LACE-Phare CBC

Draft
Assessment Report (CZ/D)
1. **Profile of the cross-border region:**

With a total area of some 32,000 km², the Czech-German border region is a heterogenous area ranging from mountaineous Northwest Bohemia and the German Land of Saxony in the northern part of the border region (Euroregion Nisa) to Southwest Bohemia and the Land of Bavaria in the southern part (Euroregion Sumava). The territory has a largely rural character with some urban centres (Czech/Bavarian border region: Karlovy Vary, Hof, Passau; Czech/Saxony border region: Liberec, Usti nad Labem, Plauen).

1.1 Definition of the border or cross-border region and Map

*specify administrative units; “cross-border region” if CEC/CEC border or euroregion*

**Definition of the Czech border region:** As defined by the Phare CBC Programme 2000 the Czech border region comprises the following NUTS-III districts: Liberecky, Karlovarscky, Ustecky, Plzeysky and Ceskobudejovický (the latter two concentrating on the NUTS-IV districts along the border).

**Definition of the German border region:** the German border region comprises 18 districts and 4 towns (NUTS-III ‘Kreise’ and ‘Kreisfreie Städte’ as defined by the List of eligible areas, Interreg III Guidelines, Annex 1).

- Bavaria: Cham, Freyung-Grafenau, Hof Kreisfreie Stadt, Hof Landkreis, Neustadt an der Waldnaab, Passau Kreisfreie Stadt, Passau Landkreis, Regen, Schwandorf, Tirschenreuth, Weiden in der Opf Kreisfreie Stadt, Wunsiedel im Fichtelgebirge;

(Insert map)

1.2 Political / administrative structures

*regional/local authorities, etc*

**Czech Republic:** The Czech Republic’s administrative structure includes 8 NUTS-II and 14 NUTS-III regions (Government Resolution No. 707 of October 26th 1998) comprising a total of 72 districts (NUTS-IV). The districts are administered by district councils headed by a district officer...
representing central government. Local government is anchored at the municipality level, and as of 2001 there will be elected governments at the level of the ‘kraje’ (NUTS-III regions).

Germany: The Federal Republic’s regional government structure comprises 16 ‘Länder’ ((NUTS-II) further subdivided into the NUTS-III ‘Kreise’. Local government is anchored at the municipality level.

1.3 Main socio-economic characteristics

*main sectors of economy, unemployment, cross-border commuting, etc*

1.3.1 Population

The total population of the Czech-German border region is about 4.3 million with a population density of 191 inhabitants per km². The Czech-Bavarian border region has stable population figures with a slight overall population increase on both sides of the border. The Czech-Saxony border region has stable population figures in the Czech part with the rural population slightly decreasing and a decrease in Saxony with the exception of the urban centres.

Table 1: The Czech-German border region: population figures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population 31.12.1997</th>
<th>Population/km²</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Czech-Bavaria Border Region</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech border region</td>
<td>1,700,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bavaria border region</td>
<td>1,145,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Czech-Saxony Border Region</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech border region</td>
<td>2,569,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saxony border region</td>
<td>1,373,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CZECH-GERMAN BORDER REGION TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>4,269,163</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Statistisches Landesamt des Freistaates Sachsen, Bayrisches Landesamt für Statistik und Datenverarbeitung, Ceský Statisticky úrad

1.3.2 Economy

Key economic characteristics in the Czech-German border region include:

Czech-Bavaria border region:
- In the Czech border region: new development basis for SMEs through the introduction of new technologies, foreign investment and opening of borders; Stable economic situation in the southern border region with a diversified local economy and a high proportion of foreign investors as well as a strong agricultural sector and growth in the tourism sector; In the northern part decline of traditional industries (textiles, machines); Growth in the service sector.
• In the Bavarian border region: overall declining importance of the agricultural sector; the industry sector has largely completed its restructuring process with some structural reform problems in traditional industries (textile, china, glas, wood processing); important building industry and handicraft sectors; overall increasing importance of the service sector.

Czech-Saxony border region:
• In the Czech border region: restructuring process of traditional industries (especially mining) not yet completed with overall strong decline; Growth potential in some light industries – especially china and glas; Weak agricultural sector; Strong service sector in the Euroregions Labe/Elbe and Egressis (in Karlovy Vary and Cheb mainly in the spa and tourism sectors); SME sector well below the national average (with the exception of Cheb and Karlovy Vary).
• In the Saxony border region traditional industries are in decline and still suffer from the restructuring process (textiles, mining), however, this sector is still dominant in the Euroregions Kruusne Hory/Erzgebirge, Nisa/Neisse and Egressis; Growing importance of the service sector especially in the urban centres – in the Euroregion Labe/Elbe this sector accounts for 65% of all employees; Agriculture sector strongly dependent on EU subsidies with some growth in ecological agriculture; Strong potential in the tourism sector.

1.3.3 Employment

Czech-Bavaria border region:
• In the Czech border region the unemployment rate for 1999 is well below the national average of 7.5% (with the exception of the districts Tachov and Sokolov); Rising unemployment figures reflect the restructuring process in the industry and agriculture sectors – the higher unemployment figures in the district of Sokolov (8.6%) and Tachov (8.2%) are due to job losses in the coal mining industry and agriculture sector.
• Within the Bavarian border region the unemployment figures for 1998 are well above the Bavarian average of 7% - rising to between 10 to 12% in the urban centres as well as the district of Wunsiedel im Fichtelgebirge.

Czech-Saxony border region:
• In the Czech border region unemployment amounts to about 10% with above average figures in the northern districts of Most and Chomutov (16.5% and 15.7 % respectively).
• The average unemployment rate for the Saxon border region amounts to 18.6% with particulary high figures for the districts Löbbau-Zittau (21.5%) and Aue-Schwarzenberg (20.5%).

1.3.4 Infrastructure

Czech-Bavaria border-region:
• The technical quality of transport infrastructure in the Czech part of the border region is in line with national standards, however the capacity of some important road and train links as well as...
border crossings to Germany require improvements. The main transport connections within the border region comprise:
- Hof-Rehau-Selb-Marktredwitz-Cheb
- Bayreuth-Neustadt a.d.Waldnaab-Weiden-Leuchtenberg-Waidhaus-Rozvadov-Plzen
- Bayreuth-Marktredwitz-Cheb
- Schwandorf-Cham-Furth i.W.-Domazlice-Plzen
- Regensburg-Deggendorf-Regen-Bayer. Eisenstein-Zelezna Ruda-Plzen
- Passau-Regen-Bayer. Eisenstein-Zelezna Ruda-Plzen

Czech-Saxony border region:
- Well developed infrastructure network focussed on the urban centres with less developed infrastructure within the regions. The main connections within the border region comprise:
  - Dresden-Dipoldiswalde-Zinnwald/Cinovec-Dubi-Teplice-Lovosice-Praha
  - Dresden-Heidenau-Pirna-Bad Schandau-Hrensko-Decin-Usti n.L.- Lovosice-Praha
  - Chemnitz-Burkhardtsdorf-Annaberg-Fichtelberg-Jachymov-Ostrov-Karlovy Vary
  - Plauen-Oelsnitz-Adorf-Bad Brambach-Cheb-Marianske Lazne-Plzen

1.3.5 Environment

Czech-Bavarian border region:
- Within the Czech Republic the districts along the border with Bavaria count among the least polluted areas and feature a series of nature protection areas including the important nature reserve Sumava/Bohemian forest at the Czech/German/Austrian border (1.630 km²). Environmental problems include the increase in private car traffic in cities; lack of waste recycling; negative effects from strong agricultural use (water and wind erosion; reduced water retention of agricultural lands).

Czech-Saxony border region:
- The districts along the border still suffer from serious environmental pollution (air and water pollution, forests, high concentration of nitrates) caused by mining industries with environmental rehabilitation being a main priority to ensure growth in tourism sector.

1.4 Degree of cross-border cooperation

who cooperates? since when? with support from EU programmes?

Before the political changes in the Czech Republic in late 1989, the Czech-German border region was characterised by its peripheral situation within the two national economies and the lack of cross-border links and experience in cross-border co-operation between the two countries – this is also valid for the Land of Saxony which was part of the former GDR and thus in the same political bloc as former Czechoslovakia. Since the early 1990’s, people on both sides of the border region cooperate within the institutional framework of the Euroregions and the support provided by
AEBR/LACE. More specifically, substantial support for cross-border co-operation is provided under the Interreg and Phare CBC programmes as described below:

1.4.1 Phare CBC

The Phare CBC Programme for the Czech-German border region was launched in 1993 and is – with Interreg - the most important source of funding for cross-border projects in the Czech-German border region: the Phare CBC Programme has allocated a total of 146 MEURO to the Czech part of this border region from 1993 to 2000. Phare CBC funding has focused primarily on large-scale infrastructure projects in the transport, environment and technical infrastructure sectors. More recently, a stronger emphasis was placed on people-to-people actions establishing Small Project Funds and Grant Schemes (e.g. Tourism, SME Development, Social and cultural co-operation etc.) with decentralised selection and implementation systems.

Table 2: Phare contribution under the Phare CBC Programme 1993-1999 (EUR)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>540,000</td>
<td>8,310,032</td>
<td>9,660,385</td>
<td>3,842,381</td>
<td>3,951,569</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>8,314,000</td>
<td>34,618,367</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>759,871</td>
<td>15,314,644</td>
<td>4,988,155</td>
<td>5,091,889</td>
<td>6,367,730</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>5,943,000</td>
<td>38,465,289</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Infrastructure</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>3,217,374</td>
<td>2,011,990</td>
<td>2,757,227</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,681,000</td>
<td>14,667,591</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic Development</td>
<td>316,322</td>
<td>849,512</td>
<td>4,289,550</td>
<td>2,438,307</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>9,893,691</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture and Forest Renewal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>611,422</td>
<td>2,837,190</td>
<td>2,676,137</td>
<td>4,500,000</td>
<td>10,624,749</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flood Protection</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,300,000</td>
<td>1,250,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>2,550,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Resources</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>390,977</td>
<td>4,004,478</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,395,455</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Projects Fund</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>1,175,000</td>
<td>1,870,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>5,880,000</td>
<td>11,125,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical Assistance and Studies</td>
<td>362,671</td>
<td>1,584,046</td>
<td>3,546,028</td>
<td>2,668,708</td>
<td>539,000</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>582,000</td>
<td>9,782,453</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,978,864</td>
<td>25,208,722</td>
<td>24,372,876</td>
<td>23,557,685</td>
<td>24,604,448</td>
<td>7,000,000</td>
<td>29,400,000</td>
<td>136,122,595</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the year 2000 the Phare CBC contribution amounts to 10 MEURO

Source: Ministry for Regional Development of the Czech Republic

1.4.2 Interreg

Interreg IIa

The Interreg IIa Programme for the Czech-German border region was established to promote co-operation in the Czech-German border region and provide assistance for less-favoured border areas: the Interreg IIa Programme has allocated a total of 163 MEURO to this border region from 1995 to 1999.
Table 3: Projects financed under Interreg IIa 1995-1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Czech/Bavaria border region (German part) – Total costs in MEUR</th>
<th>Interreg contribution in MEUR</th>
<th>Czech/Saxon y border region (German part) - Total costs in MEUR</th>
<th>Interreg contribution in MEUR</th>
<th>German border region - Total in MEUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transport, infrastructure and environmental protection</td>
<td>19,418,000</td>
<td>5,770,000</td>
<td>106,064,000</td>
<td>73,225,000</td>
<td>125,482,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Socio-economic development and agriculture</td>
<td>15,108,000</td>
<td>7,339,000</td>
<td>69,987,000</td>
<td>46,864,000</td>
<td>85,095,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human resources</td>
<td>3,936,000</td>
<td>1,968,000</td>
<td>33,795,000</td>
<td>21,967,000</td>
<td>37,731,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development planning, studies and technical assistance</td>
<td>3,740,000</td>
<td>1,723,000</td>
<td>5,859,000</td>
<td>4,394,000</td>
<td>9,599,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>42,202,000</td>
<td>16,800,000</td>
<td>215,705,000</td>
<td>146,450,000</td>
<td>257,907,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: European Commission - Inforegio

Interreg IIIa
For the period 2000-2006 cross-border co-operation will be supported under Interreg IIIa. Total funding allocated to the Czech-German border amounts to 270 MEURO (210 MEURO for Saxony and 60 MEURO for Bavaria1).

1.5 Barriers to cross-border cooperation

*physical and other barriers (eg mountains, border crossings), language/ethnic problems, centralisation, major socio-economic discrepancies on either side, etc.)*

The main barriers to cross-border cooperation are:

- To date, five Euroregions with different levels of institutional capacity (Neisse-Nisa-Nysa, Elbe/Labe, Erzgebirge, Egrensis, Bayerischer Wald/Böhmerwald) are active along the Czech-German border, however, local authorities and other potential applicants as well as regional development agencies on the Czech side provide over little experience in the preparation of joint Interreg IIIa/Phare CBC projects. Stronger decentralisation is supported through administrative reforms, however, the Phare CBC programming process on the Czech side remains driven by Central Government. Recently, both the Czech Ministry for Regional Development as well as the German border regions have launched projects to strengthen the Czech institutional structures involved in cross-border co-operation (e.g. Strengthening of Euroregions; Training for Regional Development Agencies).

- The main support programmes for cross-border co-operation, i.e. Interreg IIIa and Phare CBC are still not sufficiently aligned to facilitate the smooth implementation of joint programmes and projects (e.g. multiannual programming for Interreg IIIa versus annual Phare CBC Programming; Phare CBC requirement of a minimum Phare contribution of 2 MEURO and co-financing of 25% - this represents a substantial amount for regional and local actors making it difficult for

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1 For Saxony, indicative figures based on the first German proposal on the distribution of Interreg IIIa allocations. For Bavaria, final figure announced by the Bavarian Ministry for Economy, Transport and Technology on the 25. 1. 2000.
them to participate in large-scale projects; funding allocations for the Czech and the German sides are not balanced, i.e. considerably higher amounts allocated to the German side of the border).

- Lack of transport connections/border-crossings: The SWOT analysis prepared for the Interreg IIIa/Phare CBC Joint Programming Document revealed a lack of sufficient border crossings, and future projects will aim to extend the network of small crossing points with a view to avoiding lengthy detours, long waiting times and enable direct crossings between neighbouring municipalities across the border.

- Cultural differences and to some extent reservations concerning the EU enlargement process: These include mainly the lack of knowledge of each other’s language and fears with regard to the consequences of the Czech Republic’s accession to the European Union (e.g. impact on the German labour market and foreign direct investment; job losses in the Czech Republic due to EU competition). On the Czech side there are some popular fears with regard to the restitution of property rights.

- On the Czech side, traditional industries (e.g. mining and textiles) which face substantial structural reforms.

2. **Structures:**

2.1 **Cross-border structures**

describe structure: eg, political assembly, secretariat, working groups, etc

describe financial, personnel, etc resources

Five Euroregions are active along the Czech-German border:
- Neisse-Nisa-Nysa (covering parts of Northern Bohemia, Saxony and Poland)
- Elbe/Labe (Northern Bohemia and Saxony)
- Erzgebirge/Krusnöhory (Northern Bohemia and Saxony)
- Egrensis (this Euroregion covers Western Bohemia and parts of Saxony as well as Bavaria)
- Böhmer Wald/Sumava (Southern Bohemia and Bavaria)

2.2 **Activities / services:**

- promotion of cross-border cooperation
  
  eg, brochures/leaflets/newsletters, media relations, workshops/seminars; networking

The Association of European Border Regions (AEBR) has been active for ten years in the border region, and has promoted networking and the exchange of good practice through the pilot LACE-Phare (Linkage Assistance and Cooperation for European Border Regions) project which was supported by the European Commission in 1996-1997. AEBR organised regional workshops to support the establishment of cross-border co-operation structures and prepare a cross-border strategy. In this context the LACE Practical Guide on cross-border cooperation was published in the Czech language and the LACE database was extended to include regions on the CZ/D border.
Support activities also included the provision of advice through regional experts with regard to the development and implementation of cross-border strategies, programmes and projects and the establishment of regional/local level cross-border structures.

Moreover, the establishment of Small Project Funds in the Czech-German border region in 1995/1996 has contributed considerably to the promotion of cross-border activities and the involvement of local actors.

2.3 Awareness of cross-border cooperation issues / knowledge of CBC programmes

including: Interreg, Phare CBC, pre-accession instruments, Str. Funds

Regional and local actors are aware of the Interreg and Phare CBC Programmes as witnessed by the numbers of project proposals for large-scale as well as SPF (Small Projects Fund/Dispositionsfond) projects, however practical knowledge of programme and project development and management needs to be improved. Moreover, regional and local actors have been sensitised to cross-border co-operation issues as well as other EU programmes through their involvement in the programming process for Interreg IIIa/Phare CBC 2000-2006 and the establishment of operational programmes for regional development.

Projects financed to date have sometimes failed to demonstrate a direct cross-border impact, however, the further alignment with Interreg under the new guidelines (e.g. requirement for joint projects) and limited amount of funding available - only well prepared projects with partners on the other side of the border will be selected - should ensure that future projects will have a more genuine cross-border impact.

3. Programme related Activities:

3.1 Strategy development

data collection; surveys; studies; SWOT analysis; consultations; strategy/concept formulation, etc

Comprehensive regional analyses including a common SWOT analysis for the Czech-Bavarian and Czech-Saxony border region have been prepared in the context of the current Programming of Interreg IIIa and Phare CBC for the period 2000-2006 (Preparation of a Joint Programming Document - JPD). Further studies and strategies have been prepared for the Pilot Regional Operational Programmes in the Czech Republic. Regional and local actors on both sides of the border have been involved in this process in a series of regional seminars and through project questionnaires.

3.2 Programming, especially Phare-CBC / Interreg related:

priority setting and definition of objectives; drafting of programme; financial programming; programme negotiation
The Joint Programming Document for the Czech/Bavarian and Czech/Saxony border region will be finalised by May 2000 – with regard to Phare CBC in the year 2000 – the programme including project fiches will be submitted to the European Commission by the 15th of May 2000. In the Czech-German border region the programming process has been strongly marked by the reduction of Phare CBC funding for the period 2000-2002 (on average 10 MEURO per year). With this background there have been discussions to focus the programme in the period 2000-2002 on preparing the border region for EU accession with a trend towards more ‘soft’ and ‘joint’ projects (i.e. involving an Interreg IIIa funded component), e.g. grant schemes for SME development, and less emphasis on infrastructure projects (which can be supported under the ISPA Programme).

3.3 Management of programme implementation

- Small Project Funds:

  secretariat, project selection, monitoring, financial management

The Phare CBC Small Projects Fund (SPF) in the Czech border region is managed on a decentralised level by regional development agencies and other local organisations. Regional Steering and Selection Committees are entrusted with the entire process of selecting and monitoring projects.

Five Small Project Funds with decentralised implementation structures (i.e. Regional Steering Committees and Secretariats) have been established in the Czech border regions. Projects are implemented within the eligible Czech border regions and involve partners from Saxony and Bavaria. For the period 2000-2006 joint Czech/German Small Projects Funds are envisaged, however the arrangements for joint implementation and selection structures have yet to be finalised.

Table 4: Phare CBC Allocations to the Regional Small Projects Fund 1996 - 1998

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nisa Regional Development Agency (SPF Nisa)</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>592,321</td>
<td>290,000</td>
<td>400,000</td>
<td>1,482,321</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Regional Development Agency (SPF Labe)</td>
<td></td>
<td>98,509</td>
<td>370,000</td>
<td>380,000</td>
<td>848,509</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Regional Development Agency (SPF Krusne Hory)</td>
<td></td>
<td>98,912</td>
<td>364,000</td>
<td>380,000</td>
<td>842,912</td>
<td>5,880,000 (not yet allocated by regional SPF)</td>
<td>2,000,000 (not yet allocated by regional SPF)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investon s.r.o (SPF Egrensis)</td>
<td></td>
<td>235,115</td>
<td>471,000</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>706,115</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karlovy Vary Regional Development Agency (SPF Egrensis)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>460,000</td>
<td>460,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumava Regional Development Agency (SPF Sumava)</td>
<td></td>
<td>150,143</td>
<td>375,000</td>
<td>380,000</td>
<td>905,143</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>1,175,000</td>
<td>1,870,000</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>5,245,000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry for Regional Development of the Czech Republic
In the German part of the border region, small project funds were established for the benefit of the Euroregions (i.e. ‘Dispositionsfonds’ for the five Euroregions which correspond to the Czech SPFs), and currently there are discussions to extend the scope of these funds with a view to aligning them with the SPFs on the Czech side.

- other aspects of programme management
  
  e.g. participation in Joint Coordination Committee, information provision to project proposers

For the programming period 2000-2006 a ‘Interreg/Phare-CBC-Monitoring Committee’ will be established to oversee the programming and implementation of the Interreg IIIa and Phare CBC Programmes. The Committee’s responsibilities and structures will be based on the presently operating Joint Co-operation Committee (JCC), however, the specific implementation arrangements, e.g. role of the Steering Committees and other joint Interreg/Phare CBC structures as well as the role of regional and local actors remain to be finalised. At present, the JCC involves regional representatives from the German Länder, Euroregions and other regional actors, however, with regard to Phare CBC the regional actors’ role is limited to the proposal and discussion of projects, whilst the final decision on the selection remains with the Ministry for Regional Development.

3.4 Project development and implementation

project definition; proposal preparation; partnership agreement; financial aspects of project management; contracting/procurement issues; reporting issues

In the context of Interreg IIIa/Phare CBC, projects will be developed by regional/local authorities; NGOs; business support organisations such as chambers of commerce and regional development agencies; as well as educational and cultural institutions. The establishment of a Small Projects Fund with its decentralised project selection and implementation structures has contributed to widen the range of applicants. On the Czech side the projects’ implementation follows the requirements of the Phare Programme as specified in the DIS Manual, whereas projects on the German side are managed in line with Interreg III regulations.

4. Specific / Sectoral Actions (1 Page):

(Describe briefly the main projects which have been implemented or are substantially developed; specify the promoter/manager/partners and source/amount of financial support; explain the cross-border nature of the project; if many projects available, annex full lists of projects with partners from both sides of the border)

4.1 Phare CBC
4.1.1 Economic Development (SMEs, rural development, etc)

Important projects include the SME support fund which co-finances a ‘Small Loans Scheme’ and provides counselling, consulting services and training with a view to stimulating entrepreneurship in the Czech border region (in 1999 Phare CBC contribution of 2 MEUR with a total budget of 3,2 MEUR). In the sphere of rural development a Grant Scheme was established on the basis of the Czech Programme for the Renewal of Rural Areas to support small-scale infrastructure projects (Phare CBC contribution of 2 MEUR and total budget of 4,08 MEUR in 1998).

4.1.2 Tourism

The main tourism projects along the Czech-German border region focus on the establishment and rehabilitation of bicycle trails and tourism information centres as well as recreational facilities. Further tourism projects are realised in the framework of the Small Projects Fund, e.g. the SPF 1999 includes a Phare allocation of 0,5 MEUR for tourism projects.

Table 5: Tourism projects financed under Phare CBC 1995-1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Phare CBC Contribution in MEUR</th>
<th>Total Budget in MEUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Kynzvart, Kladruby, Nisa</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Loket, Nisa, Libochovany-Usti n.L., Ore Mountains</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>3.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Nisa, Liberec-Hradek n.N., Chomutov, Sumava, Zelezna Ruda, Kynzvart</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>3.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry for Regional Development of the Czech Republic

4.1.3 Training, Education and Labour Market

To date, projects in this sector are realised under the Small Projects Fund with some exceptions of more comprehensive projects such as the Grant Scheme for Vocational Training Projects in Most Velebudice (Phare allocation of 3,4 MEUR / 4,5 MEUR total budget in 1997)

4.1.4 Environment

In the programming period 1993-1999, this has been one of the target areas for the Phare CBC Programme along the Czech-German border region. Projects in this sector focus mainly on the establishment, rehabilitation and enlargement of wastewater treatment and sewerage plants:
Table 6: Environment projects financed under Phare CBC 1993-1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Phare CBC Contribution in MEUR</th>
<th>Total Budget in MEUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Moldava, Vepjryt, Cinovec,</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Liberec, Alzbetin, Ceska Kubice, Filipov, Varmendorf, Krompach, Chrustava, Vserub, Hjejnice</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Klatovy, Marianske Lazne</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry for Regional Development of the Czech Republic

4.1.5 Socio-cultural

This is the main target sector for the Small Project Fund, which has supported people-to-people projects with a Phare CBC allocation of 11.1 MEUR (1995-99) – almost 50% of these funds were allocated to cross-border cultural exchanges. Further important projects in this sphere include the following:

Table 7: Socio-cultural projects financed under Phare CBC 1996-1997

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Phare CBC Contribution in MEUR</th>
<th>Total Budget in MEUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Karlovy Vary Theatre Restoration</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>6.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Hejnice International Meeting Centre; Liberec Euro-regional Library</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry for Regional Development of the Czech Republic

4.1.6 Transport (infrastructure, public transport, etc)

The transport infrastructure sector is the second most important sphere for the Phare CBC Programme with projects focussing on the establishment, rehabilitation and extension of road and railway networks:
Table 8: Transport projects financed under Phare CBC 1993-1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Phare CBC Contribution in MEUR</th>
<th>Total Budget in MEUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Moldava-Neurehefeld, Vejprty, Hrensko</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Cheb, Zelezna</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>8.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Vojtanov, Zelezna Ruda, Moldava-Mikulov, Kliny-Mnisek, Rumburk-Neugersdorf, Cheb-Schirnding, Cheb</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>13.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Cheb, Vejprty-Cranzahl, Spicak, Hradek n.N., Decin</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>5.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Hradec n.N., Chomutov, Karlovy Vary, Kraslice, Bela n.R., Zelezna</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>As, Chanov-Bilina</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>11.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry for Regional Development of the Czech Republic

4.1.7 Other infrastructures

Further infrastructure projects include community heating systems, gas supply networks etc. and include the following important projects:

Table 9: Technical infrastructure projects financed under Phare CBC 1995-1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Target Area</th>
<th>Phare CBC Contribution in MEUR</th>
<th>Total Budget in MEUR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Laziste-Volary-Lenora, Skalna-Plesna-Luby</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Hartmanice, Sluknov, Dolni Podluzi, Krasna Lipa</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Nisa, Teplice</td>
<td>6.6</td>
<td>9.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Ministry for Regional Development of the Czech Republic

4.1.8 Other (specify, eg research, innovation, technology transfer)

Projects in other sectors, e.g. co-operation between research institutes, are mainly realised within the framework of the Small Project Fund.

4.2 Interreg IIa

4.2.1 Bavaria
Interreg IIa has supported a total of 123 projects with a total budget of 17 MEURO on the Czech-Bavarian border. Main target sectors include transport (e.g. study on the transport of goods between the Czech Republic and Bavaria and model for the extension of railway transport), tourism, economic co-operation (e.g. the East-West Competence Centre in Marktredwitz), environmental protection as well as education and culture.

4.2.2 Saxony

Interreg IIa has supported a total of 459 projects with a total budget of 146 MEURO on the Czech-Saxony border. Main target sectors include transport and environment infrastructure (84 projects; total budget of 61 MEURO), other technical infrastructure (63 projects; 13 MEURO), agriculture/forestry (60 projects; 26 MEURO), vocational training (91 projects; 17 MEURO), economic co-operation including tourism (87 projects; 15 MEURO) as well as cultural projects (31 projects; 4MEURO).
Action Plan (CZ/D)

(To accompany the assessment report. 1-2 Pages. Indicative contents below. Important: attach annex with list of regional/local practitioners, with full addresses etc)

Actions Specific to the Region (2 Pages):

(“cross-border region” if CEC/CEC border; “border region” otherwise, but co-ordinated with LACE-TAP activities if CEC/EU border)

1. Training workshop
   define priority topics by reference to sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Assessment Report, main participants, etc

2. Counselling / advice
   define priority topics by reference to sections 2, 3 and 4 of the Assessment Report, main recipients of support, etc

3. Study visits
   where to visit / why

4. Other support required
   distinguish whether within the scope of LACE-Phare CBC or otherwise

5. Annex - list of regional/local practitioners
   for LACE-Phare CBC mailing list and as a basis for invitations to regional workshops, counselling/advice sessions, international seminars, etc

Feedback for “horizontal” activities of LACE-Phare CBC:

International seminars, Publications, Networking, etc