

UNDP South Sudan

Internal LPAC Meeting

Minutes

Venue:	Virtual (Distribution to all Programme and Project Teams)
Date:	14 - 15 November 2012
Subject(s):	Virtual LPAC for LoA with Local Government Board (LGB) for UNDP project (Support to Decentralization project).

i. Project is submitted by:

Lealem Dinku, Team Leader a.i, Governance and Rule of Law Unit.

ii. Background information of the project:

UNDP South Sudan seeks to implement a 2 year Support to Decentralization Programme with the South Sudan Office of the President (OoP), Council of State (CoS) and the Local Government Board (LGB). The Programme entails UNDP and Government of South Sudan effort to strengthen decentralized governance in Republic of South Sudan (RSS), as envisioned in the Transitional Constitution, Local Government Act (LGA) and the South Sudan Development Plan (SSDP -2011-2013). The programme is structured around four components/pillars: (i) Sensitization and Information Dissemination (ii) Legal, Policy and Regulatory frameworks for decentralized governance, (iii) Institutional Framework for policy coordination and collaboration and (iv) Functional and effective Monitoring and Evaluation system for service delivery. The project closely coordinates with UNDP projects such as Development Planning & Public Financial Management and other agencies supporting decentralized governance projects at state and locality levels. By supporting the development and implementation of “harmonized and comprehensive legal, policy and regulatory framework for decentralization,” the project expects to achieve the following results:

- Increased transparency and responsiveness in public administration within a decentralized framework;
- Increased local development through indigenous solutions;
- Enhancement and deepening of the democratic process as decentralization can better build a sense of community and permits more meaningful participation in local self-governance.

The activity to be performed through the LoA includes conducting of Commissioners' Forum in 9 States of the Republic of South Sudan. The states are:

1. Central Equatoria State, Juba
2. Jonglei State, Bor
3. Lakes State, Rumbek
4. Northern Bahr el Ghazal State, Aweil
5. Unity State, Bentiu
6. Upper Nile State, Malakal
7. Warrap State, Kwajok
8. Western Bahr el Ghazal State, Wau
9. Western Equatoria State, Yambio

The amount to be provided under the LoA is **SSP 289,347.00** (Equivalent **USD 91,856.51**).

The Virtual Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) for the LoA between LGB and UNDP project (Support to Decentralization project) started on Wednesday 14 November and the Programme Team was given until Thursday 15 November (COB) to provide comments and feedback to the document.

iii. Summary of LPAC Member comments:

- It was noted that appropriate UNDP processes were followed.
- It was noted that activities to be performed under the LoA are in line with activities planned in the 2012 Annual Work Plan for the Support to Decentralization project.

- It was noted that the LoA followed the template guidelines and had all attachments [Attachment 1: Project document, Attachment 2: Description of Services and Attachment 3: Schedule of Services, Facilities and Payments].
- Attachment 2 "Description of inputs" total budget is not correctly added and needs to be corrected (total budget for this activity should be SSP 289,347.00 and not SSP 289,348.00).
- The LPAC noted that payment currency in Attachment 2: "Description of Inputs" are budgeted in local currency (South Sudanese Pound) as required. Attachment 2: Description of input should follow UNDP budget codes.
- It was noted that the second annex (detailed budgets of each state) mentioned in Attachment 2 has not been added to the LoA.
- The LPAC requested to know if there are no outstanding liquidations with the LGB for previous LoA(s) for similar activities. It was clarified that the partner has liquidated all the advances it received from UNDP for the previous activities.
- For LoA(s) that are valued at over USD 100,000 or cumulative amount from previous LoA(s) with the partner is valued at over USD 100,000, before the LoA can be signed, a capacity assessment of the financial management capacity of the Government Partner must be conducted. The LPAC noted that LGB has undergone capacity assessment and the overall rating is 'Moderate' which is within the acceptable rate for engagement with the partner.
- The LPAC inquired why Eastern Equatoria state has not been included in the list of states to be supported through the LoA. All other nine states have been included. It was clarified that Eastern Equatoria State has conducted Commissioners' Forum already.

iv. Final LPAC recommendation:

The LPAC endorsed the LoA with Local Government Board for UNDP project - Support to Decentralization project subject to addressing the issues raised by LPAC.

Signatures

1. **LPAC Secretary (Signature and Date)**

Franco Cube _____

19/10/12

2. **Submitted by: (Signature and Date)**

Lealem Dinku _____

19/10/12

3. **PPSU Team Leader (Signature and Date)**

Challa Gatechew _____

20/10/12

4. **Deputy Country Director (Programme) a.i (Signature and Date)**

Amanda Serumaga _____

20/11/12

Agenda: Virtual LPAC for LoA with Local Government Board for UNDP project (Support to Decentralization project).

Participants List: All Programme team