

## Annual Project Progress Report

**Project title:** Assistance in implementation of National Human Rights Action Plan 2016-2020

**Award ID:**

**Project ID:** 00089482

**Implementing partner:** National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights under the President of Turkmenistan

**Period covered in this report:** January 1, 2017- December 31 2017

**Date of last Annual Report:** December 2016

**Date of the last Project Board meeting:** 14 December 2017

**Date of last Quality Assurance and rating:** 27 December 2017

### 1. Project Performance

**a) Please state the expected Output of the Project, set indicators and corresponding CP Outcome (as per project document/AWP):**

<p><b>Project Output 1:</b> Assistance in implementation of the National Human Rights Action Plan (NHRAP) provided.</p> <p><b>Output indicators:</b> By October 2017, the M&amp;E system is approved and fully tested/piloted.</p> <p><b>Output targets:</b> The M&amp;E system is fully operating.</p> <p>b) Were the indicators and output achieved?      Yes <input type="checkbox"/>      No <input type="checkbox"/>      Partially <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>c) If no or partially, please explain why?</p> <p>The target was achieved partially due to changes in the CO approach to M&amp;E system development and the need of aligning with the SDGs monitoring system.</p> <p><b>Project Output 2:</b> Capacity of CSOs is strengthened and dialogue between the Government and CSOs is promoted; Revision of the Law on public associations.</p> <p><b>Output indicators</b> Recommendations to the Law on public associations developed. Number of CSOs representatives enhanced their skills and capacity in non-profit management.</p> <p><b>Output targets:</b> Strengthened capacity of at least 10 CSOs; Recommendations for revision of the Law on public associations are presented to Mejlis.</p> <p>b) Were the indicators and output achieved?      Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>      No <input type="checkbox"/>      Partially <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>c) If no or partially, please explain why?</p>
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**Project Output 3:**

Awareness of government officials, lawyers, attorneys, representatives of public organizations and general public on human rights and implementation of the international obligations of Turkmenistan in human rights increased.

**Output indicators:** Number of public and government officials, attorneys, lawyers increased their knowledge regarding Turkmenistan's international obligations in the field of human rights.

**Output targets:** At least 100 officials increased their knowledge regarding Turkmenistan's international obligations in the field of human rights.

b) Were the indicators and output achieved?      Yes       No       Partially

c) If no or partially, please explain why?

Due to lack of funding the activities under the Output 3 were conducted partially.

**Project Output 4:**

International experience in the field of UN treaty body reporting related to Inter-departmental Committee on Turkmenistan's obligations in the area of human rights mandate is studied and capacity is in reporting strengthened.

**Output indicators:**

Number of consultations on UN Treaty Body reporting held; recommendations developed by International expert reflected in the report.

*Four consultations on UN Treaty Body reporting were held.*

**Output targets:** Quality UPR report prepared and submitted to UN Treaty Body reflecting recommendations of the international expert.

b) Were the indicators and output achieved?      Yes       No       Partially

c) If no or partially, please explain why? Due to lack of national ownership of the National Institute of Democracy the recommendations were not submitted to Mejlis. It was postponed for the next year. This indicator is included into the Project Document for 2018 as a follow up action.

**2. Progress Reporting**

a) Please summarize the main achievements during the project cycle:

**Project Output 1:**

Consultations with the Working Group of the Inter-agency Committee were held through the year. A technical workshop for finalization of the M&E system for NHRAP with international expert was held. The M&E system for NHRAP was developed and submitted to the Working Group of the Interagency Committee for approval.

**Project Output 2:**

Online consultations for capacity development of representatives of CSO strategic planning and 5-day practical workshop with international consultant was held on February 6-10. 18

representatives from 13 public organization increased their capacity in strategic planning and developed a draft of the Strategic Plan for their organization during the consultations. Comprehensive analysis with recommendations of the national law on "Public Associations of Turkmenistan was provided by the International Consultant and shared with the National Institute of Democracy and Human Rights.

**Project Output 3:**

Workshops for members of the Bar on the role of Bar in promotion and protection of human rights were held in Ashgabat and in two regions with an international expert in February 2017. A total number of 50 members of the Bar increased their knowledge and their capacity in human rights standards through practical sessions. 3 Round tables in Resource centers to increase public awareness on human rights in Ashgabat and velayats were not conducted due to lack of funding. The awareness raising seminars in Resource centers in velayats are planned for the next year within the framework of the Project Document for 2018-2020 with Government cost-sharing.

**Project Output 4:**

44 government officials from the Supreme Court, district courts, Prosecutor Office, Ministry of Justice, Bar Association, and law enforcement raised their knowledge and capacity on UNCAT, CERD, ICCPR, UPR recommendations received by Turkmenistan in 2017. 1 round-table with the members of the Interagency Committee and two-day workshop were jointly organized with OHCHR representatives on 20 October -2 November 2017.

18 Members of the Interagency Committee improved their knowledge and skills for participation in the Government's dialogue at the ICCPR Committee. A joint event was conducted with OHCHR on March 1, 2017.

A Two-day workshop for preparation to the UPR report of the 3d cycle was conducted with international expert on 14-16 November 2017. Recommendation for the national report were provided by the expert. The Government is expected to submit the national report to the UPR Committee in

**3. Project Risks and Issues**

The project Risk Log is maintained throughout the project implementation to capture potential risks to the project and associated measures to mitigate risk. The Project Manager shall maintain and update the Risk Log and ensure that risks are identified, communicated and managed effectively.

A number of potential risks are listed below.

Description of risk	Type and category	Risk management actions	Current situation
The lack of funding for certain activities of the AWP	Operational	UNDP management will continue seeking funding for the Project.	Ongoing
The risk of sensitive nature of the project activities related to Human Right and CSOs influencing the	Operational	UNDP will continue advocacy dialogue with the Government in promoting CSOs engagement in policy consultations.	Ongoing

organizations of the events		Activities in this area will continue in the joint Project Document for 2018-2020.	
The risk of cancellation of activities from August to October 2017 due to Turkmenistan hosting Asian Indoor Games	Environmental/Political	The events and activities will be planned ahead and after the mentioned period in close consultations with MFA and NIDHR	closed

#### **4. Lessons learned and follow-up steps (if applicable)**

##### **a) Please provide the lessons learned and further steps after the project's closure.**

Human rights reform, including institutional changes, still faces challenges and slowed response due to critical capacity gaps that exist in NIDHR. Implementation of the NHRAP by line ministries and agencies is slow due to a miramye of reasons from lacking national ownership, human resources and financial capacities to sensitivity of issues.

The reluctance of the Government to cooperate and existence of long, cumbersome government bureaucratic procedures for organizing of any activities and events with CSOs are still bottlenecks. Only through empowering, advocating and promoting rights of individuals by efforts of not only state but also non-state actors, including academia, civil society, local communities and development partners, there can be seen an increased demand in protection of rights and shift towards accountability in practices of state authorities.

#### **5. Transfer of Assets or other related matter N/A**

##### **a) Please state on any past or future transfer of assets made within the project cycle (Attach list of equipment, cooperation frameworks with beneficiaries, etc.)**

## 7. Financial management

Budget item	Total approved in 2017 (in USD)	Expenses + commitments	Budget utilization in % to planned
Component 1	0	0	0
Component 2	25,440.68	25,440.68	100
Component 3	24,655.41	24,655.41	100
Component 4	0	0	0
Project management	0	0	0
Total delivery in 2017	50,344.44	50,344.44	50,344.44
In % to total project budget	100	100	100

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Date: 27.12.2017

Approved by: Nurjemal Jalilova, Programme Specialist



Date: 27/12/2017

