



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Hellenic Plan for the Economic Reconstruction of the Balkans (HiPERB) 2002-2011

The Hellenic Plan for the Economic Reconstruction of the Balkans (HiPERB) is an effort by Greece, as a donor country, to incorporate individual development assistance initiatives into a unified plan, thus promoting a comprehensive development policy for the Balkans. It is aimed at modernization of infrastructure, promotion of productive investments, support of democratic institutions and the rule of law, strengthening of the social state, and training of the workforces of the beneficiary countries. A further important aim of HiPERB is to support the European orientation of beneficiary countries with the ultimate goal of political, economic and social stability in the region of Southeast Europe.

Within this framework, HiPERB was drawn up as a five-year Greek development assistance plan for the period 2002-2006 (law 2996/28.3.2002, GG A, issue 62). HiPERB is a development programme worth €550 million coming from the Greek budget and used to fund projects, investments, actions, studies and activities in seven Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, FYROM, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia). It was deemed necessary, however, to extend the programme for another five years, from 2007 to 2011, to enable the seven countries to absorb more funding they were eligible for. Specifically, the Hellenic Parliament passed Law 3530/2007, which amended the duration of HiPERB (L 3530/23.2.2007, GG A, issue 36) and Law 3608/2007 on the joint ratification of bilateral agreements extending the five-year development cooperation programme with beneficiary countries (L. 3608/07.11.2007, GG A, issue 249). With regard to FYROM, the duration in force of HiPERB was redefined as being from 2002 to 2011, as opposed to the previous 2002-2006.

Available funding has been allocated as follows:

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Albania | 49.890.000,00 |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina | 19.530.000,00 |
| Bulgaria | 54.290.000,00 |
| Montenegro | 17.500.000,00 |
| FYROM | 74.840.000,00 |
| Romania | 70.430.000,00 |
| Serbia | 232.500.000,00 |
| <i>Kosovo</i> | 15.000.000,00 |
| Total | 533.980.000,00 |

To date, the seven beneficiary countries have submitted a satisfactory number of applications, mainly concerning major projects/public investments (infrastructure, etc.). Bilateral meetings are held regularly (on the political and technical levels) to reach agreement on individual countries' priorities and the terms and prerequisites for the inclusion, funding and materialization of projects.

The total sum of approved/committed HiPERB funding to date comes to €281,821,535.13 (52.8% of the total budget). These sums are disbursed gradually, in line with the development of and physical progress in the projects. The remaining, unallocated sum currently comes to €252,158,464.87 (47.2% of the total budget). Of the total budget for each country (determined by the individual bilateral agreements), 79% concerns major projects/public investments, 20% is earmarked for private productive investment, and 1% is for the funding of small projects.

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