



Republic of Bulgaria

**Action Plan
to the National Reform Programme
of the Republic of Bulgaria
(2008 - 2010)**

2009 Update

Measure number	Description of the measure				Impact assessment and results					
	Description of the measure	Status	Deadline for implementation	Responsible institution	Financing (direct budget expenditures, other - Mln. EUR)	Significance of the measure and impact of its implementation:	Description of results:	Indicators of achievement		
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Country Specific Recommendation 1: Urgent further strengthening of the efficiency and effectiveness of the public administration, and in particular through focusing on the main functions of the government, including in the field of competition, supervisory and regulatory control, and the judiciary, and undertaking of all measures necessary for ensuring efficient financial control and good management of the Structural Funds										
1	<p>Training of the Employment Agency (EA) personnel within the Human Resources Management and Development System in the EA, including the following activities:</p> <p>1.1. Personnel training on the introduction of new approaches to work and improvement of client service;</p> <p>1.2. Introductory training to strengthen the administrative capacity of the EA's personnel;</p> <p>1.3. Specialised training;</p> <p>1.4. Distance learning;</p> <p>1.5. Training under OP "Human Resources Development" (HRD OP);</p> <p>1.6. Training for transition from the Active Labour Market Services Programme to HRD OP.</p>	In process of implementation	2010	EA	Through the EA budget (Category 1 of the EUROSTAT labour market database)	Strengthening the EA capacity for implementing effective active labour market policy and improvement of client service	A total of 603 officials were trained as of 31 October 2009. Specialised training – 316 officials Training under HRD OP – 101 officials Training under European funds and international projects – 22 officials Introductory training of civil servants – 37 officials Distance learning – 127 officials	Number of officials trained	2008 - 1,549 officials; 2009 - 714 officials; 2010 - 689 officials; Total - 2,952 officials	January – December 2008 - 2,126 officials; January – June 2009 - 446 officials; January – October 2009 - 603 officials
2	<p>Development of Data Telecommunication and Information Transfer System and Consultation Intranet within a project under HRD OP, including the following activities:</p> <p>2.1. Introduction of Internal Electronic System "Archimedes" and its adaptation to the needs of the Employment Agency;</p> <p>2.2. Design of a website "Instead Of You", intranet for questions answers and other useful information for the staff of the Employment Agency;</p> <p>2.3. Establishment of consulting units (Call centres) at the Employment Agency and Regional Employment Service (RES) level and a mobile call centre according to the needs of the labour market in the individual municipalities;</p> <p>2.4. Introduction of a Management and Monitoring Information System (MMIS).</p>	In process of implementation	2012	EA	EUR 1.7 mln.	The efficient use of the full capacity for information exchange, dissemination and feedback can substantially assist the EA in the implementation of the increasing number of tasks. The fulfilment of the planned tasks will contribute to strengthening the EA capacity to implement effective active labour market policy and to improve client service.	The "Archimedes" system was purchased, integrated and at present is being tested. The "Instead of You" website was developed with interface for the employees of the EA. Three regional websites which use the "Instead of You" domain were developed (for regional RES offices without websites of their own). The system is web-based and access is granted to authorised persons. At present, the system is being updated with additional data on the contracts concluded under Phase 1 of the Training of employed people scheme under HRD OP.	Introduction of the "Archimedes" system; "Instead of You" website designed	2012 – establishment of 10 Call-centres to the EA	
3	<p>Modernisation of labour market services system within a project under HRD OP, including the following activities:</p> <p>3.1. Establishment of mobile offices;</p> <p>3.2. Establishment of terminals for electronic services and access to services for the public;</p> <p>3.3. Establishment of a public system for electronic service of citizens;</p> <p>- Continuation of the process of introduction of the one-stop-shop principle at Labour Offices;</p> <p>3.4. Increase in the number of EA e-services by six until 2010.</p>	In process of implementation	2012	EA	EUR 3.8 mln.	The implementation of the activities under this action will strongly assist the EA in developing tools to provide employment-related services. The extended use of IT channels will attract new client target groups (job-seekers and employers)	<p>Approved (The action was approved by the HRD OP Managing Authority)</p> <p>Preparation of the requisite tender documents in progress</p>	<p>Number of mobile offices established</p> <p>Number of terminals</p> <p>System developed</p> <p>Number of one-stop-shop Labour Offices (LO)</p>	<p>1</p> <p>120</p> <p>2008 – 1 LO; 2009 – 7 LOs; 2010 – 5 LOs.</p>	<p>As of 31 October 2009 - a total of 36 LOs, or 34% of the total number of LO Directorates in</p>

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										Bulgaria
								Number of services provided electronically	2008 + 2 services; 2009 + 2 services; 2010 + 2 services.	At present, the EA provides electronically information services but not administrative ones
4	Project "The Employment Agency – an Open Gate to Society " (we succeed together) under OP "Administrative Capacity"	In process of implementation	2009	EA	EUR 0.303 mln.	- Increasing the trust in the Employment Agency and its territorial structures - Regional Employment Service Directorates and Labour Office Directorates; - Promoting the legislation and services in the field of employment and the labour market, implemented by the Employment Agency, and providing flexible forms of access depending on the addressees of the information, their skills to use it, and access to means of communication;	The activities under the project are being implemented.	Number of officials trained; Number of meetings held; Number of surveys made	2009	At present, the Employment Agency provides electronically only information services but not administrative ones
5.	Design and implementation of a new optimised version of the official WEB site of the SEWRC	Planned	December 2010	SEWRC	EUR 0.05 mln. (Within the allocated annual budget of the SEWRC)	1. Hardware – WEB server, Database server 2. Software – basic operating systems, Database platform 3. Specialised software: - Development and approval of new design; - Development of a dynamic WEB site of the SEWRC - Option to update the information and menus using forms - Option to administer users with different rights to put and edit information This will contribute to fast, easy and reliable access of users and businesses to the information published by the SEWRC.	-	-	-	-
6	Strengthening the administrative capacity to implement the Programme Budgeting Approach at the ministries and the state agencies	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoF	MoF budget, Public Finance School	Strengthening the link between resources and results in planning and budgeting through specialised training	Programme and results-oriented budgeting approach in all ministries and state agencies	Trained experts from the public administration	Specialised training in the field of the budget and financial management for budget spending units in 2010 – 20 courses / seminars and 400 individuals trained.	During the period 2008 - 2009, 14 courses and seminars with 343 participants from the administrations of the National Assembly,

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										CoM, the National Audit Office, ministries and agencies.
7	Support for the establishment of adequate structures at first-level spending units for policy planning and budget programmes management	At initial stage	Ongoing	MoF	MoF budget	Shift from resource-oriented to results-oriented planning, budgeting and management. Establishing a link between strategic planning and overall budgetary process and increasing the responsibility with regard to specific results of policy objectives.	Established link between finance experts and experts in charge of policy development. Improvement of organisation and co-ordination, of responsibilities and links among structures / units when developing, planning, preparing, implementing and reporting of ministries budgets within policies and budgetary programmes implemented.	Introduced mechanisms for co-ordination and interaction in policy development and budgetary programmes planning.	Commitment of spending units administrative structures to objectives and policies, and responsibility for implementation / results.	
8	Implementation of the Strategy for Human Resource Management in the State Administration through:									
	8.1. Adaptation of existing training programmes to the Competencies Catalogue	In process of implementation	December 2009	IPA (MoEYS)		Matching training programmes with required officials' competences	<p>Under project "Improvement of Human Resource Management Policy in the State Administration" standards for professional competencies of officials and heads of the Human Resource Management (HRD) Units were developed. Within the same project a research was carried out and an analysis was made of the training needs of this group of officials. On the basis of the analysis five topics were identified in which the representatives of the target groups have the greatest need to be trained:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Conflict management and techniques for problem solving 2. Strategic planning in the field of HRM 3. Project management in the context of human resource development 4. Key skills and techniques for recruitment, selection, interviewing and retaining of staff 5. Training needs analysis and personal development techniques for staff involved in HRD activities <p>Five specialised training programmes were developed and included in the 2009 Catalogue of the Institute for Public Administration. On the basis of these five topics applications for training are currently collected.</p>	Number of courses adapted	20	0

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							Until now 126 people were trained in topics 1, 2, 4, 5.			
	8.2. Initiatives to appoint and integrate employees from disadvantaged groups	In process of implementation	December 2010	Council of Ministers	IPA (MoEYS)	Providing opportunities for professional development of employees from disadvantaged groups	<p>At the end of 2008 amendments to the Law on the Civil Servant were drafted aiming to promote the recruitment of people with permanent disabilities as civil servants. The amendments proposed were adopted by the National Assembly. The main amendments are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Introducing a quota for people with permanent disabilities in the administration – The recruitment of people with permanent disabilities as civil servants shall be done through a centralised competition for people with permanent disabilities, organised at least once a year by the IPA – Introducing obligations for the recruiting authorities to ensure an adapted work environment for people with disabilities – Regulating of a longer paid annual leave for people with permanently reduced ability to work (26 working days) – Extending the provision against discrimination, privileges or restrictions for taking civil service under the "disability" criterion. <p>The first centralised competition for recruiting people with permanent disability at expert positions in the state administration took place on 23 and 24 March 2009 throughout Bulgaria. Of 347 applicants, 265 passed the tests successfully. As of July 2009 64 administrations submitted applications to use the database, and 16 successful applicants were appointed. In pursuance of Article 9a of the Law on the Civil Servant, by the end of July 2009 the State Administration Inspectorate Directorate of the closed Ministry of State Administration and Administrative Reform made inspections on 206 administrations. At the time of the inspections a total of 449 people with permanent disabilities were appointed at the public administration. In 2010 IPA shall organise a new centralised competition for people with permanent disabilities.</p>	Number of employees integrated	20	449
9	Improving the functioning of the single Monitoring and Management Information System	In process of	2010	Council of	EUR 1.79 mln. (of which EUR		Status as of 31 October 2009			

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	for EU funds.	implementation		Ministers	0.27 mln. national co-financing)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The basic configuration of the Management and Monitoring Information System (MMIS) for the EU Structural Instruments in Bulgaria was developed and launched; - At the end of October 2009 there were 3,197 project proposals and 2,752 signed contracts in the system; - All audit recommendations from the management and control systems compliance audit were reflected 			
10	Effective implementation of the Rules for Co-operation between the CPC and the CRC, to contribute to interaction and co-ordination in the exercise of their legal powers	In process of implementation	Ongoing	CPC CRC	n.a.	Guaranteeing the freedom of competition on electronic and postal communications markets .	<p>Rules for Co-operation between the CPC and the CRC adopted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interaction in exercising the competences under the Law on Electronic Communications and the Law on Protection of Competition according to the procedure and forms in them 	Number of cases in which CPC/CRC interacted in pursuance of the Rules	-	6 CPC opinions under procedures launched at the request of CRC, as well as arising from CPC and CRC powers in the field of postal and electronic communications
								Number of opinions		19 opinions on cases launched by CPC
11	Strengthening the administrative capacity of the Social Assistance Agency (SAA)	In process of implementation	2010	SAA		The training of the SAA personnel and the introduction of an information system will contribute to strengthening the capacity for implementation of policies, including in respect to the SAA's functions as an Intermediate Body for HRD OP				
	11.1. Training for the SAA personnel	In process of implementation	2010	SAA	EUR 0.818 mln.	Strengthening the SAA's administrative capacity to function as an Intermediate Body for HRD OP; Strengthening the SAA's capacity by training children protection experts and experts of the Agency's Inspectorate	A contract with the MoF was concluded. The project activities are implemented in line with the time-schedule.	Number of officials trained	2008 - 46 officials; By 2010 - 256 officials	n.a.
	11.2. Elaboration and implementation of an information system for children social assistance and protection	In process of implementation	2010	SAA	EUR 8.5 mln.	Improving the quality of services to clients and optimising SAA operations through completion and implementation of an Integrated Management Information System with two modules: a Social Assistance Module and a Child	A contract between the SAA and the HRD OP Management Authority was signed. The project implementation activities are under preparation.	Operational information system implementation	n.a.	n.a.

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						Protection Module				
Country Specific Recommendation 2. Maintaining strict fiscal policy, improving the quality and efficiency of public spending, maintaining wage growth in line with the productivity growth, and enhancing efficient competition to strengthen competitiveness and to reduce external imbalances										
12	Monitoring competition on relevant markets and initiating procedures in case of suspected violations of the Law on Competition Protection	In process of implementation	Ongoing	CPC	n.a.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective enforcement of competition rules; - Preventive effect on economic agents in Bulgaria; - Effective competition on relevant markets. 	<p>Ongoing monitoring of competition on relevant markets and institution of procedures on CPC's own initiative if there is evidence on breaches.</p> <p>The Supreme Administrative Court confirmed a 2008 CPC decision for imposing sanctions on the Association of Bulgarian Insurers and 14 of its members for violating Article 81 of the Treaty establishing the European Community.</p> <p>In 2009 the CPC initiated 7 new procedures on its own initiative: 2 against water supply and sewerage companies, 1 against an electricity distributing company, 1 against the Association of Banks in Bulgaria, 1 against the Association of Cement Industry, 1 against retail chains, 1 against the Bulgarian Construction Chamber.</p>	Number of initiated procedures	n.a.	6 procedures on own initiative since the beginning of 2008; 7 proceedings on own initiative since the beginning of 2009
13	Procedure initiation on CPC's own initiative in case of suspected breach of competition rules in network industries	In process of implementation	Ongoing	CPC	n.a.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Effective competition on relevant markets. - Preventive effect on possible rule breakers 	Ongoing monitoring of competition on relevant markets and procedure initiation on CPC's own initiative if there is evidence on breaches.	Number of initiated procedures	n.a.	5 procedures on own initiative since the beginning of 2008 and 3 procedures since the beginning of 2009
14	Development of fiscal policy measures providing a framework for achieving government priorities on maintaining a balanced national budget	In process of implementation	Medium-term objective until 2013	MoF	None needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Sustainable fiscal position and stable public finances; -Support for economic recovery; -Maintaining the Currency Board and a stable banking system; -Euro Introduction. 	Action included in the medium-term fiscal framework, as well as in the 2010 budget	Balanced national budget	0% of GDP	
15	Development of models to assess the quality of public finances and implementation benchmarks	In the process of preparation	4Q 2010	MoF	None needed	Developing specific models to assess efficiency in individual sectors Structure optimization of individual sectors and efficiency improvement. Prioritising expenditure on the basis of assessments by individual sectors.	Identified key sector policies, implementation benchmarks and linkage with budget expenditure regardless of their source of financing	Developing a system to assess budgetary programmes, incl. implementation benchmarks	Draft system developed by 31.12.2010	
16	Increasing the efficiency of the public administration through administrative units and structures optimization	In process of implementation	1 January 2010	Ministers and Chairpe		Management optimization, increasing administration efficiency, and, as a result – ensuring better pay.	Closing duplicating units.			

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		ation		rsions of state agencies						
17	Keeping the single VAT rate of 20% as at January 2010	In process of implementation	2010	MoF	None needed	Preventing market signals distortion	Single VAT rate			
18	Increasing the minimum monthly insurance income of self-employed individuals from BGN 260 to BGN 420 and to BGN 240 for agricultural producers over the period 2010 – 2013	Planned	2010-2013	MoLSP, MoF, NSSI	None needed	Self-employed individuals will receive adequate pensions and compensations				
19	Increasing the pension supplements to survivors old age from 20 percent to 40 percent under Article 84 of the Social Insurance Code.	Planned	2013	MoLSP, MoF, NSSI	This supplement will increase the expenditure of Public Social Security on pensions with EUR 17.7 mln.	Increasing the income of vulnerable groups				
20	Gradual introduction of a monthly supplement for old age in addition to personal pension or pensions of people aged over 75 not lower than BGN 50.	Planned	2013	MoLSP, MoF, NSSI	This supplement is to be covered by the central budget – EUR 50 mln.	Increasing the income of elderly people				
21	Reducing the social security burden (the contribution to the Pensions Fund) by 2 percentage points in 2010 and with further 3 p.p. during the government mandate	Approved	2010-2013	MoLSP, MoF, NSSI	Increase in the subsidy from the republican budget for the Public Social Security by EUR 200 mln.	-Improving the business environment; -Fostering economic growth and employment; -Incentive to protect jobs during the recession.	Action included in the 2010-2013 medium-term fiscal framework and key assumptions, approved by the CoM, as well as in the 2010 budget	Amount of the social security contribution to the Pensions Fund	Decrease by 3 percentage points compared to 2009	16% - contribution rate to the Pensions Fund for 2010 13% -- contribution rate to the Pensions Fund for 2012
22	Adopting the Law Amending the Law on Health Insurance	In process of implementation	2009	Ministry of Health (MoH)		Regulating the coverage of the mandatory minimum package by health funds	The Draft Law Amending the Law on Health Insurance was approved on first reading.			
23	Adopting the Law Amending the Law on Medical Institutions	Planned	2009-2010	MoH		Restructuring hospital care; Determining the appropriate status of medical institutions taking into account the health and demographic need for medical services for the respective regions.				
24	Development of a new type of health insurance card	Planned	2010	MoH		Optimisation of hospital infrastructure on a regional principle				
25	Keeping the health insurance contribution at 8%	In process	2009-2013	MoF,		Access to health services provided				

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		of implementation		MoH						
26	Making prevention a mandatory element of the healthcare system through organisation and health control in compliance with the International Health Regulations	Planned	2009-2010	MoH		Improving the health status of the population, seen in health indicators				
27	Changes in the method to finance healthcare	Planned	2009 - 2013	MoH, MoF		Higher quality and better access to medical services				
28	Establishing and developing a system for prolonged treatment and integrated care of elderly people with chronic diseases	Planned	2009-2010	MoH, MoLSP		Integrated healthcare services, including healthcare and social services				
29	Strengthening control over medical activities	Planned	2009-2010	MoH		Establishing an effective system for medical audit				
30	Strengthening the reputation of Bulgarian doctors and other healthcare professionals, development of a system for professional qualification synchronised with the European Directives and standards	Planned	2009-2010	MoH, MoEYS		Rules for better medical practice				
31	Strengthening the role of internal audit in controlling the implementation of programme budgets and expedient resource spending	In process of implementation	2009	MoF	n.a.	Improving the quality and effectiveness of public finances	Including audits on the implementation of programmes in the annual internal audit plans of the Internal Audit Units at ministries 1. The MoEET is planning to include 2 audits but the plan is still not approved because of the restructuring of the ministry. 2. MoH – 4 audits; a new Structural Rules are expected and the internal audit plan will be approved after the changes. 3. MoAF – New Structural Rules adopted and consequently a review on planned assignments will be made – currently an audit at the "Finances and Business Activities" Directorate is under way and will be probably extended in order to include reviews on programme budget, planning, implementation, reporting, objectives, indicators, etc. 4. MoD – The draft plan is ready – 64 assignments are planned under all 14 programmes of the Ministry; the plan is still not approved. 5. MoTITC – 6 audit assignments under programmes of the ministry are included in the plan. The plan is not approved. 6. MoF – Currently an audit assignment related to programme 2 of the 2009 budget is under way. The audit will be concluded in 2010. The planning for 2010 is still not finalised, but audit assignments under all 9 programmes of the ministry will be included in the plan.	Number of audits	n.a.	n.a.
32	Introduction of risk management in public sector organisations (as part of the Action Plan to the	In process of	2009	MoF	n.a.	Improving the quality and effectiveness of public finances	Develop risk management strategies at the organisations concerned			

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	adopted on 20 March 2008 Strategy to Develop Financial Management, Control and Internal Audit in the Republic of Bulgaria for 2008-2010)	implementation					The Internal Audit Directorate is implementing a project under Operational Programme "Administrative Capacity" (OPAC) to introduce risk management. The following institutions are designated as pilot organisations: MoF, MoEET, Pleven Municipality and Blagoevgrad Municipality. The draft strategies were developed and their approval is forthcoming. The majority of heads of organisations have currently informed the Internal Audit Directorate that they are organising training in risk management to consequently develop risk strategies.			
33	Carrying out a preliminary research, with the participation of the Agency for Economic Analysis and Forecasting (AEAF) and the National Statistical Institute (NSI), on market functioning, according to the methodology proposed by the European Commission	Planned	2009	AEAF		Strengthening competition and well-functioning markets of goods and services	Methodology studied, initial consultations with the NSI and the CPC	Analysis developed		
34	Identification of risk companies and market segments/sectors at national and regional level (e.g. distributors, construction companies etc.) as subject of regular monitoring and more frequent inspections by the National Revenue Agency (NRA), the local tax authorities, the General Labour Inspectorate (GLI), and the other regulatory bodies (CRC)	In process of implementation	2009-2010	NRA, GLI, CRC	Within the allocated annual budget	Strengthening competition and well-functioning markets of goods and services	On the basis of analyses, the annual activity plan of EA GLI for 2009 specifies priority economic activities, which will be subject to increased control for compliance with employment legislation, as follows: 1. "Construction"; 2. "Production of timber and goods from timber and cork, other than furniture; production of goods from straw and weaving materials"; 3. "Processing of leather, production of shoes and other goods from processed leather, without fur"; 4. "Agriculture"; 5. "Hotel industry"; 6. "Restaurants"; 7. "Trade"; 8. "Production of cement and dry construction mixtures".	Number of inspections;	The relative share of inspections in enterprises involved in these economic activities is 84% of all inspections carried out during this period.	During the period 1 April – 30 June 2009: 1. 1494 2. 267 3. 23 4. 182 5. 473 6. 1102 7. 3577 8. 82
							Adopting final decisions to identify respective markets, as follows (implemented): - Market for termination of voice calls in individual mobile networks; - Market for generating calls from a certain location of public telephone networks and market for termination of calls at a certain	Number of sanctions		During the period 1 April – 30 June 2009: 1. 624 2. 39 3. 23 4. 33 5. 70 6. 263 7. 530 8. 13
								Number of CRC decisions	3	3

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							<p>location of individual public telephone networks;</p> <p>- Markets for retail access to public telephone network and publicly available telephone services at a certain location.</p> <p>Notifications to the EC and development of draft analyses (in process of implementation):</p> <p>1.1. Setting, analysing and imposing measures on wholesale markets for access to network infrastructure and broadband access - forthcoming;</p> <p>1.2. Identification, analysis and transit services in public fixed-line networks;</p> <p>1.3. Setting, analysing and imposing measures on markets for rented lines;</p> <p>1.4. Assessment of the need for setting, analysing and imposing measures on wholesale market for access and call generation from mobile networks.</p>	Analyses notified	6	
35	Implementation start of projects for voluntary consolidation of agricultural land	Planned	2009-2013	MoAF	Discussion on fixing the amount of financing under sub-measures of Measure 125 "Infrastructure related to the development and adaptation of agriculture and forestry" of the Rural Regions Development Programme 2007-2013 is forthcoming	Improvement of agricultural producers' market orientation and agricultural production promotion				
36	Establishment of agricultural producer organisations	Planned	2007-2013	MoAF	EUR 12.05 mln.	Improvement of agricultural producers' market orientation and encouragement of the production of farm produce		Number of producers' organisations assisted	150	
37	Amendments to the regulatory framework to achieve an expedient use of the irrigation infrastructure in the country	In process of implementation	2009	MoAF	EUR 0.05 mln.	Improving management effectiveness and use of irrigation infrastructure	Drafting a Strategy to Develop Hydromelioration in Bulgaria and a Law on Hydromelioration is in progress	Legal acts	2	0
38	Legal binding of authorisations for price increases of services provided by monopolies with their results (e.g. higher efficiency, lower losses in delivery of service/gas, electricity, water distribution)	In process of implementation	Ongoing	SEWRC, CRC		Strengthening competition and well-functioning markets of goods and services Promoting competition and investment in infrastructure to support citizens' interests	The Ordinances regulating the prices and quality of services ensure mandatory compliance with target levels of service quality. Water and sewerage operators must set in their business plans annual service quality target levels according to			

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	<p>The price regulation ordinances, as well as their accompanying documents under the SEWRC jurisdiction, are intended to influence prices with a view to ensuring uninterrupted supply, improving technical and technological levels of the quality of service indicators and maintaining market competition, which is the best regulator of prices and quality.</p> <p>Legal regulation of the specific obligations which the CRC may impose in the event of establishing the existence of an enterprise with significant influence over the corresponding wholesale market, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Transparency; - Equal treatment; - Separate accounting; - Obligations to provide access and use of specific network facilities; - Price restrictions, incl. cost orientation. <p>Legal regulation of the specific obligations which the CRC may impose in the event of establishing the existence of an enterprise with significant influence over the corresponding retail market, namely:</p> <p>1. Obligations at the level of wholesale provision of services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Obligations for access and use of specific network facilities; - Transparency; - Equal treatment; - Separate accounting; - Price restrictions, incl. cost orientation. <p>2. Obligations at retail provision of services level:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Equal treatment; - Ban on unjustified bundling in price packages; - Transparency; - Price restrictions, incl. cost orientation, price ceiling, etc. 						<p>the Ordinance on Long-Term Levels, Terms and Procedure to Determine Annual Target Levels of the Quality of Water and Sewerage Services, adopted with Council of Ministers Decree No. 73 of 2006.</p> <p>In electricity supply – delivery is provided by just four companies – a Methodology to guarantee uninterrupted supply of electricity, through monitoring the frequency and duration of registered interruptions by means of calculating a System Average Interruption Frequency (SAIF) Index and a System Average Interruption Duration (SAID) Index, for which target levels have been set until 2013 has been developed and approved. This approach leads to improved economic effectiveness and, hence, to lower costs per unit of electricity and improved quality of the service. There are also plans to improve price setting policy in order to promote lower electricity consumption. The legal acts on price regulation are aligned with the amendments on the Law on Energy, the Law on Energy Efficiency and with the Law on Renewable and Alternative Energy Sources .</p> <p>To foster increased effectiveness, there are also plans to improve the methodology for determining the X factor, measuring the relative effectiveness and used for adjustment of prices charged by the distribution and provider companies.</p> <p>The price regulation ordinances, as well as their accompanying documents under the SEWRC jurisdiction, are intended to ensure uninterrupted supply, improve technical and technological levels of the quality of service indicators and maintain competition on the market, which is the best regulator of prices and quality.</p> <p>On the basis of market analyses, the CRC decisions specified three wholesale markets and six retail markets, subject to ex ante regulation. As a result of the analyses the CRC established absence of efficient competition on the markets and identified the enterprises with significant influence. CRC imposed specific obligations on enterprises with significant market influence, set out in the Law on Electronic Communications (LEC), which, with regard to the price restrictions, are:</p> <p>1. On wholesale markets – pursuant to Article 166, paragraph 2 of the LEC: cost orientation of wholesale prices intended to neutralize high price setting which could impede access</p>			

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							<p>to infrastructure and provision of services, and to eliminate price pressure on competitors at related retail markets.</p> <p>In order to encourage efficiency, until cost orientation is proved, the enterprises are obliged to follow a plan for gradual price reduction to specified price levels.</p> <p>Price restrictions are applied to the prices of generation and termination of calls from/at a specified location, set by BTC, and the prices for termination within mobile networks of two of the mobile communication companies, as well as to the prices for interconnection and access to the fixed-line network of BTC.</p> <p>2. On retail markets – pursuant to Article 221, paragraph 2 of the LEC: Cost orientation of retail prices to protect end users and stimulate efficient competition.</p> <p>Until cost orientation of the access prices of BTC is proved, the increase in these prices is limited to a certain price threshold. The prices of calls to mobile networks are linked to changes in wholesale prices in the imposed plan for gradual price reduction.</p>			
39	Strengthening the role of non-governmental organisations for consumer protection through training representatives of consumers' associations in the field of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - legislature - management of consumer protection organisations - fund raising for associations maintenance 	Planned (for 2010 – 2011)	2009-2011	MoEET	Within the EC initiative	Improving communication with consumers and strengthening the capacity of consumers' organisations for consumer protection activities, and raising consumer awareness about consumer rights	The European Commission has concluded a contract with the European Consumer Protection Organisation, which will train representatives of consumers associations in the new Member States, including Bulgaria, during the period 2009 – 2011. The training is directed in three modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - legislature; - management of consumer protection organisations - fund raising for associations maintenance 	Participation of representatives of NGOs in seminars organised by the EC	3 seminars for the period 2009 – 2011	1 seminar for 2009
40	Strengthening the role of the Commission for Consumer Protection (CCP) in the enforcement of consumer protection legislation	In process of implementation	2009-2011	CCP	Within the allocated annual budget of the CCP	Strengthening the capacity of the Commission for Consumer Protection to enforce consumer protection legislation	n.a.	General training for the CCP staff	3 trainings for the period 2009 – 2011	1 training in 2009
								Specialised training for the CCP staff	9 trainings in three different modules during the period 2009 – 2011	3 trainings in 2009
41	Linking wage growth in the public sector with productivity growth, taking into account budgetary constraints and income policy in the budgetary sector	In process of implementation	2010-2013	MoF, MoLSP	Within the budget	Avoiding of effects resulting in spiral price and wage hikes, since public sector wages are taken into consideration by the private sector	By CoM Decree 191 of 2009 on optimisation and limiting expenditure in the 2009 budgets, restrictions on wage growth in republican budget spending units and State Fund "Agriculture" were	Wage expenditure to GDP ratio	Maintaining the 2010 ratio in the period 2011 – 2013, and	Wage expenditure under the consolidat

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							imposed.		maintaining 2009 nominal wages in 2010 - .	ed fiscal programme for 2010 - 6.2% of GDP
42	Prioritising energy efficiency in all future schemes targeting promotion of R&D	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoEET, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS), Ministry of Education, Youth and Science (MoEYS)		Increasing energy efficiency				
43	Harmonising Bulgarian legislation with the "Climate - Energy" Package of the EU and preparation for its implementation	Planned	2011 and after	MoEW, MoEET	Within the budget	Reducing and neutralizing climate change effects and increasing the energy efficiency		Harmonised legislation	Greenhouse gas emissions to GDP	
44	Development and implementation of a green investments scheme	Planned	2010-2011	MoEW		Reducing and neutralizing climate change effects. Financing environmental projects.		Greenhouse gas emissions to GDP		
Country Specific Recommendation 3. Rapid adoption and implementation of new actions to significantly reduce bureaucracy at central and local level and to cut down procedural delays to improve business environment which will also help to fight corruption										
45	Elimination and simplification of administrative regimes	In process of implementation, according to annexed table	December 2008	CoM and line ministries	0	Improving business environment and removing red tape obstacles to business	Of the regimes listed in the annexed table: 7 have been simplified (1 transferred to self-regulation by a sectoral organisation), 3 abolished, 3 unchanged, and 3 are due for review In addition to these regimes, during the first year of the implementation of the Better Regulation Programme the government abolished 3 and simplified further 12 regimes. In the course of one year the Council of Ministers abolished and simplified a total of 25 regimes.	Number of administrative regimes abolished and simplified	16	10
46	Legislative changes related to procedure simplification and elimination under the licensing regimes specified in the Law on Waters	In process of implementation	2010	MoEW	Within the budget	Improving the business environment and removing red tape obstacles to business		Legal acts amended		
47	Procedure simplification in project co-ordination for reclamation of disturbed land	In process of implementation	2010	MoEW	Within the budget	Improving the business environment and removing red tape obstacles to business		Legal acts amended		

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48	Standardisation of procedures and documents granting the right to search, study and excavate mineral resources	Planned	Up to 6 months after the adoption of the Law amending the Law on Mineral Resources (LMR)	The single authority under the LMR	Within the budget	Improving the quality of legislation and supporting business		Standardised procedures in place		
49	Simplification of coordination regimes envisaged in the Law on Protected Territories	Planned	2010	MoEW	Within the budget	Improving the quality of legislation		Legal acts amended		
50	Establishing good regulative practices and better regulation guidelines at municipal level	In process of implementation	June 2010	CoM, IPA, National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria, mayors, Municipal Councils, Regional Governors	EUR 0.06 mln. (for 2009)	Improving business climate in Bulgaria through elimination of excessive administrative burdens at municipal level.	Abolishing 181 municipal administrative regimes launched the process of improving the regulation at local level. The development of better regulation guidelines at municipal level has not started yet. A joint initiative of the Better Regulation Unit and the World Bank for good regulating practices at local level is being prepared.	Number of strategic reviews on regulatory processes;	50	0
								Number of administrative procedures and regimes simplified in each municipality	70	181
								Better regulation guidelines at municipal level in Bulgaria;	1	0
								Number of trained representatives of local authorities	300	0
51	Extension of consultation deadlines with stakeholders to 30 days	In process of implementation	2010	CoM	0	Improved participation of civil society structures in policy development. Improved quality of legislation.	The Draft new Law on Legal Acts provides extension of public consultation deadlines from 14 to 30 days before the draft act is submitted to the CoM. It is also envisaged that the online public consultations shall take place at the Public Consultation Portal at www.strategy.bg . The draft law is to be finally agreed upon. The recommendations included in the opinion of the Venice Committee regarding the draft law are being discussed. The draft act will be included in the legislative programme of the CoM for 2010.	Number of days for public consultations	30	15
52	Publishing legal acts related to administrative regulation on the Public Consultation Portal at least 30 days before their submission to the Council of Ministers	In process of implementation	Ongoing	CoM and the line ministries	0	Improved participation of civil society structures in policy formulation.	The administrations publish drafts legal acts related to administrative regulation on the Public Consultation Portal. 65 draft laws, by-laws and strategic documents were published in the Public Consultation Portal.	Number of documents published in line with the 30-day deadline	90	32

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53	Drafting a new Law on Legal Acts. Several types of impact assessments are outlined	In process of implementation	2010	CoM, Ministry of Justice (MoJ)		Better regulation and improvement of legislation	The Draft Law envisages impact assessment when drafting legal acts. The recommendations included in the opinion of the Venice Committee regarding the draft law are being discussed. The draft Law will be included in the legislative programme of the CoM for 2010.			
54	Legal compliance control of regional governors when introducing administrative regimes in municipalities	In process of implementation	Ongoing	Regional Governors	0	Improved quality of legislation.	Regional governors exercise control over the municipalities so as to prevent the introduction of new illegal regimes. Before the Administrative Court 2 ordinances of the Sofia Municipality and 1 ordinance of the Haskovo Municipality have been contested, and the Regional Governor of Kjustendil Region has sent back to the Municipal Councils for new discussions 4 ordinances.	Number of ordinances contested	30	7
55	The Bulgarian Government will consider the possibilities for exercising administrative pressure over local authorities regarding municipal regimes	In process of implementation	April 2009	CoM	0	Improved quality of legislation and improved business environment	In February 2009 the MoSAAR undertook additional actions to improve administrative regulation at local level by announcing, that it will exclude from its computer provision programme 57 municipalities, with continuing administration of illegal regimes. As a result of these actions illegal regimes were abolished in 119 municipalities. On 4 June 2009 the Council of Ministers approved a list of 45 municipalities with illegal regulatory regimes on stationary retail sites, trade in wine and spirits, and illegal annual fees for tobacco and tobacco products trade. The municipalities included in the list will be excluded from all government investment projects.	Number of regimes abolished	95	72
56	Adopting an action plan to reduce administrative burden by 20% by 2012	In process of implementation	February 2010	MoEET and the line ministries	0	Achieving the national target to reduce administrative burden for businesses by 20% by end 2012	Upon the initiative of the MoEET, the CoM adopted Decision No. 867 of 5 November 2009 to develop an Action Plan.	Action Plan adopted	1	
57	Launch of the Administrative Register	In process of implementation	June 2010	CoM ("State Administration" Directorate and "Economic and Social Policy" Directorate)	EUR 0.075 mln. (from the CoM budget)	Provision of accurate and up-to-date information regarding existing administrative structures, regulatory regimes and administrative services, and competitions for civil servants.	The Administrative Register with centralised entry of data regarding administrative structures, executive authorities, regulatory regimes and administrative services was finally developed.. A test launch was carried out in ministries administrations. As a result of the consequent recommendations the product was functionally improved. Training of officials appointed to make entries and control entries, and launching the Administrative Register at www.ar.egov.bg were planned. The activities planned were not completed because the Ministry of State Administration and Administrative Reform	Functioning Administrative Register	1	

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							was closed down. The forthcoming actions are: 1. Updating data in the administrative register with a view to the structural changes made in the public administration; 2. Training of 2 000 officials to make and control entries in the Administrative Register.			
58	Increase in the share of electronic company registrations and re-registrations	In process of implementation	2010	Registry Agency		Improving the business environment	In order to improve the regulatory framework, a Law Amending the Law on the Commercial Register (LALCR) was adopted and entered into force on 30 May 2008. The amended version of Article 12 of the LCR expressly provides that the fee for electronically submitted applications may not exceed 75% of the fee for paper submission. In this regard, state fees were reduced, with lower fees for electronic applications, effective as of 22 July 2008. This change is expected to result in a reduced number of paper applications, greater convenience for clients and optimisation of clerk work. In that respect the share of online applications in 2008 is 8% of total applications.	Share of electronic applications for registration and re-registration	20-22% of all submitted documents by end 2010	For the period 1 April 2009 - 31 October 2009 - 19.3%
59	Consultation with the CPC on drafts of legal acts regarding their consistency with the provisions of the LPC	In process of implementation	Ongoing	CPC The institutions submitting the corresponding acts	n.a.	Compliance of legal acts with competition rules	In 2007 the CPC issued 29 opinions, in 2008 - 17 opinions. Since the beginning of 2009 the CPC has issued 16 opinions. The CPC developed and adopted "Guidelines to assess the compliance of legal and general administrative acts with competition rules". The Guidelines are intended to assist executive and local bodies in developing legal acts in compliance with competition rules. The Guidelines were sent to the National Assembly, the Council of Ministers and all ministries.	Number of legal acts sent for consultation	-	-
60	Introduction of e e-government and integration of electronic administrative services into the central e-government portal	In process of implementation	3Q 2010	MoTITC	Within the allocated annual budget of the MoTITC EUR 10.6 mln.	The action completes the setting up of centralised systems for e-government and electronic administrative services implementation. A total of 27 new e-administrative services will be implemented and a total of 27 existing services will be integrated within the framework of the action. Parallel to that, a possibility and expert capacity will be provided for the integration of existing and newly developed services into the systems when providing administrations are ready	The basis of the e-government has been set up (a national portal, interoperability registers, SEDE - a single e-document exchange, a system to access the EU regulatory framework and other basic components)	Number of services	54	14
61	Development and integration of electronic systems in the judicial system: (a) Judicial Enforcement System; (b) Legal Aid System	In process of implementation	(a) 2008; (b) 30 November	MoJ	(a) n.a.; (b) no budget resources	(a) Improving the business environment (b) Improving the work of the administration, assessment, analysis	(a) In the Court Execution Office of the Sofia Regional Court the "Jess" System was installed, developed by "Temida-			

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		ation	2009		planned: financing within Phare Programme Project BG-2005/017-353.07.01 (EUR 0.115720 mln. from PHARE and EUR 0.038573 mln. national co-financing)	and planning of primary legal aid	<p>2000-Varna" OOD (for 60 work stations; with a database of 51 thousand cases, which is constantly updated). The system is also used by several court execution offices in the country (with 5-6 work stations each);</p> <p>In the Chamber of Private Enforcement Agents a system, developed and donated by USAID, is installed.</p> <p>A decision is expected for joining the two systems in a Single National Debtor Register.</p> <p>(b) Under project BG-2005/017-353.07.01 "Support for Further Implementation of the Strategy for Reform of Bulgarian Judiciary", Component I-4. "Supply of technical and office equipment for legal aid", three contracts were concluded: Lot 1: "Development and supply of software and training for the needs of the National Legal Aid Bureau", with contractor CIELA SOFT & PUBLISHING AD; A Final Acceptance Protocol was signed on 16 June 2009. Lot 2: "Supply of computer equipment for the needs of the National Legal Aid Bureau", with contractor KONTRAX EAD; A Final Acceptance Protocol was signed on 31 May 2009. Lot 3: "Supply of office equipment for the needs of the National Legal Aid Bureau", with contractor AUTOENGINEERING & KOBO 90; Supply discrepancies were identified, but the contractor refuses to sign the proposed partial Preliminary Acceptance Protocol. The Contracting Authority (the Central Finance and Contracts Unit at the Ministry of Finance) is negotiating with the contractor. The contract expired on 30 November 2009.</p>	(b) Number of allowed primary legal aid to socially disadvantaged citizens	(b) 63	(b) 2006 - 24 2007 - 7 2008 - 16 2009 - 16 (as at 24 November)
62	Development of ICT registers under the Law on E-governance	Planned		MoTITC	EUR 0.5 mln. per annum within the allocated annual budget of the MoTITC	Improving e-administrative services to individuals and businesses	<p>Development and implementation of certified AIS and reorganisation of administrative activities</p> <p>Register of information security and interoperability standards - functioning. Updating and adding information.</p> <p>Approval of electronic forms related to services provided by the standards register and developing a Web-based entry point for electronic services of the AIS Register.</p> <p>Maintaining a list of persons accredited for certification of the information systems of</p>	percentage	100%	
							1. standards	1. 110 standards x 12 details	40	
							2. accredited	2. 5 accredited	7	

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							<p>the state administration – functioning. Updating and filling in of information. Approval of electronic forms related to the services provided by the lists of accredited persons and the certified systems, and developing of a Web-based entry point for electronic services of the AIS lists.</p> <p>Maintaining a public list of certified information systems of the state administration: preparation of the database in progress, public procurement for entry of content forthcoming after certification.</p> <p>Establishment of an advisory board on standards at the MoTITC – functioning. Updating and filling in of information. CERT Bulgaria is set up, accredited at TI and working. Improving the provision of functions related to the reporting of accidents. Issuing of a regular information bulletin;</p> <p>Setting up of a Council for network and information security of the IS of the administrative authorities within the MoTITC – in the process of setting up.</p>	<p>persons</p> <p>3. certified information systems</p> <p>4. certified information applications</p> <p>5. certified information assignments</p> <p>6. certified test set of documents</p>	<p>persons x 6 details</p> <p>3. 20 certified information systems x 9 details</p> <p>For 4, 5 and 6 there is no quantitative information</p>	1	
63	Meta-data descriptions of the spatial data exchange with development, testing and introduction within the administration of a single model for management of spatial information	Planning is forthcoming	4Q 2010	MoTITC	EUR 2.5 mln. Flexible measures – possibly under OPAC, infrastructural – within the allocated annual budget of the MoTITC	<p>Improving the conditions for transparent and predictable state administration</p> <p>Formation of integral e-government administrative services with a GIS component for provision of faster and better-quality services to individuals and business</p> <p>Creating a reference module for the standards used and the standards meeting the criteria for interoperability and information security</p> <p>Developing training modules for the state administration structures for planning GIS systems and their use to create services for individuals and business</p> <p>Preparing the creation of a geo-information portal for data exchange with the EU</p>	<p>An analysis was carried out of international standards and practices and standards in the field of GIS were proposed for entering in the standards register.</p> <p>The members of the ICT Council – the Directors of the Tax Administrations and the municipalities, were trained in the planning of GIS and the nature and interpretation of spatial data.</p> <p>A database of the administrators of spatial data at the Tax Administrations was developed.</p> <p>Funds will be allotted for development of meta-data descriptions of spatial data, a model for their exchange and a test environment for network operational compatibility in the meaning of the INSPIRE Directive.</p> <p>A national geo-portal will be planned with interface to the administrators of spatial information and the geo-portal of the EC.</p> <p>A Draft Law on Spatial Data was prepared and submitted for consultation.</p>	<p>1. Publicly accessible analyses of the standards and international practices</p> <p>2. Certified ICT officers of the Tax Administrations: 37</p> <p>3. Certified officials of the municipal administrations: 155</p> <p>4. Available electronic database with administrators and the types of spatial data for e-government</p>			
64	Developing a test environment for interoperability of the GIS systems of the state administration and its testing with 4-6 administrators of primary geo-spatial data	In process of implementation	3Q 2009	MoTITC	EUR 1 mln.	<p>Transparent and predictable state administration</p> <p>Formation of integral e-government administrative services with a GIS component for provision of faster and</p>	<p>An analysis of international standards and practices was carried out and standards in the field of GIS were selected for the register of standards.</p>				

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						better-quality services to individuals and businesses Reference module for the standards used and the standards meeting the criteria for interoperability and information security Developing training modules for state administration structures for planning GIS systems providing services to individuals and business Preparing a geo-information portal for data exchange with the EU	The members of the ICT Council – the Directors of the Tax Administrations, were trained in the planning of GIS and the nature and interpretation of special data. The selection of a contractor under a public procurement procedure for the development of a reference model for achieving operational compatibility of the spatial data with the geo-portal of the EC and the testing of the reference model in a real situation are forthcoming. A Draft Law on Spatial Data was prepared sent for consultations.			
65	Adopting of a National Energy Strategy of the Republic of Bulgaria until 2020	In process of implementation	End of 2009 - beginning of 2010	MoEET		Developing a long-term framework for sustainable energy development, including identification of national goals, mechanisms, time-schedule and deadlines for their implementation.		Energy Strategy 2020 adopted	1	
66	Adopting a Forecast document for meeting national targets for RES share 2020	In process of implementation	31 December 2009	MoEET		Forecast of optimal meeting national targets for RES share by 2020 – technologies, sectors.		Strategic and forecast paper adopted	1	0
67	Improving the support mechanisms for RES energy and introducing the requirements of Directive 2009/28	In process of implementation	2010	MoEET		Legal amendments aiming at establishing favourable conditions for investments and development of RES energy technologies to meet national targets.		Harmonised legislation in the field of RES National RES plan 2020	100% 1	
68	Financial assistance for RES, energy efficiency and clean energy technologies	In process of implementation	2009-2010	MoEET		Optimal use of existing opportunities to finance projects with funds from European and national funds and programmes.		Percentage of programme funds absorption	100%	
69	Organising an electricity exchange	In process of implementation	November 2010	MoEET, SEWRC	EUR 0.326 mln. grant under the Norwegian Cooperation Programme for Economic Growth and Sustainable Development in Bulgaria - EUR 0.057 mln. national co-financing from the National Fund at the MoF	Developing a more liquid electricity market and improved competition between producers and suppliers of energy. A partnership project between the MoEET and the Norwegian regulatory authority NVE Norway, with the participation of the SEWRC and ECO-EAD is expected to start in November to develop rules for competitive electricity market, including selection a model of electricity exchange.		Successful completion of a joint project between Bulgaria and the Norwegian Energy Regulator	1	
70	Restructuring the energy sector	Planned	2011	MoEET, SEWRC		Meeting the requirements of the Third liberalisation package for unbundling operators of energy transmission networks. Providing a non-discriminatory access to networks for		Completed unbundling procedures	2	

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						each market participant and development of networks benefiting all consumers.				
Country Specific Recommendation 4. As part of the integrated approach of "labour market flexibility", attention needs to be focused on increasing the quality of labour supply and the employment rate by improving the efficiency, effectiveness and purposefulness of active labour market policies and further modernisation and adaptation of the management of the education system to raise skills to levels that better satisfy labour market needs and reduce early school leaving										
71	Measures and programmes aiming at labour market integration of people from disadvantaged groups	Planned	2010	Ministry of Labour and Social Policy (MoLSP)	State budget	Decreasing unemployment among the disadvantaged groups on the labour market		Number of individuals included in training and employment	2010 – 16 529 included in employment 3 200 - included in training –	
72	Measures to promote and sustain employment:									
	72.1. Compensations payment from the state budget to workers and employees, who have moved to part-time employment in the "Industry" and "Services" sectors of the economy.	In process of implementation	2010	MoLSP	MoLSP budget (employment policy)	Limiting the consequences of the global crisis and maintaining employment levels in 2009 and 2010.	Council of Ministers' Decree No. 44 of 19 February 2009 on payment of compensations from the state budget to workers and employees, who have moved to part-time employment in the "Industry" and "Services" sectors of the economy. As a result of the implementation of this measure 19 482 workers and employees and 496 employers from the "Industry" and "Services" sectors were supported. The implementation will continue in 2010 as well.	Number of individuals supported		Until now 19 482 workers and employees and 496 employers were supported
	72.2. An application has been submitted to the EC for funding under the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund for about 1 000 workers and employees from "Kremikovtsi" and "Port Complex Lom". The services to be provided to the individuals made redundant are: motivational and professional training, internship, employment and grants for starting up independent business activity	In process of implementation	2010	MoLSP	State budget, European Globalisation Adjustment Fund	Supporting the workers and employees who have lost their jobs in the process of economic restructuring.	The activities under the project are starting	Number of individuals included in employment and training	1000	
	72.3. Implementation of the "New Employment Opportunities" National Programme	In process of implementation	2010	MoLSP	State budget	The implementation of the "New Employment Opportunities" National Programme in support of people dismissed as a result of the economic crisis has already started this year Under the programme a package of services is provided, including information, consultation, orientation to available vacancies,, training, including training for starting up a new business, and subsidised employment with duration of up to 6 months. Minimum salary and the social and health insurance contributions are paid from the state budget to the people included in employment.		Number of individuals included in employment and training		As at the end of August 2009 over 1 900 unemployed were included in the programme, of whom about 500 were included in training and 1 400 were included in

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
										employment
73	Increase in employment of older workers through:	In process of implementation	Q4 2010	MoLSP, EA		To increase the employment rate of persons aged 55-64, an integrated set of measures is applied, identifying the separate subgroups of this cohort and applying specific measures for each of them: - unemployed persons of pre-retirement age - persons who have acquired entitlement to pension for periods of insurance - persons who have acquired entitlement to early-retirement under professional pension schemes - working persons of pre-retirement age	In 2009 the National Programme "Assistants to people with disabilities" was implemented. After the programme was updated, people who have acquired entitlement to pension because of disability or general disease can be appointed as personal assistants.	Employment rate of the group aged 55-64	2010 - 46%	Q1 2009 - 46.5%
	73.1. Including unemployed persons in the National Programme "Assistance for Retirement", in measures under the Law on Employment Promotion in training for acquisition of key competences and professional qualification, projects under the HRD OP, etc.	In process of implementation	Q4 2010	MoLSP, EA	National Programme "Assistance for Retirement" and measure under the Law on Employment Promotion for unemployed women over 50 and men over 55 (Article 55a) - 2008: EUR 8.974 mln., 2009: EUR 9.787 mln.	Increasing the employment of persons aged 55-64	Achievement of the parameters set in the NAPE 2009	Number of people who were employed Number of people included in training	2009: minimum 8 000 people	January - October 2009 - 4 778 people who have worked under NP "AR" and Article 55a of the Law on Employment Promotion January - October 2009 - 2 146 individuals aged over 50, included in training
	73.2. Ensuring access to part of the Employment Agency services for persons who have acquired entitlement to early-retirement under professional pension schemes	In process of implementation	Q4 2010	MoLSP, EA	n.a.	Fuller utilisation of the labour potential of persons who have acquired entitlement to early-retirement pension in case of preserved labour capacity.	With the amendments of the Law on Employment Protection and the Regulations for Application of the Law on Employment Protection of 2008, the persons who have acquired entitlement to early-retirement under professional pension schemes are made eligible for inclusion in employment promotion measures and training. As of 31 October 2009, 9 individuals were included in such measures.	Employment rate of the group aged 55-64	2010 - 46%	Q2 2009 - 46.5%
74	Activation of long-term unemployed and inactive persons through:	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP, EA		Increasing labour supply will continue to be a key priority of the labour market policy. An integral approach will be applied, combining incentives with		Employment rate of the group aged 15-64	2010 - 66.5%	Q2 2009 - 63.3%

Measure number	Description of the measure				Impact assessment and results					
	Description of the measure	Status	Deadline for implementation	Responsible institution	Financing (direct budget expenditures, other - Mln. EUR)	Significance of the measure and impact of its implementation:	Description of results:	Indicators of achievement		
								Indicator	Target value	Current value
						sanctions. Their application will contribute to the implementation of the priority under the Updated Employment Strategy 2008-2015 to offer all unemployed persons a new start by 2015 at the latest.				
	74.1. Introduction of an individual action plan elaboration requirement within one month after registration at the Labour Office for newly registered unemployed (the time limit so far was one month following the registration at the Labour Office)	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP, EA	Through the EA budget (Category 1 of the EUROSTAT labour market database)	Better and earlier identification of the problems and obstacles which the unemployed are facing within the shortest possible period after their registration with the labour office, so as to achieve higher levels of activation of unemployed persons. Non-fulfilment of the tasks in the individual action plan may lead to termination of the labour office registration.	The amendments to the Regulations for Application of the Law on Employment Protection as of June 2008 introduced a requirement that the individual action plans of all registered unemployed persons be drawn up within one month after their registration with the labour office. The EA prepared guidelines for training of mediators and action plans for persons outside the labour force and for those registered at the EA by the end of October 2008. For all unemployed persons registered as at 30 June 2009 personal action plans were developed.	Employment rate of the group aged 15-64	2010 – 66.5%	Q2 2009 – 63.3%
	74.2. Expanding the scope of activities and beneficiaries under National Programme Activation of Persons Outside the Labour Force	In the process of planning	Q4 2009	MoLSP, EA	2009: EUR 0.09 mln. 2010: EUR 0.098 mln.	Updating the programme activities after an analysis of the results achieved in 2008. The purpose is to ensure higher effectiveness and increase the number of activated persons.	During the period 1 January - 31 October 2009, 69 unemployed Roma persons have been trained for mediators. 73 individuals were appointed at 55 LOs. 70 individuals actually worked. They work as employment Roma mediators in areas with compact Roma population.	Employment rate 15-64 Number of persons newly registered at the Labour Offices as a result of the Roma mediators' activity	2010: – 66.5% More than 4 000 newly registered persons in 2009	Q2 2009 – 63.3% As at 31 October 2009, 8 901 inactive and discouraged workers were registered in LOs and personal action plans were prepared for them. As at 31 October 2009 1 392 found a job, 746 under programmes and actions.
75	Developing initiatives to give a second chance to persons without education and/or qualification through:	In process of implementation	Q4 2010	MoLSP, EA		To reduce the obstacles to steady job placement of the most disadvantaged persons on the labour market, the scope, focus and variety of the second chance-type initiatives will be considerably increased. Their application will contribute to the	New initiatives, extending opportunities, are at different preparation stages.	Level of participation in lifelong learning for the 25-64 age group	2010 - 3.5%	2007 – 1.3%

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
						implementation of the priority of the Updated Employment Strategy 2008-2015 to offer all unemployed persons a new start by 2015 at the latest.				
	75.1 Developing apprenticeship as a form of acquisition of skills in a work environment for low-skilled persons, under the guidance of a mentor;	In process of implementation	Q4 2010	MoLSP, EA	2009: EUR 0.58 mln. EUR 2010: 0.635 mln.	Reducing the obstacles to steady job placement of the most disadvantaged persons on the labour market and increasing their employability through acquisition of skills in a real work environment under the guidance of a mentor	Under the National Employment Action Plan for 2009 funding for apprenticeship of 300 unemployed individuals was provided.	Number of individuals included in apprenticeship	2009: 400 individuals 2010: 400 individuals	As at 31 June 2009 244 individuals in apprenticeship, and 244 mentors
	75.2. Expanding the scope of Early School-Leavers Project;	In the process of preparation	Q4 2009	MoLSP, EA	2009: EUR 0.09 mln. 2010: EUR 0.09 mln.	Expanding opportunities to early school-leavers to acquire qualification in occupations in demand on the labour market	At present early school-leavers can enrol in vocational training, training for acquisition of key competences, apprenticeship and internship.	Number of individuals enrolled in adult training, apprenticeship and internship	2009: 200 individuals 2010: 200 individuals	During the period January – June 2009: 109 individuals in training, 8 individuals completed the training; 12 individuals included in internship; 4 individuals included in apprenticeship.
76	Providing qualification services and training for employed and unemployed persons and promotion of employment under HRD OP, including: General and specialised training and training in key competencies	In process of implementation	2011	EA	EUR 21.62 mln.	Improving workers' employability, adaptability and skills, with a focus on the need to improve the skills of low-skilled and older workers, extending their working life and adaptation to a knowledge-based economy	n.a.	Level of participation in lifelong learning for the 25-64 age group	2010: – 3.5%	2008 – 1.4%
	76.1. Award and implementation of projects under the scheme "Qualification Services and Training for Employed Persons" – phase 2, intended to provide general or specific training for professional qualification, including introductory training of employed persons; training for acquisition of key competences: communication in the mother tongue and in foreign languages; basic competence in natural sciences, technologies and mathematics; learning skills; digital competence (ICT); enterprise and entrepreneurship; cultural awareness and creativity; social and civic competences.	In process of implementation	2011 The projects will be evaluated at regular intervals and four evaluation committees were held until the end of 2008. The implement	EA	EUR 12.78 mln.	n.a.	An information campaign under the scheme "Qualification Services and Training of Employed Persons" – phase 2 started on 28 May 2008.	Number of individuals included in training programmes for acquiring / enhancing of qualifications, key and other competencies	54 000	12 952

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
			ation of the activities under the individual projects will finish in 2011							
	76.2. Awarding the implementation of projects under the scheme "Increasing youth employment by their stable inclusion in the labour market in Bulgaria" - orientated towards the provision of training for young people aged below 29 for the purpose of increasing their employability and sustainable employment.	In process of implementation	2008 - 2010	EA	EUR 7.7 mln.	Increasing youth competitiveness by training in ICT and foreign languages.	Project proposal approved. Order for awarding a grant issued. A procedure for sub-contracting is forthcoming.	Number of individuals included in training for acquiring key competencies	10,400, incl. 7,300 in foreign language training and 3,100 in ICT training.	
								Number of individuals who have received mediation services	10 400 -	
								Individuals with employment kept for 1 year following their participation in an employment promotion action	5 200	
	76.3. Awarding the implementation of projects under the scheme "Promoting projects for starting up independent business activity"	In process of implementation	2008-2013	EA	EUR 35.79 mln.	It is envisaged that unemployed individuals with vision how to start their own business activity shall be supported by gaining access to specialised training and services. The action will be implemented within three components.	The procedure for awarding grant assistance under Component 1 is under way.	Number of individuals included in training for acquiring entrepreneurial skills and/or consulted on the finalisation of a business plan	50 000	
								Number of newly established enterprises	10 000	
	76.4. Awarding the implementation of projects under the scheme "Increasing the flexibility and efficiency of the labour market through active involvement of social partners"	In process of implementation	2008-2013	EA	EUR 36.05 mln.	Improving the adaptability of employed individuals to challenges of labour market in Bulgaria as a major factor for curbing the informal economy, for achieving equilibrium in the demand and supply of labour and for undertaking	Requirements for applicants were published and project proposals are being collected	Number of studies and research; Number of information systems	n.a.	n.a.

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
						action for flexicurity with the help of joint actions with the social partners		developed and implemented; Number of documents prepared by experts – analyses, reports, opinions		
	76.5. "Development" grant scheme	In process of implementation	2009-2012	EA	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 76.69 mln.	Within this action, training will be conducted for acquiring or enhancing professional qualifications of individuals made redundant after 1 November 2008 as a result of: - restructuring of the enterprise; - closing down of the enterprise; - reducing the volume of production, or - closing down of part of the production, so that these individuals can be consequently re-employed.	The Employment Agency is developing a project proposal	Number of individuals included in training for qualification acquisition or improvement	40 000	n.a.
								Share of individuals who have acquired or enhanced their qualifications	32 000	
								Number of individuals included in employment following the training	32 000	
	76.6. "Qualification services and promotion of employment" grant scheme	In process of implementation		EA	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 18.41 mln.	This action includes training for acquiring or enhancing the professional qualification of individuals registered as unemployed in the LOs, with priority given to vulnerable groups for their subsequent employment.	The scheme was launched in the middle of June. Project proposals are being collected. Project proposals can be submitted without limitations within the period of the programme until 30 October 2010; they will be assessed at regular intervals.	Number of individuals included in training for qualification acquisition or enhancement	18 000	
								Share of individuals acquired or enhanced their qualifications	14 400	
								Number of individuals employment following the training	7 200	
77	Establishing a national system for monitoring and forecasting labour demand of particular	In process of	Q4 2010	MoLSP, MoEYS	n.a.	Better matching of labour supply and demand in Bulgaria by studying,	A Concept for structuring and institution building of the system for studying and	Unemployment rate for	2009 – 7.4%	Q2 2009 – 6.3%

Measure number	Description of the measure				Impact assessment and results					
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	qualifications (with the joint efforts of the MoLSP, the MoEYS and the participation of nationally represented organisations of social partners).	implementation				identifying and short-term and long-term forecasting of labour demand of particular qualifications	forecasting labour demand with particular qualifications in the Republic of Bulgaria has been prepared, the remarks and proposals of all partners have been received and are taken into consideration. A working group was established with the participation of the MoLSP, MoEYS, MEET, MAF, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works (MoRDPW), MoF, the National Agency for Vocational Education and Training (NAVET), NSI, NRA, representative of the nationally represented employers' organisations, researchers from the BAS and other organisations. Discussions of the specific parameters of the future system started. Working groups discuss different issues related to the Information System. In order to support this procedure, information from different sources about current labour demand and supply was collected.	persons aged 15 and over		
78	Reduction of regional disparities with respect to unemployment	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP, EA	n.a.	Social cohesion is a fundamental principle of the EU. Bulgaria's employment policy aims at reduction of regional disparities in Bulgaria and, hence, in the EU. Reduction of the regional disparities with respect to unemployment	Implementing the 2008 National Employment Action Plan (NEAP), a number of measures are carried out to reduce regional disparities in respect of unemployment.	Dispersion of the unemployment rates by planning region	2010: 2.5 percentage points	an average of 2.4 for 2008 according to NSI data
	78.1. Priority financial allocation to municipalities with unemployment rate above the national average under the most comprehensive labour market programme, "From Social Assistance to Employment"	In process of implementation - implemented for year 2009	Ongoing	MoLSP, EA	n.a.	Social cohesion is a fundamental principle of the EU. Bulgaria's employment policy aims at reduction of regional disparities in Bulgaria and, hence, in the EU. Reduction of the regional disparities with respect to unemployment	The programme allocation criteria for 2009 take fully into account the need for priority financial allocation to municipalities with unemployment rate above the national average (indicated by unemployment rate and people on social benefits).	Dispersion of unemployment rates by planning region	2010: 2.5 percentage points	an average of 6 for the first and second quarter of 2009 according to NSI data
	78.2. Investment promotion in regions with higher unemployment rates and increasing the powers of municipalities for enhancing economic activity	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoF, MoEET, EA	n.a.	Reduction of regional disparities with respect to investment activities, economic development and unemployment	The Law on Investment Promotion (LIP) and the Rules on its implementation regulates the incentives for investing in municipalities with unemployment rates higher than the average national unemployment rate (the list of these municipalities is updated on an annual basis), as well as for investments in high-tech production activities, computer technologies, research and development activities, education and healthcare. An important incentive for investment promotion under the LIP is the financial support for professional qualification of staff of companies, investing in high-tech production and services or in economically disadvantaged regions. Increase in the number of investors classes benefiting from promotion measures; some of them	Dispersion of the unemployment rates by planning region New job creation and professional training through increased investment in regions with higher unemployment rates and in high-tech and	2010: 2.5%	an average of 2.4 for the first and second quarter of 2009 according to NSI data

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							will be supported and administered by the state and the rest – by municipalities in accordance with the LIP and the Rules on its implementation. Pursuant to the provisions of the Law on Corporate Income Taxation (LCIT) employers can deduce from taxable profit costs on wages and social security contributions if they hire unemployed from some of the vulnerable groups on the labour market (long-term unemployed individuals, unemployed individuals aged 50 and over and individuals with lower ability to work). The LCIT also contributes to employment promotion and new job creation in regions with high unemployment rate through tax relief to companies investing in such regions.	innovative activities		
79	Implementing the EU free movement of people policy so that Bulgarian citizens benefit from their rights as EU citizens in other Member States and successfully reintegrate when coming back	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP, MoFA, Agency for Bulgarians Abroad	Budget of the administrations	Better knowledge of EU citizens' rights in other Member States, and assistance to returning Bulgarians by informing them about vacant jobs in Bulgaria.	Implementation of actions in accordance with the National Strategy for Migration and Integration 2008 – 2015 (NSMI) – more specifically, Strategic Goal 1.			
	79.1. Informing Bulgarian citizens on the territories of other Member States about their rights by extending the network of the Labour and Social Issues Offices (LSIO) of the MoLSP at Bulgarian embassies abroad	In process of implementation	Annually	MoLSP, MoFA	MoLSP budget	The extension of the LSIO network is necessary for reaching out to a larger number of Bulgarian citizens within the EU – not only in terms of information provided but also in terms of assistance in exercising their rights. Better knowledge of job opportunities in Bulgaria is also achieved.	In 2008 the network was extended by two new LSIOs – by extending the powers of existing heads of LSIOs in a Member State to other Member States. The Head of the LSIO in London started performing the functions of a LSIO in Dublin, and the LSIO in Athens started performing the functions of a LSIO in Nicosia.	Number of LSIOs	+ 1 new LSIO a year; + 1 LSIO through extending existing LSIOs	By the end of 2008 4 LSIOs were operational, 2 of them acquired extended powers
	79.2. Organising information labour exchanges and days in Member States with a large number of Bulgarian citizens	In process of implementation	Annually	MoLSP, EA	MoLSP budget	The organisation of information labour exchanges and days is with the direct participation of interested employers from Bulgaria for identifying and attracting back Bulgarians with specific qualification, skills and experience.	NSMI identifies the carrying out of such campaigns as an instrument for achieving Strategic Goal 1. In November 2008 the first information labour exchange was successfully organised in Madrid, Spain. An information day was organised at the beginning of April 2009 on Crete Island, Greece. At the end of April information labour exchange was successfully organised in Berlin and Munich, Germany – they were targeted mainly at graduating or already graduated young Bulgarians in Germany.	Number of campaigns	Minimum 1 a year	1 in 2008 2 in 2009
	79.3. Conclusion of bilateral agreements / contracts and exchange of letters for avoiding abuse of social security contributions and rights and undeclared employment	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP	MoLSP budget	Contributes for the normal co-ordination of social security systems between the individual Member States. The avoidance of abuse has a positive impact on national social security systems by saving funds.	In 2008 bilateral agreements were signed with Germany, the Netherlands and France. In 2009 work was under way on agreements with Belgium and the United Kingdom.	Number of agreements	For 2009 – 2	3

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80	Broadening the scope of employment-related services by private service providers through:	In process of implementation	Q4 2010	MoLSP, EA	n.a.	The provision of employment-related services by private service providers is a guarantee for the extension of their scope and volume and improvement of their quality.	Favourable prerequisites and a number of measures ensure the provision of key employment-related services by private service providers. They will provide mainly services for: training, career orientation, entrepreneurship services.	Unemployment rate (15 +)	2010: - 5.8%	Q2 2009 - 6.3%
	80.1. Applying legal provisions for competitive adult training financed with active labour market policy resources	In process of implementation	Ongoing	EA	2009: EUR 7.6 mln. 2010: EUR 7.6 mln.	Broadening the scope of employment-related services, including the organisation of vocational training and training for acquiring key competences, provided by private providers, and improvement of the quality of these services as a major factor for improving the quality of the labour force. Developing services in career orientation and adult training provided by private licensed centres.	The amendments to the LEP and the Rules for its application of 2008 provided a possibility for budgetary financing not only of vocational training activities but also of training for key competences, as well as of career orientation of unemployed persons directed by the EA to licensed information and career orientation centres. Training is performed by training institutions selected according to the procedure established by the Law on Public Procurement and according to a methodology approved by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy. A working group involving social partners is developing a draft methodology for selecting training institutions. The selection methodology for training institutions was supplemented with regard to the selection of organisation for professional orientation, motivational training and training for key competencies. The methodology was discussed at a meeting of the National Council for Employment Promotion held on 26 November 2008. With an order of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, in January 2009 a new Methodology for training institutions selection was endorsed. In October the Council of Ministers adopted a Decree for determining the terms and conditions for providing training vouchers to unemployed and employed individuals under Priority Axes 1 and 2 of Operational Programme "Human Resources Development". These vouchers will finance acquisition of professional qualification and/or of a key competence. Such training can be provided by training institutions meeting certain conditions and included in a List, approved by the Executive Director of the Employment Agency. The list will be published on the EA web site and will be monthly updated.	Share of courses for employed and unemployed persons conducted by private Information and career orientation Centres, licensed by the National Agency for Vocational Education and Training (NAVET).	over 95%	90% in 2008
	80.2. Providing training to: - Adults trainers; - Mentors of unemployed persons with basic and lower education and without qualifications, hired for apprenticeship as an employment promotion measure under the LEP;	In the process of preparation	Q4 2010	EA	2008: EUR 0.065 mln.	Improving the quality of employment-related services provided by private providers Well prepared adult trainers, with proficiency in modern teaching methods taking into account trainees	The "Quality Improvement of Adult Training" Programme is included in the 2009 NEAP. Financing for inclusion in training of 450 individuals, incl. 200 adult trainers; 50 mentors; and 200 evaluating experts is ensured.	Number of persons trained	In 2009 450 persons, incl. 200 adults trainers; 50 mentors;	n.a.

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	- External experts assessing the quality of proposals for professional qualification training , organised by the Employment Agency					characteristics, are an important factor to improve the quality and effectiveness of adult training. The improvement of the selection process for training institutions , financed with EA resources, is linked to procedure improvement, as well as to external evaluating experts knowledge.		200 evaluating experts		
	80.3. Career orientation to unemployed persons directed by the Employment Agency to licensed private Information and career orientation centres (ICOC), financed with active labour market policy resources	In the process of preparation	Q4 2010	MoLSP, EA	2009: EUR 0.015 mln. 2010: EUR 0.015 mln.	Broadening the scope of employment-related services provided by private providers and improving the quality of these services Developing services in career orientation and adult training provided by private licensed centres.	At present career guidance for job-seekers (financed by active policy resources) is provided only by the territorial divisions of the EA Until now there are no ICOC, licensed by the NAVET.	Number of unemployed persons with career orientation at ICOC	In 2010: 1 000 individuals	n.a.
	80.4. Provision of high-quality services to starting-up and expanding entrepreneurs through a wide network of business centres and incubators servicing 60 municipalities	In process of implementation	Q4 2010	MoLSP and UNDP	EUR 0.31 mln. for 2009	Broadening the scope of employment-related services provided by private providers and improving the quality of these services Developing the entrepreneurship services provided by the network of business centres set up under the JOBS Project	Provision of a broad range of information, financial and office services, as well as training and elaboration of business plans, by a network of 43 business centres established as NGOs and brought together into a National Business Development Network Association.	Unemployment rate (15+)	2010: 5.8%	Q2 2009: 6.3%
Number of business services provided;								In 2009 41 000, including 2 000 of the Roma business centres; In 2010 43 000, including 2 220 of the Roma business centres;	January – June 2009 - 16 385. Including 832 of the Roma business centres;	
Number of persons trained								In 2009 6 500, including 400 of the Roma business centres;	January – June 2009 – 4 482. Including 149 of the Roma business centres;	
Number of company tenants at business incubators;								In 2009 - 95; In 2010 - 95	January – June 2009 - 90	
								Jobs created by self-employed persons with the financial leasing scheme;	In 2009 1 400, including 300 of the Roma business centres; In 2010 1 500, including 320 of the Roma	January – June 2009 - 90

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
								business centres;		
								Percentage of risky leases (overdue by more than 30 calendar days)	2009: 3.5%. 2010: 3.5%	January – June 2009 – 8.06%
81	Carrying out study and analysis of the opportunities to intervene in favour of vulnerable groups on the labour market and inactive people within HRD OP	In process of implementation	2011	EA, MoLSP – Managing Authority for HRD OP	EUR 0.766 mln.	Carrying out an in-depth study of the characteristics of the persons outside the labour force, including their geographic distribution, will yield valuable information for better focusing of the initiatives under the NEAP and under HRD OP. In identifying subsequent interventions, complementarity and non-duplication of initiatives financed under HRD OP and by the State budget will be sought.	Within Operational Programme "Human Resources Development" a procedure was launched for a grant scheme BG051PO001-6.1.01 "Specialised survey and analysis of intervention opportunities on vulnerable groups on the labour market, inactive and discouraged workers". The Employment Agency, as a beneficiary of this project, submitted a proposal in the second half of April. A grant contract was signed in May 2009.	Prepared studies: - needs of vulnerable groups by regions;	1	0
82	Regulation of the activity of Temporary Employment Agencies (TEA)	In process of implementation	2010	MoLSP, National Assembly		Improving employment opportunities of various labour force groups by providing opportunities for more flexible forms of employment	The Draft Law Amending the Labour Code, regulating relationships between the companies providing temporary employment (TEA), workers and employees, and the companies – users, related to work, the rights and obligations of the parties, and guaranteeing protection to workers and employees in line with EPL, was adopted at first reading by the Labour and Social Policy Committee to the 40 th National Assembly during its meeting held on 29 April 2009. Thus, the provisions of Directive 2008/104/EC of the European Parliament and the Council of 19 November 2008 on temporary agency work, to be transposed by 5 December 2011 at the latest, are incorporated into the Labour Code. The National Employment Promotion Council decided to establish a working group to develop and propose an agreement between the employers' organisations and trade unions, as well as to prepare concrete proposals for legal amendments.	Part-time workers as percentage of the total number of employed	2010 – 4 %	Q2 2009: 2.6 %
83	Drafting a new Law on School Education	In process of implementation	2009	MoEYS		Improving school-leavers' orientation for better realisation on the labour market	The new law is elaborated according to the National Programme for School and Pre-school Education and Training Development for 2006 -2015 (NPSPSET), adopted by the National Assembly. The new Law on School Education contains several new elements: 1. New educational structure: basic education is completed after 7th grade 2. Secondary school stage is divided into two stages: first stage 8th – 10th grade, and second stage 11th – 12th grade. After the adoption of the law, a new			

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							curriculum with new textbooks will be elaborated, the syllabus will be updated and practically oriented.			
84	Adopting a new Law on Higher Education	In process of implementation	2010	MoEYS			The new Law on Higher Education introduces changes to the financing and management models, independence and accreditation of higher schools.			
85	Developing a mechanism for pupils and students internships	In process of implementation	2009	MoEYS	European Social Fund OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 2 mln.	Improving pupils and students practical skills allowing for an easier adaptation to labour market needs Establishing stable partnerships between educational/training institutions and business Upgrading the qualifications of teachers/trainers to operate modern production equipment	Implementation contracts concluded with 37 vocational secondary schools and 25 higher schools The activities under the project are being implemented	Minimum number of pupils in internship	2009 – 2 000 pupils	2 351
								Minimum number of students in internship	2009 – 2 000 students	1 030
								Minimum number of teachers trained to operate modern equipment	2009: a minimum of 200 teachers and lecturers	0
86	"School and students' internships"	In process of implementation	2008-2010	MoEYS	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 2 mln.	The action will make the transition from school to workplace easier through internships. The provision of practical skills and competencies will respond to the new challenges and will increase the successful realisation on the labour market. The investments in this field will contribute to a favourable environment for strengthening the intellectual potential and the professional realisation in secondary and higher schools and to strengthening the links between the educational and training institutions and business in line with the needs of the Single market and the standards of the EU Member States.	The project proposals are being evaluated. Conclusion of contracts is forthcoming.	Number of pupils with successfully completed school internships.	2 000	n.a.
								Number of students with successfully completed students' internships.	2 000	n.a.
								Teachers / lecturers trained to operate modern equipment and technologies	2 000	n.a.
87	Introduction of a new educational structure of vocational education and training	Planned (The implementation of this action is envisaged in the NPSPSET for 2006 - 2015 and will take	2010	MoEYS	State budget	The purpose is to determine future profession in the second secondary school stage (after 10th grade, age 16) in order to ensure faster adaptability to labour market requirements. At present the duration of vocational education is 4-5 years, and after the reform it will be acquired during the second secondary school stage (11th – 12th grade). For pupils who have completed the first secondary school stage at general schools but not wishing to continue their	This action will be implemented after the adoption of the Law on School Education	Pupils trained under the new educational structure	Pursuant to the provisions of the new Law on School Education, the structure of school vocational education	

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
		place after the adoption of the Law on School Education)				education, short-term modules for professional qualification are envisaged.		and training will be changed.		
88	Start of the programmes for "second chance" schools: additional opportunities for literacy training and vocational training for early school-leavers	In process of implementation	2010 - 2011	MoEYS, MoLSP	State budget	Acquired professional qualification by early school-leavers	Extending state-planned admission for first degree of professional qualification for students who have left schools after the 6th, 7th and 8th grade by training school-leavers for a first degree of professional qualification.acquisition.	Number of students who have attained first degree of professional qualification	In school year 2010-2011 - opportunity for training 200 pupils to acquire first degree of professional qualification	n.a.
89	Implementation of programmes for training and retraining of teaching staff									
	89.1. National Programme "Qualification"	In process of implementation – long-term qualification for professional qualification	2008 - 2009	MoEYS	EUR 1.023 mln.	1. Strengthening the capacity of educational institutions to ensure high quality educational services 2. Overcoming the shortage of highly qualified teachers in foreign languages 3. Enhancing school principals' competences to overcome the deficiency of managerial skills 4. Strengthening the managerial capacity in secondary education 5. Motivating teachers and principals to broaden and improve their competences and skills and pursue sustained career development 6. Within the national education system, developing capacity for safe and secure school	The National Programme "Qualification" was approved with Decision No. 245 of 20 April 2007, updated with Decision No. 339 of 26 May 2008 and Decision No. 146 of 12 March 2009, and amended with Decision No. 819 of 26 October 2009.	number	5060	2681
		In process of implementation – short-term qualification of school principals		MoEYS, National Institute for Training School Principals	EUR 0.7 mln.					
	89.2. Ongoing qualification	In process of implementation (short-term qualification)		MoEYS				number	26017	26017
	89.3. Grant scheme "Improving qualifications and career development of teachers, lecturers at universities and principals"	In process of implementation	2008 - 2010	MoEYS	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 5 mln.	The action is directed towards improving the quality of educational services through: - Developing an efficient system for qualification and career development of teachers, lecturers in universities,	Project activities started at the beginning of 2009 and are implemented in line with the time-schedule. Under Operational Programme "Human Resources Development", "Higher Education Policy" Directorate implements	80.3. Grant scheme "Improving qualifications and career development	2 500	n.a.

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
						school, kindergartens and servicing units in the education system principals; - Introducing mechanisms for monitoring, analysis, assessment, forecasting and planning of qualification services; - Modernisation of education management and introduction of innovative management approaches; - Acquisition of managerial skills by management staff of educational institutions.	project "Improving the qualification of university lecturers". The main project objective is to enhance the quality of educational services provided by the Bulgarian universities and to develop an efficient system for lecturers qualification and career development. The specific objectives relate to improved university lecturers competencies in three key areas (foreign languages, ICT in training, and specific professional competencies in developing modern curricula with strengthened European dimension), as well as to introducing mechanisms for training monitoring, assessing, forecasting and planning to improve the quality of educational services. The necessary tools were developed, including clear criteria, selection, assessment and monitoring mechanisms, contributing to training efficiency and results. A tender procedure for contractor selection was carried out.	of teachers, lecturers at universities and principals" Temporarily employed and deputy principals, included in qualification courses University lecturers included in qualification courses	800 1 000	n.a. n.a.
90	Discussion and approval of the Strategy for Higher Education Development	Discussion in progress	2010	MoEYS	n.a.	Developing higher education system in line with new conditions. Effect: new Law on Higher Education The objective is to develop a (long-term) strategy for higher education development taking into account current trends and needs and with the participation of interested parties.	Amendments to the currently effective Law on Higher Education. University budgets were increased. The system was optimised and access eased.	Number of students for 2007, 2008, 2009.		
91	Modernisation and integration of computer networks in Bulgarian schools	In process of implementation	2011	MoTITC, MoEYS	EUR 4 mln. per annum	Exchange of educational and methodological content among schools, the MoEYS, the Regional Education Inspectorates and a link with the European Educational Resources	A school network was established and is functioning; it was modernised and decentralised in 2008; 15 regional centres for connecting with the MoEYS, the Regional Education Inspectorates and the European educational resources were established; Re-engineering to plan network development is forthcoming (MoTITC) Planned development of educational contents of network services (MoEYS)	Broadband Functioning school network covering computer classes in Bulgaria	1 Gbs	10 Mbs
92	Grant scheme "ICT in education"	Approved	2008-2009	MoEYS	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 20 mln.	The efficient use of modern information and network technologies to improve education quality, to enrich syllabus and to introduce innovative educational techniques and methods will contribute to the already started National Strategy for ICT Introduction in Bulgarian Schools.	The project activities have started and are implemented in line with the time-schedule.	Teachers, lecturers, researchers, students and pupils covered by project activities ICT testing and training centres established New training	80 000 400 1 000	n.a. n.a. n.a.

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
								courses and materials developed		
								Home Internet access provided	15 000	n.a.
93	Elaboration and implementation of Early School Leavers at Compulsory School Age Prevention Programme: up to 15% by 2009, through:	In process of implementation	4Q 2009	MoEYS	ESF, HRD OP BGN 3 million State budget BGN 3 million	Increasing the number of individuals with completed secondary education and improving their opportunities for social realisation	Actions are implemented to reduce the number of early school leavers of compulsory school age for the 2007-2010 period; they are based on the key objectives of the NPSSET for 2006-2015.	Sc051 Early school-leavers – total	2009: 15%	Percentage of early school-leavers: 20% (2007)
	93.1. Grant scheme "Making school more attractive to young people"	In process of implementation	2008-2010	MoEYS	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 10.8 mln.	The objective of this action is: - Developing every child potential and providing opportunities for physical, intellectual and personal development, full social integration and subsequent professional realisation; - Including children and pupils in competence forming activities for active participation in the economic, social and cultural life as responsible citizens of a democratic and pluralistic society.	251 contracts with beneficiaries were concluded. The project activities have started and are implemented in line with the time-schedule.	Children and pupils covered in extra-curriculum and out-of-school activities.	80 000	50 443
								Schools offering extra-curriculum activities under the programme	500	555
	93.2. Grant scheme "Creating favourable multicultural environment for practical application of intercultural education and training"	In process of implementation	2007-2009	MoEYS	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 2.85 mln.	The project aims at including children and pupils from minority ethnic groups in teaching process. The activities are orientated towards integration of children and pupils from ethnic minorities, reducing the number of early school leavers and potential early school leavers, as well as pupils outside the school system. Activities related to parent motivation and establishing appropriate mechanisms for easier integration of children from minority ethnic groups in schools will be financed.	64 contracts with beneficiaries were concluded. The project activities have started and are implemented in line with the time-schedule.	Number of children and pupils from ethnic minorities in schools.	n.a.	n.a.
								Number of teachers and lecturers included in programmes for qualification improvement for multicultural environment work.	n.a.	n.a.
								Number of parents from ethnic minorities included in programmes to improve motivation for integrating	n.a.	n.a.

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
								their children in the educational system.		
94	Carrying out targeted policy in labour migration and integration, in line with national interest and economic benefit through:	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP	EIF	Achieving balanced access of third-country nationals to the Bulgarian labour market, as well as their successful integration in Bulgaria with a view to supporting economic and societal development, regardless of the temporary consequences of the global crisis.	Implementation of actions in accordance with the National Migration and Integration Strategy for 2008 – 2015 (NMIS) – more specifically, Strategic Goal 2.			
95	Discussing and adopting decisions regarding the balanced access of third-country nationals to the Bulgarian labour market under relevant mechanisms by the National Labour Migration Council for (NLMC).	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP	MoLSP budget	Achieving adequate policy for third-country nationals access to the labour market under relevant mechanisms in accordance with the NMIS to the benefit of the Bulgarian economy: - Individually, with for a possible combination with other approaches; - Under employment agreements; - On the basis of specified annual sectoral quotas – in case of evident economic need and specific labour force shortages	In 2008, in pursuance of the NMIS, the NLMC was established as a consultative body to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy. The Council approved a model draft labour employment agreement with third countries, forming the basis of negotiations with countries identified by the NSMI. The NLMC also approved in principle a mechanism for determining annual sectoral quotas for third-country nationals access to the Bulgarian market, to be applied by nationally represented employers organisations after providing evidence for labour market shortages. Following an approval by the NLMC, the Minister of Labour and Social Policy submits these quotas for approval by the CoM. The NLMC was also consulted on the organisation of information labour exchanges abroad.	Number of meetings	2	1
								Number of started agreement negotiations	2	0
								Number of annual sectoral quotas procedures started	1 (experimental)	0
96	Successful meeting the European Fund for the Integration of Third-country Nationals (EIF) 2007 – 2013 objectives to implement the 11 Common Basic Principles (CBP) of EU integration	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP	EIF	The action includes meeting a number of objectives, the main being raised EIF awareness, strengthening administrative capacity at all levels, courses, etc. It is of key importance both to achieve a maximum degree of immigrant awareness about Bulgarian society, and to inform Bulgarian society correctly and accurately about the importance of immigrants with regard to development processes. Society also needs to be well informed of third-country nationals admission procedures, the employer being required to prove shortages of Bulgarian citizens with appropriate qualifications (a protective measure). Good information on both sides would help avoiding xenophobic moods and segregation practices.	In 2008, the Multi-annual Programme for the period 2007 – 2013 and Annual Programmes (AP) for 2007 and 2008 under the EIF for Bulgaria were approved. In 2009 procedures for grant project proposal collection under AP 2007 and AP 2008 by relevant components, including information centres development and information campaigns organization. The first selected projects were completed by the end of 2009.	Number of projects completed	Under AP 2007 – 2 Under AP 2008 – 2	0 0
97	Strengthening the administrative capacity at all levels – ministries, agencies, administrations, local authorities, social partners, NGOs, etc. - with regard to achieving EIF objectives	In process of implementation	Ongoing	MoLSP	EIF	Strengthening the administrative capacity of all central and local institutions and authorities to achieve EIF objectives, as well as the capacity of	In 2009 procedures for grant project proposal collection under AP 2007 and AP 2008 by relevant components, including strengthening administrative capacity.	Number of projects completed	Under AP 2007 – 2 Under AP	0 0

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
						social partners and NGOs working in this field, is a fundamental action to achieve the 11 CBPs.	The first selected projects were completed by the end of 2009.		2008 – 2	
98	Establishing a university rating system, taking into account their contribution to R&D activities	In process of implementation (A project for direct provision of grant assistance from the Structural Funds was adopted)	2008 - 2009	MoEYS	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development"	Establishment a university rating system, based on a benchmark system for independent assessment of the real quality of higher education. This will allow for realistic comparison of educational services and improvement of the quality of training. Thus, this will improve their students' competitiveness and employability on the national and European labour markets.	Within the project a summary report on the need for envisaged marketing and sociological surveys and analyses, target groups needs, successful EU practices, identifying interested groups expectations towards higher schools, etc. was prepared. Public bodies under the project were set up and technical terms of reference were developed and implemented. A tender procedure for project contractors was carried out. In September 2009 a competition for external experts project selection was carried out.			
99	"Students scholarships for equal access to education and motivation for better results"	In process of implementation	2008-2010	MoEYS	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 20 mln.	The objective of this action is to support the existing system of student scholarships by financing from the European Social Fund.	The project activities have started and are implemented in line with the time-schedule.	Students with scholarships Awards received	15 000 50 000	n.a.
100	Grant scheme "Support to PhD students, post-doctoral students, post-graduate students and young scientists"	In process of implementation	2008-2011	MoEYS	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 5 mln.	The objective of the action is to strengthen the interest of young people in education and science career and to enhance the quality of scientific research by improving working conditions of PhD students, post-doctoral students, post-graduate students and young scientists. The implementation of the activities will provide incentives for developing scientific potential in high schools and scientific institutions.	20 contracts were concluded. The project activities have started and are implemented in line with the time-schedule.	Number of PhD students, post-doctoral students, post-graduate students and young scientists, included in scientific programmes Number of universities, scientific organisations, scientific institutes and centres with grants within the scheme	400 15	355 20
101	Discussing and adopting a National Scientific Research Strategy (NSRS) for 2010-2020	In process of implementation	2008 - 2009 2010	MoEYS	State budget	Increasing public and private investments in science Introducing priority areas for R&D and innovation Developing Bulgaria's scientific research potential	A draft strategy was developed and debate with interested institutions on the measures and goals of the Strategy was held.	Number of measures Programme / institutional financing ratio % of GDP for research	8 60/40	
102	Introducing a system for external evaluation of research organisations	In process of implementation	2008 - 2010	MoEYS	EUR 0.3 mln. (2009 budget)	Assessing the quality in terms of effectiveness of research activities and participation in high-class research	Pilot assessment was carried out and a benchmark system was introduced. Rules on the organisation and functioning of the system for monitoring and assessing research activity of the	Number of evaluated institutions	25	According to the pilot assessment, 60

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							"Scientific Research" Fund, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and state universities were developed.			institutions were evaluated on the basis of their research activities
103	Updating legal acts on the definition of the term "research organisation" and extending its opportunities to participate in public-private partnership (PPP)	Planned	2008 - 2010	MoEYS	State budget	Providing incentives and setting up effective PPP Opportunity for developing research innovation and high-tech complexes strengthening the link between science and business	Discussion with institutions concerned	Updated legal framework	2	n.a.
104	Support knowledge transfer to enterprises (through a "voucher scheme"): organizing an information campaign by the Bulgarian Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Promotion Agency (BSMEPA); competition scheme organization; collecting the applications; ranking applicants; issuing certificates to successful candidates; signing of contracts; implementation of the projects; disbursement by the BSMEPA to beneficiary enterprises up to the amount of the subsidy fixed in the certificates.	In process of implementation	4Q 2012	MoEET	For the period 2010 – 2012: EUR 3.58 mln.	Providing incentives for market-oriented applied research and for knowledge transfer to SMEs	The scheme was launched in 2008. 79 certificates amounting to BGN 990 thousand were issued. At the end of 2008 7 projects were completed, the remaining projects were completed in 2009. The BSMEPA sent the MoF and the MoEET a report on state aid provided under this grant scheme. The total value of disbursements is BGN 990 thousand. With an order of the Minister of Economy and Energy from 1 May 2009 Rules on the implementation of the financial scheme supporting knowledge transfer to enterprises ("voucher scheme") for the tender session in 2009 were approved. The Rules were published on the Ministry web site and with a letter from the Minister assigned the BSMEPA to organise a new tender session.	Number of companies supported by grants ir061 Venture capital investments - early stage	For the period 2010 – 2012: 210	For the period 2008 – 2009: 66
105	Establishing and developing entrepreneurship centres in the higher schools in Bulgaria	In process of implementation	4Q 2012	MoEET	EUR 0.372 mln.	Ensures the implementation of Measure 10 of the National Innovation Strategy; strengthening university capacity for entrepreneurship training; providing incentives to students' entrepreneurial activity	After a public procurement procedure, 4 Entrepreneurship Promotion Centres were set up at the University of Forestry - Sofia; the Technical University of Sofia, the Technical University of Sofia - Plovdiv Branch; the Technical University of Gabrovo and the Technical University of Varna. The planned measures included in the strategic and financial plans were implemented during the period. In 2009 a new public procurement was launched for establishing and developing Entrepreneurship Promotion Centres at universities. The applications were ranked and three already existing centres will be supported and a new centre will be established. The contracts were signed.	er081 Business demography - Birth rate	For the period 2010 – 2012: Number of entrepreneurship centres established - 3 + 1 operating	For the period up to 2009 – 4 Centres established
106	Training young people in entrepreneurship skills for setting up competitive small and medium-sized businesses	In process of implementation	4Q 2012	MoEET	EUR 0.225 mln.	Upgrading the level of entrepreneurship, cultivating practical habits for drawing business plans and starting business in secondary school pupils	As a result of the public procurement procedures launched in 2006 – 2008, 24 educational companies were established in the municipalities of Teteven, Plovdiv and Ruse. The project was very successful and in 2009 a new public procurement procedure was carried out. Unfortunately	ir092 Youth education attainment level - females; ir093 Youth education	For the period 2010 – 2012 Number of new educational companies	For the period up to 2009 Number of educational companies

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							there were no successful applicants. A new public procurement procedure will be launched.	attainment level - males	established: 9	established: 24
107	Establishing competitive business start-ups – Project 100	In process of implementation	4Q 2012	MoEET	EUR 3.1 mln. (budget for the period 2004 - 2009) EUR 3.1 mln. (budget for the period 2010 - 2012)	Developing sustainable and competitive private sector through provision of targeted assistance for starting-up and developing micro and small enterprises	The project is extremely successful. It is implemented on the basis of a Memorandum with the UNDP. In 2009 over 300 entrepreneurs were trained and 70 micro and small enterprises were established. The grant amounted to BGN 1.4 million. The newly established companies are still subject to control and monitoring.	em051 Life-long learning - total	For the period 2009 – 2012: Number of micro and small enterprise start-ups: up to 300; Number of entrepreneurs trained: up to 1 200	For the period 2004 – 2009: Number of micro and small enterprise start-ups: 320; Number of entrepreneurs trained: 1 300
108	Providing incentives for youth innovation – TECHNOSTART	In process of implementation	4Q 2012	MoEET	EUR 0.111 mln. (2008 - 2009 budget) EUR 0.65 mln. (2010 – 2012 budget)	Promoting youth innovation achievements, National competition for starting-up innovative companies support, student companies.	The project started as a pilot project in 2008 on the basis of a Memorandum signed with UNDP. Under this project young people with exceptional innovative achievements are stimulating with grant assistance for starting-up technological firms. 5 applicants won financing and registered companies in 2009. Currently they are absorbing funds. Monitoring of the established companies is carried out.	ir061 Venture capital investments - early stage	For the period 2009 – 2012: Number of student start-ups – up to 20	Until 2009 – 5 student start-ups
109	“Knowledge factory” – youth technological platform	Planned	4Q 2013	MoEET	EUR 1.96 mln.	The objective of the project is to interest young people industry career by promoting scientific industry-oriented achievements and presenting the work of enterprises.		Number of partnerships between companies and universities	During the period until 2013: 7	
110	Adopting an action plan to implement the National Lifelong Learning Strategy (NLLS)	Planned	2010-2011	MoEYS	Financing is included in institutional budgets and specific amounts will be approved in the Action Plan	The NLLS (2008 – 2013) envisages that the activities will be implemented on the basis of two action plans: the first for the period 2009 – 2011 and the second for the period 2011 – 2013.	On 14 October 2004 the National Strategy for Continuing Professional Training (NSCPT) (2005 – 2010) was adopted, implemented through annual plans, the 2009 annual plan developed and approved. The activities in this plan coincide with the activities envisaged, according to the NLLS, implemented in 2009. In 2010 the first Action Plan for implementing the NLLS in 2010 – 2011 will be adopted.	Adopted Action Plan for the implementation of the NLLS during the period 2010 – 2011	1	0
111	Increasing pre-school education coverage	Planned	by 2012	MoEYS	2010, 2011 and 2012 state budget	Learning Bulgarian, readiness for school education and integration of children from minority groups		Percentage of children covered by pre-school education (4 – 6 years)	2012 – 90%	2008/2009 75.4% (3 – 6 years, NSI)
	111.1. Introducing two-year mandatory pre-school preparation	Planned	2010	MoEYS	2010, 2011 and 2012 state budget	Increasing the coverage of children in pre-school education. Learning Bulgarian, readiness for school education and integration of children from minority groups		Percentage of children covered by pre-school education (4	2012 – 90%	2008/2009 75.4% (3 – 6 years,

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
								- 6 years)		NSI)
	111.2. With a view to integrating children from minority groups and equal start in the first grade, it is envisaged that their mandatory pre-school preparation shall start at the age of 4	Planned	2011	MoEYS	2011 and 2012 state budget	Increasing coverage of children in pre-school education. Learning Bulgarian, readiness for school education and integration of children from minority groups		Percentage of children covered by pre-school education (4 - 6 years)	2012 - 90%	2008/2009 75.4% (3 - 6 years, NSI)
112	Gradual transition to all-day training	Planned	2010-2016	MoEYS	2010 - 2016 state budget	Providing opportunities for developing each child potential and for active participation in training. Every year financial resources for supervisors will be provided starting in 2010 first grade.		Percentage of pupils covered in all-day training	100% - 2016	n/d
113	Contributing to effectively functioning venture capital funds for scientific, technological and innovation products and services	Planned	2009 - 2011	MoEYS, MoF, MoEET	EUR 0.3 mln. (2009 budget)	Strengthening the link between research and business Sustainable development of innovative company structures	Under review	Number of applicable schemes	3	n.a.
114	Elaboration of new financing model for higher schools and research organisations financed by the state budget, with a view to pooling resources and overcoming fragmentation	In process of implementation	2010	MoEYS, MoF	EUR 0.5 mln. (2009 budget)	Pooling resources Support for high-quality scientific research activities The main consequences of these changes are as follows: - Competition for higher schools. - Contributing to future elimination of entry examinations and recognition of state graduation examinations as "entry" to higher education. - Reducing pressure for new university establishment and contributing to university structures consolidation. - Outflow of students from illegal structures ("branches of foreign universities")	The 2007 respective amendments to the Law on Higher Education were introduced. Their main objective is to promote competition among universities in the Republic of Bulgaria as an important prerequisite for enhancing the quality of higher education. The changes in the higher education financing model can be summarised as follows: - Extending student enrolment. For 2008/2009 academic year 58 802 student vacancies for state universities were approved, which is by almost 15 000 more than the number of students approved for 2007/2008 academic year. - Increased powers to university in setting the tuition fees. - Subsidising on the basis of students actually enrolled and not on the basis of students vacancies.	Scheme development	1	n.a.
115	Grant scheme for renovating applied equipment at research organisations (Project proposals related to the European Research Infrastructure will be prioritised in the selection process)	Planned	2010 - 2013	MoEET, MoEYS	Component 1: EUR 3 mln. - national budget; EUR 17 mln. - European Regional Development Fund Component 2: EUR 4 mln. from "Scientific Research" Fund	Improved conditions for applied research and provision of innovation services to enterprises	On 6 January 2009 the MoEYS and the MoEET signed a Co-operation Agreement on the project selection procedure of "Developing applied science capacity of Bulgarian scientific organisations" Application Guidelines were developed and notifying the scheme to the EC is forthcoming.	Number of financed projects for renovating applied research equipment at research organisations	At least 5 financed projects for renovating applied research equipment at research organisations	
116	Grant scheme for preparing technical documentation for establishing technological parks	In process of implementation	2009 - 2015	MoEET	EUR 0.225 mln. - national budget; EUR	Improving pro-innovative environment	The procedure for grant financial assistance was launched on 20 July 2009.	Number of financed projects	5-7 financed projects for establishing	

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
		ation			1.275 mln. – European Regional Development Fund				technological parks	
117	Modernisation and integration of the Bulgarian Research and Education Network	In process of implementation		MoTITC		Access of Bulgarian educational and scientific research organisations to EU educational and research resources	Integrated into school network access to European Educational Resources through GEANT2 (6 th FP of the EC). The development of network services for universities and research units of the BAS through GEANT3 (7 th FP of the EC) is forthcoming.	Broadband Quality of Research and Education	OC-192	STM16
118	Developing software environment for the Bulgarian Supercomputer Complex and Connected multi-processor clusters	In process of implementation	2010	MoTITC	EUR 280 mln. within the allocated annual budget of the MoTITC	Development of software environment for practical implementation of the supercomputer in environmental studies, bio-chemistry, molecular medicine, medicines design and individual treatment, etc.		Research and Education	Development of software environment in 14 different areas	0
119	Financing R&D investment through grant schemes under the Scientific Research Fund	In process of implementation	4Q 2010	MoEYS	EUR 7.5 mln. (2007) EUR 30 mln. (2008) EUR 60 mln. (2009)	The measure implementation will have impact on developing human capital potential and will strengthen innovative capacity. All National Scientific Research Fund schemes are also open for companies, the applications subject to more specific criteria. The pilot competition aiming at strengthening the research-and-business link for young scientists preparing their PhD thesis at companies will be held again.		Number of new financed projects		Number of new financed projects in 2009 - 400
120	Financing R&D projects and technical feasibility projects by the National Innovations Fund	In process of implementation	4Q 2013	MoEET	EUR 48.3 mln. (2009 – 2013)	Enhancing competitiveness of enterprises through stimulating market-orientated scientific and applied research	The BSMEPA continues to monitor projects concluded after five tender sessions. In 2009 the Rules for managing funds from the National Innovation Fund were brought into compliance with Regulation 800/2008 and in the opinion of the Ministry of Finance the financial scheme answers the Regulation provisions, as stated in a letter from 8 June 2009. The scheme period ends on 31 December 2013, i.e. contracts with beneficiaries can be concluded by then. DG Competition was notified about these amendments to the Rules. A letter to the BSMEPA for launching the sixth tender session was sent. Regular training of beneficiaries of sessions I to V was carried out. On 1 November 2009 a new tender session for project proposals started.	ir021 Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD)	Number of contracts concluded (V session) – 50	64
121	Support for already existing or newly emerging clusters through investments, consulting services and training	In process of implementation	1Q 2010	MoEET	EUR 1 mln. (total grant amount, of which: EUR 750.5 thousand under the PHARE	Improving SME competitiveness through financial support for developing existing or newly emerging clusters of Bulgarian enterprises.	In 2008 an evaluation showed that of the 13 submitted project proposals 10 grant contracts were concluded on 29 February 2008 with implementation periods between 8 and 12 months. The implementation deadline expired on 28 February 2009 and currently final	ir024 Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (GERD) by source of funds -	Number of supported clusters 8 – 12	Number of supported clusters – 9

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								Indicator	Target value	Current value
					Programme and EUR 2502 thousand national co-financing		reports under the grant scheme are being checked. The grant scheme results will be reported after the final check of final reports and after final disbursements to beneficiaries.	abroad		
Other measures related to the infrastructure building priority, including in the ICT area										
122	Increasing transmission capacity of electronic communication network through further installation of a DWDM transfer system for 28 regional centres	In process of implementation	4Q 2012	MoTITC	EUR 4.9 mln. within the allocated annual budget of the MoTITC	Secure and reliable broadband transfer between institutions for governance and national security needs. Reducing authorities' telecommunication costs.	Basic transfer platform of the DWDM transfer system developed in 19 regional centres. Extended capacity with transfer of 1G Ethernet for the needs of the National System for Single European Emergency Call - 112.	- Transfer waves with λ lengths	32 λ	1 λ
123	Design and development of network connection between the regional centres and 100 municipalities	In the process of planning	4Q 2012	MoTITC	EUR 11 mln. within the allocated annual budget of the MoTITC	Secure, reliable, broadband access of municipal administrations to the electronic communication network for governance and national security needs.		Number of municipalities connected	100	0
124	Adopting a Strategy and a National Programme for Developing Broadband Access in Bulgaria	In process of implementation (preparation and approval)	1Q 2010	MoTITC		Equal access to electronic information resources and public services. Development and implementation of a model for managing funds for developing broadband access.		I2010 CPI	Convergence to leading EU countries	Reaching the average EU indicators in the following areas of BPI: 1. Broadband rural coverage 2. Broadband competition 3. BB price 4. Quality
125	Developing spatial data and risk management infrastructure	Planned	2012	MoTITC	An average of EUR 1.5 mln. per annum within the allocated annual budget of the MoTITC	Bulgaria joining the Community infrastructure for spatial information through developing a national portal for MS access to the national spatial data infrastructure. Rules for storing, exchange and maintenance of spatial data in public structures are being developed; Contributing to favourable conditions for efficient management of spatial data in the generating administrations; Contributing to favourable conditions for institutions, citizens and business access to information both for information needs and services; Contributing to favourable prerequisites for supporting national and Community policy on environmental protection,	A Draft Law on Spatial Data Access was prepared and submitted for discussions.		Implementing of Directive 2007/2/EC. Convergence to leading EU countries	Reaching the average EU indicators

Measure number	Description of the measure				Impact assessment and results					
	Description of the measure	Status	Deadline for implementation	Responsible institution	Financing (direct budget expenditures, other - Mln. EUR)	Significance of the measure and impact of its implementation:	Description of results:	Indicators of achievement		
								Indicator	Target value	Current value
						management of disasters and accidents, crises and extraordinary situations - risk management and early warning, agriculture, cadastre, territorial planning, transport.				
126	Optimising the National Network of Telecentres for Public Access to Information Services	In process of implementation	4Q 2009	MoTITC		Reaching a significant number of citizens benefiting from information society services Providing access to these services to socio-economically disadvantaged citizens		ir071 ICT expenditure - IT	Number of telecentres: 264 municipalities	Number of telecentres: 118 municipalities
127	Developing an integrated information system of the MoLSP	In process of implementation	2008-2012	MoLSP	ESF, OP "Human Resources Development" EUR 12.74 mln.	An integrated information system of the MoLSP and its structures will be developed. Through the use of common protected communication channels fast and reliable data transfer will be provided to all territorial structures of the Ministry.	An order for awarding a grant was issued. The project activities have started and are implemented in line with the time-schedule.	Communication connectivity developed. Officials trained	Minimum 450 points 3 000	n.a.