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**UKRAINIAN STANDARDIZED EXTERNAL TESTING INITIATIVE  
(USETI) LEGACY ALLIANCE PHASE II**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2013– DECEMBER 31, 2015**

**GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE**

**QUARTERLY REPORT: Y1Q4  
(OCTOBER 1 – DECEMBER 31, 2013)**

**SUBMITTED BY:  
AMERICAN COUNCILS FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION**

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## 1. Summary of Activities

The USETI Legacy Alliance Phase II is a Global Development Alliance funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) under a cooperative agreement. American Councils for International Education is the Cooperating Partner and lead implementer, collaborating with USAID and 15 other founding partners. The Agreement builds on accomplishments of previous U.S. Government assistance to: build a sustainable strengthened UCEQA system more capable of independently and transparently developing and implementing secure tests that meet international standards; secure a legislative and regulatory policy basis for testing and higher education admissions; and build a sustainable high level of public support for equal access to Ukrainian higher education.

Throughout the reporting period (October-December 2013 – Q4) USETI Legacy Alliance Phase II activities were focused on supporting UCEQA with improving item bank and modern foreign language tests development capacity, supporting the IV International Conference EA-2013, conducting an Alliance partners meeting and a number of other policy development related matters.

### Issues

#### 1.1. Significant Events

**USAID Mistechko Info Fair in Zaporizhzhya.** On October 5, the USETI Alliance took part at the Fourth USAID Mistechko- an information fair that presented the projects funded by the Agency and their cooperation with non-governmental organizations and local government entities. The USETI Alliance, in cooperation with the Dnipropetrovsk RCEQA, presented the outcomes of its six-year work and provided information regarding plans for the future.

During the event, representatives from USETI Alliance and the Dnipopetrovsk RCEQA consulted university entrants and their parents on SET prep and on HEI admissions procedures. Fair participants were offered demonstration mini-tests in Ukrainian Language and Literature, Math and History of Ukraine as well as the General Ability Test. Zaporizhzhya City Mayor Oleksandr Syn visited the USETI Alliance booth.

**Press conference on key findings of HEI admissions monitoring.** On October 17, Civic Network OPORA conducted a national press conference on key findings of HEI admissions monitoring in summer 2013. Educational Coordinators presented findings, which showed that while, on the whole, most HEI admission committees worked in compliance with the requirements of the national Conditions on Admission, there were significant problems in how HEIs communicated with applicants who were qualified to enroll, per their admissions scores. HEIs often did not notify applicants strictly in accordance with their rankings but selectively called qualified applicants requesting they confirm enrollment by submitting master copies of their documents. As a result, an indeterminate but probably significant number of applicants did not, in fact, enroll in the “best” HEI that they could have enrolled in, had they been timely informed of their positive status at that particular HEI. OPORA noted that simplification of the enrollment procedure could help alleviate this problem in the future.

Concluding the conference OPORA presented its view of how to resolve problems with implementation of admissions processes. The proposed amendments to the 2014 Conditions on Admission to MOES.

**Verkhovna Rada Public Hearings on Secondary Education held.** On October 23, the Verkhovna Rada held public hearings on *Secondary Education: State and Ways of Improvement*. The hearings were attended by numerous education administrators, local government, academia, teachers, NGO and media, with over 500 participants total in attendance.

**UCEQA Department for International Comparative Research established.** In October, MOES Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk ordered paving the way for establishment of a Department for International Comparative Research at UCEQA and providing required funding. This new department will improve UCEQA's connectivity with international education research agencies and will facilitate UCEQA's role as coordinator of Ukraine's participation in TIMMS and other international comparative education quality monitoring enterprises and frameworks.

**Verkhovna Rada Science & Education Committee votes to become USETI Alliance Phase II Project Beneficiary.** On November 6, the Verkhovna Rada Science and Education Committee held its regular meeting; the agenda included a discussion on USETI Alliance Phase II project registration. The Committee addressed a request from American Councils for International Education to consider becoming a project beneficiary. USETI Alliance Project representatives presented informational materials (leaflets, brochures, statistical reports of monitoring research, etc.) on project activities performed in the 2010-2012 period to the Committee members. After a brief discussion the Committee voted unanimously to become a project beneficiary. Paperwork will be filed by the Committee leadership to execute this decision.

**Registration for 2014 Practice Test.** From November 1 through November 30 nine RCEQAs registered participants for the 2014 practice test. The aim of the practice testing is to allow test takers to become familiar with SET procedures. The 2014 practice testing will be held on March 22 (Ukrainian Language & Literature, Foreign Language, Chemistry, World History and Physics, Russian language) and March 29 (History of Ukraine, Math, Biology, Geography and World Literature). Practice Testing is fee-based – UAH 89 (approximately \$11) per test.

**Seminar on Secondary Education Quality Monitoring.** On November 25, on behalf of the MOES of Crimea, the Crimean MOES Educational Center, Post-Graduate Education Institute of the Autonomous Republic (AR) of Crimea and USETI Alliance, the Simferopol RCEQA organized a seminar on *Secondary Education Quality Monitoring: Issues and Tendencies, International Experience*. USETI Alliance and USAID representatives attended the event held in Simferopol at the premises of the MOES of the AR of Crimea.

**Preparation for Study Tour to the Netherlands on the interaction between higher education and the labor market.** On December 6-7, USETI Alliance participated in the selection committee for the PTP (Participant Training Program -- formerly Community Connections) program administered in Ukraine by the Consortium for Enhancement of Ukrainian Management Education (CEUME). CEUME is recruiting a delegation for travel to the Netherlands to participate in a short term study visit aimed at enhancing interaction between higher education and the labor market. Ten finalists (and two substitutes) were selected from a highly qualified applicant pool per selection criteria. The study visit to the Netherlands was scheduled for late January, 2014.

The main goal of this particular PTP study tour is to expose participants to and help them gain experience in reforms in the higher education system, degree structures, curricula, and qualifications that will better assure that skills and competences acquired through higher education are relevant to the needs of economy. The program is targeted to explore this topic and progressive approaches to improve accessibility to higher education and the and quality of the functions and consulting services provided by higher education, as well as modern practices that enhance the

employment performance of graduates and skilled workers. In December USAID approved USETI Alliance representative to participate in the PTP exchange visit to the Netherlands.

**Minister Tabachnyk plans to release Ukrainian Language test items prior to the 2014 SET administration.** On December 10, MOES Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk stated at a government call-in hour, that in 2014 UCEQA will make one of the external testing subjects “more open.” “In preparing to take the Ukrainian language and literature test, university entrants will be able to use items from the actual UCEQA Item Bank,” Tabachnyk said. “The items will be grouped by topic according to the SET-2014 Program and complexity, placed on the websites of UCEQA and RCEQAs and will be available for each test taker upon registration”. Minister Tabachnyk also said that there will be 70 items randomly picked by a computer for the testing session itself.

USETI international consultants who were working in Kyiv that week commented to USETI Alliance Ukraine team members that such a decision was inappropriate and counter to accepted norms (see USETI Alliance action in response under 1.2 “Special Meetings” of this report).

**UCEQA to participate in the British Educational Training and Technology Show in London.** In December, in collaboration with Microsoft Ukraine and UCEQA, it was agreed to nominate two UCEQA representatives for participation in the British Educational Training and Technology Show (BETT Show) to be held on January 20-25, 2014 in London. The BETT Show is a worldwide forum of education technology specialists that gathers some 35,000 participants each year. BETT is the best opportunity for UCEQA to get introduced to the newest technologies and innovative solutions aimed at improving teaching methods. The BETT Show forum will also be a good professional development and networking experience for UCEQA specialists dealing with online testing practices and IT education assessment.

### **Area One: Strengthening institutional capacity of testing system elements and components**

**Technical Assistance delivered – Secure UCEQA capacity for item banking, test development, and test structure/content quality assurance.** During two mission trips to Kyiv in October and December, USETI Alliance consultants worked with UCEQA Item Bank and Psychometrics Department in the following areas:

- Developing specifications and SPSS macros for analysis of pilot forms
- Developing programs for data forensics analysis
- Preparation for test construction using Item Bank
- Issues of quality control in piloting and ways of improving security (with Item Bank and Psychometrics Department representatives);
- Using current Item Bank it for test construction and reporting (with Content Department heads and Deputy Director for Content);

**Technical Assistance delivered – Synchronize UCEQA in-house training capacity with academic program in educational measurement.** On October 10-11 USETI Alliance consultants provided five guest lectures to the students of Ukraine’s first professional Master’s Program in Educational Measurement/Administration at Drahomanov National Pedagogical University:

- Fundamentals of IRT
- Estimating latent parameters and accuracy of parameterization
- Connection of IRT and classical test theory
- Logistical models; Parameters approximation; choosing a model
- Psychometric methods of assessing intellect.

**Technical Assistance delivered – Workshops on modern foreign languages.** On December 10 - 14 USETI Alliance consultants worked with UCEQA Modern Foreign Languages specialists, item writers and reviewers (English, German, French and Spanish) on item writing, analysis and review for the 2014 tests.

**UCEQA delegation Open World trip to the U.S.** On November 6, five representatives of the UCEQA/RCEQAs system with a facilitator went on the Open World Program to the U.S. They spent two days in Washington DC and then continued their professional program in Akron, Ohio. In Ohio they learned about educational assessment and monitoring as it is applied on various educational levels. The delegates also had an opportunity to familiarize themselves with American culture and lifestyle. The group successfully completed the program and returned on November 17. Upon their return the delegates planned to share the newly obtained information and knowledge with their colleagues.

**Conceptualize Summative Assessment tools for HEIs - Working meeting on the development of summative assessment of Bachelor's in IT project.** On November 20, a working meeting on to advance a project in summative assessment of the Bachelor's degree in IT was held at National Technical University of Kyiv Polytechnic Institute.

During the meeting the participants approved the Project Memorandum statements previously worked out by USETI Alliance and agreed on the preliminary list of Project participants.

## **Area Two: Establishing legislative and regulatory policy foundations for fair and objective university admissions policy and practices**

**Facilitating a new Law on Higher Education.** During the reporting period, in cooperation with the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Science & Education, the USETI Alliance conducted two ELPEG meetings (November 12 and December 24) with aim of facilitating development of a new draft law on Education.

On November 12, the Fourth Scientific Methodological Seminar on Education Legislation and Policy was held within the framework of ELPEG meeting at Taras Shevchenko National Kyiv University. The key topic of the seminar discussion was Education System Financing.

The key issues discussed during the seminar were:

- The current financing of Ukraine's education system
- Different models of education system financing in the world
- Models of education system financing in Eastern European countries
- Legislative and regulatory activities of educational system financing
- Financial autonomy of HEIs.

Most meeting participants came to the conclusion that reform of the financing system for education in Ukraine should aim to improve education quality through more effective spending of budgetary resources.

On December 24, the Fifth Scientific Methodological Seminar on Education Legislation and Policy was held within the framework of ELPEG at Taras Shevchenko National Kyiv University. The key topic of the seminar was Quality Assurance in the Higher Education System.

The seminar participants concluded the following:

- Current higher education quality assurance policy and instruments are not very effective
- Competition on the education services market must be increased and students must be better motivated to improve higher education quality

- The SET should become an integral part of any higher education quality assurance strategy
- The external system of higher education quality assurance must be independent of Government or HEI influence
- Legislative reform is needed to enhance HEI autonomy.
- Legislative reform is also a factor in promoting education quality.

At the meeting's conclusion most of the participants agreed that the Zhurovskyy Group draft Law on Higher Education meets the requirements noted above.

**Round Table on the development of Draft Law on Higher Education.** On October 15, a round table on Higher Education Bill was conducted by International Renaissance Foundation and Verkhovna Rada Committee on Science and Education.

The event was attended by 20 participants.

Participants of the round table made recommendations for the draft law such as:

- Admission to HEIs based on constitutional principles
- Development of a National Standard of Education Classification based on corresponding International Standards that are approved by UNESCO
- Provisions that educational standards should determine learning outcomes rather than learning methodologies
- Ensuring academic freedom for professors and teachers as well for students.

Some principal questions were not clarified. Participants did not reach consensus on the duration of secondary education (11 or 12 years) and the basic model of education financing.

**Work on legislative enhancements.** During the second half of December 2013, the Consultant Group of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Science and Education finished its work on the Draft Amendments (Addenda) to the Laws on Education. The addenda are meant to create a legislative basis for the use of SET as the key instrument for HEI admission. The text of the draft law, explanatory note and comparative table are available for discussion. The draft law will be submitted to the Verkhovna Rada by MP Lilia Hrynevych and it is intended as a minimal, temporary legislative guarantee for SET given the slow pace with which the discussion on comprehensive higher education law drafts has been proceeding in recent months.

### **Area Three: Transforming support for testing into a proactive contemporary public expectation**

**Technical Assistance (TA) delivered – IV International Scientific Conference on “Educational Measurement 2013: SET as an instrument for equal access to higher education.”** On October 1-4 the IV International Scientific Conference titled “Educational Measurement 2013: SET as an instrument for equal access to higher education” was held in picturesque outskirts of Yaremche, Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast.

The event was dedicated to exploring SET as the key tool in providing fair and equal access to higher education as well as to SET interpretation and practical uses of SET. The Conference was co-organized by a large number of educational and governmental institutions, including MOES, NAPSU, UCEQA, the Ivano-Frankivsk RCEQA, and the State Administrations of Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi and Zakarpattia oblasts along with the USETI Alliance.

USETI Alliance consultants participated in the Conference where they gave the following presentations:

- “International Comparative Studies TIMMS, PIRLS, PISA: what and how we measure, what we expect and what we get” and “Theoretical and practical aspects of pass-fail threshold in tests”
- “Comparability of test scores: why we need it and how to achieve it?” and “ Calibrated Item Bank: structure and functionality”
- “Standardized Assessment: in pursue of genuine accountability” and “National standardized assessments as core element for ensuring effective national quality assurance systems”.

Four days of discussions amongst more than a hundred scientists and educational administrators resulted in the Resolution on Further Development of External Testing in Ukraine which addresses the most topical issues of admissions and educational assessment.

The key messages of the Resolution:

- Access for Ukrainian educators to depersonalized UCEQA database on SET results
- Restart the work on development of the General Ability Test
- Development of specialized preparation materials in SET for secondary school teachers
- Use of open ended test items, especially for the test in Math
- Development of Master’s degree admissions on the standardized basis
- Participation of UCEQA personnel in international education assessment events.

On October 17, the concluding meeting of conference organizing committee was held at the Ministry on Education and Science. The main purpose of the meeting was to finalize the text of Resolution.

**XIII USETI Alliance partners meeting.** On December 3, the XIII USETI Alliance Partners Meeting was held at the American Councils office in Kyiv.

**National Public Opinion Poll on External Testing and HEI Admissions.** During the period from October 14 through 28 the Democratic Initiatives Foundation conducted field work for its annual National Public Opinion Poll on Testing and HEI Admissions. The polling sample was 2,600 with a sub-sample of over 892 persons in the “target group” – those directly connected with SET and admissions (those whose children, their relatives’ children, their close friends’ children or themselves had applied to enter a HEI based on external test results – 34.3% of respondents).

The main highlights of the poll:

- 53.4% of respondents support external testing results as the key criterion for HEI admissions, 24.9% of respondents disagree (as compared to last year’s results – 49.5% of respondents supported SET, 27.2% - did not)
- Corruption is most common during entrance exams held by HEIs (75.2% of respondents agree and 12.5% disagree) [HEI entrance exams have been reintroduced for limited numbers of HEI applicants by MOESYS Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk in 2010] and during school graduation exams (44.9% agree and 35.6% disagree)
- During external testing, 28.0% of respondents consider that corruption is common, but 40.1% disagree with this position
- 56.4% of respondents think that external testing puts all participants in equal conditions; 25.1% disagree with this statement
- 59.0% of respondents think that external testing stimulates test takers to study and not to hope for third party assistance; 22.0% disagree with this notion.

On November 1, the reputable nationwide newspaper “Dzerkalo Tyzhnya” (Mirror of the Week) published the results of the DIF Poll.

### **DIF round table on public opinion on HEI admission system reform in 2008-2013.**

On November 20, the Democratic Initiatives Foundation held a round table on public opinion on HEI Admission system reform in 2008-2013. During the round table the following questions were discussed:

- Public opinion on Ukrainian higher education quality and HEI admission system in 2008-2013
- The evolution of HEIs Conditions on Admission in 2008-2013
- Ensuring transparency during 2008-2013 admission campaigns.

**Media Monitoring.** According to the InfoStream© monitoring service, during this reporting period (October-December 2013) 682 articles related to external independent testing were published:

Month	Number of messages about SET
October	102
November	275
December	305
Total	682

Events related to SET and admission campaign which were most covered in media:

- October 3 – MOES approval of SET subject list (8 articles)
- October 17 – Start of practice testing registration (8 articles)
- October 21 – Dmytro Tabachnyk gave interview to Osvita Ukrayiny newspaper on Ukrainian education reform and SET campaign of 2014 (11 articles)
- October 23 – Verkhovna Rada hearings on the improvement of quality of secondary education (11 articles)
- October 28 – MOES approval of HEIs Conditions on Admission in 2014 (12 articles)
- November 12 – MOES First Deputy Minister Sulima’s press-conference on corruption issues in HEIs (20 articles)
- November 19 – MOES approved the SET testing schedule (18 articles)
- November 21 – Democratic Initiatives Foundation round table on National Poll on perception of SET and current admission system (16 articles)
- November 27 – Yandex.ua website launched the free service for SET preparations (16 articles)
- December 3 – Minister Tabachnyk approved the beginning of State HEI Inspection work in 2014, the document included statement on improvement of SET (17 articles)
- December 12 – UCEQA’s website posted the SET subject programs (18 articles).
- December 26 – Center on Education Monitoring held a round table discussing main events in the area of education that took place in 2013 (17 articles).

In October the main topics of the articles in Internet media were: SET-2014 preparation, practice testing, 2014 Conditions on Admission, the concept of SET, SET innovations, corruption during admission to HEIs, corruption in MOES, IS Konkurs.

In November the main topics of the articles in Internet media were: practice testing, corruption in HEIs, corruption in MOES, SET schedule, the concept of SET, Law on Higher Education, the 2014

Conditions on Admission, state budget places, state budget for education in 2014, and public perception of SET.

In December the main topics of the articles in Internet media were: the 2014 Conditions on Admission, stages of enrolment to HEIs, Single State Data Base on Education, IS Konkurs, state budget for education in 2014, corruption during admission to HEIs, corruption in MOES, SET subject programs, SET preparation, SET registration, and practice testing.

The largest number of articles related to SET was observed on the days of the most significant events, such as press conferences/round tables with participation of high-level educational authorities, and release of MOES orders.

Within the period of October-December 2013 out of 682 articles which related to SET, 573 were published online in national media, and the remaining 109 in regional media.

Month	Number of messages about SET	National media	Regional media
October	102	62	40
November	275	238	37
December	305	273	32
Total	682	573	109

According to the number of mentions in media, the most active speakers during October-December 2013 were Dmytro Tabachnyk, Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine and Yevhen Sulima, First Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine.

Month	Number of messages about SET	Main Speakers of the period	
		Tabachnyk	Sulima
October	102	8	0
November	275	82	27
December	305	154	56
Total	682	244	83

**Orient teachers as advocates for testing culture and fair access to higher education.** During the reporting period, USETI Alliance representatives gave eight presentations on “Standardized Testing in the Secondary School System in the U.S.” and “Standardized Tests Used for Admission to U.S. Universities and Colleges” to the teachers at the Teacher Training Institute of Borys Hrinchenko Kyiv University. The events were attended by about 400 teachers going through their professional development program courses at the university. Among them were Kyiv school teachers of Math, English, Chemistry and History. The presentations appeared interesting to the audience, entailed quite a number of questions and may result in closer collaboration with certain schools.

**Extend reporting on testing and HEI admissions processes and issues through electronic listserv and social media.** During the reporting period three bulletins were published – for October, November and December 2013. The USETI Alliance bulletin illustrated the most important educational developments of the USETI Alliance. The USETI Alliance bulletins are available at the web-site [www.useti.org.ua](http://www.useti.org.ua).

Starting in July, the USETI Alliance has been developing a monthly electronic bulletin highlighting issues of importance as well as reports on monitoring of the testing and HEI admissions processes.

**Extend advocacy outreach to employers to promote fair access to higher education and testing-based HEI admissions.** In early January 2014, the USETI Alliance developed and distributed a quarterly Education & Business bulletin. Ukrainian employers received quarterly updates from the USETI Alliance on higher education access, quality, and connections between education, testing and the needs and trends of workforce development.

### 1.3 Variances from Work-plan

All items described below involve time shifts conditioned by factors largely external to USETI Alliance. Numbers refer to specific tasks in the USETI Alliance Workplan (see Annex 1). None of the issues described are critical, and require only shifts in project operational planning. The net effect of some shifts will be more programming during Y2 and possibly Y3, which may improve project value as a sustainability development tool for UCEQA, in particular.

### 1.4 Reports and Deliverables Completed and Submitted to USAID

Reports

- Updates on Project Activities sent to USAID.

### 2 Activities Completed

See attached chart of activities completed.

### 3 Upcoming Activities

The following activities are the major activities that will take place in Year 2/Quarter 3 of the project. *Not all upcoming activities are represented here.*

USETI Alliance Activities in Year 2/Quarter 1	Comment
Area 1: - Secure UCEQA capacity for item banking, test development, and test structure/content quality assurance - Study Tour to Poland	February-March 2014  February 2014
Area 2: - Facilitate new Law on Higher Education - Facilitate ancillary legislation - Validity Study development	January-March 2014 January-March 2014 January-March 2014
Area 3: - Newsletter on the reform to reach fair access to higher education for employers	January-March 2014

**USETI Legacy Alliance Year 1/Q4 - Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks**

Activities		End-of-project target
	Progress	
<b>Area 1: Strengthening institutional capacity of testing system elements and components</b>		
<b>Activity 1.1: Secure UCEQA capacity for item banking, test development and test structure/content quality assurance</b>		
1.1a Train UCEQA and RCEQA specialists in applied psychometrics	During two visits in October and December the consultant Zarko Vukmirovic assisted UCEQA with applied psychometrics.	UCEQA psychometricians trained in using psychometric methods and applications; increased psychometric capacity
1.1b Scale up UCEQA item piloting system	to be conducted in Y2.	UCEQA skilled at carrying out pilot tests within live tests
1.1c Roll out UCEQA calibrated item bank	During two visits in July and September Zarko Vukmirovic assisted UCEQA with calibrated item bank.	UCEQA calibrated item bank developed and works properly
1.1d Enhance Modern Foreign Language subject tests	In December the consultant Mike Fast worked with UCEQA MFL specialists.	UCEQA introduces audio component into the MFL tests
1.1e Advise UCEQA on advanced item development techniques	During their missions consultants Markus Broer (July), Mark Zelman, David Ziegler (September) advised UCEQA on advanced item development techniques.	UCEQA skilled in using the advanced item development techniques
1.1f Diversify UCEQA special needs testing capacity	to be conducted in Y2.	UCEQA received recommendations for special need test development based on international experience
<b>Activity 1.2: Establish UCEQA capacity for ancillary testing mechanisms and applications</b>		
1.2a Support rollout of the General Ability Test for HEI Admissions	During the EA-2014 Conference the GAT was discussed. Its development was reflected in the Conference Resolution. Also, Volodymyr Kovtunets supported development of the GAT within work on Draft Law on Higher Education.	The General Ability Test piloted on the experimental basis
1.2b Develop multi-level subject tests for HEI Admissions	During their missions consultants Algirdas Zabulionis (July) and Zarko Vukmirovic (July and September) assisted UCEQA with multi-level subject tests development.	UCEQA is capable to develop multi-level test on advanced level
1.2c Conceptualize Summative Assessment tools for HEIs	In November a working meeting on development of project on summative assessment for Bachelors degree in IT was held at National Technical University of Kyiv Polytechnic Institute.	HEIs begin using a standardized toolkit for bachelor degree students in additional disciplines as an academic experiment
<b>Activity 1.3 Enhance UCEQA staff development capacity</b>		
1.3a Synchronize UCEQA in-house training capacity with academic program in educational measurement	In Y1Q3 five guest lectures were conducted for the Master's Program students by consultants Christina Pendzola-Vitovych, David Ziegler and Mark Zelman.	Support of MA Program on Educational Measurement at the Dragomanov National Pedagogical University
1.3b Enable UCEQA staff development through international professional exchanges	to be conducted in Y1Q4.	UCEQA staff members introduced to American and European best practices in educational measurement/management
<b>Area 2: Establishing legislative and regulatory policy foundations for fair and objective university admission policy and practices</b>		
<b>Activity 2.1 Reform legislative foundations for fair access to higher education</b>		
2.1a Facilitate new Law on Higher Education	USETI Alliance within the working group directed by the Parliamentary Committee on Science&Education worked on facilitation of a new Law on Higher Education	New Higher Education Law passed securing testing and HEI autonomy

**USETI Legacy Alliance Year 1/Q4 - Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks**

Activities	Progress	End-of-project target
	Progress	
2.1b Facilitate ancillary legislation	In October and December two ELPEG meetings on the development of draft law on education were conducted (in cooperation with the Parliamentary Committee on Science & Education).	New Law on Education passed securing educational quality monitoring system
<b>Activity 2.2 Solidify reformed regulatory policy foundations for fair access to higher education</b>		
2.2a Conditions on Admission Advisory Platform	In September MOES published draft 2014 Conditions on HEIs Admission for public review.	Users of admission reform have body to serve as venue to influence reform
2.2b Strengthen Cooperation between MOESYS Public Council, HEIs, experts and Civil Society	USETI Alliance played a role of platform on the 2014 MOES Conditions on HEIs Admission.	Committee to assist MOES in development of education quality monitoring exists
<b>Activity 2.3 Institutionalize key practices in implementing reformed legislative and regulatory policy foundations for fair access to higher education</b>		
2.3a Build collaborative capacity for quality control by Policy Development Stakeholders	URU along with USETI Alliance continued gathering data for validity study.	Reliability and validity is ensured through external review
2.3b Facilitate implementation and compliance with new or reformed legislative and regulatory provisions	on demand basis.	Bylaws regulating equal access to higher education are accepted by state authorities
<b>Area 3: Transforming support for testing into a proactive contemporary public expectation</b>		
<b>Activity 3.1 Broaden public outreach competencies of teachers, testing organizers, and regional education officials on testing and HEI admissions issues</b>		
3.1a Orient teachers as advocates for testing culture and fair access to higher education	In Y1Q3 twelve guest lectures for Hrinchenko Universities were conducted by Yarema Bachynsky and Olena Kotsur.	Teachers and administrators in secondary schools use basics of educational assessment in classroom
3.1b Introduce UCEQA and RCEQA staff and regional education officials to advocacy techniques in public outreach	to be conducted in Y2Q1.	UCEQA, RCEQAs and regional officials respond to new challenges in a quick and proper ways
3.1c Extend advocacy outreach to employers to promote fair access to higher education and testing-based HEI admissions	In Y1Q4 the third issue of Education&Business Bulletin was developed and electronically distributed.	Ukrainian employers are familiar with the latest development of reform to reach fair access to higher education
<b>Activity 3.2 Institutionalize monitoring of and reporting on testing and HEI admissions processes and issues</b>		
3.2a Further develop public monitoring of test administration and university admissions	In July-September OPORA conducted the monitoring for 44 HEIs on admission campaign..	Monitoring of SET administration and HEIs admission positively influence public support
3.2b Integrate institutional non-GOU monitoring of the HEI admissions processes with GOU databases	During the reporting period CEP worked with Inforesurs (responsible for the work of Single State Data Base on Education) to coordinate work of both systems during the Admission campaign. Konkurs System worked properly during Admission campaign.	Integrate institutional non-GOU monitoring of the HEI admissions processes with GOU databases
3.2c Extend reporting on testing and HEI admissions processes and issues through electronic listserv and social media	In Y1Q4 three issues (October, November and December) of USETI Alliance bulletin were developed and electronically distributed.	Ukrainian educators are familiar with the latest development of reform to reach fair access to higher education
<b>Activity 3.3 Monitor and integrate public and expert opinion on testing and fair access to higher education</b>		
3.3.a Monitor media throughout project implementation	Media monitoring of period October-December was developed and distributed.	Stakeholders receive media monitoring regularly
3.3.b Conduct annual poll on testing and access to higher education in Ukraine	In October the National Poll was conducted and the results were published.	National Polls on external testing and admissions public opinion
3.3.c Conduct IV International Educational Assessment Conference	Conducted in Y1Q4.	Recommendations on implementing international standards to Ukrainian higher education system developed by the participants of the IV International Conference EA-2013
<b>Activity 3.4 Building the Alliance</b>		
3.4a Coordination meetings and outreach	In December the USETI Alliance partners meeting was conducted.	Alliance functioning is enhanced and membership and contributions are expanded

Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Chart

Expected Result	Performance Indicator	Methodology for Measurement			Baseline	Year 1				Year 2	Year 3	Target End of Y3	Notes
		Data Source	Collection	Responsible		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
<b>Area 1: Strengthening institutional capacity of testing system elements and components</b>													
<b>Activity 1.1 Secure UCEQA capacity for item banking, test development and test structure/content quality assurance</b>													
a. UCEQA psychometricians trained in using psychometric methods and applications; increased psychometric capacity	# of workshops in psychometrics	Workshops and consultant reports	quarterly	Area 1 leader & international consultants	-	-	-	2	3			7	During two visits in October and December, consultant Zarko Vukmirovic assisted UCEQA with applied psychometrics.
b. UCEQA skilled at carrying out pilot tests within live tests	UCEQA uses live tests for carrying out pilot tests	Consultant reports	quarterly	Area 1 leader & international consultants	No	No	No	No	No			Yes	To be conducted in Y2.
c. UCEQA calibrated item bank developed and works properly	Item Bank software procured and installed	Procurement of software	Annually	Area 1 leader & international consultants	No	No	No	No	No			Yes	UCEQA does not have software to optimize item bank.
	# of workshops in usage of IB software	Workshops and consultant reports	Quarterly		-	-	-	-	-			2	UCEQA will need to be trained in newly developed software.
d. UCEQA introduces audio component into the MFL tests	# of workshops MFL item & test development	Training and consultant reports	Semi-annually	Area 1 leader & international consultants	-	-	-	1	2			7	In December consultant Mike Fast worked with UCEQA MFL specialists.
	UCEQA introduces audio component into the MFL tests	Report	Annually		No	No	No	No	No			Yes	
e. Advanced item development techniques are used in SET	# of workshops in advanced item development techniques	Consultant reports	semi-annual	Area 1 leader & international consultants	-	-	-	1	1			6	During their missions, consultants Markus Broer (July), Mark Zelman, David Ziegler (September) advised UCEQA on advanced item development techniques.
f. UCEQA received recommendations for special need test development based on international experience	Tests for more categories of tests takers with special needs are offered	Training and consultant reports	semi-annual	Area 1 leader & international consultants	No	No	No	No	No			Yes	UCEQA needs to extend availability for special needs categories to take SET
<b>Activity 1.2 Establish UCEQA capacity for ancillary testing mechanisms and applications</b>													
a. The General Ability Test piloted on the experimental basis	# of workshops, conferences, RTs, etc.	Reports on roundtables, conference, workshops	Quarterly	Area 1 leader & international consultants	-	-	-	-	2			10	During the EA-2014 Conference, the GAT was heavily discussed. Its development was well represented in the Conference Resolution. Also, Volodymyr Kovtunets supported development of GAT as part of work on Draft Law on Higher Education.
	HEIs use GAT for admission purposes on an experimental basis	Reports	Semi-annually	Area 1 leader & international consultants Area 2 leader	No	No	No	No	No			Yes	

Expected Result	Performance Indicator	Methodology for Measurement			Baseline	Year 1				Year 2	Year 3	Target End of Y3	Notes
		Data Source	Collection	Responsible		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
b. UCEQA is capable to develop multi-level test on advanced level	# of workshops on multi-level test development	Consultant reports	Semi-annually	Area 1 leader & international consultants	-	-	-	1	1			4	During their missions, consultants Algirdas Zabulionis (July) and Zarko Vukmirovic (July and September) assisted UCEQA with multi-level subject tests development.
c. HEIs begin using a standardized toolkit for bachelor students in additional disciplines as an academic experiment	Concept developed	ELPEG meetings, Consultants reports	Semi-annually	Area 1 leader & international consultants Area 2 Leader	-	-	-	1	1			1	In November, a working meeting on the development of project on summative assessment of the Bachelor's degree in IT was held at National Technical University of Kyiv Polytechnic Institute.
	a standardized instrument for bachelor students as an academic experiment is used by HEI(s)	Report	Annually		No	No	No	No	No			Yes	
<b>Activity 1.3 Enhance UCEQA staff development capacity</b>													
a. Support of MA Program on Educational Measurement at the Dragomanov National Pedagogical University	# of guest lectures by USETI Consultants and UCEQA staff	UCEQA/ Consultants reports	Semi-annually	Area 1 leader & international consultants	-	-	-	5	10			18	In October, USETI Alliance consultant Zarko Vukmirovis gave five guest lectures for the Master's Program students.
b. UCEQA staff members introduced to American and European best practices in educational measurement/management	# of Study Tours	Study tour trips reports	Semi-annually	Area 1 leader & international consultants	-	-	-	-	2			4	Two Study Tour delegations to the U.S. were fielded in cooperation with the Open World Program.
<b>Area 2: Establishing legislative and regulatory policy foundations for fair and objective university admission policy practices</b>													
<b>Activity 2.1 Facilitate new Law on Higher Education</b>													
a. New Higher Education Law passed securing testing and HEI autonomy	Legislation securing testing and HEI autonomy is adopted	VR voting report	Annually	Area 2 leader	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 3	Stage 3			Stage 4	Stage 1 – Interested groups propose that legislation is needed on this issue; Stage 2 – Issue is introduced in the relevant legislative committee; Stage 3 – Legislation is drafted by relevant committee; Stage 4 – Legislation is debated by the legislature.
b. New Law on Education passed securing educational quality monitoring system	Legislation securing educational quality monitoring system is adopted	VR voting report	Annually	Area 2 leader	-	Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 1	Stage 1			Stage 4	Stage 1 – Interested groups propose that legislation is needed on this issue; Stage 2 – Issue is introduced in the relevant legislative committee; Stage 3 – Legislation is drafted by relevant committee; Stage 4 – Legislation is debated by the legislature.
<b>Activity 2.2 Solidify reformed regulatory policy foundations for fair access to higher education</b>													

Expected Result	Performance Indicator	Methodology for Measurement			Baseline	Year 1				Year 2	Year 3	Target End of Y3	Notes
		Data Source	Collection	Responsible		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
a. Users of admission reform have body to serve as venue to influence reform	Committee to influence admissions reform serves as a venue to influence admission reform	Minutes of Committee's meeting	Semi-annually	Area 2 leader	No	No	No	No	No			Yes	In September MOES published draft 2014 Conditions on HEIs Admission for public review.
b. Committee to assist MOES in development of education quality monitoring established and functioning	Committee to assist MOES in development of education quality monitoring makes recommendations regularly	Minutes of Committee's meeting	Semi-annually	Area 2 leader	No	No	No	No	No			Yes	USETI Alliance plays a role of platform on the 2014 MOES Conditions on HEIs Admission.
<b>Activity 2.3 Institutionalize key practices in implementing reformed legislative and regulatory policy foundations for fair access to higher education</b>													
a. Reliability and validity is ensured through external review	# of validity studies	Study	Annually	URU & Area 2 leader	2	2	2	2	2			5	In October-December the data gathering for the next validity study continued
b. Covered persons and institutions comply with legislative and regulatory provisions on equal access to higher education	# of recommendations on new regulations accepting equal access to higher education	Minutes of ELPEG meetings	Semi-annually	Area 2 leader	-	-	-	-	-			On demand	In June and September two ELPEG meetings on development of draft law on education were conducted (in cooperation with the Parliamentary Committee on Science & Education).
<b>Area 3: Transforming support for testing into a proactive contemporary public expectation</b>													
<b>Activity 3.1 Broaden public outreach competencies of teachers, testing organizers, and regional education officials on testing and HEI admissions issues</b>													
a. Teachers and administrators in secondary schools use basics of educational assessment in classroom	# of seminars with teachers and administrators of secondary school	Seminars reports	Quarterly	Area 1 leader, DPD	-	-	-	4	12			22	In Y1Q4 eight guest lectures for Hrinchenko University were conducted by Yarema Bachynsky and Olena Kotsur.
b. UCEQA, RCEQAs and regional officials respond to new challenges in a quick and proper ways	# of seminars	Seminars reports	Semi-annually	Pro.Mova, DPD	1	1	1	1	1			5	UCEQA/RCEQAs suffer from insufficient communications with the target groups
c. Ukrainian employers are familiar with the latest development of reform to reach fair access to higher education	# of Education & Business Bulletin	Bulletin	Quarterly	Alliance Dev't Advisor	-	-	-	2	3			11	In early January the third issue of the Education & Business Bulletin was developed and electronically distributed.
<b>Activity 3.2 Further develop public monitoring of test administration and university admissions</b>													
a. Monitoring of SET administration and HEIs admission positively influence public support	# of trainings for monitoring of test administrations	Training report	Annually	OPORA, DPD	-	-	1	1	1			3	In May a series of seminars for the monitors of the 2013 SET was conducted.
	Public monitoring of test administration procedures conducted properly	Monitoring reports	Annually	OPORA	-	-	1	1	1			3	In June OPORA conducted National Public Monitoring of administration of SET
	# of trainings for Admissions Committee monitoring	Training reports	Annually	OPORA, IRF	-	-	1	1	1			3	The training for the observers of HEIs admissions was conducted on June 30.
	Admission campaigns' monitoring conducted properly	Monitoring reports	Annually	OPORA	-	-	-	1	1			3	Conducted in Y1Q3.

Expected Result	Performance Indicator	Methodology for Measurement			Baseline	Year 1				Year 2	Year 3	Target End of Y3	Notes
		Data Source	Collection	Responsible		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4				
b. Integrate institutional non-GOU monitoring of the HEI admissions processes with GOU databases	# of data actualizations with SSDBE per day during HEIs admission campaign	Konkurs administrator reports	Annually	CEP, Area 2 leader	-	-	-	3	3			6	During the 2013 HEIs admission campaign Konkurs System was updated three times per day.
	Functionality of Konkurs System allows test-taker to recommend the optimal HEIs/specialization to enter according to their priorities identified	Konkurs administrator reports	Annually	CEP, Area 2 leader	No	No	No	No	No			Yes	The possibility of automatic recommendations for HEIs applicants will make the competition more organized
c. Ukrainian educators are familiar with the latest development of reform to reach fair access to higher education	# of USETI Alliance Bulletin	Bulletin	Quarterly	Area 3 leader	-	-	-	4	7			31	Three bulletin issues (for October, November and December) were developed and distributed during Y1Q4.
	# of Timo published	Timo journals	Monthly	TIMO Foundation - Publishing House "Fakt"	-	3	6	9	12			36	TIMO Journal publishes regularly.
<b>Activity 3.3 Monitor and integrate public and expert opinion on testing and fair access to higher education</b>													
a. Stakeholders receive media monitoring regularly	# of media monitoring and analysis	Reports on media monitoring & Analysis	Quarterly	Area 3 leader	-	-	2	3	4			11	The quarterly media monitoring for the period October-December was developed and distributed.
b. National Polls on external testing and admissions public opinion	# of National Polls conducted and analyzed	Reports	Annually	DIF	-	-	-	-	1			3	Conducted in October of Y1.
c. Recommendations on implementing international standards to Ukrainian higher education system developed according to the IV International Conference "EA-2013"	The Conference was conducted and recommendations on implementing standards were introduced	Conference report	Annually	Area 1 leader, UCEQA, URU, NAPSU	No	No	No	No	Yes			Yes	Conducted on October of Y1.
<b>Activity 3.4 Building the Alliance</b>													
a. Alliance functioning is enhanced and membership and contributions are expanded	# of meetings	Meetings reports	Semi-annually	Alliance Dev't Advisor, PD	-	-	1	2	3			11	The Alliance meeting was conducted in December of Y1.