

COMMISSION DECISION

C(2008)8393 of 18/12/2008

adopting the Multi-Beneficiary Programme 2b, for projects requiring a Financing Agreement under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component

THE COMMISSION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES,

Having regard to the Treaty establishing the European Community,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 of 17 July 2006 establishing an Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)¹, and in particular Article 14(2)(a) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to candidates and potential candidates.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006, the assistance should be provided through multi-annual or annual programmes, which can be established by country and by component, or, as appropriate, by group of countries or by theme. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the general policy framework referred to in Article 4 of Regulation (EC) No 1085/2006 and the relevant multi-annual indicative planning document referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.
- (3) The Council established for all candidates and potential candidates a European or Accession Partnership. The Commission has adopted on 17 July 2008 a Multi-Beneficiary Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2008 -2010 which presents indicative allocations for the main priorities for pre-accession assistance to the countries concerned².
- (4) Therefore, the Multi-Beneficiary Financing Proposal 2b, for projects requiring a Financing Agreement, under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2008 aims at providing assistance to:
 - i. Improve and promote strategic and operational regional and international capacities within the region and between the region and the EU to fight against organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking, and to prevent terrorism;
 - ii. Improve the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) Centre's / SELEC³ capacity to fight against organised crime, in line with EU acquis and best practices;
 - iii. Contribute to an area of cooperation in the field of higher education involving the European Union and Beneficiaries in the surrounding area;
 - iv. Provide support to improve regional and cross-border cooperation in the Western Balkans and thereby ensure that the control and eradication of

¹ OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82.

² C(2008)3585, 17.07.2008.

³ Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre. SELEC is the new name of SECI.

important animal diseases is harmonised and coordinated at a regional level with Commission support.

- (5) This decision meets the requirements of Article 90 of Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation No 1605/2002⁴ (hereafter: “Implementing Rules”) and constitutes thus a financing decision within the meaning of Article 75 of Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002 of 25 June 2002 on the Financial Regulation applicable to the general budget of the European Communities⁵ (hereafter: “Financial Regulation”).
- (6) The measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee⁶,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

The Multi-Beneficiary Programme 2b, for projects requiring a Financing Agreement, under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2008, as set out in the Annex, is hereby adopted.

This programme shall be implemented by centralised management.

The programme is implemented with Financing Agreements.

Article 2

The maximum amount of Community contribution shall be **EUR 24.7 million**, to be financed through Item 22.02 07 01 of the general budget of the European Communities for 2008.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission

Member of the Commission

⁴ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

⁵ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.

⁶ Recalling the Council Conclusions of 18 February 2008, Member States declare that the adoption of the Multi-Beneficiary Programme 2b, for projects requiring a Financing Agreement, under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component does not prejudice the position of each individual Member State on the status of Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99, which will be decided in accordance with their national practice and international law.

ANNEX

MULTI-BENEFICIARY IPA PROGRAMME - 2B FOR PROJECTS REQUIRING A FINANCING AGREEMENT¹

SUPPORT TO THE FOLLOWING INTERVENTIONS:

- (1) POLICE COOPERATION - FIGHT AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME, IN PARTICULAR ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFICKING, AND THE PREVENTION OF TERRORISM
- (2) POLICE COOPERATION - REGIONAL SUPPORT TO STRENGTHEN THE SOUTHEAST EUROPEAN COOPERATIVE INITIATIVE (SECI) CENTRE / SELEC² FOR COMBATTING TRANS-BORDER CRIME
- (3) EDUCATION (TEMPUS)
- (4) ANIMAL DISEASE ERADICATION

1. IDENTIFICATION

Beneficiaries	Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, as well as Kosovo ³ Turkey Turkey is not included in the following projects: (3) Education – Tempus and (4) Animal Disease Eradication
CRIS Number	2008/20319 and 2008/20358
Year	2008
Cost	EUR 24,700,000
Implementing Authority	(1) Police Cooperation: European Commission (2) Education: European Commission with sub-delegation to DG Education and Culture and the Executive Agency for Education, Audiovisual and Culture (EAEAC). (3) Animal Disease Eradication: European

¹ The adoption of the Multi-Beneficiary Programme 2b, for projects requiring a Financing Agreement, under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component does not prejudice the position of each individual Member State on the status of Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99, which will be decided in accordance with their national practice and international law.

² Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre. SELEC is the new name of SECI.

³ under UNSCR 1244/99.

	Commission with sub-delegation to DG Health and Consumers.
Final date for concluding the financing agreements	at the latest by 31 December 2009.
Final dates for contracting	2 years following the date of conclusion of the Financing Agreement. This date applies also to National co-financing.
Final dates for execution	2 years following the end date for contracting. This date applies also to National co-financing.
Sector Code	15130, 11420, 31191
Budget line(s) concerned	22.02 07 01: Regional and Horizontal Programmes
Programming Task Manager	Unit D3, Regional Programmes, DG Enlargement
Implementation Task Manager	Unit D3, Regional Programmes, DG Enlargement DG Education and Culture, Executive Agency for Education, Audiovisual and Culture (EAEAC) DG Health and Consumers, Animal Disease Eradication Unit

2. PRIORITY AXES / (MEASURES) / PROJECTS

2. a Priority axes

This Multi-beneficiary IPA Programme is designed to respond to Multi-beneficiary priority needs as indicated in the Multi-beneficiary Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document (MIPD) 2008-2010 taking into account activities implemented under the National Programmes, the guidance provided in the EU strategic documents, the lessons learned from the programming and implementation of previous EU assistance and the findings from consultations with amongst others, the Beneficiaries, International Financial Institutions, the Stability Pact, the Regional Cooperation Council, the EU Member State Regional Contact Points, Civil Society Organisations and European Commission services.

To facilitate programming, the Multi-beneficiary IPA 2008 projects have been consolidated into a series of separate Programmes. The Commission Decisions⁴ pertaining to the Multi-

⁴ Support to the operational budget of the Secretariat of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) for the period from January 2008 to June 2009 under the IPA-Transition Assistance and Institution Building component for 2008, C(2008)729, 27.02.2008; Obligation of the European Community to pay its contribution to the budget of the Energy Community under the IPA Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component for 2008, C(2008)800, 06.03.2008; Support to the operational budget of the Office of the High Representative (OHR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina from July 2008 to June 2009 under the IPA-Transition Assistance and Institution Building component in 2008, C(2008) 2754,

beneficiary Financing Proposal (Programme) 1 (supporting Refugee Return in the Western Balkans, Disaster Risk Reduction in South East Europe and the Regional School for Public Administration), the Energy Community, Monitoring, the Regional Cooperation Council, the Office of the High Representative (OHR) in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Civil Society Dialogue and Development have been adopted. The Commission Decisions regarding Nuclear Safety and Radiation Protection and Cooperation with International Financial Institutions should be adopted later this year.

The Multi-beneficiary Programme 2 is presented in two parts – a and b. Multi-beneficiary Programme 2a which is presented in a separate Commission Decision aims to support activities in the fields of participation in Community Agencies, social inclusion, trade, education (Erasmus Mundus), youth, quality infrastructure, statistics and the environment. The objectives of aid to be provided under this Commission Decision, Multi-beneficiary Programme 2b, is to address the following priority areas as identified in the Multi-beneficiary MIPD 2008-2010:

Priority Axe 1: *Address the Political Criteria*

- Improve and promote strategic and operational regional and international capacities within the region and between the region and the EU to prevent terrorism and fight organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking. (*Multi-beneficiary IPA MIPD 2008-2010, Police Cooperation, Integrated Border Management and Migration , Section 2.3.1.3.5 of the Multi-beneficiary MIPD 2008-2010*);
- Improve the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) Regional Centre's capacity to fight against organised crime, in line with EU *acquis* and best practices. (*Multi-beneficiary IPA MIPD 2008-2010, Police Cooperation, Integrated Border Management and Migration , Section 2.3.1.3.5 of the Multi-beneficiary MIPD 2008-2010*);

Priority Axe 2: *Address the Economic Criteria*

- Contribute to an area of cooperation in the field of higher education involving the European Union and Beneficiaries in the surrounding area. (*Multi-beneficiary IPA MIPD 2008-2010, Education (Education, Youth and Research, Section 2.3.2. of the Multi-beneficiary MIPD 2008-2010*);

Priority Axe 3: *Ability to assume the obligations of Membership and approximation to European Standards*

- Provide support to improve regional and cross-border cooperation in the Western Balkans and thereby ensure that the control and eradication of important animal diseases is harmonised and coordinated at a regional level with Commission support. (*Multi-beneficiary IPA MIPD 2008-2010, Animal Disease Eradication (Food safety, veterinary and phytosanitary policy, Section 2.3.3.3 of the Multi-beneficiary MIPD 2008-2010*).

19.06.2008; IPA monitoring programme under the IPA-Transition Assistance and Institution Building component for 2008, C(2008)3569, 16.07.2008

2. b Description of projects grouped per priority axis and (if relevant) per measure

A summary of the project purpose, results, main activities and implementation method for each of the areas to be supported is provided below.

Projects by Priority Axe	Indicative EC contribution (€m)	Project purpose, expected results, main activities and implementation summary (including type of contract/agreement and <u>indicative</u> launch date of tender procedure)
<i>Priority Axe 1: Address the Political Criteria</i>		
<p>Police Cooperation: Fight against organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking, and the prevention of terrorism</p>	<p>€2.5m</p>	<p>Project Purpose</p> <p>Improve and promote both strategic and operational regional and international cooperation capacities within the region and between the region and the EU making full use of existing instruments and frameworks, such as relevant networks, international conventions, agreements, and memoranda of understanding on and the fight against organised crime in particular illicit drug trafficking, and the prevention of terrorism.</p> <p>Expected Results</p> <p>Increased strategic and operational cooperation at regional and international level between law enforcement bodies and judicial authorities, making full use of existing instruments and frameworks on the prevention of terrorism activities in the fight against organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking;</p> <p>Increase in the exchange, dissemination and use of information and intelligence of regional and international relevance, and strengthened capacity and performance of criminal and financial investigators to fight against organised crime, in particular financial crime and illicit drug trafficking, and to counter-terrorism;</p> <p>Improved and updated techniques and instruments in use contributing to a greater trail, freezing and seizure of proceeds related to organised crime and terrorism;</p> <p>Strengthened and consolidated International Law Enforcement Coordination Units (ILECUs).</p> <p>Activities</p> <p>Develop regional law enforcement cooperation and networking among Beneficiaries, with EUMSs and relevant European and international actors, through the sharing of best practices and lessons learned in counter-terrorism and the fight against organised crime, the establishment of</p>

		<p>common law enforcement standards and procedures, and the intensification of intelligence and information exchange;</p> <p>Develop criminal investigations capacities, cross-border intelligence collection systems and support effective international intelligence exchange among intelligence agencies, including financial intelligence units;</p> <p>Further develop and explore more effective strategies and instruments for the trace, freezing and confiscation of terrorists' assets and organised crime-related proceeds;</p> <p>Further develop ILECU.s.</p> <p>Implementation</p> <p>The project will be implemented through a grant contract. The awarding procedure should be launched in Q2 2009.</p>
<p>Police Cooperation: Regional support to strengthen the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) Centre / SELEC for combating trans-border crime</p>	<p>€1.5m</p>	<p>Project Purpose</p> <p>Improve regional and international law enforcement capacities and coordination in preventing and combating organised crime in Western Balkans and Turkey, bringing existing regional mechanisms into compliance with EU <i>acquis</i>, standards and best practices.</p> <p>Expected Results</p> <p>Improved SECI Centre's / SELEC's capacities to fight trans-border crime and carry out cross-border operations and investigations;</p> <p>Strategic and operational criminal analysis activities carried out and common threat assessment on organised crime for South East European Region generated, including update of threat assessment methodology;</p> <p>Raised level of cooperation and networking between competent authorities in the Beneficiaries, EUMSs and relevant European and international law enforcement actors, in particular Europol;</p> <p>Full cooperation with and within newly established ILECU.s.</p> <p>Activities</p> <p>Assist with the continued up-grading of the SECI Centre's / SELEC's institutional and operational framework;</p> <p>Support SECI Centre / SELEC in developing strategic and operational criminal analysis,</p>

		<p>drawing up an appropriate refined methodology for the common threat assessment on organised crime for South East European Region, and in producing the common threat assessment⁵;</p> <p>Improve co-operation channels and facilitate exchange information between SECI Centre's / SELECs, EU Member States (EUMSs), and relevant EU institutions and bodies, in particular Europol;</p> <p>Ensure cooperation of SECI Centre's / SELEC's contact points with the International Law Enforcement Co-ordination Units ILECU.</p> <p>Implementation</p> <p>The project will be implemented through a grant contract. The awarding procedure should commence in Q2 2009.</p> <p>Conditionality</p> <p>The implementation of the programme is subject to endorsement by the EU Council and further adoption of a new SECI / SELEC Convention, in line with the Council Conclusions of December 2006 and June 2008 on the further development of the SECI Centre / SELEC. The new SELEC Convention should in particular foresee a special institutional and operational link between Europol and SELEC taking into account the driving role of Europol as the EU body for the fight against serious crime. Further to that, it should create a new legal framework for the SECI Centre / SELEC, introducing relevant provisions addressing the Centre's legal status, with a view to help facilitate EU institutions and SECI / SELEC Member States to cooperate more closely and directly; and lay down legal provisions enabling the Centre to set up an adequate personal data protection mechanism and a confidentiality regime compliant with the European standards.</p>
Education - Tempus	€19.7m	<p>Project Purpose</p> <p>Contribute to cooperation in the field of higher education involving the European Union and the Beneficiaries in the surrounding area. In particular, the Tempus programme will help promote voluntary convergence with EU developments in the field of higher education deriving from the Lisbon agenda and the Bologna process, create a link between the education system and the labour market and foster the</p>

⁵ The extent and applicability of this activity will depend on the decision by the Council to be adopted on the institutional and operational link between Europol and the SECI Centre / SELEC.

		<p>development of human resources.</p> <p>Expected Results</p> <p>Promotion of teaching and learning according to revised curricula and study courses in line with evolving social and economic needs in order to bring the higher education sector closer to the demands of contemporary society and an increasingly competitive global market;</p> <p>Enhancement of modern teaching and learning methodologies and materials, with a special focus on the upgrading of text books,</p> <p>Provision of modern technical equipment for teaching purposes,</p> <p>Improved academic mobility between the EU and the Beneficiaries,</p> <p>Increased cooperation between higher education institutions in the EU and the Beneficiaries;</p> <p>Development of closed cooperation and sharing of resources and experience between higher education institutions at a regional level.</p> <p>Trained teachers on modern education practices and methodologies,</p> <p>Improved university management; enhanced transparency and efficiency in decision making processes;</p> <p>Enhanced performances of universities' central services and administration;</p> <p>Activities</p> <p>Joint Projects will be based on multilateral partnerships between higher education institutions in the EU and the Beneficiaries;</p> <p>Structural Projects will seek to contribute to the development and reform of education institutions and systems in the Beneficiaries as well as to enhance their quality and increase convergence with EU developments;</p> <p>Accompanying Measures will comprise meetings of project co-ordinators and other stakeholders,, dissemination activities as well as support to the National Tempus Offices in the Beneficiaries.</p> <p>Implementation</p> <p>The programme will be implemented mainly through a call for proposals. The call for proposals should commence in Q2 2009.</p>
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		Implementation tasks are sub-delegated to the EACEA and DG EAC.
Animal Disease Eradication	€1m	<p>Project Purpose</p> <p>Provide support to improve regional and cross-border cooperation in the Western Balkans and thereby ensure that the control and eradication of important animal diseases is harmonised and coordinated at a regional level with Commission support.</p> <p>Expected Results</p> <p>Coordinated implementation of relevant National IPA programmes in the Western Balkans;</p> <p>Improved epidemiological situation as regards rabies and classical swine fever in the whole of the Western Balkans;</p> <p>Improved regional and international cooperation between veterinary services in Western Balkans in animal disease control;</p> <p>Improved performance of veterinary services as regards the implementation of animal health programmes.</p> <p>Activities</p> <p>Coordination of the exchange of information on the situation and evolution of classical swine fever and rabies programmes in the Western Balkans;</p> <p>Development of regional cooperation between Western Balkans, neighbouring Member States and international organisations;</p> <p>Support to the Western Balkans for a coordinated and efficient implementation of the classical swine fever and rabies programmes;</p> <p>Support and facilitation of coordinated implementation of relevant National IPA programmes in the Western Balkans.</p> <p>Implementation</p> <p>This project provides support to the relevant National IPA programmes and aims to ensure that the control and eradication of important animal diseases is harmonised and coordinated regionally.</p> <p>The project will be implemented through a call for tender. The tendering process should commence in Q1 2009. Implementation tasks are</p>

		sub-delegated to DG Health and Consumers.
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2. c Overview of past and on going assistance (EU / IFI / Bilateral and national assistance) including lessons learned and donor coordination

Past and ongoing assistance

From 2000 to 2007, over EUR 657 million has been provided in assistance to candidates and potential candidates through the CARDS Regional, Phare Multi-Country and IPA Multi-beneficiary programmes. In financial terms, assistance provided under these programmes has addressed, in particular, socio-economic development through extensive and close collaboration with International Financial Institutions, which have helped the development of a functioning financial sector capable of supporting the expansion of the private sector and the needs of municipalities.

Equally important is the support that has been given to the regional cooperation process in the Western Balkans and certain areas of key importance for the European integration, such as tax and customs, statistics, public administration (SIGMA) and horizontal support via TAIEX. Additional details on the assistance allocated under the CARDS, Phare and IPA programmes are provided in the table below:

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Total
CARDS	20.2	20.0	43.5	31.5	22	47.5	57.5		242.2
Phare					28.4	91.1	194.7		314.2
IPA								100.7	100.7
Overall Total	20.2	20.0	43.5	31.5	50.4	138.6	252.2	100.7	657.1

Table 1: Total European Community allocations to the CARDS Regional, Phare Multi-Country Programmes and IPA Multi-beneficiary Programme (*amounts in Euro millions*)⁶

Lessons learned

In designing the Multi-beneficiary IPA 2008 programme, particular note has been taken of the results of projects programmed in previous years. The lessons learned build upon the experience in the implementation of previous projects in the specific areas. The pertinent information at a project level is provided in the annexed project fiches.

In the management of previous and ongoing Multi-beneficiary IPA, CARDS Regional and Phare Multi-Country projects and programmes a number of applicable lessons have emerged

⁶ Note: The CARDS figures indicated include assistance from Phare and Obnova where relevant in 2000 and from CARDS 2001 and onwards. In 2005 and 2006, the amounts indicated for Phare include those allocated to multi-country programmes from the Turkey pre-accession instrument. The CARDS Regional Programmes of 2004, 2005 and 2006 include respectively €15m, €15m and €1.9m for Cross-Border Cooperation.

through the project monitoring and evaluation reports as well as the evaluation report on the implementation of CARDS assistance to the Western Balkans which are applicable to this programme. These include:

- *Programme Coordination:* Beneficiaries have emphasized the importance of regular and timely communications regarding the Financing Proposals to facilitate their involvement and ownership of the programme. Consequently, detailed programme plans, which include timelines and the process for the distribution of draft documents for comment have been drafted, discussed and communicated to the Beneficiaries Multi-beneficiary coordination meetings which take place regularly throughout the year allow for discussion on the status of programming and project implementation.
- *Donor Coordination:* In light of the number of players involved in the area donor coordination is a notable challenge which must continue to be addressed;
- *Complementarities:* EU Multi-beneficiary assistance must complement and be consistent with the National programmes;
- *Local Ownership:* Increasing local ownership is essential for the effective targeting of the support and achieving the agreed results. Significant efforts are being made to involve the Beneficiaries, the Stability Pact and the Regional Cooperation Council;
- *Absorption Capacity:* The absorption capacity and past achievement record of Beneficiary organisations is an important consideration.

Donor Coordination

Coordination and coherence of assistance and activities is particularly important, given the large number of players involved. The need for improved coordination and coherence has been highlighted to the Commission during consultations as a continuing concern by the authorities of the region.

Efforts are being made by DG Enlargement to improve coordination in this area. Regular meetings are organised throughout the year for example, with Beneficiaries, Delegations and stakeholders (including for example an International Financial Institutions (IFI) days, Donor Coordination days).

The Commission has endeavoured to establish a transparent consultation process with in particular the Beneficiaries. This process is aimed at enhancing, as far as possible, local ownership of the choices, content and design of the programmes. Consultations take place at a regular interval during the programming phase with the Beneficiaries and other stakeholders. Special importance should be given to the role of the Regional Cooperation Council as the interlocutor for the Beneficiaries in particular for the Regional Cooperation Process in the Western Balkans. Other coordination activities include:

- European Commission has played an active role in the Stability Pact for South East Europe and as mentioned above, close collaboration will be ensured with its successor organisation, the Regional Cooperation Council;
- European Commission maintains bilateral relations with governments to ensure their actions complement and build on national efforts;

- European Commission Delegations and the European Agency for Reconstruction (EAR) as appropriate organise regular meetings between Member States, Beneficiaries and other involved organisations (such as IFIs) to ensure monitoring and coordination throughout the programming cycle;
- DG Enlargement staff responsible for the implementation of the Multi-beneficiary programmes participate in regional networks and structures to facilitate coordination amongst the stakeholders and donors active in the region.

2. d Horizontal issues

Cross cutting issues, such as equal opportunities, support to minorities and vulnerable groups, environmental protection and good governance, have, as appropriate, become an integral part of each project fiche. The mainstreaming of the cross cutting issues in each project shall ensure that strategies, policies, structures and operating procedures of the Beneficiary are in conformity with the principles defined in the various project fiches.

2. e Conditions

Overall, there should be a continued clear consensus by the Beneficiaries as well as in the region to support the initiatives pertaining to this Financing Decision. Details on the conditions that need to be fulfilled by the Beneficiaries prior to the implementation of specific projects are included in the annexed project fiches.

2. f Indicative Benchmarks

	N ⁷		N+1(cumulative)	
	EU	NF*	EU	NF*
Number of calls for proposals			3	
Police Cooperation: (i) Fight against organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking, and the prevention of terrorism (1) and (ii) Regional support to strengthen the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) / SELEC (1)				
Education: Tempus (1)				
Number of service tenders launched			1	
Animal Disease Eradication (1)				
Contracting Rate (%)			100	

* In case of parallel national co-financing

⁷ Year N is the year in which the Financing Agreement is concluded.

3. BUDGET (AMOUNTS IN EUR)

3.1 Indicative budget table

Centralised management	Institution Building (IB)					Investment (INV)					Total (IB + INV)	Total IPA Community contribution	
	Total expenditure	IPA Community contribution		National contribution*		Total expenditure	IPA Community contribution		National contribution*				
	EUR (a)=(b)+(c)	EUR (b)	% ⁽¹⁾	EUR (c)	% ⁽¹⁾	EUR (d)=(e)+(f)	EUR (e)	% ⁽¹⁾	EUR (f)	% ⁽¹⁾	EUR (g)=(a)+(d)	EUR (h)=(b)+(e)	% ⁽²⁾
Priority Axe 1: Address the Political Criteria	4 000 000	4 000 000	100								4 000 000	4 000 000	16
Police Cooperation - Fight against organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking, and the prevention of terrorism	2 500 000	2 500 000	100								2 500 000	2 500 000	
Police Cooperation - Regional	1 500 000	1 500 000	100								1500 000	1 500 000	

support to strengthen the Southeast European Cooperative Initiative (SECI) Centre / SELEC														
Priority Axe 2: Address the Economic Criteria	20 685 000	19 700 000	95.24	985 000	4.8							20 685 000	19 700 000	80
Education - Tempus	20 685 000	19 700 000	95.2	985 000	4.8							20 685 000	19 700 000	
Priority Axe 3: Ability to assume the obligations of Membership and approximation to European Standards	1 000 000	1 000 000	100									1 000 000	1 000 000	4
Animal Disease Eradication	1 000 000	1 000 000	100									1 000 000	1 000 000	-
TOTAL	25 685 000	24 700 000	96		4							25 685 000	24 700 000	100

* public and private national and/or international contributions

(1) Expressed in % of the Total expenditure IB or INV (column (a) or (d)).

(2) Priority axis rows only. Expressed in % of the grand total of column (h). It indicates the relative weight of the priority with reference to the total IPA Community contribution of the entire FP.

3.2 Principle of Co-Financing applying to the projects funded under the programme

The Community contribution which represents up to 96% of the total budget allocated to this programme has been calculated in relation to the eligible expenditure which in the case of centralised management is based on total expenditure. Parallel co-financing will be used.

Due to its regional character it is not possible to require national co-financing for the projects in this Programme.

The total EC contribution to the implementation of the 2008 Tempus Programme in the Western Balkans will amount to EUR 19,700,000.00. The funded consortia will need to make available a co-funding of up to 5%.

In the case of grants, final grant beneficiaries should contribute with a minimum of 10 % of the eligible expenditure of the project.

4. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

4.1 Method of implementation

The programme will be implemented on a centralised basis by the European Commission in accordance with Article 53a of the Financial Regulation⁸ and the corresponding provisions of the Implementing Rules⁹. Exceptions to this method of implementation are identified below:

(1) Education – Tempus

The **Tempus** programme will be implemented on an indirect centralised basis by the European Commission following Article 53a of the Financial Regulation and corresponding provisions of the Implementing Rules. Implementation tasks are delegated under Article 54.2 (a) of the Financial Regulation to the Executive Agency for Education, Audiovisual and Culture, which was created by Commission Decision 2005/56/EC of 14 January 2005. According to Article 12 (3) of the Council Regulation No (EC) 58/2003 of 19 December 2002 laying down the statute for executive agencies to be entrusted with certain tasks in the management of Community programmes, any programme delegated to an executive agency has to contribute to the financing of the administrative budget of the agency.

Due to the nature of implementation, the administrative expenditure associated with operational appropriations in any given year is incurred in the following year. Hence the provision of management costs has been envisaged in 2008 to cover the administrative expenditure for the programmes planned under the 2007 budget (not included in the present Financing Proposal).

(2) Animal Disease Eradication

The **animal disease eradication** project will be implemented by the European Commission with sub-delegation to DG Health and Consumers.

⁸ OJ L 248, 16.9.2002, p.1.

⁹ OJ L 357, 31.12.2002, p. 1

4.2 General rules for procurement and grant award procedures

Procurement shall follow the provisions of Part Two, Title IV of the Financial Regulation and Part Two, Title III, Chapter 3 of its Implementing Rules as well as the rules and procedures for service, supply and works contracts financed from the general budget of the European Communities for the purposes of cooperation with third countries adopted by the Commission on 24 May 2007 (C(2007)2034).

Grant award procedures shall follow the provisions of Part One, Title VI of the Financial Regulation and Part One, Title VI of its Implementing Rules.

The Commission shall also use the procedural guidelines and standard templates and models facilitating the application of the above rules provided for in the "Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions" ("Practical Guide") as published on the EuropeAid website¹⁰ at the date of initiation of the procurement or grant award procedure.

5. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

5.1 Monitoring

The Commission may undertake any actions it deems necessary to monitor the programmes concerned.

5.2 Evaluation

Programmes shall be subject to ex ante evaluations, as well as interim and, where relevant, ex post evaluations in accordance with Articles 57 and 82 of IPA Implementing Regulation, with the aim of improving the quality, effectiveness and consistency of the assistance from Community funds and the strategy and implementation of the programmes.

The results of ex ante and interim evaluation shall be taken into account in the programming and implementation cycle.

The Commission may also carry out strategic evaluations.

6. AUDIT, FINANCIAL CONTROL AND ANTI-FRAUD MEASURES

The accounts and operations of all parties involved in the implementation of this programme, as well as all contracts and agreements implementing this programme, are subject to, on the one hand, the supervision and financial control by the Commission (including the European Anti-Fraud Office), which may carry out checks at its discretion, either by itself or through an outside auditor and, on the other hand, audits by the European Court of Auditors. This includes measures such as ex-ante verification of tendering and contracting carried out by the Delegation in the Beneficiaries.

In order to ensure the efficient protection of the financial interests of the Community, the Commission (including the European Anti-Fraud Office) may conduct on-the-spot checks and

¹⁰ http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/work/procedures/implementation/practical_guide/index_en.htm

inspections in accordance with the procedures foreseen in Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) 2185/96¹¹.

The controls and audits described above are applicable to all contractors, subcontractors and grant beneficiaries who have received Community funds.

7. LIMITED CHANGES

Limited changes in the implementation of this programme affecting essential elements listed under Article 90 of the Implementing Rules to the Financial Regulation, which are of an indicative nature¹², may be undertaken by the authorising officer by delegation (AOD), or by the authorising officer by sub-delegation (AOSD), in line with the delegation of powers conferred upon him by the AOD, in accordance with the principles of sound financial management without an amending financing decision being necessary.

¹¹ OJ L 292; 15.11.1996; p. 2

¹² These essential elements of an indicative nature are, for grants, the indicative amount of the call for proposals and, for procurement, the indicative number and type of contracts envisaged and the indicative time frame for launching the procurement procedures.