SUMMARY PROJECT FICHE

1. BASIC INFORMATION

2.1 **Désirée Number: BG 0101.03**

Twinning code: BG/IB/2001-AG-01-TL and AG-02-TL

- 2.2 Title: Improving phytosanitary control & plant protection
- 2.3 Sector: AG
- 2.4 Location: Bulgaria
- 2. **OBJECTIVES**

2.1. Overall objective:

Improving the administrative and technical structure of the National Service for Plant Protection Quarantine and Agro-Chemistry (NSPPQAC) for the implementation of phytosanitary control, registration and control of plant protection products (including pesticide residues and other contaminants on plants and plant products) and control of organic products of plant origin.

2.2. Project purpose:

Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and its services to undertake the priorities for EU alignment and implement the reforms identified in the current Accession Partnership and the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA).

2.3. Accession partnership and NPAA priority:

• Priorities defined in accession partnership (1999)

"Short-term (2000):

Continue alignment of the veterinary and phytosanitary legislation and upgrade inspection arrangements, in particular at future external borders."

• Objectives defined in NPAA

The National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis also emphasizes the necessity for Bulgaria to adopt harmonized legislation in the plant health sector that including phytosanitary control, the registration and control of plant protection products (including pesticide residues) and fertilizers and the control of organic products of plant origin.

The Strategy for the Development of the National Service for Plant Protection, Quarantine and Agro-chemistry for the period 2000 – 2006 is available on request.

3. DESCRIPTION

3.1. Background and justification:

As a future external border of the EU, the Republic of Bulgaria should establish very well structured and efficient border and internal control systems, including sufficient laboratory and testing capacity, and to enforce official control schemes with respect to plant health.

The Bulgarian law designates the NSPPQAC to the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry as the official body responsible for the adoption and enforcement in Bulgaria of the EU plant health legislation in the following areas:

- Phytosanitary control (control of harmful organisms);
- Registration and control of plant protection products (including pesticide residues);
- Control of organic products of plant origin;
- Registration and control of fertilizers

Since 1991, the NSPPQAC has received Phare assistance on the above areas in order to meet the requirements of the European Union in the plant health sector. However, in addition to the new equipment received under the previous Phare assistance, the NSPPQAC has in operation old equipment (used for 20 years or more), which does not permit it to meet all EU requirements and should be replaced or upgraded.

Phytosanitary Control

In order to improve the phytosanitary control of plants and plant products, it is necessary to strengthen laboratories and facilities carrying out such controls, i.e.

- the Central Laboratory for Plant Quarantine (CLPQ), the reference laboratory conducting the official determination of harmful organisms listed in the annexes of Directive 77/93/EEC;
- the Regional Laboratories which are involved in routine determination of harmful organisms;
- the Regional Services which are responsible for the routine surveys of domestic production and the recognition of protected zones as per Directive 92/70/EEC;
- the border inspection posts where introduction of undesirable organisms from third countries may occur as per the requirements of Directive 98/22/EEC.

Most of these laboratories and facilities have already been equipped with basic equipment financed through Financing Memoranda 1998 and 1999 but there is further need for equipment in order to carry out effective phytosanitary control.

The NSPPQAC also needs new equipment in order to perform accurate analyses in bacteriology, virology, mycology, entomology and nematology for the determination of harmful organisms of phytosanitary concern according to Directive 2000/29/EC.

If the overall project is to be effective, the provision of equipment needs to be accompanied by assistance with Institution Building aspects, i.e. continuing harmonisation of legislation, training of phytosanitary inspectors and laboratory specialists and assistance in drawing up technical specifications for the equipment tender.

Registration and Control of Plant Protection Products

The testing of plant protection products is currently carried out to evaluate their biological efficacy but as part of Directive 91/414/EEC, it is intended to extend the testing to residue analysis through both GEP and GLP with the collaboration of the CLCPNHMF. The biological testing of plant protection products is carried out by 13 regional services in collaboration with research institutes throughout Bulgaria, all part of a testing network justified by the need to perform assays covering different conditions of use (soil, climate, crops). As part of the testing network 6 trial stations need to be fully equipped with the appropriate materials to perform assays through GEP.

In the area of the registration and control of plant protection products, 3 regional services were partially equipped under previous Phare projects but they do not fulfill GEP requirements yet. In order to build up a complete and efficient network for the biological testing of plant protection products within the country, other regional services (trial stations) should be equipped, in Burgas, Rousse and Stara Zagora. The setting up of this network functioning under GEP and GLP standards will allow full and efficient testing of plant protection products with respect to the generation of efficacy data and the definition of good agricultural practices (as regards pesticide residues) as laid down in Directive 91/414/EEC.

If the overall project is to be effective, the provision of equipment needs to be accompanied by assistance with Institution Building aspects, i.e. continuing harmonisation of legislation, training of technicians in the Regional Services, assistance with GEP and GLP accreditation, assistance with registration of plant protection products and assistance in drawing up technical specifications for the equipment tender.

Pesticides Residues

The control of contaminants on plant products and other controls is currently carried out by only by CLCPNHMF (for the whole country). In order to perform more efficient control and increase the capacity of the NSPPQAC in this particular field. Moreover, though CLCPNHMF has already received equipment through previous Phare programmes, there is still a need for further equipment in order to perform all controls required by EU legislation, e.g. directives concerning the control of pesticide residues, the control of fertilizers and the control of contaminants in soil and water.

The new analytical equipment will be used for the monitoring of pesticide residues, mycotoxins and heavy metals on plants and plant products as part of national surveys for the reviewing of acceptable limits of contaminants in foodstuffs. The new equipment will allow the GLP accreditation of the central laboratory, will increase the number and type of the analyses made and shorten the period for issuing export certificates.

The approximation of legislation in the above areas is not yet finalized and the Phare assistance will speed up its completion. In order to ensure that the adopted EU legislation is implemented properly, training courses in Bulgaria and EU Member states should be provided to NSPPQAC staff.

As part of Twinning Project BG98/IB/AG-02, a needs assessment was made for the purchase of equipment for border inspection posts, laboratories and regional services. The needs assessment has been confirmed by the PAA and EU experts, who visited Bulgaria in 2000.

Organic farming

A system for the certification and control of organic foodstuffs of plant origin should be established as described under sub-project 4 of the twinning project BG99-AG-01-A. This sub-project aims to approximate EU provisions relating to organic farming and give appropriate training in order that:

- NSPPQAC is able to design technical specifications relating to the organic way of production of plant products;
- NSPPQAC starts delivering agreements to farmers who wish to grow organic plant products;
- NSPPQAC starts controlling the activities of the above mentioned farmers as well as the quality of organic plant products marketed in Bulgaria.

After the twinning project BG99-AG-01-A is completed, assistance should still be needed in order to follow regular amendments to EU legislation and continue the training of NSPPQAC staff.

3.2. Linked activities (previous Phare activities):

3.2.1. Project BG9507-02-03

The task of the project has been to improve the phytosanitary control carried out by the CLPQ. The outputs of the project have been the following:

- Needs assessment;
- Preparation of lists specifying the necessary additional laboratory equipment
- On-site laboratory training of specialists held by EU experts
- Technical visit of Bulgarian specialists to laboratories in Holland

3.2.2. Project BG98/IB/AG02

The project's outputs are the following:

- Improvement of the phytosanitary control carried out at border inspection posts and the phytosanitary control at production considering the recommendations under project BG9103-06-06 and the findings of the EU experts under the twinning project.
- Strengthening of the Central Laboratory for Plant Quarantine.
- Improvement of the biological testing of pesticides and setting up of registration schemes.
 - Improvement of the control of pesticide residues and strengthening of the Central Laboratory for the Control of Pesticides, Nitrates, Heavy Metals and Fertilizers (CLCPNHMF).
 - Legislation approximation.
 - Training and needs assessment.

3.2.3. Project BG99-AG-01-A

The objectives of this project, which started in January 2001 are as follows:

- Improvement of administrative structures for the phytosanitary control of imported plants and plant products, domestic production and monitoring of the territory of the country.
- Training of laboratory specialists and phytosanitary inspectors in the identification of harmful organisms defined in the annexes of Directive 2000/29/EC.
- Improvement of the biological testing of pesticides (training of technicians and laboratory specialists according to GEP) and strengthening of registration procedures.
- Improvement of the control of pesticide residues and other contaminants in foodstuffs (training of laboratory specialists).
- Setting-up of a system for the control and certification of organic products.

3.2.4. Investment component

As part of Twinning Project BG98/IB/AG-02, technical specifications have been prepared and a contract was signed (under FM BG9806-01-02 and BG9913-02) for the purchase of equipment for border inspection posts, laboratories and trial stations. Locations and facilities to be equipped under this investment component can be supplied on request.

3.3. Results:

• <u>Phytosanitary control:</u>

In order to fully implement the *acquis communautaire* relating to the phytosanitary control, e.g. prevent the introduction and spread of harmful organisms listed in the Annexes of Directive 2000/29/EC:

- the Central Laboratory for Plant Quarantine is equipped to perform it's function as the reference laboratory responsible for the official determination of harmful organisms listed in the annexes of Directive 77/93/EEC
- Laboratory for the Control of Potatoes (Samokov) is equipped for bacteriological and virological tests
- 2 border inspection posts at future external borders are equipped (Guieshevo, Sofia airport) for visual check and sampling of consignments according to Directive 98/22/EC.
- 7 regional laboratories are equipped for routine analysis in entomology, mycology and bacteriology, and 4 other regional laboratories are equipped for carrying out specialized analyses in nematology for:
- Preliminary checks of consignments introduced in Bulgaria;
- The recognition of protected zones (Directive 92/70/EEC);
- The official control of certain harmful organisms (Directives 69/464/EEC, 69/465/EEC, 69/466/EEC, 74/647/EEC, 93/85/EEC, 98/57/EC).

As a result of twinning light, all basic phytosanitary legislation is fully harmonized and Bulgarian authorities are able to follow changes in EU legislation.

Also as a result of twinning light, the personnel involved in the phytosanitary control are trained in harmonized procedures for the control at borders and at production and is able to perform accurate determination of harmful organisms.

• <u>Registration of plant protection products:</u>

3 regional services (trial stations) are equipped for the biological testing of plant protection products in compliance with GEP standards (a total of 6 stations will have been equipped through Phare assistance in order to establish a testing network enabling to cover the main climatic and soil conditions in Bulgaria as provided by Directive 91/414/EEC).

As a result of twinning light, the legislation relating to plant protection products is fully harmonized and Bulgarian authorities are able to follow changes in EU legislation. In particular, plant protection products are placed on the market according to all provisions of Directive 91/414/EEC.

Also as a result of twinning light, the personnel involved in the registration of plant protection products are trained in the generation and evaluation of efficacy data.

• Control of plant protection products (including pesticide residues), fertilizers and organic products of plant origin:

The central laboratory for the control of pesticide residues, nitrates, heavy metals and fertilizers (CLCPNHMF) is fully equipped in order to perform analyses for:

- The national survey of contaminants (pesticide residues, mycotoxins, heavy metals) in foodstuffs as part of the reviewing of maximum permissible limits;
- The fixing of maximum residue limits for pesticides and the definition of good agricultural practices as regards the use of plant protection products as provided for in Directive 91/414/EEC;
- The official control that the conditions that led to authorize the placing of a plant protection product on the market remain unchanged, in particular as regards the formulation (as per Directive 91/414/EEC);
- The official control that fertilizers placed on the market meet the requirements of Directive 76/116/EEC and 77/535/EEC;
- The official control of organic products of plant origin as regards the use of prohibited pesticides and fertilizers (Regulation No 2092/91).

And as a result of *twinning light*:

- CLCPNHMF is granted official recognition (GLP and/or EN 45001);
- CLCPNHMF personnel are trained in analytical chemistry and quality assurance schemes;
- CLCPNHMF participates in a National Monitoring System on pesticide residues and other contaminants and reports to the relevant ministries (Agriculture, Environment and Waters, and Health);

- CLCPNHMF participates in international ring tests, related to analysis of pesticides residues, mycotoxins, and heavy metals in plant products;
- The legislation relating to pesticide residues linked to the provisions relating to plant protection products is fully harmonized and Bulgarian authorities are able to follow changes in EU legislation.
- Organic farming:

As a result of *twinning light*;

- The legislation relating to organic farming is fully harmonized and Bulgarian authorities are able to follow changes in EU legislation;
- The personnel involved in the control of organic farming are trained;
- More independent bodies accredited for certification of organic farming.

3.4. Activities:

The activities relating to technical assistance for the approximation of the acquis communautaire shall be carried out following twinning light procedures.

Two twinning light projects are foreseen:

- Twinning light 1: approximation and implementation of the acquis communautaire relating to the phytosanitary control.
- Twinning light 2: approximation and implementation of the acquis communautaire relating to plant protection products (including pesticide residues) and the production of organic foodstuffs of plant origin.

The activities of both twinning light sub-projects shall start in February 2003. The oneyear gap between the completion of twinning project BG99-AG-01-A (January 2002) and the start of the twinning lights will give time for NSPPQAC to start implementing the acquis communautaire on its own and identify further problems or difficulties that should be resolved through the assistance of the Member States.

The supply contract does not depend on the advice or the results of the twinning light contracts. The list of equipment has already been determined.

3.4.1. Phytosanitary control

- Assistance for the adoption of further Community provisions through continuation of the approximation of the phytosanitary legislation.
- Continuation of the implementation of the *Acquis* (control at borders and control at production) through extensive training of:
 - Phytosanitary inspectors (control of imports and at production) in Bulgarian and Member States facilities
 - Specialists in Bulgarian and Member States laboratories, particularly in diagnosis and identification of pests and pest risk analysis
- Assistance for the recognition of protected zones as per Directive 92/70/EEC.
- Assistance for the implementation of Directive 95/44/EC concerning derogations for the introduction of harmful organisms for scientific purposes and varietal selection.

Summary table

Activities	Means	Other information	Indicators of achievement
Harmonization of legislation	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts specialized in the harmonization of EU legislation	Adoption of Ordinances and/or Instructions
Training of personnel and assistance for implementation of legislation	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts implementing the EU legislation (administrative staff, phytosanitary inspectors, lab specialists)	Staff trained to implement EU regulations
Equipment of border inspection posts, laboratories and regional services	Twinning Light/ Investment	Participation of MS experts for the preparation of technical specifications. Purchasing of equipment.	Equipment delivered; Visual control tests implemented at BIPs and Regional services; Complex tests performed in laboratories; Initial tests and field surveys performed.

3.4.2. Registration of plant protection products

- Assistance for the adoption of further Community provisions through continuation of the approximation of the legislation regarding the registration and control of plant protection products.
- Improvement of the biological testing of plant protection products according to GEP referring to official recognition of assays as laid down in Directive 91/414/EEC through extensive training of technicians in regional services.
- Assistance for GEP and GLP recognition (involvement of an independent body from Member States responsible for delivering such recognition).
- Assistance for the evaluation of the dossiers submitted for the registration of plant protection products.

Activities	Means	Other information	Indicators of achievement
Harmonization of legislation	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts specialized in the harmonization of EU legislation	Ordinances and/or Instructions adopted
Training of personnel and assistance for implementation	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts implementing the EU legislation (administrative staff, scientists and technicians)	Staff trained to implement the harmonized legislation
Equipment for the regional services	Twinning Light/ Investment	Participation of MS experts for the preparation of technical specifications	Equipment delivered

Summary table

3.4.3. Control of plant protection products (including pesticide residues), fertilizers and organic products of plant origin

- Assistance for the adoption of further Community provisions for the control of contaminants on plants and plant products.
- Extensive training of scientists in Bulgarian and Member States laboratories.
- Assistance for the official recognition (GLP / EN 45001) of CLCNHMF (involvement of an independent body from Member States responsible for delivering such recognition).
- Assistance for the participation in multi-country programmes for the control of contaminants in foodstuffs.

Activities	Means	Other information	Indicators of achievement
Harmonization of legislation	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts specialized in the harmonization of EU legislation	Adoption of Ordinances and/or Instructions
Training of personnel and assistance for implementation	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts implementing the EU legislation (administrative staff, food controllers, scientists)	Staff trained to implement the legislation
Assistance in official accreditation of CLCPNHMF	Twinning Light / Investment	Participation of MS experts and involvement of an official body delivering GLP recognition	Application for accreditation is made
Equipment of laboratories	Twinning Light / Investment	Participation of MS experts for the preparation of technical specifications	The laboratory is carrying the tests of residues and monitoring of pesticides

Summary table

3.4.4. Organic farming

- Assistance for the adoption of further Community legislation for control of organic farming (Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91).
- Assistance for the identification and accreditation of independent bodies for the certification of organic farming.
- Extensive training of controllers.

Summary table

Activities	Means	Other information	Indicators of achievement
Harmonization of legislation	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts specialized in the harmonization of EU legislation	Adoption of Ordinance
Identification and accreditation of independent bodies for the certification of organic farming	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts	Selection criteria and accreditation procedure developed
Training of personnel and assistance for implementation	Twinning Light	Participation of MS experts implementing the EU legislation (administrative staff, inspectors) Involvement of private bodies delivering certification on organic farming	Staff trained to implement the harmonized legislation

NOTE: the need assessment for the equipment and the relevant Technical Specifications were made with the assistance of the present Twinning partner.

4. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The recipient of the Twinning Light Projects is the following service:

National Service for Plant Protection, Quarantine and Agro-Chemistry (NSPPQAC)

The NSPPQAC was established in 1992 and is part of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF).

According to the **Law on plant protection** (adopted 25/09/1997), the NSPPQAC within the MAF is the central official body responsible for the enforcement of the provisions relating to:

- The phytosanitary control;
- The registration and control of plant protection products;
- The registration and control of fertilizers;
- The control of organic products of plant origin.

The NSPPQAC comprises 4 technical departments covering the above mentioned sectors. In order to ensure their official duties, these departments benefit from the assistance of 2 central laboratories (the Central Laboratory for Plant Quarantine (CLPQ) and the Central Laboratory for the Control of Pesticide, Residues, Nitrates, Heavy Metals and Fertilizers (CLCNHMF)) and 15 regional services (plus 13 other decentralized units).

Since first of October 2000, all employees of the NSPPQAC have been State's officials (civil servants).

More specifically, the tasks assigned by law to the NSPPQAC in relation to the *Acquis* are as follows:

• Phytosanitary control

The NSPPQAC is the official body responsible for the enforcement of Ordinance No 1 on the phytosanitary control transposing the provisions of Directive 2000/29/EC (ex-77/93/EEC). All other directives relating to the phytosanitary control are now being transposed and implemented in Bulgaria.

Essentially the phytosanitary control consists to preventing the introduction and/or spread of harmful organisms that could jeopardize the agricultural production in Bulgaria (and later in the EU).

As regards the introduction of harmful organisms (and plants potentially carriers of harmful organisms), phytosanitary control is first carried out at 22 border inspection posts in Bulgaria, of which **12** are considered to have long-term future as EU external border posts. **10** BIPs have received minimum equipment from previous Phare projects in order to carry out the visual checks and the collection of samples required by Directive 2000/29/EC and Directive 98/22/EC. **2** BIPs remain to be equipped with the same equipment.

In order to prevent the propagation of harmful organisms, the NSPPQAC has also to ensure the control of plants and plant products at the place of production or circulating in Bulgaria as provided for in Directive 2000/29/EC and other directives relating to the recognition of protected zones and the control of certain harmful organisms. The control at production is undertaken by the **15** regional services, which must be equipped with minimum laboratory devices to perform extensive routine analyses in entomology, nematology and mycology [These regional services also participate in the phytosanitary control of imports because further control is carried out at the place of destination, e.g. in major Bulgarian cities]. **4** regional laboratories have received this equipment but they should receive more in order to perform analyses in nematology. **9** other regional laboratories remain to be equipped for entomology, mycology and bacteriology studies (the regional services of Sofia-Region and Sofia-City have no laboratories).

For all aspects of the phytosanitary control, the CLPQ is the reference laboratory and as such:

- It undertakes the **official identification** in case of suspected contamination of plants by harmful organisms listed in the Annexes of Ordinance No 1;
- It undertakes pest risk analyses;
- It validates reference methods for the regional laboratories and BIPs;
- It undertakes the training of phytosanitary inspectors and regional scientists.

The CLPQ has been equipped with sufficient laboratory devices, except for its decentralized unit at Samokov specialized in the control of potato diseases. The activity of the laboratory for the control of potatoes will dramatically increase over the next few years in relation to the implementation of the Directives on the control of potato diseases. It has already received equipment for the control of nematodes (Directive 69/465/EEC) and it should be receiving equipment to perform bacteriology analyses as regards Directives 69/464/EEC, 93/85/EEC.

• Registration and control of plant protection products

In early 2001 following the revision of the Law on Plant Protection, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry will be the central official body granting authorizations for the placing of plant protection products on the market.

According to the revised law and two subsequent ordinances transposing Directive 91/414/EEC (should be adopted during first semester of 2001), the NSPPQAC ensures the secretariat for the registration of plant protection products and centralizes the information from two committees: the committee of toxicity and ecotoxicity and the committee for registration of plant protection products (both composed of representatives from the Ministries of Health, Environment and Agriculture).

In the registration process, the NSPPQAC is also responsible for performing official testing of plant protection products for the generation and evaluation of efficacy data. In particular, the biological testing of plant protection products is carried out through a network of 13 regional services, which allow the coverage of all soil and climatic conditions in Bulgaria. The efficiency of the testing network will be ensured by **6** pilot stations, which have to receive the appropriate equipment to perform biological testing according to GEP standards as provided for in Directive 91/414/EEC. **3** stations remain to equip (Annexes 4 and 5).

Through the biological testing of plant protection products under GEP and GLP conditions, and with the assistance of the CLCPNHMF, the NSPPQAC will also have to provide data for the study and the fixing of maximum residue limits for pesticides. In particular, the NSPPQAC has to define the good experimental practices underpinning the authorization of the placing products on the market with the minimum risk of exceeding maximum residue limits.

Within the registration scheme, the NSPPQAC also officially ensures that the conditions are respected that led to authorizing the placing of plant protection products on the market. In particular, the NSPPQAC has to control that:

- Plant protection products placed on the market are labeled properly;
- There are no frauds in the composition of the products on the market [the CLCPNHMF is the laboratory responsible for the analysis of the formulation of plant protection products]
- Registration and control of fertilizers

By law, the NSPPQAC within the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is the central official body responsible for the registration of fertilizers.

The transposition of the directives relating to certain fertilizers is mentioned in Chapter 3.04.02/03 (Agriculture) of the NPAA but the Ministry of Industry has been designated to transpose these directives instead of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The explanation certainly comes from the classification of these directives in Chapter 13 "Industrial policy and internal market" in the directory of Community legislation.

In the registration process, the NSPPQAC through the CLCPNHMF is the laboratory responsible for the official control of fertilizers placed on the market.

• Control of organic products of plant origin

The NSPPQAC is responsible for the official certification and control of organic farming as regards plants and plant products. The Community legislation relating to organic farming, in particular Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 has already been transposed into Bulgarian law.

The organization of the control of organic farming should be discussed and implemented during the course of Twinning Project BG99-AG-01-A. The control of organic products of plant origin will greatly rely on the CLCPNHMF, which will have to confirm the "organic" nature of organic products (checking for the presence of pesticide residues and the use of prohibited fertilisers).

Component	Investment (I)	Institution Building (IB)	Total Phare (I + IB)	Recipient (*)	TOTAL In MEuro
Contract 1: Twinning Light Covenant for Phytosanitary		0.15	0.15		0.15
Contract 2: Twinning Light Covenant for PPPs & Organic Farming		0.15	0.15		0.15
Contract 3: Equipment supply	1.18	0 30	1.18	0.39	1.57

5. **DETAILED BUDGET**

(*) MAF will also provide 25% co-financing in cash for the investment component of the project. The co-financing will be covered from the national budget, and will include laboratory equipment, computers, software, vehicles, etc. Detailed lists of equipment are available in Annex 4 (equipment to be purchased by Phare) and Annex 5 (equipment to be purchased using Bulgarian co-financing funds).

All running costs and the maintenance of the equipment purchased under this project will be provided by the Bulgarian authorities.

The Phare contribution for the equipment will be 75% of its cost, with a maximum of Phare contribution of 1.18 MEuro. If the total cost of the equipment exceeds 1.57 MEuro, the recipient will provide additional co-financing from its own resources to finance the contract.

6. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

6.1. Implementing Agency

The CFCU in the Ministry of Finance will be responsible for tendering and contracting of the project. The monitoring and control of the project implementation will be done by Phare Implementing Agency of MAF.

6.2. Twinning

Two twinning light covenants are envisaged with a budget of 0.15 MEuro each (Phare contribution). In all twinning light projects, success in delivering a guaranteed result will depend on the coherence of a number of successive inputs, the continuity of those inputs, and steady progress. Every twinning light project will therefore include a Member State Project Leader, who continues to work in his/her Member State administration but who devotes some of his/her time to conceiving, supervising and coordinating the overall thrust of the project.

The recipient will be the NSPPQAC and the contact point is:

Name:	Liubomir Kirilov
Address:	National Service for Plant Protection, Quarantine and Agro-
	Chemistry, 17 Hristo Botev Blvd, 1606 Sofia, Bulgaria
Tel No:	+ 359 2 953 33 52
Fax No:	+ 359 2 953 36 47
E-mail:	phyto@mbox.infotel.bg

The Steering Committee, overseeing the project will have members representating the following:

- 1. The Contracting Authority,
- 2. The EC delegation,
- 3. MAF EU department and Phare IA,
- 4. The Beneficiary
- 5. The Contractor

The Bulgarian project manager, managing the day to day activities, will be Lubomir Kyrilov, Deputy Director of NSPPQAC.

If either of the twinning light components fails to attract a suitable proposal from Member States, it may instead be delivered by commercial technical assistance.

6.3. Non-standard aspects

The DIS Manual will be strictly followed.

6.4. Contracts:

There will be two twinning light covenants and one tender for supply of equipment, split appropriately in 3 or 4 lots, which might result in 3 or 4 contracts.

7. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

7.1. Start of contracting for Twinning Light	November 2002
7.2 Start of Twinning Light	February 2003
7.3 Completion of Twinning Light	July 2003
7.4. Start of tendering for equipment	February 2002
7.4 Start of equipment supply contract	October 2001
7.3. Completion of equipment supply contract	April 2003

8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Equal opportunities for work and participation of men and women will be assured during the implementation of the project.

9. ENVIRONMENT

Not applicable.

10. RATES OF RETURN

Not applicable.

11. INVESTMENT CRITERIA

Not applicable.

12. CONDITIONALITY AND SEQUENCING

- Provision of the Ministry of Agriculture of assurance (acceptable to the EC) that the recipient laboratories are the officially responsible bodies for the carrying out of the control activities.
- No initial measures have to be undertaken by NSPPQAC before implementing the twinning light activities described in this project fiche.
- Before receiving the equipment described in Annexes 4 and 5, 4 regional laboratories will be refurbished. These regional laboratories are located in the regional services of Dobrich, Haskovo, Vidin and Vratsa.
- Projects to be implemented through twinning require the full commitment and participation of the senior management of the beneficiary institution. In addition to providing the twinning partner with adequate staff and other resources to operate effectively, the senior management must be whole-heartedly involved in the development and implementation of the policies and institutional change required to deliver the project results.

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ANNEX 1: LOGFRAME MATRIX			Programme name and number:	Date of drafting: 28/02/01			
Title: Improving phytosanitary control	Contracting period expires: 31 Dec. 2003	Disbursement period expires: 31 Dec. 2004					
			Total Budget: 1.87 MEUR	Phare contribution : 1.48 MEUR			
Overall Objective	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of Verification					
Improvement of the administrative and technical structure of National Service for Plant protection Quarantine and Agro-Chemistry for the implementation of the phytosanitary control, registration of plant protection products, control of pesticide residues and other contaminants on plants and plant products and control of organic farming.	• The phytosanitary control is performed according to EU requirements	MAF authoritiesEU authorities					
Project Purpose	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions and Risks				
Strengthen the capacity of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and its services to undertake the priorities for EU alignment and implement the reforms identified in the current Accession Partnership and the National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis (NPAA).	 Phytosanitary legislation is harmonized. Implementation of the <i>Acquis</i> in the phytosanitary control at borders and control at production, registration of plant protection products, control of pesticide residues and control of organic farming 	 MAF authorities (including NSPPQAC) EU authorities 	 Support by State but The trained NSPPQ, their positions. 	lget AC personnel retain			
Results							
Kebulto	Objectively Verifiable Indicators	Sources of Verification	Assumptions	and Risks			

- 4 regional laboratories are equipped for carrying out nematology analysis.
- The personnel involved in the phytosanitary control is fully trained.
- <u>Registration of plant protection products:</u>
 - The legislation relating to plant protection products is fully harmonized and Bulgarian authorities are able to follow changes in EU legislation.
 - The personnel involved in the testing and registration of plant protection products is fully trained.
 - 3 regional services are equipped for the biological testing of plant protection products in compliance with GEP standards.
- <u>Control of pesticide residues:</u>
 - The legislation relating to pesticide residues is fully harmonized and Bulgarian authorities are able to follow changes in EU legislation.
 - CLCPNHMF is equipped with the adequate equipment to carry out all its tasks (control of contaminants, control of formulation, soil and water analysis)
 - The personnel involved in the control of pesticide residues is fully trained.
 - NSPPQAC carries out effective control of foodstuff of plant origin intended for domestic and export markets
 - NSPPQAC carries out effective control of plant protection products and fertilizers
- Organic farming:
 - The legislation relating to organic farming is fully harmonized and Bulgarian authorities are able to follow changes in EU legislation.
 - NSPPQAC is able to control the compliance to EU requirements for organic farming
 - The personnel involved in the control of organic farming is fully trained.

- Carrying out of territory surveys for the determination of protected zones
 <u>Plant protection products</u>

 All provisions from relevant EU directives are adopted and implemented.
 Issuing of a Quality Manual
 Three trial stations (Stara Zagora, Burgas and Rousse) are prepared for GEP accreditation
 The regional services test 143 plant protection products for efficacy.

 Control of pesticide residues

 The relevant EU is adopted and
 - implemented, particularly as regards the fixing of maximum residue limits
 - CLCPNHMF is fully equipped and is granted official recognition (GLP and/or EN 45001).
 - The CLCPNHMF performs analyses on a total of 4000 samples, including 2000 samples of plant products;
 - The CLCPNHMF is included in a National Monitoring System on pesticides residues and reports the results to the relevant ministries - Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Environment and Waters and Ministry of Health.
 - The CLCPNHMF is participating in international ring tests, related to analysis of pesticides residues, mycotoxins, and heavy metals in plant products.
 - Laboratories have implemented criteria for international recognition (GLP, EN 45001)
- Organic farming:
 - The relevant legislation is harmonized
 - More independent bodies accredited for certification of organic farming.

	Activities	Means		Sources of Verification	Γ	Assumptions and Risks						
•	Activities Phytosanitary control: - Assistance to the adoption of further Community legislation - Extensive training of phytosanitary inspectors (control of imports and at production) in Bulgarian and Member States facilities - Training of specialists in Bulgarian and Member States laboratories, particularly in pesticide risk analysis - Assistance in the recognition of protected zones as per Directive 92/70/EEC - Assistance in the implementation of Directive 95/44/EC concerning the introduction of harmful organisms for scientific purposes - Assistance in the drawing up of technical specifications for equipment Plant protection products - Assistance for the adoption of further Community legislation	Means • Phytosanitary control: - Twinning light - Tenders for equipment • Plant protection products - Twinning light - Tenders for equipment	•	Sources of Verification Project manager / co-ordinator from NSPPQAC Team leader / long term expert Body delivering international accreditation	•	Assumptions and Risks The requested budget is approved Project starts on time Time schedule of implementation is observed						
	 Extensive training of technicians in trial stations Assistance for GEP and GLP recognition (involvement of an independent body from Member States responsible for delivering such recognition) Assistance in the evaluation of the dossiers submitted for the registration of plant protection products Assistance in the drawing up of technical specifications for equipment 											

<u>Control of pesticide residues</u>	<u>Control of pesticide residues</u>	
 Assistance for the adoption of further Community legislation 	 Twinning light 	
 Extensive training of scientists in Bulgarian and Member States laboratories 	 Tenders for equipment 	
 Assistance for the official recognition (GLP / EN 45001) of CLCNHMF (involvement of an independent body from Member States responsible for delivering such recognition) 		
 Assistance for the participation in multi- country programmes for the control of contaminants in foodstuffs 		
 Assistance in the drawing up of technical specifications for equipment 		
<u>Organic farming:</u>	<u>Organic farming:</u>	
 Assistance for the adoption of further Community legislation 	Twinning light	
 Assistance in the identification and accreditation of independent bodies for the certification of organic farming 		
 Extensive training of controllers 		

ANNEX 2: TIME SCHEDULE OF IMPLEMENTATION

Title: Improvement of the phytosanitary control, the registration and control of plant protection products (including pesticide residues) and the control of organic products of plant origin

Component				200 1	1				2002								2003														
	J	J	A	S	0	N	D	J	F	Μ	A	Μ	J	J	А	S	0	N	D	J	F	Μ	A	Μ	J	J	A	S	0	N	D
Twinning Light																Р	Р	Т	E	С	Ι	I	Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι					
Supply of Equipment						Р	Р	Р	Т	Т	Т	Т	Т	Т	E	С	I	Ι	I	Ι	Ι	Ι	Ι								

P – Preparation

E - Evaluation

C - Contracting

T – Tendering

I – Implementation

ANNEX 3: CUMULATIVE CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE

Title: Improvement of the phytosanitary control, the registration and control of plant protection products (including pesticide residues) and the control of organic products of plant origin

Total Phare Budget: 1.50 MEUR

Dates	10-12-2001	1-3-2002	4-6-2002	7-9-2002	10-12-2002	1-3-2003	4-6-2003	7-9-2003	10-12-2003
Contracted				1.18	1.18	1.48	1.48	1.48	
Disbursed					0.24	0.96	1.48		

ANNEX 4: LIST OF EQUIPMENT TO BE PURCHASED BY PHARE¹

Required equipment for the strengthening of the NSPPQAC activities

As part of Twinning Project BG98/IB/AG-02, needs assessment has been made for the purchase of equipment for border inspection posts, laboratories and regional services.

1. Phytosanitary control

In order to improve the phytosanitary control of plants and plant products, it is necessary to strengthen laboratories and facilities carrying out such controls, i.e. the central laboratory for plant quarantine which has to be a reference laboratory involved in the official determination of harmful organisms listed in the annexes of Directive 77/93/EEC, the regional laboratories which has to be involved in routine determination of harmful organisms, the regional services which are responsible for the routine surveys of domestic production and the recognition of protected zones as per Directive 92/70/EEC, the border inspection posts where introduction of undesirable organisms from third countries may occur as per the requirements of Directive 98/22/EEC. Most of these laboratories and facilities have already been equipped with basic equipment financed through Financing Memoranda 1998 and 1999 but there is further need in equipment in order to carry out effective phytosanitary control.

• Equipment for the Central Laboratory for Plant Quarantine and its specialized unit on potato diseases at Samokov

Pieces of equipment	Estimated cost (in Euros)
Refrigerate cupboard for the culture of plants	6,000.00
Chemical hood (sorbonne) (\times 2)	10,000.00
Vertical laminary flow hood (classe II)	6,000.00
Centrifuge without control of temperature	2,500.00
	24,500.00

Estimated cost for the equipment of CLPQ: 24,500 Euros

• Basic equipment for 7 regional laboratories

Pieces of equipment	Estimated cost (in Euros)
Electronic balance	500.00
Vertical automatic autoclave and accessories	10,000.00
Cupboard for the storage of laboratory glassware	300.00
Security cupboard for solvents	1,500.00
Refrigerate cupboard for the storage of samples	2,000.00
Refrigerate cupboard for the culture of plants	6,000.00
Chemical hood (sorbonne)	5,000.00
Vertical laminary flow hood (classe II)	6,000.00

¹ To be equipped under Phare programming for 2001

Pieces of equipment	Estimated cost (in Euros)
Sieves for nematology	3,500.00
Centrifuge without control of temperature	2,500.00
Generator of cold light for microscopy and accessories	700.00
System for water purification	2,500.00
Stereomicroscope for nematology	17,000.00
Interferential microscope	20,000.00
	77,500.00

Estimated cost for the equipment of 7 regional laboratories: $7 \times 77,500 = 542,500$ Euros

• Complementary equipment for 4 regional laboratories

Pieces of equipment	Estimated cost (in Euros)
Centrifuge for nematode extraction type Schuilling (\times 1)	13,000.00
Centrifuge for nematology $(\times 1)$	5,000.00
Refrigerate cupboards for the culture of plants and accessories $(\times 4)$	24,000.00
	42,000.00

Estimated cost for the equipment of 4 regional laboratories: 42,000 Euros

• Basic equipment for 2 border inspection posts

Pieces of equipment	Estimated cost (in Euros)
Household refrigerator	600.00
Sets of laboratory instruments	100.00
Sets of entomology containers and traps	200.00
Generator of cold light for microscopy and accessories	700.00
Stereomicroscope for nematology	17,000.00
	18,600.00

Estimated cost for the equipment of 2 border inspection posts:

2 × 18,600 = **37,200 Euros**

Total estimated cost for the phytosanitary control: Euros 646,200

2. Biological testing of Plant Protection Products

The biological testing of plant protection products is carried out by 13 regional services in order to cover all different conditions of use (soil, climate, crops). The testing of plant protection is currently carried out to evaluate their biological efficacy but as part of Directive 91/414/EEC, it is intended to extend the testing to residue analysis through both GEP and GLP with the collaboration of the central laboratory for the control of

pesticides, nitrates, heavy metals and fertilizers (CLCPNHMF). The functioning of the testing network will be ensured by 6 pilot stations, which have to be fully equipped with the appropriate material to perform assays through GEP.

Pieces of equipment	Estimated cost (in Euros)
pH meter	350.00
Electronic balance	1,250.00
Laminar flow hood	12,000.00
Magnetic stirrer	700.00
Anemometer	350.00
Relative humidity and temperature meter	300.00
Water bath	700.00
Security kit	150.00
Respirator hoods	150.00
Binocular stereomicroscope	2,000.00
Vehicle and trailer for the transport of equipment	28,500.00
Aluminum cases for the transport of field equipment	4,000.00
Vapour proof transport boxes	350.00
3 m boom plot sprayer	32,000.00
Air assisted sprayer mistblower	800.00
Lever operated knapsack sprayer	200.00
Re-locatable laboratory	15,000.00
Re-locatable chemical store	10,000.00
	108,800.00

• Equipment of three trial stations (regional services)

Estimated Cost for the equipment of 3 trial stations: $3 \times 108,810 = 326,400$ Euros

Total estimated cost for the biological testing: Euros 326,400

3. Control of contaminants, including pesticide residues and plant protection products.

CLCPNHMF has already received equipment through previous Phare programmes but there is still a need for further equipment in order to perform all controls required by EU legislation, e.g. Directives concerning the control of pesticide residues, the control of fertilizers, the control of contaminants in soil and water.

Pieces of equipment	Estimated cost (in Euros)
Gel permeation chromatography system	40,000.00
Post column derivatization system for HPLC	30,000.00
Gas chromatograph with ECD	50,000.00
Automatic system for the detection of nitrogen (Kjeldhal method)	30,000.00
UltraTurax homogenizer (× 3)	9,000.00
Rotavapours and accessories $(\times 2)$	10,000.00
Ultrapure water system	15,000.00
Analytical electronic balance	5,000.00
Laboratory electronic balance	2,000.00
Concentrator type Kuderna-Danish (× 2)	10,000.00
	211,000.00

Equipment for CLCNHMF

Total estimated cost for CLCPNHMF: Euros 211,000

GRAND TOTAL: Euros 1,183,600

Annex 5: List Of Equipment To Be Purchased By Co-Financing

Supply of equipment using Bulgarian co-financing funds

- Equipment of **2** regional laboratories for the phytosanitary control

Pieces of equipment	Estimated cost (in Euros)
Electronic balance	500.00
Vertical automatic autoclave and accessories	10,000.00
Cupboard for the storage of laboratory glassware	300.00
Security cupboard for solvents	1,500.00
Refrigerate cupboard for the storage of samples	2,000.00
Refrigerate cupboard for the culture of plants	6,000.00
Chemical hood (sorbonne)	5,000.00
Vertical laminary flow hood (classe II)	6,000.00
Sieves for nematology	3,500.00
Centrifuge without control of temperature	2,500.00
Generator of cold light for microscopy and accessories	700.00
System for water purification	2,500.00
Stereomicroscope for nematology	17,000.00
Interferential microscope	20,000.00
	77,500.00

Estimated cost for the equipment of 2 regional laboratories:

2 × 77,500 = **155,000 Euros**

 Purchase of 50 computers and software for the regional services and border inspection posts

 Computers:
 $50 \times 1,000 = 50,000$ Euros

 Software:
 $50 \times 500 = 25,000$ Euros

Total: 75,000 Euros

- Purchase of a network server and software for the automatic transfer of data

Network serv	/er: 10,000 Euros
Software:	50 × 400 = 20,000 Euros
Total:	30,000 Euros

 Purchase of 20 vehicles for the transportation of phytosanitary inspectors and the carrying out of broad territory surveys

20 × 8,000 = **160,000 Euros**

- Purchase of consumables: 100,000 Euros

The purchase of consumables such as reagents, glassware and in general small equipment is necessary to run the equipment provided under Phare funds in the 13 regional laboratories, the central laboratory for plant quarantine, the CLCPNHMF and the six testing stations.

Annex 6: GLOSSARY OF TERMS

CLCPNHMF	Central Laboratory for the Control of Pesticides, Nitrates, Heavy Metals and Fertilizers
CLPQ	Central Laboratory for Plant Quarantine
GLP	Good Laboratory Practice
GMP	Good Management Practice
NPAA	National Programme for the Adoption of the Acquis
NSPPQAC	National Service for Plant Protection Quarantine and Agro-Chemistry
RSPPQA	Regional Services for Plant Protection, Quarantine and Agro-Chemistry