Reference	Project title		Strengthening the Polish Justice System (PL2006/IB/JH-02 TL)					
Name of candidate	Country	Overall project value (EUR)	Proportion carried out by candidate (%)	No of staff provided	Name of client	Origin of funding	Dates (start / end)	Name of partners if any
Federal Ministry of Justice of Austria in cooperation with <sup>1</sup> ) the Association Center of Legal Competence (CLC)	Poland	250.000	100 %	9	Ministry of Justice	EU PHARE / Twinning Light	3 July 2007 until 2 February 2008	None

## **Detailed description of project**

The **specific objective** was to support the Ministry of Justice and its Organisation Department in their efforts to improve the judicial proceedings in terms of co-operation of courts with court-appointed experts.

The following **results** were achieved:

- An analysis of source materials (e.g. legal acts, statistical data, reports, internal regulations of court-appointed experts associations), concerning the current system of appointment and work of the court-appointed experts in Poland, Austria, the United Kingdom, France and Spain elaborated;
- A comprehensive report on the functioning of court-appointed experts in Austria, the United Kingdom, France and Spain, in particular covering the issues related to the access to the profession, the guarantee of appointing people with the highest professional and ethical qualifications, the methods of the assessment of experts' workload and quality of work, the provisions concerning prompt delivery of opinion by experts, disciplinary liability, and the procedure of dismissal, elaborated;
- Based upon the analysis of the Polish system and the comprehensive report on the functioning of courtappointed experts, recommendations and solutions respectively proposals for the improvement of the current system elaborated;
- A manual on good practices regulating the co-operation of courts respectively judges with court-appointed experts, containing by all means (i) recommendations on how to improve the current Polish system in the frame of the existing legal environment, (ii) practical instructions on the methods of assessing the court-appointed experts' workload, (iii) practical instructions on the methods allowing to enforce the prompt delivery of court-appointed experts' opinions, (iv) practical instructions on the methods allowing to assess the quality of work of court-appointed experts, and (v) recommendations on how to improve the court-appointed experts' performance of their tasks (ethical aspects) elaborated.

Type of services provided

Twinning Light project aiming at **improving institutional co-operation** between different professions of the judiciary, thus the **enhancing** the **capacity** of the Polish judicial system.

Provision of the following experts:

- 1 Project Leader
- 1 Expert of the authority supervising the judiciary as regards the activities of court-appointed experts
- 1 Expert (administrative staff) of a court who co-operates with court-appointed experts
- 1 Judge specialised in civil and commercial law for whom court-appointed experts prepare opinions
- 1 Judge specialised in criminal law for whom courtappointed experts prepare opinions
- 1 Court-appointed expert
- 1 Project Manager (Backstopping team)
- 1 Project Assistant (Backstopping team)
- 1 Contract and Human Resources Manager (Backstopping team)

Number of staff months provided: 7

<sup>1)</sup> The Federal Ministry of Justice of Austria has – based upon a cooperation agreement – outsourced the administration of its Twinning activities to the Association CLC, a Mandated Body closely related to the Federal Ministry of Justice. Therefore the Association CLC as the Austrian Partner Institution has the full competence to implement the project and to manage the project funds on behalf of the Federal Ministry of Justice of Austria and to assist the latter in the monitoring of this project.