



**Minutes of the Local Project Appraisal Committee (LPAC) meeting on
Digital, Inclusive, Accessible: Support to Digitalisation of Public Services in Ukraine (DIA
Support) Phase 2 Project**

6 December 2023

Agenda

- Presentation of the Project “Digital, Inclusive, Accessible: Support to Digitalisation of Public Services in Ukraine (DIA Support) Phase 2 Project”
- Grant Selection Committee members appointments
- Discussion/Comments/Recommendations

Participants:

- Mr. Christophoros Politis, Deputy Resident Representative, LPAC Chair;
- Mr. Oleksiy Vyskub, First Deputy Minister of Digital Transformation of Ukraine;
- Mr. Kostiantyn Koshelenko, Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine for Digital Development, Digital Transformations and Digitization;
- Ms. Mariia Karchevych, Deputy Minister of Health of Ukraine for Digital Development, Digital Transformations and Digitalization;
- Mr. Serhii Orlov, Deputy Minister of Justice of Ukraine for Digital Development, Digital Transformations and Digitization;
- Ms. Lesia Shyshko, Strategic Planning, Partnerships and RMB Team Leader;
- Ms. Valeriia Velygorska, Programme Finance Analyst;
- Ms. Olena Ursu, Programme Specialist, Democratic Governance Team Leader;
- Ms. Maria Gutsman, Programme Specialist/Team Leader IDRPB;
- Mr. Volodymyr Brusilovskyi, DIA Support Project Manager;
- Ms. Olena Kulikovska, UNDP Programme Analyst, Governance;
- Ms. Natalia Kozenko, Programme Associate, Democratic Governance portfolio, LPAC Secretary.

The main points discussed:

Introduction

The LPAC meeting was called to discuss the Project document for the “Digital, Inclusive, Accessible: Support to Digitalisation of Public Services in Ukraine (DIA Support) Phase 2 Project (hereinafter referred to as “the Project”) to be funded by the Government of Sweden and implemented by UNDP

in partnership with the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as "MDT").

The project is aimed at (a) strengthening capacity of the Government institutions to design and implement inclusive digital transformation policy at national and local level; (b) developing digital infrastructure of the Government which ensures efficient and effective processes for the civil service and delivery of technically modernized digital public services for vulnerable and war-affected group; and (c) increasing digital skills of Ukrainian women and men to fully benefit from digitalization.

The project is aligned with the priorities of the Government of Ukraine, UNDP Strategic Plan (2022-2025), UNDP Country Programme Document (2018-2024), UN Transitional Framework for Ukraine September 2022 – December 2023, as well as UNDP Resilience Building and Recovery Framework for Ukraine. The project is furthermore aligned with the new strategy for Sweden's recovery and reform cooperation with Ukraine for 2023–2027, as support to the continued digitalization process is identified as an enabler that will underpin the actions for development in the priority areas defined in the strategy.

Presentation of the Project and Issues Raised

The LPAC meeting was chaired by Mr. Christophoros Politis, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative, and his opening remarks welcomed various stakeholders present at the meeting. Mr. Politis highlighted that this project is based on the results and achievements of the DIA Support Project, Phase 1, and aims to continue to support the ongoing digitalisation process in Ukraine with the view of strengthening the Government's capacities to deliver high-quality and accessible digital services to vulnerable groups in Ukraine while using digital technologies and solutions to address other complex challenges posed by the war, including ensuring transparency and accountability of the recovery process, critically important for Ukraine's EU Integration.

A brief project presentation was done by Ms. Olena Ursu, Programme Specialist, Democratic Governance Team Leader, covering issues of the Project's goals/objectives and intended project rollout plan.

Ms. Ursu highlighted that the Project activities will focus on three main areas:

- Enhancing the government's counterparts' level of knowledge and skills to design and implement policies to digitalise citizen-oriented services in line with HRBA and gender mainstreaming principles;
 - Support government in strengthening digital infrastructure, modernization of registers and development of digital services and tools;
 - Increasing digital literacy of Ukrainian women and men and awareness about digital and mobile-based services available to them.
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- Ms. Ursu explained that the Project will co-operate at the national level:
 - with core decision-making bodies for policy design on digital transformation (MDT and its namesake Parliamentary Committee, as well as the system of Chief Digital Transformation Officers (CDTOs));
 - with the National Agency for Civil Service (NACS) and its subsidiary institution, Ukrainian School of Governance (USG) with a focus on dedicated Ministries (such as the Ministry of Social Policy, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Veterans' Affairs, Temporarily Occupied Territories and IDPs), as well as with the Ombudsperson's Office;

- agencies that implement the re-designed digital and mobile-based services (State-Owned Enterprise (SOE) 'Diia,' 'Natsionalni Informatsiyni Systemy,' (NAIS) and other entities that do development of software for the state) and the Centres for Administrative Service Provision (CASPs) that deliver the digitally-enhanced services to citizen-clients on a daily basis.

Furthermore, in accordance with the DIA Support Project Phase 2 document (Annex 1), Ms. Ursu presented the proposed composition for the Grant Selection Committee (please see Annex 2 for the Grant Selection Committee composition).

Ms. Olena Kulikovska, Programme Analyst, highlighted the following issues:

- Project is designed leveraging the results achieved and lessons learned under the DIA Support Project [Phase 1];
- Quality assurance assessment of the project is more than satisfactory;
- The Project is well incorporated with the CPD Theory of Change (ToC), contributes its Outcome 1 and will be implemented under Output 1.1;
- The project has strong HRBA and gender components;
- The effectiveness and efficiency of the project is proven by the strong M&E component and sustainability plan;
- No social and environmental risks were identified during SESP exercise. The project is identified as a low-risks project;
- The project is qualified as GEN2.

Ms. Olena Kulikovska proposed to approve the Grant Selection Committee as per proposed composition above.

The decision was made unanimously by all LPAC members.

Mr. Oleksiy Vyskub, First Deputy Minister of MDT, speaking on behalf of MDT, expressed his gratitude to the Government of Sweden, SIDA and UNDP and noted that such multilateral cooperation has already benefitted Ukraine's thrust towards digital transformation. He highlighted the importance of fully automatic services with a strong focus on social services. He stressed that the project could support implementation of this approach making public e-services more convenient and effective especially taking into account the situation in the country caused by the war-related challenges.

Mr. Kostiantyn Koshelenko, Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine commended cooperation with UNDP in the first phase of the project, expressed gratitude to the Government of Sweden for the support in digitalization of social services that was done in previous phase and confirmed that Ministry of Social Policy is ready to continue cooperation on new initiatives as was agreed at the stage of planning Stage 2.

Ms. Mariia Karchevych, Deputy Minister of Health of Ukraine said that the Ministry is looking forward to starting cooperation with the project Phase 2 because the Ministry needs support not only in development of digital solutions but also in awareness raising campaigns to inform Ukrainian citizens about new digital tools available to them. The Ministry of Health of Ukraine proposed to establish a working group with key Ministry experts and Project representatives for effective coordination and decision making.

Mr. Serhii Orlov, Deputy Minister of Justice of Ukraine said that Ministry of Justice has several ideas that are reflected in the project document but at the same time there are a number of additional initiatives that could be offered to UNDP for implementation in case funds and resources will be available to expand the scope of cooperation.

Mr. Politis commented that UNDP maintains the alignment of the project with national strategic priorities and reiterated that the different Ministries are aligned to these priorities as well. He mentioned that even if this project doesn't serve all objectives, it is quite important to continue the constructive dialogue in terms of needs and priorities of the most vulnerable people and ensure the complementarity between different projects and programmes.

Mr. Politis reiterated that this project is grounded on the success of the Phase 1 with 21 mln Ukrainians who benefitted from digital solutions developed with the Project support. Mr. Politis reminded that the Project during the Phase 1 was able to adapt to evolving situation (first COVID-19, later - full-scale war) and expressed hope that the Project will be able to follow its ambitious plans and reach the target indicators as they were set high and will contribute greatly to further digitalization of Ukraine which will accelerate vital transformations necessary for the EU accession.

Mr. Vyskub closed the meeting voicing full support for the project and noted that all possible support and assistance will be provided to the Project team.

Major points discussed/suggested

- The Project document was unanimously recommended for approval.
- The results of design and appraisal quality assurance are endorsed and should be approved.
- The SESP analysis was endorsed as no social and environmental risks have been identified.
- The MDT agreed to act as beneficiary of the Project.
- UNDP will proceed with Project state registration in accordance with the Ukrainian legislation, and the MDT will provide all necessary support as the project beneficiary.
- The Project will kick-off on 1 January 2024.
- The composition for Grant Selection Committee was unanimously recommended for approval (Annex 2).

Prepared by Natalia Kozenko, Programme Associate, UNDP

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Cleared by Olena Kulikovska, Programme Analyst, Governance, UNDP

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Approved by Christophoros Politis, UNDP Deputy Resident Representative

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Annex 1: [Digital, Inclusive, Accessible: Support to Digitalisation of Public Services in Ukraine \(DIA Support\) Project document](#)

Annex 2: DIA Support Grant Selection Committee composition

Permanent members:

- DIA Support Digital Literacy Officer
- DIA Support Policy Development Officer
- M&E and Innovation Specialist, IDRBP
- Human Rights Specialist, DG
- Project CSO Development & Outreach Associate
- Programme Analyst, Governance

Alternative members:

- DG Team Leader
- Project Youth Development Analyst
- Human Rights Team Lead
- DIA Support Capacity Development and M&E Analyst

Secretary:

- DIA Support Project Operations Officer

Alternative Secretaries:

- Human Rights Project Associate
- Civil Society Project Associate

Members with an advisory vote:

- UNDP Communications Analyst
- Government Liaison Specialist
- Invited experts

Alternative members with advisory vote from Operations:

- Procurement Analyst
- Procurement Associate