Support to e-Governance initiatives based on Free/Open Source Software at the local level in Macedonia

October, 2006

United Nations Development Programme

Some facts about the project

- Project Duration: June 2006 – June 2007

- Management Arrangement: UNDP DEX modality

- Total project budget: USD 75,000

Project objectives

- Support and facilitate the implementation of FOSS as a cost-effective e-governance solutions at local level

- Improve local government's efficiency, effectiveness and responsiveness towards the citizens

- Strengthen democracy, improve governance and facilitate more active citizen participation in the development processes

Project benefits

- Savings in the ICT budgets, reduced costs and less dependency on imported technology and skills
- Stimulating the local software industry with affordable software
- Ability to customize software to local languages and cultures
- Human resource development in the ICT area
- Enabling access to government data without barriers

Main Project Phases:

- **Assessment** of the municipal potentials and **development** of FOSS applications in accordance to the municipal priorities

- **Capacity building**, training and competency development for the municipal employees with the new environment

- **Implementation** of FOSS based e-governance solutions in pilot municipalities

- **Increasing awareness** and knowledge about FOSS benefits at national and local level

Project activities: Assessment and development

- Assessment of the potentials of the ICT infrastructure and human capacity in municipalities (pre-selection of 10 municipalities)

- Selection of pilot municipalities

- Needs assessment, selection of FOSS tools to be implemented, adaptation to local needs and procurement of additional equipment

- Development of FOSS based services and applications at local level

Project activities: Capacity building

- Training needs analyses

- Training of the ICTC/Foundation staff

- Redesigning and adjusting training curriculums

- Training of municipal administration (Linux basics and Open Office)

Project activities: Implementation

- Deployment of redesigned and improved Municipal Web-sites with e-democracy content (FOSS e- forums, on-line discussions, opinion polling system)

- Deployment of new FOSS e-governance solutions at local level

Project activities: Awareness

- Increase awareness and promotion of FOSS potential through organizing national and regional conferences

- Promotion of the FOSS solutions implemented in pilot municipalities

Selection of Pilot Municipalities: Pre-selection

Rank	LG Unit	Pre-selected
1	Veles	
2	Gostivar	Yes
3	Gevgelija	Yes
4	Tetovo	Yes
5	Struga	Yes
6	Strumica	Yes
7	Prilep	Yes
8	Kavadarci	Yes
9	Kriva Palanka	Yes
10	City of Skopje	
11	Shtip	Yes
12	Vasilevo	
13	Ohrid	
14	Resen	
15	Karposh	Yes

Selection of Pilot Municipalities: Final Selection

No	Municipality	Selected as pilot
1	Gostivar	
2	Kavadarci	
3	Kriva Palanka	
4	Stip	
5	Struga	Yes
6	Strumica	
7	Karposh	Yes
8	Tetovo	
9	Gevgelija	
10	Prilep	Yes

Migration to FOSS

- Install Linux OS stand alone or "dual boots" on all computers without SW licenses

- Install Open Office and Mozilla Firefox on all computers without SW licenses
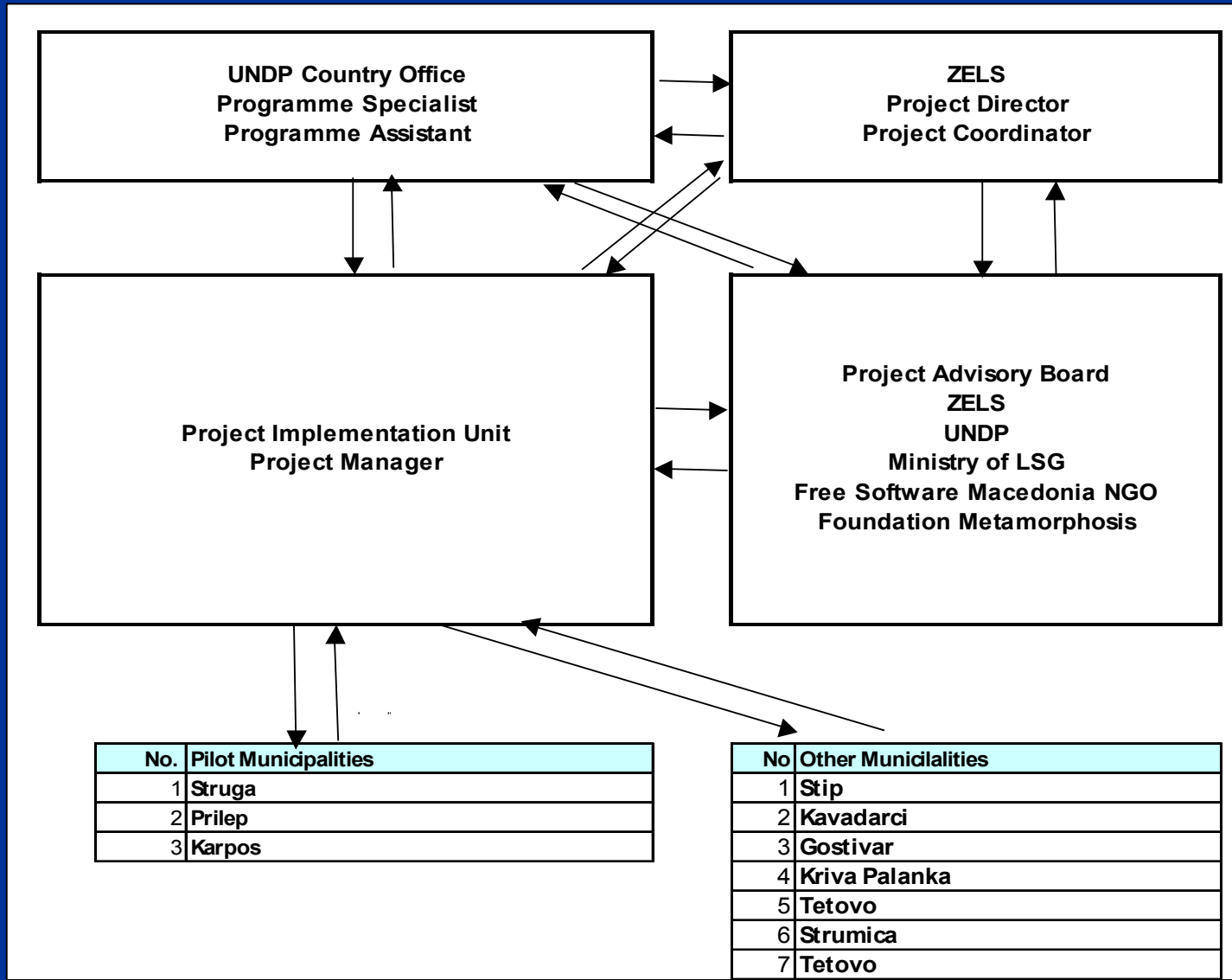
FOSS Applications to be developed

- Struga: Municipal/Citizens e-Services Portal; Redesign of the municipal Web site and upgrade with e-democracy content

- Karposh: Inter-municipal cooperation (e-Municipal Official Gazzete; Best practices), e-Municipal Council

- Prilep: Municipal/Citizens e-Services Portal; Redesign of the municipal Web site and upgrade with e-democracy content; Document (File) Management System and Workflow management;

Other activities

- The Project is in the process of preparations for a National Conference on FOSS in collaboration with MASIT, Metamorphosis and Free Software Macedonia, planned for the end of 2006 / beginning of 2007

- The Project has realized bilateral collaboration with the FOSS Project implemented by UNDP and Internet Society Bulgaria

Project Management

UNDP Country Office Programme Specialist Programme Assistant	ZELS Project Director Project Coordinator

Project Implementation Unit Project Manager	Project Advisory Board ZELS UNDP Ministry of LSG Free Software Macedonia NGO Foundation Metamorphosis

No.	Pilot Municipalities
1	Struga
2	Prilep
3	Karpos

No	Other Municilalities
1	Stip
2	Kavadarci
3	Gostivar
4	Kriva Palanka
5	Tetovo
6	Strumica
7	Tetovo

That's all FOSS!