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Subject : Additional information (Annex 17)  
Chapter 21 – Regional Policy and Coordination of Structural Instruments

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## PLAN FOR PREPARATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA FOR FUTURE USE OF THE STRUCTURAL FUNDS AND THE COHESION FUND OF THE EU

	Responsible Institution	2004				2005				2006							
		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4	
<b>1</b>	<b>Legislative measures for the preparation of Bulgaria for absorption of the funds from the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Funds of the EU</b>																
	Analysis of legal framework and ensure its compliance with the EU requirements in the financial area: * Improvement of the budget procedures, directed at multiannual financing and establishing of mechanisms for co-ordination of public and private financing. Elaboration of rules and approaches for management of public funds in the multi-annual financing. * Adoption of Amendment of the Organic Budget Law Legislation of Public Internal Financial Control * Amendments in accordance with the relevant arrangements made under Chapter 21 Adoption of new Law on Public Procurement																
	Analysis of the legal framework and ensure its compliance with the EU requirements in area of social policy and environment * Enforcement of new Regulation on the procedures for carrying out environmental assessment of plans and programmes Analysis of the legal framework and ensure its compliance with the EU requirements in the area of secondary legislation																
	Analysis, preparation, approval and enforcement of secondary legislation following the adoption of the new Law on Regional Development																
	Elaboration of Manuals, guidelines and procedures for the responsibilities of the institutions, regarding the preparation for absorption of the funds from the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund, corresponding to the requirements of CR 1260/1998 and 1164/1994																
	Preparation and details of procedural rules for the ROP/MA responsibilities and delegation of tasks to intermediate body, as well as all necessary guidelines, manuals and instructions on functional implementation - envisaged for support under twinning project BG03/IB-SPP02																
	Establishment of legal basis and mechanism allowing for flexibility in the management of funds in the framework of the CSF and OPs, implemented on multiannual basis																
	Annually updating of the Plan for co-ordination, control and realisation of the Strategy for the participation of the Republic of Bulgaria in the Structural and the Cohesion Funds of the European Union																
<b>2</b>	<b>Management of Structural Actions</b>																
	Modification of the Organic Rule of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in order to supplement the responsibilities of RDID																
	Amendment of the Rules of procedure of Coordination of Programmes and Projects Directorate at the Ministry of Transport and Communications in order to regulate its activities in the project management of Cohesion fund- Transport sector																
	Building the administrative capacity of the Managing Authority of the Community Support Framework and of the Cohesion Fund																

	2004				2005				2006				Responsible Institution
	01	02	03	04	01	02	03	04	01	02	03	04	
Establishment of a system for collecting reliable financial and statistical information for the implementation, for the monitoring indicators (article 36) and for the assessment in compliance with articles 42,43 (article 34 , 1260/99).													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, NSI, MTC, MEW
* Definition of actors, staff and tasks													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, NSI, MTC, MEW
* Definition of key data indicators in order to ensure comprehensive approach at all levels and unified reporting formats for the projects													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, NSI, AEA, MF, MEW, MTC
* Agreement between the ministries involved will be achieved on indicators and key data to be collected													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDP, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, NSI, MTC, MEW
* Design of the overall system													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, NSI, MEW, MTC, consultants
* Testing period and amendments													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, NSI, MTC, MEW; external consultants
* Staff training													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, NSI, MTC, MEW; external consultants
* Fully operational system													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, MTC, MEW
Elaboration of measures for institutional building and strengthening of the administrative capacity of the institutions, which will assume the absorption of the Structural and the Cohesion Funds.													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, SAPARD Agency- MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, MTC, MEW
* Development of a Training program for FLSU recipients/beneficiaries of Structural and Cohesion Funds													Coordinator: Budget Directorate, MF
* Training FLSU staff for improving the capacity for absorption of Structural and Cohesion funds													Coordinator: Budget Directorate, MF
* Elaboration and implementation of the Strategy for development of the human resources													Coordinator: MEUF, MF P/FCA, NF - MF, PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, ED, MEW, CPPD, MTC
* Elaboration and implementation of Organisational Development Strategy for CSF MA													Coordinator: MEUF, MF
* Elaboration and implementation of Organisational Development Strategies for CP MAS													Coordinator: MEUF, MF Participants: PPPD, ME, PRD DG, MRDPW, RDID, MAF, PFIPOD, MLSP, MTC, MEW
* Elaboration and implementation of the system for continuous improvement of the vocational qualification and motivation of the servants, taking part in the process of management of the Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund.													Coordinators: CoM, MEUF, MF Participants: PRD DG, MRDPW, PFIPOD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, ED, MEW, CPPD, MTC, RDID, MAF, MFA

	2004				2005				2006				Responsible Institution
	01	02	03	04	01	02	03	04	01	02	03	04	
Horizontal activities for strengthening the administrative capacity. *Carrying out of resources needs assessment.													Coordinator: MEUFD, MF Participants: AEAF, NF-MF, PRD DG, MRDPW, FIFPD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, ED, MEW, CPPD, MTC, RDID, MAF, MSA
* Training needs assessment and elaboration of training plan.													Coordinator: MEUFD, Participants: AEAF, MF, PRD DG, MRDPW, FIFPD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, ED, MEW, CPPD, MTC, RDID, SAPARD Agency- MAF, MSA, IPA
* Updating of the training needs assessment and of the training plan.													Coordinator: MEUFD, Participants: AEAF, PIFCA, MF, PRD DG, MRDPW, FIFPD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, ED, MEW, CPPD, MTC, RDID, MAF, MSA, IPA
<b>3 Programming of the Structural Funds assistance</b> Elaboration of a Development Plan for 2007-2013													Coordinators: AEAF, MF; Participants: PRD DG, SPRPCNP- MRDPW, FIFPD, LMPD- MLSP, PPPD, ME, ED, MEW, CPPD, MTC, RDID, MAF, EP, CoM, MEUFD, MF Coordinator: SPRPCNP, MRDPW; Participants: Regional authorities
Establishment of Technical support, Coordination and Management of Regional plans and programmes. Directores within the structure of the district administrations in the centers of NUTS-II regions Identification of partners and establishing an effective dialogue with them													Coordinator: AEAF, MF; Participants: PRD DG, MRDPW, FIFPD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, MTC, MEW
Preparation of economic analysis and its implications on the economic policy Definition of vision and strategic priorities													Executor: AEAF, MF Coordinator: Coordination Council and the CoM Participants: AEAF, MF, DP working group, OP's working groups
Approval of the investment priorities for the period 2007-2013.													Coordinator: AEAF, MF Participants: Local authorities, socio-economic partners, NGOs
OP Ex-ante evaluation Preparation of Operational Programmes guidelines													AEAF, MEUFD- MF Coordinator: AEAF, MF
Formalisation of OP working groups													Coordinator: AEAF, MF Participants: PRD DG, MRDPW, FIFPD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, MTC, MEW, approved by the Coordination Council
Drafting OPs													Coordinator: AEAF, MF Participants: PRD DG, MRDPW, FIFPD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, MTC, MEW, supported by relevant OP working groups
Absorption capacity study													Coordinator: AEAF, MF Participants: OP working groups
Indicative budgeting of OPs													Coordinator: Coordination Council Participants: AEAF, DP and OP working groups

	2004				2005				2006				Responsible Institution
	01	02	03	04	01	02	03	04	01	02	03	04	
Ex-ante evaluation of OPs													Coordinator: MEUFD, AEAF, MF Participants: PRD DG, MRDPW, PFIPOD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, MTC, MEW
Discussion of OPs for overlapping and consistency with the national priorities													Coordinator: DP working group, Participants: OP working groups
Macroeconomic impact assessment of the DP													Coordinator: AEAF
Assuring compliance with EU policies													Coordinator: DP working group PRD DG, MRDPW, PFIPOD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, MTC, MEW
Adoption of the DP by the CoM													Coordinators: Coordination Council and the CoM
DP/CSF information and public awareness process													Participants: DP and OP working groups Coordinator: MEUFD, AEAF, MF
DP negotiations with the EC													Participants: DP and OP working groups Coordinator: MEUFD, MF
<b>4 Implementation</b>													
Establishment of new Public Procurement Agency													Coordinator: ME
Modification of the system of budget classification and introduction of a new Programme													Coordinator: Budget Directorate, MF
<b>5 Monitoring</b>													
Elaboration of Procedure Manuals for the structure and the functions of the CSF Monitoring Committee and the Monitoring Committee of the Cohesion Fund													Coordinator: MEUFD, MF; Participants: PRD DG, MRDPW, PFIPOD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, CPPD, MTC, MEW
Setting up the structure and the functions of the Monitoring Committees at the level of Operational Programmes													Coordinator: MEUFD, MF; Participants: PRD DG, MRDPW, PFIPOD, LMPD - MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, MEW, MTC
Establishment of Monitoring unit in CSF M.A. and in each OP MAS													Coordinator: MEUFD, MF; Participants: PRD DG, MRDPW, PFIPOD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, MEW, MTC
Establishment of a system of indicators for assessment of the implementation of the CSF and the OPs.													Coordinator: MEUFD, MF Participants: AEAF - MF, PRD DG, MRDPW, PFIPOD, MLSP, PPPD, ME, RDID, MAF, CPPD, MTC, ED, MEW, NSI
<b>6 Financial Management and Control</b>													
Preparation of a system for financial management of Phare and ISPA funded projects under EDIS preparation - stage 2 GAP filling for Phare and ISPA													Coordinator: NF, MF; Participants: PPPD, ME, IIA, PIA - MRDPW, PFIPOD, MLSP, CPPD, MTC, EUFED, MEW, REA
* Further development of the informational system for financial management with the aim of improving the management of EU Funds (PHARE 2001 Project BG 0103 09 "Improvement of the management of EU Funds")													Coordinator: NF, MF; Participants: PIA, MRDPW
* Further development of the information system for the needs of the Paying Authority, ensuring reliable monitoring, management and forecasting of the financial flow (PHARE 2003 Project BG 03 IB SPP 01 )													Coordinator: NF, MF
Implementation of Phare 2003 twinning project Setting up a Coherent System for the Structural funds and the Cohesion Fund in Bulgaria for the Managing Authority of the CSF and the Single Paying Authority for the Structural funds and the Cohesion Fund													Coordinator: NF, MF Participants: ME, MRDPW

	2004				2005				2006				Responsible Institution	
	01	02	03	04	01	02	03	04	01	02	03	04		
Strengthening of the administrative capacity of the Paying authority.														NF, MF
Establishment of a system for financial control.														PIFCA, MF
* Initiation of an effective collaboration with OLAF														Coordinator: MI
* Elaboration of an effective systems for financial management and control in the structures dealing with EU Funds. (Decision of the CoM 607/5.09.2002).														Coordinator: NF, PIFCA - MF
Building the administrative capacity for protection of the financial interests of the Community from fraud and irregularities.														Coordinator: PIFCA, MF

	2004				2005				2006				Responsible Institution
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	
	Legend												
AFAF	Agency for Economic Analysis and Forecasts												
COM	Council of Ministers												
CPC	Commission on protection of Competition												
CPD	Co-ordination of Programmes and Projects, Ministry of Transport and Communication												
ED	Environment Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Water												
EIR	European Integration and International relations, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy												
EIRFD	European Integration and Relations with International Financial Instruments Directorate, Council of Ministers												
EP	Economic Policy Directorate, Council of Ministers												
IPAEI	Institute for Public Administration and European Integration												
IAA	ISPA Implementing Agency, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works												
LMPD	Labour Market Policy Directorate, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy												
MAF	Ministry of Agriculture and Forests												
ME	Ministry of Economy												
MES	Ministry of Education and Science												
MEUFD	Management of EU Funds Directorate, Ministry of Finance												
MEW	Ministry of Environment and Waters												
MF	Ministry of Finance												
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs												
MI	Ministry of Interior												
MLSP	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy												
MROPW	Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works												
MSA	Minister of State Administration												
MTC	Ministry of Transport and Communications												
NF	National Fund Directorate, Ministry of Finance												
NSI	National Statistics Institute												
PAD	Preventive Actions Directorate, Ministry of Environment and Waters												
PFIPD	Pre-Accession Funds and International Programmes and Projects Directorate, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy												
PIA	Phase Implementing Agency, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works												
PIFCA	Public Internal Financial Control												
PPD	Pre-accession Programmes and Projects Directorate, Ministry of Economy												
PRD DG	Programming of Regional Development Directorate general, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works												
RDD	Rural Development and Investment Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture and Forests												
REA	Roads Executive Agency												
SA	State Administration Directorate												
SEIA	Strategy, European Integration and International activities, Ministry of Environment and Waters												
SPRPNP	Strategic Planning of Regional Policy and Co-ordination of the Negotiation Process Directorate, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works												
D													