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**Consolidated Annual Report of the Administrative Agent of the Moldova
Towards Unity Multi Donor Trust Fund**

for the period 1 February – 31 December 2014

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office
Bureau of Management
United Nations Development Programme
<http://mptf.undp.org>

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS



United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)



Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)



United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)



United Nations Office for Drug and Crime (UNODC)



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWOMEN)



World Health Organization (WHO)

CONTRIBUTORS



NETHERLANDS



NORWAY



SWEDEN

DEFINITIONS

Allocation

Amount approved by the Steering Committee for a project/programme.

Approved Project/Programme

A project/programme including budget, etc., that is approved by the Steering Committee for fund allocation purposes.

Contributor Commitment

Amount(s) committed by a donor to a Fund in a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement with the UNDP Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTF Office), in its capacity as the Administrative Agent. A commitment may be paid or pending payment.

Contributor Deposit

Cash deposit received by the MPTF Office for the Fund from a contributor in accordance with a signed Standard Administrative Arrangement.

Delivery Rate

The percentage of funds that have been utilized, calculated by comparing expenditures reported by a Participating Organization against the 'net funded amount'.

Indirect Support Costs

A general cost that cannot be directly related to any particular programme or activity of the Participating Organizations. UNDG policy establishes a fixed indirect cost rate of 7% of programmable costs.

Net Funded Amount

Amount transferred to a Participating Organization less any refunds transferred back to the MPTF Office by a Participating Organization.

Participating Organization

A UN Organization or other inter-governmental Organization that is an implementing partner in a Fund, as represented by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MPTF Office for a particular Fund.

Project Expenditure

The sum of expenses and/or expenditure reported by all Participating Organizations for a Fund irrespective of which basis of accounting each Participating Organization follows for donor reporting.

Project Financial Closure

A project or programme is considered financially closed when all financial obligations of an operationally completed project or programme have been settled, and no further financial charges may be incurred.

Project Operational Closure

A project or programme is considered operationally closed when all programmatic activities for which Participating Organization(s) received funding have been completed.

Project Start Date

Date of transfer of first instalment from the MPTF Office to the Participating Organization.

Total Approved Budget

This represents the cumulative amount of allocations approved by the Steering Committee.

US Dollar Amount

The financial data in the report is recorded in US Dollars and due to rounding off of numbers, the totals may not add up.

1. Introduction

This Annual Consolidated Progress Report on Programmes Implemented under the Towards Unity in Action Multi-Partner Trust Fund (henceforth 'the Fund') covers the period from 1 February to 31 December 2014 and reports on the implementation of programmes approved for funding under the Fund. In line with the Memoranda of Understanding between the Fund and Participating United Nations Organizations (PUNOs), and the Terms of Reference of the Fund, the Annual Consolidated Progress Report is compiled based on information and data contained in the individual Annual Narrative Programme Reports submitted by PUNOs. Since the Fund was established in 2014 the scope of activities implemented under it during the reporting period is quite limited, hence the brevity of the report.

Established in February 2014, the Fund was initially set up to mobilize funds to implement recommendations of UN Senior Expert Thomas Hammarberg's 2013 report on human rights in the Transnistrian region. A principal finding of Hammarberg's report lay in the fact that 20 years of isolation had left significant weaknesses in knowledge of human rights among Transnistrian actors, thus also highlighting the rationale for programmatic interventions from the UN. However, the Fund's terms of reference explicitly provided flexibility to expand to additional thematic windows according to expressions of interest by more than one agency, and concrete funding possibilities. With this in mind, and taking into account the range of agencies now party to the Fund, the MPTF Office has opened three windows under the Fund, with sub-windows covering specific areas, capturing in brief form the three pillars of the United Nations–Republic of Moldova Partnership Framework 2013-2017 (UNPF):

- Governance and Human Rights;
- Social Inclusion;
- Environment.

The Fund has two basic functions: (1) as the administrative mechanism to support programmes involving more than one UN agency; (2) as a vehicle to access additional resources not otherwise available to UN Moldova, e.g. thematic instruments or for UN reform.

Whilst the Fund terms of reference encourage non-earmarked funding, in the donor environment of Moldova it is more likely that funds will be earmarked. Thus far, only earmarked contributions have been made, or are currently being discussed, all of which lie within the Governance and Human Rights window. To date, ten UN agencies in Moldova have signed the Fund: FAO, ILO, IOM, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNFPA, UNODC, UNOHCHR, UN Women, and WHO.

The war in Ukraine and the sharp economic downturn the Russian Federation have negatively impacted the socio-economic situation in Transnistria. The region is heavily dependent on subsidies from Russia, which are rapidly declining along with the remittances. As a result the *de facto* authorities are facing severe financial problems. Revenues into the region's budget are dwindling, necessitating cuts in salaries and social benefits.

Furthermore, limited progress was made on resolving the Transnistrian conflict and only two rounds of negotiations in the '5+2' format took place in 2014. However, the first quarter of 2015 has seen an intensified dialogue between the left and right banks of the Nistru as the new political leadership in

Chisinau has declared an interest in improving relations with Tiraspol. At any rate, UN Moldova is carefully following socio-economic and human rights developments in the Transnistrian region as well as the security context, given the volatile political and security situation in neighbouring Ukraine. Should further programmatic interventions by UN Moldova be required, the Fund would be the primary instrument for mobilizing resources and distributing them among relevant UN agencies.

Challenges and Management Response

As per the Fund's Terms of Reference, a Steering Committee has to be established and co-chaired by the State Chancellery (national coordinating authority for the UNPF) and the UN Resident Coordinator. UN Participating Agencies and the three development partners/donors will sit on the committee, which will oversee and approve the attribution of available funds according to the priority areas as identified in the UNPF and its Action Plan. Due to the Parliamentary elections in November 2014 and the political insecurity afterwards (the vote of confidence for the new minority Government took place in February 2015), the Steering Committee has not yet been established. However, interim solutions have been found, which allowed for the MPTF Office to release programme funds to PUNOs thus avoiding delays in implementation of the programmes.

Furthermore, as per the UNDG Advisory Note, the minimum amount of transfers from MPTFs to PUNOs has been established at USD 100,000, which created obstacles for UN Moldova. Some of the programmes implemented under the Fund are of rather limited monetary size, making it impossible to reach the threshold for transfers to PUNOs. The MPTF Office showed great flexibility in this regard and made required exceptions, and in the future UN Moldova will strive to increase the size of contributions to the Fund and transfers to PUNOs.

2. Programmes Implemented under the Fund

UNCT Strategic Action Supporting Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Programme Overview

In 2010 the Republic of Moldova ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) while the de facto authorities in the Transnistrian region, which has been outside the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Moldova since 1992, have also pledged unilaterally to respect this overarching international normative framework on disability. The 2013 Hammarberg report on human rights in the Transnistrian region led to the creation of Transnistria's first Human Rights Action Plan and was notable for having gained both Chisinau and Tiraspol approval, thus creating an almost unique opportunity to work in a de-politicised way on advancing the rights of persons with disabilities in the Transnistrian region. The Strategic Action Supporting Implementation of the CRPD is contributing to UNCT efforts to bring about the normative, institutional and behavioral changes required to advance implementation of the CRPD standards on the ground.

The purpose of this programme is to increase awareness of the persons with disabilities in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova of their rights under the CRPD and empower them to influence a broader social change through advocacy action. Further, the programme aims to increase local public authorities' and other public employees' understanding of the rights of persons with disabilities and cooperate with the disability organization for creating accessibility, service provision and awareness raising.

The programme is funded by the Government of the Netherlands, and the implementing partners are de facto local and central authorities in the Transnistrian region and the civil society organization World of Equal Opportunities, which works with persons with disabilities. The activities of the programme will be carried out during January-September 2015.

Results

With the active donor's contribution, the Strategic Action Supporting Implementation of the CPRD became an entry point for both increasing the UNCT's engagement in integrating human rights standards into their work and addressing underlying human rights issues in Transnistrian region. The intervention was framed in line with the UNPF and is expected to contribute to the realization of the human rights related outcomes.

The MPTF Agreement with the donor came into effect on 2 December 2014 and the actual starting date of the project was planned for 25 January 2015.

The period prior to the onset of the project allowed the UN implementing agencies, namely OHCHR and UNDP, to conduct strategic meetings with the de facto authorities and organizations of persons with disabilities in the Transnistrian region and galvanize a will to follow up on the Hammarberg report's recommendations as concerns the situation of persons with disabilities.

The project has become particularly influential in changing UNCT Moldova's pattern in designing human rights interventions in protracted conflicts and contested territories. First, OHCHR has led the UNCT's efforts in delineating a clear direction of change and framing the expected accomplishments. Subsequently, the UN Human Rights Adviser provided support to the local organizations of persons with disabilities and worked in close partnership with them on the conceptualization and planning of activities.

This participatory process was in itself intended to activate the potential of the persons with disabilities and increase their understanding of how human rights norms are translated into concrete interventions aimed at improving the situation and quality of life on the ground. Ensured ownership of the organizations of persons with disabilities in developing responses to human rights challenges is essential for securing durable solutions.

For the identification of the implementing partner, visits to five organisations working on promoting rights of persons with disabilities in Bendery, Dubasari and Tiraspol have been conducted and an open call for proposals was launched. Five organisations replied to the call and participated with ideas in shaping the project. After an internal assessment conducted by OHCHR a grants agreement related to the implementation of the project was concluded with the civil society organization World of Equal Opportunities.

So far, the project has contributed to the achievement of the following results:

- Human rights standards and principles of the CRPD are integrated into the UNPF and the work of UN agencies in the Transnistrian region.
- Persons with disabilities meaningfully participate in the design of interventions particularly affecting their human rights.

Since the bulk of the programme will be implemented during 2015, it is envisaged that the coming 2015 Annual Consolidated Progress Report will be more substantial in terms of results.

Challenges and Management Response

In the face of deep economic struggles, the advancement of the rights of persons with disabilities, including provision of accessibility, has been considerably slowed down. The project's efforts are targeted at empowering men and women with disabilities to demand structural accountability and to set a bottom line that ensures that people with disabilities are not left behind and their rights are progressively realized at all times regardless of the economic constraints. This innovative intervention, offers pointers for action in a way that opens the space for people residing in the Transnistrian region of the Republic of Moldova for the articulation of sustainable solutions to the human rights concerns of persons with disabilities in a tense political and security environment. This dimension of the primacy of the human rights standards is a means of thinking about better future outcomes for people and engaging in a constructive dialog with the de facto authorities, without having a bearing on issues of political recognition or the legal status of the Transnistrian region.

Joint Action to Strengthen Human Rights in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova

Programme Overview

This programme is implemented jointly by OHCHR, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNODC and WHO. The main goal of the programme is to provide support to ensure universal equitable access to quality, integrated and rights-based HIV prevention, treatment and care services for most at risk populations in the civilian and prison sectors of the Transnistrian region. It is directly contributing to the achievement of two UNPF outcomes and outputs:

- Outcome 1.3: “State bodies and other actors effectively promote and protect human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination, with particular attention to the marginalized and the vulnerable ” under Pillar 1 “Democratic Governance, Justice, Equality and Human Rights”;
- Output 2.2.2: “National stakeholders have enhanced capacity to ensure equitable access to HIV and TB prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of key populations ” under Pillar 2 “Human Development and Social Inclusion”.

Results

The following text summarizes results achieved thus far under relevant outputs of the programme.

Output 1.1: Knowledge and competencies of key stakeholders to provide integrated HIV/TB/drug addiction treatment in civil sector consolidated – initiated.

Specialists from both banks of the Nistru river were involved in development of the topics for the two training sessions to be conducted during May-June 2015. The two themes refer to the most recent WHO guidelines on TB/HIV treatment and addressing clinical aspects interrelated with adherence ones. It is targeted to cover 40 specialists.

All logistical preparation activities were conducted: ToRs for the logistical company were developed, a tender was announced and the company to facilitate trainings organization was selected.

The programme foresees the creation of a twinning platform between Moldova (specifically its Transnistrian region) and Belarus to address the lack of methadone substitution therapy as the treatment approach and HIV prevention transmission among injecting drug users (IDU) in the Transnistrian region. The Transnistrian region’s unwillingness to implement the intervention is mainly fuelled by looking at policies implemented in the Russian Federation, where drug use is highly criminalized, and is approached in an aggressive, punitive way. The international recommendations based on evidence and provided through the specialized UN agencies UNAIDS, WHO and UNODC show that pharmacotherapy with methadone addresses health, social and juridical needs of the drug users. Therefore, Belarus, due to its proximity to the context of the Transnistrian region, is a good option to advocate for methadone intervention, especially considering the efficiency of the programme in the country and the integrity to address in the best way the needs of IDUs despite the political aspects.

Negotiations with Minister of Health of Belarus facilitated by Mr. Kazatchkine, UN Special Envoy on HIV/AIDS, started in February 2015. It was formally agreed with the central public authorities of Belarus

to establish a long-term perspective collaboration through designing a twinning collaboration platform and short term one: a working visit of a joint left/right-bank Moldovan delegation to Belarus.

Output 2.1a: Narcological services from both banks of the river, including civil society providing services for IDUs exposed to best practices – on track.

Thus far, it was succeeded to schedule, in a coordinated manner, a working visit to Belarus for 27-28 April 2015 and to establish the composition of the delegation. The delegation includes four members from each side of the conflict divide (Chisinau and Tiraspol), three persons representing narcological service and one from civil society. A UNODC representative will join the delegation in order to ensure the appropriate management and support of the visit. Currently, the target is overachieved, as it was initially planned to have seven persons involved in the visit. Extension of the delegation does not affect the budget.

Output 2.1b: Road map on future steps to implement opioid substitutions therapy developed – initiated.

A workshop is scheduled for May-June 2015 to develop the road map. All logistical arrangements were conducted.

Output 3.1: Awareness events to fight stigma and discrimination organized on both banks of the Nistru river – on track.

The first major event to raise jointly media awareness is scheduled for May 2015 on the occasion of International Candlelight Day or Commemoration Day. The proposed approach is to implement it through a small grants contest, which would give equal opportunity to stakeholders to implement their ideas. The tender documents have been developed and the contest announced. The announcement was published on the website www.aids.md and broadly shared with the active networks in the field.

Challenges and Management Response

In general, there have been fears about the political stability in the Transnistrian region, given the geo-political context, but these have not materialized. On the contrary, the new Moldovan Government has seriously engaged with de-facto Transnistrian authorities, revamping as well the activity of the technical working groups.

De facto health authorities, which are an important counterpart in the project implementation, have been changed frequently, requiring extra efforts and working visits to the region to brief the new decision makers in the project objectives and activities.

To avoid the escalation of risks, additional meetings have been planned with representatives of relevant de facto authorities, with the purpose to explain the project objectives and its expected benefits.

Support to National Human Rights Institutions

Programme Overview

The overall goal of the programme is to contribute to the effective protection and promotion of human rights, equality and non-discrimination in the Republic of Moldova with particular attention to women, minorities, and marginalised and vulnerable groups. The programme seeks to catalyse the emergence of the strongest possible independent national human rights institutions for Moldova – Ombudsperson Office and Equality Council – and to increase their focus around core strategic human rights goals to maximise their impact. The programme aims to build the capacities, independence and empowerment of the two institutions to maximise their impact in mainstreaming human rights and equality, including gender equality, in acting on strategic issues and for the resolution of individual cases. There are three expected outputs:

1. Environment for the Ombudsperson Office and Equality Council strengthened;
2. Organizational capacities and sustainability of the Ombudsperson Office and Equality Council strengthened;
3. Ombudsperson Office and Equality Council powers maximized to act to Moldova's premiere national human rights institutions.

Results

Since the programme implementation period started in October 2014 and the first transfer of the funds was received in December 2014, the programme was in its inception period by the end of 2014. Therefore both participating UN agencies (UNDP and OHCHR) focused on the arrangements for proper programme implementation, and specifically on the contracting of programme staff and consultants.

In that respect UNDP elaborated and announced vacancies for the positions of Project Manager and Project Associate. In addition to this, OHCHR also elaborated and announced a vacancy for the position of Project Coordinator, and for the position of National Consultant on Documentation of Discrimination cases. The announcement for the position of National Consultant to conduct analysis of relevant NHRIs legislation and assessment of the implementation of International Treaty Body Recommendations was under elaboration at the time of reporting.

Fluctuations in the NOK-USD exchange rate has resulted in an overall loss of approx. 70,000 USD compared to the initially agreed budget for the first transfer of funds. This could affect the ability of the programme to implement all the activities planned.

Challenges and Management Response

The new Law on People's Advocate (Ombudsperson) was adopted in April 2014, however the Parliament did not elect a new Ombudsperson before the ordinary Parliamentary elections in November 2014. The new Parliament will need to finish this pending process and UN/UNDP will establish contacts with the relevant Parliamentary Commissions to propose its support for this purpose.

Controversial opinions still exist regarding the work and functions of the Equality Council and in the context of the 2014 Parliamentary elections some of the political parties stated their intention to abolish the Law on Ensuring Equality. Therefore presentation of clear and reliable information on the actual work of the Council is crucial. UNPD is engaging with the Equality Council on the elaboration of its 2014 Annual Report for the MPs and other interested parties.

Enhancing Women's Political Representation through Improved Capacity and Enhanced Support in Moldova

Programme Overview

This report covers activities implemented under the “Enhancing Women’s Political Representation through Improved Capacity and Enhanced Support in Moldova” (short title “Women in Politics”/WiP) during the period 25 July 2014 to 31 December 2014.

The programme is implemented by UN Women jointly with UNDP in partnership with two civil society organizations: the East Europe Foundation (EEF) and the Centre Partnership for Development (CPD) during 2014-2016 with financial support from the Government of Sweden.

The overall goal of the Women in Politics Programme is to support the increased participation of women in politics and in the decision-making process by creating an environment conducive to their meaningful participation, and to support capacity development of women before, during and after the elections at the central and local levels. The programme also seeks to promote increased public awareness of women’s contribution to political leadership and supports the realization of women’s rights and commitments undertaken by the Government of Moldova.

The programme has two expected outcomes:

Outcome 1: Legal frameworks and policies to advance women’s right to participate in decision making at national and local levels are reformed/adopted and/or implemented.

Outcome 2: Gender equality advocates influence legal frameworks and policies to increase women’s leadership and political participation.

The expected outcomes of the Programme are related to the following UNPF outcome(s):

1.1: Increased transparency, accountability and efficiency of central and local public authorities;

1.2: State bodies and other actors effectively promote and protect human rights, gender equality and non-discrimination, with particular attention to the marginalized and the vulnerable.

Results

In relation to the planned Outcome 1, during 2014, a legislative package (bill no.180) containing amendments to several laws, and proposing, among others, a 40% quota representation of either sexes in the Government, in political parties’ electoral lists, and in the Parliament’s Permanent Bureau was approved by the Government. UN Women’s and the WiP Programme’s strong advocacy and engagement with CSOs on promotion of temporary special measures (TSMs) led to its approval in the first reading in the Parliament. The issue of gender quota in elections and women’s political participation and representation have been widely debated in the Parliament, therefore placing gender equality issues much higher on the political agenda as compared to previous years. However, as noted earlier, the TSMs still have to be finally approved by the new Parliament. The respective efforts undertaken in cooperation with other UN efforts, such as gender mainstreaming work in the Parliament by the UNDP Democracy Programme, contributed to an increase of women candidates (+3% compared

to 2010 Parliamentary elections), their placement on the party lists (+4% in top 20) and the share of women elected in the Parliament (21%, or +2.2%) compared to 2010.

Output 1: Capacity at national and sub-national levels to develop and implement legal frameworks and policies to advance women's right to participate in decision making enhanced.

In relation to this output, the programme's approach has been to both push the Parliament for adoption of TSMs, and to raise public awareness on the need of TSMs' adoption and encourage the CSOs to become the agents of change in TSMs' adoption.

Based on the assessment of strengths and weaknesses of the advocacy efforts in support of Temporary Special Measures, 22 NGOs have developed a common Gender Equality Agenda for Actions to be undertaken during Parliamentary and local elections. A Political Party Monitoring Report has been produced by CPD. This report monitors and assesses the rhetoric and actions of political parties in the areas of gender equality, empowerment of women and anti-discrimination during the 2014 Parliamentary elections. After the monitoring exercise, the party platforms and party electoral lists for the 2014 Parliamentary elections from a gender perspective were presented at a press-conference. Public awareness on the stringent necessity of adoption of the legislative packages that advance democratic governance, including TSMs conducive to *de facto* equality in the Parliament and in the Government, was raised at two flash mobs organized by civil society organizations under the leadership of EEF and CPD.

Mass media has been widely mobilized by the WiP programme to serve as an advocacy platform for adoption of TSMs. Media actors have expressed their position and their concerns about the lack of actions by the Parliament regarding the pending legislative packages, designed to advance the democratic development of the country at four press conferences. The advocacy on TSMs' adoption were carried out at three TV public debates with political parties. Twelve TV spots on promoting gender quotas in politics and in the decision making, presenting the best practices examples from countries that have already adopted quotas, were broadcast during December 2014 on the National TV channel. A Report on women's image, role, and representation in mass-media, as well as social perceptions about women in leadership positions has been produced.

During the reporting period the programme has organized and chaired several forums aiming to promote women leadership and women's equal participation and representation.

The Women in Business Forum was attended by more than 150 companies. The main issues discussed during that forum were related to women's access to finance, capacity building needs and women's participation in decision making, including in the companies' boards. For the first time in Moldova the forum introduced the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEP) in business. About 99 private companies have adopted the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEP) to serve as basis for their internal regulations and policy review, aiming to ensure gender equality and women's empowerment at the working place, as well as to provide concrete examples of good practices for other businesses to pledge for these principles. This forum was a joint initiative of UN Women Country Office and the WiP Programme, and it will be further followed up in this modality. The Forum resulted in a Resolution requesting an increased representation of women in decision-making positions in business, including by being adequately represented in all Government coordination/advisory platforms (such as Economic

Council by the Prime Minister and other central authorities' advisory councils) through the means of TSM. The Resolution has been submitted to the Government and private sector.

The Parliamentary elections had an impact on programme's implementation pace, while some of the planned activities coincided with the peak of the pre-election campaign. Against this background, the Steering Committee took a decision to postpone the activity related to the organization of regional exchanges with the participation of gender champions from the countries having relevant experience, which was expected to further encourage the Moldovan political leaders to adopt the TSMs in final reading.

Instead, a study visit to Brussels was organised for a group of 13 gender advocates representing Networks of Women Mayors, Lawyers, and Women with disabilities, Business women, Trade Unions women' organizations, and Romani women from Moldova. The 13 participating women leaders acquired valuable lobbying and advocacy skills on advancing women's political representation as a result of bilateral exchange meetings held with: the European Women Lobby (most important platform of lobbying for women's rights that unites over 2,000 member-organizations), high-ranking officials from the Gender Equality Sub-Directorate under the European Commission's Justice Directorate, female politicians from Belgium, representatives of the European Disability Forum, European Trade Union Confederation, European Women Lawyers Association and Business Professional Women of Europe. As a follow up to the visit, the respective group of women-leaders has established a Task Force to further advocate for TSM adoption in the final reading, especially in the context of upcoming local elections. This activity has contributed to the achievement of the initially planned result – i.e. advocacy for TSM final adoption.

Output 1.2: Capacities at all levels to promote women's participation in electoral processes both as candidates and voters enhanced.

A curriculum for capacity building of women before, during and after the Parliamentary and local elections was elaborated based on several needs assessment exercises organised with women candidates for the Parliamentary elections, women heads of governmental agencies and departments, heads of districts, women councillors and women mayors.

Based on the needs' identification, the capacities of 100 women candidates, representatives of political parties registered for the Parliamentary elections, have been enhanced by both participating UN agencies and partner NGOs. The trainings were focussed on development of public communication/oratory skills, mass-media communication and Debate practice. Out of them, seven women received individually tailored, one-to-one assistance aimed to improve their communication, presentation and debate skills. Mock interviews, debates and political speeches were all used as learning techniques throughout the trainings. As a result, two of the women that benefitted from WiP capacity building activities were elected MPs (Ms. Mihaela Iacob and Ms. Veronica Herta) to the Moldovan Parliament, which is an important result in itself.

Another result supporting Output 1.2 was achieved by involving the civil society active in the area of gender equality in drafting of the proposals for the new Government Programme for 2015—2018. The document was structured around five pillars: (i) fair participation and representation; (ii) preventing violence against women and domestic violence; (iii) strengthening gender equality on the labour market; (iv) enabling environment for women entrepreneurship; (v) strengthening institutions and procedures

for gender equality. In addition, the participating CSOs agreed to create a national civic platform on gender equality, encompassing representatives of NGOs, independent experts, and academia.

The women leaders' e-nomination platform www.ealider.md was launched on 15 September 2014, followed by a press conference. This platform presented 76 women leaders nominated by ordinary people, aiming to increase public interest in gender equality in politics, and to encourage voters to be gender sensitive and to demand greater performance from the political parties on gender issues.

During 2014, the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training (CCET) has developed new capacities in addressing gender equality in electoral process. The support received from the "Women in Politics" programme resulted in the following: CCET has developed gender-mainstreamed training materials for electoral administrators; a dedicated training module on ensuring gender equality in elections and a gender-sensitive Electoral Communication Guide have been developed and incorporated in CCET' training programmes. The CCET team of trainers has developed adequate skills and knowledge and delivered the gender equality module in the training of the electoral administrators involved in the 2014 Parliamentary elections. As result of WiP support, a total of 95 District Election Council (DEC) members, including 46 women (of which 11 presidents, 10 vice-presidents and 24 secretaries) have been equipped with knowledge and skills on ensuring a gender sensitive Parliamentary elections management process.

Output 1.3: Capacities of the Election Management Bodies on gender responsive electoral management enhanced.

The Central Electoral Commission (CEC) has registered important progress in mainstreaming gender and human rights in its work due to ongoing assistance, including from UNDP Democracy Programme/Electoral Component, the Council of Europe and other international development partners. During September-December 2014 the Women in Politics Programme addressed the issue of gender and human rights awareness raising in elections management for the first time by incorporating a designated module on the topic in all pre-Parliamentary election training programmes provided by CCET (as described under 1.2.), while having reviewed all training materials through the gender lenses at the same time.

Another important focus of the WiP programme in the course of 2014, was to support the CEC with an ample pre-Parliamentary voter education campaign reaching out to specific groups of voters (Romani and Gagauz ethnic minority women, women with disabilities), that were not specifically targeted by CEC's voter education and information campaigns. As a result of this WiP approach, the awareness campaign reached out to an estimated number of 400,000 voters from the aforementioned groups within Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia, 11 towns and 13 Roma communities from Moldova. The specific groups of voters mentioned above were informed about the registration in the voter lists, voting procedure and importance of casting a meaningful and effective vote. Special attention of the voter education campaign was paid to empowering Romani women with necessary skills and knowledge, thus enabling them to conduct awareness campaign among their fellows and encouraging Roma population to register as voters and participate in the elections. As a result, with WiP assistance, 93 Romani women were capacitated with relevant electoral knowledge and leadership skills, which enabled them to conduct awareness raising campaigns (including door to door) in nine Roma communities calling Roma and non-Roma population to participate actively in the 2014 Parliamentary elections.

As a result of UNDP Democracy Programme support, the CEC implemented, for the first time ever the Electronic Registry of Voters (RSA) during the 2014 Parliamentary elections, which allowed, among others, the presentation of sex-disaggregated data on voters. The official information presented by the CEC at <http://www.cec.md/index.php?pag=news&id=1042&rid=12471&l=ro> shows that out of 1,649,402 voters who participated in the Parliamentary elections, 53,46% were women and 46,54% were men. Building on the work carried out by the UNDP Democracy Programme, the WiP Programme will further support the CEC in terms of strengthening of its institutional capacity for analysis and innovative presentation of sex-disaggregated data for both Parliamentary and local elections with regards to voter turnout, as well as candidates and electoral administration.

Output 2.1: Capacities of the media on gender responsive coverage of political issues enhanced.

A Guide for journalists and media management on equal portrayal of women in media has been elaborated as a result of the earlier UN Women' work done on engendering media products since 2008. Within the two implemented trainings, 25 representatives of the media organizations and their associations (journalists and chief editors) were offered concrete practical guidance on adequate and rights-based portrayal of women throughout the entire electoral process.

Following the Media Gender Self-Assessment, most of the participating journalists have recognized that their editors-in-chief are not gender sensitive, or are politically obedient. Against this background it is not easy to promote the issues pertaining to gender equality. However, a good example of gender equality promotion in media has been obtained by a journalist from the national radio (Radio Moldova), who had convinced the director of the institution to ensure gender equality in the debates. As a result, the responsible reporters for debates were obliged to invite equal numbers of men and women for debates.

Output 2.2: Capacity of gender equality advocates to promote women's leadership and political participation strengthened.

Within this output, the first National Forum of Women Mayors "Femeile C.E.R. - Cote, Egalitate, Reprezentare" ("Women C.E.R. - Quotas, Equality, Representation") was organized by the WiP Programme on 8 October 2014. The forum gathered about 100 women mayors and women representatives of local public administrations from the entire country. The forum served as a platform for women from different social and professional categories, enabling them to identify their needs and discuss their demands, as well as define the measures that need to be adopted in order to ensure an adequate participation and representation of women in politics and in decision-making processes. The resolution adopted by the participants of the forum was handed over to the Prime Minister and the Speaker of the Parliament, being also sent via post mail to all the Parliamentary and extra-Parliamentary parties in order to ensure that all stakeholders were informed about the measures foreseen in the resolution, urging for their adoption.

The National Forum of Women Lawyers resulted in a resolution, which demands an improvement of women lawyers' participation in decision making and ensuring gender equality in the activity of the Bar Association through the involvement and promotion of women in leadership positions within its. The forum gathered about 100 women lawyers. The document was handed over to the representatives of Parliament, relevant ministries and the Bar Association.

A resolution on the demands of women with disabilities regarding quota adoption, development and implementation of programmes designed to eliminate stereotypes related to women with disabilities and empowerment of women with disabilities by promotion in decision-making positions was adopted at the National Forum of Women with Disabilities. The event was attended by more than 130 women with different types of disabilities. The document was handed over to the representatives of Parliament and Government.

The National Forum of Women in Business was held on 8-9 December 2014. It gathered about 150 women who lead/manage their own businesses. The businesswomen attended the event in order to voice their needs and to advocate for measures that need to be adopted for ensuring adequate participation and representation of women in politics and in decision-making processes.

The adopted resolutions in the framework of all forums mentioned above were handed to the relevant ministries' representatives and other relevant governmental institutions. During the events, Action Plans were adopted and responsible persons for implementation were established to ensure achievement of the goals listed within the forums. Each of the forums has facilitated the establishment of several networks of women representing different social and professional groups, which have decided upon joint activities in the long term.

A needs assessment of Romani women from seven targeted localities was conducted by the international and national WiP consultant to build the capacity of Romani women and to strengthen effective participation of Romani women in elections in the Republic of Moldova for 2014–2015. The Romani women were also informed about the electoral process in order to enhance their participation as voters in the Parliamentary and local elections, but also as candidates for the local elections.

Output 2.3: Capacities of elected women parliamentarians and councillors to perform the elected official's duties developed and strengthened.

International and local experience show that the prerequisites of an effective legislative process in the Parliament entails, inter-alia, lucrative cooperation between men and women MPs on all matters related to the legislative process. During 2014 the WiP programme conducted needs assessment exercises among former and newly-elected MPs. The needs assessments revealed that in order to strengthen the gender equality perception in the work of the Parliament, specific trainings on gender issues have to be provided to both men and women MPs shortly after taking office. In this regard, a dedicated training module focusing on increasing the gender awareness among newly elected MPs on one hand, and showcasing the benefits of embedding gender equality principles throughout the legislative process, was developed during fall 2014 awaiting delivery in early 2015 in cooperation with the UNDP Democracy Programme/Parliamentary Component (as part of the Induction Training Programme for newly elected MPs).

The Women in Politics Programme provided assistance to Parliamentary Constituency and Information Offices¹ (PCIOs) in developing of a Guide, describing modalities of citizens' engagement, especially

¹ In an effort to facilitate the connection between citizens and lawmakers, four Parliamentary Constituency and Information Offices (PCIOs) were established in Edinet, Orhei, Comrat and Leova in 2014 with support from UNDP's Democracy Programme. The offices serve as a 'hub' for information and education on Parliamentary and democracy issues and offer a space for decentralized Parliamentary committees' meetings, public hearings or consultations. The Constituency Offices are expected to provide a wide range of services to various population groups in their area, including women from vulnerable groups, and making sure that their concerns are addressed in the political agendas of the legislators in an effective and timely manner.

women from vulnerable groups, in the work of the Parliamentary Constituency Offices. By the end of 2014, the final draft of the Guide was developed as a result of focus group consultations involving 66 women from various vulnerable groups in four regions of the country covered by the PCIOs. The Guide has been consulted with MPs, including those coming from Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia. The Guide is expected to undergo a series of consultations and reviews in early 2015 involving the Parliament Secretariat, MPs, and PCIOs' staff before being incorporated into the Standard Operational Procedures of the PCIOs developed under the UNDP Democracy Programme.

Delays in implementation

As described above, the project activities have started with a delay due to a longer time needed to prepare and launch such a complex intervention with four participating partners (two UN agencies and two CSOs) using MPTF modality in the spirit of the One UN concept. In this regard the programme is an innovation for Moldova.

Since the whole Project Team was on board (by October 2014), the WiP Programme has been operating in difficult political environment, in particular during fall 2014, when the pre-electoral campaign was launched. The Parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova were held on 30 November 2014. This was the key political event to be addressed by the programme through advocacy of TSMs, capacity building for the women candidates, as well as gender mainstreaming of the CEC's work.

Due to late the start of the programme and to the fact the political establishment has been focussed solely on elections and showed lack of political will to promote gender equality and women political representation and participation issues, there has been neither sufficient time left, nor proper opportunity to fully address this constraint and ensure results of the lobby and advocacy aimed at achievement of the originally planned results. In order to avoid any future delays in activities' implementation the programme team has held during fall 2014 several joint meetings on detailed work planning and risk management. As mentioned above, the adjusted Work Plan allows for a closer monitoring of the results, activities and the timelines of required procedures for ensuring the implementation of the assignment.

Challenges and Management Response

The main challenge (and risk) during this period was the lack of political will to promote gender equality, fact demonstrated by majority of political parties that were preparing for and participating in the Parliamentary elections. As a result of pressure made by civil society, UN Women and other development partners, the Government of the Republic of Moldova approved the amendments to the legislation on Gender Equality, including adoption of TSMs (envisaging the 40% gender quota adoption). The amendments were voted by the Members of Parliament in the first reading in July 2014.

However, despite strong lobby and advocacy and the Parliament's promises regarding final adoption of the TSMs in the second reading during the Parliamentary session for autumn/winter, the TSMs were not adopted, as there were no second hearings organized before the dissolution of the old Parliament. No political parties respected a voluntary quota as it had been promised and expected during the Parliamentary elections. Neither was the law on Political Party Finance passed by the Parliament. The lack of political will has also affected the pace of the programme's implementation, as many of the planned activities have been dependent on the functionality of the legislative body.

The political uncertainty after the Parliamentary elections has been related to the setting up of the new minority Cabinet. The situation was also affected by the changes in the Parliament's composition

resulting from shifting of some of the elected women MPs to the leading positions in the governmental structures, with their subsequent replacement with male MPs. This has further exacerbated the risk of unequal gender representation in the new Parliament, also impairing the credibility of the political parties' will to adopt the TSMs as promised before the Parliamentary elections.

A serious challenge for the WiP Programme has been to work with political parties that generally show strong resistance towards gender equality. There are no women among the chairmen of the parties represented in the Parliament of Moldova. The work with a political establishment chaired and represented mainly by men is a far from an easy task, in particular in a gender stereotyped society as in Moldova's case. It has been challenging to work with men politicians and to bring them on board for joint advocacy for TSM. The position of women within political parties' hierarchy is generally much lower than that of men, with few exceptions. This makes it difficult for women politicians to promote gender equality objectives within their own party's agendas and advocate women's human rights with their party leaders.

Lessons learned

There are several important lessons learned from the first four months of the programme's operations:

- Experience has shown that programmes implemented using the pass-through fund management modality within the "Towards Unity in Action" Multi-Partner Trust Fund require a lengthier time for preparations and this has to be factored in the actual project implementation schedule.
- Timing is crucial. In order to achieve measurable results at the WiP Programme's outcome /output levels the advocacy campaigns and capacity building efforts should be planned and prepared well in advance, and most importantly the implementation should take place before the electoral campaign starts.
- The adoption of TSMs, and in particular of the amendments to the package of laws promoting a greater gender equality and introduction of gender quota, as well as the Law on Political Party Finance, have faced serious resistance by the political parties and by the Parliament. On the eve of Parliamentary elections the Parliament refused to adopt these highly sensitive changes in the legislation. Against this background, the lesson learned is that in preparations for the forthcoming local elections (tentatively summer/fall 2015) timely and more consistent advocacy efforts need to be mobilized in order to urge the new Parliament to adopt the TSMs. In addition to that, there is a need to continue the lobby and advocacy with the political parties encouraging them to use voluntary quotas in order to ensure an adequate participation of women in forthcoming local elections.
- The lobby and advocacy efforts have to be persistent and consistent and unite all active forces of the society in this work. Advocacy efforts should be also oriented towards adoption of gender quota within the decision-making bodies of several professional groups, such as lawyers, trade unions, business, etc. and associations of social groups. Support should be provided to women representing these groups in order to pressure the decision-makers to amend the current legal and regulatory framework.
- Working with two prominent Moldovan CSOs (EEF and CPD) proved to be a very efficient instrument in mobilizing of much wider strata of civil society and in establishment of wider networks of CSOs.
- A lesson has been learned about the most efficient techniques in achieving the result of having more women in elected positions. Capacity building efforts and training for women leaders, women candidates and women MPs give best results if complemented by individual coaching/mentoring.
- Organization of forums involving different social institutions and wide number of participants proved to be a very efficient instrument of mobilization and raising awareness and civic activism.

- On the background of complex political environment in which the WiIP programme operates, the programme needs to incorporate a certain degree of flexibility, the purpose of that being to mitigate the emerging external risks.

Qualitative assessment

The advocacy work done by UN Women jointly with UNDP and civil society partners prior to formal programme start, and during actual implementation, has contributed to placing gender equality much higher on the political agenda of the country than before. In this regard, the partnership between the two UN implementing agencies, the EEF and CPD has proved to be an effective and lucrative tandem able to tackle and advance gender equality in political participation in a multi-faceted manner.

In addition, cooperation with the ILO, UNDP's Democracy Programme, Joint UNDP/UN Women Joint Integrated Local Development Programme (JILDLP), UNDP's Confidence Building and Biomass Programmes enabled the Women in Politics Programme to create synergies and capitalise on the expertise and networks of these partners.

A brief description of the key partnerships established outside the UN System is provided below.

Partnership with national state institutions

In the reporting period, the Programme has actively engaged with the Parliament of Moldova, including the Secretariat, the Central Electoral Commission and the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training. These are the primary institutional recipients of support from the Women in Politics Programme in gender mainstreaming of their work, therefore seeking their full cooperation has been a priority from the very start of the programme.

Partnership with Civil Society Organizations

Gender Equality Platform: From the very beginning the Programme has been conceived as a joint one, involving two NGOs partners on an equal basis (EEF and CPD). One of the main objectives of the envisaged organizations was to consolidate the platform of NGOs active in the area of gender promotion and to use it as a tool of pressure on the stakeholders responsible for TSM adoption. EEF and CPD have facilitated the establishment of a platform by 25 NGOs working in the gender equality area, which allowed them to join efforts in supporting temporary special measures. A common agenda of actions to be organized during the electoral campaigns (Parliamentary and local) and a joint advocacy plan have been developed and approved by the platform. As a result, a series of flash mobs were organized during the Parliamentary elections aiming at promotion of women's representation on electoral lists and adoption of TSMs.

Civil Society Advisory Group: One of the main roles and functions of UN Women is to create and maintain effective partnerships with civil society. In this spirit UN Women Moldova has established a Civil Society Advisory Group (CSAG), which will provide strategic advisory direction to UN Women's programmes in Moldova on gender equality, women's empowerment and women's human rights. One of the three work directions set up by the CSAG is related to the establishment of mechanisms for quota adoption and promotion of women's better representation on electoral lists. Taking into account that this approach is directly linked to WiP Programme outputs, a partnership between the Programme and CSAG has been created, aiming to provide recommendations to WiP on best activities to be organized in order to promote TSM adoption and increasing women's representation in politics and decision making. WiP will provide support to CSAG members to advocate for the above mentioned aims.

Partnership with Women Democracy Network

The Women Democracy Network (WDN) has been one of the main WiP Programme partners in ensuring the achievement of the most effective programmatic results in the area of cooperation with political parties. The organization represents an entry point to political parties, serving as a method of influencing the parties' decisions regarding improving women's representation in politics. Joint activities and consultations with the WDN have been organized to design the methods of approaching the political parties' members and ensuring their attendance and active participation in the framework of the Programme's activities. Also, within the partnership with the WDN and CSOs, the WiP Programme has managed to link up the CSOs requirements with political parties, using the WDN as a messenger.

Partnership with women's networks

For the first time, four platforms have been created with the WiP Programme's support by gathering women from different social and professional groups to discuss about their aspirations to run for office and to demand women's better representation in politics and decision making. Women mayors, women with disabilities, women in business, and women lawyers voiced their needs and recommendations aimed to get the political parties' support to be represented on the electoral lists.

International partnerships

In addition to the national partnerships, the WiP Programme has established cooperation relations with a series of EU institutions and organizations working on women's advancement and increased participation in politics and decision making. Among these are the Gender Equality sub-directorate under the Justice Directorate of the European Commission, the European External Action Service, the European Women's Lobby (the most important platform of lobbying for women's rights, which unites over 2,000 member-organizations), female politicians from Belgium, the European Disability Forum, the European Trade Union Confederation, the European Women Lawyers Association and the Business Professional Women of Europe.

3. Conclusions

Since the Fund was only established in 2014, results of the programmes implemented under it are still limited, with the exception of the Women in Politics programme. Nevertheless, the activities of these programmes thus far have laid the foundation for successful programme implementation, and 2015 will see a surge in activities and results, which will be captured in the 2015 Annual Consolidated Progress Report.

Central to the vision for the Fund has been that this is an instrument which complements and does not substitute or compete for other resources available for agency-specific work. The emphasis therefore is on mobilizing additionality of funds, and specifically for actions that involve more than one agency, which will continue to be the core strand of joint fund raising activities. To increase transparency and trust within the UN Moldova resource mobilization it remains crucial to share detailed information on individual agency fund raising and plans. In this context, it is evident that the Fund has had a catalytic effect for UN Moldova in terms of the Delivering as One concept, as it has served to strengthen inter-agency relationships and improved collaboration. This has also had a positive effect on the image of the UN Moldova towards its external partners. UN Moldova is increasingly being seen as one entity, which fits well into the context of the Delivering as One agenda.

In terms of future development of the Fund, UN Moldova will seek to increase the number of UN signatories, the number of programmes implemented, as well as the amount of funding channelled through the Fund. Moreover, since all programmes currently implemented through the Fund fall under the Governance and Human Rights window, UN Moldova will strive for increased diversification so that the two other windows are also utilized, thereby aligning the Fund better with the UNPF. In terms of resource mobilization, although difficult in the current funding environment in Moldova, levying non-earmarked funds remains a long term objective. Non-earmarked funds would be a major step forward, which would significantly increase the flexibility of UN Moldova and thus the ability to design and implement tailor-made interventions – in line with the SOPs on Delivering as One and One Funds.

4. Financial Progress

2014 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

This chapter presents financial data and analysis of the Moldova Toward Unity in Action using the pass-through funding modality as of 31 December 2014. Financial information for this Fund is also available on the MPTF Office GATEWAY, at the following address:

<http://mptf.undp.org/factsheet/fund/MDA00>.

1. SOURCES AND USES OF FUNDS

As of 31 December 2014, 3 contributors have deposited US\$ 3,098,702 in contributions and US\$ 1,102 has been earned in interest,

bringing the cumulative source of funds to US\$ 3,099,804 (see respectively, Tables 2 and 3).

Of this amount, US\$ 1,924,578 has been transferred to 6 Participating Organizations, of which US\$ 455,615 has been reported as expenditure. The Administrative Agent fee has been charged at the approved rate of 1% on deposits and amounts to US\$ 30,987. Table 1 provides an overview of the overall sources, uses, and balance of the Moldova Toward Unity in Action as of 31 December 2014.

Table 1. Financial Overview, as of 31 December 2014 (in US Dollars)

	Annual 2013	Annual 2014	Cumulative
Sources of Funds			
Gross Contributions		3,098,702	3,098,702
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income		1,102	1,102
Interest Income received from Participating Organizations		-	-
Refunds by Administrative Agent to Contributors		-	-
Fund balance transferred to another MDTF		-	-
Other Revenues		-	-
Total: Sources of Funds		3,099,804	3,099,804
Use of Funds			
Transfers to Participating Organizations		1,924,578	1,924,578
Refunds received from Participating Organizations		-	-
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organizations		1,924,578	1,924,578
Administrative Agent Fees		30,987	30,987
Direct Costs: (Steering Committee, Secretariat...etc.)		-	-
Bank Charges		134	134
Other Expenditures		-	-
Total: Uses of Funds		1,955,699	1,955,699
Change in Fund cash balance with Administrative Agent		1,144,105	1,144,105
Opening Fund balance (1 January)		-	-
Closing Fund balance (31 December)		1,144,105	1,144,105
Net Funded Amount to Participating Organizations		1,924,578	1,924,578
Participating Organizations' Expenditure		455,615	455,615
Balance of Funds with Participating Organizations			1,468,963

2. PARTNER CONTRIBUTIONS

Table 2 provides information on cumulative contributions received from all contributors to this Fund as of 31 December 2014.

Table 2. Contributors' Deposits, as of 31 December 2014 (in US Dollars)

Contributors	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013	Current Year Jan-Dec-2014	Total
NETHERLANDS	-	44,329	44,329
NORWAY	-	782,893	782,893
SWEDEN	-	2,271,479	2,271,479
Grand Total	-	3,098,702	3,098,702

3. INTEREST EARNED

Interest income is earned in two ways: 1) on the balance of funds held by the Administrative Agent ('Fund earned interest'), and 2) on the balance of funds held by the Participating Organizations ('Agency earned interest') where their Financial Regulations and Rules allow return of interest

to the AA. As of 31 December **2014**, Fund earned interest amounts to US\$ **1,102** and interest received from Participating Organizations amounts to US\$ -, bringing the cumulative interest received to US\$ **1,102**. Details are provided in the table below.

Table 3. Sources of Interest and Investment Income, as of 31 December 2014 (in US Dollars)

Interest Earned	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013	Current Year Jan-Dec-2014	Total
Administrative Agent			
Fund Earned Interest and Investment Income		1,102	1,102
Total: Fund Earned Interest		1,102	1,102
Participating Organization			
Total: Agency earned interest			
Grand Total		1,102	1,102

4. TRANSFER OF FUNDS

Allocations to Participating Organizations are approved by the Steering Committee and disbursed by the Administrative Agent. As of 31 December 2014, the AA has transferred US\$ 1,924,578 to 6 Participating Organizations (see list below).

Table 4 provides additional information on the refunds received by the MPTF Office, and the net funded amount for each of the Participating Organizations.

Table 4. Transfer, Refund, and Net Funded Amount by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2014 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013			Current Year Jan-Dec-2014			Total		
	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded	Transfers	Refunds	Net Funded
OHCHR				147,255		147,255	147,255		147,255
UNAIDS				60,477		60,477	60,477		60,477
UNDP				967,997		967,997	967,997		967,997
UNODC				20,438		20,438	20,438		20,438
UNWOMEN				695,573		695,573	695,573		695,573
WHO				32,838		32,838	32,838		32,838
Grand Total				1,924,578		1,924,578	1,924,578		1,924,578

5. EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL DELIVERY RATES

All final expenditures reported for the year **2014** were submitted by the Headquarters of the Participating Organizations. These were consolidated by the MPTF Office.

5.1 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATION

As shown in table below, the cumulative net funded amount is US\$ **1,924,578** and cumulative expenditures reported by the Participating Organizations amount to US\$ **455,615**. This equates to an overall Fund expenditure delivery rate of **24** percent. The agencies with the three highest delivery rates are: UNWOMEN, 31.76% and UNDP 24.24%. The low overall and agency-specific delivery rate is due to the fact that the bulk of the funds was disbursed to the participating UN agencies in mid-December 2014, and hence very few activities were implemented that year.

Table 5.1. Net Funded Amount, Reported Expenditure, and Financial Delivery by Participating Organization, as of 31 December 2014 (in US Dollars)

Participating Organization	Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Expenditure			Delivery Rate %
			Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013	Current Year Jan-Dec-2014	Cumulative	
OHCHR	147,255	147,255				-
UNAIDS	60,477	60,477				-
UNDP	967,997	967,997		234,680	234,680	24.24
UNODC	20,438	20,438				-
UNWOMEN	695,573	695,573		220,935	220,935	31.76
WHO	32,838	32,838				-
Grand Total	1,924,578	1,924,578		455,615	455,615	23.67

5.3 EXPENDITURE BY PROJECT

Table 5.2 displays the net funded amounts, expenditures reported and the financial delivery rates by Participating Organization.

Table 5.2 Expenditure by Project within Sector, as of 31 December 2014 (in US Dollars)

Sector / Project No.and Project Title		Participating Organization	Total Approved Amount	Net Funded Amount	Total Expenditure	Delivery Rate %
Governance and Human Rights						
00091844	Enhancing Women's Political Re	UNDP	316,805	316,805	234,680	74.08
		UNWOMEN	695,573	695,573	220,935	31.76
00093083	HR Institutions Support	OHCHR	147,255	147,255		-
		UNDP	627,777	627,777		-
00093084	HIV/AIDS Project in Transistria	UNAIDS	60,477	60,477		-
		UNDP	23,415	23,415		-
		UNODC	20,438	20,438		-
		WHO	32,838	32,838		-
Governance and Human Rights: Total			1,924,578	1,924,578	455,615	23.67
Grand Total			1,924,578	1,924,578	455,615	23.67

5.4 EXPENDITURE REPORTED BY CATEGORY

Project expenditures are incurred and monitored by each Participating Organization and are reported as per the agreed categories for inter-agency harmonized reporting. In 2006 the UN Development Group (UNDG) established six categories against which UN entities must report inter-agency project expenditures. Effective 1 January 2012, the UN Chief Executive Board (CEB) modified these categories as a result of IPSAS adoption to comprise eight categories. All expenditure incurred prior to 1 January 2012 have been reported in the old categories; post 1 January 2012 all expenditure are reported in the new eight categories. The old and new categories are noted to the right.

Table 6 reflects expenditure reported in the UNDG expense categories. Where the Fund has been operational pre and post 1 January 2012, the expenditures are reported using both categories. Where a Fund became operational post 1 January 2012, only the new categories are used.

2012 CEB Expense Categories

1. Staff and personnel costs
2. Supplies, commodities and materials
3. Equipment, vehicles, furniture and depreciation
4. Contractual services
5. Travel
6. Transfers and grants
7. General operating expenses
8. Indirect costs

2006 UNDG Expense Categories

1. Supplies, commodities, equipment & transport
2. Personnel
3. Training counterparts
4. Contracts
5. Other direct costs
6. Indirect costs

Table 6. Expenditure by UNDG Budget Category, as of 31 December 2014 (in US Dollars)

Category	Expenditure			Percentage of Total Programme Cost
	Prior Years as of 31-Dec-2013	Current Year Jan-Dec-2014	Total	
Supplies, Commodities, Equipment and Transport (Old)	-	-	-	
Personnel (Old)	-	-	-	
Training of Counterparts (Old)	-	-	-	
Contracts (Old)	-	-	-	
Other direct costs (Old)	-	-	-	
Staff & Personnel Cost (New)	-	1,016	1,016	0.26
Suppl, Comm, Materials (New)	-	4,095	4,095	1.04
Equip, Veh, Furn, Depn (New)	-	17,962	17,962	4.55
Contractual Services (New)	-	80,350	80,350	20.35
Travel (New)	-	44,351	44,351	11.24
Transfers and Grants (New)	-	100,769	100,769	25.53
General Operating (New)	-	146,199	146,199	37.04
Programme Costs Total	-	394,742	394,742	100.00
¹ Indirect Support Costs Total	-	60,872	60,872	15.42
Total	-	455,615	455,615	

¹ **Indirect Support Costs** charged by Participating Organization, based on their financial regulations, can be deducted upfront or at a later stage during implementation. The percentage may therefore appear to exceed the 7% agreed-upon for on-going projects. Once projects are financially closed, this number is not to exceed 7%.

6. COST RECOVERY

Cost recovery policies for the Fund are guided by the applicable provisions of the Terms of Reference, the MOU concluded between the Administrative Agent and Participating Organizations, and the SAAs concluded between the Administrative Agent and Contributors, based on rates approved by UNDG.

The policies in place, as of 31 December **2014**, were as follows:

- **The Administrative Agent (AA) fee:** 1% is charged at the time of contributor deposit and covers services provided on that contribution for the entire duration of the Fund. In the reporting period US\$ **30,987** was deducted in AA-fees. Cumulatively, as of 31 December **2014**, US\$ **30,987** has been charged in AA-fees.
- **Indirect Costs of Participating Organizations:** Participating Organizations may charge 7% indirect costs. In the current reporting period US\$ **60,872** was deducted in indirect costs by Participating Organizations. Cumulatively, indirect costs amount to US\$ **60,872** as of 31 December **2014**.

7. ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

In order to effectively provide fund administration services and facilitate monitoring and reporting to the UN system and its partners, the MPTF Office has developed a public website, the MPTF Office Gateway (<http://mptf.undp.org>). Refreshed in real time every two hours from an internal enterprise resource planning system, the MPTF Office Gateway has become a standard setter for providing transparent and accountable trust fund administration services.

The Gateway provides financial information including: contributor commitments and deposits, approved programme budgets, transfers to and expenditures reported by Participating Organizations, interest income and other expenses. In addition, the Gateway provides an overview of the MPTF Office portfolio and extensive information on individual Funds, including their purpose, governance structure and key documents. By providing easy access to the growing number of narrative and financial reports, as well as related project documents, the Gateway collects and preserves important institutional knowledge and facilitates knowledge sharing and management among UN Organizations and their development partners, thereby contributing to UN coherence and development effectiveness.

8. DIRECT COSTS

The Fund governance mechanism may approve an allocation to a Participating Organization to cover costs associated with Secretariat services and overall coordination, as well as Fund level reviews and evaluations. These allocations are referred to as 'direct costs'. In **2014** there were no direct costs charged to the Fund.