

PHARE 2003
STANDARD SUMMARY PROJECT FICHE

1. Basic Information

- 1.1 **CRIS Number:** PHARE 2003/005-551.04.04
 1.2 **Title:** Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system
 1.3 **Sector:** Statistics
 1.4 **Location:** Romania

2. Objectives**2.1 Overall Objective(s):**

- To improve the base for sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system;
- To consolidate the Romanian statistical system towards reaching compliance with the EU norms and standards and enabling it to absorb of newly adopted statistical Acquis.

2.2 Project purpose:

a. Strengthening of the institutional capacity of the INS (relationship with media and with public at large) and of statistical infrastructure with a view to continuously improving the data quality as well to meeting the user's needs;

b. To harmonise and improve the statistics on information society and the new economy

c. To develop new modules in the field of social statistics as to enrich the investigation of new aspects of social life

d. To develop service statistics and more specific the passenger transports by road statistics

e. To further develop national accounts, especially the segment of satellite accounts (environment protection expenses) and by implementing flexible structures such as the social accounting matrix

2.3 Accession Partnership and NPAA priority

From the Position Paper of Romania (chapter 4- Sustainable development), the complementary Position Paper (adopted by Romania's Government on December 6), the National Programme for the Accession of Romania to the European Union, the strategy for the development of the statistical system during 2003-2006 and the Action Plan of the Government Programme for 2001-2004 (published in the Official Journal no. 267/23.05.2001), it results that besides the notable progress recorded in most of the major fields, the immediate priorities are further oriented towards ensuring the sustainability of the statistical system, strengthening the infrastructure with a view to improve the quality of statistical data and towards meeting the statistical data and information society requests necessary for all the user categories.

The Chapter 12 from the Roadmap communicated by the Commission for Romania, stresses the following:

"Romania should focus further efforts on upgrading statistical methodologies and improving the quality and completeness of data. Further efforts are also needed to develop the capacity of staff within the statistics administration and care should be taken that levels of staffing are not further decreased. Attention needs to be given to ensuring commitments made in that process are respected. Key steps include on short-term:

Develop the quality and coverage of statistics in the field of macro-economics and on medium term: Information Technology capacity should be continuously renewed and developed.

Further training for central and regional staff is required in order to make effective use of the equipment and the software applications."

2.4 Contribution to National Development Plan

Statistics represents inputs for the actions' decisions in the NDP

2.5 Cross Border Impact

N/A

3. Description

3.1 Background and justification:

Romanian statistics registered until now important progress keeping track of harmonisation to the European norms and standards in the different fields of statistics. Nevertheless, on the one hand there are still gaps to be filled in certain statistical domains and, on the other hand, Romanian statistics is keeping the pace with the newly adopted statistical Acquis and is to further refine the already adopted statistical EU methods and standards.

a 1. IT architecture

In Romania, the official statistics is organised and co-ordinated by the National Institute of Statistics, a specialised body of the central public administration subordinated to the Government and financed by the state budget. INS is responsible for a very large part of the statistical activities. The Romanian Government Decision No. 488/2001 defines the responsibilities of the INS and of the 34 county directions and 8 regional directions.

The staff of the INS is of 1817 jobs in headquarters and in the territorial directions.

Upgrading the IT system of the National Institute of Statistics was achieved by means of 1994 Phare Programme, being followed by punctual acquisitions achieved through the 1997 Phare Programme. Under 2000 Phare Programme a very small amount is dedicated to the IT equipment, the balance being allocated to the acquisition of the typographical equipment.

The core objective of the 1994 Phare Programme consisted in the implementation of the IT infrastructure at counties' level. To this end, each county statistical office was provided with a local network, a server and a variable number of client stations, depending on the county size. The network infrastructure of INS headquarters was modernised, being ensured the FDDI (Fibre Distributed Data Interface) technology, thus entailing a major quality improvement, in terms of the speed of data transmission through the network.

Further on, through the 1997 Phare Programme, the number of servers and workstations (PCs) was extended, the access to the Internet was ensured for INS headquarters and the electronic mail was implemented both at headquarters and in the territorial units.

The computation technique prevailing at present within the statistical territorial directions could be placed at the level of 1995 (with certain improvements achieved over time, from other funds than the Phare ones). Between the IT existing within the territorial units and the one of the headquarters (servers and workstations) a two generations gap is to be found. Therefore, certain difficulties are faced in terms of timely carrying out the requested works and activities.

The network technology in use at this moment within the INS (FDDI), being designed at the level of 1992, is already obsolete, being no more used at world level, thus making difficult and expensive its improvement.

Likewise, the component of network and statistical data protection existing so far is poorly developed, thus imposing the adoption of an integrated anti-virus solution.

The whole IT infrastructure (servers, workstations, network, e-mail, Internet access) of INS should be compatible with the one used within Eurostat, in view to promptly meet the increasing amount of data requirements from all the statistical fields.

In order to provide a better control over the IT resources and to use efficiently the scarce IT staff resources, the network needs considerable improvement. This will allow central control of the infrastructure and better communication within the INS as well with outside partners

a2 The INS web- site

The current INTERNET website of the National Institute of Statistics was designed within the Phare National RO-9703-01 programme, the project 2.3 "Improving the dissemination activity", the subproject 2.3.3: "Improving and diversifying the electronic dissemination activity". The purpose of developing the INS site was to provide a more wider, quick and sure access to the statistical information of public interest for all the categories of users.

The current website version was released in June 1999. The soft products used for the development were not the most adequate for the design of the web pages. This activity was carried out with soft products distributed by internet browser producers free of charge namely: Netscape Communicator 4.7 and Internet explorer 4.0; other soft used are: Microsoft ImageComposer, Javascript, Paint Shop Pro and products from the range Adobe: Illustrator si PhotoShop.

The site has an informative detailed character (e.g. statistical yearbook), a general one on statistical information currently released by the INS and a promotional one on the latest statistical surveys (ex. population and housing census), press releases and statistical publications issued by the INS. The site is bilingually issued into Romanian – English languages.

At present, the monthly interest rate for the internet site is estimated to over 16500 visitors and to about 45 000 accesses.

a3. The relation with the media

Now, in the INS is functioning, according to the legislation in force, the press office and the compartment of public relations which are under direct supervision of the INS spokesman.

Taking into account that the press office has only one year of activity, the acquired experience is relatively low and the tradition is as inexistent.

Starting from the idea that, generally, the statistical institution enjoys reliability within the public opinion, there situations when statistical data are misunderstood, misconstrued or doubted by certain media representatives. Several times, on the background of press reactions, it is noticed, either an inadequate attitude of contact people, or some too technical explanations (ex. methodological notes) and, therefore, hardly understood having in view the basic training of most of journalists.

b. Statistics on the information society and the new economy

In 2001 the Candidate Countries signed a joint plan of activity initiated by Europe+ concerning statistics on information society. According to this plan the data collection are to be based on the questionnaires of Eurostat regarding the information society statistics and performance indicators (benchmark indicators) are to be computed. The project of regulation about the information society statistics, will be in the near future debated and approved at the European Council.

Romanian statistics has performed statistical research regarding the information society in the year 2002 adressed to Internet service providers, economic units (industry, trade, services) and public administration. The surveys system in place is covering only 59% from the Eurostat requests of data and data are not very reliable.

c. Social statistics

In the field of social statistics, the system has been generally redesigned. The National Institute of Statistics carries out two statistical surveys on the income and living conditions: Family Budgets Survey (FBS) and Living Conditions Survey (ACOV). The FBS ensures the necessary information for the assessment of population income, expenditure and consumption, being the main data source for the computation of poverty indicators. ACOV allows for characterising various aspects of social life in Romania: economic situation of households, housing conditions, population health status, working conditions, social relationships, associative life, etc. The households budget survey is at the moment the main source of data for computing the social structural indicators regarding poverty and social exclusion. Starting 2003, the European Commission will fill in the annual Synthesis report with structural indicators from the candidate countries. Romanian INS has to implement the new concepts, definitions, classifications and standard nomenclatures concerning income and social exclusion through the design and the implementation of a sample survey EU- SILC (European survey on income and social exclusion).

d. Statistics on passengers transport by road is carried out by means of a selective statistical survey having as observation unit companies of passengers road transport activities, including companies carrying out tourism transport and school transport.

Data are quarterly collected, according to the Programme of statistical research, by means of the statistical form TRI-TIP – Land transport of passengers (excluding rail transport and taxi transport) of about 900 companies for a small number of indicators: number of available places, number of transported passengers in national and international traffic, length of passengers voyage and length of vehicles voyage. Data are filled up at company level, centralized for each indicator and not at level of motor vehicle for passengers transport.

The currently carried out survey does not allow for the collection and dissemination of data on: scheduled and unscheduled road transport of passengers, inter-urban transport of passengers by type of vehicle (coaches, buses, micro-buses) and by their length of service and on inter-urban transport of passengers by embarking/disembarking region

According to CEE Regulation 1108/70 regarding complete data about expenses for transport infrastructure (rail, road and inland waterways), as well as complete data about passengers transportation by road have to be collected.

e.1 The satellite account on environment protection expenses

The introduction of the System of National Accounts (SNA) in Romanian statistics since 1989, has represented an important stage in the alignment of Romanian methodology and practice to international standards. Besides a detailed and coherent description of economic flows and of macroeconomic relations, the elaboration of the two economic summary tables of national accounting, also provides lots of opportunities for macroeconomic analysis; but these tables do not represent the only way of presenting the SNA concepts and definitions.

The whole analysis of the economy at macro level and its relation with the environment cannot be put into practice without using information coming from the system of national accounts. The CCPM (account of expenditures for environment protection) elaboration – considered as a satellite account of national accounts – has as purpose the description of the “environmental protection” function in order to take into account the conventions of the system of national accounts. CCPM is a central system of environmental protection expenditure and it is built up of statistics able to answer the requirements of information, characterizing the economy – environment relation. First of all, it is about statistics pointing out the economic interference for environmental protection of various economic units, mostly focussed on environmental expenditure.

e2. The social accounting matrix

Within the national accounting, other ways to present the economic processing can be also adopted in order to provide another perspective on them as well as new analysis possibilities. Such a way is represented by the Social Accounting Matrix (SAM).

SAM can be defined as a method presenting the SNA accounts as a matrix showing in details the relations between the resources-uses table and the institutional sectors accounts table.

The Social Accounting Matrix points out the role of human factor in economy, this being reflected by additional details on the sector population households, and by desagregated presentation of labour market (namely the difference between various categories of employed persons).

Up to now SAM has not been built up in the Romanian national accounting.

3.2 Linked activities:

a 1. IT architecture

a. Starting with 1992, the PHARE program has supported the INS. The PHARE contribution amounts to 21,3 M€, spread as follows:

- 1992: 2.5 M€, strengthening statistical information system, hard- and software
- 1994: 4.6 M€, IT infrastructure
- 1997: 6.0 M€, large surveys and restructuring, institutional strengthening (1,2 M€ for IT)
- 2000: 6.0 M€, agricultural and regional statistics incl. Strengthening of 8 regional offices (0,13 M€ for IT);
- 2001: 2.2 M€ with 4 components (0,4 M€ for IT equipment)

The PHARE contribution for IT totals 8,33 M€

A special tool for the preparation and identification of project specifications of Romanian institutions was developed by the Ministry of European Integration. Under Phare 2000 – Project Preparation Facility programme, INS has obtained a contract of technical assistance for drafting the strategy and the technical specifications needed for the IT development.

b. Statistics on the information society and the new economy.

The INS received assistance through the Phare multi-country programme, provided by Eurostat (Romanian statisticians participated in the working groups meetings and 1 long term traineeship).

c. Social statistics

The INS received assistance through the Phare multi-country programme, Romanian statisticians participating in one bilateral meeting on EU - SILC held at Eurostat.

Under the National Phare programme RO 9703-01, two subprojects concerning the aspects of living conditions were developed :

“Households Budgets Survey” with a budget of 0,236 MEURO and “Living Conditions Survey” with a budget of 0,125 MEURO

Both sub-projects were finalised by implementing the two surveys, currently carried out, being included in the Annual Programme of Statistical Surveys of INS.

d. Statistics on passengers transport by road

There are no other related programmes for passengers transport by road statistics.

e.1 The satellite account on environment protection expenses

During the last years, the environment statistics in Romania received assistance both through the Phare National 1997 programme and Phare multi-country programme.

Within Phare National 1997 programme, several projects concerning environment statistics have been developed (amounting 0,205 Euro), having as result the following:

- setting up the system of classifications specific to environment protection (classification of environment protection activities, classification of environment protection services, classification of environment protection expenditure, classification of environment protection equipment and installations);
- developing the existing classifications: CANE classification and budgetary classification in relation with environment protection activities;
- inventory of environment protection services producers;
- designing and carrying out the statistical survey on environment protection expenditure, this survey belonging to the NIS annual programme of statistical surveys; designing and carrying out an environment related database and of its management system, setting up the data dissemination and publication ways.

e2. The social accounting matrix

No programs were developed yet on the field of social accounting matrix computation.

3.3 Results:

a 1. IT architecture

IT architecture within INS headquarters, Regional and County Directions of Statistics improved through raising the control over the IT infrastructure:

- Infrastructure and staff efficiently used by setting up procedures and infrastructure for remote support to the end-user.
- Operational risks reduced by providing a centrally controlled backup system and by

providing a centralised view of the health status of the servers and network equipment.

- Infrastructure better controlled by centralising of the management of the IT
- Security of the system improved through centralised firewalls systems and anti-virus check.

INS IT experts including experts dealing with the web-site update trained

a2 The website

- The INS web-site and web-site software application redesigned;
- On-line services and electronic payments of customers implemented

a3. The relation with the media

- The policy of relations with media drawn- up;
- The “Media support” office set-up ;
- Experts from the department of public and media relations trained;

b. Statistics on the information society and the new economy

- the methodology of surveys on ICT usage and Information Society for enterprises, public administration, health and education services, households designed;
- a pilot sampling survey on information society and the new economy for micro enterprises (NACE Rev1.1 sections C,D,F,G, H,I,J,K,O), public administration, health, education services, (NACE L,M,N) carried out;
- a statistical database of information society (data collection by Internet questionnaires, questionnaire design module, processing functions for IS surveys) set up and filled in with indicators of the information society and new economy;

c. Social statistics

- A social statistics survey on income and living conditions (social exclusion) in line with EU regulations implemented;
- Indicators measuring poverty and social exclusion statistics designed in compliance with the European Statistical System
- The methodology for computation of gross and available income and poverty assesment designed (monetary, non-monetary, subjective poverty)

d. Statistics on passengers transport by road

- Statistics on road passengers transport harmonised with the EU norms and standards;
- The survey on road passengers transport implemented;

e.1 The satellite account on environment protection expenses.

- Satellite account on environment protection expenditure compiled, individualising it at national level of environment protection expenditure, of the production of services specific to environment protection and of the financing way for environment protection expenditure for the year 2002.
- A set of statistical and methodological instruments for collection and processing of the variables included in the expenditure account of environment protection designed.
- Experts who are to contribute to the carrying out of the methodological framework of the satellite account of environment protection expenditure and the statistical framework of data collection and processing trained.

e2. The social accounting matrix

- The social accounting matrix integrated in the National Accounts and computed for 2000

3.4 Activities:

a 1. IT architecture. Technical assistance to the IT Department of INS (as well as training for the specialists who will update the web site of INS)

The IT department of the INS needs technical assistance to enable the transition from a mostly techno-centric entity, focused on providing support to the different departments, to a business-centric organisation, focused on reaching the strategic objectives of the INS. The infrastructure must be more flexible, enabling faster changes. This can be achieved by setting up an automated management environment, relieving staff from mundane tasks, and enabling it to focus on the business needs of the Institute. The technical assistance should be split in different components:

- Management guidance to introduce best practices in IT management
- Network management: establishing a centralised network management (DNS, IP addressing, Firewall management and DMZ) with network management tools.
- Definition of standardised IT platforms, including a common desktop, a standard server setup, management tools and automated staging procedures.
- Implementation of the data administration and the database administration function

The training for the IT staff for all these components as well as training the INS experts for implementing, monitoring and updating all website applications are foreseen in a technical assistance contract amounting 1.025.000 Euro.

The network between the headquarter and the decentralised entities must be upgraded to allow better communication and management

Supply: WAN upgrade - (100.000 Euro, cofinanced by the INS budget)

Hardware and software for the pilot phase: €200.000.

Unix database servers (including OS and HA-tools) : €200.000

Software for the support of software development methodology: €150.000.

Software for the support of project management methodology: €50.000

Software for Data administration: €125.000

DBMS licenses and development software: €125.000

PCs: €250.000

Routers for the support of VPN: €250.000

Central anti-virus software: €75.000

Software tools for developing the website application like Macromedia Studio MX (three license/per each, one license for server software (ColdFusion MX)): €15.000

For a total of supply €1.540.000 (from which 500.000 co-financing, including the 100000 for the WAN and the acquisition of the e-domain www.e-statistics.ro)

a2 The website

The technical assistance for redesigning the web-site is comprising the following: -designing the web/site project, building the website and the web applications – defining the statistical indicators contained in the Statistical Database with time series which shall be at customer's disposal on the website; redesign the website architecture; defining the flow from Customers - INS website - the Bank services for electronic payments; design of the monitoring system for accessing the new website; design of the updating and of the links with the actual site (which is free of charge); defining and establishing the conditions for collaboration with other implied institutions as the bank which will provide the payments services; introducing new on line facilities such as orders and banners for statistical news, introducing the new "Q&A service" (questions and answers)- a system which can generate automatic answers to common categories of questions (inflation, unemployment rate) etc.

The estimated PHARE budget needed is of 135.000 euros

a3. the relation with the media

Another type of activities leading to the strenghtening the INS is intending to create in INS an "Media support" office (similar to the press office of Eurostat) in order to help the journalists to easily and accurately understand the statistical information releases (this office will have the task of organising round tables, seminars) as well as to take into account the (time) constraints of their work (providing quick replies to their questions – in 24 hours).

The technical assistance needed in this respect has as task to define the role of the media channels like the important re-dissemination tools of statistical information (in spreading the information in the world); to describe the policy regarding the access of the journalists to the detailed statistical information (data, metadata, sources, analysis); to organise the "Media support office" It is necessary to train the experts from the press department on the following issues:

- Elaboration of the press releases in the journalistic style;
- Organisation of press conferences, following all the steps involved;
- Organisation of the first pilot round table with the press representatives for the most sensitive socio-economical themes of the office.

The estimated PHARE budget needed is of 50.000 euros

b. Statistics on the information society and the new economy

This project is developed through the following activities:

- design of the methodology of surveys on ICT usage and Information Society for enterprises, public administration, health and education services, households (based on Eurostat recommendations and adjusting them to the national requirements);
- carry out the pilot surveys for micro enterprises (NACE Rev1.1 sections C,D,F,G, H,I,J,K,O), public administration, health, education services, (NACE L,M,N).
- design the database of information society (data collection by Internet questionnaires, questionnaire design module, processing functions for IS surveys); dissemination by Internet of surveys results

The pilot surveys shall be designed to be representative at national and regional level; 10000 questionnaires for the micro-enterprises and 10000 questionnaires for public administration, health and education services are envisaged. The data obtained from these surveys will be analysed, the indicators on information society will be built and the results will be disseminated through a publication. The estimated cost of the project is 350.000 Euro. The amount of 350.000 covers the design of the methodology, carry out of the pilot surveys (field activities); data processing; database design and implementation; design of the publication; dissemination of the results.

c. Social statistics

The activities developed under this project will be: design and implementation of a sample survey type SILC (survey on income and social exclusion) in order to adopt the new concepts, definitions, classifications and standard nomenclatures concerning income and social exclusion: setting up the set of indicators for measuring poverty and social exclusion, as well as the computation methods; designing the statistical tools (questionnaires, handbooks, other materials); designing and taking over the survey sample; organising and carrying out the field operations; designing the IT solution for the survey; achieving the final data files; drawing up the methodology for poverty assessment; drawing up and editing the tables presenting the survey results; analysing the survey results; issuing the publication presenting the survey results.

The estimated budget of the project is of 300 000 EURO, the sample will include about 10000 households, supposing approximately 40 000 questionnaires.

The staff survey will include about 750 persons (interviewers and other staff).

The direct institutions that will benefit of this project results are among others the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity and the National Commission for fighting against Poverty and for Social Inclusion Promotion.

d. Statistics on passengers transport by road

The project will assure the preparation and implementation of a survey on road transport of passengers which is carried out with motor vehicles for road transport of passengers with at least 10 places (including the driver) registered in Romania (excluding motor vehicles belonging to autonomous regions of urban transport). Data will be collected from a representative sample at level of motor vehicle and not at level of

enterprise having its main activity road transport of passengers. Collecting data at level of motor vehicle will lead to obtaining additional data, important for road transport of passengers namely: passengers transported by type of transport (road urban transport, road regular transport, road irregular transport), by type of vehicles (buses, coaches, minibuses), by their seniority and by number of places etc.

After the end of the project, the experience acquired will allow to carry out currently a new survey on road transport of passengers. 20000 questionnaires are envisaged to be completed weekly along one year (needed to assure an average error of quarterly representativity of 5% per total country and a probability of 95% for the sample to be chosen). The total cost of the survey is estimated at 300000 Euro. The data obtained will be published in a study.

The INS will cooperate with the Ministry of Public Works, Transport and Dwelling, the Road Transport, Romanian Road Authority and the Union of Road Carriers in Romania

e.1 The satellite account on environment protection expenses

The main objective aimed by CCPM building up is to point out, within a statistical and accounting framework, the monetary flows for the activities specific to environment protection, per total economic and social units. The setting up of this system has as model the European system of environment economic data collection designed by Eurostat, suggesting to the member states a common framework for environment data collection, processing and presentation. The activities developed under this project will be: the design of the institutional structures to carry out the satellite account of environment protection expenditure, according to the EU standards and norms; carrying out of the methodological framework of the satellite account of environment protection expenditure and the statistical framework of data collection and processing; designing and developing a survey on financial statistics that will entail the compilation of the satellite account. The compilation can be done during the immediate period after issuing the accounting balance sheets. The project beneficiary institutions, besides the NIS, are the following: Ministry of Waters and Environment Protection, Ministry of Public Finances, National Institute of Economic Researches, National Institute of Research – Development for Environment Protection, Autonomous Body “Romanian Waters”, etc.

The technical assistance needed for project development is estimated at 50.000 Euro.

e2. The social accounting matrix

The elaboration of the Social Accounting Matrix supposes the following stages: identification of data sources (especially labour force ones) and of the information provided by them; elaboration of SAM methodology (setting up the matrix structure, degree of detailing the indicators as well as the relations between the used variables); organisation of a specific survey (about 5 000 questionnaires) to complete the information needed to build up the SAM; integration of all available information within an experimental SAM which is to be elaborated. It is estimated a Phare budget of about 50000 euro.

3.5 Lessons learned:

The Phare 2000 programme for statistics, although entirely contracted and smoothly on going at this time, incorporated a strong effort from the part of the beneficiary as well as from the national bodies involved in the process of contracting, to many separate contracts being needed. The recommendation made by the Sectorial Monitoring Sub- Committee was to design future programmes avoiding splitting of the work into too many contracts.

From the previous experience, it becomes obvious that projects concerning purchase of equipment should be accompanied with the activities concerning training of the possible users.

4. Institutional Framework

The National Institute of Statistics is the main body responsible for the overall management of the programme as well as the Implementation Authority. When developing and implementing the projects the National Institute of Statistics will closely co-operate with the main institutions involved particularly with the Ministry of Development and Prognosis, Ministry of Public Finances, National Bank of Romania, Ministry of Waters and Environment Protection, Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity, etc., according to their profile of activity.

The main pillars of the mechanism will be:

- The Steering Committee (SC)

A steering committee will be set up. The SCs will be responsible for the technical co-ordination between the programme and the other activities undertaken under the Phare horizontal programme and other possible donors in the statistical fields covered by the programme. The SCs will endorse proposals made for preparing, organising and conducting all aspects of the work under this programme. The SCs will ensure through working groups a proper co-ordination among the various services of the National Institute of Statistics, as well as a systematic information of all parties on the work achieved.

The Steering Committee will consist of the following members:

- the National Institute of Statistics;
- the Ministry of Development and Prognosis;
- the Ministry of Transports, Public Works and Dwellings;
- the National Bank of Romania
- the Ministry of Public Finances
- the Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity
- the Ministry of Waters and Environment Protection;
- the Ministry of European Integration;
- other bodies upon the case.

The chairman of the SC will be the National Institute of Statistics president.

The technical secretariat of the above mentioned Steering Committee is assured by the programme implementing unit (PIU) of the National Institute of Statistics.

• The Working Groups (WG's)

The WG's established by the SC and chaired by the National Institute of Statistics will consist of representatives from the National Institute of Statistics and of the represented bodies for each individual project, upon the case.

5. Detailed Budget

	Phare Support					
	Investment Support	Institution Building	Total Phare (=I+IB)	National Cofinancing*	IFI*	TOTAL
Hardware+ Software	1,040			0,5	-	1,540
IT technical assistance and training		1,025		The INS' personnel		1,025
Technical assistance and surveys		1,235		The INS' personnel		1,235
Total	1,04	2,26	3,3	0,5		3,8

The beneficiary will co-finance 0,5 MEUR of the procurement contract against 1,04 MEUR- Phare funds.

6. Implementation Arrangements

6.1 Implementing Agency

The CFCU is responsible for contracting and accounting of the project.

PAO is Jeana BUZDUGA, Director General of CFCU, 6-8 Magheru Blvd., 5th Floor, telephone (4021) 211 99 79, fax (4021) 210 64 56

The PO will be Aurel CAMARA , the President of the National Institute of Statistics, 16th, Libertatii Ave, sector 5, Bucharest, telephone: (4021) 312 4875; fax no: (4021) 312 4873;

The Deputy PO will be Daniela Stefanescu, the vice-president of the National Institute of Statistics, 16th, Libertatii Ave, sector 5, Bucharest, telephone: (4021)314 09 97 ; fax no: (4021) 335 73 73;

6.2 Twinning

No twinning covenant is envisaged.

6.3 Non-standard aspects

No non-standard aspects are envisaged, the PRAG will be strictly followed.

6.4 Contracts

There will be three contracts in the programme:

Value of IT Technical assistance and training:	1.025.000 EUR
Value of Technical assistance and statistical surveys:	1.235.000 EUR
Value of procurement tender:	1.540.000 EUR (including co-financing)

A joint tender for the financing and co-financing will be organised.

7. Implementation Schedule

Start of tendering:	4Q/2003
Start of Project Activity:	2Q/2004
Project Completion:	4Q/2005

8. Equal Opportunity

Equal opportunity principles and practices in ensuring equitable gender participation in the Project will be guaranteed. As of 1 January 2002, the National Institute of Statistics counted 75% of women out of the total number of employees, whereas women in statistical offices of counties, cities and districts accounted for 78%. Vacancies are equally open to both genders; women are represented at all levels of management

9. Environment

To facilitate decision making process in the field of environment protection.

10. Rates of return

The National Institute of Statistics is a public institution, financed from the budget and generation of revenue from activities is not the goal. However, the quality of information, statistical information system, databases and registers will contribute to the budget funding indirectly as accessible for policy and decision-makers. Quality of data will also allow the remunerated dissemination to interested parties

11. Investment criteria

The project presents an investment in the state institution and human resources, thus no element of competition is envisaged. It is catalytic in terms of stimulation of bridging the gaps identified and modernisation of accession driven activities, indispensable in the accession period. Co-ordination of activities with the concerned ministry is foreseen as an integral part of the project.

The project sustainability is based on full compliance with EU norms and standards. Phare budget will be used only for the development of the acquired knowhow and a first organisation of the surveys concerned. Future costings for surveys in the areas covered by the present project fiche will be covered by the state budget.

12. Conditionality and sequencing

The project is highly depending on the ensuring by the Romanian Government the capacity of the National Institute of Statistics in terms of human resources as well as by providing financial resources that will ensure the adequate wage level of the National Institute of Statistics staff to be maintained within the institution after being trained and qualified to implement during the programme and afterwards the activities provided by the programme.

The component concerning building the website application as well as training of the experts for maintaining and updating the website of the INS should naturally start after the necessary software is bought under the overall contract for supply.

ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. Logical framework matrix in standard format
2. Detailed implementation chart
3. Contracting and disbursement schedule by quarter for full duration of programme (including disbursement period)
4. Reference to feasibility / pre-feasibility studies. For all investment projects, the executive summary of the economic and financial appraisals, and the environmental impact assessment should be attached
5. List of relevant Laws and Regulations
6. Reference to relevant Government Strategic plans and studies (may include Institution Development Plan, Business plans, Sector studies etc)

Annex 1 : Logframe Matrix for project "Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system"

Project Title Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system	Project Number:	Date of Drafting: February 2003	
	Contracting Period Expires: 30 November 2005	Disbursement Period Expires: 30 November 2006	
	Total Budget: 3, 800 MEUR	Phare Contribution: 3,300 MEUR	
Overall Objective	Indicators of Achievement	Sources of verification	
1. Strengthening of the institutional capacity of the INS and of statistics's infrastructure 2. Development of Romanian statistics through widening of the statistical fields and implementing of new fields of statistics, in compliance with European norms and standards	Stable and robust informatic system established; Support for policy decision on economic and social development through reliable statistics ensured; Romanian statistics in compliance with the EU norms and standards (number of normative acts compliant XXX)	Data collected and published by Statistics Romania and line ministries Statistical surveys administrative sources	
Project Purpose	Indicators of Achievement	Sources of Information	Assumptions and Risks
a. Strengthening of the institutional capacity of the INS (relationship with media and with public at large) and of statistical infrastructure with a view to continuously improving the data quality as well to meeting the user's needs; b. To develop and implement statistics on information society and the new economy c. To develop new modules in the field of social statistics as to enrich the investigation of new sides of social life d. To develop service statistics and more specific the passenger transports by road statistics e. To further develop national accounts, especially the segment of satellite accounts (environment protection expenses) and by implementing flexible structures such as social accounting matrix	Statistical research on information society and the new economy in line with EU standards implemented Statistical infrastructure able to support the continuously development of the statistical applications Policy of promoting perfect dialogue between INS and media implemented Statistical researches on social statistics (EUSILC), passengers transports, environment expenses finalised; Computation of satellite accounts (environment expenses) in line with ESA 95 principles; Computation of social accounting matrix;	Statistical reports & surveys Inter-institutional co-operation with Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour and Social Solidarity, Ministry of Public Transportation, Ministry of Waters and Environment	Availability of funds for additional staff, hardware and software, as far as required;
Results	Indicators of Achievement	Sources of Information	Assumptions and Risks

Annex 1 : Logframe Matrix for project “Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system”

Project Title Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system	Project Number:		Date of Drafting: February 2003	
	Contracting Period Expires: 30 November 2005		Disbursement Period Expires: 30 November 2006	
	Total Budget: 3, 800 MEUR		Phare Contribution: 3,300 MEUR	
a.1 IT architecture within INS headquarters, Regional and County Directions of Statistics improved <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Infrastructure and staff efficiently used by setting up procedures and infrastructure for remote support to the end-user.• Operational risks reduced by providing a centrally controlled backup system and by providing a centralised view of the health status of the servers and network equipment.• Infrastructure better controlled by centralising of the management of the IT• Security of the system improved through centralised firewalls systems and anti-virus check.▪ INS IT experts including experts dealing with the web-site update trained	Trained staff, notably in the field of IT development; Backup system in function Central help-desk set-up Standardised management, control and implementation of all IT related initiatives Antivirus centralised system in function Experts trained for mainainiting and updating the web-site A better designed and more functional web-site in place Number of payable customers accessing statistical services A written strategy for developing relations with the media drawn up The office in operation Trained staff A methodology harmonised with Eu standards designed The survey harmonised with EU standards implemented The results of the survey largely distributed Publication of results survey edited	INS web site Publications; EU directives and regulations, international recommendations		
a.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The INS web-site and web-site software application redesigned;• On-line services and electronic payments of customers implemented				
a.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The policy of relations with media drawn- up;• The “Media support” office set-up ;• Experts from the department of public and media relations trained;				
b. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the methodology of surveys on ICT usage and Information Society for enterprises, public administration, health and education services, households designed;▪ a pilot sampling survey on information society and the new economy for micro enterprises (NACE Rev1.1 sections C,D,F,G, H,I,J,K,O), public administration, health, education services, (NACE L,M,N) carried out;▪ a statistical database of information society (data collection by Internet questionnaires, questionnaire design module, processing functions for IS surveys) set up and filled in with indicators of the information society and new economy;				

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Activities	Means	Cost	

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	Total Budget: 3, 800 MEUR		Phare Contribution: 3,300 MEUR	
a.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase of equipment; purchase of software ▪ Training of statisticians for IT applications development and use and of IT experts ▪ Training of the INS staff in using and updating the website with information a.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Redesign of the INS website architecture; ▪ Redesign of the software for web applications; ▪ Development of applications for on line services; ▪ Design and development of the IT application for electronic payments of customers (an accountancy system for monitoring the accounts of subscribed clients) a.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training of the experts for public relations office ▪ Develop an institutional policy for relationship with the public and media ▪ Setup of the Media office b. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Design and carry out of a pilot sampling survey on information society and new economy ▪ Define of the statistical indicators on information society and the new economy ▪ design and fill in of a database with statistical indicators on information society and new economy c . design and carry out a sampling survey on income and social exclusion d. design and carry out a statistical survey on road passengers transport e. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ to draw up the computation methodology for satellite accounts on environment protection expenses; to compile the satellite accounts for environment protection expenses for 2002; ▪ to identify the data sources and information for the social accounting matrix; ▪ elaboration of the methodology for computing the SAM; ▪ design and carrying out a survey for SAM. 	Supply contract: Hardware and software - 1.040.000 IT Technical assistance and training (STEs and training) - service contract 1.025.000 Technical assistance and surveys (service contract) -1.235.000			

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Pre-conditions		

Annex 3 : Cumulative contracting and disbursement schedule for project “Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system”

DETAILED TIME IMPLEMENTATION CHART FOR PROJECT “SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ROMANIAN STATISTICS”

	2003						2004												2005												2006													
calendar months	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D		
activities																																												
IT technical assistance and training	D			D	C				C	I																																		
Technical assistance and surveys	D			D	C				C	I																																		
Purchase of equipment-hardware and software	D			D	C				C	I																																		
	D = Design C = Contracting I = Implementation																																											

Annex 3 : Cumulative contracting and disbursement schedule for project “Sustainable development of the Romanian statistical system”

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF ROMANIAN STATISTICS												
CUMULATIVE CONTRACTING AND DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE (MEURO 3,800)												
	30/06/03	30/09/03	31/12/03	31/03/04	30/06/04	30/09/04	31/12/04	31/03/05	30/06/05	30/09/05	31/12/05	31/03/06
CONTRACTED				3,3	3,3	3,3	3,3	3,3	3,3			
DISBURSEMENT				1,98	1,98	1,98	1,98	1,98	3,3	3,3	3,3	3,3
NB: 1. All contracting should normally be completed within 6-12 months and must be completed within 24 months of signature of the FM. 2. All disbursements must be completed within 36 months of signature of the FM.												

4.No feasibility studies have been made.

5. List of relevant Laws and Regulations

- Council Regulation No. 322/97 of 17/02/97, Community statistics (Statistical Law)
- Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and the Council concerning statistics on information society drafted November 2002
- Draft Commission Regulation implementing European Parliament and Council Regulation concerning Community statistics on Income and Living conditions (EU-SILC) as regards the definitions and the updated definitions, Brussels 28.08.2002
- Draft Commission Regulation implementing European Parliament and Council Regulation concerning Community statistics on Income and Living conditions (EU-SILC) as regards the sampling and the tracing rules, Brussels 11.02.2002
- Draft Commission Regulation implementing European Parliament and Council Regulation concerning Community statistics on Income and Living conditions (EU-SILC) as regards the fieldworks aspect and the imputation procedures, Brussels 21.08.2002
- Draft Commission Regulation implementing European Parliament and Council Regulation concerning Community statistics on Income and Living conditions (EU-SILC) as regards the list of primary target variables included in each area for the cross-sectional and longitudinal component
- Council Regulation No. 1108/70 introducing an accounting system for expenditure on infrastructure in respect of transport by rail, road and inland waterway
- Council Regulation No 2223/96 of 25/06/96 concerning the European System of National and Regional Accounts ESA 95

6. Reference to relevant Government Strategic plans and studies (may include Institution Development Plan, Business plans, Sector studies etc)

The INS IT Development Strategy - 2003 to 2006 - document developed by ASTEC Global Consultancy Ltd. under Project Preparation Facility programme 2000.