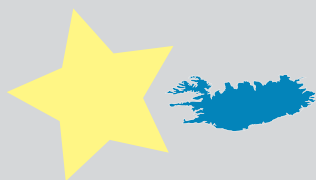






ACTIVITY REPORT **2010**

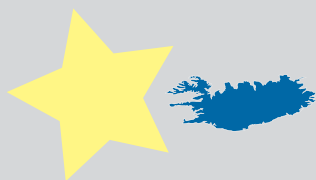


EUROPEAN UNION





ACTIVITY REPORT **2010**



EUROPEAN UNION

TAIEX Activity Report 2010

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FOREWORD

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A close-up portrait of Mr. Štefan Füle, a man with short brown hair and glasses, smiling warmly. He is wearing a dark suit jacket, a white shirt, and a blue tie. His hands are clasped together in front of him. The background is a blurred wooden wall.

PICTURE TO RECEIVE

Mr. Štefan Füle

European Commissioner for Enlargement
and European Neighbourhood Policy

TAIEX MISSION



The TAIEX mission within the EU enlargement context¹ is to:

- Provide institution-building support to assist the process of transposition, implementation and enforcement of EU legislation and policies.
- Organise short-term technical co-operation for the benefit of partner administrations and organisations, calling on public sector expertise from EU Member States.
- Meet demand-driven requests for assistance from the beneficiary countries.
- Provide database tools for improving and monitoring an approximation of progress within the beneficiary countries, and identify and assess further assistance needs.
- Respond to priorities identified in the Enlargement Strategy, country reports and partnerships.

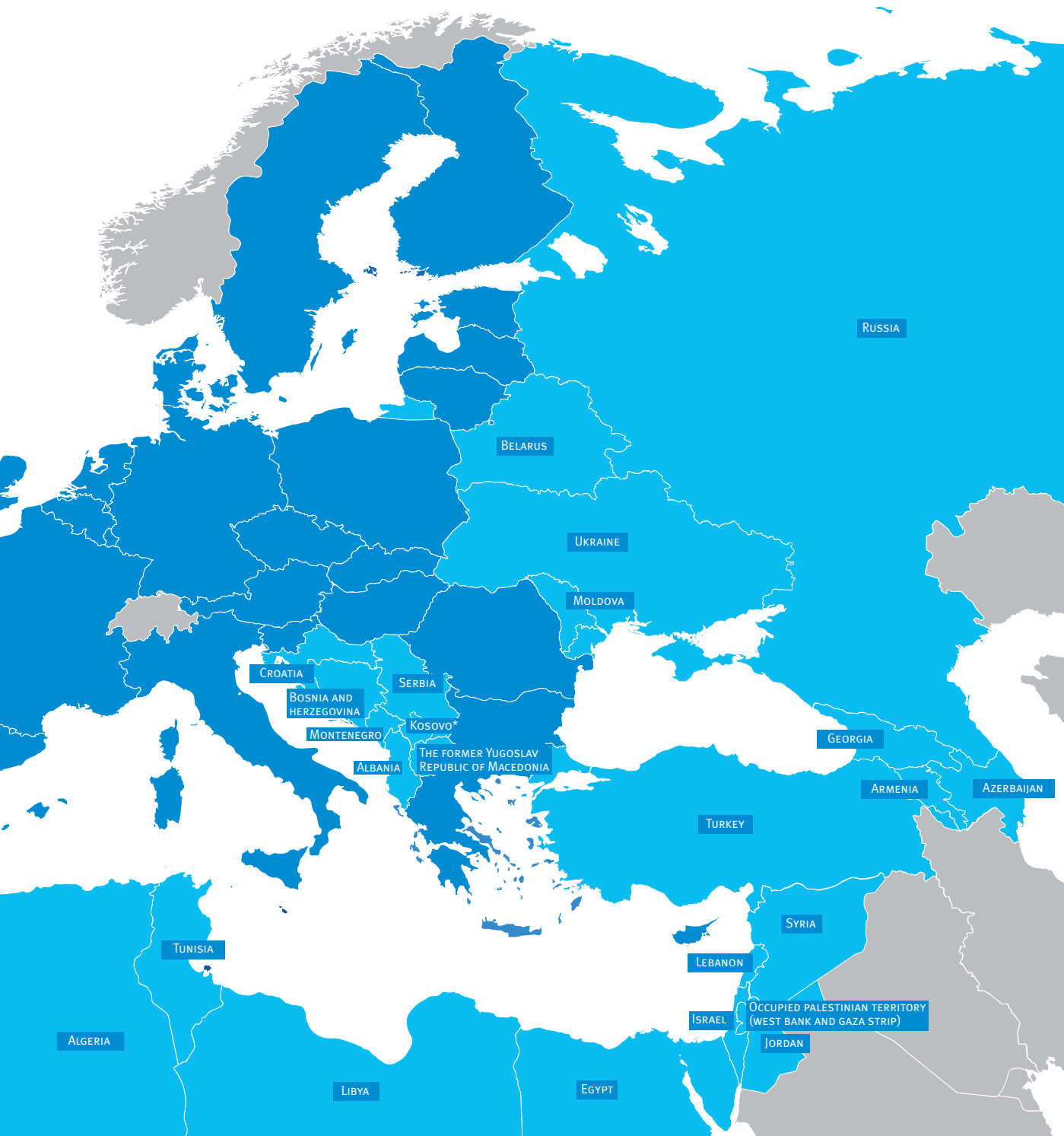
In the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy² :

- Provide short-term targeted technical assistance to support the implementation of Action Plans and National Indicative Programmes

(1) Pre-accession support for the Candidate Countries (Croatia, Iceland, Montenegro, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey), potential Candidates of the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo [under UNSCR 1244]) and the Turkish Cypriot community in the northern part of Cyprus.

(2) Including all partner countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy (Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia, Ukraine) as well as Russia.





ALGERIA

LIBYA

EGYPT

TUNISIA

CROATIA

BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA

MONTENEGRO

ALBANIA

SERBIA

KOSOVO*

THE FORMER YUGOSLAV
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

BELARUS

UKRAINE

MOLDOVA

GEORGIA

ARMENIA

AZERBAIJAN

TURKEY

SYRIA

LEBANON

ISRAEL

OCCUPIED PALESTINIAN TERRITORY
(WEST BANK AND GAZA STRIP)

JORDAN

RUSSIA

TAIEX IN A NUTSHELL

What TAIEX means

Technical Assistance and Information Exchange

What TAIEX does

TAIEX shares Member State administrations' technical expertise in all fields of EU legislation and regulation (the so-called EU '*acquis*') with beneficiaries.

Which activities TAIEX covers

There are three different types of TAIEX short-term assistance:

Workshops

EU Member State experts go to the beneficiary to give a workshop or seminar providing an overview of specific areas of EU legislation, regulation, procedures and best practices to a broad group of officials from the beneficiary's administration.

Expert missions

One or two experts from an EU Member State are sent to the beneficiary to provide in-house, in-depth advice on the transposition of a specific part of EU legislation, regulation, procedures and best practices. In general, an expert mission takes up to five working days to work intensively with a smaller group of experts in the beneficiary's administration on a specific topic or piece of legislation/implementation.

Study visits

A group of up to three practitioners from a beneficiary's administration go on a study visit to an

EU Member State lasting up to five days. The aim is to learn how to implement a specific part of EU legislation and above all to study best practices. Study visits focus on technical questions relating to implementation of the *acquis*.

Who can participate

The participants in a TAIEX activity should come from one of the following groups:

- Public administrations (e.g. ministries, state bodies, regulatory and supervisory agencies)
- Governmental agencies
- Private sector associations with a public service mission (mandated bodies)
- Judiciary and law-enforcement bodies
- Social partners
- National parliaments

How to apply for TAIEX assistance

A request for TAIEX assistance must come from the public administration.

Applications can be sent to TAIEX through:

- Application forms available on the website: <http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/>
- Letter, fax, e-mail (provided that the basic information requested in the application form is included).

What kind of costs TAIEX covers

TAIEX covers all the costs required to ensure the provision of its assistance, for instance travel and accommodation costs for experts and conference costs. The purchase of equipment cannot be financed.

What happens after an application for TAIEX assistance has been submitted

Stakeholders at national level and the European Commission are consulted. The applicant will be informed about the acceptance or rejection of the application. If the application is accepted, a case handler will be nominated who will arrange all details with the applicant.

Where to find more information/contacts/ examples of TAIEX activities

You are invited to visit our website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/>



TAIEX IN 2010

The number of operations continued to rise in 2010, confirming the key role of TAIEX as part of the EU's support to institution building in the beneficiaries. In just five years – from 2006 to 2010 – the volume of TAIEX activity has increased by 67% from 1,107 to 1,849. The key assets that make TAIEX a success story are:

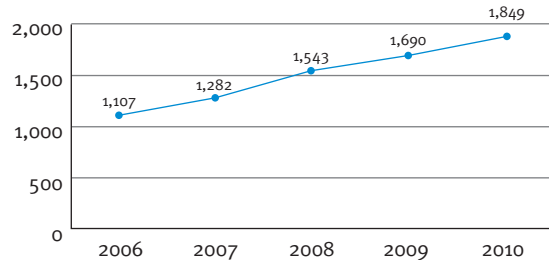
- ownership: TAIEX is a demand-driven instrument; beneficiaries identify and submit requests for specific and customised assistance. Events are tailor-made to meet beneficiaries' requests;
- gap-filling: TAIEX is complementary to larger assistance programmes (twinning, technical assistance) and can provide expertise to 'fill the gaps' between the larger programmes;
- responsiveness: assistance is delivered within tight time frames;
- peer-to-peer approach: TAIEX relies on Member States' public officials who, in practice, implement EU legislation and are willing and able to share their technical expertise with counterparts from beneficiary administrations.

An overview of TAIEX operations

In 2010, the overall number of TAIEX operations increased by 9%, compared to 2009.

TAIEX assistance in the Western Balkans and Turkey rose by 17% to 1,006 events. In addition, TAIEX assistance to Iceland (25 events) began. There were 247 activities, primarily expert missions, carried out in support of the Turkish Cypriot community. In 2010, the ending of the transition facility support to Romania and Bulgaria led to a decrease from 214 to 69 events in those two countries. In total, 374 TAIEX events were held for countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy and Russia (ENPI), up 82% on the previous year. Finally, there were 128 multi-country events.

TAIEX events per year



Areas of assistance

The assistance provided covered the whole range of the EU *acquis*, in particular internal market, justice and home affairs, environment, agriculture and food safety.

Increasing use is being made of medium-term technical assistance whereby a sequence of short-term interventions is agreed and implemented. This approach has been used in the agriculture and food safety sectors as well as for the Turkish Cypriot community and Kosovo. It was also used for the first time in Iceland.

Support to civil society in the Western Balkans and Turkey – the People-to-People Programme (P2P) – has been consolidated as one of the components of the so-called 'Civil Society Facility' aiming to strengthen civil society's role in the democratic process within the enlargement context.

Events per sector 2010

Internal market	467
Justice, liberty and security	420
Agriculture and food safety	267
Aid to the Turkish Cypriot community	247
Environment, transport and infrastructure	179
Kosovo	120
Regional training programme	91
P2P study tours	33
Iceland	25
TOTAL	1,849

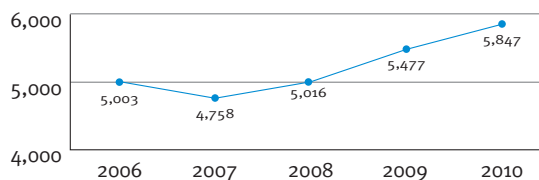
TAIEX experts

A total of 5,847 EU public officials acted as TAIEX experts, sharing their knowledge and expertise with counterparts in the beneficiaries. The largest number came from Germany, then the UK, Belgium and Romania. A notably high number of experts came from another new Member State, Slovenia.

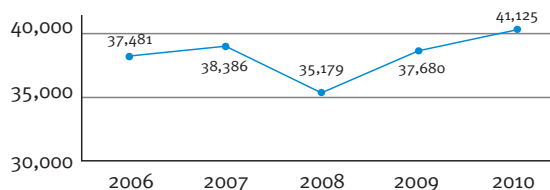
Participants

In 2010, a record number of 41,125 public administration officials took part in a TAIEX event, up 9% from 2009.

Number of Experts involved in TAIEX events



Number of participants at TAIEX events



Country of origin of TAIEX experts

Austria	236	4%
Belgium	401	7%
Bulgaria	153	3%
Cyprus	6	0%
Czech Republic	128	2%
Denmark	99	2%
Ireland	79	1%
Estonia	75	1%
France	288	5%
Germany	510	9%
Greece	104	2%
Hungary	77	1%
Italy	348	6%
Latvia	132	2%
Lithuania	110	2%
Luxembourg	21	0%
Malta	34	1%
Poland	204	4%
Portugal	114	2%
Romania	398	7%
Slovak Republic	67	1%
Slovenia	253	5%
Spain	194	4%
Suomi Finland	113	2%
Sweden	120	2%
The Netherlands	292	5%
United Kingdom	460	8%
EU institutions	488	9%
TOTAL	5,504	

INTERNAL MARKET

There were 467 TAIEX internal market events in 2010, up 17% from 2009, of which 306 were in IPA beneficiaries¹ and 161 in ENPI beneficiaries².

Free movement of goods

There were 59 events in the area of free movement of goods, which is one of the provisions of the European Union's single market. Standardisation, conformity assessment, accreditation, metrology and market surveillance were tackled in workshops, expert missions and study visits. A multi-country workshop on European standardisation held in Brussels brought together representatives of national standardisation institutions from almost all candidate countries, potential candidates and neighbouring countries.

Customs union

The customs union is a prerequisite for the single market; this area of expertise attracted 49 requests for assistance in 2010. Workshops were organised on the New Modernised Customs Code in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, on border entry/exit summary declarations in Turkey, an expert mission on customs valuation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and a study visit on application of risk analysis and risk management in customs service for Serbian officials. From the neighbouring countries Ukraine, Lebanon and Egypt sought such assistance to facilitate trade with the EU.

Consumer and health protection

In the area of consumer and health protection there were 43 events. Over 100 participants

from public sector and professional associations attended a workshop on the General Product Safety Directive in Serbia; in Bosnia and Herzegovina TAIEX assisted the Ombudsman on consumer protection. Another TAIEX event assisted the transposition into Croatian legislation of the Directive on Consumer Protection. Ten events were dedicated to the EU *acquis* on organ donation and transplantation, including a workshop aimed at building skills in the tissue and cells procurement and processing procedure among practitioners in Croatia. Expertise was provided to support the harmonisation of the Albanian Mental Health Law with EU legislation. In Ukraine, a workshop was organised to facilitate the introduction of the European emergency number 112. EU expertise was made available to help the authorities in Jordan to transpose the Toys Safety Directive into their national legislation.

Financial services

There were 33 events in the financial services sector. Alignment with the EU financial services *acquis* was supported by a workshop on financial instrument organised in Turkey, while building up capacity in financial supervision was tackled in Ukraine.

Employment and social policies

Thirty-two TAIEX events covered labour legislation, occupational safety and health, social security and inclusion, social dialogue and preparations for the management of the IPA Human Resources

(1) Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Iceland, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey.

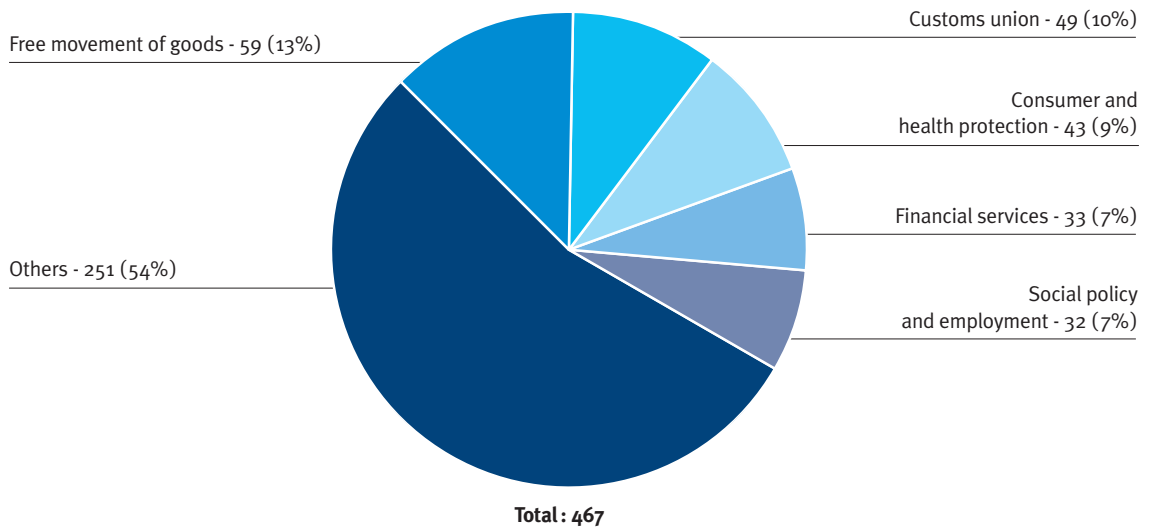
(2) Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Egypt, Georgia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Moldova, Morocco, the Palestinian Authority, Syria, Tunisia, Ukraine as well as Russia.

Development Component. In collaboration with Directorate-General Employment, a large workshop on the free movement of workers and coordination of social security was held in Zagreb, Croatia, and attracted audiences from the Western Balkans. Also, a multi-country seminar organised in Tbilisi aimed to improve social protection and social inclusion in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia.

Beneficiary countries

The candidate countries and potential candidates remained the main beneficiaries in the internal market sector. Turkey and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia were the main applicants for assistance, followed by Serbia and Croatia. Among the neighbouring countries, the most requests came from Ukraine followed by Armenia, Georgia and Egypt.

EVENTS PER SECTOR





SUCCESS STORY

EURO 2012 CALLS EUROPE

TAIEX operation:

Workshop on the introduction of the single European emergency call number “112” - 30 March 2010, Kiev, Ukraine.

Background

The **2012 UEFA** European Football Championship (EURO 2012) will be hosted by Poland and Ukraine between 8 June and 1 July, and the final match will take place in Kiev.



UEFA requested the introduction of the single European emergency call number “112” in Ukraine to guarantee an adequate emergency response in case of public order violation, crimes, fires or medical emergencies for tourists and the population at large.

Legislation for the single emergency call service “112” was put in place in 2006, but training on the different steps of setting up an emergency “112” call system and the correct training of medical staff was still needed.

TAIEX action

Following a request from the Ukrainian Ministry of Health and Ministry of Emergencies, TAIEX

organised a workshop on the introduction of the single European emergency call number “112” in Kiev on 30 March 2010. During the event, the participants had the opportunity to learn about different experiences in the practicalities involved in setting up “112”, including the necessary training of medical staff, in several European Member States.

Achievements

- Ukraine’s Ministry of Health benefited from the expertise provided during the TAIEX workshop to draft a new law on ‘National system of emergency medical care’. One of the main aims of this new law is to replace several existing numbers with a single operational emergency call number “112”.



- Similarly, the Ministry of Emergencies in Ukraine also submitted for consideration a draft

law on “The system of emergency care for the population; introducing the emergency call number 112”. The draft law contains, among others, provisions on: legal framework, main task, organisational structure, centres for receiving messages and operational dispatcher services to ensure the functioning of the 112 system, rights and responsibilities of people who asked for help, financing and logistics.

- Following the TAIEX workshop, the Ministry of Health organised three training seminars for the coordination of the emergency services (doctors, police, firemen), including their coordination in the future “112” system. These seminars addressed simulations of possible emergencies that may arise during the EURO 2012, such as: injuries in the stadium, traffic accidents with multiple casualties, and emergency medical care in hospitals.

TAIEX support in setting up an effective emergency call number “112” helped us significantly in the preparations for EURO 2012, an extremely important happening for the whole country. In particular, the emergency call number “112” is important because it will mean ensuring timely and adequate help to guests, fans and the population in case of emergency. We thank TAIEX for their dedicated and supportive work. ”

Ms. Sinelnik Svitlana

Head of the Unit of Medical Supply
of EURO-2012

Ministry of Health of Ukraine



EU legislation

Council Decision 91/396/EEC on the introduction of a single European emergency call number.

Directive 98/10/EC concerning the processing of personal data and protection of privacy in the telecommunications sector.

AGRICULTURE, FOOD SAFETY, VETERINARY AND PHYTOSANITARY

In 2010, the legislation covered by TAIEX operations included the general food law, official controls on food production under the hygiene package, labelling, feed and genetically modified organisms.

High on the list of assistance provided by TAIEX was advice on control measures for animal diseases and animal welfare, including humane killing and live animal transport. Apart from providing direct peer-to-peer assistance for the alignment of legislation on internal regulations, TAIEX has continued to provide practical training combined with field visits.

Candidate and potential candidate countries

Training was provided on the animal identification system TRACES (Trade Control and Expert System) in Serbia and Montenegro. This is a risk management tool for animal and public health, integrating all veterinary information related to trade in animals and products of animal origin, either in the European Union or originating in third countries.

In the agricultural field, assistance continued to focus on the market organisation of agricultural products (fruits and vegetables, meat and milk) and rural development. TAIEX supported candidate countries in the implementation of the IPARD Instrument for Pre-Accession.

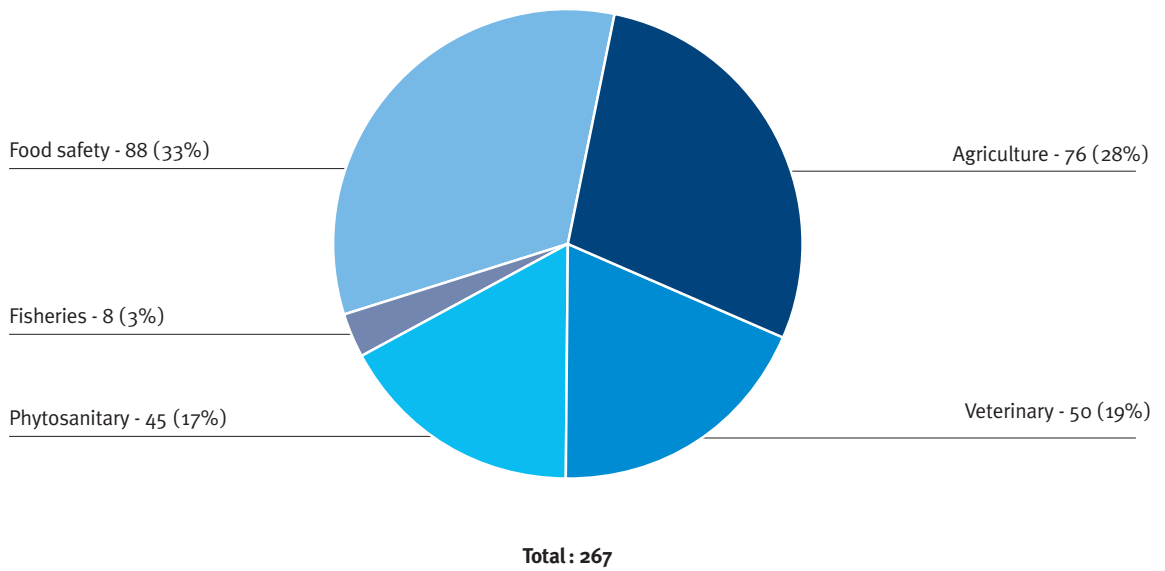
European neighbourhood countries

As for the European neighbourhood countries, 2010 saw a further increase in requests, with specific interest in food safety and plant health.

Both Eastern and Southern ENP partners have benefited from TAIEX assistance to improve their food safety systems. In the 6 Eastern ENP countries TAIEX assistance contributed to institutional reform in view of current or future deep and comprehensive Free Trade agreement processes. In the Southern ENP countries activities included for example assessment missions on Food Safety for the occupied Palestine territory and for Jordan.

The ENPI countries also expressed interest in specific EU quality schemes, including **Protected Designation of Origin (PDO)** and **Protected Geographical Indication (PGI)** for agricultural farm products and foodstuffs and wines and spirits, and **Traditional Speciality Guaranteed (TSG)** for agricultural farm products and foodstuffs. Quality is an issue for every farmer and buyer, whether dealing with commodities produced to basic standards or with high-end quality products.

EVENTS PER SECTOR





SUCCESS STORY

SAFE FOOD IN SERBIA

TAIEX operations

1. Workshop on Veterinary Medicine Products - 29 March 2010, Belgrade, Serbia.
2. Expert mission on residue control in food of animal origin and microbiological criteria in foodstuffs - 29 June - 1 July 2010, Belgrade, Serbia.
3. Workshop on production and control of animal feed - 24 - 25 November 2010, Belgrade, Serbia.
4. Workshop on salmonella - 1 November 2010, Belgrade, Serbia.

Background

The harmonisation of domestic legislation with the EU law is a precondition for joining the EU. In this respect, food safety and the protection of consumer health is a priority for Serbia. The Serbian Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry

and Water Management (MAFWM) is responsible for veterinary, phytosanitary and food safety policies.

TAIEX assistance was requested by Belgrade to help implement the 2010 Food Safety Law primarily by developing food safety measures at all stages of the food chain, the overall objective being to minimise risks wherever they might arise in the production of food.

TAIEX action

In 2010, TAIEX and the Serbian Veterinary Directorate jointly organised several workshops and one expert mission that gathered together more than 300 participants. Besides lectures, these events provided hands-on training and practical insights into the EU's regulatory framework on food safety.

Achievements

- Adoption by the Serbian Parliament of the Regulation on salmonellosis on poultry farms.
- Preparation of guidelines for drafting other rule books on zoonotic diseases.
- Adoption by the Serbian Parliament of the new Regulation on feed hygiene.
- Final phase of the Regulations on Additives and Medical Feed.
- Adoption of the new Regulation on official controls (in line with 854/2004/EC).
- Final phase of the Regulation in line with 882/2004/EC.
- Better understanding of EU requests before the Regulation on microbiological criteria of food enters into force on 1 June 2011.

The TAIEX event that had a great influence on my professional work was the workshop on microbiological criteria. It helped me to finalise the Serbian regulation on microbiological criteria and to have clear understanding of every single item, not only from the legal side, but also giving me the possibility of explaining every rule based on science and EU experience. With the support of the TAIEX expert, I've already prepared materials and presentations on this topic for future trainings for Serbian stakeholders.

”

Ms. Tamara Boskovic

Head of Group for Food Safety

Veterinary Directorate, Ministry of Agriculture,
Trade, Forestry and Water Management of Serbia



EU legislation

Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 28 January 2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law, establishing the European Safety Authority and laying down procedures in matters of food safety.

Regulation (EC) No 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs.

Regulation (EC) No 853/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific hygiene rules for food of animal origin.

Regulation (EC) No 854/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 laying down specific rules for the organisation of official controls on products of animal origin intended for human consumption.

FREEDOM, SECURITY AND JUSTICE

In 2010, TAIEX increased its support in the policy areas of Freedom, Security and Justice and the political criteria of Copenhagen: democracy, respect of the principle of the rule of law, human rights and protection of minorities.

Most of the assistance focused on justice and home affairs matters. Target groups included officials from the Ministries of Justice and Interior of the beneficiaries and those who have to apply the rules in their daily work: judges, prosecutors, police officials, officials from other law-enforcement agencies, border guards, the migration and asylum authorities, customs departments, anti-corruption agencies, etc.

Candidate and potential candidate countries

The countries negotiating accession, Turkey and Croatia, submitted the highest number of applications for TAIEX assistance – almost 25% of all events were for these two countries. Political criteria seminars in Turkey dealt with the Juvenile Justice System, minority rights, and social inclusion of the Roma. Croatian requests focused in particular on accession obligations, legislation harmonisation, Schengen practices, fighting corruption, and civil and criminal law.

European neighbourhood countries

Demand for assistance from the other beneficiaries increased considerably in 2010. Belarus became a

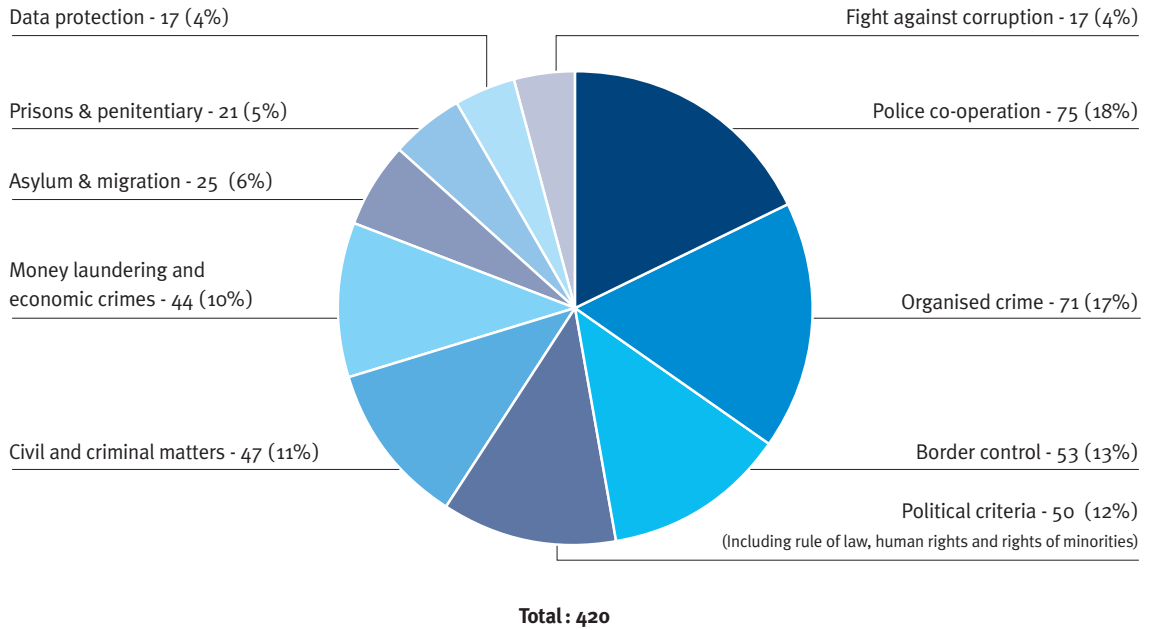
major beneficiary, particularly in the area of border management. The assistance delivered to Moldova concentrated on asylum and migration. There were several workshops on enforcement of intellectual property rights in various Russian towns. Support on a broad variety of topics was also provided to the EU's Mediterranean neighbours.

Priority areas for all beneficiaries

Police co-operation is a key priority for all beneficiaries along with the fight against corruption and organised crime. Support was also provided in the area of anti-money laundering and other forms of fighting financial crime, trafficking in human beings, drug trafficking, and child pornography.

Workshops on the fight against cyber crime took place in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ukraine, Egypt and Libya. A seminar on criminal law issues took place in Turkey and the Western Balkan countries. Croatia received a specific series of seminars in numerous cities on preventing conflicts of interest and on special investigation techniques for prosecutors in order to fight corruption more effectively.

EVENTS PER SECTOR





SUCCESS STORY

COMBATING MONEY LAUNDERING AND TERRORISM IN JORDAN

TAIEX operation:

Workshop on combating money laundering and the financing of terrorism
3-4 October 2010, Amman, Jordan.

Background

Money laundering and terrorist financing are global threats. Measures adopted solely at national or even at Union level will have limited effect without adequate international coordination and co-operation.

Wider co-operation beyond the EU's borders is required to effectively combat these two crimes. So TAIEX assistance was granted to Jordan to share the experiences gained within the EU Member States as to how to effectively combat these crimes.

TAIEX action

The TAIEX seminar in Amman was organised at the request of the Anti-money Laundering Unit of the Central Bank of Jordan. Almost 40 representatives from the Jordanian Customs, Judicial Council, Public Security Directorate, General Intelligence Department and Anti-Money Laundering and Counter Terrorist Financing Unit participated in this two-day event.

Jordan already had national legislation (Anti-money Laundering Law No. 46, 2007) and the corresponding administration in place (Anti-money Laundering and Counter-terrorist Financing Unit). Further assistance was requested to enhance understanding of the importance of combating money laundering and terrorist financing and other related criminal activities such as tax fraud. The seminar also provided an overview of the Financial Crime Information Centre (FCIC), which supports law-enforcement authorities with technical information on financial crime and financial investigation. Jordanian public officials received detailed instructions regarding FCIC membership, which Jordan might take up in the near future.

Achievements

Demonstration of financial investigation techniques during the workshop, and an emphasis on the importance of co-operation between law-enforcement authorities regarding cross-border

flows of money, have resulted in increased co-operation, collaboration and follow-up between the Customs Authority and the Anti-money Laundering and Counter Terrorist Financing Unit. Other tangible outcomes of the above-mentioned workshop include:

- increased number of cases submitted by the Customs Authority to the Public Prosecutor in the months that followed;
- better quality reports due to the recognition of the risks of cross-border moveable money;
- a liaison officer has been appointed to organise coordination and co-operation between the Customs Authority and the AML/CTF unit.

It was an excellent opportunity to learn more, exchange knowledge and gain insight into how the European Union deals with financial investigations and collaboration and co-operation between law-enforcement authorities and foreign counterparts. We were able to benefit from this working experience and enhance the AML/CTF regime in Jordan. Thank you for your distinctive efforts and we look forward to attending future seminars with you.

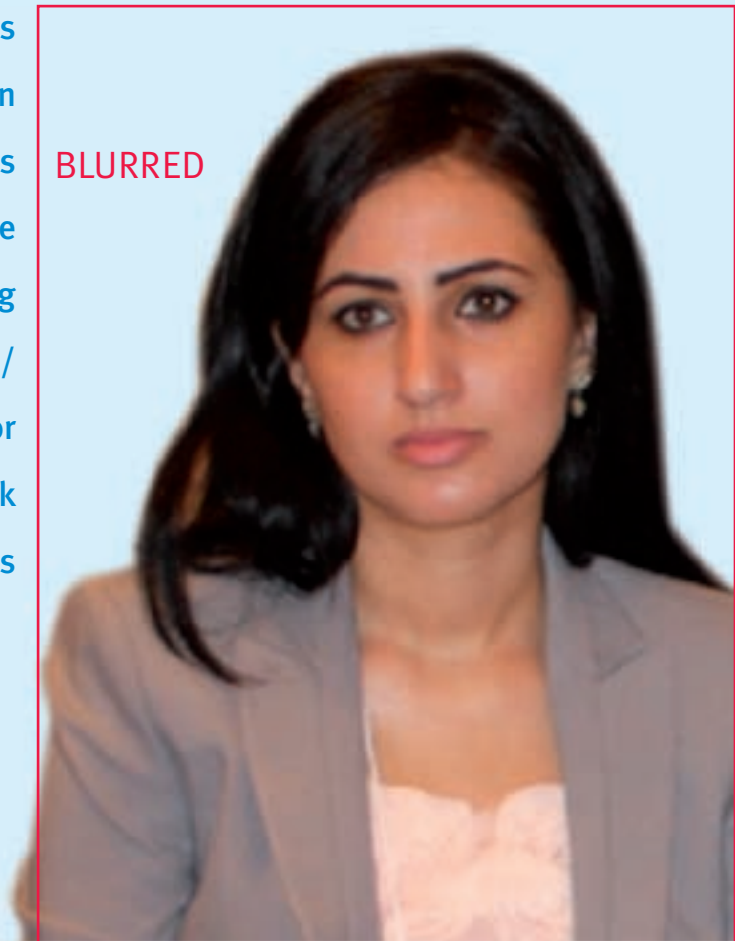
”

Ms. Sarah Nouh

Anti Money Laundering
and Terrorist Financing Unit

Central Bank of Jordan

BLURRED



EU legislation

Commission Directive 2006/70/EC of 1 August 2006 laying down implementing measures for Directive 2005/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards the definition of politically exposed persons and the technical criteria for simplified customer due diligence procedures and for exemption on grounds of a financial activity conducted on an occasional or very limited basis.

Directive 2005/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 October 2005 on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purpose of money laundering and terrorist financing.

INFRASTRUCTURE

In 2010, there were 179 TAIEX activities in support of the transposition, implementation and enforcement of the EU *acquis* on environment, energy, transport and the information society.

IPA countries were the most active beneficiaries, and were involved in more than two-thirds of the total number of activities in the field of infrastructure.

Environment

Environment remains the busiest area, with 41% of the total number of events in the infrastructure sector. The ‘best seller’ in this area concerned the preservation of air quality, followed by the management of water resources and waste water. An increasingly important topic was the limitation of greenhouse gases, notably through emission-trading schemes. Other topics covered included the management of waste (hazardous waste, waste from electrical and electronic equipment, waste from extractive industry or waste from healthcare), the protection of wildlife (habitats and ecosystems), and protection against noise. Measures to protect the environment in general were also covered through actions on environmental impact assessment, environmental liability and environmental control mechanisms.

Transport

The transport sector, covering road, air, rail, maritime and inland waterways transport, was second with 33%. Particularly important was support to the introduction of the digital tachograph, a control device aimed at enforcing fair competition and safety in road transport. All Western Balkan countries received assistance in this field (see the success story). Air transport topics

covered included civil aviation security and provisions related to passengers with reduced mobility. TAIEX events were also organised on road transport safety, as well as safety, maintenance and registration of vehicles for rail and road transport, environmental impact on road transport (global warming and the impact of large road projects), and the transportation of dangerous goods.

Energy

Although energy policy has gained an increasingly prominent role in the EU in recent years, TAIEX activities in this sector remained at a relatively low level. TAIEX assistance focused on key topics, including the promotion of renewable energy sources (for instance, wind energy) and energy efficiency (both in buildings and transport). Assistance was also provided on electricity and gas markets, as well as the security of electricity supply. As regards nuclear energy, particular attention was paid to safety.

Information society

Postal services were in the most demand in this sector, which also includes a wide range of activities, such as e-government, e-administration, e-commerce and e-inclusion, as well as telecommunications (for example, market analysis and universal service), broadcasting (the transition from analogue to digital and the deployment of networks) and information security.

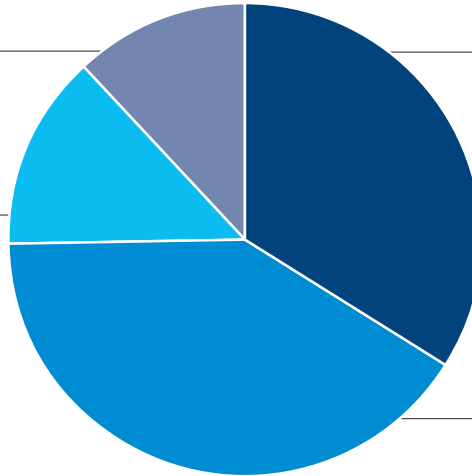
EVENTS PER SECTOR

Information society - 21 (12%)

Energy - 24 (14%)

Transport - 61 (33%)

Environment - 73 (41%)



Total : 179





SUCCESS STORY

IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Background

Driving for long hours is one of the main causes of fatal road accidents. By monitoring the hours that trucks and buses are driven, as well as speed and other security-related data, the digital tachograph is an efficient tool for preventing fatigue and reducing the number of road accidents. It contributes to the enforcement of EU rules on driving times and rest periods and ultimately to road safety and fair competition. This device records all the vehicle's activities securely and accurately on smart cards.

Mandatory for new commercial vehicles on EU roads since 2006, the implementation of the digital tachograph is also a provision of the European Agreement Concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles Engaged in International Road Transport (AETR). Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia have all initiated the process of switching from analogue to digital tachograph. As contracting parties to the AETR agreement and candidates or potential candidates for EU membership, these TAIEX beneficiaries are indeed all involved. Kosovo is also interested.

TAIEX action

This complex change involves a wide range of actors (card issuing authorities, tachograph manufacturers, controlling authorities, road transport companies, etc.). In addition, it comprises various steps from approving a road safety policy at national level to training control officers.

All Western Balkan countries expressed their interest in benefiting from technical advice and support from the EU Member States. In 2010, TAIEX organised one workshop, two study visits and four expert missions in the region. This followed a series of 17 events held over two years. The aim was to assist in the implementation of the digital tachograph at all levels – from the administrative framework to the practical issuing of cards.

Most of the countries in the region have now finalised this process. The last example of successful implementation is the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. In 2010, this country was very active and hosted several TAIEX events:

- One expert mission to determine the country's needs and level of progress;
- One study visit to acquire practical experience on all aspects of implementation (manufacturing, issuing, controlling);
- One expert mission to help set up the beneficiary's own Card Issuing Authority and connect the country to the TACHOnet network (for data exchange between national administrations in charge of issuing tachograph cards).

Achievements

- **As a result, the national Card Issuing Authority became fully operational in December 2010, and the country issued its first 500 smart cards in January 2011.**
- **Once fully completed in the region, the implementation of the digital tachograph will contribute to higher standards of road safety in Europe.**

The TAIEX experts were of incredible help and without hesitation I can say that without their expertise I doubt we could have succeeded in the implementation of the digital tachograph on time.”

Mr Jovan Jancevski

Department for Road Transport and Infrastructure - Unit for Road Transport
Ministry of Transport and Communications
Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia



EU legislation

Council Regulation (EC) n°2135/98 amending Council Regulation (EEC) n°3821/85 and Council Directive n°88/599/EEC.

Commission Regulation (EC) n°1360/2002 introduces all technical requirements for the digital tachograph and tachograph cards. European Agreement concerning the Work of Crews of Vehicles engaged in International Road Transport (AETR), of 1 July 1970 (Consolidated text dated 20 September 2010).

ASSISTANCE TO THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY

The European Union has provided significant assistance to facilitate the reunification of Cyprus by encouraging the economic development of the Turkish Cypriot community. Particular emphasis is given to the economic integration of the island, improving contacts between the two communities and with the EU, and on preparations for the future application of the EU *acquis*.

The European Commission's TAIEX instrument has been used as the main mechanism for delivering technical assistance to prepare legal texts aligned with the EU *acquis* and for preparing for future implementation of the *acquis*.

Delivering technical assistance to the Turkish Cypriot community is constrained by the continued absence of a political settlement to the Cyprus problem. The ongoing negotiations between the leaders of the two communities under the auspices of the UN continue to provide hope for a settlement.

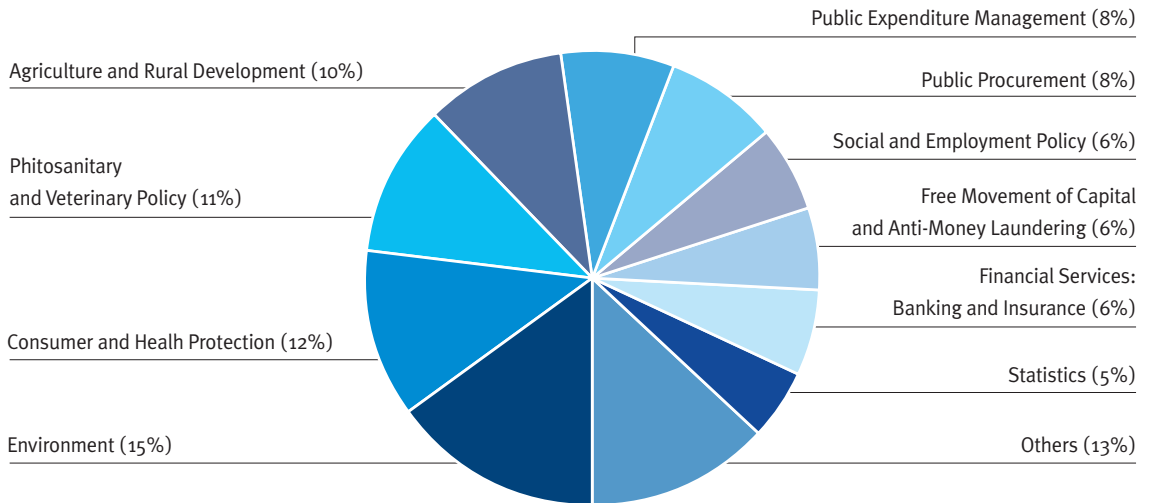
TAIEX assistance activities to the Turkish Cypriot community are centred around the Programme for the Future Application of the *Acquis* (PFAA). Launched in December 2007, the PFAA provides a clear framework for prioritising, planning and delivering technical assistance on the future transposition and implementation of the *acquis*. Assistance primarily takes the form of missions by TAIEX experts from EU Member State institutions and bodies to the northern part of Cyprus to explain the provisions of the *acquis* and to advise on measures to prepare for its future implementation following reunification. Therefore, the training delivered is helping the Turkish Cypriots understand the requirements of the *acquis* and will, after a settlement, assist in its enforcement across the island. Assistance is currently being provided, through the PFAA, in 13 *acquis* areas.

In 2010, assistance under the PFAA moved to a medium-term basis. A total of 97 experts from EU Member State administrations were selected following calls to all TAIEX National Contact Points for experts who were available over a 12-month period. As a result, 2010 saw an increase in number of assistance activities for the Turkish Cypriot community over the year.

As well as assistance by *acquis* sector, TAIEX continues to provide more general training to the Turkish Cypriots to help them develop the future capacity and skills that will be needed to implement the *acquis*. Such assistance includes advice on the principles of legal drafting and alignment, the role of the judiciary, and assistance to improve the management of public expenditure.

TAIEX continues to mobilise EU Member State experts who provide support to trade development across the 'Green Line', according to the mandate set out in the Green Line Regulation (Council Regulation No. 866/2004). Some Turkish Cypriot products – such as potatoes, citrus, fruit and fish – can only be traded across the Green Line if they comply with EU health standards. TAIEX experts check and certify these products to enable trade. Between May 2007 and December 2010, Turkish Cypriot Green Line trade was worth over €19 million.

EVENTS PER SECTOR



KOSOVO

A Push for Institution Building: Medium-term Assistance to Kosovo

Within the framework of TAIEX, a special assistance tool is at the disposal of Kosovo: medium-term expert missions. Between spring 2008 and the beginning of 2011, 41 experts from 19 different EU Member States went to Kosovo to provide in-depth technical assistance.

Medium-term assistance allows for the sending of individuals or teams of experts for up to 120 working days on the ground, via a series of several expert missions. This sequence enables a comprehensive assistance cycle from the planning and inception of a reform project to its implementation, follow-up and training.

The topics which can be dealt with covered the entire range of EU legislation – from air quality to weapons control. Assistance was most often requested in the fields of agriculture, environment, energy, customs and taxation. It also covered areas such as civil aviation security, social welfare, employment policies and cultural heritage. The Parliament, the Ministry of Economy and Finance and the police also benefited from medium-term assistance.



ICELAND

TAIEX assistance needs are identified in co-operation with the National IPA Coordinator in Iceland (NIPAC) who ensures that the applications correspond to the actual needs of the central administration, and that the assistance effectively supports the process of Iceland's preparations for accession into the European Union.

In 2010, the first year TAIEX assistance was made available to Iceland, together with Icelandic authorities TAIEX organised seven scoping missions to assess the needs for technical assistance in the sectors identified as priorities in the Commission's Opinion on Iceland's application for EU membership. The assessments resulted in action plans for TAIEX assistance over a medium-term perspective.

The first TAIEX applications from Iceland were received in spring 2010. Since then, short-term technical

assistance activities have been organised in fields including regional policy, judiciary and fundamental rights, and statistics, as well as on horizontal issues. The number of Icelandic applications grew rapidly in the second half of 2010.

EVENTS PER SECTOR

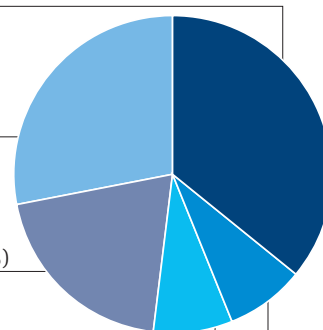
Agriculture - 9 (36%)

Other - 7 (28%)

Regional policy - 5 (20%)

Infrastructure - 2 (8%)

Internal market - 2 (8%)



Total : 25

Iceland submitted its application for European Union membership to the Council in July 2009. On 17 June 2010, the European Council decided to open accession negotiations with Iceland and the negotiations were formally opened in Brussels on 27 July 2010 during the first intergovernmental conference on the accession of Iceland to the European Union.



REGIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMME

The main goal of the Regional Training Programme (RTP) is to provide training to those regional authorities which have a particularly important role to play in putting EU measures and standards into practice.

The programme was thus constructed around the *acquis* chapters which have a high local impact, such as environment, food safety, consumer protection, transport, energy, social policy and employment.

In 2010, four countries were eligible to participate in the RTP: Bulgaria, Romania (January-June 2010), Croatia and Turkey.

End of assistance for Bulgaria and Romania

In July 2010, RTP assistance to Bulgaria and Romania came to an end. However, 42 workshops were organised within the first six months of the year. Subjects covered were public procurement (three events in Bulgaria and 13 in Romania), rural development (three in Bulgaria and five in Romania) and social policy (two in Bulgaria and 14 in Romania), as well as one event on food safety issues in Romania.

WORKSHOPS PER SECTOR

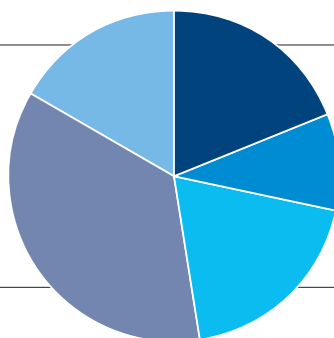
Environment - 14 (17%)

Public procurement - 16 (19%)

Rural development - 8 (10%)

Food safety - 30 (35%)

Social policy - 16 (19%)



Total : 84

New Turkish RTP experts

In spring 2010, 17 new RTP experts were selected for the 'train the trainer' scheme: 11 officials were trained in the field of environment, and six in the field of food safety.

All the newly coached trainers will now apply their knowledge and organise workshops in their regions.

Study visits for Turkish RTP experts

To complete the training of these newly appointed experts, alongside the former RTP experts, 33 RTP experts participated in seven study visits on waste management and food safety, which took them to different host institutions in the European Union.

Workshops in Croatia and Turkey

In Croatia and Turkey, RTP events were organised in the fields of food safety (nine events in Croatia and 20 in Turkey) and environment (14 events in Turkey). Around 100 speakers and 6,065 participants took part in these workshops.

PEOPLE 2 PEOPLE PROGRAMME (P2P)



Launched in spring 2008, the People 2 People Programme (P2P) is one of the three strands of the Civil Society Facility which aims to strengthen the role of civil society and to stimulate civic participation in candidate countries and potential candidates.

The main aim of the P2P study tours is to familiarise people active in civil society with the EU and its institutions, policies, legislation and programmes, and to enhance understanding of the European *acquis*.

The P2P also intends to offer civil society organisations (CSO) an opportunity to interact and network with their national, regional and European-level counterparts and to create new partnerships.

Multi-beneficiary study tours in 2010

As in previous years, most P2P events comprise multi-country study tours to Brussels, Belgium. Multi-beneficiary events aim to foster regional dialogue and cross-border actions between civil society organisations active in different countries. The study tours usually involve three to five civil society representatives from each of the countries covered by the programme.

In 2010, 497 CSO representatives from the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Kosovo) and Turkey attended 17 events organised in Brussels. One multi-beneficiary event took place in Skopje, ending a series of workshops for consumer organisations.

The study tours covered topics including health, poverty, an ageing population, gender equality, Roma minorities, and domestic violence. Themes were

selected on the basis of policy priorities for the region concerned.

Single-beneficiary events in the region

In 2010, the P2P programme also organised nine events in the beneficiary countries. These single-beneficiary events provide an opportunity to discuss a specific subject in detail and were often the only occasions where CSO and public authority representatives could meet to discuss a given topic.

The topics for the single-beneficiary events are chosen by the EU Delegations in co-operation with the geographical units at the European Commission's Directorate-General for Enlargement in Brussels. During these events, simultaneous interpretation is provided, enabling the participation of people who do not speak English.

Visa-liberalisation events in 2010

In December 2010, P2P organised two special events to mark the new visa regime for Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina. Seventy Albanian participants visited Brussels and the EU institutions while 70 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina attended the European Parliament plenary session in Strasbourg, where they met Commissioner Füle and Members of the European Parliament.

TAIEX WEBSITE

AN ESSENTIAL WORKING TOOL

The TAIEX website gives more comprehensive and detailed information on TAIEX operations. General information can be accessed on all events that have been organised and experts' presentations from TAIEX events are available in the 'Library' section.

The TAIEX website is not only a communication and information exchange tool, but is also a working instrument. First, beneficiary countries submit their requests for TAIEX assistance through the website (an online application form is available); secondly, new TAIEX experts can be recruited through the Expert Database.

The website gives access to all the TAIEX databases: Expert Database, Expert Stock Exchange, Progress, CCVista, JurisVista, Avis, Vetlex and Phytolox. Progress made by candidate countries in the legislative harmonisation process can also be monitored.

Expert Database

The TAIEX Expert Database is a key instrument in the daily work of preparing TAIEX events. The expert database registers public officials from EU Member State national administrations dealing with EU legislation and willing to participate in TAIEX activities.

It contributes to the better identification of suitable key experts thus enabling a more rapid response to beneficiaries' requests.

In 2010, more than 5,000 experts were registered in the Expert Database. In addition, the names of more than 700 institutional National Contact Points that play a coordination role within EU Member State ministries have been registered.

Expert Stock Exchange

As a complementary tool to the Expert Database, the Expert Stock Exchange aims to advertise TAIEX events and attract applications from relevant national experts. This electronic platform regularly publishes study visits and expert missions for which an expertise is required. In this way, a given expert who is already registered in the Expert Database will automatically receive these offers and will be able to show interest electronically in a given seminar or expert mission.

<http://taiox.ec.europa.eu/>

TAIEX Databases

Progress Database

The Progress Database organises all EU legislation in a format that allows for a continuous exchange of up-to-date information on newly adopted acts and on the harmonisation of national legislation. All data collected via the Progress Database are shared with the European Commission services and EU Delegations, country missions and the relevant national authorities.

The structure of this database has been used by a variety of beneficiaries as a model on which to structure their national plans for the approximation of the *acquis*.

CCVista Database

CCVista constitutes a repository of all translations of EU legislation produced by the Translation Coordination Units within the beneficiary countries. It is a vital source of information to all internet users who wish to consult legislation translated into beneficiary country languages. Access to the database and the download of available translations is free. Unlike texts printed in the Official Journal of the European Union, the texts in the database, although revised, have no legal value serving only as working documents.

JurisVista Database

The JuristVista database can host translations in the languages of beneficiary countries of a collection of historical judgments by the Court of Justice and the Court of First Instance. The database is a library of translations of key judgements of EU jurisprudence; it is mainly used by the judiciary, academic institutions and law firms. As with CCVista, the texts in the database, although revised, have no legal value serving only as working documents.

Other databases

The TAIEX instrument offered in 2010 to certain categories of officials (in particular, staff in the veterinary and phytosanitary services in the beneficiary countries) free access to some databases developed as commercial products covered by a licence agreement.

Notwithstanding the efforts deployed in recent years by the European Union to codify and reduce its legislation, existing Directives, Regulations and Decisions in the veterinary area are subject to regular modifications. **VetLex** offers password holders direct access to consolidated versions of all EU veterinary legislation, simplifying the daily tasks of professional staff such as veterinary inspectors and border post officials.

Similarly, **PhytoLex** offers consolidated versions of EU phytosanitary legislation, while **Avis** is a database dedicated to animal diseases.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

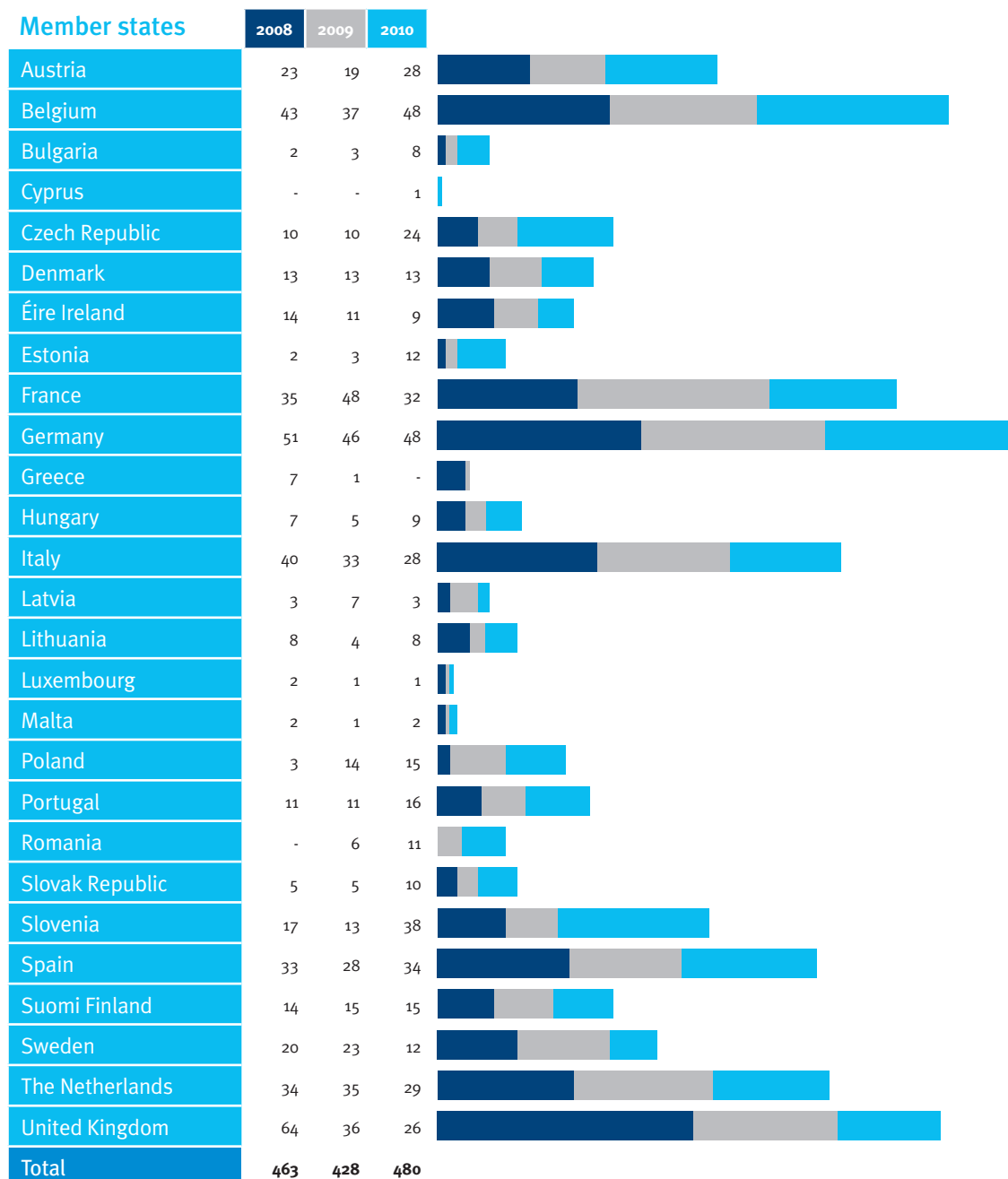
For the practical implementation of TAIEX events, the European Commission has contracted the German company Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ).

As far as funding resources are concerned, additional funds of €8 million were added to the 2010 €9 million

allocation from the IPA 2008-2010 programme. For the European Neighbourhood Policy Instrument, an additional €5 million have been allocated for 2010. For the People 2 People Programme, a new financing decision was made for a sum of €2 million.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Study visits to Member States (host countries)

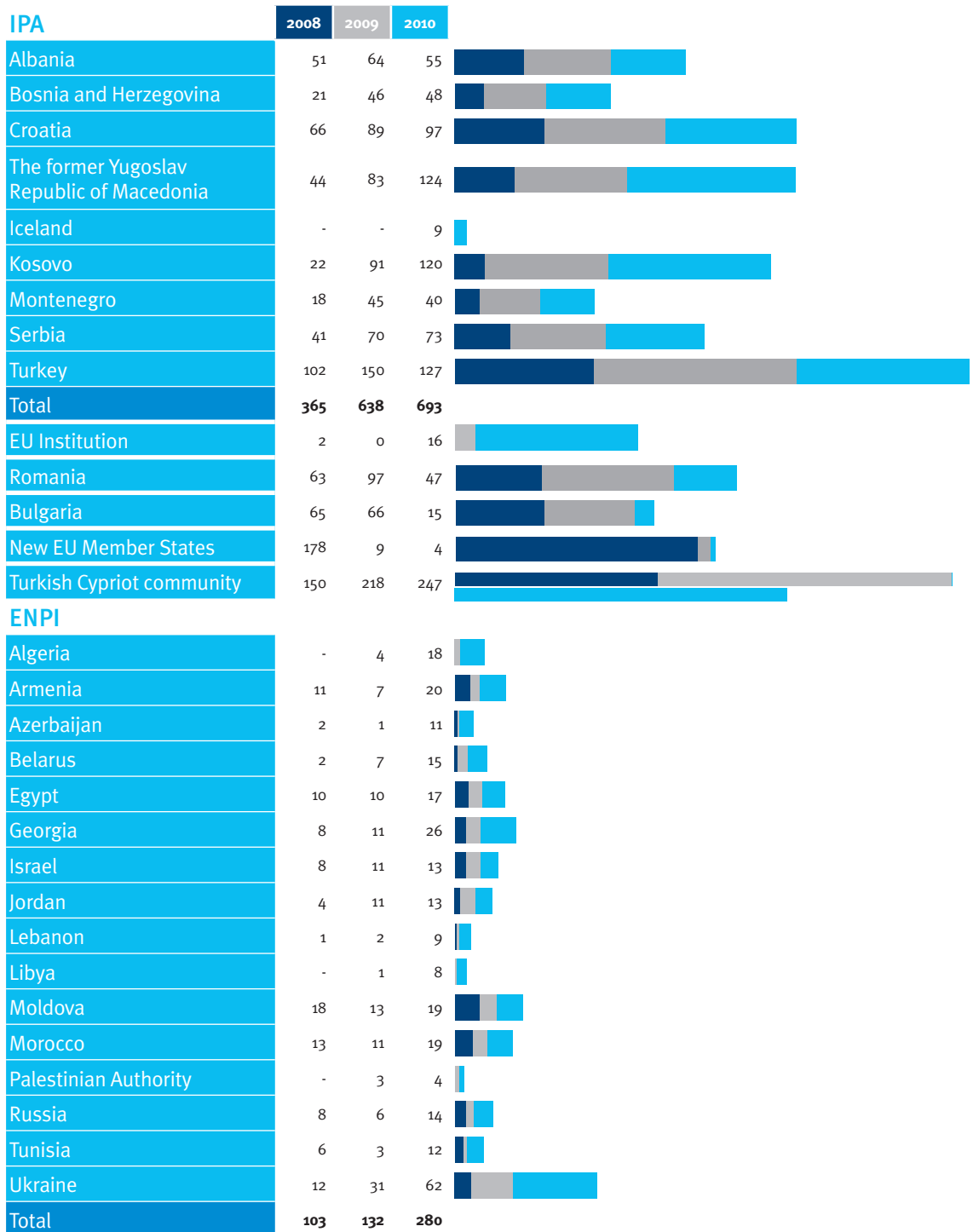


1. Post-accession assistance continued for Romania and Bulgaria until end 2010.

2. Post-accession assistance continued for Member States that joined the European Union in 2004 until 2008, with a total of 191 events

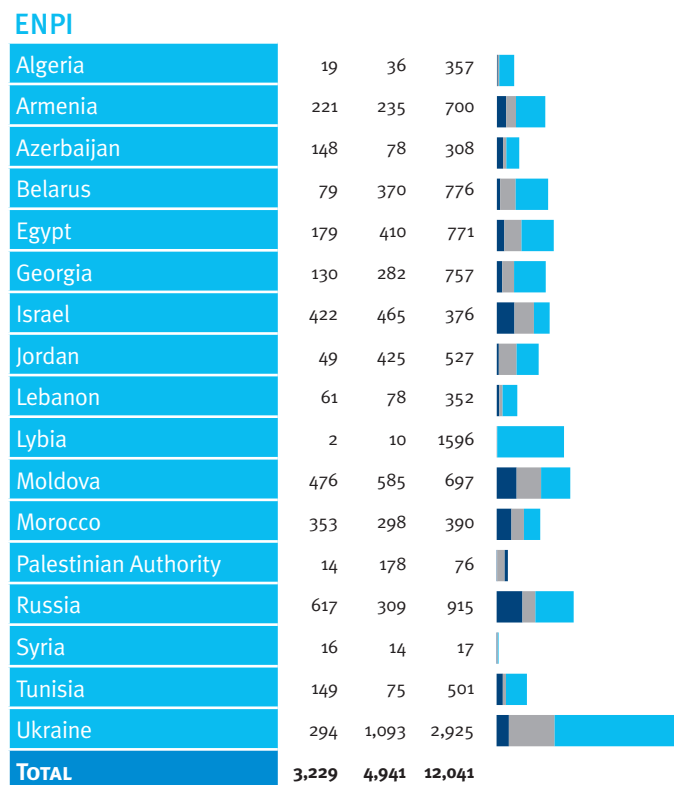
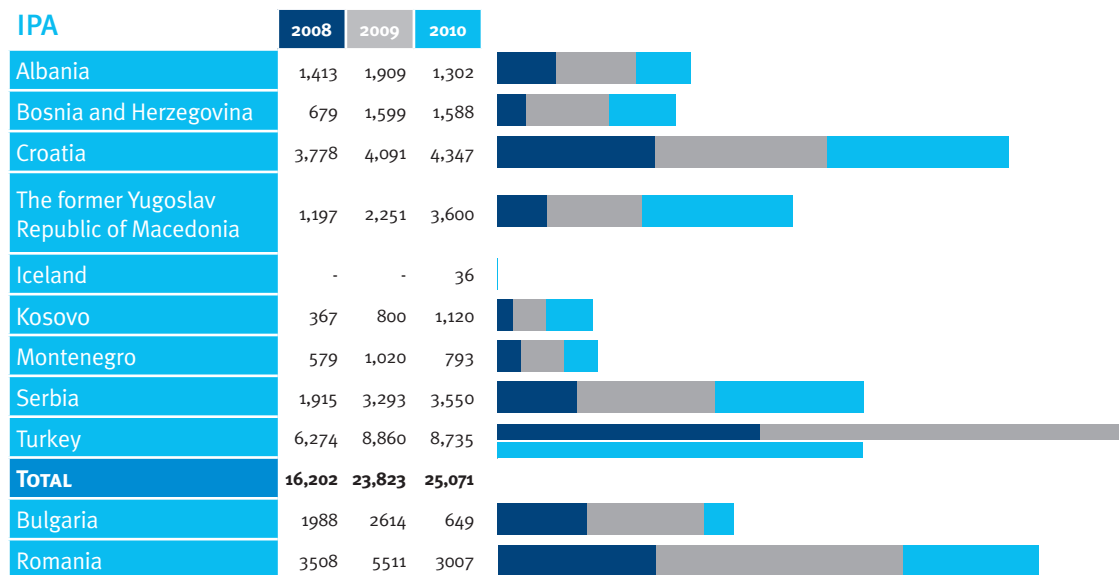
3. Over the three years analysed, Brussels hosted over 250 events (workshops and coordination meetings)

Events per beneficiary (workshops and expert missions)



GENERAL STATISTICS

Number of Participants



TAIEX Activity Report 2010

Brussels: European Commission, Enlargement Directorate-General 2010
NI-AC-11-001-EN-C
ISBN 978-92-79-20177-6

The Institution Building unit (IBU) of the European Commission is responsible for the TAIEX Instrument, Twinning and SIGMA. To know more about us:

VISIT THE INSTITUTION BUILDING WEBSITE

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/how-does-it-work/technical-assistance/index_en.htm

VISIT THE TAIEX WEBSITE

<http://taix.ec.europa.eu>

VISIT THE TWINNING WEBSITE

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/how-does-it-work/technical-assistance/twinning_en.htm

VISIT THE SIGMA WEBSITE

http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/sigma/index_en.htm

or CONTACT THE IBU DIRECTLY

Tel.: + 32 2 296 73 07

Fax: + 32 2 296 76 94

elarg-taix@ec.europa.eu or

elarg-twinning@ec.europa.eu

If you are a Member State public official with expertise in specific areas of the *acquis communautaire*, whether the legislation itself or its implementation or enforcement, and you wish to co-operate with the TAIEX instrument, we invite you to register in the Expert Database:

<http://taix.ec.europa.eu/ExpertDatabase/>

To know more about Enlargement of the EU:

VISIT THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S ENLARGEMENT WEBSITE:

<http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/>

or CALL EUROPE DIRECT FROM ANYWHERE IN THE EU:

Tel.: 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11