

Annual Project Progress Report

Project title: : Partnering for SDG acceleration, phase II

Award ID: 00128186

Project ID: 00138001

Implementing partner: Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan

Period covered in this report: 2022

Date of last Annual Report: December 2021

Date of the last Project Board meeting: 11.11.2022

Date of last Quality Assurance and rating: 02.12.2022. Satisfactory

1. Project Performance

Please state the expected Output of the Project, set indicators and corresponding CP Outcome (as per project document/AWP): Outcome 1 of the SDCF UN-TKM 2021-2025: By 2025, people have access to more effective, innovative, and transparent public administration based upon the rule of law, human and labour rights, gender equality and quality data.

Output 1.1: Policies, institutional, and financing mechanisms strengthened for implementation, measurement, and monitoring of nationalized SDG indicators and targets

Project Output 1: Provided assistance on financing for development in the context of SDG implementation

Output indicators: 1.1 Draft periodic national report on the progress of the SDGs have been prepared
National report prepared

Output targets: yes

b) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes ☒ No ☐ Partially ☐

c) If no or partially, please explain why?

The national report on the progress of achieving the SDGs for 2015-2021 has been prepared. The draft Voluntary National Review of Turkmenistan for presentation at the High Level Political Forum in 2023 will be prepared next year

Output indicators: 1.2 Series of meetings of thematic expert groups according to the priority areas of the SDGs were held

Output targets: yes

b) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes ☒ No ☐ Partially ☐

c) If no or partially, please explain why?

The project, together with the office of the UN Resident Representative in Turkmenistan, participated in a series of consultations on updating and inventorying the SDG matrix

Output indicators: 1.3 Technical support for the preparation of the Voluntary National Report provided

Output targets: yes

b) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes ☒ No ☐ Partially ☐

c) If no or partially, please explain why?

Technical support for the preparation of the VNR was provided: presentation of the Review, design of the report, translation into Turkmen and English, video.

Output indicators: 1.4 Number of national specialists (men and women) raised knowledge of development finance issues and the development of an Integrated National SDG Financing Mechanism

Output targets: 20

b) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes ☒ No ☐ Partially ☐

c) If no or partially, please explain why?

20 national partners from ministries and departments, including 10 men and 10 women, participated in consultations and presentation of the Development Finance Assessment Report.

Project Output 2: National capacity to improve the trade system increased

Output indicators: 2.1. Analysis of the impact of WTO membership on the country's economy, taking into account the socio-economic impact of the global pandemic, was carried out and draft Roadmap for WTO accession was prepared

Output targets: yes

b) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes ☒ No ☐ Partially ☐

c) If no or partially, please explain why?

Draft Roadmap for Turkmenistan's accession to the WTO has been prepared and sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance and Economy.

Output indicators: 2.2. Number of professionals (men and women) with capacity building on best practices in WTO accession

Output targets: 20

b) Were the indicators and output achieved? Yes ☒ No ☐ Partially ☐

c) If no or partially, please explain why?

20 national partners from ministries and departments, including 10 men and 10 women, participated in the round table (online) on the presentation of the draft Roadmap for Turkmenistan's accession to the WTO.

2. Progress Reporting

Please summarize the main achievements during the project cycle:

Project Output 1:

The draft periodic national report for the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan on the progress of achieving the SDGs in Turkmenistan for the period 2015-2020 has been prepared.

Terms of reference prepared, and a national consultant hired to conduct a Rapid Integrated Assessment (RIA) according to the UNDP methodology to identify the integration of goals, objectives and indicators in program and strategic documents. The results of a comprehensive assessment of national, regional and sectoral programs made it possible to determine the relevance of the applicability of the SDGs in the context of the country to develop further actions to integrate SDG targets and indicators into the national planning process. This assessment provided information on the compliance of the key national documents adopted by Turkmenistan with the goals, objectives and indicators in the field of the Sustainable

Development Goals. As part of a comprehensive analysis of 24 national planning documents, the overall assessment showed that the degree of alignment with the SDG targets in Turkmenistan remains high and amounted to 85% according to the results of RIA-2022. In terms of the level of integration of indicators, it was revealed that if in 2017 and 2019 it was 29%, then according to the results of the Rapid Comprehensive Assessment of Strategies, Programs, Action Plans in 2022 - 35%.

A consultant has been hired to prepare a periodic report on the progress of achieving the SDGs for the period 2015-2021 and to prepare a draft of the second Voluntary National VNR for submission to the High-Level Political Forum of the year under the auspices of ECOSOC in July 2023.

Preparation of periodic annual national reports, which include monitoring progress in the implementation of the SDGs for the period 2015-2021, as well as the results of the rapid integrated assessment of national policy documents, will be the basis for the preparation of the Voluntary National Review on the implementation of the SDG targets set in accordance with the theme of the High Level Political Forum. In this report, the progress in achieving the SDGs will be added along with the cluster SDGs for 2023 - 6,7,9,11,13,17, also for goals 1,2,3,4,5.

National partners of ministries and departments participated in the 6th Multilateral Forum of North and Central Asia on the implementation of the SDGs "Accelerating recovery from COVID-19 and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", as well as in a workshop on preparation for the VNR organized by the Sub-Regional Office for North and Central Asia of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for the Economies of Central Asia (ESCAP), Almaty, Kazakhstan, October 2022.



<https://www.instagram.com/p/CjzcnMYDpS-/?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=>

https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0oz4JHZF7Mi9ajaGJ9RUfK8s4w6FEKFrmeD4CycR5Rs5P2uwYUyZodxgq9NCEmhel&id=100064777686749

Action plan for the Development Finance Assessment prepared. Consultations of an international expert with national partners of the Ministry of Finance, the State Statistics Committee, the Central Bank and the private sector were held (June 2022). A series of consultations by an international expert with the country offices of international financial institutions, the IMF, the World Bank, the EBRD, ADB, together with the staff of the office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Turkmenistan, were held (June 2022).

The visit of the international expert to Ashgabat was organized. Consultations with national partners of the Ministry of Finance, the Central Bank, the State Statistics Committee and the private sector to discuss issues related to the preparation of the draft final report on the DFA were held. Draft report on the Development Finance Assessment prepared. International expert presented the draft Report on the DFA of Turkmenistan at the 5th and 6th meeting of the Joint Expert Group of the UN and the Government of Turkmenistan on the financing of the SDGs (July 2022, November 2022). The UNDP Development Finance Assessment is a tool to identify opportunities to leverage existing financial resources and better mobilize additional sources of funding to achieve the SDGs. It is aimed at analyzing the financial landscape of the country and identifying further actions that can be reflected in the INFF roadmap, with the possibility of further implementation of INFF in the country.

This will help strengthen the financial basis of national development strategies and public financial management.



<https://www.undp.org/turkmenistan/news/undp-promotes-financing-sustainable-development>
<https://turkmenistan.gov.tm/ru/post/67737/finansirovanie-ustojchivogo-razvitiya-v-turkmenistane>
<https://salamnews.tm/ru/section/syysat/halkara-hyzmatdaslyk/proon-prodvigaet-voprosy-finansirovaniya-ustojchivogo-razvitiya-abdb99>
<https://www.instagram.com/p/Ckxod6dK6tk/>
<https://www.facebook.com/undptm/posts/pfbid0w9pa4MADW8W6DC2ShnHbGfs9CYD7jNPDgjptTg7w1NoeM6RfMDM1yLa8mUBM6SQvI>

posts in IMO
 nCa Tariq (attached)

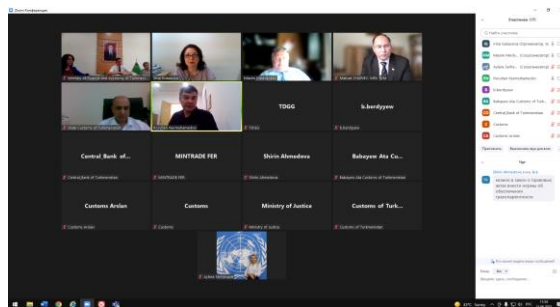
Project Output 2:

Analysis of national legislation and national programs was prepared.

Online consultations of an international expert with national partners of ministries and departments, members of the Government Commission for Studying the Issues of Turkmenistan's Accession to the WTO were held (April 2022).

Draft Roadmap for Turkmenistan's accession to the WTO has been prepared and sent to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Finance and Economy (Note/454, June 1, 2022).

Workshop was held with employees of the ministries and departments on the issues of accession of Turkmenistan to the WTO and a draft Roadmap was presented - an Action Plan for preparing for the accession of Turkmenistan to the WTO and bringing legislation in line with the requirements of the WTO for 2022-2025 in an online format (June 15, 2022, Note/485, June 9, 2022).



<https://turkmenportal.com/blog/48445/v-ashhabade-proshel-kruglyi-stol-po-voprosam-prisoedineniya-turkmenistana-k-vto>

<https://turkmenistan.gov.tm/ru/post/64117/obsuzhdeny-voprosy-vstupleniya-turkmenistana-vo-vsemirnuyu-torgovuyu-organizaciyu>
<https://www.undp.org/turkmenistan/press-releases/undp-assists-government-turkmenistan-studying-international-experience-wto-membership>
<https://www.facebook.com/undptm/posts/2064088407134060>
https://www.instagram.com/p/Ce0vY_QsAR1/

3. Project Risks and Issues

The project Risk Log is maintained throughout the project implementation to capture potential risks to the project and associated measures to mitigate risk. The Project Manager shall maintain and update the Risk Log and ensure that risks are identified, communicated and managed effectively.

A number of potential risks are listed below.

Description of risk	Type and category	Risk management actions	Current situation
Lack of effective coordination between UNDP and the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan in order to timely implement the key activities of the Project	Capacity development of national partners	UNDP support the implementation of the component	The project team maintains coordination with the national partner
Commitment from the national partner to ensure the timely availability of resources for project implementation	Capacity development of national partners	UNDP support the implementation of the component	This component is implemented
Insufficiently effective involvement of employees of the Ministry of Finance and Economy in the project implementation processes.	Capacity development of national partners	UNDP support the implementation of the component	The project team is actively cooperating with the national partner in order to more effectively involve employees in the project implementation process
Migration of qualified specialists to related industries	Capacity development of national partners	UNDP will support the implementation of the component	Better coordination and effective involvement of employees of the Ministry of Finance and Economy in the project implementation processes

Limitations related to the COVID-19 pandemic	External environment	UNDP will support the implementation of the component	Round tables and consultations are held online, which did not affect the implementation of project activities
--	----------------------	---	---

4.Lessons learned and follow-up steps (if applicable)

a) Please provide the lessons learned and further steps after the project's closure.

During the global pandemic, the possibility of virtual interaction with a wider audience in Turkmenistan and the provision of services by international consultants/companies from their location was used. This practice has proven to be effective in terms of time and cost savings and can be continued later. It also enabled the implementation of a number of project areas.

The project will continue to assist in coordinating work on development financing and transferring advanced knowledge and international experience in this area for specialists from the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan and other key line ministries responsible for the implementation of the SDGs. Work will continue to support the country's further efforts to integrate the SDGs into national and sectoral development programs. This provides for the further implementation of activities to promote development finance issues and the implementation of INFF in the country, aimed at developing an INFF roadmap, a financing strategy, and implementing measures to reform the budget policy and public finance system in the medium and long term.

The project will work towards assisting the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan and the Government in preparing for the negotiation process for WTO membership with a focus on the country's comparative advantages, conducting a preliminary analysis of the legislative framework for WTO membership, helping to strengthen the institutional framework for a successful accession process in the WTO.

The project will continue active work on the preparation of the draft Voluntary National Review, design, translation services, preparation of the presentation and other technical activities related to the preparation of the report.

5.Transfer of Assets or other related matter

a) Please state on any past or future transfer of assets made within the project cycle (Attach list of equipment, cooperation frameworks with beneficiaries, etc.)

Transfer of assets or other related matters were not carried out.

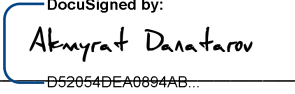
6.Financial management

Budget item	Total approved in 2022 (in USD)	Expenses + commitments	Budget utilization in % to planned
Component 1	50,248.00	30,642.96	60.98%
Component 2	23,051.00	20,000.00	86.76%

Project management	16,344.00	14,857.84	90.90%
Total expected delivery in 2022	89,643.00	65,500.80	73.06%
In % to total project budget	100 %	73.06%	

Prepared by:  Project Manager

Date:

Approved by:  Programme Specialist

Date: 05-Dec-2022