

SOUTH-EAST EUROPE 2020 STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Governance for Growth Workshop

Sarajevo, February 21, 2013

1. Background to the meeting

Following the adoption of the South East Europe 2020 Vision (SEE 2020), at the Ministerial meeting on November 24, 2011, and the adoption of high-level regional headline targets for growth by the SEE region's Ministers of Economy (at their meeting in Tirana on November 9, 2012), the Regional Cooperation Council and its partners are initiating the development of a SEE 2020 Strategy, as the main regional framework for growth. The Strategy is based on five pillars: (i) integrated, (ii) smart, (iii) sustainable and (iv) inclusive growth, underpinned by (v) good governance.

The intended process of associating various regional platforms with the pillars of SEE 2020 and the subsequent involvement of these platforms in Strategy implementation requires a de-centralized approach in Strategy development. Bringing together the relevant contributors within each of the pillars is the first step envisioned in the Strategy development process. The one day workshop on governance for growth, organized by the RCC is dedicated to raising awareness on the SEE 2020, prioritizing action, and agreeing on the process and governance structures within this pillar of the Strategy. The intended outcome of the meeting is a clear identification of pillar structure, along with a detailed roadmap outlining main stakeholders, with a description of their roles, responsibilities and timelines within the SEE 2020 development process.

Governance for Growth pillar of the SEE 2020 Strategy

SEE 2020 Vision puts Governance for Growth as one of its main pillars dealing with necessary reforms in order to achieve the target of increasing governments' effectiveness by 20% at the end of 2020. Two dimensions of governance have been identified as the main objective to be improved – public administration reform and fighting corruption and organized crime.

The Governance for Growth pillar, as envisioned by the SEE 2020, will attempt to deal with the issues of public administration reform and fight against corruption and organized crime in a coherent and holistic way, while putting the focus on the need to strengthen transparency and effectiveness of governance, all in service of creating the favourable investment climate in the countries of the region.

The recent history and the current socio-political context in which nation-building and democratic transition processes occur in the SEE region and in particular in the Western Balkans are important explanatory factors for the specific ways in which ineffective governance and weak public administration, corruption and organised crime have been interrelated. This negative mix have economic multiplier effects like impact on human capital, labour force participation, lower wages and incomes, savings and macroeconomic growth as well as social multiplier effects like erosion of social capital, inter-generational transmission of violence and lower quality of life.

Still the situation is not entirely bleak. In recent years most countries in the region have made efforts, in various degrees, to develop and improve their legislation, reform the law enforcement agencies and create regional networks for fighting corruption and organised crime. Same conclusion can be applied for the public administration reform in all SEE countries where democracy and rule of law need consolidation and to be more deeply embedded in administrative and political cultures.

A multitude of regional activities have been implemented, are planned, or are underway in several areas crucial for Governance for Growth. In the public administration reform dimension, the Regional School for Public



Administration (ReSPA), Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South East Europe (NALAS), Support for Improvement in Governance and Management (SIGMA) Programme together with Centre for e-Governance Development (CeGD) are identified as the main contributors to the development of SEE2020 Strategy. In the fight against corruption and organized crime dimension, Steering Group on Regional Strategy (SGSR) and Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI) could play an important role within the process.

RCC Secretariat intends to liaise with these and other partners under the Governance for growth pillar of the SEE 2020 framework to identify tangible targets and goals and determine possible measures and actions that would be offered to the Western Balkans countries for endorsement and subsequent implementation in the context of increased competitiveness and growth.

RCC envisions a de-centralized approach in development and implementation of the SEE 2020, with an intention of empowering the main regional partners and providing a platform for multi-stakeholders involvement and multi-level governance necessary to reach consensus based and balanced development.

2. Meeting participants

The most important regional stakeholders relevant for the implementation of the SEE 2020 strategy in the sustainable growth domain are invited to the meeting, including: Regional School for Public Administration (ReSPA), Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South East Europe (NALAS), Support for Improvement in Governance and Management (SIGMA), Centre for e-Governance Development (CeGD), Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative (RAI), DCAF Secretariat Ljubljana as well as key international partners such as the World Bank Institute (WBI) and GIZ.

3. Meeting objective(s)

The main objectives of the meeting are the following:

- i. review existing regional targets and put forward proposals for new ones in the area of Governance for Growth;
- ii. take stock of governance related actions in SEE in the context of regional targets and actions within SEE 2020,
- iii. identify the programming level priorities to reach the SEE 2020 targets and discuss their feasibility in the regional context and activities needed to define targets where necessary,
- iv. determine the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders and contributors involved,
- v. define the process of development and format of programming to implement the SEE 2020 Strategy in the governance for growth domain and identify any additional technical assistance needs to further its development;
- vi. discuss possible monitoring mechanism and governance structures to implement programmes prepared under the Strategy, and
- vii. identify potential synergies with other pillars of the SEE 2020 Strategy.

4. Expected result and outputs

The meeting is organized with the intended result of generating a clear roadmap for the development of SEE 2020 Strategy in the Governance for Growth pillar and defining main features of the programming and implementation arrangements going forward.



**Sustainable Growth Workshop
Meeting Agenda**

Sarajevo, 21 February 2013

Thursday, February 21, 2013

Venue: (TBD), Sarajevo

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| 09.00-10.30 | Introduction to the workshop and taking stock of current work
<i>- define the structure of the pillar and identify main targets, objectives and dimensions</i>
<i>- review actions to date and existing commitments taken by the Western Balkans members</i> |
| 10.30-10.45 | Coffee break |
| 10.45-12.30 | Programming and prioritization
<i>- define the priority measures including, time-permitting, their following features: (i) description of measures, (ii) expected results and objectives, (iii) envisioned actions, (iv) indicators for monitoring, (v) interaction with other pillars, (vi) responsible bodies, (vii) partners for implementation, (viii) timetable and milestones and (ix) budget and sources of finance</i> |
| 12.30-13.30 | Lunch |
| 13.30-15.00 | Roles and responsibilities of main contributors and the SEE 2020 development process
<i>- develop a detailed roadmap with identified roles, responsibilities and timelines for development</i> |
| 15.00-15.15 | Coffee break |
| 15.15-16.30 | Identification of links with other SEE 2020 pillars and potential synergies
<i>- identify main lateral links with other part of SEE 2020 and develop a list of inputs to be addressed through other dimensions of SEE 2020</i> |
| 16.30-17.30 | Monitoring system and governance structures to implement SEE 2020
<i>- review of existing monitoring systems and propose the main features of monitoring and governance for the pillar</i> |
| 20.00 | Dinner |
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