ROMANIA

DRAFT ANNUAL PROGRAMME 2007

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1. MEMBER STATE:

ROMANIA

2. GENERAL RULES FOR SELECTION OF PROJECTS TO BE FINANCED UNDER THE ANNUAL PROGRAMME

Internal procedure of receipt and verification of applications for implementation of projects

- 1. Beneficiary applications are submitted to General Directorate of European Affairs and International Relations within the– the Responsible Authority.
- 2. Verification and preliminary assessment of applications is the competence of the Responsible Authority and the Delegated Authority.
- 3. Once positively assessed, an application shall be presented at a meeting of the Evaluation Committee of the European Refugee Fund.
- 4. In the preliminary assessment process (if necessary) may participate subject-wise relevant units of the Ministry of Interior and Administrative Reforms as well as other governmental administration agencies.

European Refugee Fund Application Preliminary Assessment Chart

Project No:	 		
Project name:	 		
-			

No	Description	Notes
1	Compliance with rules laid down in the Accession Act	
2	Compliance with principles indicated in the European Commission Decision Compliance with principles indicated in the European Commission Decision on European Refugee Fund of 20 January 2006 and European Commission guidelines	
3	Compliance with domestic legal regulations and international obligations of Romania	
4	Readiness to implement project	
5	Implementation period - 2007	
4	Completeness of submitted project documentation	
	- justification of compliance with the Accession Act	
	- project implementation schedule	
	- project value	
	- description of actions undertaken	
	- expected project results	
5	Complementarity with assumptions of other submitted projects	

Prepared by:	
Approved by:	

3. MEASURES

- 3.1. MEASURE A): RECEPTION CONDITIONS AND ASYLUM PROCEDURES
- i. Requirements justifying the implementation of the measure

NRO has the overall administrative and financial responsibility for the accommodation of asylum seekers and for services provided. According to provisions in the Asylum Law, reception of the asylum seekers consist of temporary accommodation, social, medical, facilitating aces to education and Romanian language courses for asylum seekers children and economical assistance, interpretation services and in general meeting their basic needs.

Special assistance is designed and provided to vulnerable categories. NGO's are offered unhindered access in the reception centres in order to provide complementary assistance to the asylum seekers.

Since 1998 Romania has developed a decentralised reception and accommodation system covering the entire territory of Romania by establishing five regional branches of the **NRO** responsible both for reception and processing of the applications.

Currently the 5th regional branches of the **NRO** are operational and provided with sufficient staff and stands ready to offer various services:

- means of subsistence;
- social assistance;
- medical screening and care;
- interpretation services;
- educational and free time activities;
- legal counselling and assistance.

By the new legislation adopted in the field of asylum Romania has transposed all the relevant document of the EU acquis on asylum. The staff of the **NRO** involved in the administrative stage of the asylum procedure is sufficient and properly trained. In the last years appropriate training was offered to to judges involved in the judicial phase of the asylum procedure.

The NRO has a CoI Documentation Centre which provide general and by request information to the eligibility staff as well as to other actors involved in the asylum procedure. CoI information are made available also by a documentation centre of one of the NGOs.

The asylum seekers who express their will to receive legal assistance have the possibility to call on a lawyer to represent their interests, both in the administrative and the judicial phase of the refugee status determination procedure. The asylum seekers were counselled or assisted by representatives of non-governmental organizations, which are active in the field of asylum.

In case of negative decisions the applicant may appeal against it at the court. Romanian legislation providing the possibility for two appeals in case of ordinary procedure and one appeal in case of accelerated and border procedure.

According to the provisions of the Asylum Law in case of positive decisions NRO or the judicial can grant refugee status or subsidiary protection.

Although the national legislation has been fully harmonized with the relevant documents of the EU acquis on asylum there is steel need for improvement in some area concerning reception conditions, asylum procedure and integration. This needs are generated in the implementation process of the legislation as well as in the process of decentralizing the relevant activities within the NRO.

Some important NGOs assisting asylum seekers and persons granted a form of protection in Romania in the area of asylum are still having an important part of their programmes funded by UNHCR, which is slowly phasing down its assistance in Romania. Further more NGOs presence is not at the same level in all the regions where NRO branches are located and, therefore not all the asylum seekers and refugees are benefiting of the same level of assistance.

Despite all this, the reception conditions, asylum procedure and the quality and efficiency of the integration programmes need to be further developed and similar standards relevant for the above mentioned sectors need to be implemented at the level of the entire territory of Romania.

ii. Purpose of action

In the area of reception

- To improve quality of interpretation services by identifying and training of interpreters
- To improve recreational /educational activities organised in the NRO reception/accommodation centres
- Improve access of the asylum-seeker children to education

In the area of asylum procedure

- To improve the legal counselling and legal assistance of asylum-seekers throughout RSD procedure
- Improved access to country of origin information of all the actors involved in the asylum procedure
- Measures aiming at implementation of unified standards and practice of the asylum procedure at the national level

iii. Financial plan

European Refugee Fund allocations	A	159.000,00	75,00%
		Euro	
State allocations	В	7.500,00 Euro	3,54%
Allocations from regions	C	0,00 Euro	0,00 %
Allocations from the local authorities	D	0,00 Euro	0,00%
National allocations	E=B+C	7.500,00 Euro	3,54%
	+ D		
Total public allocations	F=A+E	166.500,00	78,54%
		Euro	
Private allocations	G	45.500,00 Euro	21,46%
Total costs	H=F+G	212.000,00	100,00%
		Euro	

iv. Timetable

Start: December 2007 End: November 2008

v. Measures to be implemented (operational outline)

Legal assistance and language assistance:

• Continue to identify Romanian / rare languages speakers to provide interpretation services throughout asylum procedure in all the areas of Romania where asylum applications are processed and deliver training to currently used interpreters;

 Legal counselling and legal assistance to be offered to asylum-seekers throughout RSD procedure in all areas of Romania where asylum applications are processed and training activities for legal counsellors and/or lawyers involved in the asylum procedure

Education, language training and other initiatives complying with the status of person:

- New recreational /educational activities organised in the NRO reception/accommodation centres
- Language courses, after school, and recreational acitvities for asylum-seeker children

Others

 Creation of a national portal with country of origin information which will offer easier access to CoI to all the actors involved in the asylum procedure on the territory of Romania

Regarding "National Portal of COI" we can mention that the web site, meant to operate public domain (for example: www.coi.ro or www.ito.ro) will serve as a useful tool for all the actors involved in the refugee status determination procedure (NRO staff, NGO's staff, lawyers, legal counselors and judges). Having regard the fact that all the CoI information presented during the judicial phase of the asylum procedure needs to be translated (provisions of the Romanian Civil Code), all the relevant information, made available on the internet web site, will be only in Romanian language contributing in this way to the improvement of the asylum procedure quality and reducing the expenses needed for translation of the respective documents.

• Training activities/working groups targeting eligibility officers and judges from all the locations where asylum applications are processed in order to implement unified standards and unified practice at the national level

vi. Target groups

Every third-country national or stateless person who asked for a certain form of protection mentioned in points 1 and 2 of Article 3 of Decision 2004/904/EC establishing the European Refugee Fund for the period 2005 to 2010 i.e. asylum or the subsidiary protection.

vii. Grant recipients

National or local authorities, NGOs, international organisations.

viii. Participating national authorities

- o General Directorate for European Affairs and International Relations (GDEAIR) from Ministry of Internal and Administrative Reform as Responsible Authority
- o National Refugee Office (NRO) as beneficiary of ERF funds

ix. Quantitative determined expected results

Infrastructure or accommodation services

- All asylum seekers accommodated in the NRO centres will have access to PC and internet services and offered training in this regard;

Provision of the material aid and medical or psychological care:

Social aid, providing information or assistance with the administrative procedures:

 All asylum seekers children accommodated in the NRO Centres (least 30) will benefit of Romanian language courses, after school and recreational activities

Legal counselling and language aid:

- 500 asylum seekers will benefit from legal counselling/assistance throughout asylum procedure in all areas of Romania where asylum applications are processed and at least 30 lawyers /legal counsellors will be trained on asylum procedure;
- At least 10 new interpreters (Romanian/rare languages speakers) will be identified and all the interpreters currently used, will be trained;

Other

- All the actors involved in the asylum procedure irrespective to their location in Romania will have access to CoI through a portal implemented and permanently updated by the existing researchers in CoI documentation centres;
- All the decision officers from NRO territorial branches and 20 judges from the courts (Local Courts and Tribunals) in which area of competence the territorial branches of the NRO are located will be trained and offered training materials regarding the asylum procedure

x. Visibility of ERF co-financing

The ERF funding will be made clearly visible for any activity linked to the actions financed under this fund. Ways to ensure visibility will include:

- Placing the EU logo on all equipment purchased for the project. In order to facilitate this activity, the Delegated Authority will procure sticker bearing the EU logo and a text informing on the source of financing of the equipment (i.e. the European Refugee Fund)
- Placing the EU logo and indication of ERF co-financing/financing on all relevant publicity materials, leaflets, letterhead, PR work, etc.
- Placing the EU logo and indication of ERF co-financing/financing on grant recipients' premises (e.g. on office walls, entrances, etc.)
- Informing the audience of ERF co-financing/financing when projects are mentioned at seminars or conferences

- The following acknowledgement will be used for ERF co-financing/financing:
- "project co-financed/financing by the European Refugee Fund".
- The EU logo can be downloaded from:

http://europa.eu.int/abc/symbols/emblem/index_en.htm

- Any publications that acknowledge ERF-co-funding/financing will specify that the publication reflects the author's view and that the Commission is not liable for any use that may be made of the information. Relevant requirement will be included in the grant agreements with beneficiaries and verified during monitoring visits.

xi. Complementarity with the similar measures finance form the other instruments and additionality to the national measures

The **Phare 2000 Border Management Programme** (2000 – 2004)- sub-projects focused on enhancing border management through training development, supply of mobility, communications, tactical support, and surveillance equipment, as well as on asylum management, providing for a Twinning on the development of the Asylum System (notably on the implementation of the new Refugee Law, accommodation and case processing centres, as well as on the establishment of a central research and documentation centre dealing with country of origin-information), as well as improvement of infrastructure for refugee accommodation and creating the conditions for a more effective refugee determination procedure near the eastern and western Romanian border.

The Phare Twinning Project RO/02/IB/JH 02 "Further development of the legislative practice and institutional framework in the field of asylum and refugees" has achieved the follows objectives: (i) to further harmonise the Romanian legal framework on asylum with the acquis communautaire and EU standards, (ii) to further enhance the capacity of the National Refugee Office's (NRO) in dealing with Safe Third Country-related procedures in view of future accession to the Dublin II Convention, (iii) to further enhance NRO's capacity in dealing with unaccompanied minors and (iv) to develop a Master Plan for the introduction of the EURODAC-system in Romania.

In the field of legislative and procedural development, Romania have benefited of specialized expertise from EU Member States through different twinning projects.

<u>The Phare Twinning Project 2004/016-772.03.13 – "Strengthening the institutional and operational capacity of migration and asylum management"</u>comprises a twinning component aimed at updating the primary and secondary legislation in asylum and migration field, as well.

The project have like objective the continuing the institutional development and ongoing approximation of European Union acquis in order to prepare the Romanian authorities to continue the improvement of migration and asylum management and to fully participate in the EURODAC system at the date of Romania's accession to the European Union.

- The National Migration Strategy implemented and updated.
- National legislation in asylum and migration field fully compatible with EU acquis.
- Staff of asylum and migration management institutions fully trained according to EU Member States best practices, on general or specific issues, and improved capacity of both institutions to develop, deliver and to monitor training.
- Improved management and co-operation capacity between the institutions with competence in the field of asylum and migration management at national and international level.

- Specialized IT Units in the field of asylum and migration management, operational and able to develop and maintain dedicated software applications, including internal flows management system.
- A re-evaluation of the operational capacity of the institutions competent in the area of asylum and migration, including an assessment of their preparedness to function within the common European asylum & migration system and related recommendations.
- Improved procedures, fully operational, and strengthened capacity for implementing return measures.
- Romania prepared for participation in the Eurodac system, including an appropriate IT-network developed, and the required equipment installed and operational.

They were no other projects or programmes relating to asylum and integration field in Romania, excepting PHARE projects, which were developed in these fields and having a contribution to the actual level on asylum and social integration domain.

3.2. MEASURE B): INTEGRATION OF PERSONS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 3 OF DECISION 2004/904/EC, WHOSE STAY IN MEMBER STATE IS LONG-TERM AND PERMANENT

i. Requirements justifying the implementation of the measure

In accordance Integration Law social integration represents the process of active participation of aliens who were granted a form of protection in Romania in the economic, social and cultural life of the Romanian society. Therefore, integration programmes where designed consisting in specific activities of cultural orientation, counselling and learning Romania language and to facilitate access to a series of economic and social rights (the right to employment, the right to education, the right to medical assistance and social assistance and the right to housing).

The **NRO** has the overall co-ordination on the integration programs implementation and cooperates with central and local authorities as well as with NGOs active in this field.

The integration programs aim at supporting those granted a form of protection in Romania in the process of acquiring the skills and knowledge necessary to adapt to the Romanian society (knowledge of Romanian language and knowledge related to society in general).

Measures for facilitating the access to the labour market

The aliens granted a form of protection benefit from access to the labour market, access to the system of unemployment insurance, to the measures for the prevention of unemployment and stimulating labour force, under the same conditions as for Romanian citizens. Furthermore, the legal provisions refer to a system of assistance for aliens who were granted a form of protection with the view to employment and to adapting the services offered by employment agencies to the situation and specific needs of these persons.

Measures to facilitate the access to education

Aliens who were granted a form of protection in Romania have the access to all forms of education under the same conditions established by law for Romanian citizens. With a view to being registered in the study year corresponding to the knowledge acquired, minors may take part in a free course for Romanian language. The course is carried out upon request and is organized by school inspectorates. The main obstacle in respect to access to education of aliens who were granted a form of protection in Romania is still the method of acknowledging the diplomas in the case of refugees who do not have such documents, because aliens who were granted a form of

protection in Romania must undergo the same procedure as all other aliens for being acknowledged diplomas and qualifications, which, in practice, is impossible in many of the cases.

Measures to facilitate access to medical assistance system

Aliens who were granted a form of protection in Romania have the right to medical assistance under the same conditions as those established by law for Romanian citizens. In practice, problems were signalled, caused by different interpretations related to payment of the health insurance contributions.

Measures to facilitate access to the social assistance system

The access to the social assistance system is ensured under the same conditions established by law for Romanian citizens. The aliens who were granted a form of protection in Romania may benefit from a reimbursable financial support from the Ministry of Labour, Social Solidarity and Family, which can be obtained for an interval of 6 months, with the possibility of prolongation with extra three months. The reimbursable financial support amounts to the value of the minimum salary per economy, for each family member and is granted after a social investigation. Practice proved that refugees have access to this type of support.

Measures to facilitate access to housing

According to the provisions of the Integration Law aliens granted a form of protection in Romania have the right to housing, under the same conditions as for Romanian citizens.

ii. Purpose of measure

• Affordable housing for aliens who were granted a form of protection in Romania

iii. Financial plan

European Refugee Fund allocations	A	187.939,07	75,00%
		Euro	
State allocations	В	62.646,36	25,00%
		Euro	
Allocations from regions	<i>C</i>	0,00 Euro	0,00%
Allocations from local authorities	D	0,00 Euro	0,00 %
National allocations	E=B+C+	62.646,36	25,00%
	D	Euro	
Total public allocations	F=A+E	250.585,43	100,00%
		Euro	
Private allocations	G	0,00 Euro	0,00%
Total costs	H=F+G	250.585,43	100,00%
		Euro	

iv. Timetable

Start: December 2007

End: November 2008

v. Measures to be implemented (operational outline)

Measures are in accordance with Article 6 of Decision 2004/904/EC.

Measures focused on the education, vocational training, recognition and qualification

• Acquisition / building & refurbishing of housing for persons who granted a form of protection

vi. Target groups

Persons defined pursuant to Article 3 of decision on ERF whose stay in the territory of the Member State is long-term and/or permanent:

- 1. every third-country national or stateless person with the legal statute defined in Geneva Convention of 28 July 1951 relating to the refugees and its protocol of 1967 and with the residence permit for the refugees in one the Member State;
- 2. every third-country national or stateless person who profit from the subsidiary form of protection within the meaning Council Directive 2004/83/EC of 29 April 2004 on minimum standards for the qualification and status of third country nationals or stateless persons as refugees or as persons who otherwise need international protection and the content of the protection granted
- 3. every third-country national or stateless person granted with the temporary protection within the Directive 2001/55/EC.

vii. Grant recipients

National or local authorities, NGOs, international organisations

viii. Participating national authorities

- General Directorate for European Affairs and International Relations (GDEAIR) from MIRA Ministry of Administration and Interior as Responsible Authority
- National Refugee Office (NRO) as beneficiary of ERF funds

ix. Quantitative determined expected results

Concrete improvements at integration of the refugees

 At least 5 apartments/houses will be purchased / build and/or refurbished and offered to refugees/ persons granted subsidiary protection and whom finished the integration programmes

x. Visibility of ERF co-financing

The ERF funding will be made clearly visible for any activity linked to the actions financed under this fund. Ways to ensure visibility will include:

- Placing the EU logo on all equipment purchased for the project. In order to facilitate this activity, the Delegated Authority will procure sticker bearing the EU logo and a text informing on the source of financing of the equipment (i.e. the European Refugee Fund)
- Placing the EU logo and indication of ERF co-financing/financing on all relevant publicity materials, leaflets, letterhead, PR work, etc.
- Placing the EU logo and indication of ERF co-financing/financing on grant recipients' premises (e.g. on office walls, entrances, etc.)
- Informing the audience of ERF co-financing/financing when projects are mentioned at seminars or conferences
- The following acknowledgement will be used for ERF co-financing/financing:
- "project co-financed/financing by the European Refugee Fund".
- The EU logo can be downloaded from:

http://europa.eu.int/abc/symbols/emblem/index_en.htm

- Any publications that acknowledge ERF-co-funding/financing will specify that the publication reflects the author's view and that the Commission is not liable for any use that may be made of the information. Relevant requirement will be included in the grant agreements with beneficiaries and verified during monitoring visits.

xi. Complementarity with the similar measures finance form the other instruments and additionality to the national measures

Within the Phare Project RO 0107.17 "Strengthening the management of the migration phenomenon in Romania", the twinning component (RO 01/IB/JH 01) the achieved results were the creation of a legal framework for a better management of migration, approximated to the EU acquis as regards the regime of aliens, development of the institutional framework of the authorities dealing with immigration issues, elaboration of a coherent National Migration Strategy, including fight against illegal migration for Romania, developing legislation and programmes for the integration of recognized refugees and other aliens with legal stay in Romania (including the implementation of an awareness raising campaign) and promotion of international co-operation to combat illegal migration.

3.3. MEASURE C): VOLUNTARY RETURNS of the persons referred to in Article 3 of decision 2004/904/EC provided they did not obtain the new nationality and did not leave the territory of the member state

N/A

i. Requirements justifying the implementation of the measure

N/A

ii. Purpose of measure

N/A

iii. Financial plan

European Refugee Fund allocations	A
State allocations	В
Allocations from regions	C
Allocations from the local authorities	D
National allocations	E=B+C+D
Total public allocations	F=A+E
Private allocations	G
Total costs	H=F+G

iv. Timetable

Start: December 2007 End: November 2008

v. Measures to be implemented (operational outline)

Suggested measures are in accordance with Article 7 of Council Decision 2004/904/EC:

Information and consultation services concerning the initiatives or programmes of the voluntary return

Providing information on the situation in the country of origin or region of origin or the previous residence

General or vocational training and assistance with the reintegration

Activities facilitating organization and implementation of the national programmes for the voluntary return

Post-return review

N/A

vi. Target groups

Persons referred to in Article 3 of Council Decision 2004/904/EC provided they did not obtain the new nationality (naturalized persons) and did not leave the territory of the Member State.

vii. Grant recipients

N/A

viii. Participating national authorities

Not applicable.

N/A

ix. Quantitative determined expected results

N/A

x. Visibility of ERF co-financing

N/A

xi. Complementarity with the similar measures financed by the other instruments and additionality to the national measures

N/A

4. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

i. Requirements justifying making use of the technical assistance

The main task of technical assistance is support for implementation of the ERF annual programmes in Romania, giving opportunity for responsible authority, delegated authority and applicants to use the necessary professional services.

Other tasks of technical assistance are to ensure the following:

- 1. Appropriate preparation and effective implementation of the ERF programme;
- 2. Appropriate funding of the ERF programme management functions;
- 3. Appropriate audit and control of the ERF programme;
- 4. Publicity.

Technical assistance is 100 percent covered by the ERF allocations.

ii. Purpose of technical assistance (Article 18 of the decision No 2004/904/EC)

The additional financing in amount of 7% of the total annual co-financing allocated to Romania, will be used to cover expenditure on technical and administrative assistance for preparation, monitoring and evaluation of ERF actions.

iii. Financial plan (RON and Euros*)

European Refugee Fund	A	58.371,76 EUR*	100 %
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State budget	В	0.00 EUR	0 %
Regional funds	С	0.00 EUR	0.00 %
Local public authorities funds	D	0.00 EUR	0.00 %
National allocations in total	E=B+C+D	0.00 EUR	0 %
Public allocations in total:	F=A+E	58.371,76 EUR*	100 %
Private allocations	G	0.00 EUR	0.00 %
TOTAL:	H=F+G	58.371,76 EUR*	100 %

^{* 7 %} of the total annual co-financing + 30.000 Euro

iv. Schedule

Start date: December 2007 End date: December 2008

v. Actions to be implemented (operational outline)

Measures for the technical and administrative assistance for the preparation, monitoring and evaluation of the measures of the programme, e.g.:

Costs related to preparation, selection, assessment and surveillance over the operations cofinanced from ERF.

- publishing of the calls
- assessment and selection of grant applications
- activity of the Steering Committee
- purchase of equipment
- final internal and external evaluation
- visits of exchanging experience in other countries

Information on the measures and costs related to the visibility of ERF co-financing.

Expenses related to visibility of ERF co-financing will be performed pursuant to publicity programme and they shall be paid:

- from MIRA budget the responsible authority will organize 1 press conference and publish approximately 2 press notes on ERF programme 2007;
- The Fund budget will cover the costs for a leaflet about ERF

Expenses paid by MIRA are not involved in the financial plan; they are performed by internal employees of the ministry and therefore they can not be calculated.

Expenses related to audit, on the spot checks and review of the projects.

• on the spot checks performed by the coordinators of the programme

Education or trainings

• training for responsible authority and grant recipients, e.g. in the field of management, monitoring, preliminary financial control, requests for payment

Unforeseen expenses

• equipment

vii. Participating national institutions

National authorities (Responsible Authority, Delegated Authority, Certifing Authority, Contracting Authority, Control Authority)

viii. Expected quantified results

Actions to cover technical and administrative assistance related to the preparation, monitoring and evaluation of actions of the programme:

- Improvements in preparation of call for proposals and preparation of programme (specify person/days): 2/10 days
- Evaluation of project proposals: depends on the number of projects submitted
- Selection of projects: depends on the number of projects submitted
- On-the-spot checks (specify number of audits/visits): depends on the number of projects 2 checks for each project (including a content related and a financial monitoring).
- Number of applicants and beneficiaries trained: 4 seminars/ 40 persons/
- Publicity initiatives:
 - o publication of calls for proposals and tenders
 - o publication of a leaflet 1
- Equipment purchased: computer sets 2

copy machine - 1

- Number of implementation staff with improved qualifications 4;
- Visits for exchanging experience in other countries which have successfully implemented ERF: 3 visits/ 4 persons/5 days per visit;
- Invited experts with experience in implementing ERF from other Member States as trainers: 3 persons/2 visits/3 days per visit;

ix. Publicity for ERF funding

- Placing the EU logo on all equipment purchased for the project. In order to facilitate this activity, the Delegated Authority will procure sticker bearing the EU logo and a text informing on the source of financing of the equipment (i.e. the European Refugee Fund)
- Placing the EU logo and indication of ERF co-financing/financing on all relevant publicity materials, leaflets, letterhead, PR work, etc.
- Placing the EU logo and indication of ERF co-financing/financing on grant recipients' premises (e.g. on office walls, entrances, etc.)
- Informing the audience of ERF co-financing/financing when projects are mentioned at seminars or conferences
- The following acknowledgement will be used for ERF co-financing/financing:

"project co-financed/financing by the European Refugee Fund".

- Any publications that acknowledge ERF-co-funding/financing will specify that the publication reflects the author's view and that the Commission is not liable for any use that may be made of the information. Relevant requirement will be included in the grant agreements with beneficiaries and verified during monitoring visits

Authorities responsible for implementation of this action:

Benenficiary - National Refugee Office

x. Compatibility of similar actions of national and Community programmes

Following Article 18 of the Decision No 2004/904/EC of the European Council, part of the annual co-financing allocated to Romania may be set aside to cover expenditure on technical assistance for preparation, monitoring and evaluation of actions. This financing is allocated exclusively to authorities, which administer the ERF programme. Staff of these authorities, who are responsible for implementation of the ERF programme, must ensure that these allocations are used transparently and appropriately. For implementation of this task, procedures for application of the ERF technical assistance funds are under preparation and an annual contract between the Ministry of Administration and Interior and Central Financing and Contracting Unit within the Ministry of Public Finance on approval of the ERF technical assistance budget for specific year is signed. This contract includes rights, obligations and responsibilities of the parties. Calculations of technical assistance allocations for specific year are approved together with this contract.

The Responsible Authority ensures that the members of the selection committee of the ERF are delegated from the responsible departments of the public administration, non-profit sector and local self-government. The board includes members from the Ministry of labour, social affairs and family the Ministry of Regional Development as well as from the Ministry of public finances which is the managing authority for the programme Equal.

5. PRELIMINARY ANNUAL FINANCIAL PLAN (ACTIONS + TA)

European Refugee Fund	A	405.310,82 EUR	77,81 %
State budget	В	70.146,36 EUR	13,46 %
Regional funds	С	0.00 EUR	0.00 %
Local public authorities funds	D	0.00 EUR	0.00 %
National allocations in total	E=B+C+D	70.146,36EUR	13,46 %
Public allocations in total:	F=A+E	475.457,18 EUR	91,27 %
Private allocations	G	45.500 EUR	8,73 %
TOTAL:	H=F+G	520.957,18 EUR	100,00 %