

Project Fiche Nr 3

IPA 2011 Multi-beneficiary Statistical Cooperation Programme

1. Basic information

- 1.1 CRIS Number:** 2011/023-176
- 1.2 Title:** IPA 2011 Multi-beneficiary Statistical Cooperation Programme
- 1.3 ELARG Statistical code:** 03.18 - Statistics
- 1.4 Location:** Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia as well as Kosovo¹
- Turkey
- Iceland

Implementing arrangements:

- 1.5 Contracting Authority (EU):** The European Union represented by the European Commission on behalf of the Beneficiaries- project manager DG ESTAT unit D1 (in sub-delegation)
- 1.6 Implementing Agency:** Not applicable
- 1.7 Beneficiary:** National statistical institutes and partners in the national statistical systems.

Financing

- 1.8 Overall cost (VAT excluded)²:** EUR 8 755 556
- 1.9 EU contribution:** EUR 8 200 000
- 1.10 Final date for contracting:** 31 December 2012
- 1.11 Final date for implementation:** 30 November 2014
- 1.12 Final date for disbursements:** 30 November 2015

¹ under UNSCR 1244/99

² The total cost of the project should be net of VAT and/or other taxes. Should this not be the case, the amount of VAT and the reasons why it should be considered eligible should be clearly indicated.

2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose

2.1 Overall Objective

To prepare the statistical authorities in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia as well as Kosovo and Turkey (IPA beneficiaries) for future EU membership by aligning their present methodologies and practices with the statistical *acquis* and integrating them into the European Statistical System.

2.2 Project purpose

To continue upgrading and strengthening the beneficiaries' statistical systems, thereby improving the availability, quality, comparability and timeliness of statistical data.

2.3 Link with AP/NPAA / EP/ SAA³

The Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) has been set up to help the Beneficiaries face the challenges of European integration, implement reforms to satisfy EU requirements in the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP) and lay the foundations for fulfilling the Copenhagen criteria for EU membership. The principal policy documents spelling out the priorities for programming of assistance under the IPA are the Accession and European Partnership instruments, which present the European Commission's overall enlargement policy for the candidate countries and potential candidates, as well as the annual Progress Reports.

The European and Accession Partnership documents, the NPAA's where they exist as well as the SAAs underline the need to further develop the statistical systems in the beneficiaries.

2.4 Link with MIPD

The IPA Multi-beneficiary Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document (MIPD) 2011-2013 foresees support for statistics as an aspect of public administration reform/governance, being a tool for national and international policy makers, businesses and the society at large when making decisions and measuring their effects and is consequently an essential basis for the development of democratic and market-oriented societies, under the heading "Public Administration" (chapter 3.2.).

3. Description of project

3.1 Background and justification

Reliable statistics are essential for assessing the situation of the beneficiaries and their performance, both for domestic policy-making purposes and for the accession process. The

³ AP = Accession Partnership; NPAA = National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis (for Candidates), National Action Plan (for Potential Candidates); EP= European Partnership; SAA = Stabilisation and Association Agreement

methodologies and practices applied for compiling the statistics must be harmonised with EU practices, i.e. with the *acquis*, in order to achieve full comparability of key data.

The integration of the beneficiaries into the European Statistical System was started under the Phare, CARDS and USST (Upgrading the Statistical System of Turkey) programmes, and continues under the IPA Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programmes.

The Multi-beneficiary approach which proved to be cost-efficient under Phare and CARDS and was also adopted for the previous IPA Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programmes should be maintained to reinforce regional integration and cooperation so as to develop the statistical systems of the beneficiaries. At the same time, this approach has to reflect the different stages of development and differing priorities of the beneficiaries. This is best achieved by a sufficient level of flexibility in the implementation of this programme which will take account of groups of beneficiaries with different needs and levels of attainment.

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo were beneficiaries of a CARDS 2003 regional programme on statistics that ended in March 2008. The Phare-funded Multi-Beneficiary Programmes 2005 and 2006 covered Croatia and Turkey only. These two countries have now been integrated into the IPA programmes.

The first IPA Multi-beneficiary programme (IPA 2007) has been successfully completed. An IPA 2008 Multi-beneficiary programme on statistics is currently being implemented. It covers components in several statistical fields such as price statistics, external trade, population census, and transmission of statistical data.

A successor programme under the IPA 2009 Multi-beneficiary programme has been programmed and was contracted during 2010. It contains a number of statistical components, mainly as a continuation of those under the IPA 2008 Multi-beneficiary programme but in more depth. IPA 2011 will start earlier in the year than previous IPA programmes and thus it is possible to have an overlap with IPA 2009. Overlaps in time are necessary in order to minimise the risk of gaps in the support and also as each programme has an inception phase and a concluding phase.

3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact

The beneficiaries have all made progress in aligning their statistical legislation and practice with the *acquis* and international requirements and there is evidence that past assistance has made a contribution to this. However, recent European Commission Progress Reports still indicate significant weaknesses in terms of administrative capacity and coordination. Full alignment will require further support as well as additional human and operational resources for statistical offices and their partners.

The programme is expected to contribute to increased data quality in key areas through harmonised legislation, knowledge transfer and the regional exchange of experience. Traineeships and study visits to other countries are therefore vital.

The programme will lead to improvements not only in the statistical offices but also in main partners involved in producing official statistics (e.g. ministries of finance and agriculture, customs authorities, central banks) and will promote cooperation between them.

The programme will result in strengthened capacity in statistical production, ensuring the availability of timely and good quality statistics that are comparable with the statistics of EU Member States. The increased capacity and coordinating function of the national statistical offices is the best guarantee for the sustainability of the project. However, institutions in the region are still fragile and exposed to high staff turnover, a lack of certain skills and a lack of financial and IT resources.

3.3 Results and measurable indicators:

The expected results are

- a) Improved harmonisation of statistical legislation;
- b) Improved administrative capacity of official statistics providers, including for the coordination of the national statistical systems;
- c) Improved functioning of the national statistical systems;
- d) Improved availability, quality and comparability of statistical data in priority areas.

Indicators to measure the results are (the letters correspond to the letters for the four results above):

- a) Increased level of alignment with the *acquis*;
- b) Number of statisticians trained;
- c) Number of Eurostat meetings attended;
- d1) Number of new variables covered;
- d2) Volume of data transmitted to Eurostat;

The increased level of alignment with the *acquis* and the number of new statistical variables covered can be verified precisely. Also both the establishment of new technologies for the transmission of statistical data to Eurostat and the volume of data transferred are able to be measured.

3.4 Activities:

Technical assistance:

- Expert missions to the beneficiaries to assess the domains where improvements are most urgently required;
- Expert missions to the beneficiaries to give on-the-spot guidance for improvements of identified weaknesses;

- Organisation of workshops and seminars for the beneficiaries to disseminate best practices and exchange views among the beneficiary experts;
- Help desk function to give continuous assistance (e.g. on the use of classifications and statistical methods);
- Data collection surveys such as the price collections needed for compiling the Purchasing Power Parities.

General statistical assistance will facilitate:

- Experts from the beneficiaries to participate in technical meetings including working group meetings, task force meetings, seminars and workshops organised by Eurostat and other European Commission services as well as by international organisations;
- Study visits to statistical offices and other official statistics providers in the countries of the European Statistical System (ESS) as well as beneficiaries;
- the organisation of training activities both locally and in the EU;
- the organisation of consultation visits to the beneficiaries on demand;
- the translation and dissemination of relevant documentation;
- the development of web sites in the English language;
- traineeships of experts from the beneficiary NSIs at Eurostat and at the NSIs of the European Statistical System.

These activities will help to integrate staff of statistical offices into the international statistical network and thus to contribute to the motivation of the staff. In this way a major risk to the sustainability of the project (high staff turnover) is alleviated.

These activities will be implemented in the following areas:

Macro-economic statistics

Annual and quarterly national accounts, balance of payments statistics, and government finance statistics are the most significant elements of macro-economic statistics. Regional accounts are necessary input for the determination of eligibility to EU structural funds in future.

Price statistics

Reliable statistics on price developments are necessary for assessing the inflation in the countries but also for deflating the economic accounts expressed in current prices to get for example the real economic growth figures. Compilation of Purchasing Power Parities is required for international comparisons of GDP and other economic indicators originally expressed in national currencies. The work carried out under the previous IPA Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programmes should be continued and expanded.

External trade statistics

External trade statistics compilation methods need to be harmonised with the EU requirements and the quality and coverage must be further improved. Reliable external trade statistics are a key input for trade agreements and the discussion of other economic issues. The work carried out under the previous IPA Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programmes should be continued in order to achieve a sufficient quality of external trade statistics.

Demographic statistics

Reliable demographic statistics are necessary for guiding the policy making. Population estimates based on vital statistics and on statistics on migration have to be improved.

Labour market statistics

Indicators and analysis based on reliable labour market statistics are of vital importance for the employment strategy. The indicators are derived from the Labour Force Survey, Structural Earnings Survey, Labour Cost Survey and other surveys.

Other social statistics

Surveys on income and living conditions (SILC) and household budget surveys (HBS) will help identify the levels of poverty. Statistics on education needs to be improved and the classifications harmonised. Depending on the beneficiary, a light or a full SILC may be carried out. Some countries will develop health statistics, including a system of health accounts and causes of death. Social protection and food safety statistics are also covered under this heading.

Agricultural statistics

Agricultural statistics are of particular importance since agriculture is a major economic activity in the region. Agricultural statistics also provide a major input for national accounts. Development of agricultural economic accounts is important alongside statistics on agricultural production, livestock, crops, forestry, fishery as well as prices of agricultural and forest products.

Business statistics

Changing economic structures and the emerging sector of small and medium sized enterprises underline the importance of business statistics based on reliable statistical business registers. In particular good structural and short term statistics are needed for guiding the economic policy making.

Statistics on science and technology

Research and development are key factors for sustaining economic development. STI statistics include innovation statistics and patent statistics in addition to research and development statistics.

Information society statistics

Statistics on the information society are an essential basis for European policy makers in order to follow the structural changes of the economy. The diffusion of new information and communication technologies in the population has proved vital for maintaining competitive advantages.

Energy and transport statistics

The energy policy of EU is gaining in importance and it is vital to build up a harmonised energy statistical system. Information about transport of goods and persons in various transport modes are necessary for the transport policy of EU.

Environment statistics

Statistics on environment have to be developed due to the growing need for such data for the EU policy. Statistical support for sustainable development should also be developed by some beneficiaries.

Tourism statistics

Statistics on tourism covers an important part of the economic system. It is more important for some beneficiaries than in others.

Dissemination of statistics

Each national statistical office has a role to disseminate EU statistics within its country. Basic statistical data should be provided free of charge in the language(s) of the beneficiary, both on Internet and as promotional material. Users at both the national and international level have the right to demand support from the NSI to explain statistical concepts and methods.

In addition, horizontal issues such as human resource management, quality management in statistics and specific statistical topics will be covered.

3.5 Conditionality and sequencing:

- Good cooperation between the NSIs and their partners in the national statistical systems in the implementation of the project is essential. The different providers of official statistics must be willing to cooperate with the NSIs in implementing the activities;
- The coordinating role of NSIs in compiling and disseminating official statistics must be strongly established and recognised.
- The NSIs must have sufficient resources to be able to effectively cooperate in and give necessary information for the different activities.

The specific statistical activities foreseen under the IPA 2011 national programme are essential for the correct development of the national statistical systems and must be implemented in parallel with this Multi-beneficiary programme.

An effective and focused statistical cooperation over a number of years is a prerequisite for alignment with the *acquis* and deeper integration into the European Statistical System. Therefore it is important that both national and Multi-beneficiary programmes continue in future years to ensure the sustainable development of statistical systems.

The sequencing logic in the development of the statistical system requires that basic infrastructure, classifications and registers are in place before more specific statistical domains are in place. A business register is a prerequisite for structural business statistics, which in turn is an important input to national accounts. In the agriculture statistics, a farm register and an agricultural census are basic starting points, necessary for the development of a full system of agricultural statistics. There are also cross-sequencing between broad statistical fields, e.g. the household budget survey with its data on consumption, as well as the agricultural economic accounts are necessary inputs for national accounts.

3.6 Linked activities

Several beneficiaries either have received assistance or plan to receive assistance under the national programmes. Also other donors (mainly international organisations and some EU Member States) support the development of some components of the statistical systems of

individual countries in the region. As examples can be mentioned the projects by Swedish Sida to support statistical offices in several of the IPA beneficiaries. Sida also has a regional project covering most of the Western Balkans.

Particular care should therefore be taken to coordinate the activities under the Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programme with the activities under the national IPA programmes to avoid any possible duplication of actions and to maximise complementarity and synergies among all programmes. This will be ensured through regular contacts and statistical cooperation meetings with the beneficiaries during the implementation of the programme.

Support from national IPA programmes is essential for the successful upgrading of the statistical systems. The Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programme ensures coordination among countries and is the instrument for ensuring the transfer of knowledge, the respect of common standards and the production of comparable statistics. In parallel, the national IPA programmes cover beneficiary-specific actions and the implementation of major statistics at national level.

Overview of statistical projects in the national IPA programmes

BENEFICIARY	Amount EUR	Start YYYYMM	Length months	Programme
ALBANIA				
	600,000	200908	12	CARDS 2006
	2,850,000	201003	21	IPA 2007
	8,000,000	201012	24	IPA 2009
CROATIA				
	1,887,960	200901	12	PHARE 2006
	1,082,000	201002	17	IPA 2008
	889,000	201010	20	IPA 2009
	787,239	201110	20	IPA 2010
KOSOVO				
	1,200,000	201004	18	IPA 2008
	2,500,000	201011	18	IPA 2010
MONTENEGRO				
	800,000	200908	24	IPA 2007
	1,300,000	201107	24	IPA 2010
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA				
	2,070,000	201003	24	IPA 2007
	1,600,000	201111	24	IPA 2009
TURKEY				
	5,350,000	200701	35	USST II (2005 Programming)
	3,440,000	201012	24	IPA 2007 to 3 Ministries
	1,627,000	201103	24	IPA 2009
	1,389,410	201103	24	IPA 2009
	6,235,000	201210		IPA 2011

- * IPA 2009 Programming USST Phase III “Service”
 EU contribution: 1,464,300
 Total Budget: 1,627,000
- ** IPA 2009 Programming USST Phase III “Direct Grant”
 EU contribution: 1,250,469
 Total Budget: 1,389,410
- *** IPA 2011 Total Budget: 6,235,000

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

500,000	200912	12	IPA 2007
4,375,000	2011 ?	24	IPA 2008
250,000	200911	6	Twinning light
2,000,000	2011 ??	12	IPA 2009

SERBIA

1,811,000	200902	30	IPA 2007
830,000	2011		IPA 2008
19,500,000	2011		IPA 2011

ICELAND

963,000	201102	36	IPA 201x
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In addition to these projects, components to develop statistics appear in other national IPA projects, for instance projects labelled Agriculture or Central Bank.

Eurostat undertakes regular donor coordination surveys on statistical support to ensure coordination with other donors. The latest survey completed in April 2010 shows that several countries and international organisations remain active in the region. This includes Sweden, Switzerland, Italy, the United Kingdom, Norway, France and the USA as well as EFTA, the Council of Europe, the IMF, OECD, the World Bank, UNDP and other UN organisations. The European Commission is the largest donor in the region, providing significantly more support than all other donors taken together.

3.7 Lessons learned

Multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programmes have proven to be a particularly useful tool in:

- Harmonising the methodologies and practices used with the EU requirements;
- Sharing best practices;
- Changing the working culture towards a more open adaptation of EU standards;
- Integrating the beneficiaries into the European Statistical System.

Past experience suggests that major risks to the sustainability of the results include high staff turnover in the statistical services of the region. If there are gaps between periods of support, the result of the assistance is not sustainable. For that reason, projects should be planned so that they slightly overlap each other over time. Moreover, donor coordination is essential for improving results and avoiding overlapping. It should also be mentioned that gaps between successive EU projects are very detrimental to the sustainability of the development of the

statistical systems, even though other donors normally are able to step in and bridge the gap, thanks to the good cooperation between the European Commission and other donors.

Upgrading statistical systems is a long-term task. Support should be provided over several years in a stable manner taking careful account of the absorption capacity of the beneficiaries. The absorption capacity is particularly crucial because some beneficiaries have small statistical agencies with only limited experience.

4. Indicative Budget (amounts in EUR)

			SOURCES OF FUNDING									
			TOTAL EXP.RE	IPA EU 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			8 755 556	8 200 000	93.65	555 556	6.35	555 556				
Grants to the NSIs of the IPA beneficiaries ⁴	X	–	5 555 556	5 000 000	90	555 556	10	555 556				–
Service contract	X	–	3 200 000	3 200 000	100							–
.....												
TOTAL IB			8 755 556									
TOTAL INV												
TOTAL PROJECT			8 755 556	8 200 000	93.65	555 556	6.35	555 556				

Amounts net of VAT

(1) In the Activity row use "X" to identify whether IB or INV

(2) Expressed in % of the **Total** Expenditure (column (a))

⁴ The beneficiaries concerned by grants for this amount are Croatia, Iceland, Turkey, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. However the distribution of the amounts of the grants to the NSIs might be modified if further NSIs will be considered eligible for such grants.

5. Indicative Implementation Schedule (periods broken down per quarter)

Contracts	Start of Tendering	Signature of contract	Project Completion
Contract 1	2011 Q3	2012 Q1	2014 Q4
Direct grant to the NSIs of the beneficiaries	NA	2012 Q1	2014 Q4

6. Cross cutting issues

6.1 Equal Opportunity

The principles and practice of equal opportunity will be guaranteed so as to ensure equitable gender participation in the project.

6.2 Environment

The project will contribute to decision making process in the field of environment protection, since the Agricultural Census data are the basis for the environmental database development, and particularly for “agri-environment” indicators development. Agri-environment statistics are the integral part of AC, and they include data on:

- Water statistics -Water use for irrigation, water sources, irrigated methods, irrigable and irrigated area, land erosion, drainage, water use for livestock, nutrients in the water: Pesticides (insecticides, fungicides and herbicides), Fertilisers (Mineral and organic fertilisers),
- Waste statistics – (included agricultural waste) according to national and international requests,
- Agricultural waste - biomass from agriculture, fisheries, forestry, wooded biomass,
- Biodiversity and land use -arable land, gardens, pastures, species planted culture, an area covered by forests and ponds,
- Air pollutions
- Livestock - Number and type of livestock, organic fertiliser, manures
- Energy use - agriculture vehicles, equipment for renewable energy production (by the source of energy, etc..)
- Toxic chemicals - use and consumption (pesticides, fertilisers..)

6.3 Minorities

Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the project will be guaranteed on the basis of equal

access regardless of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

ANNEXES

- I- Logical framework matrix in standard format
- II- Amounts (in EUR) contracted and disbursed per quarter over the full duration of project
- III- Description of Institutional Framework
- IV - Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents:
- V- Details per EU funded contract (where applicable)

ANNEX 1: Logical framework matrix in standard format

LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche		Programme name and number IPA MBP statistics 2011/xxx-xxx	CRIS No.: 022-964
		Contracting period expires: 31 December 2012	Disbursement period expires: 30 November 2015
		Total budget : EUR 8 755 556	IPA budget: EUR 8 200 000
Overall objective	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	
To prepare the statistical authorities in the beneficiaries for future EU membership by aligning their present methodologies and practices with the statistical <i>acquis</i> and integrating them into the European Statistical System.	SAA process requirements, issues raised in Progress Reports, progress with accession negotiations for the Statistics chapter	Monitoring reports from the Regional Cooperation Council, European Commission Progress Reports, European Commission and Council documents related to accession negotiations	
Project purpose	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
To continue upgrading and strengthening the beneficiaries' statistical systems, thereby improving the availability, quality, comparability and timeliness of statistical data..	Statistical variables provided by beneficiaries, Degree of completeness of the Statistical Annexes to the Commission Progress Reports	Commission monitoring and evaluation tools Commission documents Government documents Statistical Publications Eurostat public database Contractor's reports Grant beneficiaries' reports	Commitment of national authorities to the process

Results	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
<p>Improved harmonisation of statistical legislation.</p> <p>Improved administrative capacity of official statistics providers, including for the coordination of the national statistical systems.</p> <p>Improved functioning of the national statistical systems.</p> <p>Improved availability, quality and comparability of statistical data in priority areas.</p>	<p>Increased level of alignment with the <i>acquis</i>.</p> <p>Number of new variables covered.</p> <p>Volume of data transmitted to Eurostat.</p> <p>Number of statisticians trained.</p> <p>Number of Eurostat meetings attended.</p>	<p>Experts' and Commission staff mission reports</p> <p>Contractor's and grant Beneficiaries' reports</p> <p>Project monitoring reports</p> <p>Eurostat public database</p>	<p>Cooperation of official statistics providers in the beneficiaries.</p> <p>Parallel implementation of necessary national IPA programmes on statistics.</p>
Activities	Means	Costs	Assumptions
<p>Technical assistance: expert assessment missions, workshops, meetings participation, training, specific data collection support, data transmission software, on-demand consultations, study visits, traineeships, translation of key documents.</p>	<p>Service contracts</p> <p>Grants</p> <p>Reports related to the execution of the contracts</p> <p>Contractor's staff</p> <p>Commission staff</p> <p>Experts</p>	<p>Technical Assistance and Grants: EUR 8 200 000</p>	<p>Availability of experts and good cooperation between all stakeholders.</p> <p>The necessary human resources are provided by the national authorities.</p>

ANNEX II: Amounts (in EUR) contracted and disbursed per quarter over the full duration of project

Contracted	Q1 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Q3 2013	Q4 2013	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014
Service Contract	3 200 000											
Direct grants to NSIs of the beneficiaries	5 000 000											
Cumulative	8 200 000											8 200 000
Disbursed	Q2 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Q3 2013	Q4 2013	Q1 2014	Q2 2014	Q3 2014	Q4 2014
Service Contract	320 000			640 000		640 000		640 000		640 000		320 000
Direct grants to NSIs of the beneficiaries	2 250 000				2 250 000				500 000			
Cumulative	2 570 000	2 570 000	2 570 000	3 210 000	5 460 000	6 100 000	6 100 000	6 740 000	7 240 000	7 880 000	7 880 000	8 200 000

ANNEX III: Description of Institutional Framework

All beneficiaries have similar national statistical systems. The lead institution is the national statistical office. Partners in the production of official statistics are ministries and other official bodies, for example ministries of finance and agriculture, customs authorities and the central banks.

The production of official statistics is regulated by national laws on statistics.

ANNEX IV: Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents

Reference list of relevant laws and regulations

The statistical *acquis* consists of more than 60 basic legal acts most of which are Council and Parliament Regulations. There is a much larger number of implementing acts, most of which are Commission Regulations. Key legal acts include:

- Regulation (EC) 223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on European statistics ("Statistical Law").
- Commission Decision 97/281/EC on the Role of Eurostat
- Decision No 1578/2007/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2007 on the Community Statistical Programme 2008 to 2012.
- Commission Regulation 831/2002 on access to confidential data for scientific purposes.

Reference to AP /NPAA / EP / SAA

AP = Accession Partnership

Accession Partnership with Croatia

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:042:0051:01:EN:HTML>

Accession Partnership with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:080:0032:01:EN:HTML>

Accession Partnership with Turkey

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:051:0004:01:EN:HTML>

NPAA = National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis (for Candidates), National Action Plan (for Potential Candidates)

National Strategy for European Integration of the Republic of Macedonia:

http://www.cc.cec/home/dgserve/larg/docs/FYR_Macedonia/Annexes/3-21/21_Annex_01.pdf

National Programme of Turkey for the Adoption of the EU Acquis. December 2008:

<http://www.abgs.gov.tr/index.php?p=42260&l=2>

National Programme of Croatia for the Adoption of the EU Acquis:

Available on CD-ROM on an annual basis (2008 is the latest)

EP= European Partnership

Albania: Council Decision of 18 February 2008

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:080:0001:01:EN:HTML>

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Council Decision of 18 February 2008

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:080:0018:01:EN:HTML>

Montenegro: Council Decision of 22 January 2007

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2007:020:0016:01:EN:HTML>

Serbia: Council Decision of 18 February 2008

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:080:0046:01:EN:HTML>

Kosovo: Council Decision of 18 February 2008

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2008:080:0046:01:EN:HTML>

SAA = Stabilisation and Association Agreement

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) – 26 March 2001

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/the_former_yugoslav_republic_of_macedonia/saa03_01_en.pdf

Albania: Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) – 22 May 2006

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/albania/st08164.06_en.pdf

Serbia: Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA) - 7 November 2007

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/serbia/key_document/saa_en.pdf

Commission Opinion on Iceland's application for membership in the European Union

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2010/is_opinion_en.pdf

Reference to MIPD

Multi-beneficiary Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2009-2011, chapter 2.3.3.7 Statistics⁵.

Other references

Eurostat, in cooperation with the statistical offices of the beneficiaries, has developed the "*Strategy for Statistical Cooperation with candidate and potential candidate countries 2010 - 2013*". The strategy was approved by the Policy Group on Statistical Cooperation (PGSC) in October 2009.

⁵ C(2009)4518 of 16.06.2009.

ANNEX V: Details per EU funded contract

The project will be implemented through:

1) Direct Grant:

Grants will be provided to the National Statistical Institutes (NSIs) of Croatia, Turkey, Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia. It is possible that by the time of launching the invitations to apply for the grants, NSIs of other beneficiaries could also be considered eligible if deemed to have the necessary capacity to manage a grant. Through these grants the beneficiary NSIs shall be directly responsible for the implementation of the activities foreseen in this project fiche. The criterion for offering a grant to a beneficiary is the assessment that the beneficiary NSI has the necessary capacity to manage a grant.

The grants are awarded to the NSIs on the basis of a *de-jure* and *de-facto* monopoly to carry out the statistical activities included in this project fiche in line with Article 168 (c) of the Implementing Rules⁶ as the NSIs are the institution inside the public administration of the beneficiaries responsible for collecting, producing and disseminating official statistics. The NSIs might be supported in this undertaking by other services of the public administration but the final responsibility for the official statistical information lies with the NSIs.

The grant beneficiaries will contribute 10% co-financing to the eligible expenditure.

The indicative EU contribution will be granted to each beneficiary in accordance with their individual needs is provided below:

IPA beneficiary	Indicative distribution of the grants (EUR)
Croatia	1 000 000
Turkey	1 000 000
Iceland	1 000 000
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	1 000 000
Serbia	1 000 000
Total (maximum amount of EU contribution)	5 000 000

The grants will cover technical assistance, data collection projects, and provision of tailor-made expertise. The amounts of the individual grants are indicative. The final amounts will depend on the costs to implement the actions foreseen under the grants. These costs depend on the specific circumstances in the beneficiaries, in particular as regards the costs and work load of conducting the data collection projects.

⁶ Commission Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 2342/2002 of 23 December 2002, OJ L 210, 31.7.2006, p. 82

2) Service Contract

Following a restricted tender a service contract will be offered to provide technical assistance to those beneficiaries, in particular, who do not receive a grant under this Programme.

This service contract will in addition provide mainly external technical expertise in selected areas and the organisation of workshops involving grant beneficiaries. As in the past⁷, this external technical support is organised via a service contract rather than being included in each individual grant. This ensures an efficient and harmonised approach and facilitates monitoring and evaluation.

⁷ E.g. Commission Decision C(2006)6973 establishing a multi-beneficiary statistical cooperation programme for Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and Turkey.