

LITHUANIAN - SWISS COOPERATION PROGRAMME

*Annual Report on the Implementation of the
Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme to
Reduce Economic and Social Disparities within the
Enlarged European Union
1 March 2009 – 28 February 2010*

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INTRODUCTION

According to Article 8 of the Framework Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Swiss Federal Council concerning the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme to Reduce Economic and Social Disparities within the Enlarged European Union (hereinafter – the FA) as well as Article 8.2 of the Reporting, Monitoring and Controlling to be performed by the Partner Country Guidelines (dated 23 April 2008), the Ministry of Finance (hereinafter – the MoF), acting as the National Coordination Unit (hereinafter – the NCU) in charge of the coordination of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme together with the Central Project Management Agency (hereinafter – the CPMA), which implements concrete tasks in implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme delegated by the MoF, prepared the *Annual Report on the Implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme* (hereinafter – the report).

The report reflects the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme during the period from 1 March 2009 to 28 February 2010 and contains information with regard to the progress made towards the project preparation, progress in implementation/preparation of block grant, the Project Preparation Facility, the Technical Assistance Fund, the Scholarship Fund, other items defined in the Article 1.2 of the Annex 2 of the FA.

Before submission to the Swiss Contribution Office, the report was approved by the Steering Committee for the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme on 18 March 2009.

1. Progress made in the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme against the Conceptual Framework

During the reporting period the main activities of the NCU and other institutions involved were related to further development of the legal basis for the implementation of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme, finalisation of the Project Outlines in the selected focus areas, tender process and implementation of the activities funded by the Project Preparation Facility, other activities under the programming stage.

All four approved Project Outlines will be further developed into the Final Project Proposals and implemented on the national level and will contribute to the achievement of the objective of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme, namely, to the reduction of economic and social disparities between Lithuania and more advanced countries of the enlarged EU. The objective could be stated as fully achieved only after the completion of the Projects (programmes and block grant).

Execution of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme is guided by the principles of transparency, equal opportunities and rights, commitment by the stakeholders and other, defined in the Annex 1 of the FA.

The Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme is focused to the implementation of the Projects which are complementary to the EU structural assistance as well as the European Economic Area and Norwegian financial mechanisms. Only the projects not covered or only partially covered by other financial sources are included in the above mentioned programme.

Aiming at efficient and effective implementation of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme, the assistance is concentrated into two funding guidelines, namely, *Human and Social Development* and *Environment and Infrastructure*. Implementation of the financial assistance by applying mainly programme approach should lead to reduction of disparities between Lithuania and more advanced EU member states.

Beneficiaries of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme will be mainly public sector bodies (e. g. hospitals, research institutions), non-governmental institutions will benefit from the NGO Fund. Though private sector does not receive direct financial assistance under the mentioned Programme, it could benefit from the Contribution by participating in public procurement tenders and execution of the contracts.

The implementation of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme shall act as an opportunity to develop Lithuanian – Swiss partnerships in health and research focus areas as well as in the field of civil society development (strengthening of the NGOs).

Progress made under concrete forms of financial assistance described in the FA is presented under part 2 of the report.

2. Reporting on the status of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme

2.1. Reporting on the Programmes within the respective focus areas:

2.1.1. Programme in the focus area “Rehabilitation and modernisation of basic infrastructure and improvement of the environment”

The overall aim of the programme is to enhance hospital infrastructure in order to improve health care services while protecting the environment and increasing energy efficiency. It is expected that after the implementation of the programme, buildings of hospitals and energy efficient engineering systems will be renovated/installed, premises of units for perinatal and neonatal care services will be renovated. The programme is directly interrelated with the other programme to be implemented in the focus area „Health“. The one joint feasibility study for interrelated programmes in two focus areas will be prepared aiming for the complex situation analysis, overview of the material facilities of the hospitals and make proposals on the renewal of these facilities depending on the scope of services provided by each particular hospital and the prospects of activities performed by them.

During the reporting period the preparation of the Project Outline was finalised. On 27 March 2009 the CPMA issued a positive conclusion regarding Project Outline. Project Outline was submitted for the discussions of the SC for the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme and on 29 April 2009 the SC expressed its’ approval for the Outline which was submitted to the SCO on 30 April 2009 (together with the request for allocation of the PPF funds). The Decision Letter on approval of the Project Outline (with conditions) was issued by the SECO on 30 July 2009. The steering committee for supervision of the programme implementation was established by the Order of the Minister of Health on 22 January 2010.

Before the Final Project Proposal will be developed, the joint feasibility study for the two programmes of the health sector shall be prepared. The detailed information on the latter is describer under the chapter 2.2.2. “PPF” of this Report.

2.1.2. Programme in the focus area “Health”

The overall aim of the programme is to improve the perinatal and neonatal health care system in Lithuania. It is expected that after the implementation of the programme, Lithuanian hospitals (in main cities, regions and periphery) will be provided with the new modern basic medical equipment, transportation system will be improved, computer database of pregnant, delivering women and neonates health data created and installed, diagnostics and treatment protocols in obstetrics and neonatology developed and implemented, professional competence of medical staff increased. The programme is directly interrelated with the other programme to be implemented in the focus area „Rehabilitation and modernisation of basic infrastructure and improvement of the environment“. The one joint feasibility study for interrelated programmes in two focus areas will be prepared aiming for the complex situation analysis, overview of the material facilities of the hospitals and make proposals on the renewal of these facilities depending on the scope of services provided by each particular hospital and the prospects of activities performed by them.

During the reporting period the preparation of the Project Outline was finalised. On 27 March 2009 the CPMA issued a positive conclusion regarding Project Outline. Project Outline was submitted

for the discussions of the SC for the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme on 30 April 2009 (together with the request for allocation of the PPF funds). The Decision Letter on approval (with conditions) was issued by the SDC on 24 July 2009. The steering committee for supervision of the programme implementation was established by the Order of the Minister of Health on 22 January 2010.

Before the Final Project Proposal will be developed, the joint feasibility study for the two programmes of the health sector shall be prepared. The detailed information on the latter is described under the chapter 2.2.2. “PPF” of this Report.

2.1.3. Programme in the focus area “Research and Development”

The overall aim of the programme is to support research and development sector as integral and essential part of human and social cohesion and to contribute to the further development of research and development sector in Lithuania as well as to accelerate its integration into the international research area.. It will be implemented via realisation of two Objectives: (1) strengthening of administrative, management and analytical capacities in the system of research and higher education and (2) joint research projects and institutional partnerships.

During the reporting period the Intermediate Body proceeded further with the development of Project Outline for the Programme “Research and development“. After informal consultations with the Swiss authorities on the content of the Project Outline and receiving the positive conclusion on the prepared document from the CPMA, it was submitted for the discussions of the Steering Committee of the Lithuanian - Swiss Cooperation Programme. The Project Outline was approved by the SC on 13 August 2009 and submitted to the SDC on 17 August 2009. The Decision Letter on approval (with conditions) was issued by the SDC on 1 October.

After analysing the comments and conditions laid down in the Decision Letter (on preparation of the situation analysis concerning selection of the thematic field as well as detailed information on study visits and its contribution to the pilot scheme/model what was planned as a part of Objective I implementation), the IB assessed time, human and administrative resources needed for the preparation of the analysis and its adequacy to the foreseen budget for the Objective I implementation and came out with the decision to withdraw the objective I „Strengthening of administrative, management and analytical capacities in the system of research and higher education“ from further preparation process. On 28 January 2010 the NCU approached the SCO on that issue. On 3 February 2010 the SCO replied positively on withdrawal of Objective 1 from further development of the programme.

Presently the final Project proposal is under preparation by the Intermediate Body. It is expected that draft version will be finished and submitted to the MoF for comments in the 1st half of March. The Final Project Proposal will cover also specific details on the evaluation procedure of the joint research projects and will either clarify particular aspects or fulfil conditions expressed in the Decision Letter and later on by e-mails between the IB and SDC.

2.2. Reporting on Special Allocations

2.2.1. NGO block grant

The NGO block grant (hereinafter – the NGO Fund) is planned to be implemented under the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation Programme in order to strengthen the NGOs in Lithuania, to enhance the

cooperation between the civil society and governmental sector. The NGO Fund is being implemented by the MoF which is assigned as the Intermediate Body for the NGO Fund.

Seeking for the detailed and comprehensive analysis of the current situation of the NGO sector in Lithuania, identification of the main existing and most serious problems, recommendation on the focus areas, types of activities eligible for financing under the NGO and other issues actual for the efficient implementation of the NGO Fund, the application for the PPF on preparation of the feasibility study was prepared by the Intermediate Body and approved by the donors together with the Project Outline for the NGO Fund on 2 April 2009.

Before the Final Project Proposal will be developed, the feasibility study shall be prepared. The detailed information on the latter process is described under the chapter 2.2.2. “PPF” of this Report.

As described in the Project Outline, the MoF foresaw the procurement of services of technical secretariat which main responsibilities will be launching of open calls for proposals, daily administration of the NGO Fund, execution of other related activities. On 22 December 2009 MoF presented the draft technical specifications of the related tender for the comments of the CPMA. CPMA remarks and suggestions were received by e-mail on 18/01/2010. Corrected draft version of the technical specifications (together with other information necessary for the preparation of tender documents) was submitted to the CPMA on 2010/02/25.

2.2.2. Project Preparation Facility

The purpose of the Project Preparation Facility (hereinafter – the PPF) is to ensure the efficient preparation of the final project proposals, resulting from project outlines approved by Switzerland. The PPF Agreement was signed on 29 December 2008. Seeking for the effective and smooth implementation of the PPF, the MoF and the CPMA signed the PPF implementation agreement on 2 November 2009. The two separate agreements on the implementation of the PPF financed projects were signed between the CPMA and the MoF on preparation of the NGO Fund feasibility study (on 26 November 2009) and between the CPMA and the MoH on preparation of the joint feasibility study for the health sector programmes (on 22 December 2009).

Following the provisions of the PPF agreement, the following reports were prepared and submitted to the SCO:

- PPF interim project report No. 1 was submitted on 4 August 2009;
- PPF interim project report No. 2 was submitted on 22 February 2010;
- PPF annual project report No. 1 was submitted on 22 February 2010.

For the cut-off date of this Report two PPF applications were submitted by the NCU and approved by the Swiss authorities. Implementation status of the PPF is as follows:

- In March 2009 the Ministry of Health started with the development of the tender documentation for procurement of the joint feasibility study for the finalisation of two programmes to be implemented in the health sector. The draft technical specifications and draft contract were presented for the review and comments of the CPMA. Certain parts of these specifications, related to objectives, expected results, planned activities for the Contractor, qualification requirements for experts and tenderers, were presented for comments and agreed with the Swiss party. After finalising the draft and receipt of positive response of the CPMA, tender documentation was approved by the Minister of Health on 9 October 2009. The tender was launched on 21 October 2009. CPMA participated in the evaluation of submitted proposals,

which started on 3 December. The contract was signed on 19 January, 2010. Detailed information on tender procedure is presented in Annex 1 of this Report.

In December 2009, seeking for cost and time-effective as well as independent expertise, the possibility to use Swiss mandated back-stopping consultants' services to review project proposals including a Feasibility study, technical specifications for procurement of medical/hospital equipment and ambulances was discussed with representatives of Swiss counterparts and the SCO. It was agreed that the consultants would be able to provide independent and practical observations to all parties involved: NCU, CPMA and the Swiss side. Lithuanian side appreciates very much the positive attitude of the SECO and SDC on that matter.

For the cut-off date of this Report the following activities on the preparation of the joint feasibility study were implemented:

- Working group for the management of the PPF funded contract was established on 3/12/2009.
 - Inception report approved on 3/02/2010.
 - First site visits to hospitals were conducted on 4 and 8/02/2010.
 - In February 2010 Contractor proceeded with the development of questions for different surveys/analysis which will be used for collecting of the information necessary for preparation of the feasibility study.
- After receipt of the Decision Letter on the approval of the Project Outline, MoF proceeded with elaboration of the tender documentation for the procurement of services for preparation of the feasibility study. The draft Terms of Reference (namely, parts related to objectives, expected results, planned activities for the Contractor, qualification requirements for experts and tenderers) were presented for comments and agreed with the SCO and the SDC. The MoF was assisted by the CPMA in procurement process (development of tender documents, implementation of the tender procedures, etc.). The tender was launched on 26 August 2009. The evaluation of submitted proposals started on 24 September, contract was signed on 25 November, 2009. Detailed information on tender is presented in Annex 1 of this Report.

For the cut-off date of this Report the following activities on preparation of the feasibility study were implemented:

- Meeting of the representatives of the MoF, SCO and Contractor organised on 20/11/2009.
- Inception report approved on 22/12/2009.
- Qualitative research performed on 20/01/2010 (focus group organised, regional NGOs questioned).
- Quantitative survey performed on 27/01/2010.
- Analysis part of the study was presented for the MoF for comments on 9/02/2010. MoF requested the contractor to work on the quality of this part of the feasibility study as it has to be improved essentially.

Presently, no more applications for the PPF are foreseen to be presented for the Swiss authorities. Taking into account the budget of signed contracts and the remaining free amount of the PPF, approximately 360 470 CHF are left and could be reallocated to some other programme/project under the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme.

2.2.3. Technical Assistance Fund

The purpose of the Technical Assistance Fund (hereinafter – the TAF) is to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of the Lithuanian - Swiss Cooperation Programme. It will serve as the main source and instrument for the NCU to administrate and manage the Lithuanian - Swiss Cooperation Programme. The CPMA which is assigned with the execution of concrete functions while implementing the above mentioned programme is another beneficiary of the project. The TAF Agreement was signed on 10 February 2009. The bilateral agreement between the MoF and the CPMA on the implementation of the TAF was signed on 1 June 2009.

The detailed budget of the TAF for 2009 was approved by the SDC on 30 March 2009. On 23 July the TAF Agreement and detailed budget for 2009 were amended. Amendments were made due to the agreement during the previous annual meeting that hiring of the temporary staff (exclusively for the administration of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme) could be financed from the Swiss Contribution (NCU and CPMA staff costs could also be financed from the TAF).

The detailed budget of the TAF for 2010 was approved on 8 January 2010.

During the reporting period the following activities of the TAF have been performed/are in process:

➤ *activities of the Ministry of Finance:*

- translation and interpretation services procured;
- services for creation of logo and visibility attribute procured;
- two Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme Steering Committee meetings were organized during the reporting period (on 29 April 2009 and on 13 August 2009);
- annual meeting organized on 16 April 2009.

➤ *activities of the Central Project Management Agency:*

- A total of 4 employees of the CPMA who work with the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation Programme attended the following training courses in Lithuania.
- Audit services for the TAF were procured.

It is foreseen that the combined interim and annual project report No. 1 on implementation of the TAF will be submitted to the SCO till end of March 2010, as required by the provisions of the TAF agreement.

2.3. Reporting on the Scholarship Fund

According to the provisions of the FA, Annex 3, part D on the Scholarship Fund (hereinafter – the SF), the fund is managed by the Intermediate Body of the Swiss side (CRUS).

According to the Scholarship Fund Agreement signed on June 29, 2009 by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Lithuania, the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Lithuania as well as the Research Council of Lithuania, referring to the Framework Agreement between the Swiss Federal Council and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania concerning the implementation of the Swiss-Lithuanian cooperation programme, the Research Council of Lithuania was assigned as the Coordination Body (hereinafter – CB). CB is responsible for the in-country management of the Scholarship Fund in Lithuania.

CB in cooperation with Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Education and Science has been negotiating with CRUS on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU is planned to be signed in March, 2010.

Since June, 2009 the Scholarship Fund is being advertised on the CB website. In addition the information on the Scholarship Fund and the related procedures in Lithuania is being constantly communicated to the academic community by e-mail and phone. CB registered the domain www.sciex.lt, which has a link to the CB's website page containing the information on the Scholarship Fund. During 2010 the website www.sciex.lt will be constantly improved and updated.

The Scholarship Fund Cycle was launched on January 1st, 2010 by announcing the first call for proposals. The end of the first call is April 1, 2010. On 8th January, 2010 CB started to disseminate the information about the first call for proposals. The information was announced on the website of the Lithuanian Research Council, disseminated directly to the eligible institutions and in addition a press-release was disseminated.

CB regularly provides assistance to researchers concerning the Scholarship Fund and the announced call. On January 20th, 2010 the Sciex administrator in CB Ms Audronė Mažulytė attended the Sciex Training Session at CRUS.

CB is preparing to coordinate the scoring of the fellowship proposals. For that purpose on December 21st, 2009 CB appointed the Supervisory Board composed of 4 researchers and 1 CB administrator. After the end of the call (April 1, 2010) CB will provide data on the eligibility and quantity of received proposals to CRUS and to the Intermediary Body in Lithuania for compilation of the required progress reports.

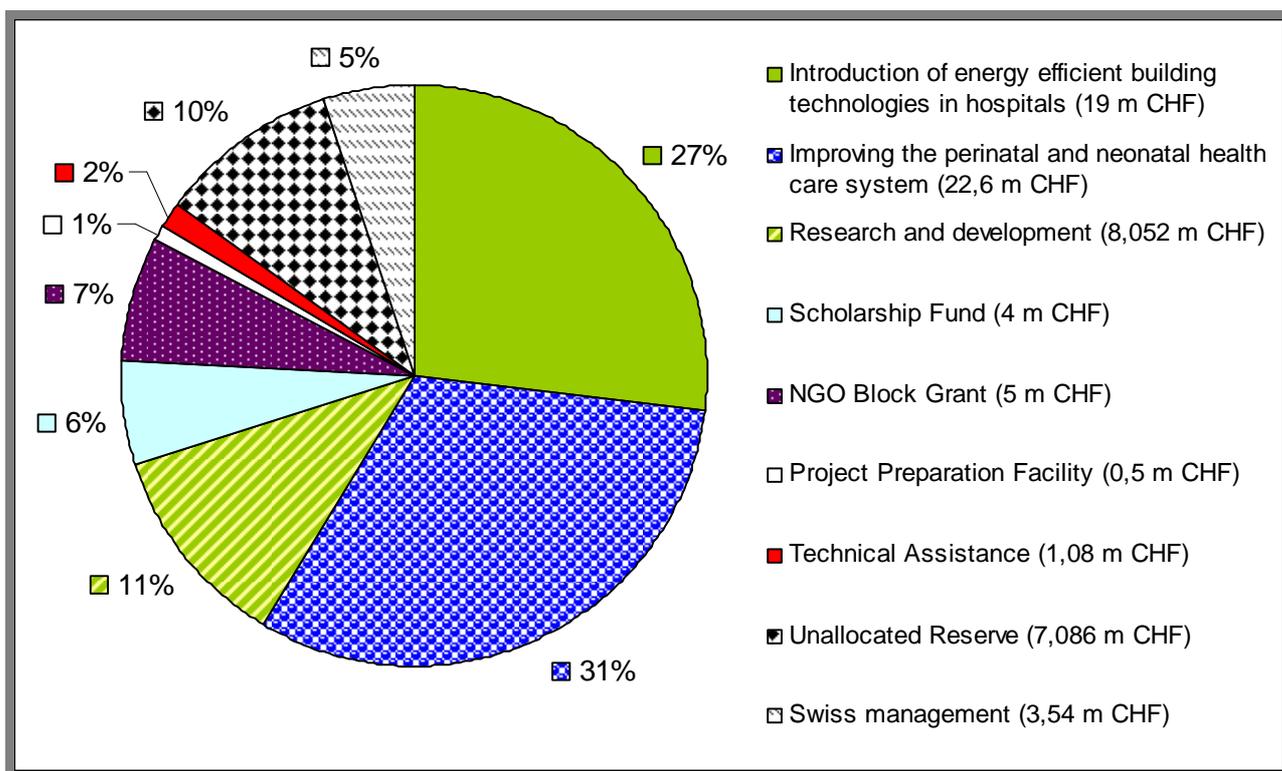
The first version of the Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter – the MoU) for the Coordination Body was submitted in September 2009. The responsible Lithuanian institutions (involved in the implementation of Scholarship fund) have analyzed the draft MoU and provided their comments in October 2009. The draft MoU was coordinated (on telephone, e-mails) between CRUS and Lithuanian institutions until February 2010 when the final electronic version from Lithuania side was submitted to CRUS.

Information on the implementation of the Scholarship fund related activities by the CRUS was received by e-mail on 9 March 2010 and is presented in Annex 3 of this Report.

2.4. Overall financial statement on the past and tentative future disbursements and commitments for the entire Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme

The figure below presents the distribution of funds available under the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme (total amount – 70,858 M CHF):

Figure No. 1 Allocation of the budget available under the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme



Commitments and disbursements of the reporting period

During the reporting period one Project Agreement was signed between the Republic of Lithuania and the Swiss Confederation for the financing of the Scholarship Fund. Grant from the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme is 4 MCHF. Lithuania finances activities of this Fund listed in Article 7 of the Project Agreement what is regarded as co-financing of Lithuanian side.

Total amount committed since the signature of the Framework Agreement (according to the Project Agreements signed): 5 580 000 CHF (8,3% of the total amount (67,32 mln CHF) to be committed under the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme).

Disbursements by the Lithuanian side (eligible expenditures approved by NCU/CPMA during the reporting period and paid out by the State Treasury) during the reporting period constitute 50 697,05 CHF under the TA fund. No reimbursements by the Swiss side were made during the reporting period.

Tentative commitments and disbursements for the next reporting period

It is foreseen that the following agreements will be signed during the next reporting period:

- Project Agreement for the NGO block grant;
- Project Agreement for the Programme “Research and Development”;
- Project Agreement for the Programme “Introduction of energy efficient technologies into the Lithuanian hospitals providing perinatal and neonatal health care services”;
- Project Agreement for the Programme “Improvement of perinatal and neonatal health care services in Lithuania”.

Overall financial statement on the past and tentative future disbursements and commitments for the entire Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme is summarised in Annex 2 of this annual report.

2.5. Summary and main conclusions of the financial audits of the Projects

In 2009 audit services were procured only for the Technical Assistance Fund. One audit of a CPMA payment claim was carried out by a certified external auditor. The auditor prepared and submitted an audit report and an auditor's certificate, which stated that expenditures included in the payment claim were incurred properly and in line with the relevant agreements.

Only inconsiderable expenses were incurred for the Technical Assistance Fund and it was therefore decided that the Ministry of Finance would prepare one payment claim for the period 10-02-2009 to 31-12-2009 which would be audited in 2010.

The Technical Assistance Fund Combined Interim and Annual Report for the period 01-01-2009 to 31-12-2009 will be audited and submitted to Switzerland by 1 April 2010 together with the Reimbursement Request and aforementioned Report.

It is foreseen that an interim financial audit of the Technical Assistance Fund and the final financial audit of the Project Preparation Facility will be carried out on 2010.

2.6. Statistics of tenders, contract awards and successful bidders

Information on this part of the Report is presented in Annex 1.

3. Swissness

Health sector programmes

Implementing the Programme for perinatal and neonatal health care the Ministry of Health is planning to cooperate with the partners in Switzerland in the area of training the Lithuanian health care professionals.

The contractor of the joint feasibility study for the programmes of health sector (the JSC „Earnst&Young“) has invited into its Project team Swiss expert on health sector planning (Head of „Lead Consultants“ company). It is foreseen that while developing the feasibility study the situation in Switzerland as regards provision of perinatal and neonatal health care services will be analysed, it is also planned that Swiss experience in applying the diagnostics and treatment protocols in obstetrics and neonatology will be analysed.

Research and Development programme

Programme will be concentrated on financing of the joint research projects and institutional partnerships between Lithuanian and Swiss researchers/research institutions. The joint research projects will be selected and funded on competitive basis. The Joint Selection Committee (which includes scientific representatives nominated by both countries will take the responsibility for the approval of a final list of selected joint projects. Also, this Committee should initially agree on the evaluation procedure and criteria. It will create extensive conditions for the cooperation of Lithuanian and Swiss research institutions and researchers.

NGO Fund

One of the objectives of this Fund foreseen in the Project Outline is to promote/enhance the partnerships between Lithuania and Switzerland in the NGOs sector. It is foreseen that while developing the feasibility study for the NGO sector in Lithuania, the present situation, problems and needs for cooperation between the Swiss and Lithuanian NGOs will be analysed. The more detailed

information on how the Fund objective related to partnerships with the Swiss NGOs will be realised could be presented at a later stage, after the completion of the feasibility study and preparation of the Final Project Proposal.

4. Proposals for the allocation of non-committed funds

During the 1st annual meeting the Swiss delegation presented proposals on the possible use of the unallocated reserve of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme:

- Allocation of 1 MCHF for the focus area “Research and Development”,
- Allocation of 1 MCHF for the programmes of the Health sector,
- Allocation of 5 MCHF for the new thematic priority area “Security”.

Based on the Swiss initiative, on 27 May 2009 the NCU approached the relevant Lithuanian institutions with the question on possible focus areas and projects which could be developed within the newly proposed priority area. After analysing the received ideas and their argumentation, also checking the possibilities of receiving the financial assistance under 2007-2013 structural funds, the NCU presented its’ proposals for the discussions of the SC for the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme on 13 August 2009. On 21 September 2009, based on the recommendations of the SC, the following two individual projects were proposed for the Swiss authorities:

- project „Establishment of a System for Lawful Interception of Information and Its’ Content Transmitted by Public Telecommunication Networks (traffic)“ (grant requested: 3,68 MCHF),
- project „Establishment and Implementation of a System for Video Transmission, Recording and Storage in Courts“ (grant requested: 1,32 MCHF).

On 19 November 2009 the SCO letter was received with the statement that ideas for both of the projects are in general supported. On this basis the NCU initiated the first technical meetings with the potential Executing Agencies (National Court Administration and State Security Department) on preparation of the draft Project Outlines. On 20 November technical meetings between the NCU, potential Executing Agencies and representatives of the SCO and SDC were organised. In parallel, the process on making relevant modifications to the annexes of the Framework Agreement was being conducted in cooperation with the Swiss side.

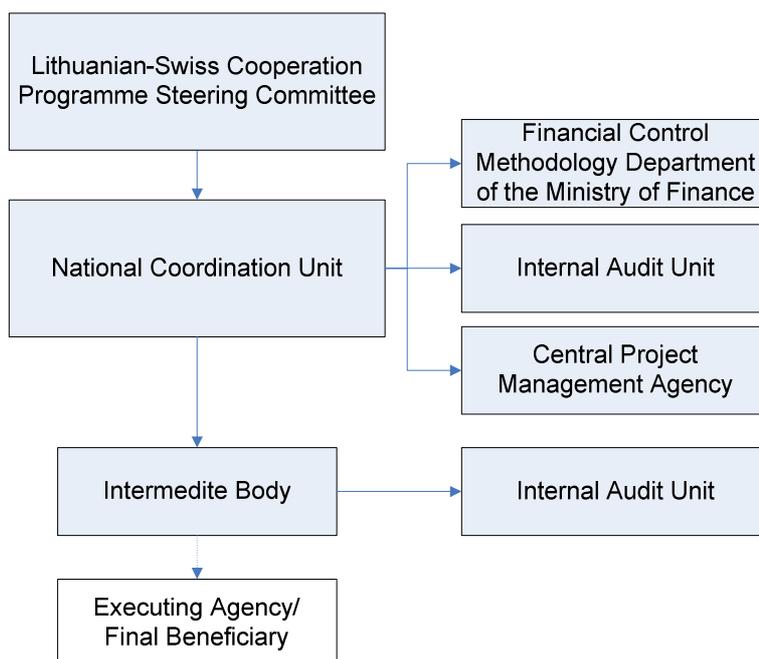
On 21 December 2009 the SDC e-mail was received informing about new concerns and difficulties with regard to the Lithuanian project proposal „Establishment of a system for lawful interception of information and its content transmitted by public telecommunication networks (traffic)“. It was recommended to renounce the submission of the latter Project proposal. The official letter on this matter was received on 11 January 2010 inviting the Lithuanian NCU to present some other projects for financing from the unallocated funds which are left.

5. Reporting on administrative implementation issues

Managerial set-up

The managerial set-up for the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme is presented in the figure below.

Figure No. 2. The managerial set-up for the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme



National Coordination Unit

The MoF acts as the NCU of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme. Based on the provisions of the FA, execution of certain functions is delegated to the CPMA. This was done by the Order of the Minister of Finance (No. 1K-418, 5 Dec., 2008) “On the Approval of the Rules for Administration of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme”.

Within the Ministry, two independent administrative units participate in the implementation of the NCU functions:

- International Financial Assistance Coordination Division executes the functions related to coordination matters while implementing the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme;
- State Treasury Department executes the functions related to the management of all operations regarding the financial transactions. The financial management is separated from other functions of the NCU in order to increase the quality of operations and ensure good governance practices.

The Swiss Contribution Office of the Swiss Embassy for Lithuania (hereinafter – the SCO) is the direct and main counterpart of the NCU with regard to the official information and day-to-day communication on the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme.

Intermediate Bodies

The following ministries are assigned by the Government of the Republic of Lithuania as the Intermediate Bodies (hereinafter - IB) under the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme:

- Ministry of Health is the IB for the projects (programmes) to be prepared and implemented in the focus areas “*Rehabilitation and modernisation of basic infrastructure and improvement of the environment*” and “*Health*”;
- Ministry of Education and Science is the IB for the project (programme) to be prepared and implemented in the focus area “*Research and Development*”;
- Ministry of Finance is the IB for the project (block grant) to be prepared and implemented in the NGO sector.
- Ministry of Finance is the IB for the PPF (this is defined in the FA, Annex 3).

Steering Committee

Steering Committee (hereinafter - SC) of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme was established and its' personal composition approved by the Order of the Minister of Finance No. 1K-017 of 27 January 2009. The SC is composed of the representatives of the MoF (chair), Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania, non-governmental sector and the CPMA. It was foreseen that the representative of regional authorities should be also included into the SC composition, but due to the reform on county level the representative of regional authorities had not been appointed. Other institutions interested and the representatives of the Swiss Embassy (Swiss Contribution Office) are invited to the meetings of the SC as observers.

The functions of the SC are detailed in the Rules for Administration of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme and the Work Regulation of the SC and are as follows:

- presents recommendations on the project outlines and final project proposals to the NCU (on submission to the SCO, corrections, rejection);
- presents recommendations on the revision of the focus areas of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme to the NCU;
- supervise the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme and its' compliance to the provisions of the FA;
- discusses and takes decision (on approval or rejection) on the annual report on the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme.

According to the work regulation of the SC, the SC meetings shall be organised at least once per year. If necessary, SC meetings can be organised more frequently.

The Committee decisions are taken by voting at the meeting. All Committee members have 1 vote each. Voting can be „for“ and „against“. The restraint is not allowed, except the cases when the participant of the meeting must restrain due to the conflict of interests. The decision is considered to be made if the voting „for“ is made by majority of the Committee members participating in the meeting (or their authorised representatives). In case of the equal distribution of votes, the chairman's vote is decisive. If there is a necessity to decide on important and urgent issues a written procedure could be applied.

Financial Control Methodology Department of the Ministry of Finance

As described in the FA, the Financial Control Methodology Department of the Ministry of Finance is responsible for the coordination of the verifications of the effective functioning of management and control system for the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme. The list of tasks assigned is presented in Annex 2 of the FA.

Internal Audit Units

Internal audit units perform audit of functioning of management and control system for the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme. The list of tasks assigned is presented in Annex 2 of the FA.

Legal aspects

During the reporting period the following new legal acts were approved:

- *Rules of Disbursement from the Technical Assistance Fund and the Project Preparation Facility under Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme* (Order of the Minister of Finance No. 1K-268 of 5 August 2009). The Rules set the detailed procedures of disbursement of the

Technical Assistance Fund and Project Preparation Facility funds' as well as national co-financing for the executing agencies, MoF and CPMA. Rules also describe internal procedures of the MoF related to the payments and its' relations with the CPMA.

- *Standard methodology for the performance of internal audit concerning the management and control system under the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation programme* (Order of the Minister of Finance No. 1K-488 of 24 December 2009). The methodology defines the rules (provides requirements) concerning the planning and performance of the audit regarding management and control system on the level of Intermediate Bodies (in case of programmes and block grant)/ Executing Agencies (in case of individual projects) acting for the implementation of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme. It also sets the provisions for the monitoring of progress and preparation of the reports to be prepared by the internal audit units of the Intermediate Bodies/Executing Agencies.
- *Publicity rules of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme* (Order of the Minister of Finance No. 1K-031 of 9 February 2010). These rules set forth the detailed provisions for the administrating institutions (the NCU, the CPMA, the Intermediate Bodies), executing agencies, final beneficiaries how to publicise the financial assistance of the donors through the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme.

During the reporting period the following legal acts were modified:

- *Rules for Administration of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme* (Order of the Minister of Finance No.1K-418 of 5 December 2008). Seeking to avoid duplication in checking of documentation of the payment claims, it was decided that the intermediate bodies will verify the documents are in conformity with the Programme and Project Implementation Agreements. The financial verification of the documents (related to the confirmation of eligibility of expenditures) is assigned to the CPMA. Other modifications are of a technical nature, made seeking to avoid differences in text interpretations.
- *Steering Committee of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme* (Order of the Minister of Finance No. 1K-017 of 27 January 2009). Personal composition of the committee was modified.

The following documents on the administration of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme are being drafted/revised:

- Rules describing preparation and submission of payment claims, issues related to currency exchange rate, conditions for eligibility of costs and other financial questions are being drafted.
- Amendments to the Governmental Resolution No. 590, dated 30 May 2005, on the Approval of rules for refund of financial assistance, paid and (or) used in contravention with the legal acts, to the State Budget of the Republic of Lithuania. Amendments are made seeking to define the relevant provisions with regard to the implementation of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme.

In its capacity, the CPMA takes part in the preparation of legal acts for the implementation and monitoring of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme.

During the reporting period the CPMA prepared, discussed with the NCU and approved the following forms, necessary for the proper implementation of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme:

- Form for conclusions regarding eligible expenditures from the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation Programme (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2009/8-66 of 2009-06-19)

- VAT eligibility declaration (in Lithuanian) (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2009/8-82 of 2009-07-29)
- Example of a note to the State Tax Inspectorate (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2009/8-82 of 2009-07-29)
- Payment Claim form for the Technical Assistance Fund (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2009/8-82 of 2009-07-29)
- Payment Claim form for the Project Preparation Facility (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2009/8-172 of 2009-12-15)
- Project Preparation Facility Interim/Final Project Implementation Report form (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2009/8-172 of 2009-12-15)
- Programme/ Grant Scheme/ Fund/Individual Project Interim Report form (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2010/8-19 of 2010-02-01)
- Technical Assistance Fund Combined Interim and Annual Project Report form (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2010/8-19 of 2010-02-01)
- Programme/ Grant Scheme/ Fund/Individual Project Annual Project Report form (approved by the CPMA Director's Order No. 2010/8-19 of 2010-02-01).
- 7 CPMA internal procedures for the Swiss-Lithuanian Cooperation programme were prepared and approved. They encompass: evaluation procedures for project outlines and PPF applications, compilation of implementation agreements and public procurement monitoring, payment claim checking and expenditure acceptance, as well as preparation, checking, approval, coordination and submission of reports reimbursement requests to Switzerland.

6. Strategy and activities to inform the general public about the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme and the Projects implemented

With regard to implementation of publicity measures of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme, the separate web page www.swiss-contribution.lt was designed and became operational on 22 February 2008. This webpage forwards the searcher into the particular section of the webpage of the MoF. Webpage is available in Lithuanian and English languages.

The webpage of the MoF (both Lithuanian and English versions) contains the following information:

- Assistance from Switzerland/ Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme:
 - Priority Areas and Forms of Assistance:
 - Programmes
 - Block Grant
 - Other forms of assistance
- Monitoring of Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme Implementation
 - Steering Committee
 - Annual Meetings
- Documents
- Links

Information about the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme is also published on the website of the CPMA: www.cpva.lt. The "News" section publishes announcements related to the implementation of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme.

Both websites are continually updating information on the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme and includes links to websites of Lithuanian and Swiss institutions involved with the Programme.

Taking into consideration the importance of the publicity and executing the function to ensure information and publicity about the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme (assigned to the NCU in the FA) the MoF prepared the Publicity rules of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme which were approved by the Order of the Minister of Finance on 9 February 2010.

Publicity activities performed during the reporting period:

- Project Preparation Facility:
 - Information about the public procurement for the preparation of the feasibility study of the NGO Fund, financed by the PPF, was published in the websites: www.finmin.lt (www.swiss-contribution.lt). Relevant information as well as tender documentation was announced in the website of the CPMA (www.cpva.lt). Information on the tender was also provided to the Swiss side for publishing on the relevant websites.
 - Information about the public procurement for the preparation of the joint feasibility study for the health sector programmes, financed by the PPF, was published in the websites: www.sam.lt (including tender documents), www.finmin.lt (www.swiss-contribution.lt) and www.cpva.lt. Information on the tender was also provided to the Swiss side for publishing on the relevant websites.
- Technical Assistance Fund:
 - Logo of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation programme created and the promotional material produced. Part of promotional material was provided to the administrating institutions of the Lithuanian-Swiss Cooperation Programme, Steering Committee members, NGO's.
- Scholarship Fund, programme "Research and development":
 - Press release regarding the signature of the SF Agreement was prepared and distributed for the mass media on 13 July, 2009. Press release informed about the purpose, tasks and available budget of the Fund.
 - Information about the signature of the SF Agreement was also published in the websites: www.finmin.lt (www.swiss-contribution.lt), websites of the Ministry of Education and Science (www.smm.lt) and the Lithuanian Research Council (www.lmt.lt).
 - In order to promote and disseminate information about the Swiss Contribution under the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation programme, namely, on the activities planned according to the programme on research and development as well as the already launched call of the Scholarship fund relevant information was published on the websites of the Ministry of Education and Science, the Lithuanian Research Council and the CPMA.
 - In addition the information on the Scholarship Fund and the related procedures in Lithuania is being constantly communicated to the academic community by e-mail and phone.
 - CB registered the domain www.sciex.lt, which has a link to the CB's website page containing the information on the Scholarship Fund.

7. Implementation of the work plan foreseen in the 1st Annual Report.

Comparison of the tasks planned for the period March 2009 – March 2010 and the real achievements is presented in the table below:

Task	Implementation deadline planned in the 1st annual report	Achieved in time/ delayed	Reasons for deviations
Tasks related to the programmes in the focus areas „Rehabilitation and modernisation of basic infrastructure and Improvement of the environment“ and „Health“			
Preparation of the Project Outline and presentation to donors for approval	I-IIQ/2009	Achieved in time (PO officially submitted on 30/04/2009)	-
Preparation of tender documentation, tender and selection of contractor for preparation of feasibility study	II-IIIQ/2009	Delayed	<p>Due to delayed start of preparation of tender documentation and prolonged procedure of approval of tender documentation by all parties concerned this task was not achieved on time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • draft of Terms of Reference prepared by Ministry of Health (MoH) and submitted to donors on 04/06/2009; • donors submitted comments on 07/07/2009; • tender documents submitted by MoH to CPMA on 27/08/2009 • CPMA submitted comments to MoH on 15/09/2009 and approved it on 05/10/2009 after additional consultations with donors regarding feasibility studies objectives. <p>MoH launched the tender procedure on 21/10/2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deadline for

			<p>submission of tenders 03/12/2009;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> tenders evaluation procedure continued from 03/12/2009 to 04/01/2010; MoH submitted draft service contract to CPMA on 04/01/2010 CPMA approved the document on 07/01/2010. <p>The service contract between MoH and "Ernst & Young Baltic" was signed on 19/01/2010.</p>
Preparation of feasibility study (for the Final Project Proposal)	IVQ/2009	Delayed	Due to delayed signature of the service contract, the preparation of the feasibility study started in January 2010.
Tasks related to the programme in the focus area „Research and development“			
Preparation of the Project Outline and presentation to donors for approval	I-IIQ/2009	Delayed (PO submitted officially on 17/08/2009)	Due to the prolonged co-ordination process of the Project Outline between NCU and IB concerning the disbursement scheme, preparation and submission of the Project Outline was delayed.
Preparation of the Final Project Proposal and presentation to donors for approval	II-IIIQ/2009	Delayed	Preparation of the FPP is delayed due to several reasons: - delay in preparation and submission of the PO, - due to changes in plans of the Intermediate Body on further development of the programme.
Preparation and conclusion of the Project Agreement between the NCU and the donors	IVQ/2009	Delayed	Delay is caused by the delays in implementation of the previous tasks.
Tasks related to the Scholarship Fund			
Preparation and conclusion of the Scholarship Fund Agreement	IQ/2009	Achieved in time	-
Tasks related to the NGO block grant			
Preparation of tender documentation, tender and selection of contractor for	I-IIIQ/2009	Delayed	Due to prolonged procedure of approval of tender documentation by

preparation of feasibility study			<p>all parties concerned this task was not achieved on time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • draft of Terms of Reference (ToRs) prepared by NCU and submitted to CPMA on 31/03/2009; • CPMA comments submitted to NCU on 16/04/2009; • ToRs for donors submitted by NCU to donors for comments on 30/04/2009; • NCU and donors agreed on ToRs on 18/05/2009; • NCU authorised CPMA to carry out the procurement procedures on 18/05/2009; • NCU and CPMA agreed on tender documents on 31/07/2009. <p>CPMA launched the tender procedure on 26/08/2009:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • deadline for submission of tenders 24/09/2009 ; • tenders evaluation procedure continued from 24/09/2009 to 06/11/2009; • CPMA prepared and submitted the draft service contract to NCU on 11/11/2009. <p>Service contract between MoF and public institution "Social and Economic Development Centre" was signed on 25/11/ 2009.</p>
Preparation of feasibility study (for the Final Project Proposal)	III-IVQ/2009	Achieved in time	Preparation of feasibility study started on

			IVQ/2009 as service contract signed on 25/11/2009
Preparation of the Final Project Proposal and presentation to donors for approval	IVQ/2009- IQ/2010	Delayed	Delay in implementation of these tasks were due to delay in signing service contract. Service contract was signed on 25/11/2009, contract duration is 4 months with possible extension till 01/06/2010.
Tasks related to the Project Preparation Facility			
Preparation and conclusion of the bilateral agreement between the NCU (Ministry of Finance) and the CPMA on implementation of the PPF	IIQ/2009	Delayed	Delays in signing agreements on the implementation of PPF were caused due to the following reason: in the initially drafted bilateral agreement on the implementation of PPF - MoF was acting as NCU, IB and Executing Agency. However, due to the complex content of the agreement and after discussions with legal department and CPMA it was decided to prepare two separate agreements - one between MoF acting as NCU/IB and CPMA, and another one between MoF (as Executing Agency) and CPMA. The above-mentioned reason caused the delay in signing agreements on the implementation of PPF.
Preparation and conclusion of the agreement between the NCU (MoF), the CPMA and the MoH on implementation of the PPF	IIQ/2009	Delayed	
Interim Report on the PPF	IIIQ/2009 IQ/2010	Achieved in time (information submitted in August 2009) Achieved in time (IR submitted in February 2010)	-

Annual Project Report on the PPF	IQ/2010	Achieved in time (APR submitted in February 2010)	-
Preparation of Reimbursement Request to Switzerland	IQ/2010	Delayed	As the PPF financed contracts started later than planned, the 1st Reimbursement request will be prepared and submitted with the next Interim Report.
Procurement of external certified Audit Organisation`s services for a closing Final Financial Audit (together with procurement of services for the intermediary Financial Audit of TAF) (3-year contract)	IQ/2010	Not achieved for the cut-off date of this report	Procurement process for contracting the PPF final financial audit is being executed. It was decided to separate the procurement of the services of the financial audit of PPF and the financial audits of TAF because the scope of services and timetable of PPF financial audit and TAF financial audit are different. In PPF case only final financial audit have to be performed (until 14 August 2012) while in the TAF case financial audit should be performed for each Project Interim Report, i.e. twice per calendar year, until the year 2017.
Tasks related to the Technical Assistance Fund			
Preparation and conclusion of the bilateral agreement between the NCU (Ministry of Finance) and the CPMA on implementation of the TAF	IIQ/2010	Achieved in time (agreement signed in July 2009)	-
Preparation of tender documentation, tender and selection of contractor for translation services	III-IVQ/2009	Achieved earlier than planned (contract signed in August 2009)	-
Preparation of tender documentation, tender and selection of contractor for publicity services	III-IVQ/2009	Achieved earlier than planned (contract signed in September	-

		2009)	
Procurement of external certified Audit Organisation`s services for the intermediary Financial Audits of TAF (3-year contract)	IVQ/2009	Achieved earlier than planned (contract signed on 21/07/2009)	-
Procurement of services for review of Final Project Proposals (for the MoH programmes)	IQ/2010	Not achieved	<p>The 2009 TA Fund budget initially included the procurement of consultancy services for review of project proposals prepared by the MoH in the very specific medical field.</p> <p>In December 2009, the possibility to use Swiss mandated back-stopping consultants' services to review project proposals including a Feasibility study, technical specifications for procurement of medical/hospital equipment and ambulances was discussed with representatives of Swiss counterparts and the SCO. It was agreed that the consultants would be able to provide independent and practical observations to all parties involved: NCU, CPMA and the Swiss side. Moreover, SDC and SECO already have the contracted consultants who visited Lithuanian hospitals in 2009; more importantly these experts speak and understand the Lithuanian language.</p> <p>In order to have a cost and time-effective as well as independent expertise, in December 2009 it was agreed with the Swiss counterparts to use Swiss</p>

			mandated back-stopping consultants. The payment for consultancy services will be made by Swiss counterparts.
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CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

During the reporting period all actions by the NCU, CPMA, Intermediate Bodies and other responsible Lithuanian institutions involved in the implementation of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme continued with the development of the internal procedures, finalisation of the project outlines in the respective focus areas. After the approval of the project outlines by the responsible Swiss institutions, the Intermediate Bodies in health and NGO sectors proceeded with the development of the feasibility studies. It must be noted that informal review of the documents by the Swiss institutions and the SCO serves as an effective tool in elaborating the documents. With the help of “discussions on-line” their quality can be improved.

The practical implementation phase had not begun thus it is not yet possible to assess the implementation of the Lithuanian – Swiss Cooperation Programme and achievement of the objectives set in the Framework Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Swiss Federal Council. This will be the subject for future reports.

During the next reporting period the programming phase is planned to be finalised. The NCU and the CPMA shall concentrate their attention and efforts on the finalisation of the final project proposals by the Intermediate Bodies and assisting them in this important work, if necessary. All related institutions shall strive for ensuring the quality of the feasibility studies, other documentations necessary for the preparation of the final project proposals, in further perspective – the monitoring, control and audit of the projects under implementation.

The NCU would like to propose the responsible Swiss authorities to start with the development of the draft Project Agreements earlier than the official approval of the final project proposals by the donors will follow. As the experience shows, it takes quite along time to harmonise the draft agreements, therefore, this would save time and speed up the start of practical implementation of the projects.

The NCU would like to propose to join the two loops for the preparation of the individual projects (if the PPF funding will not be requested), after the decision on the unallocated reserve (distribution of the funds available) will be taken. In case of individual projects no funds will be re-granted for some other sub-projects. Joining of the loops would also speed up the practical start of project implementation.

Annex 1 Statistics of tenders, contract awards and successful bidders

During the reporting period two tenders under the PPF were conducted and the contracts signed. The more detailed and comprehensive information on them is provided in the PPF reports to Switzerland.

Tender title	Tender type (procedure used)	Tender budget (according to PPF application)	Information on tenderers	Successful bidder	Contract amount	Implementation period
Procurement of services for preparation of the feasibility study for the NGO Fund	Simplified open procedure	47 000 CHF	There were four proposals received by the set deadline: 1) charity and support fund “NGO Information and Support Center” as the responsible partner (charity and support fund “NGO Information and Support Center” and JSC “Vilmorus” were acting as an economic entity belonging to a group acting on the grounds of a joint operating agreement) 2) joint-stock company “Factus Dominus” 3) public institution “National Development Institute” as the responsible partner (public institution “National Development Institute”, non-governmental organization “Lithuanian Youth Council (LiJOT)” and public institution “Kolping College” were acting as an economic entity belonging to a group acting on the grounds of a joint operating	Contract was concluded with the public institution “Social and Economic Development Centre”.	The contract’s budget is 41.140,00 LTL (including VAT) (about 19 000 CHF).	2009/11/25 – 2010/03/25 (duration of service provision)

			agreement) 4) public institution “Social and Economic Development Centre”.			
Procurement of services for preparation of the feasibility study “Improvement of the infrastructure and the provision of perinatal and neonatal health care services including the introduction of energy efficient technologies in Lithuanian hospitals” together with draft programmes	Open procedure	400 000 CHF	There were two proposals received by the set deadline: 1) JSC “Ernst & Young Baltic” as the responsible partner (JSC “Ernst & Young Baltic” and JSC “Grontmij I Carl Bro” were acting as an economic entity belonging to a group acting on the grounds of a joint operating agreement 2) JSC “Ramboll Lietuva” as the responsible partner (JSC “Ramboll Lietuva” and JSC “CID Baltic” were acting as an economic entity belonging to a group acting on the grounds of a joint operating agreement)	Contract was concluded with the JSC “Ernst & Young Baltic”.	The contract’s budget is 769 560 LTL (including VAT) (about 350 000 CHF).	2010/01/19 – 2010/07/18 (duration of service provision)

Summarising the information on tenders conducted under the TA fund, the following data can be presented:

- Ministry of Finance concluded the following contracts:
 - contract on procurement of translation and interpretation services with the JSC “Metropolio vertimai” (contract value: 33 759 LTL (about 15 000 CHF), contract duration – 12 months (with possibility of extension for 12 months));
 - contract on creation of logo and visibility attribute with the JSC “DDB Vilnius” (contract value: 51 055,95 LTL (about 23 000 CHF), contract duration – 90 calendar days).
- CPMA concluded the contract for audit services for the TA fund with the JSC “Gaudera” (contract value: 45 552,94 LTL (about 22 700 CHF), duration of service provision – 1 October 2017).

All procurements (under PPF and TAF) have been made according to the Lithuanian Law on Public Procurement which is in compliance with EU Procurement Directives. No irregularities have been found. The more detailed and comprehensive information on them is provided in the TAF annual report to Switzerland.