PHARE 2005-17-553.03.02

Amendment 2005 for

The Multi-Annual Programme 2004 – 2006

AGRICULTURE SECTOR

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1 Basic Information

The sector programme will be funded from EU resources of the budgetary years 2004 to 2006. Allocations to tasks and projects described in this programme fiche amendment for 2005 will be subject of the Financing Agreement 2005 containing also indicative allocations to this programme for the year 2006. Contracting deadlines for projects under this programme and deadline for execution of contracts will be determined in the FA as well.

CRIS Nr	PHARE/2005/017-553.03.02	Country: Romania
Title	Reinforcement of the agricult	ural sector in Romania
Sector	Priority sector	Evaluation sector
	Agriculture	SMSC 8
Budget 2005	Total [€Mio]	Phare contribution [€Mio]
	24.94	18.5

Summary

The sector programme for agriculture aims at supporting Romania to achieve the necessary administrative and management capacity and the necessary inspection and monitoring skills and provisions required in the context of the Common Agricultural Policy and the Rural and Agricultural funds.

The 2005 programme will address 3 priorities: Rural Development and Economic and Market Analysis, Preparing for EAGGF, Development of the Food Safety System by addressing the following tasks: TA for training of staff of the Managing Authority and for the bodies involved in the programming process and the setting-up of the implementation system; for ex ante evaluation of the Rural Development Programme; Investment for the Managing Authority; **Training** at regional and local level for increasing the absorption of RDF and FIFG and to ensure submission of mature project proposals for rural development, for all "stakeholders"; Supply of equipment for the fisheries and aquaculture sectors for the efficient operation of the Paying Agency; for the efficient operation of an AIS system at national and regional level; for establishing and efficient operation of a FADN system; for efficient operation of IACS at central and regional level; for 2 semi-endowed wine control laboratories; for establishment and efficient operation of a milk quota data and communication network; for establishment and efficient operation of a carcass classification system; Establishment of testing facilities for fruits and vegetables by purchase of specific equipment for the existing network of laboratories; for the veterinary services (BIPs and rendering industry); for further consolidation of phytosanitary services; supply of kits (Biorad, TSE and Prionics Western) Supply of IT and communication equipment for developing and strengthening the RSVFSA for RASFF, TRACES and 5 reference regional milk control labs; Twinning for further strengthening and development of the veterinary services in compliance with the EU requirements;.

2 Objectives

The sector programme for agriculture aims at supporting Romania to achieve the necessary administrative and management capacity and the necessary inspection and monitoring skills and provisions required in the context of the Common Agricultural Policy and the Rural and Agricultural funds.

2.1 Specific Objective of the sector programme in 2005

The 2005 programme will contribute to implementing the following specific tasks:

Tasks, to start with 2005 funds

TA for training of staff of the Managing Authority and for the bodies involved in the programming process and the setting-up of the implementation system

TA for ex ante evaluation of the Rural Development Programme

Investment for the Managing Authority

Training at regional and local level for increasing the absorption of RDF and FIFG and to ensure submission of mature project proposals for rural development, for all "stakeholders"

Supply of equipment for the fisheries and aquaculture sectors

Supply of equipment for the efficient operation of the Paying Agency

Supply of equipment for the efficient operation of an AIS system at national and regional level

Supply of equipment for establishing and efficient operation of a FADN system

Supply of equipment for efficient operation of IACS at central and regional level

Establishment of fruits and vegetables testing facilities by purchase of specific equipment for the existing network of laboratories

Supply of equipment for 2 semi-endowed wine control laboratories

Supply of equipment for establishment and efficient operation of a milk quota data and communication network

Supply of equipment for establishment and efficient operation of a carcass classification system

Supply of IT and communication equipment for developing and strengthening the RSVFSA for RASFF, TRACES and 5 reference regional milk control labs

Twinning for further strengthening and development of the veterinary services in compliance with the EU requirements

Supply of equipment for the veterinary services (BIPs and rendering industry)

Investment for further consolidation of phytosanitary services.

Further supply of kits (Biorad, TSE and Prionics Western)

2.2 Programme priorities and its impact on the sector

The multiannual programme objective will be attained through the meeting of sub-objectives or "priorities". This multiannual programme focuses on the following:

Phare priorities	Main tasks
Rural development policy and CAP	Establish a ready-to implement Programme for Rural Development.
	Assist the MAFRD to acquire capacity as Managing Authority for the management of Rural Funds and capability to effectively develop and implement the Rural Development Programme.
	Strengthen the ministry's capacity to carry out analysis and assessment of past and proposed support measures taking account of the evolving focus of the CAP.
	Support measures to bring fisheries and aquaculture legislation fully in line with the acquis.
	Implement the acquis for forest reproductive material.
	Strengthen further the SAPARD central and regional structures.
European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund EAGGF	 Establish A Paying Agency (PA). This will also cover payments for the Rural Development Fund; the SAPARD Agency will be merged into the PA by accession An Agricultural Information System (AIS) for transmitting data to EC-DG Agriculture, Eurostat and producers Farm Accountancy Data Network, to support the statistical and analytical requirements Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) as a key basis for CAP payments Necessary infrastructure and legislation in order to bring the fruits and vegetables sector fully in line with EU requirements Necessary infrastructure and legislation to align the wine sector with the acquis A milk quota and management system in compliance with the EU requirements A carcass classification system in compliance with the EU requirements
Food safety	Development of a Romanian Food Authority system based on the Romanian National Veterinary and Food Safety Agency and the continued improvement of the Phytosanitary services.

3 Description

3.1 Background and justification:

UNCHANGED - A presentation is nevertheless shown below of the 2005 projects, for a better visualisation and clarity.

The 3 Priorities listed in chapter 2.2 are all strongly related to Romania's accession to EU and come as a completion of the EU support already provided for Agriculture and Rural Development in Romania.

These priorities were chosen and established as such given the need to establish the legislative, administrative and institutional framework for Romania's accession to the EU, to provide compliance by Romania of all requirements corresponding to the new status of future country at the EU border.

Priority 1: Rural Development Policy and Economic and Market Analysis

a) Support to capacity building of the Managing Authority for the RDP for Agriculture, Rural Development and Fisheries and for strengthening the policy-making capacity of the MAFRD (Tasks 2, 3, 4 and 5)

For Tasks 2,3,4,5:

The MAFRD is at the beginning of the institution building process for the management of the new EU Rural Development Fund. Thus, considerable assistance is needed for staff training and development of necessary information systems, as well as for preparation of future projects. The Managing Authority, given its recent setting up, needs reinforcement in terms of organisation and staffing capacities. The actors involved in the management of the Rural Development Fund (RDF) and FIFG have not benefited from training related to the implementation of acquis provisions on the Guidance and Guarantee Sections of EAGGF and FIFG and RDF. This training will be provided by Task 2. There is an urgent need that the RDP and the Operational Fisheries Programme be prepared in time and ex-ante assessed by EU experts, in order to make sure that these documents are mature and ready for submission – this support will be provided through Task 3. The newly set up Managing Authority is not endowed with the needed infrastructure that would allow communication with all bodies involved in the management of the Rural Development Fund. This ITC support will be provided through Task 4.

Training is also needed at regional and local level for increasing the absorption of the Rural Development Fund and FIFG and to ensure the submission of mature project proposals for rural development, for all 'stakeholders'. (Task 5)

b) Fisheries (Task 8)

The rationale for the fisheries project is that - based on previous investment Romania - gets closer to the requirements of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), by needed investment and equipment facilities. For a complete establishment of an EU-compliant market in Romania, further support is needed for the establishment of a first public sale centres for fish (location of the first sale public fish centre will be established through the twinning project), further endowment with equipment (for the fisheries inspection, IT systems and mobile labs).

Priority 2: Preparing for EAGGF

a) Paying Agency (Task 12)

The previous support provided by Phare Projects in order to assure the background preparations for absorption of the funds, must be complemented by the strengthening of the Paying Agency's capacities to administer these funds in compliance with the EU requirements. In this context, the Paying Agency must be reinforced based on supply of needed IT and communication equipment. By project support, the PA will reinforce its legal and administrative structure needed for the PA in compliance with the EU requirements and will be prepared to implement the CAP schemes and to fully operationalise the PA IT systems.

b) Agriculture Information System (AIS) – (Task 14)

In order to prepare for accession to the European Union, Romania needs to develop and implement a compliant agriculture information system (collecting and reporting), so that it will be in the position to supply to the General Directorate for Agriculture (DG Agri) of the

European Commission, the market information required to conduct market management as part of the Common Market Organisations (CMOs) of the Common Agricultural Policy. The investment project envisages support to strengthen the co-ordination of organisation and operating of the Informational System for Agriculture and for the Statistical Office in the MAFRD and to create the needed abilities for the staff at national and regional level as regards the collection and submission of data according to DG Agriculture and EUROSTAT rules, by purchasing the IT equipment needed to the efficient performance of activities.

c) Farm Accountancy Data Network (FADN) -Task 16

At the same time, the practical communication method between the FADN persons responsible at county level and the FADN office within the MAFRD, respectively through the existing Informatics network at county level, within the Directorates for Agriculture and Rural Development and the MAFRD Computation Centre was also established. The project will also provide IT equipment for the efficient operation of the FADN system and will train staff in use of that equipment, leading to an increased efficiency of activities performed.

d) Integrated Administration Control System (IACS) - Task 19

As a prerequisite for EAGGF payments, an Integrated Administration and Control system has to be transposed into practice in Romania by the time of accession. So far, support is being provided by a Phare 2003 Twinning Project that started in July 2004 and by an investment component "Supply of basic IACS equipment" that will be tendered soon.

Further support is needed for the creation of the IT and communication infrastructure.(IT, monitoring and communication systems), that will lead to performance of efficient activities in line with EU requirements.(LPIS, link to the farmers, databases, farm register, etc).

e) Fruits and vegetables sector –Task 21

Besides the support provided by the 2004 Twinning that was recently awarded, urgent support is needed for the fruits and vegetables sector, so that it would be able to comply with the EU Regulations in force, by means of equipment. The quality of fruits and vegetables will be assured through investment support for specific determination of fruits and vegetables quality.

f) Wine sector – Task 23

As a continuation of the previous Phare support in the wine sector, the current project aims at fully strengthening Romanian wine sector in compliance with the EU requirements. This means managing the Wine Registry and associated information system and managing the Vineyard Registry and its link to the IACS system. The acquisition of additional wine control testing equipment will reinforce the capacity to manage and co-ordinate the implementation of market and trade mechanisms in the wine sector. The two wine laboratories to be endowed are under the direct co-ordination of the MAFRD and are located as follows: Wine Research Station Murfatlar and Wine Research Station in Craiova. These laboratories will be brought under the direct co-ordination of the MAFRD, based on the same procedure applied for the labs endowed under the previous Phare 2000 Twinning Project in the wine sector.

g) Milk quotas – Task 25

Implementation of the Common Organisation of the Market in Milk and Milk Products (Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 of 17 May 1999 as amended) requires implementation of the levy and reference quantities (quotas) applying to milk and milk

products¹. The quota system has remained a key element in the revised Common Agricultural Policy after the reforms agreed in July 2003 and will remain in place for a considerable time after accession of Romania. Besides the Twinning support provided under the 2004 Programming, investment support is also needed - IT network plus operational manuals and note books – allowing the implementation and operation of the milk quotas systems. The Investment project will also provide support in training the staff as regards the efficient use of the investment

h) Carcass classification systems (Task 27)

Support is therefore needed for adoption and implementation of EUROP classification categories for slaughtered bovine, pigs and sheep carcasses in compliance with the EU classification and price reporting systems, to train staff as regards classification and reporting requirements, to fully align the legal framework in compliance with that of the EU. Therefore a limited volume of equipment is needed in order to train the relevant staff in classification procedures (dissections, tests and variability analysis).

Priority 3: Development of the Food Safety System

a) Veterinary and Food Safety Agency (Task and 30)

The food industry in Romania benefited from substantial support in the previous years as regards investment in laboratory equipment.

There is a need to improve communication between the central agency for veterinary and food safety with the local offices and EU institutions as regards the efficient operation of the RASFF (Rapid Alert System) in compliance with EU requirements and to improve the IT endowment for the Agency's operation at central and regional levels as regards the efficient implementation of the TRACES and similar systems. Support is also needed to endow 5 reference regional milk laboratories at EU standards, as reference control labs included in the MAFRD's network of control laboratories.

b) Veterinary issues (Tasks 32,36)

Although previous support was provided in the veterinary sector for the last few years, further institutional building (Task 32) support is still necessary to reach full compliance with EU requirements. Phare funding is therefore required to safeguard animal and human health by vigorous application of EU demands for safe disposal of animal carcasses and animal waste and by purchasing needed equipment and training staff in their use; to implement legislation

Council Regulation (EEC) No 3950/92 establishing an additional levy in the milk and milk products sector, last amended by Regulation (EC) No 582/2002

Commission Regulation (EC) No 572/2003 adapting total quantities referred to Article 3 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 3950/92 establishing an additional levy in the milk and milk products sector

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1392/2001 laying down rules for applying Council Regulation (EEC) No 3950/92 establishing an additional levy on milk and milk products

¹ Council Regulation (EC) No 1255/1999 on the common organisation of the market in milk and milk products – Art. 5

on residues and contaminants; to elaborate comprehensive testing programme for residues and contaminants; to train staff at national and regional level in the implementation of TRACES and as regards the RAS. There is also a need to endow with equipment the national waste disposal network and to equip 5 BIPs located at the future EU Border of Romania (Albita, Siret, Sculeni, Halmeu and Moravita) according to the relevant EU legislation; it is also needed that the incineration units approved by NSVFSA be endowed with equipment in compliance with the EU requirements in this respect; it is also needed to strengthen the capacities for disposal of residues and animal by-products and for purchase of further TSE kits for increasing the capacity for active and passive monitoring, to cover the entire bovine population registered through the I&R.

c) Phytosanitary sector (Task 35)

In the phytosanitary sector further support is needed for developing a national system for testing the plant protection equipment (establishing of centres for checking and adjusting the plant protection equipment; equipping an eco-toxicology laboratory, of a facility to perform tests in the lab and in the experimental field of the new varieties; equipping a greenhouse to perform artificial infections with harmful organisms for testing the resistance to diseases under controlled artificial infections of new varieties to be registered; supply of IT equipment to establish a database for tested and registered varieties;. Training of staff to use the purchased equipment according to the EU requirements will be required; as will provision of support for EU accreditation and establishing a quality assurance system; continuing the harmonization and implementation of the Directive 91/414/EC and EN 13790 and harmonisation of legislation on genetically modified seeds and related training. Equipment is needed for the endowment of a cold store needed for long-term preservation of reference seed stocks. These samples must be kept for 10 years, for as long as the varieties are maintained in the Official catalogues of varieties, in conditions that assure the germination of seeds. These seeds are also used for the implementation of the DUS tests (for which equipment is also needed), according to CE Directives 2002/53/CE and 2002/55/CE. Equipment is also requested for the a cold store for long-term keeping of reference seed collection (these samples must be kept for 10 years, for as long as the varieties are maintained in the official catalogues of varieties, in conditions that assure the germination of seeds. These seeds are also used for the implementation of the DUS tests (for which equipment is also needed), according to CE Directives 2002/53/CE and 2002/55/CE; for endowment of a greenhouse needed for the performance of the DUS test for varieties of vegetables and flowers, in compliance with the relevant EU Directives in the field. The greenhouse is needed to perform the mentioned test in greenhouse conditions, as this is the place where the varieties manifest the best the characteristics that differentiate them from other varieties.

3.1.1 Identification of tasks or projects (under the 2005 programme)

Task nr.	Title	Relates to priority nr
2	TA for training of staff of the Managing Authority an for the bodies involved in the programming process and the setting-up of the implementation system	1

The purpose is to have Managing Authority and relevant bodies staff duly trained for EU RDF and FIFG. The TA project objectives are to fully train the Romanian administration in programming, implementation, monitoring, evaluation of EU RDF and FIFG, as a necessary condition for correct and effective procedures in compliance with the EU Regulations and to create a long-term capacity able to provide a full development of the sector.

The general implementation tool is training based on TA Project.

This project will be implemented as a 2005 TA project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
3	TA for ex ante evaluation of the Rural Development Programme and the Operational Programme for the Fisheries Sector	1

The purpose of this Project is to create the basis for the implementation of the Rural Development Programme and the Operational Programme for the Fisheries Sector. These documents would be therefore mature and ready for submission to the European Commission. This project will be implemented as a 2005 Phare TA project with the duration of 6 months.

The initial budget included in the MAP was 200,000 Euro and aimed at the ex-ante evaluation of the RDP. As it is vital that the Operational Programme for Fisheries also be ex-ante evaluated, the initial budget was increased to Euro 400,000.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
4	Investment for the Managing Authority	1

The purpose of this project is to have a Managing Authority equipped will all the needed Management Information System for an efficient operation. The projects objective is to develop a Management Information System able to address the needs for all management levels (intermediate bodies, managing authorities, payment authorities, implementing agents, including the European Commission) and through all stages (programming, tendering, contracting, monitoring, evaluation, audit and control, based on an operating hardware and software.

The general implementation tool is an INV project. This project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
5	Training at regional and local level for increasing the absorption of RDF and FIFG and to ensure submission of mature project proposals for rural development, for all "stakeholders"	1

The purpose of this project is to ensure the proper absorption of RDF and FIFG and to increase the number of mature project proposals. All stakeholders will be trained on the concept, implementation and monitoring of RDF and FFG. The project activities will be based on an efficient communication and information strategy and a detailed and wide training and awareness programme; to create conditions for ensuring the correct and sound absorption of the RDF and FIFG, by providing sound project proposals and a management and sustainability of projects proposed; to create awareness amongst the potential beneficiaries as regards the funding possibilities opened through the RDF and FIFG measures, the eligibility conditions and selection criteria.

The general implementation tool proposed is TA (training). The initial budget for 2005 was 500,000 Euro. But given the importance that the Operational Programme for Fisheries will be also ex-ante evaluated, the 2005 was decreased by 200,000 to accommodate this ex-ante evaluation, under task 3.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
8	Supply of equipment for the fisheries and aquaculture sectors	1

The purpose of this project is to have an efficient fisheries sector based on purchase of IT, laboratory and sale centre equipment. The project will purchase specific equipment the first sale public centre; specific equipment the mobile laboratories (2); specific IT and software equipment for establishment of a virtual first sale system; to endow the fisheries Inspection with the necessary equipment and to train staff in the proper use of this equipment.

Phase 1 (funding year 2004) - the project will supply equipment for endowment of a public first sale public fish centre in Romania (The first sale public fish centre is located in Mangalia, Limanu commune. It belongs to the National Company for Administration of Fisheries Fund, an institution subordinated to the MAFRD), that will be equipped with the necessary landing, marketing, transport and communications infrastructure in compliance with EU Regulations related to the CMO. The other vestment item for 2004 funding year is the purchase of 2 mobile labs, which will determine fish stocks and TACs as requested by Regulation 2371/2002 on conservation and sustainable exploitation of living aquatic resources. There will be a parallel co-financing for this investment component.

Phase 2 (2005) - the investments will be directed towards purchase of necessary IT (including software) and communication equipment to establish a virtual first sale fish centre and necessary endowments for the efficient operation of the fisheries inspection

This 2005 project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
12	Supply of equipment for the efficient operation of the Paying Agency	2

The purpose of this project is to have an efficient PA endowed with all necessary IT, communication and monitoring equipment. The project will also train staff in equipment use. The project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
14	Supply of equipment for the efficient operation of an AIS system at national and regional level	2

The purpose of this project is to have an efficient AIS system based on necessary IT and communications equipment at national and regional level and trained staff.

The 2005 project will be implemented as an INV Project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
16	Supply of equipment for establishing and efficient operation of a FADN system	2

The purpose of this project is to have an efficient FADN system at national and regional level endowed with needed equipment. The project will also train staff in equipment use.

This 2005 Project will be implemented as a 2005 INV Project.

Task	Title	Relates to priority nr
nr		
19	Supply of equipment for efficient operation of IACS at central and regional level	2

The purpose of this project is to have a consolidated IACS by provision of IT, monitoring and communication equipment. The equipment will increase the work efficiency and will ensure an IT system, which is consolidated and operates in compliance with the EU standards.

This 2005 project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
21	Establishment of fruits and vegetables testing facilities by purchase of specific equipment	2

The purpose of this project is to ensure an efficient fruits and vegetables control sector, based on needed EU compliant equipment. The project will endow the existing control laboratories sector with specific equipment. This project will allow a proper determination of fruits and

vegetables quality, will train the laboratory staff in the use of equipment and will allow the creation of a multi-functional network of national laboratories.

No specific quality control laboratories for fruit and vegetable produce complying with acquis requirements exist in Romania. But, with Phare support, a network of laboratories was established in the veterinary sector. Based on purchase of specific determination equipments for fruits and vegetables (specific kits), these laboratories could also have the capacity to test the quality of fruits and vegetables and will assure a multi-functional nature of the said labs and a higher efficiency. These kits are needed to perform fruits and vegetables control in compliance with the marketing standards for fresh products, throughout the product chain. The kits are used by the MAFRD fruits & vegetables inspectors for the determination of quality (compliance with the marketing standards).

The project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
23	Supply of equipment for 2 semi- endowed wine control laboratories	2

The purpose of this project is to have an efficient wine sector based on needed EU compliant laboratory control equipment. The project ill equip two existing wine laboratories in wine regions of Romania with specific wine tests equipment for performance of wine hygiene and control tests in compliance with the EU standards and will train staff in the use of equipment according to EU requirements.

Phare Programme RO 0006.12 Harmonisation of legislation and strengthening the capacity to manage the acquis on wine, has provided investment support (laboratory for wine hygiene and quality control), to 3 laboratories. One laboratory (in Valea Calugareasca) and 2 were partially endowed (in Blaj and Odobesti). The need to endow 2 existing wine laboratories—with competitive wine equipment (one located in Murfatlar Wine Research Station and one located in Wine Research Station in Craiova. These laboratories will be brought under the direct coordination of the MAFRD, based on the same procedure applied for the 3 laboratories endowed with equipment under the previous Phare 2000 Project in the wine sector) is justified by the need to have competent laboratories able to perform effective tests throughout the country, in the wine regions. This will contribute to improving wine quality control and to assure Romanian wine market competitiveness on the domestic and EU market.

The project will be implemented as a 2005 INV Project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
25	Supply of equipment for establishing and efficient operation of a milk quota data and communication network	2

The purpose of this project is to have an operational IT milk quota system at national level. The project will also train staff in the efficient use of the purchased equipment.

The project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

This supplies contract will provide the computer programmes and hardware and needed to link MQAD's existing network of 42 offices in the counties and Bucharest with the Paying Agency network, the Veterinary and Food Safety Agency milk quality laboratories and animal register data base and with MAPDR, as well as operational manuals and rule books for the installed system. The result will be: quotas allocation database completed and operational and IT quota system fully operational.

The detailed list of equipment will be established by Task 28, that will in turn use the results of a PPF aiming to develop an IT strategy, and that will soon start

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
27	Supply of equipment for establishing and efficient operation of a carcass classification system	2

The purpose of this project is to have an efficient carcass classification system based on needed equipment at EU standards. The project will establish standardised price reporting on a EU dead weight (carcass) basis, comparative price analysis in different countries, up-to-date monitoring of developments in Romanian and international meat markets, assurance of a fair and transparent system of price formation and payment for slaughtered animals and standardisation of the intervention price for the particular quality grades of carcass admitted to intervention for the entire EU and to supply equipment allowing dissections, tests and variability analysis.

The project aims at supply of equipment allowing dissections, tests and variability (regression), leading to increased efficiency of the classification activities, based on the TS elaborated by the twinning project.

The Project will be implemented as a 2005 INV Project.

Task	Title	Relates to priority nr
nr		
30	Supply of IT and communication equipment for development and strengthening the Romanian NSVFSA for RASFF, TRACES and for endowment of 5 regional milk control laboratories	3

The purpose of this project is to ensure an efficient veterinary system, based on purchase of needed EU-compliant equipment for RASFF, TRACES and milk labs. The project will ensure proper veterinary control at external borders; will support the implementation of EU TRACES system as soon as possible; will improve the communication between the central agency and the local offices and EU institutions; will improve the IT endowment of the Agency at central

and regional levels as regards the efficient implementation of the TRACES and similar systems; will endow 5 milk control regional labs under MAFRD co-ordination

The project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
32	Twinning for further strengthening and development of the veterinary service, in compliance with the EU requirements	3

The purpose of this twinning project is to finalise the legal and organisational harmonisation of the Romanian veterinary service to the EU one. The project aims to elaborate plans and strategies for better waste disposal facilities for the national network, to train staff in waste disposal methods, in residues and contaminants methodology, in TRACES and RASFF system, to elaborate a policy on carcass disposal with beneficial effects on the environment and diseases, to improve animal welfare and to monitor the implementation of the animal nutrition policy

The project will be implemented as a 2005 TW project with the duration of 18 months.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
33	Supply of equipment for the veterinary services (BIPs and waste residues)	3

The purpose of this project is to ensure an operational and efficient veterinary sector as regards border protection and waste disposal. The project aims to ensure that all long term BRIPS (8) with third countries are fully operating from the date of accession in accordance with the acquis both in terms of facilities and procedures, based on supply of equipment for 5 BIPs; to endow the national sanitary network with waste disposal equipment in compliance with the EU standards.

The project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
35	Investments for further consolidation of phytosanitary services	3

The purpose of this project is to assure an efficient phytosanitary and seed sector that is endowed with needed equipment. The project aims to equip an eco-toxicological laboratory, to procure verification equipment for the phytosanitary treatments application; to equip the facilities for testing the new varieties in laboratory and in the experimental field; to equip a

greenhouse for artificial infection with harmful organisms, for testing the resistance to diseases under controlled artificial infections of the new varieties to be registered; to endow a cold-store for long-term keeping of reference seed stocks; to procure IT equipment for he database for the varieties tested and registered by SIVTR according to the EU requirements and to train staff in the use of equipment

The project will be implemented as a 2005 INV Project.

Task nr	Title	Relates to priority nr
36	Further supply of Kits (BioRad, TSE and Prionics Western)	3

The purpose of the project to assure an efficient sanitary –veterinary sector by continuing the purchase of TSE Kits (Biorad and Prionics)

The project will be implemented as a 2005 INV project.

Pr. Nr	Title	Tasks	Priority	Total cost €Mio	Starts at DD/MM/YY	Ends DD/MM/ YY	Impleme ntation tools
1	Rural Dvlp. Policy and Economic and Market Analysis	2,3,4,5 and 8	1	6.00	01/04/06	01/04/08	TA, INV,
2	Preparing for EAGGF	12,14, 16,19, 21,23, 25,27	2	10.14	01/04/06	01/04/08	TA, INV
3	Development of the Food Safety System	30,32, 33,35, 36	3	8.93	01/04/06	01/04/08	TA, INV, TW

3.2 Linked Activities:

PHARE Project 2003/005-551.04.01 – "Designing of an integrated administration and control system (IACS) in Romania and support for elaboration of a policy aiming at strengthening agricultural farms".

Twinning Project RO00/IB/AG/01-02 – "Agricultural and rural policy at national and regional level"

Twinning Project RO00/IB/AG/01-02 - "Agricultural statistics to meet policy needs in Romania"

Phare Project RO 0106.07 – "Strengthening Romania's institutional capacity to apply the Measures stipulated in the NPARD"

Phare Project RO 0006.13-04 01-02 – "Definition and implementation of methodologies for farm structural surveys".

Twinning Project RO 2000/IB/AG/-04 - "Harmonisation of legislation and strengthening the capacity to manage the acquis on wine"

RO 0006.090-"Reinforcement of agri-food quality control systems"

RO 0006.10 - "Strengthening and developing the capacity to enforce the phytosanitary acquis regarding protection against injurious micro-organisms"

RO 0006.11 – "Strengthening the Romanian veterinarian administration capacity at central and regional level for harmonisation of the veterinary norms with the EU ones"

Ro 0107.07 – "Strengthening the phytosanitary administration capacity to adopt and implement the acquis"

RO 0107.08 – "Developing and implementing the nation-wide bovine animals identification and registration systems"

RO 2002/000-586.04.06 – "Surveillance, diagnosis and control of animal diseases and alignment with the acquis in the animal nutrition field"

As indicated in 3.2.2 above, all the 2005 projects and related and represent a continuation of the 2004 projects.

The national Government contributes to all investment and twining projects through the national contribution components.

3.3 Lessons learned:

See also annex 4.

Lessons learnt in the above Phare and twinning projects in Romania and similar projects in other EU acceding countries have been taken in consideration when designing this project.

Following the implementation of the previous TA and twinning projects, it resulted that for the setting up of different administrative structures, the twinning projects are more adjusted.

As well, it was revealed that it is very useful to set up working groups within the projects as they assure an efficient dissemination of information.

The "training of trainers" approach is a specifically useful activity as it also supports the dissemination of information to the decentralised structures. The training seminars based on case studies and practical examples are also an efficient project implementation tool.

4 Expected Results of the programme

PRIORITY 1

Task 2 – Training of the Managing Authority and intermediate bodies staff

- ➤ The civil servants involved in the management and implementation of RDF and FIFG duly trained on regular basis, on issues regarding programming, implementation, monitoring, evaluation of EU RDF and FIFG
- A training package ready and implemented on a permanent basis for the new comers in the system with basic information about the different funds, the Community Structural Funds (CSF), the RDPs, FIFG, the MA, and PA and the main mechanisms
- ➤ Procedures manuals completed for administration and implementation of the Rural Development Programme and staff from all institutions involved at national, regional and local level fully trained, ensuring and efficient management and implementation of the Rural Development Fund and FIFG
- ➤ Romanian trainers trained based on the training of trainers (ToT) Programme
- ➤ Long-term training capacity created and sustainable
- Number of trainers at national and regional level

Task 3 – Ex ante evaluation of RDP and FOP

- ➤ Report on the ex-ante evaluation of the Rural Development Programme and Operational Programme for Fisheries, including recommendations for improvement,
- Recommendations taken on board (RDP and FOP adjusted).
- ➤ RDP and Fisheries Operational Programmes ready for approval

Task 4 – INV (MIS) for Managing Authority

- > IT equipment installed and operational
- ➤ Managing Authority fully strengthened in terms of equipment (equipment supplied, delivered, installed, and staff trained in its use), leading to an increased efficiency
- ➤ MIS system in place and operating efficiently
- ➤ Communication system improved, including e-communication
- > Web site created
- > Staff trained in use of equipment

Task 5 – Training

- > Staff/all stakeholders trained in the institutions in charge for project preparations
- Romanian trainers trained based on the ToT approach
- > Submission of high quality project proposals in a number that would allow a proper absorption of the RDF and FIFG
- ➤ Information, publicity and communication strategy effectively implemented
- ➤ Wide awareness created
- Absorption of Rural Development Fund and FIFG, based on mature project proposals

- ➤ Efficient structures and competencies in place for provision of assistance as to the qualification of rural areas and individuals under the new rural development programmes-
- ➤ Efficient system in place for identification, registration and development of eligible projects

Task 8 – Supply of equipment for the fisheries and aquaculture sectors

- ➤ Public first sale centre set up and operational.
- ➤ 2 mobile laboratories established and operational.
- ➤ Public virtual first sale system established (software adapted)
- Fisheries Inspection strengthened and endowed with necessary equipment
- > Staff trained in the use of equipment

PRIORITY 2

Task 12 - Supply of equipment for the efficient operation of the Paying Agency

- ➤ All the required IT system is in place operational providing all needed links domestically and internationally for the Paying Agency
- > Staff trained in efficient use of purchased IT equipment

Task 14 – Supply of equipment for the efficient operation of an AIS system at national and regional level

- ➤ AIS (central and regional) endowed with EU compliant IT equipment leading to efficient performance of corresponding duties
- ➤ Database operational and usable for both DG Agri and EUROSTAT data submission activities
- > Staff trained in the use of equipment

Task 16 – Supply of equipment for establishing and efficient operation of a Farm Accountancy Data Network

- FADN system (national and regional- 41 counties) endowed with EU compliant IT system and operating efficiently
- > Database operational and staff trained in equipment purchased

Task 19 – Supply of equipment for efficient operation of IACS at central and regional level

- ➤ IACS system fully endowed with IT, Monitoring and communication systems, EU compliant
- > Staff trained in efficient use of purchased equipment

Task 21-Establishment of fruits and vegetables testing facilities by purchase of specific equipment for the existing network of laboratories

Fruits and vegetables analysis performed through endowment of existing labs with specific equipment for fruits and vegetables tests

Task 23 – Supply of equipment for 2 semi-endowed wine control laboratories

- ➤ The two existing laboratories are equipped with wine control equipment and operate efficiently at EU standards.
- > Staff trained in the use of equipment and relevant EU compliant standards

Task 25 – Supply of equipment for establishment and efficient operation of a milk quota data and communication network

- ➤ QMAD systems (both at central and at county/regional levels 41 counties) endowed with EU compliant IT system, cross-linked and operating efficiently with other relevant IT systems (Paying Agency, IACS, Animal Registration, MAPDR, etc);
- Quotas allocation database completed and operational
- > IT Quota system fully operational

Task 27 – Supply of equipment for establishment and efficient operation of a carcass classification system

Equipment in place allowing performance of relevant tests by the Classification Commission (dissections, tests and variability analysis)

PRIORITY 3

Task 30-Supply of IT and communication equipment for development and strengthening the Romanian Veterinary and Food Safety Agency for RASFF, TRACES and endowment of 5 regional milk control laboratories

- > IT and communication equipment purchased and installed, leading to efficient communication and data transmission as regards TRACES and RASFF
- ➤ Efficient implementation at national and regional level of the TRACES system
- ➤ Possibility to inter-correlate with the EU information system on Risk Assessment and Communication and Rapid Alert System
- > 5 regional reference milk control laboratories endowed with EU compliant equipment

<u>Task 32- Twinning for further strengthening and development of the of the veterinary service, in compliance with the EU requirements</u>

- ➤ Legislative harmonisation completed for newly issued EU Regulations in the sanitary-veterinary sector
- ➤ Plans and strategies for better waste disposal facilities for the national waste disposal network elaborated and implemented
- > Staff trained in waste disposal methods and methodologies aimed at environment protection and prevention of diseases

- > Staff trained at national and regional level in residues and contaminants methodologies
- ➤ BIP reorganisation completed and BIP manual finalised, allowing safe import-export activities
- Full implementation of TRACES and similar systems (by training)
- ➤ Better conditions specified for animal husbandry, slaughter, transport and experimentation; veterinary assessment of welfare standards issued, based on the introduction of a monitoring programme and welfare codes of practice issued
- > Policy on animal nutrition implemented under the project monitoring
- ➤ Rapid Alert System effective based on duly trained staff

Task 33 – "Supply of equipment for the veterinary services (BIPs and waste disposal)

- Functioning border inspection facilities (BIPs) to support import/export, for the 5 selected BIPs, through equipment purchasing
- National sanitary-veterinary network endowed with necessary equipment and able to assure a better disposal of waste in compliance with the EU standards

Task 35 - INV for further consolidation of phytosanitary services

- ➤ Eco-toxicology lab at central level equipped to EU standards and operational
- Phytosanitary treatment application with increased efficiency based on equipment purchased
- ➤ The SIVTR properly equipped in order to test, in laboratory and in the field, the new varieties according to the EU requirements
- ➤ The greenhouse properly equipped to perform artificial infections with harmful organisms; DUS tests efficiently performed
- > The IT system for the database for the varieties tested and registered by SIVTR according to the EU requests is purchased and functional
- ➤ Cold-store equipped for long-term keeping of reference seeds stocks
- Laboratory staff trained to and efficiently use the purchased equipment

<u>Task 36 – "Further supply of KITS (BioRad, TSE and Prionics Western)</u>

- TSE surveillance fully in line with the EU aquis. The current surveillance network extended in the whole Romanian territory and for all the concerned species.
- Fast tests carried over in order to achieve an early, specific and fast TSE diagnosis
- > Traceability assured for live animals in relation to their products, as regarding TSE
- > Specific measures implemented on animal health protection against TSE, concerning the ruminants feeding, rendering and processing of the carcasses, collecting and processing of animals waste;

Measures regarding public health protection implemented by setting up a labeling system for beef and veal meat, by eliminating specific risk materials, by eliminating the risk bovine offal, by prohibiting the mechanic recovery of bovine meat

5 Detailed Budget

Indicative budget for the budgetary years 2005:

MEURO

Year 2005	Indicative EU s	upport						
€MIO	Investment	Institution	Total EU	National Co-	TOTAL			
	Support	Build./TA	(=I+IB)	financing*				
Priority 1	Priority 1							
Task 2		0.50	0.50	-	0.50			
Task 3		0.40	0.40	-	0.40			
Task 4	3.00	-	3.00	1.00	4.00			
Task 5	-	0.30	0.30	-	0.30			
Task 8	0.60	-	0.60	0.20	0.80			
Sub-total 1	3.60	1.20	4.80	1.20	6.00			
Priority 2		1		<u> </u>				
Task 12	0.55	-	0.55	0.19	0.74			
Task 14	1.50	-	1.50	0.37	1.87			
Task 16	0.50	-	0.50	0.17	0.67			
Task 19	2.50	-	2.50	0.84	3.34			
Task 21	0.93	-	0.93	0.31	1.24			
Task 23	0.55	-	0.55	0.19	0.74			
Task 25	1.00	-	1.00	0.34	1.34			
Task 27	0.05	-	0.05	0.02	0.07			
Sub-total 2	7.58	0	7.58	2.56	10.14			
Priority 3		1		<u> </u>				
Task 30	1.00	-	1.00	0.34	1.34			
Task 32	-	0.90	0.90	0.05	0.95			
Task 33	1.20	-	1.20	0.40	1.60			
Task 35	1.50	-	1.50	0.50	2.00			
Task 36	1.52	-	1.52	1.52	3.04			
Sub-total 3	5.22	0.90	6.12	2.81	8.93			
Total 2005	16.40	2.10	18.50	6.44	24.94			

Detailed allocation for Investment/Institution Building for 2005:

	Phare support	Co-financing			Total Cost
€M	Support	National Public Funds	Other Sources	Total Co-	
		(*)	(**)	financing of Project	
Year 2005 –Investment support jointly co- funded				,	
Priority 1	3.60	1.20		1.20	4.80
Task 4	3.00	1.00		1.00	4.00
Task 8	0.60	0.20		0.20	0.80
Priority 2	7.58	2.56		2.56	10.14
Task 12	0.55	0.19		0.19	0.74
Task 14	1.50	0.37		0.37	1.87
Task 16	0.50	0.17		0.17	0.67
Task 19	2.50	0.84		0.84	3.34
Task 21	0.93	0.31		0.31	1.24
Task 23	0.55	0.19		0.19	0.74
Task 25	1.00	0.34		0.34	1.34
Task 27	0.05	0.02		0.02	0.07
Priority 3	5.22	2.76		2.76	7.98
Task 30	1.00	0.34		0.34	1.34
Task 33	1.20	0.40		0.40	1.60
Task 35	1.50	0.50		0.50	2.00
Task 36	1.52	1.52		1.52	3.04
Investment support – sub-total	16.40	6.39		6.39	22.79
% of total public funds	max 75 %	min 25 %			
Year 2005 Institution Building support					
Priority 1					
Task 2	0.50				0.50

Task 3	0.40			0.40
Task 5	0.30			0.30
Priority 3				
Task 32	0.90	0.05	0.05	0.95
IB support	2.10	0.05	0.05	2.15
Total project 2005	18.50	6.44	6.44	24.94

^(*) contributions form National, Regional, Local, Municipal authorities, FIs loans to public entities, funds from public enterprises

6 Implementation Arrangements

6.1 Institutional Framework

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6.2 Implementing authority

MAFRD, as the Implementing Authority, will have to abide by the following obligations, in order to assure the smooth and sustainable implementation of foreseen projects:

The Phare Implementing Unit (PIU) / MAFF

Contact person: Mrs. Marisanda Pîrîianu, PIU Co-ordinator

Bd. Carol I, nr. 17, sector 3

Bucharest, Romania

Tel: + 40 21 3072459 / Mobile: + 40 723 46 36 94

Fax: + 40 21 311 02 76 E-mail: piuagr@maa.ro

The PIU/MAFF will co-ordinate and administer the implementation of the proposed Phare project in Romania.

Priority 1

- Full and unconditional commitment of MAFRD to achieve the results foreseen
- MAFRD continues to implement essential reforms
- MAFRD assures stability of structures
- Institutional changes accepted by MAFRD as part of the institutional building process
- Implementation of Rural Development legislation still accepted as government objective

^(**) private funds, FIs loans to private entities

- MAFRD takes and implements the necessary measures as regards participation of staff in training events
- MAFRD assures the financial and material support is secured to ensure sustainability beyond the End of Project
- MAFRD identifies for training motivated and high calibre staff and retains this staff after training;
- Institutional positioning is appropriate to allow the project to assist and guide the institutional development process
- MAFRD committed to achievement of project results
- MAFRD prepared to support the created long-term training capacity
- Preparation by MAFRD of RDP to be evaluated ex ante
- Commitment of MAFRD for achieving of results
- MAFRD makes available in time all relevant information for ex-ante of RDP
- Co-financing funds are earmarked and made available in due time

Priority 2

- MAFRD assures stability of new structures
- Implementation of EU legislation still accepted as government objective
- High and unconditional MAFRD commitment to implement the Project
- Co-financing earmarked and made available in due time
- Staff trained is retained by PA following training at the end of project
- PA has necessary capacity to use the new IT systems procured
- MAFRD assures the financial and material support to ensure sustainability beyond End of Project
- MAFRD provides co-financing for the equipment component in due time
- MAFRD establishes an IT department and secure proper staffing and equipment.
- MAFRD maintains trained staff following training and End of Project
- Institutional positioning is appropriate to allow project to assist/guide policy implementation/institutional development process
- Financial co-funding resources are made available in due time-Trained High calibre staff is kept within the organization are retained by PA following training and End of Project
- MAFRD capacity to utilize new IT systems
- Full and unconditional commitment of the MAFRD in the achievement of foreseen results

- Timely political, institutional, financial and material support throughout the project provided by MAFRD
- The milk quota management system is defined and clear institutional responsibilities set up
- Full commitment of the MAFRD and Carcass classification Commission in the achievement of foreseen results

Priority 3

- IT Department of the NSVFSA set up and fully staffed and proper accommodation facilities provided.
- High and unconditional commitment of NSVFSA to implement the Project
- Co-funding for required investment earmarked in the national budget and made available in due time
- NSVFSA makes available the co-financing money in due time
- Satisfactory facilities for the veterinary checked established at the 8 BIPs
- RO funds made available for equipment repair, maintenance and co-financing
- High commitment on the part of the VFSA/IHAD/Veterinary services as to the implementation of the project
- The Romanian Govt applies staff retention policies for trained staff
- Timely nomination of RTA counterpart and RO partners
- Timely provision of office and other suitable facilities for the MS team
- Institutional structures remain stable

The Implementing Agency is:

Central Finance and Contracts Unit (CFCU) / Ministry of Public Finance

Mircea Voda bvd, no. 44, sector 3, Bucharest, Romania.

Phone: +40 21 326.55.55

Fax: +40 21 326.87.30

Email: carmenrosu@cfcu.ro

The CFCU will be the tendering and contracting authority and supervise the financial implementation of the entire project.

6.3 Implementation Schedule (Description for 2005 mandatory)

For the project included in the budgetary year 2005, the Project Terms of References and Technical Specifications will be ready by end 2005. The tendering procedure (TA and supply contracts) and call for proposals (twinning project) can thus be launched by the end of the 3rd quarter 2005 at the latest.

Start of project activity:

The budgetary year 2005 projects are expected to start during the second half of 2006

The execution period of twinning and TA contracts is set at 18 months, while the duration of the supply contracts is set at 12 months; hence the implementation of budgetary year 2005 will be completed by the end of 2007 at the latest, though a number of projects will be completed already by the end of 2007.

6.4 Monitoring

The Ministry of Public Finance monitors Phare projects by means of the Sector Monitoring Committees and Joint Monitoring Committees. The Sector Monitoring Committee meetings are held twice a year and deal with presentation of progress achieved by projects under monitoring for a period of 6 months. Minutes are drawn at the end of the meetings, including general and specific recommendations to be taken into account and be presented in the next Sector Monitoring Committee meetings and/or in the Joint Monitoring Committee meeting. The JMS mainly discusses recommendations of horizontal aspects that need to be implemented for the implementation of the monitored projects. The meetings are attended by representatives of the Implementing Authority, CFCU-Ministry of Finance, and EC Delegation in Romania.

Annexes to programme fiche

- ✓ A sector programme monitoring sheet
- ✓ Detailed implementation chart
 - o contracting and payment schedule as graphs (see section 6), by quarter, for full duration of the programme (including disbursement period) .
- ✓ Log frames for all tasks or projects listed in the summary table
- ✓ Lessons learnt