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**Project: Development of Reliable and Functioning Policing Systems
and Enhancing of Combating Main Criminal Activities
and Police Co-operation**

Final version EN

**Strengthening police capacities
against serious crime in South-eastern Europe**

**TRI-ANNUAL REPORT
[6TH PROGRESS REPORT]**

**REPORTING PERIOD:
20 FEBRUARY 2006 – 20 JUNE 2006**

Project title	Development of reliable and functioning policing systems, and enhancing of combating main criminal activities and police co-operation
Project area	South-eastern Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"
Budget	EURO 4 444 000
Funding	European Commission CARDS Programme & Council of Europe
Implementation	Council of Europe (Department of Crime Problems/DGI – Legal Affairs) for overall management and Module 1 International Organisation for Migration for Module 2
Duration	30 months (March 2004 – September 2006)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	PROJECT SUMMARY.....	1
2	GENERAL INTRODUCTION.....	4
2.1	General project activities carried out during the reporting period	4
2.1.1	Overview	4
2.1.2	Advisory Board activities.....	5
2.1.3	Communication and coordination between Module 1 and Module 2	6
2.1.4	Senior Representatives and Module Co-ordinators.....	6
2.1.5	Local project officers (LPOs) and other staff issues	7
2.2	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of the project and next steps	7
3	MODULE 1.....	9
3.1	Introduction	9
3.2	Output 1.1	9
3.2.1	Specific activities carried out during the reporting period	9
3.2.2	Conclusions and next steps.....	12
3.3	Output 1.2	13
3.3.1	Specific activities carried out during the reporting period	13
3.3.2	Conclusions and next steps.....	17
3.4	Output 1.3	18
3.4.1	Specific activities carried out during the reporting period	18
3.4.2	Conclusions and next steps.....	22
3.5	Output 1.4	22
3.5.1	Specific activities carried out during the reporting period	22
3.5.2	Conclusions and next steps.....	24
3.6	Output 1.5	25
3.6.1	Specific activities carried out during the reporting period	25
3.6.2	Conclusions and next steps.....	27
4	MODULE 2.....	28
4.1	Introduction	28
4.2	General activities carried out during the reporting period	28
4.4.1	Kosovo (Serbia), 6–10 March 2006.....	29
4.4.2	“the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, 20 – 25 March 2006.....	30
4.4.3	Serbia, 3 – 7 April 2006	31
4.4.4	Bosnia and Herzegovina, 8 – 12 May 2006.....	31
4.4.5	Montenegro, 5 – 9 June 2006.....	32
4.4.6	Croatia, 26 – 29 June 2006	33

4.5	Specific activities carried out during the reporting period	33
4.6	Next short and mid- term activities	35
4.7	Conclusions	35

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1 PROJECT SUMMARY

The Project “Development of reliable and functioning policing systems and enhancing of combating main criminal activities and police co-operation” is a joint project between the European Union and the Council of Europe, under the CARDS Regional Programme 2002 – 2003.

The project started in March 2004 and will last until September 2006 (30 months).

The project areas are: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia¹ and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”.

The objective of the project is to strengthen the capacities of the above-mentioned beneficiary countries to develop and implement regional strategies against serious forms of crime, based on the *acquis* of the European Union and other European standards and practices by:

- providing them with the necessary tools against economic and organised crime (**Module 1**);
- enabling them to deliver comprehensive training against trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration (**Module 2**).

The project covers, through a series of in-country and regional activities (e.g. seminars, study visits, trainings) **the following issues:**

- the development of a regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime;
- the strengthening of financial investigations capacities aimed at the confiscation of proceeds from crime and experience exchange among the financial intelligence units in the region;
- the use of special investigative means and intelligence in accordance with human rights standards;
- the creation of effective mechanisms to protect witnesses of serious crime;
- the strengthening of capacities for co-operation in criminal matters;
- the development of training strategies in all matters related to trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration;
- the development of curricula and training materials on trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration.

The overall intervention logic of the project can be summarised as to:

- develop regional strategies and benchmarks;
- develop country-specific implementation plans for specific tools and fields of crime;
- develop, test and produce training materials in local languages to support the implementation of the strategies;
- review progress made in the implementation of the strategies and thus in the progress made towards the *EU acquis* and European standards and practices.

Through the two modules, the project **combines a horizontal approach** (tools which are common to most forms of economic and organised crime) **with a vertical approach** (trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration as the specific field of crime).

¹ The project area includes also Kosovo (Serbia), currently under the interim administration of UNMIK in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

Finally, **close co-ordination and synergies with other organisations and projects** supporting measures against economic and organised crime, trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal immigration are sought in the implementation of the project.

MODULE 1 - PROVIDE TOOLS AGAINST ECONOMIC AND ORGANIZED CRIME		MODULE 2 - DELIVER COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS, SMUGGLING AND ILLEGAL MIGRATION	
<p>Output 1.1 Develop a regional strategy on economic and organized crime</p>	<p>Output 1.2 Strengthen capacities for financial investigations aimed at confiscation of proceeds from crime</p>	<p>Output 1.3 Support effective use of special investigative means and intelligence</p>	<p>Output 1.4 Support the creation of effective mechanisms to protect witnesses of serious crime</p>
<p>Output 1.5 Strengthen capacities for international co-operation in criminal matters</p>	<p>Output 2.1 Develop and support a training strategy</p>	<p>Output 2.2 Develop and test training curricula and materials on trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration</p>	<p>Output 2.2 Develop and test training curricula and materials on trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration</p>
<p>=> Analysis of the economic and organized crime situation</p>	<p>=> Implementation strategy for financial investigations</p>	<p>=> Implementation strategy to enhance the use of SIMS</p>	<p>=> Implementation strategy for witness protection measures</p>
<p>=> Benchmarks to meet European standards and practices on economic and organized crime</p>	<p>=> Training Materials on financial investigations and confiscation</p>	<p>=> Implementation strategy to enhance the use of intelligence</p>	<p>=> Implementation strategy for witness protection</p>
<p>=> Regional strategy and review of progress</p>	<p>=> Information and experience exchange among FIUs</p>	<p>=> Training Materials on the use of SIMS and intelligence</p>	<p>=> Training Materials on international co-operation in criminal matters</p>
			<p>=> Strategies for the ratification and implementation of ETS 182</p>
			<p>=> Training strategy on trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration</p>

2 GENERAL INTRODUCTION

During this reporting period, a number of events took place on the political stage which naturally also had effects on the activities carried out in the framework of the CARPO project. Most notably, the European Council reaffirmed its firm commitment to the European perspective of all South-eastern European states. In its Conclusions of 15 May 2006, the European Council reaffirmed its continued commitment to the Stabilisation and Association process and the Republic of Montenegro obtained its independence from the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro following the referendum held on 21 May 2006. Given this renewed impetus for the South-eastern Europe, the eventual accession to the European Union and the status of Montenegro as an independent Republic, the Module 1 and 2 activities for law enforcement and members of the judiciary on implementing the EU *acquis* and best practices in the area of organised and economic crime acquired a special meaning and importance. In all the seven project areas, the importance of adopting and correctly implementing EU standards and practices as lay out in the training materials developed by the Council of Europe and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in close co-operation with the local working groups and training teams was strongly emphasised.

The fundamental issue of co-operation between the police and the judiciary in the fight against organised and economic crime has continued to be of great concern for all the partners involved in this project, in particular the European Commission (EC) and the Council of Europe. Thus, the CARPO project has pursued the special attention it has been giving to this issue since the start and which has brought excellent results so far and justified the added value of the project. All the Module 1 activities and trainings, both at regional and in-country levels, have gathered judges, prosecutors and, of course, representatives from the law enforcement institutions, the main target group of the project.

2.1 General project activities carried out during the reporting period

2.1.1 Overview

During the reporting period (February 2006 - June 2006), the Project Management Unit (PMU) has continued to fully implement the programme of activities as agreed together with consortium partners and the main counterparts in the project areas. A high number of activities were organised under the different outputs.

After the adoption of a comprehensive and practical Regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime in September 2005, the project immediately entered in a second phase: the development of training materials. In each project area, the different working groups together with the Council of Europe experts have been further elaborating their respective parts of the training materials and a number of selected future local trainers have been participating in successful training-of-trainers (ToTs) activities. The techniques learned in these ToTs significantly contribute to raise their teaching skills in order to become trainers themselves which will greatly ensure the project's sustainability.

The same applies for Module 2 under which the project areas have, during the reporting period, taken a significant step forward towards the practical implementation of the regional training concepts and training materials. As for Module 1, a large number of trainers, from each project areas, have been trained to become certified trainers for law enforcement officers but also members of the judiciary.

Some of the consortium partners (specially the Slovenians), as well as outside partners (such as Europol or the LKA-Baden Württemberg), have continued to support very actively all the

activities implemented under both Modules. The PMU, together with IOM Brussels Coordinator's team, have continued to keep, on a regular basis, all the local and international partners in the project areas fully informed on the project's results. The PMU, thanks to its network of local project officers (LPOs), has also made sure that all the EC Delegations in South-eastern Europe were provided with an extensive information on the implementation of activities in their geographical zone as well as at the regional level and fully updated on their results and follow up.

In order to diminish as much as possible the risk of overlapping with other projects and initiatives and to effectively contribute to the indispensable regional coordination among the international and regional organisations and / or partners active in the field of fighting organised and economic crime in South-eastern Europe, the PMU and IOM Brussels Co-ordinator's team have continued to deploy very serious efforts in this sense. Regular contacts with all the partners have continued to be pursued, as well as a constant exchange of information on various issues related to the CARPO project.

Thanks to the active involvement of all the LPOs under both modules, the CARPO project continued to benefit from a strong exposure among the counterparts' institutions, the decision makers, the civil society and the media. As a result, the momentum has been kept at a high level which continued to have a direct impact on the project's results. In this respect, the CARPO website and Newsletter are giving a great visibility to the project and used as efficient tools of communication.

2.1.2 Advisory Board activities

The 5th Advisory Board Meeting took place on 20 June 2006 in the Council of Europe.

Participants included the senior representatives, Module 1 and/or 2 coordinators from the following project areas: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and UNMIK. Several consortium partners were represented as well such as the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Belgium and Spain. Observers representing the SECI Center, CEPOL and the Stability Pact also actively participated in the discussions.

The Advisory Board members agreed on the following points:

- overview of the project's achievements since the 4th Advisory Board meeting,
- project's state of play, results and future activities,
- agreement on the work plan until September 2006,
- preparation of the Sarajevo High level meeting scheduled for September 2006,
- co-operation with other regional/national projects on organised crime and police.

The senior representative and Module 1 coordinator from Bosnia and Herzegovina did not take part in the meeting despite its importance. The constant lack of support provided in particular by the senior representative and recently also by the Module 1 coordinator were many times underlined. Despite all the PMU's efforts and numerous attempts by the LPO and the Head of the Council of Europe's office in Sarajevo, the situation never changed. Both the senior representative and Module 1 coordinator remained unreachable which continued to significantly jeopardise the project's achievements in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Despite an excellent partnership and coordination with the Project Director of the CARDS Regional Justice project, the Chair of the CARDS Justice Advisory Board could not once again attend the CARPO Advisory Board. Such a presence would have certainly given an excellent signal to the counterparts in the region and contributed to strengthen the coordination between both projects.

All the participants emphasised the strong support and added value given by the CARPO project by providing the project areas with appropriate and efficient tools against organised crime, improving the skills and competences of the law enforcement and the judiciary in various fields and in line with European standards, facilitating the necessary regional co-operation (re. crime analysis, financial investigations, SIMS, witness protection and mutual legal assistance) and within the project areas between the different institutions fighting serious crime.

Activities foreseen under both Modules up to September 2006 were presented in details and fully endorsed by the Advisory Board's members. Following requests made by some participants, it was decided to insert additional activities related to data protection and well as crime analysis in the implementation programme.

A long exchange of views and information took place between the members and the observers on the current initiatives/actions related to organised crime and law enforcement's capacity-building. In view of favouring synergies, joint initiatives and coordination (which was again highlighted by all), the observers present made some concrete proposals on foreseen activities and trainings they were ready to support. This was highly welcomed by the members who requested from the PMU to ensure the proper follow-up.

With the CARPO project ending on 30 September 2006, all the senior representatives present actively and strongly advocated for its extension arguing the absolute necessity to further support the concrete implementation of the Regional strategy. Without such extension, the results reached so far would certainly be severely compromised on the long term and the risk quiet high to see the strategy no further implemented. They also underlined the need to continue to invest and capitalise on the local expertise gathered and further trained by the project. The PMU took note of this request which would be carefully studied and discussed in bilateral contacts with the EC.

Regarding the Module 2, the project coordinator voiced his surprise for not having been consulted by the PMU. The coordinated partnership approach in the overall project management had until then always been emphasised by the PMU, which would have required a joint extension request. The participants from the project areas expressed their support as well for an extension of the Module 2 allowing for an essential support for the sustainability of the project's results.

No date was decided to convene the 6th Advisory Board, normally scheduled every 6 months, since the end of the project is foreseen on 30 September 2006.

2.1.3 Communication and coordination between Module 1 and Module 2

Since the beginning of the project, the coordination and communication between the PMU and IOM Brussels co-ordinator's team has always been excellent. Through very frequent contacts and exchange of information between both units, this continued to be the case during the reporting period for the benefit of the project.

2.1.4 Senior Representatives and Module Co-ordinators

As already underlined in the previous progress reports, the counterparts directly concerned by this project, and particularly the senior representatives and Module co-ordinators, have constantly shown, with the major exception of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a strong commitment in their duty. They continued to be excellent facilitators capable of mobilising in a very efficient way the working groups' members and officials and at the disposal of the PMU and IOM Brussels co-ordinator's team when necessary. Their efforts have without any doubt greatly contributed to the project's achievements in particular during the reporting period.

2.1.5 Local project officers (LPOs) and other staff issues

As already mentioned previously in this report, the PMU has continued to be in contact with the different EC Delegations located in the various project areas, either directly or through the LPOs. Some meetings with EC officers in charge of justice and home affairs matters were again organised in order to provide them with full and complete information on the project's developments. EC Delegation's officers were invited, like previously, to participate in the main activities taking place in their respective project area. LPOs also ensured that a proper debriefing on all the activities be made available to the EC Delegations allowing for a good follow-up on the EC's side in each project area.

The network building among the law enforcement institutions and the judiciary continued to deliver excellent results and to be greatly beneficial for the project's achievements. It largely contributed to keep the momentum among the counterparts at a very high level which has been underlined by many partners in the region and among the international organisations.

For their respective project areas, the Module 1 LPOs have continued on a regular basis to update the information available on the legal, institutional and operational aspects related to the five outputs. Their compilation work on all the developments taking place in the field of organised and economic crime and police issues constitutes a rich and very useful source of information for the PMU, the long-term adviser and short-term experts as well as for all the consortium partners involved in the project.

On their side, the Module 2 LPOs continued to actively support IOM Brussels in implementing Module 2 activities and, in particular, in selecting participants for the training activities. In each project area, they deepened their contacts with their relevant counterparts.

To consolidate the smooth implementation in each project areas, regular informal bilateral co-ordination meetings between Module 1 and 2 LPOs have also taken place facilitating the exchange of information and coherence towards the counterparts.

2.2 Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of the project and next steps

The work plan and timetable foreseen and recalled in the former progress reports have continued to be followed without any significant delay despite the important number of activities to be implemented by a small PMU. The PMU continues to be strongly committed to see the implementation programme (updated on a monthly basis and sent to all the different partners of the project) scrupulously respected by all the counterparts and partners. It remains confident that all the activities foreseen in the Description of Operation and recalled in the Inception Report will be completed on time even if some delay remains always possible. It nevertheless does not have any control on the political situation which remains an essential factor to be considered while implementing such a large and complex project.

The further development and test of training materials under the different outputs – which is one of the main tasks in the present reporting period – is well on track under both Modules. The pragmatic and flexible approach adopted by the PMU which, through a constant interaction with the counterparts and project partners, continues to deliver excellent results. This policy will continue to be favoured even if it requests a significant additional amount of work, consultations taking quiet often a long time with the counterparts. The replies to the questionnaire in view of updating the 2005 situation report on organised and economic crime in South-eastern Europe are being finalised. The training materials on financial investigations are ready and the preparation of the training materials on procedural aspects of witness protection is in its final stage.

In order to respond to the specific needs of each project area, which remains one of its major concern and the most appropriate way to reach concrete and lasting results, the PMU has continued to facilitate and support bilateral meetings and trainings in the areas of SIMS and undercover operations and witness protection. Contacts between newly established units in the project areas and their counterpart institutions in EU Member States have been facilitated allowing for future promising exchanges. This strategy has shown to deliver real and solid results and will continue to be promoted taking into account the requests made by the project areas.

The PMU would like to underline again that such results would have not been possible without the commitment and sustainability of the local working groups and their members which the project has managed to further develop and keep motivated. Thanks to this unique approach, the co-operation and confidence of many different specialised services in EU countries and their experts has been secured resulting in their acceptance to support practical and operational training events for the project areas even on most sensitive topics related to witness protection and undercover operations. This without any doubt constitutes one of the major achievements of the CARPO project.

Within the coming months, the objective is to have the review of the progress made by the project areas in the implementation of the Brijuni strategy accomplished and to ensure the commitment by the respective counterparts, at the highest level, to take the necessary measures ensuring such implementation where it remains to be done. The training materials will be finalised and developed and activities mixing practitioners from the police and the judiciary further promoted. The PMU will also continue to build further on the established network and trust among working groups and their counterparts in the EU services, to further identify and support additional bilateral and regional practical specialised training events within the scope of the project; this would however mainly be possible through an extension of the project for a couple of months.

The PMU remains open for any additional activities suggested by the project areas (e.g. workshops on drafting of legislation; study visits - bilateral meetings on technical aspects of covert measures, etc), and which were not planned in the initial project description but would fully fall under the general scope and further strengthen the overall objective of the project.

3 MODULE 1

3.1 Introduction

Activities under Module 1 continue to be implemented according to the timetable foreseen and have succeeded to fulfil their objectives.

Since the inception of the project, the PMU in co-operation with the CARPO project's long-term adviser, consultants and experts from consortium partners as well as experts from other institutions and services from EU countries, and with the support of the Module 1 LPOs and its counterparts in the project areas, managed to implement a high number of specific activities:

- **32 regional events – seminars & workshops**
 - 4 of which were implemented during present reporting period;
- **13 study visits** for the working groups' members to selected EU countries
 - 1 of which were implemented during present reporting period;
- **43 in-country seminars & workshops**
 - 8 of which were implemented during present reporting period.

3.2 Output 1.1

3.2.1 Specific activities carried out during the reporting period

The following specific activities under Output 1.1 (Development of a regional strategy on organised and economic crime) have been implemented from the inception phase to date **[activities implemented during this reporting period (20 February 2006 – 20 June 2006) are highlighted]**:

ACTIVITY 1.1.1: PREPARE AN ANALYSIS OF THE ECONOMIC AND ORGANISED CRIME SITUATION

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date:</i>
1.1.1.1	Regional meeting to establish a working group of crime analysts and intelligence officers, to review the current state of knowledge on the economic and organised crime situation in South-eastern Europe (including corruption), to train participants in new methodologies, and to agree on the framework for a regional in-depth analysis	Completed [during inception phase]
1.1.1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Albania: in-country visit by short-terms experts to assist the working groups in the analysis of project area-specific data 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bosnia and Herzegovina: in-country visit by short-terms experts to assist the working group in the analysis of country-specific data 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Croatia: in-country visit by short-terms experts to assist the working group in the analysis of project area-specific data 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kosovo (Serbia): in-country visit by short-terms experts to assist the working in the analysis of project area-specific data 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serbia: In-country visit by short-terms experts to assist the working group in the analysis of project area-specific data 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Montenegro: in-country visit by short-terms experts to assist the working in the analysis of project area-specific data 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”: in-country visit by short-term experts to assist the working group in the analysis of project area-specific data 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
1.1.1.3	Follow up regional seminar for the members of the working groups for further training and to work on the regional analysis	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
1.3.2.2	Study visit for analysts and intelligence officers on criminal intelligence systems, crime analysis and pro-active policing as well as data protection, in view of project area-specific implementation plans	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
1.3.2.2	Study visit for analysts and intelligence officers on criminal intelligence systems, crime analysis and pro-active policing as well as data protection, in view of project area-specific implementation plans	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
1.3.2.2	Study visit to Europol for crime analysts and intelligence officers	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
1.3.2.2	Study visit of the Criminal Intelligence Analysis Department of the Ministry of Interior of Croatia	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
1.3.2.2	7 th Colloquium on Cross-Border Crime	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
1.1.1.4	Regional seminar to finalise the preparation of a situation report on economic and organised crime in South-eastern Europe	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]

ACTIVITY 1.1.2: ESTABLISH BENCHMARKS IN TERMS OF MEETING EUROPEAN STANDARDS AND PRACTICES ON ECONOMIC AND ORGANISED CRIME

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.1.2.1	Regional meeting of experts from consortium partners to determine requirements under relevant European and other international instruments with regard to the priority fields of crime and tools	Completed [during inception phase]
1.1.2.2	Setting-up indicators and adoption of a template for the project areas compliance reports	Completed
<u>1.1.2.2</u>	Short-term experts to assess the current level of compliance by project areas with these instruments on the basis of existing reports	On-going [in-house]
1.1.2.3	Regional seminar to establish benchmarks and agree on the indicators and a template for the project area compliance reports	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
other	Short-term experts and PMU to finalise the benchmarks	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]

ACTIVITY 1.1.3: DEVELOP THE REGIONAL STRATEGY AND REVIEW PROGRESS MADE

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
<u>1.1.3.1</u>	Short-term experts to assess activities underway in the countries of the region in fields covered under the present project in order to avoid duplication and seek synergies	on-going [permanent task]
1.1.3.2 a	Regional seminar to develop a draft regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
1.1.3.2 b	Regional seminar to review the draft regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
1.1.3.3	Regional expert level meeting to finalise the regional strategy on	Completed

	tools against organised and economic crime followed by the High level meeting of Ministers and Senior officials to endorse the regional strategy	[during 4 th reporting period]
<u>1.1.3.4</u>	1st Follow up meeting on the implementation of the regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime and project area specific actions	Belgrade 31 March 2006
<u>1.1.3.5</u>	2nd Follow up meeting on the implementation of the regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime and project area specific actions / preparation of the Sarajevo High level meeting of September 2006	Strasbourg 19 June 2006
other	Work on the draft template and main elements of the regional strategy	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]

On 31 March 2006, the PMU organised a **1st Follow up meeting on the implementation of the regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime and project area specific actions** in Belgrade. All the senior representatives (except the senior representative from Bosnia and Herzegovina) and module 1 coordinators from the seven project areas took part in this one-day regional meeting.

The objective of the meeting was threefold. Firstly, to keep the momentum on the importance for each project area to fully implement, with the support of the CARPO project, the regional strategy and the project area specific actions adopted by the Ministers of Interior and Security in Brijuni last September 2005. Secondly, to review in details for each project area the progress made and the state of implementation of the regional strategy and thirdly, to agree on the methodology to be followed in this respect on the way to the Sarajevo high level meeting which will gather the Heads of Police to assess the progress made in the implementation of the regional strategy one year after its adoption.

Each delegation had prepared an update of the actions taken so far at the legal, institutional and operational levels pointing at the real obstacles (political and organisational) encountered which are slowing down the concrete implementation. Many participants also stressed the need to remobilise at higher level the senior officials (starting with the Ministers whom adopted the regional strategy as well as the ones, in some cases, whom replaced after elections) about the existence of the strategy and the imperative need to favor its implementation since it is the only available document with such a comprehensive, systematic, pragmatic approach and combining a regional dimension (indispensable to obtain results in South-eastern Europe) together with the specific needs of each project area.

Thanks to this meeting a first assessment could be made on how far the implementation of the regional strategy had gone in each project area, as well as what additional assistance the CARPO Project could provide in order to facilitate this process. The meeting also ended with an agreement on the methodology (a template prepared by the PMU) as well as on the timeframe to be followed in the coming months to take stock of the progress made in the implementation of the strategy.

Three months later, on 19 June 2006, the **2nd Follow up meeting on the implementation of the regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime and project area specific actions / preparation of the Sarajevo High level meeting of September 2006** took place in Strasbourg. Here again, the meeting gathered the senior representatives (except the senior representative from Bosnia and Herzegovina whom once again did not respond to the invitation) and module 1 coordinators, as well as the local project officers from the seven project areas.

Following the conclusions of the Belgrade meeting, the Director General for Legal Affairs of the Council of Europe had sent the adopted template to all the Ministers of Interior and Security

reminding them about their obligations to ensure the implementation of the strategy and asking them to ensure the contributions of all relevant national experts in the review process.

This 2nd follow up meeting gave an opportunity to each delegation to provide information on the status of implementation of each of the measures included in the project-area specific action plans; making a brief description of actions completed, on-going or planned since the endorsement of the regional strategy. They were asked also to provide a brief explanation if no action was carried out on a specific point and any additional information about other relevant development, even if it was not addressed by the specific actions, but is covered by the elements of the regional strategy. The peer review between the participants functioned very well during the “tour de table” and it appeared that valuable efforts had been made in a number of project areas although with some discrepancies. It should be pointed out that the total lack of support enjoyed by the project from the senior representative, and to a lower extend from the module 1 coordinator, could partly explain the poor progress made in this project area which clearly stood behind all the others.

The second objective of the meeting was to discuss and agree on the preparation of the Sarajevo High level meeting scheduled for September 2006. This meeting was a direct consequence of the Ministers’ of Interior and Security decision to meet again one year after the adoption of the Brijuni strategy to assess the progress made in its implementation. Discussions turned around the objectives of such meeting, its content, the profile and level of participants as well as the practical arrangements. Among other decisions, it was agreed that Ministers would not be invited (for budgetary and practical reasons) but that they would be represented by the Heads of Police from each project area.

3.2.2 *Conclusions and next steps*

Activity 1.1.1:

On 16 March 2006, a new questionnaire was sent to the senior representatives and to the heads of delegation to the European Committee on Crime Problems (CD-PC) of the Council of Europe in view of the preparation of an updated CARPO situation report on organised and economic crime in South-eastern Europe. The deadline for its submission was set at 15 June 2006.

A former senior official from Europol was contracted to coordinate this important task. The PMU gathered all the replies from the project areas which, despite the efforts of the PMU and the expert to simplify the questionnaire and the skills and new methodologies learned by practitioners through several CARPO activities, showed to be in general of poor quality. Many questions remained unanswered or presenting important contradictions between the services which had made some contributions and rarely to reflect the reality of the situation. Nevertheless, the expert is busy in further analysing and compiling the data and information received and should provide a first draft of the report by early August.

Activity 1.1.2:

The activities under 1.1.2 are completed. The assessment of the current level of compliance by the project areas with the finalised benchmarks and indicators is an on-going process though supporting the implementation of the regional strategy and the project areas’ specific action plans (the development of which was based on the adopted benchmarks).

Activity 1.1.3:

Most the activities foreseen in the Implementation Programme and outlined in the Inception Report are completed. Nevertheless, one essential activity remains to be organised which is the Sarajevo High level meeting scheduled for 21 September 2006.

As it was already underlined in the previous progress report, the regional strategy provides the project areas with the most relevant and practical tools to better fight organised and economic crime. Since its adoption, the PMU, with the support of all its consortium partners, has dedicated a special effort to support its implementation to the largest extend possible in each project area. It will continue to do so and to permanently monitor the state of play of the strategy's implementation, keeping the momentum as high as possible within the senior officials and among the practitioners. The workload remains heavy and the process, by definition, requests time and important human and financial resources, the CARPO project will contribute to its best.

Since its adoption in Brijuni in September 2005, the PMU made clear, and it will continue to do so, that all the project areas are expected to present substantial results in the implementation of the regional strategy by the end of the project in September 2006. Time remaining is very short and definitely requests from the European Commission and the Council of Europe, its funding institutions, to seriously consider an extension of the project. Such a decision would further consolidate the results achieved and give an additional and well needed support to the project areas to further implement the Brijuni strategy.

3.3 Output 1.2

3.3.1 Specific activities carried out during the reporting period

The following specific activities under Output 1.2 (strengthening of financial investigations capacities aimed at the confiscation of proceeds from crime and experience exchange among the financial intelligence units in the region) have been implemented after the inception phase to date [activities implemented during this reporting period (20 February 2006 – 20 June 2006) are highlighted]:

ACTIVITY 1.2.1: DEVELOP AND SUPPORT AN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY FOR FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Activity:	Description:	Status / Place / Date
1.2.1.1	Regional thematic seminar to review relevant European and other international standards and reach agreement on the approach to financial investigations for confiscation	Completed [during inception phase]
1.2.1.2	▪ Albania: decision maker seminar in view of the establishment of working groups "financial investigations"	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
	▪ Bosnia and Herzegovina: decision maker seminar in view of the establishment of working groups "financial investigations"	Completed [during first reporting period]
	▪ Croatia: decision maker seminar in view of the establishment of working groups "financial investigations"	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
	▪ Kosovo (Serbia): decision maker seminar in view of the establishment of working groups "financial investigations"	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	▪ Montenegro: decision maker seminar in view of the establishment of working groups "financial investigations"	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	▪ Serbia: decision maker seminar in view of the establishment of working groups "financial investigations"	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]

	investigations”	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”: decision maker seminar in view of the establishment of working groups “financial investigations” 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Albania: technical level seminar to identify gaps and opportunities in legislation (back-to-back with decision-maker seminars) 	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bosnia and Herzegovina: technical level seminar to identify gaps and opportunities in legislation (back-to-back with decision-maker seminars) 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Croatia: technical level seminar to identify gaps and opportunities in legislation (back-to-back with decision-maker seminars) 	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
1.2.1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Kosovo (Serbia): technical level seminar to identify gaps and opportunities in legislation (back-to-back with decision-maker seminars) 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Montenegro: technical level seminar to identify gaps and opportunities in legislation (back-to-back with decision-maker seminars) 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serbia: technical level seminar to identify gaps and opportunities in legislation (back-to-back with decision-maker seminars) 	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”: technical level seminar to identify gaps and opportunities in legislation (back-to-back with decision-maker seminars) 	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
1.2.1.4	Study visit on financial investigations	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
1.2.1.4 a	Study visit and regional workshop for members of the working groups in view of developing implementation strategies for each project area	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
1.2.1.4 b	Regional workshop for members of the working groups in view of developing implementation strategies for each project area (back to back with activity 1.2.2.1)	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
1.2.1.5	Kosovo (Serbia): assist working groups in development of amendments to legislation if necessary, as well as of guidelines for practitioners (per request)	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
Other	Harmonised template for the national implementation strategy on financial investigation with guidelines for its drafting prepared by the short-term experts and advisors to the project, vetted by the countries and adopted	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]

ACTIVITY 1.2.2: DEVELOP, TEST AND MAKE AVAILABLE MATERIALS ON FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS AND CONFISCATION FOR FURTHER TRAINING

Activity:	Description:	Status / Place / Date
1.2.2.1	Regional seminar to review training needs and discuss training concepts (back to back to activity 1.2.1.4b)	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
other	Harmonised template / guideline for project areas’ specific training material prepared by the short-term expert and delivered to the project areas for completion	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
1.2.2.2	Short-term experts to assist working groups in developing target-group specific training materials in each project area	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
1.2.2.2 a	Short-term expert preparing a general part of the training	Completed

	materials	[during 5 th reporting period]
1.2.2.3	Regional workshop to review draft training materials and concepts for all the project areas	Completed [during 5 th reporting period]
<u>1.2.2.4 a</u>	Regional training-of-trainers	Strasbourg 20-23 February
	1st round of in-project area training events by local trainers with expert support to test and further improve training materials	March - June 2006
<u>1.2.2.4 b</u>	▪ Albania	13-14 April 2006
	▪ Bosnia and Herzegovina	20-21 June 2006
	▪ Croatia	24-27 April 2006
	▪ Kosovo (Serbia)	20-24 March 2006
	▪ Montenegro	17-18 April 2006
	▪ Serbia	10-12 May 2006
	▪ “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”	26-27 June 2006

After the finalisation of the general part of the training manual on financial investigations and confiscation of proceeds from crime by a Slovenian expert, the local experts/practitioners managed to finalise early February, in close co-operation with the PMU and the expert and under the coordination of Module 1 LPOs, the project area specific parts which will be added to the general part. This resulted in a comprehensive and handy training manual which will be of great use to all the financial investigators, judges and prosecutors in the field. The qualitative level of the manual will allow it to become part of the curriculum of the Police and Judicial Academies in each of the project areas, as it is considered indispensable by the PMU to ensure the sustainability of the project’s results on this particular output.

The **Training-of-trainers** took place from 20 to 23 February 2006 in Strasbourg. A total of 27 participants (a large majority from law enforcement institutions and several judges and prosecutors) from the seven project areas attended this course which was conducted by two trainers. For a more efficient result, the group was divided in two during the whole training.

The training aimed at assisting the participants in the development of basic training knowledge, skills and abilities that would later allow them to deliver training to their colleagues on financial investigations and the confiscation of proceeds from crime.

The participants were provided with background material on training development to be able to prepare their sessions and also with the finalised general part of the training manual on financial investigations which was to be used as “subject matter” throughout the course for their session’s deliveries and discussions.

The training allowed the participants to: deliver a 20 minutes training session on pre-determined topics, provide feedbacks to other colleagues using the Experiential Learning– Debriefing Model, understand the differences between “trainer centred” and “student centred” training methods within the context of adult learning and to list and debate the factors affecting the selection of learning methods. Many practical exercises were conducted during which each of the trainees was to come up with concrete solutions.

The formal evaluation of the trainer’s sessions and the training’s organisation conducted during the last day of the course clearly pointed out that this activity succeeded to start building a sustainable capacity to deliver effective learning within the respective project areas. This will be further consolidated during the trainings foreseen in each project area between March and June 2006.

The **first in-project area training** by local trainers to further test and improve the training manual on financial investigations, took place at the Police Academy of Kosovo (Serbia) in Vushtri between 20 and 24 March 2006.

28 practitioners from 5 key Institutions (Courts, Prosecution, Police, Customs Services and Tax Administration) which are directly involved with financial investigations and confiscation of proceeds from crime took part in the training. The training was conducted in full accordance with the instructions given by the PMU and the expert and included the legal, procedural and institutional dimensions including the use of numerous examples from the practice. At the end, certificates prepared by the Council of Europe were delivered to all the trainees who successfully had followed the training. This delivery of certificates to each trainee, which took place in all the project areas, has been particularly appreciated by the participants.

This training achieved the following results: the introduction and promises by senior officials from the 5 institutions present at the opening to further support the development and conduct of financial investigations in the project area and a general as well as specific know-how shared by different practitioners which during 4 days developed a sort of network and learned how to work and co-operate together when it comes to financial investigations.

The need, in the future, for more advanced and practical trainings of this kind (including study visits in Western countries which developed solid skills in this field) was pointed out by many participants. Local trainers also took the initiative to organise later on a one-day meeting with all participants to see if in practice they had started to conduct financial investigations; in which region and if they had started to transfer the knowledge gained to other colleagues in order to learn something from practical cases.

On 13-14 April 2006, another training took place in the premises of the School of Magistrates, in Tirana (Albania). Participants mainly came from the ranks of the judicial police officers and were introduced to the basic concepts of financial investigation and also to the legal references which allow and facilitate such investigation. During the training presentations, the theoretical aspects were presented followed by many practical cases, sample cases and debates to ensure a better understanding for the trainees. Lively discussions took place around more complicated practical issues regarding which the law itself is very ambiguous and could thus present difficulties in the future.

The training was successful and managed to convey to the participants an overall picture of the nature of financials allowing for its concrete application in the Albanian reality. According to the local trainers, future trainings should include a larger number of prosecutors and judges which were not sufficiently represented in the training. This could be further motivated also by the fact that the Manual, given the specificities of the Albanian penal legislation, deals among other with issues closely linked with the activities of Albanian courts and Prosecution office.

On 17-18 April 2006, the training in Montenegro gathered 25 trainees (7 prosecutors, 5 judges and 13 police officers). The local trainers: a Deputy General Prosecutor, a judge of the Higher court in Podgorica, a Head of Department in the FIU and a Chief inspector in the Department for combating organised crime, introduced the methods and techniques used in conducting financial investigations, familiarising participants with the institutions in charge for financial investigations as well as the importance of international co-operation in this matter.

The role of international organisations, such as the Council of Europe, in applying flexible and efficient mechanisms to monitor the implementation of common standards as well as the international co-operation and the procedures for exchange of information was extensively addressed. Attention was also given to the importance of signing MoUs with the counterparts from other project areas in order to improve the quality and efficiency of information exchanged when conducting financial investigations.

Two case studies were presented to involve more actively participants into the training. Working groups were created mixing prosecutors, judges and police officers and forcing them to work as

a team which delivered outstanding results both in the preparation and the presentation of solutions.

On 10-12 May 2006, a training by local trainers took place in the premises of the Higher Police School in Zemun (Serbia). Trainees included a total of 25 persons representing the Department for the fight against organised crime and corruption (Ministry of Interior), the Criminal Police Directorate, the Tax Police, the District Prosecutor's Office, Investigating judges and the Academic community.

Local trainers were well prepared to present the different parts of a financial investigation both on the theoretical and practical levels. The shortcomings existing when comparing international standards with existing legislation in Serbia were introduced and actively debated. Each lecture shared his practical experience regarding the sources of intelligence, the collect of evidences and problems encountered in mutual police assistance.

Trainees asked many questions and were obviously satisfied with the opportunity to listen and analyse real cases realising how interdependent their roles in this field were.

Finally, on 20-21 June 2006, a similar training was held in Bosnia and Herzegovina. It gathered a bit less than 20 participants (mainly Tax officers, prosecutors, judges and only 2 police officers from the economic crime Department).

Despite an excellent training, a more important place should have been given to simple practical cases stimulating discussions. It also appeared necessary to involve more criminal investigators, including from the organised crime field. Targeted judges for a future training should be judges for predicate procedure (responsible for temporary measures) and the local trainers should be given a greater role in the selection of trainees.

ACTIVITY 1.2.3: FACILITATE INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCE EXCHANGE AMONG THE FINANCIAL INTELLIGENCE UNITS IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.2.3.1	Regional seminar for members of the FIUs of the region to review problems and opportunities, as well as training requirements, with regard to information exchange among them	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
1.2.3.2	Regional training seminar for staff of FIUs on information exchange, in particular in view of Egmont Group and other relevant standards and practices	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
1.2.3.3	Regional training seminar on information exchange among FIUs in view of Egmont Group and other relevant standards and practices and reach an agreement on a draft MOU on information exchange	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
1.2.3.4	International seminar on co-operation between financial intelligence units, the police and public prosecution and training seminar on information exchange	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]

Activities under 1.2.3 are completed. For the conclusions and assessment please refer to the Third Quarterly Report issued on 20 June 2005.

3.3.2 Conclusions and next steps

Activity 1.2.1:

The activities under 1.2.1 are completed. For the conclusions please refer to the Fourth Progress Report issued on 15 November 2005.

Activity 1.2.2:

Activities related to the first training in each project area by local trainers with the support of an external expert and the PMU have been completed with the exception of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” scheduled for 26-27 June 2006. This training allowed the local trainers to develop in practice the skills learned during the ToT in Strasbourg, to further test, improve and evaluate the content of the training manual, specially the specific parts related to each project areas and to develop a valuable inter-agency and institutional co-operation within each project area. Per request, the PMU will continue to provide legal expertise in development of amendments to legislation and implementing the project area’s action plan under Output 1.2.

Activity 1.2.3:

Activities under 1.2.3 are completed. For the conclusions and assessment please refer to the Third Quarterly Report issued on 20 June 2005.

3.4 Output 1.3*3.4.1 Specific activities carried out during the reporting period*

The following specific activities under Output 1.3 (use of special investigative means and intelligence in accordance with human rights standards) have been implemented after the inception phase to date [**activities implemented during this reporting period (20 February 2006 – 20 June 2006) are highlighted**]:

ACTIVITY 1.3.1: DEVELOP AND SUPPORT AN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY TO ENHANCE THE USE OF SIMS

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.3.1.1	Regional thematic seminar to review relevant European and other international standards and reach agreement on the approach to the issue of special investigative means	Completed [during inception phase]
1.3.1.2	Establish working group SIMS	Completed
other	Updating information on the institutional and legal framework governing SIMS in all project areas	Completed [during inception phase]
1.3.1.2	Study visits for members of working group on the use of SIMS	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
1.3.1.2	Study visits for members of working group on the oversight mechanisms over the use of SIMS	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
1.3.1.3	Short-term experts to support working groups in the drafting of implementation strategies	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
1.3.1.3 b	Regional workshops for members of the working groups in view of developing implementation strategies for each project area	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
<u>1.3.1.4</u>	Short-term experts to assist working group review the legal basis for the use of special investigative means in each project area (Criminal Procedure Codes and by-laws) and assist in the development of proposals for amendments	On-going
Other	Serbia and Montenegro/Serbia: short-term experts prepare a written expertise on the draft Government’s Order on obligations of service providers regarding the interception of telecommunications	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
<u>Other</u>	Support for the specialised units for undercover operations to join the International Network of Undercover Units	On-going

ACTIVITY 1.3.2: DEVELOP AND SUPPORT AN IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY TO ENHANCE THE USE OF INTELLIGENCE

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.3.2.1	Regional thematic seminar to review relevant European and other international standards and reach agreement on the approach to the enhance of the use intelligence	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
1.3.2.2	Study visits for analysts and intelligence officers on criminal intelligence systems, crime analysis and pro-active policing as well as data protection, in view of project area-specific implementation plans	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
1.3.2.3	Short-term experts to support working groups in the finalisation of implementation strategies (per request)	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
<u>1.3.2.4 a</u>	Regional seminar on data protection in relation to the use of criminal intelligence	Bitola 8-9 June 2006

The aim of the regional seminar on data protection in relation to the use of criminal intelligence organised in Bitola “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” was threefold: firstly, to present the Council of Europe and EU standards on data protection with a special emphasis on the police sector. Secondly, to share experiences with data protection supervisory authorities already established in South-eastern Europe. Thirdly, to gather in a practical and informal way practitioners and experts in the format of round tables on specific related issues.

The seminar gathered more than 30 crime intelligence analysts, experts from organised crime departments and special investigative experts from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and UNMIK, as well as representatives from the data protection supervisory authorities in place in the region (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, “the Former Yugoslav Republic of Yugoslavia”) and international experts.

The seminar debated many issues related to data protection in police practice and gave opportunity for an exchange of experiences between experts from the region and international experts. A short review on the Council of Europe and EU legislative instruments was presented by international experts. Practical experience with data protection in the police was presented by an expert from the Department of serious crime of Europol and the CARPO long-term adviser.

The seminar served as a useful introduction to data protection matters and rules for most participants, who seemed to have very little prior knowledge about it. The issue of video surveillance, in particular, attracted great interest. It also gave the data protection supervisory authorities, who have recently been established in some countries of the region, the opportunity to establish contacts with crime intelligence experts, in order for them to continue their awareness raising activities about data protection at a national level.

In order to build and further reinforce useful and structured working relations between the data protection supervisory authorities and the law enforcement institutions/organised crime departments, a follow-up regional seminar could certainly be recommended. Managers and senior officials from both sides should be invited to participate in such meeting which could bring

an important added value in terms of awareness raising which, for the time being, seems to lack seriously. If there is an extension phase, the CARPO project could ensure this follow-up.

For additional information on past, current and planned activities under this output see Activity 1.1.1 which is closely associated with Activity 1.3.2. Activities on both are run in parallel.

ACTIVITY 1.3.3: DEVELOP, TEST AND MAKE AVAILABLE TRAINING MATERIALS ON THE USE OF SIMS AND INTELLIGENCE FOR FURTHER TRAINING

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.3.3.1	Regional seminar to review training needs and discuss training concepts	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
<u>1.3.3.2</u>	Short-term experts to assist working groups in the development of training materials and guidelines on SIMS and undercover operations	Completed
	▪ Albania: expert workshop on SIMS and undercover operations	Tirana 22 February 2006
	▪ Bosnia and Herzegovina: expert workshop on SIMS and undercover operations	Completed [during 5 th reporting period]
	▪ Kosovo (Serbia): expert workshop on SIMS and undercover operations	Pristina 23 February 2006
	▪ Montenegro: expert workshop on SIMS and undercover operations	Completed [during 5 th reporting period]
	▪ Serbia: expert workshop on SIMS and undercover operations	Completed [during 5 th reporting period]
1.3.3.4	Up to ¾ operational trainings on handling undercover operations for selected specialists from the project areas	On-going
	“the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”:	Completed [during 5 th reporting period]

Two additional **Experts’ workshops on SIMS and undercover operations** were conducted by highly skilled experts from EU Undercover Operation Units.

The first one held on 22nd February 2006 in Tirana (Albania).

Albanian participants (from the General Prosecutors’ Office, Prosecution Office on Serious Crimes, specialised services within the Ministry of Interior and the Court on Serious) provided overall information about the current situation concerning SIMS and especially undercover operations in Albania. The presentations were frankly and the discussions very open.

The following topics were discussed: prerequisites for running effective undercover operations, the legal framework, the existing legal framework of Albania concerning undercover operations and the use of SIMS.

Currently, the legal bases for special investigation methods are defined in the Criminal Procedure Code of the Republic of Albania. According to these regulations the use of undercover investigations is possible if the public prosecutor or judge approve it. According to article 294 b of the Penal Procedural code, an undercover agent can be questioned as a witness. This led to a very emotional discussion since according to the Albanian law, a witness can only be questioned in front of the court under his real identity, which is in contradiction with the concept of undercover work. Participants agreed that the existing law should be amended because this regulation could also turn out to be an obstacle for an international co-operation.

An additional point under consideration was the role of the police within undercover operations.

Regarding the institutional framework, within the Ministry of Interior, a Service for Special Operations was established which is responsible for the use of SIMS. However, no separate unit exists dealing with undercover operations. In addition, there is a basic problem to get the financial resources which would allow establishing and maintaining of an independent undercover operations unit.

Participants were highly interested in discussing practical questions. Both foreign experts gave an overview of the process of undercover operations in their respective countries. They explained in detail the different steps necessary to implement an undercover operation.

To improve the present situation in Albania especially in the field of undercover operation, a detailed concept should be created for further development. In case the willingness to establish a separate unit exists, this effort should be supported by the CARPO project as far as possible. The project should also consider the possibility for financing a study visit of a few Albanian representatives to EU undercover units capable of providing a suitable training. Yet such study visit should only be realised in connection with a concrete proposal indicating further development in the field of undercover work.

The second one took place on 23rd February 2006 in Kosovo (Serbia). Conducted by senior inspectors from EU undercover units, it gathered representatives from UNMIK police and from the Kosovo police Service as well as representatives from the Department of Prosecutorial services of UNMIK.

The current organisational structure in the Kosovo Police Service and probable future changes in the structure were presented at the beginning. The Support section (surveillance and in the future possible undercover unit) is situated under the Organised Crime Unit and works in close co-operation and under the supervision of international forces. The serious problem of constant changes in the structure was pointed out and presented as one of most unstable things in developing an effective police service in this field. In this regard, Heads of units are also changing often preventing for any continuity in the management.

Representatives from UNMIK presented the former situation in Kosovo and described that a unit for undercover work was already established in Kosovo about 3 years ago, but was cancelled in 2005 due to economic reasons. For the time being, there are no internal guidelines existing concerning undercover operations. There is a Police Procedural manual (PPM) concerning police work but there are no articles on undercover work.

Similar to Albania, there are no possibilities for foreign police officers to work undercover in the project area because of the existing legislation although this is essential for international co-operation. Such change in the legislation could be further supported by the CARPO project.

Participants were highly interested by the practical aspects and in particular the security of undercover agents and other persons running investigations as well as the international co-operation which is an essential factor in combating serious crime. The ECG (European Co-

operating group on undercover activities) was introduced to participants and it appeared that there was a great interest for membership in such group

In conclusion, it was advised to go step by step towards the goal and firstly to establish a unit, to select suitable handlers and than undercover officers, to secure the funds to finance operations, to prepare basic guidelines and constantly exchange any possible experience with other countries in this field. Finally, future training activities were suggested by the participants and experts who could be supported by the CARPO project.

These workshops have been particularly appreciated by the local experts and practitioners who were never given such opportunity to meet for one day with Western experts before.

3.4.2 Conclusions and next steps

Activity 1.3.1 and 1.3.2

Activities under 1.3.1 – which focused on the identification of gaps and opportunities in the area of special investigative means – were completed during the previous reporting period.

To support the implementation of the implementation strategies, we will continue to provide (per-request) legal expertise in development of amendments to legislation and implementing the national action plan under Output 1.3.

Activity 1.3.3

As already agreed with the counterparts and specified in the previous progress report, it is unfeasible to prepare and publish a comprehensive training material – due to a vast number of different issues under the umbrella of “SIMS” and even more due to the confidentiality of most of the issues related to the implementation of SIMS and undercover operations.

Accordingly, next steps under 1.3.3 will mainly be to:

- Implement additional operational trainings for selected specialists from the project areas in one or two EU member States;
- Facilitate and financially support bilateral training events - participation undercover agents and their handlers - in training courses of established foreign specialised services (2006).

3.5 Output 1.4

3.5.1 Specific activities carried out during the reporting period

The following specific activities under Output 1.4 (creation of effective mechanisms to protect witnesses of serious crime) have been implemented after the inception phase to date [**activities implemented during this reporting period (20 February 2006 – 20 June 2006) are highlighted**]:

ACTIVITY 1.4.1: DEVELOP AND SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGIES FOR WITNESS PROTECTION MEASURES IN EACH COUNTRY

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.4.1.1	Regional seminar to review relevant European and other international standards and reach agreement on the approach to witness protection	Completed [during inception phase]
1.4.1.2	Establish working groups on "witness protection"	Completed

1.4.1.2	Study visit for members of the WG on specialised witness protection units	Completed [during first reporting period]
1.4.1.3	▪ Albania: in-country workshop to support the working group in the development of implementation strategies, in particular in view of the creation of specialised witness protection units in each country	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
	▪ Bosnia and Herzegovina: in-country workshop to support the working group in the development of implementation strategies, in particular in view of the creation of specialised witness protection units in each country	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
	▪ Kosovo (Serbia): in-country workshop to support the working group in the development of implementation strategies, in particular in view of the creation of specialised witness protection units in each country	Completed [during first reporting period]
	▪ Montenegro: in-country workshop to support the working group in the development of implementation strategies, in particular in view of the creation of specialised witness protection units in each country	Completed [during first reporting period]
	▪ Serbia: in-country workshop to support the working group in the development of implementation strategies, in particular in view of the creation of specialised witness protection units in each country	Completed [during 2 nd reporting period]
	“The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”: in-country workshop to support the working group in the development of implementation strategies, in particular in view of the creation of specialised witness protection units in each country	Completed [during first reporting period]
Other	“The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”: short-term experts prepare a written expertise on the draft Witness Protection Law on the request of the Government.	Completed [during first reporting period]
Other	Serbia and Montenegro/Serbia: short-term experts prepare a written expertise on the draft Witness Protection Law on the request of the Government.	Completed [during first reporting period]
1.4.1.2	Study visit for members of the WG on specialised witness protection units	Completed [during third reporting period]
1.4.1.2 b	Bilateral study/working visit for two members of the newly established witness protection unit of FYROM to the Croatian WPU	Completed [during third reporting period]
1.4.1.3	Regional workshops for members of the working groups in view of developing implementation strategies for each country	Completed [during third reporting period]
1.4.1.4	International seminar to promote cooperation in the field of witness protection	Completed [during fifth reporting period]
<u>1.4.1.5</u>	Expert assistance of the working groups in reviewing the legal basis in view of procedural and non-procedural measures for the protection of witnesses (per request)	Until September 2006

The pending activities (1.4.1.5) are planned only upon specific request from the project areas. Within the frame of previous activities carried out in Kosovo, information was provided that there is work going on in further elaborating the legal framework, and that it would be considered to submit it for expertise under the project. However as of today, there is no updated information available regarding the stage of the work on the draft piece of legislation.

ACTIVITY 1.4.2: DEVELOP, TEST AND MAKE AVAILABLE TRAINING MATERIALS FOR FURTHER TRAINING OF ALL INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED IN THE PROTECTION OF WITNESSES

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.4.2.1	Regional workshop to review training needs regarding witness protection	Completed [during third reporting period]
other	Harmonised template / guideline for project areas' specific training material prepared by the short-term expert and delivered to the countries for completion	Completed [during fourth reporting period]
<u>1.4.2.2</u>	Short-term experts to assist working groups in developing target-group specific training materials in each project area	On-going
1.4.2.2 a	Short-term experts preparing a general part of the training materials	Completed [during fifth reporting period]
<u>1.4.2.3</u>	Meeting of experts and reviewers to review the Handbook and discuss the methodology for the implementation of the related training on procedural protection measures.	7 April 2006
1.4.2.4 a	In-project area training events on procedural protective measures	September 2006
<u>1.4.2.4 b</u>	Participation of specialists working in newly established witness protection units in regular/ad hoc training courses of established European witness protection units	February - September 2006
<u>1.4.2.4 b</u>	- Training of Macedonian Witness protection unit staff	Slovak Republic 6-10 March 2006

The preparation of training materials is well on track. Following a meeting of experts and reviewers on 6 April 2006, the Manual ("Protecting witnesses of serious crime: Procedural protective measures - Training Manual for law enforcement and judiciary") is about to be finalised.

The meeting of experts and reviewers also set the methodology for the implementation of the related training on procedural protection measures. This will lead to the organisation of a training-of-trainers at regional level from 26 to 29 June in Palic (Serbia).

As regards trainings of police staff of witness protection units, the following activity was carried out:

- 6-10 March 2006: Training of the Macedonian staff members of the witness protection unit in the Slovak Republic

3.5.2 *Conclusions and next steps*

Activity 1.4.1:

As previously reported, activities under 1.4.1 have been largely completed, with the exception of the sub-activity 1.4.1.5. The focus until September 2006 shall be:

- Per request continue to provide legal expertise to countries in the area of procedural protective measures.

Activity 1.4.2:

Activities related to the development of training materials and trainings are now well on track.

The forthcoming activities include:

- The translation, proofreading and publication of the Manual in all languages, and its distribution by mid-September 2006
- 11-22 September 2006: Training of 2 staff members of the Croatian witness protection unit in Germany

- Development of additional in-project area training materials by local trainers and organisation of up to 12 trainings on procedural protective measures² (Albania (1), Bosnia and Herzegovina (4), Croatia (1), Kosovo (2), Montenegro (1), Serbia (2), "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (1)). These trainings shall be attended by an external evaluator to assess their effectiveness.
- September 2006 (to be confirmed): training of selected staff members from all project areas (except Kosovo) in Latvia
- September 2006 (activity to be confirmed by hosting institution): Training of 2 staff members of the Bosnian witness protection unit

3.6 Output 1.5

3.6.1 Specific activities carried out during the reporting period

The following specific activities under Output 1.5 (strengthening of capacities for co-operation in criminal matters) have been implemented after the inception phase to date **[activities implemented during this reporting period (20 February 2006 – 20 June 2006) are highlighted]**:

ACTIVITY 1.5.1: DEVELOP STRATEGIES FOR THE RATIFICATION AND ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2ND ADDITIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS (ETS 182)

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.5.1.1	Regional seminar on opportunities offered by ETS 182	Completed [during 1 st reporting period]
1.5.1.2	Review by short term experts of the gaps and opportunities in legislation and institutional capacities for the ratification and implementation of ETS 182	Completed³ [during 3 rd reporting period]
1.5.1.3	Regional seminar on elaboration of a strategy for the ratification and implementation of ETS 182	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
Other	<u>Serbia</u>: Workshop on the elaboration of a strategy for the ratification and implementation of the 2nd additional protocol to the European convention on mutual assistance in criminal matters (ETS 182)	Completed [during 3 rd reporting period]
Other	Workshop on strategies for the ratification and implementation of ETS 182	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
1.5.1.4	Assist in the drafting of legislative amendments	On-going until September 2006
	Workshop on national legislation on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and strategy for development of educational programs	Zagreb 31 May 2006

As previously reported, activities under 1.5.1 have been largely completed.

Upon request, a Workshop on national legislation on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and strategy for development of educational programs was organised, gathering the relevant institution representatives working in this field (Ministry of Justice, Supreme Court, County Court, State Attorney's office, USKOK, Interpol bureau, Ministry of Interior, Judicial Academy.) The objective of the workshop was threefold:

² Trainings in Albania and "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" are to be confirmed, given the limited number of trained local trainers.

³ With the exception of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

- to discuss the conclusions of the review of the Croatian legislation on mutual assistance in criminal matters and compatibility aspects in the light of the latest EU developments;
- to address the question of compatibility of the national legislation with European legal instruments, including the latest EU developments
- to have an exchange of views among various practitioners on the development of educational programs and preparation of practical guidelines for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters.

The seminar was assessed by participants as being very useful. Discussions focused on the systematic analysis of the 2004 Croatian Act on mutual assistance in criminal matters. The overall appreciation of the experts was that the law was providing a very good basis for international cooperation in this field and that it already took into consideration obligations deriving from the CETS 182 as well as other relevant EU conventions and standards. A number of additional issues which are not yet fully covered within the current Croatian legislation were also discussed. Finally, the overall picture of the existing educational programs on MLA was presented and led to discussions on how to enhance training in this field, possibly through joint trainings for judges, prosecutors and police officers. Despite the fact that the 2004 Croatian Act on mutual assistance in criminal matters is fairly comprehensive, the Council of Europe experts recommended a careful review of the structure of the law and certain specific articles, which, when implemented, could create difficulties (see activity report for details).

In the field of training activities, programmes were developed by the Judicial Academy and standard training materials in 2005. Mutual cooperation in the EU in criminal matters is currently envisaged under the CARDS 2003 project 'Education and Training of Public Prosecutors'. The Judicial Academy expressed interest in being involved in the planning of forthcoming activities for 2007 with the Council of Europe.

Previously planned activities in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia were cancelled due to the absence of a clear detailed schedule from the relevant authorities and heavy workload. The specific activities in Montenegro and Serbia were cancelled due to the changes in the status of Montenegro which have specific consequences in relation to international co-operation in criminal matters standards and applicable conventions⁴.

ACTIVITY 1.5.2: DEVELOP, TEST AND MAKE AVAILABLE TRAINING MATERIALS FOR FURTHER TRAINING

<i>Activity:</i>	<i>Description:</i>	<i>Status / Place / Date</i>
1.5.2.1	Workshops to assess training needs in the field of international co-operation in criminal matters	Completed [during 4 th reporting period]
	▪ Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)	
	▪ Podgorica (Serbia and Montenegro)	
	▪ Belgrade (Serbia and Montenegro)	
	▪ Tirana (Albania)	
	▪ Zagreb (Croatia)	
	▪ Pristina (Serbia and Montenegro)	
	▪ Skopje (“ the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”)	
1.5.2.2	Short term experts to assist in the development of training materials and guidelines on international co-operation	
	Working meeting to develop a template training programme on international legal assistance in criminal matters	Completed London, 21 February 2006
	Co-operation Manual: update of the specific country/area chapters	Each project area On-going
1.5.2.5	Production of a compendium on international cooperation in criminal matters	On-going

⁴ Montenegro not being an automatic successor to the relevant ratified international conventions by Serbia and Montenegro in this field.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” 	On-going
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serbia ▪ Montenegro 	To be confirmed

The development of training materials and guidelines on international co-operation is well on track in several project areas. The template training programme on international legal assistance in criminal matters was disseminated to the relevant institutions from each project area for review and adaptation. Very positive feedback was received from most of the project areas which expressed interest in building upon the proposed template for organising future trainings in 2007-2009.

Two compendiums were planned to be produced, in “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and respectively in Montenegro and Serbia. The activity in Montenegro and Serbia was temporarily put on hold until the end of August 2006, given the changes in the status of Montenegro and the on-going procedures by the Montenegrin government for accessing the already ratified conventions in the field of international cooperation in criminal matters by the former State Union (this having an impact on the content of the compendium).

The activity in “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” encountered important delays, this partly being due to the limited cooperation of a nominated head of working group. Work has resumed and the Compendium is due to be finalised by middle of September 2006.

3.6.2 *Conclusions and next steps*

Activity 1.5.1:

As previously reported, activities under 1.5.1 have been largely completed.

The focus until September 2006 shall be to continue to provide, per request, legal expertise to review legislation in the international co-operation in criminal matters field and prepare as necessary related amendments. In addition, a Workshop on policy and legislation drafting on selected aspects of international co-operation in criminal matters is scheduled to take place the 3rd week of September in Kosovo (pending final confirmation).

Activity 1.5.2:

The forthcoming activities include:

- a) The publication of the updated project area chapters of the Co-operation manual
- b) The finalisation of the Compendium on international co-operation in criminal matters in Macedonian
- c) Pending final confirmation, the publication of two compendiums on international co-operation in criminal matters (in Montenegro and in Serbia)

4 MODULE 2

4.1 Introduction

During the training event in Montenegro in particular, which took place only days after the referendum, national counterparts expressed their enthusiasm for setting up their own migration management structures according to EU standards and best practices, particularly concerning border crossing points and equipment. A number of follow-up activities to the CARPO Project – Module 2 training activities were suggested by representatives of all project areas following each of the training events.

From the point of view of the management of module 2 of this project, this reporting period was at the same time the most challenging and the most rewarding one, as the overall training strategy and training material, which had been developed during the previous steps of the project, were put to a strict test in all of the seven project areas:⁵ Starting in February, seven in-country training events were organised in all project areas, consisting of two parallel training events each with around 18-20 participants. As planned, the lessons learned from each training event and the comments received by participants and trainers alike were incorporated into the training material and the planning for the following events, so that a positive learning curve in the training strategy could be achieved in the course of the training events and the contents of the training material were also tested and consolidated. At the end of this reporting period, a team of forty-two trainers are qualified and have gained first experience in training a total of two hundred and forty colleagues from law enforcement (police, border guard and custom officers) and judiciary officials (prosecutors and investigative judges) on the CARPO Project material, containing EU standards and best practices in fighting trafficking and smuggling of human beings and illegal migration. Except for some work necessary revision work on the material, the consolidated material is now nearly ready for final translation and printing.

4.2 General activities carried out during the reporting period

Following the first pilot project area training in Tirana (Albania) on 6-10 February 2006, the remaining six participating project areas have successfully implemented the regional training concept and training material based on EU standards and best practices, which was developed by IOM in close co-operation with the national trainers, module two coordinators and senior representatives. Half of the participants were trained on CARPO Project training manual “Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling of Migrants” (IM/SoM) and the other half on the comprehensive interactive trafficking in persons (TiP) case study “Elena Begović” with its model answers and best practice recommendations.

Accordingly, most of the activities in the region were closely linked to the preparation of the national training teams for their tasks in the training events as well as the continuous liaison efforts with the national members of the training institutions, heads of department in the police and the judiciary, and at the political level, in order to secure the longer-term necessary support for the project and the sustainability of its ongoing activities and results. Throughout the reporting period, the project management team and/ or the local IOM offices held a series of meetings with national counterparts as well as other international organisations. Given the number of conferences and training events for law enforcement in the region, the importance of such coordination and information efforts cannot be overstated. Moreover, during these meetings with national counterparts and in particular, the national “module 2 working groups” formed at the beginning of the project, some progress was made in several project areas – particularly in Albania, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, and in Serbia, on the

⁵ The first pilot project area training in fact took place in Tirana on 6-10 February, 2006, thus falling just out of this sixth reporting period.

production of national publications on the basis of the regionally harmonised CARPO Project training material. Several requests were voiced by national counterparts concerning possible financial contributions in the future to the publication of these national publications on the basis of the material the trainers had compiled in view of the CARPO module 2 in-country training lessons.

As mentioned above, the lessons learned from each training event were taken into close consideration for the planning of the following training courses and the testing of the overall training strategy. For this reason, a lot of time was spent in developing and analysing the evaluation sheets completed by trainers and participants as well as IOM evaluators for each day of every training event. The results of this analysis can be found in the individual reports on each of the training events.

On the basis of the evaluation sheets and the individual comments and feedback received after each training event, the updating, revision, and editing process of the training material continued until the last in-country training event took place in Croatia on 22-26 June 2006.

Finally, project officers in the region and the project management team in Brussels continued their regular liaison and information meetings with the EC Delegations and offices of the EAR. Moreover, all ongoing coordination efforts concerning police training – organised with great success, for example, by the OSCE mission in Belgrade – were strongly supported by IOM Brussels, which hosted a coordination meeting involving all organisations dealing with police training in South-eastern Europe in February 2005 and looks forward to undertaking similar initiatives in the future.

4.3 The Police Sea Conference – Future Trends in Crime

The Police Sea Conference, which gathered more than one hundred senior police officers from the European Union and Eastern and South Eastern European countries, took place on 29-31 May 2006 in Helsinki and Stockholm and on the ferry line between the two venues. The event was organised by CEPOL, the EU Police College, in close co-operation with the National Police Colleges of Finland and Sweden.

The overall theme of the conference was police co-operation in combating organised crime, including five main topics, all related to future trends in crime: the fight against terrorism, drugs, trafficking in human beings, threat assessment, and police co-operation including joint investigation teams.

The module 2 Project Coordinator gave a presentation on new trends in trafficking in persons, the achievements of the CARPO project module 2, and on the work of IOM in the Eastern and South Eastern European countries.

4.4 In-project area pilot training events⁶

4.4.1 Kosovo (Serbia), 6–10 March 2006

The second pilot in-country training event in the framework of the CARPO Project (Module 2) was hosted by the “Kosovo Academy of Public Safety, Education and Development” (KAPSED, former Kosovo Police Service School, KPSS) and organised in close cooperation with the IOM office in Pristina.

⁶ What follows is a short summary of the aims and main contents of each of the in-country training events. An in-depth analysis of each training session, including the analysis reports of the evaluations from participants, trainers, and IOM evaluators, can be obtained contacting IOM MRF Brussels.

As in the previous pilot training event in Tirana (6-10 February 2006), a team of six instructors who had participated in the regional Training-of-Trainers (ToT) event in Ohrid (13-18 November 2006) carried out two five-day training courses on the subjects of Combating Trafficking in Persons (1) and Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling of Migrants (2).

At this event, the course on Combating Trafficking in Persons (TiP) was attended by twenty-three law enforcement officers, including specialist investigators of the Trafficking and Prostitution Investigation Unit (TPIU) and others, legal experts, and patrol units. The course on Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling of Migrants (IM/S) was attended by twenty officers mainly from the land and airport border police and specialist investigator units including anti-trafficking specialists who were interested in gaining knowledge from the broader perspective of illegal migration including smuggling of persons.

The selection of trainees from various backgrounds and with different levels of experience created space for exchange of knowledge and information among the participants themselves, thus reinforcing the cooperation between different units and different hierarchy levels in the fight against smuggling and trafficking in persons.

The training event gave the selected Kosovo Police Service (KPS) instructors the opportunity to test their newly acquired skills related to the subject matter and training methods in front of a wider audience. In this case, the lessons given by one trainer were always attended also by the two other instructors, so that peer feedback and cross-evaluation was possible at the end. During the lessons, the observing trainers as well as individual participants were frequently called on to contribute with their specialised expertise, thus creating an atmosphere of interactive and dynamic training.

The training sessions in the TiP course were complemented by the presentations of two guest speakers who gave specialised lectures on the current legal framework applied in the Province of Kosovo (for example, a prosecutor spoke on UNMIK Regulation 2001/4 and the Provisional Criminal Code of Kosovo, in force since 6 April 2004) as well as on the role of IOM in Kosovo concerning standard operating procedures and referral mechanisms (a representative from IOM Pristina gave an overview of the role of IOM and the types of assistance offered by this organisation to victims of trafficking).

4.4.2 *“the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, 20 – 25 March 2006*

The third pilot in-country training event in the framework of the CARPO Project (Module 2) was hosted by the Police Academy in Idrizovo and organised in close co-operation with the IOM office in Skopje.

As previously, a team of instructors who had previously participated in the regional Training-of-Trainers (ToT) event in Ohrid (13-18 November 2006) carried out two parallel five-day training courses on the subjects of Combating Trafficking in Persons (1) and Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling of Migrants (2). Having also completed the ToT in Ohrid, the module II Coordinator and the Senior Representative for this project in Macedonia joined the training team for these two courses.

The course on Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling of Migrants (IM/S) was attended by twenty-two law enforcement officers, including senior and chief inspectors from the Ministry of the Interior (MoI) Sector against Organised Crime, the Sector for Border Control Issues in the Department for Illegal Migration of the Border Police, the Customs Office, and instructors from the Police Academy. The training on Combating Trafficking in Persons (TiP) was attended by representatives of these same directorates, all of whom had a minimum of eight years of

working experience in the field of illegal migration and trafficking in persons. In this course, the specialist investigators from the Anti-Organised Crime sector in the MoI were joined by senior inspectors from the border police, some of which had not received any particular training on the subject of identifying victims of trafficking or investigating on crimes related to trafficking in persons before.

The selection of trainers from various backgrounds and with different levels of experience allowed for the exchange of information among the participants themselves, thus strengthening the cooperation between different units and different hierarchy levels in the fight against smuggling and trafficking in persons.

The lessons in the TiP course were complemented by the presentations of three guest speakers who gave specialised lectures on the current practices and legal framework applied in “the Former Republic of Macedonia”. This made it possible to exchange information and experience with high-ranking members of the judiciary was particularly appreciated by the participants, as it included discussions on practical arrangements concerning the correct procedures of drafting and submitting police reports and applying, for example, special investigative means. One main conclusion from this event was that all future such law enforcement training events should always include a representative number of members of the judiciary – prosecutors as well as investigative judges – as lecturers and/ or as participants.

4.4.3 Serbia, 3 – 7 April 2006

This event was hosted by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia together with the Police College in Zemun and organised in close cooperation with the IOM office in Belgrade. Each member of the training team had participated in the ToT event in Budapest in October 2005.

The course on Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling of Migrants (IM/S) was attended by eighteen participants with diverse professional backgrounds, including the representatives of the police, customs office, border police, and the passenger, document and vehicle control departments. The Combating Trafficking in Persons course (TiP) was attended by nineteen participants, who equally belong to a variety of institutions, including those mentioned above, as well as two participants from the Belgrade District Court. Trainees in both courses had varying levels of experience and previous training in the fields of combating illegal migration and trafficking in persons, ranging from having attended a number of training courses to no previous experience with such training whatsoever. This diversity created the possibility for networking between the different institutions, thus laying the foundations for their future collaboration especially concerning the fight against illegal migration and trafficking in persons. It was particularly constructive to have a working dialogue between the police, customs and the prosecutor’s office representatives during the training – an opportunity much appreciated by the participants.

This event provided the selected instructors with an opportunity to test and apply their newly acquired training skills in the subject matter and to practice various new training methods in front of a wider audience. An interactive and dynamic training environment was created through active involvement of the participants and of the observing trainers.

4.4.4 Bosnia and Herzegovina, 8 – 12 May 2006

The training was held from 8-12 May 2006 at the Vraca Police Academy in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). It was co-hosted by the Director and Deputy Director of the Academy together with the office of the National Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Persons (who is also the Coordinator for module 2 of this project in BiH) and organised in close co-operation with

the IOM Sarajevo office. Trainers in both training courses had emphasised their objective to achieve the enhancement of participants' skills in investigative procedures to combat illegal migration and trafficking, focusing in particular on gathering intelligence and evidence. In the course on Combating Trafficking in Persons, best practices in interviewing trafficked persons who may become witnesses were also closely studied. The course on Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling of Migrants was conducted with the aim of enhancing participants' skills concerning evidence gathering, which they achieved also with the help of two prominent prosecutors who attended as guest lecturers.

Given the support and interest of all major relevant agencies in BiH involved in the fight against illegal migration and trafficking in persons, it was possible to secure the participation of law enforcement officers from all these agencies as well as from all parts of the country, which enabled them to compare different operational methods and approaches as well as to share experiences and exchange contact details. Participants in both courses came from the State Border Service (SBS), the cantonal Ministries of the Interior (serious crime departments), local and regional offices of the State Investigation and Protection Agency (SIPA, Department for Crime Investigation), the local Departments for Foreigners, and independent investigators' offices. Participants expressed a strong wish to include also colleagues from the side of the judiciary in similar training events in the future, not only as lecturers but also as participants, as in the previous pilot training event in Belgrade. It was unfortunately not possible to obtain the presence of prosecutors specialised in TiP and Illegal Migration crimes as participants, as they could not be released from their duties for a full five-day period. The attendance of prosecutors as lecturers during parts of the training in Vraca was, however, very much appreciated by all participants, who were able to discuss and clarify key procedural details of investigations with them.

Although in both courses, the level of working and training experience and the degree of specialisation in the areas of illegal migration and trafficking was highly diverse, the trainers were able to integrate everyone's ideas and level of experience, thus ensuring constant interest and engagement of all participants throughout the two courses.

4.4.5 Montenegro, 5 – 9 June 2006

This in-country training event was hosted by the Ministry of the Interior of the newly independent Republic of Montenegro and the border police department, in close cooperation with the IOM office in Podgorica and the Police Academy in Danilovgrad. Due to current circumstances of transition and restructuring in the Police Academy, it was decided to hold this training at a conference hotel in the city of Bar.

The Montenegrin team of five trainers, who had previously participated in the Training-of-Trainers (ToT) event in Budapest (17-21 October 2005) carried out two parallel training courses lasting for a period of five days on Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling of Migrants (1) and on Combating Trafficking in Persons (2).

The aim of the course on Combating Illegal Migration and Smuggling, as defined by the national training team, was to familiarise the participants with the main trends and characteristics of illegal migration and the differences and connections between smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons. The trainers in this course also concentrated on the practical aspects of law enforcement work. The national and international legal framework concerning illegal migration and smuggling and trafficking in persons was also discussed in depth during the seminars. Training methods applied included brainstorming and group discussions as well as – to explain the specialist skills required for interviewing possible victims of trafficking – role play. It was once again noted that the interactive elements of the training were always well accepted and greatly appreciated by all participants. This training was based mainly on the use of

PowerPoint presentations, and video films on the process and forms of illegal migration were also discussed. Finally, participants were invited to fill out a questionnaire at the beginning and the end of the course, which helped evaluate the knowledge gained during the course of the five-day training.

One of the main objectives of the course on combating TiP was to enable the participants to clearly distinguish between smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and to know the procedures to be followed in order to aid and assist potential victims wherever they may be detected. Moreover, participants discussed referral mechanisms directly available to them in the country, the history of slavery and trafficking, national and international legal framework, and regional and international cooperation in trafficking cases. Training methods used in this course included lectures and discussions as well as group activities in discussing and solving case studies, and guest lecturers from the Ministry of Justice and from the “Montenegrin Women’s Lobby” intervened during the week as well.

Finally, trainers organised a study visit for both courses to observe and evaluate the border management equipment and techniques at two local border crossing points: the Port of Bar – border and coast guard services - and a small passenger-only border crossing point between Albania and Montenegro near the city of Ulčinj.

4.4.6 Croatia, 26 – 29 June 2006

This last in the series of seven pilot in-country training events in the framework of the CARPO Project (Module 2) was hosted by the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia and the Police Academy, in close cooperation with the IOM office in Zagreb.

As the Police Academy training facilities were fully booked for the planned dates, it was decided to hold this training at a conference hotel in Stubičke Toplice. The Croatian team of six trainers, five of whom⁷ had previously participated in the Training-of-Trainers (ToT) event in Budapest, carried out two parallel training courses lasting for a period of four days, including a night exercise on Tuesday, June 27. In a significant change from the previous CARDS Regional Police Project Module 2 training events – where the division of groups had been carried out according to the topics studied (1, trafficking in persons/ 2, smuggling of migrants), the Croatian training team decided to split the groups between the members of the criminal police, focusing closely on investigation methods, and border police officers, who focused more on the control function at borders, technical and procedural aspects of illegal migration cases. There were thirty-one trainees from the border police and criminal police departments from the regions throughout Croatia. The trainees were all experienced operational frontline officers who regularly deal with irregular migrants and trafficked persons.

It was particularly interesting to note the professionalism with which the night simulation exercise was carried out in this project area, due mainly to the fact that in the framework of a previous EC-funded CARDS national training project on counter-trafficking managed by IOM, the Croatian law enforcement had adopted this method of training and was making use of the CARDS regional counter-trafficking training element to further institutionalise it.

4.5 Specific activities carried out during the reporting period

The following specific activities under Output 2.1 (Develop and Support a Training Strategy based on a Thorough Analysis of Needs and Capacities) were implemented in the sixth reporting phase:

⁷ One trainer came in on short notice to replace a colleague who had fallen ill.

ACTIVITIES		
2.1.1	Regional thematic seminar to review relevant European and international standards against which to provide training	Completed 29-30 June 2004
2.1.2	Short-term experts to carry out detailed analyses in terms of training needs of countries and target groups and capacities of existing training institutions and training activities	Completed July – September 2004
2.1.3	Short-term experts to compile information on existing good practices in the European Union as well as in South-eastern Europe which could be reflected in training materials	Completed July – September 2004
2.1.4.A	1 st Regional seminar to finalise needs analysis and adopt training strategy	Completed 30 June 2004 Budapest
2.1.4.B	2 nd Regional seminar to present and discuss the draft training strategy for the project areas	Completed 9-10 March 2005 Budapest

The following specific activities under Output 2.2 (develop, test and make available for further training curricula and training materials on trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration) were **implemented to date**:

ACTIVITIES		
2.2.1	Short-term experts and consultants to develop modules for law enforcement training on trafficking, smuggling and illegal migration	Completed
Other	Building a pool of short-term experts to participate in project activities	Completed
2.2.2	Study visits for trainers from the region: 1st study visit (Rome, 30 September/ 1 October 2004) 2nd study visit (Budapest, 8-11 May 2005)	Completed

ACTIVITIES		
2.2.3. A	1 st Regional train trainer seminar to test training and further refine materials on trafficking in human beings, smuggling in persons and illegal migration [Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia (Serbia and Montenegro), Montenegro (Serbia and Montenegro)]	Completed Budapest 17-21 October 2005
2.2.3.B	2 nd Regional train trainer seminar to test training and further refine materials on trafficking in human beings, smuggling in persons and illegal migration [Albania, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro)]	Completed Ohrid 14-18 November 2005
2.2.4	7 training events in the project areas in sequence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Albania (COMPLETED) ▪ Kosovo (Serbia and Montenegro) (COMPLETED) ▪ "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" 	Completed 6 February – 26 June 2006

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serbia (Serbia and Montenegro) ▪ Bosnia and Herzegovina ▪ Montenegro (Serbia and Montenegro) ▪ Croatia 	
2.2.5	Short-term experts to finalise training materials	Completed July 2006
2.2.6 a	Production of training materials in local languages stage 1 (Draft version)	Completed
2.2.6 b	Production of training materials in local languages stage 2 (Final version)	On-going August 2006
2.2.3 c and d	3 rd and 4 th regional events: ToT workshop and closing of module 2	25 -27 September 2006

4.6 Next short and mid- term activities

Following the successful implementation of the in-country training events in each of the project areas and the subsequent analysis of the evaluation feedback sheets from participants, trainers, and IOM evaluators, the immediate next steps in the framework of Module 2 of this project will aim at completing the final revisions of the training material where necessary and organising the concluding train-the-trainer workshop to allow trainers to jointly study the more challenging sections in the training material as well as the training methods agreed on in the Training-of-Training workshops in Budapest and Ohrid in autumn 2005.

Once the final version has been agreed to, the second translation into four languages (Albanian, Croatian, Macedonian, and Serbian) can be launched, and printing and publication of the English version can begin. In addition to the final training-of-trainers workshop, a Module 2 project closure ceremony will also be organised, gathering senior officials from the European Commission, the Council of Europe, the consortium partners, the senior representatives and Module 2 coordinators from the seven project areas, the local trainers from all seven project areas, representatives of the training institutions, and all experts involved in the research and drafting of the Module 2 training material as well as IOM project officers for presentations of the results of the project and recommendations on the most important next steps in the future.

4.7 Conclusions

In conclusion, it should be pointed out that the activities within Module 2 of this project are proceeding as planned and within the original given time-frame. As planned, a total number of forty-two trainers in the seven project areas now stand ready to train members of the law enforcement on specialised techniques to combat trafficking in persons and illegal migration/smuggling of persons, having tested their skills in adult learning techniques and on the contents of the CARPO Project – Module 2 training material.

This material was tested in seven project area training events during which a total number of two-hundred-and-eighty police officers, custom officials, judges and prosecutors were trained. The evaluations conducted after each training showed that these events were extremely useful to trainers and trainees alike, and at every training event, the participants requested more such events to have additional number of their colleagues trained.

From the statements of trainers and participants in all project areas, it was also possible to gather that while many events entitled “training” were taking place in South-eastern Europe, particularly on the issue of trafficking, many of them were actually conferences or seminars,

while this type of interactive training - including actual transfer of skills - in the local languages and carried out by local trainers - was seen as particularly valuable to them.

Thus, while the courses and the material on combating smuggling of migrants and illegal migration were carried out for the first time in almost all project areas, even the specialist courses on combating trafficking in persons were seen as innovative and useful by participants and trainers.

In all the project areas, participants congratulated the organisers for having included representatives of the judiciary to clarify important definitions and procedural aspects of police investigations as well as the implementation of new legislation, but at the same time voiced their wish to engage in further joint training initiatives together with their colleagues from the ministry of justice in the future. It was highlighted not only by the organising teams and the participants, but also by the senior officials in their opening or closing speeches, that this type of training should continue on a regular basis in all training institutions in the project areas.

In the course of the remaining three months of this project, IOM will continue to deepen its contacts with high-ranking officials from the ministries and the training institutions, in order to ensure the support for further training initiatives and the eventual full institutionalisation of specialised training on combating trafficking and smuggling of persons/ illegal migration into the regular curricula of the law enforcement training institutions. IOM plans to present recommendations and conclusions from these discussions at the module 2 project closure event to be held in Budapest on 25-28 September 2006.
