

Project Fiche: No. 5

Fight against organised crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors' Network

1. Basic information

- 1.1 CRIS Number:** 2010/022-028
- 1.2 Title:** Fight against organised crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors' Network
- 1.3 ELARG Statistical code:** 01.24 - Justice, freedom and security
- 1.4 Location / Beneficiaries** Western Balkans: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia as well as Kosovo under UNSCR 1244/99

Implementing arrangements:

- 1.5 Contracting Authority (EU):** European Union represented by the European Commission on behalf of the Beneficiaries.
- 1.6 Implementing Agency:** Not applicable
- 1.7 Beneficiary** The main beneficiaries are criminal justice authorities (judges and prosecutors).

Financing:

- 1.8 Overall cost (VAT excluded)¹:** EUR 5 263 158
- 1.9 EU contribution:** EUR 5 000 000
- 1.10 Final date for contracting:** 30 November 2011
- 1.11 Final date for execution of contracts:** 30 April 2014
- 1.12 Final date for disbursements:** 30 April 2015

2. Overall Objective and Project Purpose

2.1 Overall Objective

Improve cross-border and international judicial cooperation in the Beneficiaries to investigate and prosecute organised crime and linked cases of economic and financial crime and corruption.

2.2 Project purpose

To strengthen the operational capacity and capabilities of the Public/State Prosecutors' Offices in the Beneficiaries in order to prosecute and investigate cross-border organised crime and linked cases of economic and financial crime and corruption.

¹ The total cost of the project should be net of VAT and/or other taxes. Should this not be the case, the amount of VAT and the reasons why it should be considered eligible should be clearly indicated.

2.3 Link with AP / NPAA / EP/ SAA²

This project takes into account the objectives and priorities set out in the European and Accession Partnerships with the Beneficiaries, which contain relevant provisions on justice, freedom and security and provide the long-term basis for continued cooperation in the field. The 2008 European and Accession Partnerships confirm the importance of regional cooperation in the fight against organised crime and terrorism.

Regarding regional issues and international obligations, the Beneficiaries still need to enhance cooperation with their neighbours, notably on cross-border cooperation, the fight against organised crime, trafficking and smuggling. In the context of organised crime, stronger trans-national cooperation should be ensured and the legal provisions prohibiting the extradition of nationals as well as the transfer of serious criminal proceedings amended.

Albania

The European Commission notes that the government is taking a more strategic approach regarding the fight against corruption which is a key European Partnership priority. Anti-corruption investigations led to the arrest of a number of high-level officials. However, corruption is widespread and remains a serious problem. Much work is still needed on all aspects of the issue, including judicial accountability. According to Article 4 of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA), Albania commits itself to continue and foster cooperation and good neighbourly relations with the other countries of the region including an appropriate level of mutual concessions concerning the movement of persons, goods, capital and services as well as the development of projects of common interest, notably those related to combating organised crime, corruption, money laundering, illegal migration and trafficking, etc. This commitment constitutes a key factor in the development of the relations and cooperation between the Parties and thus contributes to regional stability. Accordingly, Albania's 2008 European Partnership short term priorities include:

- Increase the independence, accountability and transparency of the justice system, by, inter alia, fostering the constitutional protection of judges, appointing judges and prosecutors on the basis of competitive examinations, establishing merit-based performance evaluation for prosecutors and setting objective rules for allocation of cases to judges.
- Implement the 2007-2013 anti-corruption strategy and the recommendations made in the 2005 evaluation report by the Council of Europe Group of States Against Corruption (GRECO) and investigate and prosecute cases of corruption in the police and the judiciary with due vigour.
- Improve coordination between prosecutors and police, in particular by means of the case management system.
- Take further measures to enhance cooperation between the various State bodies involved in the fight against organised crime and terrorism and, in particular, between the judicial authorities and the police.

Among the mid term priorities: Ensure prosecution of serious crimes, especially organised crime, with particular attention to cross-border cooperation mechanisms.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

In the absence of a revised strategy, Bosnia and Herzegovina needs to prepare and implement all the action plans provided for by the national strategy to combat organised crime and corruption

² AP = Accession Partnership; NPAA = National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis (for Candidate Countries), National Action Plan (for Potential Candidates); EP= European Partnership; SAA = Stabilisation and Association Agreement

and reinforce international cooperation with law enforcement agencies, including the correct implementation of international conventions. Bosnia and Herzegovina's 2008 European Partnership short term priorities include:

- Reinforce the independence and accountability of the judicial system and improve its effectiveness, including by reducing the backlog of cases.
- Adopt and start implementing a strategy for development of the judicial sector.
- Prepare and implement all the action plans provided for by the national strategy to combat organised crime.
- Reinforce the fight against organised crime and international cooperation with law enforcement agencies.

Among the mid term priorities: Achieve significant results against organised crime, all types of trafficking and terrorism and ensure proper prosecution.

Croatia

Croatia still needs to make further progress, inter alia, with judicial and administrative reforms, and fighting corruption. Considerable efforts are needed to ensure administrative and enforcement capacity, particularly in terms of inter-agency cooperation as well as to prevent corruption and to fight organised crime. Croatia's 2008 Accession Partnership short term priorities include:

- Continue to develop and implement Codes of Conduct/ethics for officials and elected representatives as well as action plans to prevent corruption in the relevant law enforcement agencies (border police, police, customs, judiciary) and other public sector institutions and agencies. Take steps to ensure that the legal framework for tackling corruption is uniformly implemented and enforced including through the use of adequate statistics. Ensure that the standards set by international instruments are met, by putting in place the appropriate legislative and administrative measures.
- Take concrete actions to raise public awareness of corruption as a serious criminal offence.

*Kosovo*³

The fight against organised crime remains a major challenge. The basic social structure (patriarchal) of the Kosovo society makes difficult to gather information related to criminal activities anytime there is a need to penetrate the family ties of the various clans involved. Because of the relative small size of Kosovo and normal huge number of the various family members, it is difficult to keep investigative information secret and confidential, due to the fact that connections of organised criminal groups with judicial institutions and Kosovo Police Service can be, very often, very close. The legislative framework to tackle organised crime is still incomplete, particularly in the area of witness protection (many of them, to be effectively protected, need relocation abroad along with their family members), undercover agents, confiscation of assets, the anti-mafia law and the law on organised crime itself. There is a need to improve the effectiveness of investigations of crime and of information exchanges with other European police forces and judicial institutions; strengthen investigative and internal control capacities of the Kosovo Police Service and strengthen its leadership and autonomy from political interference; fight against organised crime and terrorism through mechanisms that would target the financial assets of organised criminal and terrorist groups; further strengthen local capacity in the organised crime directorate within the Kosovo Police; further strengthen local capacity in the narcotics investigation section; ensure that the Financial Intelligence Centre effectively fulfils its role in collecting and analysing data in relation to money laundering;

³ Under UNSCR 1244/99

envisage the creation of preventive mechanisms that would allow a stricter control on public tenders and procurements procedures in order to avoid them to be assigned to companies which may be connected with money laundering activities of organised criminal groups. To this latter extent, the General Auditor - or another ad hoc Agency that could be created for such purpose or the public institutions that should bear this responsibility- could play an important role if it would be acknowledged its duty to inform the Prosecution anytime there are information or data that may lead to criminal investigations in cases of assignment of particular tenders or procurement offers from public institutions. The independence of the judiciary from external pressure is still very weak, due to the low salaries of judges and prosecutors that make them more exposed to corruption.

The European Partnership calls, inter alia, for:

- Ensuring effective, independent, accountable and impartial courts and prosecution offices, free from political influence.
- Strengthening of the prosecutor's office to ensure that it is able to comply with the principles of autonomy and impartiality. Continued strengthening of the Special Prosecutor's Office.
- Strengthening the cooperation with other European police forces and judicial institutions.
- Further development of legal education and training, particularly for judges, prosecutors and administrative personnel.
- Strengthening the administrative capacity, coordination and effectiveness of the judiciary and all law enforcement agencies.
- Improving the functioning of the judiciary, guaranteeing its independence, accountability, professionalism and efficiency and ensuring that the career development and recruitment of judges and prosecutors is based on technical and professional criteria and free from political influence.
- Improving the effectiveness of investigation of crime.
- Find viable solutions for the relocation of particular categories of protected witnesses outside Kosovo, with projects to be agreed and implemented with the help of other European States and of European Union institutions.
- Reform the legislation with a specific attention to the introduction of Mafia organised crime association (like in Italy) and of provisions to target the financial interests of organised criminal and/or terrorist groups.

Montenegro

Efforts to fight corruption and organised crime need to be enhanced. Montenegro has to establish efficient institutional mechanisms for inter-agency cooperation and to upgrade the capacity of the police department in the fight against organised crime; upgrade capacity to use special investigative means in line with appropriate guarantees and strengthen criminal intelligence; adopt the legislation and develop the capacity to seize assets and proceeds of crime; increase the efficiency of international cooperation and implementation of the relevant international conventions on terrorism and preventing and fighting organised crime; improve cooperation and the exchange of information between all branches of the security services and with other states; and prevent the financing and preparation of acts of terrorism.

The SAA states under Article 80 that in their co-operation on justice, freedom and security, the Parties shall attach particular importance to the consolidation of the rule of law, law enforcement and the administration of justice in particular. The article stresses that cooperation will aim at strengthening the independence of the judiciary and improving its efficiency. Under Art. 84 it is prescribed that the Parties shall co-operate in order to prevent the use of their financial systems

for laundering of proceeds from criminal activities in general and drug offences in particular, as well as for the purpose of financing terrorism and under Art. 86 that the Parties shall co-operate on combating and preventing criminal and illegal activities, organised or otherwise, giving a list of typology of crimes.

Serbia

Some progress has been made in fighting organised crime. However, organised crime continues to pose a serious problem for Serbia and more concerted efforts are needed. The action plan to implement the national strategy on fighting organised crime has not been adopted and the specialised police services lack the necessary capacity to carry out their duties fully. Serbia's 2008 European Partnership short term priorities include:

- Improve the functioning of the judiciary, guarantee its independence, accountability, professionalism and efficiency and ensure that the career development and recruitment of judges and prosecutors are based on technical and professional criteria and free from political influence. Ensure proper functioning of the Constitutional Court.
- Step up the fight against corruption at all levels and develop a comprehensive public system of financial control to increase transparency and accountability in use of public finances.
- Ensure the full independence of the courts and prosecution system.
- Implement the action plan on the judicial reform strategy.
- Adopt and implement legislation on mandatory initial and continuous training for judges, prosecutors and court support staff and strengthen the training centres.
- Rationalise the court system, modernise proceedings, introduce an effective court management system and establish administrative and appellate courts.
- Create an IT network for prosecutors at all levels, ensure enforcement of court decisions and further strengthen the capacity to try war crimes domestically in full compliance with international obligations to the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY).
- Implement the action plan on the anti-corruption strategy and establish an independent and effective anti-corruption agency.

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Judicial and police cooperation and fight against organised crime remain a serious concern in the country. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia needs to further intensify the fight against organised crime, notably by increasing the number of investigations with the use of special investigative measures and by creating an integrated intelligence system for inter-agency use in the fight against organised crime, including trafficking in human beings, arms and drugs.

An action plan for setting up a National Intelligence Database (NID) to connect law enforcement agencies is currently being implemented. A law on the setting up and functioning of the NID has been enacted in September 2009. Moreover, the feasibility study and the tender dossier have already been approved; tender procedures for the setting up of the NID are planned to start by the beginning of 2010. A new criminal procedure law which provides for a shift from an accusatorial to a mainly adversarial system is currently in final stage of drafting and planned to enter into force in 2011. The draft envisages major changes in criminal procedure, especially as regards the institutional strengthening of the role of the public prosecutor in the pre-trial phase, the setting up of judicial police subordinated to the Public Prosecutor's Office, as well as the setting up of investigative centres

2.4 Link with MIPD

The IPA Multi-beneficiary Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document (MIPD) 2009-2011⁴, section 2.3.1.3.3 – Fight against organised crime, corruption, terrorism, trafficking and smuggling, identifies support for regional cooperation between law enforcement agencies and judicial authorities to fight organised crime and terrorism, complementing efforts at a national level, particularly as it facilitates networking and sharing of best practices and lessons learned in the region. More specifically, the MIPD mentions that regional judicial cooperation programme will support enhanced cooperation in prosecution and investigation on criminal matters, the development of efficient communication procedures and mechanisms to exchange information and transfer proceedings, mutual assistance in penal matters, the approximation of judicial systems and legal frameworks towards EU standards and the *acquis*, networking as well as sharing of best practices and lessons learned in the region, the establishment of harmonised guidelines and protocols for the sharing of relevant information across borders thus building upon the achievements made by national projects and other regional initiatives.

3. Description of project

3.1 Background and justification

The project will build on the efforts that the Beneficiaries are deploying to increase the effectiveness of the fight against organised crime and linked cases of economic and financial crime and corruption. The project will also build upon the newly established International Law Enforcement Coordination Units (ILECUs)⁵ as an interface for cross-border communication among law enforcement agencies, as well as upon the achievements of the CARDS 2006 regional project "Support to the Prosecutors' Network"⁶, and provide further support to the strengthening of the Prosecutor's Network⁷ and to the upgrading of the professional capacities of the Public/State Prosecutors' Offices in the Beneficiaries specialised in the investigation and prosecution of organised crime and related cases of economic and financial crime and corruption.

The project "Fight against organised crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors' Network" will target the National Contact Points of the Prosecutors' Network established in Skopje on 30 March 2005. The signatories of the Memorandum of Understanding of the Prosecutors' Network committed themselves to cooperate closely in repressing, investigating and prosecuting perpetrators of organised crime, criminal groups and criminal associations. The cooperation is based on the exchange of information, documents and evidence related to all forms of organised crime within the signatories' jurisdiction, especially in case of offences committed on their territories and involving their nationals or foreign citizens, as criminal actors or as victims. Cooperation also involves requests of mutual legal assistance, development of common investigation mechanisms and strategies against organised crime, joint investigations,

⁴ COM(2009) 4518

⁵ CN 2008/160506, regional project funded by CARDS 2005 funds. The objective of the ILECUs project is to create effective international law enforcement cooperation mechanisms in the Beneficiaries and to achieve improved international law enforcement cooperation in the region. Existing mechanisms must be brought into compliance with EU *acquis* and standards, EUMSs' best practices, and relevant international rules and standards. The Coordinating Units will comprise at least the Interpol NCBs, Europol and SECI Centre contact points, and possibly more international law enforcement contacts. Europol and Interpol are associates in the project implementation.

⁶ The project "Support to the Prosecutors' Network", implemented by a consortium led by the Council of Europe, started in April 2008 and has a 24 month duration (CN 2008/160506).

⁷ The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the regional co-operation and networking amongst prosecutors against organised crime (Prosecutors' Network) was signed on 30 March 2005 in the framework of the CARDS RAP 2003 Regional Judicial Reform project.

as well as organisation of regular regional meetings with a view to exchange experience, best practices, analytic materials, statistical data and relevant evaluations and reports.

The strengthening of regional and international cooperation is a key issue in the fight against organised crime and corruption. Therefore the project envisages to support the organisation of bi-annual regional meetings of the Prosecutors' Network, the facilitation of contacts' maintenance between its members, the organisation of conferences, seminars, internships, study visits, regional training activities on judicial cooperation and on investigation and prosecution of organised crime and corruption, the development of high professional standards amongst public prosecutors and judges, regular exchange of information, sharing of best practices and lessons learned and to ensure, *inter alia*, closer cooperation on witness protection. The project will ensure coordination with the Multi-beneficiary IPA 2009 project "Witness Protection in the Fight against Serious Crime and Terrorism (WINPRO)"⁸, thus contributing to making witness protection more professional, more easily available for ongoing cases of organised crime and identifying gaps in the existing systems.

The project "Fight against organised crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors' Network" will cover for the secondment of public prosecutors from the EU Member States to the offices of the Public/State Prosecutor's Offices responsible in the Beneficiaries for the prosecution and investigation of organised crime and linked cases of economic and financial crime and corruption. In order to facilitate and support prosecution and investigation in the Beneficiaries, the seconded public prosecutors from the EU Member States shall be given access to files of ongoing cases in the Beneficiaries related to the prosecution and investigation of cross-border cases of organised crime and linked corruption criminal offences, as well as provide support, knowledge and expertise in the daily activities of the public prosecutors in the Beneficiaries, thus contributing to the strengthening of international cooperation capacities (joint investigations, mutual legal assistance) and to the improvement of professional standards of the Public/State Prosecutor's Offices. A common pool of short term experts will provide support to the EU Member States public prosecutors based in the Beneficiaries. The short term experts will, in particular, carry out training activities on specific issues concerning the prosecution of organised crime, economic and financial crime and corruption cases. Training activities may be developed and synergies explored in cooperation with the EU funded regional School of Public Administration promoting co-operation in Western Balkans – RESPA, based in Danilovgrad, Montenegro. A coordination team with a senior high ranking project leader will be established in order to improve cooperation and coordination between the seconded EU Member States public prosecutors, both on operational and administrative levels.

The public prosecutors from the EU Member States will maintain close contact with the National Contact Points of the Prosecutors' Network, as well as with the Prosecutorial Focal Points for the South East European Prosecutors Advisory Group (SEEPAG) in the Beneficiaries. Both networks aim at fighting against serious forms of crime and foster better cooperation and coordination of criminal investigations and prosecutions in the region. Close cooperation shall be also ensured with the International Law Enforcement Coordination Units (ILECUs). Close cooperation with National Contact Points of the Prosecutors' Network and Prosecutorial Focal Points of SEEPAG, as well as with ILECUs, will generate synergies and ensure a catalytic effect in that existing judiciary channels would be used to exchange information, carry out investigations, and provide mutual legal assistance.

As regards Kosovo, the presence of EULEX needs to be taken into consideration. It is therefore advisable to involve a prosecutor from EULEX and not to assign an additional EUMS prosecutor to Kosovo.

⁸ C(2009)6125 of 31 July 2009

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Office of the High Representative extended the mandates for international prosecutors with executive competences for war crimes only. As it concerns the fight against organised crime and corruption, the BiH State Court will be supported by four international prosecutors with advisory competence. Therefore the international presence needs to be taken into consideration in Bosnia and Herzegovina too.

It is advisable that Eurojust play an advisory role in the project, considering that its competence covers investigations and prosecutions in relation to serious cross-border crime, particularly when it is organised.

3.2 Assessment of project impact, catalytic effect, sustainability and cross border impact

Added value: Considering the transnational nature of organised crime and economic crime, efficient regional and international cooperation is required. International prosecutions on the basis of cross-border law enforcement cooperation need to be increased through the strengthening of cross-border and international operational cooperation between law enforcement and judicial authorities of the Beneficiaries and EU Member States in investigations and prosecutions of organised crime. The project will cover this key aspect that could only be partially tackled at national level.

Impact: The project will have major impact on a variety of sectors varying from commerce to public order and national security. In addition, transnational and cross border security will be considerably improved. Another important impact is that fight against organized and economic crime will be strengthened as the Beneficiaries will have up-to-date practices, methods, and well-trained staff. The project will also contribute to the development of cross-border cooperation between the relevant law enforcement and judicial authorities as well as to the development of strategies, techniques and instruments enabling them to improve their performance in prosecuting and investigating organised and economic crime cases. A better operational framework to fight organised and economic crime and to facilitate international cooperation in criminal matters will be established. The main impact of this project is an improved and regular exchange of relevant information for investigation and prosecution's purposes through cooperation and networking among the Public/State Prosecutors in the region. The ability and readiness of the prosecutors to prosecute even senior officials for organised crime, economic crime and corruption are a positive step toward the establishment and strengthening of rule of law in the Beneficiaries, with an efficient and effective system of delivery of justice in criminal matters cases. It will also build confidence in the Beneficiaries, especially in the potential candidate countries, as serious partners in the accession process.

The implementation of the project should result, *inter alia*, in amended/drafted strategies, action plans and working standards in accordance with the *acquis*, increased number of staff trained and a Prosecutors' Network continuously functional and making decisions, opinions, proposals etc.

The project will be regularly monitored and the performance evaluated to allow for the relevant readjustments. Action plans should be developed to assess progress. Several methods will be used to conduct performance monitoring, in particular regular implementation reviews on specific objectives and related activities and results and external monitoring via the European Commission Results Oriented Monitoring. Regular briefing sessions and reports are planned. Evaluation during implementation and/or at the end of the project may also take place.

Given the amount of coordination and information exchange required to counteract organised crime successfully, wide-ranging international support is crucial to establish effective prevention

and response mechanisms. The project will contribute positively to coordination at a regional level although actual results in terms of impact in countering such crime are difficult to evaluate.

Catalytic effect: Most Beneficiaries benefit from membership of international organisations and all have a good number of bi-lateral cooperation agreements. Training, study tours, workshops and seminars organised under this project will contribute to increasing interaction between the relevant services in each Beneficiary and across the region. The project should also be seen as a strong regional catalyst for judicial cooperation in the region. Strengthening the administrative and investigative capacities will also accelerate investigations, national and international cooperation among law enforcement agencies and the judicial authorities.

The project is highly appropriate to address social-cultural aspects. The fight against organised and economic crime is not only for the benefit of the Beneficiaries' authorities but also for their citizens. Given the nature of modern organised crime, and in particular economic crime, the project is also highly beneficial for neighbouring countries and those countries that are linked with the criminal operations.

Sustainability: The potential sustainability of this project will vary in the region, depending upon the related stages of development of the services, local funding capacities and operational capabilities in terms of equipment and the need for extensive external/international support. Continuity of staff working within the project coupled with a political will to see the project through to the end is essential. It is imperative that staff trained under this project is permitted to remain in post and not subject to arbitrary and frequent transfer into posts where their newly acquired skills are of no use. To address this, a detailed database of what training was provided to what person should be maintained by the implementing partner to allow for monitoring of the investment in future, to ensure those trained have not been transferred.

Ownership will depend on the relative development of each Beneficiary regarding, not least, their anti-organised crime laws, structures and service capabilities. Local personnel must be as far as possible involved at both national and regional levels.

3.3 Results and measurable indicators

Expected results

Main result

Improved capacities of the Public/State Prosecutors' offices in the Beneficiaries to coordinate investigations and prosecutions of cross-border cases of organised crime, economic crime and corruption.

Specific results

- Capacities of public prosecutors to investigate and prosecute cross-border cases of organised crime, economic crime and corruption improved;
- Training methodologies and comprehensive staff development approach for prosecutors responsible for prosecuting cross-border cases of serious and organised crime developed, available and carried out based on a coherent region-based training needs analysis;
- Direct communication and cooperation capacities of Public/State Prosecutors' offices fostered and facilitated with regard to the conduct of joint investigations of cross-border cases of organised crime, economic crime, and corruption, development and implementation of special investigative measures, and request of mutual legal assistance;
- Cooperation between the Prosecutors' Network, Eurojust and the European Judicial Network (EJN) as well as with International Law Enforcement Cooperation Units (ILECUs), improved.

Measurable indicators:

- Secondment to each Beneficiary of an EUMS public prosecutor dealing with the investigation and prosecution of serious cross-border and organised crime;
- Number of recommendations drafted and adopted;
- Quality and appropriateness of training methodology developed;
- Number of seminars and workshops organised;
- Quality and completeness of assessment of prosecutions files conducted by the EUMS seconded prosecutors;
- Number of cases where Beneficiaries cooperate with each other in cross-border cases of serious and organised crime and related corruption cases;
- Ratio of information successfully exchanged, disseminated and used;
- Number of joint initiatives/operations developed;
- Number of received/sent/processed request for international assistance.
- Number of joint investigations conducted.

3.4 Activities:

- Undertake an initial review of structures and procedures within Public/State Prosecutors' offices and other competent judicial authorities and prepare the project action plan and training strategy, also targeting judges specialised in organised crime and corruption case;

- Carry out a coherent region-based training needs analysis, and develop and implement a training strategy, especially on up-to-date background information on mutual legal assistance tools, for prosecutors responsible for serious and organised crime and corruption cases;
- Seconded public prosecutors from EUMS analyse current prosecution files in order to identify main weaknesses and identify solutions;
- Advise and support ongoing investigations of organised crime and high level corruption cases related to organised, economic and financial crime;
- Support joint investigation teams consisting of investigators from the Beneficiaries and possibly from EU Member States and facilitate the association with Eurojust and Europol;
- Help determine best practices and identify obstacles and problems encountered when initiating and organising joint investigation teams;
- Provide and exchange expertise about the national legal frameworks and best practices, in particular the criminal procedure codes and the related legislation on special investigative measures;
- Foster contacts between the Prosecutors' Network, the international law enforcement coordination units, Eurojust, Europol and the European Judicial Network (EJN);
- Analyse the framework of international agreements related to prosecution currently into force in the Beneficiaries and elaborate proposals to strengthen it thus increasing the legal "toolbox" at the disposal of prosecutors for their cross-border investigations;
- Organise and deliver specialised training, organise regional activities, conferences, seminars, workshops and study visits to EUMS (in particular to prosecutor's offices and Eurojust).

3.5 Conditionality and sequencing:

The implementation of the project requires the full commitment and participation of the senior management of the Public/State Prosecutor's Office, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, and other relevant entities. The Beneficiary shall:

- Ensure that appropriate staff is made available to facilitate the implementation of the project;
- Provide all possible assistance to solve any unforeseen problem that the EU seconded public prosecutors and the short term experts may face;
- Restructure within the Public/State Prosecutor's Office where appropriate according to advice and add additional staff as appropriate.

3.6 Linked activities

Prior and ongoing Regional or IPA Multi-beneficiary Programmes

The ongoing CARDS 2006 regional project "*Support to the Prosecutors' Network*" was build on the recommendations of the CARDS 2003 regional judicial reform project "*The establishment of an independent, reliable and functioning judiciary and enhancing of the judicial cooperation in the Western Balkans*". One of the main results achieved under the CARDS 2003 project was the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding for regional cooperation and networking amongst prosecutors. The current CARDS 2006 regional project "*Support to the Prosecutors' Network*" focuses on strengthening the legislation and institutional capacities of the general Prosecutors' Offices of South-eastern Europe in view of a more effective co-operation against

serious crime. Regional meetings and cooperation activities of the Prosecutors' Network are covered by the regional CARDS 2006 project PROSECO (Support to the Prosecutors' Network), implemented by the Council of Europe. The project ends on April 2010.

The ongoing CARDS 2005 regional project "*ILECUs*" supports the creation of special international law enforcement coordination units in the Beneficiaries with a view to supporting the exchange of information in international investigations and facilitating contacts on an operational level. These units will be integrated in national criminal intelligence models and supported by proper data protection and confidentiality regimes.

The ongoing CARDS 2006 regional project "*Development of monitoring instruments for judicial and law enforcement institutions in the Western Balkans*" commenced on 1 February 2009. The project assesses and commences improvement of the collection, analysis and use of police and judicial statistics.

The Multi-beneficiary IPA 2008 programme "*Fight against organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking, and the prevention of terrorism*", which is planned to start in January 2010, aims to improve and promote both strategic and operational regional and international cooperation capacities within the IPA region and between the region and the EU, making full use of existing instruments and frameworks, such as relevant networks, international conventions, agreements, and memoranda of understanding on the fight against organised crime, in particular illicit drug trafficking, and the prevention of terrorism.

The Multi-beneficiary IPA 2008 programme "*Cooperation in Criminal Justice: Witness Protection in the Fight against Serious Crime and Terrorism (WINPRO)*", which is planned to commence in the first quarter of 2010, aims to strengthen cooperation to support the fight against serious crime and terrorism within the IPA region and European Union, improving the protection of witnesses and victims of serious crime and terrorism in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

An IPA 2010 Multi-beneficiary programme has been designed, named "*Regional Cooperation in Criminal Justice: Strengthening capacities in the fight against cybercrime - @CyberCrime*". The purpose of this project is to strengthen cross-border and international operational cooperation between law enforcement and judicial authorities of the IPA Beneficiaries and EU Member States in investigations or prosecutions of cybercrime as a form of organised crime.

National programmes and donor activities

Donor coordination has focused on planning the assistance with the aim of avoiding overlapping of programmes and activities, sharing experiences and promoting complimentary actions. A key priority for donor coordination has been to strengthen the ownership and better involve the Beneficiaries in the exercise. The European Union, along with Beneficiaries, continues to take the lead in these coordination efforts, and further rationalise and bring together the existing initiatives through forthcoming regional projects.

Some wider law enforcement regional initiatives continue in the region, such as the South East Europe (SEE) Police Convention, creating a framework for bilateral or SEE-wide follow-up agreements on cross-border police cooperation, bringing them more in line with European practices; the SECI Centre / SELEC for international police cooperation for combating trans-border crime; the South East European Prosecutors Advisory Group (SEEPAG), a practical network of public prosecutors complementing the law enforcement mechanism (i.e. SECI Centre/SELEC), handling regional organised crime cases; the SEE chiefs of Police Association (SEPCA); and the International Law Enforcement Coordination Centres (ILECUs).

Key donors with significant on-going or planned activities in the Justice and Home Affairs sector in the region include U.S. Department of State, USAID, US Marshall Service (Office of

Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training OPDAT programme⁹), UNODC, OSCE and UNDP. EU bi-lateral support includes Austrian Development Agency (ADA) capacity building assistance to for South East European countries to curb trafficking in human beings and illegal migration, Italian, German and French support for training of special forces and UK support for special operations, Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) and Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) support. In addition, sizeable external investments are being made regarding infrastructure and equipment in the sectors. Coordination continues between the European Commission, EU Member States (EUMS), Europol, Interpol, other EU and international bodies tasked with police, customs and judicial cooperation, other international donors, the Council of Europe, Royal Canadian Mounted Police and U.S. Departments of State and Justice.

Coordination meetings have been held with U.S. Departments of State and Justice. In order to promote complementarities and synergies with U.S. Government assistance, a dialogue is being launched between the European Commission and the U.S. State Government on financial assistance in law enforcement to the Western Balkans and Turkey. This dialogue should lead to improved donor coordination, thus avoiding duplication and overlapping in the assistance, and contribute to a deeper common understanding of both parties' priorities in the region.

Networks of liaison officers drawn from the EU Member States have been established in the Beneficiaries. Police and judicial reform projects are also implemented at national level under the EU Twinning mechanism.

Europol, Eurojust, the European Police College as well as the SECI Centre are developing cooperation and working arrangements with Beneficiaries in the area of police and criminal justice cooperation *inter alia* to fight organised crime in the region. Other financial measures support the development of key capacities in each Beneficiary including setting up financial intelligence units and specialised teams of prosecutors and judges to deal with organised crime cases.

EU national programmes (CARDS, IPA)

Albania

The General Prosecutor Office on Inspection and Evaluation has benefitted of a CARDS 2005 twinning with Spain in partnership with Italy. The CARDS 2004 Twinning with the Joint-investigative Unit (ASP-Prosecutor-Ministry of Finance) on Anti-Money laundering, implemented by Germany (Bundeskriminalamt) will see a follow up co-financed by IPA 2009.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Police, anti-money laundering and anti-corruption as well as judicial reform projects are implemented at a national level but no specific twinning involves the Public Prosecutor's office. Support will be provided under IPA 2008 to finance international prosecutors in the Registry (Support to the State Court and Prosecutor's Office of BiH to fight War Crimes and Organised Crime).

Croatia

PHARE 2005 Support to the Judicial Academy of Croatia: Developing a Training System for Future Judges and Prosecutors started in February 2008. The aim of this project is to develop a training system and selection of future judges and prosecutors.

On-going/to be launched twinings in the areas of judiciary/fight against corruption:

⁹ OPDAT was created in the Criminal Division of the US Department of Justice in 1991 in response to the growing threat of international crime. OPDAT's mission is to assist prosecutors and judicial personnel in other countries develop and sustain effective criminal justice institutions.

Under IPA 2007, two twinnings related to the fight against corruption: "Strengthening Capacities of USKOK" and "Improving Anti-Corruption Inter-Agency Cooperation".

Under IPA 2008, two twinnings with the Ministry of Justice: 1) "Support to the reform of criminal proceedings ". The twinning will target the Criminal Law Directorate, Judicial Academy (Ministry of Justice), State Attorney Office and the Criminal police and Police Academy (Ministry of Interior). 2) "Development of the probation services in Croatia".

Under draft IPA 2009, the two following twinnings are envisaged. If adopted, these projects would start presumably in the second half of 2010: "Professional development of judicial advisors and future judges and state attorneys through establishment of self sustainable training system" and "Further improvement of institutional capacity of all misdemeanour courts and development of ICMS compatible modules at selected misdemeanour courts"

The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The CARDS 2005 twinning "Fight against Organised Crime and Corruption Unit - Public Prosecutor's Office" aimed at contributing to the effectiveness of the fight against organised crime and corruption through capacity building of the specialised Fight Against Organised Crime and Corruption Unit within the Public Prosecutors' Office (now Basic Prosecutors' Office for Fight against Organized Crime and Corruption). The main objective of the project was to substantially enhance the capacity and capabilities of the members of the Unit, of their supporting staff and of officials interacting with them. The project assessed the legislative framework in the field of fight against organised crime and corruption, considering the minimum standards and the best EU and international practices in this area. The project came to an end in June 2009. The CARDS 2004 project "Technical Assistance to Support the Creation of a Training Institute for the Judiciary" in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia came to its closure with a final event on 20 February 2009. The overall objective of the project, which started in June 2006 and ran for a period of 32 months, was to strengthen the independence and efficiency of the judicial system. Decisive support was provided to the setting up of the Academy as an institution which provides not only continuous training for judges and prosecutors in office, but also initial training for future judges and prosecutors. A direct grant IPA 2007 project with IOM on trafficking in human beings has recently started in July 2009. The IOM project which has a duration of 14 months aims to improve the capacities of law enforcement agencies for tackling THB and illegal migration, by setting up a working group and organising various trainings and study visits. An IPA 2008 project "Further support to the Academy for the Training of Judges and Prosecutors" is currently undergoing tendering procedures and is estimated to start by the beginning of 2010. IPA 2009 programme plans include a project for the support of the implementation of criminal justice reform, focusing notably on the implementation of the new law on criminal procedure scheduled to enter into force in 2012. The main target group for the planned project consists of public prosecutors and judicial police. IPA 2010 programme plans include a project on supporting fight against corruption, notably implementation of the recently adopted legal framework, as well as a project on supporting further police reform comprising, among others, a component on the support of the Department for Fight against Organised Crime and Corruption within the Ministry of Interior. Currently there is also a project under planning within IPA 2010 - "Further support to independent, accountable, professional and efficient judiciary and promotion of probation service and alternative sanctioning". This project foresees a component Support to the Judicial Council and Council of Public prosecutors for strengthening the independence, accountability, professionalism and efficiency of the judiciary.

Montenegro

The IPA 2007 twinning entitled "Justice Reform" aims to support the building of an independent and efficient judicial system, and to insure the general protection of juvenile offenders rights. An

IPA 2009 national programme will focus on the implementation of the newly adopted Criminal Procedure Code. The project aims to support prosecutors but also police and judges in the implementation of the new institutes of the new CPC. There will be some targeted support to the Special Prosecutor as well. The main Beneficiary is the Ministry of Justice of Montenegro. The IPA 2007 twinning "Fight against organised Crime and Corruption" aims at strengthening the capacity of the Police Directorate, the Anti-Money Laundering Administration and the Directorate for Anti-corruption Initiative. The support to the police focuses on upgrading the skills for the implementation of special measures of surveillance, undercover, etc. as well as on continuing the building up of the intelligence-led policing model.

Kosovo

IPA 2008 Twinning "Strengthening the Rule of Law in Kosovo" (in the pipeline) includes some training for prosecutors and some of the short term experts are EU prosecutors. The project purpose is to strengthen the rule of law in Kosovo through further reform of the relevant institutions and alignment with and implementation of the *acquis* in the area of Justice and Home Affairs.

It is relevant to mention the role that European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) and specifically EULEX Prosecutors and Police Executive Department are playing in Kosovo, as the largest civilian mission launched under the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP). The mandate of the EULEX Police Executive Department is to investigate offences involving financial crime, organized crime, war crimes and terrorism and to deal with intelligence gathering and international cooperation. The Police Executive Department Organised Crime Investigation Unit (PED OCIU^o) investigates offences including: organised crime, counter-terrorism, human trafficking, arms smuggling, drug dealing, contraband (stolen vehicles and other items) smuggling, and serious crimes. War Crimes Investigation Unit and Corruption and Money Laundering are investigated by the Financial Investigations Unit. The PED deals exclusively with EULEX Special Prosecutors and, specifically, with those assigned to the Special Prosecution Office. The PED is presently preparing agreements with surrounding countries to enhance cooperation in organized and serious crime investigations.

Serbia

The aim of the IPA 2008 programme "Improvement of Transparency and Efficiency (Prosecutors and Penal system)" is to improve transparency and efficiency of the prosecutorial and penal system of Serbia by introducing efficient case-management and statistical systems and increasing public access to prosecutorial services information in all judicial branches.

3.7 Lessons learned

Operational activities: According to the various evaluations and CARDS Monitoring reports, it is necessary to intensify the support to regional operational activities. Operational means, including the safe and secure exchange of data, for increased cross-border cooperation should be developed according to the EU best practices.

Ownership: 'Ownership' of the projects should be secured at an early stage on the programming process. For the "Fight against organised crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors' Network" project coordination and involvement of the Beneficiaries, as well as of the main stakeholders, including Eurojust, was ensured at the identification phase of the project idea.

Training: The EU funded projects completed in previous years have shown us that the training courses should continue after the end of the project and have a continuous aspect. So, it is essential to pay attention to the training of trainers and prepare appropriate education and training materials.

Implementation: Although a broad range of specific expertise is required for the regional projects, the contracting of consortia with too many partners for the coming police and judicial cooperation projects should be avoided, as the projects will have a specific and targeted approach, and coordination efforts should not be unnecessarily complicated by a saturation of partners.

Integrated national strategies: An integrated national strategy against organised crime and terrorism is needed, with coordination and cross-sectoral cooperation mechanisms, and with a strong supportive international component.

Ensure sustainability: Police and judicial staff must not only be trained to a high professional level, but also empowered to continue professional work once the programme ends. Proper handover of necessary equipment, information, documentation, curricula etc must be ensured.¹⁰

Avoid duplication: In order to avoid duplication and unnecessary cost, the best use of existing judicial and law enforcement tools and networks of national bodies has to be considered instead of creating new ones. Functional, thematic cross border networks of law enforcement authorities shall be reinforced to more effectively combat serious crime and prevent terrorism.

When to create new networks: Existing networks and institutions already in charge of cross border judicial co-operation should be supported instead of setting up new ones, so that they increase cooperation in the field of criminal justice. In general where a gap is identified, programmes should facilitate the creation of regional networks for stakeholders (police, prosecutors, judges) and support the development of other regional and national initiatives in this area. Networks of stakeholders should serve, *inter alia*, as focal points for collecting and disseminating best practices and lessons learned.

Assess state of play: Rather than starting with an overall objective for the region as a whole and then applying a standard methodology, the programme shall start, with the collaboration of the beneficiaries themselves, with assessing the current situation in the Beneficiaries then based upon their specificities and needs, the appropriate regional approach shall be defined.

Tailored made approach and synergies: The different stages of readiness of the Beneficiaries shall be taken into account during implementation. The project shall draw on the experience of the most advanced Beneficiaries in the alignment process to the *acquis* and develop synergies among them.

Resources and equipment: The most efficient use of available resources should be ensured, rather than providing new hardware. "While many police services will have legitimate requirements for infrastructure and equipment to support capacity-building, such equipment should only be supplied to meet requirements clearly identified in a needs assessment and an accompanying development plan. This should be clearly communicated at the outset of any reform programme or the promise of material resources may detract from or undermine the more pressing business of institutional reform"¹¹.

¹⁰ OSCE, Implementation of Police-Related Programmes, Lessons Learned in South-Eastern Europe, SPMU Publication Series Vol. 7, Vienna, December 2008

¹¹ OSCE, Implementation of Police-Related Programmes, Lessons Learned in South-Eastern Europe, SPMU Publication Series Vol. 7, Vienna, December 2008

4. Indicative Budget (amounts in EUR)

			SOURCES OF FUNDING									
			TOTAL EXP.RE	EU CONTRIBUTION		NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION					PRIVATE CONTRIBUTION GRANT BENEFICIARY	
ACTIVITIES	IB (1)	INV (1)	EUR (a)=(b)+(c)+(d)	EUR (b)	%(2)	Total EUR (c)=(x)+(y)+(z)	% (2)	Central EUR (x)	Regional/ Local EUR (y)	IFIs EUR (z)	EUR (d)	% (2)
Grant Contract	x		5 263 158	5 000 000	95	/	/	/	/	/	263 158	5
TOTAL IB			5 263 158	5 000 000	95	/	/	/	/	/	263 158	5
TOTAL INV			/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/
TOTAL PROJECT			5 263 158	5 000 000	95						263 158	5

Amounts net of VAT

- (1) In the Activity row use "X" to identify whether IB or INV
- (2) Expressed in % of the **Total** Expenditure (column (a))

5. Indicative Implementation Schedule (periods broken down per quarter)

Contracts	Launch of Call for Proposals	Signature of contract	Project Completion
Grant Contract	Q3 2010	Q4 2010	Q2 2013

6. Cross cutting issues

6.1 Equal Opportunity

The project does not directly target equal opportunities but it will respect gender equality, not least through the inputs to upgrade legislation towards EU standards.

6.2 Environment

The most recent criminal phenomenon in South East Europe is related to the environment, i.e. eco-mafia. The programme should also contribute in tackling indirectly this form of organised crime.

6.3 Minorities

Minority and vulnerable groups' concerns will be reflected in all activities under the programme, in particular when it concerns public services, legislative matters and socio-economic development.

ANNEXES

- I- Logical framework matrix in standard format
- II- Amounts (in EUR) contracted and disbursed per quarter over the full duration of project
- III- Description of Institutional Framework
- IV - Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents:
- V- Details per EU funded contract (where applicable)

ANNEX I: Logical framework matrix in standard format

LOGFRAME PLANNING MATRIX FOR Project Fiche	Fight against organised crime and corruption: Strengthening the Prosecutors' Network	CRIS No.: 2010/022-028
	Contracting period expires: 30 November 2011	Disbursement period expires: 30 April 2015
	Total budget: EUR 5 263 158	IPA budget EUR 5 000 000

Overall objective	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	
Improve cross-border and international judicial cooperation in the Beneficiaries to investigate, prosecute and trial organised crime and linked cases of economic and financial crime and corruption.	Percentage of successful organised crime cases indictments and trials in the Beneficiaries where regional and international co-operation mechanisms were used	Reports of the competent authorities Statistical publications Local and national records (MoI, MoJ) SEE OCTA Report	
Project purpose	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
To strengthen the operational capacity and capabilities of the Public/State Prosecutors' Offices in the Beneficiaries in order to prosecute and investigate cross-border organised crime and linked cases of economic and financial crime and corruption.	Percentage of successful organised crime cases indictments and trials in the Beneficiaries where regional and international co-operation mechanisms were used	Reports of the competent authorities Statistical publications Local and national records (MoI, MoJ) Project reports Monitoring reports Progress reports Regular performance reports from Public/State Prosecutors' Offices	Adequate political commitment and financial resources of Beneficiaries Timely and adequate resources available. Efficient cooperation between Beneficiaries and Grant beneficiary

Results	Objectively verifiable indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Capacities of public prosecutors to investigate and prosecute cross-border cases of organised crime, economic crime and corruption improved; - Training methodologies and comprehensive staff development approach for prosecutors responsible for prosecuting cross-border cases of serious and organised crime developed, available and carried out based on a coherent region-based training needs analysis; - Direct communication and cooperation capacities of Public/State Prosecutors' offices fostered and facilitated with regard to the conduct of joint investigations of cross-border cases of organised crime, economic crime, and corruption, development and implementation of special investigative measures, and request of mutual legal assistance; - Cooperation between the Prosecutors' Network, Eurojust and the European Judicial Network (EJN), as well as with International Law Enforcement Cooperation Units (ILECUs), improved. 	<p>Secondment to each Beneficiary of an EUMS public prosecutor dealing with the investigation and prosecution of serious cross-border and organised crime;</p> <p>Number of recommendations drafted and adopted;</p> <p>Quality and appropriateness of training methodology developed;</p> <p>Number of seminars and workshops organised;</p> <p>Quality and completeness of assessment of prosecutions files conducted by the EUMS seconded prosecutors;</p> <p>Number of cases where Beneficiaries cooperate with each other in cross-border cases of serious and organised crime and related corruption cases;</p> <p>Ratio of information successfully exchanged, disseminated and used;</p> <p>Number of joint initiatives/operations developed;</p> <p>Number of received/sent/processed request for international assistance.</p> <p>Number of joint investigations conducted.</p>	<p>Reports of the competent authorities</p> <p>Statistical publications</p> <p>Local and national records (MoI, MoJ)</p> <p>Project reports</p> <p>Monitoring reports</p> <p>Progress reports</p> <p>Regular performance reports from Public/State Prosecutors' Offices</p>	<p>Full cooperation and involvement of senior management</p> <p>Acceptance of change and adoption of new working practices</p>
Activities	Means	Costs	Assumptions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Undertake an initial review of structures and procedures within Public/State Prosecutors' offices and other competent judicial authorities and prepare the project action plan and training 	<p>Restricted Call for Proposals</p> <p>Grant contract</p>	<p>EUR 5 000 000</p>	<p>Very good management and communication capacities of Grant beneficiary + knowledge and experience of/in the Beneficiaries</p>

<p>strategy, also targeting judges specialised in organised crime and corruption case;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Carry out a coherent region-based training needs analysis, especially on up-to-date background information on mutual legal assistance tools, and develop and implement a training strategy for prosecutors responsible for serious and organised crime and corruption cases; - Seconded public prosecutors from EUMS analyse current prosecution files in order to identify main weaknesses and identify solutions; - Advise and support ongoing investigations of organised crime and high level corruption cases related to organised, economic and financial crime; - Support joint investigation teams consisting of investigators from the Beneficiaries and possibly from EU Member States and facilitate the association with Eurojust and Europol; - Help determine best practices and identify obstacles and problems encountered when initiating and organising joint investigation teams; - Provide and exchange expertise about the national legal frameworks and best practices, in particular the criminal procedure codes and the related legislation on special investigative measures; - Foster contacts between the Prosecutors' Network, the international law enforcement coordination units, Eurojust, Europol and the European Judicial Network (EJN); - Analyse the framework of international agreements related to prosecution currently into force in the Beneficiaries and elaborate proposals to strengthen it thus increasing the legal "toolbox" at the disposal of prosecutors for their cross-border investigations; - Organise and deliver specialised training, organise regional activities, conference, seminars, workshops and study visits to EUMS (in particular to prosecutor's offices and Eurojust). 			<p>Continuity of key personnel maintained</p> <p>Good inter-agency and intra-service cooperation</p> <p>Efficient cooperation between Beneficiaries and Grant beneficiary</p> <p>Commitment of judicial and law enforcement services in implementing project activities in a professional manner</p>
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ANNEX II: Amounts (in EUR) contracted and disbursed per quarter over the full duration of project

Contracted	Q4 2010										
Grant Agreement	5 000 000										
Cumulated	5 000 000										
Disbursed	Q1 2011	Q2 2011	Q3 2011	Q4 2011	Q1 2012	Q2 2012	Q3 2012	Q4 2012	Q1 2013	Q2 2013	Q4 2014
Grant Agreement	1 600 000*					2 000 000**				1 200 000***	200 000
Cumulated	1 600 000					3 600 000				4 800 000	5 000 000

*First instalment of pre-financing (80% of the part of the forecast budget for the first 12 months of project implementation)

**Further annual instalment(s) of pre-financing

***Final payment

ANNEX III- Description of Institutional Framework

The authorities responsible of the implementation of the projects will be the Public/State Prosecutor Office and the Ministries of Justice in the Beneficiaries, including other competent law enforcement authorities (criminal police, special investigative units judges, courts) involved in the investigation and prosecution of cross-border cases of organised crime, economic crime and related corruption cases.

ANNEX IV: Reference to laws, regulations and strategic documents

- Multi-beneficiary Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document 2009-2011
- Commission's Communication of 5 March 2008 "Western Balkans: Enhancing the European perspective"
- Commission's Communication of 5 November 2008 "Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2008-2009" COM(2008) 674 final
- Commission's Communication of 27 January 2006 "The Western Balkans on the Road to the EU: Consolidation Stability and Raising Prosperity"
- Justice and Home Affairs Council Meeting of 27-28 November 2008
- Justice and Home Affairs Council Meeting of 4-5 June 2009
- Work Programme of the Czech Presidency, Europe without Barriers, January 2009
- Work Programme of the Swedish Presidency, June 2009
- Council Action Oriented Paper on Improving Cooperation on Organised Crime, Corruption, Illegal Migration and Counter-terrorism, between the EU, Western Balkans and relevant ENP countries of 12 May 2006
- Council Decision of 18 February 2008 (2008/210/EC) on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the European Partnership with Albania and repealing Decision 2006/54/EC
- Council Decision of 18 February 2008 (2008/211/EC) on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the European Partnership with Bosnia and Herzegovina and repealing Decision 2006/55/EC
- Council Decision of 12 February 2008 (2008/119/EC) on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the Accession Partnership with Croatia and repealing Decision 2006/145/EC
- Council Decision of 18 February 2008 (2008/212/EC) on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the Accession Partnership with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and repealing Decision 2006/57/EC
- Council Decision of 22 January 2007 (2007/49/EC) on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the European Partnership with Montenegro.
- Council Decision of 18 February 2008 (2008/213/EC) on the principles, priorities and conditions contained in the European Partnership with Serbia including Kosovo as defined by United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of 10 June 1999 and repealing Decision 2006/56/EC
- Council and Commission Decision of 13 December 2004 concerning the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Croatia, of the other part - Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Croatia, of the other part
- Council and Commission Decision of 26 March 2001 concerning the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, of the

other part - Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, of the other part

- Council and Commission Decision of 22 May 2006 concerning the conclusion of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Albania, of the other part - Stabilisation and Association Agreement between the European Communities and their Member States, of the one part, and the Republic of Albania, of the other part
- Albania 2008 Progress Report
- Bosnia and Herzegovina 2008 Progress Report
- Croatia 2008 Progress Report
- The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia 2008 Progress Report
- Montenegro 2008 Progress Report
- Serbia 2008 Progress Report
- Kosovo 2008 Progress Report

ANNEX V: Details per EU funded contract

A Grant will be awarded following a restricted call for proposals, to be launched in Q3 2010.

Eligibility criteria for applicants: Public sector operators and competent International Organisations.

	Type of Contract	Amount in EUR	Duration
Contract 1	Grant Agreement	5 000 000	24 months

The grant beneficiary should contribute with a minimum of 5% of the total eligible cost of the project.

Rental costs may be eligible under this IPA programme.