

**UNDP RBEC
Bratislava Regional Center**

Minutes of the Local Project Appraisal Committee Meeting

Date: 8th December 2010

Subject: Aid for Trade for Central Asia, South Caucasus and Western CIS: Promoting Trade Development and Poverty reduction in Partnership with Finland's Wider Europe Initiative

1. Attendance

Name	Title
Mr. Andrey Pogrebnyak	Assistant Director, BRC, Chair of the meeting
Ms. Agi Veres	Senior Programme Coordinator
Ms. Annie Demirjian	DemGov Practice Team Leader
Ms. Adriana Dinu	E&E Practice Team Leader
Mr. Jacek Cukrowski	Poverty Practice, Team Leader
Mr. Kim Boermans	Poverty Practice, Trade Analyst
Ms. Mao Kawada	Capacity Development Practice, Programme Officer
Ms. Olga Zlatnanska	Programme Monitoring Officer
Mr. Patrick Gremillet	Management Practice Coordinator
Ms. Daniele Gelz	Poverty Practice, Project Manager

2. Secretary of the meeting: Daniele Gelz

3. Project Proposal is presented by: Jacek Cukrowski

4. Background information on the project:

Estimated project budget: 4.6 million Euro

Total requested from UNDP: 0 Euro

Expected donor(s) funding: 4.6 million Euro

Planned project starting date & duration: February 2011 - 3 years

Outputs: Inclusive economic growth achieved in the region through trade and increased competitiveness

Geographic Coverage: Western CIS, South Caucasus, and Central Asia

Major counterparts of the project: UNDP COs, relevant UN agencies, other key external stakeholders include national & subnational governments and international agencies, organizations and bilateral donors working in the field (such as UNECE, UNESCAP, ITC, EBRD, Islamic Development Bank and regional coordination bodies such as SPECA and CAREC.

Project implementation modality: DEX (multi-country set up with the BRC being a lead office)

5. Summary of LPAC member comments

Jacek Cukrowski provided a brief summary of the background of the project and the different activities to be implemented. He also highlighted that in the project document starting dates were changed to February 2011, ending date January 2014, delaying start of the project by one month to the original document submitted. This is due to the fact that phase one will end in January 2011.

The issue of CO's interest to be further involved in the project was stressed. There was intensive communication with the COs at the project doc preparation stage.

The Democratic Governance Practice stressed the need to ensure sustainability of all activities and to have a clear vision of what success the project wants to ensure.

The Energy and Environment Practice has highlighted several areas of cooperation:

- Environment for Europe 2011 (Ministerial conference under UNECE auspices) back to back to it to organise a regional fair on energy efficient production (September 2011). The practice will share further info on the regional meeting with the project;
- Possible collaboration with the E&E Practice on a agricultural biodiversity in Tajikistan- the project is currently being elaborated;
- Other possible areas of cooperation is the green commodity facility (Pascale Bonzom) and certification in biodiversity friendly and fair trade products

The Capacity Development Practice addressed the upcoming Comprehensive Institutional Building (CIB) initiatives in EU's eastern neighbours; Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine - which all have trade related issues as one of their key areas of EC-Government partnership, to see if/how the project can support governments' reform effort on trade issues.

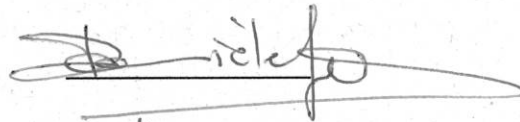
The Management Support Unit highlighted possible synergies with the Black Sea Trade and Investment Promotion Programme. Possible geographical and thematic overlappings should be identified and a close cooperation established. Furthermore, counterparts in New York (cluster leaders), and more specifically Sanjar Tursaliev and Joanna Kazana should be involved in the project.

The project document also benefited from the review and comments from Monitoring Unit, Management and Gender teams.

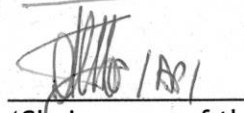
6. Final LPAC recommendation:

LPAC recommends this project for the approval with no further changes to the project document.

Prepared by:

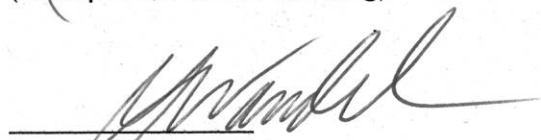


LPAC minutes are approved by:



(Chairperson of the meeting)

LPAC Recommendation is approved by:



Jens Wandel
Deputy Regional Director &
Director of the Regional Centre