



Progress Report

“Strengthening capacities of the National Platforms (NP) of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF)”

1 June 2013 – 1 September 2013

During the reporting period the following activities were implemented within the project at regional level:

1. Road map monitoring started and first draft report was issued
2. WG3 meeting was held in Chisinau with one extra day discussing different issues related to the work of the WG3
3. Discussions with the WGs on activities to be supported from the project were held

Main activities at national levels:

Armenia:

- 9 issues of the ANP on-line newsletter were published (alternative funding).
- Expert group was formed to implement the EaP Roadmap monitoring. A working plan and timetable were developed.
- The 1st stage of the EaP Roadmap monitoring was implemented.
- A meeting of the Assembly of Armenian CSF delegates was held to discuss the agenda of the upcoming CSF Assembly in Chisinau, particularly the short-term and long-term priorities of the CSF, June 10
- Meeting of the 4th working group (People to people) held in Yerevan, where the agenda of the Armenian representatives at the CSF 4th WG meeting in Brussels, held in June 14, 2013 was discussed, June 10
- Meeting of ANP members was held in Yerevan. The issues related to the event, organized by EU Delegation in Armenia in June 20 on “Good governance and EU budget support” were discussed
- The EaP Roadmap monitoring methodology and implementation process were presented to 10 officials of state agencies and 35 NGO representatives in a seminar in Gyumri (alternative funding), June 18

- Discussion of the process of the implementation of the EaP Roadmap monitoring was held with the participation of ANP members and ANP Secretariat funding members
- Armenian language version of the EaP Roadmap was published in the ANP online newsletter
- Conference of the ANP was held in Yerevan dedicated to the planned initialing of the Association Agreement between the EU and Armenia during the EaP Vilnius summit. An ANP statement on that issue was adopted and disseminated
- Public discussion was organized in Yerevan on initialing of the Association Agreement. ANP members, media representatives, state officials, political party's representatives and experts participated in the event
- Working meetings on the 2nd stage of the EaP Road map monitoring were held.

Azerbaijan:

- Brochures on Eastern Partnership and Azerbaijan EU cooperation have been published and distributed among different stakeholders
- Open Workshops for CSOs have been continued in the reporting period

Two workshops with participation of different Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), universities as well as Azerbaijani National Platform members have been held in Baku, Azerbaijan. Following workshops have been organized;

a. Strategic Visioning and Planning in CSOs Workshop in Baku

CESD organized Strategic Visioning and Planning in CSOs for civil society organizations in Baku, Azerbaijan on July, 24, 2013. The workshop was supported through a Grant Agreement signed between the External Actions of European Union and Regional Environment Center (REC), Moldova. CESD is local partner of REC in the project.

The workshop addresses following topics: define different ways of thinking creatively and strategically; Explain different approaches to strategic and creative thinking; Apply tools in strategic and creative thinking; Understand and appreciate environmental context for strategy development; Apply models and tools in strategic planning.

b. “Managing staff and volunteers in CSOs in Azerbaijan” Workshop was Held in Baku

CESD held next workshop “Managing staff and volunteers in CSOs in Azerbaijan” on 22nd August, 2013 in Baku, Azerbaijan. Trainers were Rafiga Hamzayeva and Javid Nadirov. The main aim of informing audience of the activity of Human Resource managers, the definition of Human Resource Management, its features, the history of HR emergence in NGOs and CSOs in the world and their formation process in Azerbaijan.

- Research Paper on Azerbaijan's Accession to the WTO has been published and distributed.

What are the essence and main functions of the World Trade Organization (WTO)? What modifications will Azerbaijan's accession to the WTO claimed to be with no alternative bring to our

country? Why do WTO negotiations, Azerbaijan has been involved for 13 years, still fail? What are advantages and disadvantages of WTO membership? These questions are not fundamental for us and the point is that here WTO Accession does not have alternative. This policy paper has been prepared to seek answers to the above questions, as well as an immense pile of questions that remain unanswered.

Belarus:

- A conference in Minsk, Belarus with 77 participants (plus 14 participants from mass media) for 1 day on 1st of June, 2013 on the subject “Between Eastern Partnership and European Dialogue on Modernization”
- A round table in Minsk, Belarus with 10 participants for 1 day on 21st of June, 2013 on the subject “Problems of realization of the Orkhus convention in Belarus and ways of its solution”
- Design and development of the web-page of the Belarus’ CSF NP was finished, the whole structure of the web-site was prepared. Hosting and domen (npbelarus.info) were bought and transfer of the web-site to the domen was started

Georgia:

- Brochure explain the Eastern partnership and its mechanisms was published (total number 2000 copies)
- Brochures were disseminated among the civil society organizations and education centers.
- Expert to strengthen the existing National Platform website were selected and individual Terms of Reference were elaborated

Moldova:

- Information on the project activities were broadcasted in 3 interviews at the National Radio
- The radio show was broadcasted with participation of the CSF National Coordinator and WG1 coordinator
- The first informative brochure on EaP and Moldova – EU relations was published and dissemination has started
- 2 informative meetings were held
- WG3 meeting was held discussing Moldova’s WG3 input to the activities of the regional WG3
- Discussions on preparation of a video on the benefits of the EU integration for Moldova has started. Agreement was signed.

- Discussions on preparation and project contribution to the CSF in Chisinau were held with the National Coordinator

Ukraine:

- The meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Platform was held, June 4
- WG 4 meeting in the format of consultations with stakeholders was held, June 6
- Digest National Platform for the second quarter 2013 issued
- Meeting of WG 2 in the format of consultations with stakeholders was held on June 12
- Media seminar on Eastern Partnership for journalists was organised on June 20-21 in Kyiv
- WG 5 meeting in the format of consultations with stakeholders was held on June 22