

Newsletter n° 4 / 25 January 2006

Gezuar Vitin e Ri Sretna Nova Godina Srekjna Nova Godina



*The CARPO project management unit
wishes you
a happy and prosperous New Year 2006!*

COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND EUROPEAN COMMISSION CARDS REGIONAL POLICE PROJECT

Welcome to the January edition of our Newsletter. A number of activities were carried out from 25 October when we issued our last Newsletter, within the CARDS Police Regional Project: “Development of Reliable and Functioning Policing Systems and Enhancing of Combating Main Criminal Activities and Police Co-operation” (CARPO).

The CARPO project, which started in March 2004, aims at strengthening the capacities of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” 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, co-ordinated by the Council of Europe)
- enabling them to deliver comprehensive training against trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration (module 2, co-ordinated by the International Organization for Migration).

You can find more detailed information on our webpage www.coe.int/cards-police.

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Conclusions Statement of the EU Troika and the Western Balkans** (3rd Meeting of the EU-Western Balkans Forum of JHA Ministers, Vienna, 25 November 2005) refers to the Joint Declaration of the High Level Meeting of Ministers of Interior and of Security and Senior Officials of Governments and Administrations from South-Eastern Europe (Brijuni, 23 September 2005) as setting out a useful basis for increased regional co-operation.

MODULE 1 COMPLETED ACTIVITIES (25 October 2005- 25 January 2006)

Output 1.2

Capacities for financial investigations aimed at the confiscation of proceeds from crime strengthened

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- Short-term experts to assist working groups in developing target-group specific training materials in each project area (September-December 2005)
- Regional workshop to finalise and endorse training materials and concepts on financial investigation for all project areas (Tirana, 19-20 December 2005)

Output 1.3

More effective use of special investigative means and intelligence in accordance with human rights standards supported

- Short-term experts to assist working groups in the development of training materials and guidelines on undercover operations, low-tech electronic surveillance, cross-border use of SIMS and international cooperation (Sarajevo, 15 November 2005 and Skopje, 17 November 2005/ Belgrade, 6 December 2005 and Podgorica, 7 December 2005)

Output 1.4

The creation of effective mechanisms to protect witnesses of serious crime supported

- Elaboration of a handbook on procedural protective measures and basic police protection (on-going)
- Regional seminar to promote co-operation in the field of witness protection (Budva, 23-24 November 2005)

Output 1.5

Capacities for co-operation in criminal matters among the countries of South-eastern Europe made more efficient

- Reports on Assessment of Training Needs in the Field of International Cooperation in Criminal Matters, published

FORTHCOMING EVENTS **(25 January - 25 April 2006)**

Output 1.1

- Preparation of an update of the situation report through short-term experts and a regional seminar (February-July 2006)
- Follow up meeting on the implementation of the regional strategy on tools against organised and economic crime and project area specific actions (Strasbourg, March 2006)

Output 1.2

- Regional training for local trainers (Strasbourg, week of 13 or 20 February 2006)
- In-country training events by local trainers with expert support to test and further improve training materials (starting in March in each project area and finishing in September 2006)

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Output 1.3

- Short-term experts to assist working groups in the development of training materials and guidelines on undercover operations, establishment of undercover units where relevant, low-tech electronic surveillance, cross-border use of SIMS and international cooperation, as well as criminal intelligence systems (Pristina and Tirana, February 2006)
- Regional training workshop on the use of technology in relation to the implementation of SIMS (March 2006, place tbc)
- Up to 3/4 operational trainings on handling undercover operations for selected specialists from the project areas (between March and May 2006)

Output 1.4

- Elaboration of a handbook on procedural protective measures and basic police protection (on-going)
- Training course of witness protection specialists from “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (6-10 March 2006)
- Regional training event for future trainers on procedural protective measures to test the training materials and concepts (March 2006)
- In-country training events on procedural protective measures (from March to September 2006)
- Expert assistance in reviewing the legal basis in view of procedural and non-procedural measures for the protection of witnesses (per request), all project areas from February to September 2006

Output 1.5

- Expert support to assist in the drafting of legislation/ legislative amendments
 - Legislative expert support for the review of the legislation on international cooperation in criminal matters, Albania
 - Workshop to assist in drafting legislative amendments in the field of international co-operation in criminal matters, Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - Legislative expert support for the review of the legislation on mutual assistance in criminal matters and a roundtable to discuss the conclusions of the review, Croatia
 - Workshop on policy and legislation drafting on selected aspects of international co-operation in criminal matters, Kosovo
 - Workshop to assist in drafting legislation in the field of international co-operation in criminal matters, Serbia and Montenegro
- Development of concepts for training and training materials
 - Workshop to develop a concept for training and training materials, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro
 - Elaboration of a consolidated and updated compilation of relevant international legal instruments, bilateral agreements and legislation, Serbia and Montenegro

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- Elaboration of a Manual/ reference material on international cooperation in criminal matters by a group of national experts, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”
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**MODULE 2
COMPLETED ACTIVITIES
(25 October 2005- 25 January 2006)**

Output 2.2

Curricula and training materials on trafficking in human beings, smuggling and illegal migration developed, tested and available for further training

- 2nd 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), (Ohrid, 14-18 November 2005)

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS
(25 January - 25 April 2006)**

Output 2.2

- Training events in the project areas in sequence in all project areas (from January to May 2006)
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Other Relevant Events

- Meeting of the Ministers of Justice and Home Affairs of the South-East European cooperation process (SEECp) on combating Terrorism and Trafficking in Human beings, Loutraki, Greece, 8 February 2006
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