

Project Final Report

Short Term Action Plan for the Competitiveness Agenda for Southeast Anatolia Region (CASAR)

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Acronyms and abbreviations

GAP RDA: Southeast Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme

Synopsis

Project ID	00062019	
Business Unit	TUR10	
Project Title	Short Term Action Plan for the Competitiveness Agenda for Southeast Anatolia Region (aka CASAR)	
Project Partners	United Nations Development Programme, Southeast Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration	
Implementing Partner	Southeast Anatolia Project Regional Development Administration	
Description	<p>The Competitiveness Agenda envisions that GAP regional distinction be based on becoming the “premier testing ground for environmentally and socially sustainable, clean technology-based growth among emerging economies worldwide”. By aligning the infrastructure and social investment of the past with a “clean-technology” approach, the region has great potential to establish regional distinction in global markets. In other words, the region, which has widely been recognized as the cradle of the civilizations, is envisaged to be “the cradle of sustainable civilizations”.</p> <p>The CASAR enjoyed a high-level of political support from the Government of Turkey, and quickly became one of the building blocks of the Government’s \$20billion Action Plan, announced in 2008 by HE Prime Minister Erdoğan.</p> <p>Consecutively a short-term action plan (STAP) was produced by UNDP and GAP RDA to put the Agenda into Action. The STAP aimed at (a) institutionalization and (b) operationalisation of the CASAR. Progress has been achieved on both of these fronts. With respect the operationalisation of the CASAR, due diligence and feasibility studies have been conducted, in consultation with regional, national and international stakeholders.</p> <p>The overall objective of the Competitiveness Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia (GAP) Region Project is to reduce regional disparities in Turkey, by contributing to the improvement of social stability, equality, economic development and competitiveness of the GAP Region. More specifically, the project aims at enhancing the underlying productive capacities of the region through two main strategies of sustainable production and entrepreneurship; and three supporting action lines of internalization, applied technology and clustering.</p>	
Award Period	Start Date: July 2008	End Date: June 2016

Section 1: Project Risks and Issues

Updated Project Risks

#	Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures / Mngt response	Owner	Submitted, updated by	Last Update	Status
1	Continued high-level political commitment to the competitiveness agenda	July 2008	Strategic	<p>Potential effect: Delivery of the output (related works contract) will be delayed.</p> <p>P = 5</p> <p>I = 5</p>	Relevant ministries (mainly MoD) has been involved in the Project and the results of the project has regularly been communicated w/ the senior management at the line ministries.	Cluster Lead	Cluster Lead	<i>(In Atlas, automatically recorded)</i>	<i>High level political commitment secured as the Government of Turkey continued funding two new initiatives on resource efficiency and economic integration both of which are inspired by the Competitiveness Agenda.</i>

Section 2: Output Information

Project ID	00062019
Project Title	Short Term Action Plan for the Competitiveness Agenda for Southeast Anatolia Region (aka CASAR)
Output	Competitiveness Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region Operationalised.
Indicators	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Institutionalization of the Competitiveness Agenda 2. Pilot Investment on Renewable Energy Generation Activity 3. Pilot Study on Organic Textile and Clothing Act 4. Access to Int'l Networks for Renewable Energy Research Activity 5. Planning and Due Diligence
2008 – 2016 Targets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> #1. Competitiveness Agenda institutionalized #2. A Pilot Project on Utilization of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency conceptualized #3. A Pilot Project on Organic Agriculture Cluster Development conceptualized #4. International networks for renewable energy and energy research accessed #5. Planning and due diligence activities conducted for the replication and sustainability of the Competitiveness Agenda
2008 - 2016 Achievements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> #1. Competitiveness Agenda institutionalized (developed/delivered) #2. A Pilot Project on Utilization of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency conceptualized (developed/delivered) #3. A Pilot Project on Organic Agriculture Cluster Development conceptualized (developed/delivered) #4. International networks for renewable energy and energy research accessed (developed/delivered) #5. Planning and due diligence activities conducted for the replication and sustainability of the Competitiveness Agenda (developed/delivered)

Section 3: Activity Performance

OUTPUT 1: Competitiveness Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region Operationalised.		
Activity Result 1 (Atlas Activity ID)	1. Institutionalization of the Competitiveness Agenda	Start Date: 07.2008 End Date: 06.2016
Purpose	Support GAP RDA's capacities in overseeing and steering the competitiveness agenda.	
Description	The Competitiveness Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region, which is the predecessor of CASAR, has been developed as a fully-fledged due diligence and envisioning document within the scope of EC-funded GAP-GIDEM Project, which was implemented by UNDP in close cooperation with GAP RDA between May 2002 and November 2007. The CASAR enjoyed a high-level of political support from the Government of Turkey, and quickly became one of the building blocks of the Government's \$20billion Action Plan, announced in 2008. The GAP Development Platform, an informal forum that brings together public agencies, private sector and civil society organizations, has met regularly to monitor the progress and to offer guidance during the course of the implementation of the CASAR. UNDP provided capacity development services for the institutionalization of GAP Development Platform as the body for overseeing the implementation of CASAR and scaling up the results of it.	
Quality Criteria	Quality Method	Date of Assessment
#1. Competitiveness Agenda institutionalized	GAP Development Platform	Completed

OUTPUT 1: Competitiveness Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region Operationalized.		
Activity Result 1 (Atlas Activity ID)	2. Pilot Investment on Renewable Energy Generation Activity	Start Date: 07.2008 End Date: 06.2016
Purpose	Conceptualization and design of a pilot investment on renewable energy and energy efficiency	
Description	With respect the operationalization of the CASAR, due diligence and feasibility studies have been conducted in the scope of the Project, in consultation with regional, national and international stakeholders. Two large-scale projects have been designed and launched in 2009. Utilization of Renewable Energy and Improving Energy Efficiency (REEE) Project to be implemented in two phases, first of which was planned for the period of 2009 and 2013 and second being for the period of 2012 and 2016	
Quality Criteria	Quality Method	Date of Assessment
A Pilot Project on Utilization of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency conceptualized and implemented in parallel	REEE Project Phase I REEE Project Phase II	Completed

OUTPUT 1: Competitiveness Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region Operationalized.		
Activity Result 1 (Atlas Activity ID)	3. Pilot Study on Organic Textile and Clothing Act	Start Date: 07.2008 End Date: 06.2016
Purpose	Conceptualization and design of a pilot investment on Organic Agriculture Cluster Development	
Description	As noted above, with respect the operationalization of the CASAR, due diligence and feasibility studies have been conducted in the scope of the Project, in consultation with regional, national and international stakeholders. Two large-scale projects have been designed and launched in 2009. Organic as one the projects, Organic Agriculture Cluster (OAC) Project in SEAR is currently being implemented for the period of 2009-2017.	
Quality Criteria	Quality Method	Date of Assessment
A Pilot Project on Organic Agriculture Cluster Development conceptualized and implemented in parallel	OAC Project	Completed

OUTPUT 1: Competitiveness Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region Operationalized.		
Activity Result 1 (Atlas Activity ID)	4. Access to Int'l Networks for Renewable Energy Research Activity	Start Date: 07.2008 End Date: 06.2016
Purpose	Facilitate access to international networks on applied research and development on renewable energy and energy efficiency	
Description	During the course of the Project a series of activities have been implemented with a view to establish and/or maintain networks in international settings on renewable energy research. In this sense, firstly an international networking strategy has been developed and respective actions have been conducted in several initiatives, such as the working relations between Danish Technological Institute (DTI), Harran University, and UC Berkeley in developing a global virtual test bed (GVT) for solar heating projects, and the evolving working relations with the Copenhagen Cleantech Cluster etc.	
Quality Criteria	Quality Method	Date of Assessment
International networks on applied research and development on renewable energy and energy efficiency accessed.	Collaboration protocols, MoUs	Completed

OUTPUT 1: Competitiveness Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region Operationalized.		
Activity Result 1 (Atlas Activity ID)	5. Planning and Due Diligence	Start Date: 07.2008 End Date: 06.2016
Purpose	Due diligence, conceptualization and planning of the follow up action/tools for dissemination of the methodology deployed in development of the competitiveness agenda and dissemination/scaling up the impact generated through the competitiveness agenda.	
Description	<p><i>i.</i> In an effort to scale up the CASAR, the role of Development Agencies in developing and implementing regional competitiveness agendas were analyzed with a view to develop an overall framework for development of competitiveness agendas at the sub-regional levels. In this sense, in 2011, UNDP, GAP RDA, Ministry of Development and the EUD (Delegation of the European Union to Turkey) decided to improve the focus of the CASAR in a way to facilitate development of NUTS2-level competitiveness agendas for TR31 (İzmir), TRC1 (Gaziantep, Adiyaman, Kilis), TRC2 (Şanlıurfa, Diyarbakır) and TRC3 (Mardin, Batman, Şırnak, Siirt). The findings of the field analyses and in line with methodology of replicating and scaling up regional competitiveness agendas, the focus has moved towards development of relevant tools to be used in producing regional competitiveness agendas by the Regional Development Agencies. As such, within the scope of the Project a Toolkit for Development of Regional Competitiveness Agendas has been developed and disseminated to the Development Agencies.</p> <p><i>ii.</i> Within the scope of the Project, a study focusing on the economic growth perspective for the Southeast Anatolia Region has been conducted and a report has been produced. The report demonstrates how the region could grow given the contemporary macro-economic trends as well as the resources of the region that could be exploited.</p> <p><i>iii.</i> In the scope of the projects "Competitiveness Agenda for Southeast Anatolia Region" and "Mitigating the Impact of Syria Crisis in Southeast of Turkey Project" which are already being carried out by the collaboration of the United Nations Development Programme and GAP Regional Development Administration with the financial support from the European Union, a Screening Workshop was organized in Şanlıurfa on 04-05 February 2016 to update the Competitiveness Agenda as the "Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Growth Agenda for GAP Region in the Light of New Development Approach and Impact of Syrian Crisis" for 2016-2023. In this context, the workshop aimed to achieve the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Develop a strategic framework for the Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Growth Agenda for GAP Region,</i> - <i>Identify sectoral and/or thematic intervention areas for 2016-2023</i> - <i>Identify and prioritize needs and potential intervention areas to mitigate the socio-economic and spatial impact of the Syrian crisis on the GAP Region.</i> 	

	<p>In order to share the findings of the Screening Workshop held in Şanlıurfa, consult views and finalize the solution proposals strategically and in terms of content; the Evaluation and Consultation Meeting on “Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Growth Agenda for GAP Region in the Light of New Development Approach and Impact of Syrian Crisis for 2016-2023” was held on 15 March 2016 in Ankara with the effective contribution and participation of 115 persons (40% women and 60% men) as representatives of public entities, civil society, academe and international organizations at central level. The findings of the consecutive workshops have been collated in a Report on “Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Growth Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region (2016 – 2023) in the light of New Development Approach and Impact of Syrian Crises.</p> <p>iv. Inspired by the Competitiveness Agenda, two new (generation) initiatives have been conceptualized in 2016 and has been financed by the Government through 2016 Investment Programme. Said initiatives, which will further increase and disseminate the impact of CASAR will be primarily on integrated resource efficiency in agriculture and agro-based industries and integration of urban and rural economies.</p> <p>v. Finally, the next phase of CASAR has been conceptualized and fund raising activities (mainly targeting the available funds provided by the EU) are ongoing.</p>	
Quality Criteria	Quality Method	Date of Assessment
#5. Planning and due diligence activities conducted for the replication and sustainability of the Competitiveness Agenda (developed/delivered)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Regional Competitiveness Agenda Toolkit ii. Economic Growth Perspective for SEA Region iii. Report on “Inclusive, Sustainable and Resilient Growth Agenda for the Southeast Anatolia Region (2016 – 2023) in the light of New Development Approach and Impact of Syrian Crises iv. Project documents on integrated resource efficiency in agriculture and agro-based industries and integration of urban and rural economies. v. The Concept Note for CASAR follow up phase 	Completed

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