

Procedure file

Basic information		
INI - Own-initiative procedure	2003/2021(INI)	Procedure completed
Instrument for structural policies for preaccession ISPA. Annual report 2001		
Subject 8.20.28 Structural funds and instruments		

Key players				
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed	
	RETT Regional Policy, Transport and Tourism		21/01/2003	
		UEN POLI BORTONE Adriana		
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed	
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense		21/01/2003	
		V/ALE SCHROEDTER Elisabeth		
	BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
	ENVI Environment, Public Health, Consumer Policy	The committee decided not to give an opinion.		
	FEMM Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities		23/01/2003	
		ELDR DYBKJÆR Lone		
European Commission	Commission DG Regional and Urban Policy	Commissioner		

Key events			
30/10/2002	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2002)0596	Summary
13/02/2003	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/05/2003	Vote in committee		Summary
21/05/2003	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0199/2003	
19/06/2003	Decision by Parliament	T5-0296/2003	Summary
19/06/2003	End of procedure in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2003/2021(INI)

Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Annual report
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142-p1; Rules of Procedure EP 54
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	RETT/5/19189

Documentation gateway

Non-legislative basic document	COM(2002)0596	30/10/2002	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading	A5-0199/2003	21/05/2003	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading	T5-0296/2003	19/06/2003	EP	Summary

Instrument for structural policies for preaccession ISPA. Annual report 2001

PURPOSE : to present the annual report of the instrument for structural policy for pre-accession (ISPA) 2001. **CONTENT :** this is the Annual Report on the activities of the ISPA fund which covers the calendar year 2001. It provides information on the second year of the pre-accession instrument which was set up as part of Agenda 2000. The report highlights key messages for 2001 : - in 2001, 94 new projects were decided by the Commission. Community funding of these new projects amounts to over EUR 1.1 billion out of a total cost of EUR 2.3 billion to be co-financed by the ISPA Beneficiary states and international financial institutions (the EIB and the EBRD, continue to remain key partners for providing co-financing); - together with the projects already decided in 2000, the Commission approved a total of 169 ISPA projects, amounting to EUR 6.6 billion, of which the EU will finance EUR 3.9 billion (64.4 %); - with the decisions taken in 2000 and 2001, the Commission has already allocated about more than 40 % of the funds foreseen for environmental projects for the whole ISPA period, and more than 60 % that are set aside for the transport sector; - the amounts committed in 2001 were divided fairly equally between the environmental and transport sectors: 52% of the 2001 budget were allocated to environmental projects, and 48% for the transport sector. With these commitments the Commission corrected the slight funding inequality between the two sectors that existed in 2000; - with decisions taken in 2000 and 2001, a total of EUR 59.9 million for 30 TA measures was mobilised to strengthen the project pipeline for 2002 and beyond, including projects for the Cohesion Fund; - with the signing of the first works contracts, 2001 was the first year of real progress on the ground; - ISPA is currently implemented through the Decentralised Implementation System (DIS). With this system, procurement documents are checked in advance (ex ante approval) by the Commission. In 2001, the Commission made technical assistance (TA) funds available to assist Candidate Countries in taking the necessary measures to analyse and improve the capacity of the national implementing agencies to manage Community assistance in a fully decentralised manner. In 2001, the Commission undertook systems audits to assess the extent to which the Candidate Countries have established management and control systems that comply with the requirements defined in the ISPA Regulation.?

Instrument for structural policies for preaccession ISPA. Annual report 2001

The committee adopted the own-initiative report by Adriana POLI BORTONE (UEN, I) on the Commission's annual report for 2001. It highlighted the problem of the absorption capacity of the future Member States and expressed concern that such difficulties appeared to stem mainly from the inefficiency of those countries' administrative structures or from their lack of familiarity with Community procedures. The Commission was urged to use the aid for improving administration to strengthen the decentralised structures, build up experience with partnership mechanisms and improve tendering procedure mechanisms. MEPs also called on the Commission to draw up realistic spending programmes for the next few years which were compatible with the applicant countries' actual ability to absorb funds. They added that it was crucial that the Commission should ensure that the ISPA participating countries provided their proper share of co-funding for projects. The report supported the Commission's efforts to ensure that the applicant countries carried out environmental impact assessments of all ISPA projects and said that this was an "essential universal feature of Community fund-management 'culture' which the new Member States must adopt without fail". MEPs also welcomed the fact that, partly in response to Parliament's requests, the balance between expenditure on transport projects and environmental projects had improved, but said that, in the field of transport, greater priority should be given to the pan-European networking of rail transport, in line with the EU's priorities. The report highlighted the crucial importance of integrating a gender perspective in all ISPA programmes, as well as in PHARE and SAPARD, at all stages in the programming, from the analysis and definition of objectives, through to monitoring and evaluation. Lastly, it called for the development of Gender Impact Assessments.?

Instrument for structural policies for preaccession ISPA. Annual report 2001

The European Parliament adopted its own-initiative report drafted by Adriana POLI BORTONE (UEN, Italy) on the 2001 report on ISPA. (Please see the summary of 21/05/03.) Parliament asked the Commission to make every effort to secure the maximum involvement of private money, so that the Community contribution can genuinely constitute value added to the action taken by the individual Member States and act as a catalyst capable of generating development. The Commission must, however, do its utmost to guard against the danger that public-private partnerships may lead to irregularities or to the illegal funding of private companies. Finally, Parliament stated that expenditure must be closely assessed and the inherent value of individual projects considered, this being Parliament's main parameter for judging the effectiveness of the entire programme.?

