REVIEWING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE REGULATORY IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS IN MONTENEGRO, 24 JUNE 2013

Purpose:
In January 2012, Montenegro introduced a new requirement that all ministries must analyse whether a regulatory intervention is needed and, if so, which of the possible options is the best solution to the problem. This built upon an existing requirement to undertake fiscal analysis of potential policy options. The Regulatory Impact Assessment process (RIA) brings many benefits including Government processes becoming more transparent and accountable to the public and greater likelihood of the proposed changes working, as stakeholders have been involved in the development of the solution from the outset.

The RIA process enables Governments and citizens to understand the costs and benefits of potential changes and make informed decisions about things that affect their lives. However, more could be done to improve the effectiveness of the RIA in Montenegro. At present, the quality of fiscal analysis is varied, how policies will be monitored and measured is not always explained in sufficient detail and stakeholders are sometimes unclear about how the consultation process actually influenced the development of a policy.

To support Montenegro in making the RIA system more effective this seminar will enable: 1) a review of the first year of implementation, enabling ministries to share their issues and identify any tweaks to the process that would be beneficial 2) the Ministry of Finance to share examples of good RIAs 3) hear practical solutions to the analytical challenges faced by Montenegro from EU Member States.

The intended results are to:
- Improve the RIA process in Montenegro through officials gaining more knowledge of how to:
  - Consider and build issues surrounding implementation of a policy into analysis;
  - Undertake comprehensive analysis with limited resources/expertise;
  - Undertake good fiscal analysis, even if not an economist.

Organiser:
SIGMA and the Ministry of Finance.

Venue:
Hotel Maestral, Budva.
Simultaneous interpretation and a lunch will be provided.

Format of the Workshop:
The focus will be dialogue and practical activities based on the presentations by SIGMA, the Ministry of Finance and external experts.

Participants from the Administration of Montenegro:
- All ministries will be invited to attend. Those that have undertaken or are likely to undertake RIA would benefit most from the session. The Ministry of Finance will invite staff from all ministries.
Indicative programme of the seminar:

10:00 – 10:15  Arrival & coffee

10:15 – 10:30  Welcome & overview of event

10:30 – 10:50  Overview of the SIGMA findings on RIA in Montenegro & international comparisons, Ms Rachel Holloway (OECD, SIGMA)

10:50 - 11:10  Sharing learning about the successes and good practice within Montenegro (Bojana Boskovic, Ministry of Finance)

11:10 – 12:20  How to do impact assessment effectively if you are not an economist? Lessons from other countries (Prof. Ramūnas Vilpišauskas, Vilnius University)

12:20 - 12:40  Discussion

Lunch provided for participants

13:55 – 14:25  Techniques to tackle new policy issues with little data? Ms Rachel Holloway (OECD, SIGMA)

14:25 – 15:00  Building implementation and monitoring into the assessment process, Mrs Rebekah Eden (UK Civil Service)

15:00 – 15:30  Making your consultations even more effective, Mrs Rebekah Eden (UK Civil Service)

Coffee

16:00 – 16:20  Ideas for further implementation of the RIA process within Montenegro, Ms Rachel Holloway (OECD, SIGMA)

16:20 – 16:40  Comments & discussion

16:40 – 17:00  Summary & next steps

Event will close at 17:00

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