



Serbia Research, Innovation and Technology Transfer Project (P145231)

EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA | Serbia | Trade & Competitiveness Global Practice |
Recipient Executed Activities | Technical Assistance Loan | FY 2014 | Seq No: 2 | ARCHIVED on 28-Jun-2017 | ISR28038 |

Implementing Agencies: Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development, Innovation Fund

Key Dates

Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:01-Apr-2014

Effectiveness Date:01-Jul-2015

Original Closing Date:31-Jan-2018

Revised Closing Date:31-Jan-2018

Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

<p>This EU IPA funded project will complement ongoing activities in Serbia and the Western Balkans region aimed at developing a knowledge economy. The work will focus on building elements of the national innovation system that can facilitate reorientation of the public research sector to the needs of the Serbian economy 's competitive positioning in the European research community.

This project will have three main activities:

i) Design and establishment of technology transfer practices;

ii) Design and implementation of a grant scheme for collaborative R&D; and

iii) Development of an R&D and Innovation Strategy, and Infrastructure Roadmap.</p>

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

Components

Name

Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Satisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Satisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory

Implementation Status and Key Decisions

**Component 1: Establishment of a Technology Transfer Facility**

The Technology Transfer Facility (TTF), a specialized unit operating within the Innovation Fund of the Republic of Serbia, was established in July 2015, with a dual mandate: (1) to demonstrate that commercialization of inventions arising from Serbian public R&D institutions are indeed possible; and (2) to build capacities of Technology Transfer Offices (TTOs) of Serbia's four leading universities by providing them with model and guidance in technology transfer and commercialization process, from the initial disclosure until deal closing. The mandate of the TTF is realized through its pilot TTF Program – a support program designed for the R&D community in Serbia, to identify research with commercial potential and focus on the transactional aspect of technology transfer.

Besides providing commercialization support to academic and non-academic R&D institutions and private sector companies, the TTF can also provide financial support to selected innovative projects coming from public academic R&D institutions in order to bring these projects to a higher commercialization readiness level.

After a delayed start, the TTF is now building its pipeline of projects. So far, 15 applications have been received, of which 6 projects have been awarded commercialization and financial support thus far, making up one third of the total amount expected to be granted to projects. Another two projects are currently under evaluation.

Intermediate results indicators #1 (service lines deployed), #2 (service transactions initiated) and #4 (TTOs and innovation support organizations engaged in preparation of TT Pipeline) have already been achieved. The number of technology transfer transactions / TTF grants (indicator #3) is below target (6 out of 7) for Year 2, but is expected to be met in the next 3 months. The Project development objective (PDO) level indicator (number of technologies transferred) is will likely be achieved by the end of Year 2017.

Component 2: Technical Assistance for the Design of a grant scheme for collaborative R&D and its monitoring system, and an annual independent evaluation

The Collaborative Grant Scheme Program was launched on June 21, 2016 at the Serbian Chamber of Commerce in Belgrade. By early August 2016, the Program was promoted throughout Serbia, in form of presentations, as well as in-depth training workshops (10) for prospective applicants with a total of 200 people in attendance. Overall response to the CGS program was strong - 96 applications received, 74 found to be eligible by the Innovation Fund, 27 preselected by the Investment Committee for detailed evaluation. Finally, 14 applicants were awarded CGS grants announced in the Award Event held on 9 December 2016. By April 2017, all 14 financing agreements were signed, and first tranche of funds are being disbursed to the awardees. The Innovation Fund with Bank assistance has finalized the Monitoring Guidelines for the CGS projects. The Bank had completed first annual evaluation of the CGS program and in March 2017 submitted report to the EUD, MoESTD, Innovation Fund and CFCU.

Component 3: Technical Assistance for the development of a Research and Innovation Strategy, an R&D Infrastructure Roadmap and corresponding Action Plans

The Serbia Research for Innovation Strategy completed in December 2015 was adopted by the Government on March 3, 2016. The work on the Action Plan for the Strategy, and Research Infrastructure Roadmap and corresponding Action Plan is in progress but is has experienced delays due to delay in the launch of Call for Research Proposals by the Ministry.

Risks**Overall Risk Rating**

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Overall	--	--	● Moderate

Comments

The overall project implementation has been downgraded to Moderately Satisfactory. The TTF program experienced initial delays due to longer than expected procedures for the necessary contracting. This has impacted the timing of planned activities and caused delays in achieving the Project development objective (PDO) level indicator (number of technologies transferred). All other indicators are on track or surpassed.



Results

Project Development Objective Indicators

►Number of technologies transferred by TTOs (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.00
Date	22-Dec-2014	22-May-2015	20-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Collaborative R&D grant scheme designed (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No scheme designed	Scheme design consulted	Scheme designed and in process of implementation	scheme designed
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	20-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Inputs disseminated for an R&D&I Strategy and action plan (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No strategy exists	Draft Strategy exists	Strategy adopted, Action Plan awaiting adoption	Inputs disseminated to stakeholders
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	20-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Inputs disseminated for an R&D Infrastructure Roadmap and action plan (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No roadmap exists	No roadmap exists	Roadmap background documents have been prepared; working group has been formed	Inputs disseminated to stakeholders
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	20-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018



Overall Comments

Intermediate Results Indicators

►Component One: Number of technology transfer service lines deployed (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	8.00	5.00
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	20-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Number of Service transactions initiated at TTOs (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	11.00	25.00
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	20-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Number of technology transfer transactions conducted by TTOs (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	6.00	15.00
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	20-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Number of TTOs and innovation support organizations engaged in preparation of TT pipeline (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	4.00	5.00
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	20-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018



►Component two: Case studies compiled (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	--	Case studies compiled
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	--	31-Jan-2018

►Public consultations on design held (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	1.00	--	2.00	2.00
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	19-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Annual Independent Evaluation (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	1.00	3.00
Date	31-Dec-2014	--	10-May-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Component Three: Innovation and R&D data collected (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	--	Data collected, analyzed and shared with stakeholders
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	--	31-Jan-2018



►Stakeholder consultations held (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	2.00	3.00
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	19-Jun-2017	31-Jan-2018

►Dissemination of R&D and Innovation Strategy and Infrastructure Roadmap (Text, Custom)


	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	--	--	Disseminated to stakeholders
Date	22-Dec-2014	--	--	31-Jan-2018

Overall Comments

Overall project implementation is Moderately Satisfactory. TTF program experienced initial delays in launching the TTF Program, caused by longer than expected procedures for the necessary contracting. This has impacted the timing of planned activities and caused delays in achieving the Project development objective (PDO) level indicator (number of technologies transferred). All other indicators are on track or surpassed. The Collaborative Grants Scheme component is doing very well. But, work on component 3- the strategy action plan and research infrastructure roadmap is facing delays.

Data on Financial Performance

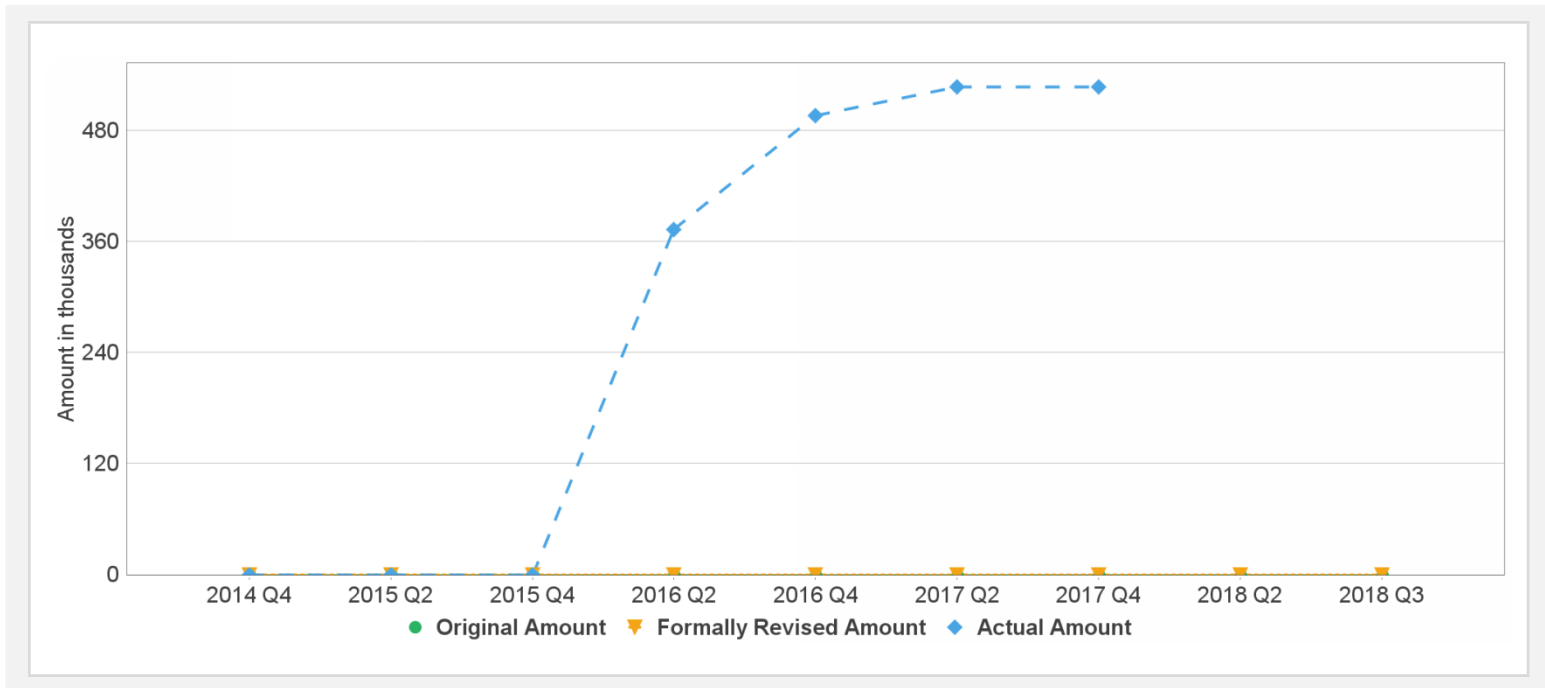
Disbursements (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P145231	TF-19226	Effective	USD	1.26	1.26	0.00	0.53	0.76	 42%

Key Dates (by loan)

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P145231	TF-19226	Effective	27-May-2015	27-May-2015	01-Jul-2015	31-Jan-2018	31-Jan-2018

Cumulative Disbursements



Restructuring History

There has been no restructuring to date.

Related Project(s)

There are no related projects.