

EU Education SWAp Project

LAUNCH

Bullet points on Discussion of Component 1

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1 ¼ hours available

Group 1 Development and implementation of a sector wide approach to Education

- 1. What are the most important aspects of the programme foreseen for this component?*

A totally new approach to the education sector. Instead of having piecemeal and ad hoc initiatives there is now for the first time the prospect of a strategic approach in which all significant elements are identified and brought together into a coherent whole, planned and costs, so that all activities will support the overall goals of the education sector and of the country as a whole.
- 2. How will the inhabitants of Kosovo benefit from the changes in this aspect of education?*

Provision of education for all will be better organised and delivered. The planning, prioritisation and consultation process will help to ensure that all the main aspects of education, including some that are overlooked, such as minorities and disadvantaged, are captured and planned for. There will be less risk of failure through lack of resources, as all major requirements will be foreseen and planned for. There should be no shocks through a sudden inability to deliver the necessary resources.
- 3. What are the main challenges which lie ahead for this component?*

Given that there is very little experience of working in this way, in government, donor agencies, or wider community, there is a risk that the process will not be sufficiently well understood to enable it to be carried out. Good advice and support from the project technical team will reduce this risk, as will the enthusiasm and commitment of the Minister and senior MEST officials. Prioritisation of competing objectives will be essential given that it is unlikely that there will be sufficient resources to do everything (affordability).
- 4. How can the Project best contribute to the achievement of MEST goals for (objectives of the MEST sector strategy)?*

Through strong continuous support by the technical team to central and MED level officials and to donors, and the wider public. Project should guide ministers and officials, and donors through the various stages of the process, and also advocate strongly for the process. Also, Project can strengthen the process by advocating for SWAp in other Ministries, especially Ministry of Finance, but also Health, Labour, Local government etc, so that overall the government comes to understand and value a strategic approach. MEDs and their Directors are especially in need of capacity building and technical assistance given their increased roles under decentralisation arrangements

5. *What are the opportunities and challenges for mainstreaming of gender and other aspects of inclusion in: (curricula, teacher development,) capacity building?*

There are good opportunities in a SWAp to be inclusive, as a careful approach to planning, prioritisation and funding in line with agreed government goals, objectives and policies should ensure that people disadvantaged through ethnicity, language, disability, etc, are catered for. The process of annual planning and review by government, donor agencies and other key stakeholders (including representatives of those who find themselves disadvantaged for whatever reason) will ensure that their needs and the satisfaction of those needs are not overlooked.