

STANDARD SUMMARY PROJECT FICHE

1. BASIC INFORMATION

- 1.1. Desiree Number **BG 0201.03**
Twinning code: BG02/IB-AG-02
- 1.2. Title **Support to pre-accession strategy of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Environment and Water in the Field of Agri-environment**
- 1.3. Sector **Agriculture and Environment**
- 1.4. Location **Bulgaria**

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1. Overall Objectives:

Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) , its services and the Regional Environmental Inspectorates of the MoEW to undertake the priorities for EU alignment and implement the reforms identified in the current Accession Partnership and the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA) in the field of Agri-environment and rural development and to provide ongoing technical assistance to the SAPARD agency.

Contribution to the better management of natural resources and to multifunctional development of the rural areas.

Institutional support for training institutions in advisory, monitoring and control issues in the terms of agri- environment and rural areas.

2.2. Immediate objectives

1. Harmonization of the Bulgarian legislation with the EU legislation and EU practices according to the requirements of the Directive 91*676*EEC on Nitrate Pollution from agricultural resources in the field of Good Agricultural Practices:

- Drawing up and ratifying the Code for good agricultural practices in Nitrate sensitive areas ;
- Developing training programmes;
- Developing manuals for good agricultural practices in nitrate sensitive areas.

2. Harmonization of the Bulgarian legislation with the EU legislation for the - Regulation 1257/99 (Agri-environment legislation)

3. Strengthening the human capacity in Bulgaria in the area of EU legislation on the agricultural production methods according to the environmental and landscape conservation requirements including support to SAPARD agency.
4. Efficient administration in the rural areas participating in the implementation of the agri-environmental schemes
5. Strengthening the agri-economic capacity to establish payment calculation methods regarding agri-environmental schemes
6. Training of the personnel from the MAF and MoEW and especially Regional Environmental Inspectorates and the Regional MAF Directorates to promote the agri-environmental schemes and to contribute for the implementation of the development of the rural areas in Bulgaria

2.3. Accession Partnership and NPAA Priority

The proposed project addresses the following general priorities set in mid-term objectives in the Accession partnership:

1. Agriculture

- alignment with the agricultural acquis
- attention to the environmental aspects of agriculture and biodiversity
- development of capacity to implement and enforce the CAP

Up-grade the capacity of the agricultural administration for the practical implementation and enforcement of the management mechanisms of the Common Agricultural Policy, in particular the Integrated Administration and Control System and the Paying Agency for the management of Common Agricultural Policy funds.

Put in place the necessary conditions for the emergence and strengthening of efficient land, labour and capital markets in the rural and agricultural sectors.

Continue the up-grading of food processing establishments so that they are in a position to respect EC food safety standards.

Prepare the administrative structures needed for the design, implementation, management, monitoring, control and evaluation of EC funded rural development programmes.

2. Environment

- development of monitoring and implementation control structures and capacities
- continuous planning and implementation of approximation programmes related to individual legal acts

- environment protection requirements and the need of sustainable development must be integrated into the definition and implementation of national, sectoral policies

In addition, the proposed project addresses the following priorities set in the working document 2001:

1. Agriculture

- continue to adopt key legislation in agriculture, rural development, forestry and fisheries sectors
- reinforce the implementation capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and its services, continue to prepare for the CAP

2. Environment

- Reinforce the capacity of the Ministry of Environment at national and regional levels
- Adopt legislation on environmental impact assessment according to EU requirements, water categories,
- Promote the sustainable development principle

The priorities that are in accordance with the objectives of the proposed project set up in the NPAA Environment and waters are as follows:

1. Reduction of water pollution with nitrates from agricultural origin and its further prevention
- Regulation on protection of water from pollution with nitrates from agricultural origin (In accordance with Directive ?? 91/676/??? on protection of water from pollution with nitrates from agricultural origin)

3. DESCRIPTION

3.1 Background and justification

The recommendations in the Commission's Regular Report on Bulgaria for 2001 are that "Meeting the requirements of the environment sector requires enhanced efforts and co-operation between the various ministries and with the other relevant organisations. Co-ordination with other ministries remains strongly dependent on the resources allocated, in particular by the Ministries of Agriculture and Health. The Ministry of the Environment needs to be strengthened. Administrative capacity at local level also remains a matter of concern.

Implementation of environmental policy is entrusted to the regions and municipalities, a level at which there are still major weaknesses. Training is needed on the requirements of the *acquis*. Regional inspectorates need to be reinforced, notably as regards the respect of the Nitrate Directive and nature protection. Awareness at regional and local levels should also be improved. Dialogue and co-operation with NGOs and local populations remains limited, especially in terms of access to information and of the environmental impact assessment procedure.

Bulgaria should pay increasing attention to the integration of environmental protection requirements into the definition and implementation of all other sectoral policies with a view to promoting sustainable development.”

As the document Agenda 2000 emphasises, whilst it is important to incorporate Community legislation into national legislation effectively, it is even more important to implement it properly in the field through the appropriate administrative structures. This is an essential pre-condition for creating mutual trust and mechanisms indispensable for future membership.

As noted in the Commission’s 2001 Regular Report, Bulgaria’s “has continued its positive efforts on transposition of the EC environment *acquis* but implementation and the cost of alignment remain a challenge.

It is expected that the main part of the legislation concerning the internal market will be adopted in 2002-2003. There are still gaps in the harmonisation in the sectors of rural development and agro-ecology . This concerns legislation that does not exist currently in Bulgaria. The Rural Development Directorate and the recently established units “Investment in Rural Areas” and “Agro-ecology ” need substantial help in harmonisation of the legislation and in implementation of the *acquis* on the national and regional level. There is a need to develop training programs on Good Agricultural Practices and Good Farming practices and to develop manuals for farmers. This activities should be developed in close collaboration between MAF , MoEW and NGO’s of farmer’s organizations.

The present project proposal reflects PHARE policy emphasis on:

- Harmonization of the national legislation with the EU one, especially with the Rural Development Regulation 1257/1999 as regards definition of good farming practices
- Code for Good Agricultural Practice (Nitrate directive) and capacity building in that area
- Environmental aspects of agriculture and bio-diversity and implementation of rural developmental measures

At the moment of entering the EU Bulgaria will need to prove its full readiness to implement agri-environmental programmes in horizontal dimensions. Therefore there is a strong need to increase the knowledge of the core team of the Rural Development Directorate that will be ready to take the responsibility for:

- draw and implement AE legislation

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- running of a seasonal training
- monitoring the environmental impact
- establishing of a running control

The above mentioned issues are also part of the responsibilities of the Regional Inspectorates of the Ministry of Environment and Waters . The main actions in the agri-environmental schemes include not only organic agriculture but also preservation of biodiversity and maintenance of pastures landscape feature and nature conservation. The Ministry of Agriculture has identified as one of its key partners in the area of agri-environment and rural development the Regional Inspectorates of the MoEW. Therefore a comprehensive training is needed for them so the experts in that offices could undertake the above mentioned function at local level. They will also help for the promotion of the agri-environmental schemes in Bulgaria.

The Rural Development Directorate of MAF has developed draft version of the National Agri-environmental Programme (AEP). It is envisaged that the draft version should be adopted by the Collegium of the Ministry by the end of the year.

The main objectives of the National AEP are to:

- raise the environmental awareness of farmers through a programme of basic training;
- encourage environmental planning by farmers through the preparation of a Whole Farm Agri-environment Plan;
- provide a basic level of environmental protection across the whole farm by making
- promote conversion to organic farming as a well-defined system of environmentally-friendly farming that is compatible with the protection of natural resources, landscape features and biodiversity and with organic farming regulations;
- support the continued breeding of endangered local farm animal breeds and local crop varieties;
- encourage the environmentally-sensitive management of abandoned agricultural land;
- support the traditional farming practices necessary for the continued survival of important semi-natural habitats with a particular emphasis upon encouraging the appropriate management of future Natura 2000 sites
- promote the maintenance and restoration of traditional landscape features;
- encourage the conversion of arable land to extensive permanent pasture in those areas where there is a high risk of soil erosion.

Participation in the National AEP is therefore envisage as a form of “alternative economic activity” for farmers. This approach is compatible with the future development of any integrated rural development policy in Bulgaria that recognises that:

- rural areas have played a central role in the creation of national identity, and that changes in the country’s rural environment and lifestyle are of significance for its overall cultural identity;

- there is a need to enhance, and in many cases restore, the positive relationship between traditional farming practices and the environment;
- it is essential to - ensure that farmers are adequately rewarded for the provision of environmental goods.

The NAEP consists of:

All farmers participating in the programme will be required to:

1. Adopt the “basic” whole farm agri-environment package consisting of:
 - basic agri-environment training;
 - preparation of whole farm agri-environment plans – clearly showing all farm and field boundaries, streams, rivers and lakes, natural and semi-natural habitats, traditional landscape features;
 - keeping farm records and preparation of farm accounts
 - compliance with Good agricultural practices
2. Undertake at least one agri-environment measure from the “supplementary” package:
 - Organic Farming - priority for supporting the development of organic farming in Bulgaria and for producing environmental benefit across all agricultural land through the use of environmentally-friendly management of pastures, arable crops and perennial crops
 - Endangered Local Farm Animal Breeds - high priority for preservation of biodiversity and potentially useful for grazing poor quality pastures in combination with measure
 - Endangered Local Crop Varieties– support for the continued use by farmers of endangered local crop varieties
 - Management of Semi-natural Habitats - very high environmental priority and should be used as one of the main criteria for selecting designated pilot areas. Two priority habitats are suggested:
 - a. High Mountain Pastures and
 - b. Wetlands
 - Maintenance and Restoration of Landscape Features - support for farmers to maintain and restore traditional features on their farmland of historical, landscape or biodiversity value
 - Conversion of Arable Land to Pasture - high environmental priority for reducing extreme soil erosion and should be used as one of the main criteria for selecting designated pilot areas

Measures from the supplementary packages may be combined and in many cases this will be encouraged – for example, the combination of the endangered breeds measure with the semi-natural habitats measure may be very useful for improving the management of high nature value mountain pastures

3. Undertake additional agri-environment training as required by the measure(s) selected from the “supplementary” packages.

The draft National AEP is going to be discussed and updated each year in the Collegium of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry . The results of the activities that are undertaken are going to be reported to the Collegium and therefore some changes in the programme may occur. However it envisaged that Bulgaria should be ready to implement the National AEP upon accession.

3.2 Linked Activities

Relevant PHARE projects in this field that have already been implemented:

Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

- BG 980601-03-01 – Twinning project on Support to the Administrative Reform and approximation of legislation.
- BG 9812-01 PRE-INS Facility 1998 for Bulgaria – Support for the Development of Land Market in Bulgaria.
- BG98/IB/SPP – 03 – Improving the efficiency of the SAPARD Task Force in the Bulgarian MAF (Preparation of the National Rural Development Plan under the SAPARD Program)
- BG9820-02-01 – Preparation of detailed measures for the National Agriculture and Rural development Plan under the SAPARD Program in Bulgaria
- BG 360006-03 /2001– Protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources – directive 91/676/EEC – The results of the project (the pilot codes for Good Agricultural Practice for Plovdiv region) are going to be incorporated in the project

Relevant PHARE projects in this field to be implemented:

- BG 00.05.06 – Strengthening SAPARD Implementation Capacity

3.3 Results

Achieve the priorities stated in the National Program for the Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA) for 2001 as well as any other commitments made to the European Commission. These include:

- (a) Code for Good Agricultural Practice and good farming practices adopted. They constitute the base for the calculation of the payment levels under different agri-environmental actions. The implementation of the Code of Good Agricultural Practices and good farming practices will ensure a satisfactory protection of natural resources from pollution exhaustion or degradation, maintenance of the flora and fauna, and soil fertility and will contribute to the reduction of global warming.

- (b) Manuals and training materials on the basis of the Code for Good Agricultural Practices and good farming practices produced and published
- (c) National Agri-environmental Programme detailed
- (d) Methodology for payment of payment calculations and agri-environmental schemes design on farm level prepared
- (e) First hand experience in the implementation of agri-environmental programmes in EU gained during study visits and field work
- (f) Laws and regulations related to the agri-environment drafted and presented for approval by the MAF to the competent legislative bodies designed to achieve alignments in according to the EC Regulation 1257/99.

(g) Activities

Activities proposed under this project:

- (a) Drafting, discussing and finalise the Code for Good Agricultural Practice as well as the good farming practices
- (b) Support research activities contributing to the development of new training materials and elaborate promotion strategy of Code of Good Agricultural Practice and good farming practices
- (c) Developing training programmes and giving information about the implementation the principles of the Good Agricultural Practice and the good farming practices
- (d) Assistance provided to the staff through a twinning arrangement in order to achieve legal alignment in agri-environment. Research activities to adopt proper methodology for payment calculation in different regions
- (e) Assistance of short-term experts, which have deep practical knowledge in agri-environment. The assistance will be directed to:
 - Preparation of manuals
- (f) Training of local and national administration. Training should be organised for at least :
 - 15 experts at national level of MAF – Rural Development Directorate
 - 28 experts from the regional directorates of MAF (one from each regional directorate);
 - 28 experts from the regional directorates of SFA (one from each regional directorate)
 - 28 experts of NAAS regional offices (one from each regional directorate)
 - 8 experts of the MOEW and 15 from its regional inspectorates

- Verification of the payment calculation system developed in Bulgarian agri-environmental scheme
- Organization and participation of seminars at national and local levels

Beneficiary: Rural Development Directorate (RDD) of MAF and the Regional Environmental Inspectorates of MEW

The project will be implemented through **a twinning arrangement**. Its main objective is to assist the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) to achieve the priorities of the legal approximation of the key sectors as specified in Bulgaria's National Programme for the adoption of the Acquis (NPAA) and to assist in the achievement of the Bulgarian pre-accession strategy in the agricultural sector and rural development, in particular for agri-environment. In Co-ordination with the MOEW to achieve the priorities of the legal approximation of the legislation included in the National Strategy of the MOEW in the field of Directive 91*167*EEC – Nitrate Pollution from Agricultural Resources, where the MAF has leading responsibility . According to the National Programme till the end of 2004 the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry has to develop and ratify policies for the Code of good agricultural practice and the good farming practices and to develop training programs for the farmers as well as develop monitoring programs for the implementation of the legislation envisaged.

Scope of the project

The Twinning Project will include:

- Alignment of laws in the key sectors of agriculture, rural development, structural funds and agri-environment (EC Regulation 1257/99)
- Support the development of the Codes of Good Agricultural Practice and the good farming practice.
- Developing, monitoring and implementation of the agri-environmental schemes and promotion of the schemes.
- Developing training programs and giving information about the implementation and the principles of the Good Agricultural Practice and the good farming practices
- Training of the national and regional staff in the agri-environmental policy

15 experts from MAF – Rural Development Directorate (Agrienvironment unit)

28 experts from the regional directorates of MAF (one from each regional directorate);

28 experts from the regional directorates of SFA (one from each regional directorate)

28 experts of NAAS regional offices (one from each regional directorate)

8 experts of the MOEW and 15 from its regional inspectorates

- Organization of seminars, training activities and study tours in the area of agri-environment
- Confirm objectives for approximation in conformity with the NPAA and the National Agriculture and Rural Development Plan (NARDP) under the SAPARD for the period 2001-2006.
- Review of drafts of legislation in rural development and structural funds to provide compatibility with EU legislation.
- Provide advice on implementation and enforcement in the designated sectors, supported with study visits to EU member states to see how laws are implemented in practice.
- Preparation of an detailed action plan for the implementation of the national agri-environmental programme

4. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

4.1. Rural development directorate (RDD)

The Rural Development Directorate at the MAF was set up at the end of 1998. According to the new structure of MAF, in force since 1st July 2001, the Rural Development Directorate consists of 26 full time members and has 3 units. SAPARD unit consists of 9 civil servants and is acting as Secretariat of the Managing Authority and Monitoring Committee. The main function of the second unit Programmes and Investment in Rural Areas is the formulation of the policy for the development of the rural areas; harmonization of the legislation in the field of the rural areas to the EU legislation and activities for its implementation; coordination of the activities of the different NGO working in the area of rural development.

Recognising the important role and the future of the Agri-environmental schemes a third unit was established in Rural Development Directorate since the beginning of June 2001. The unit has 6 full-time members and some of its main responsibilities are the development of agri-environment programme and related legislation; advice on harmonization of other relevant national legislation with the Community acquis; liaison with European commission and other international organisations in the framework of agri-environmental policy; development of administrative matrix for agri-environmental programme implementation; training and information, monitoring and control; elaboration of agri-environmental budget proposals; management of the technical assistance projects in the field of agriculture; management of the technical support for implementation of agri-environmental programme. The unit is also responsible for the co-ordination with MOEW.

The Regional MAF Directorates – The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry recognizes the importance and the increasing role of its 28 regional directorates especially in the agri-environmental and rural development areas. Therefore training of the staff of the regional directorates is envisaged for the promotion of the Code of Good agricultural practice and the good farming practices, implementation of the NAEP and rural development. Each regional directorate will dedicate 1 person that is going to be trained and in the future responsible for the implementation of the NAEP and rural Development.

The Local Agricultural Advisory Services (LAAS) – The National Agricultural Advisory Service (NAAS) within the MAF has 28 LAAS with 4 advisors each of them. In order to promote the Code of Good Agricultural Practice and the good farming practices among the farmers, 1 advisor from each LAAS has to be trained and further on responsible for the implementation of the tasks of the NAEP and rural development.

All of the experts that were trained under the project afterwards will be responsible for the implementation and coordination of the detailed NAEP within the institutions that they represent.

4.2. Ministry of Environment and Waters and its Regional Inspectorates

The Directorate Strategy, European Integration and International Relations of the MoEW has 40 employees and its main functions are: the preparation and coordination of the national strategies, coordination of the European Integration, implementation of the environmental policy, preparation and implementation of different environmental projects, coordination with different institution. Under the present twinning project the experts from the following units within the Directorate will be trained - 1 expert of the European integration unit and 3 experts of the Unit “Strategy, pre-accession programs and projects”.

Additionally under the project will be trained 2 experts of the Waters Directorate that are directly responsible for the implementation of the Water act (fully harmonized with EU Water Directive), 2 experts of The National Nature Protection Service and 1 expert of Environmental Executive Agency.

The Ministry of Environment and Waters has 15 regional Inspectorates of environment and water with a total of 457 employees. These Inspectorates are acting under the responsibility of the Minister of Environment and Waters and a special Directorate for Coordination of the Regional Inspectorates of Environment and Waters is controlling their functions.

4.3. Co-ordination between the MAF and MOEW

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and the Ministry of Environment and Waters have established good partnership relations. The Ministries are working in good co-ordination. MOEW was involved in the preparation of the National Agriculture and Rural Development Plan under the SAPARD Program, representatives from the MOEW will participate in the process of the implementation and monitoring of the program. MAF is represented in the

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Working Group of the MOEW for the approximation of the legislation. Representatives from MOEW are participating in the Working group for the approximation of the legislation in the field of structural funds and agri-environment.

The experts from Rural Development Directorate – MAF and representatives from the General Directorate “EIA”- MOEW together with Bulgarian NGO’s have participated in the project financially supported by the Government of Netherlands (MATRA Program) for the 10 candidate countries. The main result of this project was the preparation of the guidelines “Environmental Appraisal and Environmental Impact Assessment in Rural Areas in the Applicant Countries. The Project was implemented by DLG and Veen Ecology ERM (1998-2000)

5. DETAILED BUDGET:

In MEuro

| | Investment Support | Institution Building | Total Phare (=I+IB) | National Cofinancing | IFI | TOTAL |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Contract 1 Twinning project | | 1.05 | 1.05 | | | 1.05 |
| | | | | | | |
| TOTAL: | 0 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 0 | 0 | 1.05 |

6. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

6.1. Implementing Agency

The CFCU will be the Implementing Agency and responsible for tendering and contracting of the project, as well as for control of the project implementation.

PAO - Mrs. Andriana Sukova-Tosheva - Deputy Minister of Agriculture

Address: # 55 Christo Botev Blvd. Sofia, Bulgaria

6.2. *Twinning*

The beneficiary of the Twinning project is the Rural Development Directorate (RDD) of MAF and Ministry of Environment. Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is leading Ministry. (see the letter of agreement from the MOEW).

The pre-accession advisor is expected to offer overall day-to day assistance to the experts of the Agri-environment unit of the Rural Development Directorate of MAF and to organise the fulfillment of all the activities under the project. She/he will have to have thorough knowledge of the preparation and implementation of the EU agri-environmental schemes.

The contact person in MAF is the Director of Rural Development Directorate Ms. Miroslava Georgieva.

Address: # 55 Christo Botev Blvd. Sofia, Bulgaria

Tel.: 981-94 -23, 98-511-409, 98-511-410

The contact person in MoEW is Ms Nona Karadjova

Address: #67 Gladstone Str., Sofia, Bulgaria

Tel. 940-62-59

6.3. *Non-standard aspects*

No non-standard aspects are envisaged for tendering/contracting. DIS Manual will be strictly followed.

6.4. *Contracts*

Two m/months for the preparation of the Twinning Covenant are required. One twinning covenant is required for the duration of 18 months.

7. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

7.1 Start of tendering/call for proposals

Tendering will begin in September 2002.

7.2 Start of project activity

Twinning will start February 2003.

7.3 Project Completion

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Expected date of last payment under the project – October 2004

8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

There will be an equal approach toward women and men in the project. The majority of RDP staff, and members of Working group for Structural Funds and Agri-environment are women.

9. CONDITIONALITY AND SEQUENCING

The project will start after detailed development and approval of the first draft of the National Agri-environmental Programme is approved by the Collegium of MAF.

A list of the representatives of the Regional Directorates of MAAF, LAAS and Regional inspectorates of MOEW have to be prepared and approved before the start of the twinning project.

If a Twinning partner is not selected a standard DIS tender procedure for TA is envisaged.

Annex 1 to Project Fiche

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| LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project | Programme name and number | |
| Support to pre-accession strategy of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Environment and Water in the Field of Rural Development and Agri-environment | Contracting period expires: Nov 2004 | Disbursement period expires : nov 2005 |
| | Total budget 1.6 MEuro | Phare budget: 1.6 MEuro |
| Overall objectives(s) | Objectively Verifiable Indicators | Sources of Verification |
| Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and its services and the Regional Environmental Inspectorates of the MoEW to undertake the priorities for EU alignment and implement the reforms identified in the current Accession Partnership and the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA) in the field of Agri-environment Contribution to the better management of natural resources and to multifunctional development of the rural areas | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of the common understanding on the agri-environmental policy • Explain :Unemployment in the rural areas decreases substantially. • Agri-environmental schemes developed • Harmonised legislation in agri-environment • | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports to the EC Delegation • Rules for Agri-environmental schemes presented for approval • Harmonised legislation |

| Immediate objectives | Objectively Verifiable Indicators | Sources of Verification | Assumptions |
|--|---|--|---|
| Harmonization of the Bulgarian legislation with the EU legislation - Regulation 1257/99. Strengthening the human capacity in Bulgaria | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitments under NPAA fulfilled and deadlines met. • Commitments under the National Agriculture and Rural Development Plan fulfilled and deadlines met. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress reports for the European Commission. • Periodical reports to the EU Delegation in Sofia • Annual progress reports – each | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Political stability • Assistance from the local authorities in the pilot areas |

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| <p>in the area of EU legislation on the agricultural production methods according to the environmental and landscape conservation requirements</p> <p>Efficient administration in the rural area participating in the implementation of the agri-environmental schemes</p> <p>Strengthening the agri-economic capacity to establish payment calculation method regarding agri-environmental measures</p> <p>Training of the Regional Environmental Inspectorates to promote the agri-environmental</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bulgarian negotiation team ready for negotiation for EU membership and sectoral position papers prepared. | <p>September</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EU Delegation in Sofia | |
| Results | Objectively Verifiable Indicators | Sources of Verification | Assumptions |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> RDD staff trained in implementation of the agri-environmental policy . Laws and regulations drafted and presented for approval by the MAF to the competent legislative organs designed to achieve alignments in rural development and structural funds. (g) To prepare methodology for payment of payment calculations and agri-environmental schemes design on farm level (h) To gain first hand experience in the implementation of agri-environmental | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 feasibility study completed. 10 experts of MAF staff to implement the structural policy . 8 experts of MoEW at National level trained to promote and implement the agri-environmental policy. Proposals of amendments to the legislation in the corresponding areas. 15 experts of the Regional environmental Inspectorates trained to implement the Structural Funds Requirements Organised seminars for local administration and farmers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual progress reports for the European Commission Periodical reports to the EU Delegation in Sofia Reports of the Steering Committee on the project | <p>Good coordination between the Government institutions and The Ministries involved</p> |

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| programmes in EU during study visits and field work | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| • | | | |
| Activities | Objectively Verifiable Indicators | Sources of Verification | Assumptions |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendations for the most efficient agri-environmental policy of Bulgaria towards accession, including financial and human resources necessary to implement it. • Implementation and monitoring of pilot agri-environmental schemes • Training of staff and regional Environmental Inspectorates in order to implement the integrated rural development approach. • Assistance provided to the staff through a twinning arrangement in order to achieve legal alignment in the agricultural and environmental sectors,. • Support research activities contributing to new training materials and elaborate promotion strategy of a code of Good Agricultural Practice and good farming practices. • Research activities to adopt proper methodology for payment calculation in different regions • Assistance of short-term experts, which have deep practical knowledge in agri-environment. The assistance will be directed to: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 training sessions organized. • Number of working hours dedicated to the preparation of the feasibility study. • Number of working hours dedicated to the legislative harmonisation. • Number of selected projects and schemes proposed • At least 1 Manual issued • Seminars organized • At least 99 experts of the regional directorates of MAF, SFA, NAAS and MOEW trained for the implementation of the agri-environmental policy. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress reported regularly to the MAF, MFA, EU Delegation in Sofia and European Commission. • Periodically and at the end of the project. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested budget is available; • No delay foreseen in the project • Political stability • Good interaction of the Ministries involved |

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full adoption of Code for Good Agricultural Practice and good farming practices - Preparation of manuals - Training of trainerslocal and national administration - Verification of the payment calculation system developed in Bulgarian agri-environmental scheme | | | |
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Annex 2

Title: Support to pre-accession strategy of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Environment and Water in the Field of Rural Development and Agri-environment

TIME SCHEDULE OF IMPLEMENTATION

| | 2 0 0 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 0 0 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | 2 0 0 4 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Component | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D | J | F | M | A | M | J | J | A | S | O | N | D |
| Twinning | | | | | | | | | | P | P | C | C | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | I | | | | | |

P – Preparation
C - Contracting
I – Implementation

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Title: Support to pre-accession strategy of Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Ministry of Environment and Water in the Field of Rural Development and Agri-environment

CUMULATIVE CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Project fiche | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Budget: 1.6 MEURO | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Date | 1-3,2003 | 4-6, 2003 | 7-9,2003 | 10-12,2003 | 1-3,2004 | 4-6,2004 | 7-9,2004 | 10-12,2004 | | | |
| Contracted | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | 1.05 | | | |
| Disbursed | | 0.200 | 0.400 | 0.400 | 0.600 | 0.600 | 1.00 | 1.05 | | | |