

Cooperation activities

An **ESTM Fellowship Programme** has been established, to collect funds in order to enable Colleagues with reduced financial resources to participate in ESTM courses.

A **translation of the AABB Technical Manual** into Russian has been distributed free (5.000 copies) to doctors and technicians working in blood transfusion, in several Russian-speaking countries, in 1998.

A **twinning programme** between Romanian and Italian Blood Transfusion Centres started in 1998, in agreement with the WHO and the Romanian Government and thanks to the help of Italian Colleagues, being interrupted due to lack of funds.

SEE Programme: a specific programme of regional Transfusion Medicine integration in South-Eastern Europe, considered as an absolutely essential part of Europe, was started in 2001 and is continuing.

An **ESTM triennial (2008-2011) project** on “Development of Transfusion Medicine in Albania towards European quality standards” has been approved in September 2007 by the International Cooperation Department of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, started on 2nd April 2008, and was run until April 2011. The programme was based on: twinning of 6 Italian Transfusion Centres for 3 years with their Albanian counterparts, training stages in Italy, promotion of voluntary blood donation in Albania, residential courses in Albania and Europe, and formation courses in Albania.