Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity Development for the Western Balkans and Turkey

SMART Justice indicators

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INTRODUCTION

- PROJECT BENEFICIARIES:
  - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Monte Negro, Serbia
- BENEFICIARY INSTITUTIONS:
  - MoJ, MEI, Judicial and Prosecutorial Council, Judicial Academy
- DURATION OF EXPERTS TASK
  - 85 working days

PROJECT'S PHASES

- Desk review of strategic documents
- Formulation of SMART INDICATORS proposals
- Consultation mission
- Individual capacity building missions
- Peer learning Regional conference

FORMULATION OF SMART INDICATORS

- Pragmatic approach – to make them useful for beneficiaries

- To contribute EU agenda of beneficiary countries

- To improve reporting quality

- To choose those relevant for planning future activities

- To contribute better monitoring and evaluation of implemented activities

FORMULATION OF SMART INDICATORS

- Indicators were formulated based on existing Strategies and recent progress reports
- Intention was to cover all key areas in judiciary with SMART indicators:
  - Independence
  - Impartiality
  - Accountability
  - Professionalism
  - Efficiency
  - Access to justice

FORMULATION OF SMART INDICATORS

- Justice indicator were formulated in line with the EU Justice Scoreboard methodology

- Indicators are covering similar issues like Scoreboard: Efficiency, Quality and Independence

JUSTICE SECTOR INDICATORS

- Independence
  - % of judges and prosecutors appointed and promoted based on objective and transparent criteria
  - Judicial budget
  - Composition of independent judicial body

JUSTICE SECTOR INDICATORS

- Impartiality
  - % of cases assigned through the electronic case allocation system

JUSTICE SECTOR INDICATORS

- Accountability
  - Average time required to resolve complaints against judicial officials
  - % of disciplinary sanctions imposed according to each disciplinary breach category (warning, decrease of the salary...)

JUSTICE SECTOR INDICATORS

- Professionalism
  - % of judges and prosecutors satisfied with the overall annual training program and overall quality of training delivery
  - % uphold judgments by appellate court
  - Judges and prosecutors receiving satisfactory grades on training tests

JUSTICE SECTOR INDICATORS

- Efficiency
  - % of the backlogs older than 15, 10, 7, and/or 3 years
  - dispositions rate
  - „clearance rate"
  - Backlog structure by type of cases (civil, criminal, administrative, etc.)

JUSTICE SECTOR INDICATORS

- Access to justice
  - Increased approval rate of Free Legal Aid requests

Findings

- M&E model is difficult concept for lawyers and judicial officials to understand
- Some countries has shown more affiliation to use of indicators
- Indicators are mainly used by those involve in IPA programing
- Main challenge is data collection
  - Many strategic document are created without sound data
- Some countries are in the process of drafting strategic document
  - This is opportunity to integrate SMART indicators in new strategies and action plans

Conclusions

- This project will achieve success if:
  - Countries will integrate indicators in their future strategic documents
  - Countries will use indicators for reporting and evaluating its activities
  - We enlarge community of professionals which understood the benefits of utilisation of M&E model

- THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!