UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Project of the Government of
THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Number: No. 00061401

Title: **Strengthening evidence-based policy processes**

Gov. Counterpart Agency: N/A

Management Arrangements: NGO Implementation /
University of South East Europe

Source of funds: Global Programme on Capacity
Development for Democratic Governance Assessments and
Measurement

Revision code:

Revision reason: Substantive

Operational start date: March 2009

Completion date: March 2011

Initial/revised input
Third-party cost-sharing: Global Programme on Capacity Development for Democratic Governance Assessments and Measurement
Previous input : N/A Revised input: US$ 200,000
UNDP Trac 1.1.2. US$ 32,920
Total revised budget: US$ 232,920

Justification:
This substantive revision of the project document is aimed to reflect activities for supporting governance assessment component. The undertaking of such governance assessment in the area of social exclusion is expected to facilitate the process of national efforts to monitor and evaluate the governance, bridging the existing gap of shared understanding among governments and citizens on the meaning of the democratic governance, through a participatory approach in the *process* of assessing it and with consequent activities for capacity development to do it on the regular bases.

As the project document foresees, the partnership built between the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ministry of Local self Government, Parliamentarian commission, research institutions, civil society organizations and independent experts will result in strengthened transparency and accountability of the government vis-à-vis its constituents. The overall budget amounts to US$ 232,920.
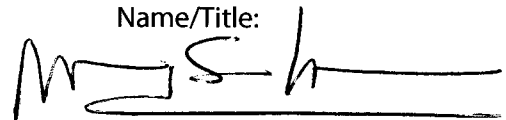
On behalf of: Signature: Date: Name/Title:

March 2009

Maria Luisa Silva Mejias,
UNDP Resident Representative

UNDP:

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DP

ANNEX I

Strengthening evidence-based policy processes

Strengthening national capacity for evidence-based policy making for poverty reduction and social inclusion

1.Background

The project "Strengthening evidence-based policy processes" was designed to provide policy analysts, decision makers and the public at large with an effective analytical policy tool that would continue analyzing people's perceptions on key variables that affect their lives, while based on it exploring and suggesting possible policy options that are responsive to citizens' aspirations and concerns, and support the country's general development and its advance towards EU membership. The report will systematically address issues related to social cohesion, quality of governance and ethnic cohesion, while deepening its focus on a specific theme of particular importance – reflective of the country's actual development and policy priorities.

To achieve this objective, the "People-centred Analyses" report series will continue monitoring people's perceptions through regular surveys, but in addition to the above it will complement with additional sources of data necessary for in-depth analysis of social inclusion and quality of governance, including statistical indictors, policy-oriented analysis of the important issues on social inclusion and governance that will simultaneously look at facts and perceptions to identify the correlations and recommend effective policy actions, and develop methods and monitoring tools for social exclusion and governance assessment.

2. Description of amendments

In the ongoing efforts to foster the approach of evidence-based policy process UNDP and its implementing partner South East Europe University have agreed to add additional activities that would contribute to the ongoing activities in producing the regular report. These activities consist of development of a nationally owned methodology for governance assessment and related capacity building activities of local pool of trainers and researches to conduct the assessment. Such Assessment will contribute to further examine the governance in the area of poverty reduction and social inclusion policies and will mobilize a wide rage of stakeholders that would participate in defining the indicators and consequent development of the methodology for governance assessment. In this way the developed methodology would be nationally owned and consequent capacity building activities that will enable continues monitoring of the progress and development of the quality of the governance. For that purpose, the current project document is amended to include activities related to development of the methodology, capacity and conduction of the governance assessment in the field of poverty reduction and social inclusion.

3. Rationale for amendments

Over the past 15 years, governance has become a key concept in the debates surrounding international development. Governance assessments vary according to the interests, needs and culture of the assessor. Some focus mostly on public sector corruption; others take a broader
approach which can include elements of human rights and democracy examined across civil society, the private sector, the judiciary and government institutions. Until recently, governance assessments were dominated by bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as other external actors.

However there is good reason to believe that when assessment from part of the national actors' agenda, instead of that of external actors, assessment results are more likely to lead to real change. According to UNDP, such country-led democratic governance assessment differ from external assessments in that they are initiated, implemented and sustained by national actors. Through investing in the assessment, national stakeholders believe in its legitimacy and hold it to be relevant.

This is even more important in the light of country's aspiration for the membership to EU and its efforts toward EU accession process. Governance assessment when linked to these processes can be a powerful tool that generates endogenous process of assessment compared assessment done via regular EU progress reports that can be perceived as external, thus, imposed and not necessarily accepted by the national government.

Therefore, in view of the above and having in mind the results achieved so far with the ongoing People – Centered Analyses, UNDP and the South East European University with the support of the Global Programme on Capacity Development for Democratic Governance Assessments and Measurement, have decided to amend the current project document with a specific governance assessment component. The undertaking of such governance assessment in the area of social exclusion is expected to facilitate the process of national efforts to monitor and evaluate the governance, bridging the existing gap of shared understanding among governments and citizens on the meaning of the democratic governance, through a participatory approach in the process of assessing it and with consequent activities for capacity development to do it on the regular bases.

As the project document foresees, the partnership built between the involved line ministries, parliament commissions , research institutions, civil society organizations and independent experts will result in strengthened transparency and accountability of the government vis-à-vis its constituents.

4. Proposed budget for amended activities: 232,920 USD
        UNDP Trac 1.1.2   32,920 USD

        **Global Programme on Capacity Development
for Democratic Governance Assessments and Measurement**   200,000 USD

Project: "Strengthening evidence-based policy processes" No. 00061401

(SHORT TITLE "PEOPLE-CENTRED ANALYSES REPORT SERIES")

I. RESULTS AND RESOURCES FRAMEWORK

Intended Outcome as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resource Framework:

Outcome 1.1. A strategic national vision for local human development and good governance at national and local level in place.

Outcome indicators as stated in the Country Programme Results and Resources Framework, including baseline and targets:

Indicators: Number of strategic documents that reflect the principles of sustainable human development concept. *Baseline:* Lack of overarching National Development Programme/Strategy which would integrate and promote the concept of sustainable human development. *Target:* Measurable progress towards achievement of MDGs and EU accession process

Applicable MYFF Service Line: MDG Country reporting and poverty monitoring

Partnership Strategy: The project will be implemented by the South East European University as a responsible party, whereas the representatives from the parliament shall provide the strategic guidance for the project. Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ministry of Local Self Governance, Institute of economy will be the counterparts participating in the Project Board and facilitating outreach of the Reports' recommendations and results of the governance assessment. Other institutes, universities, Civil Society Organisations and independent experts will be used in an advisory capacity, or co-opted as in the Editorial Board as expert reviewers and in consultation forums according to needs. A broad range of stakeholders from public institutions, civil society, international organizations will be part of the Advisory Group, to ensure that the analytical focus of the Reports and the design and relevance of the methodology and development of the governance assessment reflects the country's actual development stages, priorities and the national policy agenda.

Project title and ID (ATLAS Award ID): Strengthening national capacity for evidence-based policy making for poverty reduction and social inclusion

INTENDED OUTPUTS	OUTPUT TARGETS FOR (YEARS)	INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES	RESPONSIBLE PARTIES	INPUTS
1. Methods and monitoring tools for social exclusion and governance assessment are further developed. Data necessary for in-depth analysis of social inclusion and quality of governance shall be generated and monitored. Analysis of the important issues on social inclusion and governance be produced;	2009: Updated data/indicators; One "People-centred Analyses" Report produced; Capacity and priorities mapped. 2009: Methodology for governance assessment enhanced.	1.1."People-centred Analyses" report: Assessment of social exclusion and people's perception on quality of governance: -Household Surveys -Analysis and consultation -Report production 1.2.Mapping the priorities and capacity for governance assessment -Map and analyse the areas of priority for governance analyses which would contribute to poverty reduction and social inclusion policies; -Assess capacity of national stakeholders, including civil society, and the overall capacity gaps in governance and social exclusion	Implementing Partner	International expert (s); National expert team; Project management personnel; Polling services; Printing services;
	One Survey for data collection; Analysis of the priority for governance assessment and its impacts on social inclusion			

	assessment;			
Indicators: - Updated data/indicators on social exclusion and perception of quality of governance. - Methodology for governance assessment enhanced. - "People-centred Analyses" Report are prepared and produced in a consultation and participatory manner.	2010: Methodology developed and strengthened; One Analysis report.	1.3.Further enhance methodology for assessment of governance: -Methodology preparation; -Methodology discussion and conclusion. 1.4.Enhanced governance assessment exercise: -Survey (of stakeholders/ local governance officials) in accordance with methodology developed; -Analysis and assessment;	Implementing Partner	National expert (s); Project management personnel;
2. A framework for nationally owned governance assessment and evidence-based policy consultation is established with participation of stakeholders, including civil society actors; Indicator: - Multi-stakeholder forum for consultation on governance issues established; Number of the multi-stakeholder forum to discuss the governance issues;	2009: Multi-stakeholder forum for consultation on governance issues established; 2010 2 the multi-stakeholder forums to discuss the governance issues;	2.1. Establish multi-stakeholder forum for consultation on governance issues with composition of representatives from the National Assembly, Ministries, State Statistical Office, Civil Societies, and Think-tanks: Consultation, meetings and agreement. 2.2. Organise the multi-stakeholder forum to discuss the governance issues and the governance assessment results and policy options.		
3. Capacity of government officials, national statistics office and research institutions on evidence-based methods is strengthened through trainings and stakeholder dialogues. Indicator:	2010: 10 researchers trained on governance assessment methodology; 40 stakeholder participants trained on the use of data and indicators;	Training: 3.1. Train the national research team on methodology and research skills for governance assessment; 3.2. Train stakeholders and the involved parties on general knowledge of governance assessment and the use of indicators and measurement;	Implementing Partner	International/ National expert (s); Project management Project personnel;

- Number of researchers trained on governance assessment methodology; - Number of stakeholder participants trained on the use of data and indicators;			

II. ANNUAL WORK PLAN BUDGET SHEET

Year: 2009

EXPECTED OUTPUTS *And baseline, indicators including annual targets*	PLANNED ACTIVITIES *List activity results and associated actions*	TIMEFRAME Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Output 1: Methods and monitoring tools for social exclusion and governance assessment are further developed. Data necessary for in-depth analysis of social inclusion and quality of governance shall be generated and monitored. Analysis of the important issues on social inclusion and governance be produced;	1.1. Activity Result: "People-centred Analyses" report		X	X	X	Implementing Partner	Global Programme		USD 92,080
	1.2. Activity Result: Priorities and capacity mapped		X	X		Implementing Partner	UNDP CO		USD 4,900
Output 2: A framework for nationally owned governance assessment and evidence-based policy consultation is established with participation of stakeholders, including civil society actors;	3.1. Activity Result: Multi-stakeholder forum for consultation on governance issues established;		X			Implementing Partner	Global Programme		USD 5000
GMS (7%)							Global Programme		USD 7000
Communication cost (1%)							Global Programme		USD 920
							UNDP CO		USD 100
TOTAL									USD 110,000

Year: 2010

EXPECTED OUTPUTS *And baseline, indicators including annual targets*	PLANNED ACTIVITIES *List activity results and associated actions*	TIMEFRAME Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
Output 1: Methods and monitoring tools for social exclusion and governance assessment are further	1.3. Activity Result: Enhanced methodology for assessment of governance	X	X			Implementing Partner	Global Programme		USD 20,000

Output	Activity Result					Responsible Party	Funding Source	Budget
developed. Data necessary for in-depth analysis of social inclusion and quality of governance shall be generated and monitored. Analysis of the important issues on social inclusion and governance be produced;	1.4.Activity Result: Governance assessment exercise		X	X		Implementing Partner	Global Programme	USD 47,080
							UNDP CO	USD 7,694
Output 2: A framework for nationally owned governance assessment and evidence-based policy consultation is established with participation of stakeholders, including civil society actors;	2.1. Activity Result: governance issues are discussed at 2 multi-stakeholder forums		X		X	Implementing Partner	Global Programme	USD 15,000
Output 3: Capacity of government officials, national statistics office and research institutions on evidence-based methods is strengthened through trainings and stakeholder dialogues	3.1. Activity Result: 10 Researchers trained		X			Implementing Partner	Global Programme	USD 10,000
	3.2.Activity Result: 40 Stakeholders trained		X	X		Implementing Partner	UNDP CO	USD 15,000
GMS (7%)							Global Programme	USD 7000
Communication cost (1%)							Global Programme	USD 920
							UNDP CO	USD 226
TOTAL								USD 122,920