

**EUROPEAN COMMUNITY  
PROGRAMMES  
AND  
AGENCIES**

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# EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES AND AGENCIES

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## INTRODUCTION

In its Communication “Agenda 2000” (July 1997), the European Commission proposed the progressive opening-up to the candidate countries of a broad range of Community programmes, as one of the intermediate objectives of accession, without waiting for the accession date. It was also proposed active participation in certain Community agencies or bodies in order to prepare these countries better for adoption of *acquis*.

As the Community Programmes (CP) encompass most Community policies, taking into consideration that they would provide a useful preparation for accession by familiarising the candidate countries and their citizens with the Union’s policies working methods, they have opened to the candidate countries.

In its conclusions, the European Council in Luxemburg (December 1997) endorsed that mentioned above Commission proposal and reiterated the importance of such participation in Community programmes as part of the enhanced Pre-Accession Strategy towards the candidate countries of Central and Eastern European, as well as part of the specific Pre-Accession Strategy for Cyprus and Malta and the European Strategy for Turkey.

All EC Programmes and Agencies included in this paper by thinking of would be helpful to develop a strategy to join EC Programmes and Agencies of Turkey.

This paper divided into two parts. The first part includes from definition, history and participation of candidate countries in Community Programmes to comprehensive information about these Programmes. As for second part of this paper twelve decentralised EC Agencies covered.

## PART I – EUROPEAN COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES

### 1. Definition of EC Programmes

The term “**Community Programmes**” designates here an integrated sates of actions adopted by the European Community in order to promote co-operation between its member states in different specific fields related to Community policies, over a period several years. They have been conceived, in principle, exclusively, for member states, on the basis of a specific allocation from the General Budget of the European Union.

Consequently those programmes whose beneficiaries are not member states of the Union but non-EU countries are not covered by this definition. Examples of such programmes are :

**Phare** : devoted to the 10 Central and Eastern European Countries which are candidates for EU membership (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Slovenia),

**Tacis** : devoted to former republics of Soviet Union – NIS and Mongolia, and

**Meda** : devoted to the Euro-Mediterranean Partners – Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey and the Palestinian Authority.

In addition there are some bilateral and multilateral programmes between EU and third countries or international organisations to provide strengthen relationships and global development. But, the term “**Community Programmes**” (CPs) does not cover such programmes.

## **2. History**

In this context, 453 CPs have been put into practise since 1958. The first CP was ‘Treaty establishing the European Atomic Energy Community - Study of fusion - 1958-1962’, and had covered five years period (1958.01.01 - 1962-12-31). The aim of this programme was to contribute to the raising of the standard of living in the member states and to the development of relations with other countries by creating the conditions necessary for the speedy establishment and growth of nuclear industries.

ECPs, in the beginnings, were on the nuclear safety, nuclear industries and protection of environment. Later on they have broadened to the other areas such as research, education, vocational training, youth, culture, audio-visual, environment, agriculture, regional development, energy, public health, social policies, taxation, information technologies, small and medium sized enterprises, telecommunication as well as technological and biotechnological matters.

Today, one of them as a proposal and 41 being carried out, 42 CP in all on the agenda of the Commission of European Union. Besides, 11 CP ended by 31.12.2000.

## **3. Participation of Candidate Countries in Community Programmes and Agencies :**

The participation of candidate countries in Community programmes is a key feature of the pre-accession strategy. All candidate countries in Central and Eastern Europe participate in Community programmes, in particular in education, vocational training, youth, research, energy, the environment, small and medium-sized enterprises and public health. In most cases and at the candidate countries’ request, the cost of this participation is co-financed by Phare. In 1998-1999, more than 16.000 students from the candidate countries benefited from ERASMUS and 34.000 participated in the YOUTH programme.

Cyprus participates in certain programmes in audio-visual, education, vocational training, youth, scientific research and small and medium-sized enterprises. An agreement has been negotiated with Malta on its participation in programmes dealing with education, vocational training and youth.

Turkey participates in two Community programmes (Life and the 5th Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development). Following the Helsinki European Council conclusions, the Commission is preparing for full Turkish participation in education, vocational training and youth programmes. Discussions with the Turkish authorities are underway as for participation in other Community programmes. Participation in any given programme depends upon either an Association Council decision or an equivalent agreement with Cyprus and, in the near future, Malta and Turkey. As these programmes evolve, numerous decisions or agreements are required on the participation of the candidates. To shorten the

procedures, the Commission had recommended to the Council in December 1999 to proceed through a single framework decision (or agreement) for each candidate country, to allow its participation in all Community programmes. The Commission is now proposing ten Framework Decisions to the Council for Central and Eastern European countries as well as three draft negotiating directives with a view to concluding bilateral agreements with Cyprus, Malta and Turkey.

Negotiations for the participation of all 13 candidate countries in the European Environment Agency have recently been concluded. Following ratification of the relevant agreements, most will become members of the Agency in 2001. Turkey will participate in activities of the European Environmental Agency from January 2001. Similar agreements will shortly be negotiated with most candidates on participation in the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug-Addiction. Preparations for participation in other Community agencies are also under way.

## **4. Classified EC Programmes**

### **4.1. RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES**

It is possible to say that Framework Programmes in the area of research and technological development are quite important programmes because of their multisectoral structure. They have covered a series of sub-programmes from health to nuclear technologies in the research area. First framework programme for Community research, development and demonstration activities was applied 1984-1987. And now Fifth Framework Programme has been applying since 1992.

#### **4.1.1. Fifth Research & Technological Development Framework Programme, 1998-2002**

Programme Type: 5th FWP (Fifth Framework Programme)

Subject : Scientific Research

Objectives: To maintain and enhance, in the context of a genuine "European research area", the research potential of European laboratories, universities and companies and their ability to produce knowledge of the highest level and high-quality technologies; and to help ensure that European research serves the Union's economic and social objectives, in other words European research at the service of the citizen and European competitiveness in a global framework.

Subdivisions of Programme: The Fifth Framework Programme (FP5) has two distinct parts:

- the Fifth European Community (EC) Framework Programme, covering research, technological development and demonstration activities;
- the Fifth Euratom Framework Programme covering research and training activities in the nuclear sector.

FP5 has a simplified, multi-theme structure, consisting of seven Specific Programmes, of which four are Thematic Programmes and three are Horizontal Programmes.

**The Thematic Programmes**, covering a series of specific problems are:

- Quality of life and management of living resources (LIFE);
- User-friendly information society (IST);
- Competitive and sustainable growth (GROWTH);
- Energy, environment and sustainable development (EESD);

**The Horizontal Programmes** complement the Thematic Programmes by responding to common needs across all research areas:

- Confirming the international role of Community Research (INCO2);
- Promotion of innovation and encouragement of SME participation (INNOVATION/SME);
- Improving human research potential and the socio-economic knowledge base (IMPROVING).

In addition, there is a Euratom specific programme on Research and training in the field of nuclear energy covering the areas of controlled thermonuclear fusion and nuclear fission.

Both the EC and Euratom Framework Programmes also contain a specific programme covering the direct RTD actions to be implemented by the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC). These comprise research, scientific and technical support of an institutional nature.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 4C

Next programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 6C

The budget, of 14,960 million euro, will be broken down as follows:

- Quality of life and the management of living resources (2,413 million euro)
- User-friendly information society (3,600 million euro)
- Competitive and sustainable growth (2,705 million euro)
- Energy, environment and sustainable development (2,125 million euro)
- Confirming the international role of Community research (475 million euro)
- Promotion of innovation and encouragement of participation of SMEs(363 million euro)
- Improving human research potential and socio-economic knowledge base(1,280 million euro)
- Joint Research Centre activities (1,020 million euro)
- Euratom Programme (979 million euro).

Start Date: 1999-01-01

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.2. Specific Programme for research, technological development and demonstration on "Quality of life and management of living resources", 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: LIFE QUALITY

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme - First Thematic Programme

Subject Index Codes: Regional Development; Policies; Scientific Research; Medicine, Health; Environmental Protection; Life Sciences

Objectives: To address the needs of society and to meet the requirements of the consumer, leading to future wealth and job creation and improvements in the state of the environment.

Subdivisions of Programme: Within the first activity, the research, technological development and demonstration programme "Quality of life and living resources" will comprise six key actions, research and technological activities of a generic nature and support for research infrastructures:

- Key Actions:
  - Food, nutrition and health;
  - Control of infectious diseases;
  - The "cell factory";
  - Environment and health;
  - Sustainable agriculture, fisheries and forestry and integrated development of rural areas, including mountain areas;
  - The ageing population and disabilities;
- Research and Technological Development activities of a Generic nature:
  - Chronic and degenerative diseases (in particular cancer and diabetes), cardiovascular diseases and rare diseases;
  - Research into genomes and diseases of genetic origin;
  - Neurosciences;
  - Public health and health services research;
  - Research relating to the disabled;
  - Study of problems relating to medical ethics and bioethics in the context of respect for fundamental human values;
  - Study of the socio-economic aspects of life sciences and technologies within the perspective of sustainable development (the impact on society, economy and employment);
- Support for Research Infrastructures:
  - Classes of infrastructure:
  - Biological data and collections of biological material;

- Clinical research facilities, including pre-clinical research, identification of European-level studies and clinical trials;
- Facilities for aquaculture and fisheries research.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Research activities will focus on clearly identified needs:

- Meeting socio-economic need, on the demand side by promoting health, reconciling economic development with environmental requirements and on the supply side by improving responses to consumer need and by stimulating economic growth and job-creation;
- Increasing European added value by addressing the major cross-border issues selectively, such as the health aspects of diseases, or trans-boundary resource management. The scientific bases of areas such as drug abuse, bio-safety and bio-ethics will be reinforced in support of Community policies. Some of the activities (such as genome research, neurosciences and technology assessment) because of their size and complexity can only be addressed at European level;
- Improving European competitiveness by capitalizing on specific scientific strengths and in productive sectors with strong growth potential such as in biotechnology and food industries;
- Promoting biosafety by assessing the behaviour and impact on health of transgenic plants, microorganisms and vaccines and other recombinant organisms;
- Respecting an ethical framework.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 2413.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Preparatory, accompanying and support measures; Bursaries, grants, fellowships; Cost-sharing contracts; Thematic network contracts; Exploratory awards; Coordination of research actions

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.3. Programme for research, technological development and demonstration on a "User-friendly information society, 1998-2002"**

Programme Acronym: IST

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme Second Thematic Programme

Short Title: User-friendly information society

Subject Index Codes: Policies; Legislation, Regulations; Information Processing, Information Systems; Electronics, Microelectronics

Objectives: To realise the benefits of the information society for Europe both by accelerating its emergence and by ensuring that the needs of individuals and enterprises are met.

Subdivisions of Programme: The programme is structured around four key actions and two research actions. These are:

- Key actions:
  - Systems and services for the citizen;
  - New methods of work and electronic commerce;
  - Multimedia content and tools;
  - Essential technologies and infrastructures;
- Research and Technological Development Activities of a Generic Nature:
  - Future and emerging technologies - the open domain and proactive initiatives;
- Support for Research Infrastructures:
  - Research networking - broadband interconnection of national research and education networks;
  - Advanced European experimental testbeds.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

The programme has four inter-related specific objectives which both focus the technological developments and enable the close articulation between research and policy needed for a coherent and inclusive information society. For the private individual the objective is to meet the needs and expectations of European citizens for high quality, affordable general-interest services. For Europe's enterprises workers and consumers the objective is to enable both individuals and organisations to be more effective and efficient in their work and business while at the same time improving the quality of the individual's working life.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 3600.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Preparatory, accompanying and support measures; Cost-sharing contracts; Thematic network contracts

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.4. Programme for research technological development and demonstration on "Competitive and sustainable growth 1998-2002"**

Programme Acronym: GROWTH

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme - Third Thematic Programme

Short Title: Competitive and sustainable growth

Subject Index Codes: Policies; Legislation, Regulations; Scientific Research; Transport; Materials Technology; Meteorology

Objectives: To support research activities contributing to competitiveness and sustainability, particularly where these two objectives interact.

Subdivisions of Programme: The activities of the programme are set out within four key actions and two research activities:

- Key Actions:
  - Innovative products, processes and organisation;
  - Sustainable mobility and intermodality;
  - Land transport and marine technologies;
  - New perspectives for aeronautics;
- Research and Technological Development Activities of a Generic Nature:
  - New and improved materials and their production and transformation;
  - New and improved materials and production technologies in the steel field;
  - Measurements and testing;
- Support for Research Infrastructures
  - Improving information flow towards European researchers and facilitating transnational access to facilities to researchers would not normally have access Establishment of virtual institutes to promote the coordination and pooling of resources;
  - Support for European metrological infrastructure;
  - Support to improve quality and comparability of data and co-ordination of reference databases.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Research will focus on clearly identified needs, including:

- Answering socio-economic need, by stimulating holistic approaches, strengthening innovative capacity and fostering the creation of businesses and services based on emerging technologies and new market opportunities. Parallel research into sustainable mobility and environmentally friendly processes products and services to improve quality of life;
- Stimulating European added value by solving the cross-border problems arising from the various key actions and mobilising national and other RTD resources to attain tangible results in cost-intensive technologies;
- Supporting European competitiveness, by bridging the gap between scientific knowledge and innovation and boosting competitiveness and productivity by fostering production systems and organizational concepts (such as eco-industries).
- Respecting human rights and a fundamental ethical framework, throughout the activities.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 2705.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Preparatory, accompanying and support measures; Bursaries, grants, fellowships; Cost-sharing contracts; Thematic network contracts

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.5. Programme for research, technological development and demonstration on "Energy, environment and sustainable development, 1998-2002"**

Programme Acronym: EESD

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme - Fourth Thematic Programme

Short Title: Energy, environment and sustainable development

Subject Index Codes: Social Aspects; Policies; Legislation, Regulations; Economic Aspects; Environmental Protection; Scientific Research; Other Energy Topics; Renewable Sources of Energy

Objectives: To contribute to sustainable development by focusing on key activities crucial for social well-being and economic competitiveness in Europe

Subdivisions of Programme: The programme is divided into two parts, 'Environment and sustainable development' and 'Energy', each having their own specific key actions and research activities:

##### **Environment and sustainable development**

- Key Actions:
  - Sustainable management and quality of water;
  - Global change, climate and biodiversity;
  - Sustainable marine ecosystems;
  - The city of tomorrow and cultural heritage;
- Research and Technological Development Activities of a Generic Nature
  - Fight against major natural and technological hazards;
  - Development of earth observation satellite technologies;
  - Socio-economic aspects of environmental change within the perspective of sustainable development (impact on, the economy and employment);
- Support for Research Infrastructures
  - Climate and global change research facilities;
  - Marine research facilities;
  - Natural hazards research facilities;

## Energy

- Key Actions
  - Cleaner energy systems, including renewables;
  - Economic and efficient energy for a competitive Europe;
- Research and Technological Development Activities of a Generic Nature
  - Socio-economic aspects of energy within the perspective of sustainable development (impact on society, the economy and employment).

### Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

The strategic goal of the programme is to contribute to sustainable development by focusing on key activities crucial for social well-being and economic competitiveness in Europe. Its main objectives are:

- An innovative approach making it possible to address complex societal-driven issues: integrated multidisciplinary and multisectoral activities involving, wherever possible, the principal stakeholders - private-public sector partnerships, and end-users from the business, industrial and policy-making sectors - and concentrating on finding solutions to strategic problems;
- Social objectives. Key societal issues, such as demands for better living conditions, better safety, and better use of scarce resources like water, environmental problems, the cities and cultural heritage. In addition to developing technologies, the socio-economic context will need to be appropriately analysed and taken into account;
- European added value and subsidiarity. Environmental problems, energy systems, networks and services and the associated environmental impacts, as well as sustainable development issues must be approached in a global context. In this respect, the European level is the most appropriate: most problems and challenges are common to all Member States and most activities to be addressed in the programme are not only European, but also global in scale.
- Economic development and scientific and technological prospects: the promotion of sustainable development will not be possible unless economic objectives relating to technological development, competitiveness and growth are reconciled with societal goals such as quality of life, employment, security, health and a high quality environment.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 2125.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Preparatory, accompanying and support measures; Bursaries, grants, fellowships; Cost-sharing contracts; Thematic network contracts

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.6. Programme for research, technological development and demonstration on "Confirming the international role of Community research,1998-2002"**

Programme Acronym: INCO 2

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme First Horizontal Programme

Short Title: Confirming the international role of Community research

Subject Index Codes: Policies; Legislation, Regulations; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: To promote scientific and technological cooperation internationally; to reinforce Community capacities in the fields of science and technology; to support the achievement of scientific excellence within the wider international framework; and to contribute to the implementation of the Community's external policy, also with the accession of new EU members in mind.

Subdivisions of Programme: The programme is based around the following specific activities:

- Cooperation with third countries:
  - Pre-accession states;
  - NIS and other CEECs not in the pre-accession phase;
  - Mediterranean partners;
  - Developing countries;
  - Emerging economy countries and industrialised countries;
- Training of researchers
- Coordination
  - within FP5 and with other Community programmes;
  - with COST, EUREKA and international organizations;
  - with Member States.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Previous programme(s) : INCO

The strategic objectives of the programme are:

- Promoting scientific and technological cooperation between undertakings, organizations and researchers from third countries and from the Community;
- Facilitating access for research centres and undertakings established in the Community to scientific and technological knowledge available outside the Community and useful to the Community's interests;
- Enhancing the position and role of Community research in the scientific and technological arena and promoting a European scientific and technological culture, taking account of the social and cultural needs of the countries with which it is cooperating;

- Preparing for the accession of new Member States by encouraging their full association with the Framework Programme;
- Helping European research players acquire information and gain experience of research capacity, activities and priorities of industrialized third countries and emerging economy countries.

International RTD cooperation will be carried out in two forms in the Fifth Framework Programme: through this international cooperation programme, and through the participation of partners from outside the Union in projects of the other programmes.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 475.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cooperative research contracts; Cost-sharing contracts; Demonstration contracts; Exploratory awards (demonstration); Exploratory awards (thematic networks); Exploratory awards; Grants for industrialized countries; Large facilities; Research network contracts; Study contracts, assessment contracts; Thematic network contracts

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.7. "Promotion of innovation and encouragement of participation of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) 1998-2002"**

Programme Acronym: INNOVATION-SME

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme Second Horizontal Programme

Short Title: Promotion of innovation and encouragement of participation of SMEs

Subject Index Codes: Information, Media; Innovation, Technology Transfer

Objectives: To improve the economic and social impact of research activities by ensuring the better dissemination of results, by encouraging the participation of SMEs, and by encouraging the transfer and dissemination of technologies from various sources, taking into account the needs of customers and users.

Subdivisions of Programme: The specific programme will be subdivided into the following activities:

- Promotion of innovation:
  - Making better use of the results of Community research;
  - New approaches to technology transfer;
  - Studies and good practices;
- Encouraging SME participation:
  - A single complementary entry point;
  - Joint support and assistance instruments;

- Economic and technological intelligence;
- Joint innovation/SME activities:
  - European support network for the promotion of research, technology transfer and innovation;
  - Electronic information services and other means of dissemination;
  - Intellectual property;
  - Access to private innovation financing;
  - Mechanisms to facilitate the setting-up and development of innovative firms.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Previous programme(s) : INNOVATION

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 363.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Coordination of research actions; Cost-sharing contracts; Demonstration contracts; Study contracts, assessment contracts

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.8. Programme for research, technological development and demonstration on "Improving the human research potential and the socio-economic knowledge base,1998-2002"**

Programme Acronym: HUMAN POTENTIAL

Description Acronym: Fifth framework programme third horizontal programme

Short Title: Improving the human research potential and the socio-economic knowledge base

Subject Index Codes: Education, Training; Scientific Research

Objectives: To improve and help develop the knowledge potential of European researchers, engineers and technicians through greater support for the training and mobility of researchers and by enhancing access to infrastructures; and, to mobilise and strengthen the socio-economic knowledge base so as to identify economic and social trends and requirements, both current and future, in order to contribute to the Community's competitiveness and quality of life of its citizens.

Subdivisions of Programme: The programme is divided into the following areas for action:

- Improving human research potential:
  - Supporting training and mobility of researchers (including Research Training Networks and a System of Marie Curie Fellowships);

- Enhancing access to research infrastructures (including infrastructure cooperation networks);
- Promoting scientific and technological excellence (including high level scientific conferences and research work and public awareness-raising);
- Key action: Improving the socio-economic knowledge base. To improve the understanding of the structural changes taking place in European society in order to identify ways of managing change and involving European citizens more actively in shaping their own futures;
- Support for the development of scientific and technology policies in Europe. Providing a flexible strategic intelligence gathering, collating and evaluation service to support the development of the specific base of knowledge about scientific and technology policy issues.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Previous programme(s) : TMR

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 1280.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Bursaries, grants, fellowships; Cooperation network contracts; Cost-sharing contracts; Large facilities; Research network contracts; Research grants (individual fellowships); Study contracts, ssession contracts

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.9. 5th Framework Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) for research and training activities, 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: FWP-EAEC 2C

Description Acronym: Framework Programme for the European Atomic Energy Community

Programme Type: EAEC FWP (Euratom Framework Programme)

Title: 5th Framework Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom) for research and training activities, 1998-2002

Subject Index Codes: Nuclear Fusion; Nuclear Fission; Other Energy Topics

Objectives: To support research related to controlled thermonuclear fusion and energy systems related to nuclear fission.

Subdivisions of Programme: (a) Key actions

One key action - Controlled thermonuclear fusion:

The long-term objective, embracing all the research activities undertaken in the Member States and Switzerland aimed at harnessing fusion, is the joint creation of

prototype reactors for power stations to meet the needs of society: operational safety, environmental compatibility, economic viability.

Work will focus on the following priority research:

- Operational safety of existing facilities, including issues relating to the extension of the lifespan of reactors, the technological aspects of severe accidents, and strategies and methods for the management of accident and post-accident situations;
- Security and safety of the fuel cycle; a joint, scientifically-founded approach to the management, disposal and minimisation of radioactive waste;
- Radiation protection, with the emphasis on understanding and awareness of the hazards related to ionising radiation, more especially the effects of low-dose radiation, the management of nuclear emergencies and the restoration of contaminated environments;
- Studies on new nuclear facilities, advanced and more efficient fuels, future systems and concepts to increase the safety of the complete nuclear cycle and the competitiveness of industry, in particular in relation to outside markets; these studies will cover safety analysis, impact on man and the environment, and the most promising approaches from a technological and economic viewpoint in a sustainable development perspective;
- Development of technologies and methods for nuclear materials safeguards to meet the new challenges: changes in the fuel cycle, the sharp rise in the stock of fissile materials due to nuclear disarmament, the extra obligations arising out of new international agreements, the illicit traffic in fissile materials;
- Encouragement of cooperation with the Central and East European countries and the countries of the former Soviet Union: development of specific "international cooperation" research activities which will help improve the safety of nuclear reactors, waste management in these countries, radiation protection, and the control of fissile materials;
- development of coordination and international cooperation activities carried out under the Framework Programme. It will be possible to mobilize Community financing to facilitate such participation in accordance with rules to be adopted in the Decision on the specific programme.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : FWP-EAEC 1C

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Demonstration contracts

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.10. Programme for research and technological development, including demonstration, to be carried out by means of direct actions for the European Community by the Joint Research Centre, 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: FP5-JRC

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme - Joint Research Centre

Short Title: Joint Research Centre

Subject Index Codes: Scientific Research; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: To provide scientific and technical support for the formulation, implementation and monitoring of EU policies.

Subdivisions of Programme: The specific programme revolves around three main areas:

- Serving the citizen. The objective is to support those EU policies that are intended to protect citizens, provide them with information, maintain their health and protect their safety. Research will focus on different issues, in particular:
  - Consumer protection. Including research to underpin the harmonisation and validation of methods for quality and safety analysis of feedingstuffs, food, beverages and consumer products;
  - Medical and health applications. The application of several JRC-related technologies related to nuclear engineering, metrology, information-processing and material sciences;
  - Benefit from the information society. The JRC's information technology expertise will be used to support the European dependability initiative as well as anti-fraud measures;
  - Safety of the citizen, man-made hazards and natural hazards. Research will seek to protect individuals against hazards, and will tackle topics including support for EU industrial safety regulations and safety in the workplace, chemical products, civilian de-mining and the fight against illicit drugs.
- Enhancing sustainability. Technological development, sustainable growth, respect and care for the environment are key issues for the Union, enshrined in the Treaty and pursued through common policies and actions. In particular, the Community's Fifth Environmental Action Programme (1992-2000) forms the basis of EU environment policy and describes the attainment of sustainable development as the challenge of the 1990s.

The JRCs scientific and technical services will provide the necessary expertise to help understand the issues involved and support the implementation of the action programme. Research priorities will include:

- Socio-and techno-economic studies to improve the integration of environmental protection in sectoral EU policies;
- Activities to support environmental legislation, including those supporting environmental legislation for integrated pollution prevention and control in industry;

- Global change. The JRC will provide the strong technical support needed in order to maintain the EU's credibility as a Party to the Kyoto Climate Convention;
- Energy and transport and the formulation of effective policies to reduce emissions and replace fossil fuels with renewable energies;
- Agriculture, rural development and fisheries. The JRC will continue to play an active role in supporting EU policy priorities to make agriculture more competitive in world markets, to give new priority to sustainable and rural development.
- Underpinning European Competitiveness. The EU's primary contribution to economic development, growth and job creation is the promotion of an efficient internal market in all products and services. The EU negotiates trading agreements with third countries to ensure fair market access for EU products and the stimulation of economic growth. Fair trading depends on internationally agreed standards and the JRC will continue to support the promotion and development of soundly-based European and international norms, standards, codes of practice and reference tools. Research will target, inter alia, the following issues:
  - Employment, technology and industrial competitiveness. Investigation of the means of communication between technology, employment and competitiveness, and analysis of factors limiting the development of less favoured European regions with a view to eliminating bottle-necks and improving competitiveness and employment;
  - Normative support to the international trading system. Activities to give industries predictable and reliable market access conditions and produce well-established, verifiable and internationally accepted measurements;
  - Innovation and technology transfer. The JRC will support efforts to understand the processes that control the transfer of knowledge from the research sector to the private sector and to maximize the benefits of its own technology to industry;
  - Enlargement, pre-accession and international cooperation. JRC will support the enlargement process by sharing its knowledge with scientists from future EU Member States, hosting their scientists and encouraging them to use its facilities and join its networks. It will promote their association with international measurement evaluation programmes and will develop the cooperation with Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Partnership countries. In addition, the JRC will develop a multidisciplinary database of harmonized and consistent geographical data for an enlarged European Union.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 815.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Joint Research Centre research

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.11. Programme for research and training to be implemented by the Joint Research Centre by means of direct actions for European Atomic Energy Community, 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: FP5-EAECJRC C

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme Euratom Joint Research Centre

Short Title: Joint Research Centre for European Atomic Energy Community

Subject Index Codes: Coordination, Cooperation; Nuclear Fusion; Nuclear Fission; Energy Storage, Energy Transport; Environmental Protection; Radiation Protection; Waste Management; Radioactive Waste

Objectives: To provide scientific and technical support for the formulation, implementation and monitoring of EU policies.

Subdivisions of Programme: The JRC programme forms part of the framework programme, which meets the objectives set out in articles 7 and 8 of the Euratom treaty. The target population is Europe's scientific and industrial community and that concerned with the various sectoral policies of the Commission in which the JRC is required to provide its support.

The specific programme is structured around four areas:

- Controlled thermonuclear fusion. JRC activities complement Member State activities and are fully integrated in this common effort on the same level as the Euratom Associations. They are focussed on its specific skills and facilities and concern materials research and testing;
- Nuclear fission safety. JRC will support public authorities and industry in maintaining safe nuclear installations and the safe management of the fuel cycle. It will offer unique facilities and traditional competence and scientific excellence while concentrating on activities where the added-value from its support is unquestioned. They will concern research aspects along the following four main lines:
  - Ageing of materials and components;
  - Fuel cycle safety;
  - Study of irradiated fuels with a view to direct disposal, the examination of long-term behaviour under storage, and determination of the risks associated with their raditoxicity;
  - Study of severe accidents.
- Control of fissile materials and nuclear safeguards, targeted along the following five main lines:
  - Development and improvement of measurement, monitoring and analytical techniques with emphasis on automation;
  - Development of dedicated information technologies for the analysis and detection of anomalies between declarations and verifications;

- Evaluation with regard to controls on fissile materials;
  - Development of analytical techniques adapted to the fight against illicit trafficking and radioactive dumping;
  - Training of inspectors in new technologies.
- Decommissioning of nuclear installations, waste management.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 326.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Joint Research Centre research

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.12. Specific programme (Euratom) for research and training on preserving the ecosystem, 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: FP5-EAECTP C

Description Acronym: Fifth Framework Programme Euratom

Short Title: Euratom thematic programme - "Preserving the ecosystem"

Subject Index Codes: Coordination, Cooperation; Nuclear Fusion; Nuclear Fission; Energy Storage, Energy Transport; Environmental Protection; Radiation Protection; Waste Management; Radioactive Waste

Objectives: To help exploit the full potential of nuclear energy, both by making current technologies even safer and more economical and by exploring new promising concepts.

Subdivisions of Programme: This research and training programme consists of key actions, research and development activities of a generic nature, and support for research infrastructure. These are set out in detail below.

Key Actions with the following objectives:

- Key action controlled thermonuclear fusion. Under the strategy set out in the fifth framework programme, the contribution of fusion to safe and clean base-load electricity generation will be investigated in the wider context of studies on the socio-economic aspects of fusion. During the period covered by the fifth framework programme, the strategy will be followed under three main lines:
  - Continuation of ongoing research. Fusion physics and technology activities will aim to develop the capacity to plan an experimental reactor. Europe will continue to participate in the ITER engineering design activities (EDA) in the preparation of the possible reactor construction;

- Concept improvements. Structured activities in the field of physics will focus on improving the basic concepts of fusion devices;
- Long-term technology. Structured technological activities will be aimed at preparing, in the longer term, for the demonstration reactor (DEMO);
- Key action nuclear fission. The main objectives are to help ensure the safety of Europe's nuclear facilities, the protection of workers and the public and the safe and effective management and final disposal of radioactive waste, to improve the competitiveness of Europe's nuclear industry and enhance its prospects in world markets and to explore more innovative concepts that are sustainable and have potential longer term economic, safety, health and environmental benefits. While mainly scientific or technological in nature, the research will have a significant socio-economic dimension. A further objective is to contribute, through education and training, towards maintaining within the Union a high level of expertise and competence on nuclear safety.
  - Operational safety of existing facilities. Research will focus on measures to maintain and improve the safety of existing with particular emphasis on the safety aspects of prolonging the life-span of reactors and on strategies for serious accident management;
  - Safety of the fuel cycle. Research will focus on developing a scientifically-founded approach to the management and disposal radioactive waste that is both cost-effective and acceptable in a broader social context;
  - Safety and efficiency of future systems. Research will focus on improving the safety and competitiveness of future facilities and the exploration of more innovative or fundamentally new concepts for energy generation that offer advantages in terms of cost, (including the better management of wastes and utilization of fissile materials), sustainability and reduced risk of diversion;
  - Radiation protection. Research will be aimed at helping operators and regulatory authorities to protect workers and the public during operations in the nuclear fuel cycle, to manage nuclear emergencies and to restore contaminated environments. It will be strictly limited to satisfying the objectives of the key action. Complementary research, having a more generic and fundamental nature, will be carried out in support.
- Research and technological development activities of a generic nature. The objective is to consolidate and advance European knowledge and competence in the radiological sciences in order to: maintain and improve the safety and efficacy of industrial and medical uses of radiation; better assess and manage exposure from natural sources of radiation; support the development and practical application of radiation protection standards. It will be implemented along four main lines:
  - Radiation protection and health. Research will focus on improving the basis for estimating the risks of low and protracted doses of ionizing radiation;
  - Environmental transfer of radioactive material. Research will focus on improving our understanding of the behaviour of radioactive material in the environment, with a view to developing sound policy and good practice in managing the impact of natural and artificial sources of radiation;

- Industrial and medical uses and natural sources of radiation. Research will focus on enhancing the safety and efficacy of medical and industrial uses of radiation, on better assessment and management of exposures to natural sources of radiation and on conceptual and methodological issues in optimizing protection;
- Internal and external dosimetry. Research will focus on improving methods for assessing exposures to radiation from external sources and incorporated nuclides and developing innovative monitoring techniques which take advantage of progress in materials science and digital electronics.
- Support for research infrastructure. The objective is to further integrate nuclear research within the Union so that available resources can be used more effectively to the competitive advantage of European industry, and to ensure the continuing safe and socially acceptable exploitation of nuclear technologies. There are three main ways in which this support will be provided:
  - Large scale facilities. Continued access to large scale facilities is essential and can be facilitated by shared use and collaborative programmes;
  - Networking. Existing networks must be reinforced and others established where they can demonstrably help achieve the programme objectives or broader Union goals;
  - Databases and tissue banks. Existing databases should be reinforced and others established where the need arises.

#### Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

The programme has four components:

- Key action on controlled thermonuclear fusion, to further develop the necessary basis for the possible construction of an experimental reactor, as well as the basic concepts and the technologies required in the long term for the reactor;
- Key action on nuclear fission, the aims of which are to enhance the safety of Europe's nuclear facilities and the protection of workers and the public from radiation, to help solve waste management and disposal problems and to improve the competitiveness and social acceptability of Europe's nuclear industry;
- Research and technological development activities of a generic nature, the aim of which is to consolidate and advance European knowledge and competence in several areas that are important for the safe and competitive use of nuclear fission and other industrial and medical uses of ionising radiation and for the management of natural sources of radiation;
- Support for research infrastructure, where the objective is to further integrate nuclear research within the Union so that available resources can be used more effectively to the competitive advantage of European industry and to ensure the continuing safe and socially acceptable exploitation of nuclear technologies.

Start Date: 1999-01-01

End Date: 2002-01-01

Duration: 36 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 1141.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Preparatory, accompanying and support measures; Bursaries, grants, fellowships; Cost-sharing contracts; Thematic network contracts; Coordination of research actions

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.13. EU Research and Technological Development activities 2002-2006**

Programme Acronym: RTD 2002-2006 C

Programme Type: OTH (Other research-related programmes)

Short Title: Research and Technological Development activities for 2002-2006 period

Subject Index Codes: Policies; Legislation, Regulations; Scientific Research; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: Measures in support of EU research designed with reference to the broad lines of the "European Research Area" (ERA). Realisation of the ERA will enable the full objectives of research and technological development policy to be attained, as set out in the Treaty:

- Strengthen the scientific and technological bases of Community industry and encourage it to become more competitive at international level;
- Promote the research activities deemed necessary by virtue of other EU policies.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Implementation: No information

Programme Status: Proposed

Contract Types: Coordination of research actions

Commission Service: DG XII

#### **4.1.14. Multiannual programme for enterprise and entrepreneurship, and in particular for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs), 2001-2005**

Programme Acronym: SMEAP 4C

Description Acronym: Small and Medium-sized Enterprise Action Programme

Programme Type: OTH (Other research-related programmes)

Short Title: Multi-annual programme for SMEs

Subject Index Codes: Economic Aspects; Policies; Social Aspects; Innovation, Technology Transfer

Objectives: To enhance the growth and competitiveness of business in a knowledge-based internationalized economy; to promote entrepreneurship; to simplify and improve the administrative and regulatory framework for business so that research, innovation and business creation in particular can flourish; to improve the financial

environment for SMEs; to give business easier access to Community support services, programmes and networks and to improve the coordination of these facilities.

Subdivisions of Programme: Programmes areas:

The areas of actions will principally be based on identifying and exchanging best practice, while taking account the needs of SMEs.

- Enhancing growth and the competitiveness of business in a knowledge-based internationalized economy:

This programme will foster, in particular, measures to:

- Enhance competitiveness and innovation;
- Assist the free movement of goods and market access;
- Prepare enterprises for facing globalization and promote the participation of SMEs in the process of standardization and its implementation;
- Provide an adequate range of skills geared to the needs of small businesses;
- Develop the use of new information and communications technologies;
- Encourage innovative practices;
- Foster the integration of sustainable development.
- Promote entrepreneurship:
  - Assist the creation and transfer of businesses;
  - Develop training in entrepreneurship;
  - Foster the enterprise culture throughout society;
  - Identify and promoting specific policies in favour of SMEs.
- Simplify and improve the administrative and regulatory environment for business, in particular to promote research, innovation and business creation
  - Further development of the business impact assessment system for proposed Community legislation;
  - Better regulation and a simpler administrative environment in general.
- Improving the financial environment for business, especially SMEs:

The programme will foster in particular:

- Measures to improve the financial environment for business, especially SMEs;
- Use of the Euro by business;
- Measures to encourage proximity financing, and in particular to develop networks of Business Angels;
- Promoting a Community-wide network for seed capital funds and their managers and stimulating an exchange of best practices and training;
- The organization of Round Tables of bankers and SMEs.
- Giving business easier access to Community support services, programmes and networks and improving the coordination of these facilities:

The programme will, in particular, develop actions to:

- Foster access for enterprises to Community programmes and ensure better coordination particularly with the fifth framework programme for research, technological development and demonstration activities;
- Improve the operation, cooperation and coordination of Community networks;
- Promote the organization of Europartnership business cooperation events;
- Make use of the report entitled European Observatory for SMEs.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) :SMEAP 3C

The programme shall be open to the participation of:

- The EFTA/EEA countries;
- The associated central and eastern European countries (CEEC);
- Cyprus, under the same conditions as those applied to the EFTA/EEA countries;
- Malta and Turkey.

Start Date: 2001-01-01

End Date: 2005-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 450.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG XXIII

## 4.2. REGIONAL PROGRAMMES

### 4.2.1. Community initiative for rural development 2000-2006, LEADER +

Programme Acronym: LEADER +

Description Acronym: Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Economie Rurale

Programme Type: REG (Regional programmes)

Short Title: Rural development (Community Initiative)

Subject Index Codes: Regional Development; Social Aspects; Policies; Agriculture; Education, Training; Economic Aspects; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: LEADER + aims at encouraging the design and the implementation of innovative development strategies for rural areas by the establishment of active partnerships operating at the local level.

Subdivisions of Programme: LEADER + comprises three strands:

**Strand 1:** support for integrated and innovative development strategies for rural areas. These strategies are based on a partnership between those involved at local

level and on the "bottom up" approach which gives priority to initiatives put forward by local people;

**Strand 2** : support for interregional and transnational co-operation;

**Strand 3** : networking all EU rural areas - whether or not they receive LEADER + funding as well as for all those involved in rural development.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : LEADER 2

Start Date: 2000-01-01

End Date: 2006-12-31

Duration: 84 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 2020.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG VI

#### **4.2.2. Community Initiative concerning trans-European cooperation intended to encourage harmonious and balanced development of the European territory INTERREG 3, 2000 - 2006**

Programme Acronym: INTERREG 3

Programme Type: REG (Regional programmes)

Short Title: Trans-European cooperation (Community Initiative)

Subject Index Codes: Legislation, Regulations; Regional Development; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: Strengthen cross-border cooperation, in particular between non-adjacent regions, to promote balanced development and European integration.

Subdivisions of Programme: Building on the experience of the previous INTERREG Initiatives, INTERREG 3 will be based on three strands:

**Strand A:** promoting integrated regional development between neighbouring border regions, including external borders and certain maritime borders. This strand is concerned with the following topics:

- Promoting urban, rural and coastal development;
- Encouraging entrepreneurship and the development of small firms (including those in the tourism sector) and local employment initiatives;
- Promoting the integration of the labour market and social inclusion;
- Sharing human resources and facilities for research, technological development, education, culture, communications and health to increase productivity and help create sustainable jobs;
- Encouraging the protection of the environment (local, global), increase energy efficiency and promote renewable sources of energy;

- Improving transport (particularly measures implementing more environmentally-friendly forms of transport), information and communication networks and services and water and energy systems;
- Developing co-operation in the legal and administrative spheres to promote economic development and social cohesion;
- Increasing human and institutional potential for cross-border cooperation to promote economic development and social cohesion.

**Strand B:** contributing to harmonious territorial integration across the Community. Support will be provided to:

- Elaborate operational spatial development strategies on a transnational scale, including co-operation among cities and between urban and rural areas, with a view to promoting polycentric and sustainable development;
- Promote efficient and sustainable transport systems and improved access to the information society;
- Promote the environment and the good management of cultural heritage and of natural resources, in particular water resources;
- Contribute to the integration between maritime regions, and of insular regions, each through a specific priority with an appropriate financial allocation;
- Promote the integrated cooperation of the outermost regions.

**Strand C:** improving regional development and cohesion policies and techniques through transnational/interregional cooperation. This is by far the smallest strand financially. This strand covers cooperation actions related to specific topics to be defined by the Commission, such as research, technological development and SMEs, the information society, tourism, culture and employment, entrepreneurship and environment, etc.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : INTERREG 2

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 4.88 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG XVI

### **4.3. EDUCATION - TRAINING AND CULTURE PROGRAMMES**

#### **4.3.1. Second phase of the Community action programme in the field of education 'Socrates', 2000-2006**

Programme Acronym: SOCRATES 2

Programme Type: E&T (Education and Training)

Short Title: Second phase of the programme 'Socrates'

Subject Index Codes: Education, Training; Policies

Objectives: To contribute to the development of quality education; to strengthen the European dimension in education at all levels; to promote cooperation in the field of education; to help remove the obstacles to cooperation; to encourage innovation associated with new technologies.

Subdivisions of Programme: The programme comprises eight actions:

- School education (Comenius):
  - Reinforcing the European dimension of school education, to encourage transnational cooperation and to promote language learning, through:
  - School partnerships: the creation of multilateral partnerships between schools through multimedia means, especially those which involve teacher training establishments, local authorities, businesses and parents;
  - Staff involved in school education, contributing to the career development of staff working in the school education sector through multilateral projects from establishments and bodies involved in the training of educational staff, also by making use of multimedia facilities;
- Higher education (Erasmus):

Reinforcing the European dimension of higher education at all levels, and encouraging transnational cooperation between universities, through:

- European interuniversity cooperation, which should, wherever possible, make use of the facilities offered by multimedia. Participating universities conclude an 'institutional contract' with the Commission;
- Mobility of students and university teachers between Member States organised in the framework of 'institutional contracts';
- Adult education and other educational pathways (Grundtvig):

Seeking to encourage lifelong learning, in particular by offering other educational routes for citizens who want to gain new knowledge. This will complement the other actions (school and higher education). It is aimed at young people who left school with insufficient basic training, and may involve:

- New educational approaches, seeking to encourage initiatives aimed at developing more flexible, less formal educational methods;
- Adult education, to improve the quality of education available to adult learners, in particular by reinforcing cooperation between the various bodies working in the field and strengthening the European dimension of adult education;
- Teaching and learning of languages (Lingua):
  - Enabling the Commission, in partnership with the Member States, to ensure the coordination and consolidation of measures relating to the learning of languages, with a view to promoting and maintaining linguistic diversity within the Community, helping to improve the quality of language teaching and learning and promoting easy access to lifelong learning opportunities tailored to individual requirements;
- Open and distance learning, information and communication technologies in the field of education (Minerva):

- Ensuring the coordination and consolidation of measures relating to open and distance education and the use of new information and multimedia communication technologies in the field of education;
- Observation and innovation:
  - Contributing to the transparency of education systems in Europe through the exchange of information and experience turning the specifics of national systems into a source of quality European education;
  - New innovatory initiatives, including support for transnational projects aimed at developing innovations in one or more specific sectors of education;
- Joint actions:
  - Providing Community support for joint actions with other actions under the knowledge policy, in particular Community vocational training and youth programmes designed to widen access to knowledge. Coordination between the different programmes may be achieved by common calls for proposals. The Commission will develop a joint information and observation arrangement with regard to good practice in the field of knowledge, and joint actions on education and training multimedia;
- Accompanying Measures:
  - Financial assistance may be granted to initiatives aimed at promoting the objectives of the programme, provided that they are not eligible for assistance under other actions.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : SOCRATES 1

Start Date: 2000-01-01

End Date: 2006-12-31

Duration: 84 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 1850.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Demonstration contracts

#### **4.3.2. Second phase of the Community vocational training action programme 'Leonardo da Vinci', 2000-2006**

Programme Acronym: LEONARDO DA VINCI 2

Programme Type: E&T (Education and Training)

Subject Index Codes: Education, Training

Objectives: To improve and strengthen the social and occupational integration of young people; to expand and develop access to lifelong skills, particularly to consolidate technological and organisational innovation, and investment in training; to support the vocational training systems to assist those in difficult circumstances, owing to inadequate or outdated skills, to find employment and to insert themselves in the labour market.

Subdivisions of Programme: The programme comprises 7 actions:

- **Physical Mobility:**
  - Support for transnational physical mobility programmes (including placements and exchanges) for people undergoing training and for trainers and training organisers;
  - Demonstration actions relating to the organisation and implementation of multiannual transnational placement programmes organised among regions and/or sectors in European work-linked training and apprenticeship networks;
- **Virtual Mobility:**
  - Support for actions to promote the new information and communication technologies (ICT) and designed to develop virtual mobility, including distance training networks and teleworking;
  - Demonstration actions, experimental pilots to promote ICT specifically targeted towards the development of European arrangements for guidance/counselling/training in business-related services;
- **Innovatory Pilot Projects:**
  - Support for transnational pilot training projects to develop aptitude to innovation, its transfer and entrepreneurship, and the development of innovation and its transfer in training;
  - Demonstration Actions, relating to: the implementation (at European level) of new forms of accreditation skills; and 'second chance' training actions especially in problem urban districts;
- **Community Networks:**
  - Support for Community networks of Community expertise and dissemination, bringing together, in the Member States at the regional or sectoral level, the public and private players concerned, including researchers;
  - Demonstration actions, support relating to the development and networking of multi-player training consortia organised regionally or sectorally and fulfilling the role of centres providing services, advice and information to validated training methods and products;
- **Language Skills:**
  - Support for actions to promote language and cultural skills in training, to design, test and validate, assess and disseminate teaching material tailored to the specific needs of each occupational area and economic sector, including through the use of language audits. Also transnational programmes and exchanges between language training establishments of language trainers and mentors;
- **Reference material:**
  - Support for the development and updating of reference material through support for surveys and analyses, the establishment and updating of comparable data on vocational training systems and the observation and dissemination of good practices and the comprehensive exchange of information.

- Joint actions:
  - Community support may be provided for joint actions with other actions, particularly Community education and youth programmes designed to widen access to knowledge. Coordination of the programmes can be achieved by common calls for proposals. European knowledge centres will be set up to ensure regional and local contact and interaction between players taking part in the programme and in education and youth-related programmes.
- Accompanying measures:
  - Support for coordination and monitoring activities by Member States;
  - Information, monitoring, organisation assessment and dissemination activities by the Member States and the Commission to facilitate access to the programme, consolidate the transfer of methods, products and tools, and the results obtained by Community measures.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : LEONARDO DA VINCI 1

Start Date: 2000-01-01

End Date: 2006-12-31

Duration: 84 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 1150.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Demonstration contracts

Commission Service: DG XXII

#### **4.3.3. Community action programme for youth, 2000-2006**

Programme Acronym: YOUTH C

Programme Type: E&T (Education and Training)

Short Title: Programme for youth

Subject Index Codes: Education, Training

Objectives: To allow young people to acquire knowledge and skills, and to exercise responsible citizenship to become an active part of society, notably by promoting the role of young women; to strengthen their sense of solidarity through more extensive participation by young people living legally in a Member State in transnational Community service activities; to promote an active contribution by young people to the building of Europe through their participation in transnational exchanges within the Community or with non-member countries; to encourage young peoples' sense of initiative, enterprise and creativity so that they can play an active role in society.

Subdivisions of Programme: The aims of the programme will be carried out through the following five actions:

##### **Action 1: European voluntary service:**

Where young volunteers participate, in a Member State other than the one in which they are living, or in a non-member country, in a non-profit-making and unpaid activity which is of value to the community and lasts for a limited period (maximum 12 months) as part of a project recognised by the Member State and the Community. There are two sub-categories of action:

- Intra-Community European voluntary service Transnational projects, of between three weeks to one year, which involve young people, actively and personally, in activities designed to help most meet the needs of society in a wide range of fields (including social, sociocultural, environmental, cultural). They are designed to bring young people into contact with other cultures and other languages. Some preparation and mentoring arrangements may be supported.
- European voluntary service with non-member countries Transnational projects with the same aims and duration as the intra-community actions but with non-member countries.

### **Action 2: Youth for Europe:**

- Intra-Community exchanges for young people Mobility activities - based on transnational partnerships between groups of young people - lasting at least one week, carried out on the basis of joint projects within the Community and involving groups of young people aged between 15 and 25 years and legally resident in a Member State. Activities should make it possible for them to discover and become aware of different social and cultural realities and encourage them to participate in, or initiate, other activities at European level. Community support shall be focused primarily on multilateral group-mobility activities. Linguistic and intercultural preparation prior to the mobility may be supported.
- Exchanges of young people with non-member countries Mobility activities with the same aims and duration as the intra-community exchanges but aimed at projects involving exchanges between young people from at least two Member States and a non-member country.

### **Action 3: Opportunity for youth:**

- Funding will be provided for projects where young people actively and directly participate in innovative and creative schemes and in those which focus on the social commitment of young people at local, regional, national or European level. They are aimed at helping young volunteers to make the best possible use of the experience gained during their period of voluntary service. Initiatives designed to encourage tolerance and the acceptance of differences, the combating of exclusion and involving sporting or cultural activities are particularly encouraged in this category.

Under this action, support for 'Youth initiatives' will encourage the extension of the projects to include similar initiatives conducted in other Member States to strengthen their transnational nature and expand exchanges of experience and cooperation between young people.

### **Action 4: joint actions:**

- Support for activities carried out jointly with other Community schemes in the field of knowledge policy, in particular Community programmes in the field of education and vocational training. Coordination may be implemented by means of calls for joint projects. The Commission intends to develop a common system of

information and observation about good practice in the field of knowledge, alongside joint actions with regard to multimedia for educational and training purposes.

**Action 5: Support measures:**

- Training and cooperation in relation to these involved in youth policy Funding will be granted to activities: designed to give further training to those involved in youth work; designed to develop European training modules; designed to facilitate and promote the establishment of lasting transnational partnerships and/or multilateral networks between those active in the field of youth work; to implement new approaches and new forms cooperation; and to promote cooperation and the exchange of good practice such as conferences and seminars. The activities may be intra-Community in nature or involve non-member countries.
- Information for young people and youth studies. Where those active in the field of youth work will be encouraged to become involved in informing young people at European level, as well as boosting cooperation between the information and communication systems for young people established in the Member States and at Community level. Particular stress will be laid on broadening cooperation to include the fields of education and training. Funding will be provided for initiatives involving: the acquisition of the necessary expertise to carry out youth information projects; cooperative projects focusing on information dissemination, awareness; implementation, as part of the transnational cooperation projects of mechanisms permitting dialogue between and with young people, particularly through the use of media and new technologies.
- Support Measures.

Community assistance may be provided to support the activities of the structures set up by Member States and the Commission may have recourse to technical assistance organisations.

The actions will be implemented, or positioned, within the following measures, in the form of operations which may be used in combination with each other:

- Support for mobility of young people;
- Promotion of virtual mobility;
- Support for the development of European level cooperation networks permitting mutual exchange of experience and good practice;
- Promotion of language skills and understanding of different cultures;
- Support for innovatory pilot projects based on transnational partnerships designed to develop innovation;
- Constant improvement of the Community terms of references with regard to youth systems and policies.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : YFE 3C

Start Date: 2000-01-01

End Date: 2006-12-31

Duration: 84 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 600.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Demonstration contracts

Commission Service: DG XXII

#### **4.3.4. Third phase of the trans-European cooperation scheme for higher education (Tempus III), 2000-2006**

Programme Acronym: TEMPUS 3

Programme Type: E&T (Education and Training)

Short Title: Trans-European Mobility scheme for University Students

Title: Third phase of the trans-European cooperation scheme for higher education (Tempus III), 2000-2006

Subject Index Codes: Education, Training; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: To Promote, in line with the guidelines and general objectives of the PHARE and TACIS programmes for economic and social reform, the development of the higher education systems in the new independent states of the former Soviet Union and Mongolia through the most balanced cooperation possible with the partners of all the Member States of the Community.

Subdivisions of Programme: Three actions:

▪ Joint European Projects (JEPs):

Involving at least one university in an eligible country, one university from a Member State and a partner establishment (university or company) in another Member State. JEP support can be provided for activities according to the specific needs of the establishments concerned and in line with the priorities established, including:

- Joint teaching and training actions;
- Measures for the reform and development of higher education and its capacity;
- Promotion of cooperation between the university and industry, through joint actions;
- Development of mobility for teachers, administrative staff at universities and students under JEPs;
- Activities to ensure the success of a JEP involving two or more eligible countries;

▪ Structural and/or complementary measures:

Providing financial support (particularly technical assistance, seminars, studies, publications, information activities) to support the programme objectives, particularly the development and restructuring of higher education systems in the eligible countries. Under the structural measures, financial aid will be granted inter alia to:

- Develop and strengthen the capacity for strategic planning and institutional development of higher education establishments at university or faculty level;

- Establish a plan to develop universities under structural contracts to help them build up international relations;
- Support the spread of cooperation actions targeting the Tempus objectives;
- Prepare a national strategy in a given eligible country to develop a specific aspect of higher education;
- Individual Grants;

Additional support in the form of grants to teachers, trainers, university administrators, senior ministerial officials, education planners and other experts in training from eligible countries or from the Community, for visits to promote the quality, development and restructuring of higher education and training in the eligible countries. Covering the following areas:

- Development of courses and teaching material;
- Development of staff, through periods of refresher training and in-company placements;
- Teaching assignments;
- Activities to support the development of higher education;

Also, support actions will be carried out, including:

- Technical assistance including monitoring of the implementation of the scheme;
- Support for external evaluation of the scheme.

General Information: This programme is open to the countries of central and eastern Europe, the new independent states of the former Soviet Union and Mongolia, which are beneficiaries of the PHARE and TACIS programmes.

Specifically, Tempus III is intended to help the higher education systems in the eligible countries to address:

- Issues relating to the development and reshaping of teaching syllabuses;
- Higher education reform and management;
- Development of qualification-related training specifically linked to high level skills - needed during periods of economic reform, particularly through improving higher education/industry links.

Start Date: 2000-07-01

End Date: 2006-12-31

Duration: 78 months

Programme Status: Execution

Contract Types: Bursaries, grants, fellowships

Commission Service: DG XXII

#### **4.3.5. Community Framework programme in support of culture, 2000-2004**

Programme Acronym: CULTURE 2000

Programme Type: OTH (Other research-related programmes)

Short Title: Framework Programme in support of culture

Subject Index Codes: Social Aspects; Information, Media

Objectives: To contribute to the promotion of a cultural area common to the European people, supporting cooperation between creative artists, cultural operators and the cultural institutions of the Member States

Subdivisions of Programme: Measures to be carried out under the programme:

- Integrated projects covered by structured, multiannual transnational cultural cooperation agreements, particularly encouraged through networks. The proposed "cultural cooperation agreements", covering a maximum of three years, will cover some or all of the following:
  - Co-productions and other large-scale cultural events, especially in the field of live arts, literature and the artistic heritage;
  - Cultural events within the Community to bring European culture to a wider audience;
  - Measures involving several different cultural disciplines: trans-sectoral integrated projects (combining the creative arts, heritage and new technologies, for example); and cultural operations which cause economic momentum, combining all or part of the occupational process from creation and design to completion;
  - Measures to develop further training and mobility for those in the cultural professions in both academic and practical terms;
  - Measures highlighting the richness and diversity of the cultural heritage, to teach Europeans about their common cultural values and roots, encourage mutual awareness of other's culture and history and to promote a cultural dialogue;
  - For this measure, Community support may not exceed 60% of the cultural cooperation agreement's budget. It may not be less than ECU 200 000 or more than ECU 350 000 a year. The support may, however, be raised by a maximum of 20% to cover the costs of network creation and managing of cooperation agreements. For the agreement to be eligible, operators from at least seven States participating in the "Culture 2000" programme must be involved in the measures covered by the programme;
- Major Projects. Increasing the sense of belonging for the people of Europe as well as making them aware of European cultural diversity. Projects include:
  - European City of Culture;
  - European Union cultural festival of the performing arts in the country holding the Presidency of the Union;
  - Introduction of European Days in some major international cultural events;
  - Enhancing an event, monument or cultural site which represents a common cultural trend, located within the Union, of European importance, of major symbolic value and accessible to the public;
  - Recognition of great artistic talents;

- Organization of a Cultural Forum of the European Union as a result of the cultural dialogue both inside and outside the Community;
- Broadcasting major cultural events across frontiers using new technologies;
- Organization of innovative educational artistic and cultural events.

Community support for these projects may not be less than ECU 200 000 or more than ECU 1 million.

- Specific projects. Each year the Community will support cooperation projects proposed by cultural operators from different Member States. The project priorities will be defined after consultation with the framework programme Committee. The projects, involving at least four Member States, must be innovative and experimental and have the following main aims:
  - To encourage the emergence and spread, alongside culture in the classic sense, of new forms of cultural expression (nature, solidarity, science, peace etc);
  - To facilitate access to culture and wider cultural participation by the diverse peoples of Europe, including the most underprivileged, and especially young people;
  - To support the creation of multimedia tools, tailored to meet the needs of different publics, making European artistic creation and heritage more visible and more accessible to all;
  - To encourage initiatives, discussions and cooperation between cultural and socio-cultural operators working in the field of social integration, especially that of young people;
  - To promote the profile of European cultures in third countries, in particular encouraging cooperation between institutes and/or cultural services from the Member States with a presence in third countries, on themes which are of European interest.

Community support for specific measures may not be less than ECU 50 000 or more than ECU 100 000.

Start Date: 2000-01-01

End Date: 2004-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 167.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cooperation network contracts; Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG X

## **4.4. SOCIAL PROGRAMMES**

### **4.4.1. Community Action Programme to combat discrimination 2001 - 2006**

Programme Acronym: Combat discrimination

Programme Type: SOC (Social programmes)

Short Title: Community Action Programme to combat discrimination 2001 - 2006

Subject Index Codes: Social Aspects; Policies; Legislation, Regulations; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: To establish a Community Action Programme for 2001-2006 and to support the Member States action to combat all forms of discrimination.

Subdivisions of Programme: The Action Programme is targeted to elaborate the understanding of issues related to discrimination through improved knowledge and measurement and through evaluation of the effectiveness of policies and practice. It also envisages developing the capacity of target actors (in particular the Member States, local and regional authorities, independent bodies responsible for the fight against discrimination, the social partners and non-governmental organizations) to address discrimination effectively, in particular through support for the exchange of information and good practice and networking in Europe while promoting and disseminating the values and practices underlying the fight against discrimination.

This programme shall be open to the participation of:

- the EFTA/EEA countries;
- the candidate countries of central and eastern Europe (CEECs);
- Cyprus and Malta;
- And Turkey.

Start Date: 2001-01-01

End Date: 2006-12-31

Duration: 72 months

Programme Status: Execution

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG V

#### **4.4.2. Community action programme on measures providing a Community-wide support to Member States relating to violence against children, young persons and women – Daphne ;2000-2003**

Programme Acronym: Daphne

Programme Type: SOC (Social programmes)

Short Title: Daphne 2000 - 2003

Subject Index Codes: Social Aspects; Policies; Legislation, Regulations; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: The DAPHNE Programme (2000-2003) is a four-year programme of Community action that supports preventive measures to fight violence against children, young people and women. Specifically to support and encourage both non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other organisations including public authorities active in the fight against violence to work together.

Specific objectives and Actions are :

**Objective:** To support and encourage both non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and other organisations including public authorities active in the fight against violence to work together.

**Action:** Transnational actions to set up multidisciplinary networks and to ensure exchange of information, best practice and cooperation at community level.

**Objective:** To support the raising of public awareness of violence and the prevention of violence against children, young people and women, including the victims of trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation and other sexual abuse.

**Action:** Transnational actions aimed at raising public awareness.

It has a total budget of 20 million.

#### **4.4.3. Joint Action establishing a programme of exchanges, training and cooperation for persons responsible for action to combat organized crime (Falcone), 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: FALCONE

Programme Type: OTH (Other research-related programmes)

Short Title: Action to combat organized crime

Subject Index Codes: Social Aspects; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: To establish a programme of exchanges, training and cooperation in the Member States for implementing measures to combat organized crime.

Subdivisions of Programme: Five categories of action:

- Training projects and the preparation of teaching modules to improve knowledge of specific aspects of regulations, legislation, procedures and practices relating to the fight against organized crime;
- Joint cooperative projects between Member States to improve skills and operational methods in the fight against organized crime, possibly involving the temporary secondment of experts;
- Programmes of limited-duration traineeships with public bodies with particular responsibilities in the fight against organized crime, and the organization of subject-specific meetings and seminars;
- Projects whose aim is the dissemination and exchange of information, including providing help in setting up networks of contacts points and the development of databases and data networks of case-law and legislation to enhance the actions of and cooperation between departments and bodies concerned with the fight against organized crime;
- Projects involving:
  - Research defining common standards and methodology to improve the identification of the phenomenon, the implementation of scientific, technical or comparative research and the subsequent coordination of that research;

- Comparison and assessment of prevention, enforcement and prosecution instruments to identify possibilities for defining common policies against organized crime;
- Comparison and assessment of methods used in the fight against organized crime by police, customs and the judiciary.

Start Date: 1998-03-19

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 57 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 10.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: SG

## **4.5. ENERGY PROGRAMMES**

### **4.5.1. Multiannual framework programme for actions in the energy sector and concerted measures, 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: ENERGY-FP C

Programme Type: ENG (Energy Programmes)

Short Title: Framework programme for actions in the energy sector

Subject Index Codes: Renewable Sources of Energy; Energy Saving; Forecasting; Fossil Fuels; Nuclear Fission

Objectives: To guarantee the security of energy supplies; to ensure competitiveness; and to promote the compatibility of the development of the energy market with environmental protection objectives.

Subdivisions of Programme: Six specific programmes:

- Horizontal programmes:
  - Development, in cooperation with the Member States, of a programme for regular monitoring of the evaluation of the energy markets and trends, so that political decisions relating to energy can be taken on the basis of a joint analysis;
  - Reinforcement, within the area of competence of the framework programme, of international cooperation in the energy field in order to encourage, firstly, greater diversification of energy sources and, secondly, greater transparency and stability of the international gas and oil markets in particular (SYNERGY);
- Thematic programmes:
  - Promotion of new and renewable energy sources and implementation of a Community strategy and action plan for renewable energy sources to the year 2010 (ALTENER 2);

- Encouragement of rational and efficient use of energy resources (SAVE 2);
- Regeneration of the coal sector, notably through the use of environmentally compatible technologies (CARNOT);
- Safer use of nuclear energy through nuclear sector cooperation on safety, industrial cooperation with NIS, transport of radioactive materials, including measures to combat illegal trafficking.

The energy framework programme should not be confused with the Community's RTD Framework Programmes.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 200.40 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Study contracts, assessment contracts

Commission Service: DG XVII

#### **4.5.2. Multiannual programme of studies, analysis, forecast and related works in the energy sector , 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: ETAP

Programme Type: ENG (Energy Programmes)

Short Title: Studies, analyses and forecasts in the energy sector

Subject Index Codes: Other Energy Topics; Forecasting

Objectives: To establish at Community level a shared approach to studies, analyses, forecasts and other related work in the energy sector; to promote analysis of the energy markets and policies at the level of the Community and Member States; to analyse and evaluate energy and environment questions, particularly in relation to climate change; to analyse and evaluate energy market trends in Europe and the world; to help identify and transfer the best analysis methods and practices; to facilitate information networks in the energy field; to develop an active policy for the dissemination of the results obtained; to develop methodologies for monitoring the implementation of the energy framework programme.

Subdivisions of Programme: In order to achieve the objectives of the programme, the Community may undertake and/or promote, directly or in cooperation with interested parties, and/or contribute to the following measures:

- Observation, monitoring and the exchange of comparable information in the energy field as well as the completion of studies, analyses and forecasts on all energy aspects, including trends, markets and prices;
- Provision of technical and methodological assistance to projects in order to identify and transfer the best practices in areas such as methods of analysis and forecasting, means of collecting energy data, access to and exchanges via

electronic networks and any other measure which helps to achieve the general objective;

- Assistance for the development of links among energy producers and users and academic and administrative circles in order to promote research into the policy and economic aspects of energy;
- Implementation of any initiative contributing to the dissemination of the results obtained, including the preparation and publication of reports and the organization of workshops, seminars and conferences.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : ENERGY-FP C

Start Date: 1998-12-21

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 5.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Study contracts, assessment contracts

#### **4.5.3. Programme to promote international cooperation in the energy sector, 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: SYNERGY 2

Programme Type: 5th FWP (Fifth Framework Programme)

Short Title: International cooperation in the energy sector

Subject Index Codes: Nuclear Fission; Nuclear Fusion; Renewable Sources of Energy; Energy Saving

Objectives: To promote international cooperation in the energy sector; to provide assistance to third countries with the definition, formulation and implementation of energy policy; and to promote industrial cooperation between the Community and third countries in the energy sector.

Subdivisions of Programme: The Synergy programme will implement the following actions within the Community's energy objectives security of supply, competitiveness and protection of the environment:

- Activities relating to all three objectives:
  - advising third countries on energy policy;
  - encouraging energy efficiency in third countries;
  - developing local and, in particular, renewable energy sources;
  - encouraging regional energy integration;
  - promoting consistency in the implementation of community programmes in specific regions (e.g. the Black Sea, the Caspian Sea, the Mediterranean, the Baltic Sea and the Persian Gulf regions).

- **Competitiveness:**
  - supporting the development of cooperation designed to strengthen the presence of European players on key markets in the energy sector, in particular Asia and Latin America;
  - advising third countries on organization of the energy sector;
  - supporting liberalization and opening-up of the energy sector, helping third countries to draw up energy policies in this new situation, in particular in conformity with the Energy Charter Treaty;
  - favouring greater investment by European undertakings in the energy sector in third countries;
- **Security of supply:**
  - conducting dialogue with energy-producing and exporting countries; Persian Gulf, Caspian Sea, Russia, producer countries in America, Asia and Africa;
  - encouraging dialogue between the European Community and the countries which have signed the Energy Charter Treaty, in particular with the transit and energy-producing transit countries, by helping to implement the provisions of the Energy Charter Treaty;
  - participation in, and support for, the work of international bodies in this sector: ministerial and producer/consumer conferences, International Energy Agency;
  - providing support in creating a favourable environment for investment in third countries in the production and transit of energy, in conformity with international law, particularly the Energy Charter Treaty and the disciplines agreed within the WTO.
- **Protection of the environment:**
  - training decision-makers and staff in the energy industry in third countries in environmental awareness;
  - disseminating the Community's experience and information on energy and the environment;
  - encouraging use of clean technology, in particular for the combustion of coal in major consumers such as China, taking the implications for energy policy into account;
  - strengthening and supporting efforts to have environmental aspects taken into account in third countries' energy policy and planning;
  - encouraging and helping third countries to plan and implement national energy supply and use policies in keeping with each different environmental situation.

The synergy programme will also implement actions in line with its objectives and ensure closer coordination of international cooperation activities in the field of energy policy being conducted elsewhere in the Community:

- **Role and priorities:** In international relations in the energy field, the Synergy programme will:
  - promote energy cooperation vis-à-vis third countries;

- aim at having its objectives taken into account in the external cooperation activities carried out by other Community programmes;
  - facilitate the emergence of energy projects financed by other Community cooperation instruments.
- Geographical priority areas: The Synergy programme will concentrate on the geographical priorities in the Community's external relations and help achieve certain of those priorities. The areas given priority by the Synergy programme are:
- central and Eastern Europe;
  - new Independent States (NIS);
  - Mediterranean third countries;
  - Latin America: emphasis will be placed on Mercosur, Chile, Mexico or Venezuela;
  - Asia: China, India and the ASEAN countries;
  - Africa.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : ENERGY-FP C

Umbrella programme(s) : FRAMEWORK 5C

Participation in invitations to tender and contracts will be open to all natural and legal persons in the Member States and in the beneficiary States. In the case of co-financing, the participation of enterprises from the third countries concerned in invitations to tender and contracts may be authorised by the Commission on a case-by-case basis.

Start Date: 1998-12-14

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 49 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 15.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cooperative research contracts; Service contracts

Commission Service: DG XVII

#### **4.5.4. Multiannual programme for the promotion of renewable energy sources in the Community, 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: ALTENER 2

Programme Type: ENG (Energy Programmes)

Short Title: Promoting the use of renewable energy resources

Subject Index Codes: Renewable Sources of Energy

Objectives: To help create the necessary conditions for the implementation of a Community action plan for renewable energy sources and, in particular, the legal,

socio-economic and administrative conditions; to encourage private and public investments in the production and use of energy from renewable sources.

Subdivisions of Programme:

- Implementing and complementing Community measures taken to develop the potential of RES:
  - Studies on sectoral and market strategies;
  - Background for harmonization;
  - Development of norms and standards;
- Infrastructures and instruments for the development of RES:
  - Local and regional planning;
  - Projects developing tools for planning, design, assessment and evaluation;
  - Projects on new financial and market instruments;
  - Development of infrastructures on information and on education and training programmes;
- Dissemination of information:
  - Community events and publications;
  - Temporary networks for specific tasks on biomass, waste, liquid, biofuels, solar thermal, solar PV, buildings, etc.;
  - Centralized system for collecting and circulating information;
- Measures to encourage exchange of experience and know-how:
  - Support to national, regional and local information actions in collaboration with Member States, local authorities, including the European Economic Area and other European third countries;
  - Support to existing networks, associations and other actors;
- Targeted actions promoting the penetration of RES and encouraging investment in the following areas:
  - Biomass, including energy crops, fire wood, residues from forestry and agriculture, municipal waste, liquid biofuels and biogas;
  - Thermal and photovoltaic solar systems in buildings;
  - Passive and active solar systems in buildings;
  - Small scale hydroelectric projects;
  - Wind power;
  - Geothermal energy;
- Implementation of a new Community strategy and action plan for the development of RES, covering actions aimed at:
  - Monitoring the implementation of the Community strategy and action plan for the development of renewable energy sources;

- Supporting initiatives taken to implement the action plan, particularly with a view to promoting greater synergy between actions;
- Monitoring the progress achieved by the Community and its Member States with regard to the development of renewable energy sources;
- Evaluate measures taken implemented under the programme.

Programme Relationship(s)

Umbrella programme(s) : ENERGY-FP C

Previous programme(s) : ALTENER 1

In the context of the programme, renewable energy sources refer to:

- Biomass, including energy crops, fire wood, residues from forestry and agriculture, municipal waste, liquid biofuels and biogas;
- Large and small scale (<10MW) hydropower;
- Wind energy;
- Solar thermal and solar photovoltaics;
- Geothermal energy;
- Tidal, wave and other ocean energies.

Participation in the programme is open to associated Central and Eastern European Countries and Cyprus, in accordance with the conditions set out in their association agreements.

More specifically, the programme has the following twin objectives:

- To help create the necessary conditions for the implementation of a Community action plan for renewable energy sources and, in particular, the legal, socio-economic and administrative conditions;
- To encourage private and public investments in the production and use of energy from renewable sources.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Study contracts, assessment contracts

Commission Service: DG XVII

#### **4.5.5. Multiannual programme of technological actions promoting the clean and efficient use of solid fuels (CARNOT), 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: CARNOT

Programme Type: ENG (Energy Programmes)

Short Title: Promoting the clean and efficient use of solid fuels

Subject Index Codes: Fossil Fuels

Objectives: To promote the use of clean and efficient technologies to plants using solid fuels in order to limit emissions, including carbon dioxide emissions, from such use; and encourage the development of advanced clean solid fuel technologies in order to achieve improved best available technologies (BAT) at affordable cost

Subdivisions of Programme: Two categories of actions on clean solid fuel technologies will be financed under the Carnot programme:

- measures to foster cooperation aimed at promoting better market and technical information between national, Community and international activities through the development of appropriate means for exchanging information, helping to remove barriers and evaluating the impact of the various actions planned under the programme. These measures will be funded at between 50 and 100 % of their total cost;
- measures to foster industrial strategic cooperation, such as business workshops and seminars, industrial on-site visits, studies, evaluations and concertation groupings, aimed at promoting the industrial exploitation of clean technologies for energy purposes, for example combined heat and power production. This will include the promotion of exports of European clean solid fuel technology. These measures will be funded at 30 and 50% of their total cost.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : ENERGY-FP C

The Carnot programme is open to associated Central and East European countries in accordance with the conditions, including financial provisions, laid down in the additional protocols to the Association Agreements or in the Association Agreements themselves relating to participation in Community programmes. The Carnot programme is also open to Cyprus on the basis of additional appropriations, under the same rules as those applied to the EFTA/EEA countries, in accordance with procedures to be agreed with that country.

Start Date: 1998-12-14

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 49 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 3.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Demonstration contracts

Commission Service: DG XVII

#### **4.5.6. Multiannual programme for the promotion of energy efficiency in the European Union (SAVE II), 1996-2002**

Programme Acronym: SAVE 2

Programme Type: ENG (Energy Programmes)

Short Title: Promotion of energy efficiency

Subject Index Codes: Energy Saving; Other Energy Topics

Objectives: To stimulate energy efficiency measures in all sectors; to encourage investments in energy conservation by private and public consumers and by industry; and to create the conditions for improving the energy intensity of final consumption.

Subdivisions of Programme: Six categories of actions and measures:

- Studies and other related actions aimed at the implementation and completion of Community measures (such as voluntary agreements, mandates to standardization bodies, cooperative procurements and legislation) taken to improve energy efficiency, studies concerning the effects of energy pricing on energy efficiency, and studies with a view to establishing energy efficiency as a criterion within Community programmes;
- Sectoral targeted pilot actions aimed at accelerating energy efficiency investment and/or improving energy use patterns, to be carried out by organizations or public and private enterprises as well as by existing Community-wide networks or temporary groupings of organizations and/or enterprises formed to accomplish the projects;
- Measures proposed by the Commission to foster the exchange of experience aimed at promoting better coordination between international, Community, national, regional and local activities by appropriate means for information dissemination;
- Measures, as set out directly above, but proposed otherwise than by the Commission;
- Monitoring of energy efficiency progress in the Community and in individual Member States and ongoing evaluation and monitoring of the actions and measures undertaken under the programme;
- Specific actions in favour of energy management at regional and urban level and in favour of greater cohesion between Member States and regions in the field of energy efficiency.

Programme Relationship(s)

Umbrella programme(s) : ENERGY-FP C

Previous programme(s) :

SAVE 1

ELECTRIC C

Start Date: 1996-01-01

End Date: 2000-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 45.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Study contracts, assessment contracts

Commission Service: DG XVII

**4.5.7. Multiannual programme of actions in the nuclear sector relating to the safe transport of radioactive materials and to safeguards and industrial cooperation to promote certain aspects of the safety of nuclear installations in the countries currently participating in the TACIS programme – SURE 1998-2002.**

Programme Acronym: SURE

Description Acronym: Nuclear safety

Programme Type: ENG (Energy Programmes)

Short Title: Multiannual programme of actions in the nuclear sector

Subject Index Codes: Energy Storage, Energy Transport; Nuclear Fission; Safety

Objectives: To improve the conditions for safe transport of radioactive materials in the European Community; to help establish in countries participating in the TACIS programme an effective and reliable system of safeguards through cooperation measures; and to promote industrial cooperation with those countries and the exchange of know-how within the nuclear industry to help them achieve internationally recognized high safety standards for nuclear equipment and installations.

Subdivisions of Programme: In order to achieve the objectives of the programme, the Community will contribute to the funding of actions which:

- In the field of the safe transport of radioactive materials:
  - Facilitate the functioning of the internal market by identifying those harmonization measures which are called for;
  - Help to improve legislation further by developing experimentation and know-how;
  - Evaluate technical aspects of incidents which have occurred during transport and learn the lessons for the future;
  - Make emergency procedures relating to transport more consistent and give those involved more training;
  - Enhance an efficient system of reporting in the event of an incident;
  - Cooperate with countries participating in the TACIS programme to help them improve transport safety in these countries;
  - Improve public information comprehension and awareness in this area;
- In the field of safeguards in countries participating in the TACIS programme:
  - Training, familiarization, testing, retraining and technological upgrading of experts from those countries in the matter of nuclear safeguards;
  - Cooperation on the implementation of accounting and control systems for nuclear materials;
  - Installation of modern logistical, evaluation and control equipment and related training;
- In the field of industrial cooperation on nuclear matters with the countries participating in the TACIS programme:

- Analyse the industrial, administrative, legal and financial context specific to each of them;
- Encourage industrial cooperation measures capable of transferring European nuclear safety technology;
- Facilitate the cooperation of partners from the European Community and countries participating in the TACIS programme in the development of joint industrial projects.

Programme Relationship(s)

Framework programme(s) : ENERGY-FP C

Start Date: 1998-12-18

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 9.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Demonstration contracts

Commission Service: DG XVII

## 4.6. HEALTH PROGRAMMES

### 4.6.1. Programme of Community action in the framework for action in the field of public health, 1999-2003

Programme Acronym: INJURY-PREV C

Programme Type: OTH (Other research-related programmes)

Short Title: Action on injury prevention

Subject Index Codes: Medicine, Health; Coordination, Cooperation; Social Aspects

Objectives: To contribute to public health activities which seek to reduce the incidence of injury, particularly to children, young adults, women and older people, caused intentionally or unintentionally, or through suicide or self-infliction.

Subdivisions of Programme: Specific Objectives and actions:

**Objective I**, aims to reduce the incidence of intentional or unintentional injuries, particularly to children, young adults, women and elderly people. This will be achieved by the promotion of effective dissemination and the application of prevention techniques. Specific actions include:

- Networks:
  - Creation of networks for the prevention of injuries;
  - Collection, processing and dissemination of information;
  - Provision and transmission of useable data for the Community information system, based on an extended and improved version of EHLASS;
  - New approaches and innovative methods to tackle common problems;

- Exchanges of materials, guidelines and handbooks;
- Organization of training activities;
- Campaigns:
  - Supporting the dissemination of information about campaigns;
  - Development of a databank of previous campaigns with assessment of their effectiveness;
  - Organization of competitions to identify the best injury prevention campaigns;
  - Promoting parallel campaigns in a number of Member States;
  - Developing basic materials and publicity;
- Data about injuries:
  - Collection of data about injuries caused by badly designed products so that their design can be improved and passive prevention and safety can be enhanced;
  - Promoting agreed approaches to coding, data-defining and better recording of place of occurrence;
  - Use of relevant results of the International Collaborative Effort on Injury Statistics;
  - Analysis and improvement of the coverage of existing data collection systems;
  - Additional questions or modules in existing Community-wide surveys;
  - Assistance in identifying the need for surveys;
  - Promoting the creation of a database of known surveys;
  - Identifying hazardous products;
- Technical investigations of injury risk factors:
  - Promoting collaboration between appropriate institutions;
  - Developing an inventory of institutions and their projects;
  - Evaluating prevention projects and campaigns;
- Consultation and cooperation:
  - Support for meetings at different levels of government and conferences, seminars, working groups and advisory groups.

**Objective II** is aimed at reducing injuries caused by deliberate self-harm and suicide through the promotion of effective dissemination and application techniques for prevention. Actions will include:

- Help to form networks dedicated to:
  - Collection, processing and dissemination of information and experience, prevention measures, the use of assessment methods and the determination of the effectiveness of preventative measures and information activities;
  - Provision and transmission of comparable and consistent data to the Community information system, including research into improving the quality of the data;

- Information exchange concerning the effectiveness of messages and campaigns;
- Training, through the exchange of information and expert reports of health sector and other relevant personnel;
- Exchanging experience, information, appraisal of access to information services concerning the problems of, particularly, young people exhibiting suicidal behaviour and studies of methods for supporting young people who have attempted to commit suicide;
- Development and exchange of experience to identify those under mental stress, including the use of psychological help networks;
- Exchange of materials and educational methods through support for pilot schemes, principally for groups of young people with special needs.

**Objective III** will contribute to the strengthening of the capacity of public health bodies to mount effective injury prevention activities. The following actions will be carried out to support the objective:

- Activities to increase the use which public health bodies can make of other Community policies for injury prevention, including:
  - Raising awareness of Community programmes and the conditions for participation in them;
  - Helping to set up consortia across national boundaries and helping groups with a particular interest to discover the most useful Community middlemen.

Start Date: 1999-01-01

End Date: 2003-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 14.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG V

#### **4.6.2. Programme of Community action on rare diseases in the context of the framework for action in the field of public health, 1999-2003**

Programme Acronym: DISEASE C

Programme Type: OTH (Other research-related programmes)

Short Title: Action on rare diseases

Subject Index Codes: Medicine, Health; Policies

Objectives: To contribute towards ensuring a high level of health protection against rare diseases by providing knowledge about these diseases, especially for patients and health professionals, by promoting and strengthening patient support groups, and by fostering the setting up of cluster response teams.

Subdivisions of Programme: The specific objectives and actions are:

- Actions on Community information on rare diseases, to provide knowledge about rare diseases, especially for patients, health professionals and researchers, including:
  - Encouragement and support for the establishment of a European rare diseases database and a list of resources that can be used for further information about the condition;
  - Promoting access to information and coordinating existing information systems and services by supporting the setting up of and strengthening of local, regional, national and community networks;
  - Organizing consensus meetings among health professionals in order to improve the early detection, recognition, intervention and prevention of rare diseases;
- Actions in support of patient and family support groups, to establish, foster and strengthen voluntary organizations involved in supporting people directly, or indirectly affected by rare disorders, including:
  - Promoting the establishment of groups of people with the same rare conditions or those professionally involved to disseminate their experience, to facilitate training and to coordinate their activities at national and Community level;
  - Promoting the groups' collaboration and networking, and the setting up and fostering of umbrella bodies, particularly focusing on efforts to encourage the continuity of work and cross-national cooperation;
- Actions on handling rare disease clusters, to put in place an effective monitoring system to ensure the rapid identification, assessment and handling of rare diseases and diseases clusters, including:
  - Promoting the development of systems for the monitoring of rare diseases at Community level and the appropriate techniques for low-prevalence diseases, to meet both the demands of detection, treatment and research and those for relevant statistical monitoring;
  - Promoting the creation and development of structures for providing appropriate responses for rare diseases and of networking and training for the investigation and handling of clusters;
  - Supporting surveillance and early warning systems for clusters;
  - Encouraging exchange of expertise in the evaluation, assessment, communication and management of clusters of rare diseases that are associated with exogenic causes.

Start Date: 1999-01-01

End Date: 2003-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 1.30 million ECU

Contract Types: Cooperative research contracts

Commission Service: DG V

#### **4.6.3. Programme of Community action on pollution-related diseases in the context of the framework for action in the field of public health, 1999-2001**

Programme Acronym: POLLUTION C

Programme Type: SOC (Social programmes)

Short Title: Community action on pollution-related diseases

Subject Index Codes: Medicine, Health; Social Aspects

Objectives: To help to develop policies and strategies in the field of health and the environment, focusing on the prevention of pollution-related diseases, including the improvement of knowledge and understanding of health risks associated with them, by:

- improving information on pollution-related diseases; and
- improving knowledge and understanding of the assessment and management of these diseases and the effectiveness of preventative actions.

Subdivisions of Programme: The programme will consist of the following actions:

- Actions to improve information on pollution-related diseases and their definition, with the objective of contributing towards a better understanding of the role of pollutants in the causation and aggravation of diseases in the European Community.
- Actions to improve the level of knowledge and understanding of the assessment and management of pollution-related diseases.

Cooperation with third countries and international organizations with competence in the field of public health will be fostered during the implementation of the programme. Associated Central and Eastern European Countries and Cyprus and Malta will be able to participate in the programme, subject to the particular conditions and provisions relating to their participation in Community programmes.

Start Date: 1999-01-01

End Date: 2001-12-31

Duration: 36 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 3.90 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG V

#### **4.6.4. Programme of Community action on health monitoring within the framework for action in the field of public health, 1997-2001**

Description Acronym: Health Monitoring

Programme Type: H&S (Health and Safety)

Short Title: Community health monitoring system

Subject Index Codes: Medicine, Health; Social Aspects; Evaluation

Objectives: To contribute to the establishment of a community health monitoring system capable of: monitoring health status, trends and determinants; facilitating the planning, monitoring and evaluation of Community programmes and actions; and providing Member States with appropriate health information to make comparisons and to support their national health policies.

Subdivisions of Programme: Three areas:

▪ Establishment of Community health indicators:

To establish comparable Community health indicators by means of a critical review of existing health data and indicators, by developing methodologies for obtaining comparable health data and indicators, and by developing appropriate methods for the collection of the progressively comparable health data needed to establish these indicators:

- Identification, review and critical analysis of existing health indicators and data at European and Member State levels taking as a basis data validated by the Member States in order to determine their relevance, quality and coverage with regard to the establishment of Community health indicators;
- Identification of a set of Community health indicators, including a subset of core indicators for the monitoring of Community programmes and actions in public health and a subset of background indicators for the monitoring of other Community policies, programmes and actions, for providing Member States with common measurements for making comparisons (See the "Implementation" section of this record for a non-exhaustive list of the areas in which health indicators may be established);
- Development of and support for the routine collection of health data to be made comparable by the drawing up of data dictionaries, the establishment of appropriate conversion methods and rules, and other methods to achieve the programme's objectives;
- Contributing to the collection of comparable data by supporting the preparation of surveys, including Community-wide surveys in support of the framing of Community policies, or drawing up agreed specimen modules or questionnaires for use in existing surveys;
- Fostering cooperation with international organizations competent in the field of Community health data and indicators and fostering networks for the exchange of health data covering specific areas in public health, in order to enhance comparability of data;
- Encouragement and support for the assessment of the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of compiling standardized health resource statistics with the aim of including them in the Community health monitoring system to be established;
- Support for continuation of the feasibility study in progress into the possibility of establishing a permanent structure for the monitoring and evaluation of Community health data and indicators;

- Development of a Community-wide network for sharing health data:

To enable the establishment of an effective and reliable system for the transfer and sharing of health data and indicators using telematic interchange of data as the principal means:

- Encouragement and support for the establishment of a network for transferring and sharing health data, mainly using telematic interchanges and a system of distributed databases, in particular by the establishment of data specifications and of procedures with regard to access, retrieval, confidentiality and security for the different types of information to be included in the system;

- Analyses and reporting:

To develop methods and tools necessary for analysis and reporting and to support analyses and reporting on health status, trends and determinants and on the effect of policies on health:

- Encouragement and support for the development of capacity for analyses by enhancing existing capabilities and for feasibility studies for possible new structures, comparative and predictive methodologies and tools, the testing of hypotheses and models and the evaluation of health scenarios and outcomes;
- Support for the analysis of the impact of Community actions and programmes in the field of public health, and for drawing up and disseminating reports evaluating that impact;
- Support for the preparation, drafting and dissemination of reports, analyses and other information in order to help to make comparisons on the subject of health status and trends, health determinants, and the effect of policies on health.

In addition to the EU Member States, participation in the programme will be open to those Central and East European Countries which have signed association agreements with the Community (on the basis of the additional protocols to these agreements covering their participation in Community programmes). Participation will also be open to Cyprus and Malta in accordance with the same rules as those to be applied for the EFTA countries.

Close cooperation will also be established with international organizations active in the field of public health, in particular the World Health Organization (WHO), the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Start Date: 1997-01-01

End Date: 2001-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 13.80 million ECU

Commission Service: DG V

#### **4.6.5. Community action programme promoting non-governmental organizations primarily active in the field of environmental protection, 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: ENVNGO C

Programme Type: ENV (Environment)

Short Title: Support for NGOs active in the field of environmental protection

Subject Index Codes: Environmental Protection; Information, Media; Policies

Objectives: To develop and implement Community environmental policy and legislation by promoting the environmental protection activities undertaken by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating at the European level.

Subdivisions of Programme: Fields eligible for assistance:

- Information on the environment:
  - Facilitate a dialogue and an exchange of information between environmental organizations operating at a European level and Community institutions;
  - Develop information and documentation infrastructures on environmental protection for use by professionals and policy makers and for the diffusion of information for pre-identified target groups;
- Analysis of environment activities:
  - Support and coordinate environmental projects increasing the multiplier effect on the project results;
  - Reports on the level, extent and nature of environmental problems which could be treated at Community level and about which the Community could be more active;
  - Undertake analytical reviews on the preparation of the environmental dimension in other areas covered by Community policies;
- Cooperation between actors in the environmental and non-governmental organizations active at the European level:
  - Promote cooperation between partners identified by the Fifth Action Programme for the environment;
  - Encourage a multisectoral approach to environmental protection;
  - Complement, in the framework of the subsidiarity principle, Community programmes with national, regional and local environmental activities operating in the non-profit sector.

Programme Relationship(s)

Umbrella programme(s) : ENVAP 5C

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2001-12-31

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 10.60 million ECU

Contract Types: Study contracts, assessment contracts

Commission Service: DG XI

## **4.7. INFORMATION SOCIETY PROGRAMMES**

### **4.7.1. Multiannual Community action plan on promoting safer use of the internet**

Programme Acronym: SAFENET C

Programme Type: IT (Information Technologies)

Short Title: Safer use of the internet

Subject Index Codes: Information, Media; Information Processing, Information Systems

Objectives: To encourage, at European level, a favourable environment for the development of the Internet industry by promoting safer use of the Internet

Subdivisions of Programme: Four action lines:

- Creating a safer environment;
- Development internationally compatible and interoperable filtering and rating systems, which:
  - Demonstrate the potential and the limitation of such systems;
  - Encouraging the establishment of internationally compatible systems and familiarising users with the use of them.
- Encouraging awareness actions;
  - Dealing with any uncertainty about how to deal with all aspects of network communications and making parents, teachers and children aware of the potential of the Internet. The aim is to gain the trust and confidence of parents and teachers, by showing how the internet can be used safely and without exposure to undesirable content. These activities will take advantage of awareness-raising activity carried out under other programmes, particularly INFO2000;
  - Specific actions aimed at teachers will include the preparation and distribution of specific information and multimedia material to a large cross-section of members of the profession. Special netdays will be organised aimed at increasing user awareness in collaboration with industry. There will also be awareness-raising activities for journalists. Special web pages will be created and maintained through the European data network of schools.
- Support actions;
  - Assessing legal implications, focussing on: Legal instruments needed to classify authors, providers and senders of emails; Which provisions in criminal law in the Member States need to be 'approximated'; How quickly formal requests for judicial assistance need to be processed; and the Extent to which changes are needed to police law in Member States to allow

preventative action in relation to Internet content which is subject to prosecution.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2001-12-31

Duration: 48 months

Programme Status: Execution

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG XIII

#### **4.7.2. Multiannual Community programme to stimulate the establishment of the information society in Europe (Information Society), 1998-2002**

Programme Acronym: INFORMATION SOCIETY

Programme Type: IS (Information Society)

Short Title: Information Society Programme

Subject Index Codes: Information, Media; Policies

Objectives: To increase public awareness of the information society; to help to establish the information society in Europe; and to consider the global dimension of the information society.

Subdivisions of Programme: Three domains:

##### **Measures to raise awareness in Europe:**

- Adding value where necessary to local, national and crossborder initiatives promoting a better understanding, for instance through the dissemination of information, of the opportunities, benefits and possible risks of the Information Society, whether aimed at the general public or at specific target groups;
- Gathering and dissemination of information on citizens' and users' needs with respect to Information Society services and applications;
- Enhancement of the visibility to the general public and other interested parties of real projects being implemented to service their needs;
- Monitoring of peoples' awareness of and familiarization with the Information Society services and applications, in particular through the fostering of regular surveys and the integration of national surveys into a European picture;
- Stimulation of the interest of industry, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), in providing services and applications that meet the needs expressed by citizens and users, for instance, through presentations of Information Society activities, networks, applications and concrete opportunities to exploited;
- Demonstration of the potential impact of the Information Society at regional level, including within its crossborder dimension, the promotion of exchange of relevant information between cities and regions;
- Support for the Information Society Forum consisting of experts representing a broad range of interests from industry, academia, media, trade unions, consumer

and user groups, advising the Commission on the challenges to overcome for the development of the Information Society;

**Measures to optimize the socio-economic benefits of the Information Society in Europe:**

- Assessment of the opportunities and barriers which disadvantaged social groups and peripheral and less-favoured regions may face in accessing and using Information Society products and services; the identification of appropriate measures to overcome these obstacles and to grasp the related benefits;
- Analysis of current initiatives at European and national level regarding the provision of applications, based in particular on a permanent inventory of projects which facilitate the deployment of the Information Society;
- Provision of transparency, based in particular on a permanent inventory, concerning ongoing policies and programmes at European and national level;
- Contribution, on the basis of identified best programmes and practices, to the European wide take-up of successful examples in Information Society policies, projects and services;
- Promotion of exchange of expertise and experiences between ongoing studies and activities at European and national level;
- Identification and evaluation of the financing mechanisms needed to develop the Information Society, in particular those able to help stimulate public/private partnerships for the deployment of applications of public interest;
- Identification of obstacles to the functioning of internal market in the area of the Information Society and the consideration of measures to guarantee the full benefit of the area without frontiers for its development, taking into account the linguistic diversity;
- Launching of actions to ascertain the priorities of SMEs and regarding the obstacles hampering the use by SMEs of information and communications technologies (ICT), in close coordination with Commission efforts to mobilize different groups of ICT users;
- Promotion of electronic literacy in the educational sector through the dissemination of relevant experience gained at national and European level;

**Measures to enhance Europe's role and visibility within the global dimension of the Information Society:**

- Establishment of an inventory of initiatives taken worldwide;
- Exchange of information with third countries, in particular with a view to encouraging their access to the potential of the Information Society;
- Collaboration in the preparation of demonstration actions, either bilaterally or in collaboration with international organizations.

Complementing other information society-related activities in such areas as research and development, trans-European networks, information content and standardization, the "Information Society" programme has three main objectives:

- To increase public awareness and understanding of the potential impact of the information society and its new applications;

- To help to establish the information society in Europe by promoting widespread access to and familiarity in the use of new information services and applications;
- To give consideration to and make use of the worldwide dimension of the information society.

Start Date: 1998-01-01

End Date: 2002-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 25.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Study contracts, assessment Contracts

Commission Service: DG XIII

#### **4.7.3. Multiannual Community programme to stimulate the development and use of European digital content on the global networks and to promote linguistic diversity in the Information Society 2001-2005**

Programme Acronym: E-CONTENT

Short Title: European digital content programme

Subject Index Codes: Innovation, Technology Transfer; Information, Media; Social Aspects; Information Processing, Information Systems; Economic Aspects; Legislation, Regulations; Policies

Objectives: The programme aims essentially to development and use certain categories of European digital content and to promote linguistic diversity in the Information society through a multitude of existing and new delivery channels, including fast growing and emerging services and platforms such as mobile internet.

Subdivisions of Programme: The proposal is based on 4 action lines:

- Stimulating the exploitation of public sector information: public sector information has an enormous exploitation potential that is not yet fully used at the moment. Based on the INFO2000 experience, this action prepares an economic base for the follow up of the Green Paper, demonstrating and exploring the practical difficulties of public-private partnerships in this field. Experimental projects will be financed, bringing together public and private parties to exploit public sector information with a European interest and scope, including cross-lingual access.
- Enhancing linguistic and cultural customization: the following action aims to provide an integrated approach to the emergence of multilingual services on the networks for text, voice and image applications. It stresses the need for cultural adaptation of products beyond the linguistic aspects in order to gain market shares in third countries. The issue will be tackled by fostering the adoption of language strategies and partnerships between language and content market players.
- Supporting market enablers: a list of actions is proposed in order to facilitate access to the available forms of investment capital and means to trade rights online for multimedia production. This is intended to speed up new initiatives and

investments. It is proposed to redress the mismatch between existing financial resources and the use the content sector makes of them. The EC will act to provide a bridge between companies in the digital content area and potential investors. The actions will build on expertise present in business universities and training centres, as well as deploying distance learning facilities, and organizing seminars and conferences to encourage the exchange of information and best practice.

- Support actions: the programme execution will be supported by actions aiming at the dissemination of the results (e.g. publications, world wide web sites, conferences showcasing projects) as well as strategic operations (e.g. studies and fora) bringing together different parts of the content and languages markets.

#### Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) :

- MLIS
- INFO2000

Start Date: 2001-01-01

End Date: 2005-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 1500.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts; Preparatory, accompanying and support measures

Commission Service: DG XIII

#### **4.7.4. Programme for the Interchange of Data between Administrations – IDA II ; 1999-2004**

Programme Acronym: IDA II

Programme Type: Information Society

Subject Index Codes : Information, Communication; Public Administration

Objectives : The achievement of a high degree of interoperability within and across different administrative sectors and with the private sector. The convergence of trans-European telematic networks for administrations towards a common interface between the Community and Member States. The achievement of substantial benefits for Member State administrations and the Community by streamlining interchanges of data. The extension of the benefits of such networks to Community industry and citizens of the European Union.

Subdivisions of Programme :

- Horizontal actions and measures
- Information content interoperability
- Generic services
- Common tools and techniques

- Quality assurance and control

This programme is open EEA and associated countries of central and eastern Europe and Cyprus in the horizontal actions and measures under this Decision.

The financial framework for Community action under this Decision for the period 1998-2000 is EUR 33.1 million.

#### **4.7.5. Training programme for professionals in the European audiovisual programme industry MEDIA-TRAINING (2001-2005)**

Programme Acronym: MEDIA-TRAINING

Programme Type: OTH (Other research-related programmes)

Subject Index Codes: Information, Media; Education, Training; Economic Aspects; Social Aspects; Policies

Objectives: The programme is intended to give professionals in the audiovisual industry, the necessary skills to allow them to take full advantage of the European and international dimension of the market and of the use of new technologies by improving the continuous vocational training of professionals and by encouraging the cooperation and the exchange of know-how through networking.

Subdivisions of Programme: Programme areas:

- Application of the new technologies, particularly digital technologies, for the production of audiovisual programmes with a high commercial and artistic added value;
- Economic, financial and commercial management, including the legal framework and the techniques for the financing, production and distribution of audiovisual programmes;
- Scriptwriting techniques.

The programme shall be open to the participation of the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe as well as to Cyprus, Malta, Turkey and those EFTA countries which are members of the EEA Agreement.

Start Date: 2001-01-01

End Date: 2005-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 50.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG X

#### **4.7.6. Community programme to encourage the development, distribution and promotion of European audiovisual works MEDIA + (2001-2005)**

Programme Acronym: MEDIA +

Description Acronym: Measures to Encourage the Development of the Industry of Audiovisual production

Programme Type: OTH (Other research-related programmes)

Subject Index Codes: Information, Media; Economic Aspects; Social Aspects; Policies; Regional Development; Coordination, Cooperation

Objectives: To improve the competitiveness of the European audiovisual sector; to promote linguistic and cultural diversity in Europe; to enhance the European audiovisual heritage, in particular the digitisation and networking; to develop the audiovisual sector in countries or regions with a low audiovisual production capacity and/or a restricted linguistic or geographical area; to disseminate new types of audiovisual content using new technologies.

Subdivisions of Programme: Type of measures:

- In the development of audiovisual works sector: To provide financial assistance for enterprises in the audiovisual sector.
- In the distribution and dissemination sectors: Cinema distribution:
  - A support scheme in the form of a conditionally reimbursable advance for distributors of European cinematographic works outside their production territory. The criteria for selecting beneficiaries may include provisions to distinguish between projects according to their budget category. Special support will be granted for films that exploit European cultural diversity.
  - A system of automatic support for European distributors proportional to the number of seats sold for non-domestic European films in countries participating in the programme, up to a limit per film and adjusted for each country.
  - A system to assist European companies specializing in the international distribution of cinema films (sales agents) according to their performance on the market over a given period. This type of assistance may be used by international distributors only for investment in costs arising from the promotion of new European works on the European and international markets.
  - Appropriate assistance to encourage operators to screen a significant proportion of non-domestic European films in premiere cinemas for a minimum screening period.
  - A support scheme for the production of international soundtracks (music and effects) for European cinematographic works.
- Distribution of off-line European works (that is the distribution of European works on media intended for private use): Automatic support:
  - A system of automatic support for editors and distributors of European cinematographic works on media intended for private use (e.g. videocassettes, DVD, DVD-ROM) according to market performance over a given period.
- Television broadcasting: Encourage independent producers to produce works (feature films, documentaries and animated films) involving at least three broadcasters in several Member States belonging to different language zones.
- Distribution of European works on-line (that is the distribution of European works on-line via advanced distribution services and new media such as the Internet,

video-on-demand, pay-per-view). The aim is to encourage the European audiovisual industry to adapt to developments in digital technology, particularly as regards advanced on-line distribution services.

- Introduction of incentives to digitise works and create promotional and publicity material in digital form, so encouraging European companies (suppliers of on-line access, special-interest channels, etc.) to create catalogues of European works in digital format for exploitation via new media.
- Promotion:
  - Improve the conditions governing access by professionals to the European and International markets via specific technical and financial support schemes as part of events;
  - Encourage the creation of a database on catalogues of European programmes.
- Activities to promote European productions:
  - To encourage professionals, in close association with the Member States, to organize activities to promote European audiovisual and cinema productions intended for the general public.
- Pilot projects:
  - Conservation and exploitation of the cinematographic heritage, by encouraging partnerships between operators in the cinematographic sector and public or private bodies;
  - Digitisation of European audiovisual programme archives;
  - Networking the owners of rights to catalogues of European audiovisual works;
  - Scheduling of European audiovisual works on special-interest channels in digital format;
  - Creation of a suitable environment for developing and disseminating new advanced on-line distribution services.

Programme Relationship(s)

Previous programme(s) : MEDIA 2

The Programme shall be open to the participation of:

- The associated countries of Eastern and Central Europe;
- Cyprus, Malta, Turkey;
- EFTA countries which are parties to the EEA Agreement;
- The countries which are parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Transfrontier Television.

Start Date: 2001-01-01

End Date: 2005-12-31

Duration: 60 months

Programme Status: Execution

Programme Funding: 350.00 million ECU

Contract Types: Cost-sharing contracts

Commission Service: DG X

## **PART II – EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AGENCIES**

### **1. History**

The first agencies which are the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training and the Foundation for the Improvement of the Living and Working Conditions were established in the seventies. Afterwards, in the nineties and in the dynamics of the finalisation of the internal market, a series of new agencies appeared, giving a new dimension to what constitutes a Community model of European agencies at present. These so called second generation agencies were an answer to a desire for geographical devolution and the need to cope with new tasks of a technical and/or scientific nature.

The majority of them started their activities in 1994 or 1995, after the decision by the European Council in Brussels on 29 October 1993, which fixed the headquarters of seven agencies, some of which had already seen their basic regulation adopted by the Council several years previously.

The objectives of the individual agencies are many and varied. Each agency is indeed unique and fulfils an individual function defined at the time of its creation. This function might be modified in the course of the years but, nevertheless, there are a number of general aims underlying the agency operation as a whole:

They introduce a degree of decentralisation and dispersal to the Community activities. They give a higher profile to the tasks that are assigned to them by identifying them with the agencies themselves. Some answer the need to develop scientific or technical know-how in certain well-defined fields. Others have the role to integrate different interest groups and thus to facilitate the dialogue at the European (between the social partners, for example) or international level.

### **2. What is an Agency?**

A Community agency is a public authority set up under European law, separate from the Community Institutions (Council, Parliament, the Commission, Central Bank, etc.), and enjoying legal personality. Contrary to the Institutions which are envisaged by the Treaties establishing the European Communities, a Community act of secondary legislation is enough to decide upon the creation of an agency, with a view to fulfilling a task of technical or scientific nature or a specific management task specified in the corresponding memorandum of association.

At present twelve bodies fall into the category of a Community agency, namely (in chronological order as per adoption of their regulation):

1. the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training;
2. the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions;
3. the European Environment Agency;

4. the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products;
5. the Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market (trademarks and designs);
6. the European Training Foundation;
7. the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and for Drug Addiction;
8. the Community Plant Variety Office;
9. the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work;
10. the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union;
11. the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia;
12. the European Agency for Reconstruction.

### **3. How do Agencies function?**

Although the agencies are very different, both in terms of size and purpose, as a general rule, they have a common basic structure and similar ways of operating.

Indeed, each agency functions under the authority of an administrative/management board which lays down the general guidelines and adopts the work programmes of the agency in particular, according to its basic mission, available resources and political priorities. The executive director, nominated by the administrative/management board or by the Council of Ministers, is responsible for the entire activities of the agency and the proper implementation of its work programmes.

Agencies normally function thanks to one or more network(s) of partners located throughout the territory of the Union. In addition, they all have certain common organisational characteristics:

- An Administrative or Management Board, whose membership is laid down by the regulation establishing the agency. Agency boards always include representatives from the administrations of Member States and a Commission representative, and may also include members appointed by the European Parliament or representatives of two sides of industry; in the special case of the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union, the board also includes representatives of the users, namely the other agencies. With the current European Community including fifteen countries, the size of each administrative/management board varies between minimum sixteen members and forty-eight (quadripartite Agencies). Non-member countries may also take part in certain cases, but they are not normally entitled to vote.
- An Executive Director, who is the agency's legal representative. The distribution of powers between the administrative/management board and the executive director is laid down by the regulation setting up the agency and may be spelled out in its rules of procedure.
- One or more Technical or Scientific Committee(s), made up of experts specialising in the relevant field may also assist the board (case of budgetary committees) and the executive director by drafting opinions on (technical) questions put to them or by acting as information relays. (For example: the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products, managed by the European Agency

for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products or the advisory college of the European Training Foundation in Turin).

- In the majority of cases agencies' internal audit is carried out either by the Commission's Financial Controller or, if so stipulated in the rules of procedure, by an auditor appointed by the agency. In either event, however, the agencies are subject to the external control of the Court of Auditors of the European Communities.
- Most of the agencies are financed from a Community subsidy set aside for the purpose in the general budget of the European Union. However, four agencies are partially or entirely self-financed; i.e. the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products, the Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market, the Community Plant Variety Office, all of which are able to charge fees, and the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union, which receives financial contributions from its clients (the other agencies in particular).

#### **4. Activities of Agencies**

As autonomous Community bodies, agencies create a heterogeneous group linked by a unique organisational model. Depending on their mandate and on their partners or clients, the agencies can be split into four sub-groups determined by their activities.

##### **4.1. Agencies facilitating the operation of the internal market :**

These three agencies exercise regulatory functions and render services to industrial sectors, which allows them to get income and thus guarantees their own resources. Such agencies are the Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market, the Community Plant Variety Office and the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products.

##### **4.2. Monitoring Centres :**

These three agencies have the same objectives that they exercise for different spheres of activities. Their principal task is to gather and disseminate information thanks to a network of partners that they have to set up and to manage on a daily basis. This category includes the European Environment Agency, the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and for Drug Addiction and the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia.

##### **4.3. Agencies aiming to promote the social dialogue at European level :**

These agencies are characterised by a quadripartite administrative/management board : representatives of employers and trade unions as well as Member States and the Commission representatives. Three agencies form this sub-group: the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP), the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions and the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work.

Agencies functioning as "subcontracting" entities for the European public service :

This group of three very different agencies, each of which executes programmes and tasks for the European Union within their respective fields of expertise : the European Training Foundation, the Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union and the European Agency for Reconstruction.

## 5. Agencies

### 5.1. The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP)

The European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP) is a Community body established by the Council of Ministers' decision of 10th February 1975. The Centre has a Management Board in which four parties are represented: the employers, the trade unions, the national governments and the European Commission.

CEDEFOP has the task of contributing to the development of vocational training in the European Union through its academic and technical activities. The Centre responds to questions posed by the European Commission and the various groups represented on the Management Board and has the task of producing information which is relevant, concise and definitive in a Community perspective.

The Work Programme focuses on two main areas:

- trends in qualifications
- trends in training systems

CEDEFOP uses a variety of tools to implement this programme:

- studies and analyses
- information (in a variety of forms)
- the creation of opportunities for the exchange and transfer of information

CEDEFOP has contributed together with EURYDICE (the European Education Information Network) for the publication of the Structures of the Education and Initial Training Systems in the European Union.

### 5.2. The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions

The European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions was established by a Regulation of the Council of Ministers (Regulation (EEC) No 1365/75 of the Council) in 1975. That same regulation set out the Foundation's aim, tasks and activities as quoted below:

**Aim :**

1. The aim of the Foundation shall be to contribute to the planning and establishment of better living and working conditions through action designed to increase and disseminate knowledge likely to assist this development.
2. With this aim in view, the tasks of the Foundation shall be to develop and to pursue ideas on the medium and long-term improvement of living and working conditions in the light of practical experience and to identify factors leading to change. The Foundation shall take the relevant Community policies into account when carrying out its tasks. It shall advise the audiences on foreseeable objectives and guidelines by forwarding in particular scientific information and technical data.

3. As regards the improvement of living and working conditions, it shall deal more specifically with the following issues, determining the priorities to be observed:
  - a. man at work,
  - b. organization of work and particularly job design,
  - c. problems peculiar to certain categories of workers,
  - d. long-term aspects of improvement of the environment,
  - e. distribution of human activities in space and in time.

**Tasks and activities :**

1. In order to achieve its aim, the Foundation shall foster the exchange of information and experience in these fields and shall, where appropriate, set up a system of information and documentation. It may, for example:
  - a. facilitate contact between universities, study and research institutes, economic and social administrations and organisations and encourage concerted actions;
  - b. set up working groups;
  - c. conclude study contracts, participate in studies and promote and provide assistance for pilot projects and, where required, itself carry out certain studies;
  - d. organize courses, conferences and seminars.
2. The Foundation shall cooperate as closely as possible with specialized institutes, foundations and bodies in the Member States or at international level

**5.3. The European Environment Agency (EEA)**

The EEA mainly aims to support sustainable development and to help achieve significant and measurable improvement in Europe's environment through the provision of timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy making agents and the public.

The aim of the European Environment Agency is to establish a seamless environmental information system. This is done to assist the Community in its attempts to improve the environment and move towards sustainability, including the EU's efforts to integrate environmental aspects into economic policies.

Three main instrumental pillars of the Agency :

- Networking; Making the EEA a networking organisation for all.
- National Monitoring to European Environmental Reporting; Making the EEA the reference for a changed and streamlined monitoring and reporting system that enables and facilitates improvements.
- European Reference Centre on Environmental Information; Making the EEA a one-stop-shop, and the first door of entry to the best available environmental information.

The streamlining that has been undertaken to establish a production chain from monitoring to reporting enables us today to transform environmental data from the member countries into effective aggregated information at European level.

Considerable efforts are being made to ensure that an increasing number of the Agency's publications are directly relevant to the current and emerging European political agenda because environmental information will be vital in supporting progress towards the new goal of sustainable development established under the Amsterdam Treaty. It is also vital in guiding all the challenges under Agenda 2000, such as enlargement towards the East, review of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy, and the necessary shift in energy and transport policy following the Climate Change Convention and the Kyoto Protocol.

Budgetary constraints mean that the Agency is not immediately able to tackle all of the subjects on which it could do useful work. Nevertheless, with careful prioritisation of tasks and determined work by the staff, a high level of output -- both as to quality and quantity -- will be maintained.

### **A new approach :**

As the EEA approaches the new millennium, it finds itself adopting to the requirements of a revised founding Regulation. One particularly important new element facing the Agency is that environmental information is also to cover information about sustainable development, laid down in Articles 2 and 6 of the Amsterdam Treaty. This points to the growing importance of analysing the interaction of different economic sectors with the environment and the development of integrated policies to deal with them. The new obligation to publish regular reports on related environmental indicators is especially significant and is likely to become a key task for the Agency in the future.

Another indication that the EEA is coming of age is the fact that the EEA is now into its second multiannual work programme. Themes emphasised in the new programme include sustainable development and integration; partnership with other bodies; continued efforts to improve the quality, consistency, timeliness and policy relevance of data and information in member states and at the aggregate European level; capacity to identify emerging issues and to give early warnings. All of these elements are built into the programme and into the Agency's ongoing work.

A major challenge for the years to come is to ensure proper dissemination to the general public of the Agency products and services in the languages of what will be a growing number of EEA member countries. This membership circle already extends beyond EU borders, and the group of countries covered by the Agency's reporting will in some cases consist of what could be called 'the other EU', the Ecological Union, consisting of all European countries.

### **Mission:**

The EEA's mission is to deliver timely, targeted, relevant and reliable information to policy-makers and the public for the development and implementation of sound environmental policies in the European Union and other EEA member countries.

The Agency is able to carry out its mission by making use of the capacities of the European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET), a network of environmental bodies and institutions active in the member countries. The EEA's activities also involve co-operation with other international environmental agencies and organisations. In other words, the EEA is building on the work of existing institutions; it co-operates with them, co-ordinates the work at European level and thereby manages to avoid duplication of work in environmental data collection, analyses and reporting.

The EEA does not aim to replace existing structures, but attempts instead to bring together, in compatible formats, the best available environmental data from the individual countries. This data forms the basis of integrated environmental assessments. The results are disseminated and made accessible to EU bodies, governments, the business community, academia, NGOs and the general public.

Successful environmental policy and environmental management is not about coping with the occasional disaster; it is concerned with detecting, analysing and responding to the slow-moving, underlying trends that may generate problems in the future. The role of the EEA is central in anticipating such changes in the making and helping Europe equip itself to respond.

### **Agency members :**

The EEA was initially established by the European Union, so all 15 EU member states are Agency members: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The EFTA countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, have also joined as full members. The EEA Regulation states that the Agency is open to countries that share the objectives of the Agency and are able to participate in its activities. It is expected that the membership base will increase in the future with several of the Central and East European countries joining.

### **The creation of the EEA :**

The 1987 Single European Act explicitly established the environment as one of the areas of European policy making. In December 1988, the European Council issued the Rhodes Declaration calling for greater efforts from European policy-makers in this area, a call that was strongly backed by the European Parliament. The then president of the European Commission, Jaques Delors, responded by pledging to set up an environmental monitoring and control network. In June 1990, the Council of Ministers adopted the regulation which forms the legal basis of the Agency (Regulation 1210/90/EEC). Finally, in October 1993, the decision was taken to locate the EEA in the Danish capital Copenhagen.

Following the decision to set up the EEA in 1990, a task force within General Directorate Environment of the European Commission prepared the ground for the Agency over the following four years. One task carried out by the task force was following up the Corine inventories on environmental information that had been launched in 1985. Another major task was the preparation of what was to be the Agency's first pan-European state of the environment report, Europe's Environment - The Dobris Assessment.

With the creation of the Agency, the task force was disbanded and, with a skeletal staff of 6 people, the Agency set up shop in Copenhagen. The build-up went on over the following years and, by 1999, the EEA had a staff of 70 and a budget of 18.1 million EUR.

### **The Agency's three instrumental pillars :**

As the basic systems for collecting and interpreting data on a European scale are in place, the European Environment Agency is set to play an important supportive role in policy preparation and implementation. The EEA is prepared to play its part in

making sure that European initiatives can be taken and decisions made on a sound basis of scientific knowledge.

The Agency is mandated to fulfil a wide range of functions. In practice this covers the three main areas of networking, monitoring and reporting, and acting as a reference centre. All of these areas of activity, described below in more detail, support European policy action.

The work of the EEA is project-oriented and follows an annual work programme which seeks to be transparent, accessible and responsive to real needs. Annual planning is driven by the multiannual work programme, with the present one running from 1999 to 2003. Activities are organised in five programme areas:

- Topic databases and reporting
- Integrated assessment
- Periodical reporting
- Reporting system support
- Service and network infrastructure

In each area, several project groups work with a number of projects. The reporting process requires inputs along the way from all programme areas.

### **Networking**

The aim is to develop and interconnect the means for Europe-wide environmental data gathering and processing. This includes establishing and developing the European Environmental Information and Observation Network (EIONET) and co-operating with international organisations and programmes.

### **Monitoring and reporting**

A major activity of the EEA is offering a reliable, cohesive, simple, low cost routine monitoring to reporting system on the environment. It seeks to deliver timely, comparable, harmonised data and integrated environmental assessments.

### **Acting as a reference centre**

The EEA facilitates environmental action through acting as a centre of excellence and as a single clearing house for environmental data by encouraging harmonisation of methods of measurement and providing uniform assessment criteria.

A principal function of the EEA is to make sure that the information needed by policy-makers in the European institutions and in the member states is readily available. This facilitates the preparation of new responses and enables evaluation of the effectiveness of legislation already passed.

## **5.4. The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (EMEA)**

In 1995 a new European system for the authorisation of medicinal products came into operation. After several years of cooperation between national competent authorities at European Union (EU) level, the EU Council adopted three directives and a regulation in June 1993 which together form the legal basis of the system.

The European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products (EMA) was established by Council Regulation (EEC) No 2309/93 of 22 July 1993 decision of the Heads of State and Government on 29 October 1993.

### **Protection of human and animal health**

The European system for the authorisation of medicinal products for human and veterinary use is designed to promote both public health and the free circulation of pharmaceuticals. Access to the European market is facilitated for new and better medicines – benefiting users and European pharmaceutical research.

In the case of veterinary medicinal products, consumer and animal health is protected through the fixing of maximum residue limits in food-producing animals.

### **The European procedures :**

The European system offers two routes for authorisation of medicinal products:

The centralised procedure is compulsory for medicinal products derived from biotechnology, and available at the request of companies for other innovative new products. Applications are submitted directly to the Agency in London. At the conclusion of the scientific evaluation undertaken in 210 days within the Agency, the opinion of the scientific committee is transmitted to the Commission to be transformed into a single market authorisation applying to the whole European Union.

The decentralised procedure (or mutual recognition procedure) applies to the majority of conventional medicinal products and is based upon the principle of mutual recognition of national authorisations. It provides for the extension of a marketing authorisation granted by one Member State to one or more other Member States identified by the applicant. Where the original national authorisation cannot be recognised, the points in dispute are submitted to the EMA for arbitration.

The European Commission adopts the final decision in both cases with the assistance of a standing committee or in the event of serious disagreement between the Member States, by the Council of the European Union.

Purely national authorisations remain available for medicinal products to be marketed in one Member State.

### **Mission of the European Agency for the Evaluation of Medicinal Products**

#### **EMA – a network agency :**

The European system is based on cooperation between the national competent authorities of the Member States and the EMA. The EMA acts as the focal point of the European system, coordinating the scientific resources made available by Member State national authorities, including a network of some 2 300 European experts. The principal scientific bodies of the EMA are the Committee for Proprietary Medicinal Products (CPMP) and the Committee for Veterinary Medicinal Products (CVMP). Staff of some 200 people now ensure the link with the CPMP, CVMP and over 4 000 officials in the Member State national competent authorities.

The partnership between the EMA, national authorities and the European Union institutions is crucial to the successful functioning of the European authorisation procedure.

An information technology network (funded by the European Commission and supported by the Joint Research Centre) links all partners and allows rapid exchange

of adverse drug reaction reporting and drug safety information. This network is supplemented by the use of video- and teleconferencing.

As a technical agency, the EMEA is able to provide support to the Commission for the performance of harmonisation tasks in both the European and international arena. The EMEA is currently involved with central and eastern European countries and international harmonisation work with Japan and the United States (ICH and VICH). The EMEA will implement third-country mutual recognition agreements with Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Switzerland and the United States.

**EMEA mission statement :**

To contribute to the protection and promotion of public and animal health by:

- mobilising scientific resources from throughout the European Union to provide high quality evaluation of medicinal products, to advise on research and development programmes and to provide useful and clear information to users and health professionals;
- developing efficient and transparent procedures to allow timely access by users to innovative medicines through a single European marketing authorisation;
- controlling the safety of medicines for human and animals, in particular through a pharmacovigilance network and the establishment of safe limits for residues in food-producing animals.

**Accountability and transparency :**

Members of committees, European experts and inspectors are nominated by Member States who guarantee their scientific competence. Their independence and integrity of members and experts is assured through public declarations of interest. When acting for the EMEA, they do so independently of their nominating authority.

EMEA has used the growth in Internet technologies to disseminate information on its work, in particular by making evaluation reports public. Regular consultation with all interested parties is an important aspect of the EMEA activities.

As a decentralised agency of the European Union, the EMEA is required to follow the budgetary and financial rules of the EU. These are supervised and enforced by an independent financial controller reporting to the EMEA Management Board and also by the European Court of Auditors. The Court of Justice of the European Communities exercises jurisdiction over the EMEA for the application of Community law.

**5.5. The Office for Harmonisation in the Internal Market**

The OHIM came into being in September 1994 when the President and Vice-Presidents moved into offices that were practically empty at the time.

The OHIM's task is to register Community trade marks and, in the near future, designs.

The Community trade mark grants its proprietor a uniform right valid in all Member States of the European Union by means of one procedural system.

Some people may well be surprised by the size of the OHIM today, by the speed at which it has grown and by the way it became self-financing from its second year of

operation. This is something to be proud of as it is proof of the success of the Community trade mark at the service of the single market. Such success can only be put down to the fact that this agency is unlike any other.

The trade mark belongs to the world of private company law. The Office is not a service detached from the Community Institutions whose function consists in drawing up standards for public law. Instead, it has a purely technical function. It is both an agency of the European Community and an industrial property office with its own logical way of functioning. The Member States and the Commission are represented at the Administrative Board and the Budget Committee.

As a service agency, the Office has to place its clients, that is to say the undertakings that file their trade marks with the OHIM, at the centre of the overall mechanism of the Office and it has to provide them with the best service at the best price. The Office is also, in many ways, an exception to the usual administrative approaches in the sense that its activities are not decreed in an authoritarian and centralized manner. Due to its very nature, the Office has to adapt continuously to the needs of its users and must, therefore, be decentralized in terms of its management, which implies respecting the principle of subsidiarity. In particular, the Office's budget is not determined arbitrarily given that, at least where revenue is concerned, it consists of the sum total of the fees paid by undertakings in return for filing their trade marks and registering them with the Office.

The Community Trade Mark Regulation judiciously provides that all these fees must contribute to the running of the Office. This has indeed been the case since 1997. However, this provision demands a strict management of human and technical resources which, at the same time, takes care to anticipate the medium and long-term development of the Office. It is already clear that the Office will not generate any structural surpluses until 2006, when renewal fees will be due for payment. Perhaps then it will be necessary to revise fees downwards to benefit users.

The European Patent Office, created by an intergovernmental convention of 1973, is a good example of self-management. After being in operation for 20 years, its Administrative Board has been able to take the decision to reduce fees. This Patent Office will, in the future, have to manage the Community patent and it is important to ensure that it will not be bound by excessive restrictions regarding this future activity.

It is in the interests of both the European Union and trade and industry to have a Community trade mark Office that functions quickly and effectively. The specific character of the Office, which was both acknowledged and required by those who negotiated the Community Trade Mark Regulation, drawing on their own national experiences, must be preserved.

## 5.6. The European Training Foundation

The European Training Foundation is an agency of the European Union. It was established by Council Regulation No. 1360/90 of 7 May 1990 and Council Regulation No. 2063/94 (which amends the original). It began its activities in January 1995. In July 1998 the Council amended the regulation (Council Regulation No. 1572/98) in order to extend the geographical scope of the Foundation's work to the countries eligible for support from the MEDA programme.

The Foundation supports the European Union in the development of a shared area of economic prosperity, stability and democracy within Europe and beyond.

The Foundation's mission is to contribute to the process of vocational education and training reform that is currently taking place within its partner countries and territories. It also provides technical assistance to the Tempus Programme.

The Foundation's partner countries and territories are those that are eligible to participate in the European Union's Phare, Tacis and MEDA Programmes.

The Foundation works in partnership with EU institutions, Member States and major development agencies.

### **Aims of the Foundation:**

Primarily, it aims to:

- Support the process of vocational education and training reform that is taking place within the partner countries and territories;
- Harness, mobilise, develop and disseminate European expertise and good practice in the field of vocational education and training;
- Promote effective cooperation in vocational education and training between the European Union and the partner countries and territories.

NB: the European Training Foundation is not a training provider nor a provider of financial assistance for individual students.

### **The partner countries and territories are as follows:**

Candidate countries (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia and Turkey)

South-Eastern European countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Romania, Slovenia)

New Independent States and Mongolia (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan)

Non-EU Mediterranean countries and territories (Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Malta, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey)

### **The organs of the Foundation:**

The Governing Board is the Foundation's decision making body. It comprises of representatives appointed by each of the member states and the European Commission which additionally chairs the meetings. It meets twice a year and is responsible for adopting the European Training Foundation's work programme.

The Advisory Forum is a body made up of representatives of the member states and the Foundation's partner countries, the European Commission and the social partners (trade unions and employers). Its annual meeting discusses the work of a series of subgroups set up from the previous year to cover specific aspects of vocational education and training. Its primary role is to provide a recommendation to the Governing Board on the content of the Foundation's work programme and scope of activities.

The European Training Foundation also has at its disposal a network of National Observatories within the partner countries that collate, analyse and disseminate information on national developments and trends in vocational education and training.

### **5.7. The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)**

The Lisbon-based European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), one of 12 decentralised European Community agencies, was set up in 1993 in response to the escalating drug problem in Europe and to demands for an accurate picture of the phenomenon throughout the European Union. The Centre became fully operational in 1995.

#### **Mission :**

The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction was set up to provide the Community and its Member States with 'objective, reliable and comparable information at European level concerning drugs and drug addiction and their consequences'.

The statistical, documentary and technical information processed or produced by the Centre helps provide its audience with an overall picture of the drugs phenomenon in Europe. The Centre works exclusively in the field of information.

#### **Tasks :**

The EMCDDA's main tasks are:

- collecting and analysing existing data;
- improving data-comparison methods;
- disseminating data and information;
- co-operating with European Union institutions, international partners and with non-EU countries.

The information collected, analysed and disseminated by the Centre focuses on the following areas:

- the demand and reduction of the demand for drugs;
- national and European Community strategies and policies;
- international co-operation and the geopolitics of supply;
- control of the trade in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors;
- implications of the drugs phenomenon for producer, consumer and transit countries.

## **History of the EMCDDA | Seven-step Action Programme :**

In October 1989, former French President François Mitterrand proposed to the European Community Heads of State and Government and the President of the European Commission that the EC Member States initiate a seven-step action programme to combat the escalating drugs problem in Europe.

Twenty years earlier, French President Georges Pompidou had taken a similar initiative, but one set in a purely inter-governmental context and outside the Treaty of Rome. Mitterrand, however, proposed an instrument of political co-ordination centred around the Member States and the European Community itself. Central to this concept was the creation of a drug monitoring centre to examine not only the social and health aspects of the drug problem in Europe, but also other related factors, including drug trafficking and penal sanctions.

Following Mitterrand's proposal, an ad hoc political group, the European Committee to Combat Drugs (CELAD), was set up composed of the national drug co-ordinators of the Member States. CELAD drew up the first European Plan to Combat Drugs, adopted by the Council of Ministers of the European Union in Rome in December 1990. The Plan was the first attempt at a programme of coherent action against drugs at both national and Community level, and made recommendations to reduce the demand for drugs, combat illicit trafficking and increase co-ordination at Member State level. The first European Plan was a prelude to real institutional power when the Maastricht Treaty on European Union entered into force in 1993 and included drugs for the first time in an EU treaty. The entry into force on 1 May 1999 of the Treaty of Amsterdam further strengthened the Maastricht provisions.

In June 1991, the European Council meeting in Luxembourg approved the establishment of a European drug monitoring centre. In January 1992, the European Commission submitted a draft Community Regulation setting up such a centre to the European Parliament and Council, and on 8 February 1993 Council Regulation (EEC) no. 302/93 establishing the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction was formally adopted. On 29 October, the European Council meeting in Brussels decided that the Centre should be located in Lisbon, and the Regulation came into force the following day.

During 1994, the Centre's Management Board and Scientific Committee were constituted, the Executive Director was selected and the Centre's premises purchased. On 26 April 1994, the first meeting of the EMCDDA's Management Board was held in Lisbon. The Centre became fully operational in 1995.

### **Structure of the EMCDDA :**

The EMCDDA consists of:

- two statutory bodies (the Management Board and the Scientific Committee);
- the Executive Director and his management team;

five departments:

- Epidemiology;
- Demand Reduction;
- REITOX Co-ordination;
- Information Strategies and Communication Resources;

- Administration, Finance and Logistics;

a New Synthetic Drugs Section, created to co-ordinate the Centre's work relating to the 1997 Joint Action on synthetic drugs.

In addition, the EMCDDA maintains close links with the National Focal Points of the European Information Network on Drugs and Drug Addiction (REITOX) and with other partner organisations.

### 5.8. Community Plant Variety Office

The Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) was established by Council Regulation (EC) No 2100/94 of July 27, 1994 (hereafter 'Basic Regulation'). It is concerned with the management of Community plant variety rights, a form of intellectual property for new plant varieties.

The CPVO came into existence, *in legal terms*, on 1 September 1994 (date of entry into force of the Basic Regulation), *in practice* only on 27 April 1995 (when it actually became possible to file the first applications: paragraph 2 of Article 118 of the Basic Regulation) and *effectively* since 16 June 1995 (when the first officials were in place).

The Community Plant Variety Office (CPVO) is recruiting a temporary agent for a period of 3 years. The CPVO is a Community institution with independent legal status and has been operating since 27 April 1995.

#### **Purpose :**

A system for the protection of plant variety rights has been established by Community legislation. The system allows intellectual property rights, valid throughout the Community, to be granted for plant varieties.

#### **Structure & Actors :**

Structure of the CPVO and the actors involved :

The Administrative Council: the CPVO is supervised by its Administrative Council, comprising a representative of each Member State and a representative of the European Commission, and their alternates. The Council advises the CPVO, formulates general guidelines and policies and issues opinions. It also constitutes the budget authority for the CPVO and scrutinises and monitors its activities and those of its President.

CPVO management: the CPVO is managed by its President, nominated by the Council of the European Union in accordance with a strict regulatory procedure. The President's duties include taking all necessary steps to implement the budget and ensure the smooth running of the CPVO within the framework of the powers entrusted to it under the Community regulations.

The President is assisted by a Vice-President who would take over should the President be prevented for some reason from fulfilling his normal duties. The President has delegated some duties to the Vice-President.

Internal organization: internally, the CPVO consists of three separate units: the Technical Unit, the Financial and Administrative Unit and the Legal Unit.

The Board of Appeal: a Board of Appeal has been established which is responsible for deciding on appeals made against certain kinds of technical decision taken by the

CPVO. The Board is made up of a Chairman and alternate, and members chosen by the Chairman from a list (drawn up on the basis of a strict regulatory procedure) depending on the cases under consideration. The members of the Board of Appeal are independent.

The decisions of the Board of Appeal can be appealed against to the Court of Justice of the European Communities in Luxembourg.

Other institutions: various Community institutions impinge directly or indirectly on the work of the CPVO: the Council, the Court of Auditors (monitoring revenues and expenditure), the European Commission and the European Court of Justice.

### **Procedures & Conditions :**

The procedures to be followed and the conditions required in relation to a variety submitted for community protection

### **Where to apply ?**

An application for plant variety protection can be made in any of the eleven official languages of the European Community direct to the CPVO or to one of the national agencies in a Member State, which in turn will take the necessary steps to send it on to the CPVO.

### **Who can apply ?**

Any individual or company whose domicile or headquarters is located in the European Union.

Individuals or companies from a state which is a member of the International Union for the protection of new varieties of plants (UPOV) but not a member of the European Union can also apply, provided that an agent domiciled in the Community has been nominated.

### **Checking the application :**

When an application is received, the CPVO checks to see that it is complete and eligible and that the variety is novel (see below). If no impediment is found at this stage, the CPVO arranges for a technical examination of the variety submitted.

### **Technical examination :**

As stated above, the purpose of this examination is to ensure that the criteria of distinctness, uniformity and stability, are complied with.

A variety is deemed:

- distinct if it is clearly distinguishable from any other variety whose existence is a matter of common knowledge on the date of application;
- uniform if it is sufficiently uniform in the expression of its characteristics; and
- stable if it remains unchanged after repeated propagation.

The examination for uniformity and stability must take account of any special features of the particular way in which the variety is reproduced or propagated.

The CPVO does not carry out technical examinations. These are entrusted to bodies deemed competent by the Member States. Examinations are conducted in accordance with guidelines laid down by the CPVO, which also checks that they have been properly carried out.

Varieties submitted are compared during the examination with other varieties submitted as part of an application for Community protection and with appropriate varieties from the reference sample. Other reference varieties can be included if necessary.

**Variety denomination :**

In addition to the above requirement, a variety must be identified by a variety denomination. The variety denomination is proposed by the applicant and approved by the CPVO. To be approved by the CPVO, a variety denomination must fulfil several criteria. For example, it must allow the variety to be clearly identified and ensure it is different from a denomination identifying an existing variety of the same botanical species or a related one.

**Novelty :**

Novelty is another requirement which a variety must fulfil. A variety will be novel if, on the date of application for protection of the variety, it has not been sold or disposed of with the consent of the breeder:

- earlier than one (1) year before that date within the territory of the Union;
- earlier than four (4) years before that date outside the territory of the European Union, or
- earlier than six (6) years in the case of trees and vines.

**Grant of title :**

If the CPVO believes that the findings of the examination are sufficient on which to base a decision and the other requirements have been met, it grants a Community plant variety right. In so doing, the CPVO issues the title holder with a certificate attesting to the grant of protection and a copy of the decision containing an official, detailed description of the protected variety.

Community protection may be granted as a general rule for twenty five (25) years, or for thirty (30) years in the case of vines, potatoes and trees.

**Publicity :**

Every two months the CPVO publishes an Official Gazette containing all the information appearing in its Registers, in particular applications for protection, proposals for variety denomination and grants of title. Any other information the

CPVO feels the public should be informed about may also be published in the Gazette.

**CPVO Funding & Expenditure :**

The CPVO is self financing; it receives revenue from fees for actions performed by it under the Community regulations. These fees cover the various stages through which a case file for the protection of a plant variety must go and are mainly: fees for an application for protection, administrative fees and fees for the commissioning of technical reports, technical examination fees, fees for special requests, annual protection fees, fees fixed by the President, surcharges and fees for appeals.

The amount of the various fees is based on experience, sound financial considerations and cost/effectiveness.

The expenditure of the CPVO covers staff and general running costs as well as operational spending, i.e.: expenditure on technical examinations carried out by the examination offices, the purchase of existing technical examination reports, carrying out examinations of denominations and the keeping of reference collections.

The CPVO runs a balanced budget.

### **5.9. The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work**

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work started work in 1996 and is based in Bilbao, Spain.

The legal basis for the Agency's activities are two Council Regulations - 2062/94 and 1643/95 (the latter made arrangements to include 3 new EU Member States in 1995).

#### **Objective :**

The Agency's objective as set out in the founding Regulation is "in order to encourage improvements in the working environment, the Agency shall provide the Community bodies, the Member States and those involved in health and safety at work with the technical, scientific and economic information of use in the field of safety and health at work."

#### **Organisation :**

The Agency is managed by a Director and has an Administrative Board which is made up of representatives of government, employers and workers from the 15 Member States and representatives of the European Commission.

#### **The Agency and its Network :**

##### **Introduction :**

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work is a complex network organisation made up of, and working with, various groups and bodies. The aim of this information is to explain the structure of the Agency and its network and to clarify the relationships between these different elements. Three types of body are described; the European Agency and its network, the expert groups and the external consultants.

##### **Focal Points :**

The European Agency has set up a safety and health information network made up of a 'Focal Point' in each EU Member State (article 4.1 in regulation 2062/94). This network forms an integrated part of the Agency's organisation and plays an important role within the Agency structure. Focal Points are normally the competent national authorities nominated by each country's government and are the Agency's official representative in the Member State.

They are responsible for the organisation and co-ordination of the national networks and participate in the preparation and implementation of the Agency's Work Programme. As with the other elements of the Agency structure, these networks are tripartite, i.e. include representation from workers' and employers' groups. Their role is to provide information and give feedback to Agency initiatives and products. They are consulted on and approve information activities related to the national level. Meetings of the Focal Points are held every three months and, in addition to the Focal

Points contact persons, include Observers from the European Commission and the European Social Partners.

The Focal Points also manage the national Agency Web-sites and contribute to the Agency Newsletter. As part of these tasks, they nominate persons to participate in the Agency's expert groups, such as the Thematic Network Groups, National Editors Group and Internet Group.

### **The Expert Groups :**

All of these groups consist of fifteen experts, one from each Member State, nominated by the national Focal Point. In addition, there are three experts are present as observers, two representing the social partners and one the Commission. The role of the groups is to provide advice to the Agency in their field of expertise and to contribute to the Agency's Work Programmes.

Thematic Network Groups (TNGs) :

These are ad hoc networks of experts convened on a particular topic. Their tasks include advising the Agency in the identification and collection of information and on ways to improve practices in OSH areas; monitoring the work of the Topic Centres (see below) and ensuring avoidance of overlap with other activities. To date, four TNGs have been set up according to the 4 key activity areas of the Agency' s information projects, under the headings of 'OSH Monitoring', 'OSH Systems and Programmes', 'Good Safety and Health Practice' and 'Research on Work and Health'.

### **Internet Group :**

The role of the group is to contribute to the development of the Agency's Web-site and the national sites. They do this by advising on structure and content, encouraging development of the Web-sites at national level and assisting the Agency in assessing users' needs.

### **National Editors Group :**

This group contributes to the development of a European news service for safety and health at work. Its tasks are to advise on the content and strategy for publications, help identify and collect news items and articles and assist in the promotion and dissemination of Agency publications and press releases.

### **Topic Centres :**

Topic Centres are contracted by the Agency for a defined period to provide expert assistance in meeting the requirements of specific areas of the Agency's Work Programme. They consist of a group of OSH-expert institutions comprising one Lead Organisation and several Partner Organisations from different Member States (consortia). Each Topic Centre Lead Organisation has a 1-year agreement with the Agency, renewable up to 3 years. The work to be done and funding available under the agreement is specified each year in the technical annexes, in line with the Agency's annual Work Programme. The Topic Centre Lead Organisation is responsible for subcontracting tasks to the Partner Organisations.

The Agency has established a Topic Centre structure covering the key areas for Agency information project activities. Following the Board's decision in November 1998 and 1999, four Topic Centres were designated, namely:

- Topic Centre on Research - Work and Health

- Topic Centre on Good Safety and Health Practice -
- Musculo-skeletal Disorders
- Topic Centre on Good Safety and Health Practice – Stress at Work
- Topic Centre on Good Safety and Health Practice - Dangerous Substances.

### **5.10. The Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union**

The Translation Centre for the Bodies of the European Union was created by Council Regulation (EC) n°2965/94 of 28 November 1994 to make a rational response to the translation needs of a large number of European agencies and offices.

The Council enlarged this role in 1995, considering that it was necessary to strengthen interinstitutional cooperation in the field of translation, "to enable the Centre to carry out, in the medium term, any activities the amalgamation of which has been decided on in accordance with the rules in force".

This enlargement, introduced by Council Regulation (EC) of 30 October 1995, gives a dimension to the key role of the Centre. Firstly, translation and related activities are extended to those institutions and bodies having a translation service. This type of cooperation is established on a voluntary basis and with the aim of absorbing any surplus work which may arise.

Secondly, the amendment to the Founding Regulation involves the active participation of the Centre in interinstitutional cooperation with a view to "rationalising working methods and making overall savings". The Centre is therefore a full member of the Interinstitutional Translation Committee and contributes to activities in the following fields: resources, terminology, administration, external translation, working methods and techniques, etc.

The Centre is established in Luxembourg, in accordance with the decision taken by the Heads of State and Government of 29 October 1993 on the location of the seats of certain decentralised agencies.

It is an agency governed by European public law, with legal personality. It has its own financial resources constituted by the transfers from the agencies, offices and institutions in exchange for services provided.

The organisational structure of the agency is based on a Management Board and a Director. The distribution of responsibilities is determined by the Founding Regulation and the Rules of Procedure.

Since the start-up of its activities in 1995, the Centre has gradually organised its services and administrative procedures and strengthened its operational capacity to respond to the increased workload. By way of comparison, the number of pages translated has risen from 20 000 in 1995 to over 200 000 in 1999. This rapid growth in activities has gone hand in hand with an increase in the Centre's staff, which now numbers over one hundred staff members.

### **5.11. The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC)**

The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) was established in 1997 by the European Union as an independent body to contribute to combat racism, xenophobia and anti-semitism throughout Europe.

The EUMC works with the Council of Europe, the United Nations and other international organisations. It has the task of reviewing the extent and development of the racist, xenophobic and anti-semitic phenomena in the European Union and promoting "best practice" among the Member States.

It will set up a European Racism and Xenophobia Information Network (RAXEN). RAXEN will be an instrument for collecting and collating data and statistics from the National level to a central unit of the EUMC. The EUMC will on this basis develop a European database for conducting research, disseminate information and implementing knowledge transfer in the field of racism, xenophobia and anti-semitism.

It is the aim of RAXEN to bring together all the forces in Europe in the field of racism, xenophobia and anti-semitism and establish an instrument for change.

The Monitoring Centre has also been organising "Round Table" discussions and is beginning to undertake research initiatives.

The Centre complements and supports ongoing activities and new projects of existing organisations bringing added value to the overall work to combat racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism.

#### **Primary tasks :**

The primary task of the Centre is to provide the Community and its Member States with objective, reliable and comparable data at European level on the phenomena of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in order to help them when they take measures or formulate courses of action within their respective spheres of competence.

The Centre studies the extent and development of the phenomena and manifestations of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism, analyses their causes, consequences and effects and examines examples of good practice in dealing with them.

#### **A plan of action against racism :**

To achieve its tasks effectively, the Centre has drawn up an action plan focussing on the following priority areas, e.g.

- RAXEN - European Information Network on Racism and Xenophobia
- National "Round Tables"
- other Projects
  - Charter
  - MPG
  - Private Foundations
  - Anne Frank-Foundation
- Identifying key issues

- Research initiatives
- Networking of available knowledge
- The Annual Report
- The Newsletter - "EqualVoices"
- Public Relations
- Cooperation with NGO's
- Cooperation with IGO's

**Vision :**

The EUMC's vision is that expressions of racism and xenophobia can be reduced, so that all people can experience "A Europe in which diversity and equality are respected and seen as the riches and the horizons for the future."

**Mission :**

The Centre is a thinking, acting and challenging organisation, working in all sectors of society for equality and diversity, and against racism and xenophobia in Europe - as a network of knowledge, a bridge-builder and a service organisation.

**Objectives :**

The EUMC is committed to the principle that cultural, ethnic and religious diversity enriches the fabric of the European Union. This principle is underpinned by the respect for the human rights of all the people living in the European Union.

The Centre will:

- Provide the Community and its Member States with objective, reliable and comparable data at the European level on the phenomena of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in order to help them take measures or formulate courses of action on racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism;
- Study the extent and development of the phenomena and manifestations of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism, analysing their causes, consequences and effects, and examining examples of good practice in dealing with them.

**Why a Centre to combat racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism?**

- The future of Europe will be determined by its cultural, ethnic and religious diversity.
- Mutual understanding and equal opportunities are the basic pillars of European unity.
- All this is inseparably linked with human dignity and a respect for human rights.
- Racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism are diametrically opposed to and threaten these principles

Racism and xenophobia transcend all borders :

Almost 33% of Europeans consider themselves to be "very" racist or "quite" racist. This figure emerged from a study undertaken by the European Commission and published in the Eurobarometer series in 1997. It also revealed that almost half of the Europeans who consider themselves to be "very" or "quite" racist are dissatisfied with the policies pursued by their governments.

Racism and xenophobia can be further aggravated by factors such as:

- dissatisfaction with current living conditions;
- fear of unemployment and uncertainty about the future;
- periods of sudden change and adjustment to new social conditions;
- lack of confidence in governments and public institutions;
- portrayal of migrants and asylum-seekers in the media and by politicians;
- lack of comprehensive information and knowledge about the situation of foreigners living in Europe.

**The necessity to combat these trends throughout Europe :**

Racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism are trends in parts of Europe. They must therefore be fought throughout Europe. The European Union considers it one of its tasks to develop concrete solutions as part of a comprehensive strategy to combat these trends. In establishing the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC), the European Union began a process to meet this goal. The Monitoring Centre itself was granted the remit to develop a comprehensive strategy to tackle racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism at all levels of European society.

**Creating the Monitoring Centre - the establishment process :**

In June 1995, the European Council asked the Consultative Commission on Racism and Xenophobia, chaired by Jean Kahn, to study the proposal to establish a European centre for monitoring racism and xenophobia.

The Consultative Commission came to the conclusion that only a European monitoring centre would be in a position to monitor carefully the development of racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism in the European Union. Such a centre would be best able to provide up-to-date information to EU institutions, the EU Member States and political representatives, and to convince them to take concrete political action. It also pointed out that only a European monitoring centre could ensure the appropriate coordination of activities required. On the basis of a feasibility study, the European Council approved in principle the establishment of a European Monitoring Centre in June 1996.

In June 1997, during the European Year against Racism, the Council adopted Regulation (EC) no. 1035/97 on the Establishment of a European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia. It was decided, afterwards, that the Centre would be based in Vienna. The Centre is an independent body of the European Union and has its own legal personality. The Centre started its work in July 1998 when the Director took up her duty.

**5.12. The European Agency for Reconstruction**

The European Agency for Reconstruction was established by the Council Regulation (EC) No 2667/2000 of 5 December 2000.

**Aim of Agency :**

The aim of the Agency is implementing of the Community assistance provided for in Article 1 of Regulation (EC) No 2666/2000 to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

**Tasks :**

To achieve the objective laid down in the second subparagraph of Article 1, the Agency shall carry out the following tasks, within the limits of its powers and in accordance with the decisions taken by the Commission:

- gathering, analysing and communicating information to the Commission on:
  - damage, the requirements for reconstruction and the return of refugees and displaced persons, and related initiatives taken by governments, local or regional authorities and the international community;
  - the urgent requirements of the communities concerned, taking account of the various population displacements and the possibilities for the return of those displaced;
  - the priority sectors and geographical areas requiring urgent assistance from the international community;
- preparing draft programmes for the reconstruction of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the return of refugees and displaced persons in accordance with guidelines provided by the Commission;
- implementing the Community assistance referred to in Article 1, wherever possible in cooperation with the local population and where necessary by drawing on the services of operators selected by tender. The Commission may accordingly make the Agency responsible for all operations required to implement the programmes referred to in (b), including:
  - drawing up terms of reference;
  - preparing and evaluating invitations to tender;
  - signing contracts;
  - concluding financing agreements;
  - awarding contracts, in accordance with the provisions of this Regulation;
  - evaluating draft programmes referred to in (b);
  - checking implementation of the draft programmes referred to in (b);
  - effecting payments.

**Source**

**[www.europa.eu.int](http://www.europa.eu.int)**