External Evaluation of SPI Romania

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1. Introduction

- Why SPI and PPP?
- TOR evaluate: a) organization, b) nature of activities and c) depth of partnership all regarding sustainability and WB exit
- Evidence from interviews and documents
- Constraints: a) limited resources and b) no output (in results chain), thus a "process" and ex-ante risk evaluation

2. SPI Organization

- Mission is clear and very much needed
- Status of Committee is less clear
- Governance structure of Committee and Secretariat needs additional formalization
- Important role of Convergence (LP)
- No complaint from stakeholders
- Risk of fading away after WB exits (within general reform fatigue)

3. SPI Financing

- Cost efficiency evaluation is not possible
- Preliminary results are fantastic
- No long term sustainable model of future financing yet (with WB exit)
- Risks: a) capture and/or dominance of private sector and b) non sufficient and non stable funds = negative selection

4. Nature of Activities

- Preparation and selection of projects is elaborate and professional
- Present projects seem fine
- Not all initiated via SPI
- No complaints from stakeholders
- Risk of more projects biased toward private, less to public sector interests

5. Depth of Partnership

- SPI = new quality of professional dialogue
- Evidence: large number of persons, dialogue from the start, professional preparation (RIA) and clear framework
- Risks: a) fragile partnership (credibility from WB), b) "weak link" from position paper to changes in regulation and c) insufficient domestic ownership

6. Conclusions

- Romania needs SPI for large scale modernization of financial sector
- SPI is a modern, professional framework
- SPI has shown results and has potential
- SPI has support of stakeholders
- Risks needs to be addressed to ensure sustainability with local stakeholders stepping in after WB exit

7. Main Recommendations

Immediate:

- Increase domestic reputation and ownership of SPI by more successful projects and outreach (awareness)
- 2. Start a separate SPI project on long term financing model of SPI (without WB)

7. Main Recommendations (cont.)

Short term (end 2007)

- 3. Start a separate SPI project to optimize legal, institutional and governance structure and future leadership of SPI
- 4. Continue and speed up local capacity bulding among other by delegating more and more tasks from Convergence to local stakeholders

7. Main Recommendations (cont.)

Medium term (end 2008)

- 5. Develop a framework for follow up (advocacy) from finished project to enacting regulatory change
- Pay constant attention to retain the private-public balance in SPI

The End

Thank You for Your attention!