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ACTION PLAN FOR THE PERIOD FROM THE 2 <sup>ND</sup> HALF OF 2019 TO 2020, DERIVING FROM THE 2019-2020 STRATEGY FOR JUDICIAL AND LEGAL REFORMS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA							
<b>Goal 2. Establish real democracy and strengthen the rule of law by applying the transitional justice toolkit</b>							
<b>Strategic Direction:</b> Elaborate the draft Law “On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission” (upon necessity, a package of draft laws) and submit it to the NA							
<b>Action 1.</b> Elaborate the Law “On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission” (upon necessity, a package of draft laws)							
<b>Outcome of Action 1.</b> The draft Law “On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission” (upon necessity, the package of draft laws) is submitted to the NA and incorporates the regulations set forth under this Strategy.							
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Elaboration of the Draft the Law “On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission” (upon necessity, the package of draft laws).	The RA Ministry of Justice	Number one precondition for ensuring the efficiency of the Fact-Finding Commission within the frameworks of applying the transitional justice toolkit is availability of a clear regulation on the procedure of its formation and mandate, developed through	The Draft Law “On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission” (upon necessity, the package of draft laws) is elaborated.	The Draft Law “On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission” (upon necessity, the package of draft laws) is discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, approved by the Government and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law “On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission” (upon necessity, the package of draft laws) is submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law “On the Procedure of Forming and the Activity of the Fact-Finding Commission” (upon necessity, the package of draft laws) is submitted to the RA NA, and it incorporates all the regulations, provided for under this Strategy.	No funding required

		assessment of all the interests and the risks.					
<b>Goal 3. Implementing Constitutional Reforms</b> <b>Strategic Direction:</b> Setting up the Constitutional Reform Commission							
<b>Action 1.</b> Elaborate and adopt a document defining the composition and the rules of procedure (the procedure of formation) of the Constitutional Reform Commission and formation of the Commission <b>Outcome of Action 1.</b> The document prescribing the composition and the Operations Procedure of the Constitutional Reform Commission is adopted, the Constitutional Reform Commission is set up and develops the draft constitutional reforms							
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Elaborate and adopt a document defining the composition and the rules of procedure (the procedure of formation) of the Constitutional Reform Commission	The RA Ministry of Justice  Office of the Prime Minister	There are serious concerns that the members of the Professional Commission for Constitutional Reforms adjunct to the RA President, having elaborated the previous draft constitutional amendments, have acted in conditions of conflict of interests, and the Constitutional Referendum did not comply with the international standards for referendum. Besides, there are a	The draft procedure for setting up the Commission is developed and published, which envisages proper mechanisms for election of a member of the Commission and is subject to approval by the Government.	The draft procedure for setting up the Commission is discussed with interested bodies and the civil society; it is adopted and the Commission is set up.	The procedure for formation of the Commission is adopted, the Commission is set up.	The Constitutional Reform Commission is set up, and it elaborates the constitutional reforms package.	Sources not prohibited by law.

		<p>number of regulations under the Constitution, which need to be reviewed. There are a number of gaps, which, due to subjective or objective factors, distort the principle of the rule of law, at the establishment and strengthening of which the initiation of amendments to the Constitution has been aimed.</p> <p>A need has arisen for ensuring the proper and normal functioning of the Constitutional Court, for making clear the procedure on election and appointment of the judges of the Constitutional Court, holding them administratively liable, termination of their powers, appealing against decisions of the Supreme Judicial Council.</p>					
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<b>Goal 4. Reform of the electoral legislation</b>							
<b>Strategic Direction:</b> Elaborating the Draft Law on Making Amendments and Supplements to the RA Electoral Code							
<b>Action 1.</b> Elaborate the package of amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code							
<b>Outcome of Action1.</b> The draft Law "On Making Amendments and Supplements to the RA Electoral Code" is elaborated and published, which ensures the implementation of relevant goals enshrined under the Strategy							
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Elaborate the package of amendments and supplements for the RA Electoral Code	The RA Ministry of Justice	Following the snap elections of the RA National Assembly, as of December 9, 2018, being evaluated as really and truly free and fair, it is necessary that the electoral legislation provides for such mechanisms that will put the achievements enshrined through the aforementioned elections, i.e. the trust among the public in the elections, the legitimacy of the authorities elected, as well as the confidence in the fairness of the electoral process in the		The draft Law on making amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code is elaborated and published the draft Law on making amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code is discussed with interested bodies and the civil society and approved by the RA Government.	The package of amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code is sent to the NA.	The draft package of amendments and supplements to the RA Electoral Code and the package of related drafts are elaborate, submitted to the RA NA and ensures the implementation of the goals enshrine under the Strategy.	Sources not prohibited by law.



		perception of the public, on the legislative basis.					
<b>Goal 5. Strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary</b> <b>Strategic Directions:</b> <b>Improvement of the procedure for qualification checks for the incumbents of judge candidates</b> <b>Improvement of the process of adoption of decisions by the Supreme Judicial Council, ensuring transparency and reasonableness thereof</b>							
<b>Action 1.</b> Introduce a new procedure for qualification checks for the incumbents of judge candidates in compliance with the international standards, which should, inter alia, set forth the following: 1. Improve the legislative regulations regarding the qualification checks of the incumbents of judge candidates; 2. Ensure the transparency of the qualification check processes of the incumbents of judge candidates. <b>Outcome of Action 1.</b> The new procedure for the qualification checks of the incumbents of judge candidates is introduced, the incumbents of judge candidates are selected by more transparent procedures, the mechanism for appealing the results of the examination, as well as the engagement of international experts in the process of selection of judge candidates of the Anti-Corruption Court, provided for by this Strategy, is ensured. <b>Action 2.</b> Establishing a requirement for transparency of the voting procedure and the reasonableness of the decision-making by the Supreme Judicial Council, as well as reviewing regulations relating to the ratio of votes in adopting decisions. <b>Outcome of Action 2.</b> Ensuring transparency and reasonableness of decisions being adopted by the Supreme Judicial Council, improvement of decision-making mechanisms							
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Make amendment to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia", aiming at:	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent)	While the procedure for appointment of judges has been significantly reformed under the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the	The Draft Law "On Making Amendments and Supplements to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of	The Draft Law "On Making Amendments and Supplements to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is approved	The Draft Law "On Making Amendments and Supplements to the Constitutional	The Draft Law "On Making Amendment and Supplement to the Constitutional Law of "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia" is submitted to the RA	Sources not prohibited by law

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<p>(a) the change of the procedure for setting up an evaluation commission;</p> <p>(b) ensuring the reasoning behind the evaluation;</p> <p>(c) performing a psychological test at the first stage of interviewing, being prepared by leading international psychological institutes</p> <p>(d) introduction of a grievance procedure for the examination results and ensuring the transparency of decision making by the Supreme Judicial Council;</p>		<p>Republic of Armenia”, various problems, both in legislative and practical terms, have been already identified in course of the practical application thereof. Particularly, the problems relate to the reasoning behind the evaluation of the written qualification check stage of the incumbents of judge candidates, the interview procedure and evaluation standards, the grievance procedure regarding the examination results and the transparency of decision making.</p>	<p>Armenia” is elaborated and discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and sent to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.</p>	<p>by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.</p>	<p>Law of “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia” is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.</p>	<p>NA, and it improves the procedure of the qualification checks of the incumbents of judge candidates.</p>	
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(e) ensuring the engagement of international experts in the process of selection of judge candidates, including judge candidates of the Anti-Corruption Court, provided for by this Strategy.							
To make amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law of the Republic of Armenia "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia", aimed at: improvement of the decision-making process by the Supreme Judicial Council, by including	Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia, Supreme Judicial Council (upon consent).	Currently, the decisions of the Supreme Judicial Council are adopted by closed secret ballot, which causes public mistrust and casts doubt on the independence and accountability of the members of the Council in the adoption of decisions. In addition, in case of individual decisions, the law lacks the	The draft Law of the Republic of Armenia "On making amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia"" has been elaborated and discussed with the interested bodies and the civil society and has been sent to the Office of the	The draft Law of the Republic of Armenia "On making amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law "Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia"" has been approved by the Government of the Republic of Armenia and submitted to the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia.	The draft Law of the Republic of Armenia "On making amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law 'Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia'" is elaborated and has been	The draft Law of the Republic of Armenia "On making an amendment and a supplement to the Constitutional Law 'Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia'" has been submitted to the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia and improves the procedure for making decisions by the Supreme Judicial Council.	Sources not prohibited by law

effective mechanisms of transparency, reasonableness of making such decisions and for the votes necessary for adoption thereof.		requirement for reasoning such decisions. Moreover, the number of established votes necessary for adoption of decisions by the Supreme Judicial Council has currently caused impossibility to make decisions of key importance by that body, also particularly in cases where any of the SJC members recuses himself/herself as prescribed by law. Under such conditions, it is also necessary to amend the regulations concerning the number of votes necessary for adoption of decisions by the Supreme Judicial Council. In order to alter the situation, it needs to provide for a requirement of transparency for the voting procedure by the Council and reasonableness of	Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia.		submitted to the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia.		
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		decision-making thereby, and to amend the regulations concerning the ratio of votes when adopting decisions.					
<b>Goals 5, 6 and 7. Strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, improvement of mechanisms for public accountability of the judiciary and a judicial system free of corruption and sponsorship</b> <b>Strategic Directions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>introduction of grounds and procedures for subjecting judges and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability, complying with the international standards;</li> <li>introduction of a balanced mechanism for evaluating the integrity of judges and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council</li> <li>bringing the grounds for subjecting judges and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability, in line with the goal of overcoming corruption</li> </ul>							
<b>Action 1.</b> Elaboration of legislative grounds for subjecting judges to disciplinary liability, necessary for evaluating the integrity of judges and members of the Supreme Judicial Council, complying with the international standards <b>Outcome of Action 1.</b> The legislative grounds for subjecting judges to disciplinary liability, necessary for evaluating the integrity of judges and members of the Supreme Judicial Council, complying with the international standards, are elaborated, comply with the goal of overcoming corruption and with European standards (including those of the Venice Commission and the CCJE) <b>Action 2.</b> Introduction of mechanisms necessary for carrying out evaluation of integrity of judges and members of the Supreme Judicial Council <b>Outcome of Action 2.</b> The mechanisms necessary for carrying out evaluation of integrity of judges and members of the Supreme Judicial Council are introduced, the bodies having the competence to initiate disciplinary proceedings against judges, and the Supreme Judicial Council (hereinafter referred to as “the SJC”) act independently, effectively, professionally and fulfil the high standards of ethics and accountability							
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	2020			
Make amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code	The RA Ministry of Justice	The regulation of the Constitutional Law “Judicial	The RA Draft Law “On making an amendment and a supplement to the	The RA Draft Law “On making an amendments and a supplement to the	The RA Law “On making an amendments and a	The draft RA Law “On making amendments and supplements	No funding required

<p>of the Republic of Armenia”, aimed at the improvement of grounds for subjecting a judge and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability, which, <i>inter alia</i>, include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. clarification of the list of essential disciplinary violations serving as a basis for terminating the powers of a judge and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council;</li> <li>2. clarification of the grounds for distinguishing the judicial error from the violation by a judge of human rights and</li> </ol>		<p>Code of the Republic of Armenia” on the ground for subjecting a judge and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability is extremely unclear and confusing, which violates the principle of legal certainty. The Opinion on the Code, issued by the Venice Commission, states this as well.</p> <p>The Judicial Code fails to specify the violation of human rights as a ground for disciplinary liability.</p>	<p>Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” is elaborated and discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.</p>	<p>Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” is approved by the RA Government, sent to the RA NA and discussed with factions.</p>	<p>supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” and the package of related drafts are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.</p>	<p>to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” and the package of related drafts are submitted to the RA NA and comply with European standards (including those of the Venice Commission and the CCEJ)</p>	
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<p>fundamental freedoms during his or her professional activity;</p> <p>3. clarification of rules of conduct of a judge and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council by removing therefrom the rules which are formulate unclearly or are not disciplinary by nature but are rules of ethics.</p>		<p>Some rules of conduct of a judges or a member of the Supreme Judicial Council are formulated uncertainly, whereas some are rules of ethics by nature, which must not lead to disciplinary liability.</p>					
<p>Clarify the following in the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”:</p> <p>1. procedures for considering disciplinary proceedings and the matter of subjecting a</p>	<p>The RA Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>The Constitutional Law of “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia” does not clearly set forth some procedural issues regarding investigation of the issue in</p>	<p>The RA Draft Law “On making an amendment and a supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” is elaborated, discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and</p>	<p>The RA Draft Law “On making an amendment and a supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” is approved by the RA Government, sent to the RA NA and discussed with factions.</p>	<p>The RA Draft Law “On making an amendment and a supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” is</p>	<p>The RA Draft Law “On making an amendment and a supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” submitted to the</p>	<p>No funding is required.</p>

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<p>judge and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability;</p> <p>2. the appeal procedure for decisions on subjecting judges and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability;</p> <p>3. expand the authorities of the Supreme Judicial Council in connection with the consideration of the issue on subjecting a judge and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability.</p>		<p>regard to disciplinary proceeding and subjecting a judge, as well as a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability; there is no effective mechanism in place for appealing the decision on subjecting a judge and a member of the Supreme Judicial Council to disciplinary liability.</p>	<p>sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.</p>		<p>elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.</p>	<p>RA NA and clarifies the procedure for appealing the issue of disciplinary proceedings and subjecting a judge to disciplinary liability, as well as decisions on subjecting a judge to disciplinary liability.</p>	
<p>Make amendments and supplements to</p>	<p>The RA Ministry of Justice</p>	<p>Under the Constitutional</p>	<p>The RA Draft Law “On making</p>	<p>The RA Draft Law “On making</p>	<p>The RA Draft Law “On</p>	<p>The RA Draft Law “On making</p>	<p>No funding is required.</p>



<p>the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, which provide for:</p> <p>a. replenishing the list of bodies having the competence to initiate disciplinary proceedings against a judge with the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption;</p> <p>b. forming Ethics and Disciplinary Commission instead of the Disciplinary Commission, the members of which will be elected not for five but two years, and which will incorporate not only judges, but also</p>		<p>Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption is not vested with the competence to initiate disciplinary proceedings against a judge, and the competence to initiate disciplinary proceedings is vested in the commission composed of judges only, which is formed for a period of 5 years.</p>	<p>amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” is elaborated and discussed with interested bodies, the civil society and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.</p>	<p>amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” has been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.</p>	<p>making amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.</p>	<p>amendments and supplements to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” has been submitted to the RA NA and vests the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption with the competence to initiate disciplinary proceedings against a judge, as well as amends the procedure for formation and time limit for activity of the Disciplinary Commission.</p>	
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representatives of the civil society.							
In the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, the Laws “On Commission for the Prevention of Corruption” and “On Public service”, clarify the rules of judicial conduct and the grounds for subjecting to disciplinary liability, add such rules of conduct the violation whereof casts doubt on the independence, impartiality and incorruptibility of the judge, prescribe mechanisms necessary for the evaluation of the judicial integrity, aimed at:	The RA Ministry of Justice, the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption (upon consent)	The Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia” does not set forth any requirement for judges to file extraordinary declarations in accordance with legislative amendments.  No priority is envisaged by the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption with regard to inspection of declarations of judges and members of the Supreme Judicial Council.  The Commission for the Prevention of	The draft legal acts on making amendments to the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, the Laws “On Commission for the Prevention of Corruption” and “On Public service” have been elaborated and discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The draft legal acts on making amendments to the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, the Laws “On Commission for the Prevention of Corruption” and “On Public service” have been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.	The draft legal acts on making amendments to the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, the Laws “On Commission for the Prevention of Corruption” and “On Public service” are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The draft legal acts on making amendments to the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, the Laws “On Commission for the Prevention of Corruption” and “On Public service” have been submitted to the RA NA and include mechanisms aimed at submission — by all judges of the RA, within the time limit prescribed by law — of declarations on property, incomes, interests	No funding is required

<p>1. submission — by all judges of the RA, members of the Supreme Judicial Council, within the time limit prescribed by law — of declarations on their property, incomes, interests and expenses to the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption;</p> <p>2. examination — by the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption — of declarations submitted by all judges acting in the RA and members of the Supreme Judicial Council;</p> <p>3. revealing of declarations of members of the</p>		<p>Corruption does not have the power to initiate disciplinary proceedings on the basis of problematic declarations of judges and apply to the SJC.</p>				<p>and expenses thereof and their affiliated persons to the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, examination — by the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption — of declarations submitted by all judges acting in the RA, revealing of declarations that are problematic from the point of view of integrity, initiation of disciplinary proceedings on the basis thereof and submission to the SJC, and effective investigation of the above-stated declarations by the SJC (upon necessity).</p>	
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Supreme Judicial Council, that are problematic from the point of view of integrity, submission of relevant materials to the SJC for considering the issue of subjecting to liability on the basis thereof; 4. revealing of declarations of judges, that are problematic from the point of view of integrity, initiation of disciplinary proceedings on the basis thereof and submission to the SJC for considering the issue of subjecting to							
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liability on the basis thereof; 6. effective investigation of the above-stated declarations by the SJC.							
Make an amendment to the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, aiming at establishing Ethics and Disciplinary Commission instead of the Disciplinary Commission, the members of which will be elected not for five but two years, and which will incorporate not only judges but also one representative from the Human Rights Defender and two representatives from those non-governmental organizations, one	The RA Ministry of Justice, the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption (upon consent)	According to the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia”, the General Assembly of Judges shall set up a Disciplinary Commission, whereas, taking into account the fact that the body should oversee the compliance with the norms of ethics, it would be more advisable to rename it.	The RA Draft Law “On making an amendment and a supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” has been elaborated and discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The RA Draft Law “On making an amendment and a supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” has been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.	The RA Draft Law “On making an amendments and a supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” has been elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The RA Draft Law “On making an amendments and a supplement to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” provides for the establishment of Ethics and Disciplinary Commission instead of the Disciplinary Commission, with the participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations.	No funding is required.

of the statutory goals of which is human rights protection or activity aimed at enhancing the public accountability of the judiciary, and which have been carrying out such activity for the last five years.							
<p>Train:</p> <p>1. members of the SJC (by making, upon necessity, legislative amendments for that purpose) pursuing the aim to develop their capacity in the sphere of the legislative amendments made and application of the new mechanisms introduced.</p>	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Academy of Justice of the RA (upon consent); the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption (upon consent).	In the period of judicial and legal reforms having reached the phase of their ongoing development, members of the SJC and the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption need to be trained to ensure the fulfilment of the requirements of the amended legislation.		Training manuals have been prepared, trainers to deliver training courses have been selected, and trainings for the members of the SJC and the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption have been delivered.	Trainings for the members of the SJC and the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption have been delivered.	Members of the SJC and the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption have been trained and ensure the effective fulfilment of the requirements of the legislation.	Sources not prohibited by law

2. members of the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, pursuing the aim to develop their capacity in the sphere of the legislative amendments made and application of the new mechanisms introduced.							
<b>Goal 5. Strengthening the independence and impartiality of the judiciary</b>							
<b>Strategic Directions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthening social guarantees deriving from the status of judges</li> <li>• Enhancing the public perception of the role of the judiciary and the confidence therein</li> </ul>							
<b>Action 1.</b> Increase of the salary provided to a judge and the increments prescribed thereon, as well as capacity building <b>Outcome of Action 1.</b> The amount of the salary provided to a judge and the increments prescribed thereon have increased, the capacities of judges have developed. <b>Action 2.</b> Capacity building of, reform of the financial and social guarantees provided to and increasing the number of the judicial staff <b>Outcome of Action 2.</b> Capacities of the judicial staff have developed, the financial and social guarantees provided thereto have been reformed and the number thereof has increased, the staff has been replenished by specialists from various fields. <b>Action 3.</b> Improve court buildings and material-technical conditions <b>Outcome of Action 3.</b> The court buildings and material and technical conditions have been improved and are sufficient for the effective activity of courts. <b>Action 4.</b> Undertaking awareness raising measures aimed at the public perception of the role of the judiciary and increasing the confidence therein.							

<b>Outcome of Action 4.</b> The awareness raising measures aimed at the public perception of the role of the judiciary and increasing the confidence therein have been undertaken, and the public confidence in the judiciary has increased.							
Develop legislative amendments focusing on the increase of the judge's salary and increments prescribed thereon.	The RA Ministry of Justice, the RA Ministry of Finance, and the SJC (upon consent).	Increase of the judge's salary and the increments prescribed thereon, are some of the measures for ensuring the independence and impartiality of the judiciary, as well as the attractiveness of the position of judge.	The draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Law 'On remuneration for persons holding state positions'" has been elaborated.	The draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Law 'On remuneration for persons holding state positions'" has been discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister and approved by the RA Government.	The draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Law 'On remuneration for persons holding state positions'" has been submitted to the RA NA.	The draft Law "On making amendments to the RA Law 'On remuneration for persons holding state positions'" has been submitted to the NA and is aimed at the increase of the judge's salary and the increments prescribed thereon.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Deliver trainings for judges, including with the participation of international experts and presentation of the advanced international and European practice, in the following spheres:	The RA Ministry of Justice and the Academy of Justice of the RA (upon consent).	Currently, the practice of literal interpretation of law without right-based valuation thereof is seen in the RA judicial system, as well as issues related to the interpretation and exercise of the ethics rules for judges, to the interpretation and		Relevant training programs have been elaborated, and training courses for judges are being organized on the basis of the elaborated programs.	The programs of the training courses for judges are elaborated; trainings for judges are being delivered.	The capabilities of judges in the aforementioned spheres have improved; during their activities, the judges display conduct complying with the ethics rules.	Sources not prohibited by law.



<p>(a) investigation of corruption, economic and official crimes;</p> <p>(b) parallel to introduction of the electronic justice tools, the skill development of judges to work with the evidence on the electronic media is being prioritized;</p> <p>(c) professional code of conduct and ethics;</p> <p>(d) case law of the European Court of Human Rights regarding</p>		<p>application of ECHR case law are observed. Besides, the launch of the active phase of the fight against corruption also implies the need of developing skills for investigation of corruption, official crimes. And introduction of electronic justice tools implies improvement of skills to deal with the electronic evidence.</p>					
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concrete articles of “European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms”;  (e) issues related to judge’s role, reasonableness of judicial acts, practical challenges of judge’s independence.							
Make amendments to respective legal acts, aiming at the increase of the number of judges and their staff.	The RA Ministry of Justice, the RA Ministry of Finance, and the SJC (upon consent).	Currently, conditioned by the number of judges, the workload of courts has grown, which is possible to overcome by the increase in the number of judges.  The number of the judicial staff is	Drafts to make amendments to respective legal acts with a view to increasing the number of judges and their staff are elaborated,	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the number of judges and their staff are approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the number of judges and their staff are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the number of judges and their staff are submitted to the RA NA, and envisage an increase in the	Sources not prohibited by law.

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		<p>small, resulting in the overload of the staff and, accordingly, in low-level performance efficacy.</p> <p>Moreover, the staff of court does not include specialists from various fields, who may assist the judge in the administration of justice in solving narrow professional matters.</p>	discussed with interested parties, put out for public consultation and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.			number of the judicial staff.	
Make amendments to respective legal acts, aiming at an increase in salaries of the judicial staff.	The RA Ministry of Justice, the RA Ministry of Finance, and the SJC (upon consent).	The salaries of the judicial staff are not sufficient for ensuring the latter's independence and impartiality, as well as to increase the attractiveness of the profession of the judge and to involve high	Drafts to make amendments to respective legal acts with a view to increasing the salaries of the judicial staff are elaborated, discussed with interested	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the salaries of the judicial staff are approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the salaries of the judicial staff are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	Draft bills to make amendments to respective legal acts with the view to increasing the salaries of the judicial staff are submitted to the RA NA and provide for an increase in	Sources not prohibited by law.

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		quality professionals.	parties, put out for public consultation and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.			salaries of the judicial staff.	
Provide the courts with facility conditions necessary for their effective activity.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the RA Ministry of Finance, and the SJC (upon consent).	In the Republic of Armenia, there are still problems, where the administrative buildings of courts or their seats have non-satisfactory space or are not appropriately separated from the seats of other state bodies, as well as problems of ensuring access of disabled persons to the court. Moreover, some of the court buildings are not provided with minimum necessary conditions, i.e. court session	The needs assessment of improving the facility conditions necessary for the effective activity of courts has commenced.	The needs assessment of improving the facility conditions necessary for the effective activity of courts has completed; the courts have started to be provided with facility conditions necessary for their effective activity, according to the defined priorities and schedule.	A statement of information on the needs assessment of improving the facility conditions necessary for the effective activity of courts and defining the priorities and the schedule thereof, as well as documents on the commenced construction works.	Courts are provided with the facility conditions necessary for their effective activity.	Sources not prohibited by law.

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		halls, an opportunity to create open and closed zones, etc.					
Provide the courts with a material and technical base necessary for their effective activity.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the RA Ministry of Finance, and the SJC (upon consent).	The material and technical base of courts is not sufficient for an effective activity.	The elaboration of the list of material and technical base means necessary for courts for their effective activity has commenced.	The elaboration of the list of material and technical base means necessary for courts for their effective activity has completed, the priorities and the schedule of provision have been defined, the courts have started to be provided with the material and technical base necessary for their effective activity has started, according to the defined priorities and schedule.	A statement of information on the needs assessment of the material and technical measures necessary for the effective activity of courts, defining the priorities and the schedule, and documents on the support having already been provided.	Courts are provided with the material and technical base for their effective activity.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Undertaking awareness raising measures aimed at the public perception of the role of the judiciary and increasing the confidence therein	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council (upon consent)	Given the various surveys and the analyses of the public opinion, it is undeniable that the public harbours deep mistrust in the judicial system, having formed for many decades. There is a need to		A program of measures for awareness raising activities aimed at the public perception of the role of the judiciary and increasing the confidence therein has been elaborated; the awareness raising measures aimed at the public perception of the role of the judiciary and increasing the	The program of awareness raising measures aimed at the public perception of the role of the judiciary and increasing the confidence therein is elaborated; the measures are at	Awareness raising measures aimed at the public perception of the role of the judiciary and increasing the confidence therein are undertaken; the public confidence	Sources not prohibited by law.

		inform the public on the process of judicial reforms, improvement of activities of courts, enhancement of access to justice, practical application of guarantees of court independence as a result thereof.		confidence therein have started to be implemented, in accordance with the program elaborated.	the stage of implementation.	in the judiciary has increased.	
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#### Goal 10. Reform of the law enforcement system

**Strategic direction:** Reform of the system of the Prosecutor's Office

**Action 1.** Introduce a mechanism to assess prosecutors' integrity, putting into effect the principles adopted to assess the judge's integrity, change the procedure for formation of the Ethics Commission carrying out assessment of prosecutors' integrity

**Outcome of Action 1.** On an ongoing basis, prosecutors undergo integrity check that reduces the corruption in the system and ensures observance of the rules of prosecutors' professional conduct in their activity

**Action2.** Change the rules of formation of the Qualification Commission, so that the simple majority of the members thereof is appointed through a process not incorporating the involvement of the Prosecutor General, and expand the representation of prosecutors holding non-senior positions in the representative bodies of prosecutors.

**Outcome of Action 2.** The rules of formation of the Qualification Commission are changed; the simple majority of the members thereof is appointed through a process not incorporating the involvement of the Prosecutor General; the representation of prosecutors holding non-senior positions in representative bodies of prosecutors is expanded

**Action 3.** Ensure the transparency of the competition for selection of prosecutors

**Outcome of Action 3.** The transparency of the competition for selection of prosecutors has been ensured

**Action 4.** Implement structural changes and capacity building of the Prosecutor's Office in the field of protection of state interests through non-criminal procedure measures, as well as investigation of corruption, economic, official and other crimes, work with electronic evidence, and in other fields.

<b>Outcome of Action 4.</b> The structural changes of the Prosecutor's Office are implemented; measures aimed at the capacity building of prosecutors have been implemented							
<b>Action</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>	<b>Baseline situation</b>	<b>Target as per stages</b>		<b>Verification measure</b>	<b>Expected outcome</b>	<b>Source of funding</b>
			<b>1<sup>st</sup> half of 2020</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2020</b>			
Introduce a mechanism to assess prosecutors' integrity, putting into effect the principles adopted to assess the judge's integrity, changing the procedure for formation of the Ethics Commission	The RA Ministry of Justice, the RA Prosecutor General's Office (upon consent)	The reforms of the system of the Prosecutor's Office are firstly conditioned by the need for increasing the public confidence in that system. The report prepared within the framework of the Joint Project between the European Union and the Council of Europe "Strengthening the Independence, Professionalism and Accountability of the Justice System in Armenia" has stated that the satisfaction of the users of courts with the professional activity of prosecutors is not high.	The mechanism for the assessment of prosecutors' integrity has been elaborated; including the procedure for formation of the Ethics Commission carrying out assessment of prosecutors' integrity has been changed, by expanding the representation of prosecutors in non-senior positions and limiting the role of the Prosecutor General in the process of formation of the Commission.	The mechanism for the assessment of prosecutors' integrity and the procedure for formation of the Ethics Commission have been discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, approved by the Government and submitted to the NA	The mechanism for the assessment of prosecutors' integrity and the procedure for formation of the Ethics Commission have been discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, approved by the Government and submitted to the NA	The mechanism for the assessment of prosecutors' integrity has been submitted to the NA, and it has adopted the principles of the integrity assessment of judges; the procedure for formation of the Ethics Commission carrying out assessment of integrity of prosecutors has been changed.	Sources not prohibited by law
Change the rules of formation of the	The RA Ministry of Justice; the	According to the current procedure, the Qualification Commission	The Law "On making amendments and	The Law "On making amendments and	The Law "On making amendments	The Law "On making amendments and supplements to the	

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Qualification Commission, so that the simple majority of the members thereof is appointed through a process not incorporating the involvement of the Prosecutor General, and extend the representation of prosecutors holding non-senior positions in representative bodies of prosecutors.	Prosecutor General's Office of the RA (upon consent)	is composed of nine members. The Qualification Commission consists of the Rector of the Academy of Justice, one Deputy Prosecutor General appointed by the Prosecutor General, four prosecutors and three lawyer-scientists. The Qualification Commission is headed by the Deputy Prosecutor General. This procedure emphasizes even more the hierarchic and closed nature of the system of the Prosecutor's Office, which endangers the independence of individual prosecutors.	supplements to the Law 'On Prosecutor's Office'" has been elaborated.	supplements to the Law 'On Prosecutor's Office'" has been discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and submitted to the NA	and supplements to the Law 'On Prosecutor's Office'" has been discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and submitted to the NA	Law 'On Prosecutor's Office'" has been submitted to the NA ensures that the simple majority of the members of the Qualification Commission is appointed through a procedure not incorporating the involvement of the Prosecutor General and expansion of the representation of prosecutors holding non-senior positions in representative bodies of prosecutors.	
Implement structural changes and capacity building of the Prosecutor's Office in the field of protection of state interests	The RA Ministry of Justice; the RA Academy of Justice; (upon consent); the RA Prosecutor General's	The reforms of the system of the Prosecutor's Office are firstly conditioned by the need for increasing the public confidence in that system. The report prepared within the framework of the Joint Project between the	The draft Law "On making amendments and supplements to the Law 'On Prosecutor's Office'", providing for structural changes, has been elaborated;	The draft Law "On making amendments and supplements to the Law 'On Prosecutor's Office'", providing for structural changes, has been discussed with	The draft Law "On making amendments and supplements to the Law 'On Prosecutor's Office'",	The draft Law "On making amendments and supplements to the Law 'On Prosecutor's Office'" has been submitted to the NA and provided for structural changes in the fields of	Sources not prohibited by law



through non-criminal procedure measures, as well as investigation of corruption, economic, official and other crimes, work with electronic evidence, and in other fields.	Office (upon consent)	European Union and the Council of Europe “Strengthening the Independence, Professionalism and Accountability of the Justice System in Armenia” has stated that the scores of satisfaction with personal and professional characteristics of prosecutors is low, especially as compared to the other actors involved in the sector of administration of justice. In addition, the users of courts are least satisfied with the professionalism of prosecutors.	training programs for prosecutors in relevant fields have been elaborated.	interested bodies, the civil society, approved by the RA Government, and submitted to the NA	providing for structural changes, has been discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, and submitted to the NA; prosecutors have started undergoing training on the basis of the programs elaborated.	protection of state interests through non-criminal procedure measures; measures aimed at the capacity building of prosecutors have been implemented.	
<b>Goal 10. Reform of the law enforcement system</b>							
<b>Strategic direction:</b> Reform of investigative bodies							
<p><b>Action 1.</b> With a view to assessing the integrity of investigators, review the grounds and procedure for subjecting investigators to disciplinary liability with a view to ensuring the transparency thereof, by putting into effect the principles adopted for the assessment of integrity of judges, ensuring the assessment of integrity by the body subjecting investigators to disciplinary liability</p> <p><b>Outcomes of Action 1.</b> On an ongoing basis, investigators undergo integrity check that reduces the corruption in the system and ensures observance of the rules of investigators’ professional conduct in their activity</p> <p><b>Action 2.</b> Implement investigators’ capacity building in the fields of investigation of corruption, economic, official and other crimes, work with electronic evidence and in other fields</p>							

Outcome of Action 2. Measures aimed at the investigators' capacity building have been implemented							
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			1 <sup>st</sup> half of 2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2020			
Make amendments and supplements to respective legal acts, aimed at the improvement of the grounds and the procedure for subjecting investigators to disciplinary liability	The RA Ministry of Justice; the RA Investigative Committee; Special Investigation Service of the RA; National Security Service of the RA	To recover the system of justice, it is important to ensure that all bodies constituting component parts of that system, including the investigative bodies, comply with the vision of the new concept paper for justice in terms of their structure, principles of activity and professional potential.	The package of drafts envisaging amendments and supplements to respective legal acts providing for changes of the grounds and procedures for subjecting investigators to disciplinary liability has been elaborated	The package of drafts envisaging amendments and supplements to respective legal acts providing for changes of the grounds and procedures of subjecting investigators to disciplinary liability has been discussed with interested bodies, the civil society, approved by the RA Government, and submitted to the NA	The package of drafts envisaging amendments and supplements to respective legal acts providing for changes of the grounds and procedures for subjecting investigators to disciplinary liability has been submitted to the RA NA	The package of drafts envisaging amendments and supplements to respective legal acts providing for changes of the grounds and procedures for subjecting investigators to disciplinary liability has been submitted to the NA and contains regulations necessary for the effective assessment of investigators' integrity.	No funding is required
Implement investigators' capacity building in the fields of investigation of	The RA Ministry of Justice; Academy of Justice of the RA (upon consent)	To recover the system of justice, it is important to ensure that all	The programs for trainings of investigators in relevant fields	Investigators have started undergoing training in accordance with the	Investigators have started undergoing training in accordance	Measures aimed at the investigator's capacity building	Sources not prohibited by law

corruption, economic, official and other crimes, work with electronic evidence, and in other fields		bodies constituting component part of that system, including the investigative bodies, comply with the vision of the new concept paper for justice in terms of their structure, principles of activity and the professional potential.	have been elaborated	programs elaborated	with the programs elaborated	have been implemented	
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**Goal 11. Reform of the criminal and criminal procedure legislation**

**Strategic Directions:**

Elimination of the criminal subculture  
Introduction of a system of alternative punishment  
Introduction of criminal liability of legal persons  
Reform of the criminal procedure legislation  
Introduction of alternative pre-trial restrictions  
Plea bargaining and cooperation proceedings  
Improvement of the proceedings with the involvement of minors and vulnerable persons  
Envisaging effective mutual legal assistance regulation regarding criminal cases

**Action 1.** Elaborate a new Draft Criminal Code of the RA and submit it to the NA

**Outcome of Action 1.** The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is adopted, the RA criminal legislation is improved; the system of punishment is up-to-dated; issues related to subjecting a person to criminal liability and releasing from criminal liability have been clarified; the measures of criminal influence against the minors are improved; the

scope of acts considered as crime is revised; rules qualifying acts of crime are clarified; the contradiction available in the current Code are removed; the Criminal Code is in line with the European standards.

**Action 2.** Elaborate a new draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA and submit it to the NA

**Outcome of Action 2.** The new draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA is adopted; procedures of criminal proceeding in the RA are clarified and improved; plea bargaining and cooperation proceedings, the functions of the criminal proceeding participants and the mechanisms of effective implementation thereof are introduced; legislative basis and practical mechanisms for protection of human rights in the criminal proceeding is improved; regulations with regard to conducting investigation and other procedural actions are streamlined; regulations in connection with the revision of judicial acts are reformed; the Code is brought into conformity with the recommendations submitted as a result of Phase 4 of the OECD Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan monitoring.

Actions	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	The 1 <sup>st</sup> half of 2020			
Elaborate a new Draft Criminal Code of the RA.	The RA Ministry of Justice	The current Criminal Code needs to be completely amended. The system of punishment, other means of criminal-legal influence, as set forth therein, are not in conformity with the current-day realities; there are contradictions in the Code. The elaboration works of the new Code are underway.	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA has been elaborated.		The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA has been elaborated.	Under the new RA Draft Criminal Code, the RA criminal legislation is improved; the system of punishment is streamlined; the issues related to commencement of criminal proceedings against a person and releasing from criminal liability are clarified; the measures of criminal influence against the minors are improved; the scope of acts considered as crime is revised; the	No funding is required.

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						rules for qualifying the acts of crimes are clarified; the contradictions available in the current Code are removed; the new Draft Code is in line with the European standards.	
Organize public consultations on the new Draft Criminal Code of the RA.	The RA Ministry of Justice		The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is discussed with representatives of the civil society and all the interested parties; it is amended based on the recommendations and comments received.	-	The version of the RA Draft Criminal Code, agreed with all the interested parties, is elaborated; the summary of the recommendations and comments submitted on the draft is available.	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is amended, taking into account the opinions of the civil society, all interested parties and the professional community.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Submit the new Draft Criminal Code of the RA for discussion to the RA Government, and	The RA Ministry of Justice	-	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister;	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is submitted to the RA National Assembly.	The new Draft Criminal Code of the RA is approved by the RA Government and submitted to the RA NA.	Under the Draft submitted to the RA NA, the RA criminal legislation has improved; the system of punishment has	No funding is required.

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subsequently to the RA NA.			approved by the RA Government.			been modernized; the issues related to subjecting a person to criminal liability and releasing him or her from criminal liability have been clarified; the measures of criminal influence against minors have been improved; the scope of acts considered as crime has been reviewed; the rules for qualifying the criminal offences have been clarified; the contradictions existing in the current Code have been eliminated; the new Draft Code complies with the European standards.	
Trainings on the new Criminal Code of the RA for all public participants of the criminal	The RA Ministry of Justice; Academy of Justice of the RA	It is necessary to train all public participants of the criminal proceeding and judges to raise the latter's awareness about the new	Specialists to elaborate the training programs and to deliver the trainings are selected; the main directions	Training programs are elaborated; trainings are being delivered.	Training programs for public participants of the criminal proceeding and judges are developed;	Public participants of the criminal proceeding and judges are aware of the regulations of the new Criminal Code.	Sources not prohibited by law.

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proceeding and judges.		Criminal Code of the RA.	of the training programs are elaborated.		trainings are being delivered.		
Provide material and technical support required for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments, to the bodies conducting criminal proceeding, including the courts.	The RA Ministry of Finance; the RA Ministry of Justice; Supreme Judicial Council (upon consent)	It is necessary to provide the bodies conducting criminal proceeding, including the courts, with material and technical support required for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments.	The list of material-technical resources required for the bodies administering the criminal proceeding, including the courts, to perform the functions, as derived from the legislative amendments, the priorities and the schedule thereof are elaborated.	Material and technical support necessary for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments has started to be provided to bodies conducting criminal proceeding, including the courts, based on priorities and the schedule.	The list of material and technical resources necessary for bodies conducting criminal proceeding, including the courts, to perform the functions deriving from the legislative amendments, the priorities and the schedule thereof have been elaborated; the process of providing the resources has started.	The bodies conducting criminal proceeding, including the courts, are equipped with material and technical resources required for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Elaborate a new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA.	The RA Ministry of Justice	The existing Criminal Procedure Code needs to be fundamentally amended. The	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA has	-	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA has been elaborated.	Under the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA, the procedures of the criminal proceedings	No funding is required.

		mechanisms for human rights protection in the course of criminal proceeding, and investigative and procedural actions need modernization. The elaboration works of the new Code are underway.	been elaborated.			in the RA have been clarified and improved, plea bargaining and cooperation proceedings, the functions of the participants of criminal proceeding and the mechanisms of effective implementation thereof have been introduced; legislative grounds and practical mechanisms for the protection of human rights in criminal proceedings have been improved; regulations in relation to performing investigative and other procedural actions have been modernized; regulations in connection with revision of judicial acts have been reformed; the Code	
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						has been brought into compliance with the recommendations submitted as a result of the OECD 4th round of monitoring of the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan.	
Organize the public discussion of the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA.	The RA Ministry of Justice	-	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA has been discussed with representatives of the civil society and all interested parties and revised based on the recommendations and comments received.	-	The version of the RA Draft Criminal Procedure Code, agreed with all the interested parties, has been elaborated; the summary paper on the Draft is available.	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA has been elaborated taking into account the opinions of the civil society, all interested parties and the professional community.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Submit the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA to the RA Government, and subsequently	RA Ministry of Justice	-	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA has been submitted to the Office of the RA Prime	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA has been submitted to the RA National Assembly.	The new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA has been submitted to the NA.	Under the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA, submitted to the RA NA, the procedures of criminal proceedings in the	No funding is required.

to the RA NA for discussion.			Minister, approved by the RA Government.			RA have been clarified and improved, plea bargaining and cooperation proceedings, the functions of the participants of criminal proceeding and the mechanisms of effective implementation thereof have been introduced; legislative grounds and practical mechanisms for the protection of human rights in criminal proceedings have been improved; regulations in relation to performing investigative and other procedural actions have been modernized; regulations in connection with reviewing judicial acts have been reformed; the Draft	
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						Code has been brought into compliance with the recommendations submitted as a result of the OECD 4 <sup>th</sup> round of monitoring of the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan.	
Trainings on the new Draft Criminal Procedure Code of the RA for all public participants of criminal proceedings and judges.	The RA Ministry of Justice; Academy of Justice of the RA	It is necessary to train all public participants of criminal proceedings and judges in order to inform the latter about the regulations of the new Criminal Procedure Code of the RA.	Specialists to elaborate the training programs and to deliver the trainings have been selected; the main directions of the training programs have been elaborated.	The training programs have been elaborated; trainings are being delivered.	Training programs for public participants of criminal proceedings and judges have been elaborated; trainings are being delivered.	Public participants of criminal proceedings and judges are aware of the regulations of the new Criminal Procedure Code.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Provide material and technical support necessary for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments to the bodies conducting	The RA Ministry of Finance	It is necessary to provide material and technical support to the bodies conducting criminal proceedings, including the courts, necessary for performing the	The list of material and technical resources necessary for the bodies conducting criminal proceedings, including the	Material and technical support necessary for performing the functions deriving from the legislative amendments has started to be provided to bodies conducting criminal	The list of material and technical resources necessary for bodies conducting criminal proceedings, including the	Bodies conducting criminal proceedings, including the courts, are equipped with material and technical resources necessary for performing the functions deriving	Sources not prohibited by law.

criminal proceedings, including the courts.		functions deriving from the legislative amendments.	courts, to perform the functions deriving from the legislative amendments, the priorities and the schedule thereof have been elaborated.	proceedings, including the courts, based on priorities and the schedule.	courts, to perform the functions deriving from the legislative amendments, the priorities and the schedule thereof have been elaborated; the resources have started to be provided.	from the legislative amendments.	
<b>Goal 12. Reform of the civil and civil procedure legislation</b>							
<b>Strategic Directions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reform of the civil legislation</li> <li>• Solution of issues recorded by the results of the inventory of issues having arisen in the law enforcement practice of civil procedure</li> </ul>							
<b>Action 1.</b> Elaborate draft laws aimed at making amendments to the Civil Code of the RA and other legal acts. <b>Outcome of Action 1.</b> The Civil Code of the RA and the legislation regulating civil-law relations comply with the existing demands of the market. <b>Action 2.</b> Separation of issues having arisen during the application of the Civil Procedure Code of the RA and making amendments with a view to solving them <b>Outcome of Action 2.</b> Solution of issues having arisen during the application of new institutes and new regulations in practice.							
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Outcome	Source of funding
			1 <sup>st</sup> half of 2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2020			
Elaborate draft laws aiming at making amendments to the	The RA Ministry of Justice	(1) The status of non-paper securities, electronic money, and	The draft laws have been elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office	The draft laws have been approved by the RA Government.	The draft laws are elaborated and have been	The legislation complies with the current development	Other funds not prohibited by law.

RA Civil Code and other legal acts.		<p>crypto assets is not clarified.</p> <p>(2) Regulations relating to the contract law, including the form of contracts, the regulations relating to contracts concluded in the online domain (on electronic platforms) are not modernized.</p> <p>(3) There are organizational and legal relations that are not in line with market relations; no modern-day corporate management solutions regulating corporate law</p>	of the RA Prime Minister.		submitted to the RA NA.	trends of civil law relations.	
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		<p>relations exist in the legislation.</p> <p>(4) The compliance of the procurement legislation and the RA Civil Code is not ensured.</p> <p>(5) Legal norms regulating specific types of contracts do not comply with the sector developments (including bank and insurance); there are contradictions between the RA Civil Code and specific regulations defined under the sectoral legislation.</p> <p>(6) The compliance and equivalence of the regulations relating to the</p>					
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		<p>securities, provided for by the RA Civil Code, with the legislation regulating the sector is not ensured.</p> <p>(7) The institutes of the secured right and the pledge, the peculiarities of application thereof are not clearly distinguished.</p> <p>(8) Legal regulations connected with liabilities having arisen as a result of causing damage by an activity posing a higher risk for the minors' environment, the norms relating to the damage caused to the life and</p>					
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		health are subject to review.					
Elaborate drafts aiming at making amendments to the RA Law “On Consumer Crediting”; the RA Law “On Attraction of Bank Deposits”; the RA Law “On Banks and Banking Activity”; RA Law “On Compulsory Insurance of Liability Arising from the Use of Motor Vehicles”, the RA Law “On Fund Transfers through Payment Order”, the RA Law “On Bank Secrecy” and other legal acts deriving from the mentioned laws.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the RA Central Bank (upon consent)	It is necessary to bring specific regulations under the RA Law “On Consumer Crediting”; the RA Law “On Attraction of Bank Deposits”, the RA Law “On Banks and Banking Activity”; RA Law “On Compulsory Insurance of Liability Arising from the Use of Motor Vehicles”, the RA Law “On Fund Transfers through Payment Order”, the RA Law “On Bank Secrecy” into conformity with the modern-day approaches of regulating private law relations.	The draft laws have been elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The draft laws have been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	The draft laws are elaborated and have been submitted to the RA NA.	The legislation is in line with the modern-day approaches of regulating civil law relations.	Other funds not prohibited by law.



Separation of issues having arisen during the application of the RA Civil Procedure Code and making amendments with a view to their solution.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent).	Upon the adoption of the RA Civil Procedure Code adopted on 9 February 2018, civil justice was improved, a number of new institutes were introduced, which were aimed at decreasing the workload of courts and increasing the effectiveness of examination of a case. Nevertheless, the new regulations have also given rise to various issues.	The draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Civil Procedure Code” has been elaborated; the draft has been circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Civil Procedure Code” has been approved by the RA Government.	The draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Civil Procedure Code” is elaborated and has been submitted to the RA NA.	The draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Civil Procedure Code” has been submitted to the RA NA, and the issues having arisen during the application of the Code have undergone inventory taking and been solved thereby.	State Budget or other funds not prohibited by law.
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**Goal 13. Increasing the efficiency of administrative justice and administrative proceedings**

**Strategic Directions:**

- Establishing an administrative chamber of the Court of Cassation
- Repealing the procedure of administrative proceedings with regard to disputing the decisions, actions and inactions of the administrative staff of a penitentiary institution.
- Improving notification procedures in administrative proceedings
- Applying written and simplified procedures in administrative proceedings
- Reviewing regulations relating to the state duty
- Increasing the efficiency of special administrative procedure proceedings

- Expanding the scope of administrative bodies and disputing their actions
- Increasing the efficiency of administrative act appeal through the administrative procedure
- Improving the legislation relating to administrative offences
- Reviewing the fines envisaged for administrative offences

**Action 1.** Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, envisaging an administrative chamber of the Court of Cassation.

**Outcome of Action 1.** Ensuring efficiency of judicial protection by establishing an administrative chamber at the Court of Cassation.

**Action 2.** Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code and the Criminal Procedure Code.

**Outcome of Action 2.** Clarification of the jurisdiction of the dispute on decisions, actions and inactions of the administrative staff of a penitentiary institution and specifics of examination of a case

**Action 3.** Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, introducing new notification procedures

**Outcome of Action 3.** Introducing new notification procedures in the administrative proceeding

**Action 4.** Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, introducing new written and simplified proceedings.

**Outcome of Action 4.** Envisaging written procedure for appeal and cassation stages, and simplified proceedings for specific cases

**Action 5.** Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code and the Law “On State Duty”, defining an obligation to pay state duty in applications on appealing the actions of compulsory enforcement officers, as well as appeals against a decision made by relevant authorized bodies on administrative offences.

**Outcome of Action 5.** Review of the regulations regarding exemption from the state duty

**Action 6.** Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, reviewing the types of special proceedings.

**Outcome of Action 6.** Reviewing the types of special proceedings and the classification thereof.

**Action 7.** Expanding the scope of administrative bodies and disputing their actions

**Outcome of Action 7.** Ensuring guarantees of protection of rights violated as a result of administration

**Action 8.** Make amendments to the Law “On the Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Proceedings”, defining compulsory appeal procedures for administrative acts.

**Outcome of Action 8.** Decreasing the workload of the administrative court.

<p><b>Action 9.</b> Introduction of effective mechanisms for appealing administrative acts by way of superiority.</p> <p><b>Outcome of Action 9.</b> Improvement of administrative appeal procedures.</p> <p><b>Action 10.</b> Adopt a new Code on Administrative Offences.</p> <p><b>Outcome of Action 10.</b> Availability of an institutional and comprehensive legislation on administrative offences.</p>							
Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			1 <sup>st</sup> half of 2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2020			
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, envisaging an administrative chamber of the Court of Cassation.	The RA Ministry of Justice; The Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent).	Not only is the efficiency of the right to judicial protection of the right of a person in the sphere of specialized administrative justice conditioned by the accessibility and efficiency of the Court of Cassation – the only appeals instance, but an important factor determining the efficiency of such right is also a full demonstration of the specialization factor in the Court of Cassation. Whereas, the judicial acts of the	Draft Laws “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia” have been elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The Drafts “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia” have been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	The Drafts “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and the Constitutional Law “Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia” have been elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The Drafts “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the Constitutional Law ‘Judicial Code of the Republic of Armenia’” have been submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby, ensure the preconditions for the establishment of an administrative chamber of the Court of Cassation.	Sources not prohibited by law.

		Administrative Court of Appeal are currently reviewed by the Civil and Administrative Chambers of the Court of Cassation.					
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code and the RA Criminal Procedure Code.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent)	The matter of jurisdiction regarding the dispute on the decisions, actions and inactions of the administrative staff of a penitentiary institution remains unsolved and receives contradicting interpretations in the judicial practice.	The Drafts “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the RA Criminal Procedure Code” have been elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The Drafts “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the RA Criminal Procedure Code” have been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	The Drafts “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the RA Criminal Procedure Code” are elaborated and have been submitted to the RA NA.	The Drafts “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the RA Criminal Procedure Code” have been submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby, the matter of jurisdiction regarding the dispute on the decisions, actions and inactions of the administrative staff of a penitentiary institution has been regulated.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, introducing new notification procedures.	The RA Ministry of Justice;  The Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent).	Under the current notification system in the administrative procedure, the court must, with regard to each case, notify any participant of the procedure of each procedural activity, mainly through post.	The comprehensive study relating to the reform of the notifications in the administrative procedure has been conducted;  a Draft Law “On making	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” has been approved by the RA Government	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” is elaborated and has been submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” has been submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby new notification procedures are prescribed in the administrative procedure.	Sources not prohibited by law.

		Moreover, no distinction is made whether the participant of the procedure is a natural or legal person, or an advocate, or a state or local self-government body. In all cases, the court actually spends vast financial and human resources to fulfil the requirement of the legislation.	amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” has been elaborated; the Draft has been circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	and submitted to the NA.			
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code, introducing new written and simplified proceedings.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent)	The administrative procedure lacks written and simplified proceedings, which also contributes, inter alia, to the overload of the administrative court.	The comprehensive study relating to simplified and written procedures in the administrative procedure has been conducted; a Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” has been elaborated; the Draft has been circulated in the prescribed manner	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” has been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” is elaborated and has been submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code has been submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby, written and simplified proceedings have been prescribed.	Sources not prohibited by law.

			and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.				
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code and the Law “On State Duty”, defining an obligation to pay state duty in applications on appealing the actions of compulsory enforcement officers, as well as appeals against decision made by relevant authorized bodies on administrative offences.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent).	Currently, people are exempt from the obligation to pay state duty in applications on appealing the actions of compulsory enforcement officers, as well as appeals against a decision made by relevant authorized bodies on administrative offences.  It appears that, in almost all cases constituting the workload for the administrative court, the plaintiffs are exempt from the obligation to pay state duty.	Draft Laws “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the Law ‘On State Duty’” have been elaborated; the Drafts have been circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The Draft Laws “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the Law ‘On State Duty’” have been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	The Draft Laws “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the Law ‘On State Duty’” are elaborated and have been submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Laws “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” and “On making amendments to the Law ‘On State Duty’” have been submitted to the RA NA, and, thereby, obligation to pay state duty has been defined.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Make amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code,	The RA Ministry of Justice;	Proceedings in cases with regard to subjecting to administrative liability through	A Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code”	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” is	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” has been submitted to the RA NA, and,	Sources not prohibited by law.

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reviewing the types of special proceedings.	the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent).	judicial procedure has been categorized among special proceedings of the RA administrative procedure, which should be removed from the Code, as it is a function of the administrative body.  Currently, the Administrative Procedure Code specifies proceedings, the necessity of examination whereof through procedure of special proceedings is not substantiated. Furthermore, many of them may not be deemed to be special proceedings, as they contain claims of parties with opposing interests and substantive claims.	has been elaborated; the Draft has been circulated in the prescribed manner and sent to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	Procedure Code” has been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	elaborated and has been submitted to the RA NA.	thereby, special proceedings in the administrative procedure have been regulated.	
Make amendments to the Law “On the	The RA Ministry of Justice; the	Article 3 of the Law “On Fundamentals of Administration	The Draft Laws “On making amendments to the	The Draft Laws “On making amendments to	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the	Expansion of the scope of administrative bodies and disputing their actions.	Sources not prohibited by law.

Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Procedure” and the Administrative Procedure Code, expanding the scope of administrative bodies and disputing their actions.	Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent).	and Administrative Proceedings” provides for the scope of bodies that are administrative bodies, but the organizations functioning in the sector of public service are not included therein. Whereas, it is necessary to consider that acts rendered as a result of functioning of those organizations are a result of administration, and including those organizations among the administrative bodies, thus giving persons an opportunity to dispute — through the procedure of administrative procedure — actions of organizations functioning in the sector of public service. Besides, it	Law ‘On the Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Procedure” and “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” have been elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	the Law ‘On the Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Procedure” and “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” have been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	Law ‘On the Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Procedure” and “On making amendments to the RA Administrative Procedure Code” are elaborated and have been submitted to the RA NA.		
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		<p>should be noted that it derives from the study of the types of actions provided for by the Administrative Procedure Code that a person is limited only to apply to administrative court in case of existence of clear conditions. In particular, the exercise of the right to bring an administrative action depends on the existence of an administrative or real act. Whereas, there may be cases when a real or administrative act has not been adopted yet, but actions carried out during administrative proceedings are illegitimate and lead to the violation of a person's rights. In such cases, it is necessary to consider envisaging</p>					
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		the opportunity to dispute the above-mentioned actions of the administrative body in the current stage of administrative proceedings.					
Make amendment to the Law “On Fundamental of Administration and Administrative Proceedings”, defining procedures for compulsory appealing of administrative acts.	The RA Ministry of Justice	The ineffectiveness of appealing administrative acts through administrative procedure has led to overload of the Administrative Court of the RA.	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the Law ‘On Fundamental of Administration and Administrative Proceedings’” has been elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the Law ‘On Fundamental of Administration and Administrative Proceedings’” has been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the Law ‘On Fundamental of Administration and Administrative Proceedings’” is elaborated and has been submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the Law ‘On Fundamental of Administration and Administrative Proceedings’” has been submitted to the RA NA and envisages defining cases of compulsory appeal through administrative procedure.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Make amendment to the Law “On Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Proceedings”, envisaging effective	The RA Ministry of Justice	Guaranteeing the right to proper administration, enshrined by Article 50 of the Constitution with the amendments of 2015, requires improvement of administrative	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the Law ‘On Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Proceedings’” has been elaborated, circulated in the	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the Law ‘On Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Proceedings’” has been	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the Law ‘On Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Proceedings’” is elaborated and has	The Draft Law “On making amendments to the Law ‘On Fundamentals of Administration and Administrative Proceedings’” has been submitted to the RA NA and provides for Defining cases of compulsory appealing through	Sources not prohibited by law.

mechanism for appeal of administrative acts by way of superiority.		<p>proceedings and, in particular, procedures for appealing administrative acts.</p> <p>From the point of view of increasing the effectiveness of appealing administrative acts and guaranteeing the right to proper administration, importance is attached to centralization and effective use of professional and other resources in the process of appealing, ensuring the guarantees of impartiality and objective examination of the matter in the procedures for reviewing administrative acts.</p> <p>In this context, it is necessary to</p>	prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	approved by the RA Government. and submitted to the NA.	been submitted to the RA NA.	administrative procedure and effective mechanisms and procedures for appealing administrative acts by way of superiority.	
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		envisage efficient mechanisms for appealing administrative acts.					
Adoption of a new Administrative Offences Code	The RA Ministry of Justice	Currently, the Administrative Offences Code adopted back on 6 December 1985 by the Supreme Council of the Armenian SSR and put into effect on 6 June 1986 is still in effect in the Republic of Armenia. With the underlying discretionary logics and philosophy, the systemic structure and irresolvable contradictions with dozens of other laws, multiple successful and unsuccessful amendments made over decades, many provisions that are outdated or do not have any practical use, defective and	The new Draft Administrative Offences Code has been elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The new Draft Administrative Offences Code has been approved by the RA Government and submitted to the NA.	The new Draft Administrative Offences Code is elaborated and has been submitted to the RA NA.	The new Draft Administrative Offences Code has been submitted to the RA NA, and provides for regulation of issues in the field of administrative offences.	Sources not prohibited by law.

		<p>incomplete administrative liability measures, this Code is unable to solve the issues put before it and fails to comply with the requirements of a state governed by the rule of law.</p> <p>Besides, administrative fine must be imposed with the purposes of shaping lawful behaviour of a person and preventing commission of new administrative offences. Whereas, in practice, not only imposition of penalty but increasing the penalty amount as well may not be a constraining factor and prevent commission of new offences.</p>					
<b>Goal 14.</b> Increasing the efficiency of the bankruptcy system							
<b>Strategic Directions:</b>							

- Improvement of the procedures for acquiring the profession, qualification and appointment of bankruptcy administrator, introduction of a toolkit to increase their responsibility and the efficiency of their activity
- Review and improvement of regulations relating to debtor's property inventory, assessment and sale
- Increasing the role of creditors, judges (the court) in the bankruptcy proceeding.

**Action 1.** Adopt a normative legal act of the Minister, defining the procedure of qualification implementation for bankruptcy administrators.

**Outcome of Action 1.** The level of the professional readiness of bankruptcy administrators has increased, their capacities and skills have developed; fair distribution of bankruptcy cases between bankruptcy administrators is guaranteed; administrators' independence is strengthened and the latter's responsibility has increased.

**Action 2.** Initiate the elaboration of scientific practical commentary, manuals and(or) guides for the Law "On Bankruptcy"

**Outcome of Action 2.** Interested persons have reliable sources for acquiring knowledge on bankruptcy proceeding and tackling the practical problems having arisen.

**Action 3.** Improve the training programs for bankruptcy administrators.

**Outcome of Action 3.** The up-to-datedness, diversity and quality of the educational materials are improved.

**Action 4.** Elaborate property declaration sample forms; introduce control mechanisms over the process of inventory and assessment.

**Outcome of Action 4.** The process of the debtor's property inventory, assessment and sale is clarified and has become more transparent.

**Action 5.** Elaborate a draft Government Decree defining the procedure for carrying out property sale in the bankruptcy proceedings.

**Outcome of Action 5.** The relations connected with the debtor's property sale in the bankruptcy proceedings have been regulated; the sale process is carried out electronically.

**Action 6.** Review the training programs for bankruptcy judges.

**Outcome of Action 6.** Apart from training on legal issues, trainings are delivered also on non-legal topics, such as economics, business, finances, financial management.

Activity	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Outcome	Source of funding
			1 <sup>st</sup> half of 2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2020			
Adopt a normative legal act of the	The RA Ministry of Justice	The regulations with regard to the status of the Qualification	The draft normative legal act is elaborated,	The normative legal act is adopted.	The new qualification regulation for	The qualification procedures for the bankruptcy	Sources not prohibited by law.

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Minister, defining the procedure of qualification implementation for bankruptcy administrators.		Commission, the composition of the Commission, details regarding the organization of qualification examinations and the requirements therefor are not clarified.	circulated in the prescribed manner.		bankruptcy administrators is adopted and put into effect.	administrators are revised.	
Initiate the elaboration of scientific practical commentary, manuals and/or guides for the Law “On Bankruptcy”.	The RA Ministry of Justices; Higher education institutions (upon consent); Bankruptcy court (upon consent).	There are no up-to-date and comprehensive documents available in Armenian relating to bankruptcy proceeding that would incorporate the whole analysis of the legislation on bankruptcy and the bankruptcy proceeding, and that would present accessible comments on the law, taking into account the judicial practice and jurisprudential approaches, the specificities of proceeding and practical issues.	Making a schedule for work performance, involvement of appropriate specialists, identification of main directions of papers.	Based on the identified directions, elaborating appropriate sources, papers, organizing editorial treatment, testing, summarizing and publishing the works.	Scientific practical commentary, manuals and/or guides for the Law “On Bankruptcy” are prepared and published.	Interested parties have reliable sources to acquire information about the bankruptcy case and to tackle the practical problems having arisen.	Sources not prohibited by law.

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Improve the training programs for bankruptcy administrators.	The RA Ministry of Justice;  Self-regulatory organizations of bankruptcy administrators (upon consent).	Training courses are delivered as per the provisions under the Law “On Bankruptcy”; no training courses are available with consideration of specific sectors and institutions and the judicial practice.	Making a schedule for work performance, involvement of appropriate specialists, designing the main directions of training programs.	Conducting studies based on the identified directions; elaboration (up-to-dating the programs), discussion, summarizing and approval of new training programs.	New training programs for bankruptcy administrators are prepared and approved.	The up-to-datedness, diversity and quality of learning materials are improved.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Elaborate sample forms of declaration; introduce control mechanisms over the process of inventory and assessment.	The RA Ministry of Justice	Currently, the processes of the debtor’s property inventory and assessment by the bankruptcy administrator are not comprehensively regulated, thus giving the bankruptcy administrator an opportunity to exercise broad discretion.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law “On Bankruptcy” is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law “On Bankruptcy” is approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law providing for amendments to the Law “On Bankruptcy” is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	Clear inventory and assessment criteria, simple and clear procedures, control mechanisms with regard to the inventory and assessment process are introduced.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Elaborate a draft Government Decree defining the procedure for carrying out property sale in	The RA Ministry of Justice	No legal act defining the procedure for carrying out the property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding is available.	The draft Government Decree is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and	The Government Decree is adopted.	The procedure of carrying out the debtor’s property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding is	The relations connected with the debtor’s property sale in the bankruptcy proceeding are regulated.	Sources not prohibited by law.



the bankruptcy proceeding.			submitted to the RA Office of the Prime Minister.		adopted and in effect.		
Review the training programs for bankruptcy judges.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Supreme Judicial Council of the RA (upon consent)  Academy of Justice of the RA (upon consent)	The training subjects for the bankruptcy judges are to be broadened to include, inter alia, topics of non-legal nature.	Making a schedule for the work performance; involvement of appropriate specialists; designing the main directions of training programs.	Conducting studies based on the identified directions; elaboration (updating the programs), discussion, summarizing and approval of new training programs.	New training programs for judges are prepared and approved.	Apart from training on legal issues, trainings for bankruptcy judges are delivered also on non-legal topics, such as economics, business, finances, finance management.	Sources not prohibited by law.

**Goal 15.** Developing alternative dispute resolution means

**Strategic Direction:**

Improving the arbitration legislation

**Action 1.** Elaborate a Draft Law on making amendments to the Law “On Commercial Arbitration”.

**Outcome of Action 1.** The rights of persons resorting to arbitration are more protected; regulations for providing support to the arbitration by the national courts with a focus on promoting investment protection are in place.

Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Outcome	Source of funding
			1 <sup>st</sup> half of 2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2020			
Elaborate a Draft Law on making amendments to the Law “On Commercial Arbitration”	The RA Ministry of Justice	The activity of institutional arbitration (arbitration centres) should be subject to legislative regulation; the regulations of	The Draft Law is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to	The Draft Law is approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The activity of institutional arbitration (arbitration centres) is regulated; the regulations of providing support, by	Sources not prohibited by law.

		providing, by the national courts, support to the arbitration should be reviewed; improve the provisions regulating the independence and flexibility of the arbitration process, inter alia, in the context of the choice of the procedure and the law to apply.	the RA Office of the Prime Minister.			national courts, to the arbitration are reviewed.	
<b>Goal 17. Increasing the effectiveness of the advocacy system</b>							
<b>Strategic Directions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broadening the scope of beneficiaries of free legal aid</li> <li>• Developing alternative mechanisms of providing free legal aid</li> <li>• Increasing the efficiency of the public defenders' activity</li> <li>• Developing the activities of the School of Advocates</li> <li>• Improving the rules of conduct and integrity of advocates</li> <li>• Developing internal mechanisms of the Chamber of Advocates</li> </ul>							
<b>Action 1.</b> Make amendments to the Law “On the Profession of Advocate”, broadening the scope of persons having the right to receiving free legal aid. <b>Outcome of Action 1.</b> The scope of persons having the right to receiving free legal aid is broadened, as well as the amount limitation threshold envisaged for receiving free legal aid with regard to property claim cases are reviewed. <b>Action 2.</b> Make amendments to the Law “On the Profession of Advocate”, introducing an effective mechanism for pro-bono legal services. <b>Outcome of Action 2.</b> The effective mechanism for pro-bono legal services is introduced and put into effect.							

**Action 3.** Conduct a comprehensive study regarding the workload of public defenders and the reform of the infrastructures of the Office of Public Defender; make appropriate legislative amendments by the study results.

**Outcome of Action 3.** Reduction of the workload of public defenders; reform of the infrastructures of the Office of Public Defender

**Action 4.** Introduce improved procedures for professional education, qualification examination of the students of the School of Advocates, and for professional training of advocates

**Outcome of Action 4.** Up-to-dated programs for professional education, qualification examination of the students of the School of Advocates, and for professional training of advocates, mechanisms ensuring the simplicity, objectivity and transparency of conducting qualification examinations are introduced.

**Action 5.** Make amendments to the Law “On Advocacy”, formalizing in legislation the minimum standards of advocates’ conduct and integrity.

**Outcome of Action 5.** The minimum standards of advocates’ conduct and integrity are formalized in legislation.

**Action 6.** Make amendments to the Law “On Advocacy”, introducing effective self-management mechanisms for the Chamber of Advocates.

**Outcome of Action 6.** Effective self-management mechanisms for the Chamber of Advocates are introduced.

Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2019	1 <sup>st</sup> half of 2020			
Make amendments to the Law “On the Profession of Advocate”, broadening the scope of persons having the right to receiving free legal aid.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Chamber of Advocates of the RA (upon consent).	The scope of persons eligible for receiving free legal aid does not incorporate foreigners to appeal the decision on deportation; persons with regard whereto case proceedings are underway with regard to recognizing them as having incapacity for work or limited capacity for work, recognizing a citizen, having been recognized as having incapacity for work, as	The Draft Law “On making amendments and supplements to the RA Law ‘On the Profession of Advocate’” is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The Draft Law “On making amendments and supplements to the RA Law “On the Profession of Advocate” is approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law “On making amendments and supplements to the RA Law ‘On the Profession of Advocate’” is elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law “On making amendments and supplements to the RA Law ‘On the Profession of Advocate’” is submitted to the RA NA, and thereby the scope of beneficiaries eligible for free legal aid, is broadened.	RA State budget (AMD 40 mil.); sources not prohibited by law

		capable to work or elimination of any limitation with respect to a citizen's capacity for work, as well as victims and witnesses, in cases where the latter are fixed-term compulsory military servants or children. Besides, the right to receive free legal aid in cases with property (money) claim is restricted, if the case with property (money) claim exceeds one thousand-fold of the minimum salary.					
Make amendments to the Law "On the Profession of Advocate", introducing an effective mechanism for pro-bono legal services.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Chamber of Advocates of the RA (upon consent).	No alternative mechanisms for providing free legal aid are provided for by the Law "On the Profession of Advocate".	The Draft Law "On making amendments and supplements to the RA Law 'On the Profession of Advocate'" is elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The Draft Law "On making amendments and supplements to the RA Law 'On the Profession of Advocate'" is approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law "On making amendments and supplements to the RA Law "On the Profession of Advocate" is elaborated and has been submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On making amendments and supplements to the RA Law "On the Profession of Advocate" has been submitted to the RA NA, and thereby mechanisms for pro-bono legal services have been specified.	Sources not prohibited by law.

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Action	Responsible body	Baseline situation	Target as per stages		Verification measure	Expected outcome	Source of funding
			1 <sup>st</sup> half of 2020	2 <sup>nd</sup> half of 2020			
Conduct a comprehensive study regarding the workload of public defenders and the reform of the infrastructures of the Office of the Public Defender; make appropriate legislative amendments by the study results.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Chamber of Advocates of the RA (upon consent).	Increasingly growing number of cases, as compared to the incomparably smaller number of public defenders, as well as insufficiency of infrastructures of the Office of the Public Defender	A comprehensive study regarding the workload of public defenders and the reform of the infrastructures of the Office of the Public Defender has been conducted; appropriate draft legislative amendments have been elaborated; the draft has been circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The appropriate draft legislative amendments are approved by the RA Government.	The appropriate draft legislative amendments are elaborated and submitted to the RA NA.	The appropriate draft legislative amendments have been submitted to the RA NA, and thereby legal regulations on reduction of the workload of public defenders and the reform of the infrastructures of the Office of the Public Defender have been specified.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Introduce improved procedures for professional education, qualification examination of the students of the School of Advocates, and for	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Chamber of Advocates of the RA (upon consent).	Unsatisfactory level of teaching such skills and abilities that are of practical significance and importance for the students of the School of Advocates, of the training programs for advocates, as well as the qualification	Needs assessment of professional education of the students of the School of Advocates and the professional training of advocates, and elaboration of improved	Introducing up-to-dated programs for professional education of the students of the School of Advocates and professional training for advocates, as well	The structure, content and format of the education and training programs are updated; the procedures for conducting qualification	Up-to-dated training programs for the students of the School of Advocates and the advocates, as well as improved procedures for the qualification process are introduced and operational.	Sources not prohibited by law.

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the professional training of advocates.		process in terms of objectivity and simplicity.	procedures for qualification examination based on the study of the advanced practice.	as improved procedures for qualification examination.	examinations are improved.		
Improve the rules of advocate's conduct in cooperation with the Chamber of Advocates	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Chamber of Advocates of the RA (upon consent).	The need for improvement of the rules of advocate's conduct and integrity.	The draft for the improvement of the rules of advocate's conduct has been elaborated and placed for discussion.	The draft for the improvement of the rules of advocate's conduct has been approved by the Chamber of Advocates.	The draft for the improvement of the rules of advocate's conduct has been approved by the Chamber of Advocates.	The draft for the improvement of the rules of advocate's conduct has been approved by the Chamber of Advocates.	Sources not prohibited by law.
Make amendments to the Law "On the Profession of Advocate", introducing effective self-management mechanisms for the Chamber of Advocates.	The RA Ministry of Justice; the Chamber of Advocates of the RA (upon consent).	Unsatisfactory level of self-management of the Chamber of Advocates	The Draft Law "On making amendments and supplement to the RA Law 'On the Profession of Advocate'" has been elaborated, circulated in the prescribed manner and submitted to the Office of the RA Prime Minister.	The Draft Law "On making amendments and supplement to the RA Law "On the Profession of Advocate'" has been approved by the RA Government.	The Draft Law "On making amendments and supplement to the RA Law 'On the Profession of Advocate'" is elaborated and has been submitted to the RA NA.	The Draft Law "On making amendments and supplement to the RA Law 'On the Profession of Advocate'" has been submitted to the RA NA, and thereby effective self-management mechanisms of the Chamber of Advocates have been introduced.	Sources not prohibited by law.