Programmatic Cooperation Framework for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus

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CoE/EU Eastern Partnership Programmatic Cooperation Framework (PCF) Georgia: Project on combating money laundering and terrorism financing (PCF-GE)

Project Summary

Project title	Project on combating money laundering and terrorism financing (PCF-GE)
Project area	Georgia
Budget	EURO 500,000
Funding	European Union 90%; Council of Europe 10%
Implementation	Economic Crime and Cooperation Unit, Action against Crime Department,
	Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe
Duration	36 months (starting from 1 January 2015)

BACKGROUND

The Georgia "Project on combating money laundering and terrorist financing" represents one of the four National Components of the CoE/EU Eastern Partnership Programmatic Cooperation Framework (PCF) Programme "Fight against corruption and fostering good governance / Fight against money-laundering" for Eastern Partnership countries. As opposed to other National Components and the Regional Programme Component, which primarily focus on anti-corruption issues, the Georgia Project seeks to assist the host Government in strengthening capacities to prevent and supress money laundering and terrorist financing.

NEEDS, OBJECTIVES, EXPECTED RESULTS AND ACTIVITIES

The overall objective of the PCF-GE Project is to contribute to democracy and the rule of law through prevention and control of money laundering and terrorist financing in Georgia, in accordance with European and other international standards. The Project aims to do so by enhancing the capacities of the anti-money laundering and counter-terrorist financing system in Georgia in terms of legislation, institutional frameworks, skills and operational capabilities. Project expected results and specific activities have been set pursuant to country needs and an agreed approach in providing assistance in this field. The Project will focus on the following areas:

- **Legislation:** assessment and advice;
- **Prevention**: advice and capacity building in the area of risk assessments and oversight;
- **Enforcement:** strengthening the capacities of criminal justice institutions to investigate, prosecute, and adjudicate money laundering and other types of economic crime.

In line with the above, the Project expects to achieve the following results:

- **Expected Result 1**: Legislative proposals are available to make Georgian legislation and sub-legal acts compliant with the applicable European and international standards;
- **Expected Result 2**: Risks of money laundering/terrorism financing at the national and sectorial level are understood and mitigating measures are elaborated;
- **Expected Result 3**: The supervisory and regulatory framework of preventative measures is reinforced for the sectors of insurance, casinos, lawyers, notaries, dealers in precious metals and stones, real estate agents and NPOs; beneficial ownership and transparency of legal persons is enhanced; and
- **Expected Result 4:** Capacities of authorities to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate money laundering and economic crime cases are enhanced.

Assistance activities in each field will include assessments, provision of expert advice, workshops, trainings, and roundtables. The activity results will be documented in technical papers, handbooks, or other **written output** which will be available on the Project website.

COUNTERPARTS/BENEFICIARIES

Main beneficiary institutions of the Project will be the Insurance Supervisory Service, the State Revenue Service, the Service Agency, the Ministry of Justice, the Bar Association and the Georgian Federation of Professional Accountants and Auditors, the Public Registry, the Customs, the National Bank and the FIU, and representatives of law enforcement agencies, prosecution service, and the judiciary.

IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

As the key actor in this thematic area and the EaP region, the Council of Europe Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Action against Crime Department, will be incharge of implementing activities under this Project. It will engage international long- and short-term experts in the field of anti-corruption and economic crime and local experts from EaP countries to that end.

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