

MDG-F Monitoring and Evaluation Focus Countries Additional Funds – Bosnia and Herzegovina

OVERALL GOAL: Improve joint program quality outcomes, produce and exchange specific and general knowledge

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicative Activities	Methodology and Time-span	Estimated funds
1. Evidence based decision making improves the quality of programs	Actionable knowledge and evidence is available to a wide array of stakeholders, specifically to decision makers and citizen's in partner countries, donors, HQ agencies and general public	<p>Participatory evaluation with case study (mandatory) In order to decide on the topic of the case study on the basis of which participatory evaluation will be conducted, the following needs to be taken into account:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) An issue that is common for all four MDG-F projects in BiH; 2) An issue that analyses/assesses MDG-F instrument/delivery and 3) An issue that relates to MDGs (ideally combination of all three) <p>Proposal is to focus on an issue that is recognized on a municipal level, but has an impact on development in general, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Responsiveness and readiness of municipal governments to apply for projects' financing, co-finance projects and monitor project's implementation, or - Assessment of evidence-based practices for collection of data and monitoring indicators necessary for adequate planning and monitoring of development on a municipal level (lack of methodology and system for collection, analysis and dissemination of data that will assist better development planning at higher levels of BiH Government – relation to the use of UN developed DevInfo tool for these purposes) - Include, whichever main activity is chosen as the focus, gender-based analysis of participation in the four MDG-F projects at local level, and/or to assess the role of the private sector and public utility companies in MDGs achievement - MDGs (evaluation of BiH progress towards the achievement of the MDGs) <p>The stakeholders (NSC and 4 PMCs) need to decide what the topic of participatory evaluation will be.</p> <p>The approach will involve experts that will work with projects and project stakeholders at all levels through a number of workshops and focus groups with the end aim to help participants assess the problem, come up with resolutions and sets of recommendations for improvement. Experts also need to be very good moderators to guide the process.</p>	<p>DURATION: January 2010-January 2011</p> <p>Methodology to be clarified with NY – September 2009.</p> <p>Experts' ToRs to be developed and call published by end November 2009 Proposal: 2 international experts, 1 national expert (incl. admin. support)</p> <p>Focus of experts will start with MDG-F Culture for Development project (analysis by June 2010), and then move on to the other three MDG-F projects in BiH (analysis January 2011).</p> <p>Review of recommendations implementation: December 2011 for Culture for Development, mid 2012 for other three projects.</p>	130,000 USD
		<p>Evidence based research (longitudinal studies) There is considerable lack of reliable social data and research in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Given that MDG-F programmes are complex with broad outcomes which can be difficult to measure, it is crucial that adequate evidence based research is conducted to enable objective and accurate assessment of outcomes achievement and impact gained. The research is particularly important for qualitative M&E assessment of MDG-F programmes implemented in BiH.</p>	<p>Longitudinal research/studies - envisaged to be initiated in year 1 of the MDG-F programmes and repeated in year 3 of the programmes.</p>	110,000 USD

MDG-F projects research

The funds are not envisaged to fully fund such research, but contribute to research expenses of individual MDG-F programmes. The focus of this research is collection of data, information on perceptions and opinions of key MDG-F programmes stakeholders and beneficiaries, necessary to establish baseline and targets of programmes' **impact indicators**. Research to be conducted would be of innovative character, exploring areas which have not been researched before in BiH.

MDG-F Culture for Development
Research to be conducted Autumn 2009
and mid 2011

MDG-Fs YEM, Environment and
Economic Governance
Research to be conducted mid 2010 and
mid 2012

MDG Awareness Research (BiH country-wide research)

This research is envisaged to provide information and evidence data on awareness of different target groups (political leaders, NGO sector, individuals) on MDGs and targets BiH has committed to in 2000.

MDGs Awareness Research to be
conducted by mid 2010 and repeated mid
2012

MDG Awareness Research has never been conducted in BiH before. Research is aimed to support BiH MDG-F Advocacy and Partnership Strategy and the preparation of the 2010 MDG Report for BiH, but will also be very beneficial to all UN agencies in BiH. Repetition of the research in 2012 will give insight into the effectiveness of the Information and Advocacy Campaign through provision of evidence whether an increase of MDGs awareness has been achieved.

It is important to note that research of this type is expensive and that efforts will be made to ensure co-financing and synergies with MDG-F programme funds as well as other ongoing research initiatives, such as project *Enhancing evidence-based policy making in BiH*, implemented by Research and Development staff of UNDP. It will be decided, at a later stage, whether the research indicated above will be independent research (such as Culture for Development KAP) or part of a larger UNDP research such as EWS (Early Warning System).

Audiovisuals

Use of audiovisuals is envisaged to document and report on day to day activities of the joint programmes, make a documentary of the life of the programmes (for domestic and worldwide audience) and capture real life/personal stories - impact of programmes at a grassroots level.

Filming, Video-editing, titling, voiceover, etc. 35,000 USD

Frequency: Dependent on programmes' milestones, key achievements, important highlights/events, life stories

The audiovisuals will have stand-alone value but also potential to be a part of a greater picture and objectives of the **BiH MDG-F Advocacy and Partnerships Strategy**.

Formats: Different
(3-5 mins for NY)

Issue of quality

MDG-F Culture for Development project acquired two Sony HD cameras which have considerably higher resolution quality than Flip camera provided by NY Headquarters to M&E. While Sony videos can be used for a variety of media (DVDs, TV), Flip camera quality is fine for web and PowerPoint presentations. Quality also depends on who is filming the videos, professionals (more expensive) or programme staff.

Timeline: Throughout the programmes

Issue of editing

It was decided that these services need to be outsourced since UN BiH does not

have such expertise in-house. More clarity on costs of editing and quality of videos filmed by staff will be evident after completion of video of the Study Tour in Hungary in May 2009, currently in preparation. A more concrete decision on the approach re. video can be made after we get our first final product/video (due in September 2009).

Issue of cost and quantity

If both the filming and editing is conducted by professionals (filming crew/multimedia company), it is estimated that up to 6 or 7 of five to ten minutes videos can be created with the allocation of 35,000 USD. Such footage would have adequate versatility to be used for variety of media and purposes. More quality videos may be filmed if MDG-F projects decide to contribute to the costs of video filming and production by experts.

Alternatively, more videos could be created if these are filmed by the MDG-F staff, in which case the allocated funds are used for editing expenses exclusively, however, the quality of the footage may be questionable. Also, responsibility for filming on the part of staff needs to be clarified since M&E may not be always in situation (or in the field) to film important project processes and milestones.

BiH MDG-F Advocacy Strategy also has funds allocated for audiovisuals – it is intended that materials filmed and edited through M&E funds are used by the Advocacy Team, however, it is also clear that Advocacy may need broader focus and additional footage which has not been captured by the M&E that is focused on the life and impact of the four MDG-F programmes exclusively.

OVERALL GOAL: Improve joint program quality outcomes, produce and exchange specific and general knowledge

Outcomes	Outputs	Indicative Activities	Methodology and Time-span	Estimated funds
<p>2. Governments and donors comply with their accountability functions and transparency towards all partners</p>	<p>Individual and organizational learning is developed and/or improved within MDG-F Partners (Government, civil society, etc.)</p>	<p>NY originally proposed that activities for this objective could revolve around M&E capacity development. Since MDG-F projects in BiH will tackle M&E capacities of project partners anyway through their regular planned activities, RC Office team proposes that this activity could help support important initiative: to promote the use of UN DevInfo tool in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Increasing the use of DevInfo will be beneficial for MDG-F projects but also most other UN agencies and their projects implemented in BiH, and to our partner country institutions.</p> <p>DEVINFO Use of data management and presentation tool to improve data collection and dissemination at UN BiH and institutional level</p> <p>DevInfo is a larger inter-agency initiative in BiH, and this activity is envisaged to support RC Office coordination efforts in this respect. Discussions on the use of DevInfo are ongoing, and there are principally two key approaches envisaged:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creation of One UN BiH DevInfo web presentation/database (envisaged to contain information on BiH MDG Indicators, as well as key UN statistics and research review in BiH) and 	<p>Option 1 Training of UN staff on DevInfo Creation of Web platform Collection and inputting of data into DevInfo</p> <p>Timeline: 2009/2010 No of trainees: up to 10</p>	<p>25,000 USD</p>

2. Creation of BiH DevInfo system/network (establishing municipal level data collection method and introducing DevInfo as a database/platform for municipal planning and dissemination of data to higher levels of government and DEP – Directorate for Economic Planning in BiH).

RC Office is advocating that the UN BiH commits to both approaches/streams which are complementary to each other. While option 1 is largely dependent on coordination and cooperation among UN agencies in BiH, option 2 requires wider participation and national ownership, inclusion of different levels of government, inclusion of municipalities, statistical agencies and DEP.

Option 1 needs to be adjusted in line with other ongoing activities, such as UNDPs project *Enhancing evidence-based policy making in BiH*, which, among other activities, intends to create one UNDP research database – compatibility and synergies between two databases are being sought, as well as appropriate inclusion of other UN agencies research and indicators.

Option 2 requires a much larger commitment from UN agencies and UNDP in particular to be willing to consider introducing DevInfo at a municipal level through existing projects in the field such as ILDP project (which works with 24 municipalities on data collection methodology necessary for local planning and development). Synergies have been recognized with UNICEF project (10 municipalities) as well as MDG-F projects (approx. 20 municipalities), which would promote the use of DevInfo at a local level if adequate modus operandi and commitment to introduce DevInfo at local level on the part of UNDP is assured.

This option also needs to be checked with the ongoing E-Government project of UNDP, as well as other donor initiatives, to ensure that there are no overlaps/alternative systems ongoing or in the pipe-line. And finally, most important is ensuring adequate commitment and ownership over the process on the part of government counterparts.

UNCT BiH has established WG for DevInfo which has met three times to date, which have instigated discussions on the two options described above. Currently, no other UN funds are allocated for DevInfo, and starting the process with these funds is recommended. At this point of time it is not possible to provide more information on DevInfo initiative, although further information on vision and direction will be available beginning of October 2010.

Option 2

Focus on MDG-F projects municipalities :
(Methodology and data identification that needs to be collected on a municipal level to be completed by ILDP project)

Installation of DevInfo (free database)
Training in data collection methods
Training in use of DevInfo for municipal analysis and data/information dissemination

Timeline:2010/2011

No of trainees: at least 20 municipalities
– one person each

TOTAL:

300,000 USD