



WORK PLAN 2010 – 2011

The document was approved during the 13th Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI) Steering Group Meeting on October 29 - 30, 2009, in Sofia, Bulgaria.

The document was developed by RAI Secretariat based on the inputs received from the national Senior Representatives and Chairperson at the Preliminary Meeting, organized on September 24-25, 2009, in Cavtat, Croatia. The Work Plan takes into consideration the vision of RAI partner organizations about the development of the area, as well as the initiatives and activities planned or already undertaken by the other national or international stakeholders. The document represents detailed assessment of the anti-corruption needs both on national and regional level and reflects the areas on the anti-corruption field, which have to be improved. It is in accordance with and further develops the general principles agreed upon within the strategic documents: SPAI Action Plan and Compact (2000), SPAI Strategy for 2003 and beyond (2003), the Ministerial Declaration on 10 Joint Measures to Curb Corruption in South Eastern Europe endorsed by the Ministers of Justice in Brussels (May, 2005), Memorandum of Understanding Concerning cooperation in Fighting Corruption through the South Eastern European Anti-Corruption Initiative (MoU) (April 13, 2007, Zagreb, Croatia) and RAI Work Plan for 2010-2011.

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I. BACKGROUND

The **Stability Pact Anticorruption Initiative (SPAI)**¹ was adopted in Sarajevo in February 2000 to address one of the most serious threats to the recovery and development of South - East European countries. Corruption is highly detrimental to the stability of democratic institutions and considerably undermines the business climate, discourages foreign direct investment and hampers economic growth.

SPAI provided all partners with a **general framework for coordination**, optimization of effort and permanent dialogue with the donor community. Of necessity, the SPAI assumed that ultimately the regional states must themselves take ownership and leadership of the initiative.

Along these lines, at its **September 2003** meeting in Sarajevo, the SPAI Steering Group approved to transfer the Secretariat of SPAI to the region. The Regional Secretariat Liaison Office (RSLO) was established in Sarajevo to promote regional ownership of the Initiative and enhance regional capabilities to lead the fight against corruption in SEE. Six months later, RSLO became operational. Staffed by experts from the region, RSLO was founded as an executive implementing body of the Initiative.

In May 2005, Ministers of Justice from all SPAI member countries met in Brussels and reinforced their commitment to adopt impact oriented measures in order to curb corruption phenomenon in South Eastern Europe. As a concrete step in this regard countries of the region set a challenging calendar to implement **10 joint measures to curb corruption**. Furthermore, member countries committed themselves to provide full support and assistance to the SPAI RSLO.

2007 was an year of transformation and setting new challenges for SPAI. The main transition was made with the adoption of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) opened for signature and ratification by the SPAI member countries during the SEECF JHA Meeting in Zagreb on April 13, 2007. By signing the MoU, the signatory countries ensured the financial sustainability of the Sarajevo based Secretariat of the Anti-corruption Initiative by providing certain annual grants and decided for the first time to raise a Chairperson of the Initiative from the region, elected officially several months later in Podgorica, Montenegro. It was a major step towards a full regional ownership and leadership of the Anti-corruption Initiative, thus demonstrating the involvement of the SEE countries in the fight against corruption.

Since October 9, 2007, through a decision of the member countries, approved at the 11th Steering Group Meeting in Podgorica, the Stability Pact Anti-corruption Initiative was renamed as **Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI)**, in line with the transformation of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe into Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), while the Regional Secretariat Liaison Office became simply the **Secretariat**. It is currently the only center in SEE devoted solely to fighting corruption at a regional level. RAI Secretariat tailors its activities to directly support the member countries to meet the standards and requirements related to the Justice and Home Affairs field in the EU accession process.

In the course of the 10 years of its existence RAI took a **multidisciplinary approach to fighting corruption**, incorporating issues such as the adoption of international legal instruments, promotion of

¹ Initially, SPAI's Secretariat functions were performed by the Council of Europe and OECD.



good governance, strengthening the rule of law, promotion of transparency and integrity in business operations and development of an active civil society.

2. REGIONAL TRENDS AND EXPECTATIONS

2.1. Current state of play

Currently, RAI consists of 9 member states (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia) and one observer (Kosovo under UNMIK). During the **10 years of existence of the Anticorruption Initiative**, the member countries undertook consistent and complex reforms of their institutional and legislative framework aiming to decrease the levels of corruption and ensure the efficiency of their policies.

The rhythm of reforms is now even stronger as **Romania and Bulgaria joined the EU on January 1st, 2007**, while the other SEE member countries focus their efforts towards the same goal. Croatia and Macedonia are candidate states, the others have the status of “potential candidate countries”. Montenegro submitted its application for EU membership on December 2008 and Albania did the same on April 2009.

In this context, **National Anticorruption Strategies** were approved together with action plans underlining the political commitment to address the issue of corruption and state capture.

Furthermore, the legal framework was **mostly harmonized with the European standards** set by the international conventions and **sensitive areas** are now regulated (e.g. conflict of interests, assets disclosure, free access to information, political parties financing, public procurement, money laundering etc.). In addition, in all member countries, specialized anticorruption bodies were created or are now under process of being established, reorganized or strengthened.

With all these efforts the South Eastern countries have still some challenges such as:

- ◆ real and effective domestic harmonization and implementation of the adopted international standards;
- ◆ reform of judiciary;
- ◆ sustainability of public administration;
- ◆ the negative perception regarding the levels of corruption both from public and business community;
- ◆ lack of sound projects dealing with education and raising public awareness regarding corruption;
- ◆ understaffed anticorruption structures and low salaries;
- ◆ role of the prevention of corruption still underestimated while the repression is seen as the only feasible solution;
- ◆ insufficient cooperation between states on regional level.

All RAI members take into account the fact that fighting corruption in an effective way is a key factor for the overall regional development and on this basis they will continue to coordinate their efforts and to work in close cooperation in exchanging information and experience on questions related to prevention and combating corruption.

2.2. The way ahead

The Regional Anti-corruption Initiative will continue to promote at regional and national level the achievement of its objectives, focusing on its **multidisciplinary approach** and providing the **platform for interaction** among the public institutions, non-governmental structures, business community, civil society and international partners.



RAI will continue with its efforts to attract the attention of the international stakeholders on the success achieved by SEE states on the anti-corruption field, as well as to secure their support for the challenges, which have to be met in near future. **The EU integration process has been recognized as the main driving force for reforms** in the region. Therefore within the anticorruption initiative the member countries will make the best use of their resources in fighting corruption to **reach practical results and to optimize the impact** of the adopted measures. As a way of achieving the joint goal of curbing corruption in SEE, the members of Steering Group have set the following objectives for the next two years:

- **full implementation of MoU**, enhancing the decision making role and active involvement of all member countries in line with the **Regional ownership principle**;
- support for the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat as the **only center in SEE** dealing solely with anti-corruption issues.

3. REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE LEVEL MECHANISMS

3.1. Steering Group

Mission and goal description

The **Steering Group** (SG) is the governing body of the Initiative bringing together, under the Chairperson's leadership, the Senior Representatives of the member countries together with the donor community and partner organizations. Within its annual meetings the SG is mainly focusing the attention on assessing the progress reached in achieving the Initiative's goals **and to ensure the coordination and cooperation among different stakeholders**. When necessary Preliminary SG Meeting will be organized to prepare the decisions, which have to be taken during the SG Meeting itself.

Envisaged activities:

- The Steering Group will have **one meeting per year** analyzing the progress reached by the member countries in implementing their National strategies on fighting corruption and the projects included within;
- The Senior Representatives will use the SG (as well as any other opportunity) to provide RAI Secretariat with back-up information on new developments or urgent needs in the anti-corruption area in the respective member state;
- Member countries will support the **increased role of the thematic meetings** by participating or coordinating participation to the events organised by the member countries at national and regional level;
- In the same time the Steering Group represents a practical and useful platform for donor coordination;
- Member countries will make the best use of **alternative and modern means of communication** by convening, whenever necessary, consultations via phone and video/internet conference systems.

3.2. Chairperson

Mission and goal description

The **Chairperson** plays a pivotal role within the Initiative's framework by ensuring the permanent coordination of the activities undertaken by the member countries in implementing the commitments endorsed within the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Strategic documents. In this regard he/she



convenes and chairs the Steering Group meetings and oversees the enforcement of the decisions by the executive body of the Initiative – the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat.

Envisaged activities / Role and responsibilities

The Chairman shall **represent** the Initiative and its member countries in relation with all international partners and **promote** the implementation of the Initiative's strategic objectives.

He/she will actively promote the implementation of the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative strategic objectives by:

- **Convening** once per year (or whenever necessary) the Steering Group Meetings and **chair** them;
- **Fostering** the dialogue with the donors and international partners;
- **Strengthening** the communication with high level governmental officials from the member countries throughout official visits;
- **Chairing** national and regional events related to the fight against corruption hosted by the member countries;
- **Giving strategic guidance** to the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat in order to ensure the achievement of the work plans objectives, as set and approved by the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Steering Group;
- **Presenting to RCC** annual meetings (under request) and whenever necessary within **SEECF Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Ministerial meetings** the activities undertaken in the framework of RAI.

3.3. Cooperation with Regional Anti-corruption Initiative partners

Mission and goal description

A significant role in achieving the objectives of the Initiative is played by the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative **partner organizations**, which are developing and implementing projects in the member countries both on regional or national level. RAI Secretariat – the executive body of the Initiative, has established and currently maintains dynamic and fruitful relations with RCC, ABA-ROLI, UNODC, OECD, World Bank, Transparency International, Council of Europe, OSCE, RACVIAC, etc.

Furthermore, the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Chairperson and Secretariat are tasked by the member countries to actively engage in the process of **consolidating the cooperation with the current RAI partner countries and organizations** and also **to build new partnerships** with other interested stakeholders.

In this regard all necessary measures are to be taken in order to assess, identify and initiate only those activities that **are not duplicating or overlapping with the ones already being implemented by the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative partners**.

Envisaged activities

Under the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Chairman's coordination the following measures are to be taken:

- The Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat will organize on permanent basis bilateral/multilateral **strategic planning sessions with RAI partner organizations**;
- Whenever possible, the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative partner organizations will make the best use of the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat infrastructure and knowledge by **involving the Regional Secretariat** in the activities designed under the regional projects;



- Whenever possible, the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat will **extend invitations to all partner organizations** to co-organize/attend the regional and national events;
- Based on the inputs received from the partner organizations, the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat will permanently update on the Initiative's web site all relevant information regarding the **ongoing or future anti-corruption projects**.
- RAI Secretariat will work for setting up practical relations with all partner organizations tailored towards the elaboration of a common anti-corruption strategy for SEE, which will provoke the donors to support even stronger the anti-corruption efforts in the region.

3.4. Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Resource Center

Mission and goal description

The Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Resource Center is available on internet at www.rai-see.org and it was designed by the Secretariat in order to provide not only the experts and policy makers, but also all the interested persons with tools able to **ensure direct and immediate communication and access to substantial and specialized anti-corruption information**.

Currently the Resource Center includes sections on:

- a. **Specific Features of RAI** – structure, objectives, activities;
- b. **Anticorruption Library** – anti-corruption strategies, relevant legislation, progress reports, International standards, studies;
- c. **News Center** – news regarding the fight against corruption in SEE and all over the world;
- d. **Anticorruption Projects** - project proposals, ongoing projects and archive; Summer School for Junior Magistrates, RAI Internship Program;
- e. **Anticorruption Calendar** – up-coming events on the anti-corruption field at national and regional level;
- f. **Separate Web Page for each RAI member state** – all the relevant information in the anti-corruption area related to the respective SEE country including: legislation, institutions, studies, on-going projects, etc.

Envisaged activities

In order to ensure the further development of the Resource Center and permanent dissemination of relevant information regarding anticorruption initiatives the following measures will be taken:

- Each member state will submit to the Regional Secretariat on permanent basis all **relevant public information** in order to be posted on the respective country web page part of the Resource Center;
- Every 6 months each Senior Representative will **review the content of the Resource Center** and submit updates to the Regional Secretariat by filling the adopted Methodological sheet. Whenever possible, the documents should be submitted both in English and national language;
- If requested, documents may be posted under the **restricted section of the Resource Center**;
- Through the web site the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat will update on regular basis all the necessary information for the member countries in particular the upcoming events, and the legislation database.



4. NATIONAL PRIORITIES

4.1. 10 Joint Measures to Curb Corruption in South Eastern Europe

RAI member states will continue to follow the **10 joint measures to curb corruption in South Eastern Europe from 2005 Brussels' Ministerial Declaration**, keeping them as **guiding principles** to the ongoing process of improvement and development on the anti-corruption field in SEE:

Measure number 1 - Sign, ratify and start implementing the UN Convention against Corruption;

Measure number 2 - Refine and update the existing anticorruption strategies in line with the international conventions, general principles and specific recommendations made by the European Union's institutions and the Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption;

Measure number 3 – Set high integrity standards and control mechanisms to address and reduce opportunities for corruption within the public administration, justice system and political parties;

Measure number 4 - Ensure a fair and competition based business and investment climate by combating private-to-private corruption, promoting corporate liability on the basis of international standards, introducing clear rules for whistle blowing, guaranteeing the independence and celerity of the justice act, as well as setting the practice of “white lists” of companies of demonstrated integrity;

Measure number 5 – Enhance the free access to public information and ensure regular cooperation, coordination and consultation among public authorities, the business community and the civil society by establishing an accountable and transparent institutional framework;

Measure number 6 – Strengthen the bilateral and multilateral cooperation and exchange of information at operational level among specialized anti-corruption bodies in South-Eastern Europe;

Measure number 7 - Support the allocation of sufficient financial and human resources, as well as improved investigative tools, to public sector institutions responsible for the prevention and control of corruption, including governmental, justice sector and independent audit and other oversight institutions;

Measure number 8 - Promote and support research and analysis of corruption phenomena including assessment of the forms, patterns and drivers of corrupt practices in targeted sectors and institutions (e.g. the justice sector, legislative processes, political parties and elections, local government, public procurement, energy, education, health, infrastructure, tax administration, customs, business registration and licensing, banking, insurance and pensions);

Measure number 9 - Develop and disseminate targeted public awareness campaigns designed to prevent and control corruption in specific sectors and institutions, including those targeting the implementation of prioritized reforms and alternatives to corrupt practices;

Measure number 10 – Participate actively within the regional activities conducted by RAI Secretariat, partner organizations and institutions to foster the exchange of best practices and lessons learned on measures to prevent and control corruption, including high level corruption, management of conflict of interest, public procurement procedures, business integrity and role of civil society.



4.2. Annual Progress Reporting

Once per year and at least one month before the Steering Group Meeting, each Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Senior Representative, in coordination with the relevant national authorities, will summarize within a **Progress Report** the actions undertaken on the anti-corruption field: improvement of legislation, establishment of new anti-corruption bodies or strengthening the capacity of the existing ones, on-going or already implemented projects, etc.. The reports will be available for all Regional Anti-corruption Initiative donors and international partners within the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Resource Center (www.rai-see.org).

4.3. Concrete steps and anti-corruption activities to be undertaken in each RAI member state

4.3.1. Albania:

- Undertaking concrete measures in the implementation of the Strategy for Prevention and Fight against Corruption and Transparent Governance (2008 – 2013) and the related Action Plan (2009), including specific legal amendments, structural and organisational changes, investigative capacity building, etc.;
- Strengthening the capacity of the Joint Investigation Unit for fighting economic crime and corruption;
- Fostering the role of the civil society in the fight against corruption by further supporting the organisation and functioning of the recent specialized Agency for Supporting the Civil Society.

4.3.2. Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- Establishment and functioning of the Agency for Prevention Corruption and Coordination of Combating Corruption: Secure all the material preconditions for the functioning of the Agency (including, but not limited to office space/dedicated building and dedicated budget); put in place effective training programs to raise the competency of the Agency staff to effectively and professionally perform their functions; strengthen the training process within the Agency to guarantee that a strong organizational culture is formed around the set of values, stated in the Code of Conduct;
- Implementation of Strategy and Action Plan for fight against corruption: to adopt and implement measures to strengthen institutional capacity, inter-agency cooperation and to provide sufficient human and financial resources to anti-corruption efforts; monitoring the implementation of the Strategy; issuing periodic progress reports;
- Developing a system for whistleblower protection: to adopt and enforce a Whistleblower Protection Act (regulations) and Ministries' Policy to guarantee that no public servants or clients of the public administration, who in good faith disclose wrongdoings, will be victimized; to establish open communication channels in every ministry, other governmental institutions and local self governing institutions to empower their clients or the public servants to report abuse of power, corruption and other abusive acts (an indicative list of these may include sealed mailboxes, dedicated hotlines, special e-mail addresses);
- Adoption and implementation of relevant legislation on confiscation of assets of criminals;
- Strengthen cooperation with national scientific and professional organizations, media and NGOs on the issue of prevention of corruption;
- Establishing and keeping new databases; ensuring access to databases by all Law Enforcement Authorities (LEA);
- Full harmonization of the domestic legislation with the existing international instruments and standards;
- Implement the recommendations made by the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and the obligations resulting from international conventions on corruption.



4.3.3. Bulgaria:

- Adoption and implementation of an integrated national strategy for combating corruption and organized crime;
- Further development of flexible and effective system for prevention, detection and criminal prosecution of corruption;
- Strengthening the capacity of public authorities with competences in the field of prevention and combating of corruption;
- Establishment of high standards of integrity and control mechanisms to curb corrupt practices;
- Introduction of uniform methodology for assessing the risk of corruption in the administration.

4.3.4. Croatia:

- Continuous implementation of the Strategy for Suppression of Corruption and Action Plan adopted in June 2008;
- Strengthening effectiveness and efficiency in monitoring implementation of the Action plan;
- Organising round tables with representatives of NGO and media;
- Further carry out of the Anti-corruption campaign with regular updating of the anticorruption internet site of the Ministry of justice antikorupcija.hr;
- Monitoring and reporting on the progress achieved in the specific area of prevention of corruption: public procurement, integrity in judiciary, conflict of interest in performing public official duties, financing of political parties, access to information.

4.3.5. Macedonia:

- Undertaking concrete measures in the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan for Fight against Corruption;
- Further supporting the implementation of the Strategy for Judicial Reform;
- Implementation of all the measures recommended to Macedonia by GRECO.

4.3.6. Moldova:

- Improvement of National Strategy for Corruption Prevention and Combating;
- Adoption of a new Action Plan for Strategy implementation;
- Institutional reform in public procurement field;
- Setting up an efficient mechanism of cooperation between civil society and public authorities;
- Corruption proofing of legal framework for diminishing the effects of corruptibility factors;
- Corruption risks assessment in all public institution, ending with integrity plans drafting;
- Adopting amendments to assets and income declaration and control mechanism;
- Setting up the institutional framework for an efficient conflict of interest prevention;
- Adoption of amendments to Criminal Code to establish criminal liability of legal persons for corruption offences;
- Proper monitoring of National Strategy for Corruption Prevention and Combating;
- Organizing National Anti-corruption Conference to point out and debate the progress and shortcomings on anti-corruption field;
- Public awareness campaigns for decreasing corruption tolerance of population;



- Analytical study of corruption tendencies, recommendations for their ceasing.

4.3.7. Montenegro:

Having the 10 joint measures to curb corruption as guiding principles, Montenegro will support:

- Legislative and institutional national assessment of the compliance with the UN Convention against corruption;
- Regular assessment of implementation of the new national Action Plan for the Fight against Corruption and Organized Crime for 2010-2012;
- Adoption of the Law on Integrity in Public Sector and implementation of integrity plans and system thereto (within the IPA 2010 national project);
- Broadening of the legislation on the protection of whistleblowers; continuing promotion of corporate liability on the basis of international standards and the regional/international best implementation practice;
- Continuation of good practice in the application of the Law on Free Access to Public Information and fostering regular cooperation with public authorities, the business community and the civil society to that end;
- Strengthening cooperation with regional anti-corruption institutions (signing MoUs with relevant institutions in Albania, Serbia, Romania);
- Strengthening the capacities of Directorate of Anti-Corruption Initiatives (DACI) and other bodies responsible for reporting to the National Commission for Monitoring of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan Implementation;
- Conducting periodic surveys and analysis on corruption in order to define vulnerable areas, risk factors and better design and target anti-corruption activities;
- Strengthening DACI's capacities in designing, targeting and conducting public awareness campaigns on anti-corruption legislation and practice;
- Ensuring participation, as well as facilitating participation of the relevant national institutions, in the initiatives and activities launched by the RAI Secretariat, partner organizations and institutions.

4.3.8. Romania:

- For 2009-2010, Romania will fulfil the obligations assumed within Cooperation and Verification Mechanism (CVM). The Action Plan was set up through Government Decision no. 1346/2007 for Meeting the Benchmarks (BM) established within the CVM of the progress accomplished by Romania in the judicial system reform and in the fight against corruption. The structure of the action plan and main directions are:

BM 1: Ensure a more transparent, and efficient judicial process notably by enhancing the capacity and accountability of the Superior Council of Magistracy (SCM). Report and monitor the impact of the new civil and penal procedures codes. The main areas of priority for meeting the first benchmark are: adopting new procedure codes, unification of jurisprudence, strengthening the institutional capacity of SCM and increasing the accountability of the Council's members, increasing the transparency of the act of justice, improving the human resources policy, increasing the efficiency of the judiciary through the improvement of the infrastructure and improving court management.

BM 2: Establish, as foreseen, an integrity agency with responsibilities for verifying assets, incompatibilities and potential conflicts of interest, and for issuing mandatory decisions on the basis of which dissuasive sanctions can be taken. The main areas of priority for meeting the second benchmark are: ensuring the necessary resources for the National Integrity Agency (NIA) to fulfil its mandate; administrative strengthening of NIA; drawing up and functioning of the system of operative



management and raising the integrity in the exercise of public functions and dignities through preventive activities.

BM 3: Building on progress already made, continue to conduct professional, non-partisan investigations into allegations of high-level corruption. The main areas of priority for meeting the third benchmark are: efficient fight against high-level corruption and strengthening the institutional framework; strengthening the anti-corruption legal framework; ensuring the specialized training and exchange of best practices.

BM 4: Take further measures to prevent and fight against corruption, in particular within the local government. The main areas of priority for meeting the fourth benchmark are: preventing corruption, combating corruption and drafting a coherent anti-corruption strategy at national level focused on the most vulnerable sectors and local public administration.

- Further support for setting up of a national assets recovery office, being an obligation for all EU Member States. The obligation is established through Council Decision 2007/845/JHA of 6 December 2007 concerning cooperation between Asset Recovery Offices of the Member States in the field of tracing and identification of proceeds from, or other property related to crime;

- Promotion within the public institutions the Law no. 571/2004 on the protection of the whistleblowers and an assessment on how the law is implemented.

4.3.9. Serbia:

4.4. Focus Areas for Activities in 2010-2011

Country	II. FOCUS AREAS FOR TRAININGS AND CONFERENCES IN 2010 – 2011	
	National level	Regional level
Albania	At least 2-3 conferences, seminars or workshops in regard to the implementation of IPA Millennium Project.	RAI Summer School for Junior Magistrates from South – Eastern Europe in 2010.
BiH	<p>Develop and introduce pro-integrity / anti-corruption / ethics training programs for the public servants. Training programs should be delivered as a mandatory training by the Anti-Corruption Agency in cooperation with relevant education institution if necessary;</p> <p>Delivering of the pilot training courses – both as seminars for the high-level officials and for the groups of high risk for corruption and online for the rest of the public service; training on integrity / anti-corruption / ethics related issues;</p> <p>Introduction of specialized training courses for Law Enforcement Authorities' (LEA) employees, involved in investigating of corruption and judges in the field of</p>	<p>Whistleblower's protection;</p> <p>Public procurement ;</p> <p>Asset recovery.</p>



Country	II. FOCUS AREAS FOR TRAININGS AND CONFERENCES IN 2010 – 2011	
	National level	Regional level
	corruption and confiscation of illegally obtained assets.	
Bulgaria	Seminars, conferences and trainings, some of them supported by TAIEX; Implementation of the project BORKOR as a part of an integrated national strategy for combating corruption and organized crime.	Seminars, conferences and trainings; Marking the International Day for Fight against Corruption (9 December); Conference on Asset Recovery initiated by RAI Secretariat, UNODC, the Bulgarian Commission for Establishing of Property Acquired from Criminal Activity. Seminars and other events as follow up activities.
Croatia	At least 6 training activities organized and carried out for employees of the Anti-corruption Sector within IPA 2007 project “Strengthening the Anti-corruption Inter-Agency Cooperation”; Round tables with NGOs each 6 months on the implementation of the national Strategy and Action Plan for Suppression of Corruption.	RAI Summer School for Junior Magistrates from South – Eastern Europe in 2011.
Macedonia	Organization of seminars, workshops and training supporting the implementation of 3 on-going projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project for legal implementation and institutional support (donors – World Bank and IBRD);• Support of Macedonian Strategy for Judicial Reform (donor – USAID);• Support of the reform of Criminal Justice Sector (IPA 2009).	Full support, facilitation and participation in the conferences, seminars, workshops or other activities launched by RAI Secretariat or RAI partners.
Moldova	Annual Conference “Progress and shortcomings in combating corruption” (December, 9); Trainings in increasing transparency in public service; Trainings on criminal liability of legal persons for corruption offences; Trainings on corruption risk assessment in public institutions.	Best practices in monitoring policy documents implementation; Best practices in preventing corruption; Protection of whistleblowers; Declaration of assets and conflict of interest.



Country	II. FOCUS AREAS FOR TRAININGS AND CONFERENCES IN 2010 – 2011	
	National level	Regional level
Montenegro	<p>Trainings, seminars aimed at implementation of the new Criminal Procedure Code of Montenegro;</p> <p>Conducting public opinion poll(s) on DACI functions and performance, as a basis for further targeting of public awareness campaigns;</p> <p>Research on corruption (in public administration, education, and/or other vulnerable sectors);</p> <p>Organizing national event(s) on revision of the Code of Ethics for civil servants and employees (workshops, trainings);</p>	<p>Regional event on protection of whistleblowers (conference);</p> <p>At least one event aimed at exchange of experience and best practices among anti-corruption institutions in the member countries.</p>
Romania	<p>Romania is interested to organize national events on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risks assessment; • Raising public trust in the judicial system; • Assets recovery; • Preventing corruption (special focus on local level). 	<p>Regional conference on integrity of judiciary systems (2010);</p> <p>Hosting the RAI 14th SG meeting in 2010;</p> <p>Prevention of corruption;</p> <p>Assets recovery.</p>
Serbia		

5. REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE SECRETARIAT'S ROLE

5.1. Programmatic objectives

The Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat activities will be focused on achieving the following **overall programmatic objectives**:

- To act as RAI executive body and to implement the **specific decisions, policies and strategies** of the Initiative with active support by all member states;
- To identify and to respond to the **individual country needs addressing them** with all means at its disposal;
- To assist Regional Anti-corruption Initiative member countries in the **implementation of the adopted international standards** related to the fight against corruption;
- To enhance **regional cooperation in the fight against corruption** among existing homologue bodies;



- To support the activities of the **other stakeholders** on the anti-corruption field in accordance with RAI specific decisions, policies and strategies;
- To maintain **intense relations with donor community**, to explore the possibility for donor support for anti-corruption projects and to inform RAI member states about the current state of things.

Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat will continue to undertake all necessary steps in achieving its **specific programmatic objectives**:

I. Supporting the process of implementation of UNCAC and Council of Europe Civil Law Convention on Corruption and Criminal Law Convention on Corruption by RAI member countries	➤ Goal: To integrate in the domestic legislation of RAI member states all the requirements of UN Convention against Corruption and the two CoE conventions: Civil Law Convention on Corruption and Criminal Law Convention on Corruption after their ratification by all SEE countries
II. Supporting the process of developing and implementing Regional and National Anticorruption Programs for Raising Public Awareness	➤ Goal: Enhancing the public awareness both at regional and national level about the costs and consequences of corruption
III. Sharing best practices in fighting corruption in Regional Anti-corruption Initiative countries	➤ Goal: To build a regional framework for sharing and exchanging information on the available tools, techniques and means of investigation and prosecution, specific court procedures, case studies and best practices in fighting high level corruption
IV. Assessment of the regional anticorruption needs and specific requirements	➤ Goal: To identify, based on inputs from national level, and address the regional priorities and needs for assistance in fighting against corruption
V. Promoting the public – private partnerships in reducing the impact of corruption within the business environment	➤ Goal: To create efficient framework for coordination and cooperation among various public authorities and the business community
VI. Launching regional networks of practitioners in various areas related with the fight against corruption	➤ Goal: To set up working practical partnerships between homologue bodies in SEE with links for direct exchange of operational information

5.2. Envisaged activities:

- Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat will organize **national and regional events** (conferences, workshops and seminars) in cooperation with the counterparts from the member countries and regional and international partners. After precise assessment of the feed-back information received by RAI member states, the Secretariat will focus its efforts in the following areas:
 - Anti-corruption Strategies and Action Plans (best practices and weak points; current status and challenges; monitoring the implementation, etc.);
 - Anti-corruption Bodies (exchange of best practices; prevention/suppression of corruption);
 - Whistleblower's protection;
 - Conflict of interest and declaration of assets;
 - Asset recovery



- On request from the member countries, the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat will organize **twinning type activities**. These activities are aiming to bring together, within a working environment, practitioners and experts from at least two Regional Anti-corruption Initiative's countries in order to exchange best practices and to achieve some practical knowledge. The most appropriate beneficiaries of those activities would be the newly established and young anti-corruption bodies in RAI member states.
- RAI Secretariat will take the initiative to promote and will support the **establishment of networks of practitioners** involved in the fight against corruption. In this regard, the efforts will be focused in the areas of asset recovery, conflict of interest and declaration of assets, as well as in the judicial system.
- RAI Secretariat will continue to organize the **Summer School for Junior Magistrates from SEE**, which represents an annual forum designed to bring together young judges and prosecutors from RAI member countries. It is envisaged to have as hosting countries Albania in 2010 and Croatia in 2011.
- The Secretariat will support **RAI Internship Program** aiming to provide young graduates from the member countries with the opportunity to work within an international environment and to gain knowledge and experience in anti-corruption related topics.
- RAI Secretariat will continue **to maintain and update the Anti-corruption Resource Center** as unique source of information and knowledge about the current status and the new trends in the fight against corruption in SEE. In 2010, the Secretariat will launch the **Anti-corruption Consultancy Project**, as integrated part of the Resource Center and practical tool to enhance technical assistance to RAI member countries.