



**Country: UKRAINE**  
**Initiation Plan**

**Project Title:** **Support to Reforming the System of Social Services in Ukraine**

**Expected CP Outcome(s):** Sustainable economic development through pro-poor policy reform  
*(Those that are linked to the project and extracted from the CPAP)*

**Initiation Plan Start Date:** 5 May 2011

**Initiation Plan End Date:** 31 December 2011

**Implementing Partner:** UNDP

**Brief Description**

Ukraine has an "institutionally scattered" system of social services which leads to significantly reduced efficiency and effectiveness of the services provision. The current government-lead national system heavily relies on provision of social services in residential institutions. Such approach prevents the social inclusion of vulnerable groups of population into the society. Existing institutions do not apply the mechanism of managing the quality of social services and do not assess the efficiency of services, thus the provided services do not have positive impact on lives of beneficiaries. The Concept of Reforming the Social Services System was adopted by the Government of Ukraine in 2007 to define the strategic directions of the reform. Operationalization of the Concept requires knowledge and capacity of the national and regional government representatives to proceed with the reform, relevant budget funding and buy-in from all stakeholders involved into the process of services provision. The main objective of the Initiation Plan is to explore opportunities for future development intervention to be implemented by UNDP Ukraine aimed at supporting the Government of Ukraine in the reform of the system of social services through (i) sharing the best international experience of a transition country/new EU member-state in undertaking similar reform, and (ii) the development of the respective Project Document.

Programme Period:	2006-2011
CPAP Programme Component:	Reducing Poverty and Achieving MDGs
Atlas Award ID:	_____
PAC Meeting Date	4 May 2011

Total resources required	43,000
Total allocated resources:	43,000
• Regular	43,000
• Other:	
o Donor	_____
o Government	_____
Unfunded budget:	_____
In-kind Contributions	_____

Agreed by UNDP:

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## I. PURPOSE

Ukraine has an “institutionally scattered” social services system which provides services to more than 20 categories of recipients through more than 4,000 of providers, including state and communal residential facilities, day-care centers, civil society organizations. Responsibility for the service provision is placed on six key ministries/agencies: the Ministry of Social Policy; the Ministry of Education and Science, Family and Sports; the State Service for Youth and Sports; the Ministry of Health; the Ministry of Internal Affairs; and the State Service for Migrants. The institutional scattering significantly reduces efficiency of the system by preventing strategic planning and coordinated administrative actions. It also prevents policy makers from establishing effective, needs based priorities when developing and funding social programs from the state and local budgets.

The current government-lead national system heavily relies on provision of social services in residential institutions (so called ‘internats’). Such approach prevents the social inclusion of vulnerable groups of population into the society. Existing institutions do not apply the mechanism of managing the quality of social services and do not assess the efficiency of services, thus the provided services do not have positive impact on lives of beneficiaries. Since a centralized approach to provision of social services is applied, the quality and scope of services are defined based on the financial abilities of state budgets and do not take into account the real needs of beneficiaries. There are no methodologies to assess the needs of vulnerable groups in services at the regional level and at the level of institutions. There are no mechanisms for controlling and monitoring the quality of social services either. The professional skills of the staff of social services providers are usually low.

The Concept of Reforming the Social Services System was adopted by the Government of Ukraine in 2007 with support of international donor projects. It identifies the strategic directions of the reform which include: establishment of the system of quality social services which would meet the needs of various vulnerable groups of population, by modernization of existing and creating new forms of social services; strengthening the management of public expenditures; introduction of the mechanism that would stimulate the providers of services to constantly improve the quality of services; strengthening the role of local authorities in planning, financing and managing the provision of services; creation of conditions for developing the market of social services; etc. Operationalization and actual implementation of the Concept require the knowledge and capacity of the government representatives to proceed with the reforms, relevant state funding and buy-in from all stakeholders involved into process of social services provision.

The Programme for Economic Reforms for 2010-2014 *‘Prosperous Society, Competitive Economy and Efficient Government’* initiated by the President of Ukraine also identifies the reform of the social services as one of the priorities for the Government under the strategic area *‘Increase of the Social Standards of Living’*. On numerous occasions, the Government of Ukraine and the Ministry of Social Policy approached UNDP to provide technical assistance in reforming the system of social services in Ukraine.

The Initiation Plan was developed as a response to the Ministry of Social Policy request for technical assistance in the area of social policy, including the request to study the experience of Bulgaria in reforming the system of social services.

The main objective of the Initiation Plan is to explore opportunities for future development intervention to be implemented by UNDP Ukraine aimed at supporting the Government of Ukraine in the reform of the system of social services through (i) sharing the best international experience of a transition country/new EU member-state in undertaking similar reform, and (ii) the development of the respective Project Document.

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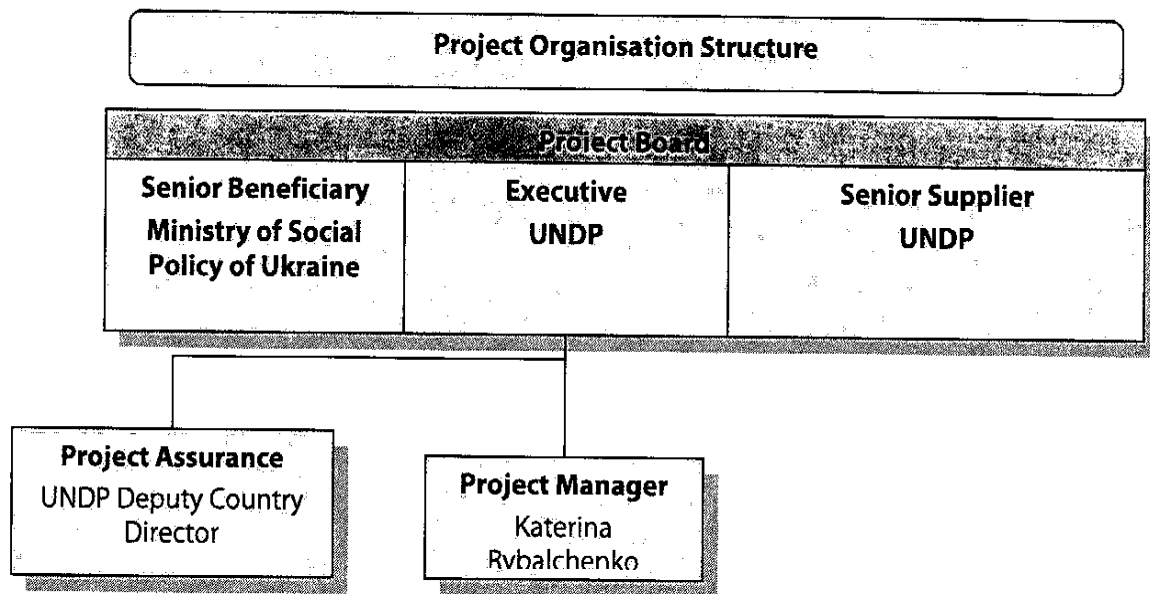
## **II. EXPECTED OUTPUT**

The main deliverables for the Project initiation stage would include:

- 1) The capacities of government officials at the central level (Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine) strengthened to proceed with the reform of the system of social services in Ukraine through sharing the knowledge and best practices of the similar reforms in a new EU member-state (i.e. Bulgaria).
- 2) The Project Document on the comprehensive development intervention of UNDP aimed at facilitating and supporting the reform of the system of social services in Ukraine is developed through consultative process, and based on the experience of the new EU member states and past achievements in this area in Ukraine.

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### III. MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS



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### IV. MONITORING

#### Method

Initiation stage deliverables will be subject of Project Board endorsement.

#### Responsible parties

The Project Board is responsible for conducting the review of initiation stage deliverables.

**ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

Year: 2011

EXPECTED OUTPUTS	PLANNED ACTIVITIES	TIMEFRAME				RESPONSIBLE PARTY	PLANNED BUDGET		
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Funding Source	Budget Description	Amount
<b>Output:</b> The reform of the system of social services in Ukraine is supported. <b>Baseline:</b> The reform of the system of social services though announced and declared has not launched. <b>Indicator:</b> 1. # of government representatives exposed to the experience of new EU member state 2. Project document developed <b>Targets:</b> 1. 10 government representatives exposed to international experience 2. Project document developed	Action 1. Organization of study tour for government officials to Bulgaria to learn the experience and best practices in reforming the system of social services in the new EU member-state  Action 2. Elaboration of project document for comprehensive development intervention aimed at provision of technical assistance to the Government of Ukraine in reforming the system of social services in Ukraine	X				UNDP	TRAC/04000	71600 Travel	18,000
									72100 Contractual Services
								74 200 Audio Visual and Printing Production Costs	3,000
				X		UNDP	TRAC/04000	71 200 International Consultants	20,000
<b>Total for output</b>								<b>43,000</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>									<b>43,000</b>



Approved by:

Ricarda Rieger  
Resident Representative a. i.