

Country: Republic of Armenia
Initiation Plan

Project Title:	Accountable Institutions and Human Rights Protection in Armenia
Expected UNSDCF6/CP Outcome 3:	People benefit from effective and accountable governance systems and institutions that safeguard human rights, uphold the rule of law, and public administration that ensures effective and human-centred service delivery for all
Expected CPD Output 3.2:	Capacities, functions and financing of rule of law, national human rights institutions/systems strengthened to protect human rights, expand access to justice and combat discrimination, with a focus on women and marginalized groups (IRRF 2.2.3)
Initiation Plan Start/End Dates:	01.01.2021 – 31.12.2021
Implementing Partner:	UNDP

Brief Description


This Initiation Plan (IP) will jump-start the Project that is designed to support the Government of Armenia (GoA) efforts towards inclusive, accountable and effective service delivery in the field of security, enhanced human rights protection and Constitutional reform. The upcoming full-fledged Project is aimed to strengthen rights-based approach in public service to safeguard protection, equality and inclusiveness, in line with the EU-Government of Armenia Financing Agreement "CEPA Reform Facility" and the Agenda 2030, focusing on Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 (peace and strong institutions), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities) and SDG 5 (gender equality). It will be implemented through three components, based on the most imminent national priorities, focusing on human rights, police and constitutional reforms. The Project will be implemented in close cooperation with the Human Rights Defender's Office (HRDO), Ministry of Justice (MoJ), the Police, the Office of the Representative before the European Court of Human Rights and the civil society.

The current Initiation Plan will serve as a platform for stakeholders' consultations necessary to finalise the project document and results framework. In parallel, the IP will also enable consecutive engagement with the partner institutions and provision of support to the GoA and the state institutions to advance reforms in line with the corresponding national strategies and policy documents.

Programme Period:	2021-2025	Total resources required:	USD 58,900
Atlas Project Number:	00122148	Total allocated resources:	USD 58,900
Atlas Output ID:	00117855	• Regular	USD 58,900
Gender Marker:	GEN 2	• Unfunded other:	
Agenda 2030:	SDGs 16, 10, 5	o Donor	_____
		o Donor	_____
		o Government	_____
		Unfunded budget:	_____
		In-kind Contributions	_____

Agreed by Mihaela Stojkoska
UNDP Resident Representative a.i. in Armenia

01.04.2021
Date/Month/Year


Signature

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I. PURPOSE AND EXPECTED OUTPUT

Overview: The European Union has agreed to provide financing to UNDP for a new phase of the human rights Project, within the frame of a bigger Project called “Accountable Institutions and Human Rights Protection in Armenia”. This phase will give continuity to the programme that supported the Government of Armenia in such areas as Human Right Action Plan (HRAP), torture prevention, non-discrimination, gender-based violence and child rights. The new Project will aim to enhance promotion and protection of human rights, accountability of duty bearers and improve service provision. This will be achieved through formulation and implementation of inclusive policies and monitoring mechanisms as well as strengthening the implementation capacity of key national actors to contribute to long-term positive changes in the society and better right protection.

Purpose of the Initiation Plan: The purpose of this Initiation Plan is to ensure smooth transition from the first to the second phases of the project and to complete UNDP necessary procedures related to the project design and appraisal, such as the Social and Environmental Screening Procedure; Design Quality Assurance Report; and the Local Project Appraisal Committee organized among the stakeholders for the final review and endorsement of the Project Document prior to its signature. In addition, the Project will provide support to the beneficiaries to ensure sustainability of the ongoing reforms, particularly in the field of the police reforms, support to the HRDO and HRAP implementation.

Description of Actions: The implementation of the Initiation Plan will allow consecutive engagement with the partner institutions and will provide support to the Government and the state institutions to advance reforms as foreseen by the corresponding national strategies and policy documents. In addition, the support will be extended to the critical activities that are either ongoing or planned for the first and second quarter of 2021, which are not only of utmost importance for sustainability of the ongoing reforms, but would also help sharpen the Project interventions of the second phase.

Equally, the Initiation Plan will provide a platform for stakeholders’ consultations necessary to finalise the Project Document and its Results Framework.

The Initiation Plan will also facilitate the implementation of necessary start up activities in line with the outputs of the upcoming Project on “Accountable Institutions and Human Rights Protection in Armenia” which are:

- ❖ Capacities of the Human Rights Defender's Office (HRDO) and relevant human rights public agencies at the national and regional level are strengthened including on monitoring and accountability;
- ❖ Measures to promote public awareness on human rights with a particular focus on the rights of vulnerable groups are implemented;
- ❖ A new Human Rights Strategy and Action Plan for 2020-22 are effectively implemented and a new HRAP is designed for 2023-25.

In particular, the bridging activities of the Initiation Plan include:

- 1) provision of support to the Government and the state institutions in conduct of the 5 months training course for the new patrol police officers;
- 2) provision of expert advice to the HRDO; and
- 3) finalisation of consultations, organisation of meetings with the respective stakeholders and preparation of documents for the launch of the new Project.

Project Initiation Plan will be conducted in close consultations with the Donor, MoJ, the Police Educational Complex and the HRDO.

Up to March 2021, the Project progressed in:

- (i) Support of targeted and comprehensive trainings for the new patrol police recruits, covering 21 training modules out of total 25;
- (ii) Analyses on the mandate and constitutional guarantees of the HRDO to ensure fulfillment of its functions and guarantees of independence;
- (iii) Consultations with the stakeholders on the activities, budget projections and the timelines of the upcoming project;
- (iv) Cooperation with the MoJ and the Police on communication and public awareness activities.

The extension of the Project till the end of December 2021, will allow furthering support and ensuring continuity of the patrol police service trainings of 706 new recruits, focusing on such disciplines as constitutional law, human rights, prevention of domestic violence, administrative/disciplinary matters and accountability. This, in its turn, will enable launching of the new service in July 2021, as foreseen by the National Police Strategy and Action Plan 2020-2022.

Next, further consultations and expert advice will be provided to the HRDO in support of implementation of its mandate and timely launch of the activities as foreseen by the second

phase of the Project. Specific focus will be placed on effectiveness of the work of the HRDO in the regions.

Equally, given the delays in approval of the project package by the Donor, the extension will enable organisation of necessary procedures related to the project design and appraisal to be organised among the stakeholders for the final review and endorsement of the Project Document.

II. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

The Project Initiation Plan will be implemented within UNDP Democratic Governance Portfolio under the Direct Implementation Modality (DIM). Under this modality, UNDP will be responsible for the implementation and for the achievement of the expected results. UNDP will ensure the organisational structure of the Project, its planning and progress monitoring, ensuring an effective and efficient use of resources.

A small team will be running the Initiation Plan, consisting of the Project Coordinator, Project Expert and Project Assistant. The Project team will work closely with the national partners, i.e. MoJ, the Police Educational Complex and the HRDO.

The Project Office will be located within the premises of the UN House and will require minimal general operating expenses.

The Project Management Board is not foreseen for this stage of the Initiation Plan. The full reference on the Project Board composition will be provided at the stage of the Project Document appraisal.

III. MONITORING

Quarterly monitoring action and standard progress report for the 1st quarter was prepared by the end of March 2021. The report for the 2nd quarter will be prepared at the end of June 2021. Quality assurance and monitoring will be implemented by Democratic Governance Portfolio Analyst.

IV. WORK PLAN

Period¹: 2021

EXPECTED OUTPUTS <i>And baseline, indicators including annual targets</i>	PLANNED ACTIVITIES <i>List activity results and associated actions</i>	TIMEFRAME ²				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount USD	
<p>Output 1: Accountable Institutions and Human Rights Protection in Armenia</p> <p><i>Baseline (2021)</i> Project break procrastinates delivery of patrol police trainings, HRDO institutional support and start of the new project</p> <p><i>Indicators:</i> Availability of patrol police trainings, HRDO institutional support and new project appraisal</p> <p><i>Targets:</i> Patrol police trainings and HRDO institutional support provided; new project launched</p> <p><i>Related CP outcome 3:</i> People benefit from effective and accountable governance systems and institutions that safeguard human rights, uphold the rule of law, and public administration that ensures effective and human-centred service delivery for all</p>	<p>1. Training of the patrol police officers (RPA) conducted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Implementation of the RPA with the Police Educational Complex - Preparation and extension of the RPA with the Police Educational Complex to cover the second phase of the trainings. 	x	x			UNDP	UNDP	75700	Trainings, Workshops and Conferences	33,000.00
	<p>2. Capacity of the HRDO and implementation of the Human Rights Action Plan strengthened</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support trainings on HRDO mandate in the time of emergency - Organise consultations on the work of the HRDO in the regions and strengthened capacity - Implementation of the Communication/visibility Plan of the Human Rights Action Plan. - Finalisation and dissemination through social media of the PSA on the Human Rights Action Plan and audio-visual recordings of the police interviews. 	x	x					71200	International Consultants	800.00
		71300	Local Consultants	830.00						
		74200	Audio Visual Printing Production (Translation costs)	570.00						
		74200	Audio Visual Printing Production (Printing costs)	200.00						
		75700	Trainings, Workshops and Conferences	300.00						
		71400	Contractual Services Individuals	21,554.00						
		72400	Communication & Audio Visual Equip	96.00						
		73100	Rental & Maintenance-Premises	750.00						
		73300	Rental & Maintenance of Inf. Tech Equip	400.00						
74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	400.00								
TOTAL										58,900.00

¹ Maximum 18 months

² Activities for Q3-4 will be specified at a later stage. Project Document may be finalized and start in the mentioned period.

Annex 1. Risk Analyses

Impact and Probability are based on 1-5 scale (1 = Not likely; 5 = Expected)

Description	Date Identified	Type	Impact & Probability	Countermeasures/ Mngt response
Approval of the expected new Project is delayed.	01.01.2021	Operational	<i>I:5</i> <i>P:5</i>	Regular discussions with the Donor and the Stakeholders to keep abreast on the developments and the timeline.
Delays in implementation of the activities by the national stakeholders.	01.01.2021	Operational	<i>I:4</i> <i>P:2</i>	Regular discussions/planning with the stakeholders.
Re-escalation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and political implications, reprioritization of needs by the Government and national institutions.	01.01.2021	Political	<i>I:5</i> <i>P:3</i>	Monitoring of situation. Communication with partners and stakeholders. Possible redesign of certain activities.
Shift of activities because of the COVID-19 outbreak.	01.01.2021	Environmental	<i>I:3</i> <i>P:5</i>	The activities, to the possible extent, will be supplemented/replaced with digital solutions.