



Matra CoPROL

Matra CoPROL (Cooperation with Pre-accession countries on Role of Law) finances cooperation between governmental organizations in the Netherlands and the Matra countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey). The aim is to strengthen the capacity of the governments in these countries. Also, the cooperation must be complementary to the activities of the European Commission in those countries.

In the first phase of Matra CoPROL, three projects have been approved:

- *"Leadership Programme for Security and Rule of Law"* in Albania, Serbia and Turkey;
- *"Promoting a Victim Centred Approach in Trafficking Cases"* in Albania and Bosnia-Herzegovina; and
- *"Improvement of Prison Conditions for Reintegration of Juvenile Detainees"* in Albania, Macedonia and Kosovo.

The deadline for submission of projects for the second phase of Matra CoPROL is 18 October 2013.¹

Project title: "Leadership Programme for Security and Rule of Law"

Countries: Albania, Serbia and Turkey

Implementation period: 1 September 2013 until 30 November 2015

Implementing organizations: VNG International together with The Hague Academy for Local Governance, Center for International Legal Cooperation and the Dutch Institute for Public Administration.

Cooperating Dutch (government) organizations: Ministry of Security and Justice, Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Netherlands Association of Municipalities (VNG). Other organizations that will be involved in the programme are the National Ombudsman and the National Court of Audit.

Benefiting (government) organizations in target countries: Ministries of Justice and Home Affairs, local authorities, police and training institutes for public administration of Albania, Serbia and Turkey.

Budget: € 2,192,481,- (maximum)

Summary: The programme aims to strengthen the democratic leadership skills of (semi-) government institutions in Turkey, Serbia and Albania to ensure public security and human rights and further integration of reform processes to align with European standards.

¹ More information on the second phase can be found in the Grants Policy Framework Matra CoPROL (Second Phase): <http://www.government.nl/issues/matra/documents-and-publications/directives/2013/08/19/grants-policy-framework-matra-coprol-second-phase.html> .

A training programme on leadership and good governance will be implemented to improve visionary and strategic leadership of decision-makers at institutions in the public security sector, supported by a security benchmark in pilot municipalities as tool for improved performance and standard setting. Multi-stakeholder workshops will increase the capacity of government practitioners to include civil society groups in the policy and decision-making process to promote a culture of tolerance.

The Leadership programme is designed to ensure that institutions perform better in implementing and enforcing the law and in involving civil society. The programme tackles political and administrative patterns of behaviour to provide frameworks for policy development and to allow for public administration reforms and their implementation towards meeting European standards.

Project title: Promoting a Victim Centred Approach in Trafficking Cases in Albania and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Countries: Albania and Bosnia-Herzegovina

Implementing organization: Netherlands Helsinki Committee

Cooperating Dutch (government) organizations: Training and Study Centre for the Judiciary (SSR, Studiecentrum Rechtspleging) and the Council for the Judiciary (Raad voor de Rechtspraak)

Benefiting (government) organizations in target countries: Judicial academies, the judiciary and prosecution services

Implementation period: 1 June 2013 until 30 May 2016

Budget: € 964,300 (maximum)

Summary: On paper, legislation on human trafficking in Albania and Bosnia-Herzegovina is largely in place, but in practice, the safety and protection of privacy of victims and witnesses is far from guaranteed. The main goal of the current project is to support judges, prosecutors and judicial academies in making sure the rights of victims of human trafficking are guaranteed during judicial procedures. At the same time the project will strengthen the monitoring function of civil society.

NHC cooperates with Dutch experts and local counterparts to conduct research on existing legislation and implementation. The outcome will feed directly into a training program for judges and prosecutors. A selected group of the participants will be trained to transfer their expertise in applying a victim centred approach in trafficking cases to their colleagues.

Through the cooperation with judicial academies the inclusion of trafficking and a victim-centred approach in the curricula for judges and prosecutors will be promoted. In order to ensure the sustainability of this project, a monitoring system of court cases will be developed and implemented.

Project title: Improvement of Prison Conditions for Reintegration of Juvenile Detainees in Albania, Macedonia and Kosovo

Countries: Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia

Implementing organization: Netherlands Helsinki Committee

Cooperating Dutch (government) organizations: the Custodial Institutions Agency (Dienst Justitiële Inrichtingen) and the Inspectorate of Security and Justice (Inspectie Veiligheid en Justitie)

Benefiting (government) organizations in target countries: Directorates for the Execution of Sanctions and pilot juvenile institutions, Ombudsman Offices

Implementation period: 1 June 2013 until 30 May 2016

Budget: € 1,466,500 (maximum)

Summary: During their time in detention, juveniles in Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia are hardly able to work towards their reintegration into society. In cooperation with local human rights monitors and Dutch experts, the Netherlands Helsinki Committee has devised a project to create prison regimes which enable juveniles to enhance their capacities during their detention.

The project is based on the idea that foundations for successful reintegration are laid within places of detention. A method called YOUTURN will be used to promote a new attitude among penitentiary staff and juveniles, which is more communicative, positive and geared towards the future.

The focus will be on training of prison staff and pilot initiatives with prison management for increased education, labour and vocational training. Specific attention will be given to enhancing the capacities of monitoring mechanisms, including the Ombudsman and local non-governmental organisations. External monitoring strengthens transparency and accountability, during the project as well as after the project has ended.