



## **PROGRAMME COMPLEMENT 2005 – 2006**

TO  
BULGARIA – ROMANIA  
PHARE CBC  
Joint Programming Document 2003-2006

**Approved by the Joint Cooperation Committee in April 2005**

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## GLOSSARY

BG	Bulgaria
CA	Contracting Authority
CBC	Cross border cooperation
DIS	Decentralised Implementation System
EC	European Commission
EC Delegation	European Commission Delegation to Bucharest/Sofia
EDIS	Extended Decentralised Implementation System
ESC	Economic and Social Cohesion
EU	European Union
GS	Grant Scheme
HR	Human Resources
IA	Implementing Authority
ICT	Information and communication technologies
JCC	Joint Cooperation Committee
JPD	Joint Programming Document
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
JSPF	Joint Small Projects Fund
JTAG	Joint Technical Advisory Group
JTS	Joint Technical Secretariat
JWG	Joint Working Group
MEI	Ministry of European Integration (Romania)
MRDPW	Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (Bulgaria)
NAC	National Aid Co-ordinator
NAO	National Authorizing Officer
NF	National Fund
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NPO	Non-Profit Organisation
PAO	Programme Authorizing Officer
PPF	Project Preparation Facility
PRAG	'Practical Guide' to contract procedures financed from the General Budget of the European Communities in the context of external actions
RDA	Regional Development Agency
RO	Romania
SME	Small and medium sized enterprises
TA	Technical Assistance

## 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

### 1.1 Programme Complement objectives

The Programme Complement represents a number of consecutive steps in implementing the Joint Programming Document (JPD).

The Complement aims to elaborate the potential projects and activities eligible for financing during the 2005-2006 period. According to the priorities and measures laid down in JPD, the current document shall provide for project's managerial and financial provisions based upon the multi-annual planning approach. The indication of proposals included in the Complement seems to be a key factor determining the timely preparation of potential projects and their future smooth and successful implementation later on. For each measure there is a list of *main activities* and projects, seen to be of relevance to the implementation of the measure. It is emphasised that there might be other activities (and projects), not listed, which might lead to the objectives of the measure. For each measure a number of *indicators* has been formulated, which describes the results expected from respective project.

The Complement sets a working framework, which is prescriptive but not obligatory and will be used as a practical tool in the future programming cycles. It will also guide the Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) in its efforts to focus implementation in such a way that the objectives of the programme are reached.

The Complement will be of value to project applicants seeking participation in the Programme. In particular, it provides details of the range of activities, which will be eligible for support under the Programme, their indicative financial allocations at Measure level and quantified targets against which Programme performance will be measured.

In designing operations to implement JPD's priorities and measures, the following principles will be observed:

- The available financing will be concentrated on activities whose implementation is likely to generate the largest perceptible development impulse in the border region;
- The operations selected will be clearly of a cross-border nature. In this context, a special priority will be attributed to projects planned in close co-operation with regional and local authorities and institutions in the border region;
- The operations will build to the utmost extent on border-regional/local opportunities and strengths and directly relate to the needs of the local population;
- The cross border region/local stakeholders are involved in implementation directly, and for the long term;
- Individual projects will be designed in a way to benefit both women and men alike and to involve no gender or ethnic specific discrimination;
- Special attention will be paid to the requirements of sustainable economic and social development as well as to preserving and safeguarding the CBC region's ecological variety.

In pursuing this overall objective, a Grant Scheme mechanism will be established to fund a limited number of projects dealing with the defined priorities and relevant measures outlined in the Joint Programming Document RO-BG 2003-2006, namely:

Priority 1:	Improving Infrastructures
Priority 2:	Economic Development
Priority 3:	Environmental Protection and Management
Priority 4:	People to People Actions

### 1.2 Beneficiary countries and Implementing Authorities

The line ministries within the two countries responsible for implementing the programme are:

*In Romania:*

Ministry of European Integration (MEI),  
17 Apolodor St, sect 5, 050741 - Bucharest, Romania

acting as Contracting Authority and as Implementing Agency through the Cross Border Directorate. The Cross-Border-Cooperation Directorate within the MEI retains overall responsibility for the implementation

of the projects (e.g., approval of: terms of reference, tender documents, evaluation criteria, evaluation of offers, signature of contracts, authorisation of invoices). The Payments Directorate (at MEI) undertakes the payment of invoices.

The National Authorizing Officer (NAO) has appointed the Minister of European Integration (at MEI) as Programme Authorizing Officer (PAO). PAO is fully responsible for the sound administrative and financial management of the projects to be implemented under the CBC programme.

NAO and PAO ensure that the programme is implemented in line with the procedures laid down in the EDIS Accreditation Decision and/or the DIS Manual as well as the other instructions of the Commission, and that all contracts required to implement the Financing Memoranda are awarded using the procedures and standard documents defined and most recently published by the European Commission for the implementation of the external actions.

In order to manage the day-to-day activities related to Joint Small Projects Fund, a CBC office has been established in Giurgiu, under the coordination of the Implementing Authority (IA).

In order to support the Implementing Agency in the implementation, management and monitoring of the CBC programmes, a new CBC Regional Office was set up in April 2005, through the voluntary association of RDA South-East, RDA South and RDA South-West. The CBC Regional Office has legal status and is based in Calarasi. The new institution, physically situated close to the Romania-Bulgaria border, will undertake tasks on the technical management of the projects implemented under the grant schemes in the cross border area. The CBC Regional Office in Calarasi should include the CBC Office in Giurgiu (JSPF) and will further prepare for being involved in the management of the future Interreg cross-border cooperation programmes.

The National Fund (NF) in the Ministry of Public Finance  
17 Apolodor St, sect 5, 050741 - Bucharest, Romania

headed by the NAO - who is State Secretary with the Minister of Public Finance, supervises the financial management of the Programme and is responsible for reporting to the European Commission. NAO has the overall responsibility for financial management of the Phare funds. NAO ensures that the Phare rules, regulations and procedures pertaining to procurement, reporting and financial management as well as Community state aid rules are respected, and that a reporting and project information system is functioning. This includes the responsibility of reporting all suspected and actual cases of fraud and irregularity. The NAO has the full overall accountability for the Phare funds of the programme until the closure of the programme.

The National Aid Co-ordinator (NAC) – the Minister of Public Finance  
17 Apolodor St, sect 5, 050741 - Bucharest, Romania

has the overall responsibility for programming and monitoring the Phare programmes until the closure of the programmes.

#### In Bulgaria

Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works,  
17–19 Sts. Cyril & Methodius Street, 1202 Sofia, Bulgaria

acting as Contracting Authority and as Implementing Agency through the Directorate Phare Implementing Agency, Phare CBC Implementing Agency Department. The Phare Implementing Agency Directorate within the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW) retains overall responsibility for the implementation of the projects (e.g., approval of: terms of reference, tender documents, evaluation criteria, evaluation of offers; signature of contracts, authorization of invoices). The Financial Department within the Directorate (at MRDPW) undertakes the payment of invoices.

The National Authorizing Officer (NAO) has appointed the Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Public Works as Programme Authorizing Officer (PAO). PAO is fully responsible for the sound administrative and financial management of the projects to be implemented under the CBC programme.

NAO and PAO ensure that the programme is implemented in line with the procedures laid down in the EDIS Accreditation Decision and/or the DIS Manual as well as the other instructions of the Commission, and that all contracts required to implement the Financing Memoranda are awarded using the procedures and standard documents defined and most recently published by the European Commission for the implementation of the external actions.

The National Fund (NF) in the Ministry of Finance  
102 G.S. Rakovski Street, 1040 Sofia, Bulgaria

headed by the NAO - who is Deputy Minister of Finance, supervises the financial management of the Programme and is responsible for reporting to the European Commission. NAO has the overall responsibility for financial management of the Phare funds. NAO ensures that the Phare rules, regulations and procedures pertaining to procurement, reporting and financial management as well as Community

state aid rules are respected, and that a reporting and project information system is functioning. This includes the responsibility of reporting all suspected and actual cases of fraud and irregularity. The NAO has the full overall accountability for the Phare funds of the programme until the closure of the programme.

The National Aid Co-ordinator (NAC) – the Minister of Finance  
102 G.S. Rakovski Street, 1040 Sofia, Bulgaria

has the overall responsibility for programming and monitoring the Phare programmes until the closure of the programmes.

#### Joint structures

A Joint Co-operation Committee (JCC) was established in January 2000, since the RO-BG CBC Programme was launched. JCC includes representatives of the beneficiary institutions, central, regional and local institutions, IA, NAO & NAC, at decision-making level and with an equal representation of both RO and BG partners. Its composition has been updated in March 2005. The institutions represented in JCC are presented in annex 2, which is part of this Complement.

The role of the JCC is:

- Approval/updating/modification of the JPD, as appropriate;
- Monitoring and assessing JPD implementation;
- Approval of the Programme Complement;
- Approval of adjustments to the Programme Complement due to mid term evaluation;
- Approval of the individual project proposals selection, on an annual basis;
- Approval of the project selection procedure by measures, including relevant selection criteria;
- Annual review of progress towards achieving the Programme objectives;
- Re-orientation of the project development process in order to ensure that the strategic Programme objectives are being met;
- Publicity strategy, including definition and monitoring of publicity and information procedures.

A Joint Working Group (JWG) at expert level supports the work of JCC. JWG includes representatives of the beneficiary institutions, central, regional and local institutions, IA, NAO & NAC from both countries.

On each priority of the JPD, a dedicated Joint Technical Advisory Group (JTAG) has been established early 2005. JTAGs gather technical expertise from institutions involved in infrastructure improvement, economic development and environment. JTAGs role is:

- Promotion of the Romanian-Bulgarian cross border activities and development initiatives related to infrastructure, economic development and environment protection and management;
- Advice of the JWG on all issues related to each of the above mentioned areas;
- Pro-actively support of the incentives for CBC;
- Improvement of the cross border communication and networking in each priority area;
- Initiation and stimulation of (new) projects in the area of CBC;
- Dissemination of information on CBC;
- Improvement and advice on designing specific selection criteria of the schemes foreseen for future funding of economic development projects, as well as on specific guidelines for applicants to be drawn up;
- Be involved in the contracting process of projects;
- Be involved in implementation, monitoring and evaluation of projects;

The JTAGs consists of representatives from the regional administration, the regional/local sector specialists in the field of infrastructure, economic development and environmental protection and management, and regional/local NGOs in Romania and Bulgaria. The institutions represented in each JTAG are presented in Annex 3, which is part of this Complement.

The institutional arrangements, part of this Complement, are presented in Section 6 of this document.

### **1.3 Eligible geographic areas under PHARE CBC programme**

The Romanian border region is comprised of seven counties (NUTS III): Mehedinti, Dolj and Olt counties, pertaining to the South West Development Region ; Teleorman, Giurgiu and Calarasi counties, part of the South Development Region; and Constanta County, pertaining to the South East Development Region.

The Bulgarian border region is made up of eight districts (NUTS III): Vidin, Vratsa and Montana, constituting the North West Region; Veliko Tarnovo, Plevna and Ruse, forming part of the North Central Region; and Dobrich and Silistra, representing part of the North East Region.

The map of the CBC region is presented in Annex 1 to this Complement.

## 2 PRIORITIES AND MEASURES AS PER JPD

<b>PRIORITY 1</b> <b>Improving Infrastructures</b>	<b>PRIORITY 2</b> <b>Economic Development</b>	<b>PRIORITY 3</b> <b>Environmental Protection and Management</b>	<b>PRIORITY 4</b> <b>People to People Actions</b>
<b>Measure 1.1</b> Development of transport infrastructure and accessibility within the border region.	<b>Measure 2.1</b> Business co-operation and business infrastructure development including Business information and SME marketing actions and tourism activities	<b>Measure 3.1</b> Nature protection management	<b>Measure 4.1</b> Indicative measures will include actions that promote: cultural exchange; linguistic education; cooperation in health; flow of information; sport and leisure; socio/economic relations;
<b>Measure 1.2</b> Improvement of border crossing management		<b>Measure 3.2</b> Flood management and erosion control	local employment; local democracy a.s.o.
<b>Horizontal Measure 5</b> Technical Assistance and Project Preparation Facility, employed in all four priorities			

All measures and actions are closely linked one to the other and aimed at achieving the programme global objective. The Complement 2005-2006 does not change the strategy laid down by the JPD; it only provides an orientation of implementation, detailing the approach and the conditions for funding cross border initiatives, in line with the priorities and measures presented above.

Specific guidelines arising from evaluation *recommendations*:

- 1.1 *Actions under the measure are limited to the rehabilitation of secondary and tertiary road networks and to bypasses to facilitate access to existing border crossing points;*
- 1.2 *Streamlining of procedures at border crossings and elimination of all non-physical barriers (including the provision and rehabilitation of facilities for passengers and drivers, but excluding investments in customs and border police controls);*
- 3.2 *This measure will also include actions required to complete the last phase of the air monitoring programme initiated under the previous JPD;*
- 4.1 *Eligible actions include, but are not limited to, the following areas of co-operation: culture, language, sport, local democracy.*

*The following sorts of actions shall be **ineligible** for support under this programme*

- *New ferry-boat crossing points.*
- *Combating cross-border criminality projects as these are promoted through special national programmes.*
- *Project proposals that overlap SAMTID and ISPA programmes (waste water treatment, ecological waste dumps etc.)*

The Programme supports the identification and implementation of joint projects. In the meaning of the programme, the following should be considered as joint projects:

- (a) Simple projects with a cross-border effect, taking place mostly or exclusively on one side of the border but for the benefit of both partners;
- (b) Complementary projects where an activity on one side of the border is accompanied by a similar activity on the other side;
- (c) Integrated projects where partners on either side of the border contribute different elements to a single project

Every project should respect the requirements of the Programming Guide for Phare, issued on an annual basis. Projects without direct CBC impact will not be eligible.

## INDICATIVE SECTORIAL APPROACH

### 3.1 PRIORITY 1 - Improving Infrastructures

#### 3.1.1 *Measure 1.1 - Development of transport infrastructure and accessibility within the border region*

Under this measure, funds are used to improve the transport related physical infrastructure of the border area (non-national roads, including regional and local roads, secondary and tertiary), instrumental to facilitating cross-border passenger and freight traffic. As the existence of a proper cross-border infrastructure is a pre-requisite for any type of cross-border co-operation, this measure will contribute to the existence of proper infrastructural background for the activities and results of all other measures.

##### Objectives

- The provision of roads providing access to industrial production facilities and indigenous raw materials, including food and forest product on a cross border basis;
- The improvement of designated tourist routes, roads (including scenic routes) within tourism areas and roads providing access to tourism areas that have the potential to stimulate order to facilitate cross border tourism;
- The improvement of roads providing access to the Danube ports and ferries (and thereby capitalize on the transport potential of the Danube waterway), regional airports and other public transport facilities that provide cross border transport linkages;
- The improvement of roads which make a significant contribution to local development or the attraction of economic development to the region.

##### Activities

- Improvement, restoration and construction of road links to strategic cross border transport infrastructure and facilities particularly the respective National North/South road networks;
- Improvement, restoration and construction of roads providing access to industrial production facilities and indigenous raw materials, including food and forest products where it can be demonstrated that a substantial proportion of these are exported in either countries' direction;
- Improvement, restoration and construction of designated tourist routes, roads (including scenic routes) within tourism areas and roads providing access to tourism areas in the cross border region and where a potential for cross-border tourism exists;
- Improvement and restoration of roads providing access to regional ports, regional airports and public transport facilities that cross the Danube;
- Construction of new roads including by-passes around towns where bottleneck or environmental pollution problem exist.

Road rehabilitation projects involves strengthening of the existing road surfaces by means of asphalt overlays of varying thickness depending upon the prevailing condition of the road surfaces structure. Road rehabilitation also includes surface water drainage works, shoulder surface upgrading, road markings, replacement, refurbishment and/or provision of new traffic signs, guardrails and kerbings.

The approach focussed until 2004 on *individual investment projects* for rehabilitating roads that increase fluency to cross border checkpoints, coordinated and being complementary on the two sides of the border, using the principle of "mirror" or "echo-mirror" (already realised or to be realised as medium-term priorities) projects. The projects financed in 2003 and 2004 are presented in Annexes 4 and 5.

In 2005, the Romanian side will focus on Priorities 2 - Economic Development and 3 - Environment Protection and Management and in principle no transport assistance (Priority 1) will be included, considering the fact that the Romanian budget allocation for infrastructure projects as foreseen in the JPD would be completely consumed after the first two years. The Bulgarian side, however, will develop the project "Rehabilitation of road section Montana-Lom" as a mirror to the project financed by the Romanian side in 2004: "Connection infrastructure improvement in Rast-Lom cross-border checkpoint".

For 2006 JCC will consider the necessity to prepare for the future structural funding approach and will eventually approve a reallocation of JPD budget to this measure. Actions will be taken to implement a common grant scheme for improving the transport infrastructure and accessibility within the border region. The common (RO-BG) *grant scheme* will be implemented through one call for proposal, simultaneously launched in both countries. Given the size of the funds available, mainly small scale investment projects of local character will be supported; projects aiming at the preparation of investments,

however, may also be eligible in case the cross-border benefits of the planned investment are clearly demonstrated.

### Eligible activities

The following eligible activities will be supported:

#### *a) Plans, studies and other services:*

This component shall provide grants in an indicative amount of € 50,000 – € 150,000 for the procurement of services. Eligible activities are the following:

- Preparation of studies covering preparatory project development documents for cross border projects on secondary and tertiary roads as well as on small-scale inter-modal facilities (plans, needs and impact assessments, feasibility studies and other studies);
- Traffic related services and supplies (information services about the traffic conditions on the roads leading to the border, electronic sign posts along the road, public transport coordination measures especially related to improving intermodality, internet services, etc.);
- Relevant and linked institutional strengthening activities;
- Training related to infrastructural developments or purchase of equipment;
- Joint investigations and developments of environmentally friendly transport initiatives;
- Supervision of works undertaken under component b).

#### *b) Investment for the development of transport infrastructure and accessibility*

This component shall provide grants in an indicative amount of € 150,000 – € 1,000,000 for the procurement of works. Eligible activities are the following:

- Road reconstruction/rehabilitation works related to sections of the roads leading directly to the border or road sections improving the access to roads leading directly to the border; implementation of transport related technology – e.g. installation of traffic lights, signposts and information boards, etc. is also eligible;
- Small-scale reconstruction/rehabilitation works related to creation and extension of the cross border network of local roads improving access to industrial production facilities, indigenous raw materials and business infrastructure establishments, including roads connecting to roads leading directly to the border. The implementation of transport related technology – e.g. installation of traffic lights, sign-posts and information boards, etc. is also eligible;
- Construction works related to transport safety (e.g. over- and under-crossings, roundabouts, etc.);
- Small-scale rehabilitation or construction works related to improving designated tourist routes, roads (including scenic routes) within tourism areas and providing access to these areas.

The joint call for proposals will exactly detail eligible costs.

In order to achieve significant impact, and to incite synergic effects, the submission of complementary project proposals will be strongly supported. The project proposals should include a description of the common objectives, the common problems to be solved, as well as the methods and means of co-operation of the project holders.

It is a basic requirement that for infrastructure projects applying for funding under component b), feasibility studies, legal arrangements regarding environmental provisions and technical design should have been completed before they can be taken into consideration.

### Expected results

- Minimum four projects awarded under the common grant scheme and implemented according to the Phare procedures;
- Safer roads;
- Savings of time and operating costs;
- Plans, needs and impact assessments, feasibility studies and other studies for the preparation of transport infrastructure development actions;
- Improved access roads leading directly or connected roads leading to the border;
- Improved local roads of cross border network with access to industries, indigenous raw materials, business infrastructure establishments and/or facilitating cross border tourism;
- Improved traffic related services on the roads leading to the border;

- Improved knowledge of staff of regional/county/local authorities for the preparation and implementation of road infrastructure projects with cross-border nature;
- Intensified institutional co-operation and common linkages between cross-border actors from both sides of the border established as result of common preparation and implementation of the projects.

Indicative list of projects

Project Name	Phare CBC support (M€)		National public co-financing (M€)		Total public support (M€)	CBC programming cycle
	Romanian budget allocation	Bulgarian budget allocation	Romanian budget allocation	Bulgarian budget allocation		
1. Rehabilitation of road II-81 Montana – Lom (BG)	0	4.950	0	1.650	6.600	2005
2. Common grant scheme for developing transport infrastructure and accessibility within the border region (RO-BG)	2.400	2.300	0.800	0.767	6.267	2006
<b>Total priority 1</b>	<b>2.400</b>	<b>7.250</b>	<b>0.800</b>	<b>2.417</b>	<b>12.867</b>	<b>2005-2006</b>

\* Note that the budget allocation is indicative.

Provisional Implementation schedule

Project Name	Feasibility Study	Environment Impact Assessment	Technical dossier/ mechanism of grant scheme	Land acquisition	Tender launching/ publication of call for proposals	Commencement of Works/start of project activity	Works completion*/ project completion
1. Rehabilitation of road II-81 Montana – Lom (BG)	ready	NA		Not necessary	April 2006	September 2006	ready
2. Common grant scheme for developing transport infrastructure and accessibility within the border region (RO-BG) - 2006			3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2006	Not permitted	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2009/ 2010

\* Note that there is a 12 months Defect Notification Period for all Works contracts, starting after the completion of the works.

### **3.1.2 Measure 1.2 - Improvement of border crossing management**

There are two types of activities envisaged under this measure:

- Soft measures to alleviate non-physical obstacles for border crossing.  
Taking into account that 2007 is the target date for accession proposed by both countries (which means that border would be an internal border at the end of the period covered by JPD and that borders will be lifted in a limited range of time after accession), implementation of these activities would have been started before 2004 in order to have significant impact before the border becomes an internal border of the EU. Therefore, for the period 2005-2006, no action is envisaged under this particular type of measures.
- Facilities for the “users” of border crossing.

For the implementation of these measures, under the condition that projects would remain useful after the border becomes an internal border, a grant scheme for small size projects would be the best approach. Currently, there are no significant activities envisaged across the border under this measure, their approach following to be undertaken under the national programmes.

## **3.2 PRIORITY 2 - Economic Development**

### **3.2.1 Measure 2.1 - Business co-operation and business infrastructure development including Business information and SME marketing actions and tourism activities**

Under this measure, funds will be used to improve competitiveness in the cross-border region by promoting effective collaboration among businesses in the area where greater benefits are a result of joint co-operation and developing new cross-border links supporting the economic and technological development of the cross border area.

#### Objectives

- Create opportunities for associations and administrations on both sides of the border to work together in the pursuit of common goals;
- Strengthen the SME sector in the region and make it nationally and internationally competitive;
- Explore and develop new market opportunities in each other’s jurisdictions;
- Promote effective cross border business linkages in work areas of mutual benefit;
- Exploit the potential of ICT in strengthening cross border business linkages;
- Stimulate the use of innovation initiatives, which create new economic and employment opportunities on either side of the border;
- Harnessing the regions’ cultural and natural identity and resources for the benefit of tourism;
- Ensuring that tourism development is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable.

#### Activities

- Create business to business cross-border linkages / sub-supplier networks;
- Assist the expansion of cross border trade in goods and services through joint export / tradable services development and marketing;
- Identify joint strategic inward investment initiatives;
- Supply strategic advisory, mentoring and support services, sectoral and cross sectoral business and economic development and export market development and exchange of best practice between businesses on a cross border basis to encourage growth;
- Exploit opportunities for economies of scale by supporting cross border collaboration aimed at creating capacity, sharing of resources, distribution networks and building trade and procurement mass;
- Develop opportunities for business expansion through product, technology, know-how transfer and information exchange at SME level;
- Support for cross border enterprise generation and development, including enterprise, incubation, start-up and innovation linkages;

- Encourage the creation of clusters of related cross border enterprise and business activities, in joint research and development initiatives, especially in sectors where critical mass is essential;
- Ensure regular exchange of business information through the creation of business related cross-border databases consisting of enterprises, consultancy companies, development agencies, local and regional authorities, as well as specific rules and information for export and import, tourism and industrial co-operation between both sides of the Danube;
- Support joint tourism development and area based marketing initiatives;
- Develop and upgrade facilities and infrastructure which enable the coordinated development of cross border leisure activities such as walking and cycling trails, pony trekking, environmental tours, education tourism and angling;
- Develop facilities for special interest pursuits including cycling, walking, equestrian facilities, great gardens, outdoor pursuits, water sports, inland cruising and marine and health tourism;
- Perform actions designed to link and package a number of existing attractions in order to create a cohesive, high-quality, strategic cluster of tourism facilities (possessed of a common brand and marketing strategy, a common high and consistent quality in all aspects of their operations, and coherently linked through information policy, signposting, etc);
- Develop joint information systems and improvements in marketing the area's tourism.
- Improve co-operation in development of complementary products and service among the Black Sea service providers and other tourism providers.

The Phare Cross-Border Co-operation programme RO-BG has not financed any significant economic development projects so far. Until 2004 the approach focussed on seeking for *individual large-scale projects*, coordinated and being complementary on the two sides of the border. The project financed in 2003 is presented in Annex 4.

Having in view the need to prepare for the future structural funding, starting with 2005 a grant scheme will be implemented.

It is recognised that strengthening of cross-border connections and development of the border regions will not come about through investment in infrastructure and facilities alone. Institutional strengthening is clearly required on both sides of the border. This logic – a sensible combination of institutional strengthening and appropriate investment – will result in far higher and longer term dividends than investment alone. As part of this combined institutional strengthening and related investment theme, the programme will also cover project preparation studies and activities. Therefore, during 2005 - 2006 support shall be provided in a two-fold approach:

- Soft-type support to develop and enhance co-operation between the communities on either side of the border in areas of mutual interest;
- Investment support related to the development of economic infrastructure of common interest.

Romania and Bulgaria will finance the grant scheme on a yearly basis, taking actions to align to a common implementation (one call for proposal, simultaneously launched in both countries).

Eligible projects will be based on a common approach (common activities) in the field of agriculture, industry and/or services, including tourism, under the condition of no overlapping with other programmes.

The following eligible action areas shall be supported under the *grant scheme for business cooperation and development of business infrastructure and joint business services*:

*a) Business support cooperation and services*

This component shall provide grants in an indicative amount of € 50 000 – € 150 000 for the procurement of services to assist joint working initiatives in the following eligible activities:

- Support for cross-border business events facilitating the meeting of small and medium sized businesses (sectoral conferences, trade fairs, study tours);
- Support for the establishment of new partnerships, collaboration between research institutes or universities in the field of research and development activities, as well as social sciences (conferences and other events; development of scholarship programmes to researchers; implementation of joint pilot research projects; related ICT and R&D investments);
- Supervision of works undertaken under component b).
- Support for cooperation projects preparation in regard to economic cross-border activities, such as:

- Project preparation activities: (e.g. construction and cadastre plans, economic, feasibility and environmental impact studies, budget analysis, cost estimates, locally based economic strategies and action plans; architectural and engineering design documents for preparing business infrastructure development projects facilitating better cross-border business co-operation);
- Preparation of research studies for identifying market gaps, market opportunities and high value added products, processes and services and dissemination of results within the cross border region;
- Development and introduction of common production and quality standards; product and process innovation;
- Common marketing initiatives to promote local products, services and places of common interest, inside eligible area;
- Development of common IT tools;
- Joint initiatives of organisation of cross border clusters, for example in electronics, multi-media, ICT, food processing and bio-technology;
- Joint initiatives for innovation and adding value to local agricultural, forestry, fishery and other land based products of mutual benefit;
- Support and implementation of joint research, technological development and technology transfer projects between R&D institutions and businesses with direct relevance to the border region;
- Joint tourism products development and area based marketing initiatives;
- Joint development of complementary products and service among the Black Sea service providers and other tourism providers;
- Common training projects, with a particular focus on development of appropriate joint qualifications and development of e-commerce; assistance for addressing skills deficits and sectoral needs in the eligible area;
- Information exchange related services and supplies (internet services, promotion of best practice in the use of ICT, support for community led ICT initiatives, sharing expertise and good practice in education and training etc.).

*b) Support for development of business infrastructure, in the area where greater benefits are as a result of joint co-operation. This component shall provide grants in an indicative amount of € 150,000 – € 700,000 for works and/or supplies and related services targeting creation/development/extension of business infrastructure facilities of common interest:*

- Building or modernisation of buildings for business facilities (offices, workshop, presentation rooms and, where required, laboratories) and the related common cross-border services;
- Development, extension and refurbishment of existing business infrastructure facilities, (technology incubators and trade centres providing cross-border services and office / storage capacity / space for businesses involved in cross-border trade);
- Establishment of new business facilities with clear cross-border nature (construction of new buildings, refurbishment of existing buildings currently out of use, or used for other purposes; development of IT infrastructure and provision of necessary equipments);
- Upgrading and rehabilitation of cross-border tourism related research, technology and development centres;
- Purchase of equipment necessary for development of new common products and joint technologies by R&D institutions and businesses in the regions on both sides of the border;
- Investments in information technology infrastructure in the border region to foster cross-border co-operation between innovation, technology, and logistics centres;
- Arrangement and upgrading of facilities and infrastructure which enable the coordinated development of cross border leisure activities (such as walking and cycling trails, pony trekking, education tourism and angling);
- Arrangement or upgrading of facilities for special interest pursuits including cycling, walking, equestrian facilities, gardens, outdoor pursuits, water sports, inland cruising and marine and health tourism.

Each call for proposals will exactly detail eligible costs. The project proposals should include a description of the common objectives, the common problems to be solved, as well as the methods and means of co-operation of the project holders.

Expected results:

- Minimum three projects awarded each year under the common grant scheme and implemented according to the Phare procedures;
- Intensified partner searches, development and creation of co-operation projects and networks at the enterprise level and across enterprises;
- An improved system for business support services in the border area;
- Created/expanded cross-border business information and communication, and business service structures;
- Newly established cross-border networks or partnerships between businesses and/or research institutes;
- Absorption capacity of business support institutions tested;
- Absorption capacity of public institutions for small-scale tourism infrastructure projects tested;
- Integrated production and service development, building up of supply and delivery relationships;
- Expansion of the market / integrated development of offerings, marketing and external image;
- Increased long term R&D cooperation, know-how and technology transfer, consulting, common services for enterprises;
- More harmonised training systems related to the economic development;
- A common tourism package for the area developed;
- Training/consulting services to economic entities delivered;
- Promotional activities carried out;
- Intensified institutional co-operation and common linkages between cross-border actors from both sides of the border established as result of common preparation and implementation of the projects.

Indicative list of projects

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Phare CBC support (M€)</b>		<b>National Public Co-financing (M€)</b>		<b>Total public support (M€)</b>	<b>CBC programming cycle</b>
	<b>Romanian budget allocation</b>	<b>Bulgarian budget allocation</b>	<b>Romanian budget allocation</b>	<b>Bulgarian budget allocation</b>		
1. Grant scheme for economic development (Ro, Bg)	3.40	0.85	1.13	0.28	5.66	2005
3. Common grant scheme for economic development (Ro-Bg)	2.20	2.20	0.73	0.73	5.86	2006
<b>Total priority 2</b>	<b>5.40</b>	<b>3.05</b>	<b>1.86</b>	<b>1.01</b>	<b>11.32</b>	<b>2005-2006</b>

\* Note that the budget allocation is indicative

Provisional implementation schedule

<b>Project</b>	<b>Mechanism of grant scheme</b>	<b>Tender launching/ public call for proposal</b>	<b>Commencement of Works/ start of project activities</b>	<b>Works* / project completion</b>
1. Grant scheme (RO, BG) - 2005	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2005	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2005	2nd quarter 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008/9
3. Common grant scheme (RO-BG) - 2006	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2006	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007	2nd quarter 2009/10

\* Note that there is a 12 months Defect Notification Period for all Works contracts, starting after the completion of the works.

### **3.3 PRIORITY 3 - Environmental Protection and Management**

For practical reasons, promotion of cooperative initiatives under this priority will be accomplished through a grant scheme which will combine measures 1 and 2 under a combined and integrated, two-fold approach. This will be an important element in creating a joint environmental approach in the two border regions, in order to enable them to function as one single unit after the accession of Romania and Bulgaria to the European Union.

#### **3.3.1 Measure 3.1 - Nature protection management**

This measure aims at the protection, management and sustainable use of natural resources, and improvement of co-ordination of institutions dealing with nature protection. Under this measure funds will be used to support the joint protection of the environment and the natural values of the cross-border area.

##### Objectives

- Foster greater understanding of the environment and the protection and conservation of habitat sites;
- Support maintenance of biodiversity and contribute to a European ecological network;
- Support balanced regional development through the provision of facilities which make areas more attractive as places in which to live and work;
- Protect, restore and manage environmentally important habitats;
- Facilitate collection and monitoring of key environmental indicators;
- Development of sustainable cultural/heritage tourism in a manner consistent with conservation of the national heritage.

##### Activities

- Combat soil erosion to resolve environmental problems and protect natural assets on both sides of border;
- Joint nature and rural development including nature protection areas, designation of nature reserves (national park areas);
- Jointly develop and promote tools and techniques (such as integrated local area management plans) to promote sustainable resource use;
- Stimulate support for joint actions with key economic sectors that present high pollution risks of a cross-border nature;
- Protection of the cross-border environment, particularly water catchments;
- Joint actions to understand the economic and social value of environmental resources;
- Joint research activities to help understand, manage and monitor the land, air, marine and coastal environment and other aspects of common interest;
- Joint actions to improve the area's capacity for environmental management and monitoring, and its response to marine and water based emergencies including joint environmental disaster planning;
- Management of the trans-boundary protected areas;
- Jointly develop and promote educational programmes to promote dissemination of knowledge and public awareness of the natural resources and its sustainable use;
- Encourage the protection of the cross-border environment through the development of agreements, strategies and management plans, particularly for water catchments and areas important for their natural, landscape or historic heritage;
- The development of bio-diversity plans to conserve priority natural habitats and native species where this is best addressed on an interregional basis.

#### **3.3.2 Measure 3.2 - Flood management and erosion control**

This measure aims at protecting and promoting the environmental quality of the eligible area, safeguarding and improving the natural endowments through joint initiatives. Under this measure funds

will be used to support the environmental networks in implementing concerted management, monitoring and promoting of a sustainable use of the water resources in the cross-border area.

#### Objectives

- Protection of natural assets from the effects of flooding and coastal and coastal and river bank erosion;
- Foster greater understanding of the environment and the protection and conservation of natural resources;
- Support balanced regional development through the provision of facilities which make areas more attractive as places in which to live and work;
- Facilitate the collection and monitoring of key environmental indicators relating to air quality.

#### Activities:

- Develop a *common* water management, perform innovation and development related to hydrological and hydro-geographical areas, to ground and surface water etc., and to the management of coastal and rivers;
- Create a system for quick reporting of accidents between both countries, as well as the exchange of information on emissions measured by the national bodies monitoring air quality;
- Carry out construct works to protect natural and other economically important assets from flooding and coastal and coastal and river bank erosion;
- Installation of air quality monitoring systems to complete the last phase of the air quality monitoring system initiated under the previous JPD;
- Reduction of draught effects and prevention of desertification using transboundary forest shelter belts and protected forests.

The projects financed until 2004 showed that both central ministries of environment did not really identify joint projects of local interest. Projects financed in 2003 and 2004 are shown in Annex 4 and Annex 5. To address this dysfunction of the programme, in 2005 two measures are taken:

- (i) To move to a grant scheme to favour a bottom-up approach with a more transparent selection process;
- (ii) To radically change the membership of the joint working group on environment – with “massive” participation of local stakeholders – and to adopt an adequate working plan and working schedule.

The grant scheme for 2005 and 2006 will integrate the two measures of this priority, and actions will be taken to align to common implementation (one call for proposal, simultaneously launched in both countries).

The following eligible action areas shall be supported under the grant scheme:

#### *a) Studies, programmes and action plans supporting cooperation.*

This component shall provide grants in indicative amount of € 50,000 – € 150,000 for the procurement of services. Eligible activities are the following:

- Appropriate project preparation activities (elaboration of feasibility studies, engineering design documents, environmental impact assessments) and supervision activities;
- Organisation and delivery of joint events related to the activity of joint structures for management, monitoring and control of environment factors within the cross-border area;
- Preparation and exposure of habitats mappings, species inventories, joint conservation concepts, management plans;
- Establishment of research and development organisations and/or networks in the field, which can help in the formulation of properly, focussed policies;
- Pilot actions facilitating the joint protection of the environment and the natural values of the cross-border area;
- Development of bio-diversity plans to conserve natural habitats and native species where this is best addressed on an interregional basis;
- Formulating joint strategies for broad land based risk analyses and management strategies in areas prone to floods;
- Preparation of public awareness and communication (in-situ and ex-situ protection);

- Development and implementation of common educational programmes that are sustainable beyond the project duration;
- Support for promotion of an efficient use and wise management of the cross border area natural resources (e.g. fish production, water transportation and boat tourism), without endangering a necessary transformation of the economy of respective areas;
- Support for developing methods for preserving, development and promotion of “green corridors”, stimulating the exchange of organisms (biodiversity) and creating a green infrastructure for social recreation and tourism;
- Support for an integrated sustainable management of water resources alongside the Danube Coastal and river;
- Development of integrated quantitative and qualitative management and control action plans/ programmes/ methods concerning risk prevention, quick reporting of accidents and measuring damages/impact, etc.
- Development of harmonised and joint monitoring and information systems on an interregional basis;
- Joint training actions for Romanian and Bulgarian environmental experts in order to strengthen cross-sectoral environmental approaches;
- Support to linked Institutional strengthening activities;
- Environment protection related information and promotion campaigns;
- Small supplies necessary to carry out the activities identified above;
- Supervision of works undertaken under component b).
- Appropriate training activities

*b) Investment actions for development of joint initiatives.*

This component shall provide grants of EUR 150,000–1,000,000 for works and / or supplies targeting environment infrastructure as follows:

- Construction or rehabilitation of buildings and other edifices and infrastructural establishments, also including information centres facilities;
- Rehabilitation of polluted areas;
- Restoration of habitats and set up of ecological corridors;
- Conservation and sustainable development of exceptional landscapes;
- ICT development and implementation;
- Updating of communication and data transmission equipment;
- Environmental risk reduction;
- Purchase and installation of specific measuring tools and monitoring equipment in the border area;
- Purchase of remote sensing and modelling tools;
- Investments related to works for improvement of the flood control embankments;
- Construction works to protect natural and other economically important assets from erosion;
- Joint actions to improve the area's capacity for environmental management and monitoring, and its response to marine and water based emergencies including joint environmental disaster planning;
- Investments in rehabilitation of polluted areas.

Each call for proposals will exactly detail eligible costs. The project proposals should include a description of the common objectives, the common problems to be solved, as well as the methods and means of co-operation of the project holders.

*Expected results*

- Minimum three projects awarded each year under a grant scheme and implemented according to the Phare procedures;
- Minimum of three Joint bodies, organisations or associations or partnerships developed and established in the environmental sector;
- Joint environmental management strategies agreed;

- New forms of work organisation in nature protected areas implemented;
- Management of the coastal zone harmonised;
- Management of physically connected protected areas and national parks harmonised;
- Joint monitoring and information systems in the border region set up;
- Management plans prepared and at minimum one plan implemented;
- Impact assessments, need assessments, feasibility studies and other studies covering preparatory documents for environmental investment actions elaborated;
- Studies and inventories done;
- Nature protection management implemented;
- Ecologically important habitats restored and corridors settled;
- Soil erosion protection planned;
- Dyking and coastal and river regulation planned;
- Flood prevention and coastal and river bank erosion control implemented;
- Larger natural areas, groundwater tables and coastal and rivers protected;
- Environmental information and awareness raising programmes implemented;
- Decreased number of polluted areas;
- Information centres established and equipped;
- Information offices/centres functioning;
- Intensified institutional co-operation and common linkages between cross-border actors from both sides of the border established as result of common preparation and implementation of the projects.

Indicative list of projects

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Phare CBC support (M€)</b>		<b>National Public co-financing (M€)</b>		<b>Total public support (M€)</b>	<b>CBC programming cycle</b>
	<b>Romanian budget allocation</b>	<b>Bulgarian budget allocation</b>	<b>Romanian budget allocation</b>	<b>Bulgarian budget allocation</b>		
1. Grant scheme for environment protection and management (RO-BG)	3.40	0.90	1.13	0.30	5.73	2005
1. Common grant scheme for environment protection and management (RO-BG)	2.20	2.20	0.73	0.73	5.86	2006
<b>Total measure</b>	<b>5.60</b>	<b>3.10</b>	<b>1.86</b>	<b>1.03</b>	<b>11.59</b>	<b>2005-2006</b>

\* Note that the budget allocation is indicative

Provisional implementation schedule

<b>Project</b>	<b>Mechanism of grant scheme</b>	<b>Tender launching/ public call for proposal</b>	<b>Commencement of Works/ start of project activities</b>	<b>Works* / project completion</b>
1. Grant scheme (RO-BG) - 2005	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2005	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2005	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008/2009
2. Common grant scheme (RO-BG) - 2006	3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter 2006	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2009/2010

\* Note that there is a 12 months Defect Notification Period for all Works contracts, starting after the completion of the works.

### 3.4 PRIORITY 4 - People to people

#### 3.4.1 Measure 4.1 - People to people

This priority is primarily aimed at encouraging cross-border contacts and co-operation at regional and local level through a flexible approach of funding smaller-scale actions, which are defined on the basis of local/regional needs, have a cross-border impact and encourages the development of linkages between the communities /organisations/ institutions on both sides of the border.

##### Objectives:

The priority aims at strengthening existing people-to-people co-operation and stimulating new co-operation arrangements across the border, in the fields of:

- Economic development and co-operation;
- Human resources development and local employment;
- Flow of information and raising of public awareness on cross-border co-operation affairs and on the process of European integration;
- Cultural co-operation and exchanges, youth meetings, linguistic education and educational activities for institutions and individuals involved in local/regional development, in local government and in organisations of public interest;
- Co-operation in health, sport and leisure, local democracy;
- Planning and development studies;

in order to help communities on either side of the border to overcome specific development problems resulting from their relative isolation in the framework of national economies.

##### Activities:

Under this priority funds are used to support small-scale joint activities across the border areas in the fields specified above. The grant scheme provides grants in an amount of € 10,000 – € 50,000 for supply and service contracts. In particular, the following activities will be supported:

##### Eligible activities

**Economic Development:** Support for small projects focusing on economies, which enhance the economic base of the border region. For example proposals for the development of small-scale enterprise, marketing initiatives, markets, exhibitions and advertising events, and so forth; the creation of cross-border co-operation structures and partnerships among supporting organisations;

**Environment:** Projects focusing on specific problems of the environment of the region, such as the drafting of studies, assessment of problems, environmental training, actions aiming at increasing public environmental awareness and so forth;

**Tourism:** A range of "soft" actions for tourism development - studies, planning, institutional strengthening measures, specific SME training and related Human Resources Development (HRD) programmes.

**Cultural Exchanges:** Supporting those cultural exchanges that already exist and those that are being newly established between local groups on both sides of the border (in the eligible regions). Meetings and exchanges among youth; artistic and supporting activities; folk events and similar actions with the emphasis on the establishment of traditions and long-term co-operation;

**Local Democracy:** Schemes will be supported that help create and intensify the skills of organisational structures in local and regional public administration and other elements of a democratic society (chambers of commerce, trade associations, trade unions, NGOs). Relevant training courses and information will be provided supporting exchange visits, project preparation and procedural matters. Joint projects may also involve the elaboration of materials for distance learning (including e-learning) and so forth. Exchange of know-how and experience in education at various levels will also be supported.

**Planning and development studies:** Projects providing a basis for planning within a border region. Projects can be supported that create the preconditions for joint planning in a border region, for framing joint research programmes, for drawing up joint strategies for regional development in a border area with the aim to jointly define the development priorities and so forth. Development of project applications and feasibility studies are also included.

Up to 7% of the total for the grant scheme allocation may be used by Implementing Agencies (IAs) for technical assistance costs related to the management of JSPF. A service contract will be awarded in accordance with PRAG.

The main activities carried out for this amount of funds will be as follows:

- Technical management of the scheme (ensuring maximum support and assisting the project proposers to clearly conceptualise project ideas);
- Administrative and financial management (including tendering, contracting, monitoring and evaluation, approving the financial and technical reports of beneficiaries);
- Organisational tasks (organising of information meetings, opening and evaluation process, publication of the Call of proposals and brochures, public presentations, media).

Encouraged will be the projects, which:

- Address joint problems of the border regions and provide innovative solutions by opening up new dimensions of CBC and creating integrated products and activities;
- Represent the start ups activities of cross-border nature, with the clear elements of sustainability and additionality;
- Will empower the capability and capacity of the local organisation to develop and implement.

The eligibility and selection criteria will be specified in detail in the Guidelines for applicants, according to standard templates specified by Practical Guide.

#### Expected results

- Financial support to small-scale “people-to-people” actions in the border regions in the field of economic development, environment, tourism, local employment, cultural exchanges, local democracy, planning and development studies, etc.;
- Small-scale projects in the fields mentioned above, agreed with the counterpart according to the People to people actions package rules and guidelines;
- Enhanced public awareness and information on cross-border co-operation affairs and on the process of European integration;
- Encouraged involvement of the Bulgarian and Romanian local stakeholders in the Phare CBC Programme;
- Increased awareness among citizens and businesses about the positive effects of the cross border co-operation;
- Increased and strengthened capacity of Bulgarian and Romanian local and regional organizations to prepare adequate cross border projects in the context of Phare CBC;
- Cross-border links created among the local and regional organisations in the border region;
- Knowledge about each other among the inhabitants of the border regions will contribute to a smooth integration between them after the accession into the EU.

Indicative list of projects

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Phare CBC support (M€)</b>		<b>National Public co-financing (M€)</b>		<b>Total public support (M€)</b>	<b>CBC programming cycle</b>
	<b>Romanian budget allocation</b>	<b>Bulgarian budget allocation</b>	<b>Romanian budget allocation</b>	<b>Bulgarian budget allocation</b>		
1. People to people actions (RO-BG)	0.800	0.800	0.248	*	1.848	2005
2. Common People to people actions (RO-BG)	0.800	0.800	0.248	*	1.848	2006
<b>Total measure</b>	<b>1.600</b>	<b>1.600</b>	<b>0.496</b>	*	<b>3.696</b>	<b>2005-2006</b>

*\* A minimum of 10 % co-financing will be provided by the beneficiaries (not through public funds)*

Provisional implementation schedule

<b>Project name</b>	Updating Guidelines/ Establishment of the JEC	First calls for proposals	<b>Start of project activities</b>	Completion of projects
1. People to people actions (RO-BG) -2005	-	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2005	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007
1. Common People to people actions (RO-BG) - 2006	-	4 <sup>th</sup> quarter 2006	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2007	2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter 2008

### 3.5 General conditions

Projects already financed by another EU funded programme may not be supported under this programme.

Applications for funding under each measure (projects) will be selected according to a PRAG compliant evaluation grid that takes account of the following indicative selection criteria.

Applicants may apply for one type of funding for a given project: either for the 'soft measures' (studies, programmes and action plans, small services supporting CBC), or 'hard measures' (involving investment actions with accompanying planning).

#### 3.5.1 Eligible applicants (and partners)

Organisations eligible for support will be non-profit organisations:

- County/municipal/local councils, and inter-communal co-operation organisations in the eligible areas;
- Euro Regions;
- Local organisations, enterprise agencies, associations and foundations;
- Chambers of commerce, agriculture and industry;
- Professional associations and Trade Union organisations;
- SMEs, but only for not profit making activities;
- Research institutes;
- Public or non-profit educational and training organisations, including local branches of universities and colleges;
- NGOs based in the eligible region, including but not exclusive NGOs with training activities in the field of business promotion and networking (Priority 2) and Environmental NGOs (Priority 3);
- Local, county and regional public road management companies (Priority 1)
- Road network operators of public interest. (Priority 1)
- Local, county and regional water management, coastal and river protection and flood protection companies and public bodies (Priority 3)
- Public organisations responsible for management of natural parks and protected areas (Priority 3);
- Local, regional environment protection agencies (Priority 3);
- Associations of the above organisations within the defined cross-border regions.

In order to be eligible for a grant, applicants must:

- Be non-profit-making;
- Have their headquarters within the eligible cross border region.  
or
- Be a local branch office of a national organisation that have a clear role in the border region.
- Documents to state the statute of the branch office must be attached to the application (Statutes and/or Articles of Association, or Rules of Organisation and Operation). In this case the local branch office must submit the application.
- Be directly responsible for the preparation and management of the project, not acting as an intermediary;
- Have stable and sufficient sources of finance to ensure the continuity of their organisation throughout the project and, if necessary, to play a part in financing it;
- Be experienced and able to demonstrate their capacity to manage activity corresponding with the size of the project for which a grant is requested.

Eligible applicants must have one partner on the other side of the border, which must fulfil the same eligibility criteria as the applicant. Each partner can have one or more participants. Applicants without any partners from the other side of the border will not be eligible either.

The Grant Schemes will be opened to all eligible entities on an equal basis.

The grants will only be made for projects whose immediate objective is non-commercial and strictly non-profit making. Under no circumstances may grant give rise to profits (i.e. it will be restricted to the amount required to balance income and expenditure for the project). Profit-making organisations and/or national

organisations without a distinct role in the border region will not be eligible, neither as project leader, nor as partner. Political parties are not eligible.

### **3.5.2 General Eligibility Criteria**

The following general eligibility criteria apply:

- CBC Impact: Projects without direct CBC impact will not be eligible for funding. The cross-border impact shall be understood in terms of: joint development of project ideas / joint preparation of project application / joint implementation of project activities / joint co-financing of project activities on both sides of the border and assured sustainability by both cross-border partners of the results achieved;
- Compatibility with the core objectives of the JPD;
- Applicant is a non-profit organisation;
- Applicant is based in an eligible geographic area;
- A similarly qualified partner is situated in the other country;
- Total project duration does not exceed 22 months;
- The requested financial support (amount, availability of cofinancing, own contribution) is in compliance with Phare Programming Guide 2004 and PRAG;
- Land acquisition expenses will not be eligible under the grant scheme;
- Investments shall be fully compliant with the relevant EU Directives;
- Linked to other interventions and developments under other programmes (EC / International, national and community programmes in Romania and Bulgaria)
- Compliance with projects financed by other international aid schemes (e.g. ISPA, Sapard, Phare Economic and Social Cohesion); however, the technical content of the project proposal does not overlap with other internationally financed projects;
- Results of the project are in line with the objectives of the grant scheme;
- Results of the project proposal are for public utilisation;
- In principle only one project shall be granted per applicant.

### **3.5.3 General selection criteria**

#### **Project duration**

The maximum duration of a single project shall not exceed 22 months (12 months in the case of Measure 5.1 - People-to-People).

#### **Relevance**

- Relevance to the particular needs and constraints of the cross-border region (including conformity with regional development plans and the JPD);
- Demonstrating support for the long-term strategies for municipal or regional development (projects that are part of an overall strategy / plan for development of the region / district / municipality will be granted priority);
- Clear definition and strategic choice of the target area;
- Relevance of the project to the needs of the target area;
- Coherent, appropriate and practical character of the activities proposed (including the CBC activities);
- Specific elements of added value in the project, such as innovative approaches, and models for good practice.

#### **Methodology**

- Supported by appropriate management plans;
- Appropriate project preparation and supervision activities;
- Appropriate strategies, consultancy and advisory services;
- Contribution to institutional and capacity building;
- Preparedness and elaboration of the project proposal (including preparedness for evaluation);
- Involvement and activity of the cross-border partners in the elaboration and implementation of the project proposal;

- Clear and sufficiently detailed proposal text and sequence of logic proposal elements, including: 'Title' (covering proposal text), 'Present situation', 'Problem to be solved', 'Methodology', 'Activities', 'Results' and 'Impact' and 'Sustainability';
- Logic and sound time-schedule and action plan of the project proposal, and a realistic projected implementation;
- Definition of objectively verifiable indicators.

#### **Sustainability**

- Guaranteed (financial and institutional) sustainability of the developments implemented through the grant scheme;
- Beneficial social, economic and environmental impacts of the project results;
- Impacting on a large number of population/ land/water base/assets in the border region;
- Possible multiplier effects of the project results (including possibilities for extension of project outcomes).

#### **Budget and cost effectiveness**

- Detailed and clear budget;
- Justification of the proposed expenditures in view to the implementation of the project.

#### **Management capacity and expertise**

- Availability of the necessary personal and organisational capacity and expertise for the project;
- Management (including the previous experience in similar projects);
- Availability of the necessary personal and organisational capacity and expertise for the technical realisation of the proposal (i.e. knowledge of issues to be addressed).

#### **Priority related evaluation criteria**

- Supported projects have to be justified by decreasing access time and increasing transport safety between Romanian settlement(s) and Bulgarian ones; as well as involving infrastructure development on both sides of the border (Priority 1);
- Directly responding to clearly demonstrated needs of businesses, primarily SMEs, on both sides of the border (Priority 2);
- Establishing facilities supporting or inducing direct cross-border co-operation of businesses (demonstrating that at least 50% of firms that will use the services of the supported facility will be involved in cross-border trade / business) will be given priority (Priority 2);
- Resulting in long-term co-operations of enterprises from the eligible area (Priority 2);
- Supported by a business management plan (notably: defining clearly services to be provided to SMEs, tariffs for these services) (Priority 2);
- Liked to other interventions and developments in other programmes (Priority 2);
- Cleaning up activities can be granted only when part of a larger development project (Priority 3).

Under no circumstances the project shall be in contradiction with the long-term development plans of the municipality or the region (projects that are part of an overall strategy/plan for the development of the region/town/municipality will be prioritised).

Encouraged will be the projects, which:

- Address joint problems of the border regions and provide innovative solutions by opening up new dimensions of CBC and creating integrated products and activities;
- Represent the start up activities of cross-border nature, with the clear elements of sustainability and additionality;
- Will empower the capability and capacity of the local organisation to develop and implement.

**The eligibility and selection criteria will be specified in detail in the Guidelines for applicants, according to standard templates specified by Phare Practical Guide.**

#### **3.5.4 Documentation**

Documentation required for works applications:

- Studies justifying the rationality of the investment (e.g. feasibility study, including cost estimate, cost-benefit analysis, environmental impact assessment if required, technical aspects, etc.);

- Availability of effective construction plans, valid permission of authorities (e.g. construction permit, water construction permit, environment permit) or at least letters of acceptance issued by relevant local authorities; in case of developments that are not subject to construction permit, planning documentation appropriate for the professional evaluation of the planned investments must be submitted;
- Statement of competent authorities confirming the coherence of the project with the effective strategies and plans or any other available strategy that justifies the investments and its sustainability in the regional or local context;
- Statement of the competent environment authority that proposed developments do not endanger the surface and groundwater;
- Certification of settled ownership conditions;
- Certification of the availability of own resources for co-financing the project.

### 3.5.5 Formal Criteria for EU co-financing in case of Grant Schemes

The following definitions apply:

Total Eligible Cost = Phare CBC Grant + Ro Public Co-financing + Beneficiary Contribution

Total Support (max) = Phare CBC Grant + Ro Public Co-financing = 90% of Total Eligible Cost

- Phare CBC Grant = 75% of Total Support (max)
- Ro Public Co-financing = 25% of Total Support (min)

Beneficiary Contribution = 10% of Total Eligible Cost (min).

In this regard, the grant support will be jointly co-financed by Phare CBC and government resources (RO or BG Public Co-financing) on a 75/25 basis. The maximum Total Support for each project (Phare CBC grant + RO/BG Public Co-financing) is 90% of the Total Eligible Cost of the project. The beneficiary must provide an additional contribution of at least 10% of Total Public Support, in cash. The ratio between the Phare and the national amount is binding and has to be applied to the "final contract price" of the eligible expenditure.

Example:

1,104,000 = Total Eligible Cost  
 994,000 = Total Support  
 744,000 = Phare CBC Grant  
 250,000 = Romanian/Bulgarian Public Co-financing  
 110,000 = Beneficiary Contribution

No part of the eligible public grant, be it financed by Phare or by the national public authorities, may cover payments towards or be offset against customs duties, import duties, taxes or fiscal charges having equivalent effect.

The following criteria apply:

- For Plans, studies, and other services see grant component A in column 2.
- For investments (see B in column 2)

Priority	Grant component	Phare CBC support/ National public co-financing split of the grant	Indicative minimum Phare CBC grant size (€)	Indicative maximum Phare CBC grant size (€)	Minimum % of the total eligible cost contributed by the project applicant (cash only).
Priority 1	A	75/25	50,000	150,000	10 %
	B	75/25	150,000	1,000,000	10 %
Priority 2	A	75/25	50,000	150,000	10 %
	B	75/25	150,000	700,000	10 %
Priority 3	A	75/25	50,000	150,000	10 %
	B	75/25	150,000	1,000,000	10 %

Priority 4	-	75/25	10,000	50,000	10 %
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### 3.5.6 **Conditionalities**

The following conditionalities apply:

- The IAs will ensure the necessary human and physical (office space and equipment) resources for the management of the Common Pilot Grant Schemes and coordination of scheme implementation;
- The Operational Guidelines for the Common Pilot Grant Schemes shall be approved by the Delegations of the European Commission to RO and BG;
- The EC Delegations must approve ex-ante projects with budget of over 300,000 EUR; EC Delegations may decide whether or not there is a need to approve ex-ante projects with a lower budget than 300,000 EUR, on a case by case basis;
- Co-funding shall be earmarked at national and county/local level;
- No part of the eligible public grant, be it financed by Phare or by the national public authorities, may cover payments towards or be offset against customs duties, import duties, taxes or fiscal charges having equivalent effect;
- Detailed implementation mechanisms of the pilot grant scheme be prepared by March 31, 2006;
- It will be ensured that projects are included in the municipality, county or district economic development plan and that it forms part of the National strategy for development 2005– 2006, in BG and RO as well;
- It will be ensured for the completed technical design and land acquisition prior to the signature of the respective Financing Memorandum;
- List of priority equipment needed to support joint information and monitoring programmes will be based on needs assessment (Priority 3);
- Required licences and permits from the competent authorities will be handled by the beneficiaries, obtained at least 30 days before contracting; activities requiring one or more permits cannot start before all permits have been obtained.

## 3.6 **TA and PPF**

### 3.6.1 **HORIZONTAL MEASURE 5 – Technical Assistance** **Measure 5.1: Programme support activities**

#### Objectives

- To enhance the quality and coherence of actions under the Programme;
- To secure the best and most effective use of the assistance through effective and efficient implementation;
- To provide assurance to Member State authorities and the European Commission that the assistance is properly managed, monitored and accounted for; and to ensure that the assistance is published in a manner that raises awareness and aids the development of the Programme;
- Supports equality of access to the assistance and informs all audience of the Programme's achievements;
- Provisions are made for the allocation of funds in each year for Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MRDPW) in Bulgaria, to the Ministry of European Integration (MEI) in Romania or to other Ministries or to the Cross-border cooperation implementing organisations / actors in the border regions.

Under this measure funds will be used to implement activities that may be supported by TA in relation to administration, management, and development of the programme.

The programme will help the national and joint implementing bodies to ensure efficient, effective and transparent management as well as smooth operation of the Phare CBC programme. The programme administration and management, publicity, monitoring and evaluation activities will be provided as Technical Assistance. Successful delivery of the programme through the grant schemes will require a strengthening of administrative capacity.

Consequently, in the next funding period (2005-2006) the existing cooperation structures established at the central and local levels will be expanded and strengthened, especially at the local level of the border region. One of the aims of the TA will be to support these structures to fulfil the goals of this programme.

In order to support the Romanian Implementing Agency in the implementation, management and monitoring of the CBC programmes, a Regional Office in Calarasi is set up (and will integrate the with the JSPF Office in Giurgiu). The Regional Office will be responsible for the administrative and technical implementation of the CBC programme measures described above and will need appropriate support.

Also, in order to support the Bulgarian Implementing Agency in the implementation, management and monitoring of the CBC programmes, a Regional Office in the border area will be set up. The Regional Office will be responsible for the administrative and technical implementation of the CBC programme measures described above and will need appropriate support.

In addition, Technical Assistance under this measure will be used to ensure effective and efficient publicity and evaluation of the programme. Through assisting publicity activities, this measure will contribute significantly to ensuring equal opportunities for the potential beneficiaries.

In order to promote the programme as widely as possible, seminars and other information events will be organised. The exchange of information on different project applicants will also be encouraged. Other types of interventions may include actions to support beneficiaries in project development and in search of partners, or the promotion of the use of information technologies (Internet). There is a need for resources to be reserved for the final evaluation of the Programme and for operating the monitoring system and for the operation of a website.

This specific measure will cover three main spheres, focusing both on programme operation activities and programme support type activities.

Within the scope of TA, the following activities are planned:

- (a) Programme administration and capacity building on central and regional/local level;
- (b) Programme publicity, monitoring and evaluation: publicity activities, conferences, seminars, and information days first and foremost for potential project applicants. They will ensure a common identity for the programme and provide up-to-date information through the website and promotional materials. Additional activities will be organised for other target groups to promote understanding of the significance of cross border cooperation and importance of projects implemented under the programme.
- (c) Grant administration and management:
  - Activities in connection with the preparation, selection, evaluation and support of assistance and operations;
  - Setting up, management and work of the CBC regional institutions;
  - Activities in connection with functioning of joint structures;
  - Examination, audit and on-site checks of operations;
  - External contracts (translation, interpretation);
  - Costs of experts (financial, legal matters).

The grant schemes will be promoted to the target groups by the following instruments:

- Circulation of information about the Phare CBC grant schemes to the target groups through direct mail, electronic mail, national, regional and local media, etc;
- Preparation, publication and dissemination of appropriate promotional material (leaflets, posters, etc.);
- Workshops organised for the project applicants with the aim to give instructions for preparing the project proposals. However all the documents and instructions to applicants will be made available on a CBC dedicated website, which will be referred to in the advertisement;
- Preparation and presentation of necessary information in the existing web sites of the MEI, MRDPW and other responsible institutions at cross border region level.

The promotion of the grant schemes will not be limited to the call for proposals period and to the target group of potential applicants and should target both, Romanian and Bulgarian, border regions.

## 4 INDICATORS

### 4.1 Programme level

The following key indicators are set at the level of the Programme:

Indicator	Measurement	Type of indicator
RO-BG CBC programme success	Number of eligible organisations that have applied for Phare CBC support Number of eligible organisations receiving Phare CBC support Number of projects successfully completed according to the evaluation criteria Number and type of projects successfully implemented	Impact
Cross-border development activity	Number of implemented joint cross-border development projects; % Increase in co-operation agreements in the eligible area; Proportion (%) of target population having benefit of the Programme; Permanent strategic grant management structures established	Impact
Cross-border R&D network	Number of researchers, university students and trainees being involved in the new networks; Number of joint research results.	Result
Partnerships developed	Number of partnerships developed and implemented	Result
Networks created	Number of projects creating networks or services for knowledge transfer; Number of cooperation networks created; Number of partners involved in cooperation networks.	Result
Product development	Number of joint products developed Number of studies, assessments and other relevant preparatory documents done Number of joint plans and strategies produced	Result
Promotion and PR	Number of information products (such as websites, CD-ROMs, videos, brochures, presentations and lectures, leaflets) Number of activities such as opening ceremonies, presentations linked with the visibility and promotion of the Phare CBC programmes	Output

### 4.2 Priority level

The key indicators for **Priority 1 - Improving Infrastructures** are as follows.

Indicator	Measurement	Type of indicator
Connections between networks	Integration of networks, elimination of missing links; Increase in the tourists' number.	Impact
Scale of infrastructure improved in cross-border development	Number of municipalities directly affected by investments.	Result
Cross-border traffic flow	% Growth in cross-border flow of passengers and goods (number of persons / value of goods) between counties affected	Context

Accessibility	% of average reduction of travel time on the improved lines between settlements affected on either side of the border, including waiting time; % of average reduction of transport accidents on border local road network.	Result
Supporting activity	Minimum number of supported projects in the field of transport infrastructure development.	Output

The key indicators for **Priority 2 - Economic Development** are as follows.

Indicator	Measurement	Type of indicator
Promotion of employment	Gross number of jobs created or safeguarded.	Impact
Foreign trade activity	% Increase in the foreign trade turnover of the firms involved.	Impact
R&D and HRD promotion	Number of enterprises profiting of research results or improved human resources.	Impact
Cross-border business activity	% Growth in the share of Romania and Bulgaria in the annual foreign trade turnover of the counties of the eligible area	Context
Business infrastructure development in cross-border co-operation projects	Number of enterprises using the services of the new / refurbished business infrastructure facilities; Number of common tourist services and products developed.	Result
Supporting activity	Minimum number of supported projects in the field of economic development (Business co-operation, business infrastructure development, co-operations between institutions and communities).	Output

The key indicators for **Priority 3 - Environmental Protection and Management** are as follows.

Indicator	Measurement	Type of indicator
Protection of the cross-border bio-diversity	Increased biodiversity in project related geographic areas; Decreased pollution in the territory concerned; Number of border sites environmentally safe; Number of monitoring systems in place.	Impact
Awareness of border stakeholders for joint environmental activities	Number of cross-border linkages created; Cross-border development of common services for the environment; Number of joint investments relevant for the region; Number of partners involved in cooperation networks.	Impact
Cross-border environment protection activity	% Growth in average values measuring the environmental elements of air, water, soil and subsoil, as well as of biodiversity	Context
Coordinated management between protected areas and risk reduction	Surface area of land which is more protected; Number of joint management plans, monitoring systems and environmental investments in the field of protected areas, air quality and water monitoring and management and flood prevention, with cross-border relevance.	Output
Supporting activity	Minimum number of supported projects in the field of environmental protection and management.	Output

The key indicators for **Priority 4 - People to people** are as follows.

Indicator	Measurement	Type of indicator
Enhanced People to people co-operation in the border area	Number of permanent partnerships and networks; Number of partnerships developed and implemented; Number of joint investments in economic field; % of increase in joint cultural and social events / initiatives in areas concerned.	Impact
Scale of involvement in cross-border development	Number of joint initiatives; Number of persons directly involved in cross-border cultural, social, educational and labour market activities; Number of organisations involved in cross-border development projects; Number of partners involved in cooperation networks.	Result
Supporting activity	Number and types of projects successfully carried out.	Result

### 4.3 Measure level

The following table gives an overview of the key indicators defined at measure level.

Indicator	
<b>Measure 1.1: - Development of transport infrastructure and accessibility within the border region</b>	
	Average reduction of travel time on the improved lines between settlements involved in the investments either side of the border
	Number of km of built/rehabilitated/improved quality of secondary/tertiary roads leading to the border
	Quantified (%) increase of traffic (passenger and freight) annually registered
	Number of industrial production facilities, indigenous raw materials, business infrastructure and/or tourism establishments with access improved
	Number of infrastructure works improving cross- border accessibility as a result of studies
	Quantified (%) reduction of accidents on the roads related to cross-border links
	Quantified (%) reduction of operating costs due to the investment made
	Number of cross-border linkages created
<b>Measure 2.1: Business co-operation and business infrastructure development including Business information and SME marketing actions and tourism activities</b>	
	Number of joint initiatives for building up or furnishing regional impulse centres and technology parks
	Number of enterprises using the services of the new / refurbished business infrastructure
	Number of m <sup>2</sup> business infrastructure facilities created (built and/or refurbished)
	Number of joint initiatives for information networks, operational expenditure, and technology oriented business
	Number of joint databases, software developments, presentations, cooperation meetings, participation in fairs
	Number of created or improved business infrastructure or service provision establishments
	Number of joint initiatives in the field of marketing, tourism and other business co-operation
	Number of prepared joint investment projects
	Number of businesses with enhanced ICT facilities

	Number of cross-border joint marketing initiatives
	Number of joint export initiatives
	Number of technical concepts, feasibility studies, business plans, environmental impact assessments
	Number of joint promotion strategies
	Number of joint projects providing business advisory services
<b>Measure 3.1: Nature protection management</b>	
	Number of ecologically important habitats restored and corridors settled
	Number of management plans prepared/harmonised and implemented
	Number of joint environmental protection and nature conservation monitoring systems set up in the border region
	Number of studies, assessments and other relevant preparatory documents for environmental investment actions done
	Number of joint models of work organisation in nature protected areas implemented
	Number of environmental educational programmes developed and implemented
	Number of trained environmental experts
	Number of linked environmental centres equipped/modernised
	Number of events targeting environmental consciousness and degree of satisfaction of participants
<b>Measure 3.2: Flood management and erosion control</b>	
	Number of plans and strategies produced
	Number of improvements made in the field of water management and flood prevention
	Number of studies, assessments and other relevant preparatory documents for environmental investment actions done
	Number of management plans prepared/harmonised and implemented
	Number of soil erosion prevention projects settled
	Number of events targeting environmental consciousness and degree of satisfaction of participants
<b>Measure 4.1: People to people</b>	
	Number of projects jointly prepared and implemented
	Number of local and regional institutions involved in preparation and development of the project within the framework of the Cross-Border Cooperation
	Number and types of formally held meetings and constituted partnerships
	Number of established associations by CBC partners
	Number of small-scale enterprises developed and cross-border cooperation structures prepared
	Number of joint strategies for regional development prepared
	Number of feasibility studies prepared
	Number of schemes developed to create and intensify the skills of organisational structures in local and regional public administration
	Number of studies and assessments of problems prepared
	Number of joint cultural exchanges and social events and initiatives.
	Number of institutional strengthening and human resources development activities

## 5 GENERAL FINANCIAL PROVISION

Priority / Measure	Phare CBC support 2005		Phare CBC support 2006		TOTAL Phare CBC support 2005-2006		
	Romania	Bulgaria	Romania	Bulgaria	Romania	Bulgaria	Total
<b>P1-- Improving infrastructure</b>	0	4.95	2.40	2.30	2.40	7.25	9.65
M1.1-	0	4.95	2.40	2.30	2.40	7.25	9.65
M1.2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>P2—Economic development</b>	3.40	0.85	2.20	2.20	5.60	3.05	8.65
M2.1	3.40	0.85	2.20	2.20	5.60	3.05	8.65
<b>P3 – Environment protection and management</b>	3.40	0.90	2.20	2.20	5.60	3.10	8.70
M3.1	3.40	0.90	2.20	2.20	5.40	3.10	8.70
M3.2							
<b>P4—People to people</b>	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	1.60	1.60	3.20
M4.1	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80	1.60	1.60	3,20
<b>M5 – Technical assistance</b>	0.40	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.80	1.00	1.80
M5.1	0.40	0.50	0.40	0.50	0.80	1.00	1.80
<b>TOTAL (P1, P2, P3, P4, M5)</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>32.00</b>

\* The budget figures are indicative. Re-allocation of funds from one priority to another within the same year is possible.

### 5.1 Stated Risks and Assumptions

Briefly, the main risks are connected with available sufficient national and local financial resources for co-funding, support from the Government in relation to the regional policy development and implementation, insufficient capacity and mismanagement within involved institutions.

The main assumptions are appropriate coordination and good partnerships among involved institutions, integration and coordination of different activities on different levels, and sufficient national financial support.

Division of tasks/responsibilities among the responsible institutions for the management of the grant schemes are going to be clarified, in particular with support of the TA and Project Preparation Facility (PPF) assistance. This seems unlikely to be a problem, since tasks/responsibilities of the responsible institutions should be described in the Operational Manual for the grant schemes.

There is a risk that there will not be enough projects applying for grant assistance owing to the general economic environment, procedures of the Phare grant schemes or other reasons. However, the results of the preliminary calls for proposals carried out in 2004 with the PPF assistance, as well as the experiences of previous schemes carried out under Phare national Programmes suggest that this is not likely to be the case.

## 6 PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION

### 6.1 Development of the institutional framework

#### Programme Management Structures

Both RO and BG will have an Implementing Agency (IA) (fulfilling also the role of Contracting Authority (CA)) and have three joint management structures, namely the Joint Co-operation Committee (JCC), the Joint Steering Committee (JSC) and the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS).

#### *Romania (Decentralisation)*

In RO the IA /CA is the CBC Directorate and Payment Directorate in the Ministry of European Integration.

The Programme will be implemented as much as possible on a decentralised basis. The CBC Directorate will therefore delegate a range of management tasks to the CBC Regional Office Calarasi (which includes the (JSPF) CBC Office Giurgiu) including: day-to-day and technical management work (i.e. day to day supervision, approval of progress reports and acceptance, monitoring and verification of invoices for the IA). The CBC Regional Office Calarasi will also assist the IA/CA in the implementation phases of the Grant Scheme project cycle (financial management, monitoring and control of the projects).

In the case of People-to-People actions (Measure 4.1), Joint Small Project Fund (JSPF) activities will be managed by the CBC Office Giurgiu (an annex of the CBC Regional Office Calarasi) which will ensure continued co-operation with the counties, local authorities and project beneficiaries in the border region. The tasks of the Giurgiu annex are laid out in the JSPF guidelines and include management and monitoring and evaluation of JSPF activities.

The IA/CA will remain responsible for approval of tender documents, preparation of evaluation criteria, evaluation of offers, signature of contracts and authorisation of invoices. In addition the IA/CA execute payments to the final beneficiaries.

The relationship between the IA/CA and the CBC Regional Office Calarasi shall be defined in an Implementation Agreement which, in turn, shall be approved by the EC Delegation.

#### *Bulgaria*

In BG the IA/CA is the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works which will retain overall responsibility for programme co-ordination and financial management. The Ministry will also retain overall responsibility for the implementation of the Grant Schemes, including: approval of tender documents, evaluation criteria, evaluation of offers, signature of contracts, authorisation of invoices.

#### **Implementing Agencies/Contracting Authorities**

*Implementing Agency* in each country: the body responsible for the overall management and implementation of the programme for all financing under Phare CBC.

*Contracting Authority* in each country: this role is carried out by the national authority designated in the Financing Agreement.

In the case of RO, the Ministry of European Integration will act as combined IA/CA and, in the case of BG, the Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works will act as combined IA/CA.

#### **Joint Management Structures**

Joint Co-operation Committee (JCC): is the strategic body of the CBC BG-RO Programme. With members from both countries and from national, regional and local level, the JCC will ensure a joint management of the programme.

The main responsibilities of the JCC are:

- to adopt the Joint Programming Document (JPD) and any further adjustment of it, as appropriate;
- to adopt the project fiches and the Financing Proposals to be put forward for the yearly programming exercise
- to consider and approve the joint annual and final progress and implementation reports before they are sent to the Commission
- to approve the framework for the Joint Technical Secretariat's tasks.

The JCC consists of representatives of national, regional, and local authorities. The JCC will also include representatives from civil society, NGOs, economic and social actors, sectoral organisations – e.g. Chamber of Commerce, Unions, etc. that may participate in the JCC in an advisory capacity, i.e. not as voting members.

Representatives of the European Commission participate in the JCC in an advisory capacity.

The JCC will be co-chaired by the Romanian IA and the Bulgarian IA.

JCC will meet at least once a year in order to monitor the implementation of the programme and to approve project fiches for the annual Financing Proposal.

Joint Steering Committee (JSC): operational body of the CBC programme.

The main responsibilities of the JSC are:

- to prepare the project fiches for the yearly programming exercise, to be forwarded to the JCC for adoption;
- to oversee the calls for proposal/Application Pack (drafted by the JTS), to be forwarded to respective IA for publication;
- to oversee the joint selection of projects;
- to supervise the activities of the Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS) and the Evaluation Committee;
- to review periodically, progress made towards achieving the specific (and quantified) objectives of the programme and to analyse the results of implementation (achievement of the targets set for the different measures).

The JSC consists of:

- 2 representatives from the RO IA/CA and 2 representatives from the BG IA/CA (in case of RO, one member shall be nominated from the CBC Regional Office Calarasi)
- 2 representatives from each Joint Technical Advisory Group (there is one JTAG for each of the three JPD priorities - Economic Development, Environment Protection and Management, Improving Infrastructure), with an equal representation of both RO and BG partners
- representatives of the EC Delegations, acting as observers

The role of Chair (with casting vote) will rotate between the RO and BG IA/CAs. The JSC will meet quarterly; the Joint Technical Secretariat will convene.

The JSC draws up and adopts its own rules of procedure. The JSC approves the *rules of procedures for the JTS* to define the exact division of tasks.

Joint Technical Secretariat (JTS): the main administrative body of the programme.

The main responsibilities of the JTS are:

- receiving project applications,
- performing preliminary administrative and eligibility checks
- providing regularly monitoring reports the JSC
- providing advice to potential project partners
- carrying out day-to-day administrative tasks related to the programme

The tasks of the JTS include only technical and administrative support and there will be no transfer of public authority tasks relating to the management of the funds. The JTS will consist of an Executive Secretary and four desk officers (2 Romanian (from the CBC Regional Office Calarasi) and 2 Bulgarian). The CBC Regional Office Calarasi will provide office facilities to the JTS. JTS running costs (with the exception of staff costs) will co-financed from the programme's Technical Assistance budget. The JTS will be accountable to the IA/CAs in RO and BG and to the EC Delegations to RO and BG for the management of the respective EU funds used for fulfilling its tasks.

From past experience it is clear that project applicants need considerable assistance in the preparation of their applications. The JTS will be equipped to organise training and information workshops and to assist in a transparent manner the potential beneficiaries to prepare good quality proposals, including project cost assessment.

Memorandum of Understanding (JSC and JTS): responsibility for the JTS and JSC function is jointly assumed by RO and BG through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which is due to be signed by Autumn 2005. The MoU will cover the scope, tasks of both joint bodies while the detailed functions, and tasks of the JTS and JSC will be determined in the Implementation Agreements and Guidelines for Applicants.

## **6.2 Implementation at Programme Level**

### **Programme monitoring and evaluation**

The Contracting Authorities will conduct monitoring of funding at the project level. As this is a joint co-operation effort, reports on progress will cover the whole programme. A joint progress report will therefore be prepared, covering both RO and BG activities, and submitted to the Commission on a yearly basis.

When an evaluation is conducted, every effort will be made to evaluate all elements of the programme.

### **Information and publicity**

The IA/CAs are responsible for information and publicity measures on the respective side of the border to ensure the widest possible participation in the programme. To ensure efficient project development covering the whole programme space, Info Points can be established both in RO and BG at county/district level. The main tasks of the Info Points will be to provide information to potential project applicants in order to help them develop applications, to implement publicity actions and participate in the programme and project monitoring activities in close co-operation with the JTS.

### **Technical Assistance**

A percentage of the Phare CBC funding will be used for technical assistance actions relating to the programme management and implementation. These include, inter alia, the costs of the JTS, the preparation, selection, appraisal and monitoring of operations, the organisation of meetings, information and publicity costs and evaluation costs. The costs of the JTS will be borne by the Phare share of TA funds.

## **6.3 Implementation at Project Level**

### **Calls for Proposals**

The JTS ensure publication of the joint Call for Proposals in accordance with PRAG.

### **Drafting and Content of the Application Pack**

In 2005 two separate but harmonised application procedures will be introduced. However, it is the intention of all parties to develop this system into a procedure that is coordinated and "joint" to the greatest extent possible, including calls for proposals.

In 2005, the IA/CAs in RO and BG, in close co-operation with the JSC, will draft the following harmonised documents:

- Calls for proposals,
- Guidelines for applicants,
- Application form

In addition, the IA/CAs will draft any other documents related to the Grant Schemes and will ensure that contracting is in line with PRAG.

Each IA/CA will submit final documents to their EC Delegation for approval.

For 2006, the IA/CAs will develop one common set of joint application procedures. The JTS will draft the Call for Proposals, the Guidelines for Applicants and the Application Form according to the indications of the Contracting Authorities and respective EC Delegations.

Each IA/CA submits the final version of the documents to the respective EC Delegation for approval.

EC Delegations approve the documents.

### **Language Regime**

Project applications may be submitted in the relevant local languages, however, the essential elements of each project application should be made available in English (e.g. detailed description of the activities, duration and Action Plan, budget), as it will be detailed in the Application Pack.

### **Project application and submission**

All applications shall be submitted to the JTS. The JTS collects and registers all proposals and carries out a preliminary administrative and eligibility check, as appropriate.

After the closing date, the JTS submits the proposals to the Grant Scheme Evaluation Committee.

### **Project Selection**

The JTS will perform the secretariat function for the Joint Evaluation Committee.

The selection criteria will be approved by the JSC.

#### 2005

In 2005, projects will be selected following the approval and issue of harmonised Guidelines for Applicants, harmonised Call for Proposals and an evaluation of subsequent project applications. The JTS and Info Points (which may be established on each border) will provide support to applicants. The JTS will collect and register submitted project proposals and the selection and approval process will follow PRAG.

Each IA/CA (PAO) will nominate a Grant Scheme Evaluation Committee (with a non-voting Chair and Secretary, and voting members) exclusively on the basis of technical and professional competence, ensuring a clear balance between national / regional / local representation, technical knowledge and independent expertise. The EC Delegation will approve the composition of the committee.

For each Grant Scheme measure, an Evaluation Sub-Committee will be established. The basic function of the Evaluation Sub-Committee is evaluating and recommending projects for funding in a specific area (e.g. measure), in accordance with PRAG.

The EC Delegation may nominate an observer to follow all or part of the activities of the Grant Scheme Evaluation Committee and Sub-Committees. Prior approval is needed from the Delegation for the participation of other observers.

The RO and BG Grant Scheme Evaluation Committees will simultaneously carry out the evaluation process. Formal evaluation decisions will be made once both Evaluation Committees have consulted each other and drawn up their evaluation report (containing recommendations for grants) and submitted it to the IA/CA. The IA/CA (PAO) then approves and forwards the evaluation report, and grant award proposals, to the EC Delegation. The EC Delegation then endorses (*ex-ante*) the evaluation report and the final list of grants to be awarded.

The IA/CAs notify the JTS and each applicant in writing of the result of the selection process.

#### 2006

In 2006, a similar project selection procedure that that outlined above will be followed but with a stronger level of cooperation. In 2005 the Guidelines for Applicants and Call for Proposals will be harmonised. However, in 2006 these documents will be joint implying a significant acceleration in the cooperation process.

#### **Assessment of eligibility criteria**

Projects are firstly assessed against the eligibility criteria established in the Application Pack.

#### **Assessment of selection and evaluation criteria**

Projects are then assessed against the selection and evaluation criteria established in the Application Pack.

The joint Evaluation Committee draw up its evaluation results (score resulting from the evaluation grid) and its recommendations in the form of an Evaluation Report, and transmits it to the JSC.

#### **The Joint Steering Committee**

The Joint Steering Committee oversees the joint selection of projects, but is not actually involved in the selection process. The joint Evaluation Committee operates in full autonomy. The JSC cannot change the Evaluation Committee's scores or recommendations and cannot alter the evaluation grids. The JSC formally ratifies the Evaluation Report and the award proposals and pass them on (together with recommendations, as appropriate) to the IA/CA for endorsement and onward transmission to EC Delegations for final approval.

#### **Award of grants**

Once the EC Delegation has approved the Evaluation Report and the grant award proposals, the IA/CA will commence awarding the grants according to PRAG rules. The grant contracts should normally be issued within 3 months of the decision of the JSC / IA.

Each IA/CA drafts the grant contract according to PRAG, using the standard grant contract form and its annexes, and submits this to the EC Delegation. The EC Delegation approves the standard contract form and then the list of grants to be awarded.

The PAO then signs the grant contracts with the selected beneficiaries based on the final list of grants approved by the EC Delegation. The language of the grant contract is English. A copy of the signed grant contract is sent to the EC Delegation. Copies of the signed grant contracts are made available at the respective IA/CA in RO and BG.

The Joint Technical Secretariat will notify the successful and unsuccessful applicants of the result of the Call for proposals within 30 days of the Commission approval of the list of award proposals.

Project Implementation

In certain cases, the grant beneficiaries will sub-contract suppliers of goods, services or works, in line with PRAG and national legislation.

In RO, CBC Regional Office Calarasi will be responsible with day-to-day supervision, approval of progress reports and acceptance, monitoring and verification of invoices for the IA/CA. These tasks will be described in more detail in the Specific Guidelines to be prepared by the Contracting Authority.

The JTS will support the coordination of project implementation on both sides of the border while projects will be subject to *ex-post* control by the EC Delegation in accordance with PRAG.

#### Project monitoring system

Project implementation will be monitored through the JSC using periodic assessment of progress on delivery of specified project results and towards achievement of project objectives.

The JTS will play a vital role in CBC project monitoring. The JTS will evaluate whether sufficient harmonisation of project components on both sides of the border exists. In RO, the CBC Regional Office Calarasi will carry out the day-to-day monitoring and control of the selected projects. In addition, the EC Delegations will have the right to monitor project(s).

#### **Inspection and auditing.**

The Commission, independent auditors appointed by the Commission, the Court of Auditors and/or the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) will have full access to inspect the files kept by the programme management structures and the JTS. All relevant supporting documents must be kept for at least seven years.

#### **ANNEXES:**

1. MAP OF THE ROMANIA BULGARIA CROSS BORDER REGION
2. LIST OF INSTITUTIONS MEMBERS TO THE JOINT COOPERATION COMMITTEE AND TO THE JOINT WORKING GROUP
3. LIST OF INSTITUTIONS MEMBERS TO THE JOINT TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUPS
4. LIST OF PROJECTS FINANCED IN 2003
5. LIST OF PROJECTS FINANCED IN 2004

MAP OF THE CROSS BORDER REGION



**List of institutions members to the Joint Cooperation Committee  
and to the Joint Working Group**

**Romania**

- 1. Ministry of European Integration:**
  - **General Directorate of Regional Development**
  - **Cross Border Cooperation Directorate**
- 2. Ministry of Public Finance – Managing Authority for Community Support Framework**
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development**
- 4. Ministry of Environment and Waters Management**
- 5. Ministry of Transport, Constructions and Tourism**
- 6. RDA South-East**
- 7. RDA South Muntenia**
- 8. RDA South-West Oltenia**
- 9. County Council Constanta**
- 10. County Council Calarasi**
- 11. County Council Giurgiu**
- 12. County Council Teleorman**
- 13. County Council Olt**
- 14. County Council Dolj**
- 15. County Council Mehedinti**

**Bulgaria**

- 1. Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works:**
  - **General Directorate “Programming of Regional Development”**
  - **Directorate “Phare Implementing Agency”**
  - **Road Executive Agency**
- 2. Ministry of Finance – NAC**
- 3. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry:**
  - **National Forestry Board**
- 4. Ministry of Environment and Water**
- 5. Ministry of Transport and Communications**
- 6. Ministry of Economy**
- 7. District Administration Vidin**
- 8. District Administration Montana**
- 9. District Administration Vratsa**
- 10. District Administration Pleven**
- 11. District Administration Veliko Tarnovo**
- 12. District Administration Ruse**
- 13. District Administration Silistra**
- 14. District Administration Dobrich**

**Observers:**

- EC Delegation to Romania**
- EC Delegation to Bulgaria**
- Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Romania and Bulgaria**

## List of institutions represented in the Joint Technical Advisory Groups

### 1. Joint Technical Advisory Group - Economic Development

The Joint Technical Advisory Group – Economic Development consists on representatives from the regional administration, the regional/local sector specialists in the field of economic development, and regional/local NGOs in Romania and Bulgaria.

For the Romania, these include: Regional Development Agencies (RDA) and County Councils, County Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (CCIA), county agencies for employment and local NGOs.

To arrive at a fair geographic and sector distribution, for Romania it was agreed the following composition:

- 1 representative from the 3 RDAs acting on the border
- 2 representatives from the 7 County Councils, 1 selected from each of the 2 other regions than the selected RDA representative;
- 3 representatives from one out of 7 county Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, one per development region (ensuring the these three representatives cover the three regions on the border)
- 1 representative from the 7 county agencies for employment (ensuring the representative cover the three development regions on the border)
- 1 representative from the local NGOs.

totalling 8 Romanian representatives.

A similar approach is undertaken for the Bulgarian representation, for a JTAG totalling 16 persons:

For Bulgaria, these include: Regional Development Agencies (RDA) and District Administrations, Chambers of Commerce, Regional Employment Offices, and local NGOs.

To arrive at a fair geographic and sector distribution, for Bulgaria it was agreed the following composition:

- 2 representatives from the 8 District Administrations;
- 3 representatives from one out of the regional Chambers of Commerce, one per development region (ensuring the these three representatives cover the three regions on the border)
- 1 representative from the regional employment services
- 2 representatives from the local NGOs.

totalling 8 Bulgarian representatives.

	<b>RO institution</b>	<b>representing</b>	<b>BG institution</b>	<b>representing</b>
1	Regional Development Agency South East	3 RDAs acting on the border	Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Pleven	Chambers of Commerce within Central North region
2	County Employment Agency Calarasi	County Employment Agencies on the border	Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Vidin	Chambers of Commerce within North-West region

	<b>RO institution</b>	<b>representing</b>	<b>BG institution</b>	<b>representing</b>
3	Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Constanta	Chambers of Commerce within South East region	Chamber of Commerce, Dobrich	Chambers of Commerce within North-East region
4	Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Teleorman	Chambers of Commerce within South Region	Vidin District Administration	4 District NW+NC Administrations
5	Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Olt	Chambers of Commerce within South-West region	Ruse District Administration	4 District NC+NE Administrations
6	Teleorman County Council	County Councils within South Region	SNC Agrobusiness Centre / Business Incubator, Silistra	NGOs
7	Dolj County Council	County councils within South-West Region	Danubius Euroregion Ruse-Giurgiu	NGOs
8	Business Incubator Giurgiu	NGOs acting on the border	Regional Employment Office Montana	Regional Employment Services

## **2. Technical Advisory Group - Environment**

The Technical Advisory Group - Environment consists on representatives from the regional administration, the regional sector specialists in the fields of environment, water management and nature protection and forestry, and regional NGOs.

For the Romania, these include: Regional Development Agencies (RDA) and County Councils, Regional Environment Agencies (REA), and Apele Romane and ROMSILVA Directorates. To arrive at a fair geographic and sector distribution, it was agreed advised to arrive at the following composition:

- 1 representative from the 3 RDAs acting on the border
- 2 representatives from the 7 County Councils, 1 selected from each of the 2 other regions than the selected RDA representative;
- 1 representative from one out of 6 regional ROMSILVA directorates\*)
- 1 representative from the 6 regional Apele Romane directorates\*)
- 1 representative from the 7 local/regional Environmental Agency offices\*)
- 1 representative from the regional/local NGOs,

\*) ensuring the these three representatives cover the three regions,

totalling 7 Romanian representatives.

A similar approach was undertaken for the Bulgarian representation, for the total TAG totalling 14 persons:

For Bulgaria, these include: Regional Development Agencies (RDA) and District Administrations, Regional Environment Inspectorates, River Basin Directorates, and Regional Forestry Boards. To arrive at a fair geographic and sector distribution, it was agreed advised to arrive at the following composition:

- 2 representatives from the RDAs acting on the border, being NGOs;

- 2 representatives from the 8 District Administrations, selected from other regions than the selected RDA representatives;
  - 1 representative from one out of the regional forestry services;
  - 1 representative from the regional environment services;
  - 1 representative from the 4 Bulgarian River Basin Directorates,
- totalling 7 Bulgarian representatives.

	<b>RO institution</b>	<b>representing</b>	<b>BG institution</b>	<b>representing</b>
1	Regional Development Agency South West Oltenia	3 RDAs acting on the border	Danube River Basin Directorate, Pleven	Basin Directorates
2	Environment Protection Agency Calarasi	Environment Protection Agencies acting on the border	Regional Environment Inspectorate, Pleven	Regional Environment Inspectorates
3	Romanian Waters Directorate Ialomita-Buzau	Romanian Waters Directorates acting on the border	Agency for Regional Development and Business Centre, Vidin	NGOs on the Bg border
4	National Forestry Administration, Craiova Directorate	County Forestry Administration Directorates acting on the border	Ruse District Administration	District Administrations of Ruse, Veliko Tarnovo, Pleven, Vratsa, Montana and Vidin
5	Constanta County Council	County Councils of South- East region	Silistra District Administration	District Administrations of Silistra and Dobrich
6	Teleorman County Council	County Councils of South region	Agency for Regional Development and Business Centre 2000, Montana	NGOs
7	Regional Environmental Centre	NGOs acting on the border	Varna Regional Forestry Board, Dobrich	Regional Forestry Boards

## **2. Technical Advisory Group Infrastructure**

The Joint Technical Advisory Group – infrastructure consists on representatives from the regional administration, the regional/local sector specialists in the field of transport infrastructure, and regional/local NGOs in Romania and Bulgaria.

For Romania, these include: Regional Development Agencies (RDA) and County Councils, regional/local network of the National Administration of Roads, county agencies for development and local NGOs.

To arrive at a fair geographic and sector distribution, for Romania it was agreed the following composition:

- 1 representative from the 3 RDAs acting on the border
- 2 representatives from the 7 County Councils, 1 selected from each of the 2 other development regions than the selected RDA representative;

- 3 representatives from one out of the regional/local network of the National Administration of Roads (ensuring the these three representatives cover the three development regions)
  - 1 representative from the local NGOs acting on the border,
- totalling 7 Romanian representatives.

A similar approach was undertaken for the Bulgarian representation, for the total TAG totalling 14 persons.

For Bulgaria, these include: District Administrations, regional/local network of the Road Administration, Municipalities from the border region, and local NGOs.

To arrive at a fair geographic and sector distribution, for Bulgaria it was agreed the following composition:

- 1 representative from the RDAs acting on the border
  - 2 representatives from the 8 District Administrations;
  - 3 representatives from one out of the regional/local road network services (ensuring the these three representatives cover the three development regions)
  - 1 representative from the National Association of the Municipalities of the Republic of Bulgaria, representing all the municipalities of the border region, which are responsible for all 4<sup>th</sup>-class roads within the National Road Network,
- totalling 7 Bulgarian representatives.

**List of Projects financed in CBC PHARE PROGRAMME RO/BG 2003**

**ROMANIA - Programme code: PHARE RO 2003/005-701**

Phare budget available: 8 Meuro

National Co-financing: 3,603 Meuro

Contracting: 30.11.2005

Deadline: 30.11.2006 with the exception of the project RO-2003/005-701.01 "Giurgiu – Improvement of the Border Access Infrastructure" for which the execution of contracts expiry date is 30 November 2007

Priority / Project Title	Total MEUR	Phare MEUR	National MEUR
<b><i>PRIORITY 01: Improving Infrastructure</i></b>			
<b>Project 2003/005-701-01:</b> "Giurgiu – Improvement of the Border Access Infrastructure"	3.640	2.655	0.985
<b>Phare RO-2003/005-701-02:</b> "Dyke along the Danube river into Boianu – Sticleanu precincts"	4.000	1.845	2.155
<b><i>PRIORITY 02: Economic Development</i></b>			
<b>Project 2003/005-701-05:</b> "Sustainable Economic Development of the Bulgarian-Romanian Border Region"	0.700	0.700	0
<b><i>PRIORITY 03: Environmental Protection and Management</i></b>			
<b>Project 2003/005-701-03:</b> "Development of an air quality management programme for the Romanian region along the Bulgarian border, on lower Danube"	0.700	0.700	0
<b>Project 2003/005-701-04:</b> "Promotion of Sustainable Development and Conservation of Biodiversity in Bulgarian-Romanian Cross Border Region"	1.380	1.000	0.380
<b>Project 2003/005-701-06:</b> "Joint Small Project Fund"	0.883	0.800	0.083
<b><i>Technical assistance</i></b>			
<b>Phare RO-2003/005-701.07:</b> "Project Preparation Facility"	0.300	0.300	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11.603</b>	<b>8.000</b>	<b>3.603</b>

**Financing Memorandum** was signed in **December 2003**.

**BULGARIA - Programme code: PHARE BG 2003/005-631**

Phare budget available: 8 Meuro

National Co-financing: 1,98 Meuro

Contracting: 30.11.2005

Deadline: 30.11.2006 with the exception of the project 2003/005-631.01 "Final Construction of Silistra Bypass road" for which the execution of contracts expiry date is 30 November 2007

Priority / Project Title	Total MEUR	Phare MEUR	National MEUR
<b><i>PRIORITY 01: Improving Infrastructure</i></b>			
<b>Project 2003/005-631.01:</b> "Final Construction of Silistra Bypass road"	5.000	3.750	1.250
<b><i>PRIORITY 02: Economic Development</i></b>			
<b>Project 2003/005-631-02:</b> "Sustainable Economic Development of the Bulgarian-Romanian Border Region"	1.000	1.000	0

<b>PRIORITY 03: Environmental Protection and Management</b>			
<b>Project 2003/005-631-03:</b> "Development of a Joint Ambient Air Quality Management Program for the Boundary Bulgarian-Romanian region along the Lower Danube"	0.900	0.700	0.200
<b>Project 2003/005-631-04:</b> "Promotion of Sustainable Development and Conservation of Biodiversity in Bulgarian-Romanian Cross Border Region"	1.780	1.250	0.530
<b>Project 2003/005-631-05:</b> " <u>Joint Small Project Fund</u> "	0.800	0.800	*
<b>Technical assistance</b>			
<b>Phare 2003/005-631.06:</b> "Project Preparation Facility"	0.500	0.500	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>9.980</b>	<b>8.000</b>	<b>1.980</b>

**\*) Minimum 10% of co-financing is to be covered by the beneficiaries.**

## List of projects financed in CBC PHARE PROGRAMME RO/BG 2004

## ROMANIA - Programme code: Phare RO 2004/016-784.01

Phare budget available: 8 Meuro

National Co-financing: 2,65 Meuro

Contracting: 30.11.2006

Deadline: 30.11.2007 with the exception of the project RO 2003/016-784.01.01 "Improve traffic fluency to cross border check point Turnu Magurele – Nikopol and RO 2003/016-784.01.02 "Connection infrastructure improvement in Rast - Lom border check point), for which the execution of contracts expiry date is 30 November 2008.

Priority / Project Title	Total MEUR	Phare MEUR	National MEUR
<b>PRIORITY 01: Improving Infrastructure</b>			
Phare RO-2004/016-784.01.01: "Improve traffic fluency to cross border check point Turnu Magurele – Nikopol by primary rehabilitation of county road DJ 546 between km 4+000 - 40+0"	4.93	3.70	1.23
Phare RO-2004/016-784.01.02: "Connection infrastructure improvement in Rast - Lom border check point"	4.00	3.00	1.00
<b>PRIORITY 02: Economic Development</b>			
<b>PRIORITY 03: Environmental Protection and Management</b>			
RO-2004/016-784.01.03: "Integrated Management of Transboundary Groundwater in Dobrudja/Dobrogea Area"	0.67	0.50	0.17
Project 2003/005-701-06: "Joint Small Project Fund"	1.05	0.80	0.25
Technical assistance			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10.65</b>	<b>8,000</b>	<b>2.65</b>

*Financing Memorandum* was signed in **April 2005**

## BULGARIA - Programme code: Phare BG 2004/016-783

Phare budget available: 8 Meuro

National Co-financing: 2,00 Meuro

Contracting: 30.11.2006

Deadline: 30.11.2007 with the exception of the project BG 2004/016-783.01.01 "Rehabilitation of Road II-34 Pleven-Nikopol", for which the execution of contracts expiry date is 30 November 2008.

Priority / Project Title	Total MEUR	Phare MEUR	National MEUR
<b>PRIORITY 01: Improving Infrastructure</b>			
Phare RO-2004/016-783.01.01: "Rehabilitation of Road II-34 Pleven-Nikopol"	6.55	4.90	1.65
<b>PRIORITY 02: Economic Development</b>			

<b>PRIORITY 03: Environmental Protection and Management</b>			
<b>Project 2004/016-783.01.02</b> "Integrated Management of Transboundary Groundwater between Bulgaria and Romania in Dobrudja/Dobrogea Area"	2.15	1.80	0.35
<b>Project 2004/016-783.01.03:</b> " <u>Joint Small Project Fund</u> "	0.80	0.80	*
<b>Technical assistance</b>			
<b>Project 2004/016-783.01.04:</b> "Project Preparation and Implementation for the Phare CBC Programme Bulgaria-Romania"	0.50	0.50	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10.00</b>	<b>8.00</b>	<b>2.00</b>

**\*) Minimum 10% of co-financing is to be covered by the beneficiaries.**