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Montenegro priorities report 2014

OECD



SIGMA

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Creating Change Together

PRIORITIES

MONTENEGRO

MAY 2014

Authorised for publication by Karen Hill, Head of the SIGMA Programme

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2014-2020 SIGMA COUNTRY PRIORITIES FOR PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION REFORM – EXPLANATORY NOTE

Aim and structure of proposals

SIGMA has identified the following country priorities for public administration reform (PAR), which are a continuation of the 2013 and 2014 SIGMA assessments and part of a longer-term programme of work. Priorities cover the overall PAR needs of the country, including areas which were not covered by the assessments. Priorities in areas outside the scope of SIGMA assessments are based on other analytical sources and SIGMA's practical experience of working with the country. SIGMA proposes priority 2020 targets for the countries, sub-targets when needed, and sequenced priority activities in 1-2, 3-5 and 5+ year time perspectives.

MONTENEGRO

2014-2020 SIGMA COUNTRY PRIORITIES

The following priority targets are proposed for Montenegro for 2020:

1. The policy making and co-ordination system is in place, with a coherent medium-term outlook, established practices and capacities for policy development, and regular analysis and monitoring of implementation, including mechanisms and capacities needed for transposing the European Union (EU) *acquis* and handling the EU accession process.
2. An efficient and effective interministerial co-ordination of the public administration reform (PAR), including PAR strategic documents with identified and realistically sequenced priorities, which are supported by adequate implementation capacity, overall political steering, and a well-established monitoring, evaluation and reporting system.
3. An optimal public sector organisation is in place with professional civil service and adequate human resource management (HRM) practices across the public administration, public employment gradually shifted to priority areas, and sound administrative procedures, in line with EU principles, followed by all public services.
4. Fiscal sustainability is ensured by the systematic implementation of medium-term expenditure planning, improved capacities of line ministries to plan finances over a medium-term period, with financing decisions determined by good quality fiscal estimations and supported by clear accountability arrangements for budget planning and implementation, in line with EU rules and good international practice.
5. The public procurement system, including public-private partnerships (PPPs)/concessions, is in place and fully operational, in accordance with EU rules and good international practice, making full use of e-procurement, framework agreements and, as appropriate, centralised purchasing. The system provides value for money and is considered fair by most economic operators and civil society organisations.

POLICY MAKING

STATE OF PLAY

Montenegro has established a basic policy management system, comprising a legal framework and the bodies necessary to perform the required planning and policy co-ordination tasks. The Rules of Procedure of the Government are routinely implemented. The institutions at the centre of government each have a clear role in ensuring sound policy planning. The main weaknesses include the lack of formal, medium-term horizontal planning and the absence of requirements to ensure that policy implementation is followed up by monitoring and analysis.

Policy development structures in ministries are notably small, but they have proved to be flexible, through working groups, in terms of mobilising resources for the particular analytical or preparatory work required prior to the elaboration of new policies. Interministerial and public consultation largely works as a routine, but often the application of this tool is technical and comes at a fairly late stage in the drafting process. The formal rules and practices focus on policy development, without sufficient attention being given to the rigorous implementation of new regulation, and an analysis of the actual implementation is mostly not ensured. The relative strengths of policy development practices in Montenegro are the frequent use of informal networks between ministries and the development, to a large extent, of European integration (EI) capacities on the basis of existing policy capacities in ministries used for national purposes. Full and thorough application of regulatory impact assessment (RIA) as a tool for policy analysis, including for EI-related matters, remains a challenge. In addition, the capacity of ministries to ensure well-prepared drafts of regulation is weak and often challenged by the Secretariat for Legislation.

**Target
2020**

The policy making and co-ordination system is in place, with a coherent medium-term outlook, established practices and capacities for policy development, and regular analysis and monitoring of implementation, including mechanisms and capacities needed for transposing the EU *acquis* and handling the EU accession process.

POLICY MAKING

<p>A coherent planning framework exists for a medium-term period, including a realistic and updated plan to coordinate the EU accession process, and a manageable system for strategic planning within ministries ensures coherence in policy planning and provides regular inputs into medium-term resource planning.</p>	
<p>1-2 Years</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI) to update the new strategic plan for EU accession (Plan of Accession of Montenegro), and improve prioritisation of work within the planned actions. 2. General Secretariat, in co-operation with the MFAEI and the Ministry of Finance (MoF), to prepare an options paper for simplifying and streamlining the system of strategic planning by ministries; decide on the lead institution for developing the strategic planning framework in Montenegro. 3. General Secretariat, in co-operation with MoF and MFAEI, to establish a system for the adequate incorporation of new commitments and policy plans (including those resulting from the accession process) into the work plans of ministries and into budget proposals (with the lead institution identified); MoF to design and implement a co-ordination mechanism to monitor the implementation of the National Development Plan, linking it with the future Medium-Term Budgetary Framework (MTBF) and IPA planning. 4. Parliament to elaborate a procedure whereby it starts to define priority laws, for which the Government is asked to prepare specific reports on actual implementation.
<p>3-5 Years</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. MFAEI to continue reviewing and updating the Programme of Accession, shifting the focus from transposition of the <i>acquis</i> to systematic analysis of implementation of <i>acquis</i> related regulation. 6. Parliament to initiate a procedure whereby it starts receiving and discussing reports received from the Government about the actual implementation of key regulations. 7. General Secretariat, in co-operation with the MoF, to simplify and streamline the system of strategic planning by ministries. 8. General Secretariat and the MoF to improve the relevance and use of performance information in the Government's work planning and reporting, following the steps taken to strengthen programme budgeting in Montenegro. 9. General Secretariat to analyse and draft proposals for the establishment of a reporting system of the Government on implementation of sectoral strategies as an integral part of the Government's work planning and reporting on medium-term strategic documents. 10. General Secretariat to review policy co-ordination practices, with a view to identifying further needs for adjusting the system.

POLICY MAKING

The Government is capable of carrying out policy development, which is characterised by regular interministerial discussions and dialogue with non-governmental stakeholders that enable implementation aspects and potential impacts to be taken into account when developing policies and drafting legislation.

1-2 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. MoF and the General Secretariat to draft changes to the rules by which the draft RIA documents would be prepared earlier in the process, prior to public consultation, and are sent each time with the draft laws to the Parliament.2. MoF to strengthen the capability of line ministry staff to undertake high quality regulatory impact assessments through the identification of examples of good analytical documents, which would then be shared across the Government through training sessions and guidance.3. MoF to improve the quality control and oversight of RIAs within the centre of government by making them a regular agenda item at relevant forums, such as meetings of the Regulatory Council and the Government, as necessary.4. Secretariat for Legislation, in co-operation with the MFAEI and the Human Resource Management Authority to improve the system of capacity building for law drafting in ministries.5. Parliament to ensure that their members are able to use the outputs from the policy development process, such as RIAs and details of relevant public consultations, to inform their scrutiny capacity.
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POLICY MAKING

3-5 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none">6. MoF in co-operation with other government bodies to prepare the rules and guidelines and launch <i>ex post</i> evaluation of priority policy initiatives and laws; report systematically on the progress of these initiatives and laws after implementation.7. MoF to amend the RIA process to include implementation as a mandatory section of the analysis.8. General Secretariat and MoF to ensure that the policy making and legislative development process is being informed by the views and participation of the public and by sharing information from “Citizens Voice – e-Petitions” with existing relevant forums, such as meetings of the Regulatory Council.9. MoF to build analytical capacity in ministries to enable the proper evaluation of implementation issues related to a new policy or legislative proposal; undertake a pilot in two line ministries to assess the analytical needs of staff and develop a training package.10. MoF to develop the capability to carry out a true assessment of the overall cost of policy and legislative proposals in comparison to the cost estimated in a RIA; develop a training package for ministries; develop an additional aspect of the cost estimate methodology to address implementation costs, e.g. the cost of enforcement.11. Secretariat for Legislation to strengthen the capacity of ministries to prepare high-quality legal provisions, through detailed guidance, job profiles and training.
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STRATEGY AND REFORM

STATE OF PLAY

The existing Strategy for Public Administration Reform 2010–2016 and an action plan for its implementation for 2012-2014 are currently being implemented. The PAR Special Group meeting held between the European Commission and the Government of Montenegro in early 2014 concluded that many of the foreseen activities under the current strategy will be shortly finalised and that steps need to be taken to prepare for a new PAR Strategy (a solution favoured to updating the current documents). The Ministry of Interior has recently improved monitoring of implementation and is making preparations for more thorough analysis to evaluate the progress made with the current strategy. The co-ordination structure for the implementation of the Strategy and monitoring mechanism was reformed at the end of 2013 and specific working groups were created to monitor the implementation of the Strategy and the Plan for Internal Reorganisation of the Public Sector. Although the situation improved, financial planning for public administration reforms is still fragmented and short-term.

**Target
2020**

An efficient and effective interministerial co-ordination of the public administration reform (PAR), including PAR strategic documents with identified and realistically sequenced priorities, which are supported by adequate implementation capacity, effective political steering, and a well-established monitoring, evaluation and reporting system.

STRATEGY AND REFORM

1-2 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Ministry of Interior (MoI) to continue to strengthen the co-ordination, negotiation and analytical capacity of the structures of the Ministry (training of staff, development of planning and analytical skills, increase in the number of analytical staff, e.g. by means of transfers within the Ministry). 2. MoI to organise an in depth evaluation of progress made with the implementation of the current PAR Strategy, including the work done to reorganise public administration organisation. 3. MPA to enhance the involvement of civil society and the business community and the development of the PAR agenda by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing regular consultation with civil society organisations and the business community on main PAR projects, where appropriate, and ensuring adequate time to obtain advice (making the consultation process less formal and more content-oriented); • Conducting public outreach to inform citizens of reforms being implemented and planned. 4. MoI, in co-operation with the MoF and other key ministries, to prepare the new comprehensive PAR Strategy for the period 2016-2020 together with an action plan.
3-5 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. MoI to ensure regular monitoring and analysis of progress with the implementation of the PAR Strategy 2016-2020; 6. MoI to organise in 2019 an independent evaluation of progress made with the PAR Strategy 2016-2020 and start making preparations for public governance support programmes to be financed under the Cohesion Policy programmes.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND CIVIL SERVICE MANAGEMENT

STATE OF PLAY

Montenegro is currently facing a challenging period regarding public employment. The Government is focusing primarily on meeting its fiscal objectives, which include limiting spending on public employment. At the same time, the new Law on Civil Servants and State Employees (Civil Service Law) came into force on 1 January 2013 and still needs to be fully implemented, with its numerous new elements. The changes introduced by the Law present a genuine opportunity to improve public sector human resources management. The institutional reform capacities for the implementation of the Civil Service Law are mostly in place and are co-ordinated at the central level by Ministry of Interior (Mol) and Human Resource Management Authority (HRMA).

The key objectives for Public Administration Reform (PAR) are set out in the PAR Strategy for the period 2011-2016, in which a core priority is to re-orient the public sector towards a less costly and more effective public service. The underlying analysis for planning public sector reorganisation has been thoroughly prepared, but significant gaps in data still need to be filled before decisions can be taken on well-targeted structural changes in public employment and on the organisation of the public administration.

A new Law on General Administrative Procedures (LGAP) will be adopted in 2014. Technical assistance has started to support the implementation of the new Law. The implementation of these laws constitutes an immediate challenge for public administration reform in Montenegro, as it represents a precondition for the further development of an effective public administration. By advancing the planned changes in these areas also in practice, the basic conditions will be created for concentrating efforts on improving the quality of the delivery of public services to citizens.

Supervision over administrative procedures and civil service management is entrusted to the Administrative Inspection services. Their capacity is weak, however, and they lack strategic direction in their work. The Administrative Court has a well-established working routine but, based on the indications of a number of stakeholders, the decisions of the Court are not systematically implemented. The Ombudsman institution has increased its capacity, but so far it has not prioritised the general monitoring of the public administration and the control of maladministration.

Target 2020	An optimal public sector organisation is in place with professional civil service and adequate HRM practices across the public administration, public employment gradually shifted to priority areas, and sound administrative procedures, in line with EU principles, followed by all public services.
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LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND CIVIL SERVICE MANAGEMENT

An adequate public sector organisation and public employment structure are in place, and capacities have shifted gradually to priority areas of the public administration.	
1-2 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mol and MoF to analyse the progress made in implementing the Plan for Internal Reorganisation of the Public Sector. 2. Mol to draft adequate legislation on agencies and other administrative bodies. 3. Mol to develop techniques and criteria regarding reorganisation and downsizing, through training and best practices on contracting out, abolition and merger of public bodies, analysis of the internal efficiency of public bodies, and management of redundant staff (“internal market of civil servants”).
3-5 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Mol to establish detailed criteria and processes to analyse whether a public service or activity should be developed and directly delivered by the public administration or whether the service/activity could be partially or completely contracted out. 5. Mol to develop further the methodologies for conducting adequate and fair processes for the abolition of unnecessary public bodies; analyse the organisational structure of the entire public sector to identify possible options for optimisation. 6. Mol and HRMA to provide further methodologies to analyse internal (micro) efficiency of public bodies’ organisational structures, to conduct fair rightsizing processes and to manage internal and external mobility (“internal market”); provide HR information systems and planning methodologies for systematic HR data analysis through training and best practices.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND CIVIL SERVICE MANAGEMENT

<p>A professional civil service is in place, the adopted legislation is implemented, and adequate HRM tools are supported by the central HR services, which have increased the capacity to ensure common standards of civil service management across the whole public administration.</p>	
1-2 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MoI and HRMA to support and supervise the creation of HRM units in state authorities and strengthen their capacities through guidelines, regular networking and training. 2. MoI and HRMA to take steps to ensure that all state authorities have prepared HRM Plans in accordance with the national regulation. 3. HRMA, in co-operation with MoI and MoF, to analyse and prepare a plan for more systematic data management for public sector HRM analyses. 4. Ministry of Justice, Directorate for Anti-Corruption Initiative, to support the preparation and implementation of integrity plans by state authorities through guidance and training.
3-5 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. MoI and HRMA to monitor the implementation of the Civil Service Law and continue regular training for state authorities to support good quality HRM. 6. HRMA to strengthen the level of data management and analyses of public sector HR and start regular, targeted publication and dissemination of the relevant information. 7. MoI to conduct a mid-term assessment of the implementation of the Civil Service Law. 8. MoI and HRMA to take steps to professionalise the management positions in the administration, introducing a senior civil service capacity building scheme and considering the feasibility of a separate structure for recruitment and management of top officials.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND CIVIL SERVICE MANAGEMENT

<p>Sound administrative procedures, in line with EU principles, are followed by all public services, and the public administration is accountable to and effectively overseen by relevant oversight bodies.</p>	
1-2 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parliament to consider and adopt a new LGAP. 2. Ministry of Justice, in co-operation with other state authorities, including the Mol, to finalise the draft law on Administrative Disputes. 3. Mol to review other laws containing provisions on administrative procedures and take steps that all sector laws are aligned with the new LGAP once adopted by the Parliament. 4. Mol to prepare secondary legislation needed for LGAP implementation. 5. Mol to adopt and develop an action plan to ensure LGAP implementation. 6. Mol to conduct a specific training needs analysis and prepare training materials for specific target groups. 7. Mol to provide training as necessary for all target groups. 8. Ombudsman to prepare a plan for intensifying its capacities and work in the area of good administration and protection of citizens from maladministration.
3-5 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Mol to provide regular training for state authorities to support the implementation of administrative procedures. 10. Mol to conduct a specific and detailed review of the level and quality of implementation of the LGAP and revise the implementation as necessary. 11. Mol to analyse the effectiveness of administrative inspection services and propose adjustments to the work of these services aimed at obtaining more added value in the supervision of public bodies. 12. Ombudsman to implement the plan to raise its capacity in the area of good administration and protection of citizens from maladministration.

PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT

STATE OF PLAY

Returning to a more sustainable path for public finances is among the key objectives of the Government and is likely to remain so over the medium term. The overall legal framework for budget management is in place, with the adoption of the new Law on Budget and Fiscal Responsibility, which aims to establish a stronger Medium-Term Budgetary Framework (MTBF) and strengthen fiscal rules. The focus on the planning of public finances is primarily for one calendar year. The capacity for macroeconomic estimations is satisfactory, as demonstrated by the Pre-Accession Economic Programme. The key concern is related to weak capacities for budget planning and fiscal analyses in line ministries. Practices and capacities for analysing the costs of current and proposed policies are inadequate for ensuring fiscal sustainability. Montenegro does not currently meet all of the requirements of the 2011 EU Directive on Requirements for Budgetary Frameworks of the Member States¹. Donor assistance is co-ordinated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration (MFAEI), with no apparent system for ensuring linkages with national budget planning.

Developments in public internal financial control (PIFC) are in the early stages, supported by a Central Harmonisation Unit (CHU) within the Ministry of Finance (MoF). Internal audit units are being created, and capacities are gradually increasing, although the overall arrangements for ensuring accountability for the implementation of public funds are not clear and do not support proactive management. Delegation to lower levels of management within budget organisations is allowed but not consistently applied in the public sector. Preparations for the decentralised management of the IPA programmes have advanced to a stage where the European Commission (EC) has made first decisions for the conferral of management to the national administration.

The constitutional and legal framework of the State Audit Institution (SAI) fulfils international requirements with the exception of some aspects of financial and operational independence, as it does not have full discretion in the use of its funds and recruitment of staff is managed by the Human Resources Management Agency. The SAI is an institution respected for its professionalism and objectivity. More focus is needed to ensure proper oversight of the work of the Government, including analysing the ways of ensuring value for money in public spending.

Target 2020	Fiscal sustainability is ensured by the systematic implementation of medium-term expenditure planning and improved capacities of line ministries to plan finances over a medium-term period, with financing decisions determined by good-quality fiscal estimations and supported by clear accountability arrangements for budget planning and implementation, in line with EU rules and good international practice.
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¹ Council Directive 2011/85/EU of 8 November 2011 on requirements for budgetary frameworks of the Member States.

PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT

The Medium-Term Budgetary Framework (MTBF) is in place and is fully implemented, in accordance with the requirements of the 2011 EU Directive on Requirements for Budgetary Frameworks of the Member States.

1-2 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. MoF to ensure that there is a credible and relevant plan for improving public finance management.2. As part of the economic governance agenda, the MoF to prepare the National Economic Reform Programme and the respective bi-annual growth and competitiveness programmes.3. MoF to develop its capacities to analyse the quality of fiscal impact estimations provided by ministries with new policy proposals, including the estimates made for capital projects.4. MoF to take steps to improve basic capacities in all state authorities (including recruitment in many organisations) for budget analysis and planning.5. MoF to define in more detail the responsibilities within line ministries for ensuring adequate fiscal impact estimations of new policy proposals and for preparing specific financial plans that support the work planning and implementation of the Ministry.6. MoF, in co-operation with the General Secretariat, to develop a system for sectoral inputs from line ministries for the MTBF, including preparation of the necessary secondary legislation and of the other underlying rules and guidelines for sectoral (at ministry level) medium-term (financial) plans.7. MFAEI and MoF to clarify co-ordination in planning donor funds and establish regular procedures for discussion of IPA programming in the context of medium-term policy planning.
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PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT

3-5 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none">8. MoF to prepare training programmes for budget and policy staff in ministries and independent state authorities on the elaboration of medium-term expenditure plans within the system of strategic planning that has been established (for more details, see the section on policy making and co-ordination).9. MoF to continue efforts to improve the quality of fiscal estimations presented in RIA documents, the development of the system and the basic capacity of state authorities to estimate the future costs of current policies.10. Line ministries to submit three-year budgetary plans to the MoF, e.g. in February/March 2016.11. MoF to start activities for improving performance information provided in the MTBF and other budget documents.12. MoF to adjust the management of information systems to support new developments in budget management.
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PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT

The PIFC environment has improved to meet the requirements of Chapter 32 of the EU accession process through adequate incentives and tools to ensure managerial accountability, sound financial planning and value for money in implementation, with the SAI providing oversight that supports PFM and PIFC reforms.

1-2 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. MoF, in co-operation with other institutions, to improve the conditions and rules for managerial accountability (including other areas, such as budget management, RIA and HRM).2. MoF to define options for improving commitment controls at all stages of financial management, including optimal controls to ensure the smooth management of public finances.3. MoF to prepare a specific training syllabus and training programme for various key target groups in state authorities.4. MoF to analyse and adjust the overall set-up of the internal audit function, with a view to aligning public sector reorganisation efforts.5. MoF and other government authorities to start the implementation of decentralised management of EU funds; consolidate the rules and procedures in regular national PFM procedures, adjusting the decentralised management system and the national procedures as necessary.6. MoF to develop transparent procedures for the new budget inspection function, as established with the new Law on Budget and Fiscal Responsibility.7. SAI to prepare and propose a new law on the State Audit Institution that would ensure more operational independence for the SAI and continue to implement its Strategic Development Plan.
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PUBLIC FINANCE MANAGEMENT

3-5 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none">8. MoF to develop the capacities of internal audit further as an advisory service to management, with a clear focus on ensuring that financial management and control (FMC) systems are operational and effective.9. MoF to ensure the implementation of a financial management training programme for the relevant public sector employees; adjust the financial management training programme according to the most recent rules and arrangements in the public sector as needed.10. MoF to build capacities for internal control within the EU funds' management and control systems, with a view to preparing for an extended decentralised implementation system.11. MoF to expand good practices of IPA management and control systems to the wider management rules for budget execution, and adjust the rules for IPA programmes to meet the needs of the overall framework for FMC in Montenegro.12. SAI to organise a review of its work, including its contribution to good financial management and more transparent accountability within the state authorities, in its operationally and financially independent role as a support to the Parliament.
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PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

STATE OF PLAY

Since the introduction of the new Law on Public Procurement (PPL) on 1 January 2012, the public procurement system in Montenegro is broadly aligned with the EU *acquis* as far as the classical sector is concerned. Distinction is made for utilities and the EU Directive on defence procurement in a set of draft amendments to the PPL submitted on 28 March 2014. Procurement of public-private partnerships (PPPs)/concessions is still regulated by a law only covering concessions in the 'traditional' sense. The key functions of a public procurement system are matched by the roles and responsibilities of corresponding central institutions.

In the implementation of the Law, there is still a strong emphasis on detailed procedural requirements in the individual case, rather than on sustainability and value for money. Although many contracting authorities are quite familiar with the formalities required by the PPL, they are not as competent in planning and preparation or contract management, and they are sometimes unfamiliar with the situation in the market.

Target 2020	The public procurement system, including PPPs/concessions, is in place and is fully operational, in accordance with EU rules and good international practice, making full use of e-procurement, framework agreements and, as appropriate, centralised purchasing. The system provides value for money and is considered fair by most economic operators and civil society organisations.
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PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

1-2 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public Procurement Administration (PPA) to prepare and adopt amendments to the regulatory framework as required by the new EU Directives and by practical experience and to implement the changes, including the preparation of guidelines and standard documents. 2. PPA to extend public procurement training to cover the remedies system and to include all contracting authorities and economic operators, focusing on best practices for planning and preparation as well as contract management and on the proper use of eligibility, selection and evaluation criteria. 3. The working group on concessions/PPPs in the Deputy Prime Minister’s office to introduce a regulatory and institutional framework for PPPs/concessions in line with the EU Directives, and then to finalise the regulatory and institutional set-up for managing PPPs/concessions by developing secondary legislation, allocating supervisory and management functions to appropriate bodies, establishing appropriate operational principles and practices, and recruiting and training qualified staff. 4. PPA to further increase the use of framework agreements for standard specification items and facilitate the introduction of more centralised purchasing in sectors such as education and health care, e.g. by preparing corresponding standard documents and guidelines, carrying out pilot operations, and preparing plans for future development of the above-mentioned practices. 5. PPA to identify steps to be taken for the comprehensive introduction of e-procurement and prepare a corresponding action plan.
3-5 Years	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. PPA to monitor the implementation of the changes to the regulatory framework, including the preparation of guidelines and standard documents. 7. PPA to develop and put into place a framework for ensuring the sustainable financing and implementation of training activities, updating of materials and guidelines, and quality assurance of trainer skills. 8. The new authority in charge of concessions/PPPs to further develop policies and practices in the field and to monitor their implementation. 9. In application of the previous plans, PPA and other relevant bodies to institutionalise centralised procurement by revising and adopting policies and practices, allocating key functions to appropriate bodies, setting them up as necessary, and recruiting and training qualified staff. 10. PPA to implement the action plan for the comprehensive introduction of e-procurement. 11. PPA to develop the monitoring of public procurement by simplifying procedures for generating and publishing key data covering the whole procurement cycle and the full range of entities concerned and by facilitating their compilation, analysis and dissemination by other parties as well, such as NGOs, educational institutions and the general public.