

MDTF-JSS Simplified Results Framework 2016-2018

As outlined in the Administration Agreements with the relevant donors, and the Grant Agreement with the Serbian Government, the project development objective (PDO) is to ***‘provide support for strengthening the justice sector of the Republic of Serbia in order to facilitate its integration to the European Union’***.

As ***inputs***, the MDTF provides financial and human resources, including national, regional and international expertise and know-how in justice system reform, governance and operations.

The MDTF uses these inputs to deliver a range of ***activities*** across the justice sector in collaboration with justice stakeholders and in line with the Chapter 23 Accession Action Plan and related strategies and action plans. As ***outputs***, the MDTF delivers expert analyses, technical assistance, facilitation of policy dialogue, reform facilitation, training and capacity building activities, operational support, and coordination services in areas of need. The MDTF also provides a mechanism for pooled donor contributions for the fund’s administration, management and fiduciary oversight. (Detailed inputs, activities and outputs are not referenced here but further information is available on the website (<http://www.mdtfjss.org.rs>) and documented in Aide Memoires and Annual Reports in accordance with the Administration Agreements.)

In delivering these activities and outputs, the MDTF adopts an ***approach*** that values stakeholder ownership, evidence-based policy-making and responsiveness to the needs facing the sector and its stakeholders. The program is also informed by political economy analysis and a problem-driven iterative approach.

Through these inputs, activities, services and outputs, the MDTF aims to contribute to three ***short-to medium term outcomes***. First, the MDTF strengthens the ability of the sector to develop, implement and monitor strategies and action plans. Second, it raises awareness among policy/decision-makers of justice sector challenges and reform opportunities, informs policy dialogue and provides support to stakeholders to implement reforms. Third, it strengthens individual and institutional capacities across the sector.

These in turn contribute to the ***longer-term goal*** that Serbia’s justice system meets EU benchmarks and delivers efficient, high-quality and accessible services to citizens and businesses.

The ***baseline*** for measuring progress of the MDTF is primarily the *Serbia Judicial Functional Review 2014*. The Review provided a comprehensive assessment of the functioning of the justice system in terms of efficiency of justice, quality of justice and access to justice vis-à-vis EU benchmarks as of 2014, and was intended to set the baseline against which to measure the impact of future justice reform initiatives.

#	Indicator	Baseline at 1 January 2016	Target by 31 December 2018	Source/methodology
1	Strategy is informed: The Chapter 23 Accession Action Plan and key reform strategies and action plans (NJRS, backlog reduction plan etc.) are developed, monitored and updated as necessary so that they can effectively drive sector performance.	Sector capacity to develop and implement strategies and plans is weak. Mechanisms for monitoring and coordination are also weak. Capacities and challenges are documented in Serbia Judicial Functional Review, 2014.	- Strategies, action plans and related plans are developed, monitored and updated.	Verified through AP monitoring of documentation submitted to the EC, as well as documented work of relevant working groups, such as those monitoring the implementation of the Ch23 Accession Action Plan, Backlog Reduction Plan, Case Law Harmonization Plan.
2	Awareness is raised and policy is informed. Awareness of key challenges facing the sector is raised, and MDTF analysis/technical assistance informs policies/decision-making to improve justice system performance.	Sector lacks a culture of evidence-based policy/decision-making. Stakeholders lack in-depth knowledge of key challenges, comparative experiences, and reform opportunities. Capacities and challenges are documented in Serbia Judicial	- Stakeholders report that MDTF analysis/technical assistance has raised their awareness and/or deepened their knowledge. - Stakeholders report that MDTF analysis/TA been used by them to inform policy/decision-making.	Verified through stakeholder feedback, annual MDTF reports, aide memoires.
3	Capacities are strengthened. Various trainings & workshops strengthen individual capacities of key personnel in the sector. Knowledge transferred from experts/consultants to key personnel.	Sector capacity generally low with excessive variation in capacities and competencies among key personnel, and between institutions. Lack of coordination and training, and limited skills transfer. Capacities and challenges are documented in FR 2014.	- At least 500 people participate in training & workshops in targeted fields. - At least 80% participants report that training was useful. - At least 80% report improved skills	Training data verified by reports prepared by JA and PIU Training Plans, including data on number of participants and participant evaluations. Where appropriate, testing, such as accreditation, will provide additional evidence of capacity built. Workshop data verified by reports prepared by PIU.

