



ReSPA

Regional School
of Public Administration

Seventh Meeting of the
Public Administration Reform
(PAR) Network

29-30 November 2017, Ohrid, Macedonia

All working groups established by ReSPA are devoted to particular and specific topics within overall framework of Public Administration Reform. Therefore, PAR Network has an important role in coordination of activities of these working groups and provision of holistic approach of all ReSPA's activities.

PAR network has opportunity to exchange regional and broader experiences, challenges and best practices in carrying out the necessary reforms and to build a platform which will allow countries to effectively exchange the state of play, targeted goals and priorities, examples of successful implementation and critical challenges. Through these activities ReSPA's Members are able to exchange information on PAR and strengthening the administrative capacities as required by the European integration process in their countries respectively.

From the beginning of the implementation of ongoing EC grant PAR Network has been regularly informed on goals and objectives of Action document which corresponds with ReSPA Programme of Work 2017-2018. Par Network has also been informed on ongoing activities within PAR pillar, as well as within other two pillars: European Integration and Governance for Growth pillars.

Therefore, particular attention of 7th PAR Network meeting will be devoted to discussion on two main topics: developed Methodological Guide for Costing PAR strategies, and Managerial Accountability. These topics are important for public officials and servants who have responsibility in area of PAR. Especially in development and implementation of Action plans for implementation of PAR strategies.

During the meeting of the PAR Network will be presented concrete Plan of Activities in 2018, its purpose, logic of interventions, timetable, locations of various events.

The final segment of the meeting, as it is developed practice, will be devoted to regular exchange of information on the most important activities within ReSPA working groups.

The Methodological Guide for costing of PAR strategies is prepared in accordance to practical experiences of the countries in the region that the implementation of PAR strategies, as well as other governments' strategies, is severely hampered as a result of their inadequate financial framework, which often results in their financial unsustainability. One of the main causes of this problem is lack of formal methodologies and guidelines for costing of strategies, resulting in unreliable cost estimates and subsequent implementation failures. In order to support more efficient implementation of strategies through strengthening their financial frameworks, ReSPA has initiated development of Methodological Guide for costing of PAR strategies. This initiative has been supported at the 6th Meeting of PAR Network. The Methodological Guide is intended to serve as a guideline to relevant institutions and civil servants engaged in the strategy costing process. Although its primary goal is to strengthen financial frameworks for implementation of PAR strategies, the Guide is also expected to facilitate the process of costing governments' strategies in general, i.e. in other sectors.

The **Managerial Accountability** and its practical implementation is important topic because the recognition that the countries are facing difficulties in achieving that, and which is not embedded in the administrative culture of public sectors management within the Western Balkan region.

Managerial accountability largely depends upon other managerial and technical reforms processes within broader PAR and PFM reform agendas. (For example, organizational structures of public sector entities and accountability arrangements are normally addressed as a part of a broader PAR strategy.) These are the preconditions for implementing the managerial accountability for objectives, results and budget resources inside the management structures. Similarly, broader PFM reforms which involve gradual transition from input to output oriented budgeting, where the public-sector managers should be accountable not only for *how much is spent*, but rather for what has been achieved *for the money spent*, place strong emphasis on managerial accountability and risk management practices.

Quality Management is a complementary requirement to both PAR and economic governance, two of the main pillars of the EU Enlargement Strategy. On the basis of previous initiatives from its Members, and particularly Working Group on Quality of Public Administration and Public Services (QPAS), ReSPA decided to carry out a Feasibility study of the proposed establishment of a regional Quality Management Center in ReSPA. This feasibility study, finalised in September 2017, aims to identify the needs and expectations from the QPAS group via focus group and questionnaire. The study launched a regional wide large scale questionnaire identifying the state of play (detailed baseline), needs and expectations and potential role of ReSPA.

At the 7th meeting of PAR Network ReSPA is organizing the presentations on these main topics for leaders of PAR processes and their collaborators.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 29 November 2017

09.00	-	09.15	Registration
09.15	-	09.30	Welcome, ratio and objectives of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Adoption of the Agenda- Welcome speech of Ratka Sekulovic, Director of ReSPA
09.30	-	11.15	Presentation of the Methodological Guide for Costing PAR Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Dragan Djuric, Programme Manager – Coordinator:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Introduction- Zuhra Osmanovic-Pasic, expert:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Presentation of the Guide- Timo Ligi, SIGMA representative:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o presentation of new SIGMA PAR Toolkit
11.15	-	11.45	<i>Coffee Break</i>
11.45	-	13.00	Methodological Guide for Costing PAR Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Zuhra Osmanovic-Pasic, expert- Question and answers- Discussion
13.00	-	14.30	<i>Lunch break</i>
14.30	-	15.45	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation of activities organized by ReSPA working groups between 6th and 7th meetings of PAR Network Representatives of WGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Rozalinda Stojova: e-Gov WG;- Gordana Gapik Dimitrovska: Better Regulation WG;- Branka Mincheva-Kocevska: HRMD WG;- Discussion
15.45	-	16.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.15	-	17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Information on:- Plan of activities for 2018- Development of ReSPA Strategy 2019-2024 and Preparation of new EC grant 2019-2022- Dragan Djuric, Programme Manager- Discussion

Thursday, 30 November 2017

9.00	-	9.15	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ratka Sekulovic, Director of ReSPA- Dragan Djuric, Programme Manager - Coordinator
9.15	-	10.45	Managerial Accountability: How PIFC contributes to PAR and managerial accountability <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Raymond Hill, European Commission, DG Budget (TBC),- Mirosława Borycka, SIGMNA representative,- Danijela Stepic – expert,- Boris Tusek - expert- Discussion
10.45	-	11.15	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.15	-	12.30	Feasibility study on the establishment of a regional centre on Quality Management in ReSPA; How QM contributes to PAR <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Goran Pastrovic, Programme manager- Tihana Puzic – expert
12.30	-	13.00	Conclusions on proposed initiatives and AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ratka Sekulovic, Director of ReSPA
13.00	-	14.30	<i>Lunch</i>
			<i>Departure of participants</i>