
GEORGIA

SOCIAL WELFARE POLICY BASED LOAN – TRANCHE 2-2019 & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIAL TRANSITION DEPARTMENT
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Aide-Memoire
MAY 2019

Introduction

During April 15-19 2019, the French Development Agency (AFD) conducted a mission on the sector of social protection in Tbilisi, Adjara and Askhaltsikhe regions to launch the instruction of the second tranche of the social welfare 3-year policy based loan (PBL) and to finalize the design of the technical assistance program (TA) accompanying this operation.

The AFD team included Nicolas Le Guen, Task Team Leader from AFD Paris Office, Gaëlle Assayag, Head of AFD Representative Office for the South Caucasus, and Jean-Baptiste Dumay, Project Officer based in Tbilisi.

The Expertise France team, in charge of the technical assistance included Andreï Tretyak, Head of Social protection unit, Antoine Pogorzelsky, Project manager, five public experts (four French, one Estonian) on disability, data/statistic and mental health.

The mission met with representatives from the Government of Georgia: Health and Social protection Deputy Ministries in the Ministry of the Internally Displaced Persons from the Occupied Territories, Labour, Health and Social Affairs (MoLHSA or Ministry). The mission met as well with the Ministry of Health and social affairs of Adjara and with representatives of the Akhaltsikhe municipality. All the persons met are listed in annex 3 of the present aide-memoire.

The mission wishes to thank all the persons met for their availability and kind welcome, and for the high quality and operational value of the discussions.

This Aide-Memoire summarizes the main outcomes of the mission, and proposes further steps toward the operations.

I. Context and objectives of the mission

AFD and the Government of Georgia (GoG) have been working since 2018 together to develop a social welfare 3-year policy based loan (PBL), of EUR 35 million in 2018 (project CGE 1016). The second tranche has to be renewed in 2019 (project CGE 1022) for an equivalent amount. . The third and last tranche will be renewed in 2020.

In addition to the loan, the AFD intends to mobilize a EUR 1 million grant (project CGE 1017) to support the GoG in implementing the reforms and actions envisaged in the policy matrix attached to the loan operation. A first envelope of EUR 500 000 has been secured end of 2018. A second envelope of the same amount is expected to be allocated by the end of 2019.

The mission was the opportunity to exchange with the Georgian authorities in order to update the matrix of the PBL and finalize the content of the technical assistance (TA). Official feedback from the GoG is expected on these two documents.

II. Instruction of the second tranche - Social Welfare multiyear Policy Based Loan

Progress and update of the 3-year PBL matrix are part of the annual policy dialogue between the Georgian authorities and the French Development Agency. The purpose of the current mission was i) to assess 2018 achieved actions and reached targets and ii) to update 2019 and 2020 targets of the matrix.

A common satisfactory assessment has been done by both parties regarding 2018 achievements. AFD would like to thank the GoG for the quality of the reporting.

Minor adjustments to the matrix have been discussed during the mission with the different deputy-ministries.

Pilar 1: to develop social support and solidarity system

As the first pilot project in Ajdara region faced delays, the MoLHSA won't be able to assess the model in 2019 in order to elaborate the legal framework. This activity is thus postponed to 2020.

The GoG has expressed its willingness to start as soon as possible a second pilot in Samtskhe Javakheti region with support from the TA. A new trigger has been introduced in 2019 related to this activity.

Regarding children in street situation, the MoHLSA confirmed that, based on the in depth diagnostic (nature and root causes), new standards to improve quality of services will be available by the end of the year. As UNICEF is supporting the GoG, the TA won't be involved in this specific topic.

Pilar 2: to ensure affordable and quality healthcare and promotion of healthy lifestyle

The Deputy-Minister in charge of health provided an update regarding the work done so far on strategic purchase mechanism with support from the World Health Organization (WHO). AFD has been asked to focus its TA on developing quality performance indicators.

Regarding mental health, the MoHLSA is currently working on service mapping and monitoring tool kit. TA will focus on monitoring tools and road map for the implementation of deinstitutionalization.

Pilar 3: To optimize resources allocated to IDP needs

During the field visit, AFD has been able to visit major investments done by the GoG to resettle IDPs living in collapsing collective centres (CCC). If IDPs are resettled in adequate housing, the responsibility to close CCCs is transferred to the owner of those buildings. Considering this, reference to an official closing of the CCCs has been deleted.

The reform of the IDP monthly allowance is particularly sensitive. The Ministry won't be able to publish the policy options report by the end of 2019. The TA will support the GoG by providing in depth analysis (financial and social aspects) of the 4 reform scenarios in link with

other stakeholders involved in this reform (UNHCR, GIZ and DRC). A gap regarding the communication strategy has also been identified and will be part of the TA objectives.

Next steps

AFD would be grateful to the Georgian authorities for providing official feedback and any comments/questions or suggestions on the **updated matrix** (please refer to Annex 1).

In regards with the policy dialogue, AFD kindly requests the GoG to share **2018 budget** (real expenditures) related to specific topics of the PBL.

The **2019 Credit Facility Agreement**, based on the previous CFA, will be shared by the end of June with the Georgian authorities.

AFD will present the 2019 PBL to the **board in September 2019** in order to **sign the CFA** and proceed to the **disbursement** before the end of this year.

III. Technical Assistance accompanying the Social Welfare multiyear Policy Based Loan

A team of experts set-up by Expertise France has been mobilized during the mission in Adjara and Samtskhe Javakheti regions and met with the different stakeholders in order to precise the technical assistance (TA) to support the GoG in setting up the social welfare reforms. A first technical offer has been previously shared with the GoG.

At the end of their mission, the experts proposed to structure their support in accordance with the updated PBL matrix and needs expressed by the GoG. The TA will focus on the following activities:

Pilar 1

Enhancing social support to persons with disabilities: development of methodology for piloting of disability assessment in Samtskhe Javakheti region; support assessment of both pilots functional/social model in Adjara and Samtskhe Javakheti.

Pilar 2

Improve the effectiveness and efficiency of universal healthcare and other programs: support process to define standard operating procedures for the implementation of performance-based contracting, especially to primary health care; analyse the functioning of IT in the health sector (E health).

Strengthen the public mental health care: support the development of the roadmap for implementation of deinstitutionalization and the development of community based services in line with recommendations of WHO report; elaboration of mechanisms and tools for the Ministry to monitor mental health institutions (public and private).

Pilar 3

Reinforcing the efficiency of resources allocated to IDP needs: analysis of the impact (including budget) of the 4 reform scenarii; establish a communication strategy for the IDP reform.

The technical assistance (TA) will mobilize long-term and short-term expertise to accompany change in those areas, support institutions and CSOs in their policies and programs and train relevant stakeholders to standards. TA will also support evidence-based monitoring and improved data systems in order to improve public policies in targeting root-causes of social issues. TA will also include cross-cutting issues such as capacity building and gender approach.

AFD would be grateful to the Georgian authorities for providing official feedback and any comments/questions or suggestions on the **inception report** (please refer to Annex 2).

Annex 1: Social welfare multiyear matrix updated

Annex 2: Inception report – Technical assistance

Annex 3: final agenda

Date	Time	Meeting	Attendees
Monday 15 April	Mission pillars 1 & 3 <i>Field visit in the regions</i>		Expertise France : Andrei Tretyak Consultant EF : Camille Lambinon ; Yannich Deimat AFD : Nicolas Le Guen ; Gaëlle Assayag
	11:00 - 12:00	Meetings with Gov. Of Adjara	Zaal Mikeladze, Minister of health and Social Care of Adjara
	13:00 - 15:00	Meeting with GASW	Ketevan Gigineishvili ; Irma Beberashvili
	15:00 - 17:00	Visit of medical facilities	
	17:00 - 19:00	Meetings with specialists	
	Mission pillar 2 & 3 <i>In Tbilisi</i>		Expertise France : Antoine Pogorzelski Consultant EF : Michel Villac ; Taavi Lai ; Alain Lefebvre AFD : Jean-Baptiste Dumay
	10:00 - 12:00	MoIDPLHSA - IDPs	Davit Pheikhrisvili
	15:00 - 17:00	MoIDPLHSA -Health	Ketevan Goginashvili, Mariam Darakhvelidze
Tuesday 16 April	Mission pillars 1 & 3		
	12:00 - 14:00	Visit of the house for children with disability and meeting with the management of the house and social workers	SSA, programs monitoring division of MoIDPLHSA, Breath Georgia
	14:30 - 16:00	Visit of a CCC	
	Mission pillar 2 & 3 <i>In Tbilisi</i>		
	10:00 - 12:00	WHO	Dr. Silviu Domente

	Beggining of afternoon	Visit of CCC	
	17:00 - 19:00	Curatio fundation	
Wednesday 17 April	Mission pillars 1 & 3		
	10:30 - 12:30	Meeting with authorities of Samckhe Javakheti region on expansion of fonctionnal disability assesment and visit of licensed centers for granting disability status	Mr. Zaza Melikadze, City hall of Akhaltsikhe Medical institutions
	15:00 - 18:00	Visit of IDP's projects	Vindent Dontot, DRC
	Mission pillar 2		
	Morning	Visit of mental health institution in Rustavi	
Thursday 18 April	9:00 - 10:00	IDPs coordination meeting	GIZ, DRC, HCR
	11:30 - 13:30	Meeting with the MoIDPLHSA on PBL matrix follow up	Tamar Gabunia, Deputy Minister Nino Odisharia Ketevan Goginashvili Davit Pheikrishvili
Friday 19 April	9:00 - 10:30	Meeting with UNICEF and MoIDPLHSA on TA on disability status	
	10:30 - 12:30	Meeting with MoIDPLHSA on Technical Assistance	Tamila Barkaiala, Deputy Minister Tamar Gabunia, Deputy Minister Nino Odisharia Ketevan Goginashvili Davit Pheikrishvili
	16h45-17h45	French Embassy	HEM Pascal Meunier

