Executive Summary

The “Strengthening Voice and Accountability” Project (VAP) is a multi-phase intervention in the Kyrgyz Republic supporting citizen participation in local budgetary process and local self-government (LSG) responsiveness to civic initiatives. As its overall goal VAP seeks to ensure that **public finances are managed by LSGs in a more transparent and accountable mode through citizen participation in decision-making process**.

The Project was delivered in three distinct stages - 2011-2012 (inception phase), 2012-2015 (phase I) and 2015-2020 (phase II, with extension). This Project Document elaborates the proposed Exit Phase activities for the period from September 15, 2020 to March 15, 2022, with intended outcomes aimed at strengthening long-term foundations of sustainability and scale.

Results and lessons learned

**Inception (Nov 2011 – Apr 2012)**

In this period, VAP designed and validated the model of community engagement, working with three municipalities in Chui, Jalal-Abad and Issyk-Kul. The inception phase outcomes helped understand and define the parameters of demand from the local communities for greater involvement in local budgeting and civic participation, as well as the need for transparency and accountability at the local level. The inception phase also helped determine the capacity building areas required for elevating the role of the institutions of local self-government.