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

Funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe



Implemented by the Council of Europe

CoE/EU Eastern Partnership Programmatic Co-operation Framework (PCF) Thematic Programme: Theme III "Fight against Corruption and Fostering Good Governance-Fight against money-

laundering"

2nd Progress Report December 2016

| Programme title | Fight against Corruption and Fostering Good Governance/Fight | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| | against money-laundering | | | | | | | | |
| Project area | Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine | | | | | | | | |
| Reference number | ENI/2014/037-347 | | | | | | | | |
| Project starting date | 1 January 2015 | | | | | | | | |
| Project duration | 36 months | | | | | | | | |
| Implementation | Economic Crime and Cooperation Unit, Action against Crime | | | | | | | | |
| | Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, | | | | | | | | |
| | Council of Europe | | | | | | | | |
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| Date of report | 16 December 2016 | | | | | | | | |
| Reporting period | ing period 1 January 2016 – 31 December 2016 | | | | | | | | |

For any additional information please contact:

Council of Europe F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex FRANCE Tel: +33 388 41 26 29/Fax +33 3 88 41 27 05 Email: jelena.jolic@coe.int Web: www.coe.int/PCF-EaP2 This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Union or the Council of Europe.

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ABBREVIATIONS

| AML/CFT | - | Anti-Money Laundering/Counter Financing of Terrorism | | | | | |
|--------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CSC | - | Civil Service Commission | | | | | |
| CCC | - | Commission for Combating Corruption | | | | | |
| MONEYVAL | - | Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering | | | | | |
| | | Measures and the Financing of Terrorism | | | | | |
| CoE | - | Council of Europe | | | | | |
| GIZ | - | Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit | | | | | |
| EaP | - | Eastern Partnership | | | | | |
| PCF | - | Eastern Partnership Programmatic Co-operation Framework | | | | | |
| EU | - | European Union | | | | | |
| ER | - | Expected Result | | | | | |
| GRECO | - | Group of States against Corruption | | | | | |
| NACAP | - | National Anti-Corruption Action Plan | | | | | |
| NABU | - | National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine | | | | | |
| NAPC | - | National Agency for Prevention of Corruption | | | | | |
| NRA | - | National Risk Assessment | | | | | |
| ODIHR | - | Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights | | | | | |
| OECD | - | Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development | | | | | |
| OSCE | - | Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe | | | | | |
| PCF-REG | - | PCF Regional Project "Fight against Corruption and Fostering Good | | | | | |
| | | Governance/Fight against money-laundering" | | | | | |
| PCF-AZ | - | PCF Azerbaijan Project "Strengthening capacities to Fight and Prevent | | | | | |
| | | Corruption in Azerbaijan" | | | | | |
| PCF-BE | - | PCF Belarus Project "Good governance and fight against corruption" (PCF- | | | | | |
| | | BE) | | | | | |
| PCF-GE | - | PCF Georgia "Project on Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist | | | | | |
| | | Financing" | | | | | |
| PCF-UA | - | PCF Ukraine Project "Fight against Corruption" – Open Advisory Facility | | | | | |
| SIMs | - | Special Investigative Means | | | | | |
| ТоТ | - | Training of trainers | | | | | |
| UNDP | - | United Nations Development Programme | | | | | |
| UNODC | - | United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime | | | | | |
| U.S. DOJ | - | | | | | | |
| U.S. DOS/INL | - | United States Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and | | | | | |
| · | | Law Enforcement Affairs | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

1 DESCRIPTION

1.1 **Contact Person for Corruption Theme**

Ardita ABDIU

Head of Economic Crime and Cooperation Division – DGI Council of Europe (CoE)

1.2 Name of Partners in the Action

The Eastern Partnership Programmatic Co-operation Framework is 90% funded by the EU and 10% by the Council of Europe. It is implemented by the Council of Europe.

1.3 Title of Action

CoE/EU Eastern Partnership Programmatic Co-operation Framework (PCF) Thematic Programme "Fight against Corruption and Fostering Good Governance/Fight against money-laundering" (2015-2017)

1.4 **Contract Number**

ENI/2014/037-347

1.5 Start Date and End Date of the Reporting Period

1 January 2015 – 31 December 2017

1.6 Target Countries

Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine

1.7 Beneficiaries

Regional Main Counterparts:

Ministry of Justice of Republic of Armenia, Commission on Combating Corruption under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Department for Combating Corruption and Organised Crime Prosecutor General's Office of Belarus, Ministry of Justice of Georgia, Prosecutor's Office of Georgia, National Anti-Corruption Centre of the Republic of Moldova, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

Regional Beneficiaries:

- Governmental bodies at all levels, notably specialised structures within the ministries of justice, interior, and finance;
- Ministry units responsible for public administration and civil service;
- Specialised agencies/bureaux/commissions involved in prevention and fight against corruption and economic crime (i.e., anti-corruption agency);

- Financial intelligence units (FIUs);
- Judiciary and prosecutorial services;
- Training institutions; and
- Civil Society.

Azerbaijan Main Counterpart:

Commission on Combating Corruption under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Azerbaijan Beneficiaries:

- General Prosecutor's Office;
- Civil Service Commission;
- State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations/ASAN;
- Police Academy;
- Financial Monitoring Service;
- CARA;
- Custom's Academy;
- Justice Academy;
- Ministry of Education; and
- Civil Society.

Belarus Main Counterpart:

Prosecutor General's Office of Belarus.

Belarus Beneficiaries:

- Prosecutor's General Office of Belarus;
- Governmental bodies assigned to risk assessment policy and implementation; and
- Specialised agencies/bureaux/commissions assigned to prevention and fight against corruption and economic crime.

Georgia Main Counterparts:

- Ministry of Finance of Georgia;
- Ministry of Justice of Georgia; and
- Office of the Chief Prosecutor of Georgia.

Georgian Beneficiaries:

- Ministry of Finance of Georgia;
- Ministry of Justice of Georgia;
- Prosecutor's Office of Georgia;
- State Security Agency;
- Insurance State Supervision Service of Georgia;
- Revenue Service legal entity of public law of the Ministry of Finance;
- Georgian Bar Association;
- Georgian Federation of Professional Accountants and Auditors;
- National Agency of Public Registry- legal entity of public law of the Ministry of Justice;

- National Bank; and
- Financial Monitoring Service.

Ukraine Main Counterpart:

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine;

Ukrainian Beneficiaries:

- Verkhovna Rada
- Ministry of Justice;
- National Anti-Corruption Bureau;
- National Agency for Prevention of Corruption; and
- Representatives of law enforcement agencies, prosecution service, the judiciary, civil society and media.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The CoE/EU Eastern Partnership Programmatic Co-operation Framework (PCF) has been developed pursuant to the Council of Europe and EU Policy priorities in the context of the Eastern Partnership and is a continuation of an earlier Eastern Partnership initiative. The PCF follows the same logic providing the assistance to the Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, and Ukraine) in various areas on both a regional and country specific level. The implementation started on 1 January 2015 and is planned to conclude on 31 December 2017.

The Thematic Programme's Theme III: "Fight against Corruption and Fostering Good Governance/Fight against money-laundering" is one of the PCF pillars focused on supporting reforms and strengthening regional capacities to prevent and fight corruption, money laundering and terrorist financing. It is consists of:

- one Regional Component (involving all six Eastern Partnership countries); and
- four country specific interventions (projects for Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia and Ukraine).

The second year of the PCF cycle was characterised by an intensive pace of implementation of PCF Programme activities in accordance with the agreed workplan. In 2016, the PCF Programme successfully implemented 6 activities including 55 actions, involving 1052 EaP officials (of which 290 were women [27.56%] and 755 were men [72.44%]), thereby finalizing 97% of planned actions for 2016. Building-up on initial efforts made in 2015, during 2016 the PCF Programme actions continued assisting EaP countries with legislative and policy changes and building and strengthening corruption prevention and repression tools. Ten expert advisory papers and 3 model laws were produced and made available, contributing to on-going policy and legislative reforms in the EaP region. Furthermore, a total of 27 capacity building actions (workshops, seminars and conferences) for representatives of the preventive and enforcement sector took place. Forty-one international and 12 national experts were engaged in providing advice and training to the EaP.

The <u>PCF Regional Project</u> "Fight against Corruption and Fostering Good Governance/Fight against money-laundering" (PCF-REG) provided the EaP countries with model laws on Liability of Legal Entities, Integrity Testing and Lobbying (with explanatory memoranda) in an effort to support on-going and future legislative reforms in these fields. In addition to the above, practitioners from the EaP region were equipped with the Practical Guide on Investigating and Prosecuting Economic Crime and the Training Module on Whistleblower Protection, aimed at fostering specialisation in these two important areas.

In <u>Azerbaijan</u>, the *PCF Project "Strengthening capacities to Fight and Prevent Corruption in Azerbaijan"* (PCF-AZ) interventions were geared toward supporting the drafting process of the National Action Plan on Promotion of Open Government 2016-2018¹; developing the electronic platform for monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the National Action Plan on Promotion of Open Government; strengthening training capacities of the Commission on Combatting Corruption and Civil Service Commission² by developing tailor-made anti-corruption and ethics curricula and materials for public officials; and reinforcing law enforcement capacities by providing specialised trainings on complex economic crime issues.

The <u>Belarus</u> PCF Project "*Good governance and fight against corruption in Belarus*", which only started in 2016, contributed to ongoing discussions on development of national risk assessment frameworks for corruption and other types of economic crime. Separately, prosecutors and law enforcement officers increased their knowledge on liability of legal entities which should facilitate smoother implementation of recently introduced administrative sanctioning for legal entities committing economic crimes.

In <u>Georgia</u>, the *PCF "Project on Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing" (PCF-GE)* focused on providing expert recommendations on improvement of the national antimoney laundering/counter terrorist financing (AML/CFT) legislative framework in line with applicable international standards, developing capacities of AML/CFT supervisory agencies, and enhancing specialisation of law enforcement and criminal justice sector institutions on issues including liability of legal entities for economic crime and asset recovery.

In <u>Ukraine</u>, the *PCF Ukraine Project "Fight against Corruption" – Open Advisory Facility (PCF-UA)* continued providing the authorities with expert advice on proposed changes to legislation, continued supporting the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine develop its operational capacities and expertise on issues including use of mutual legal assistance, and guided the National Agency for Corruption Prevention in developing key prevention tools such as the national corruption risk assessment methodology.

In year two of the project cycle, the PCF Programme has not experienced any major setbacks. Shift in priorities of beneficiary institutions, emerging duplicative projects and overall donor fatigue continue to have an impact on planning and implementation of activities, albeit to a lesser extent than in 2015 which to a great extend can be attributed to the good working relations between the PCF Project Team and representatives of the beneficiary institutions.

¹ Formerly National Anti-Corruption Action Plan (NACAP)

² As of April 2016, the CSC is under the authority of the State Examinations Centre.

3 DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

3.1 **Context of Cooperation**

The European Union launched the Eastern Partnership initiative (EaP) on 7 May 2009 at a Summit with its Eastern Partners. The Partnership sets out an ambitious path for tighter relations between Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, through bilateral and multilateral activities. One component of the Eastern Partnership was the "Eastern Partnership – Council of Europe Facility Project on Good Governance and Fight against Corruption", implemented from March 2011 until December 2014 (www.coe.int/eap-corruption).

The current Project "Fight against corruption and fostering good governance/ Fight against money-laundering", under the CoE/EU Eastern Partnership Programmatic Co-operation Framework (PCF), represents a continuation of the previous Eastern Partnership assistance. It combines a Regional Component (involving all six Eastern Partnership countries) with Country Components for Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia and Ukraine. Whereas Country Components for Azerbaijan, Belarus and Ukraine primarily focus on combating corruption, the focus of the Country Component for Georgia is on fighting money-laundering.

The PCF as a whole is composed of five programmatic areas agreed between the European Commission and the Council of Europe. It t stems from the Statement of Intent signed on 1 April 2014 by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the EU Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbour Policy and has been developed pursuant to the Council of Europe and EU Policy priorities in the context of the Eastern Partnership, while relying on the Council of Europe expertise in standard-setting, monitoring and cooperation. "Fight against Corruption and Fostering Good Governance/Fight against money-laundering" is one of the pillars covered by the PCF. It is focused on supporting current reforms in the field of fight against corruption and money-laundering/terrorist financing and building good governance.

3.2 Approach

The Council of Europe has developed multidisciplinary expertise in the economic crime field for over a decade through standards setting, compliance monitoring, and provision of technical assistance. This knowledge has been the backbone of assistance to EaP countries in the previous period and will be used to deliver assistance on the regional and country level under the PCF platform.

In contrast to the previous EaP assistance format which was predominantly regional, with discrete country input, the PCF framework combines an overarching regional component

aimed at all six EaP countries with four country specific components (for Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia and Ukraine). The regional component itself is a combination of regional and pilot activities. Regional activities engaging all six countries will allow for mobilisation of Council of Europe expertise, peer-to-peer reviews and advice, and the exchange of good practices among participating countries. Pilot activities will provide tailored assistance in response to individual country priorities in all six countries. Being run under the same programmatic platform, the regional and country components will mutually inform one another in an effort to provide individual countries, and the region as a whole, sufficient knowledge and expertise.

This also translates to thematic areas being covered under the programme. In line with identified key country needs and priorities, four country components have been developed to cover corruption/good governance or money laundering/terrorist issues specific for each country, respectively, while the regional component aims at addressing issues that emerge as common themes and address needs in areas outside the focus of country specific projects. Support is being extended in the areas of:

- 1) Policy and legislative reform;
- 2) Development of operational tools and procedures;
- 3) Development/strengthening of institutional operational and professional capacities;
- 4) Development /strengthening of inter-agency cooperation;
- 5) Development/strengthening of educational/training/awareness raising capacities.

4 **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

4.1 Georgia Project: (PCF-GE)

- **Overall Objective:** 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.
- **Specific Objectives:** Enhance the capacities of the anti- money laundering and counterterrorist financing system in Georgia in terms of legislation, institutional frameworks, skills and operational capabilities.

5 WORKPLAN/ACTIVITIES

5.1 Georgia Project: (PCF-GE)

Expected Result I:Legislative proposals available to make Georgian legislation andSub-legal acts compliant with the applicable European and international standards

During 2016, Georgian authorities were provided with three sets of recommendations on enhancing national anti-money laundering/counter terrorist financing legislation in line with applicable European and international standards. Pursuant to request of the Georgian Ministry of Finance, authorities were provided with the analysis of existing legislation concerning regulation of the non-profit sector and leasing, casinos, and gambling institutions and advice on necessary improvements that would bring the legislation in line with relevant standards and good practices. Recommendations provided were considered during the development of set of amendments by the Georgian Revenue Service. Additionally, beneficiaries were provided with an outline of standards and good practices on regulating dealers in precious metals and stones, a sector currently not regulated, and recommended solutions for Georgia. The Council of Europe input will be used for development of necessary legislation in 2017.

Expected Result II: Risks of money laundering/terrorism financing at the national and sectoral level are understood and mitigating measures are elaborated

Pursuant to recommendations provided by PCF-GE Georgian authorities in 2016 have focused on gathering and analyzing data at the national level. A draft risk assessment is expected at the beginning of 2017. In order to ensure high level political support to the process, a high-level workshop to discuss the NRA and requirements for harmonizing legislation and practices with international standards, as outlined in MONEYVAL reports, was held with the Georgian Interagency Council for the Development and Coordination of Implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan for Combating Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing. The initiative resulted in heightened awareness of high-level government representatives on the importance of open inter-agency cooperation and communication for the NRA process and faster inter-agency communication regarding the NRA.

Expected Result III: 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

PCF-GE in the course of 2016 supported beneficiary institutions on developing internal guidelines and practices in line with international standards and good practices. Accordingly, representatives of the insurance sector, the legal profession, and supervisory bodies covering all the sectors have been equipped with knowledge of relevant international standards and good supervision practices, including ways to conduct risk-based assessments of the respective sectors and develop adequate mitigation measures. The insurance sector and the legal professionals sector have also been equipped with training modules and a pool of national trainers capable of replicating sector specific trainings nationally.

Expected Result IV: Capacities of authorities to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate money laundering and economic crime cases are enhanced

Through this component, PCF-GE continues enhancing the capacities of national investigating, prosecuting, and adjudicating authorities on processing money laundering and other types of economic crime. Complementary to efforts taken in the previous year, in 2016, through PCF-GE training and expert assistance, Georgian prosecutors begun developing internal guidelines on corporate prosecutions which are expected to be finalized and adopted by the General Prosecutor's Office beginning of 2017. These efforts will be followed by a set of national trainings to further boost the capacities of the prosecution services. In addition to this, representative of the prosecution service and law enforcement agencies improved their knowledge and skills regarding asset tracing, seizure, and forfeiture through a specialised course provided under PCF-GE. Through a specialised course developed jointly with the Justice Academy, judges were trained on the complexity of the issues considered in money laundering and terrorist financing cases, including layering and placement typologies and use of circumstantial evidence in the absence of direct evidence.

6 MODIFICATION[S], ASSUMPTIONS, RISKS AND SUSTAINABILITY

6.1 Modification

In 2016, the PCF Programme had only one minor modification regarding PCF-BE activities. The Belarus authorities requested that the initially proposed activity under ER 2 "training on inclusion of NGOs in fight against corruption" be eliminated to provide room for more specialised trainings on economic crime issues for the criminal justice and law enforcement authorities.

6.2 Assumptions, risks and sustainability

Implementation of all five projects largely relies on the following assumptions:

• Overall political will and continuity in carrying out reforms;

- Willingness of national authorities to adapt policies, in line with the EU and Council of Europe norms and standards;
- Capacity of specific beneficiary institutions to absorb assistance;
- Readiness of specific beneficiary institutions to address issues;
- Capacity and readiness of beneficiary institutions to use the acquired knowledge/assistance.

During 2016, the five PCF projects have faced substantive and operational challenges that affected implementation of project activities to a lesser degree due to mitigating measures put in place by the PCF Project Team after year one of the PCF Programme cycle. The below issues nonetheless continued to be present or had emerged in 2016 requiring further adjustments in order to ensure successful during implementation.

6.3 Substance related issues

<u>Simultaneous and Multiplying requests</u>: The PCF Project Team continues to receive new requests for assistance, which is largely a reflection of emerging issues in the countries. In 2016, the PCF Programme has accommodated a number of such requests where the overall substantive framework, the time-line, and the budget permitted it. However some requests could not be addressed due to overall PCF Programme substantive and implementation constraints;

<u>Rise of twinning projects with substantive overlap</u>: In 2016, the PCF Project Team has witnessed the emergence of a new (post PCF start date) number of EU funded twining projects which overlap, to different degree, with the PCF Programme. This development has created a degree of confusion among beneficiaries, especially where assistance being provided would not be in-sync, and provided room for local beneficiaries to pick and choose the modality of assistance they prefer (e.g. study visits instead of in-country trainings). Steps are being taken to adjust to such new realities as they occur, however this situation seem to persist and create a challenging environment for the programme management and re-design of certain agreed activities.

<u>Slowness of beneficiaries to identify needed assistance</u>: During 2016, the Project Team has faced on at least two occasions (PCF-REG Pilot activities for Azerbaijan and Belarus) inability of beneficiaries to fully and firmly articulate modalities of expected assistance. Although general agreement would be reached on areas of cooperation and first actions would be taken, the beneficiaries would subsequently either abstain from further discussions or the information provided would disable further assistance in the specific area.

6.4 **Operational related issues**

Local recruitment of project staff/instability: Although to a much lesser extent, the issue of staff recruitment continued to be present in 2016. Due to the lower level of interest and greater percentage of unsuitability of applicants, the PCF Project Team faced significant delay in replacing one staff member who left at the end of 2015. A suitable replacement was hired only in June 2016.

Donor congestion and absorption capacity fatigue: Significant but disconcerted donor community continues to have a noticeable impact on the overall distribution of assistance in Ukraine. Simultaneous requests for assistance to different technical assistance providers continue, as does an atmosphere where rapid delivery and quantity is valued over quality and thorough analysis. The PCF Project Team continues taking measures to minimize the impact of this setting to implementation of project activities.

7 LEVEL OF PROGRESS: ACTIVITY AND ACTION BASED APPROACH

The achievements relating to the expected results of the projects are assessed below taking into consideration actions effectively delivered, project outcome indicators, and Year II output indicators:

7.1 **PCF-GE**

| Expected Result I: Legislative proposals available to make Georgian legislation and | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| sub-legal acts compliant with the applicable European and international standards | | | | | | |
| Outcome indicators | Level of implementation of the national anti-money laundering and terrorism financing strategy and action plan and results, is increased; Progress is made in the implementation of Objectives of the National Strategy ,as attested by the indicative data; Ratings provided in MONEYVAL's fourth report are upgraded. | | | | | |
| Year II output indicators | At least three pieces of legislation reviewed vis-à-vis applicable international AML/CTF standards; At least one set of legislative amendments prepared based on the expert legislative review; | | | | | |
| Year II actions | Expert Opinion on Anti-Money Laundering/Counter Terrorist Financing mechanisms for non-profit organizations under Georgian legislation with recommendations; Expert Opinion on: Anti-money laundering/counter terrorist financing mechanisms for financial leasing companies, casinos and gambling institutions, and cash couriers under Georgian legislation with recommendations; Technical paper on: Good Practices in Regulating the Dealers in Precious Metals and Stones Sector with Recommendations on Legislative Options for Georgia. | | | | | |
| Progress made under ER 1 | Georgian authorities have been provided with expert recommendations on how to improve existing legislation concerning the non-profit organizations and leasing companies, casinos and gambling institutions, and cash couriers, in line with applicable international standards and good comparative practices. In addition to that, authorities have been given advice on development of legal provisions concerning AML/CFT compliance of dealers in precious metals and stones. | | | | | |
| Expected Result | II: Risks of money laundering/terrorism financing at the national and | | | | | |
| sectoral level are | understood and mitigating measures are elaborated | | | | | |
| Outcome indicators | Level of implementation of the national anti-money laundering and terrorism financing strategy and action plan and results, is increased; Progress is made in the implementation of Objectives of the | | | | | |

| | National Strategy ,as attested by the indicative data;Ratings provided in MONEYVAL's fourth report are upgraded. |
|------------------------------|--|
| Year II output indicators | At least two events organised in support of development and implementation of national and sectoral risk assessments; At least one event organized and one opinion produced in support of the review of the level of implementation of the national AML/CFT Strategy and Action Plan. |
| Year II actions | Workshop on Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in Georgia for the Georgian AML/CFT Inter-Agency Council, 6 June 2016 Working meetings of the Georgia NRA Working Group. |
| Progress made under ER 2 | The NRA Working Group has spent 2016 gathering data for the NRA, pursuant to guidance received through PCF-GE. PCF-GE has supported the working process in 2016 through an information sharing workshop with representatives of the Georgian AML/CFT Inter-Agency Council, a political body in-charge of implementation of the National AML/CFT Strategy. Discussion of modalities for analysis of risks and development of management systems and expectations from Georgia in this respect under its MONEYVAL evaluation obligations helped foster greater high-level support for the process. |
| Expected Result | III: The supervisory and regulatory framework of preventative |
| measures is reint | forced for the sectors of insurance, casinos, lawyers, notaries, dealers |
| in precious meta | ls and stones, real estate agents and NPOs; beneficial ownership and |
| | egal persons is enhanced |
| Outcome indicators | Level of implementation of the national anti-money laundering and terrorism financing strategy and action plan and results, is increased; Progress is made in the implementation of Objectives of the National Strategy ,as attested by the indicative data; The number and level of trained officers vis-à-vis those involved in the practical implementation of the national strategy, is increased; Ratings provided in MONEYVAL's fourth report are upgraded. |
| Year II output | Monitoring entities/supervisory bodies have been trained on good |
| indicators | practices regarding AML/CTF supervision; |
| Year II actions | Workshop on AML/CFT obligations for the insurance sector, 31 March – 1 April 2016; Workshop on the role of AML/CFT supervision and good practices, 16 – 17 June 2016; |
| | Anti-money laundering and countering of terrorist financing (AML/CTF) compliance training program for lawyers, 1 November |

| | 2016. |
|------------------------------|--|
| Progress made under ER 3 | Representatives of Georgian AML/CFT supervisory institutions, the insurance sector, and the legal profession provided with information and guidance on their roles in implementing and overseeing implementation of AML/CFT regulation. The Georgian Bar Association and the insurance sector equipped with a pool of local trainers on the topic, as well as an outline of a national training programme. |
| _ | IV: Capacities of authorities to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate g and economic crime cases are enhanced |
| Outcome indicators | The number and level of trained officers in operations, including the number and progress of data sharing and financial intelligence operations, is increased; |
| Year II output indicators | Representatives of law enforcement entities and prosecutors trained on interagency co-operation and good practices in investigating, prosecuting and adjudicating economic crimes, including money laundering and terrorist financing; |
| Year II actions | Expert advice on development of Guidelines/Manual on prosecution of legal entities and recommendations on the draft Guidelines; Adjudication of money laundering/terrorist financing cases for judges, 18 – 19 February 2016; Training on prosecution and investigation of corporations for economic crimes, 8 – 9 September 2016; Training on Good practices with Asset Recovery, 7-8 November 2016. |
| Progress made under ER 4 | Capacities of criminal justice and law enforcement officials to investigate, prosecute and adjudicate complex economic crime enhanced through specialised trainings. The Georgian General Prosecutor's Office provided guidance on developing an internal Manual on prosecution of legal entities to be used by all prosecutors nation-wide in handling corporate crime cases. |

8 COOPERATION WITH STAKEHOLDERS

8.1 Georgia

Cooperation with Georgian counterparts continues to be positive. The PCF-GE beneficiaries remain active in design and implementation of project activities. National institutional experts are gladly assuming roles of national trainers and activity experts, where needed. Participant turnout at activities is steady and high. No delays in exchange of information have been observed.

8.2 Ukraine

In 2016, cooperation under the PCF-UA has somewhat improved, largely due to the previous PCF National Coordinator and efforts of the PCF-UA National Officer. With the formation of the National Agency for the Prevention of Corruption (NAPC), the beneficiary landscape has also expanded, which led to an increase of strategic activities. Degree of indecisiveness of beneficiaries in terms of priorities and related assistance needs continues, as does the submission of "urgent" assistance requests. Worth of noting is a slight delay in exchange of information.

8.3 Third parties/Partners

The PCF Project Team continues to liaise with international organizations working on the same and similar issues in the EaP countries (e.g. UNDP, UNODC, OECD, GIZ, U.S.DOJ, U.S. DOS/INL, country specific twining projects) in order to ensure complementarity and avoid overlap. This remains most pertinent for Ukraine which is experiencing an influx of technical assistance programs in the field. At least two activities were successfully implemented jointly with partner organizations: a) the Asset Recovery training in Georgia; and b) the "Corruption as a threat to the national security: prevention, combating, and prosecution" Conference in Ukraine, in cooperation with the OSCE. The PCF Project Team continues to take part in donor coordination groups and continues to exchange information on activities with organisations represented in the five EaP countries. No major challenges regarding cooperation have been observed, but overlap of project portfolios has been noted in Azerbaijan and to a higher extent in Ukraine. Beneficiary inclination to request the same type of assistance from several donors and to go with the first provider continues to persist.

9 VISIBILITY OF THE PROJECT

Visual identity of PCF Programme components' follows the PCF Communications Strategy, agreed between the European Union and the Council of Europe, and is applicable to all programmatic outputs, including official communication, technical papers, activity agendas and presentations, news/media feeds, and project visibility kits (i.e. banners, folders, notepads, and pens).

The PCF-Corruption Programme is paying particular attention to visibility of its interventions. Key Programme documents and information on programmatic events and deliverables (e.g. expert opinions on reviewed legislation) can be found on the webpage of the Council of Europe Economic Crime Cooperation Division (http://www.coe.int/corruption) and webpage sections specifically dedicated to the five PCF Programme components (www.coe.int/PCF-EaP2). Information about specific country activities can also be found on webpages of Council of Europe offices in respective countries (see, Council of Europe Office in Georgia - http://www.coe.int/en/web/tbilisi; and Council of Europe Office in Ukraine_- http://www.coe.int/en/web/kyiv) and office newsletters (see Annex III).

In addition to the two promotional clips on the PCF-Corruption Programme and its interventions in Georgia and Ukraine which were developed in 2015, similar was done in 2016 for the project in Azerbaijan depicting support provided to national counterparts through this initiative (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sd1xRIGalvc).

Lastly, information on PCF programmatic interventions continues to be readily available within EaP countries through webpages and media feeds of respective partner and beneficiary institutions (see Annex II).

10 CONCLUSIONS

In the 2nd year of implementation the PCF Programme was fully focused on activity implementation on the regional and country level. Six activities and 55 actions were realized, thereby completing 97% of the planned PCF Programme interventions for 2016. In doing so, the PCF Programme produced 10 expert advisory papers and 3 model laws for the EaP region and conducted 27 capacity building workshops, seminars and conferences.

Among the major contributions of the PCF-REG project has been providing EaP countries with model legislation and operational guidelines on a number of relevant topics, including liability of legal entities, integrity testing, and whistleblower protection. This has been recognised by country authorities, including Ukrainian and Armenian, who are already undertaking specific reforms in relation to these topics. The PCF-REG pilot scheme continues to be a well-designed modality for responding to country specific needs as they arise, a prevailing occurrence in the region due to on-going or frequent reforms.

On the country level, PCF-AZ has provided marked support to strengthening the training capacities of the Commission on Combating Corruption and the Civil Service Commission and specialised operational capacities of the Anti-Corruption Directorate under the General Prosecutor and other judicial, investigative and financial intelligence bodies. It furthermore served as the main facilitator of expert and public dialogue regarding the draft National Anti-Corruption and Open Government Action Plans on Promotion of Open Government 2016-2018 and source of substantive expert advice for the two Working Groups. In Belarus, the PCF-BE provided contribution to ongoing discussions regarding national risk assessment frameworks for corruption and other types of economic crime and begun building law enforcement expertise on liability of legal entities.

The main achievement of PCF-GE in 2016 was the provision of three sets of expert recommendations on improvement of AML/CFT legislation to Georgian authorities that should provide a basis for upcoming amendments and guidelines to supervisory authorities on sectoral implementation and oversight of AML/CFT rules in Georgia. In Ukraine, the PCF-UA provided valuable advice to the legislature on several of pieces of draft legislation which were not fully in conformity with applicable international standards and practices and contributed further to institutional operability of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine and the National Agency for Corruption Prevention through capacity building programs and expert mentoring. Both the PCF-REG and the country interventions are in good direction toward achieving the PCF Programme specific objectives.

Several PCF Programme activities have not progressed in the expected paste, namely the PCF-REG Pilot activities for Azerbaijan and Belarus, due to beneficiary slowness in identifying needed assistance (e.g.).

11 ANNEX I: WORKPLANS OF ACTIVITIES

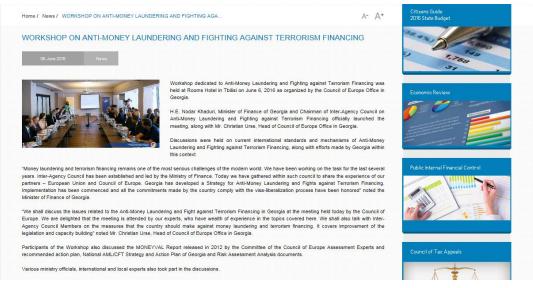
Separate attachment.

12 ANNEX II: VISIBILITY

Council of Europe Economic Crime and Cooperation Webpage

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Project beneficiary webpages



* Report on the PCF-GE Workshop on Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in Georgia posted on the webpage of the Ministry of Finance, 6 June 2016



* Report on the public discussion on the Draft National Anti-Corruption Action Plan posted on the webpage of the Commission on Combatting Corruption of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 16 March 2016

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* Information on the training on Plea Bargaining and Non-Prosecution Agreements posted on the webpage of the Anti-Corruption Directorate with the General Prosecutor of the Republic of Azerbaijan, 18 May 2016



Національне агентство з питань запобігання корупції - HA3K added 8 new photos. October 7 · 💿

В НАЗК працюють над виробленням критеріїв оцінки ефективності роботи

Сьогодні, 7 жовтня, у Національному агентстві з питань запобігання корупції фахівції НАЗК, національні експерти, експерти Ради Свропи за участю представників громадянського суспільства обговорили можливі критерії оцінки роботи НАЗК та вликей Агентства на ситуацію з корупцією в Україні.

Як заявила Голова НАЗК Наталія Корчак: «Процес створення нової інституції завжди є не простим, а антикорупційної тим більше. При цьому надзвичайно важливим і невід'ємним елементом будь-якої діяльності – є підведення її підсумків, оцінка ефективності реалізації».

Під час дискусії представники НАЗК поінформували про здійснену роботу та представили перелії основних статистичних показників роботи Національного агентства з питань запобіїання корупції. Ці показниких характеризують діяльність НАЗК за кожним із функціональних напрямів – антикорупційна політика, організація заходів із запобігання та виявлення корупції, моніторинг дотримання законодавства про конфлікт інтересів та інших обмежень щодо запобігання корупції, фінансовий контроль та моніторинг способу жонтя, запобігання політичній корупції.

Визначені статистичні дані дозволяють проводити збір кількісних та якісних показників, які використовуватимуться при здійсненні системного аналізу діяльності НАЗК, зокрема при підготовці щорічного звіту про діяльність та проекту щорічної доповіді щодо реалізації засад антикорупційної політики.

В рамках зустрічі експерт Ради Європи Михайло Буроменський представив позицію експертного середовища щодо можливості проведення зовнішнього оцінювання ефективності роботи НАЗК в розрізі впливу на ситуацію з корупцією в Україні.

У свою чергу, інший експерт Ради Європи Мар'яна Трівунович відзначила іноваційність підходу НАЗК щодо оцінки діяльності превентивного антикорупційного органу, особливо з урахуванням того, що відповідного міжнародного досвіду дуже мало, а також запропонувала деякі підходи до формулювання критеріїв ефективності НАЗК.

Член НАЗК Руслан Рябошапка підкреслив необхідність здійснення внутрішньої та зовнішньої експертної оцінки, зважаючи на те, що проведення лише внутрішньої оцінки не відображає повною мірою ситуацію щодо ефективності роботи НАЗК.

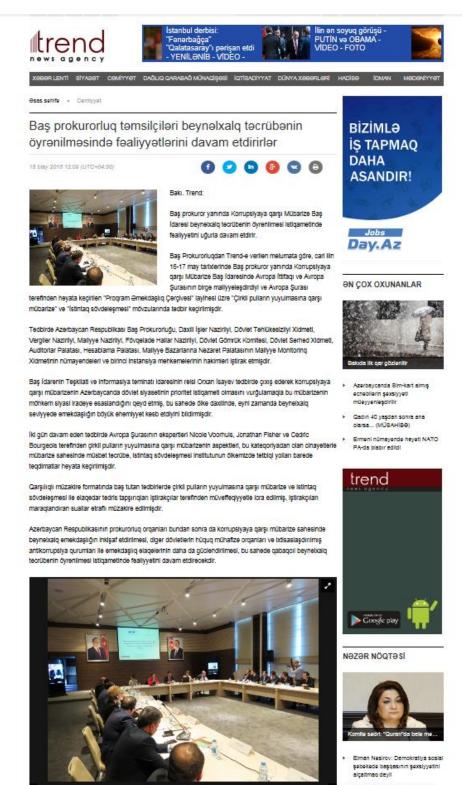
Своїм досвідом моніторингу діяльності антикорулційних органів та можливими критеріями оцінки ефективності їхньої роботи поділились також представники антикорупційної групи РПР.

Національне агентство висловлює подяку Офісу Ради Європи в Україні за підтримку у проведенні експертної дискусії, а також представникам неурядових організацій за участь у обговоренні та надані коментарів.

Ознайомитись із презентаціями можна тут. https://goo.gl/02Xh85 https://goo.gl/syqHpf https://goo.gl/Ma9URD #HA3K #РадаЄвропи #PПP

* News on the PCF-UA Working meeting regarding the development of NACP key performance indicators and progress benchmarks, 7 October 2016

Media coverage of PCF actions



XIN resmisi: Ermenistan Değliq Qarabağ münaqişesi ile bağlı substantiv danışıqlara mane olur * Trend News Agency Report on PCF-AZ Training on Plea Bargaining and Non-Prosecution Agreements, 17 May 2016

Council of Europe Office Facebook Page



* Kyiv Council of Office Facebook page