



# STABILITY PACT FOR SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

## Anti-corruption Initiative

**2004-2005 Annual Report of the SPAI  
Regional Secretariat Liaison Office**

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## Mission Statement

*The **Stability Pact Anti-corruption Initiative (SPAI)** gives impetus to the fight against corruption in South Eastern Europe by building upon existing actions, through better coordination of all efforts, and by relying on high-level political commitment. Its objective is to assist and support the countries of the region to adopt efficient legislation, to establish effective institutions and to develop best practices in civil society for a joint sustained fight against corruption.*

*The **SPAI Regional Secretariat Liaison Office (RSLO)** is the executive body for SPAI. It serves as the focal point for regional anti-corruption cooperation in South Eastern Europe through the coordination, facilitation and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned.*

## About the Anti-corruption Initiative

### SPAI: A Framework for Regional Coordination and Dialogue

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

growth, and can undermine the European Union accession process. SPAI represents a focused forum where coordination and dialogue on the many facets of corruption can take place among the countries of the region and the donor community. SPAI's multidisciplinary approach incorporates issues such as the adoption of international legal instruments, promotion of good governance,

strengthening the rule of law, promotion of transparency and integrity in business operations, and development of an active civil society in the fight against corruption.



### RSLO: Creation of a Regional Anti-corruption Center

In September 2003, the SPAI Steering Group agreed to establish a Regional Secretariat Liaison Office (RSLO) in Sarajevo to promote regional ownership of the initiative and enhance regional capabilities to lead the fight against corruption in SEE. (Initially, SPAI's secretariat functions were performed by the Council of Europe [COE] and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development [OECD]). Six months later, RSLO became operational and it is currently the only center in SEE devoted solely to fighting corruption at the regional level. Staffed by experts from the region, RSLO tailors its activities to directly support the efforts of SPAI countries to meet the standards and requirements related to the Justice and Home Affairs field in the European Union accession process.

RSLO's major focus areas include:

- supporting and enhancing regional cooperation among anti-corruption agencies and institutions involved in anti-corruption;
- promoting the adoption of relevant international anti-corruption standards;
- developing specific training programs, such as regional seminars for judges, prosecutors, investigators, auditors, governmental officials, and police; a summer school for junior staff; and twinning-type activities;
- promoting thematic agendas focused on fighting high-level corruption in vulnerable areas, such as judiciary, public administration, public procurement, privatization, and political party financing;
- facilitating expert networking in all sectors, including government, NGO, business, civil society and mass media; and
- providing a clearinghouse for sharing best practices and exchanging relevant information.

## A Word from the SPAI Chair

### Regional Progress and Remaining Challenges

**D**uring the five years of the Anti-corruption Initiative, member states have launched consistent and complex reforms of their institutional and legislative framework aimed at decreasing the levels of corruption and improving the efficiency of their policies.

The rhythm of reforms is now stronger. Romania finalized its European Union (EU) accession negotiations and is expected to join the EU on January 1, 2007. Croatia and FYR Macedonia recently became candidate countries and the other SPAI member countries are moving toward the same goal.



In this context, all of the SPAI member countries have approved national anti-corruption strategies and action plans that underline their political commitment to address the issue of corruption and state capture. Furthermore, their legal frameworks have largely been harmonized with European standards set by international conventions, and sensitive areas are now regulated (e.g., conflict of interest, assets disclosure, free access to information, financing of political parties, public procurement and money laundering). In addition, in each SPAI member country, specialized anti-corruption bodies have been created or are now in the process of being established.

In all these areas, the SEE countries still have a long way to go in implementing this new legislation and in overcoming specific challenges, such as: reform of the judiciary and public administration; the negative perception regarding levels of corruption, both from the public and business communities; the lack of sound projects dealing with education and public awareness raising; the issues of understaffed anti-corruption structures and low salaries; and the important role of preventative anti-corruption measures.

### The Way Ahead

The Anti-corruption Initiative recognizes the goal of EU integration as the main driving force and incentive for structural reforms in the region, and makes the best use of its resources to support this goal. In all its efforts, the Initiative stresses the importance of achieving practical results and showing the impact of the measures adopted by the SPAI countries.

Under my chairmanship, SPAI continues to promote a multidisciplinary approach on both the regional and national level and provides a platform for interaction among public institutions, non-governmental structures, the business community, civil society, and international partners.

In recognition of their significance as milestones on the path to curbing corruption in SEE, SPAI has set as its goals for 2007-2008 full implementation of the regional ownership principle and the further development of RSLO as sustainable regional anti-corruption resource center for SEE.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ugo Draetta', written in a cursive style.

**Professor Ugo Draetta**  
Chair, Stability Pact Anti-corruption Initiative

## *A Word from the SPAI RSLO Executive Secretary*

### **SPAI RSLO and Regional Ownership**

**R**SLO serves as a concrete and visible demonstration of the commitment of the SPAI countries to the continuing, concerted, and coordinated fight against corruption in SEE. Established at the instigation of the countries of the region, RSLO was the first step in a process of conveying ownership and leadership of the SPAI to the countries of the region. Another important benchmark in this process was RSLO's role in reinforcing the region's political commitment to curb corruption by promoting the adoption and implementation of a Ministerial Declaration on 10 Joint Measures to Curb Corruption in SEE. This was made possible by the active participation within the RSLO's structure of representatives from all member countries, which has created a multinational and multicultural environment for supporting the region's fight against corruption.

RSLO itself exemplifies the concept of regional ownership. Currently, the regional office staff brings together experts from Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), Montenegro, and Romania, and has benefited from a volunteer from Albania. RSLO plans to further develop its structure in 2006, when we initiate an internship program. This program, which will accept interns from the SPAI countries on a rotating basis, will ensure the further involvement and full participation of the region.



### **SPAI RSLO as a Regional Anti-Corruption Resource Center**

RSLO serves as the executive implementing body of SPAI. Its mission is to become a regional anti-corruption resource center for the countries of SEE.

Since its establishment, RSLO has designed and implemented a comprehensive work program aimed at contributing to the capacity of the SPAI countries to fight corruption and meet international anti-corruption standards.

In 2004 – 2005, RSLO organized and participated in more than 60 anti-corruption training programs and conferences. Since its establishment in Sarajevo in March 2004, RSLO has also organized the SPAI Steering Group meetings, which present a forum for the regional representatives and international partners to discuss the progress and priorities of the region in terms of continued technical assistance. In addition, RSLO provided the countries of the region with direct access to a multidisciplinary online Anti-corruption Resource Center, which contains four distinct components: a specialized library, an anti-corruption network, an anti-corruption project database and a regional calendar of activities.

Over the past two years, RSLO has provided significant assistance to those implementing anti-corruption reforms in the SPAI countries. I have high expectations that, with continued support from the region and from our international partners, we will continue to provide expert, demand driven support to fight corruption in SEE.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'V. Sukovic'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the first few letters.

**Veselin Sukovic**  
Executive Secretary, SPAI RSLO

## 2004–2005 Program Highlights

Since March 2004, RSLO's emphasis on the importance of fighting corruption and utilizing the best practices and tools available to help to achieve this has reached over 3000 people in SEE. During this time, RSLO has organized or participated in more than 60 major workshops, conferences and high-level meetings. The following pages summarize some of the highlights of the activities in which RSLO played a leading role.

### Establishing Regional Commitment: The Brussels Ministerial Declaration

Among the many steps a government must take in the fight against corruption, communicating its political will to undertake related reforms is one of the most important. Clear commitments to reform promote confidence in the government and allow citizens to hold their elected officials accountable for their promises.



Ministers from each of the SPAI member countries signed the Declaration on Joint Measures to Curb Corruption in South Eastern

RSLO encouraged the SPAI member countries to publicly cement their commitment to fight corruption during a May 2005 ministerial conference on Joint Measures to Curb Corruption in SEE, held at the European Parliament in Brussels. The meeting provided an open forum for ministers and senior representatives from the SPAI countries as well as representatives from the international business and donor community to discuss how the fight against corruption could improve the business and investment climate in SEE.

This Declaration was endorsed in Brussels, on May 12, 2005 within the Ministerial Conference on Joint Measures to Curb Corruption in South Eastern Europe.

Albania

Marko BELLO,  
Minister of State for Coordination

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Slobodan KOVAC,  
Minister of Justice

Croatia

Snjezana BAGIC,  
State Secretary, Ministry of Justice

Republic of Macedonia

Viktor CVEKOVSKI,  
State Secretary, Ministry of Justice

Moldova

Nicolae ESANU,  
Deputy Minister of Justice

Montenegro

Zeljko STURANOVIC,  
Minister of Justice

Romania

Monica MACOVEI,  
Minister of Justice

Serbia

Zoran STOJKOVIC,  
Minister of Justice

## 2004–2005 Program Highlights

The dialogue culminated with a public commitment by ministers from each of the eight SPAI countries, who endorsed a Declaration on 10 Joint Measures to Curb Corruption in South Eastern Europe. The Declaration draws upon numerous international instruments and recommendations, and commits countries to implementing several measures over a one-year period, including signing and ratifying the UN Convention against Corruption, as well as strengthening the bilateral and multilateral cooperation and exchange of information among specialized anti-corruption bodies in South Eastern Europe. The Declaration also endorses the role of RSLO in serving as a regional mechanism through which the SPAI countries can coordinate their efforts to meet the its commitments via exchange of best practices.

### Fostering Regional Ownership of the Anti-corruption Agenda: SPAI Steering Group Meetings

One of the defining principles of the Stability Pact is the promotion of regional ownership, the idea that countries of a region that face similar problems can better address them through a common approach. Further, as countries develop economically and socially, their commitment to reforms and shaping of associated policies becomes self-sustaining and not driven primarily by the international community.

RSLO embodies this concept in three significant ways. First, RSLO is staffed by nationals from three SPAI member governments, BiH, Montenegro, and Romania. Second, RSLO has received vital in-kind support from SPAI member governments — the BiH government provides office space and utilities for RSLO, and the national governments have contributed a portion of the funding for activities that RSLO has organized. Finally, and most importantly, is the role of the governing body of SPAI – the Steering Group.

The Steering Group consists of representatives delegated by each of the SPAI member countries, as well as representatives from international partner countries and organizations. The Steering Group meetings provide the forum for approving the appointment of the expert staff of RSLO, based on nominations from the governments of SPAI member countries, and it approves the SPAI work plan. The specific objectives and activities included in RSLO's work plan are developed based on the priorities for national and regional assistance provided by the SPAI member countries. Held in different locations at the invitation of SPAI member governments, the Steering Group meetings offer an environment in which participants can confirm their commitment to fighting corruption and discuss the best means to achieve this.

The 2006-2007 Work Plan to be implemented within the SPAI framework was developed in this manner with full input



Members convened in Macedonia in November 2005 for the 9th SPAI Steering Group meeting, during which RSLO's work plan for 2006- 2007 was approved.

## 2004–2005 Program Highlights

and participation by the member countries. Prior to the November 2005 SPAI Steering Group meeting, RSLO organized a working meeting with the SPAI senior representatives in Sarajevo.

“We have passed the big concept and strategizing phase and are now focusing on concrete actions. And we need a regional mechanism to do this.”

– Laura Stefan, SPAI Senior Representative, Romania

The main objectives of this strategy session were:

- to jointly identify national and regional priority areas in which RSLO could provide technical assistance;
- to develop the plan for activities within SPAI framework for the next two years; and
- to ensure the full coordination and exchange of information between the SPAI senior representatives and RSLO.

The result was a demand-driven plan of activities covering three main segments: the SPAI coordinating framework; national priorities; and RSLO’s portfolio. The document was approved at the subsequent Steering Group meeting, held in Ohrid at the invitation of the Macedonian government.

As the Stability Pact’s Special Coordinator Dr. Erhard Busek notes, “enhancing regional ownership is the core of making the Stability Pact’s legacy sustainable.” Fortification of SPAI RSLO’s current mechanisms will allow the SPAI countries to move from regional ownership to regional leadership in the fight against corruption.

SPAI Steering Group Members		
<b>Chair:</b> Professor Ugo Draetta	<u>Montenegro:</u> Ana Nikolic, Senior Advisor, Directorate for Anti-Corruption Initiative	Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe  Transparency International
<b>Regional Secretariat Liaison Office:</b> Veselin Sukovic, Executive Secretary  Cornel - Virgiliu Calinescu, Expert Dajana Stajic, Administrative Assistant	<u>Romania:</u> Laura Stefan, Director, Directorate for the Relation with the Public Ministry, Crime and Corruption Prevention, Ministry of Justice  <u>Serbia:</u> Aleksandra Popovic, Assistant Minister, Ministry of Justice	US Agency for International Development  World Bank
<b>SPAI Senior Representatives:</b>  <u>Albania:</u> Fatbardh Kadilli, Advisor of the Prime Minister for Anti-Corruption  <u>Bosnia Herzegovina:</u> Damir Vejo, Chief, Department of Organized Crime and Corruption, Ministry of Security  <u>Croatia:</u> Ljubinka Sebetovsky, Senior Legal Councillor, Ministry of Justice  <u>Macedonia:</u> Snezana Mojsova, Chief, Department for European Integration and International Cooperation, Ministry of Justice  <u>Moldova:</u> Anatolie Donciu, Chief, Analytical Department, Center for Com- bating Economic Crimes and Corruption	<b>Observers</b>  Bulgaria  UN Mission in Kosovo  <b>Partner Organizations:</b>  American Bar Association Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative  Council of Europe  European Commission  Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development  Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe  Open Society Institute	<b>Partner Countries:</b>  Austria Czech Republic  Finland France Germany Greece Norway Switzerland Spain Slovenia Sweden United States of America



## 2004–2005 Program Highlights

### Encouraging Integration into International Frameworks: UN Convention Against Corruption Workshops

**I**nternational frameworks, such as treaties and conventions, provide governments with a comprehensive set of standards that help legislators and policymakers to design their legislation and improve their practices in accordance with good governance principles. In addition to adding an external level of accountability for governments, international frameworks create an environment conducive to preventing and prosecuting corruption that crosses borders, as it often does.

Most of the SPAI countries are signatories to several European treaties, such as the COE's Civil and Criminal Law Conventions on Corruption. These frameworks are well-established, and include follow-on monitoring processes to assist countries in harmonizing their legislation with the framework's provisions.



In September 2004, countries of the region endorsed the Sarajevo Calendar setting up the time-frame for signing and ratifying the UN Convention against Corruption.

The most comprehensive global treaty, the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), is newer, having just come into force at the end of 2005. The SPAI countries have clearly signaled their intention to join the UNCAC by signing the treaty and following-up with the ratification procedure.

In accordance with its programmatic objectives, RSLO has helped the SPAI countries to make ratification and implementation of the UNCAC a priority for the region. In addition to including this goal as part of the Brussels Declaration, RSLO has hosted a number of workshops and pre-ratification conferences designed to provide practical assistance in implementation, as well as to highlight positive role models for countries that have not yet ratified the Convention.

These events, which took place in Sarajevo, BiH (September 2004), Durrës, Albania (June 2005), Belgrade, Serbia (September 2005), and Sofia, Bulgaria (November 2005), facilitated dialogue across countries, mutually reinforcing the domestic efforts of each, and providing an opportunity for countries to learn from one another. During these workshops and conferences, other countries from the larger region, including Greece, the Central Asian nations, Azerbaijan, Armenia and Turkey, participated as well, broadening the discussion to a more global level. Particular attention was paid to the details of how countries were harmonizing national legislation quickly, as well as methods for establishing preventative measures.

RSLO has also made a significant contribution to the monitoring and implementation of the UNCAC. Based on inputs from experts in the region, RSLO developed a UN compliance matrix as a practical tool for encouraging self monitoring and sharing of experiences and lessons learned. The compliance matrix follows the structure of the Convention, reviewing the progress in implementing each chapter.

## 2004–2005 Program Highlights

### SPAI Country Status Related to International Anti-corruption Instruments

	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia	FYR of Macedonia	Serbia and Montenegro	Romania	Moldova
Council of Europe Criminal Law Convention on Corruption	Ratified on 19/7/2001	Ratified on 30/1/2002	Ratified on 8/11/2000	Ratified on 28/11/199	Ratified on 18/12/2002	Ratified on 11/7/2002	Ratified on 14/1/2004
Council of Europe Civil Law Convention on Corruption	Ratified on 21/9/2000	Ratified on 30/1/2000	Ratified on 5/6/2003	Ratified on 29/9/2002	Signed on 7/4/2005	Ratified on 23/4/2002	Ratified on 17/3/2002
COE Additional Protocol to the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption	Ratified on 15/11/2004	–	Ratified on 10/5/2005	Signed on 15/5/2003	–	Ratified on 29/11/2004	Signed on 15/5/2003
United Nations Convention against Corruption	Signed on 18/12/2003	Signed on 16/09/2005	Ratified on 25/04/2005	Signed on 18/8/2005	Ratified on 20/12/2005	Ratified on 2/09/2004	Signed on 28/9/2004

At each of these workshops, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), which is in charge of promoting ratification and implementation of the Convention, attended and publicly supported RSLO as a coordinating mechanism for the SPAI countries in their ratification and implementation of the Convention. Since RSLO hosted the first workshops, all eight SPAI member countries have now signed the Convention, and Croatia, Romania, and Serbia and Montenegro have ratified the UNCAC.

### Building Capacity to Fight High-Level Corruption: Practical Training Conferences

**G**overnments and international institutions have placed a fresh emphasis on the fight against high-level corruption, following continued incidences in countries around the world. The European Commission (EC) has focused on high-level corruption in particular as a benchmark for countries to join the European Union. Given the membership ambitions of many of the SPAI member countries, significant, committed actions in the fight against high-level corruption are imperative. In its regional function, RSLO has assisted countries to build their capacity to fight high-level corruption and is well-positioned to continue in this role.

In accordance with its programmatic objectives, RSLO developed a series of practical training opportunities to share best practices in fighting high-level corruption in SEE countries. The training events outlined below have the joint aim to: create a regional framework for exchanging information; enhance regional cooperation by establishing direct contact among law enforcement officials involved in the fight against high-level corruption; and formulate proposals for improving countries' national legislation and institutional framework.

## 2004–2005 Program Highlights

In October 2004, RSLO organized a start-up regional conference in Montenegro, in cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Serbia and Montenegro's Podgorica Office (MSMPO) and the Montenegrin Anti - corruption Initiative Directorate, on "Sharing Best Practices in Investigating, Prosecuting and Adjudicating High-Level Corruption Cases in SEE Countries." All eight SPAI countries were represented by specialized prosecutors, judges, investigators and intelligence experts involved in combating high-level corruption, creating an informal regional network of specialized experts. The training included presentations on the national experiences and joint case study exercises during which the participants worked in separate task forces. Participants also addressed the inconsistencies within their criminal legislation that might affect the fight against high-level corruption.



Prosecutors from Montenegro met with Croatian counterparts to exchange information on how to tackle high - level corruption cases.

In September 2005, RSLO initiated the first of a series of twinning-type projects designed to share relevant existing capacities within the SPAI countries. With RSLO's coordination, a team of Montenegrin prosecutors visited the Croatian Prosecutor's Specialized Office on Fighting Organized Crime and Corruption in Zagreb. The week-long event included the participation of two state general prosecutors and two chief special prosecutors on fighting organized crime and corruption from each of the countries. During the week, the two teams of prosecutors exchanged information on the establishment of the special anti-corruption unit, relevant anti-corruption legislation, means for special investigation, and personal experiences in investigating and prosecuting complex corruption cases. The pragmatic approach adopted by the prosecutors proved to be fruitful and created a powerful working environment.

In September 2005, RSLO organized a regional conference on "Efficient Implementation of European Standards in Public Procurement: Legislative Framework and Best Practices." Requested by the Montenegrin government, the event was organized in cooperation with the OSCE MSMPO, and the Montenegrin Public Procurement Commission.



A September 2005 conference was the final step in drafting a new law on public procurement for Montenegro.

In addition to bringing together policymakers, judges and more than 60 experts in public procurement, the conference constituted the final step in drafting a new Montenegrin law on public procurement. The conference also elaborated upon the links between public procurement systems and their vulnerability to corruption.

A special panel designed and moderated by RSLO representatives discussed the most efficient measures, the importance of prevention and repression of corruption in public procurement, recourse for victims of corruption, including available channels for complaints and reparation of damages, and sanctions and possible liability of legal persons.

# 2004–2005 Program Highlights

## Assessing Regional Needs: SPAI RSLO National Roundtables

As a regionally owned initiative, SPAI RSLO works with countries to determine how it can provide the most useful, high-impact assistance within the framework of limited resources. With its unique overview of the region, RSLO is able to analyze the needs of each country to seek out common themes for regional workshops and trainings that would benefit all of the SPAI countries.

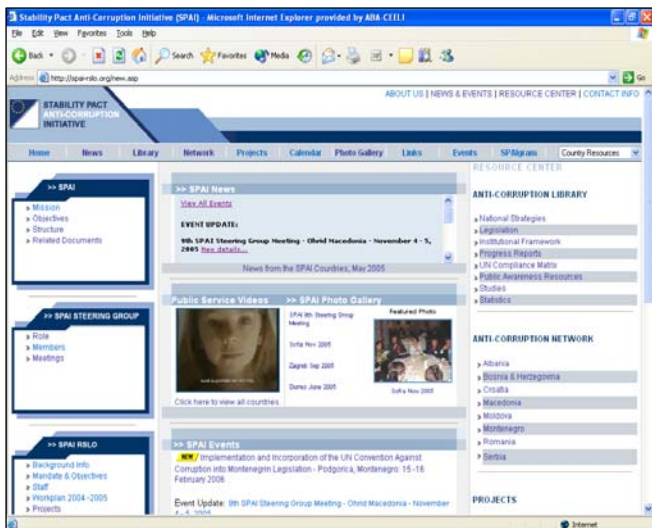
Using an innovative approach, RSLO conducted a regional needs assessment tour in February and March 2005, during which the executive secretary and anti-corruption expert participated in a series of high-level bilateral meetings and public roundtables in each SPAI country. The purpose of the country visits was to establish direct contacts with the main institutions and organizations involved in the fight against corruption in each country, and to jointly identify practical ways of cooperating in implementing the SPAI strategy and in developing RSLO's work plan. The conclusions that came out of the meetings in each of the eight SPAI countries were chronicled and distributed via RSLO's periodic newsletter, the *SPAIgram*. Mass media coverage in each country also raised public awareness of the issues and of the regional resources available to fight corruption.



## Facilitating Best Practice Exchange: The Online Resource Center

In the quest to provide examples from one country that may be useful to another country, numerous bilateral donors and international organizations have established publications or databases to illustrate international best practices in combating corruption. These best practices are not tool kits designed to provide instant solutions, but rather narrative examples of what has worked in specific times and places.

As SPAI countries share a similar historic background and face common challenges in their reforms, a thematic resource center was seen as an efficient method to provide policymakers and experts with relevant centralized information from the region.



RSLO made the establishment of this targeted resource center a key priority, and in May 2005 unveiled the SPAI Anti-corruption Resource Center, available online at [www.spai-rslo.org](http://www.spai-rslo.org).

The Center includes four main components :

- anti-corruption library;
- anti-corruption contact network;
- anti-corruption project database;
- anti-corruption calendar.

The content of the Center is periodically updated by RSLO with the full support of the SPAI Senior Representatives.

# 2006–2007 Proposed Programs

## Regional Priorities and Focus Areas

**R**SLO's ambitious plan of activities scheduled for 2006-2007 incorporates the priorities identified by the SPAI member countries as most critical to implementing the Brussels Declaration and advancing toward European Union accession. The SEE countries' requests for regional programs include the following:

- Ensuring compliance with the comprehensive EU policy against corruption and progress in the implementation of the 10 Principles for Improving the Fight against Corruption in Acceding, Candidate and other Third Countries;
- Defining the role of supreme auditing institutions in the fight against corruption;
- Identifying areas vulnerable to corruption in public administration, with focus on the process of issuing authorizations, licenses and concessions;
- Promoting exchange of experience and best practices among preventive anti-corruption agencies;
- Analyzing the connections between corruption, money laundering and financing of terrorism;
- Sharing best practices on criminal liability of legal persons;
- Developing the relationship between the business environment and anti-corruption, with focus on the privatization process and public procurement.

### SPAI RSLO's portfolio of activities:

- Twinning-type activities
- Networking among anti-corruption prosecutor's offices and agencies
- National and regional trainings
- Internship program
- Annual summer school for junior magistrates

## Strategic Objectives and Goals:

In 2006 and 2007, SPAI RSLO will continue to implement programs that support the following comprehensive programmatic objectives:

**GOAL: All SPAI countries to sign, ratify and implement the UN Convention against Corruption**

*RSLO will support the process of adoption and implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption by the SPAI countries.*

**GOAL: Public awareness about the costs and consequences of corruption are enhanced at both at regional and national level**

*RSLO will support the process of developing and implementing regional and national anti-corruption programs for raising public awareness.*

**GOAL: Best practices in fighting high-level corruption in SPAI countries will be shared and disseminated**

*RSLO will assist in building 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.*

**GOAL: Regional priorities and needs for anti-corruption assistance will be identified**

*RSLO will assess regional anti-corruption needs and specific requirements through its means of direct contact with SPAI countries.*

**GOAL: An efficient framework for coordination and cooperation among various public authorities and the business community will be created**

*RSLO will promote a public-private partnership in reducing the impact of corruption within the business environment.*

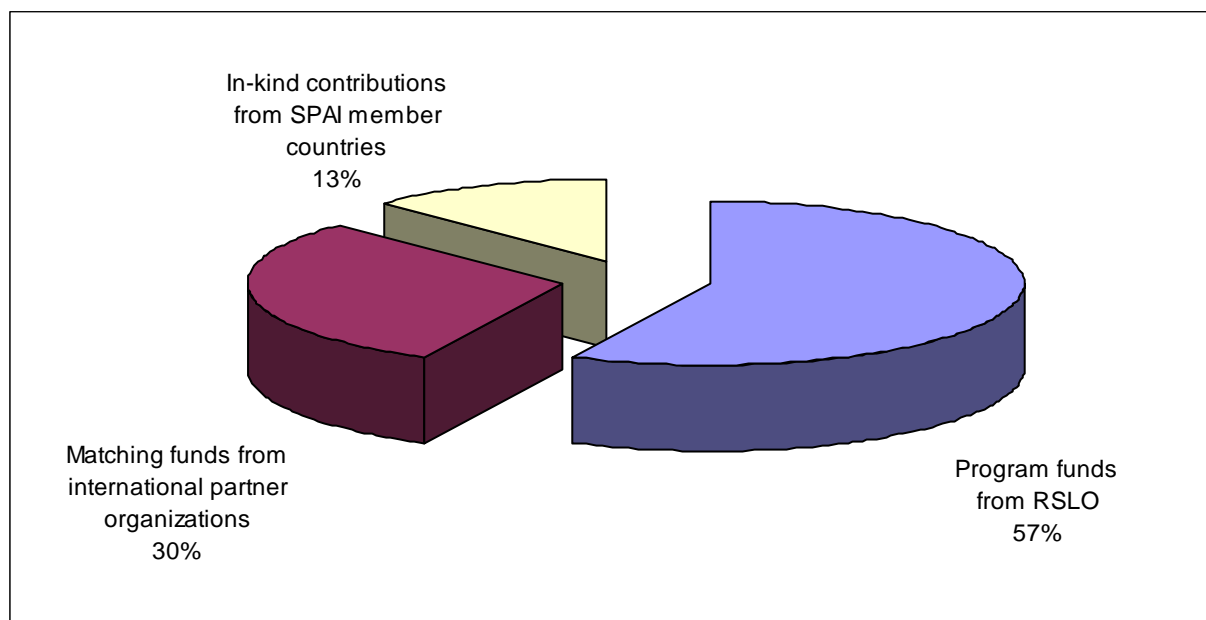
## Financial Report

**S**PAI RSLO was established as a diplomatic mission by the Agreement between Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Office of the Special Coordinator of the Stability Pact for SEE, which was signed on September 15th, 2003 in Brussels. In January 2004, the United States Department of State provided initial funding and assistance to RSLO through an agreement between the United States Agency for International Development and the American Bar Association's Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (ABA/CEELI).

Operational since March 2004 with a staff of three — executive secretary, anti-corruption expert and administrative assistant — RSLO has implemented a robust calendar of anti-corruption activities. During the first two years of its existence, with a total budget of \$474,000, RSLO organized or co-organized over 30 events, and was featured as a speaker on anti-corruption in the region in another 30 targeted events. Through these activities, RSLO's assistance reached over 3000 people in South Eastern Europe.

Through its extensive partnerships with other organizations focusing on anti-corruption, RSLO has ensured the efficient use of its funds, has shared its own expertise with other partners working toward a common goal, has drawn on its network of experts for the benefit of all anti-corruption efforts, and has avoided duplicative efforts in all of its activities throughout the region.

RSLO's high level of cooperation with the SPAI member countries and international partners is illustrated in the graph below, which shows the breakdown of the programmatic funding of the events that RSLO has organized or co-organized over the past two years\*.



\*Matching funds from international partner organizations include: ABA / CEELI, COE, OECD, OSCE, Open Society Institute and UNODC.

## Supporters of SPAI RSLO

**S**PAI RSLO could not exist without the generous support from the United States Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development, which have funded the RSLO's operational and programmatic costs since its inception through a grant to ABA/CEELI. In addition, the U.S. State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement contributed to the initial development of SPAI RSLO in supporting ABA/CEELI's institution-building activities with the Secretariat.

Furthermore, SPAI RSLO wishes to express its gratitude to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina for supporting the establishment of the Secretariat in Sarajevo by providing its premises and covering associated costs.

Last, but not least, many governments, international institutions and non-governmental organizations have contributed to the SPAI RSLO's programmatic activities, including:

### **National Governments:**

*The Government of Albania*  
*The Government of Austria*  
*The Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina*  
*The Government of Bulgaria*  
*The Government of Croatia*  
*The Government of France*  
*The Government of Germany*  
*The Government of Italy*  
*The Government of Macedonia*  
*The Government of Moldova*  
*The Government of Montenegro*  
*The Government of Norway*  
*The Government of Romania*  
*The Government of Serbia*

### **International Organizations:**

*The American Bar Association's Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative*  
*The Council of Europe*  
*European Commission*  
*The Open Society Institute*  
*The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development*  
*The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe*  
*The South East European Cooperation Process*  
*The Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe*  
*Transparency International Secretariat and National Chapters from the region*  
*The United Nations Development Program*  
*The United Nations Mission in Kosovo*  
*The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime*  
*The World Bank*

**For additional information about SPAI's activities,  
please contact the Regional Secretariat in Sarajevo:**

Veselin Sukovic, Executive Secretary — [sukovicv@lol.ba](mailto:sukovicv@lol.ba)  
Cornel - Virgiliu Calinescu, Anti-corruption Expert — [calinescucv@lol.ba](mailto:calinescucv@lol.ba)  
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