



Project title:

ORGANISED CRIME TRAINING NETWORK FOR OPERATIONAL MANAGERS IN SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

1. INTRODUCTION

Based on the conclusions of the London Conference on defeating organised crime in South Eastern Europe held in November 2002, and based on a donor meeting convened in Bern in May 2003, Norway, Switzerland, United Kingdom and Slovenia in close co-operation with the Ministries of the Interior of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro and as an observer the United Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), under the auspices of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe, plan to set up a special network for organised crime investigators of South East European countries.

2. PROJECT SCOPE

2.1 Objective of the OCTN project

The overall objective of the project entitled "Organised Crime Training Network for operational managers in South Eastern Europe" (OCTN) is to strengthen the regional and international co-operation in order to successfully combat cross-border organised crime.

OCTN will give the operational police officers in SEE the opportunity to share best practices and to enhance common investigation activities. The network is expected to establish institutionalised relationships among the police investigators of the region and will also link them to other international partners.

The core element of this approach is the development of a roaming training programme aimed at operational police officers, which will be expected to take place yearly in a range of countries in SEE with the close cooperation of the diverse police organisations. Trainings will focus on the skills necessary for operational staff in the investigation of organised crime. The project comprises three key elements:

- Training of investigators
- Networking of key personnel
- Organisational development

2.2 Target group and project area:

- The immediate target groups of the project are the operational managers of the different national OC units in the SEE.
- The Local Contact Points are the second target group of this project. Their role is essential in the way that they: Ensure as focal points the coordination within their country, serve as direct partners in their country for the project management and other partners, organise practical things like meetings in their country and ensure the sustainability of the project.

- The “policy makers” are the third target group of this project. Their role is important for the successful implementation of the OCTN project as a whole. These persons have to be in position to decide and define a way for the implementation of the legislation, for introducing best practices and standards and for organisational changes within national security agencies (ministries).

2.3 Proposed training structure:

- Each standard roaming training course will consist of not more than 20 – 25 participants (two candidates per participating country).
- It is expected that each group of participants will attend three ‘components’ in different venues in three different countries.
- The intention is that the training will ‘roam’ around the regional countries, although the participants will remain the same for each component.
- After the final component, a participant feedback is foreseen, either in the form of a specific feedback session or by a filled-in questionnaire.
- The training will be highly participatory with working examples and case studies involving modern techniques, but also possibly re-evaluating the methods in the past.

3. PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The project will have three main phases: inception, implementation and phasing out phase.

3.1 Inception phase September 2004 – March 2005

The inception phase (2004) foresaw the following:

Activities	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March
Local Contact Points appointed	x				
Training of LCPs		x			
Participating investigators appointed					x
Evaluation + planning report 2005					x

3.2 First implementing phase: April 2005 – March 2006

The implementing phase (2005) foresees the following:

- Two 5-day roaming courses for crime investigators (component A, B and C)
- One 5-day course for crime investigators (Cyber crime - eventually)
- Two trainings or meetings with the Local Contact Points
- Nine seminars with “policy makers” – introduction of the OCTN Project
- An evaluation report at the end of the year, which includes recommendations and a planning for the following year of implementation.

Program "Operational managers"

Project/ Month	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3
Organised crime - Drug trafficking								
Component A	x							
Component B			x					
Component C				x				
Financial crime, money laundering, corruption								
Component A					x			
Component B						x		
Component C								x
Ciber crime								(x)

Program – "policy makers"

Project/ Month/Country	June – September 2005
JHA – police cooperation and police management – OCTN Project	Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Albania, Moldova, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Romania, UNMIK

Other activities

Project / Month / Activities	4	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3
Training/meeting of LCPs	x			(x)					x
Steering Group meeting	x								x
Memorandum of Understanding			x						
Letter of Intent			x						
Budget request for 2006								x	
Evaluation + planning report 2006								x	

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECT

4.1 Inception phase September 2004 – March 2005

All the activities planned in the inception phase have been implemented:

- Local Contact Points were appointed (November 2004)
- Training of LCPs was conducted in Viena (December 2004)
- Participating investigators were appointed (March 2005)
- Evaluation and planning report 2005 was prepared (March 2005)

4.2 Programme – "policy makers"

Visits to participating countries - introducing the OCTN project to the "policy makers" – have been carried out in the ministries of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Romania, Moldova, Serbia, Macedonia and UNMIK-Kosovo Police Service (Albania and Montenegro are still on the lists of visits). The support and readiness to participate in the implementation of the OCTN Project has been given from all of them.

4.3 Programme "Operational managers"

4.3.1 First standard training course (Component A) - Organised crime - combating drugs

The training course has been conducted at the Police Academy - Kosovo Police Service School (KPSS) in Vucitrn (22nd - 26th August 2005). The documentation for the first Standard training course and teaching material have been prepared, such as:

- Programme for the first week seminar – Component A
- Questionnaire: organised crime for the component A (first seminar)
- Questionnaire: organised crime - combating drugs for the component B (second seminar)
- Questionnaire: organised crime - combating drugs for the component C (third seminar)
- Overview of the international law and EU acquis (summary) connected to organised crime
- Overview of the international law and EU acquis (summary) connected with combating drugs
- Overview of the EU acquis (summary) connected with judicial cooperation in criminal matters
- Overview of the European Union legislation (in force) in the field of freedom, security and justice (police cooperation).

4.3.2 First standard training course (Component B) - Organised crime - combating drugs

The second component (B) of the first STC course will be conducted in Chisinau, Moldova, from 10th to 14th October 2005.

On 31st August the invitation letter, registration forms for the participants of the second seminar and the questionnaire for the second training course were sent to all the Local contact points.

The frame of the draft programme for the second seminar (component B) has been defined and will be finalised before the second seminar (component B).

5. OTHER ACTIVITIES

5.1 Programme - Local Contact Point

The meeting was conducted in Skopje, Macedonia (19th and 20th April 2005) with the following agenda:

- presentation of the amendments to the structure (modules) of the project and identification of the appropriateness of chosen subjects as a whole
- checking of the importance to establish special programme for policy level (also to identify the content of the programme)
- elaborating of the necessary further steps - topics of the modules and to define priorities in the implementation of the project
- discussion on the time schedule of training courses, possibilities to host a training course in participating countries and to research a potential contribution of all the countries involved into the project.

5.2 Meeting of the Steering Committee

The meeting was held on 22nd April 2005 in Brussel. The following was concluded: Report on the inception phase ending 31st March 2005; Agreement upon the updated version of the project document; Agreement upon the proposal for activities for 2005; Agreement upon the budget and contributions of the different donors and Outline or vision of the activities for 2006.

5.3 Memorandum of Understanding

Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 7th August 2005. The Memorandum is aimed at defining the relations between the Special Coordinator of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (SCSP) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), for the implementation of the OCTN Project.

The SCSP's role shall be an overall implementation of the project, as well as to report, to negotiate with and to maintain other relations with the donors.

IOM shall be named as the project treasurer, accountant and as the employer of the project staff. Both parties will undertake every effort to ensure the success of the operation.

5.4 Letter of Intent

"Letter of Intent" was signed on 8th September 2005 in Belgrade expressing the readiness of the Donor and the Partner Countries to cooperate in the field of combating cross-border organized crime and to establish an "Organized Crime Training Network for operational managers in South-East Europe".

The donor countries intend to commit themselves on a yearly basis according to the rules of their own national legislation. After three years the intention is that there will be an overall assessment to decide on further steps.

The partner countries intend to support the programme by participating actively in the Project planning and implementation. They will nominate Local Contact Points and send operational managers of organized crime investigation units to participate in the OCTN training courses. Further on, the partner countries intend to assist the programme by hosting training courses in their countries, if adequate facilities are available.