

# **FINAL ANNUAL REPORT**

**Project:** Innovative Solutions for Improved Access to Services on Local Level

**Period:** 1 Jan 2021 – 31 Dec 2021

## **1. Support to the Decentralization Process**

**1.1. Preparation of a new Programme on Sustainable Local Development and Decentralization 2021-2026**

**1.2. Preparation of an Action Plan 2021-2023 for the new Programme on Sustainable Local Development and Decentralization 2021-2026**

The project supported the Ministry of Local Self-Government in the process of preparation of the new Program for Sustainable Local Development and Decentralization 2021–2026 (“PSLDD”), as well as the preparation of the new Program’s Action Plan 2021-2023 (“AP”).

A team of subject matter experts hired in October 2020 had prepared the general methodology for preparation of the Program, as well as specific sectoral reviews and guidance for preparation of the respective programmatic material. Key input was harvested from governmental and NGO stakeholders on central, regional, and local level during ten virtual (over Zoom) consultative workshops held in December 2020. Additional input was harvested from central, regional, and local authorities during a virtual workshop held in February 2021 where the novelties in the new Law on Balanced Regional Development and the new Programme for Sustainable Local Development and Decentralization have been presented and discussed.

The Programme was adopted by the Government in March 2021.

The Action Plan was adopted by the Government in September 2021.

## **2. Due diligence of the Law on State Inspectorate for Local Self-Government**

The project supported the Ministry of Local Self-Government in analyzing the then-current Law on State Inspectorate for Local Self-Government, in order to acquire insight on how the legal text and its implications stand against recent and current developments and initiatives arising from, i.a., UNDP’s functional analysis of both the MLSG and the country’s system of local self-government, as well as related recommendations for functional and operational improvement.

For that purpose, the project has hired the services of a legal and institutional national expert, to conduct due diligence of the Law through desk research, interviews with relevant stakeholders on central, regional and local level, as well as with specific focus groups.

The Final Report was delivered to the Ministry on 30 Jul 2021.

## **3. Communication and visibility**

### **3.1. PR, mass communications and visibility**

#### **3.1.1. Media relations**

To strengthen communication capacities of the MLSG, ensure visibility of the project's opportunities related to activities and initiatives during 2021, and inform stakeholders and the general public about the impact of the decentralization efforts undertaken by MLSG and UNDP related to the new PSLDD and AP, a communication company was hired to implement media promotion, communication, and visibility activities on behalf of the MLSG, during April-August 2021.

The contractor delivered the following services:

- Videos from interviews with 7 citizens and government officials on the subject matter
- Photographs from each interview
- Graphic design of media announcements
- Publication and promotion of interviews on social media platforms

The contractor completed the activities on 8 Aug 2021.

#### **3.1.2. Translation, e-publication and printing of the new PSLDD and AP**

MLSG requested UNDP support to:

- Translate the PSLDD and AP from Macedonian into Albanian and into English,
- Develop design proposals for e-publication and printing of the new PSLDD and AP (all language versions), and
- Print a limited circulation of the new PSLDD and AP (all language versions).

The tasks were successfully completed, as follows:

- PSLDD translation on 7 May 2021
- PSLDD design on 25 May 2021
- AP translation on 20 Oct 2021
- AP design on 27 Oct 2021
- PSLDD and AP printing on 25 Nov 2021

### **3.2. Communication Equipment and Training**

#### **3.2.1. Equipment**

UNDP implemented a purchase procedure of adequate communication equipment on behalf of the MLSG and per MLSG specification. The activity was completed end-April 2021 and supplied MLSG with a multifunction all-in-one office device.

#### **3.2.2. Training**

Per MLSG request, a certified company hired by UNDP delivered basic training to two MLSG employees on using and maintaining SOPHOS Firewall equipment. The training was delivered on 4 May 2021.

## 2021 Expenses Report

Category	Price (USD)
<b>New PSLDD 2021-2026 and AP 2021-2023</b>	
National consultants	11,681.74
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>11,681.74</b>
<b>Due Diligence of State Inspectorate Law</b>	
Local Consultant – Legal/Institutional Expert (1)	3,520.80
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>3,520.80</b>
<b>Communication &amp; visibility</b>	
Media communications company	2,847.5
Translation of Output Documents to Albanian and English	3,324.23
Design of Output Documents for e-publication and printing	610.22
Printing of Output Documents	1,442.18
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>8,224.13</b>
<b>Communication equipment and training</b>	
Purchase of MFP/AIO/MFD	445.1
Training in SOPHOS Firewall	428.30
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>873.40</b>
<b>UNDP service costs</b>	
GMS and local office support	941.06
<b>Subtotal:</b>	<b>941.06</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL:</b>	<b>25,241.13</b>

Following the completion of project activities, the project has an unspent balance of 128.91 USD.