



The Norwegian Cooperation programme with Bulgaria Individual Project

Building of Communication Infrastructure for the MoI Bulgaria	
Project Promoter:	Partner (main):
Ministry of Interior (BG)	NERA Networks AS, Norway
Type of Applicant:	Type of partner:
State authority	Private company
	Other partners: N.A.
Grant amount awarded:	Total eligible project cost:
EUR 5'000'000	EUR 5'879'662
Grant rate:	Case no:
85 %	2008/100329
Planned project duration:	Project web-site:
1/2008 – 6/2010	

Short project description:

In order to join the Schengen zone in 2011 the Republic of Bulgaria has to implement specific measures (including anti drug and anti organised crime measures) to secure the outer borders. The current telecommunication infrastructure is based on leased lines which comprise outdated technologies that lead to the minimal security and reliability of communication. A pilot phase has been successfully accomplished, demonstrating the possibilities of new advanced technology for the introduction of new more reliable and secure services in the territory of Sofia as well as some of the Schengen borders.

During the current project (second phase of a big project) the main Shengen borders will be covered to a full extent (the Black Sea coast, all border points with Turkey and the main ports and airports in the area). The new system will provide: i) better quality - all digital up to date and reliable equipment which is easier and cheaper to maintain with less human resources; ii) better control, being property of the MoI; iii) realizing the best technologies enabling the introduction of new services at a lower maintenance price, iv) higher quality with a remote control from a single Network Operation Centre (NOC), thus ensuring higher level of security

Expected results:

- Development of a digital communication infrastructure for all units of MoI; integration and digitalization of MoI's communication network
- Introduction of new services such as teleconferencing, VoIP telephony, Video over IP and broadband data transfer.(the new equipment will replace the outdated analogue equipment and will provide with on-line information services)
- Realization of a real time connection to the European structures for Shengen Border Control from the outer Shengen border points
- Training seminars conducted /several trained professionals (increased administrative capacity of the ministry)