

MONTHLY REPORT 02/2009**Cut-off date : 28/02/2009****GEPAC Team Monthly Report**

<div>Project : VC/779 GEPAC</div> <div>Support to the Anti-corruption Strategy of Georgia</div>				
<u>Expiry dates</u>		Budget	USD	EUR
Execution of contracts:	31.03.2009	VC Netherlands		-
Reported Period	1-28 February 2009	Total		700.000

1. Programme implementation

Summary of the current status of the programme (outputs and activities)

Overall objective:

To contribute to democracy and the rule of law through the prevention and control of corruption in Georgia in accordance with European and other international standards as well as GRECO recommendations.

Project purpose

To ensure the effective implementation of Georgia's Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan.

Indicators of Achievement:

Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan are further elaborated/updated and reflect all GRECO recommendations issued during the Second Round Evaluation Report and OECD/ACN Monitoring Reports.

Description of activities, outcomes, and status during the period of the report as compared to the implementation schedule

Output 2. Review of the AC Strategy and Action Plan

Activity 2.1.- (Assist and advice the main counterpart institution on how to further elaborate and update the AC Strategy and AP)

- Meeting of the Working Group of AC Council held. Involvement of NGOs in the process of monitoring fulfilment of Anticorruption Strategy and Action Plan Discussed; increase the number of NGOs involved in this process and extend their functions agreed.

The participants of the meeting agreed to divide the action plan not by the topics but by the institutions, that would make the action plan more comprehensive. NGO representatives suggested to shorten the reporting period from 6 months to 3 months. They agreed that reports should be submitted to the Anti-corruption Council as well as to the Prime-minister. The representative of the Ministry of Justice would create the template for the report, to simplify reporting process for the ministries.

Besides draft of amendments to the Law on Conflict of Interests and Corruption within the Public Service was introduced. It was decided that draft law would be placed on the website that would give opportunity to everyone to submit their comments and suggestions on it.

- Meetings with the Chamber of Control, Ministries of Justice and Internal Affairs, Chief Adviser to the Prime Minister, GYLA, OSGF, Liberty Institute held; issues concerning mechanisms for functioning of AC Council were discussed. The participants of the meetings exchanged their views on how the anticorruption strategy should be developed, generally what kind of issues it should involve, whether it should be general or detailed. They also discussed the mechanism of monitoring the implementation of the strategy. They also discussed the role of NGOs in all above mentioned process and their contribution to the functioning of AC council.

Activity 2.2.- 2 Organise two corruption perception and attitude surveys on corruption levels

Meeting with the nominated Company, GORBI held; main issues for further cooperation discussed; timetable for preliminary activities for the process and for conducting surveys agreed. The parties discussed the terms and conditions for conducting survey and agreed that GORBI would be provided with draft contract by 20th of February. GORBI was provided with needed documentations for preparatory work.

The GEPAC team met with Chief Adviser to the Prime Minister, Vato Lejava. They discussed the survey questionnaires in details and made comments on certain details of the questions mainly. They agreed that some questions in the questionnaires are not properly formulated and adapted to Georgian context and the titles of some state institutions in the questionnaire should be corrected as well. After the meeting the team requested information on state agencies from the Civil Service Bureau of Georgia provided GORBI with the list of all state agencies of Georgia with their sub units.

Meeting with GORBI and Vato Lejava held. The parties generally discussed the survey questionnaires and agreed to continue preparatory work before an official contract with COE were produced and signed.

Current and anticipated problems, including planned remedial actions
The contract with the survey company GORBI has not been concluded yet.
Planned major activities and schedule for the next period
<p>Output 2. Review of the AC Strategy and Action Plan</p> <p>Activity 2.1.- (Assist and advice the main counterpart institution on how to further elaborate and update the AC Strategy and AP)</p> <p>March 11, Workshop on “Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Anticorruption Bodies</p> <p>Activity 2.2.- Organise two corruption perception and attitude surveys on corruption levels</p> <p>Concluding contract with GORBI. Commencing the process of conducting the Surveys</p>
Other <i>(Activities of relevance, other organisations work/activity in the field, bilateral meetings, administrative issues/office status)</i>
none

2. Conclusions:

The activities of the work plan of the GEPAC project concerning (Output 2. Review of the AC Strategy and Action Plan) has relatively progressed due to the establishment of AC council but actual process of developing strategy has not started yet. Supposedly the processes will begun after the workshop on 11th of March once the members of the Council will agree on certain type of model of the Strategy and Action Plan.