

3 Year Research & Activities Plan





Introduction

This is a document setting down the concrete programmes and projects to be conducted by Analytica with clear benchmarks for policy outputs. This Three Year Planning Document (herewith, the Planning Document) is the strategic document for the work of Analytica. It is established for a three year rolling period, with flexibility for annual reviews. It draws upon already established programmes and projects of Analytica and it reflects overall policy objectives. The priorities set out in this document serve as a picture of the work to be conducted by Analytica in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

The overall objective of Analytica programmes in the coming three years (January 2013-December 2015) is to contribute in the successful implementation of the reform agenda in the country and the European integration processes. The goal is keep on increasing the research capacity of Analytica in order to be able to establish itself even more in the areas of policy research and analysis capabilities.

Building on past and ongoing Analytica's programmes and projects, Policy Research (to be reflected in various products) has been the core activity of Analytica since 2005 with the aim to prepare novel and fact-based research that will contribute to the reform processes in Macedonia and the wider region. In this context, Analytica's programme for the period 2013-2015 will continue to concentrate on three levels: vertical, horizontal, and cross cutting.

Vertical programmes will look into the following areas:

1. EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy
2. Energy and Infrastructure
3. Foreign and Security Policy
4. Migration

Organisational development looks into providing sustainability to the research and organizational capacity of Analytica through the following themes:

1. Team.
2. Junior, senior and adjunct fellows' positions in the organization.
3. Core organizational elements.
4. Strengthening individual capacities.
5. Promotion of the results.

Cross cutting issues will consider projects aiming to advance the PR agenda, financial management and further enhancing of the human capacities of the organization.



I. Assessment of Analytica priorities and objectives

Mission and vision of the organization

Analytica is a non-profit independent institution dedicated to helping individuals and institutions with the aim to foster lasting improvement in the democracy and governance in Macedonia, the region of South Eastern Europe and wider in the European Union.

It is a unique institution - public policy research organization and a "think tank". It draws solutions to contemporary problems from the ideas, principles and traditions that make Macedonia such an important historical and geopolitical place. It is dedicated to promoting greater cooperation and understanding among the people in Macedonia, the region of South Eastern Europe and the EU.

Analytica does this by supporting individuals and institutions working on these issues, by convening leaders to discuss the most pressing themes, and by examining ways in which cooperation can address a variety of national, regional and European policy challenges.

Analytica benefits in its work from diversity at all levels of its operation. We are proud of our broad base of supporters among the various layers of our society starting from the citizens themselves. Analytica values those who understand and share its commitment to tolerance, dialogue, diversity and joint living and it believes that the way to achieving all this is through establishing permanent dialogue and embracing diversity.

Analytica's value is rooted in the local tradition of philanthropy in Macedonia and elsewhere in Europe. Its most important niche is that it channelizes and institutionalizes this philanthropic tradition for the promotion and achievement of the strategic goals of Macedonia and other countries in the region in the integration to the Euro-Atlantic structures and in the promotion of the European citizenship in the Western Balkans.

Analytica believes that ideas have consequences, but that those ideas must be promoted aggressively. So, it constantly tries to find ways to support those ideas. Its vision is to build a Macedonia and South Eastern Europe within the EU where freedom, the sense of joint belonging, opportunity, prosperity and civil society flourish.

Objectives of programmes and projects

Analytica aims to produce relevant fact-based knowledge about policy options for the main priorities on the country, which through dissemination and communication is made readily available for the decision makers, other stakeholders and the wider public. The aim is to raise sensitivity of both government and other national and international stakeholders of the policy options to be chosen for a particular area of interest. Analyzing and identifying policy options, communicating recommendations to the decision makers, advances better understanding of socio-political problems facing the country.



Overview of past and ongoing projects of Analytica

Analytica has had successful years of projects' completion since the last three years planning document- Three year research and activities plan 2011-2013. In that period some of the projects that were completed with outstanding results were:

Mapping and monitoring Security Sector Reform in the Western Balkans

Strengthening Intelligence Oversight in Transition States in an Era of Counter-Terrorism - Macedonia case study

Changing the habits – how to get to an energy efficient municipality

Synergies for Energy Awareness Change

Between the internal and external 'other': de-constructing Macedonian national identity

School green action for better future

In the next three years, Analytica will work on projects that build upon the work done before with its regional and international partners such as the Regional Research Promotional Programme from Switzerland, DCAF, SEA Change Net etc. Some of those projects will be exploring themes not analyzed before such as the Impact of migration on women empowerment in Western Balkan countries, or themes where Analytica has already been proven as a professional and valuable stakeholder such as the Framework Project Fostering Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector in the Western Balkan and starting from 2013 in the next two years Analytica will work on its first IPA CSF project together with its regional partners called: **South East Europe Sustainable Energy Policy (SEE SEP)**. However the list of projects that Analytica works and will work on goes on. For more info please see: http://analyticamk.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=128&Itemid=133

Research and Project strategy for the period 2013-2015

Analytica's goal is producing, disseminating, and utilization of information and fact-bases research related to top policy priorities of the country and the region. All in the spirit of full EU integration of the entire region, Analytica's goals are to undertake projects and broaden its networks and share of know-how across the borders.

The following section will present programme by programme the strategy of Analytica for the period of 2013-2015.

II. Vertical programmes

Analytica will modify the format of the programmes that were functioning before in the in order to make them closer to the everyday work of the think-tank. As the processes of reforms and EU integration move forward so are our programmes, plans and activities. Analytica's programmes, past and future, are carefully constructed with inside and outside consultation and coordination. Analytica's team always tries to keep them fresh, innovative, interesting and above all relevant for the society and its surroundings. Further down in the Planning Document the objectives and visions of each of these programmes will be presented in details.

1. Programme I – EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy

1.1. Objectives and background.

The integration into the EU is a transformational source for Macedonia and the wider region of Southeast Europe. It is a major issue that shapes the reform agenda in the country and wider in the region. The process is – understandably - not a smooth one. It is rather unsurprising that the process is still facing significant challenges. The name dispute with Greece and the condition to solve it before the start of the negotiation process is proven to be the most important issue still standing on Macedonia's path to the EU. Štefan Füle, the European commissioner for enlargement and neighbourhood policy, launched a 'high-level accession dialogue' with Macedonia in Skopje in order to circumvent the status quo in the accession phase due to the name dispute. This high-level accession dialogue (HLAD) is becoming the most important part in the negotiations talks for now and the EU Programme is fully following it.

In this context, Analytica with its activities and research in all programmes from all research fellows will continue to provide full support to the process of European integration of the country. As the mission and vision of the organization are closely connected to the entire reform processes and the EU integration itself, this programme will serve as an umbrella that encompasses the other programmes under one goal: Macedonia and the Western Balkans in the EU. As this will be the major event in the next five years with the start of the negotiations in Montenegro and possibly the same outcome in Serbia, Macedonia and Albania, Analytica will use the momentum to contribute to the successful transition from war-torn region to an EU encompassed region.

The next goal will be to include the organization in the working groups that started forming for the different chapters under the acquis. Analytica with its young team and expertise can be a part of at least several of these groups. Strategic advocacy and lobbying will be needed in order to realize this goal.

1.2. Major areas of work and methods.

Umbrella programme The idea behind the rebranding of the EU Approximation and Advocacy Programme as an umbrella programme is to establish stronger connection between the internal programmes and the works on the individual projects. Mainly the work of Analytica is to come up with the best possible solutions regarding the reforms in the country and the region. Added to that is the



main goal of the organization – EU future for Macedonia and Western Balkans – which leads us to present the EU programme as an entity which works towards fostering dialogue between all the stakeholders involved in the EU integration on national, regional and European level, advocating fact-based research and policy recommendations regarding many issues, and being an integral part of the negotiation processes once they start under the chapters such as energy, security, migration, etc.

Networking As it was stated above, the main focus in the period that comes will be put on deepening the already established regional cooperation and working on creating new links with new organizations from the region and beyond. An effort will be made to establish more concrete cooperation with organizations from the so-called Visegrad Group which had similar experiences in the EU approximation and can give valuable contribution to the same process in Macedonia.

REPORTS In the past few years the Programme had tackled different topics all connected to different areas from the EU approximation of the country. The 2nd paper on the usage of IPA funding was published which mostly dealt with the CSOs and how they use these funds. There was a policy analysis of Serbia and its potential as a regional leader in the processes of EU integration. And there was the regional advocacy document Sea Change; Fairer, Cleaner, Safer which objectives were 1) **to create a** network of various NGO's in the region with a variety of skills and knowledge related to energy in order to develop a base line on patterns of energy production, consumption and savings/efficiency in the context of EU accession and Sustainability; 2) to use the strengths and capacities of the network to develop a synergistic advocacy campaign to highlight energy challenges in the region.

In the next three years however, the programme will continue to provide information on the issues that are dominant in the process of European integration of Macedonia and the region and as an umbrella to the other programmes will seek to provide necessary support for fair representation of all Analytica's research and recommendations at national, regional and EU level. The programme also aims to assist in the process of starting the negotiations for joining the EU.

PROJECTS The goal of the EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy Programme is to have continuous work on projects in the next three years that will contribute to the overall success of the EU integration processes in Macedonia and the Western Balkans as well. In the next 2 years the EU Programme together with the Energy Programme will work on the South East Europe Sustainable Energy Policy or SEE SEP project as part of the regional Sea Change consortium. The objectives of this project are: to enhance the collaborative capacity of CSO networks and empower citizens to engage in fact based dialogue with key decisions makers to influence policy and practice for a more sustainable energy system in South East Europe, aligned with key EU Policies and Directives; to increase the CSO networks efforts to go “beyond protest” by utilising, in conjunction with European Partners & Associates, “best practice” analytic tools for energy modelling and scenario building for a costed alternative low carbon energy sector; to increase the transparency and credibility of the SEE CSO energy network, in cooperation with International Partners & Associates, through the development of targeted public



advocacy campaigns; to improve and professionalise the level of shadow monitoring & reporting in relation to key energy sector challenges, including energy poverty, corruption, environmental damage and poor application of EU laws and directives. Strengthened cooperation with donor organizations and institutions such as Civil Society Facility and other EU funds is of the highest priority.

Regional cooperation is a key tool in sharing knowledge, experiences and fostering closer cooperation with the other CSOs from the Western Balkans. It is one of the central instruments for EU integration of the entire Western Balkans region, but one which potential is just being discovered and moreover properly financed. Over the years the EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy Programme intensified the cooperation with other regional organizations and the fruits from that cooperation are one new regional consortium SeaChange which deals with reforms in the energy sector in the region through EU approximation and implementing EU 20/20/20 policy with more than 15 organizations, one advocacy document on Sustainable Energy Development, one major project won from the Civil Society Facility, countless advocacy events and meetings with stakeholders etc. Networking has become very important in the last period as connecting the civil societies of the Western Balkans is seen as an imperative by the EU institutions and donors. The estimation is that the EU does see this region as a unique place with all its independent parts and if the countries want their voice to be heard and matter more they have to reunite and work closer than ever. This is something that must be done on civil society's level as much as on states' level. We believe successful regional cooperation rests upon good cooperation among societies.

These developing trends have been duly noted in the EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy Programme and therefore measures have been taken not only to intensify the cooperation in the existing consortium but to also expand the cooperation with other interested stakeholders. The aim for the next three years period will be to cement the established cooperation within the existing consortium and to foster further cooperation within the other programmes inside the organization and their cooperation with outside stakeholders.

1.3. Type of activities to be undertaken

The EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy Programme will continue with its openness and will continue being present within the community on national, regional and EU level. In the past few years, the focus has been put on making Analytica a visible and valuable irreplaceable player when it comes to the EU integration processes. In that light, the recommendation to include the civil society in the working groups for the chapters has been added in the new Strategy for cooperation with the civil society that the Government has adopted in 2012. Other ideas focused on the EU integration have also been included on recommendation of Analytica.

The EU Programme will serve more as an umbrella programme to all the other programmes in Analytica, as the ideas, recommendations, policy analyses and projects go towards the entire reform process in Macedonia regarding its EU integration. Apart from that, there is a need for flexibility and joint efforts from the programmes that will not only reflex the day-to-day work in the organization but with the pooling of the resources Analytica will strengthen its expert's knowledge. We see this as the most



important event in the next 5 years due to the HLAD process and the possible name solution. Therefore all our forces will be focused on finding and presenting valuable solutions for the issues on this path. The programme will continue being implemented using different tools. More focus will be put on advocacy, presence on the important national, regional and EU meetings and work-shops and conferences. Analytica is already part of the People2People Programme which brings together civil society representatives from the region and the EU in one place. The goal is to increase the presence and advocating in Brussels for which additional funds will be needed.

1.4. Expected results and benchmarks

The programme will continue to address the priorities of the country on its path to EU. Given the complexity of the EU approximation the team of Analytica will assess at the end of each year the successes achieved previously, the shortcomings and the possibilities that should be tackled in the next year. Nevertheless, the main goal for the next three years is for Analytica to get an access in the working groups regarding the chapters from the acquis.

Considering the current European integration agenda of Macedonia, the implementation of this programme will continue providing ideas and analyses to the national authorities who will be in charge of managing the different segments and components of the European integration agenda. Taking into account the nature of the activities, the programme will contribute to the better representation of the reform efforts of the country in the various segments of the EU: its institutions, media, academia, think tanks, and wider public.

Expected results furthermore include increasing the voice of the region in future regional cooperation structures and thus increased ownership by the region towards the new regional coordination structures. The EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy Programme will strive to achieve the above mentioned through its hard-work within the regional consortium in which it takes part and through further broadening of the cooperation especially towards the Visegrad countries.

2. Programme II – Energy and Infrastructure

2.1. Benchmarks

Analytica's work as part of the Energy and Infrastructure Programme is oriented towards maintaining its **sustainability** through continuous research on pressing energy issues in Macedonia and the region and building up its expertise in set of energy matters (gasification, renewables, energy efficiency, energy security, sustainable development, climate change, local energy policies etc.), work on local and international energy projects, thus increasing its reputation; increasing its **visibility** by promoting its findings at events, in the media, through the social networks, by cooperation with relevant stakeholders, by being part of energy networks and consortia; and increasing its **impact** on the energy policy drafting and decision-making in Macedonia and beyond.

2.2. Background and Objectives

By adopting the energy related acquis and by signing the Energy Community Treaty, Macedonia and the region are to ensure energy security and sustainable energy use within its territories. In particular, energy efficiency, use of renewable energy, enhancement of competition, attracting investments in the energy sector as well as improving the environmental situation have to be set as priorities. Therefore, reforms have to be introduced at many levels starting from the national governmental level, over the regulatory market body, till the local authorities, challenging the relevant stakeholders with energy policy and legislation drafting and implementation, human capacities, knowledge transfer, competition rules, social issues as result of the energy price increase etc.

Analytica will strive to fill in the gaps in this area in Macedonia and the region by drafting concrete evidence based recommendations trying to give innovative and long-term solutions to the pressing energy matters, to demand bigger civil society involvement in the energy agenda setting and decision-making and to increase energy awareness both by the stakeholders and the broader audience. The goal of the Programme is contributing to achieving long-term secure supply of energy, promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency and sustainable use of energy. The long-term goal goes in line with implementing the EU energy acquis and the establishment of regional energy market through the Energy Community Treaty.

2.3. Major areas of work

Major areas of work will remain the energy policies in Macedonia and the region as energy efficiency at national and local level, gasification, renewable energy, implementation of the energy and related EU acquis, the heat market and will be broadened to matters as energy security, social matters related to energy as energy poverty, climate change, sustainable development, sustainable transport, energy and transport infrastructures etc. These topics will be undertaken as a subject of policy or project research or as subject of event.

2.4. Type of activities to be undertaken

One of the core areas of work as part of the Programme remains the **policy research**. Policy reports, policy briefs and newsletters are the products in which the energy policy matters will be analysed. In the previous period the policy research focused on transport matters, the Trans-European networks, the state of the renewable energy policy, the gasification matter and the heat market. Reflected on what has been so far done in the Programme, the aim is to continue with follow-up of the same topics as well as to do research in areas which have not been yet analysed as sustainable development, climate change etc. The topics will be chosen depending on the ongoing gaps and needs – matters not tackled at all or not properly. For the purpose of increasing its expertise, greater attention will be devoted to strengthening the human capacities of the team within the Programme via fellowships, international projects, publishing in regional journals etc.

The work on **projects** so far has been on small and medium projects enabling small scale research and advocacy. In the next two years the granted project from Civil Society Facility will be the main project to



be conducted within the Programme in cooperation with the EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy Programme. Work on other projects is not excluded; however the Programme will try to focus on bigger and long-term projects including many partners as building upon the established cooperation with the energy consortium headed by SEE Change Net in cooperation with the EU Approximation and Integration Advocacy Programme and other networks and consortia. The Programme will try to get access to projects and funding by strengthening the established cooperation with various stakeholders and building up new partnerships and will specially target EU funds (Intelligent Energy Europe etc.) and donors in energy matters (GIZ, UNDP etc.).

The **advocacy and promotional activities** of the Energy and Infrastructure Programme will focus on disseminating the research and project results done within the Programme. On one side, the efforts in reaching the respective national stakeholders will be doubled by initiating direct meetings, common events, sending research outputs, participating at events they organise or participate, approaching them via mediators as donors, international organisations, other institutions etc.; as well as indirectly by disseminating the project and research results to the specific and broader public via media as the Energy efficiency blog, magazines focused on journalistic research as Republika etc. Analytica will also continue the cooperation with its proven partners as the Regional Cooperation Council, the SEE Change Net consortium, the Energy Agency, Municipality of Karposh, Energy efficiency blog and will deepen the cooperation with the other old and new partners especially focusing on achieving greater inter-sector, intra-sector (within the civil society), regional and multi-sector cooperation in the energy domain. Also Analytica will organise conferences, public debates, workshops and round-tables for the purpose of promoting its own work and reaching the relevant stakeholders. Furthermore, the Programme will remain open for cooperation for various of stakeholders in order to make greater impact of its work, to make joint initiatives of interest of all the included parties and for finding sources of finance; and will also be open for any interested potential partner, donor, institution, medium or other entity or citizen interested in the work within the Programme. The produced knowledge and activities will be available at Analytica's website, also in hard copy and disseminated via the social media and mail contacts.

2.5. Expected results

The expected results are enriching the Macedonian policy debate with fresh ideas, solid evidence-based recommendations for the purpose of contributing to better energy policy drafting and implementing. It is expected the Energy Programme as one of the unique areas tackled from policy perspective by the civil society in Macedonia to remain one of the leading pillars of Analytica's work, to remain sustainable and ever more visible with greater impact in the Macedonian and regional policy arena.

3. Programme III – Foreign and Security Policy

3.1. Background and Objectives

Analytica's Foreign and Security Policy Programme in the forthcoming period aims to address the challenges the country currently deals with as well as those that can be predictable from today's point

of view. Without any doubts integration towards the European Union and membership in NATO will remain to represent Macedonia's main pillars of both its Foreign Policy and the Security Sector policies.

Regional cooperation will also be listed as a high priority among all the countries of the Western Balkans including Macedonia. In this kind of extremely challenging setting Analytica will stream its work activities towards better security sector governance and the security aspects and implications of its closer relations and harmonization with the European Union and NATO structures.

Assuming greater obligations as a result of the more intense security cooperation with NATO and the European Union deserves greater attention by the public, civil society and the experts. Macedonia's position regarding its alignment and integration with these two organizations is on two different levels. While being and acting as a de facto NATO member country, Macedonia has actively contributing in NATO led operations such as Afghanistan (ISAF). At the same time the country continues to implements, transform and modernize its army and defense sector in accordance with NATO standards being operationalized through the Membership Action Plans. On the other hand country's alignment with EU's different aspects of its Common Security and Defense Policy can be best described with Macedonia's lining up with most of its CSDP positions and the preparations for participation of the Macedonian Army within EU's Battle Groups in 2012. Currently Macedonia takes also participation in EU's CSDP mission Althea in Bosnia and Herzegovina. At the same time the cooperation within the UN peace support architecture remains to be limited.

Closer cooperation and adjustment of the country's policies to the ones of the listed international organizations implies substantive changes in the domestic security architecture.

At the same time the region of the Western Balkans as a result of countries' commitment and vision to join the European Union and establish close cooperation with NATO acts as a boosting power for transformative energy in a region where only 15 years ago one of Europe's biggest bloodshed was being witnessed. Greater cooperation in the security area is also in different segments: cross border activities, organized crime, sharing information etc.

Analytica will continue to promote good governance and democratic institutions that are transparent and accountable to the citizens. In the following period, this program will be focused on providing independent analysis of the current policies and presenting various policy options for the relevant stakeholders and recommendations for improvement of the solutions, aiming to encourage public debate on important issues and better quality of the decisions made by the policy makers. The reforms in the security sectors actors will be main area of focus and also alignment with the EU acquis where accent will be put on Chapter 23 – Judiciary and fundamental right as well as Chapter 24 – Justice, Freedom and Security.

3.2. Major areas of work

Analytica's Foreign and Security Policy program maintains a strong regional and international component. Working within the regional security consortium of seven think tanks dealing with security, will stay as a primary foundation for most of the activities. Namely the team will continue to implement



the Mapping and Monitoring Security Sector Reform project up until the end of 2012, with a possibility of extension. Project's main areas of focus are to enhance the capacity and knowledge of the civil society in overseeing national security processes through the development of national Security Sector Reforms mapping indicators in the country. This project is lead by the Geneva based Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) and the Belgrade Center of Security Policy (BCSP).

In the light of the above mentioned cooperation starting in 2011 up until 2013 together with DCAF and the Norwegian Institute of International Affairs (NUPI) Analytica will be engaged into a project (Security Transition of the Western Balkans – From a conflict zone to security community?) developing a better understanding of the security transitions in the Western Balkans; the national as well as the regional dynamics. It will also answer the question whether the Western Balkans can be considered as a Security Community?

Analytica recognizes the corruption as one of the main drawbacks of the country for better development and even the police is the first in the line when fighting corruption in other institutions, it not immune of it. Analytica will be involved in a regional project lead by DCAF on building capacities for researching police corruption together with the other partners from the consortium. The project will start in 2013 and will last in a time frame of about 10 months. This experience will strengthen the staff's skills and provide specific research methodology knowledge which will be used for future project tackling the area.

Another threat that Analytica managed to anticipate is the illegal migration in the region and the increasing trend of seeking asylum. Macedonia with its central location within the Balkan region is vulnerable to illegal migration serving as a transit route to the EU countries. It was found useful to make an analysis of the national policies and practices for dealing with illegal migration and asylum seekers that will assess the *je jure* situation, but also the implementation of the legislation and identifying the main challenges in handling illegal migration and capacities to deal with asylum seekers.

Starting from September 2012, Analytica became DCAF's associated partner for project to foster parliamentary oversight in the region, aiming to support national parliaments from the Western Balkans region in fulfilling their constitutional role as legislative and oversight bodies in the field of security and defense. Upon successful evaluation from DCAF this project is expected to be continued until summer 2014.

Close cooperation with our regional and international partners will be maintained throughout the next three years which should result in developing stronger bilateral cooperation hence enrich the quantity and quality of products.

3.3. Type of activities to be undertaken

Most of the research activities of the program will be policy relevant and policy oriented, meaning that these will incorporate assessment, analysis and recommendations of policy relevant areas. Due to the nature of the projects and activities that the program's staff will be involved with in the forthcoming



period Analytica's main findings and research will be communicated through larger scale publications (almanacs). Still, part of the research will be also communicated as part of the regular policy papers format. Organizing conferences and debates on questions important and close to the program will also be used as a form for greater visibility. Presenting research findings at national and international conferences will also be present. Program's staff is also encouraged to communicate their expertise through different media such as (newspapers/magazines/journals). Strengthening the quality of the research will be accomplished by using different research tools such as: peer review, focus groups, communicating the findings with stakeholders etc.

3.4. Expected results and benchmarks

This program aims to result with independent analysis and insights into the security relevant policy, providing recommendations for improving the policies and better solutions for the emerging legislation. It is also expected to enrich the debate on important topics and encourage the civil society involvement in the process of shaping the security policy. With its regional component, the Foreign and Security Policy Program goes beyond the borders and discusses the security challenges that the whole region of Western Balkans is facing, bringing solutions and perspectives that are relevant not only on national but also on a trans-national level.

4. Programme IV – Migration

Migration is one of most debated policy issues in developing countries. Supporters emphasize the opportunities it offers to the development of both the migrant sending and receiving economies, while critics emphasize the potentially damaging effects that population movements may have both for sending and receiving countries.

Macedonia as a transition country is facing numerous economical and social problems that affect the natural movement of the population. Migration is one of the many issues that directly affect the increase or decrease the number of the population. Unemployment in Macedonia as a reason towards migration was increased as a result of several factors. First, the rapid urbanization of the population in Macedonia, i.e. rapid increase of the population in the cities and leaving the villages. Second, low education and qualification of the labor force, which could not be absorbed by the slow growth of the industry. And third, a wide sector of the gray economy, in which part of the officially unemployed worked or they were registered as unemployed, but were not looking for a job, given the social and health care they enjoyed from receiving monthly remittances from family member abroad.

Macedonia is characterized as a migration area, with intensive internal migration, but lately the process of international migration is also increased. The most common reasons for such movements are economical. People often are leaving in other countries seeking for better living conditions. The most common situation in the Macedonian households is that one member from the family; usually the father is the migrant who sends money to the family members left behind. Remittances have become frequent income in the households.



Simultaneously, in the recent years, the media is constantly reporting on the number of young people who are leaving the country. Now days, in Macedonia the process of emigration of young people who have completed their education in Macedonia is more often (this is known as brain-drain effect). Most often the young people accepted at universities and seasonal workers are emigrating.

However, due to the fact that since 2002 official census of the population in the country is not conducted, the real number of the migrants is unknown. Statistically the number of migrants in the country is very small, so the statistical literature on this area of research is very poor. According to research by the World Bank, over 400 thousand Macedonians emigrated, which is 21.9% of the country's population.¹ This situation is concerning because the migrants now often are young people who finished their education.

Quite interesting is the fact that the number of people who own a Bulgarian passport is growing, which facilitates the stay in the EU countries. These individuals are potential immigrants. Their intention to come back remains puzzle.

Today the portion of the remittances in the GDP of Balkan countries is significant and it represents a great source of income. But which will be the effects in future? Today, with visa liberalization the opportunities to leave the country are increased and it is certain that a lot of young people will do that. Bulgaria is a one example. The Bulgarian accession to the European Union, in 2007, has led to further emigration from the country.²

4.1 Objectives

Movements of people from country to country have grown massively. Recognizing the intense migration trend, Analytica may introduce a new program as part of its research dedicated exactly to this issue. Scope of the research may be the diverse effects of migration in the country.

There is a connection between the unemployment and migration rate in Macedonia. The unemployment often is a reason why people decide to migrate. There are statistical indicators of the structure of unemployed by regions, occupation, gender, nationality, age, education, waiting time for employment and on the number of official migrants. But unfortunately the number of people who leave the country and move to Western Europe's or USA countries with intentions to stay there without residence permit is an unknown statistic figure. Simultaneously in Macedonia, regarding the number of migrants in the country, serious empirical research hasn't been done yet on the following things which are main objectives of our program:

- Perception about economic situation in the country and in their households

¹ World Bank Development Prospects Group [2005]: Migration and Remittances Factbook, <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTPROSPECTS/Resources/334934-1181678518183/Macedonia.pdf>; this estimation is used as a relevant source of information in the IOM's paper on the Macedonian Migration profile: IOM: "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Migration Profile", September 2007.

² <http://pure.au.dk/portal-asb-student/files/36180653/Emigration.pdf>



- Detailed picture of the economic - financial status of the households with unemployed people and the households who have a family member abroad
- Problems that concern them the most
- Forecast of future migration
- Reasons for unemployment in Macedonia and how these reasons influence the decision towards migration
- Measuring migration
- Most used and most efficient ways for job search in foreign country
- The importance of remittances from abroad
- Migration trends among the unemployed citizens
- Perception of the responsibility of various factors for the unemployment and how they influence the migration rate
- The channels of migration (legal or illegal)

Benefits of such research should be the exchange of practices and experiences in order to increase the development of migration and migration flows.

4.2 Major area of work

This program tends to address the migration and its key issues and challenges at national, regional and international levels. Migration patterns and available data need to be further analyzed.

Analytica as an organization is already working on two projects in this area and is a pioneer in the analysis of this area. The first project is titled "Migration and development in Albania and Macedonia: the effects of remittances on education and health of family members left behind", a project funded by the Regional Research Promotion Programme of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs for the period of 2012-2013, in cooperation with ACSER – Albanian Centre for Socio-Economic Research in Albania.

It is a well known that Albania and Macedonia as a small developing countries are characterized by a high dependency rate on remittances. Therefore, the results from this research will be important not only at national level but also at regional level.

The second project is about "Impact of migration on women empowerment in Western Balkan countries", once again in cooperation with ACSER – Albanian Centre for Socio-Economic Research in Tirana, Albania and CEDAR from Bosnia-Herzegovina. The research from this project is supposed to answer the question "Does migration of male members impact the emancipation of women left



behind?” Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina and Macedonia share the same gender stereotypes and traditional mentalities.

4.3 Type of activities to be undertaken

Analytica operates with various tools of analysis and research. The research from this area mainly will be conducted through policy research and on-desk research (policy reports, briefs and newsletters) and through quantitative and qualitative surveys. Also there should be workshops and conferences for the purpose of disseminating ideas. Presenting research findings at national and international conferences will also be present.

4.4 Expected results and benchmarks

Macedonia and the other countries in the region are traditionally migration countries, but today migration is gaining even more significant impetus. Although is hidden it represents a serious threat to the stability and the future social and economic development of the countries of the Balkans. We can conclude that migration can have a major economic impact on the receiving country. These effects can either be negative, in terms of brain drain or positive since remittances are thought to be an important economic development tool for many labor exporting countries.

The aim of Analytica will be to provide the public with guidance on some of the issues likely to be faced in measuring international migration. Analytica will inform the public about the migration level in the country and the meaning of remittances beside their financial gain. It is assumed that remittances may impact on education and health of the family members left behind and thus that they increase the education level and quality of life of the citizens of receiving country. With detecting the precise reasons for migration, actions for reducing it may be created; also guidelines for decreasing the level of migration can be provided. The main goal is to obtain in-depth information about this phenomenon and informing the public and relevant institutions with the results from this kind of research.

3 Year Research & Activities Plan



Analytica Thinking Laboratory
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