



Annual Programme Report No. 3 Norway Grants 2009-2014

**Programme CZ14 – Schengen Cooperation and
Combating Cross-border and Organised Crime, including
Trafficking and Itinerant Criminal Groups**

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Programme Operator: Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic

Programme Partner: Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic

Donor Programme Partner: N/A

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1. Executive summary

Even though all pre-defined projects within the Programme had been suffering from a very lengthy and problematic process of the public procurements (which was also identified as the specific risk of the Programme) since 2015, the obstacles were overcome, the contracts were signed and the equipment (mostly HW, SW and services) was delivered and successfully installed in 2016.

As a result of the above mentioned, all Outcome indicators were fulfilled and 2 out of 3 even exceeded. Except for one Output indicator (police officers trained in Schengen legislation), also all Output indicators were fulfilled and some of them exceeded during 2016.

For the rest of the implementation period (30 April 2017) of almost all projects, only additional activities are planned in relation to the savings. There are no additional activities for the rest of the implementation period in PDP 5 (the final conference took place on 20 September 2016) and PDP 3 (the final conference will take place on 18 January 2017).

Concerning the programme area specific developments, the most important decisions were made and the legislation was adopted in the previous years – strategic document for a policy of Roma integration (Strategy of Roma Integration till 2020) adopted in February 2015, the Police Strategy for working with minorities 2015 -2017 adopted in September 2015 or the Strategy of the Czech migration policy approved by the Czech Government in July 2015. The programme area specifics are intended to be of a long term character so the situation does not change dramatically every year once the decisions are made and the EU legislation is implemented.

In 2016, three applications for a grant under the Fund for bilateral relations, measure B, were approved so the Project Promoter of PDP 4 could realize 4 activities (study trips) in 3 initiatives. Approximately 30% of the allocated funds were spent for the above mentioned activities. As far as there is no more absorption capacities for the BFB initiatives among the CZ 14 Project Promoters, the Programme Operator decided to extend the range of eligible BFB applicants and prolong the period for submitting the grant applications.

The regular monitoring was being carried out via collecting information from the Project Promoters through the formal monitoring tools - interim project reports (continuous monitoring of the projects) and on-site monitoring visits. In 2016, two monitoring visits (PDP 4 and PDP 5) were conducted, no findings were identified. PDP 2 is the last project to be controlled in the first quarter of 2017.

Two Steering Committees took place at the Ministry of Finance, the Programme Operator, in July and November 2016. The obligatory topic to discuss was the state of implementation of the projects, needs for adjustments, drawing of the bilateral fund, measure B, and some of the needs and recommendations for the Programme Partner (Ministry of Interior) related to the spending of the budget for the PP's management and publicity, as well as the financial resources for the Complementary action.

The closing conference of the Programme is going to be held on 9 March 2017 in Prague. The agenda of the conference will be prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic (PP). Donors and all relevant stakeholders will be invited to the conference, and the results of the projects and conclusions from the conference will be promoted mostly through the social media and the official website. The results of the programme will be presented in an information brochure distributed at the final conference and online subsequently.

2. Programme area specific developments

The main trend in the sector is implementation of the Schengen Information System (SIS, SIS II.), harmonizing national databases of personal and biometric data, establishing national control authorities and expansion of systems of automated controls of electronic travel documents at international airports, i.e. smart borders.

Furthermore, the government of the Czech Republic systematically provides financial funds in the area of crime prevention in the risk municipalities and regions, especially through the Ministry of Interior's Fund for crime prevention. The main goal is to create stable and long-term financial channels to facilitate crime prevention and achieve successful crime combating. International and multilateral funding is, according to the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic, welcome especially within the large and financially demanding projects, e.g. procurement of e-gates or establishing the National Control Authority. Involvement of the foreign parties is appreciated, especially in relation to the exchange of knowledge, best practices and know-how sharing.

An increase of the Ministry of the Interior's budget for the year 2016 was successfully negotiated, among others, related to the increasing number of immigrants in the EU territory and all the security and interior issues concerned. However, statistical data on migration in the Czech Republic show that there is a very slight increase in the number of migrants in the country.

There are 6 pre-defined projects approved within the Programme CZ14. Each of them covers slightly different field of the programme area which is Schengen Cooperation and Combatting Cross-Border and Organised Crime, including Trafficking and Itinerant Criminal Groups. New developments are described in the part below, however, the most important decisions were made and the legislation was adopted in the previous years. The programme area specifics are intended to be of a long term character so the situation does not change dramatically every year once the decisions are made and the EU legislation is implemented.

There has been an important development of legal framework vis-à-vis the Schengen acquis which is the main topic of PDP1. According to the Eighth bi-annual report on the functioning of the Schengen area issued by the European Commission to the European Parliament and the Council in 2015, the Czech Republic finally modified its legislation related to inside the Schengen Area flights in accordance with the Schengen Acquis. Before the modification, Czech legislation allowed to impose penalties on carriers when transporting foreign nationals without the relevant travel documents on intra-Schengen flights, which was not in line with the EU legislation on the abolition of the internal border controls. Since the second half of 2016, there has not been any significant development, nor adoption of the EU legislation in this project area.

In relation to PDP 2, in 2015, a rule regulating certain aspects of arrivals at the borders had been adopted - when arriving at an external border of the Schengen Area, the visa holder's biometric data is checked to confirm the identity in the VIS (Visa Information System) system. This leads to more accurate processing and greater security. This topic is closely related to PDP 2 which aims to establish a National Control Authority eligible to cope with biometric data contained in travel documents. As well as in the case of PDP1, all the significant changes were adopted already in 2015. Implemented legislation will be legally binding for the next upcoming years.

In 2016, the total number of eGates at the Vaclav Havel Airport in Prague was increased – 17 new eGates were purchased, installed and put into full operation in total. New eGates enabled to pass already more than 100 000 passengers per month. Statistically, the Czech Republic is now one of the most efficient users of eGates (along with Germany and England) due to a very high number of

successful passes per one eGate. There has been an increase in efficiency as the standard time of check-out done by staff member is 30 – 40 seconds, while eGate needs only 10-15 seconds for the same task. Thanks to PDP 3, the Prague airport is now more efficient with the control of passengers.

Within the project area of PDP 4, the Government of the Czech Republic ratified a new national Geo Info Strategy which had entered into force in 2015. The document aspired to create good conditions for a geographical data engagement into decision making processes in public administration. One of the main defined priorities based on international commitments of the Czech Republic is a creation of shared capacities and tools for the main parts of Czech security system – including geographical information system. Successful realization of PDP 4 will therefore notably contribute to fulfilment of the main long-term national priorities in the area.

The Government of the Czech Republic approved a strategic document for a policy of Roma Integration (Strategy of Roma Integration till 2020) in February 2015. This document defines 12 strategic goals that should improve Roma community integration into the Czech society. The document is not only focused on excluded part of Roma community but it also focuses on the integrated part of the minority in order to support them and give them more opportunities to develop their capacities. One of the main goals of the document is to tackle negative trends affecting Czech Roma community such as education, housing and social situation. The document would also like to start or fasten positive changes in the area and contribute to lowering of differences between Roma community and majority of the society. The strategy also intends to increase the effective security against discrimination as well as support to the Roma culture and language.

Apart from the national strategy, in September 2015, the Czech Police has approved its own new strategy on how to work with minorities (The Police Strategy for a work with minorities 2015 -2017). One of the main strategic objectives of the document is to build trust between the minority members and the representatives of the Police. The trust should be achieved by recruiting minority members into Police as well as by the improvement of the communication between the Police and Roma minority by the Policemen's education. The PDP 6 objectives are harmonised in relation to both documents and the project realisation contributed to fulfilment of the national strategies.

The Czech Police uses an institute of liaison officer that provides communication between Police staff and a minority in the specific area. He or she also helps with any police investigation connected to minority issues and monitors minority in the area and works for increasing willingness to cooperate on both sides. There are 14 liaison officers for minorities functioning in each region of the country and one officer more for the Czech Republic as a whole country. Thanks to the Norway grants and especially PDP 6, officers will have further opportunities to learn and exchange experience not only across the country but there will also be further international exchange.

Last but not least, a strategic document "Strategy of the Czech migration policy" was approved by the Government in July 2015, setting 7 main principles for the integration policy. Currently, the most pressing need is increasing and further improving the existing reception capacities. This need is due to the current increase of asylum seekers in the Czech Republic as well as due to the second generation of CEAS (Common European Asylum System) which sets further requirements concerning quality of reception conditions.

The immigration crisis in Europe, which had fully developed in 2016 and started to culminate in the second half of the year, influenced the whole Schengen area, police cooperation and also the particular Project Promoters as a result of the migration waves. Personal and time capacity of the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic (the Project Promoter) was affected by the crisis. Personal capacity was weakened, especially in relation to the PDP 1, where police specialists were involved in international police meetings and trainings in order to prepare for the illegal immigrants and therefore were not

available for the activities under the PDP 6. At the end, the police personnel for the activities was secured and the realization of the PDP was not endangered. For the last four month of the implementation of the project in 2017, according to the information from the Police Presidium, in case of emergency when the external borders of the EU or internal borders of the member states must be closed down, the free police units from the Czech Republic will be called to arms and the realization of some of the outstanding activities (meetings, workshops, trainings) could be possibly threatened due to low personal capacities. This is the worst case scenario which is not on the agenda at the beginning of 2017.

3. Reporting on outputs

The Programme outputs are being reached through the implementation of the particular pre-defined projects. For the development in 2016, please see the brief summary for every project and the table below. Only one outstanding indicator is to be fulfilled by April 2017, the others were fulfilled in 2016.

PDP 1 - Schengen Cooperation and Combatting Cross-border Crime

According to the information provided by the Project Promoter in the monitoring reports, more than 90% of the activities were completed by the end of 2016. Regarding the Programme outputs and based on the data from the approved monitoring reports, only approximately 10 police officers are to be trained so all output indicators related to the project are fulfilled (see the table below). Training of the law enforcement officers is planned for the first quarter of 2017.

PDP 2 - Establishing a National Control Authority (NCA)

The realization, which consists in a major public procurement, was substantially delayed due to the problematic tender process. One of the applicants kept submitting complaints with the Office for the protection of competition. The third announcement of the call for public procurement was successful, the NCA was purchased and installed. The process of testing and certification is going to be undergone in the first quarter of 2017.

PDP 3 - The expansion of a system of automated controls of electronic travel documents at international airports (e-gate and full page documents scanners)

The activities within the project were fully completed by the end of 2016. E-Gates were purchased, scanners were distributed to the international airports and all of 30 officers were trained. The Project Promoter spent the savings for another 7 eGates (17 in total).

PDP 4 - Application of a geographical information system for the Police of the Czech Republic in the field

The realization of the project was also delayed due to the lengthy processing of the public procurement by the department of the Police Presidium responsible for the tenders. The process was finished successfully, the contract for supplies was signed and the equipment was delivered and installed in 2016.

PDP 5 - Developing an analytic platform for the use of the information systems of the Police of the Czech Republic to their full capacity

The project was only approved in March 2015 but the project implementation together with all activities was completed in September 2016. The project realization was concluded by the final project conference taking place on 20 September 2016. The platform is fully operational, the users were trained.

PDP 6 - Implementation of the police specialists in the field of police work in relation to Roma minority group in the socially segregated locations

Project activities important for the Programme outputs were successfully achieved already by the end of 2015. In 2016, the Project Promoter finalized and printed out the sociological study. It was distributed during the final conference which took place in Prague on 5 April 2016.

Programme outputs

Output	Output indicator	Baseline	Target	Current
Increased competence of law enforcement officers of the Schengen rules and the use of available technical equipment for cross-border police cooperation (PDP 1)	Number of law enforcement officers trained to prevent and combat cross-border and organised crime (PDP 1)	0	250	250
	Number of participants in work visits (PDP 1)	0	50	40
Efficiency and security of the border control at international airports increased (PDP 2, PDP 3)	The establishment of a functioning National Control Authority (NCA), including the purchase and installation of technology (PDP 2)	0	1	1
	The number of full page document scanners purchased and installed at 5 international airports in the Czech Republic (PDP 3)	0	80	80
	Delivery and installation of e-Gates for automated border checks at the international airport in Prague (PDP 3)	3	10	17
Planning and response time of the police improved (PDP 4, PDP 5)	The number of staff that effectively apply their skills learnt through training	0	45	45
	Number of regional headquarters equipped with the necessary technology for the use of geospatial information (GIS) by police officers in the field (PDP 4)	0	8	8
The knowledge of how to improve the relationship between the police and the Roma communities strengthened (PDP 6)	An integrated secure automated search system for the databases accessible to the Czech Police developed (PDP 5)	0	1	1
	Number of police specialists trained on how to improve the relationship between the police and the Roma communities (PDP 6)	0	40	40
Improved focus on Roma concerns in management strategies (PDP 6)	Number of liaison minority police officers trained on how to improve the relationship between the police and the Roma communities (PDP 6)	0	15	15
	Number of senior police management officials trained on how to improve the relationship between the police and the Roma communities (PDP 6)	0	10	10

4. Reporting on Programme outcome(s)

There are two outcomes containing three outcome indicators within the Programme CZ14, which were going to be reached through fulfilment of the particular Programme outputs and its indicators within the projects. Therefore any development in one of the Programme outputs linked to the Outcomes means also a step forward to the achievement of the Programme outcomes and its relevant indicators.

A recent development in the Programme outputs was designated in the table above (see section 3. Reporting on outputs). Below, please find attached a table dividing the outcome indicators into two sections in relation to each of the two Programme outcomes accordingly.

The first outcome “Development and improvement of structures, systems and technical equipment in order to improve the implementation of the Schengen acquis” is related only to the PDP 3 and is focused mainly on Schengen policy and border security. Significant development was reached in both indicators within the PDP 3 where 17 new eGates at the Prague airport are functional and operational. Compared to the original target provided in the grant application, the target was exceeded by 70%. Another 7 eGates were purchased by the Project Promoter thanks to the savings in the project after the tender procedure was completed and the contract signed.

Owing to the purchase of additional 7 eGates, it was also possible to exceed the second indicator of the above mentioned outcome. In 2016, the final number of passengers controlled by the eGates was almost tripled compared to the target set up by the grant application.

The second outcome “Improved capacity to prevent and combat cross-border and organized crime, including trafficking in human beings and itinerant criminal groups” is focused solely on minority groups (Roma) and was going to be reached through the PDP 6, where the sociological study was expected to be delivered. The data for the study was collected, the text of the document was prepared and printed out. The project implementation was officially terminated by the final project conference taking place in Prague on 5 April 2016. Each participant of the final conference received a copy of the sociological study together with a translated document by the OSCE on Roma issues. The original extent of the project activities of the PDP6 was finished by the end of 2016.

Resulting from the text above, all three Outcome indicators within the Programme CZ 14 were fulfilled by the end of 2016. One of the indicators (number of eGates) exceeded the target by 70%, the other one (number of passengers controlled) even by almost 200%.

Programme outcomes

Outcome	Outcome indicator	Baseline	Target	Current
Development and improvement of structures, systems and technical equipment in order to improve the implementation of the Schengen acquis	Number of travellers (individual border crossings) controlled by the electronic gates (per year)	140 000	340 000	1 000 000
	Number of e-Gates installed and in operation	3	10	17
Improved capacity to prevent and combat cross-border and organized crime, including trafficking in human beings and itinerant criminal groups	An analysis of the effectiveness, the appropriateness and the impact of existing laws, strategies and action plans etc. relevant to policing minorities carried out	0	1	1

4.1. Progress on horizontal concerns

The Programme CZ 14 is created in accordance with the democratic principles, human rights and good governance. Protecting human rights and empowering vulnerable groups, such as minorities and the Roma population, is a horizontal concern for the EEA and Norway Grants in the Czech Republic. The Programme promotes a multicultural dialogue and integration of minorities.

The Programme approaches the horizontal concerns and deals with them especially through the pre-defined project no. 6 (PDP 6) which is dealing with the Roma issue and social inclusion, and discusses how the benefits of the project can be maximised so the Roma community is supported.

The PDP 6 is widely supported by the management of the Police Presidium as well as by the officers involved in the trainings and other activities of the implementation. The project is also highly appreciated by the professional public.

Realization of PDP 6 secured exactly what was stipulated by the Strategy for a work with minorities 2015-2017 by the Czech Police and the Strategy of Roma Integration till 2020 by the Czech government, which is building trust through recruiting minority members into Police as well as by the improvement of the communication between the Police and Roma minority by the Policemen's education and also increasing the effective security against discrimination as well as support to the Roma culture and language. The PDP 6 objectives are harmonised in relation to both documents and the project realisation contributed to fulfilment of the national strategies.

As referred to the horizontal concerns above, the Czech Police now uses an institute of liaison officer that provides communication between Police staff and a minority in the specific area. He or she also helps with any police investigation connected to minority issues and monitors minority in the area and works for increasing willingness to cooperate on both sides. There are 14 liaison officers for minorities functioning in each region of the country and one officer more for the Czech Republic as a whole country. Thanks to the Norway grants and especially PDP 6, officers have opportunities to learn and exchange experience not only across the country but there will also be further international exchange.

Any future project similar to PDP 6 related to Roma minorities would be very appreciated by the Project Promoter, Police and government of the Czech Republic as well as the target groups of the project, i.e. officials for dealing with minority groups and the Roma communities themselves.

The most important event within the project was an international final conference of the project taking place in Prague, Czech Republic, on 5 April 2016. More than 120 attendees were present. Representatives of the Norwegian embassy in the Czech Republic attended the workshop, as well as Slovakian, Bulgarian and British police units. The Czech project promoter presented the results and outputs of the project, foreign police units presented and shared experience on working with Roma minority, especially how the Roma minority is approached in each country and outlined examples of best practices. The representative of the OSCE-ODIHR presented experience with the current Roma situation in several European countries, described positive and negative examples of the police cooperation towards the Roma inclusion and very highly appreciated the realization and cooperation within the project PDP 6.

5. Project selection

The Programme CZ14 consists of 6 pre-defined projects. Verification of 5 of them was terminated before the end of 2014, verification of PDP5 was completed at the beginning of 2015. Since then, the projects are being implemented continuously. The allocation for the Programme had been absorbed by the 6 pre-defined projects, so there was not any need of another project selection.

The only possibility to apply for a grant within the Programme CZ 14 is the Fund for bilateral relations, measure B, at the time being. Three applications by the Project Promoter of PDP 4 were submitted and approved subsequently. For more details, please see section 6. Progress of bilateral relations.

6. Progress of bilateral relations

The Programme Operator set aside EUR 94,000 to the fund for bilateral relations. The fund can be used for bilateral activities, inter alia on joint activities related to smart borders, on the prevention of crime, especially crime committed by juveniles etc. Bilateral fund can be used to finance joint activities with an institution from Norway, international organisation such as the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), Council of Europe (CoE) or other.

No funds were drawn within the Measure A of the Fund for bilateral relations therefore the whole budget can be spent on the Measure B. The call for proposals under the Bilateral fund, Measure B, was launched in February 2015. The Programme implementation coordinator from the Police Presidium introduced an indicative plan for BFB drawing by the Project Promoters at the fourth steering committee on 19 July 2016. A few BFB applications were submitted, 3 of them were approved and approx. 30% of the allocated funds were spent during 2016.

First two projects with bilateral activities are PDP 2 and PDP 4. Project Promoter of PDP2 submitted a draft of the application already at the end of 2015 in which a plan for a reciprocal visit for units of the Norwegian Police in the Czech Republic was stated. It was based on result of the previous invitation and cooperation within the project activities between the Czech and Norwegian Police. The visit was going to take place right after the approval of the grant application, i.e. first quarter of 2016. Unfortunately, in the meantime after the submission of the application, the Norwegian police unit underwent a reorganization of the unit structure, the negotiations became slower and eventually faded out completely. According to the information from the Project Promoter, there is no possibility the BFB visit could be renegotiated and realized in 2017.

Project Promoter of PDP4 was planning a series of international visits in cooperation with EUROPOL. They intended to visit Canada, Iceland, Estonia, Netherlands and a few others. Norwegian police units involved in geographical information systems were also addressed but did not express interest in participation in the bilateral activity. The genuine plan for the activity is to present the PDP4 and Norway grants, as well as exchange of know-how and experience. The project promoter submitted applications for 3 initiatives including 4 activities consisting in four visits in cooperation with the EUROPOL organization. The applications were approved in the first quarter of 2016 and successful study trips took place in Canada, Iceland, Estonia and Netherlands.

The Programme Operator revised and prepared the new Guidelines for applicants and promoters within the Bilateral Fund on the Programme Level, Measure B, in December 2016. Update concerned mainly the possibility of other institutions from the programme area (other than the Project Promoter(s)) to be also eligible to apply for a grant under the BFB, and the extension of deadline for submission of proposals till 31 July 2017. The Call for proposals was updated accordingly and the information for the

Project Promoters of the CZ 14 will be published on the website, as well as in the IS CEDR, in February 2017.

An evaluation of bilateral cooperation within the EEA/Norwegian grants has been launched by the PO in November 2015. The evaluation was carried out by an external contractor. An analysis was carried out via questionnaire survey and interviews with selected stakeholders. The results from the evaluation were presented in the Czech Republic at the end of February 2016. All involved participants were informed about the results. The returned feedback from the donor state project partners (for all programmes) amounted to 80 %.

After the fifth Steering Committee in November 2016, the Programme Operator decided to transfer the remaining funds in amount of approx. EUR 18 000 from the budgetary section Complementary Action to the Fund for bilateral relations, measure B. The transfer will be finalized in February 2017.

As far as there are no more absorption capacities for the BFB initiatives among the CZ 14 Project Promoters, negotiations with a subsidiary of the Ministry of Interior was opened concerning the initiatives funded by the BFB in order to spend the amount allocated to the fund.

6.1. Complementary action

Funds are set aside for the complementary action within the Programme in amount of EUR 20 000. The funding can be used for joint activities with other beneficiary states of Norway Grants, especially on activities related to improving cooperation between the police and the Roma communities.

There was a very low activity under the CA expected in 2016 even though the Programme Partner was informed about the possible events and meetings eligible for financing from this source, and was also suggested to organize or take part in an event abroad. However, one initiative under the Complementary action took place in 2016.

The FMO, in cooperation with colleagues from the Romanian Ministry of Justice, prepared a communication and best practice workshop for all the programme areas in the sector Justice and Home affairs, which was hosted in Bucharest, Romania, on 15-16 March 2016. As it was a two-day seminar devoted to best practices and lessons learnt and covers also programme area no. 30 – Schengen/Police, it was a more than appropriate opportunity for the PO, as well as the PP, to take part and exchange experience in an international environment. In the end, 3 representatives of the Programme Operator took part in the workshop, exchanged know-how and best practice examples with the other attendees from European countries involved in the Programme Areas 15, 29, 30, 31 and 32.

As far as the Programme Operator decided to transfer (please see the section above, 6. Progress of bilateral relations) the remaining funds in amount of approx. EUR 18 000 from the budgetary section Complementary Action to the Fund for bilateral relations, measure B, no other events or meetings under the CA are going to be held or organized in 2017.

7. Monitoring

The regular monitoring was being carried out via collecting information from the Project Promoters through the formal monitoring tools - interim project reports (continuous monitoring of the projects) and final project reports (not applied yet). Additional mean of obtaining information related to the project (especially potential breach of grant conditions) is the on-site monitoring visit.

According to the monitoring reports, all outcomes were completed and all outputs were fulfilled except for one – number of trained police officials within the PDP 1. The Project Promoter reported 40 trained officials by the end of 2016, the target stated in the grant application is set on 50 persons trained. The outstanding police officers will be trained in the first quarter of 2017 in compliance with the resolution of the Police President of the Czech Republic.

On-site monitoring visits verify whether the project progress and financial status comply with the information declared in monitoring reports and whether the project management is efficient enough to meet the declared objectives. Two monitoring on-site visits were carried out in 2016 – PDP 4 and PDP 5 – no findings had been identified.

Review of the programme will be carried out between September and October 2017 by the external company that shall be contracted in January 2017. The programme shall be evaluated based on the five evaluation criteria (relevance, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability) with respect to its outcomes and outputs as specified in the Programme Agreement.

Each criterion will be scored using the five-grade grid. The score will be awarded based on objective and impartial expert opinion substantiated by verifiable and well-founded data, facts and evidence.

The theory of change shall be developed for the programme, Outcome Harvesting shall be used as one of the methods for data collection, so as to exploit all effects of the programme, including unintended or unexpected ones. Achievement of bilateral indicators will be examined as well.

The review report will be subject to consultation process and debriefing with all relevant stakeholders prior to its publication in Czech and English language.

The fourth Steering Committee for the Programme CZ14 took place on 19 July 2016 at the Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic. The actual state of the PDPs, as well as the Fund for bilateral relation, Measure B, was discussed with the Programme Partner's (Ministry of Interior) representatives. Programme coordinator from the Police Presidium presented closer aspects of the projects – realization, public procurements, delays, bilateral fund usage, requests for substantial changes and potential needs for the implementation period prolongation (PDP 6).

The fifth Steering Committee took place on 21 November 2016 at the Ministry of Finance again. The Programme Coordinator from the Police Presidium introduced significant issues for the second half of the year 2016 – public procurements and savings within the projects as some of them were almost finished (compared to the outputs stated in the grant applications) and therefore presented almost fully realized projects. In the second half of the Steering Committee, possible usage of savings was being discussed.

The Monitoring plan for the year 2017 for the PDP projects is enclosed to this report.

8. Need for adjustments

One of the major needs for adjustments appeared already in 2015 and was solved out by the prolongation of all 6 projects of the Programme CZ 14 in the same year. 5 out of six projects used the opportunity to prolong the project implementation period maximally, i.e. by 12 months until the end of April 2017. The implementation period of the PDP 6 was extended just by 7 months until 30 November 2016.

The implementation of the PDP 6 (*Implementation of the police specialists in the field of police work in relation to Roma minority group in the socially segregated locations*) was officially ended up by the final project conference on 5 April 2016. In the upcoming days after the conference, during the post-implementation period and together with taking into account all financial aspects of the project, based on the recommendation from the fifth Steering Committee taking place on 21 November 2016, it was decided by the Project Promoter the implementation period will be extended once more, i.e. by 5 months until the end of April 2017, so the savings are used effectively. The Project Promoter submitted a request for prolongation of the implementation period which was approved by the Programme Operator on the same day.

Therefore at the end of the year 2016, all 6 PDPs were extended until 30 April 2017.

A minor need for adjustments related to the BFB/CA and not affecting the Programme Agreement will be adopted in February 2017 (for more information please see sections 6. Progress of bilateral relations and 6.1. Complementary action above).

9. Risk management

At the end of August 2016, the risk analysis of the Programme CZ14 was updated by the Programme Operator (Ministry of Finance) in cooperation with the Programme Partner (Ministry of Interior). One of the risks identified is the time risk caused by the limited time for the whole programme implementation and very lengthy process of public procurements administration. The latter risk was also identified and confirmed by the Programme coordinator from the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic during the fourth Steering Committee on 19 July 2016. The risk was lowered down in the previous monitoring period by the request for prolongation of the implementation period for every project within the Programme by the Project Promoters. 5 out of 6 projects were extended until 30 April 2017, PDP 6 was extended only until 30 November 2016. As a result of savings generated in PDP 6, also this project was extended until 30 April 2017.

The main risk and also key factor for the successful implementation of the whole Programme CZ14 are from the very beginning of the implementation the tender procedures and timely, as well as precisely, defined public procurements. The tender procedures were identified as a specific and the most significant risk of the Programme within the Risk analysis carried out already in August 2014. However, as stated by the representative of the Project Promoters in November 2016, all public procurements within the Programme were successfully completed, contracts with the suppliers were signed. Eventually, the specific risk of the Programme was eliminated by a diligent approach of the Project Promoters.

According to the update of the Strategic Report 2015, the Programme CZ14 was in the zone of low risk in the list of Programmes lined up by the risk which threatens the realization of the Programmes. If the tender procedures for the additional activities – major activities in PDP 2 and PDP 4, minor activities in PDP 1 and PDP 6 – are managed punctually and precisely by the Programme Promoters (PP), in prompt cooperation with the Programme Operator (Ministry of Finance), the risk can be fully eliminated even for the additional activities and the Programme implementation can be carried out without any further delays (beyond April 2017) as those are unacceptable and not possible in the rest of the implementation period.

10. Information and publicity

The publicity of Norway Grants is being secured at the programme level, as well as at the project level. The publicity is ensured mainly by the individual project promoters but also by the PO in close cooperation with the PP.

General information about the programme is available on the official website of the EEA and Norway Grants <http://www.eeagrants.cz/> created by the PO. It is the first entry point for stakeholders looking for information about the EEA/Norway Grants and the Programme CZ14. All relevant information on funding opportunities and how to apply, including general information about the Norway Grants 2009-2014, updated information about the state of implementation of the programmes, summary of the projects, documents relevant to the programme (methodology, guidelines, manuals), contact information etc., has been published online, both in the Czech and English language.

Moreover, social media is being used for promotional and informational purposes. EEA/Norway Grants Facebook page has currently 1070 followers. Updates and results of the pre-defined projects were promoted to a broad audience on the official Facebook profile of the EEA Grants in the Czech Republic: <https://cs-cz.facebook.com/EHPaNF>

The Programme CZ14 has its own website created by the Police Presidium of the Czech Republic which is the Project Promoter for all 6 PDPs. The information about the individual pre-defined projects is channelled to the main target group via the section on the official website of the Police of the Czech Republic. The website covers every single PDP and the achieved results under each of the projects. The complete webpage is also translated into English and the links for it are accessible through the Czech version, or the English version of the homepage of website of the Police Presidium.

<http://www.policie.cz/clanek/norway-grants-2009-2014.aspx>

Beside the above mentioned website, the PDP3 has also an additional and separate website provided by the supplier of the electronic gates at the airport. The website contains information on the Project Promoter, supplier of the technological solution and the Norway grants.

<http://www.abceasygo.cz/>

The biggest media coverage in the monitoring period was reached within the PDP 6 (Police specialists in Roma communities) in relation to the final/closing conference of the project. An article in the Czech language was published also on the official webpage of Norway in the Czech Republic:

http://www.noramb.cz/News_and_events/EEA_grants/Zakladni-informace/Programy/CZ14-Spoluprace-v-ramci-Schengenu/Policie-a-romska-menina-koleni-policejnich-specialist/#.WJHkBk0zW71

Results and progress of the pre-defined project no. 3 (PDP 3, eGates) were promoted in a full page article in the nationwide daily newspaper "Právo" in September 2016. Another article about the results of the Programme is planned for the first half of 2017.

The closing conference of the Programme is going to be held on 9 March 2017 in Prague. The agenda of the conference will be prepared in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior, the Programme Partner. Donors and all relevant stakeholders will be invited to the conference, and the results of the projects and conclusions from the conference will be promoted mostly through the social media and the official website. The results of the programme will be presented in an information brochure distributed at the final conference of the Programme (both Czech and English versions) and will also be available on the website of the Norway Grants in the Czech Republic (online PDF version). The preparation of the

brochure started in December 2016 in cooperation between the Project Promoters, Partner of the Programme and the Programme Operator.

11. Cross - cutting issues

Good governance

In order to ensure sustainability of the projects in terms of legislation and technology, the projects are provided with technical support during their implementation, and if needed, proposed modifications will be supported and consequently included in internal regulations and methodology.

A relevant governance structure had been proposed for the programme and individual projects. The projects are based on current experience with the implementation of projects financed from the EU funds and bilateral cooperation programmes.

The governance structure includes Programme Steering Committees and the Implementation Team. The Ministry of Interior of the Czech Republic and the Police Presidium itself is an adequate guarantee of good governance.

Economic sustainability

All projects are based on strategic documents of the Police of the Czech Republic. By implementing the projects, the progress in the respective areas will be speeded up and the costs of the Czech Police will be decreased in consequence. The follow-up steps, related to the outcomes of the projects, will be implemented and financed from the budget of the Police of the CR, including financing of operational costs connected with the implementation of projects.

Social sustainability

Thanks to the fact that the target groups are clearly defined, the needs of the target groups are evaluated before the implementation of the process and the interests of the target groups are known, the social sustainability of the project will be ensured by the staff of final beneficiaries - specialists in the respective areas who have mapped out the target groups and who will modify further steps in order to adopt new conditions and needs of the relevant groups.

Gender equality

The Ministry of Interior and the Police of the Czech Republic guarantee equality by, among others, creating priorities within the department and by creating procedures for enforcing equal opportunities. All conceptual, decision making and evaluation processes in all stages of implementation are subject to the criteria of equal opportunities.

Environmental considerations

Although the programme does not envisage any other but standard waste, it supports waste sorting. Conditions are made at respective workplaces of final beneficiaries and in the implementation premises so that any waste produced can be sorted. The programme supports economical paper management, double sided copying and printing, recycled paper is used for internal needs and electronic communication (informal and working) is prioritised.

During the implementation of the programme, energy resources and water is used efficiently and economically, in order to comply with the principles of sustainable development.

12. Attachments to the Annual Programme Report

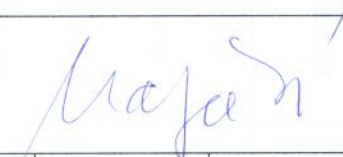
Annex 1: Risk assessment of the programme

Annex 2: Monitoring plan 2017

Annex 3: List of projects for communication purposes or as examples of best practices

SIGNATURE:**For Programme Operator**

I certify that I am duly authorised to sign this Annual programme report and that I have thoroughly reviewed the progress of the programme, reporting on outcomes and outputs, risk management provided in this report and the information are correct and accurate.

				Optional second signature		
Name	Zuzana Matyášová			Martina Bečvářová		
Position	Head of the Department of International Relations			Head of the Monitoring Unit		
Organisation	Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic			Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic		
Signature						
Date	Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
	8	2	2014	08	02	2017

For the National Focal Point

The National Focal Point certifies that the status of reporting of the programme described above is accurate.

				Optional second signature		
Name	Lenka Dupáková					
Position	Deputy Minister of Finance					
Organisation	Ministry of Finance of the Czech Republic					
Signature						
Date	Day	Month	Year	Day	Month	Year
	10	02	2017			

Annex 1: Risk assessment of the programme

Type of objective ¹	Risk	Description of risk in the reporting period	Likelihood ²	Impact ³	Importance ⁴	Mitigation planned/done
Cohesion (Programme) outcomes:	Programme absorption capacity	Irrelevant – the programme consists of 6 PDPs, all of them almost fully implemented.	Low	High	Low	Precise programme preparation.
	Legislation changes	No significant developments preventing successful implementation of the programme arose in 2016.	Low	Middle	Low	Upcoming legislation is monitored in advance and the impact is being evaluated continuously.
	Time risk - delay in commitment and disbursement of funds	Owing to the prolongation, successful realization of the projects in the original extent is secured.	Middle	High	Middle	Punctual drafting of public procurements, cooperation between the PO and PP, supervising the suppliers.
	Specific programme risk (risk identified in PP relating to PRG outcomes)	Tender procedures – all of the tender procedures indicated in the grant applications were completed.	Middle	Middle	Middle	Precisely stated requirements in accordance with law within the tenders. Sufficient time for elaboration of a quality bid.
Bilateral outcome(s):	Bilateral relations	Only informal cooperation with the OSCE is planned. Bilateral relations were being strengthened under the BFB too.	Low	Low	Low	Provide support to the Project Promoters with establishing bilateral relations, provide them with a list of possible partners.
Operational issues:	Management and control structures, programme management	Manual of the Programme Operator was issued and revised. Steering Committees take place regularly.	Low	Middle	Low	Regular meetings with the Promoters, Program Partner, keeping the guidelines up to date.
	Programme implementation set up	Projects were pre-defined, implementation was set up	Low	Middle	Low	All PDPs are almost fully implemented, the main

¹ The risks should be categorised in one of 3 ways, depending on whether it poses a risk to the cohesion objective, the bilateral objective, or is more of an operational issue.

² Likelihood is described as Low, Middle or High according to its scoring gained in the risk analysis. (Low: 1-2, Middle:3-4, High:5)

³ Impact is described as Low, Middle or High according to its scoring gained in the risk analysis. (Low: 1-2, Middle:3-4, High:5)

⁴ Importance is counted as Likelihood multiplied by Impact and described as Low, Middle or High according to its scoring gained in the risk analysis (Low: 1-8, Middle: 9-15, High: 16-25).

Type of objective ¹	Risk	Description of risk in the reporting period	Likelihood ²	Impact ³	Importance ⁴	Mitigation planned/done
		clearly. Guidelines are issued and kept updated.				activities are completed. The set up discussed with the FMO and Project Promoters at the preparatory phase.
	Reports and irregularities within programme	Reports are being submitted regularly. Possible irregularities are identified and solved out during / after the on-site visits.	Middle	Middle	Middle	Performing (ad hoc) on-site controls and evaluating monitoring reports. Identifying risks as much in advance as possible.
	Programme audits/controls	Audit of Programme management was carried out in 2016.	Low	Middle	Middle	Regular controls by external bodies.
	Information system	The information and monitoring system CEDR is functional. Continuous adjustments are being carried out.	Low	Middle	Low	Communication and cooperation with the contractor regarding the functional and operational solution to the malfunctions.
	Corruption risk	The NFP control system and tender procedures are set up to prevent any corruption risk. The PP (Police Presidium) is a guarantee for the trustworthy management.	Low	Middle	Low	Monitoring and evaluating public procurements, preliminary verification of the tender documentation.

Annex 2: Monitoring plan

Project no.	Name of the project	Planned date of on-site monitoring visit /review	Note
NF-CZ14-PDP-2-002-2014	Establishing a National Control Authority (NCA)	29 March 2017	Interim on-site monitoring visit
NF-CZ14-PDP-1-001-2014	Schengen Cooperation and Combatting Cross-border Crime	3Q 2017	Final on-site monitoring visit
NF-CZ14-PDP-2-002-2014	Establishing a National Control Authority (NCA)	3Q 2017	Final on-site monitoring visit
NF-CZ14-PDP-3-003-2014	The expansion of a system of automated controls of electronic travel documents at international airports (e-gate and full page documents scanners)	3Q 2017	Final on-site monitoring visit
NF-CZ14-PDP-4-004-2014	Application of a geographical information system for the Police of the Czech Republic in the field	3Q 2017	Final on-site monitoring visit
NF-CZ14-PDP-5-010-2015	Developing an analytic platform for the use of the information systems of the Police of the Czech Republic to their full capacity	3Q 2017	Final on-site monitoring visit
NF-CZ14-PDP-6-005-2014	Implementation of the police specialists in the field of police work in relation to Roma minority group in the socially segregated locations	3Q 2017	Final on-site monitoring visit
CZ14	Programme CZ14	09-10/2017	Programme review

Annex 3: List of projects for communication purposes or as examples of best practices

Project no.	Name of the project	Note
NF-CZ14-PDP-3-003-2014	The expansion of a system of automated controls of electronic travel documents at international airports (e-gate and full page documents scanners)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wide range of publicity coverage – instructional videos (with Norway grants logos) are played on seat displays inside the cabin of the airplanes, as well as on TV screens above the eGates. More than 1 million persons were controlled by the eGates during 2016, many more watched the videos and saw the publicity signs at the airport. - Good practice example – rapid realization, indicators exceeded, effective use of savings. - E-government 2015 – 3rd place award in the category Centralized projects.