to transport projects. The remainder was committed to a flooding relief project and for TA measures for decentralisation.

- Payments in 2003 totalled €424 million, bringing the total of the payments made since 2000 on more than €1 billion, which represents nearly 25% of the total of grants committed. By the end of 2003, almost 40% of the funded projects had attained a payment ratio ranging between 20 and 40% of the ISPA grant. This demonstrates that implementation on the ground has now reached cruising speed, notably as a result of the improved capacity of beneficiary countries to deal with tendering and contracting.

ISPA: an instrument to accelerate sector and policy reforms

- The preparation and implementation of ISPA projects has proved to be an important tool to help beneficiary countries understand and implement EU key legislation and requirements in the fields of environment and transport. Through ISPA, these countries had to adhere to a strategic approach for priority investments in these sectors. In addition, the Commission obtained respect, at project level, of the Community *acquis* in areas like EIA, railway inter-operability, procurement and sound financial management. To the beneficiary countries, these requirements made clear that more in depth policy and sector reforms were often necessary if EU quality standards were to be respected. In this sense, ISPA contributed to increase the awareness that the mere transposition of EU law is not sufficient and that, instead, more profound structural sector changes are required for making policy implementation and enforcement truly effective. As a result, a number of beneficiary countries introduced reforms of the political and/or functional organisation of one or both of the ISPA intervention sectors. The efforts of the Commission to address the knowledge gap regarding public-private partnerships (PPP) for the development and operation of infrastructure projects have to be placed in this context as well. Guidelines for successful PPPs and a Resource book on PPP case studies were disseminated and advisory services on complex PPP issues were delivered to interested project applicants/beneficiaries.

² Extended decentralised implementation system

ISPA as a precursor of cohesion policy instruments

- The set up and operation of ISPA have been closely modelled on the Cohesion Fund. Pursuant to article 16.a of the Cohesion Fund regulation, all ongoing ISPA projects have automatically become Cohesion Fund projects after accession. For this reason, the hands-on capacity that beneficiary countries have acquired through implementing ISPA are constituting a valuable experience to implement and respect the standards and procedures that apply to the traditional cohesion policy instruments, and in particular to the Cohesion Fund. However, experience in this respect cannot be gained overnight and has to be built up progressively.

- The qualifications of staff in the beneficiary countries are not always up to level of skills required to manage complex infrastructure projects, in particular, as far as tendering and contracting are concerned. Because of the difficulties encountered in this area, the Commission has again in 2003 put many efforts in developing technical assistance activities which focused on strengthening recipients' procurement skills, systems and procedures. Among others, it continued to organise various seminars and training sessions, and disseminated manuals and practical guides.

- The system of *ex-ante* approval by the Commission that governs tendering and contracting under ISPA ceases to apply once the beneficiary country becomes a Member state. It is therefore intended to continue to provide technical assistance under the Cohesion Fund so as to ensure that procurement rules and procedures in the new Member states are implemented according to the required standards.

ISPA: a benchmarking instrument

- Progress and effectiveness of the management and implementation of ISPA projects by the beneficiary countries has improved importantly over the last years. Through the approach of learning-by-doing, they have progressively succeeded to adhere to the standards and procedures that apply to the traditional instruments of EU cohesion policy.

- Mention has to be made of the EDIS process along which beneficiary countries have been moving in order to prepare for the decentralised management of procurement. In each country, this process comprises 3 stages before accreditation by the Commission: (1) the identification of existing gaps in the financial management and control systems, (2) the subsequent upgrading of the systems by introducing organisational adjustments by means of staffing and training, and (3) an independent assessment of the functionality of the systems. As such, the EDIS process constitutes an essential element of the institutional preparation of the new Member states and the candidate countries.

- The Commission continued to promote the setting up by beneficiary countries of sound systems and procedures regarding financial management and control of EU funds, the requirements of which are similar to those that apply to the Cohesion and Structural Funds. To this end, a third round of audit missions was undertaken in 2003 to assess and enhance the management and control systems in place. Though these systems are sometimes very advanced in the concept of good control systems, there remain however weaknesses which will need to be addressed further. For this reason

also, in 2003, the Commission started a series of seminars and workshops to explain the EU requirements in this field.

- Following the adoption by the Commission of a report on the progress in the fields of regional policy and co-ordination of the structural instruments in the future Member states³, a ministerial conference held in Brussels in October 2003 with the ministers responsible for the management of the EU Structural and Cohesion Funds in the countries acceding the EU in 2004. At this occasion, Commissioner Barnier underlined the necessity for further efforts, especially concerning the quality of programmes and of the implementing structures. The new Member States could benefit from eligibility from 1 January 2004 only in case of full alignment with Community legislation before the end of 2003.

³ COM(2003) 433 of 16.7.2003.

ISPA budget

The budget for the ISPA instrument is provided for by two budget lines, B7-020 and B7-020A. The first line contains the means for co-financing projects (measures) in the beneficiary countries in the environment and transport domains as well as for providing technical assistance (TA) to identify and prepare projects. Measures to assist the beneficiary countries in strengthening their institutional and administrative capacity –including the move towards fully decentralised management (EDIS) - are funded from this line as well. Line B7-020A foresees funding for actions at the Commission's initiative.

For 2003, € 1 129 million was allocated from the Commission budget to the ISPA instrument. Initially, the B7-020 (project) budget line received € 1 117.5 million. This amount was then increased by € 8.35 million, which was transferred from line B7-020A. As a result, € 1 125.85 million was available to assist projects presented at the initiative of the beneficiary countries. From the original B7-020A budget (€ 11.5 million), € 3.15 million was committed for activities at the Commission's initiative.

Table 1: ISPA budget in 2003

Budget line	Commitment appropriations	Commitment appropriations incl. transfer from B7-020A to 020	Commitments implemented	Payments implemented
B7-020A	11.500.000	3.150.000	3.150.000	5.461.855
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Project funding

1. NEW ISPA PROJECTS

In 2003, the Commission adopted 75 new ISPA measures concerning 60 investments in environment infrastructure and 15 in transport infrastructure. Among these projects, the Commission approved 23 new technical assistance (TA) measures for project preparation, 6 of which were for preparing transport projects and 17 for preparing environment projects. As a result, the total ISPA contribution to projects funded in 2003 amounted to €1.25 billion, representing an average grant rate of 68.51% of the total eligible project cost of €1.82 billion. The remainder was financed by the applicant countries from national sources at central, regional, and/or local level, as well as by international financial institutions (IFIs). Nearly 65% of the ISPA contribution was awarded to the environment sector.

Table 2: New ISPA project decisions in 2003

	Project decisions n°	Total eligible cost €	ISPA contribution €	Grant rate %	Commitments €
Environment	60	1.186.315.685	805.923.669	67.94	404.132.994
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Total	75	1.817.223.705	1.245.033.615	68.51	614.217.832

Note: Decision amounts reflect the total ISPA contribution awarded to projects, while commitment amounts give the total of what is yearly committed from the budget (2003 in this case).

Commitments in 2003 totalled €1 125 million and were used for the new projects decided in that year (€614 million) as well as for ongoing projects adopted in the previous years.

2. COMMITMENTS FOR ENVIRONMENT

About 31% of the budgetary commitments in the environment sector for the year 2003 was dedicated to projects combining the provision of drinking water with the collection of sewage, whereas one quarter was devoted to projects for sewage collection and treatment systems, focussing essentially on the renewal, repair or extension of sewerage networks and the erection of new or the refurbishment/upgrading of existing wastewater treatment plants. Approximately 8% of funding was assigned to projects in the drinking water sector (supply and/or treatment), whereas some 25% benefited to solid waste management projects, consisting primarily of closing down old and creating new landfills, often associated with the introduction of selective waste collection and treatment/recycling systems. Finally, one project related to combating air pollution and one to the monitoring and assessment of the hydrosphere.

Table 3: Commitments in 2003 – Environment by sub-sector¹

Sub-sector	€	%
Drinking water pipes/plant	33.110.094	8.19
Drinking water and sewage	124.525.873	30.81
Drinking water, sewage and solid waste	35.286.960	8.73
Sewage network and treatment plant	101.035.588	25.00
Solid waste collection systems	101.253.254	25.05
Air pollution	2.600.000	0.64
Hydrosphere Monitoring	6.321.225	1.56
Total environment sector	404.132.994	100.0

3. COMMITMENTS FOR TRANSPORT

As in the previous years, ISPA assistance in the transport sector focussed the extension and improvement of the TINA (Transport Infrastructure Needs Assessment) network in order to facilitate the connections between the European Union and the candidate countries within the framework of the future trans-European transport network (TEN-T). The major part of the budgetary commitments for transport in 2003 (57%) were made in favour of rail projects, involving primarily the rehabilitation and upgrading of existing infrastructure to EU standards. About 42% of the funding was assigned to road projects including new construction and upgrading to meet EU capacity and safety standards. Combined rail/road projects represented 1.5%.

Table 4: Commitments in 2003 – Transport by sub-sector²

Sub-sector	€	%
Rail	119.179.045	56.73
Road	87.652.893	41.72
Rail and road	3.252.900	1.55
Total transport sector	210.084.838	100.0

¹ This includes commitments for projects decided in 2003 as well as tranches committed for projects decided in previous years.

² This includes commitments for projects decided in 2003 as well as tranches committed for projects decided in previous years.

4. PROJECTS FUNDED DURING 2000-2003

Between 2000 and 2003, the Commission adopted a total of 324 projects on the basis of proposals submitted by the beneficiary countries. Of these projects, 212 concerned the environment sector (including one flood relief project), 102 the transport sector, and 10 TA measures for achieving decentralised implementation (EDIS). These interventions correspond to a total eligible investment cost of € 10.78 billion, of which € 7.03 billion or 65.2% is being financed by ISPA from the B7-020 budget line. As a result, the Commission has, in the first four years of ISPA, allocated more than 90% of the funds set aside for ISPA for the period 2000 to 2006.

Table 5: Project decisions in 2000-2003

	Project decisions n°	Total eligible cost €	ISPA contribution €	Average grant rate %	Commitments €
Environment	211	5.175.000.000	3.371.300.000	65.1	2.171.400.000
Transport	102	5.566.500.000	3.620.700.000	65.0	2.130.700.000
Combined flooding relief	1	35.294.118	30.000.000	85.0	30.000.000
EDIS	10	8.015.537	8.015.537	100.0	7.800.000
Total	324	10.784.900.000	7.030.100.000	65.2	4.339.900.000

By the end of 2003, 61.7% of the decided ISPA contribution had been committed, with the commitments having been distributed in a balanced manner over the environment and transport sectors.

5. PAYMENTS

Payments for each project consist of two advance payments of 10% each of the ISPA contribution -one upon signature of the Financing Memorandum and the other after the signature of the first works contract- as well of intermediate payments up to 80% (90% in exceptional circumstances) of the contribution. The balance is released after approval of the final project report. Most of the first advance payments are made in the year following the year of the ISPA decision to grant assistance, because the bulk of the ISPA measures are decided in the autumn of each year and account has to be taken of a time-lag for the authorities of the beneficiary countries to countersign these decisions. This is illustrated by the fact that, for projects decided in 2003, payments accounted for less than 2% of the corresponding commitments, whereas for projects decided in 2000 they accounted for more than 30% of the corresponding commitments.

Significant progress has been made in implementing ISPA measures. Whereas, initially, delays in tendering and contracting hampered the payments of second advances and of requests for reimbursement, this situation has now improved. This is reflected by the increasing number of requests received for second advance payments and for intermediate payments. As per 1 January 2004, there were 76 projects for which 20% of ISPA assistance had been paid and 48 projects for which 40% had

been paid, whereas at 1 January 2003, the number of projects concerned amounted to 31 and 15 respectively. As a result, in 2003, overall ISPA payments (including for decentralisation) totalled €424 million, which represents an increase with 14% over the payments made in 2002 (€388 million).

Table 6: Payments in 2003 (€)

For projects committed in					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Environment	81.747.970	12.285.431	66.309.253	3.597.170	163.939.824
Flooding relief	0	0	11.745.361	0	11.745.361
Transport	111.491.265	73.833.755	74.358.144	6.554.262	266.237.426
EDIS	326.000	711.103	1.509.002	0	2.546.105
Total	193.565.235	86.830.289	154.921.760	10.151.432	423. 506. 936

By the end of the period 2000-2003, more than €1 billion had been paid out, representing over 23% of the budgetary commitments.

6. SUMMARY TABLES

Tables 8 and 9 presented hereafter provide an overview of the ISPA interventions for the year 2003 and for the period 2000-2003.

Table 8: Projects decided in 2003 (€)

Sub-sector	N° of projects	Total cost	Total eligible cost	Total ISPA contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Solid waste collection system	11	238.798.892	225.859.330	152.417.251	101.253.254	-
Drinking water pipes/ plant	3	69.665.742	65.080.256	41.387.619	33.110.094	-
Drinking water and sewage	19	421.506.164	404.469.225	286.309.779	124.525.873	1.354.670
Sewage network/ treatment plant	19	431.588.949	402.837.007	259.749.120	101.035.588	-
Drinking water, sewage and solid waste	6	59.607.277	58.713.267	44.417.450	35.286.960	2.242.500
Air pollution	1	12.000.000	12.000.000	9.000.000	2.600.000	-
Monitoring of hydrosphere	1	18.248.467	16.856.600	12.642.450	6.321.225	-
Sector total	60	1.251.415.491	1.817.223.705	1.245.033.615	404.132.994	3.597.170
Transport						
Rail	5	255.743.187	235.893.100	173.737.006	119.179.045	-
Road	8	408.489.677	388.793.420	260.706.815	87.652.893	6.207.650
Rail and road	2	6.221.500	6.221.500	4.666.125	3.252.900	346.612
Sector total	15	670.454.364	630.908.020	439.109.946	210.084.838	6.554.262
TOTAL	75	1.921.869.855	1.817.223.705	1.245.033.615	614.217.832	10.151.432

Table 9: Projects decided during 2000-2003 (€)

Sub-sector	N° of projects	Total cost	Total eligible cost	Total ISPA contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking water pipes/ plant	9	176.675.096	162.766.032	107.619.813	40.110.094	6.808.645	67.453.238	7.526.837
Drinking water and sewage	63	2.257.713.426	2.127.706.840	1.382.966.551	258.688.145	65.005.870	829.522.045	131.799.658
Solid waste collection system	45	892.514.758	815.500.577	539.432.964	102.534.674	24.907.920	383.041.270	48.641.754
Sewage network/ treatment plant	81	2.115.721.963	1.952.174.540	1.255.900.488	148.540.141	43.752.395	830.770.521	138.224.871
Drinking water, sewage and solid waste	11	94.438.377	88.028.267	63.773.700	35.497.556	4.249.757	51.665.056	7.962.870
Air pollution	1	12.000.000	12.000.000	9.000.000	2.600.000	-	2.600.000	-
Hydrosphere monitoring	1	18.248.467	16.856.600	12.642.450	6.321.225	-	6.321.225	-
Sector total	211	5.567.312.087	5.175.032.856	3.371.335.966	594.291.835	144.724.587	2.171.373.355	334.155.990
Flooding relief	1	35.294.118	35.294.118	30.000.000	6.000.000	11.745.360	30.000.000	23.745.361
Transport								
Rail	46	3.181.927.150	2.978.090.906	1.834.678.205	302.732.313	113.966.732	1.070.415.620	321.523.447
Road	48	2.657.329.723	2.426.790.775	1.715.539.537	218.720.195	140.388.356	1.004.346.525	314.473.352
Rail and road	6	24.501.500	24.501.500	19.014.125	3.252.900	4.805.594	14.771.300	5.465.361
Airport	1	148.756.000	135.135.135	50.000.000	-	5.000.000	40.000.000	10.000.000
Inland waterway	1	2.000.000	2.000.000	1.500.000	-	-	1.200.000	300.000
	102	6.014.514.373	5.566.518.316	3.620.731.867	1.606.028.037	264.460.682	2.130.733.445	651.762.160
EDIS								
EDIS	10	8.098.575	8.098.575	8.098.575	745.609	2.576.305	7.783.655	4.549.222
TOTAL	324	11.625.219.153	10.784.943.865	7.030.166.408	1.125.742.852	423.506.936	4.339.890.455	1.014.212.733

Technical assistance

7. FORMS AND DELIVERY OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The recourse to technical assistance measures has proved to be an essential element for ensuring a successful programming and implementation of ISPA projects. These measures have focussed on project preparation, project implementation, accompanying institutional strengthening, and, more recently, the structural (re)organisation of certain utilities, thereby enhancing sustainability of project implementation.

Accompanying institutional strengthening and the enhancement of administrative capacity gained momentum as enlargement of the EU approached. Indeed, after enlargement, the EU cohesion policy will be of particular importance, given that economic and social disparities in the Union will be greater than ever before. Hence, the role of ISPA in contributing to prepare the beneficiary countries for implementing the instruments of cohesion policy.

Two types of TA activities can be distinguished:

- technical assistance which is carried out at the initiative of the beneficiary country and which is directly related to project funding, i.e. project identification/preparation and decentralisation. This type of TA is financed from budget line B 7-020, and
- technical assistance which is carried out at the initiative of the Commission -mostly let via framework contracts- and which is funded from budget line B 7-020A.

For the activities of the first strand, the ceilings of the ISPA contribution are usually those applicable to project funding, except for decentralisation which benefits from a 100% grant rate. The cost of the activities of the second strand are always entirely borne by ISPA. Table 10 summarizes the different delivery mechanisms of technical assistance under ISPA.

Note: these activities do not encompass the TA and works supervision components which form part of each individual ISPA project measure and which contribute to strengthening the implementing and operational capacities of the final beneficiary. Additionally, the implementation of ISPA measures benefits directly and indirectly from TA and other forms of assistance that are provided under other Community instruments and policies, in particular through PHARE (Strands 'Institutional building and public administration reform' and 'Moving to Structural Funds').

Table 10: Delivery of technical assistance for capacity building

	TA measures at the initiative of the beneficiary country (Budget line B7-020) (strand 1)	TA measures at the initiative of the Commission (Budget line B7-020A) (strand 2)	TA and works supervision which form part of project measures and do not fall under (1) or (2)
Project preparation	Preparation of project pipeline and applications for ISPA and Cohesion Fund	Framework contracts for technical, financial and legal advisory services, project appraisal and PPP set-up	-
Project implementation	Assistance to implementing agencies on implementation issues (training, expert advise)	Advice and training on tendering & contracting, PPP, other advisory services Assistance to EC Delegations (ISPA project and task managers)	Elaboration of works tender documents Technical surveys Works supervision Capacity building at final beneficiary level
Project monitoring	-	Assistance to ISPA Monitoring Committees and EC Delegations	Supervision engineer liaising with final beneficiary
Horizontal policy	-	Joint training programmes on key policy issues (e.g. EIA, WFD,...) Policy studies (e.g. Via Baltica)	-
Sector reform	Strengthening of water companies (e.g. Slovakia, Romania)	Sector studies PPP studies	Strengthening of final beneficiary
Decentralisation	Adjustment of the financial management and control systems	-	-

8. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE BENEFICIARY COUNTRY

Project preparation

TA measures for project preparation have to ensure that beneficiary countries are presenting quality projects -particularly in terms of preparation, management and operation- to the Commission for ISPA funding. They should also facilitate the development of a pipeline of quality projects which is a warrant for the Commission to identify and receive a sufficient number of suitable projects in time. Disposing of a strong project pipeline is not only essential for ISPA, but also for the Cohesion Fund,

in particular for those ISPA beneficiary countries that have joined the EU in 2004. Most of these countries have used ISPA TA funds in 2003 to finance preparatory studies for projects that will be submitted for future funding from the Cohesion Fund.

In 2003, the Commission decided on 23 TA measures for project preparation representing a total eligible cost of €112 million with ISPA contributing €84.8 million. Several of these measures included the restructuring of the local utility (final beneficiary) up to modern standards in terms of management and operation which is a pre-condition for considering possible ISPA funding. The total number of TA measures for project preparation approved since 2000 now stands at 62, representing a total eligible cost of €198.2 million of which 80% (€158.9 million) was supported by ISPA.

Decentralisation

EDIS (extended decentralised implementation system) is a process which aims at establishing sound financial management and control systems and procedures in the beneficiary countries. As decisions to grant ISPA support to move along this process had been taken for all for beneficiary countries in 2001 and 2002, there were no new decisions taken in 2003. Details about the EDIS process are provided in the chapter “Management and implementation”.

Table 11: Technical assistance measures at the initiative of the beneficiary countries 2000-2003 (€)

Sub-sector	No of projects	Total cost	Total eligible cost	Total ISPA contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking water, sewage and solid waste	2	87 752 277	86 858 267	65 526 200	33 211 135	3 723 756	3 350 000	7 436 871
Drinking water pipes/plant	1	380 000	380 000	285 000	-	-	228 000	28 500
Sewage network/ treatment plant	5	7 246 200	7 146 200	5 359 650	900 000	963 341	4 287 720	2 071 421
Drinking water and sewage	12	27 040 360	27 040 360	23 267 420	12 974 880	2 116 004	19 982 700	2 848 558
Sector total	30	122 418 837	121 424 827	94 438 270	47 086 015	6 803 101	72 305 476	12 385 350
Transport								
Rail	14	39 600 091	38 640 091	29 158 575	11 737 628	4 341 703	26 037 446	5 634 896
Road	11	19 618 333	19 618 333	14 812 519	2 385 791	1 391 829	10 459 291	2 785 449
Road and rail	6	24 501 500	24 501 500	19 014 125	3 252 900	4 805 594	14 771 300	5 465 360
Inland waterway	1	2 000 000	2 000 000	1 500 000	-	300 000	1 200 000	300 000
Sector total	32	85 719 924	84 759 924	64 485 219	17 376 319	10 839 126	52 469 037	14 185 705
EDIS								
EDIS	10	8 098 575	8 098 575	8 098 575	745 609	2 661 893	7 783 655	4 549 222
TOTAL	72	216 237 336	206 283 326	167 022 064	65 207 943	20 339 331	132 557 168	31 120 277

9. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE COMMISSION

Since the beginning of ISPA, technical assistance (TA) activities at the initiative of the Commission have been concentrating importantly on enhancing the beneficiary countries' capacity to prepare, appraise and implement ISPA projects in accordance with the high standards required for the management of Community funds.

For the year 2003, the allocation provided under budget line B7-020A for this strand of technical assistance amounted to €11.5 million. Of this amount, the Commission committed €3.15 million for activities launched in 2003 (essentially for reinforcing the Commission Delegations, see below).

As in previous years, funds that were not committed were transferred to budget line B7-020 and made available for ISPA investment projects. Accordingly, in the 2003 budget, an amount of €8.35 million was transferred to budget line B7-020.

Technical assistance (TA) activities at the initiative of the Commission are carried out either in the framework of the "TA Action Programme 2001" (see below under A) or through independent ongoing actions launched in previous years (see below under B). The financial details of these activities are presented in Tables 12 and 13.

A. Technical Assistance activities financed under the "TA Action Programme 2001"

Most of the TA activities launched and/or carried out in 2003 were undertaken in the framework of the "TA Action Programme 2001". This Programme comprises multi-annual activities covering the period 2001-2003, with disbursements foreseen until the end of 2004. In the course of its implementation, it has been adapted to changing conditions and experience gained since its launch. As a result, a re-scheduling of funds towards reinforcing the administrative capacity in the ISPA beneficiary countries in the field of tendering and contracting was undertaken.

In 2003, as it became clear that certain activities needed to be continued in 2004, the Commission extended the duration of the Programme. Individual contracts and agreements implementing the Programme were now to be concluded by the Commission no later than 30 April 2004 for the new Member states and no later than 30 June 2004 in the case of Bulgaria and Romania. Among the activities concerned, there are the support for the ISPA Monitoring Committees, the supplementary support for EC Delegations (SSTA), the framework contract for public-private partnerships, and the support for implementation and quality improvement (e.g. strategic analysis of the Via Baltica, pilot study on enhancing the quality of public services, strengthening public procurement systems).

The modification enables the beneficiary countries to fully benefit from the assistance available under the Programme and to better prepare for the smooth transition from ISPA to the Cohesion Fund. However, the experience of 2003 suggests that some of these activities need to be continued under the Cohesion Fund and focus on strengthening institutional capacity in a limited number of priority areas, notably the strengthening of public procurement systems and procedures.

Ongoing activities in 2003

Support for Monitoring Committees

In December 2003, the Financing Memoranda providing financial assistance for the organisation of Monitoring Committee meetings were amended. They will now allow for the continuation of assistance into 2004, along the lines stipulated above.

Supplementary technical expertise for EC Delegations

Resources are made available for small-scale technical assistance (SSTA) and short-term expertise managed by the Heads of Delegations for the period of 2001-2003. They relate to expertise concerning the verification of tender documents as well as the supervision of the tenders and the evaluation committees.

Framework contract for public-private partnerships (PPP)

The public private partnership (PPP) advisory contract concluded by the Commission in 2001 enables to mobilise appropriate human resources on a case by case basis for assisting beneficiary countries in the identification, appraisal, implementation and monitoring of ISPA projects involving a PPP. During 2003, the following activities were carried out:

- guidelines on PPP were published in March 2003
- seminars on the guidelines were held in Prague (for the Czech Republic and Slovakia), Warsaw (for the Baltic states and Poland), Budapest (for Hungary and Slovenia), Sofia (for Bulgaria and Romania) as well as additional seminars in Bucharest (for Romania) and Vilnius (for Lithuania)
- advisory services were provided for project preparation
- the elaboration of a “Resource Book” on selected PPP case studies was commissioned to the consultant and to be completed in 2004.

Seminar and training sessions

In April 2003, DG Regional Policy organised the *Annual Meeting of ISPA Partners – From ISPA to Cohesion and Structural Funds*. Representatives were invited from the national authorities of the ISPA beneficiary countries responsible for ISPA, as well as –for the first time– these countries’ representatives in charge of the preparation for the Cohesion and Structural Funds. EIB and EBRD representatives participated as well. The meeting was to allow for an exchange of experiences and to discuss the challenges ahead both for implementing ISPA as well as regarding the transition to the Cohesion Fund and the Structural Funds.

Information/Communication

ISPA financed those activities in the communication activities of DG Regional policy which related to ISPA. This included the preparation of printed material, project summaries, topical papers as well as website updates and translation services.

IT Contracts

ISPA TA funds financed DG Regional policy's expenditure for its ISPA-related computer-based financial management and control.

New activities initiated in 2003

Quality Improvement

(a) *Support for implementation and quality improvement: Via Baltica*

A service contract for the study "Analysis of Pan-European Transport Corridor I (TINA) Helsinki, Tallinn, Riga, Kaunas, Bialystok and Warsaw" was signed in December 2003 and will be executed in 2004.

(b) *Pilot study on enhancing the quality of public services*

A grant agreement for a "Pilot study for promoting higher quality of public service deliveries in relation to activities co-financed by EU grants with particular reference to public utilities (e.g. water and wastewater and solid waste sectors)" was signed in December 2003. The grant agreement will be executed in 2004.

(c) *Strengthening public procurement systems and procedures*

Since the beginning of ISPA, TA activities have been focussing on enhancing the capacity of beneficiary countries to prepare, appraise and implement ISPA projects in line with the standards required for the management of Community funds. In line with this objective, three new contracts for training and strengthening the capacity of the countries' national authorities in the field of tendering and contracting were signed in December 2003, with the contracts to be executed in 2004.

B. Activities undertaken outside the "TA Action Programme 2001"

Local technical assistance (de-concentrated activities with EC Delegations)

Under the ISPA TA measures for reinforcing the Delegations and adopted in 2000, resources were made available to recruit additional technical staff and cover related administrative costs. In the 3-year period 2001-2003, 45 specialised staff were recruited to reinforce the Delegations' procurement and supervision capacity.

In 2003, a commitment of €3 150 000 was made for the payment of salaries and overhead for ALATs and local agents working in the Delegations on ISPA implementation. By the end of 2003, €2 338 911 of this commitment had been paid out.

For 2004, €2.1 million has been earmarked under the budget line B-13.01.04.02 for covering ALAT/LA costs until April 2004 for the 8 acceding countries and until June 2004 in Bulgaria and Romania.

Framework contracts for specific technical tasks

Task assignments for appraisal of ISPA projects continued under two framework contracts which were signed in 2000 with international consulting firms. The same applies to a contract signed in 2000 with the European Investment Bank (EIB) which secures access to the expert knowledge of the Bank's technical staff for a duration of six years. These contracts are ongoing but will be renewed in 2004.

Table 12 : Commitments and payments under the ‘TA Action Programme 2001’(€)

Area n°	Activity	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2001-2003	Payments 2001-2003
3.1	<i>Implementation</i>				
3.1.2	Monitoring committee	-	-	1 000 000	375 000
3.1.1	Supplementary support to EC Delegations (SSTA)	980 000	840 158	4 499 000	1 561 535
3.2	<i>Quality Improvement</i>				
3.2.1	Strategic analysis of the Via Baltica	379 600	-	379 600	-
3.2.1	Improvement of public services	52 700	-	52 700	-
3.2.3	ISPA Partner meeting 2002	-	-	94 060	94 060
3.2.3	Riga WFD ¹ seminar	-	644	35 160	34 160
3.2.3	Prague WFD seminar	-	-	50 231	50 231
3.2.3	Seminars on FIDIC ² contract conditions	-	29 986	42 486	42 486
3.2.3	ISPA Partner Meeting 2003	250 000	141 548	250 000	141 548
3.2.3	Training on public procurement	1 730 820	-	1 730 820	-
3.3	<i>Decentralisation (p.m.)</i>				
3.4	<i>Financial engineering</i>				
3.4.1	Public-private partnership	-	723 189	3 100 000	938 801
3.5	<i>Information/communication</i>				
3.5.2	Information activities	-	6 160	181 017	6 160
3.5.2	Translation services	60 000	17 001	60 000	17 001
3.5.2	IT system	244 317	151 052	385 790	151 052
TOTAL		3 697 437	1 909 738	11 860 864	3 413 034

¹ Water framework directive
² International confederation of consulting engineers

Table 13: Commitments and payments for TA outside the ‘Action Programme 2001’ (€)

Beneficiary	Type of contract	Area	Commitments 2003	Commitments 2000-2003	Payments 2003	Payments 2000-3
10 EC Delegations	Sub-delegation	Recruitment of personnel		7 000 000	412 634	2 680 973
10 EC Delegations	Sub-delegation	Recruitment of personnel		1 550 000	22 481	1 086 863
10 EC Delegations	Sub-delegation	Recruitment of personnel	3 150 000	3 150 000	2 300 696	2 300 696
Kampsax	Framework	Transport expertise		2 000 000	319 498	813 213
Tractebel	Framework	Environment expertise		2 000 000	377 487	929 560
EIB	Framework	Project appraisal		210 000	6 000	69 000
TOTAL			3 150 000	15 910 000	3 438 796	7 880 305

C. Utilisation beyond 2003 of the pre-commitment of the “TA Action Programme 2001”

As of 1 May 2004, only two applicant countries -Bulgaria and Romania- will continue to be eligible for assistance under ISPA, including for technical assistance. Based on an assessment of the needs for further technical assistance, the Commission has prepared a “TA Action Programme 2004-2006” which addresses the most critical issues identified in these countries. Like for the TA Action programme 2001, this Programme will focus on improving project quality throughout the project cycle, in particular as regards tendering and contracting, the quality of ISPA management and implementation, as well as support to the Delegations (e.g. ALAT, LA, SSTA*). It will operate according to a rolling programming, implying that actions launched in one year will be integrated and complemented throughout the following years in function of evolving needs. This approach proved to be an efficient manner for managing the TA Action programme 2001.

The Programme has been allocated €10 067 680, of which €4 882 680 for *intra-muros* assistance (ALATs and local agents) and €5 185 000 for the other TA activities. Budgetary appropriations will be made yearly, with appropriations for 2004 amounting to €2 100 000 covering administrative expenses, i.e. mainly the Delegations’ staffing costs and related expenditures (*intra-muros* resources, ALAT) and €1 930 000 for TA activities at the Commission’s initiative.

* ALAT/LAs salaries and their overheads will be covered until 1st of May 2004 for the 8 Acceding Countries.

Management and implementation

10. PROJECT MONITORING

Overall monitoring and evaluation of the progress and effectiveness of the implementation is supported by regular meetings in the EC Delegation offices, monitoring reports by the implementing bodies, site visits by Commission staff and formal monitoring through the twice yearly ISPA Monitoring committee meetings in each beneficiary country.

Staff of the EC Delegations in the beneficiary countries plays an important role in supervising the daily management, implementation and monitoring of ISPA measures. Apart from exerting the Commission powers for endorsing tendering and contracting, it is best placed to ensure progress on the ground and liaise with national authorities and final beneficiaries on any problem that may arise.

The key finding of the project monitoring during 2003 is that, on average, further improvements have taken place in terms of hands-on capacity of the beneficiary countries as regards effective implementation. This demonstrates that the various actions –as summarised in Table 10- taken by the Commission in support of the programming and implementing authorities and of the final beneficiaries is bearing its fruits.

Further efforts are required though to overcome weaknesses, which are sometimes persistent. For instance:

- some applicant countries still need to allocate additional financial and human resources for the planning, preparation and management of ISPA measures, in particular in the environment sector,
- qualification of staff is not always in proportion to the skills required to manage the complexity of major infrastructure projects, in particular as tendering and contracting is concerned,
- as regards tendering and contracting, the insufficient quality of the tender documents is often a major reason of delaying the procurement process, especially for works contracts,
- in a few cases, contracts were to be re-launched.
- Financial management and control

Under ISPA, the principal requirements for both the financial management and control and the treatment of irregularities are governed by the provisions of the ISPA Regulation and of Annex III of the Financing Memoranda, as applicable under the regime of *ex-ante* control by the Commission. These requirements are close to those applicable to the Cohesion Fund and the Structural Funds. The key elements relate to the establishment of internal financial control systems and procedures that can ensure the accuracy of declared expenditure, adequate internal audit capability, sufficient audit trail and appropriate treatment of irregularities.

Between May 2003 and January 2004, the Commission carried out a third cycle of systems audits in beneficiary countries to assess the adequacy of the systems established for management of ISPA funds and their compliance with the Community requirements. In particular, the effective implementation of previous audit findings was verified, shortcomings in the set up of systems were remedied, project expenditure was audited whenever possible and, to a limited extent, public procurement procedures were assessed. Advice was given in relation to the changes in implementation to be observed by the acceding beneficiary countries upon accession in May 2004 in order to comply with Commission regulation 1386/2002 of 29 July 2002, laying down detailed rules for the management and control of assistance granted from the Cohesion Fund and for the procedure to make financial corrections to this assistance.

The targeted countries were those for which an EDIS application was not expected to be received before the indicated deadline of 1 November 2003, as well as Bulgaria and Romania. Audits have been carried out in Slovakia, Latvia, Poland (twice), the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia. They allowed for early remedial action to be taken when deficiencies were identified. In some countries, however, the testing of the actual functioning of the systems was sometimes limited due to the delays in implementing ISPA projects. In some cases, public procurement procedures were only partly examined.

Preliminary conclusions of this audit cycle suggest that significant progress has been made in the large majority of beneficiary countries but that improvements in essential areas such as internal control and internal audit are still required. A recurring problem in many countries is the lack of trained and experienced personnel.

For 2004, it is envisaged to audit a selected number of ISPA projects in the transport and environment sectors in all acceding beneficiary countries from which interim payment declarations have been received. The scope of the audit missions will be more focused than in the past, thus allowing some audits to concentrate solely on projects, while others will involve a combination of both system and project audits. Special attention will be paid to examining public procurement procedures at the level of national authorities. Concerning Bulgaria and Romania, 6 on the spot audits will be carried out to verify progress made at systems level and, in particular, as regards the implementation of the action plans which the Commission has formulated in 2003. Declared project expenditure will be audited wherever possible.

11. EDIS

The process of setting up satisfactory financial management and control systems for ISPA has been a significant step in the preparation for future Cohesion Fund and Structural Funds management. This has been given a further dimension by the procedure envisaged for the beneficiary countries to move towards an “extended decentralised implementation system” (EDIS) for ISPA. The conferral of EDIS is subject to a benchmarking exercise whereby the Commission verifies compliance with specific conditions and criteria which relate principally to sound financial management and control, encompassing effective internal control, an independent audit function, an effective accounting and financial reporting system, adequate staffing arrangements and respect of the principle of separation of functions. The

conditions under which the Commission can waive the requirement for *ex-ante* approval of tendering and contracting are defined by Article 12 and the annex to Council regulation 1266/1999.

A “Roadmap to EDIS for ISPA and PHARE” drawn up in 2001 contains details of the 4 procedural stages leading to EDIS: (1) gap assessment, (2) gap filling, (3) compliance assessment and (4) accreditation. ISPA technical assistance has been made available for the first 3 stages of the Roadmap. Whilst the beneficiary countries have been strongly encouraged to move towards EDIS and supported by the Commission in this process, it should be recalled that they remain in any event responsible for the setting up of adequate management and financial control systems by virtue of article 9(1) of the ISPA Regulation.

The most important result of the EDIS process is the adequate adaptation of the financial management and control systems in the beneficiary countries. This is a lengthy and complex exercise which provides a sustainable input to the systems’ set up, regardless the formal accreditation.

By the end of 2003, 5 countries completed the stage 3 compliance assessment, of which 3 fulfilled the conditions and criteria in order to receive the (partial) accreditation from the Commission in Spring 2004. Two countries were processing stage 3, whereas 2 countries had completed the stage 1 gap assessment. One country failed to complete the first stage.

12. RISK ASSESSMENT

The audit strategy with respect to the beneficiary countries has been largely focussed on prevention. Under the system of *ex-ante* approval, priority was given to ensuring that each country put in place sufficient control procedures regarding project implementation and payments. These were required to be in place by 1 January 2002. The first round of on-the-spot audits undertaken in 2001 was aimed at establishing the degree to which this objective had been attained. The second and third audit rounds aimed at verifying whether the recommendations were implemented and the shortcomings in the set up of the system resolved. Though, as yet, not all key elements of the management and control systems in both sectors are in place in all acceding beneficiary countries, the Commission is reasonably confident that this will be progressively be the case. However, in order to verify in an unambiguous manner that the capacity of the new Member states to prepare and implement projects adequately is entirely in place, the Commission has decided to screen the management and control systems in place as regards their compliance with the quality standards of the *acquis*. This is why, early 2004, new Member states were requested to provide the Commission, not later than 3 months after accession, with a description of the management and control systems applicable, at the one hand, to the Cohesion Fund and, at the other hand, to the Structural Funds. Meanwhile, a series of seminars were organised in 2003 and at the beginning of 2004 with a view to explain and detail the requirements with respect to these systems.

For the same reason, all beneficiary countries have been strongly recommended to complete the third stage of the EDIS roadmap which consists of obtaining a positive opinion from external auditors. It is clear that where it is foreseen that the structures

and control procedures put in place for ISPA will not change significantly for the Cohesion Fund, or where the competences acquired under ISPA will be re-used under the Cohesion Fund, a positive opinion from the stage 3 external auditors will help the Commission in obtaining the assurance that the management and control systems meet the standards required by the Cohesion Fund Regulation. As stipulated in Article 5 of Regulation 1386/02, the Commission must satisfy itself on this. Due to the risks of inadequate management of funds after accession, the actions relating to the new Member states will be given priority. Adequate assurance on the implementation of ISPA in Bulgaria and Romania is equally important and, accordingly, progress in the EDIS process in these countries will be monitored closely.

13. EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS FINDINGS

In Autumn 2003, at the occasion of the presentation of its 2002 Annual report, the Court of auditors stated that auditing pre-accession assistance to the candidate date countries has led the Court to a generally positive assessment of the conformity of expenditure. Though it observed also a need to further improve the supervision and control systems for EU aid, it pointed to the fact that most of the beneficiary countries had worked hard in recent years to set up such systems. According to the Court, these systems are sometimes more advanced in the concept of good control systems than those in some of the former EU-15 Member states. This demonstrates that the various actions taken by the Commission in support of the authorities in the beneficiary countries in charge of programming, implementation, and financial management and control of ISPA measures are bearing its fruits.

Late 2003 also, the Court has started assessing the effectiveness of ISPA assistance in a selected number of beneficiary countries that have become a Member state. The assessments focussed in particular on the tendering procedures and intermediate payment requests processed and checked in the implementing agencies and with the final beneficiaries. The findings of these audits will be available in the course of 2004.

14. CO-FINANCING PARTNERS – EIB, EBRD AND NIB

As in previous years, the EIB and the EBRD remained the privileged partners for providing loan financing to ISPA projects in 2003. As far as the NIB (Nordic Investment Bank) is concerned, this bank intervenes in priority in ISPA projects in the Baltic states. Given their expertise in project preparation and implementation, the Commission regularly met these lending institutions, both at horizontal level to coordinate policy and methodological issues related to programming and implementation, and at country level. The Banks' specialist skills in structuring grant/loan combinations of funding, including public-private partnership arrangements, continued to be useful for improving the quality of projects funded from ISPA. Where possible, joint project identification and appraisal missions were organised for projects for which loan financing was sought. Representatives from the Banks have participated at the meetings of the ISPA Management Committee and, when appropriate, of the ISPA Monitoring Committees. The Commission also collaborated with them for promoting the PPP Guidelines.

Within the framework contract concluded with *EIB*, the Bank has provided specific technical input to the appraisal of a number of ISPA projects. The projects decided in 2003 that benefited from co-financing with the EIB are presented in the following table:

Table 15: Projects co-financed by the EIB in 2003

Country	Transport	Environment
Czech Republic	Prague-Ustí nad Labem Motorway: section 807 Trmice- German Border (Corridor IV)	-
Estonia	-	Kohtla-Järve area sewage treatment system
Hungary	-	North-Balaton: regional municipal solid waste management system Keckskemét agglomeration: wastewater collection and treatment programme Debrecen and vicinity: wastewater collection and treatment Szombathely County town: development of wastewater collection and treatment system
Romania	-	Dambovită County: rehabilitation of solid waste collection and management system Pitesti: rehabilitation of the wastewater treatment plant, sewerage network and water supply
Slovenia	Pragersko-Ormoz railway line: upgrading of signalling, safety and telecommunications devices	-

As regards the *EBRD*, the Bank can lend directly to municipalities and utility companies without a sovereign guarantee which adds an element of flexibility to the co-operation with ISPA. However, the number of jointly funded projects with the EBRD differs greatly from sector to sector, from country to country and from year to year. In 2003, the projects concerned were the following:

Table 16: Projects co-financed by the EBRD in 2003

Country	Transport	Environment
Lithuania	Corridor IXB Rail - Structures and Sector 5	-
Romania	-	Bacau: drinking water and wastewater collection and treatment improvements

The *NIB* has provided loan-financing for one project in Estonia, namely for the reconstruction of the Maardu-Valgejõe section of the E20 Tallinn-Narva motorway.

Contribution to Community policies

15. PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

From the start of ISPA, the fulfilment of legal requirements for sound, fair and transparent public procurement as enshrined in the PRAG has proved to be a major challenge. In many cases, ensuring compliance with EU procurement principles has led to delays in the implementation of ISPA projects. Commission services – especially the EC Delegations- had to intervene frequently, not only to check that procedures were correctly applied but also to rectify errors, to liaise with dissatisfied bidders, and to explain to implementing agencies how the procedures concerned were to be implemented. Regularly, the quality of the tender documents needed to be enhanced and the evaluation of bids to be repeated, whereas sometimes –the worst cases– tenders needed to be cancelled and re-launched.

The ex-ante approval by the Commission which governs the tendering and contracting of ISPA projects is, therefore, entirely justified. Under this system of approval, local recipients and final beneficiaries are in the role of Contracting authority responsible for project implementation, whereas the Commission endorses each step of the procurement process. It follows that, although the Commission is not a contracting partner, it bears shared responsibility for the procedural correctness of the procurement process (without the Commission's approval, contracts concluded between beneficiaries and contractors are not valid). This responsibility is entrusted to the EC Delegations in the beneficiary countries.

Meanwhile, training on specific procurement issues has been launched as well as practical tools (guides) been published to carry out tendering and contracting in accordance with national law harmonized according to EU standards (e.g. standard clauses for contracts, standardised templates, guidance documents for national implementing bodies tailored to the particular conditions in each country). As a result, in general, tender documents are better drafted, contracts more consistent, and the management and supervision of works during the implementation phase more professional. However, the experience of 2003 suggests that the strengthening of public procurement systems and procedures in the new Member states should be continued under the Cohesion Fund.

16. COMPETITION POLICY

The ISPA assistance being directed primarily to covering public expenditure -or equivalent- concerning utility projects relating to transport infrastructure or the protection of the environment, this does not generally raise problems of incompatibility with the Community rules on competition. Unless the rules on public procurement are infringed, and provided free access to such infrastructure is guaranteed for all operators meeting the necessary technical and legal conditions, such assistance does not provide specific firms with any special advantage.

However, since it cannot automatically be assumed that certain assistance is not including state aid, Commission services, when examining the applications, assess

the compatibility of the measures part-financed by ISPA against Articles 87 and 88 of the EU Treaty.

17. ENVIRONMENT POLICY

During the year 2003, 60 new ISPA projects for environment were approved, 17 of which concerned technical assistance measures for project preparation and for strengthening administrative capacity. These projects represented a total grant amount of € 806 million, the corresponding assisted investment amounting to € 1.25 billion. As in previous years, with a share of more than 75% of the assistance, the water and wastewater sectors benefited most from ISPA.

By providing direct assistance to priority projects for environment, ISPA contributes also to the implementation of environmental policy in the beneficiary countries. Experience gained through project development and implementation has reinforced administrative capacity and accelerated sector reform in the environment sector. In particular, administrative capacity has been strengthened in regard to environmental investment planning and prioritization. Steady progress has also been made in proper implementation of the EIA directive, including aspects related to public consultation. In addition, a pilot project promoted higher quality of public service in public utilities in the waste and water sub-sectors. In these various ways, ISPA has contributed towards significant progress in environmental protection in all of the beneficiary countries. However, problems still exist in relation to the difficulties of environmental authorities in obtaining adequate funding and staffing as well as to a persistent lack of co-ordination between policy fields.

Overall, during the last decade, the state of environment in the beneficiary countries has improved, in particular with regard to air and water pollution reduction: the main air pollutants have declined by 60-80% and toxic metals by 50%, while organic matter pollution of water has decreased by as much as 80%. The percentage of homes and other installations whose effluent is sent to waste water treatment plants doubled compared to the early years of 1990.

The cost of compliance with the investment-heavy environmental *acquis* for the ten acceding countries was estimated to amount to approximately €50-80 billion. The Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive alone requires major investments of around €15 billion. To achieve full implementation, the new Member states will have to spend on average between 2% and 3% of GDP on the environment in the coming years. As current expenditure is generally well below this target, the Structural and Cohesion Funds can play a significant role in overcoming deficiencies in this respect given that, until the end of the current budgetary period in 2006, EU assistance in the environment field will almost treble compared to the period 2000-2003. i.e. some €8 billion, which is more than 10% of the total investment requirements.

It is important also to ensure sufficient funding at national level as new Member states should find their own financial resources in order to meet their obligations. The binding nature of the transition period targets and clear final deadlines for directives for which transition periods were awarded justify reserving adequate financial and human resources for implementation at national level, including for monitoring, inspections, permits and reporting. Anticipated financing should

therefore also secure loans from international financial institutions, national budgets and private sector investment. As far as the new Member states are concerned, these will have the opportunity to complete gaps in institution-building in the environment field, notably with twinning and exchange programmes. The EU 'Transition Facility' (€420 million for the period 2004-2006) provides such support to the new Member states in this policy area.

18. TRANSPORT POLICY: FROM TINA TOWARDS NEW TEN-T GUIDELINES

The transport networks in the beneficiary countries, agreed in accordance with TINA (Transport Infrastructure Needs Assessment), are constructed around the framework of pan-European corridors. These begin or end, with one exception (Corridor VI), within the territory of the EU-15 and include branches running across the territory of all new Member states -except Cyprus and Malta, for which, as islands, the network focus is on sea routes, ports and airports- and of Bulgaria and Romania. These networks have been used as the planning basis for the national transport strategies for ISPA purposes and, therefore, each ISPA transport project needed to form part of the TINA networks. Similarly, these networks are being used for Cohesion Fund purposes and fulfil a core function in the new Member states' National Development Plans, which are the programming tool for the use of structural funds from 2004 onwards.

Table 17: ISPA transport projects by pan-European transport corridor (2000-2003)

Corridor	Number of projects
I - Tallinn-Riga-Kaunas-Warszawa	19
I.a branch - Riga-Kaliningrad-Gdansk	1
II - Berlin-Warszawa-Minsk-Moskva- Niznij Novgorod	10
III - Dresden-Wroclaw-Lviv-Kiev	9
IV - Dresden-Praha-Bratislava/Wien-Budapest-Arad	15
V - Venezia-Trieste/Koper-Ljubljana-Budapest-Uzgorod-Lviv	3
V.a branch - Rijeka-Zagreb-Budapest	3
VI - Gdansk-Grudziadz/Warszawa-Katowice-Zilina	4
VII - Danube	1
IX - Helsinki-St.Petersburg-Pskov/Moskva-Kiev-Ljubasevka-Chisinau-Bucuresti-Alexandroupolis	2
IX.b branch - Minsk-Vilnius-Kaunas-Klaipėda	5
Various (including as well: - V.b branch: Ploce-Sarajevo-Budapest - V.c branch: Bratislava-Zilina-Uzgorod - VIII: Durres-Tirana-Skopje-Sofija-Varna/Burgas - IX.d branch: Kaliningrad-Kybartai-Marijampolė-Kaunas - X: Salzburg-Ljubljana-Zagreb-Beograd-Nis-Skopje-Veles-Thessaloniki)	23
Nodal point	1
Not applicable	1
Total (of which TA measures for project preparation)	97 (29)

Note: Corridor details by project are given in the section Project list (first column)

In April 2003, the maps containing the alignment of the future TEN-T (Trans-European transport network) networks were integrated in the Accession Treaties which amended the TEN-T Guidelines¹ to accommodate the extension of the TEN-T network to the acceding countries. As a consequence, as of May 2004, the new Member states are immediately eligible for Community funding, in particular for TEN-T funds and the Cohesion Fund.

¹ Decision 1692/96/EC.

Meanwhile, as new Community guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network (TEN-T guidelines) were approved by the Council and the Parliament in April 2004, the Community disposes of a legal framework governing the development of the TEN-T network in an enlarged Europe. They include a list of 30 priority projects which are declared to be of European interest and are to be realised with the horizon of 2020. Of these projects, 9 concern axes including the new Member states. The list of projects aims at ensuring modal shift and more sustainable mobility patterns by focussing investments in rail and waterborne transport. Cross-border projects are similarly present as these are typically the most difficult ones to implement. The estimated cost of carrying out the 30 projects is approximately €225 billion. Some 20% of this amount could be raised from the private sector and the rest will have to come from the national and Community budgets, notably within the framework of the financial perspectives after 2006. The total cost of completion of the trans-European transport network, including the projects of common interest not identified as priority projects, will be €600 billion. Required investment in transport infrastructure in the new Member states would amount to € 90 billion by 2015. Implementation of the priority projects should produce time savings for international transport, help to reduce the growing pollution due to transport and contribute to more balanced spatial development. These benefits would boost the growth potential of the enlarged Union between 0.14% and 0.3% of GDP and create up between half a million to one million new jobs according to recent research.

Table 18: ISPA projects relating to the new TEN-T priority projects (2000-2003)

Priority project (n°)	ISPA project	Beneficiary country
<i>Railway axis</i> Lyon-Trieste-Divaca/Koper-Divaca-Ljubljana-Budapest-Ukrainian border (6)	Renewal of cut Krizni vrh Divaca-Koper signalling and safety devices Upgrading of Ljubljana-Zidani most-Maribor Pragersko-Ormoz signalling, and safety and telecom devices	Slovenia
	Rehabilitation of the Zalaövö-Zalaegerszeg-Boba line	Hungary
<i>Motorway axis</i> Igoumenitsa/Patra-Athina-Sofia-Budapest (7)	Ljulin motorway (Sofia ring road to Daskalovo junction)	Bulgaria
	Construction and rehabilitation of sections 4 and 5 of the Bucharest – Cernavoda motorway Construction of the Sibiu motorway by-pass	Romania

<i>Railway axis</i> Paris-Strasbourg-Stuttgart-Wien-Bratislava (17)	-	-
Rhine/Meuse-Main-Danube <i>inland waterway axis</i> (18)	TA (project preparation) for the improvement of the navigation conditions on the Danube	Romania
Motorways of <i>the sea</i> (21)	-	-
<i>Railway axis</i> Athina-Sofia-Budapest-Wien-Praha-Nürnberg/Dresden (22)	Modernisation of section Zabori-Prelouc	Czech Republic
	Optimalisation of section Zabreh na Morave-Krasikov	
	Rehabilitation of the Budapest-Győr-Heygeshalom line	Hungary
<i>Railway axis</i> Gdansk-Warszawa-Brno/Bratislava-Wien (23)	Modernisation of section Bratislava –Senkvice	Slovakia
	Modernisation of Senkvice-Cifer section and stations Raca-Trnava	
	Modernisation of section Trnava-Nové Mesto nad Vahom	
<i>Motorway axis</i> Gdansk-Brno/Bratislava-Wien (25)	Upgrading of expressway R48 sections:	Czech Republic
	Frydek-Mistek to Dobra	
	Belotin by-pass	
	Dobra to Tosanovice	
<i>"Rail Baltica" axis</i> Warsaw-Kaunas-Riga-Tallinn-Helsinki (27)	TA (project preparation) for the E 75 line, section Warsaw–Bialystok – State border	Poland

Co-ordination among pre-accession instruments

As required by the Coordination Regulation¹, the Commission ensures close co-ordination among the three pre-accession instruments, PHARE, SAPARD and ISPA. In line with the provisions of this Regulation, the PHARE Management Committee plays a special role in general co-ordination of the three pre-accession instruments.

Co-ordination with the (PHARE) Joint Monitoring Committee

The Joint Monitoring Committee is responsible for co-ordinating the monitoring of each pre-accession instrument and for assessing the overall progress of EU-funded assistance in the beneficiary countries. The Committee issues recommendations to the ISPA Committee or to the Commission when relevant.

Co-ordination within the Commission

Within the Commission, an inter-services Co-ordination Committee, including representatives from all relevant Commission services (DGs Enlargement, Agriculture, Regional Policy, Budget, Health and Consumer Protection, Legal Service) has met regularly during 2003. The agenda for the meetings in 2003 and early 2004 included financial control and management, stock-taking on moves towards EDIS, issues related to the transition towards the Cohesion and Structural Funds, procurement issues implications of the new Financial Regulation which came into force in January 2003, and allocations of pre-accession funds for Bulgaria and Romania post-2003.

Co-ordination with EC Delegations

Periodic meetings were organised by the Commission services (DGs Enlargement, External Relations and Regional Policy) with the experts in the Delegations responsible for PHARE and ISPA to discuss programming and implementation issues, in particular those related to tendering and contracting.

¹ Council Regulation (EC)N° 1266/1999 of 21 June 1999 on co-ordinating aid to the applicant countries in the framework of the pre-accession strategy.

Communication activities

Early in 2003, a *brochure* was published containing key information on ISPA projects and events in 2002. The brochure constituted a complement to the ISPA Annual Report of 2002.

In April 2003, DG Regional policy organised the *Annual Meeting of ISPA Partners – From ISPA to Cohesion and Structural Funds*, details of which were provided in section 8 of the report.

On 6 October 2003, *Commissioner Barnier* met the ministers responsible for the management of the Structural and Cohesion Funds in the countries acceding the EU in 2004. The Commissioner acknowledged the significant progress made regarding the programming and the creation of administrative capacities. At the same time he underlined the necessity for further efforts, especially concerning the quality of programmes and of the implementing structures. The new Member States can benefit from eligibility from the 1 January 2004 only in case of full alignment with Community legislation before the end of 2003. The ministerial conference was held following the adoption by the Commission in July 2003 of a report on the progress in the fields of regional policy and co-ordination of the structural instruments in the future Member states¹.

In February 2004, a *press conference* was held to brief journalists on the progress achieved after four years of programming and implementing ISPA. The conference was broadcasted by Europe by Satellite (EbS) and a *brochure* was published.

The Commission services continued to participate in the *NGOs² Dialogue project* which consists of meetings between Commission officials (predominantly from DG Environment) and representatives of environmental NGOs from Member States and (former) candidate countries. Its objectives were to inform the NGOs of the enlargement process and to enable them to present their opinions on this process to the Commission. The meetings held in 2003 focussed on the implementation of ISPA with particular attention to the transition to the Cohesion Fund and to post-accession.

The *ISPA-website* was updated regularly with information sheets on projects signed by the Commission, new versions of the Financing Memoranda's annexes, new brochures on ISPA progress, and documentation on the ISPA Partners meeting.

¹ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of commitments undertaken by the acceding countries in the context of accession negotiations on chapter 21 - Regional Policy and coordination of structural instruments (COM(2003) 433 final of 16.7.2003)

² Non-governmental organisations

Country profiles

BULGARIA

In 2003, Bulgaria received a total ISPA commitment allocation of €112.6 million. This was divided between the transport and environment sectors - €39.3 million and €73.3 million respectively. Technical assistance measures accounted for €0.9 million of these commitments. The allocation for Bulgaria represented 10.0% of the overall ISPA budget in 2003. Considering the years 2000–2003, the total amount of decisions in Bulgaria correspond to €615 million, from which the amount of commitments up to date represents €428 million.

Programming

As in 2002 the Minister of Finance took over the role of National ISPA Co-ordinator from the Minister for Regional Development and Public Works, the Ministry of Finance now manages all three pre-accession instruments through the “Management of EU Funds” directorate. An ISPA co-ordination unit has been set up within this directorate.

A total of 5 environmental investment projects (4 in the water and 1 in the waste sector) and 1 technical assistance project were approved for funding by ISPA in 2003. The share of ISPA funds for the environment sector has been substantially increased. Therefore the ratio between the transport and environment currently represents 48% and 52% for period 2000–2003.

The infrastructure projects approved were as follows:

Smoljan Integrated Water project

Varna Integrated Water project

Balchik Integrated Water project

Shoumen Integrated Water project

Kardjali Regional Waste Management Centre

TA for the preparation of a Water Sector Investment Project in Sofia

Up to the end of 2003, total payments of ISPA grants in favour of projects amounted to €61.4 million representing mainly the first instalments of the advances on approved projects. In 2003, payments amounted to €26.4 million.

Implementation

Progress continued to be made during 2003 in preparing for the tendering and contracting of ISPA projects. In the transport sector, tenders were successfully concluded on the Transit Roads Rehabilitation III project. In addition, a number of small technical assistance contracts were let to support the contracting authorities in

the tendering process and in the general project preparation. Preparation of the design and tender documents continued on the Plovdiv-Svilengrad rail project. In the environment sector, works tenders were launched in 2003 for all three 2001 projects. Also, all 7 works contracts for the measure “Set up of 6 regional landfills in Bulgaria” were signed.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The ISPA Monitoring Committee met in Borovetz in May and in Plovdiv in November 2003. Attention was drawn to the need to speed up contracting and payments. The Commission stressed the importance of EIA legislation and the role of IFIs in co-financing infrastructure projects. Administrative capacity should be enhanced at all levels of authorities involved and final beneficiaries must be more implicated in project preparation and implementation.

EDIS

ISPA technical assistance finances the first 3 stages of EDIS. The grant was approved in 2002 and amounted to €892.000. In 2003, a total of €357.022 has been paid out.

At its meeting of September 2003, the EDIS working group adopted a revised implementation plan for EDIS which aims at completing the 3 stages by the end of 2005 and at sending the official request for EDIS approval to the Commission by the end of January 2006.

Financial Management and Control

Further audits were carried out by DG Regional Policy into the financial management and control systems of the ISPA implementing agencies. The main findings were sent to the Bulgarian authorities together with recommendations on the improvements needed to meet the requirements of Article 9 of the ISPA Regulation. In April 2003 and in January 2004, the Bulgarian authorities reported on the actions taken to meet the recommendations of the 2002 and 2003 audits.

CZECH REPUBLIC

In 2003, commitments amounting to €75.5 million were made to the Czech Republic, which represented 6.71 % of the annual ISPA budget. Approximately €45.6 million was committed to environment projects, €23.8 million to transport projects and €6.0 million to flooding relief. Technical assistance measures accounted for €1.5 million of these commitments.

Programming

2003 being the last year of ISPA programming in the Czech Republic, particular emphasis was put on the environment sector. The objective was to ensure that the commitments from the budget years 2000-2003 had been shared on an equal basis between the transport and environment sectors. This target was achieved by the end of the year.

Five new projects were adopted in the environment sector, four in the water sector and one in the solid waste sector. The latter project, involving the upgrading of an existing incinerator in the city of Brno in order to respect the standards required by European legislation, was the first application received from the Czech Republic in the solid waste sector. Following the adoption of the National Waste Plan in July 2003, it is anticipated that a number of other projects in the solid waste area will be submitted under the Cohesion Fund.

In the transport sector, an important road project was adopted, covering the completion of the Prague-Dresden motorway by means of support to the final construction stage in the Czech Republic, linking the motorway to the German border. This project is an important part of Trans-European Corridor IV and is also co-financed by ERDF on the German side of the border. In the railway sector, a pilot project for the introduction of ERTMS¹ on the main corridors was approved.

All of the above-mentioned projects will continue to be financed from the Cohesion Fund allocation for the years 2004-2006. Preparations for the Cohesion Fund were also a significant part of 2003 programming activities. Discussions with the Czech authorities on the content of the sector strategy papers, which constitute the Reference Framework for the Cohesion Fund, were substantially completed by the end of 2003. These papers identified the main likely areas of intervention in each sector.

Implementation

In 2003, four service contracts and one works contract were signed in the environment sector. Furthermore, two service contracts were contracted for stage 2 of EDIS.

As the Flooding relief project was handled as a priority, the implementation of all 34 of its sub-projects was finished in 2003. The indicative 50/50 split for the transport

¹ Electronic railway transport monitoring system

and the environment sectors was observed. Within the transport sector, a breakdown of 50% for railway and 50% for road projects was achieved. The measure was considered as being very successful.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Two Monitoring committees were held in 2003, one in Brno and one in Ceske Budejovice. In conjunction with the first committee meeting, a monitoring visit was made to the sewerage improvement project for the city of Brno which was financed from ISPA in 2001 and for which works had started early 2003.

Particular attention was paid during the latter meeting to the need for calls for tender to be published prior to enlargement if they were to follow the PRAG external assistance rules. With the help of the EC Delegation, a detailed timetable was established to help achieve this for all projects.

Co-financing with IFIs

The co-operation with EIB for co-financing of major investments was intensified in 2003. The above-mentioned Prague-Dresden motorway completion is co-financed with an EIB loan and the project was subject to a joint appraisal by the Commission and bank.

In December 2003, the Commission participated in an appraisal mission with the EIB for a major investment in the water sector in the city of Pilsen. The project is part of the 2004 project pipeline for the Cohesion Fund.

EDIS

By the end of 2003, the Czech authorities completed stages 2 and 3 of the EDIS roadmap. The request for EDIS accreditation was however submitted after the November deadline issued by the Commission. Although, as a result, it was not possible to grant EDIS status to the Czech Republic prior to enlargement, the work performed by the Czech authorities should allow the Czech Republic to comply with the management and control requirements of the Cohesion Fund.

Financial Management and Control

An audit of ISPA project expenditure as well as of the management and control systems in place was performed by the audit services of DG Regional policy in October 2003. The audit concluded that the Czech authorities had made significant progress on the establishment of sound management and control systems since the previous audit of 2002. In addition to minor material findings, the audit report pointed to the problematic nature of the Czech procurement system, which was identified as a risk factor for 2004 when, upon enlargement, *ex-ante* controls by the EC Delegation are removed.

ESTONIA

In 2003, Estonia received a total ISPA commitment allocation of € 30.8 million. This was divided between the transport and environment sectors - € 18.6 million and € 12.2 million respectively. TA measures for transport and environment accounted for € 2.7 million. The allocation for Estonia represented 2.74% of the overall ISPA budget in 2003.

Programming

In the environment sector, 1 investment project and 2 TA measures were approved whereas the transport sector accounted for one investment project and one TA measure. Throughout the period 2000-2003, 16 environment projects -including 4 TA measures- and 9 transport projects -including 5 TA measures- were approved, as well as one TA measure for EDIS.

Implementation

As regards tendering and contracting, a total of 5 services contracts for design, supervision and technical assistance were signed in 2003 (1 in the transport sector, 4 in the environment sector), as well as 3 works contracts (2 in the environment sector, 1 in the transport sector).

Two projects in the environment sector and one project in the transport sector were finalised in 2003.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Monitoring Committee met in April 2003 and January 2004.

Co-financing with IFIs (Please provide name of projects concerned)

Of the measures approved in 2003, one transport project (E20 Tallinn-Narva road, reconstruction Maardu-Valgejõe) involves co-financing from the Nordic Investment Bank and one environment project (Kohtla-Järve area sewage treatment system) involves EIB co-financing. Besides enhancing the leverage of ISPA grants, the EIB, the Nordic Banks (NIB, NEFCO) and Nordic environmental protection agencies also play a substantial role in the provision of technical expertise to help prepare quality ISPA applications.

EDIS

Estonia is well advanced in the EDIS process. In December 2002, the National Authorising Officer has submitted a request for extended decentralisation under Article 12 of the ISPA Regulation. DG REGIO Unit for the Control and audit of the Cohesion fund and ISPA made in 2003 two audit missions on the spot in relation to this request for conferral of EDIS to ISPA projects.

HUNGARY

In 2003, Hungary received a total commitment allocation of € 96.0 million. Of this, € 45.4 million was assigned to transport projects and € 50.5 million to environment projects. Commitments for technical assistance measures in both sectors accounted for € 7.5 million. The allocation for Hungary represented 8.52% of the total ISPA budget for the year.

Programming and Implementation

In 2003, 6 environment projects including 2 TA measures and 1 TA measure for the transport sector were approved. During the period 2000-2003, 25 environment projects of which 6 TA measures were approved and 11 transport projects of which 5 again for technical assistance were approved.

As regards tendering and contracting, all the main contracts were signed for the 2000 environment projects and the majority of the tenders for the 2001 environment projects were launched in 2003. In the transport sector 7 works contracts were signed.

By end 2003, payments made amounted to € 114 million.

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Monitoring Committee met in May and October 2003.

Co-financing with IFIs

All projects are co-financed by the European Investment Bank.

EDIS

The stage II -Gap plugging was completed mid-March 2003. The submission to the Commission of the results of the stage III -'Compliance assessment' was done in October 2003. The Commission decision granting EDIS for the road sector only was taken in March 2004.

Financial Management and Control

No new activities

LATVIA

In 2003, Latvia received a total commitment allocation of € 53.9 million in ISPA assistance. Of this, € 24.6 million was assigned to transport projects, while € 29.3 million went to environment projects. Technical assistance measures accounted for € 12.4 million of these commitments. The overall allocation for Latvia consisted of 4.76% of the total ISPA budget for the year.

Programming

In 2003, 3 environment projects and 1 transport projects were approved. Throughout the period 2000-2003, a total of 25 projects were approved: 13 for environment, 11 for transport and one for EDIS.

In 2003 almost the whole of the available ISPA allocation was committed. The amount of € 0.4 million could not be committed due to the late submission of the project application. The payments made by the end of 2003 amounted to € 21,5 million, representing the first and second advances as well as interim payments.

Implementation

As regards tendering and contracting, a total of 16 services contracts (6 in the transport and 6 in the environment sector and 4 in EDIS), 11 work contracts (3 in the transport and 8 in the environment sector) and 4 supply contracts (1 in the transport and 3 in the environment sector) were signed in 2003

Monitoring and Evaluation

Two ISPA Monitoring Committee meetings were held, one in April 2003 and one in February 2004. It should be noted that progress in implementing of the projects was improved, especially as regards tendering and contracting.

Co-financing with IFIs

So far, all approved environmental infrastructure measures are co-financed with IFIs: 5 measures with the EIB, 4 measures with the NIB, 5 measures with the NEFCO, one measure with the EBRD and one measure with the World Bank. In the transport sector, the EIB, the EBRD and the World Bank provide parallel co-financing for the ISPA projects.

EDIS

The second stage 'gap plugging' of EDIS was completed in the 3rd quarter of 2003. The third stage 'compliance assessment report' started in October 2003 and was completed in 2004.

Financial Management and Control

The main findings of the audit of the financial management and control systems were sent in April 2002 to the Latvian authorities with recommendations on improvements necessary to fulfil the criteria set out in Article 9 of the ISPA Regulation.

LITHUANIA

In 2003, Lithuania received a total commitment allocation of € 53.1 million. This was divided between the transport and environment sectors as follows: € 31.4 million and € 21.7 million respectively. Technical assistance measures accounted for € 4.9 million of these commitments. The allocation for Lithuania represented 4.72% of the overall ISPA budget in 2003.

Programming

In the environment sector, one water project and one technical assistance project was approved through the written procedure and two waste management projects were approved by the ISPA Management Committee.

In 2003, a total of 6 projects were approved. As a result, a total of 17 environment projects, 8 transport projects and 6 TA measures including TA for EDIS were approved for funding by ISPA between 2000 and 2003. Two measures in the transport sector are nearing completion.

The ISPA contribution to projects in 2003 was fully committed and payments made up to the end of the year amounted to € 71,2 million (since the beginning of ISPA). The total value of payment requests made from the beginning of ISPA is currently approximately 29% of the total allocated ISPA assistance.

Implementation

As regards tendering and contracting, a total of 23 services contracts for design, supervision and technical assistance were signed in 2003 (6 in the transport sector (out of which 5 from local funds) and 17 in the environment sector (8 of them are for project preparation under a TA measure) as well as 6 works contracts (3 in the transport sector and 3 in the environment sector). Implementation is speedier in the transport sector than in the environmental sector where tendering procedures are lengthy and market response problematic.

Monitoring and Evaluation

ISPA Monitoring Committee meetings were held in April 2003 and November 2003.

Co-financing with IFIs

The major rail project Corridor IXB Rail – Structures and Sector 5 – is co-financed with the EBRD. For other projects, Lithuania is moving towards self-financing or market loans since the sovereign guarantee often required by IFIs is considered incompatible with the policy on overall indebtedness of the country.

EDIS

Preparation for EDIS continued steadily. Compliance assessment allowed Lithuania to submit EDIS file for the implementing agency in the transport sector to the European Commission on 11 November 2003.

Financial Management and Control

Stage 4 verification audit on whether the management and control system put in place for ISPA meets the criteria included in Council Regulation (EC) NO. 1267/1999 dated 21 June 1999 was carried out on 28-30 January and 9-13 February 2004 and the report was submitted to the Commission on 1 April 2004.

POLAND

In 2003, Poland received a commitment total of € 387.942.210. Of this, € 179.312.210 was assigned to environment projects, while € 189.124.250 went to transport projects. Technical assistance measures accounted for € 19.505.750 of these commitments. The overall allocation for Poland consisted of 33.5% of the total ISPA budget for the year.

Programming

A total of 11 environment projects and 4 transport projects were approved for ISPA funding in 2003, including 2 transport and 1 environment project TA measures.

For transport, the focus remained on large scale projects on the major routes. Two road projects were approved: construction of the 2nd carriageway of National Road N° 18, section Olszyna-Golnice and construction of A2 motorway section Konin-Strykow; subsection: Emilia-Strykow II as well as two Technical Assistance measures, one for the modernisation of E 30/CE 30 railway line on section Opole-Katowice-Krakow and one for the preparation of projects in the road sector financed within the Cohesion Fund.

In the environment sector, ISPA funding in 2003 was allocated exclusively to drinking water and waste water treatment projects. As in previous years, assistance continued to be targeted on the largest population centres but there is a tendency towards also including smaller centres and rural areas. The projects approved included combined drinking water and waste water projects in Warsaw, Wroclaw and Olsztyn (all by major modification of an existing first phase), Gdynia, Stalowa Wola, Chorzów, Kędzierzyn-Koźle, Tarnow, a drinking water supply project in Rzeszów, waste water projects in Sosnowiec, Grudziądz, Podhale, Zywiec and Walbrzych.

Implementation

Level of implementation in both sectors had increased compared with situation in 2002. However, There were strong signs of acceleration in implementation in only in the latter part of 2003 with an increasing number of works contracts approved. The main reason for the slow progress of implementation has been the lack of experience of the Polish contracting authorities with tendering and contracting procedures.

Monitoring and Evaluation

ISPA Monitoring Committee meetings were held in April and December 2003.

Co-financing with IFIs

Active co-operation with the IFIs concerning the environment sector continued in 2003. The Commission has noticed that the beneficiaries engage in negotiations with the IFIs but do not finalise lending agreements until a grant from ISPA has been approved.

EDIS

Preparation for EDIS is progressing and Poland will endeavour to reach stage 3 'compliance assessment' of the EDIS road map before accession.

Financial Management and Control

No further audit missions were carried out in 2003 on the management and control system of the ISPA implementing agencies.

ROMANIA

In 2003, Romania received a total commitment of € 260.8 million of ISPA assistance. Of the 2003 allocation, € 129.4 million was assigned to transport projects and € 131.4 million to environment projects. Of these commitments, technical assistance measures accounted for € 13.6 million in the environment sector, of which € 5.6 million was made with respect to a measure for institutional capacity strengthening of ISPA final beneficiaries in the water and wastewater sector. The allocation for Romania represented 23.16% of the overall ISPA budget in 2003.

Programming

A total of 7 new projects were approved in 2003 for both sectors. In the transport sector, one project was approved for the Rehabilitation of the Campina-Predeal Railway Section. In the environment sector, 6 projects were approved, including two technical assistance measures. Two projects concern the combined investment in the drinking and wastewater sectors in the cities of Bacau and Pitesti. Two projects relates to the management of the solid waste system in the counties of Teleorman and Dambovita, respectively. The technical assistance measures provide support for institutional strengthening and project preparation, respectively.

Implementation

As regards tendering and contracting, a total of 21 services contracts for design, supervision and technical assistance were signed in 2003 (4 in the transport sector and 17 in the environment sector), as well as 26 works contracts (17 in the transport sector and 9 in the environment sector). One supply contract under the Institutional Building 2001/RO/16/P/PA/009/04 budget was also signed.

While the whole of the available ISPA allocations were fully committed during 2000-2003, payments made till end 2003 amounted to € 136.4 million, of which €24.02 million were made in 2003. The majority of measures have had one payment, i.e. the first instalment of the advance; only 3 of the investment measures have had the second instalment of the advance payment; and 3 TA measures have had the second instalment of the advance payment, of which 2 in addition interim payment.

In 2003, second advance payments were paid with respect to 1 investment measure only, reflecting slow progress in contracting of works tenders and difficulties in complying with Art. 8 conditions of the Financing memoranda. The outcome of audit missions in Romania resulted in interruption of payment procedures until shortfalls in the financial management system are adequately addressed.

Monitoring and Evaluation

In 2003, the ISPA Monitoring Committee met twice, respectively in April and October.

Co-financing with IFIs

Co-operation with the IFIs is very important in Romania, in particular in the environment sector where most ISPA measures are co-financed with IFIs. These include 8 measures with the EIB (2 in 2000, i.e. Craiova and Braila, 3 in 2001, i.e. Cluj, Focsani and Pascani, 3 in 2002, i.e. Satu Mare, Buzau and Piatra Neamt, and 2 are foreseen for Dimbovita, Pitesti respectively, ISPA projects approved in 2003). A further 9 measures are co-financed with the EBRD (2 in 2000, i.e. Constanta and Iasi, 4 in 2001, i.e. Arad, Oradea, Timisoara and Targu Mures, 2 in 2002, i.e. Brasov and Sibiu, and 1 in 2003, i.e. Bacau).

It is anticipated that this co-operation will continue throughout the whole ISPA programming period given that the level of investment needs stand well above the ISPA allocation.

EDIS

In 2003 the technical assistance measure (approved by the Commission in November 2002) to strengthen the capacity of Implementing agencies to implement ISPA measure under the Stage II 'gap plugging' of the Road map was under implementation. Manual of procedures were elaborated and seminars, respectively trainings took place on project management, tendering procedures and use of procedure manuals. At the end of 2003 the Commission approved a technical assistance for institutional capacity strengthening of ISPA final beneficiaries in the water and wastewater sector.

Financial Management and Control

Two audits of the financial management and control systems for ISPA were undertaken by the DG Regional policy. These have identified still existing shortfalls, mainly in relation to the validity of expense declarations. As a consequence the Commission requested a confirmation on the viability of ISPA expenditures according to the Financing Memoranda before proceeding any further payments. Recommendations were made for actions which need to be addressed by September 2004. The Romanian Ministry of Finance decided to complete the requirements before submitting the confirmation on expenditure validity and invited the Commission to check this completion by an audit mission in February 2004.

Irregularities

One irregularity was reported regarding use of waste bins, financed under Phare program, in contradiction with the terms of the funding contract. The results of OLAF investigation carried out in cooperation of the Commission Delegation to Romania showed that the waste bins have been bought using national funds. The investigation has been closed and the complainer has been consequently informed.

Procurement ratio: 25.49% (calculated as the total contracted amount against the total eligible cost for the period 2000-2003).

SLOVAKIA

In 2003, Slovakia received a total commitment allocation of € 50.6 million. This was divided between the transport and environment sectors with € 17.6 million and € 32.7 million respectively. Of this allocation, technical assistance accounted for € 0.3 million. The allocation for Slovakia represented 4.50% of the overall ISPA budget in 2003.

Programming

Both in the environment and in the transport sector a number of TA measures were taken to provide for a sufficient number of projects for the Cohesion Fund programming period 2004 – 2006.

Regarding the preparation of projects for the 2003 budget, the preparation of 7 new environment projects allowed to take up all available commitments for the year 2003 and to make all allocations foreseen within the Financial Framework until 2006, thus allocating some 30% of the available Cohesion Fund budget.

Environment sector:

The following seven environment projects of a total value of € 115.4 million were adopted in 2003, involving an ISPA contribution of € 70.9 million and a total 2003 commitment of € 13,99 million :

- Upgrade of heating plant in Žilina: total cost: € 12 mio, ISPA grant: € 9 mio;
- Košice City Sewerage and Waste Water Treatment : total cost: € 19.4 mio, ISPA grant: € 9.7 mio;
- Waste water disposal system of the Šaľa region: total cost: € 21.3 mio, ISPA grant: € 14.4 mio;
- Sewerage system and Wastewater Treatment Plant located in Humenné: total cost: € 12.3 mio, ISPA grant: € 7.97 mio;
- Waste water treatment plant and sewerage in the Trnava region: total cost: € 19.2 mio, ISPA grant: € 10.19 mio;
- Piešťany Sewerage Reconstruction and Waste Water Treatment Plant Upgrade: total cost: € 11.7 mio, ISPA grant: € 6.4 mio;
- Completion of Poprad-Matejovce Waste Water Treatment Plant: total cost: € 19.5 mio, ISPA grant: € 13.16 mio.

All these projects were prepared with regional water companies as Final Beneficiaries in respect of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the Slovak authorities and the Commission services in August 2002. In most cases project preparation included the elaboration of tender documents, which will considerably speed up implementation, as compared to previous years' projects.

Transport sector

Since all funds available had already been allocated in previous years, no further transport projects were decided.

Implementation

The three Implementing Agencies responsible for rail, road and environment made good progress in the implementation of ISPA measures. The preparation of EDIS accreditation helped to strengthen the implementation procedures and provided relevant training to key staff.

In the transport sector work progressed according to schedule on the modernisation of the rail track between Rača and Šenkvice and the motorway project in Bratislava (D 61). The cancelled tender for the second railway project, Senkvice – Cífer, was successfully relaunched and the preparation of the third railway tender, Trnava – Piest'any, was finalised. In the environment field, where the preparation of tenders had been behind schedule, good progress was achieved. In Trenčín implementation was well under way and, whereas major works contracts were signed for the project in Banská Bystrica. Tender procedures for works were almost finalised for the projects in Zvolen and Komárno and were well under way for the projects in Nitra, South East Zemplín, Zilina, Liptovský Mikuláš, Martin and Sala. For the drinking water project in Veľký Krtíš the tender for detailed design was launched.

The payments made in 2003 amounted to € 58,55 million (€ 30,82 million in the year 2003) and related to advance and intermediate payments of projects and technical assistance measures.

Monitoring and evaluation

Two ISPA Monitoring Committees were held, respectively on 13 March and 25 November 2003. The meetings were well organised, and the monitoring documentation is now of good quality.

Co-financing with IFIs

In the environment sector the co-operation with the EIB has continued. The global framework loan through the Slovak Guarantee and Development Bank was put in place. At this stage the facility has been used for the projects in Banská Bystrica and Veľký Krtíš.

In the transport sector the final agreement was signed on the co-financing with the EIB of the motorway project in Bratislava, the EIB loan amounting to 40 million €. Though EIB loans are in principle also available for railway projects, for the time being, the Slovak Government has not decided to use this facility.

EDIS

Provisions for internal control and audit have been made within the Slovak Central Administration. In summer 2002, the National Fund initiated the preparation for EDIS accreditation of the entire administration involved in ISPA implementation. For this purpose, a technical assistance measure was launched under ISPA (€ 1.3 million grant). The preparation of EDIS accreditation has been hampered by the lack of adequate and sufficient human resources in the National Fund and in the Implementing Agencies, and substantial delays may be expected.

The third stage of the EDIS accreditation procedure (compliance assessment) was finished in September 2003 and all documents for the Verification Audit were sent to EC services by the end of October 2003. All relevant bodies have been actively involved in resolving the problems detected during the EDIS gap assessment stage. In view of the late date of submission and the not all favourable assessment by the compliance assessor, DG REGIO decided not to carry out any verification audit.

The EDIS exercise allowed to substantially improve the ISPA management system. And remaining TA funds for EDIS will be used for relevant training needs.

SLOVENIA

In 2003, Slovenia received a total ISPA of € 14.8 million. This was divided between € 5.5 million for the transport sector and € 9.2 million for the environment sector. Technical assistance for EDIS accounted for € 0.1 million. The allocation for Slovenia represented 1.32 % of the overall ISPA budget in 2003.

Programming

The environment strategy was up-dated at the end of 2002 to extend the list of projects to be presented for ISPA and Cohesion Fund funding in the future. A similar exercise took place early 2003 for the transport strategy.

A total of 13 projects were approved in the period 2000-2002. In 2003, one transport project, two environment projects and one TA measure were approved, bringing the total of projects approved since 2000 to 17.

Preparation of tendering and contracting was satisfactory as 7 works contracts and 8 service contracts were signed since 2000.

All of the available ISPA allocations were committed in 2000 – 2003, whereas by the end of 2003 a total of €22.0 million was paid, representing 32.8% of the €67.1 million committed in this period.

Implementation

As regards tendering and contracting, a total of 5 services contracts for technical assistance were signed in 2003, as well as 2 works contracts in the environment sector.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Two ISPA Monitoring committee meetings were held in April and November 2003.

Co-financing with IFIs

In 2003 Slovenia signed a framework loan of €35 million with the EIB for current and future ISPA projects in the railway sector. A similar framework loan for ISPA projects in the environment sector is under discussion. This will contribute to the leverage of ISPA funds and enable a closer co-operation between the Bank and the Commission services in the appraisal of project proposals.

EDIS

Following the Stage I ('gap assessment') activities carried out by the Slovenian authorities by their own means in 2002 Stage II ('gap plugging') and Stage III ('compliance assessment') were carried out in 2003 using the

technical assistance for EDIS. The EDIS was not accredited in Slovenia in 2003 for the lack of time but the results of the technical assistance were used in the set up of the management and control system for the Cohesion Fund.

Financial management and control

In 2003, DG Regional policy carried out a third audit to assess the adequacy of the financial management and control systems and to provide recommendations on their improvement.

Country tables

Projects Decided 2003 Bulgaria - €						
Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Drinking Water Pipes/ Plant	1	24.621.021	24.471.021	18.353.266	14.682.612	-
Drinking Water and Sewage	2	52.204.225	51.719.225	38.789.419	30.194.992	-
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	2	27.116.814	26.932.000	20.199.000	16.159.200	-
Solid Waste Collection System	1	14.547.189	14.547.162	10.910.372	8.728.297	-
Sector Total	6	118.489.249	117.669.408	88.252.057	69.765.101	-
TOTAL	6	118.489.249	117.669.408	88.252.057	69.765.101	-

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Bulgaria - €

Sub-Sector	No of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment										
Drinking Water Pipes/Plant	1	24.471.021	24.471.021	18.353.266	6.93		14.682.612	-	14.682.612	-
Drinking Water and Sewage	2	51.719.225	51.719.225	38.789.419	14.65		30.194.992	-	30.194.992	-
Solid Waste Collection System	2	75.124.675	75.124.675	56.343.507	21.28		8.728.297	-	49.618.118	4.543.314
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	12	205.085.069	205.085.069	151.273.683	57.14		19.734.932	6.482.102	127.644.314	13.107.470
Sector Total	17	356.399.990	356.399.990	264.759.875	100.00	43.05	73.340.833	6.482.102	222.140.036	17.650.784
Transport										
Rail	1	340.000.000	340.000.000	153.000.000	43,80		26.887.500	-	72.787.500	15.300.000
Road	2	188.450.000	188.450.000	141.337.500	40,46		12.356.666	11.133.750	88.356.666	17.133.750
Airport	1	135.135.135	135.135.135	50.000.000	14.31		-	5.000.000	40.000.000	10.000.000
Rail and Road	1	5.880.000	5.880.000	4.998.000	1,43		-	3.378.982	3.998.400	3.878.782
Sector Total	5	669.465.135	669.465.135	349.335.500	100,00	56.80	39.244.167	19.512.732	205.142.566	46.312.532
EDIS										
EDIS	1	892.555	892.555	892.555	100,00	0,15	714.044	357.022	714.044	357.022
TOTAL	23	1.026.757.680	1.026.757.680	614.987.930		100,00	112.585.000	26.351.856	427.996.646	64.320.339

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Bulgaria - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Sewage Network/Treatment Plant	1	1.500.000	1.500.000	1.125.000	900.000	-	900.000	-
Sector Total	1	1.500.000	1.500.000	1.125.000	900.000	-	900.000	-
Transport								
Road and Rail	1	5.880.000	5.880.000	4.998.000	-	3.378.982	3.998.400	3.878.782
Sector Total	1	5.880.000	5.880.000	4.998.000	-	3.378.982	3.998.400	3.878.782
EDIS								
EDIS	1	892.555	892.555	892.555	-	357.022	714.044	357.022
TOTAL	3	8.272.555	8.272.555	7.015.555	900.000	3.736.004	5.612.444	3.878.782

Projects Decided 2003 Czech Republic - €

Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Drinking Water Pipes/ Plant	1	6.992.735	6.992.735	4.545.278	3.636.222	-
Drinking Water and Sewage	1	2.250.000	2.250.000	1.687.500	1.350.000	-
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	2	31.234.200	31.234.200	21.863.940	17.491.152	-
Solid Waste Collection System	1	69.625.000	69.625.000	47.345.000	16.832.454	-
Other	1	16.856.600	16.856.600	12.642.450	6.321.225	-
Sector Total	6	126.958.535	126.958.535	88.084.168	45.631.053	-
Transport						
Rail	1	9.800.000	9.800.000	7.350.000	4.218.596	-
Road	1	123.553.000	123.553.000	61.776.500	12.355.300	6.177.650
Sector Total	2	133.353.000	133.353.000	69.126.500	16.573.896	6.177.650
TOTAL	8	260.311.535	260.311.535	157.210.668	62.204.949	6.177.650

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Czech Republic - €

Sub-Sector	No of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Costs	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment										
Drinking Water Pipes/ Plant	3	53.591.684	53.591.684	37.183.542	16.14		3.636.222	3.235.326	15.864.222	3.263.826
Drinking and Sewage Water	2	35.042.500	35.042.500	22.015.525	9.56		-	914.520	17.612.420	2.201.553
Drinking and Sewage Water, air and solid waste	1	2.250.000	2.250.000	1.687.500	0.73		1.350.000	-	1.350.000	-
Environment -Other	1	16.856.600	16.856.600	12.642.450	5.49		6.321.225	-	6.321.225	-
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	7	162.757.649	162.757.649	109.480.715	47.53		17.491.152	11.264.446	72.874.716	16.687.391
Solid waste collection system	1	69.625.000	69.625.000	47.345.000	20.55		16.832.454	-	16.832.454	-
Sector Total	15	340.123.433	340.123.433	230.354.732	100,00	45,49	45.631.053	15.414.292	130.855.037	22.152.770
Flood Relief										
Flooding Relief	1	35.294.118	35.294.118	30.000.000	100,00	5,93	6.000.000	11.745.361	30.000.000	23.999.708
Transport										
Rail	4	221.514.689	221.514.689	125.337.314	51.11		7.309.338	14.038.731	68.226.534	24.825.433
Road	5	219.897.123	219.897.123	119.707.974	48.81		16.496.135	10.764.830	62.903.814	22.282.772
Road and Rail	1	200.000	200.000	200.000	0,08		-	-	200.000	191.990
Sector Total	10	441.611.812	441.611.812	245.245.288	100,00	48,43	23.805.473	24.803.562	131.330.348	47.300.194
EDIS										
EDIS	1	763.940	763.940	763.940	100,00	0,15	83.038	203.550	763.940	544.001
TOTAL	27	817.793.303	817.793.303	506.363.960		100,00	217.429.761	52.166.765	292.949.325	93.996.674

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Czech Republic - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking Water Pipes/ Plant	1	380.000	380.000	285.000	-	-	228.000	28.500
Drinking water, sewage water, and solid waste	1	2.250.000	2.250.000	1.687.500	1.350.000	-	1.350.000	-
Sector Total	2	2.630.000	2.630.000	1.972.500	1.350.000	-	1.578.000	28.500
Transport								
Road and Rail	1	200.000	200.000	200.000	-	-	200.000	159.966
Road	1	833.333	833.333	625.000	62.500	-	625.000	340.348
Sector Total	2	1.033.333	1.033.333	825.000	62.500	-	825.000	500.314
EDIS								
EDIS	1	763.940	763.940	763.940	83.038	203.550	763.940	544.001
TOTAL	5	4.427.273	4.427.273	3.561.440	1.495.538	203.550	3.166.9940	1.072.815

Projects Decided 2003 Estonia - €

Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Drinking Water and Sewage	1	560.000	560.000	420.000	336.000	42.000
Drinking Water, Sewage Water, air and solid waste	1	7.100.000	7.100.000	5.325.000	2.000.000	-
Sewage Network/ Treatment plant	1	38.200.000	38.200.000	32.470.000	7.345.269	-
Sector Total	3	45.860.000	45.860.000	38.215.000	9.681.269	42.000
Transport						
Road	2	25.700.000	25.700.000	19.275.000	12.563.170	30.000
Sector Total	2	25.700.000	25.700.000	19.275.000	12.563.170	30.000
TOTAL	5	71.560.000	71.560.000	57.490.000	22.244.439	72.000

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Estonia - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment										
Drinking and Sewage Water	7	36.870.000	36.870.000	26.971.700	25,86		2.866.000	1.416.730	19.495.360	2.712.170
Drinking and Sewage Water, air and solid waste	1	7.100.000	7.100.000	5.325.000	5,11		2.000.000	-	2.000.000	-
Solid Waste Collection System	4	32.989.489	32.989.489	24.335.998	23,34		-	2.562.217	18.693.598	4.398.917
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	4	61.196.150	61.196.150	47.647.851	45,69		7.345.269	3.324.417	19.487.550	6.261.208
Sector Total	16	138.155.639	138.155.639	104.280.549	100,00	57,82	12.211.269	7.303.384	59.676.508	13.372.295
Transport										
Rail	1	1.800.000	1.800.000	1.350.000	1,78		-	810.000	1.350.000	1.080.000
Road	7	88.925.771	88.925.771	66.794.328	88,30		18.638.170	7.397.107	51.890.748	19.294.457
Road and Rail	1	10.000.000	10.000.000	7.500.000	9,91		-	750.000	6.000.000	750.000
Sector Total	9	100.725.771	100.725.771	75.644.328	100,00	41,94	18.638.170	8.957.107	59.240.748	21.124.457
EDIS										
EDIS	1	435.760	435.760	435.760	100,00	0,24	-	37.946	435.760	196.588
TOTAL	26	239.317.170	239.317.170	180.360.637		100,00	30.849.439	16.298.436	119.353.016	34.693.340

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Estonia - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking and Sewage Water	3	1.720.000	1.720.000	1.290.000	366.000	57.000	1.206.000	144.000
Drinking and Sewage Water, air and solid water	1	7.100.000	7.100.000	5.325.000	2.000.000	-	2.000.000	-
Sector Total	4	8.820.000	8.820.000	6.615.000	2.366.000	57.000	3.206.000	144.000
Transport								
Rail	1	1.800.000	1.800.000	1.350.000	-	810.000	1.350.000	1.080.000
Road and Rail	1	10.000.000	10.000.000	7.500.000	-	750.000	6.000.000	750.000
Road	3	2.900.000	2.900.000	2.275.000	315.000	237.469	1.895.000	574.969
Sector Total	5	14.700.000	14.700.000	11.125.000	315.000	1.797.469	9.245.000	2.404.969
EDIS								
EDIS	1	435.760	435.760	435.760	-	37.946	435.760	196.588
TOTAL	10	23.955.760	23.955.760	18.175.760	2.631.000	1.892.415	12.886.760	2.745.557

Projects Decided 2003 Hungary - €

Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISP A Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Drinking water and sewage	1	648.600	648.600	648.600	518.880	129.720
Drinking water, sewage and solid waste	1	7.000.000	7.000.000	5.250.000	4.200.000	1.050.000
Sewage network/ treatment plant	3	156.935.000	146.851.000	86.341.000	35.426.255	-
Solid waste collection system	1	25.914.000	25.914.000	12.957.000	10.365.600	-
Sector Total	6	190.497.600	180.413.600	105.196.600	50.510.735	1.179.720
Transport						
Road and Road	1	4.621.500	4.621.500	3.466.125	2.772.900	346.612
Sector Total	1	4.621.500	4.621.500	3.466.125	2.772.900	346.612
TOTAL	7	195.119.100	185.035.100	108.662.725	53.283.635	1.526.332

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Hungary - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Costs	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment										
Drinking Water, Sewage and SolidWaste	2	7.405.000	7.405.000	5.553.750	1,67		4.210.596	1.060.596	4.453.596	1.303.596
Drinking Water and Sewage	3	22.545.600	22.545.600	11.644.600	3,50		518.880	205.052	9.315.680	1.318.902
Solid Waste Collection System	12	278.204.601	278.204.601	176.537.054	53,07		10.365.600	11.257.600	108.854.931	17.429.215
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	8	250.219.200	250.219.200	138.909.150	41,76		35.426.255	4.727.621	63.449.028	10.669.051
Sector Total	25	558.374.401	558.374.401	332.644.554	100,00	50,70	50.521.331	17.250.869	186.073.235	30.720.764
Transport										
Rail	7	487.337.796	481.176.100	245.150.975	75,92		35.100.000	30.555.837	145.038.675	73.351.498
Road	3	169.262.969	148.476.002	74.288.001	23,,1		7.524.850	7.413.800	34.488.946	9.550.526
Rail and Road	1	4.621.500	4.621.500	3.466.125	1,07		2.772.900	346.612	2.772.900	346.612
Sector Total	11	661.222.265	634.273.602	322.905.101	100,00	49,22	45.397.750	38.306.249	182.300.521	83.248.637
EDIS										
EDIS	1	540.000	540.000	540.000	100,00	0,08	55.760	324.000	487.760	432.000
TOTAL	37	1.220.136.666	1.193.188.003	656.089.655		100,00	95.974.841	55.881.117	368.861.516	114.401.401

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Hungary - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking Water , Sewage and Solid Waste	2	7.405.000	7.405.000	5.553.750	4.210.596	1.060.596	4.453.596	1.303.596
Drinking Water and Sewage	2	838.600	838.600	791.100	518.880	205.052	632.880	233.552
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	2	3.536.200	3.536.200	2.652.150	-	670.121	2.121.720	1.619.951
Sector Total	6	11.779.800	11.779.800	8.997.000	4.729.476	1.935.769	7.208.196	3.157.099
Transport								
Rail	3	2.338.100	2.338.100	1.753.575	-	554.879	1.456.575	884.123
Road	1	200.000	200.000	150.000	-	-	136.772	136.772
Rail and Road	1	4.621.500	4.621.500	3.466.125	2.772.900	346.612	2.772.900	346.612
Sector Total	5	7.159.600	7.159.600	5.369.700	2.772.900	901.491	4.366.247	1.367.507
EDIS								
EDIS	1	540.000	540.000	540.000	55.760	324.000	487.760	432.000
TOTAL	9	19.479.400	19.479.400	14.906.700	7.558.136	3.161.260	12.062.203	4.956.606

Projects Decided 2003 Latvia - €

Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Drinking, watersewage and solid waste	1	20.760.902	19.866.892	14.900.169	11.920.135	-
Solid waste collection system	2	12.083.500	11.451.400	7.939.500	6.351.600	-
Sector Total	3	32.844.402	31.318.292	22.839.669	18.271.735	-
Transport						
Road	1	12.621.727	11.744.420	8.808.315	6.994.527	-
Sector Total	1	12.621.727	11.744.420	8.808.315	6.994.527	-
TOTAL		45.466.129	43.062.712	31.647.984	25.266.262	-

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Latvia - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-2
Environment										
Drinking Water Pipes/ Plant	1	11.495.000	9.463.000	7.097.000	5,24		-	709.700	5.677.600	709.700
Drinking Water and Sewage	5	156.704.448	138.015.548	90.590.261	74,04		9.044.000	3.363.014	59.208.609	13.546.515
Solid Waste Collection System	5	30.551.400	30.551.400	19.443.300	14,36		7.633.020	2.646.451	16.836.060	3.796.832
Drinking Water, Sewage and Solid Waste	2	24.376.892	24.376.892	18.282.669	13,50		12.120.135	1.020.532	14.826.135	1.358.782
Sector Total	13	223.127.740	202.406.840	135.413.230	100,00	43,65	28.797.155	7.739.697	96.548.404	19.411.828
Transport										
Rail	5	159.646.549	150.915.181	113.214.893	65,02		10.496.193	5.304.230	53.300.848	16.872.293
Road	6	81.219.155	81.219.155	60.913.135	34,98		14.111.743	8.200.331	44.351.620	13.854.835
Sector Total	11	240.865.704	232.134.336	174.128.028	100,00	56,13	24.607.936	13.504.561	97.652.468	30.727.128
EDIS										
EDIS	1	700.000	700.000	700.000	100,00	0,22	140.000	288.395	700.000	518.215
TOTAL	25	464.693.444	435.241.176	310.241.258		100,00	53.545.091	21.532.653	194.900.872	50.657.171

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Latvia - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking Water, Sewage and Solid Waste	2	24.376.892	24.376.892	18.282.669	12.120.135	1.020.532	14.826.135	1.358.782
Sector Total	2	24.376.892	24.376.892	18.282.669	12.120.135	1.020.532	14.826.135	1.358.782
Transport								
Rail	1	386.991	386.991	318.750	-	-	290.243	278.449
Road	1	860.000	860.000	643.769	127.769	101.015	643.769	230.015
Sector Total	2	1.246.991	1.246.991	962.519	127.769	101.015	934.012	508.464
EDIS								
EDIS	1	700.000	700.000	700.000	140.000	288.395	700.000	518.215
TOTAL	5	26.323.883	26.323.883	19.945.188	12.387.904	1.409.942	16.460.147	2.385.461

Projects Decided 2003 Lithuania - €

Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Drinking and sewage water and solid waste	1	2.376.375	2.376.375	1.782.281	1.425.825	-
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	1	7.887.000	7.887.000	5.915.250	4.732.200	-
Solid Waste Collection System	2	27.660.000	27.660.000	18.587.745	14.870.196	-
Sector Total	4	37.923.375	37.923.375	26.285.276	21.028.221	-
Transport						
Road	1	800.000	800.000	600.000	480.000	-
Rail	1	5.300.000	5.300.000	3.975.000	2.773.128	-
Sector Total	2	6.100.000	6.100.000	4.575.000	3.253.128	-
TOTAL	6	44.023.375	44.023.375	30.860.276	24.281.349	-

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Lithuania - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment										
Drinking, Sewage Water and Solid Waste	2	11.706.375	11.706.375	8.779.781	6,47		1.425.825	-	7.023.825	2.098.603
Drinking and Sewage Water	3	60.075.400	56.412.900	28.527.850	21,01		-	-	22.822.280	4.453.172
Solid Waste Collection System	8	97.206.594	97.206.594	58.113.099	42,80		14.870.196	2.570.648	45.991.105	3.952.535
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	6	60.046.000	60.046.000	40.355.140	29,72		5.392.200	1.774.000	32.284.112	3.636.489
Sector Total	19	229.034.369	225.371.869	135.775.870	100,00	47,95	21.688.221	4.344.648	108.121.322	14.140.799
Transport										
Rail	5	192.007.067	192.007.067	73.852.484	50,25		15.188.026	9.356.752	48.042.415	13.023.217
Road	6	103.422.487	103.422.487	73.129.625	49,75		16.241.794	17.462.897	60.460.327	43.774.424
Sector Total	11	295.429.554	295.429.554	146.982.109	100,00	51,91	31.429.820	26.819.650	108.502.742	56.797.641
EDIS										
EDIS	1	381.420	381.420	381.420	100,00	0,14	-	181.212	381.420	257.496
TOTAL	31	524.845.343	521.182.843	283.139.399		100,00	53.118.041	31.345.510	217.005.484	71.195.935

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Lithuania - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking, Sewage Water and Solid Waste	2	11.706.375	11.706.375	8.779.781	1.425.825	-	7.023.825	2.098.603
Sector Total	2	11.706.375	11.706.375	8.779.781	1.425.825	-	7.023.825	2.098.603
Transport								
Rail	2	6.550.000	6.550.000	4.912.500	2.960.628	319.734	3.710.628	507.234
Road	1	800.000	800.000	600.000	480.000	-	480.000	-
Sector Total	3	7.350.000	7.350.000	5.512.500	3.440.628	319.734	4.190.628	507.234
EDIS								
EDIS	1	381.420	381.420	381.420	-	181.212	381.420	257.496
TOTAL	4	19.437.795	19.437.795	14.673.701	4.866.453	500.946	11.595.873	2.863.333

Projects Decided 2003 Poland - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003
Environment						
Drinking water pipes/plant	0	-	-	-	-	-
Drinking and Sewage Water	7	232.774.872	220.613.900	140.943.535	39.246.646	
Drinking and Sewage Water and solid waste	1	15.900.000	15.900.000	11.925.000	9.540.000	1.192.500
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	4	119.844.503	109.344.600	74.239.440	22.988.984	-
Solid Waste Collection System	0	-	-	-	-	-
Sector Total	12	368.519.375	345.858.500	227.107.975	71.775.630	1.192.500
Transport						
Road	3	236.276.000	226.996.000	170.247.000	55.259.896	-
Rail	1	3.625.000	3.625.000	2.718.750	2.175.000	-
Sector Total	4	239.901.000	230.621.000	172.965.750	57.434.896	-
TOTAL	16	608.420.375	576.479.500	400.073.725	129.210.526	1.192.500

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Poland - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment										
Drinking Water Pipes/ Plant	3	88.496.960	86.422.659	54.205.296	4%		0	433.584	41.338.284	5.854.114
Drinking and Sewage Water	18	1.267.069.188	1.200.371.616	736.561.862	58%		135.364.396	49.675.144	362.047.305	73.218.512
Solid Waste Collection System	6	131.297.442	116.674.950	76.276.547	6%		0	6.329.254	61.021.237	11.884.859
Drinking, Sewage Water and Solid Waste	2	20.450.000	20.450.000	15.337.500	1%		9.540.000	1.642.628	12.952.500	2.675.890
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	16	687.044.677	643.918.600	402.809.840	31%		43.947.814	2.478.520	249.958.544	38.455.160
Sector Total	43	2.194.358.267	2.067.837.825	1.285.191.045	100,00	49.36	188.852.210	60.559.130	727.317.870	132.088.535
Transport										
Rail	12	744.041.544	744.041.544	558.181.177	42,95		64.488.334	46.780.327	311.593.023	112.966.210
Road	12	989.725.000	989.725.000	742.293.750	57,05		124.635.916	64.757.012	413.745.347	130.536.063
Sector Total	24	1.733.766.544	1.733.766.544	1.300.474.927	100,00	50.58	189.124.250	111.834.339	725.338.370	243.502.273
EDIS										
EDIS	1	1.630.000	1.630.000	1.630.000	100,00	0,06	-	326.000	1.630.000	623.000
TOTAL	70	3.929.752.811	3.803.234.369	2.587.295.972		100,00	377.976.460	172.719.469	1.454.286.240	376.213.808

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Poland - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking, Sewage Water and Solid Waste	2	20.450.000	20.450.000	15.337.500	9.540.000	1.642.628	12.952.500	2.675.890
Sector Total	2	20.450.000	20.450.000	15.337.500	9.540.000	1.642.628	12.952.500	2.675.890
Transport								
Rail	5	26.515.000	26.515.000	20.051.250	8.582.000	943.590	17.775.000	2.075.090
Road	3	12.525.000	12.525.000	9.393.750	1.383.750	916.875	5.778.750	916.875
Sector Total	8	39.040.000	39.040.000	29.445.000	9.965.750	1.860.465	23.553.750	2.991.965
EDIS								
EDIS	1	1.630.000	1.630.000	1.630.000	-	623.000	1.630.000	623.000
TOTAL	11	61.120.000	61.120.000	46.412.500	19.505.750	4.126.093	38.136.250	6.290.855

Projects Decided 2003 Romania - €

Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Drinking Water and Sewage	3	100.756.000	100.756.000	77.317.000	55.932.375	-
Drinking Water, Sewage and solid waste	1	12.750.000	12.750.000	9.945.000	7.956.000	-
Solid Waste Collection System	2	46.695.000	46.695.000	35.021.250	28.380.000	-
Sector Total	6	160.904.000	160.201.000	122.283.250	92.268.375	-
Transport						
Rail	1	214.979.400	199.485.770	149.614.328	104.730.029	-
TOTAL	7	375.883.400	359.686.770	271.897.578	196.998.404	-

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Romania - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment										
Drinking Water and Sewage	13	444.240.919	444.240.919	327.816.703	50,51		76.810.133		254.877.683	25.312.469
Drinking Water, Sewage and solid waste	1	12.750.000	12.750.000	9.945.000	1,53		7.956.000		7.956.000	-
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	9	344.164.553	344.164.553	254.846.150	39,27		18.227.360		198.085.692	32.862.114
Solid waste collection	4	75.214.100	75.214.100	56.410.575	8,69		28.380.000		45.491.460	2.138.932
Sector Total	27	876.369.572	876.369.572	649.018.428	100,00	44,98	131.373.493		506.410.835	60.313.515
Transport										
Rail	3	509.258.358	509.258.358	381.943.769	48,14		123.352.750		267.612.191	23.232.944
Road	6	554.465.237	554.465.237	409.926.024	51,67		6.000.000		226.429.696	52.327.567
Inland Waterway	1	2.000.000	2.000.000	1.500.000	0,19		-		1.500.000	300.000
Sector Total	10	1.065.723.595	1.065.723.595	793.369.793	100,00	54,98	129.352.750		495.241.887	75.860.511
EDIS										
EDIS	1	605.000	605.000	605.000	100,00	0,04	36.831	-	520.831	180.940
TOTAL	31	1.722.733.610	1.583.011.417	1.171.095.643		100,00	260.763.074	51.239.933	1.002.173.553	136.354.966

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Romania - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking Water and Sewage	2	10.500.000	10.500.000	9.625.000	5.600.000	525.000	7.700.000	525.000
Drinking Water, Sewage and Solid Waste	1	12.750.000	12.750.000	9.945.000	7.956.000	-	7.956.000	-
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	1	1.810.000	1.810.000	1.357.500	-	135.750	1.086.000	271.500
Sector Total	4	25.060.000	25.060.000	20.927.500	13.556.000	660.750	16.742.000	796.500
Transport								
Rail	1	850.000	800.000	600.000	-	-	480.000	60.000
Road	1	1.500.000	1.500.000	1.125.000	-	-	900.000	450.000
Inland Waterway	1	2.000.000	2.000.000	1.500.000	-	300.000	1.200.000	300.000
Sector Total	3	4.350.000	4.300.000	3.225.000	-	300.000	2.580.000	810.000
EDIS								
EDIS	1	605.000	605.000	605.000	36.831	-	520.831	180.940
TOTAL	8	30.015.000	30.015.000	24.757.500	13.592.831	960.750	19.842.831	1.787.440

Projects Decided 2003 Slovakia - €

Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Air Pollution	1	12.000.000	12.000.000	9.000.000	2.600.000	-
Drinking Water and Sewage	1	6.660.000	6.660.000	9.782.500	5.830.000	1.017.950
Drinking Water, Sewage and Solid Waste	1	820.000	820.000	615.000	245.000	-
Sewage Network /Treatment Plant	6	119.217.462	103.416.953	61.854.163	11.399.466	-
Sector Total	9	138.697.462	127.846.953	81.251.663	20.074.466	1.017.950
Transport						
Rail and Road	1	1.600.000	1.600.000	1.200.000	480.000	-
Sector Total	1	1.600.000	1.600.000	1.200.000	480.000	-
TOTAL	10	140.297.462	129.446.953	82.451.663	20.554.466	1.017.950

Projects Decided 2000 - 2003 Slovakia - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment									
Air Pollution	1	12.000.000	9.000.000	4,81		2.600.000	-	2.600.000	-
Drinking Water Pipes/ Plant	1	28.000.000	19.600.000	10,48		7.000.000	1.960.000	10.920.000	1.960.000
Drinking Water and Sewage	5	36.491.760	27.263.320	14,58		11.422.764	2.670.650	20.005.420	3.433.706
Drinking Water, Sewage and Solid Waste	2	11.340.000	5.875.000	3,14		245.000	526.000	4.453.000	526.000
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	14	230.390.978	125.218.219	66,98		11.399.466	1.992.236	58.365.760	7.936.237
Sector Total	23	318.222.738	186.956.539	100,00	51,62	32.667.230	7.148.886	96.344.180	13.855.943
Transport									
Rail	3	261.769.000	143.740.000	82,73		14.432.880	14.615.404	73.924.210	33.817.394
Road	1	52.210.000	27.149.200	15,63		2.714.920	7.229.017	21.719.360	9.943.937
Rail and Road	2	3.800.000	2.850.000	1,64		480.000	330.000	1.800.000	330.000
Sector Total	6	317.779.000	173.739.200	100,00	47,97	17.627.800	22.174.421	97.443.570	44.091.330
EDIS									
EDIS	1	1.450.000	1.450.000	100,00	0,41	290.000	580.000	1.450.000	1.160.000
TOTAL	30	637.451.738	362.145.739		100,00	50.585.030	29.903.307	195.237.750	59.107.273

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Slovakia - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking Water and Sewage	5	12.881.760	12.881.760	10.736.320	5.830.000	1.017.950	6.783.820	1.781.006
Drinking Water, Sewage and Solid Waste	1	820.000	820.000	615.000	245.000	-	245.000	-
Sector Total	6	13.701.760	13.701.760	11.351.320	6.075.000	1.017.950	7.028.820	1.781.006
Transport								
Rail and Road	2	3.800.000	3.800.000	2.850.000	480.000	330.000	1.800.000	330.000
Sector Total	2	3.800.000	3.800.000	2.850.000	480.000	330.000	1.800.000	330.000
EDIS								
EDIS	1	1.450.000	1.450.000	1.450.000	290.000	580.000	1.450.000	1.160.000
TOTAL	8	18.951.760	18.951.760	15.651.320	6.845.000	19.279.500	10.278.820	3.271.006

Projects Decided 2003 Slovenia - €

Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments	Payments
Environment						
Drinking Water and Sewage	1	1.100.000	1.100.000	825.000	660.000	165.000
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	1	5.997.469	4.564.254	2.282.127	1.825.702	-
Solid Waste Collection System	1	10.138.480	6.601.768	3.300.884	2.640.707	-
Sector Total	3	17.235.949	12.266.022	6.408.011	5.126.409	165.000
Transport						
Rail	1	22.038.787	17.682.330	10.078.928	5.282.292	-
Sector Total	1	22.038.787	17.682.330	10.078.928	5.282.292	-
TOTAL	4	39.274.736	29.948.352	16.486.939	10.408.701	165.000

Projects Decided 2000-2003 Slovenia - €

Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	% of Sector	% of Country	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment										
Drinking Water Pipes/ Plant	1	6.543.464	5.122.168	2.561.084	5,46		-	470.034	2.048.867	726.142
Drinking Water and Sewage	2	12.306.893	10.114.272	5.332.136	11,36		660.000	165.000	4.265.709	615.714
Solid Waste Collection System	2	28.011.543	16.544.768	8.272.384	17,62		2.640.707	-	6.617.907	497.150
Sewage Network/ Treatment Plant	6	76.793.802	59.989.341	30.775.540	65,56		5.908.333	5.872.867	24.953.445	10.395.564
Sector Total	11	123.655.202	91.770.549	46.941.144	100,00	54,24	9.209.040	6507901	37.885.928	12.234.570
Transport										
Rail	5	94.195.519	75.608.967	38.907.593	100,00		5.477.292	2.931.513	28.540.224	9.499.626
Sector Total	5	94.195.519	75.608.967	38.907.593	100,00	44,95	5.477.292	2.931.513	28.540.224	9.499.626
EDIS										
EDIS	1	699.900	699.900	699.900	100,00	0,81	139.980	139.980	699.900	279.960
TOTAL	17	218.551.121	168.079.416	86.548.637		100,00	14.826.312	9.579.394	67.126.052	22.014.156

Technical Assistance Measures 2000-2003 Slovenia - €

Technical Assistance Sub-Sector	N° of Projects	Total Cost	Total Eligible Cost	Total ISPA Contribution	Commitments 2003	Payments 2003	Commitments 2000-3	Payments 2000-3
Environment								
Drinking Water and Sewage	1	1.100.000	1.100.000	825.000	660.000	165.000	660.000	165.000
Sewage network/treatment plant	1	300.000	300.000	225.000	-	157.470	180.000	179.970
Sector Total	2	1.400.000	1.400.000	1.050.000	660.000	322.470	840.000	344.970
Transport								
Rail	1	1.300.000	1.300.000	975.000	195.000	652.500	975.000	750.000
Sector Total	1	1.300.000	1.300.000	975.000	195.000	652.500	975.000	750.000
EDIS								
EDIS	1	699.900	699.900	699.900	139.980	139.980	699.900	279.960
TOTAL	4	3.399.900	3.399.900	2.724.900	994.980	1.114.950	2.514.900	1.374.930

List of abbreviations

ALAT	Local agent for technical assistance
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
EDIS	Extended Decentralised Implementation System
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIB	European Investment Bank
EU	European Union
FIDIC	International Confederation of Consulting Engineers
IFI	International Financial Institution
ISPA	Instrument for Structural Policy for Pre-Accession
LA	Local Agent
NIB	Nordic Investment Bank
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OLAF	European anti-fraud office
PHARE	Community programme for assistance for economic restructuring in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PRAG	Practical Guide to PHARE, ISPA and SAPARD contract procedures
SAPARD	Special Accession Programme for Agriculture and Rural Development
SSTA	Small-scale Technical Assistance
TEN-T	Trans-European Transport Network
TINA	Transport Infrastructure Needs Assessment
WFD	Water Framework Directive

Useful Information Sources

ISPA on-line:

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/funds/ispa/ispa_en.htm

DG Regional Policy on-line:

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/index_en.htm

Documentation Centre:

The European Commission
DG Regional Policy
B-1049 Brussels
Tel: + 32.2.2960634
Fax: + 32.2.2966003
E-mail: regio-info@cec.eu.int

European Union website:

www.europa.eu.int

DG Enlargement website:

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/enlargement/index.htm>

DG Environment website:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/index_en.htm

DG Transport and Energy website

http://europa.eu.int/comm/transport/index_en.html

The EBRD website:

www.ebrd.com

The EIB website:

www.eib.org

Project List

Country	Project Number		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €
Bulgaria									
	2002/BG/16/P/PA/003	TA for the preparation of EDIS	18/12/2002	892,555	100.00%	892,555	714,044	0	357,022
	2000/BG/16/P/PE/003	Stara Zagora - Dimitrovgrad: construction of new wastewater treatment plants	18/12/2000	43,399,688	75.00%	32,549,766	29,294,789	0	3,254,977
	2001/BG/16/P/PE/005	Gorna: wastewater collection and treatment	17/12/2001	16,633,945	75.00%	12,475,459	9,775,027	1,452,886	1,247,546
	2001/BG/16/P/PE/006	Pazardjik wastewater collection and treatment	06/12/2001	19,110,968	65.00%	12,422,129	9,937,703	1,242,213	1,242,213
	2001/BG/16/P/PE/008	Blagoevgrad wastewater treatment plant	20/11/2001	12,580,465	70.00%	8,806,326	7,045,060	880,633	880,633
	2002/BG/16/P/PE/009	Bourgas-Meden Rudnik wastewater collection and treatment	10/12/2002	10,206,220	75.00%	7,654,665	6,123,732	0	765,467
	2002/BG/16/P/PE/010	Targovishte wastewater collection and treatment	10/12/2002	15,235,915	75.00%	11,426,936	9,141,549	0	1,142,694
	2002/BG/16/P/PE/011	Lovech wastewater collection and treatment	10/12/2002	18,396,575	75.00%	13,797,431	11,037,945	0	1,379,743
	2002/BG/16/P/PE/012	Montana wastewater collection and treatment	10/12/2002	16,741,237	75.00%	12,555,928	10,044,742	0	1,255,593
	2002/BG/16/P/PE/014	Sevlievo wastewater collection and treatment	13/12/2002	13,987,623	75.00%	10,490,717	8,392,574	0	1,049,072
	2002/BG/16/P/PE/015	Popovo wastewater collection and treatment	13/12/2002	11,860,433	75.00%	8,895,326	7,116,261	0	889,533
	2000/BG/16/P/PE/002	Regional landfills (group) - waste management: Sozopol, Rousse, Montana, Pernik, Sevlievo, Silistra	18/12/2000	60,577,513	75.00%	45,433,135	40,889,821	0	4,543,314
Nodal point	2000/BG/16/P/PT/002	Sofia airport: reconstruction, development and extension	12/10/2000	135,135,13	37.00%	50,000,000	40,000,000	0	10,000,000
IV & IX	2001/BG/16/P/PT/003	Plovdiv-Svilengrad: rail electrification and upgrading	20/11/2001	340,000,00	45.00%	153,000,00	45,900,000	26,887,500	15,300,000
IV & VIII	2001/BG/16/P/PA/001	Technical assistance Danube bridge	09/08/2001	5,880,000	85.00%	4,998,000	3,998,400	0	3,878,782
IV, VIII & IX	2000/BG/16/P/PT/001	Transit Roads Rehabilitation project III	12/10/2000	40,000,000	75.00%	30,000,000	24,000,000	0	3,000,000
IV & VIII	2001/BG/16/P/PT/004	Ljulín motorway (Sofia ring road to Daskalovo road junction)	10/12/2002	148,450,00	75.00%	111,337,50	52,000,000	12,356,666	11,133,750

Czech Republic

		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €	
	2001/CZ/16/P/PA/004	Technical assistance: assessment of capacity to implement Ispa projects under EDIS	14/12/2001	763,940	100.00%	763,940	680,902	83,038	544,001
	2000/CZ/16/P/PA/002	Technical assistance in the field of environment	29/12/2000	380,000	75.00%	285,000	228,000	0	28,500
	2002/CZ/16/P/PE/012	Clean river Becva	13/12/2002	46,218,949	70.00%	32,353,264	12,000,000	0	3,235,326
	2001/CZ/16/P/PE/004	Podkrusnohori: Reconstruction drinking water supply system, construction sewerage system, reconstruction water treatment	23/10/2001	19,800,500	65.00%	12,870,325	10,296,260	0	1,287,033
	2002/CZ/16/P/PE/010	Jesenik: waste water disposal management and drinking water supply	16/09/2002	15,242,000	60.00%	9,145,200	7,316,160	0	914,520
	2000/CZ/16/P/PE/001	Ostrava City - sewage system upgrading in the Ostrava city-main sewers	21/12/2000	24,842,809	67.00%	16,644,682	13,315,746	0	3,631,118
	2000/CZ/16/P/PE/002	Brno City, Reconstruction of sewerage and sewers	29/12/2000	28,319,640	63.00%	17,841,373	14,273,098	0	7,743,201
	2001/CZ/16/P/PE/005	Jihlava waste water treatment plant and sewer upgrading system	17/12/2001	14,800,000	65.00%	9,620,000	7,696,000	0	962,000
	2001/CZ/16/P/PE/008	Olomouc sewer system upgrading	18/12/2001	14,462,000	70.00%	10,123,400	8,098,720	0	1,012,340
	2001/CZ/16/P/PE/009	Water protection of Dyje river basin	10/12/2002	49,099,000	68.00%	33,387,320	12,000,000	0	3,338,732
	2002/CZ/16/P/PM/001	Floods 2002 relief: reconstruction of transport and environment infrastructure damaged in August 2002	18/10/2002	35,294,118	85.00%	30,000,000	24,000,000	6,000,000	23,745,361
IV	2000/CZ/16/P/PT/002	Ústí nad Orlicí - Česká Trebová: Modernisation of the line section	29/12/2000	28,600,160	50.00%	14,300,080	12,870,072	0	5,543,000
IV	2000/CZ/16/P/PT/006	Modernisation of the line section Zabori-Prelouc	22/12/2000	61,814,839	50.00%	30,907,420	24,725,936	3,090,742	9,559,284
Link IV-VI	2002/CZ/16/P/PT/013	Zabreh na Morave-Krasikov: optimalisation of railway section	17/10/2002	121,299,69	60.00%	72,779,814	23,321,188	0	7,277,981
Various	2001/CZ/16/P/PA/003	Technical assistance in transport project management and implementation	08/05/2001	200,000	100.00%	200,000	200,000	0	159,966
Various	2000/CZ/16/P/PA/001	Technical assistance for the project preparation in field of transport	29/12/2000	833,333	75.00%	625,000	562,500	62,500	340,348
VI	2000/CZ/16/P/PT/001	Road 1/48 Belotín By-pass	26/10/2001	28,528,535	60.00%	17,117,121	13,693,697	0	1,711,712
VI	2000/CZ/16/P/PT/003	Road I/48 Frýdek-Místek-Dobrá	22/12/2000	33,986,128	60.00%	20,391,677	16,313,342	4,078,335	10,848,315
IV	2001/CZ/16/P/PT/009	Prague-Ustí nad Labem Motorway: section 807 Trmice- German Border	21/10/2003	123,553,00	50.00%	61,776,500	0	12,355,300	6,177,650
VI	2001/CZ/16/P/PT/012	Dobra-Tosanovice-Zukov R48 expressway: stage 1 Dobra-Tosanovice	17/12/2001	32,996,127	60.00%	19,797,676	15,838,140	0	1,979,768

Estonia

			Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €
	2001/EE/16/P/PA/002	Technical assistance decentralisation	14/05/2001	435,760	100.00%	435,760	435,760	0	196,588
	2001/EE/16/P/PA/003	Pärnu River Basin: technical assistance for water infrastructure plan for compliance with EC water legislation	17/12/2001	200,000	75.00%	150,000	120,000	30,000	30,000
	2001/EE/16/P/PA/005	(5-6)Technical assistance for East-Harju and Keila - Vasalemma water protection project	14/12/2001	960,000	75.00%	720,000	720,000	0	72,000
	2001/EE/16/P/PE/007	Tartu: expansion and rehabilitation of water and sewage network	13/12/2001	17,020,000	71.00%	12,084,200	9,667,360	0	1,208,420
	2001/EE/16/P/PE/008	Narva water and wastewater network	04/12/2002	6,870,000	75.00%	5,152,500	4,122,000	0	515,250
	2002/EE/16/P/PE/011	Valga waste & drinking water	13/12/2002	7,000,000	75.00%	5,250,000	1,000,000	1,500,000	525,000
	2002/EE/16/P/PE/012	Rapla water management	04/12/2002	4,260,000	75.00%	3,195,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	319,500
	2003/EE/16/P/PA/011	Harju sub river basin: technical assistance for district water management plan	01/07/2003	560,000	75.00%	420,000	0	336,000	42,000
	2000/EE/16/P/PE/001	Tartu Tunnel Collector project, K2	01/12/2000	7,700,000	71.00%	5,467,000	4,373,600	0	1,780,282
	2000/EE/16/P/PE/002	Viljandi: Establishment of a central municipal wastewater treatment plant	29/12/2000	6,361,150	74.00%	4,707,251	3,765,801	0	1,623,974
	2000/EE/16/P/PE/003	Narva City Sewage Treatment Plant Rehabilitation	01/12/2000	8,935,000	56.00%	5,003,600	4,002,880	0	1,437,946
	2000/EE/16/P/PE/004	Tallinn waste management: phase 1- establishment of new landfill and waste treatment plant	29/12/2000	6,110,000	75.00%	4,582,500	3,666,000	0	2,423,567
	2001/EE/16/P/PE/005	Tallinn waste management Phase II: closing down Pääskula landfill (County of Harju)	08/06/2001	11,060,000	75.00%	8,295,000	6,636,000	0	829,500
	2001/EE/16/P/PE/006	Parnu waste management: establishment of sanitary landfill and closure of existing landfill	14/12/2001	8,713,489	63.00%	5,489,498	4,391,598	0	548,950
	2002/EE/16/P/PE/010	Narva: closure of ash field n°2	18/12/2002	7,106,000	84.00%	5,969,000	4,000,000	0	596,900
I	2000/EE/16/P/PA/001	Technical assistance for the rail sector (design, tender documents, detailed environmental impact assessment for South-East Railway	28/12/2000	1,800,000	75.00%	1,350,000	1,350,000	0	1,080,000
I + Link to I	2002/EE/16/P/PA/009	Technical assistance for transport sector: project preparation and management	27/11/2002	10,000,000	75.00%	7,500,000	6,000,000	0	750,000
I + Link to I	2000/EE/16/P/PT/001	Via Baltica: rehabilitation of Ikla-Tallinn-Narva road	01/12/2000	16,961,073	75.00%	12,720,805	12,720,805	0	10,176,644
I	2001/EE/16/P/PA/004	Technical assistance for reconstruction of Vão-Maardu of E20 Tallinn-Narva road	29/11/2001	500,000	75.00%	375,000	300,000	75,000	244,969
I + Link to I	2001/EE/16/P/PT/002	Via Baltica Phase II: rehabilitation of Ikla-Tallinn-Narva Road	14/08/2001	30,244,698	75.00%	22,683,523	16,861,773	2,000,000	7,528,845
I	2002/EE/16/P/PA/008	Tallinn: technical assistance for mainland connections of Corridor I	17/09/2002	2,000,000	80.00%	1,600,000	1,280,000	0	300,000
Not appl.	2002/EE/16/P/PA/010	Saarmaa fixed link: technical assistance for financial and environmental analysis	01/07/2003	400,000	75.00%	300,000	0	240,000	30,000
Link to I	2002/EE/16/P/PT/003	Kukruse-Johvi: reconstruction part of E20 Tallinn-Narva road (Via Baltica phase III)	13/12/2002	13,520,000	75.00%	10,140,000	2,090,000	4,000,000	1,014,000

Hungary

		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €
2001/HU/16/P/PA/010	Technical assistance for EDIS	07/10/2002	540,000	100.00%	540,000	432,000	55,760	324,000
2001/HU/16/P/PA/008	Technical assistance for implementation of urban waste water directives in major cities	14/12/2001	190,000	75.00%	142,500	114,000	0	103,832
2001/HU/16/P/PE/009	Pécs: extension of city's sewer system; protection of water resources of region	13/12/2001	21,707,000	50.00%	10,853,500	8,682,800	0	1,085,350
2003/HU/16/P/PA/011	Zagyva-Tarna river basin: technical assistance for elaboration of management plan	08/08/2003	648,600	100.00%	648,600	0	518,880	129,720
2000/HU/16/P/PA/005	Technical assistance improvement 2001 project documents - preparation tenders	09/03/2001	405,000	75.00%	303,750	243,000	10,596	253,596
2003/HU/16/P/PA/012	Technical assistance for the rpreparation of Cohesion Fund financed environment projects	03/07/2003	7,000,000	75.00%	5,250,000	0	4,200,000	1,050,000
2000/HU/16/P/PA/001	Budapest: technical assistance for waste water treatment plant	22/12/2000	2,096,200	75.00%	1,572,150	1,257,720	0	984,551
2000/HU/16/P/PE/001	Győr: upgrading of Sewage Treatment Plant	21/12/2000	14,500,000	50.00%	7,250,000	4,350,000	0	1,450,000
2000/HU/16/P/PE/003	Szeged: waste water collection and treatment plant	22/12/2000	66,650,000	50.00%	33,325,000	14,568,600	0	6,665,000
2001/HU/16/P/PA/009	Technical assistance for preparation Ispa projects	13/12/2001	1,440,000	75.00%	1,080,000	864,000	0	635,400
2001/HU/16/P/PE/011	Sopron: sewerage and sewage treatment programme	14/12/2001	18,682,000	50.00%	9,341,000	6,982,453	0	934,100
2000/HU/16/P/PE/002	Hajdú-Bihar: selective waste collection and solid waste management system	10/11/2000	18,738,000	75.00%	14,053,500	11,242,800	0	2,810,700
2000/HU/16/P/PE/004	Miskolc: regional waste management project	15/03/2001	12,900,000	70.00%	9,030,000	7,224,000	0	1,806,000
2000/HU/16/P/PE/005	Szeged: regional waste management programme	22/12/2000	12,797,930	65.00%	8,318,654	6,654,923	0	831,865
2000/HU/16/P/PE/006	Tisza Lake: municipal waste management system	17/12/2001	8,140,000	60.00%	4,884,000	3,907,200	0	488,400
2000/HU/16/P/PE/007	Szolnok: solid waste management system	22/12/2000	10,280,000	70.00%	7,196,000	5,756,800	0	719,600
2001/HU/16/P/PE/008	Mid-Danube-Tisza Plain Regional solid waste management project	13/12/2001	23,739,000	50.00%	11,869,500	9,495,600	0	1,186,950
2001/HU/16/P/PE/010	Sajó-Bodva: regional solid waste management system	17/12/2001	12,729,000	50.00%	6,364,500	5,091,600	0	636,450
2002/HU/16/P/PE/014	North-East of Pest county: municipal solid waste management	10/12/2002	24,742,800	50.00%	12,371,400	9,897,120	0	
2002/HU/16/P/PE/015	Homokhátság: regional communal solid waste management	10/12/2002	44,177,333	75.00%	33,133,000	11,039,538	0	3,313,300
2002/HU/16/P/PE/016	West-Balaton and Zala valley: regional solid waste management system	04/12/2002	34,585,000	70.00%	24,209,500	12,104,750	0	2,420,950
2002/HU/16/P/PE/018	South-Balaton and Sió valley: regional municipal solid waste management system	04/12/2002	49,461,538	65.00%	32,150,000	16,075,000	0	3,215,000

Various	2000/HU/16/P/PA/002	Assistance in the tendering procedure for railway projects Pest, Szolnok, Komárom-Esztergom, Győr-Sopron and Zala	22/12/2000	158,100	75.00%	118,575	118,575	0	87,996
IV	2000/HU/16/P/PA/003	Rehabilitation of Szolnok-Lökösújváros railway line	21/12/2000	200,000	75.00%	150,000	150,000	0	92,748
IV	2000/HU/16/P/PT/001	Budapest-Szolnok-Romania: rail upgrading (stage 1: Vecsés-Szolnok)	21/12/2000	126,000,00	50.00%	63,000,000	32,400,000	5,000,000	30,896,487
IV	2000/HU/16/P/PT/002	Hegyeshalom-Győr-Budapest rail rehabilitation	21/12/2000	85,988,000	50.00%	42,994,000	27,094,000	4,000,000	16,004,671
V	2000/HU/16/P/PT/003	Boba-Zalaegerszeg-Zalaörszék rail upgrading	21/12/2000	167,390,00	50.00%	83,695,000	35,561,000	10,800,000	20,195,377
Various	2001/HU/16/P/PA/006	Technical assistance 6 and 7: for the tendering and supervision of railway projects II	11/12/2001	1,980,000	75.00%	1,485,000	1,188,000	0	703,379
IV	2001/HU/16/P/PT/007	Rehabilitation of Budapest-Lökösújváros railway: stage 2: Budapest-Vecsés and Szolnok-Lökösújváros - phase 1: Szolnok-Mezőcsanak and	25/11/2002	99,460,000	54.00%	53,708,400	13,427,100	15,300,000	5,370,840
Various	2003/HU/16/P/PA/013	Technical assistance: preparation of Cohesion Fund financed transport projects	08/08/2003	4,621,500	75.00%	3,466,125	0	2,772,900	346,612
Various	2000/HU/16/P/PA/004	Technical assistance for "Road rehabilitation programme for achieving 11,5 ton load bearing capacity"	22/12/2000	200,000	75.00%	150,000	136,772	0	136,772
V	2001/HU/16/P/PT/006	Road rehabilitation programme for 11,5 tons bearing capacity: phase I trunk roads 3 and 35	14/12/2001	39,999,080	50.00%	19,999,540	15,999,632	0	3,999,908
IV,Vb,Vc+links	2002/HU/16/P/PT/008	Road rehabilitation programme - phase 2: trunk roads 2,6,42,47 and 56	04/12/2002	108,276,92	50.00%	54,138,461	10,827,692	7,524,850	5,413,846

<i>Latvia</i>		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €	
	2001/LV/16/P/PA/006	Technical assistance introduction of EDIS	11/12/2001	700,000	100.00%	700,000	560,000	140,000	518,215
	2002/LV/16/P/PE/009	Rezekne development of water services	23/12/2002	9,463,000	75.00%	7,097,000	5,677,600	0	709,700
	2000/LV/16/P/PE/001	Riga water & environment project, phase II	22/12/2000	24,300,000	70.00%	17,010,000	13,608,000	3,402,000	3,402,000
	2000/LV/16/P/PE/002	Jelgava development of water services	22/12/2000	14,993,000	75.00%	11,244,750	8,995,800	0	2,248,950
	2000/LV/16/P/PE/003	Ventspils improvement of water supply, waste water collection and treatment	22/12/2000	20,080,000	47.00%	9,437,600	7,550,080	0	2,605,774
	2001/LV/16/P/PE/007	Development of water services in river basins of Eastern Latvia	13/12/2001	67,600,000	66.00%	44,616,000	13,385,200	5,642,000	4,461,600
	2001/LV/16/P/PE/008	Jurmala water services development	05/03/2002	11,042,548	75.00%	8,281,911	6,625,529	0	828,191
	2000/LV/16/P/PA/001	Technical assistance for environmental projects	12/09/2001	4,510,000	75.00%	3,382,500	2,706,000	200,000	1,358,782
	2003/LV/16/P/PA/008	Technical assistance for environment sector	01/12/2003	19,866,892	75.00%	14,900,169	0	11,920,135	
	2000/LV/16/P/PE/004	Sustainable waste management in Ventspils region	15/06/2001	6,190,000	49.00%	3,033,100	2,426,480	606,620	1,608,664
	2001/LV/16/P/PE/005	Liepaja region solid waste management project	05/09/2001	8,090,000	63.00%	5,096,700	4,077,360	0	1,019,340
	2001/LV/16/P/PE/006	North Vidzeme region solid waste management	14/09/2001	4,820,000	70.00%	3,374,000	2,699,200	674,800	1,168,827
	2002/LV/16/P/PE/011	South Latgale regional solid waste management	17/11/2003	6,490,500	65.00%	4,218,825	0	3,375,060	
Various	2000/LV/16/P/PA/005	Technical assistance in the rail sector: signalling and safety control systems	22/12/2000	386,991	82.37%	318,750	290,243	0	278,449
I	2000/LV/16/P/PT/003	Replacements of track turnouts on the W-E railway corridor	28/12/2000	35,240,000	75.00%	26,430,000	13,215,000	4,405,000	7,947,230
I + IX	2000/LV/16/P/PT/004	Rezekne rail marshalling yard: rail upgrading	28/12/2000	10,213,346	75.00%	7,660,010	6,128,000	1,532,010	766,001
I	2001/LV/16/P/PT/006	Modernisation of signalling systems on East-West rail corridor	27/12/2001	89,950,964	75.00%	67,463,223	14,097,084	4,559,183	6,746,322
I	2001/LV/16/P/PT/007	Modernisation of hot-box detection system on the East-West rail corridor	12/03/2002	15,123,880	75.00%	11,342,910	9,074,328	0	1,134,291
I	2000/LV/16/P/PT/001	Via Baltica road: Gauja-Lilaste - km 13 to km 21,2	23/10/2000	5,762,300	75.00%	4,321,725	4,321,725	0	3,889,553
I	2000/LV/16/P/PT/002	Access road to Riga airport (P133) and a related section of Riga-Ventspils highway (A10) near interchange	28/12/2000	7,600,000	75.00%	5,700,000	4,175,000	1,300,000	1,550,050
I	2001/LV/16/P/PA/007	Technical assistance transport	18/10/2001	860,000	74.86%	643,769	516,000	127,769	366,485
I	2001/LV/16/P/PT/005	Via Baltica: improvements of part Riga-Adazi (km 0 to 6,3)	17/12/2001	14,200,588	75.00%	10,650,441	8,520,352	2,130,089	4,969,860
I	2002/LV/16/P/PT/008	Construction of Saulkrasti bypass - Improvement of Via Baltica	20/12/2002	41,051,847	75.00%	30,788,885	12,706,800	3,559,358	3,078,888
I	2003/LV/16/P/PT/009	E67 Via Baltica section Kekava-Lecava	30/11/2003	11,744,420	75.00%	8,808,315	0	6,994,527	

<i>Lithuania</i>		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €	
	2001/LT/16/P/PA/003	Technical assistance for EDIS	20/12/2001	381,420	100.00%	381,420	381,420	0	257,496
	2000/LT/16/P/PE/001	Vilnius Rehabilitation and extension of water supply and sewage collection systems	10/11/2000	40,000,000	50.00%	20,000,000	16,000,000	0	4,077,578
	2001/LT/16/P/PE/005	Jonava: wastewater treatment plant, sewer network extension and potable water network rehabilitation	13/12/2001	6,259,900	60.00%	3,755,940	3,004,752	0	375,594
	2001/LT/16/P/PE/006	Neringa: drinking water and waste water treatment systems development	18/12/2001	10,153,000	47.00%	4,771,910	3,817,528	0	
	2001/LT/16/P/PA/002	TA project preparation in environment sector	26/10/2001	9,330,000	75.00%	6,997,500	5,598,000	0	2,098,603
	2003/LT/16/P/PA/004	Technical assistance for institutional strenghtening in the environment sector	05/12/2003	2,376,375	75.00%	1,782,281	0	1,425,825	
	2000/LT/16/P/PE/002	Druskinninkai: wastewater treatment, upgrading and extension	22/12/2000	5,500,000	65.00%	3,575,000	2,200,000	660,000	550,000
	2001/LT/16/P/PE/007	Kaunas: extension of wastewater treatment plant for biological treatment and network extensions	13/12/2001	22,359,000	71.00%	15,874,890	12,699,912	0	1,587,489
	2002/LT/16/P/PE/009	Kedainiai: Reconstruction of Wastewater Treatment Plant, Rehabilitation and Extension of Sewer and Water Supply Networks	17/12/2002	10,400,000	65.00%	6,760,000	5,408,000	0	676,000
	2002/LT/16/P/PE/013	Radviliskis: Reconstruction of Wastewater Treatment Plant, Rehabilitation and Extension of Sewer and Water Supply Networks	13/12/2002	6,400,000	70.00%	4,480,000	3,584,000	0	448,000
	2002/LT/16/P/PE/014	Mazeikiai wastewater treatment plant construction	18/12/2002	7,500,000	50.00%	3,750,000	3,000,000	0	375,000
	2001/LT/16/P/PE/003	Alytus: development of regional waste management system	13/12/2001	7,825,808	50.00%	3,912,904	3,130,323	0	391,290
	2001/LT/16/P/PE/004	Taurage: regional waste management system	13/12/2001	6,629,786	70.00%	4,640,850	3,712,680	0	464,085
	2001/LT/16/P/PE/008	Siauliai: regional waste management system development	21/12/2001	9,402,000	56.00%	5,265,120	3,712,722	0	526,512
	2002/LT/16/P/PE/010	Klaipeda waste management system development	17/12/2002	11,750,000	50.00%	5,875,000	4,700,000	0	587,500
	2002/LT/16/P/PE/011	Mariampole: Development of Regional Solid Waste Management System	17/12/2002	13,009,000	72.00%	9,366,480	7,493,184	0	936,648
	2002/LT/16/P/PE/012	Vilnius regional waste management	17/12/2002	20,930,000	50.00%	10,465,000	8,372,000	0	1,046,500
	2003/LT/16/P/PE/017	Hazardous waste management	15/12/2003	18,758,000	65.40%	12,267,325	0	9,813,860	
I, IXb & IXd	2000/LT/16/P/PA/001	Technical assistance for project preparation on development of railway Crete Corridors IXB, IXD and I	22/06/2001	1,250,000	75.00%	937,500	750,000	187,500	507,234
IXb	2000/LT/16/P/PT/004	Modernisation of telecommunications, signalling and power supply on Crete Corridor IXB	22/12/2000	31,701,000	36.00%	11,412,360	9,129,888	0	5,566,728
IXb	2001/LT/16/P/PT/006	Power supply sector 3 - Modernisation on Crete Corridor IXB	20/11/2001	27,193,000	44.00%	11,964,920	9,571,936	2,392,984	2,392,984
IX	2002/LT/16/P/PT/008	Siauliai-Klaipeda: upgrading railway corridor IX: modernisation power supply and signalling, rehabilitation railway structures, track	18/12/2002	126,563,067	36.00%	45,562,704	13,402,565	9,834,414	4,556,270
Various	2003/LT/16/P/PA/005	Technical assistance for project preparation for the rail sector	30/11/2003	5,300,000	75.00%	3,975,000	0	2,773,128	

IXb	2000/LT/16/P/PT/001	Upgrading of IXB Transport Corridor (Vilnius-Klaipeda)	10/11/2000	26,082,400	75.00%	19,561,800	15,649,440	3,912,360	15,649,440
I	2000/LT/16/P/PT/002	Development of Via Baltica road in 2000-2006 (Pan European Corridor 1)	10/11/2000	15,439,000	75.00%	11,579,000	9,263,200	2,315,800	9,262,873
Ia	2000/LT/16/P/PT/003	Development of Corridor 1A (2001-2004)	10/10/2001	26,422,387	75.00%	19,816,800	12,286,416	3,567,024	12,622,984
IXb	2000/LT/16/P/PT/005	Klaipeda northern access road	18/12/2002	14,790,000	45.00%	6,655,500	5,324,400	0	665,550
IXb	2002/LT/16/P/PT/007	Upgrading of IXB transport corridor in 2003-2004	18/12/2002	19,888,700	75.00%	14,916,525	1,695,077	5,966,610	5,573,578

Poland

		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €
2000/PL/16/P/PA/001	Technical assistance for training EDIS	29/12/2000	1,630,000	100.00%	1,630,000	1,630,000	0	623,000
2000/PL/16/P/PE/008	Pila: drinking water supply	28/12/2000	8,501,659	51.00%	4,335,846	3,468,677	0	867,169
2003/PL/16/P/PE/040	Rzeszow agglomeration: drinking water improvement programme	03/12/2003	33,616,500	55.00%	18,489,075	0	14,791,260	
2000/PL/16/P/PE/001	Bydgoszcz: Water supply and sewerage (project)	19/09/2000	66,240,000	49.00%	32,457,600	25,966,080	0	6,491,520
2000/PL/16/P/PE/010	Torun: water and sewage management	18/12/2000	79,111,000	60.00%	47,466,600	21,100,000	7,500,000	4,746,660
2000/PL/16/P/PE/014	Olsztyn: drinking water and wastewater treatment	15/03/2001	38,142,100	57.00%	21,740,997	5,493,485	11,899,313	1,373,371
2000/PL/16/P/PE/015	Poznan: wastewater treatment and water supply	07/09/2001	104,400,000	57.00%	59,508,000	45,000,000	0	5,950,800
2000/PL/16/P/PE/016	Szczecin water quality improvement (phase 1) (PE 16 and 17)	28/12/2000	288,000,000	66.00%	190,080,000	27,702,724	35,513,276	38,016,000
2000/PL/16/P/PE/019	Wroclaw water quality improvement	15/03/2001	121,070,000	56.00%	67,799,200	29,232,000	0	7,308,000
2000/PL/16/P/PE/020	Warsaw water supply and waste water treatment	05/09/2001	178,551,000	62.00%	110,701,620	21,965,840	41,205,161	2,745,730
2000/PL/16/P/PE/021	Suwalki: water quality improvement	07/09/2001	12,468,000	50.00%	6,234,000	4,987,200	0	623,400
2001/PL/16/P/PE/024	Bialystok water quality improvement	13/12/2001	18,316,000	56.00%	10,256,960	8,205,568	0	1,025,696
2001/PL/16/P/PE/028	Opole water quality improvement	27/09/2002	62,337,000	65.00%	40,519,050	30,389,287	0	4,051,905
2002/PL/16/P/PE/031	Elblag drinking water treatment	20/09/2002	15,584,000	60.00%	9,350,400	7,480,320	0	935,040
2002/PL/16/P/PE/033	Jelenia Gora water supply and waste water treatment	23/09/2002	40,615,000	69.00%	28,024,350	21,018,262	0	2,802,435
2002/PL/16/P/PE/035	Czestochowa waste water and drinking water treatment	17/12/2002	32,844,616	65.00%	21,349,000	16,011,750	0	2,134,900
2003/PL/16/P/PE/038	Dolina Redy i Chylonky: water supply and wastewater treatment	15/12/2003	49,948,000	55.00%	27,471,400	0	1,977,120	
2003/PL/16/P/PE/041	Walbrzych wastewater treatment	03/11/2003	49,930,000	69.00%	34,451,700	0	7,561,360	
2003/PL/16/P/PE/042	Stalowa Wola: drinking water and wastewater treatment	03/11/2003	19,060,000	69.00%	13,151,400	0	10,521,120	
2003/PL/16/P/PE/044	Chorzow-Swietochlowice: water supply and wastewater treatment	17/12/2003	31,811,400	70.00%	22,267,980	0	2,226,798	
2003/PL/16/P/PE/045	Tarnow: water supply and wastewater treatment	03/11/2003	38,046,000	68.00%	25,871,280	0	2,587,128	
2003/PL/16/P/PE/046	Kedzierzyn-Kozle: water supply and wastewater treatment	17/12/2003	40,430,000	70.00%	28,301,000	0	2,830,100	
2000/PL/16/P/PA/003	Technical assistance for the preparation of environment projects	27/12/2000	4,550,000	75.00%	3,412,500	3,412,500	0	1,483,390

	2002/PL/16/P/PA/013	Technical assistance for the environment sector	17/06/2003	15,900,000	75.00%	11,925,000	0	9,540,000	1,192,500
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/003	Gliwice: waste water treatment	07/09/2001	66,395,000	53.00%	35,189,350	27,000,000	0	3,518,935
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/004	Katowice: waste water treatment	07/09/2001	50,520,000	60.00%	30,312,000	23,000,000	0	3,031,200
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/007	Podhale wastewater treatment	11/12/2003	19,393,000	65.00%	12,605,450	0	1,260,545	
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/009	Przemysl: waste water treatment	07/09/2001	17,444,000	50.00%	8,722,000	6,977,600	0	872,000
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/012	Krakow Plaszow sewage treatment plant	28/12/2000	79,976,000	70.00%	55,983,200	44,786,560	0	11,196,640
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/013	Lodz waste water treatment plant	07/09/2001	45,799,000	50.00%	22,899,500	18,319,600	0	2,289,950
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/022	Brzeg waste water treatment	16/08/2002	28,605,000	60.00%	17,163,000	13,730,400	0	1,716,300
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/023	Zywiec waste water treatment	05/12/2003	16,656,600	65.00%	10,826,790	0	1,082,679	
	2001/PL/16/P/PE/025	Rybnik waste water collection system	13/12/2001	111,440,000	64.00%	71,321,600	20,512,600	18,059,000	7,132,160
	2001/PL/16/P/PE/026	Boleslawiec waste water treatment	16/08/2002	18,250,000	60.00%	10,950,000	8,760,000	0	1,095,000
	2001/PL/16/P/PE/027	Ruda Slaska waste water treatment	27/02/2002	45,897,000	65.00%	29,833,050	5,966,610	2,899,830	2,983,305
	2002/PL/16/P/PE/029	Lublin wastewater treatment	20/09/2002	16,150,000	60.00%	9,690,000	7,752,000	0	969,000
	2002/PL/16/P/PE/032	Wloclawek waste water treatment	20/09/2002	27,238,000	65.00%	17,704,700	14,163,760	0	1,770,470
	2002/PL/16/P/PE/036	Mielec wastewater treatment	13/12/2002	26,860,000	70.00%	18,802,000	15,041,600	0	1,880,200
	2003/PL/16/P/PE/037	Grudziadz: wastewater treatment	15/12/2003	7,702,000	70.00%	5,391,400	0	4,313,120	
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/002	"Dolina Redy I Chylonki solid waste treatment plant	12/03/2001	20,852,950	72.00%	15,014,127	12,011,301	0	3,002,825
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/005	Kraków: Municipal solid waste treatment (phase 1)	18/12/2000	22,730,000	62.00%	14,092,600	11,274,080	0	2,818,520
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/006	Lodz: solid waste treatment	07/09/2001	21,640,000	60.00%	12,984,000	10,387,200	0	1,298,400
	2000/PL/16/P/PE/018	Wroclaw solid waste treatment (phase 1)	18/12/2000	20,402,000	66.00%	13,465,320	10,772,256	0	2,693,064
	2002/PL/16/P/PE/030	Kalisz waste treatment plant	27/11/2002	13,450,000	69.00%	9,280,500	7,424,400	0	928,050
	2002/PL/16/P/PE/034	Radom solid waste treatment	18/12/2002	17,600,000	65.00%	11,440,000	9,152,000	0	1,144,000
	2003/PL/16/P/PE/039	Sosnowiec: wastewater treatment	15/12/2003	23,365,000	70.00%	16,355,500	0	13,084,400	
II	2000/PL/16/P/PA/002	Technical assistance for pre-feasibility study for the sustainable development of the Warsaw Transport node	29/12/2000	940,000	75.00%	705,000	705,000	0	418,090
II	2000/PL/16/P/PT/002	Minsk-Siedlce (E20): rail upgrading	19/09/2000	124,595,600	75.00%	93,446,719	91,226,719	2,220,000	44,558,185
II	2000/PL/16/P/PT/003	Rzepin-Kunowice (E20): rail upgrading	12/12/2000	23,033,384	75.00%	17,275,038	14,175,888	3,099,150	9,170,176

VI	2001/PL/16/P/PA/005	Technical assistance for preparation of the project Modernisation of E65 railway line on section Warsaw-Dzialdowo-Gdynia	12/09/2001	14,900,000	75.00%	11,175,000	4,768,000	6,407,000	1,192,000
II	2001/PL/16/P/PT/012	Siedlce-Terespol E20: modernisation of rail section (Phase 1)	30/09/2002	185,274,000	75.00%	138,955,500	27,791,100	0	13,895,550
III	2001/PL/16/P/PT/013	Wegliniec-Legnica Modernisation of E30 rail section	17/12/2001	123,783,000	75.00%	92,837,250	33,582,314	13,567,450	18,567,450
II	2001/PL/16/P/PT/014	Poznan modernisation rail node E20	22/11/2001	67,439,560	75.00%	50,579,670	20,231,868	10,115,934	10,115,934
II, III & VI	2001/PL/16/P/PT/015	Improvement of railway infrastructure and liquidation of operational bottlenecks	28/11/2001	111,000,000	75.00%	83,250,000	38,386,150	14,386,150	8,325,000
I	2002/PL/16/P/PA/008	Technical assistance for modernisation of E75 railway line section Warsaw-Bialystok-Sokolka-Suwalki-Trkiszki (rail Baltica)	05/07/2002	3,000,000	80.00%	2,400,000	1,920,000	0	240,000
II	2002/PL/16/P/PA/009	Technical assistance for preparation of 'modernisation railway corridor II (E20&CE20) - remaining works	23/09/2002	3,000,000	75.00%	2,250,000	1,800,000	0	225,000
III	2002/PL/16/P/PA/012	Technical assistance for modernisation of E30/CE30 railway section Opole-Katowice-Krakow	17/11/2003	3,625,000	75.00%	2,718,750	0	2,175,000	
III	2002/PL/16/P/PT/016	Modernisation of E30 railway line section Wegliniec-Zgorzelec-German border	23/09/2002	83,451,000	75.00%	62,588,250	12,517,650	12,517,650	6,258,825
III	2000/PL/16/P/PT/001	Kleszczow-Sosnica A4: construction motorway section KA4E	19/09/2000	112,282,000	75.00%	84,211,500	75,375,000	0	8,421,150
II	2000/PL/16/P/PT/004	Sochaczew-Grojec: reinforcement of surface pavement (NR 717)	01/12/2000	32,761,000	75.00%	24,570,750	19,656,600	2,457,075	13,865,621
III	2000/PL/16/P/PT/005	Bielsko-Biala-Cieszyn: construction of expressway	12/06/2001	138,185,000	75.00%	103,638,750	55,511,000	16,300,000	24,485,978
I	2000/PL/16/P/PT/007	Gdansk-Jazowa: Pavement strengthening on the Corridor 1 section	29/12/2000	82,832,000	75.00%	62,124,000	49,699,000	0	19,108,820
III	2000/PL/16/P/PT/008	Krakow-Tarnow: road rehabilitation on Corridor III	29/12/2000	62,233,000	75.00%	46,674,750	11,456,376	0	9,334,950
III	2001/PL/16/P/PT/009	Wroclaw-Krzyzowa Rehabilitation A4	20/08/2001	252,700,000	75.00%	189,525,000	71,340,000	40,140,000	52,726,214
III	2002/PL/16/P/PA/007	Technical assistance Krzyzowa-Zgorzelec A4 motorway	10/07/2002	6,625,000	75.00%	4,968,750	3,975,000	993,750	496,875
II	2002/PL/16/P/PA/010	Technical assistance for A2 motorway section Strykow-Konotopa	04/12/2002	700,000	75.00%	525,000	420,000	0	420,000
II	2002/PL/16/P/PT/018	Upgrading of National Road 50, section Grojec-Minsk Mazowiecki	18/12/2002	74,411,000	75.00%	55,808,250	1,676,455	9,485,195	1,676,455
III	2002/PL/16/P/PT/019	Olszyna-Golnice: construction of 2nd carriageway of National Road 18	17/11/2003	118,000,000	75.00%	88,500,000	0	26,300,522	
Various	2003/PL/16/P/PA/014	Technical assistance: support of preparation and implementation of road projects financed within the Cohesion Fund	28/11/2003	5,200,000	75.00%	3,900,000	0	390,000	
II	2003/PL/16/P/PT/020	A2 motorway construction, section Konin-Strykow, subsection Emilia-Strykow II	15/12/2003	103,796,000	75.00%	77,847,000	0	28,569,374	

Romania

		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €
2001/RO/16/P/PA/009	Technical assistance to strengthen capacity of implementing agencies -stage 1	17/06/2002	605,000	100.00%	605,000	484,000	36,831	180,940
2000/RO/16/P/PE/005	Pascani: Upgrading of water & waste water system	18/12/2001	16,262,000	75.00%	12,196,500	10,976,850	0	1,219,650
2000/RO/16/P/PE/006	Iasi: Upgrading of water & waste water system	22/12/2000	51,378,000	75.00%	38,533,500	34,680,150	0	3,853,350
2000/RO/16/P/PE/007	Brasov: Treatment of drinking water and wastewater of Brasov City and neighbouring localities	07/06/2002	58,708,624	71.00%	41,683,123	20,841,561	12,504,938	4,168,312
2000/RO/16/P/PE/008	Cluj: Rehabilitation and modernisation of the water supply and sewerage systems	31/05/2001	46,755,800	75.00%	35,066,850	31,560,165	0	3,506,685
2001/RO/16/P/PA/003	Baia Mare, Botosani, Drobeta, Galati, Deva and Hunedoara: TA for preparation of environment projects	17/09/2002	3,500,000	75.00%	2,625,000	2,100,000	0	525,000
2001/RO/16/P/PE/015	Targu Mures: rehabilitation of drinking water supply and waste water collection and treatment	20/11/2001	27,909,400	75.00%	20,932,050	10,466,025	8,372,820	2,093,205
2002/RO/16/P/PE/018	Bacau: drinking water and wastewater collection and treatment improvements	01/09/2003	52,006,000	75.00%	39,004,500	0	27,303,150	
2002/RO/16/P/PE/019	Satu Mare: improvements to water supply and wastewater collection and treatment systems	13/12/2002	37,355,000	71.00%	26,522,050	16,384,358	0	2,652,205
2002/RO/16/P/PE/021	Buzau: rehabilitation of wastewater treatment plant, sewerage system and distribution network	13/12/2002	35,433,550	74.00%	26,220,827	18,354,579	0	2,622,082
2002/RO/16/P/PE/022	Sibiu: modernisation of water supply and sewerage system	18/12/2002	37,588,000	68.00%	25,559,840	17,891,888	0	2,555,984
2002/RO/16/P/PE/023	Pietra Neamt: improvement of water supply, sewerage system and wastewater treatment	10/12/2002	28,594,545	74.00%	21,159,963	14,811,974	0	2,115,996
2003/RO/16/P/PA/012	Technical assistance for institutional capacity strengthening - beneficiaries in water and wastewater sector	01/12/2003	7,000,000	100.00%	7,000,000	0	5,600,000	
2003/RO/16/P/PE/026	Pitesti: rehabilitation of the wastewater treatment plant, sewerage network and water supply system	01/12/2003	41,750,000	75.00%	31,312,500	0	23,029,225	
2003/RO/16/P/PA/013	Technical assistance for project preparation in the environment sector	01/12/2003	12,750,000	78.00%	9,945,000	0	7,956,000	
2000/RO/16/P/PA/001	Technical assistance for completion and upgrading of Bucharest wastewater treatment plant	22/02/2001	1,810,000	75.00%	1,357,500	1,086,000	0	271,500
2000/RO/16/P/PE/002	Craiova: Rehabilitation of sewerage network and wastewater treatment facilities to protect the river Danube	22/12/2000	70,378,000	75.00%	52,783,500	47,505,150	0	5,278,350
2000/RO/16/P/PE/003	Constanta: sewerage and wastewater treatment rehabilitation	16/11/2000	96,556,653	75.00%	72,417,490	56,984,854	0	14,483,498
2000/RO/16/P/PE/004	Timisoara: rehabilitation of wastewater treatment technology and sewerage improvements	04/12/2001	48,080,000	71.00%	34,136,800	20,482,080	6,827,360	3,413,680
2000/RO/16/P/PE/009	Valea Jiului: Danutoni waste water treatment plant extension	22/12/2000	9,680,000	75.00%	7,260,000	6,534,000	0	726,000
2000/RO/16/P/PE/010	Braila: Integrated sewerage development and wastewater treatment	15/02/2001	59,877,400	75.00%	44,908,050	13,680,000	11,400,000	4,490,805
2000/RO/16/P/PE/011	Arad: Rehabilitation and modification of sewerage network and provision of wastewater treatment facilities to protect river Mures	15/02/2001	18,000,000	75.00%	13,500,000	10,800,000	0	1,350,000
2001/RO/16/P/PE/012	Focsani: Rehabilitation of the sewerage network and wastewater treatment plant	14/08/2001	15,876,500	74.00%	11,748,610	9,398,888	0	1,174,861
2001/RO/16/P/PE/013	Oradea: Rehabilitation of the sewerage network and wastewater treatment plant	14/08/2001	23,906,000	70.00%	16,734,200	13,387,360	0	1,673,420

	2000/RO/16/P/PE/001	Piatra Neamt: waste management programme	23/10/2000	13,846,000	75.00%	10,384,500	8,307,600	0	1,038,450
	2001/RO/16/P/PE/014	Ramnicu Valcea: integrated municipal waste management	11/04/2002	14,673,100	75.00%	11,004,825	8,803,860	0	1,100,482
	2001/RO/16/P/PE/017	Dambovita County: rehabilitation of solid waste collection, transportation, treatment and landfill	01/12/2003	25,894,000	75.00%	19,420,500	0	15,536,400	
	2002/RO/16/P/PE/024	Teleorman: integrated waste management system	01/12/2003	20,801,000	75.00%	15,600,750	0	12,843,600	
VII	2002/RO/16/P/PA/011	Technical assistance: improvement of navigation conditions on the Danube	13/12/2002	2,000,000	75.00%	1,500,000	1,200,000	0	300,000
IV	2000/RO/16/P/PT/001	Bucharest-Fetesti: Rehabilitation and upgrading of four railway sections (Bucharest-Constanza railway line)	23/10/2000	308,972,588	75.00%	231,729,441	143,779,441	18,622,721	23,172,944
IV	2001/RO/16/P/PA/008	Technical assistance for rehabilitation of the railway line HU border (Curtici) to Simeria (Arad) and accompanying studies	20/12/2001	800,000	75.00%	600,000	480,000	0	60,000
IV	2003/RO/16/P/PT/007	Campina-Predeal: rehabilitation of railway section on line Bucharest-Brasov	30/11/2003	199,485,770	75.00%	149,614,328	0	104,730,029	
IV	2000/RO/16/P/PA/002	Technical Assistance preparation Drobeta-Lugoj project	01/03/2001	1,500,000	75.00%	1,125,000	900,000	0	450,000
IX	2000/RO/16/P/PT/002	Bucharest-Giurgiu: Widening to four lanes of the National Road N°5,	23/10/2000	65,810,032	66.00%	43,434,621	34,747,696	0	8,686,924
IV	2000/RO/16/P/PT/003	Bucharest-Cernavoda - Rehabilitation and construction of sections 4 and 5 (phase 1 of Bucharest - Constanta motorway)	23/10/2000	95,616,000	75.00%	71,712,000	49,372,000	0	5,050,000
IV	2000/RO/16/P/PT/004	Turnu Severin-Craiova: Rehabilitation road Craiova-Lugoj: phase 1	22/02/2001	117,002,705	75.00%	87,752,028	67,270,000	0	17,550,406
IV	2001/RO/16/P/PT/005	Construction of motorway bypasses Corridor IV	14/08/2001	90,521,000	75.00%	67,890,750	35,730,000	6,000,000	6,789,075
IV	2001/RO/16/P/PT/006	Lugoj-Drobeta Turnu Severin: Rehabilitation route - phase 2: Craiova-Lugoj	13/12/2001	184,015,500	75.00%	138,011,625	32,410,000	0	13,801,162

Slovakia

		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €	
	2002/SK/16/P/PA/003	Technical assistance to implement EDIS	02/08/2002	1,450,000	100.00%	1,450,000	1,160,000	290,000	1,160,000
	2002/SK/16/P/PE/012	Velky Krtis: supplying the Southern part of the district with drinking water	13/12/2002	28,000,000	70.00%	19,600,000	3,920,000	7,000,000	1,960,000
	2000/SK/16/P/PA/001	Technical assistance: preparation environment projects	26/04/2001	1,271,760	75.00%	953,820	953,820	0	763,056
	2002/SK/16/P/PA/007	Technical assistance: preparation of high priority preventive flood protection measures	09/07/2003	650,000	75.00%	487,500	0	390,000	157,950
	2002/SK/16/P/PA/008	Technical assistance to Regional Water companies	16/04/2003	4,300,000	100.00%	4,300,000	0	3,440,000	860,000
	2002/SK/16/P/PE/008	S-E Zemplin: drinking water and sewerage	13/12/2002	23,610,000	70.00%	16,527,000	7,628,836	5,592,764	1,652,700
	2003/SK/16/P/PA/009	Technical assistance for the preparation of Cohesion Fund projects in the water sector	05/12/2003	6,660,000	75.00%	4,995,000	0	2,000,000	
	2002/SK/16/P/PE/009	Liptov region: environmental improvement	13/12/2002	10,520,000	50.00%	5,260,000	4,208,000	0	526,000
	2000/SK/16/P/PE/001	Trencin: sewerage and waste water treatment plant - right riverside	05/12/2000	7,936,732	50.00%	3,968,366	3,174,692	0	1,227,675
	2000/SK/16/P/PE/002	Nitra: waste water treatment plant - sewerage system	18/12/2000	10,354,200	50.00%	5,177,100	4,141,680	0	517,710
	2000/SK/16/P/PE/003	Banska Bystrica: waste water disposal system	28/12/2000	45,468,667	50.00%	22,734,334	14,462,517	0	2,273,433
	2000/SK/16/P/PE/004	Komarno I: upgrade and extension of public sewerage collection and treatment	14/05/2001	8,043,700	50.00%	4,021,850	3,217,480	0	804,370
	2001/SK/16/P/PE/005	Zvolen: reconstruction and extension of the wastewater treatment plant	06/12/2001	10,967,050	50.00%	5,483,525	4,386,820	0	548,353
	2001/SK/16/P/PE/007	Dolny Turiec region and Martin: sewerage and wastewater treatment	17/12/2001	12,295,676	49.00%	6,024,881	4,819,905	0	602,488
	2002/SK/16/P/PE/010	Povazska Bystrica: wastewater treatment plant and sewerage system	13/12/2002	12,300,000	50.00%	6,150,000	4,920,000	0	615,000
	2002/SK/16/P/PE/011	Zilina wastewater treatment intensification and sewerage upgrade	13/12/2002	19,608,000	50.00%	9,804,000	7,843,200	0	980,400
Va	2000/SK/16/P/PT/001	Bratislava-Trnava:section Bratislava-Senkvice Modernisation of rail track	12/10/2000	51,422,000	75.00%	38,566,500	30,853,200	0	23,449,364
Va	2001/SK/16/P/PT/003	Bratislava-Trnava: Modernisation of rail Senkvice-Cifer and stations Raca-Trnava	13/12/2001	116,859,000	50.00%	58,429,500	23,371,800	11,685,900	5,693,630
Va	2002/SK/16/P/PT/005	Trnava-Piestany section: modernisation rail track Trnava-Nové Mesto nad Vahom	16/09/2002	93,488,000	50.00%	46,744,000	5,266,330	2,746,980	4,674,400
Various	2002/SK/16/P/PA/006	TA for the preparation of transport projects	18/12/2002	2,200,000	75.00%	1,650,000	1,320,000	0	330,000
Link Va-VI	2001/SK/16/P/PT/002	Bratislava: motorway D61, section Vienna Road-Riverport Bridge	06/12/2001	52,210,000	52.00%	27,149,200	19,004,440	2,714,920	9,943,937

Slovenia

		Commission Decision Signature	Total Eligible Cost €	% Grant	ISPA Grant €	Commitments 2000-2002 €	Commitments 2003 €	Payments 2000-2003 €
	2002/SI/16/P/PA/003	Technical assistance: EDIS	699,900	100.00%	699,900	559,920	139,980	279,960
	2000/SI/16/P/PE/004	Gora Area: sustainable water supply of Trnovsko-Banjiski Plateau	5,122,168	50.00%	2,561,084	2,048,867	0	726,142
	2000/SI/16/P/PE/003	Paka basin (Velenje): wastewater treatment and upgrading of water supply system	9,014,272	50.00%	4,507,136	3,605,709	0	450,714
	2003/SI/16/P/PA/004	Krka river basin: technical assistance for preparation of management plan	1,100,000	75.00%	825,000	0	660,000	165,000
	2000/SI/16/P/PA/001	Sava: request for technical assistance	300,000	75.00%	225,000	180,000	0	179,970
	2000/SI/16/P/PE/001	Celje: waste water treatment plant	14,046,901	60.00%	8,428,141	7,075,526	0	5,557,805
	2000/SI/16/P/PE/002	Lendava: sewerage system and central waste water treatment plant	11,647,014	44.00%	5,124,686	4,099,749	0	2,019,593
	2000/SI/16/P/PE/005	Slovenj Gradec: wastewater treatment in the Mislinja River Basin	9,018,016	50.00%	4,509,008	3,607,206	0	1,617,539
	2002/SI/16/P/PE/008	Sava River Basin (Brežice, Krško and Sevnica): wastewater treatment of down stream	20,413,156	50.00%	10,206,578	4,082,631	4,082,631	1,020,658
	2000/SI/16/P/PE/006	Dolensjka region: waste management centre (Novo Mesto)	9,943,000	50.00%	4,971,500	3,977,200	0	497,150
Various	2000/SI/16/P/PA/002	Implementation of GSM-R and ERTLS/ETCS system on railway network	1,300,000	75.00%	975,000	780,000	195,000	750,000
V + X	2000/SI/16/P/PT/001	Renewal of cut Križni vrh with renewal of line section from km 563+346 to km 564+860 on railway line Zidani Most - Maribor	13,992,537	67.00%	9,375,000	7,500,000	0	6,901,760
V	2001/SI/16/P/PT/002	Divaca-Koper: Modernisation of signalling and safety devices on the railway line	16,830,600	50.00%	8,415,300	6,732,240	0	841,530
V + X	2002/SI/16/P/PT/003	Upgrading Ljubljana-Zidani most-Maribor railway	25,803,500	39.00%	10,063,365	8,050,692	0	1,006,336