IPA Annual Programme 2007 for Kosovo¹

Summary of Projects grouped per priority axis:

Priority axis	IPA support (EUR m)	Project Description
Priority axis 1 Political Criteria		
Project 1 Building the capacity of Kosovo's institutions to develop EU compatible legislation and policy	6,00	 This project aims to build an effective, efficient and transparent public administration at all levels through the delivery of horizontal support, chiefly for legislation and policy development. The project consists of two inter-linked activities: Providing focused expert advice for: Building the capacity of the civil service to draft, implement and enforce EU compatible primary and secondary legislation, including in the area of human rights. Delivering demand driven expert advice to selected public institutions to develop policies and strategies compatible with European Standards. Scholarships to enable civil servants and recent graduates to obtain masters degrees at EU universities in European affairs and in technical courses (e.g. law, engineering).
Project 2 Strengthening the rule of law	7,00	The overall project is expected to be launched by summer 2008 and continue for up to 36 months. The project aims to strengthen the rule of law in Kosovo, through further reform of the Kosovo Police Service including the border/boundary police; fighting corruption; and closer alignment with and implementation of the acquis in Justice and Home Affairs. The project consists of the following activities:
		 Strengthening the management and operational capacity of the border and boundary police. Systematically combating corruption in Kosovo's institutions. Establishing a reliable system, in accordance with EU standards and appropriate practices, for the reception and maintenance of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. The completion of preparatory studies for the construction of a high level security prison. The activities for this project have been designed in cooperation with the EU Planning Team in Kosovo. The activities will be implemented in coordination with the future possible EU European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) mission in Kosovo.
Project 3	3,70	The project aims to create a climate for inter-ethnic tolerance, sustainable multi-ethnicity and the promotion of human and minority rights (including in a gender perspective) conducive to the return and reintegration of refugees

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 $^{^{\}mathrm{1}}$ The IPA 2009 Annual Programme for Kosovo will be discussed at the IPA Committee in April '09

Return, Reintegration		and IDPs to Kosovo. The project consists of the following activities:
and Cultural Heritage in Kosovo		1. Further assistance to the Ministry of Communities and Returns (MCR) to develop and implement effective policies, decision making processes and operational frameworks and to strengthen their coordination with domestic (central, municipal and civil society) and international stakeholders.
		2. Supporting the reconstruction and preservation of Kosovo's cultural heritage, particularly Orthodox religious sites. This will involve further support for the work of the Reconstruction Implementation Commission (RIC). The RIC is chaired by the Council of Europe and is responsible for organising the rebuilding of orthodox sites that were destroyed in the violence of March 2004.
		The overall project is expected to be launched in early 2008 and continue for up to 36 months.
Priority axis 2 Economic Criteria		
Project 4 Developing an enabling economic environment for all of Kosovo's communities	11,00	The project aims to enhance Kosovo's trade and investment climate, particularly in the manufacturing, service and in agri-processing sectors. The project will particularly involve improvements in the business environment for small companies, in line with priorities actions of Kosovo's commitment to implement the ten guidelines of the European Charter for Small Enterprises. The project consists of the following activities:
		 Improving the management and operational capacity of relevant public bodies such as the Ministry of Trade and Industry (including the SME Agency), the Investment Promotion Agency and the recently established Patent Office.
		2. Providing expert technical assistance for the completion of the on-going privatisation and liquidation of Socially Owned Enterprises (SOEs). This will be delivered through assistance to the successor organisations to the Kosovo Trust Agency (KTA) and the development of an Insolvency Practitioner Association in Kosovo.
		3. Promoting enterprise growth and employment. This will involve advice and technical assistance to selected enterprises, including those in the agri-business sector, and those in economically depressed areas. Assistance to small, medium and larger enterprises continues to play a critical part in creating sustainable jobs, especially for marginalised groups.
		The overall project is expected to be launched before summer 2008 and continue for 24 to 30 months.
Project 5 Reconstruction of	8,00	This project will reconstruct five bridges on the main M2 road between Pristina and the border crossing with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Critical sections of trunk roads and junctions will also be upgraded. This is a strategically important economic transport route for goods between Kosovo and the rest of the region and the EU.
essential road infrastructure		It is the main route for Kosovo's access to Corridor 10 of the trans-European transport networks.
		The project is expected to be launched before summer 2008 and continue for 30 months.
Project 6	12,40	The project objective is to advance the reform of local self-government and develop socio-economic conditions in municipalities in the context of the ongoing decentralisation process through:
Supporting local government and		1. Providing institution building assistance to the Ministry of Local Government Administration (MLGA) to

decentralisation		strengthen inter-ministerial coordination, enhance cooperation between central government and municipalities and strengthen its leadership of donor coordination.
		2. Improving the management capacity, performance and accountability of selected municipalities ² to deliver cost effective public services and to improve the involvement of citizens and civil society organisations in decision making processes.
		3. Implementation of infrastructure projects in selected municipalities ³ to support socio-economic development. The projects, which will be identified by the municipalities, are expected to include the rehabilitation, construction and upgrading of local infrastructure such as schools, health centres, water and wastewater systems and access roads.
		The overall project is expected to begin its implementation phase from summer 2008 and continue for approximately 30 months.
Project 7 Advancing education in Kosovo: interculturalism and the Bologna Process	1,40	The project aims to advance the establishment of sustainable conditions for strengthening multicultural understanding among all communities in Kosovo based on mutual respect and human rights. This will involve support for reforms in primary, secondary and higher education so as too improve intercultural awareness and understanding and to further facilitate the integration of Kosovo into the Bologna Process.
		Specifically, the project will organise a number of seminars, teacher-trainer courses and conferences involving teachers and leaders in the education sector. Topics will typically include: reviewing and proposing changes to education legislation; promoting Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education; teaching multiculturalism; promoting the teaching of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian culture; and language policy.
		The project is expected to be launched by early 2008 and last for up to 36 months.
		Interventions in this project area will be closely coordinated with the activities funded under the Tempus programme which supports the reform of higher education in Kosovo through university cooperation projects
Priority axis 3 European Standards		
Project 8 Meeting EU Standards in Energy Sector	3,00	This project aims to enable Kosovo to meet the legal and technical requirements of the Energy Community Treaty and the Regional Energy Market. Specifically, the project will strengthen the institutional capacity and technical skills of Kosovo's energy institutions (namely the Energy Regulatory Office, the Kosovo Transmission System and Market Operator and the Ministry of Energy and Mining).
		The project is expected to be launched by summer 2008 and continue for up to 24 months.

Municipalities will be selected based on the following criteria:

[•] New Municipalities created as a result of the new Law on Municipal Boundaries consequent on the Kosovo Status Settlement.

[•] Municipalities that have their boundaries changes as a result of decentralisation or the Status Agreement.

[•] Municipalities that are identified as relatively disadvantaged based on socio-economic criteria.

[•] Municipalities which have demonstrated good practice and commitment to the implementation of the European Partnership Action Plan and/or the provision of the status settlement.

Selection criteria for municipalities are the same as the previous activity of this project.

Project 9 Meeting EU Standards in Food Safety and Veterinary Services	2,00	This project aims to enhance the commercial and export potential of the agro-business food chain in Kosovo. This will be done through assisting the Ministry of Agriculture, Forests and Rural Development, and particularly the Kosovo Veterinary and Food Agency, to improve controls on animal health, food safety and quality, in line with EU standards and technical requirements. The project is expected to be launched by winter 2008 and continue for up to 30 months.
Project 10 Meeting EU Standards in Public Procurement	1,50	This project aims to develop an effective public procurement system for Kosovo that is compatible with EU Standards and which promotes efficiency and effectiveness in the use of public funds. This should also reduce the potential for fraud, corruption and misappropriation of public monies. Specifically, the project will build the capacity of Kosovo's public procurement institutions, specifically the Public Procurement Regulatory Commission and the Procurement Review Body. he project is expected to be launched by summer 2008 and continue for up to 24 months.
Priority axis 7 Support Activities		
Programme Reserve and General Technical Assistance Facility	6,00	The Programme Reserve will be used to cover programme related priorities and expenditures that are currently unforeseeable. This provides the flexibility necessary to respond to Kosovo's priority needs in 2008 and 2009, particularly in the context of future status and the strengthening EU role and presence in Kosovo. The General Technical Assistance Facility – GTAF allows project preparation of IPA 2007 and 2008 to proceed in a quick and effective manner.
TOTAL	62,00	