



## Serbia Justice Sector Support Multi Donor Trust Fund (P121377)

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA | Serbia | Governance Global Practice |  
Recipient Executed Activities | Technical Assistance Loan | FY 2010 | Seq No: 1 | ARCHIVED on 24-Feb-2016 | ISR17745 |

Implementing Agencies:

### Key Dates

#### Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:18-May-2010

Effectiveness Date:30-Nov-2010

Original Closing Date:31-Dec-2011

Revised Closing Date:31-Dec-2018

### Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The objective is to provide support for strengthening the justice sector of the Republic of Serbia in order to facilitate its integration to the European Union.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

### Components

Name

### Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	--	● Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	--	● Satisfactory

### Implementation Status and Key Decisions

This small grant funds technical assistance and capacity building for the MOJ and other justice sector stakeholders to support the strengthening of justice system performance to align with the EU accession process. The grant comprises two sub-components: Reform, Accession and Facilitation: Under this sub-component, the grant funds local experts based at the Ministry of Justice and the Supreme Court of Cassation who support reform implementation in line with the Chapter 23 Accession Action Plan and the National Judicial Reform Strategy (NJRS) 2013-2018. It also funds a series of training events, workshops, donor coordination activities and study tours in discrete areas of the Chapter 23 reform agenda.



**Access to Justice:** This sub-component was designed to support access to justice through the rollout of a significant Legal Aid Law. Despite several attempts, the draft law has not passed. Project activity under this sub-component has been limited to supporting the drafting of the law and funding workshops and deliberations of the Legal Working Group. To overcome the blockage, in April 2015, the MDTF-JSS Management Committee agreed that this sub-component should be also be used to support activities that promote access to justice but which do not require legislative change. Activities of this nature have started with reform to the system of court fee waivers, and additional access to justice activities are planned for 2016. In December 2015, the MOJ advised that the draft Legal Aid Law has received government approval and is awaiting presentation to Parliament.

In December 2015, the small grant was extended for a period of three years from December 2015 to December 2018 to coincide with the NJRS implementation period. The extension had the strong support of the MDTF-JSS Management Committee and Serbian justice sector stakeholders. The MOJ has also requested an increase in the grant amount, given that over 90% of the 2.7 million USD grant has been disbursed. The purpose of increasing the grant amount is to scale up successful activities across the sector, to support the implementation of recommendations from the Bank-executed Serbia Judicial Functional Review 2014 and to further foster stakeholder ownership of reform implementation in coming years. The Bank is considering this request. An important aspect of preparing for the additional financing will be for the PIU to develop a draft results framework and an increased focus on supporting access to justice activities.

## Risks

### Overall Risk Rating

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Overall	● Moderate	--	● Moderate

### Comments

In the course of considering the 3-year extension of the hybrid TF, the Bank and Management Committee comprising the donors and Serbian stakeholders agreed on the following risks and mitigations for the entire project. These apply equally to the RE small grant component.

	<b>Risk</b>	<b>Impact</b>	<b>Mitigation</b>
1	Limited implementation capacity within agencies slows	High impact medium	Boosting of capacity to implement reforms within the MOJ and SCC, while strengthening their sustainability and knowledge transfer. High-quality program implementation unit to



	progress of activities.	likelihood.	manage procurement, FM, monitoring etc. Ownership among senior leadership can support prioritization of activities. A 3-year extension also provides a more accommodating schedule for reform implementation.
2	Fragmentation of stakeholders and reform efforts slows implementation progress.	Medium impact medium likelihood	Design aligns to approved and draft Action Plans. Regular management committee meeting and support to Partners Forums. Strong local presence for informal consultations.
3	Turnover of key stakeholders causes delays in approvals and loss of corporate memory.	Medium Impact medium likelihood	Ongoing dialogue with all stakeholders across the sector. Prioritization of more pragmatic technical-level reforms in certain periods. Information exchange and briefing of incoming stakeholders.
4	Political will for EU integration wanes.	High Impact low likelihood	Selection of activities that align with domestic political will, including improvements in user services. Design aligns to approved NJRS AP and Ch23 AP.
5	Reform efforts stop and start because of lack of thorough analysis, consultation & buy-in	Medium Impact medium likelihood	Ongoing dialogue on reform proposals. Design of program based on objective analysis (desk reviews, surveys, Functional Review etc.) Selection of activities that support evidence-based policy making (fiscal impact analyses etc.) Support to MOJ to host consultations (working groups, convents etc.)

## Results

### Project Development Objective Indicators

#### ►National Judicial Reform Strategy is informed (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	NJRS outdated.	--	NJRS and NJRS Action Plan are finalized, based on expert inputs and consultative process.	NJRS and NJRS Action Plan are finalized, based on expert inputs and consultative process.
Date	01-Jan-2012	--	01-Feb-2016	31-Dec-2015

#### ►Chapter 23 Accession Action Plan is informed (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No Action Plan.	--	Action Plan finalized, based on local experts and consultative process, and alignment with the Serbia Judicial Functional Review.	Action Plan finalized, based on expert inputs and consultative process.



Date	01-Jan-2012	--	01-Feb-2016	31-Dec-2015
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**Overall Comments**

The results framework for this small RE grant is not considered by the task team to be robust, nor to fully reflect the project's results. In the course of processing the additional financing to the small RE grant, the results framework will be updated.

**Intermediate Results Indicators**


## ▶ Access to Justice Policy informed (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	Limited.	--	Policy advice provided on EU Acquis and alignment. Stakeholders participate in lawmaking and policymaking process. Law is approved by Government.	Policy adopted. Law adopted.
Date	--	--	01-Feb-2016	31-Dec-2015

**Overall Comments**

See discussion above.

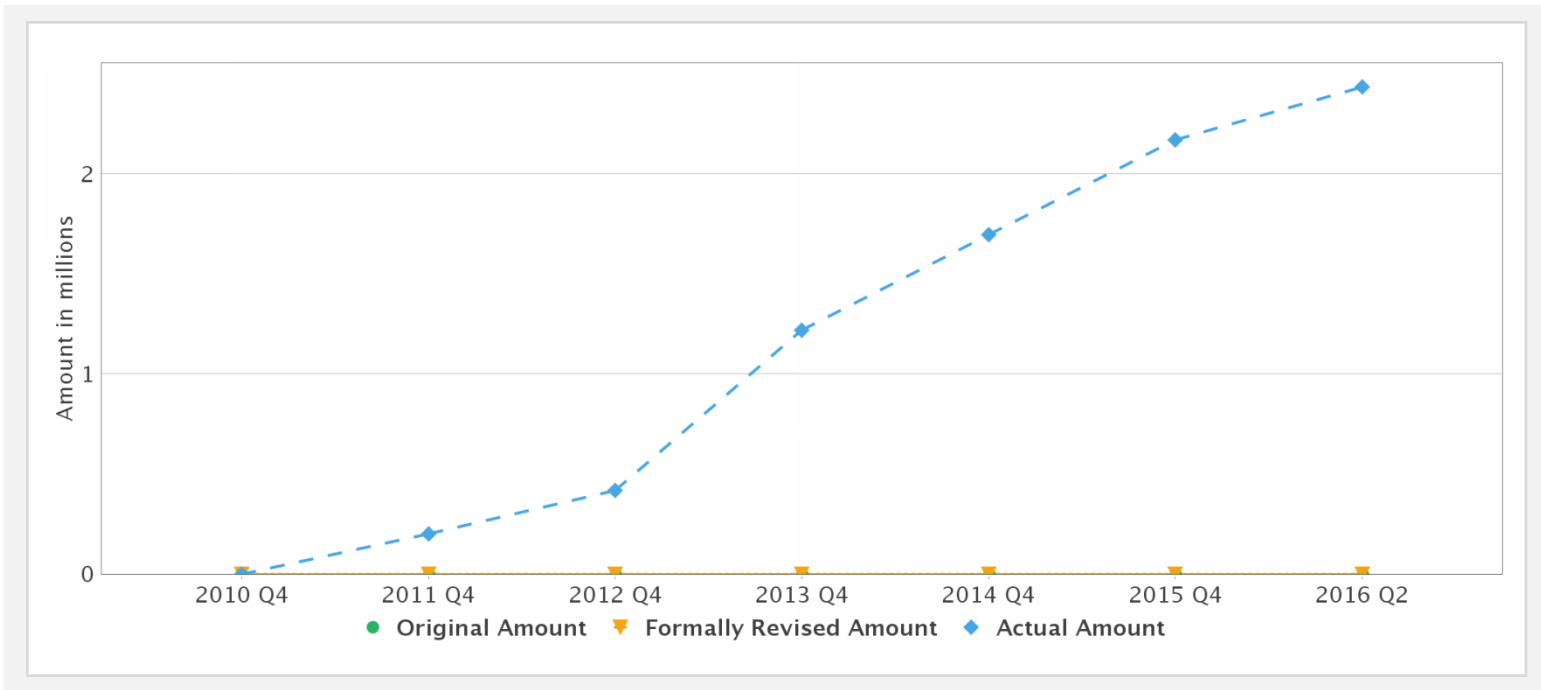
**Data on Financial Performance****Disbursements (by loan)**

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P121377	TF-97118	Effective	USD	2.70	2.70	0.00	2.44	0.26	 90%

**Key Dates (by loan)**

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P121377	TF-97118	Effective	13-Sep-2010	30-Nov-2010	30-Nov-2010	31-Dec-2011	31-Dec-2018

**Cumulative Disbursements**



### Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

### Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.