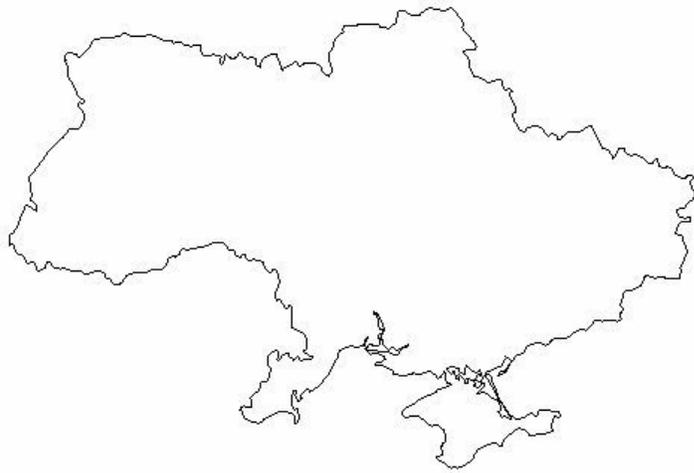


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***The Ukrainian Standardized External Testing
Initiative (USETI)
Quarterly Report
April -June 2007***



Submitted by:
American Institutes for Research

July 2007

U.S. Agency for International Development
Contract No. EDH-I-00-05-00027-01

**Millennium Challenge Corporation
Threshold Country Program
Ukraine**

**The Ukrainian Standardized External Testing Initiative (USETI)
Quarterly Report**

**Quarterly Report for USETI Quarter 1 (FY Quarter 3)
April-June 2007**

1. Summary

USETI is funded by USAID/Ukraine and implemented through USAID's ABE/BE. The Initiative addresses one of five components in the Government of Ukraine's Threshold Country Plan (TCP) approved for funding by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), combating corruption in higher education.

The USETI project commenced on April 16, 2007 with a contract to American Institutes for Research, with its partner American Councils for International Education. The focus of the project during the Quarter 1¹ was on project start-up activities, including initial introductory meetings with USAID, MCC, and the Government of Ukraine; preparing and submitting the project Workplan; developing the MCC TCP Implementation Plan; planning and holding the project launch event held June 22; planning for consultant missions and training workshops to be held throughout the project; and hiring staff and procuring equipment. Training in survey development and site visits to regional testing center also commenced.

The project's two-year Workplan was submitted to USAID as a deliverable (in draft and final form) during this quarter. USETI also submitted its communications strategy.

In Quarter 2 USETI staff will continue to work with the GOU to develop and finalize the MCC TCP Implementation Plan. It is anticipated that the plan will be presented to the MCC Board and accepted within this quarter. Also during this quarter project activities in support of all components of USETI will be implemented. Training workshops and site visits will be conducted for the Ukrainian Center for Education Quality Assessment (UCEQA) and the Regional Centers for Education Quality Assessment (RCEQA) to support test security, psychometrics and item banking, and the development of test preparation materials; surveys will be conducted to identify potential threats to security; the legislative development working group will be established; high-level round tables and trainings will be held to address the use of testing and monitoring of testing; stakeholders will attend an assessment conference in Azerbaijan to become exposed to international models for testing; and the university admissions policy reform group will be established.

Issues

1.1 Significant Events

1.1.1 Award and Introductory Meetings

USETI Award made by USAID. The American Institutes for Research (AIR) was informed of receipt of award for USETI on April 6, 2007. On April 9, 2007 AIR signed a contract with USAID, with a start date of April 16, 2007.

¹ This quarterly report is for the project's first quarter, which corresponds to FY Quarter 3 for MCC reporting.

COP/DCOP Introductory Meeting at USAID. COP Yarema Bachynsky and DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych met with Ellie Seats, MCC TCP Coordinator, and Tamara Palyvoda, CTO for USETI, on April 17, 2007 and discussed specific Implementation Plan issues regarding Component 5 of the MCC TCP.

USAID Post-award Meeting. The Post Award Meeting with the USAID Ukraine Mission was held on April 25, 2007. Jonathan Chappell, Regional Contracting Officer, represented USAID and Dana Kelly, AIR Project Manager, and Michael Williams, AIR International Development Program Director of Operations, represented AIR.

USAID Post Award Program Consultations. On April 25, 2007, COP Yarema Bachynsky and DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych, Dana Kelly, Michael Williams and Ann Domorad (American Councils, Director of Higher Education Programs) met with Ellie Seats and Tamara Palyvoda. AIR and American Councils were informed of the announcement of USETI procurement to the Government of Ukraine through the USAID mission, allowing for further direct contact between the project and GOU. Work Plan design and content were agreed upon with CTO Tamara Palyvoda.

Introduction of USETI / Meeting with UCEQA. On May 11, 2007 USAID MCC TCP Ukraine Senior Coordinator Ellie Seats, CTO Tamara Palyvoda, COP Yarema Bachynsky and DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych met with Director of the Ukrainian Center for Educational Quality Assessment (UCEQA), Ihor Likarchuk. Ellie Seats discussed the importance of USETI as Component 5 of the MCC TCP, underscoring the fact that the TCP is a joint effort of both the US and Ukrainian Governments and that responsibility for the project would be shared between both implementers and beneficiaries. The MCC TCP Working Group for Component 5 was also discussed. COP Yarema Bachynsky described the USETI SOW to Dr. Likarchuk. He also discussed with Mr. Likarchuk contents of the MCC Implementation Plan as well as the future visit of AIR colleagues and plans for a subsequent meeting.

1.1.2 MCC TCP Implementation Plan Development

MCC TCP COP Meeting at USAID. On April 11, 2007, COP Yarema Bachynsky and DCOP, Christina Pendzola-Vitovych attended the MCC TCP Chief of Party Meeting at USAID, where a general description of MCC TCP Implementation Plan procedures was presented.

Meeting with UCEQA on MCC Implementation Plan. On May 15, 2007 COP Yarema Bachynsky and DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych met with UCEQA Director Ihor Likarchuk to further discuss Implementation Plan issues and project work.

MCC TCP COP Meeting at USAID. On May 15, 2007, DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych represented USETI at the MCC TCP COP Meeting held at USAID. Ellie Seats described the process of approval of Implementation Plans by the MCC Executive Board and discussed reporting on Performance Indicators for the MCC TCP.

Consultations with USAID on MCC Implementation Plan. Also on May 21, 2007 Jeff Davis, Dana Kelly, Olivia Padilla (AIR), COP Yarema Bachynsky and DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych met with Ellie Seats and Tamara Palyvoda to further discuss MCC TCP issues and the content of the MCC Implementation Plan.

Consultations with UCEQA on MCC Implementation Plan—legislative development issues. On June 4, 2007 COP Yarema Bachynsky and USETI Legislative and Policy Specialist Dr. Volodymyr Kovtunets met with UCEQA Director Ihor Likarchuk to discuss the format of work on legislative and policy reform necessary for external testing. Also discussed were possible individuals to be included in the Legislative Reform Working Group and political issues which affected the project.

Consultations with MOES and UCEQA on Project Launch and MCC Implementation Plan. On June 13, 2007 COP Yarema Bachynsky, DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych, CTO Tamara Palyvoda and USETI Public Information Manager Vitaliy Yaniuik, together with UCEQA Director Ihor Likarchuk and

UCEQA First Deputy Director Vadym Karandiy met with Deputy Minister of Education and Science Cesar Ohon to discuss the project launch and the work of the MCC TCP Working Group for Component 5. The draft Implementation Plan that had been developed to date was shared with Deputy Minister Ohon' and CTO Tamara Palyvoda.

Consultations with USAID and MCC Secretariat on MCC Implementation Plan. On June 15, 2007, Ellis Seats, CTO Tamara Palyvoda, COP Yarema Bachynsky, and USETI Public Information Manager Vitaliy Yaniuk met with Andriy Palianytsia of the MCC Secretariat to discuss the draft Implementation Plan for Component 5.

1.1.3 Program Planning and Operations

Home Office Visit. Dana Kelly and Michael Williams from AIR and Ann Domorad from American Councils traveled to Kyiv April 23 through 27 for project start-up activities, including the post-award meeting with USAID, described above. Together with the COP, DCOP and USETI staff, AIR and AC colleagues began developing the project Workplan and MCC Implementation Plan.

Program and Operations Planning Visit to Ukraine by AIR Home Office and Consultant. Dana Kelly, AIR Project Manager and Olivia Odessa Padilla, AIR Project Associate traveled to Ukraine May 16 through 25, 2007. Jeff Davis, AIR Psychometrics Specialist and Steven Bakker, USETI Lead Consultant also traveled to Kyiv in this time.

USAID Meeting on First draft of USETI Workplan. CTO Tamara Palyvoda met with Dana Kelly, Olivia Odessa Padilla, COP Yarema Bachynsky and DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych to discuss the first draft of the project Workplan on May 17, 2007. Revisions were agreed upon.

USAID Meeting on Project Registration. On May 21, 2007, Dana Kelly, Olivia Padilla and COP Yarema Bachynsky met with representatives of the USAID Executive Office to discuss project registration requirements.

Marking and Branding. Olivia Padilla provided training for USETI staff May 16-25 on USAID branding and marking policies, worked with the staff on the communications strategy, and discussed the necessity for the project web-site to adhere to 508 Compliance.

Consultant Missions and Training Needs (with UCEQA).

May 22-24, Jeff Davis, Dana Kelly and Steven Bakker discussed consultant travel and trainings in the Workplan and mapped out consultant missions associated with specific tasks for the two years of the project.

On May 25, Jeff Davis, Dana Kelly, Olivia Padilla and DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych met with UCEQA Director Ihor Likarchuk and UCEQA Deputy Director for Analysis Leonid Sereda. Content and timing of trainings and the project launch were discussed.

On June 21, 2007, Jeff Davis, Olena Kotsur, USETI Testing Systems Development Manager and Nataliya Borodchuk, USETI Testing Systems Development Assistant met with UCEQA Director Ihor Likarchuk, UCEQA First Deputy Director Vadym Karandiy and UCEQA Deputy Director for Analysis Leonid Sereda to discuss content and timing of consultant visits and workshops planned for July, August and September.

USETI Communications Strategy.

Due to the amount of public information and media coverage intended in the project USETI staff met with USAID Ukraine Public Information Officer Roman Woronowycz and Public Information Assistant Olha Mertsalo on April 25, 2007 to discuss the content and creation of a communications plan for USETI.

On May 10, 2007 USETI Public Outreach staff met with Public Information Officer Roman Woronowycz to discuss drafting of the project's Communication Strategy. A draft of such a strategy was presented and discussed.

On May 29, 2007 USETI submitted its Communication Strategy to USAID.

Equipment Procurement. Furniture for USETI staff was ordered on May 23, 2007, including: 12 workstations (tables, chairs), 15 conference room chairs, one large conference table, 16 book cases and 1 closet. These were delivered and set up on June 12, 2007. On June 6, 2007 USETI purchased 12 computer stations, including licensed software, 1 lap top, 2 multi-media projectors, 2 screens, 1 fax, 1 printer, 1 digital audio recorder, 1 digital camera, 1 scanner, 12 telephones. A Xerox machine was also purchased on June 21, 2007. All technological equipment was set up on June 15, 2007.

Staffing. COP Yarema Bachynsky, DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych and USETI driver Volodymyr Punchak began work on April 16, 2007. On May 1, 2007 Volodymyr Kovtunets, Legislative and Government Relations Specialist, Tetiana Serhiyenko, Legislative and Government Relations Assistant, Inna Demchuk, Project Accountant, Tetiana Romanova, Web-Administrator, Natalia Borodchuk, Testing Systems Development Assistant and Tetiana Bovkun, Office Assistant were hired. Public Outreach Manager Vitaliy Yanyuk took up his post on May 4, 2007. On June 1, 2007 Olena Kotsur, Testing Systems Development Manager and Yulia Churakova, Public Outreach Assistant, joined the USETI staff.

1.1.4 Project Launch

On June 22, 2007 the USETI Project Launch was held at Ukrainian House. The launch commenced with a press conference where USAID Mission Director Earl Gast, Deputy Ministers for Education and Science Valentyn Teslenko and Cesar Ohon, UCEQA Director Ihor Likarchuk and COP Yarema Bachynsky spoke of the importance of the project for testing in Ukraine.

Janet Robb, Vice President, AIR; Jeff Davis, AIR Psychometrics Specialist; Dan Davidson, President, American Councils; David Patton, Vice President, American Councils; Ann Domorad, Director of Higher Education Programs, American Councils; Ellie Seats, USAID MCC TCP Ukraine Senior Coordinator; Judy Schumaker, Director of the USAID/Ukraine Program Office; Tamara Palyvoda, USETI USAID CTO; and other USAID representatives attended.

Directors of all nine RCEQAs, representatives of 4 USETI grantee partner organizations - DIF, TTC, EPC, and OPORA, as well as media consultants Alexandra Baklanova and Yevhen Hlibovytsky were present as well. Journalists from 14 different media outlets, including 4 TV channels as well as the Zerkalo Tyzhnia weekly newspaper, participated in the press conference (full media monitoring will be available at the end of July 2007 to include all launch-related or resulted broadcasts and publications).

The press conference was followed by a reception, where Dr. Vasyl Kremen, President of the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, Dr. Vil Bakirov, rector of Kharkiv State University, Mr. Yevhen Bystrytkyy, Executive Director of the International Renaissance Foundation (IRF), and Liliya Hrynevych, Head of the Kyiv City State Administration Department of Education and former director of the UCEQA, joined other invited guests (including the Deputy ministers and others named earlier) in greeting USETI and pledging useful cooperation with the project.

1.1.5 Project Component Activities

The following significant activities were conducted in support of USETI Components 1 and 2; activities in support of other components will commence in Quarter 2 of the project.

Component 1: Capacity Building in Testing Processes

Technical Assistance (TA) delivered – Assessment Site Visit to Vinnytsia RCEQA. On May 18, 2007, Dana Kelly, Olivia Odessa Padilla, DCOP Christina Pendzola-Vitovych, USETI Project Assistant Tetiana Bovkun and a translator, made a site visit to the Vinnytsia Regional Center for Educational Quality

Assessment (RCEQA). At the center, the USETI representatives discussed capacity and responsibilities of the center with the Director of the Vinnytsia RCEQA and with the Director of the Lviv RCEQA who was at the Vinnytsia center on business. The USETI representatives also had the opportunity to meet with the staff of the Vinnytsia RCEQA and review materials and web capabilities the center had developed.

Component 2: Security Procedures

Presentation to subaward partners on “Institutional Review Boards”. Also on May 21, Dana Kelly gave a presentation regarding Institutional Review Boards (IRB) to representatives of the two subawardees that will be involved in public surveys for the project: The Democratic Initiatives Foundation (DIF) and the Testing Technologies Center for Educational Assessment and Monitoring. The presentation was intended to introduce the organizations to IRB procedures and raise their awareness regarding confidentiality and US Federal Regulations regarding research involving human subjects. (*Also relevant for Component 4*)

Technical Assistance in Survey Development. June 25 through June 30, consultant Camrin Christensen traveled to Ukraine to support the development of customer satisfaction surveys by the Testing Technologies Center for Educational Monitoring and Assessment (TTC). The test taker survey tools and methodologies developed and administered by the TTC in May (not using USETI funds) formed the basis for the training.

1.2 Reports and Deliverables Completed and Submitted to USAID

Deliverables:

- Project Work Plan-Draft, submitted May 14, 2007
- Project Work Plan-Final, submitted June 14, 2007

Other Reports:

- Communications Strategy submitted May 29, 2007

1.3 Variances from Workplan

All items described below involve time shifts conditioned by factors completely or largely external to USETI. Numbers refer to specific tasks in the USETI Workplan (see Annex 1). Other than 1.0c none of the issues described are close to critical. Some are problems only in that they require shifts in project operational planning.

1.3.1 MCC TCP Implementation Plan approval delayed

1.0c Submit MCC TCP Implementation Plan for approval to USAID, MCC TCP Coordinator

It was anticipated that the final draft of the MCC TCP Implementation Plan would be submitted to the MCC TCP Coordinator no later than June 30, 2007. However, due to the inability to call a meeting of the MCC TCP Component 5 Working Group this was not possible. After meeting with Deputy Minister of Education and Science, Cesar Ohon, it has become clear that the individuals identified by the Ministry of Education and Science to participate in the working group were not informed of this. Of the three individuals who were assigned by the MOES only two are aware of their status and have been working with USETI in developing the Implementation Plan. The third member has not yet responded to invitations. The Implementation Plan is also still under revision based on comments and suggestions made by Andriy Palianytsia, consultant to the MCC Secretariat and it is expected that the plan will be completed by July 15 and approved no later than July 30, assuming the MCC Ukraine Board meets as intended by USAID.

1.3.2 Certain assessment and training activities shifted in time

1.1a Enhance roles and responsibilities of UCEQA and Regional Centers: 1. Site Visits

Site Visits were scheduled to begin in June and continue in July. Site visits actually began in May and will continue in July.

1.3b Train UCEQA IT Group in Data Analysis and Psychometrics: 2. Support Data Analysis and Reporting.

It was expected that USETI consultants would assist UCEQA's IT group in analyzing data of the 2007 testing session run by UCEQA in April of 2007, and assist in reporting data and scores in June and July. However, UCEQA ran analyses and produced score reports in May, independently.

2.4a Develop, administer and analyze customer satisfaction surveys: 5. Scorers surveyed

Because the scoring of exams for the 2007 session ended in May, rather than in June as originally expected, USETI was unable to prepare scorer surveys in time. It is expected that the scorer survey will be conducted in September.

1.3.3 Significant legislative development activities delayed due to dissolving of Parliament

3.1 b Draft Legislation on codifying Requirements for University Admissions: 3. Support amending existing laws.

The Parliament of Ukraine has been dismissed and therefore such support has not been possible. Support will begin in Q3 after Parliamentary elections are held on September 30, 2007.

3.2b Draft Legislation on Legal Sanctions for Security Violations: 3. Support amending existing laws.

The Parliament of Ukraine has been dismissed and therefore such support has not been possible. Support will begin in Q3 after Parliamentary elections are held on September 30, 2007.

3.2c Draft Legislation on Sustainable Funding for New Testing System: 3. Support amending existing laws.

The Parliament of Ukraine has been dismissed and therefore such support has not been possible. Support will begin in Q3 after Parliamentary elections are held on September 30, 2007.

2. Activities Completed

See attached Annex 1 for USETI activities, per Workplan, completed in Quarter 1 of the project.

3. Upcoming Activities

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

USETI Activities in Quarter 2	Date	Comment
Submission and approval of MCC TCP Implementation Plan	By July 31 (expected)	Submission of plan dependent on cooperation of Working Group and approval dependent on meeting of MCC Board
Component 1:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consultant missions on articulating the role of UCEQA and RCEQAs ▪ Workshop in standardized test administration ▪ Workshops on psychometrics and item banking 	<p>August</p> <p>September</p> <p>September</p>	
Component 2:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Workshops in security in test administration, 	September	

USETI Activities in Quarter 2	Date	Comment
Logistics and data management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Surveys of parents, teachers, proctors and scorers 	September	
Component 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legislative development working group eEstablished 	August	
Component 4: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ High-level round tables on use of testing (educators and GOU) ▪ Trainings for NGO representatives for monitoring testing system 	September September	
Component 5: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Site visits to prepare to assist UCEQA develop strategy for delivering materials directly to test takers 	July	
Component 6: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participation of stakeholders in assessment conference in Azerbaijan ▪ University Admissions Policy Reform Group established 	September August	

4. Results, Successes, and Monitoring/Measurement

Below are the indicators identified for results reporting to MCC for MCC TCP Component 5. In addition, Annex 2 shows progress towards project targets per the USETI project Workplan.

Expected result	Performance Indicator Name	Target	Baseline as of Jan '07	FY:	07	07	08	08	08	08	09	09	Notes
				Quarter	Q3*	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	
5. Student body prepared for standardized testing techniques	% test takers that received preparation materials directly	100%	10%	Target	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	60	N/A	N/A	N/A	Percentage of test takers that will receive test materials in each testing year. Distribution will take place in quarters preceding testing; reporting will be based on test takers as determined in Q3 when testing takes place. Estimated distributed in Q3 of 2009 which is beyond the project life is 100%.
				Actual	N/A								
5. Question bank developed and adequately populated	% of question bank developed and populated	100%	0	Target	N/A	N/A	20	40	50	77	89.5	100	Percentage based on life of project since bank is continuously populated even after project end.
				Actual	N/A								
5. Tests securely administered	# tests securely administered	1,500,000	82,000	Target	240,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	800,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	Testing takes place in FY Q3. Projected number of test takers in 2009, which is beyond the life of the project, is 1,500,000.
				Actual	247,000								

*corresponds to USETI project Quarter 1.

Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks

5. Funds Flow

Annex 3 contains the Quarter 1 financial invoice for USETI.

Obligations:

Allowances	Committed	Obligated	Accrued expenditures	Comment
\$44,970,000	\$13,820,000	\$13,820,000	\$497,085	No additional commitments until Implementation Plans approved.

Sub-obligations:

Implementing Partner	Component Number	Amount	Disbursements	Accruals
MSI	1			
Chemonics	2.1, 2.2, and 2.4			
Commercial Law Center	2.3, 2.5			
DOJ/OPDAT	3			
DOJ/ICITAP	4.1			
Booz Allen Hamilton	4.2			
AIR	5			

6. Annexes

- Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks
- Annex 2: Status of Overall Project Progress
- Annex 3: Quarterly Financial Invoice

Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks

USETI Quarter 1 Report - Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks						
Expected Result	Activities	Year 1: 2007-2008				End-of-project target
		Q1			Notes	
		Apr	May	Jun		
Approval of MCC-TCP Implementation plan for TCP Component 5						
1.0a TCP Component 5 Working group meetings						MCC-TCP Implementation plan approved by TCP Executive Board and MCC
1. Regular meetings with TCP Working Group		x	x		Regular meetings were held with 3 of 4 members.	
1.0b Draft TCP Implementation plan						
1. USETI drafts initial document		x			Initial documents drafted and revised, further revisions necessary.	
2. Working Group makes recommendations and revisions		x	x		Recommendations and revisions ongoing.	
1.0c Submit plan for approval to USAID, MCC TCP Coordinator						
1. Submit first draft for comments		x			First draft was submitted, further revision necessary.	
2. Submit final draft for approval			x		Final draft expected to be submitted by July 15.	
Component 1: Build the capacity of UCEQA and regional testing centers to develop, implement and conduct standardized tests						
Activity 1.1: Support MOES in organizational development of UCEQA and regional test centers						
1.1a Articulate roles & responsibilities of UCEQA & regional test centers						Roles and responsibilities of UCEQA and regional centers established, with standardized procedures
1. Site visits to UCEQA and regional centers			x		Site visits began in May and will continue in July and August.	
2. Situation analysis and report					To begin in Q2.	
3. Hold workshops with UCEQA and RC's					To begin in Q2.	
4. Study tour to Poland					Scheduled for Q3.	
Activity 1.2: Support UCEQA in establishing a working group of test developers including representatives from universities and secondary schools						
1.2a Establish UCEQA working group of test developers in all subject areas						Working groups established in sufficient numbers, with TORs
1. Site visits to UCEQA and regional centers					Site visits began in May and will continue in July and August.	
2. Situation analysis and report					To begin in Q2.	
3. Develop test development working group guidelines which clearly establish composition and member responsibilities					To begin in Q3.	
Activity 1.3: Train UCEQA in appropriate test development, testing and psychometric methodologies (also see component 2 on test security)						
1.3a UCEQA working group of test developers trained in test development						Independent capacity of UCEQA test developers in test construction, including use of modern psychometrics
1. Test Development workshops					To begin in Q3.	
2. Support construction of tests in all subjects					To begin in Q3.	
1.3b Train UCEQA IT group in data analysis & psychometrics						(calibration, scaling & equating)
1. Hold workshop in psychometrics for data analysts					To begin in Q2.	
2. Support data analysis and reporting			x		Rescheduled to begin in Q2.	
1.3c Establish UCEQA item bank & develop management system						Functional system of item banking managed by UCEQA staff
1. Workshop on item banking models					To begin in Q2.	
2. Develop and support item banking					To begin in Q2.	
1.3d Train UCEQA & regional centers in logistics & test administration to handle major expansion						Independent capacity of UCEQA to handle logistics & test administration of expanded operations
1. Hold workshops in standardized test administration					To begin in Q2.	
2. Advise on test administration					To begin in Q2.	
3. Develop proctor training video					To begin in Q4.	
1.3e Train UCEQA in scoring objective & open-ended items & score reporting						Independent capacity of UCEQA to handle scoring & score reporting for a large volume of tests & test takers
1. Workshop on scoring training procedures					To begin in Q4.	
2. Workshop on scoring procedures					To begin in Q4.	

Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks

Activity 1.4: Create capacity within UCEQA to deliver training in test development, testing and psychometrics in the future						
1.4a Develop UCEQA procedures & materials for test development, administration, scoring, analysis & reporting						Capacity & materials exists within UCEQA for delivering training & sustaining operations for all subjects & expanded testing
	1. Support Test Development Manual				To begin in Q2.	
	2. Support Item Writing Manual				To begin in Q2.	
	3. Support Test Administration Manual				To begin in Q2.	
	4. Support Test Scoring, Analysis Manual				To begin in Q2.	
Activity 1.5: With MOES and UCEQA, establish partnerships with 2-3 leading pedagogical universities and develop graduate curriculum in psychometrics						
1.5a Establish working group & hold meetings for developing graduate curriculum in psychometrics						Group of decision makers formed for developing action plan to implement graduate program in psychometrics
	1. Establish Working Group in developing an MA program in psychometrics				To begin in Q3.	
	2. Hold workshop on development of MA program in psychometrics				To begin in Q3.	
1.5b Action plan & development of graduate level curriculum in psychometrics for universities						Action plan & curriculum for implementing a psychometrics program developed
	1. Work on Action Plan				To begin in Q3.	
	2. Universities identified				To begin in Q3.	
Component 2: Establish effective security systems for all testing processes						
Activity 2.1: Strengthen system protecting identity of test takers and testing processes including results data storage						
2.1a Introduce UCEQA to international methods of test security						Exposure of UCEQA staff to internationally-used methods of test security
	1. Hold workshops in data management, use of multiple test forms, etc. for test security				To begin in Q3.	
2.1b Train UCEQA in security of testing operations						Systems created for test security with logistics & administration procedures, psychometrics, and IT data management
	1. Workshops on test security in logistics, administration and data management				To Begin in Q2.	
	2. Support use of systems for test security				To begin in Q4.	
2.1c Enhance system protecting identity of test takers						Improved and reliable systems implemented and maintained by UCEQA IT group for protecting identity of test takers
	1. Review current system to protect identity of test takers				To begin in Q3.	
	2. Propose revisions to system protecting identity				To begin in Q3.	
	3. Workshop on implementing a secure system to protect identity				To begin in Q3.	
Activity 2.2: Install surveillance cameras inside test centers						
2.2a Implement pilot for selective use of mobile surveillance cameras inside test sites						Mobile surveillance cameras will be piloted inside selected test sites
	1. Develop plan for pilot				To begin in Q4.	
	2. Procure cameras				To begin in Q4.	
	3. Train RC staff in installation and use				To begin in Q4.	
	4. Install pilot security equipment in test facilities				To begin in Q4.	
Activity 2.3: Install electronic monitors inside printing facilities and outside test sites for external public oversight of testing process						
2.3a Adopt and implement system for secure printing of test booklets						Public will have direct access to viewing inside test printing facilities via cameras, videotaping & monitors
	1. Review of current printing facilities				To begin in Q3.	
	2. Make recommendations on increasing security				To begin in Q3.	
	3. Train UCEQA staff in secure printing methods				To begin in Q3.	

Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks

2.3b Implement system for secure test centers through outside viewing									Public will have direct access to
	1. Analyze security of outside viewing								outside viewing of testing inside
	2. Make recommendations on use of outside viewing								centers
Activity 2.4: Develop and administer customer satisfaction surveys of test takers and their parents									
2.4a Develop, administer and analyze customer satisfaction surveys									Customer satisfaction surveys
	1. Develop/revise customer satisfaction surveys			x	x				conducted & analyzed
	2. Survey test takers			x	x				
	3. Survey parents and teachers								
	4. Survey public								
	5. Survey scorers					x			
	6. Survey proctors								
2.4b Train local NGOs in developing & administering customer satisfaction surveys to students, parents & teachers									Increased capacity of NGOs to
	1. On the ground training of TTC in survey development and analysis					x			develop, conduct & analyze customer
	2. Remote training of development and analysis			x	x	x			satisfaction surveys across expanded
Consultant Camrin Christensen had worked with TTC via e-mail. testing program									
Component 3: Develop legal and normative bases necessary for effective functioning of external testing and university admissions									
Activity 3.1: Draft amendments to existing laws and normative acts codifying requirements for university admissions									
3.1a Establish working group on higher education, comprised of parliamentarians, educators, NGO's and other stakeholders									Working group on higher education for
	1. Create working group (with IRF and UCEQA reps)					x			codifying requirements for university
	2. Hold group meetings on legal issues								admissions established and holding
	3. Hold workshops on legal issues relating to testing and admissions								meetings
3.1b Draft legislation on codifying requirements for university admissions									Legislation drafted and ready for
	1. Analyze current acts					x			adoption by parliament
	2. Support follow-up to stakeholders on legal issues			x	x				
	3. Support amending existing laws and normative acts								
3.2a Draft legislation to protect intellectual property of UCEQA									Legislation drafted and ready for
	1. Analyze current acts					x			adoption by parliament
	2. Support follow-up to stakeholders on legal issues			x	x				
	3. Support amending existing laws and normative acts								
3.2b Draft legislation on legal sanctions for security violations									Legislation drafted and ready for
	1. Analyze current acts					x			adoption by parliament
	2. Support follow-up to stakeholders on legal issues			x	x				
	3. Support amending existing laws and normative acts								
3.2c Draft legislation on sustainable funding for new testing system									Legislation drafted and ready for
	1. Analyze current acts					x			adoption by parliament
	2. Support follow-up to stakeholders on legal issues			x	x				
	3. Support amending existing laws and normative acts								

Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks

Component 4: Increase public support for external standardized testing as means of combating corruption associated with admissions						
Activity 4.1: Inform and educate media about the performance of USETI						
4.1a Conduct nationwide media campaigns - ongoing						
	1. USETI Kick-off event			x	Project launch held June 22, 2007.	Through regular monitoring and contacts with the media the public is well informed about testing issues.
	2. Message development			x	Development of specific messages for project has begun and continues.	
	3. Media monitoring		x	x	Monitoring takes place regularly and monthly reports available.	
	4. Trouble-shooting		x	x	Regular trouble-shooting.	
4.1b Improve, expand and make available Informational materials from UCEQA						
	1. Review existing material			x	Initial review of web-site and hand-outs has begun and continues.	Improved & expanded informational materials available; website created & visited
	2. Recommend changes to existing material				To begin Q2.	
	3. Print revised material in limited quantity				To begin Q4.	
	4. Develop newsletter for test takers and parents (on-line and printed for rural areas)				To begin Q2.	
	5. Produce newsletter for test takers (on-line and print for rural areas)				To begin Q3.	
	6. Training for UCEQA and RC PR staff				To begin Q3.	
4.1c Train media on educational testing issues, anti-corruption strategies & role of public monitoring						
	1. One day trainings in Kyiv for media representatives from each region				To begin Q3.	Key media representatives trained & regularly reporting on results from testing initiatives
Activity 4.2: Develop and conduct press and outreach campaigns focused on positive anti-corruption messages						
4.2a Guide educators & GOU officials to become public advocates for external testing as a criterion for university admissions						
	1. High level Round Tables				To begin Q2.	Advocacy and regular working group meetings to help forge consensus on key issues regarding testing
	2. Annual university regional round tables				To begin Q3.	
	3. Media coverage of events					
4.2b Produce and assure airing of informational videos on testing						
	1. Produce informational video				To begin Q3.	Wide availability of media products leading to public understanding of link between testing & anti-corruption
	2. Information video finished and aired				To begin Q4.	
	3. Produce Public Service Announcement (PSA)				To begin Q3.	
	4. PSA produced and aired				To begin Q4.	
Activity 4.3: Increase media coverage of and public discussion about the need for and ways to mitigate corrupt practices in university admissions						
4.3a Train NGO representatives in public monitoring of testing process; conducting monitoring						
	1. Train one representative from each administrative region				To begin Q2.	NGO representatives trained on conducting public monitoring of testing and conducting further training and monitoring
	2. NGO trains regional representatives in each region				To begin Q2.	
4.3b Train facilitators in holding town meetings on external testing for university admissions; conducting meetings						
	1. Training workshop for facilitators				To begin Q3.	Facilitators training on holding town meetings about linkages between external testing and anti -corruption and holding Town Meetings to educate
	2. Town meetings				To begin Q3.	

Annex 1: Status of Activities of Tasks

Component 5: Ensure equitable access to test preparation						
Activity 5.1: Develop and make available test training courses and training materials at an affordable cost; create revenue generating model for UCEQA						
5.1a Make available test preparation materials developed to test-takers directly (incl. internet) & via schools						UCEQA-developed enhanced materials for all subjects and made available to each registered test-taker (directly & via schools)
	1. Site visits to prepare to assist UCEQA develop strategy for delivering materials directly to test takers				To begin Q2.	
	2. Conduct workshop to develop strategy and test preparation materials				To begin Q4.	
	3. Support creation of test preparation materials and guides				To begin Q4.	
5.1b Develop model for producing & distributing other test preparation materials under UCEQA licensing; model designed to generate revenue for UCEQA						UCEQA-led system of licensing developed, with provisions for test item release & guidelines for production of quality materials; system to generate revenue
	1. Working group developed in developing materials and model				To begin Q3.	
	2. Model developed for UCEQA licensing				To begin Y2:Q4.	
	3. Model developed for revenue generation				To begin Y2: Q4.	
5.1c Develop plan for providing test preparation training and training courses for use in 25 UCEQA educational training centers						Plan and guidelines developed for using 30 UCEQA educational training centers to provide test preparation courses & materials to test-takers
	1. Model developed				To begin Q3.	
	2. Trainings developed				To begin Q3.	
	3. Training of UCEQA staff in carrying out training				To begin Q4.	
	4. Revisions made if necessary				To begin Y2:Q3.	
Component 6: Begin elaboration and lay groundwork for establishing of transparent and equitable university admissions procedures						
Activity 6.1: Plan for reforming university admission process elaborating all aspects of process, e.g., collection and ranking of test scores, other criteria, appeals						
6.1a Introduce stakeholders to a variety of international models for higher ed.admissions						Stakeholders have a clear view of various models for student admissions & understand the advantages & disadvantages of these alternative systems
	1. High level Round Tables				To begin Q2.	
	2. Annual university Regional round tables				To begin Q3.	
	3. Stakeholder participation in assessment conference in Azerbaijan				To begin Q2.	
	4. Study tour to United States				To begin Q3.	
6.1b Establish working group of stakeholders to propose new strategies						Working group is formulated that will address new admissions process & role of testing
	1. Establish working group				To begin Q2.	
	2. Working group meetings				To begin Q2.	
	3. Support development of policy on admissions procedures				To begin Q2.	
6.1c Stakeholders develop admissions reform criteria that incorporates test scores						Stakeholders use international information, adapted to local context, to develop a strategy for Ukrainian higher ed.
	1. Solicit priorities from Universities				To begin Q3.	
	2. Working group recommends criteria for admissions reform				To begin Q4.	
Activity 6.2: Develop strategy for management of admissions process, including admissions committees, their roles, and accountability mechanisms						
6.2a Stakeholders develop admissions reform strategy that incorporates test scores						Stakeholders use international information to develop an operational management plan for higher ed. in Ukraine
	1. Working Group makes recommendations based on new strategy				To begin Y2:Q2.	
	2. Recommendations from Working Group presented to Universities				To begin Y2:Q3.	
6.2b Conduct symposium on strategy, implementation & management of new university admission procedures						Strategic & operational plans presented to a wider circle of stakeholders & amended
	1. Policy developed by Working Group				To begin Y2:Q3.	
	2. Hold Symposium to present proposed policy				To begin Y2:Q3.	

Annex 2: Status of Overall Project Status

USETI Quarter 1 Report - Annex 2: Status of Overall Project Progress			
Expected Result	Activities	Progress	End-of-project target
Approval of MCC-TCP Implementation plan for TCP Component 5			
1.0a TCP Component 5 Working group meetings		Meetings continue.	MCC-TCP Implementation plan approved by TCP Executive Board and MCC
1.0b Draft TCP Implementation plan		Revisions continue.	
1.0c Submit plan for approval to USAID, MCC TCP Coordinator		Revised plan to be submitted.	
Component 1: Build the capacity of UCEQA and regional testing centers to develop, implement and conduct standardized tests			
Activity 1.1: Support MOES in organizational development of UCEQA and regional test centers			
1.1a Articulate roles & responsibilities of UCEQA & regional test centers		Assessment of sites begun.	Roles and responsibilities of UCEQA and regional centers established, with standardized procedures
Activity 1.2: Support UCEQA in establishing a working group of test developers including representatives from universities and secondary schools			
1.2a Establish UCEQA working group of test developers in all subject areas		Assessment of capacity begun.	Working groups established in sufficient numbers, with TORs
Activity 1.3: Train UCEQA in appropriate test development, testing and psychometric methodologies (also see component 2 on test security)			
1.3a UCEQA working group of test developers trained in test development		To begin in Q3.	Independent capacity of UCEQA test developers in test construction, including use of modern psychometrics (calibration, scaling & equating)
1.3b Train UCEQA IT group in data analysis & psychometrics		To begin Q2.	
1.3c Establish UCEQA item bank & develop management system		To begin Q2.	Functional system of item banking managed by UCEQA staff
1.3d Train UCEQA & regional centers in logistics & test administration to handle major expansion		To begin in Q2.	Independent capacity of UCEQA to handle logistics & test administration of expanded operations
1.3e Train UCEQA in scoring objective & open-ended items & score reporting		To begin in Q4.	Independent capacity of UCEQA to handle scoring & score reporting for a large volume of tests & test takers
Activity 1.4: Create capacity within UCEQA to deliver training in test development, testing and psychometrics in the future			
1.4a Develop UCEQA procedures & materials for test development, administration, scoring, analysis & reporting		To begin in Q2.	Capacity & materials exists within UCEQA for delivering training & sustaining operations for all subjects & expanded testing
Activity 1.5: With MOES and UCEQA, establish partnerships with 2-3 leading pedagogical universities and develop graduate curriculum in psychometrics			
1.5a Establish working group & hold meetings for developing graduate curriculum in psychometrics		To begin in Q3.	Group of decision makers formed for developing action plan to implement graduate program in psychometrics
1.5b Action plan & development of graduate level curriculum in psychometrics for universities		To begin in Q3.	Action plan & curriculum for implementing a psychometrics program developed
Component 2: Establish effective security systems for all testing processes			
Activity 2.1: Strengthen system protecting identity of test takers and testing processes including results data storage			
2.1a Introduce UCEQA to international methods of test security		To begin in Q3.	Exposure of UCEQA staff to internationally-used methods of test security
2.1b Train UCEQA in security of testing operations		To begin in Q2.	Systems created for test security with logistics & administration procedures, psychometrics, and IT data management
2.1c Enhance system protecting identity of test takers		To begin in Q3.	Improved and reliable systems implemented and maintained by UCEQA IT group for protecting identity of test takers

Annex 2: Status of Overall Project Status

Activity 2.2: Install surveillance cameras inside test centers		
2.2a Implement pilot for selective use of mobile surveillance cameras inside test sites	To begin in Q4.	Mobile surveillance cameras will be piloted inside selected test sites
Activity 2.3: Install electronic monitors inside printing facilities and outside test sites for external public oversight of testing process		
2.3a Adopt and implement system for secure printing of test booklets	To begin in Q3.	Public will have direct access to viewing inside test printing facilities via cameras, videotaping & monitors
2.3b Implement system for secure test centers through outside viewing	To begin in Q3.	Public will have direct access to outside viewing of testing inside centers
Activity 2.4: Develop and administer customer satisfaction surveys of test takers and their parents		
2.4a Develop, administer and analyze customer satisfaction surveys	First surveys developed and conducted.	Customer satisfaction surveys conducted & analyzed
2.4b Train local NGOs in developing & administering customer satisfaction surveys to students, parents & teachers	First training completed.	Increased capacity of NGOs to develop, conduct & analyze customer satisfaction surveys across expanded testing program
Component 3: Develop legal and normative bases necessary for effective functioning of external testing and university admissions		
Activity 3.1: Draft amendments to existing laws and normative acts codifying requirements for university admissions		
3.1a Establish working group on higher education, comprised of parliamentarians, educators, NGO's and other stakeholders	Initial meetings need further follow on.	Working group on higher education for codifying requirements for university admissions established and holding meetings
3.1b Draft legislation on codifying requirements for university admissions	Analysis and engagement has begun.	Legislation drafted and ready for adoption by parliament
3.2a Draft legislation to protect intellectual property of UCEQA	Analysis and engagement has begun.	
3.2b Draft legislation on legal sanctions for security violations	Analysis and engagement has begun.	Legislation drafted and ready for adoption by parliament
3.2c Draft legislation on sustainable funding for new testing system	Analysis and engagement has begun.	Legislation drafted and ready for adoption by parliament
Component 4: Increase public support for external standardized testing as means of combating corruption associated with admissions		
Activity 4.1: Inform and educate media about the performance of USETI		
4.1a Conduct nationwide media campaigns - ongoing	Launch held and message development begun.	Through regular monitoring and contacts with the media the public is well informed about testing issues.
4.1b Improve, expand and make available Informational materials from UCEQA	Review of existing materials underway.	Improved & expanded informational materials available; website created & visited
4.1c Train media on educational testing issues, anti-corruption strategies & role of public monitoring	To begin Q3.	Key media representatives trained & regularly reporting on results from testing initiatives
Activity 4.2: Develop and conduct press and outreach campaigns focused on positive anti-corruption messages		
4.2a Guide educators & GOU officials to become public advocates for external testing as a criterion for university admissions	To begin Q2.	Advocacy and regular working group meetings to help forge consensus on key issues regarding testing
4.2b Produce and assure airing of informational videos on testing	To begin Q3.	Wide availability of media products leading to public understanding of link between testing & anti-corruption
Activity 4.3: Increase media coverage of and public discussion about the need for and ways to mitigate corrupt practices in university admissions		
4.3a Train NGO representatives in public monitoring of testing process; conducting monitoring	To begin Q2.	NGO representatives trained on conducting public monitoring of testing and conducting further training and monitoring
4.3b Train facilitators in holding town meetings on external testing for university admissions; conducting meetings	To begin Q3.	Facilitators training on holding town meetings about linkages between external testing and anti -corruption and holding Town Meetings to educate test takers and public

Annex 2: Status of Overall Project Status

Component 5: Ensure equitable access to test preparation		
Activity 5.1: Develop and make available test training courses and training materials at an affordable cost; create revenue generating model for UCEQA		
5.1a Make available test preparation materials developed to test-takers directly (incl. internet) & via schools	To begin Q2.	UCEQA-developed enhanced materials for all subjects and made available to each registered test-taker (directly & via schools)
5.1b Develop model for producing & distributing other test preparation materials under UCEQA licensing; model designed to generate revenue for UCEQA	To begin Q3.	UCEQA-led system of licensing developed, with provisions for test item release & guidelines for production of quality materials; system to generate revenue
5.1c Develop plan for providing test preparation training and training courses for use in 25 UCEQA educational training centers	To begin Q3.	Plan and guidelines developed for using 30 UCEQA educational training centers to provide test preparation courses & materials to test-takers
Component 6: Begin elaboration and lay groundwork for establishing of transparent and equitable university admissions procedures		
Activity 6.1: Plan for reforming university admission process elaborating all aspects of process, e.g., collection and ranking of test scores, other criteria, appeals		
6.1a Introduce stakeholders to a variety of international models for higher ed.admissions	To begin Q2.	Stakeholders have a clear view of various models for student admissions & understand the advantages & disadvantages of these alternative systems
6.1b Establish working group of stakeholders to propose new strategies	To begin Q2.	Working group is formulated that will address new admissions process & role of testing
6.1c Stakeholders develop admissions reform criteria that incorporates test scores	To begin Q3.	Stakeholders use international information, adapted to local context, to develop a strategy for Ukrainian higher ed.
Activity 6.2: Develop strategy for management of admissions process, including admissions committees, their roles, and accountability mechanisms		
6.2a Stakeholders develop admissions reform strategy that incorporates test scores	To begin Y2.	Stakeholders use international information to develop an operational management plan for higher ed. in Ukraine
6.2b Conduct symposium on strategy, implementation & management of new university admission procedures	To begin Y2.	Strategic & operational plans presented to a wider circle of stakeholders & amended

Annex 3: Financial Quarterly Report

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