



Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA)

The Transition Assistance and Institution Building Component

DG ELARG
Coordination of Financial Instruments
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Scope

- Can be considered the core component of IPA
- Covers both potential candidates and candidates
- In charge of all institution building actions and the investments related to the *acquis communautaire*
- For potential candidates, finance also investments for social and economic development



Aim

- Helps beneficiary countries build up **administrative and judicial capacity**, and progressively fulfil the political, economic and *acquis*-related **criteria for membership**
- Gives access, for **potential candidate countries**, to measures similar in nature to those under components III, IV and V (i.e. regional, human resources and rural development)
- Addresses, within pre accession context, all co-operation measures not expressly covered by other components



Forms of assistance

- Administrative co-operation measures
- Technical assistance
- Investment in regulatory infrastructures
- Grant schemes
- Project preparation facilities
- Implementation of finance facilities in co-operation with IFIs
- Participation in Community programmes and Agencies
- Regional, Human Resources, Rural development measures (potential candidates)



Programming (1)

- Programmes focussed on priorities defined within **Strategic framework** :
 - ~ country Progress Reports, Strategy paper and European partnership, Stabilisation and Association Agreement
 - ~ Multi-annual Indicative Financial Framework **MIFF**
- In **compliance** with financial allocations established in the **MIFF**
- Further spelling out the main areas of intervention defined **within** Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document **MIPD**



Programming (2)

- in the form of **National Programmes**, on the basis of project proposals by beneficiary countries
- Part of the assistance also through **multi-country or horizontal programmes**; either managed directly by the Commission or in co-operation with other donors, in particular International Financing Institutions



Programming (3)

Expected content for a National programme

- ✓ objectives
- ✓ expected results
- ✓ domains of intervention
- ✓ measurable indicators of achievement
- ✓ lessons learned
- ✓ donor co-ordination
- ✓ Conditionalities
- ✓ ...



Implementation

- **Objective = Decentralised management** (except for multi-country programmes: centralised or joint management), in accordance with Article 164 of Regulation (EC)1605/2002
- ⇒ **Tendering and contracting ensured by Central Finance and Contracting Unit CFCU**
- **At the beginning, centralised management** by EC Delegation, with assistance to Serbia to progressively put in place necessary structures for decentralised management



Implementing structures and authorities

- National IPA Co-ordinator **NIPAC**
- National Fund **NF**
and
- National Authorising Officer **NAO**
- **CFCU**
- Necessary structures in **Line Ministries**



Next steps

- Make progress towards putting in place structures for management of assistance in a decentralised manner
- Build/reinforce capacities for programming in Line Ministries
- Use current available EU assistance to strengthen administrative capacity and project preparation
- Focus on essential priorities for the 2007 programming exercise