

# The EBRD's Legal Transition Programme



EBRD Evaluation department  
2019

Promoting sound and well-functioning legal systems and institutions minimises risks and attracts investments to the country. The EBRD's Legal Transition Programme (LTP) contributes to the improvement of the investment climate in the EBRD regions by helping create an investor-friendly, transparent and predictable legal environment.

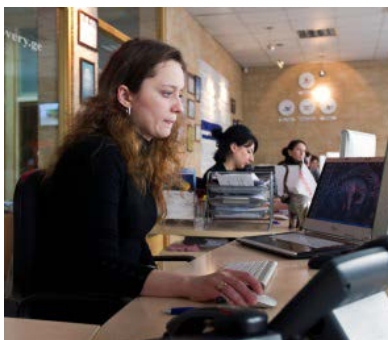
## The Legal Transition Programme

Introduced in 1995 as an ad hoc technical assistance resource, the LTP is now the EBRD's key driver of legal reforms in its countries of operation (COOs). *"The programme aims to reduce legal impediments to investments and to encourage the creation of legal rules and institutions necessary for a vibrant market economy"*. It combines the Bank's own resources and dedicated donor funds into a crucial instrument for enhancing the investment climate in COOs, enabling investors, including the Bank, to finance diverse and innovative projects across a range of national policy and regulatory contexts.

Internally, the LTT plays an important role in driving forward policy dialogue in COOs jointly with other teams, through its active participation in preparing and delivering country strategies, country diagnostics and flagship initiatives aimed at improving governance standards and the rule of law in the framework of the Investment Climate and Governance Initiative (ICGI).

## Previous EvD reviews of LTP

EvD previously evaluated the LTP's performance in 2001 and in 2012. The findings and recommendations from that 2012 review led to substantial changes in the LTP's 2013-2015 operation plan and validating actual changes in delivery mechanisms and results management is one of the objectives of this evaluation. It is also timely to assess the programme's strategic fit in the light of the recent changes in the Bank's policies and strategies, particularly the Strategic and Capital Framework, the Enhanced Approach to Policy Dialogue, the 2016 Transition Concept update, and the new approach to country strategies as a key accountability framework.



## Study approach

The thematic special study will look into the activities of the LTP as identified in its mid-term operational plans (OPs) during the period 2011-2018. The evaluation team will analyse the LTP's priorities and portfolio through the prism of country strategies, that are key accountability frameworks for Bank's activities, as well as sector strategies and significant strategic initiatives .

The evaluation will have two lines of enquiry – external and internal. This means that the impact of the LTP's activities will be sought not only in qualitative changes in the COOs but also in the Bank's model of operation and delivery tools.

The logic of the study will be guided by the evaluation questions and underpinned by the theory of change and evaluation matrix. Specifically, findings and recommendations will be built around answering the following questions:

1. Has the evolution of LTP's approach to formulating priorities, selecting operations and deploying resources in the last five years been consistent with the Bank's strategic and operational changes and recommendations from EvD and others?
2. How do the LTP's individual activities contribute to the delivery of systemic policy results in COOs? Is sufficient evidence gathered, synthesised and shared across the Bank to support the LTP's strategic role in delivering the Bank's mandate?
3. Can change be observed in the uptake of LTP recommendations in the countries of operation and inside the Bank? Do changes appear to be sustainable?
4. What are the LTP's objectives for external collaboration with other institutions and how well has it performed?

Evaluation will include a quantitative analysis of the LTP portfolio and desk-based research of key documents at programme and project levels. In-depth case studies of three-four policy areas will be representative of various transition stages – advanced, early transition countries and the middle group. This will be complemented by a review of literature from external sources (including evaluation studies), particularly by international organisations with which the LTP collaborates in delivering its different products. Qualitative data will be harvested through: Internal in-depth semi-structured interviews (in HQ and Regional Offices, to be selected based on the relevance of core in-depth topics/ cases); Semi-structured interviews with the external stakeholders in selected COOs and with international partners; Survey of core LTT stakeholders inside the bank (estimated sample circa 100 people); Survey of core external partners.

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