



**LOCAL PROJECT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (LPAC)  
REPORT**

**Project Title:** Support Saudi Food and Drug Authority Second Strategic Plan Implementaion

**Project ID:** SAU10/82003

**Date:** 24 March, 2012

**Time: From:** 1:30 pm **To:** 2.30 pm

**Location:** UNDP Premises

**Participants:**

**SFDA**

- 1- Mr. Fahad Al-Faadel - Strategy Planning Director
- 2- Mr. Ziyad Al Bassam - Accountant
- 3- Eng. Yasser Al-Dawood- Project Manager

**UNDP:**

- 4- Dr. Riyad Musa - RR
- 5- Dr. Kishan Khoday – DRR
- 6- Mr. Yassin Hassan Yassin - Governance Team Leader a.i.
- 7- Mrs. Mayssam Tamim – ARR
- 8- Ms. Sarah Alshoura - Programme Associate
- 9- Ms. Nora Al Saadi - Intern

**Presentation of Project**

Mrs. Tamim started the meeting by displaying a PowerPoint presentation on the second phase of the project with Saudi Food and Drug Authority. The presentation gave a brief project overview and situational analysis. It also explained the project's strategy and outcomes. There was discussion on the role of UNDP, and the specific goals set by SFDA. The meeting discussions generally evolved around the details of the project, and clarifications on UNDP's assistance and mechanisms of work.

**Record of Discussion:**

- Following the presentation, Mr. Al-Faadel spoke about the success of the first phase of this project, and what drove the SFDA to seek a second phase in collaboration with UNDP. He explained how they had closely examined several Food and Drug Authorities around the world, and look to grow in line with them.
- Dr. Musa asked about the differences that exist between the current project and the previous one. Fahad explained that the first phase was a starting one, was on a smaller scale and less ambitious. Now, however, SFDA is quickly growing, and they must address any problems or loopholes found within its structure and organization.

- Mr. Yassin inquired about the role of UNDP during the first phase. Mr. Al-Faadel listed the areas of work UNDP was involved with, and the help it provided in recruiting international experts and consultants.
- Mr. Yassin asked whether it would be more logical to carry out a capacity assessment prior to the capacity development outlined in the project. Mr. Al-Faadel spoke about a certain related exercise that was carried out by *Mckinsey*, but was not too helpful. He stressed the need to build capacities for individuals, tools and processes, and to be able to transfer knowledge to the people within the organization.
- Dr. Khoday stressed the crucial advantages that the UNDP may add to the project. Seeing that it has more than 117 offices worldwide, connecting with other countries may allow a comparative exercise to take place. Also consultants will be much more attracted to a contract with the UN in case of recruitment.
- Mrs. Tamim reiterated the fact that international experts will be more inclined to take on a contract with UNDP.
- Dr. Musa suggested conducting study tours and looking at best practices in other countries. He also mentioned that regulation and enforcement are the most crucial goals of SFDA and therefore there must be a focus on both “intra” and “inter” cooperation with other agencies.
- Dr. Musa suggested using UN jargon in replacing “capacity development” with “institutional strengthening”, and replacing the term “patients” with “citizens” under outcome 4. He also stressed the importance of creating a balance between communication and enforcement.
- Mr. Al-Faadel spoke on the need to develop pro- activity to emerging risks.
- Mr. Al-Bassam agreed to arrange a signing ceremony, during which both parties will sign the project contract.
- Mrs. Tamim mentioned the need to detail the input a bit more, to include the cost of international experts, national experts, workshops, meetings, and study tours to best way possible, keeping in mind that this budget is flexible.

## Recommendations

## Follow-up

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| • LPAC Committee generally endorsed project to proceed,                      | UNDP, SFDA |
| • the project document is approved with minor required changes               | SFDA       |
| • General look over budget and how it can be broken down into<br>more detail | SFDA       |

Approved by:  
Dr. Kishan Khoday – UNDP RR, a.i.

