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Implemented by

INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT TO THE COMMUNITIES ASSOCIATION OF **ARMENIA** (CAA)

CONTEXT

The Council of Europe Action Plan for Armenia aims to assist Armenia in the country's continued efforts to meet its statutory and specific obligations as a member state. The plan includes a component on local democracy to further enhance the accountability, effectiveness and efficiency of the local self-government system in Armenia. A strong and efficient association of local authorities is a core element of a good local governance system, as provided for by the principles of the European Charter of Local Self-Government.

The implementation of the Project is financed by the Government of Switzerland and the Council of Europe. Support is provided in the framework of the 4-year-programme "Improvement of the local self-governance system" coordinated by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation in partnership with the *Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), the World Bank and the Territorial Development Fund (TDF).

OBJECTIVE

The overall goal is to enhance the capacity of the Communities Association of Armenia (CAA) to become an active stakeholder in the governance system of the country, in line with Recommendation 351 (2014) on the state of local democracy in Armenia, adopted by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe in March 2014.

The project will support the organisational development of CAA and facilitate its immediate and long-term participation in the local self-government reform. The CAA will reinforce its power of advocacy and authority to influence decision makers in order to improve the national policy dialogue on decentralisation. The project will generate a spirit of co-operation and dialogue among stakeholders and promote the principles of local democracy as enshrined in the European Charter of Local Self-Government.

EXPECTED RESULTS

By the end of the Project, the CAA is expected to have:

- ▶ elaborated an organisational development strategy supported by its members;
- ▶ strengthened its internal governance and system of management;
- ▶ improved the communication with its members;
- ▶ advanced its administrative and financial management.

STRATEGY

Through a series of interventions, training, technical assistance and expert support, the CAA is expected to improve its internal governance, provide better services to its members, mobilise them so that they can intervene with a unified voice in the national policy dialogue on decentralisation and be consulted by national authorities.

COUNTRY: ARMENIA

Timeframe

01.11.2014 – 30.04.2017

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation Contribution

674,500 Euro

Council of Europe contribution

150,125 Euro

Implementing institution

Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Main partners

Communities Association of Armenia
Local Government Units
Government of Armenia

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