



TERMS OF REFERENCE

BILATERAL REMITTANCE CORRIDOR ANALYSIS

Italy-Albania Case Study and Bari Conference on Remittances

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I. Introduction and Background

International flows of worker remittances have grown rapidly in recent decades, reflecting the increasing mobility of labor in a more integrated world economy. For many developing countries, inflows of remittances from their nationals working abroad have come to constitute an important share of incomes, particularly to lower-income families, and an important source of investment financing. In some cases, particularly for small economies, remittance inflows have increasing macroeconomic importance for the balance of payments and monetary policy. At the same time, the relatively unregulated nature of these flows has raised concerns that some portion of them may be used to finance illegal activities including the laundering the proceeds of crime and the financing of terrorism.

Main objective of the Bilateral Remittance Corridor Analysis (BRCA), therefore, is to develop a better understanding of the incentives and other factors that shape the remittance markets in sender and recipient countries in order to promote effective policies for inducing that shift. The analysis will be informed, to the extent possible, by the emerging General Principles for International Remittance Services that are currently being discussed by a WB-BIS co-led Task Force.

For all of these reasons, efforts are being made to better understand and monitor the size and nature of these flows, the incentives that influence them, and the mechanisms through which they are transmitted, in order to develop policies to lower their transaction costs, enhance their developmental impact in the recipient countries, and minimize opportunities for misuse. It is believed that all of these objectives will be furthered by encouraging senders to channel a growing proportion of remittances through formal financial institutions. The “formalization” of remittance flows can, *inter alia*, open the access of both senders and receivers to other financial services, providing both additional income-earning opportunities and enhanced capacity to manage their financial risks.

II. The “Convergence” Program

The “Convergence” Program has been set up to help financial sector authorities of seven South-East European¹ countries start incorporating considerations of market development issues in the regulatory fine-tuning work that is necessary to promote real convergence of their economies with the EU. In advanced economies, “business-friendly” issues are routinely taken into consideration in the legal and regulatory process owing to the existence of large analytical capabilities in financial economics, banking and finance and

¹ The countries are: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro.



legal and regulatory matters within their civil societies in the context of ongoing close consultations between authorities and market participants.

Towards this objective, “Convergence” will use two instruments: 1) to undertake, in open consultation with relevant country and international stakeholders, analytical studies of micro-structural issues that, if properly regulated, could increase growth and efficiency of financial sector intermediation; 2) supported by a specific “Convergence” *honest broker* opinion, to bring the results of these studies (and those sponsored by other institutions) to the attention of authorities for decision-making. It is expected that, by fostering public-private dialogue on the basis of professionally-prepared technical proposals, “Convergence” will create the incentives for private sector investment in collective analytical capabilities that will eventually strengthen the business relevance of financial sector regulatory activities.

III. Objective and Component of TOR

Mr. Amatuzio’s work is as follows:

1. Bilateral Remittance Corridor Analysis case study Italy-Albania. [Co-TTL: Mr. Jose de Luna (OPD) and Mr. Raul Hernandez-Coss (FSEFI)]
2. Conference on Remittances to be held in Bari in February 13-14, 2006. [Co-TTL Mr. Raul Hernandez-Coss (FSEFI) and Mr. Isaku Endo (FSEFI)].

Mr. Amatuzio’s activities will include:

1. For Bilateral Remittance Corridor case study (Italy-Albania)
 - Conducting research on the First Mile (sending country). Convergence will introduce the consultant to the Italian Banking Association and other Italian institutional partners whose operational or logistical involvement may facilitate the identification of workable solutions.
 - Conducting research on the Last Mile (receiving country) and Intermediary (Informal channel part) in the Italy-Albania Remittance Corridor. Consistent with its institutional mission, Convergence may designate an Albanian consultant to support research in the receiving country with whom Mr. Amatuzio is expected to collaborate.
 - Traveling to conduct field research in both Italy and Albania. (From past experience, Mr. Amatuzio will travel to both sending and receiving countries to grasp the whole picture of the remittance corridor. Information regarding the both ends of remittance corridor could be retrieved in both First and Last Miles.)
 - Analyzing and drafting a case study under the guidance provided by TTLs.
2. For Preparation for Bari Conference on Remittances
 - Providing support on preparation for the conference including:
 - Identifying public and private institutions, scholars and researchers involved into migration and remittances studies in Italy.
 - Translation of documents and papers from and into Italian-English



- Registration process for the Conference.

Mr. Amatuzio is expected to report to Mr. de Luna and Mr. Hernandez-Coss for the case study and to Mr. Hernandez-Coss and Mr. Endo for the conference preparation. Massimo Cirasino, WB and Co-Head WB-BIS Task Force on General Principles for International Remittance Services, will be the peer reviewer. Riccardo Brogi, of the Rome-based Convergence Operations Unit, will provide guidance on the First and Last Mile research, including coordination with and access to industry working groups.

IV. Activity Budget

Mr. Amatuzio will work for a maximum of 50 days for FY06 at the rate of \$XYZ. He will start working with FSEFI on this “Convergence” assignment from approximately November 10, 2005 to February 28, 2006.

A total budget is estimated to be US\$XYK.

1. Fees:
2. Travel cost:
3. Subsistence costs: Albania and Italy per diem.

The money will be paid based on the following schedule:

1. Travel expense is according to Statement of Expenses as submitted. The consultant submits Travel Statement (Itinerary) and it will be approved and paid by the Bank. Per Diem and hotels will be paid upon the completion of the travel.
2. Fees will be paid bimonthly to the consultant.

V. Resources

Mr. Amatuzio is a qualified candidate for the opening position to carry out a remittance corridor case study project. Criteria for the position include 1) capability of conducting qualitative research on remittances, 2) experience in an international working environment, and 3) willingness to travel on mission. Mr. Amatuzio has conducted research and analysis on international financing of terrorism at the Monitoring Group of the United Nations, specifically on Al-Qaeda, the Taliban and their associates and associated entities. He was assigned at the Counter Terrorism Executive Directorate of the United Nations working on AML/CFT States’ legislations as well as ARS. He conducted a case study of the Italy-Morocco Remittance Corridor within the Bilateral Remittance Corridor Analysis. He possesses MA in Economics and International Relations from the University of Bologna and Post Graduate Study on International Economics and International Law from the International Affairs and International Organization (SIOI) in Italy. He is fluent in Italian, English and French, good in Spanish, and moderate in Arabic.