Continued support to the criminal justice reform in Ukraine

Project summary

Project title	Continued support to the criminal justice reform in Ukraine
Country	Ukraine
Budget	2 900 000 €
Funding	Voluntary contribution - Government of Denmark
Duration	42 months (1 September 2015 - 28 February 2019)
Partners and beneficiaries	Public Prosecution Service of Ukraine, including prosecutorial self-governance and support bodies, National Academy of Prosecutors of Ukraine; Coordination Centre for Legal Aid Providing (CCLAP) and centres providing free secondary legal aid; legal professionals.
Main objective	to support the implementation of the criminal justice reform in Ukraine, ensuring full compliance with the relevant Council of Europe standards.
Expected outputs and results	 The reform of the Public Prosecutor's Office (PPO) of Ukraine is implemented according to the Council of Europe (CoE) standards and best practices: the legal framework concerned with the role, organisation and functioning of the prosecution system, including the procedural one, is further aligned to CoE standards; an efficient organisational structure and an operational framework, based on the decentralisation principle and modern management methods, are introduced in the PPO; the institutional capacities of the self-governing bodies of the PPO to carry out effectively their mandates are built. The system of free legal aid (FLA) of Ukraine is supported in view of ensuring the access to quality legal assistance, as part of the right of access to justice in line with Council of Europe standards: the laws and subordinated regulations on cases, conditions and procedure of provision of FLA in criminal procedure are further aligned to the CoE standards; analytical and monitoring capacities of the CCLAP and its regional branches are sufficient to support the policy development and a decentralised, more efficient administration

- of the FLA system in criminal matters;
- the FLA training system to enhance knowledge and skills with regards to criminal justice is made sustainable by its gradual institutionalisation, building up of the internal training capacities, standardisation of training programs and curricula, development of new training courses and materials etc.
- 3. Active public participation is facilitated in the processes of reforming the PPO and strengthening the FLA system, public confidence in these institutions is increased:
 - reforms of the primary target institutions and measures conducted with the project's support are implemented in a transparent and participatory manner and are accompanied by information and awareness raising campaigns at the central and local levels;
 - civil society organisations actively monitor the implementation of reforms related to the PPO and FLA system and participate in the policy formulation and implementation practices through specific interaction and cooperation mechanisms;
 - the level of the public awareness on the basic rights and safeguards enshrined in the criminal justice legislation is assessed and the relevant findings are duly reflected in the outreach strategies of the PPO and FLA system. The public confidence in the PPO and FLA system has improved by at least 20%;
 - the information on fundamental human rights and their protection mechanisms, as well as the activities of the primary target institutions is regularly communicated to the public, stakeholders and professional groups at the central and local levels.