

Micro-Capital Grant: Strengthening capacities of the Congress of Local Authorities of Moldova in the area of public finance

Mapping needs and identification of potential non-government recipients of the assistance took place in Moldova within the Public Finance for Development programme in 2012 and 2013. **The Congress of Local Public Authorities of Moldova (CALM)** has been identified as a potential beneficiary of assistance under Activity Result 3, supported also by the fact that the local public finance reform is getting prominence in the government reform agenda in Moldova.

Capacity development activities will be delivered via sharing transition knowledge and experience of Slovakia, specifically through partnership with **ZMOS – Združenie miest a obcí Slovenska (Association of Towns and Communities of Slovakia)** and **AKE SR – Asociácia komunálnych ekonómov SR (Association of Municipal Finance Officers of The Slovak Republic)**. AKE SR will be taking part in the events, utilizing services of ZMOS experts, while ZMOS will be providing essential support.

1. OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Objectives

The Project objective is to strengthen institutional capacities of CALM in the area of local public finance, primarily through sharing experience with ZMOS and AKE SR and via on-the-job learning. Empowered CALM is expected to contribute to knowledge dissemination to local authorities of Moldova and to advocate for policies and reform initiatives in local public finance. The project objective will be achieved through implementation of the following specific activities:

1. Defining CALM services in local public finance
2. Institutional strengthening of CALM secretariat
3. Advocacy and knowledge dissemination

Expected results

- CALM established as a service provider to local public authorities in the area of public finance
- CALM's capacity increased to disseminate knowledge of local public finance to local authorities and stakeholders via consulting services and other capacity building activities (trainings, seminars)
- CALM is better able to function as an equal partner in the dialogue with the Government on specific public finance issues

2. PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The activities indicated below have been identified by the ultimate beneficiary of the project – CALM. Implementation methodology, resource persons, and timing will be agreed with CALM prior to the commencement of the activities.

Activity 1. Defining CALM services in local public finance

Specific objective 1: define CALM services in response to needs of CALM members and via sharing experience with ZMOS and AKE SR

The objective will be achieved by implementation of the following **specific activities:**

Activity 1.1. Evaluation of the context and needs of stakeholders in local public finance and program budgeting

Expected timing: September-October 2015

Activity 1.2 Sharing experience between CALM and Združenie miest a obcí Slovenska (ZMOS) and Asociácia komunálnych ekonómov SR (AKE SR) and capacity building in provision of services for the members

Expected timing: October 2015

Activity 1.3 Preparation of service regulation

Expected timing: October 2015 – November 2015

Activity 2: Institutional strengthening of CALM secretariat

Specific objective2: *strengthening institutional and staff capacities of CALM to become efficient and effective service provider to local public authorities in local public finance*

Activity 2.1 Setting up piloting services for members in local public finance

Expected timing: November 2015- December 2015

Activity 2.2 Implementation of the pilot program on provision of consulting services to CALM members

Expected timing: September 2015 – October 2016

Activity 2.3 Monitoring of the implementation of pilot projects in local public finance

Expected timing: September 2015-April 2016

Activity 3. Advocacy and knowledge dissemination

Specific objective 3: *effectively advocate for policies and reform initiatives in local public finance.*

Activity 3.1 Advocacy for policies and reform initiatives related to local public finance

Expected timing: April 2016 – June 2016

Activity 3.2 Dissemination of knowledge

Expected timing: September 2015 – May 2016