

“Local Empowerment of Actors for Development (LEAD) in Lori and Tavush Regions” Project

LPAC Virtual Meeting Notes

October 16, 2020

Participants

Mihaela Stojkoska, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative

Vache Terteryan, Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure

Anna Gyurjyan, Manager of Socio-Economic Portfolio, UNDP Armenia

Tatevik Koloyan, Manager of Innovation Portfolio, UNDP Armenia

Armen Tiraturyan, Project Manager, UNDP Armenia

Dianna Areyan, Programme Associate, UNDP Armenia

Louise Skarvall, SDG Liaison Officer

Armine Hovhannisyan, Programme Officer, UNDP Armenia

The LPAC was conducted virtually and the Project Document, together with relevant enclosed annexes was distributed electronically.

The purpose of the virtual meeting was the discussion and endorsement of the final proposal on “Local Empowerment of Actors for Development (LEAD) in Lori and Tavush Regions” Project. The Project aims at bolstering the participation of a wide range of local stakeholders in sustainable and inclusive socioeconomic development of their communities through pilot implementation of the European Union (EU) LEADER/ Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) approaches in Lori and Tavush Regions. The Project is a joint initiative of UNDP and FAO, where UNDP is the leading agency.

The feedback shared by participants was overwhelmingly positive. Participants stressed on implementation of the Project Document, since it aligns to and matches with the UNDP and donor requirements. The document was comprehensively reviewed and approved with European Delegation in Armenia prior to the virtual meeting.

General comments/suggestions provided are as follows:

Ms. Koloyan stressed the importance of potential cooperation perspectives with UNDP ImpactAim (and broader partnership scope with EIF, ISTC, ANAU and others) in the document has been specifically highlighted. Ms. Koloyan further reiterated the team’s readiness to join efforts around supporting

business incubation, deployment of agritech solutions and providing overall SME technical support, as applicable to the scope of the EU LEAD project.

Ms. Skarvall reiterated the importance that the project rebounds COVID-19 and proposed to mention, if possible, that that crisis is amplified by the ongoing regional conflict.

Ms. Hovhannisyan reinforced the importance that the program encompasses built-in mechanisms to promote gender equality and the involvement of the vulnerable groups. As regards to the SESP, Ms. Hovhannisyan pinpointed that Gender and HR areas have been underlined as important-to-watch sections.

Mr. Terteryan stressed the importance of the project and expressed willingness to provide necessary support at national and local levels on behalf of the government. He indicated the project's importance for the targeted regions and vulnerable groups.

Ms. Stojkoska highlighted that for UNDP implementation is an iterative learning process, and the discussion offered a good start for collecting intelligence about the needs and expectations. She thanked all the participants and wished successful implementation to the project.

PAC Chairperson



Mihaela Stojkoska, UNDP DRR