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COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 10.12.2014

adopting a Multi-country Action Programme for the year 2014

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) No 236/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 laying down common rules and procedures for the implementation of the Union's instruments for financing external action¹ and in particular Article 2(1) thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union and repealing Council Regulation (EC, Euratom) No 1605/2002² and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 establishing an Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance³ lays down the objectives and main principles for pre-accession assistance to beneficiaries listed in Annex I of that Regulation.
- (2) In accordance with Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 the assistance should be implemented through annual or multi-annual, country-specific or multi-country programmes. These programmes should be drawn up in accordance with the framework for assistance referred to in Article 4 of the Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 and the relevant country or multi-country indicative strategy papers referred to in Article 6 of that Regulation.
- (3) The Council established an Accession Partnership or a European Partnership for all beneficiaries listed in Annex I of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014. The Commission adopted a multi-country indicative strategy paper for the period 2014-2020 on 30 June 2014 which provides indicative allocations for the priorities for multi-country pre-accession assistance⁴.
- (4) Considering the proposals for action submitted by the beneficiaries concerned, the multi-country action programme for 2014 aims at providing assistance in the regional and territorial cooperation sector for actions in the following priorities:
 - i. Horizontal support to sector policies and reforms;
 - ii. Regional structures and networks;
 - iii. Regional investment support;
 - iv. Territorial cooperation.

¹ OJ L 77, 15.3.2014, p. 95

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p.1

³ OJ L 77, 15.03.2014, p. 11

⁴ C(2014) 4293, 30.6.2014

- (5) It is necessary to adopt a financing decision, the detailed rules of which are set out in Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012⁵.
- (6) The Commission should be able to entrust budget-implementation tasks under indirect management to the entities specified in this Decision, subject to the conclusion of a delegation agreement. In accordance with Article 60(1) and (2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012, the authorising officer responsible needs to ensure that these entities guarantee a level of protection of the financial interests of the Union equivalent to that required when the Commission manages Union funds. The European Investment Fund (EIF) complies with the conditions of points (a) to (d) of the first sub-paragraph of Article 60(2) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and the supervisory and support measures are in place as necessary. The European Bank for Reconstruction (EBRD), and the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) are currently undergoing the assessment under Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012. In anticipation of the results of this review, the authorising officer responsible deems that, based on the EBRD's and the CEB's positive assessment under Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1605/2002 and on the long-standing and problem-free cooperation with them, budget-implementation tasks can be entrusted to these entities.
- (7) It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the Annex and for the reasons provided therein.
- (8) The maximum contribution of the European Union set by this Decision should cover any possible claims for interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012.
- (9) Pursuant to Article 94(4) of the Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012, the Commission should define changes to this Decision which are not substantial in order to ensure that any such changes can be adopted by the authorising officer responsible.
- (10) The action programme or measures provided for by this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the IPA Committee set up by Article 13 of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014⁶,

⁵ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union (OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1)

⁶ The Member States have declared, recalling the Council Conclusions of 18 February 2008, that the adoption of this programme does not prejudice the position of each individual Member State on the status of Kosovo, which will be decided in accordance with their national practice and international law.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1

Adoption of the programme

The Multi-country Action Programme 2014 under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA II) as set out in the Annex, is hereby approved.

Article 2

Financial contribution

The maximum amount of the European Union contribution for the implementation of the programme referred to in Article 1 is set at EUR 152 600 000 and shall be financed from the budget line 22.02.04.01 of the general budget of the EU for 2014.

The financial contribution referred to in the first sub-paragraph may also cover interest due for late payment.

Article 3

Implementation modalities

This programme shall be implemented by direct and indirect management.

The budget implementation tasks under indirect management may be entrusted to the entities identified in the Annex subject to the conclusion of the relevant agreements.

Article 4

Grants without a call for proposals

Grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the Annex, in accordance with the conditions specified therein.

Article 5

Non-substantial changes

The following changes shall not be considered substantial provided that they do not significantly affect the nature and objectives of the actions:

- a) increases or decreases for not more than 20% of the maximum contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2, and not exceeding EUR 10 million;
- b) cumulated reassignments of funds between specific actions not exceeding 20% of the maximum contribution set in the first paragraph of Article 2;
- c) extensions of the implementation and closure period;
- d) within the limits of 20% referred to in points (a) and (b) above, up to 5 % of the contribution referred to in the first paragraph of Article 2 of this financing decision may serve to finance actions which were not foreseeable at the time the present financing decision was adopted, provided that those actions are necessary to implement the objectives and the results set out in the programme.

The authorising officer responsible may adopt such non-substantial changes in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and proportionality.

Done at Brussels, 10.12.2014

For the Commission
Johannes HAHN
Member of the Commission



ANNEX 1

MULTI-COUNTRY ANNUAL ACTION PROGRAMME 2014

1 IDENTIFICATION

Beneficiaries	Beneficiaries listed in Annex I of the IPA II Regulation (IPA II beneficiaries)
CRIS/ABAC Commitment references	2014/031-603; MCP 2014 - part ELARG 2014/032-064; MCP 2014 - part ESTAT SI2.692592; MCP 2014 - part EACEA
Total cost = EU Contribution	EUR 152 600 000
Budget line	22.020401 – Multi-country programmes, regional integration and territorial cooperation
Management mode/ Entrusted Entity	Direct management by the European Commission Except for: Action No. 14 – WBIF: indirect management with the European Investment Bank (EIB); for parts of Action No. 15 - EDIF: Indirect management by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the European Investment Fund (EIF); and Action No. 16 - RHP: Indirect management by Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)
Final date for contracting including the conclusion of delegation agreements	at the latest by 31 December 2015
Final date for operational implementation	at the latest by 31 December 2018 Except for Action: No. 5 – 31/12/2019; No. 14 – 31/12/2020; No. 15 – 31/12/2023
Programming Unit	Unit D.3 - Regional Cooperation and Programmes, DG Enlargement
Implementing Unit/ EU Delegation	Unit D.3- Regional Cooperation and Programmes, DG Enlargement with the following exceptions: Action No. 1: Unit D.2 – Institution building, TAIEX, Twinning, DG Enlargement Action No. 8: Statistics cross-delegated to DG ESTAT Action No. 9: Western Balkans Youth Window under Erasmus +, co-delegated to EACEA

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION PROGRAMME

2.1 PRIORITIES SELECTED UNDER THIS ACTION PROGRAMME

- Rationale for the selection

This IPA II multi-country action programme is designed to respond to priority needs as identified in the multi-country indicative strategy paper 2014-2020 (hereinafter referred to as Strategy Paper) adopted on 30 June 2014¹. The Western Balkans and Turkey face important challenges to meet the political and economic membership criteria and to align with the Union *acquis*. These challenges are common to all IPA II beneficiaries, although to varying degrees.

As pointed out in the Strategy Paper, challenges persist in the area of **democracy and rule of law**, including the functioning of institutions guaranteeing democracy, empowerment of civil society, the fight against organised crime, safeguarding fundamental rights, such as freedom of expression and the rights of persons belonging to minorities.

While solutions supported by IPA II funds need to be adapted to the specific situation of each individual IPA II beneficiary and supported under a national IPA programme, certain problems are best tackled at regional or horizontal level. This is the case where a beneficiary cannot achieve the desired results alone as they require close cooperation and support from other IPA II beneficiaries (for instance for fighting organised crime), or where joint efforts are more cost-effective since they create synergies or economies of scale. A particular focus on the support to the reconciliation process in the Western Balkans will be ensured.

The Strategy Paper sets out as well how IPA II assistance will support reforms and investments in line with the identified key challenges for **competitiveness and growth**, in complementarity with assistance provided under the national programmes.

In accordance with the Strategy Paper, assistance will be delivered under the following four headings, each one presenting one dimension of the added value of the horizontal and regional programming:

- i. Horizontal support to sector policies and reforms;
- ii. Regional structures and networks;
- iii. Regional investment support;
- iv. Territorial cooperation.

The 2014 multi-country action programme contains 17 regional and horizontal actions grouped under the four headings of the Strategy Paper. Programmes for territorial cooperation and support for civil society development are being decided separately.

¹ C(2014)4293, 30.06.2014

- Overview of past and on-going EU, other donors' and/or IPA II beneficiary's actions in the relevant sectors:

The focus of the 2014 multi-country action programme rests to a large extent on continuing actions supported under IPA I which are deemed necessary to support further and/or which enter into successive stages of implementation. For a number of regional structures and networks, IPA support continues in 2014 out of previously decided programmes.

When designing this programme due account has been taken of activities implemented under the national programmes, the guidance provided in EU strategic documents, the lessons learned from the programming and implementation of previous EU assistance and the findings from consultations with, *inter alia*, the beneficiaries, International Financial Institutions (IFIs), the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), EU Member States and civil society organisations.

The lessons learned from IPA I demonstrated that progress towards meeting EU membership criteria is best achieved by a mix of measures planned both at national and at regional level. The IPA interim evaluation and meta-evaluation recommended that the Multi-country programmes should develop more rigorous selection criteria for the supported actions and focus on areas with clear needs for a regional approach. It also concluded that further efforts are needed to involve regional stakeholders more in programming and that national administrations should be involved in project implementation as a way to improve ownership and coordination.

Other conclusions concern economies of scale in horizontal programmes versus efficiency risks, due to the complex organisation for implementation of multi-beneficiary assistance under IPA I.

Under IPA II, efficiency concerns will be addressed by more effective coordination, as illustrated already through the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF), focusing on fewer priorities, comprehensive and longer-term planning and, where relevant, a sector approach.

2.2 DESCRIPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTIONS

The essential selection and award criteria for grants (including direct award):

The essential selection criteria are financial and operational capacity of the applicant. The essential award criteria are relevance, effectiveness and feasibility, sustainability and cost-effectiveness of the action.

Priority 1: Horizontal support to sector policies and reforms

Action 1	TAIEX	Direct management	EUR 12.20 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objective, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The overall aim of the Technical Assistance and Information Exchange instrument (TAIEX) is to provide peer-to-peer technical assistance and capacity building in order to support beneficiaries in the approximation with, and implementation of the EU *acquis*.

Through the mobilisation of EU Member States experts, TAIEX supports short term, demand-driven assistance and is complementary to, and works alongside other instruments and programmes to help candidate countries and potential candidates move towards their goal of EU accession.

The assistance is primarily provided by EU public sector experts sharing their knowledge and experience through workshops, expert missions and study visits. TAIEX assistance can be adapted and tailored to a beneficiary's specific needs – whether one-off expertise on a very precise area of the *acquis*, or a series of assistance events for the achievement of a broader goal is required.

Objectives: TAIEX supports regional integration and territorial cooperation involving IPA II beneficiaries, Member States and, where appropriate, third countries within the scope of Regulation (EU) No 231/2014 establishing the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance II. The specific objective of the action is to support IPA II beneficiaries in the approximation with, and implementation of the EU *acquis*.

Expected results: IPA II beneficiaries shall reach progressive alignment with EU legislation and improvement of working methods in line with EU standards.

Key performance indicators:

- Degree of alignment with *acquis* (qualitative assessment, sources: country-specific screening and / or annual progress reports, as well as peer review missions);
- IPA II beneficiaries' overall satisfaction with TAIEX workshops, expert missions and study visits (sources: replies to feedback questionnaires automatically sent to TAIEX participants following event conclusion, as gathered in the TMS, the TAIEX management system).

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.2

Procurement:

- a) **global** budgetary envelope reserved for procurement: EUR 12.20 million;
- b) indicative number and types of contracts: One service contract to extend an existing contract by a negotiated procedure. Five specific contracts under a Framework Contract (FWC) of the Commission's Directorate-General for Informatics for the provision of IT support services related to the maintenance of the local IT system used for TAIEX. Two

to three specific contracts for services for the organisation of conferences under the appropriate FWC BENEf.

c) indicative time frame for launching the procurement procedure; Q4 2014 – Q3 2015.

Action 2	SIGMA	Direct management	EUR 18.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: Since 1992, the European Commission has co-operated with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in order to promote better public governance in the enlargement context. SIGMA (Support for Improvement in Governance and Management) is the dedicated unit inside the OECD that provides tailor made assistance to the IPA II beneficiaries on public administration reform (PAR). SIGMA covers 5 horizontal policy areas, namely policy making, public service and public administration organisation and functioning, public finance and audit, and public procurement and strategic and management framework of PAR.

In 2014, SIGMA has developed a more comprehensive analytical framework (the "Principles of Public Administration", including a set of performance indicators), that outlines the main requirements and criteria for developing the legislative framework, institutional set-up and administrative practices. By applying the new analytical framework, SIGMA's annual Country Assessments will allow better measuring progress over time and provide valuable input for policy dialogue.

SIGMA's technical competence with regards to public administration reform in the enlargement context is widely recognised and its effectiveness has led to the development of a similar scheme in the context of the European Neighbourhood policy. Annual assessments and close follow up of strategies and action plans also make SIGMA an invaluable partner for the European Commission's enlargement strategy and progress reports.

Objectives: to strengthen public administrations in the Western Balkans and Turkey, thus improving the professionalism of the public service, efficiency of service delivery, overall quality, reliability, integrity, transparency and accountability of public administration. SIGMA contributes to building up administrative capacities for the adoption and correct implementation of the Union *acquis* so as to create adequate conditions for eventual integration into the EU.

Expected results: Improved legal frameworks; development of a set of strategies and action plans for public administration reform that are better prioritised and sequenced, realistic in terms of ambitions, timeframe, financial resources and personnel; strengthened public finance management systems in the beneficiaries, including public procurement.

Key performance indicators:

- Level of effectiveness of PAR strategies and actions plans (achievement of results as planned in the strategies and action plans following respective implementation work plans);

- Level of alignment of PAR related legal framework with EU standards.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above;
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application, since a particular type of body on account of its technical competence and its high degree of specialisation is required.
- c) Name of the beneficiary: OECD/SIGMA
- d) Indicative amount of the grant: EUR 18 million
- e) Maximum rate of EU co-financing: 99% of the eligible cost
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreement: Q2 2015

Action 3	Economic Governance	Direct management	EUR 8.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The EU enlargement strategy 2013-14 puts emphasis on strengthening the dialogue on economic governance with candidate countries and potential candidates. In accordance with this strategy, the beneficiaries are invited to enhance economic policy and its governance through the preparation of annual National Economic Reform Programmes and multiannual public financial management (PFM) reform action plans/programmes. Reform priorities addressed in these programmes will be underpinned by IPA assistance.

The action will strengthen the cooperation with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in the different areas of economic governance. The IMF holds a unique position in the global economic governance architecture and bringing its expertise closer together with the policy objectives of the EU as applied to the IPA II beneficiaries is of paramount importance. The IMF has an on-going and longstanding cooperation with the Western Balkans in various core competency areas of the IMF.

Objectives: Provision of targeted technical assistance for the implementation of country-specific policy guidance issued in the context of the enhanced economic governance approach and based on country-specific needs supporting the implementation of public financial management reform priorities in the beneficiaries.

Expected results: Country-specific policy guidance following the National Economic Reform Programmes implemented by the IPA II beneficiaries; PFM reform programmes developed and specific public financial management reform actions implemented.

Key performance indicators:

- qualitative assessment as provided by the Progress reports, in particular with regard to economic governance and public financial management.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award:

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application, since a particular type of body on account of its technical competence and its high degree of specialisation is required.
- c) Name of the beneficiary: IMF
- d) Indicative amount of the grant: EUR 8.00 million
- e) The maximum possible rate of EU financing will be 100% of the total cost of the action. For EU visibility reasons it is essential that the EU is the sole donor for the action.
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreement: Q2 2015.

Action 4	Preparatory measures for participation of beneficiaries in EU agencies	Direct management	EUR 4.46 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Action allows selected EU Agencies to carry out specific measures with the IPA II beneficiaries and stakeholders so as to prepare their future participation in these EU Agencies upon membership or earlier. The support aims as well at knowledge transfer to and capacity building of the authorities in the area of expertise of the EU Agencies. The preparatory measures include establishing a certain benchmarking between the beneficiaries on the one side and the EU member states on the other side. It will eventually allow the IPA II beneficiaries to actively participate in key European policy areas, notably EU 2020 as well as the regional South East Europe (SEE) 2020 strategy.

Objectives: To support the approximation to and adoption of the Union *acquis* in the IPA II beneficiaries in areas such as the Rule of Law and Fundamental rights, the transport sector, competitiveness as well as environment and climate change or food safety.

Expected results: Established and effective networks between EU Agencies and the beneficiaries; Knowledge transfer to and capacity building in the beneficiaries in the respective areas of expertise of the agencies; increase in the availability of relevant information and data (environment and climate change, drug monitoring, quality of life), enhanced security (transport agencies), increased participation in society as well as better protection against transmissible diseases and safer food.

Key performance indicators:

- Beneficiaries' participation rate in the preparatory measures of EU agencies;
- Progress made on the political, administrative and institutional reforms as assessed in the Progress report (qualitative assessment);
- Active participation in key European policy areas and SEE 2020.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award:

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application, since a particular type of body on account of its technical competence and its high degree of specialisation is required.
- c) The names of the beneficiaries: European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA); European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE); European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA); European Railway Agency (ERA); European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA); European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC); European Chemicals Agency (ECHA); European Food Safety Authority (EFSA); European Environment Agency (EEA); Eurofound; and European Safety and Health Authority (OSHA).
- d) Indicative amount of the grants: (in EUR million) EMCDDA: 0.6; EIGE: 0.20; EMSA: 0.30; ERA: 0.3; EASA: 0.50; ESDC: 0.35; ECHA: 0.30; EFSA: 0.6; EEA: 0.6; Eurofound: 0.30; OSHA: 0.41
- e) The maximum possible rate of EU financing will be 100% of the total cost of the action. For EU visibility reasons it is essential that the EU is the sole donor for the action.
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreements: Q1 2015

Action 5	Cooperation on Cybercrime	Direct management	EUR 5.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Action will be part of a new framework for cooperation between the Commission and the Council of Europe (CoE) on human rights, democracy and rule of law for the period 2014-2020. The Commission and the CoE signed an agreement in April 2014 that will enable the two organisations to work together in a more strategic and result-focused manner not only in the beneficiaries, but also in the neighbourhood regions based on the CoE's binding international conventions, monitoring bodies and assistance programmes.

Objectives: To strengthen the capacity of authorities in Western Balkans and Turkey to search, seize and confiscate cybercrime proceeds and prevent money laundering on the Internet.

Expected results: Effective public reporting systems established; legislation regarding the search, seizure and confiscation of cybercrime proceeds and the prevention of money laundering on the Internet in line with data protection requirements strengthened; better inter-agency cooperation for cybercrime and financial investigations; guidelines for risk-management and due diligence for financial sector entities developed; public/private information sharing; judicial training provided and international cooperation strengthened.

Key performance indicators:

- Presence and performance of public reporting mechanisms in terms of receiving and processing reports and publishing analyses in each beneficiary;
- Number and quality of relevant draft amendments to laws made available to bring legal frameworks of each beneficiary in line with international standards;
- Increase in the number and degree of relevance of cybercrime investigations in each beneficiary accompanied by parallel financial investigations;
- Increase in the number of financial sector entities that have published indicators based on these guidelines;
- Number of meetings of financial sector ISACs (Information Sharing and Analysis Centres) at domestic and regional levels.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award:

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application on account of its technical competence and high degree of specialisation on cybercrime legislation.
- c) Name of the beneficiary: Cybercrime Programme Office (C-PROC) of the Council of Europe in Bucharest
- d) Indicative amount of the grant: EUR 5.00 million
- e) Maximum rate of EU co-financing: 90% of eligible cost
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreement: Q1 2015

Action 6	Assessment of organised crime	Direct management	EUR 2.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Action aims to provide a comprehensive overview of illicit activities carried out by organised criminal groups, the main conditions favouring their development, and the government response. The statistical framework for measuring organised crime will be based on a set of quantitative data and benchmarking indicators, complemented by qualitative information based on selected informants. Targeted technical assistance will be provided to beneficiaries to improve data collection so as to conduct an overall analysis and assessment of organised crime in each beneficiary and the region, including the main conditions favouring its development. This will enable beneficiaries to improve evidence-based analyses and monitor progress in an objective way.

Objective: To measure and assess organised crime in the Western Balkans in order to support evidence-based policy making.

Expected results: Identification and assessment of available data to determine indicators for measuring organised crime; assessment of capacities to collect such data in the beneficiaries; development of a data repository to centralise access and of a platform for

data analysis; targeted surveys and qualitative data collection on hard-to-measure crimes.

Key performance indicators:

- Completion rate of individual survey reports from each beneficiary;
- Number of searchable databases of administrative data available in each beneficiary;
- Number of surveys/ interviews of prisoners, victims and experts carried out in each beneficiary and in neighbouring countries;
- Number of national stakeholders trained in improved data collection and analytical techniques via special workshops;
- Number of comprehensive assessment reports available on a beneficiary-by-beneficiary and regional basis.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award:

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application on account of its technical competence and high degree of specialisation.
- c) The name of the beneficiary: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- d) Indicative amount of the grants: EUR 2.00 million
- e) Maximum rate of EU co-financing: 90% of eligible cost
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreements: Q2 2015

Action 7	Migration management systems	Direct management	EUR 8.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Action aims to offer a comprehensive and holistic regional approach to mixed migration management, complementing national efforts by providing a mixture of horizontal and regional support in the areas identified as the most urgent needs to be addressed.

Objective: To further develop and put into operation a comprehensive migration management system in the Western Balkans and Turkey while applying a human rights based approach.

Expected results: Identification of mixed migration flows, including irregular migrants, asylum seekers and other groups with protection needs, at first and second point of contact; information exchange is strengthened at the intra-regional and inter-regional levels, as well as with EU agencies; voluntary and non-voluntary return mechanisms will be enhanced at regional level and operational co-operation mechanisms strengthened.

Key performance indicators:

- Numbers of irregular migrants identified and referred;
- Number of exchanges of operational data at the intra-regional level;
- Standard operating procedures for voluntary and non-voluntary return operations fully applied.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award:

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application on account of its technical competence and high degree of specialisation
- c) The names of the beneficiaries: Frontex, IOM
- d) Indicative amount of the grants: EUR 5.5 million to Frontex; EUR 2.5 million to IOM
- e) The maximum possible rate of EU financing will be 100% of the total cost of the action for Frontex. For EU visibility reasons it is essential that the EU is the sole donor for the action. Maximum rate of EU co-financing is 90% of eligible cost for IOM.
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreements: Q3 2015

Action 8	Statistics	Direct management	EUR 8.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The action will be implemented by a set of main activities which cover governance issues such as the application of the European Statistics Code of Practice, management and dissemination, indicator development as well as a wide array of statistical areas, such as macro-economic statistics, trade statistics, labour market statistics, business statistics, social statistics, agriculture statistics, etc.

Pilot projects will ensure provision of assessments and advice from external experts, transfer of know-how and financial contributions to National Statistical institutes (NSIs) and organisation of specific workshops. Beneficiaries can also participate in working groups, committees, training courses etc. in order to get acquainted with the existing acquis and with problems and solutions for its implementation, to be aware of new developments or provide input to new acquis.

In-country training courses and regional training courses are organised in order for NSIs staff to acquire state-of-the art knowledge for the production of high quality statistics. The training courses also target development of other horizontal skills, such as quality, IT and management skills. Employees from beneficiary NSIs are seconded to Eurostat or to an NSI in a Member State or an EFTA country to study more thoroughly the functioning of the European Statistical System.

Study visits and consultancies allow the beneficiaries to acquire new knowledge tailored to their specific needs. They also help to establishing close bilateral contacts and future partnerships. Peer reviews provide systematic and comprehensive assessments of the

institutional environment of the national statistical systems and their compliance with the European Statistics Code of Practice. They contain a list of recommendations for improved compliance, better response to user needs, better quality and visibility of statistics.

Objective: To support the process of harmonisation with EU standards by aligning their present methodologies and output with the statistical *acquis* and taking forward their integration into the European Statistical System.

Expected results: Increased availability of reliable, timely and comparable (produced according to EU standards) data to be used by policy makers and others. Further integration of the NSIs into the European Statistical System; Progress in implementing the European Statistics Code of Practice and strengthened management capacities of NSIs.

Key performance indicators:

- Compliance with the *acquis* in statistics (source Eurostat);
- Degree of alignment with *acquis* (qualitative assessment, source Progress Report).

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by DG ESTAT

Procurement:

- a) the **global** budgetary envelope reserved for procurement: EUR 5.50 million
- b) the indicative number and types of contracts: one service contract
- c) indicative time frame for launching the procurement procedure; Q1 2015

Grant – Direct grant award: EUR 2.50 million

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(c) of the Rules of Application, based on a de jure or de facto monopoly.
- c) The names of the beneficiaries: National Statistical Institute (NSI) of Serbia, Montenegro, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey
- d) Indicative amount of the grants: EUR 625,000 each (subject to the outcome of the procedure)
- e) Maximum rate of EU co-financing: 90% of eligible cost
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreements: Q4 2015

Action 9	Western Balkans Youth Window under Erasmus+	Direct management	EUR 3.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Action will promote participation of young people and youth workers from the Western Balkans in Erasmus+ non-formal learning projects, reinforcing capacity building in the field of youth and allowing organisations from Western Balkans to act as project coordinators and apply directly for an EU grant under the framework of the Erasmus+ programme. To this end, organisational development

and capacity building projects in the field of youth will be implemented with the aim to strengthen youth cooperation between Erasmus+ Programme countries and the Western Balkans, as well as cross-border cooperation within the Western Balkan region. Activities to be supported will include youth exchanges, European Voluntary Service for young people as well as activities encouraging cooperation, networking and exchanges of practices in the field of youth, seminars, conferences, workshops, meetings, training courses, study visits and job-shadowing for youth workers.

Objectives: To support young people's transnational non-formal learning mobility through cooperation projects and activities. Actions supported by the Window aim at promoting active citizenship, social inclusion and solidarity amongst young people and the society they live in. The Action fosters key skills and competences of young people, notably contributing to their employability, civic participation and intercultural understanding.

Expected results: To create increased opportunities for young people to experience international cooperation and to acquire socio-educational skills which could better facilitate their employability and their integration in society; increased participation of young people in democratic life and active citizenship in particular with regard to young people with fewer opportunities; long-lasting partnerships developed as well the exchange of expertise and know-how in the field of youth and non-formal education and improved organisational skills of organisations in the Western Balkans, in particular with regard to management of European Union funds.

Key performance indicators:

- Increased number of joint projects supported annually under the Western Balkans Youth Window;
- Increased number of young people and the number of young people with fewer opportunities participating in Youth Exchanges;
- The total number of volunteers and the number of volunteers with fewer opportunities participating in the European Voluntary Service;
- Increased number of youth workers from Western Balkans participating in joint projects with organisations from Erasmus+ programme countries;
- Young peoples' and youth workers' assessment of their employability, their skills and competences before and after having participated in a joint activity;
- Increased number of joint projects implemented by organisations from the Western Balkans.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

Grant – Call for proposals:

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above;
- b) The essential eligibility criteria: Applicants can be Non-profit organisations, associations, NGO's (including European Youth NGOs); national Youth Councils or public bodies at local, regional or national level established in the IPA II beneficiaries of the Western Balkans. These criteria are further detailed in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide. Proposed actions must be transnational and involve a minimum of 3 participating organisations from 3 different countries of

which at least one is from the Western Balkans and one an Erasmus+ Programme Country.

- c) The essential selection criteria are: financial and operational capacity of the applicant.
- d) The essential award criteria: relevance, quality of project design and implementation, quality of the project team and cooperation arrangements, as well as impact and dissemination.
- e) Maximum rate of EU co-financing: up to 80% of eligible costs, and/or application of the scales of unit costs valid for the Erasmus+ programme.
- f) Indicative amount of the call: EUR 3.0 million annually.
- g) Indicative date for launch of the call for proposals: autumn 2014 with two deadlines per year with indicatively EUR 1.5 million available in each.

Priority 2: Regional structures and networks

Action 10	Roma decade 2020	Direct management	EUR 0.80 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: Under the auspices of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), the Roma Decade Secretariat will function as a 'one stop shop' on regional cross-sectoral policy support and regional coordination relating to Roma issues. The role of the Roma Decade Secretariat will be to advise governments in the Western Balkans and Turkey on how to implement the existing national Roma strategies and action plans; facilitate monitoring of the implementation through NGO networks and to create a repository of Roma related data with special attention to technical assistance from EU and other donors.

This approach will offer a holistic support to IPA II beneficiaries in effectively translating policy commitments into practice in line with the priorities of the European Commission to accelerate the process of closing the development gap between Roma and non-Roma population.

Objectives: To advance towards better integration of Roma women, men and children in society and to improve the lives of Roma people in the region. To this end, the Roma Decade Secretariat is supported to continue and expand its work of a regional advisory mechanism.

Expected results: Accelerated pace of implementation of the National Roma Strategies, improved institutional cross-sector coordination to address challenges for the Roma population, increased exchange of lessons learned between governments and civil society; improved capacity of CSOs to monitor the implementation of National Roma Strategies, Roma CSOs engage more effectively with governments and international community to further National Roma Strategy implementation; regularly updated information on existing external funding for the benefit of the Roma population in the IPA II beneficiaries available.

Key performance indicators:

- Poverty rate of Roma in the IPA Beneficiaries in comparison to non-Roma;
- Quality of National Strategies, including budget allocations;
- Annual reporting introduced on implementation of National Strategies;
- Number of new policies/initiatives to the benefit of Roma introduced and partially implemented;
- Quality of CSO monitoring on the implementation of national strategies.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award:

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(c) of the Rules of Application, on account of a de facto monopoly.
- c) Name of the beneficiary: Regional Cooperation Council
- d) Indicative amount of the grant: EUR 0.8 million
- e) Maximum rate of EU co-financing: 50% of eligible cost
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreement: Q2 2015.

Action 11	Transitional justice	Direct management	EUR 0.68 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: Component 1) of the Action is focused on strengthening the network of war crimes prosecutors in the Western Balkans and information exchange which would enhance the cooperation of judicial authorities in general. To this end, the Action provides support for a training programme at the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) for visiting national prosecutors specialised in war crimes' investigations and young professionals from countries of the former Yugoslavia.

Component 2) of the Action is designed to strengthen the regional news exchange from the ICTY, currently and in the future, through delivery of the news until all the proceedings before the court are completed.

Objectives: 1) To build capacity of the national prosecutors and young professionals of post-Yugoslav countries to carry out effective war crimes investigations and trials at national level and improve cooperation among the national prosecutors' offices and 2) to strengthen regional news exchange from the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY).

Expected results: Rule of law, inter-ethnic reconciliation processes and regional stability in the Western Balkans improved through effective investigations and prosecution of war crimes, and continued media coverage about the ICTY proceedings.

Key performance indicators:

- Number of National prosecutors who have taken part in the programme;

- Number of Visiting Young Professionals that have taken part in the programme;
- Increase in the number of documents provided to the judicial institutions in the beneficiaries;
- Number of investigations which resulted in a number of prosecutions;
- Number of contacts among National prosecutors and young professionals in the post Yugoslav countries;
- Number of exchanges of files and documents between National prosecutor's office;
- Number of daily and weekly products covering the major war crimes trials.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award: 1) Joint EU and ICTY Training project for National Prosecutors and Young Professionals from the Former Yugoslavia; 2) Strengthening Regional News Exchange from ICTY

a) Objectives and foreseen results: 1) Delivery of training; capacity building; improved quality of prosecutions; improving networking and cooperation. 2) Reporting of the remaining proceedings at ICTY

b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application on account of its technical competence and high degree of specialisation

c) The names of the beneficiaries: 1) ICTY; 2) SENSE News Agency

d) Indicative amount of the grants: 1) EUR 0.5 million; 2) EUR 0.18 million

e) Maximum rate of EU co-financing: 1) for ICTY: 100% of total cost. For EU visibility reasons it is essential that the EU is the sole donor for the action. 2) for SENSE: 55% of eligible cost.

f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreements: 1) Q1 2015; 2) Q2 2015

Action 12	Rural Development Standing Working Group	Direct management	EUR 1.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Standing Working Group (SWG) in South East Europe is an intergovernmental organisation operating in the field of agriculture and rural development. The focus of its activities is related to economic development of rural cross-border areas in the Western Balkans by facilitating regional cooperation between rural stakeholders (local government, civil society and private sector).

The Action will build on previous support to the SWG provided for the preparation of a region-wide pilot initiative for area-based development (ABD). Technical meetings organised within the SWG have highly contributed to the networking, exchange of know-how and information with a view to also support marginalized regions to better prepare proposals for other rural development instruments, notably IPARD.

Objectives: To contribute to socio-economic development of rural cross-border areas resulting in an increased quality of life of citizens living in those areas.

Expected results: Projects prepared under the ABD approach to facilitate sustainable growth in defined geographical areas in cross-border regions in the Western Balkans, in particular rural areas characterised by specific complex development problems, will be considered for funding under cross-border cooperation programmes.

Key performance indicators:

- Implementation of the ABD approach in four defined regions;
- Number of project proposals for economic development of rural cross-border areas prepared and submitted for financing with support of the SWG;
- Baseline analysis and strategic planning has been performed in at least two additional cross-border areas.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award:

- Objectives and foreseen results: see above;
- Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application on account of its technical competence and high degree of specialisation
- Name of the beneficiary: Regional Rural Development SWG in South East Europe
- Indicative amount of the grants: EUR 1.00 million
- The maximum possible rate of EU financing will be 100% of the total cost of the action. For EU visibility reasons it is essential that the EU is the sole donor for the action.
- Indicative date for signing the grant agreements: Q2 2015.

Action 13	Central European Free Trade Agreement	Direct management	EUR 3.42 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Action serves to provide support to the Secretariat of the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA). Through secondment of national experts from the CEFTA Parties to the Secretariat, the Action will strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of the CEFTA structures to better support negotiations among the CEFTA Parties.

The CEFTA Secretariat will develop its own Management Information System to monitor the implementation of the Agreement and to effectively settle disputes among CEFTA Parties. Moreover, the CEFTA Secretariat will provide technical assistance for the implementation of the Agreement in areas where specific technical knowledge on trade and investment is needed and will strengthen consistencies between trade related initiatives in the region, the CEFTA agenda and the SEE 2020 strategy.

Objectives: To promote regional trade and investment linkages and policies that are non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable as well as to enhance the flow of goods, investment, services and people within the region.

Expected results: Strengthened institutional capacities of CEFTA to implement the provisions of the CEFTA Agreement in cooperation with the private sector and public administrations in the Western Balkans. Provision of technical assistance and training of local experts. A Management Information system will be developed for better supporting negotiations, managing and solving disputes and monitoring the implementation of the Agreement.

Key performance indicators:

- % increase intra-regional trade in goods;
- % increase overall FDI inflows to the region;
- Ranking of the Region in Domestic Market Access;
- Facilitation of trade (import and export) in CEFTA Region;
- No. of CEFTA parties removing the most trade distorting measures.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Grant – Direct grant award: Grant agreements

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: see above
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 190 (1)(f) of the Rules of Application on account of its technical competence and high degree of specialisation
- c) Name of the beneficiary: CEFTA Secretariat
- d) Indicative amount of the grants: EUR 3.42 million
- e) Maximum rate of EU co-financing: 76.5 % of eligible cost
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreements: Q2 2015

Priority 3: Regional investment support

Action 14	Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF)	Indirect management with EIB	EUR 35.54 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: As the WBIF moves into its 5th year of operation it faces a number of challenges including the immense scale of financing required for socio-economic investments, the limited fiscal space available to the beneficiaries, the need to attract more Foreign Direct Investment and to implement policy reforms and to ensure that grant funds are targeting priority projects that are most relevant for growth, stability and accession.

To stimulate socio-economic growth and to enhance the EU accession process, it is essential that there be proper co-ordination and good communication between all key partners. The WBIF has proven to be an effective forum for beneficiaries, the European Commission, International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and bilateral donors to pool their knowledge, experience and resources so as to expedite priority investments in key sectors.

This Action will support the preparation and implementation of priority infrastructure investment projects by providing technical assistance, studies, impact assessments and similar services for future infrastructure projects. In particular, it will support projects with a regional dimension which are priorities for the IPA II beneficiaries in the region in the context of the enlargement process. Projects with a regional dimension have an impact beyond the territory of the country where the investment takes place and/or are part of the priority axes identified in macro-regional strategies², part of the indicative extension of the Trans-European Transport network (TEN-T)³ or the projects of Energy Community interest.

Objectives: To support the preparation and implementation of priority infrastructure investment projects that may be financed by a combination of grants (EU and other funds) and loans (from IFIs) and to enhance cooperation and coordination between financial institutions, beneficiaries, bilateral donors and regional organisations.

Expected results: Improved number, speed and quality of priority infrastructure investment projects in transport, environment and climate change, energy and in the social sector; increased ownership of investments by beneficiaries; better coordination and prioritisation of investments.

Key performance indicators:

- Increase in Public sector investment;
- Value of investment projects made in the region;
- Number of projects prepared which found financing;
- Number of Technical Assistance projects financed and delivered by the WBIF and managed by the Financial Institutions.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Indirect management

(3)(a) Entity entrusted with budget implementation tasks

Implementation of the Action will be entrusted to the European Investment Bank. In December 2012, the WBIF Steering Committee gave mandate to the EIB to procure, contract and manage IPF 4. The EIB had demonstrated the availability and capacity, both in terms of human resources and technical expertise, to manage and supervise such Facility.

(3)(b) Short description of the tasks entrusted to the entity

The EIB will be responsible for the management, procurement and implementation of technical assistance, studies, impact assessments and similar services necessary for the preparation of future infrastructure projects.

² EU Strategy for the Danube Region and (draft) EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region

³ as identified by Annex III of the TEN-T guidelines Regulation (EU) No 1315/2013 on Union guidelines for the development of the trans-European transport network. The network has been identified on the basis of the South East European Transport Observatory (SEETO) network.

Action 15	EDIF	Indirect management with EBRD: EUR 9.00 million Indirect management with EIF: EUR 17.50 million Direct management: EUR 2.50 million	EUR 29.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Western Balkans Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility (EDIF) was launched in December 2012 and includes three regional financial instruments which are gradually being set up: two Equity Funds and a Guarantee Facility. Furthermore, EDIF includes a Support Services Facility to assist the beneficiary governments in targeted reforms and the final beneficiary SMEs in building up their capacities for innovation and growth.

This action will contribute to one of the financial instruments (Guarantee Facility) and the Support Services Facility under EDIF.

This Action has three components with the following objectives:

1) The EBRD has developed a Small Business Services programme. The Action will allow integrating this programme under EDIF's Support Services Facility. The SBS programme will provide TA in form of a coordinated business advice to help SMEs grow, becoming catalysts for their local economies and region. Its objective is to contribute to improvement of the SMEs' competitiveness by further enhancing access to finance through the replenishment of the Guarantee Facility.

2) It will support the European Investment Bank (EIB) to coordinate EDIF's Support Services Facility, and thus improve and streamline the substance and the processes of the various support services.

3) It will replenish the Guarantee Facility which is managed by the European Investment Fund (EIF). The Guarantee Facility guarantees SME loan portfolios issued by commercial banks for new SME lending. Its objective is to contribute to improvement of the SMEs' competitiveness by further enhancing access to finance.

Expected results: 1) Innovative and high-potential SMEs supported in a systematic manner through direct advisory assistance linked to access to finance measures;
2) Improved coordination of TA and support services to governments and companies in the area of Private Sector Development;
3) Improved access to credit and transfer of a range of benefits to SMEs (lower collateral requirements, lower pricing and longer maturities of loans) by replenishing the Guarantee Facility.

Key performance indicators:

- Net enterprise creation (new business per year);
- Number of SME assisted with technical assistance and/or financing.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action:

Component 1) and 3): indirect management

Component 2): direct management.

(2)(a) Entity entrusted with budget implementation tasks

Component 1:

The EBRD has designed and implemented the Small Business Services programme in the Western Balkans. In an effort to streamline and draw on established mechanisms, the SBS programme will be integrated with EDIF's Support Services Facility. Therefore EBRD is best placed the related budget implementation tasks.

Component 3:

EIF is the EU's dedicated risk finance institution and as such possesses unique experience in developing and implementing EU financial instruments. By the decision of the WBIF Steering Committee of December 2011, EIF was appointed the Manager of EDIF's Guarantee Facility.

(2)(b) Short description of the tasks entrusted to the entity

Component 1:

Under their SBS programme EBRD draws on the know-how of a network of international advisers and local consultants to help transform businesses, looking at their strategy, marketing, operations, quality management, energy efficiency, financial management and beyond. The EBRD is responsible for the procurement of consultancy services to SMEs. EBRD will use their procedures for both, the selection of beneficiary SMEs and business consultants.

Component 3:

EIF will manage a financial instrument (Guarantee Facility) which was set up in 2013 pursuant to the Financial Regulation No. 1605/2002.

(2)(c) Essential elements of the action (for direct management)

Grant – Direct grant award:

- a) Objectives and foreseen results: coordination of EDIF support services
- b) Justification for the use of an exception to calls for proposals: Article 125 of the Financial Regulation stipulates that grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to the EIB or the European Investment Fund for actions of technical assistance. In such cases Articles 131(2) to (5) and 132(1) shall not apply.
- c) Name of the beneficiary: European Investment Bank (EIB)
- d) Indicative amount of the grant: EUR 2.50 million
- e) The maximum possible rate of EU financing will be 100% of the total cost of the action. For EU visibility reasons it is essential that the EU is the sole donor for the action.
- f) Indicative date for signing the grant agreement: Q1 2015

Action 16	Regional Housing Programme	Indirect management with the CEB: 11.30 million Direct management: EUR 0.2 million	EUR 11.50 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Regional Housing Programme (RHP) aims to make a substantial contribution to solve the problem of the remaining refugees and displaced persons in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia by providing long-lasting, sustainable housing solutions. The housing solutions include provision of flats and houses through building, reconstruction, renovation or purchase as well as provision of construction materials.

The RHP consists of four Country Housing Programmes, one in each partner country, and aims to benefit about 27,000 households or 74,000 individuals who are effectively integrated and enjoy full access to rights and services. The total budget of this Regional Housing Programme is estimated at EUR 584 million.

Component 1)

The EU has pledged EUR 230 million at the donors' conference in April 2012. Between 2011 and 2013 the European Commission committed EUR 138 million. This Action commits further resources into the RHP Fund in order for the European Union to honour its pledge. An amount of EUR 1.50 million under this Action is earmarked for Montenegro.

Component 2)

The Action will further provide for conducting an evaluation of the implementation of the RHP so far in order to reach conclusions for future modalities and draw lessons learnt.

Objectives: To provide durable and socio-economically sustainable housing solutions to identified beneficiaries.

Expected results: Transparent identification and selection of final beneficiaries; up to 500 housing solutions built for more than 1550 vulnerable refugees and displaced persons; mid-term evaluation carried out and report provides for conclusions and lessons learnt.

Key performance indicators:

- Transparent identification and selection of vulnerable end-beneficiaries;
- Number of vulnerable refugees and displaced persons entering into their respective accommodation;
- Number of accommodation provided.

(2) Assumptions and conditions: Donors and Partner Countries stay committed to complete the Sarajevo Process; Financial gap filled to the entirety of the real cost of the programme; Fair and transparent beneficiary selection based on international

vulnerability criteria; Socio-economic sustainability and integration of the end-beneficiaries is ensured; Proper functioning of the national implementing structures

(3) Implementation arrangements for the action:

Component 1: Indirect management with CEB

(3)(a) Entity entrusted with budget implementation tasks

The Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) has been selected to be the manager of the Regional Housing Programme because CEB is a European Development Bank with a mandate on social and refugee issues and has the capacity to simultaneously fulfil three roles, necessary for the particularities of the RHP programme: (1) by being a Bank, CEB can fulfill the role of the RHP Fund Manager; (2) as the Finance Institution, CEB can approve grants to the Partner Countries for the implementation of the housing projects; and (3) by having experience in social and refugee related issues it can also act as the Manager of the entire operational programme.

(3)(b) Short description of the tasks entrusted to the entity

An amount of EUR 9.80 million under this Action will be paid into the sub-regional account of the RHP Fund managed by the CEB and EUR 1.50 million into the national account of Montenegro.

The CEB will further commit and disburse the funds in the form of grants to the RHP participant Partner Countries (excluding Croatia). Each grant will correspond and will be financing a specifically defined Country Housing Sub-project. The grants will be signed between CEB and the Partner Country after the relevant decision by the RHP Assembly of Donors.

Component 2: Direct management

Procurement:

- a) **global** budgetary envelope reserved for procurement: EUR 0.20 million;
- b) indicative number and types of contracts: One service contract
- c) indicative time frame for launching the procurement procedure; Q4 2014 – Q3 2015.

Priority 4: Territorial cooperation

Action 17	CBIB+	Direct management	EUR 2.00 million
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(1) Description of the Action, objectives, expected results and key performance indicators

Description of the Action: The Action will provide technical and expert support to the National Authorities in charge of implementing cross-border cooperation (CBC) programmes at intra-Western Balkan borders with a view to enhance regional coordination and harmonisation of approaches and mechanisms in line with EU frameworks and guidelines in the area of territorial cooperation.

Objectives: To ensure that CBC programmes are implemented in a coordinated way and contribute to socio-economic development of cross-border areas, regional cooperation and reconciliation.

Expected results: Effective and efficient implementation of the existing (IPA I) and future (IPA II) CBC programmes as well as a smooth transition from the first generation of programmes under IPA I to the second generation of programmes under IPA II.

Key performance indicators:

- No. of CBC programmes;
- IPA II CBC programmes at intra WB borders commitment rate;
- IPA II CBC programmes at intra WB borders execution rate.

(2) Implementation arrangements for the action: Direct management by ELARG/D.3

Procurement:

- a) the **global** budgetary envelope reserved for procurement: EUR 2.00 million
- b) the indicative number and types of contracts: one service contract
- c) indicative time frame for launching the procurement procedure; Q4 2015

3 BUDGET

3.1 INDICATIVE BUDGET TABLE – MULTI-COUNTRY ACTION PROGRAMME 2014

CRIS/ABAC Decision number	Management Mode	Entrusted Entity	Max. EU Contribution (EUR)	Indicative Co-financing (EUR)	Entity providing co-financing	TOTALS (EUR)	Commission Implementing Unit
			68 660 000	2 136 122		70 796 122	
Horizontal support							
031-603	DM		12 200 000	0		12 200 000	ELARG D2
031-603	DM		18 000 000	306 122	OECD/SIGMA	18 306 122	ELARG D3
031-603	DM		8 000 000	0		8 000 000	ELARG D3
031-603	DM		4 460 000	0		4 460 000	ELARG D3
031-603	DM		5 000 000	500 000	Council of Europe	5 500 000	ELARG D3
031-603	DM		2 000 000	200 000	UNODC	2 200 000	ELARG D3
031-603	DM		8 000 000	250 000	IOM	8 250 000	ELARG D3
032-064	DM		8 000 000	280 000	NSI of RS, ME, MK, TK	8 280 000	cross-delegation to ESTAT
SI2.692592	DM		3 000 000	*600 000	grant beneficiaries	3 600 000	co-delegation to EACEA
			5 900 000	2 020 000		7 920 000	
031-603	DM		800 000	800 000	Open Society Foundation	1 600 000	ELARG D3
031-603	DM		680 000	170 000	SENSE	850 000	ELARG D3

031-603	Action 12 Regional Rural Development Standing Working Group	DM		1 000 000	0		1 000 000	ELARG D3
031-603	Action 13 CEFTA	DM		3 420 000	1 050 000	CEFTA	4 470 000	ELARG D3
	Regional investment support			76 040 000	3 000 000		79 040 000	
031-603	Action 14 WBIF	IMIO	EIB	35 540 000	0		35 540 000	ELARG D3
031-603	Action 15 EDIF	DM, IMIO	EBRD/EIF	29 000 000	3 000 000	grant beneficiaries	32 000 000	ELARG D3
031-603	Action 16 RHP	IMIO, DM	CEB	11 500 000	0		11 500 000	ELARG D3
	Territorial cooperation			2 000 000	0		2 000 000	
031-603	Action 17 CBIB+	DM		2 000 000	0		2 000 000	ELARG D3
	TOTALS			152 600 000	7 156 122		159 756 122	

by CRIS/ABAC Decision	Max. EU Contribution	Indicative Co- financing	Total
031-603	141 600 000	6 276 122	147 876 122
032-064	8 000 000	280 000	8 280 000
S12.692592	3 000 000	600 000	3 600 000
Total programme	152 600 000	7 156 122	159 756 122

DM - Direct management;

IMIO - Indirect management with International Organization

NSI - National Statistical Institutes

* The grant is a combination of unit costs and portion of eligible costs. The specific financial rules are outlined in the Erasmus+ Programme Guide.

4 IMPLEMENTATION MODALITIES AND GENERAL RULES FOR PROCUREMENT AND GRANT AWARD PROCEDURES

DIRECT MANAGEMENT:

Part of this programme shall be implemented by direct management by the Commission in accordance with article 58(1)(a) of the Financial Regulation and the corresponding provisions of its Rules of Application.

Procurement shall follow the provisions of Part Two, Title IV Chapter 3 of the Financial Regulation No 966/2012 and Part Two, Title II, Chapter 3 of its Rules of Application.

Grant award procedures shall follow the provisions of Part Two Title IV Chapter 4 of the Financial Regulation No 966/2012 and Part Two Title II Chapter 4 of its Rules of Application.

Under the Financial Regulation, Parts One and Three of the Financial Regulation and its Rules of Application shall apply to external actions except as otherwise provided in Part Two, Title IV.

The Commission may also use services and supplies under its Framework Contracts concluded following Part One of the Financial Regulation.

INDIRECT MANAGEMENT:

Part of this programme shall be implemented by indirect management with entrusted entities other than the IPA II beneficiary in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of the Financial Regulation and the corresponding provisions of its Rules of Application.

The general rules for procurement and grant award procedures shall be defined in the Financing Agreement and the relevant delegation agreements between the Commission and the entrusted entity implementing such action.

5 PERFORMANCE MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

As part of its performance measurement framework, the Commission shall monitor and assess progress towards achievement of the specific objectives set out in the IPA II Regulation on the basis of pre-defined, clear, transparent measurable indicators. The progress reports referred to in Article 4 of the IPA II Regulation shall be taken as a point of reference in the assessment of the results of IPA II assistance.

The Commission will collect performance data (process, output and outcome indicators) from all sources, which will be aggregated and analysed in terms of tracking the progress versus the targets and milestones established for each of the actions of this programme, as well as the (Multi-) Country Indicative Strategy Paper.

In the specific context of indirect management by IPA II beneficiaries, National IPA Coordinators (NIPACs) will collect information on the performance of the actions and programmes (process, output and outcome indicators) and coordinate the collection and production of indicators coming from national sources.

The overall progress will be monitored through the following means: a) Result Orientated Monitoring (ROM) system; b) IPA II Beneficiaries' own monitoring; c) self-monitoring performed by the EU Delegations; d) joint monitoring by DG Enlargement and the IPA II Beneficiaries, whereby the compliance, coherence, effectiveness, efficiency and coordination in implementation of financial assistance will be regularly monitored by an IPA II Monitoring committee, supported by Sectoral Monitoring committees, which will ensure a monitoring process at sector level.