

<b>2008 Project Fiche Kosovo IPA centralised programme</b>
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## 1. Basic information

**1.1 CRIS Number:**

**1.2 Title:** Support Measures Facility

**1.3 Sector:** 07.40

**1.4 Location:** Kosovo

Implementing arrangements:

**1.5 Contracting Authority:** The European Commission Office to Kosovo.

**1.6 Implementing Agency:** The European Commission Office to Kosovo.

**1.7 Beneficiary:** Agency for European Integration as principal partner for the programming exercise as well as Kosovo's authorities as described in other project fiches of the current programme plus potential Beneficiaries of further IPA programmes.

**1.8 Overall cost:** €11.58 million.

**1.9 EU contribution:** €11.58 million.

**1.10 Final date for contracting:** Three years after the signature of the financing agreement between the European Commission and the Kosovo Authorities.

**1.11 Final date for execution of contracts:** Two years after the final date for contracting.

**1.12 Final date for disbursements:** One year after the final date for the execution of contracts.

## 2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose

### 2.1 Overall Objective

The overall objective of the Support Measures Facility is to support IPA implementation in Kosovo.

### 2.2 Project purpose

The purpose of the Preparation Facility is to support the Agency for European Integration as well as line ministries in the preparation of actions linked to EU integration priorities financed - or to be financed - under the IPA programme in Kosovo in an efficient and effective manner.

The purpose of the Follow-up Facility is to finance additional and complementary actions to the existing objectives of the programme necessitated by Kosovo's EU-related priorities.

### **2.3 Link with EPAP:**

The *European Partnership Action Plan* (EPAP - August 2006) calls for enhancement of European Integration structures in Kosovo with the aim to upgrade the institutional authority and powers to effectively lead the Kosovo's process of European Integration.

The *European Commission's 2007 Progress Report on Kosovo*, published in November 2007, points out that AEI and other EU Integration structures within the PISG have been considerably strengthened and are increasingly able to fulfil their role in EU Integration processes. However, the administrative capacities of AEI are not yet fully developed and the turnover of staff remains a challenge. The AEI continues to rely heavily on technical assistance seriously affecting its sustainability, particularly mechanisms to ensure legal compatibility checks on all new legislation.

### **2.4 Link with MIPD:**

EC assistance must be **directly linked to Kosovo's development and action plans set within a clear European perspective**, e.g. the Action Plan for the implementation of the European Partnership priorities and Kosovo's Medium-Term Expenditure Framework

Increased **local ownership** of EC assistance to Kosovo is essential for its effective targeting and for achieving the agreed results in line with EU standards. Therefore, the **planning and project preparation** capacity of Kosovo's authorities has to be improved.

### **2.5 Link with MTEF:**

The objectives of the Mid Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) are for Kosovo to become more and more economically integrated in Europe, and therefore the entire MTEF is referred to norms and standards necessary for **EU Integration** and linked to policies and measures within EPAP. MTEF is also closely linked to Public Administration Reform Strategy in the area of European Integration, specifically its eighth policy area; Policies and Legislation.

## **3. Description of project**

### **3.1 Activities:**

#### **Preparation Facility**

The preparation facility will support the preparation and/or implementation of actions under the IPA Programme. Actions to be financed will be implemented in close co-operation with the Agency for European Integration, and all relevant ministries. A Steering Committee will be established to identify and propose activities to be financed; the ECLO will decide, after written consultation with DG ELARG C3.

Actions to be supported include all those normally associated with project preparation as financed under IPA.

#### **Follow-up Facility**

The follow-up facility is particularly important to provide EU assistance in a flexible manner so as to be able to adequately respond to Kosovo's priorities, particularly in meeting the provisions of the Kosovo Constitution and progress within its EU perspective and regional integration. EU assistance under the facility should target in particular, but not exclusively, areas such as the rule of law, public procurement, company law, intellectual property law, competition policy, financial services, information society and

media, agriculture and rural development, food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy, transport policy, energy, taxation, economic and monetary policy, statistics (including population and housing census), social policy and employment, enterprise and industrial policy, trans-European networks, regional policy and coordination of structural instruments, judiciary and fundamental rights, justice, freedom and security, science and research, education and culture, environment, consumer and health protection, customs, external relations, foreign, security and defence policy, financial control, financial and budgets, decentralisation; economic development and revitalisation; public administration reform; refugees and minority communities; as well as the development of institutional capacity.

For the implementation of the above mentioned target projects the following activities will take place: technical assistance, training, study visits, investments, and framework contracts.

Full use will be made of the possibilities provided for in the Financial Regulation and the PRAG. A Steering Committee will be established to identify and propose actions to be financed based on written request by Kosovo's authorities. Summary check-lists to be developed specifically for this purpose in order to objectively assess the proposals; written agreement of DG ELARG C3 is compulsory.

### **3.2 Basic principles for implementation**

Support Measures Facility's implementation will follow the following principles:

- Actions will be justified on the basis of priorities identified by the Commission progress reports or related strategic documents.
- Actions include Institution Building or Investment directly related to the EU integration process.
- Actions will target a concrete, realistic and sustainable result.
- Actions will be complementary to the existing objectives of the programme.

### **3.3 Implementation Arrangements**

Standard IPA implementing and PRAG rules apply, with due consideration given to the standard derogations which it provides for.

### **3.4 Lessons learned**

Many projects have successfully been implemented by this envelope under the CARDS instrument. Experience shows that this type of assistance has been particularly useful to respond quickly to urgent needs of the beneficiary in facilitating the implementation of CARDS programmes. At the same time this envelope is expected to provide Kosovo with a possibility to address the remaining tasks linked to further strengthening the capacity of the government institutions to advance the EU integration processes.

#### 4. Indicative Budget (amounts in €million)

			SOURCES OF FUNDING									
			TOTAL EXP.RE	IPA COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION		NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION					PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION	
ACTIVITIES	IB (1)	INV (1)	EUR (a)=(b)+(c)+(d)	EUR (b)	% (2)	Total EUR (c)=(x)+(y)+(z)	% (2)	Central EUR (x)	Regional/Local EUR (y)	IFIs EUR (z)	EUR (d)	% (2)
Activity 1	X		2.0	2.0	100							
Preparation Facility			2.0	2.0	100							
Activity 2	X		6.58	6.58	100							
Follow-up facility IB			6.58	6.58	100							
Activity 3		X	3.0	3.0	100							
Follow-up facility Investment			3.0	3.0	100							
TOTAL IB			8.58	8.58	100							
TOTAL INV			3.0	3.0	100							
<b>TOTAL PROJECT</b>			<b>11.58</b>	<b>11.58</b>	<b>100</b>							

Note:

- (1) In the Activity row "X" is used to identify whether IB or INV
- (2) Expressed in % of the **Total** Expenditure (column (a))

#### 5. Indicative Implementation Schedule: Q1 2009 - Q4 2013.

#### 6. Mainstreaming cross-cutting issues:

- **Civil society** (including employers' organisations, trade unions, professional organisations as well a non-governmental organisations, etc) plays a major role in transition societies. Ensuring those groups' concerns are taken into account in the European development agenda and enhancing their policy dialogue with the administration and Kosovo's institutions will be aspects mainstreamed within the assistance programmes.
- **Environmental considerations** will be duly reflected in all IPA financed activities, in addition to specific actions dedicated to environment, in particular as concerns environmental impact assessments. This is particularly relevant where there is potentially a high environmental impact, such as co-financing of investments, new legislation, etc.
- **Equal opportunities and non discrimination of women, minority and vulnerable groups** (including children, disabled and elderly people) will find considerations in

all aspects of EC funded activities, particularly in relation to public services, legislative matters and socio-economic support programmes.

- **Good governance** will be fostered through the introduction of monitoring, evaluation and control mechanisms, through awareness campaigns involving wider public as a way to contribute to the fight against corruption and to enhance civic responsibility in respect of payment for public services.

## 7. **Conditionality and sequencing**

Beneficiary institutions should be fully associated with any action financed under either facility and should cooperate in the programming and planning of all activities.

The project selection should be based on the selection procedure and summary check-lists (project selection criteria) approved by the Steering Committee and agreed with DG ELARG C3.

## ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format

LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche		Programme name and number : Support Measures Facility	
		Contracting period expires: (see section 1.10)	Disbursement period expires (see section 1.12)
		Total budget : €1:58	IPA budget: €1.58
<b>Overall objective</b>	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Sources of Verification</b>	
The overall objective of the Facility is to support IPA implementation in Kosovo.	IPA annual programme implemented in as per the plan	Contractor's regular reports. Reports of the STM meetings EC progress reports on Kosovo. Policies and mechanisms developed and adopted by the Government.	
<b>Project purpose</b>	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Sources of Verification</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>
The purpose of the Preparation Facility is to support the Agency for European Integration as well as line ministries in the preparation of actions linked to EU integration priorities financed - or to be financed - under the IPA programme in Kosovo in an efficient and effective manner.  The purpose of the Follow-up Facility is to finance unforeseen actions necessitated by Kosovo's EU-related priorities.	EPAP priorities are implemented as planned  AEI increases its capacity towards the responsibility for coordination and management of EC assistance programmes	Monitoring reports on implementation of EPAP  Regular reports from the Contractor.  2009 and 2010 fiches and ToRs	Sufficient resources are allocated by the Government to implement the outputs of the project.  Commitment from the beneficiaries to implement the reforms.  Coordination of donors/trainings ensured by the Government
<b>Results</b>	<b>Objectively verifiable indicators</b>	<b>Sources of Verification</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Agency for European Integration under the Prime Minister's Office is able to timely initiate and prepare interventions related to capacity building or of other urgent and currently unforeseeable nature.</li> <li>Senior Programming Officers (SPO) in each line ministry are actively involved with the Agency for European Integration in improving the quality of programming, implementation and monitoring of projects financed through the IPA programme.</li> </ul>	EPAP prioritised milestones achieved  IPA programming process implemented with increased local ownership and involvement compared to previous years.	Monitoring reports on implementation of EPAP  Regular reports from the Contractor.  2009 and 2010 fiches and ToRs	EU Integration is the priority of the Government and Assembly of Kosovo  AEI is sufficiently staffed and appropriate staff is selected for trainings. Low turnover of staff. Government absorbs students.  SPOs are recruited in each line ministry and remain for longer period of time.
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Means</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Assumptions</b>

<p><b>Preparation Facility</b></p> <p>The Facility will support the preparation and/or implementation of actions under the IPA Programme.</p> <p>Actions to be supported include all those normally associated with project preparation as financed under IPA..</p> <p><b>Follow-up Facility</b></p> <p>The Facility (Which will target in particular, but not exclusively, areas such as the rule of law; decentralisation; economic development and revitalisation; public administration reform; statistics including population and housing census; refugees and minority communities; as well as the development of institutional capacity.</p>	<p>Standard PRAG implementation rules apply, with due consideration given to the standard derogations which it provides for.</p>	<p>€2.0 – General Technical Facility</p> <p>€6.58 – Programme Reserve</p> <p>€3.0 – Investment Activities</p>	<p>Government provides financial and political support to the beneficiary institutions.</p> <p>Beneficiaries' commitment to the project and allocation of sufficient and appropriate staff</p> <p>Public administration is capable to absorb the activities</p>
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**Pre-conditions:**

Beneficiary institutions should be fully associated with any action financed under either facility and should cooperate in the programming and planning of all activities.

The project selection should be based on the selection procedure and summary check-lists (project selection criteria) approved by the Steering Committee and agreed with DG ELARG C3.