ЦЕНТЪР НА НЕПРАВИТЕЛСТВЕНИТЕ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ В РАЗГРАД

Non-Governmental Organizations Center Razgrad

Project "Popularizing the Good Practices from the Civil Observation on Court"

FINAL REPORT

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2007 – JUNE 2007

http://court-rz.hit.bg

Total presentation of the activities implemented in the project during the whole granted period (without the free support) and their importance.

The project "Popularizing the Good Practices from the Civil Observation on Court" has a national scope. The project main goal is to improve the functioning of court on national level through popularizing good practices of court civil monitoring in Northeast Bulgaria. Within the project were implemented the following activities:

Organizational and coordinating activity at project start

In January 2007 the NGOs Center in Razgrad made a survey on NGOs from the whole country in order to organize a wide informational campaign to present the project and to announce a public procedure for taking part in a training program for court civil monitoring. NGOs of North-Central, Southwest and South-Central regions were identified to organize an informational campaign in five towns in Bulgaria – Pleven, Jambol, Pazardjik, Vratsa and Blagoevgrad. The NGOs Center in Razgrad prepared an application form for participation in the training program. It was fulfilled by 30 NGOs that announced willingness to participate in the training. Through it we received an information about: fields of organizations` development and implemented projects to the moment, level of organizations` activity, number of full-time assistants, of volunteers and members of the organization, motivation to participate in the project, expected benefits, summarized information about the organization's representative who will participate in the project. The sources to identify the NGOs to participate in the training programs were identified – informational meetings, announcements in local newspapers, in the website of NGOs Center in Razgrad and personal invitations.

Informational meetings

6 Informational meetings were organized in February and March 2007 in six towns – Razgrad, Pleven, Jambol, Pazardjik, Vratza and Blagoevgrad with the participation of 90 representatives of NGOs. Representatives of NGOs with different profile participated in them – law defendant, business organizations, educative, organizations that defend the rights of children, of disabled people, youth organizations, and school board of trustees, community Centers, organizations - providers of social services. The positive experience of NGOs Center in the field of civil monitoring and access to court was presented in the meetings. The questions of NGOs role in monitoring and civil control on court activity were discussed. The competition and the criteria for participation in the educative trainings on court civil monitoring were announced in the informational meetings. The organizations were acquainted with the stages of public procedure: submit applications; fill in a questionnaire;

present recommendations and interview with approved candidates. It was possible for the organizations that were interested in the project to receive immediately application form.

A public procedure to select 20 NGOs of the whole country to participate in the trainings.

At the end of March 2007 the procedure of accepting documents from NGOs to participate in the training program ended. 30 NGOs from the whole country submitted application forms. A committee of three representatives of the NGOs Center in Razgrad was formed – Georgi Milkov – chairperson of the managing Board, Krasimira Petrova – Program manager and Mariika Tzonevska – program assistant. They considered the submitted application forms, selected them on certain criteria and chose 20 NGOs of the whole country to participate in the training program. Active NGOs were invited for participation, they have long experience in the civil sector and certain experience in monitoring public institutions and in forming local politics. The motivation of every NGO to participate in the training program was studied. The 20 approved NGOs were presented to the Managing Board of the NGOs Center in Razgrad. The NGOs Center in Razgrad informed in writing all approved and disapproved organizations for selection results.

First Training

The first training on the project "Popularizing the Good Practices from the Civil Observation on Court" was implemented on 20th and 21st of April 2007 in Razgrad, Pchelina place, "Biovet" Hotel. Selected in the public procedure organizations were invited in the training, organizations of the whole country that have long experience in the civil sector and certain experience in monitoring public institutions and in forming local politics were invited for participation. The main goal of the educative trainings was to develop the capacity of approved organizations from 6 planned regions of Bulgaria to implement court civil monitoring. The trainers were: Georgi Milkov, Krasimira Petrova and Elin Harizanov from NGOs Centre in Razgrad. The participants were acquainted with the goals, tasks and expected results from the project. The existing experience of NGOs Center in Razgrad in the field of court civil monitoring was shared. The participants were acquainted with the achieved results, with stages of building partnership with District court and Regional court in Razgrad; good practices of partnership with the courts in the five district administrative Centers. They were trained how to use the System for court civil monitoring. The experience of the organizations with the local court was shared, how accessible it is to citizens and community. The representatives of organizations and institutions shared their motivation to participate in the current training. Their expectations are to learn something new and useful and to improve. The project is especially useful to the organizations to implement their ideas about court watch; to get to know good practices and to work directly with the court. Civil observers, members of Civil Consultative Group and court representatives were invited in the first training. They shared about cooperation, about process of court civil monitoring, their experience and motivation to participate in the projects of NGOs Center in Razgrad

Second Training

The second training was implemented on 1st and 2nd of June 2007 in Razgrad, Pchelina place. The training aimed to secure the needed theoretical knowledge, practical abilities and the preparation of the elected through a public procedure NGOs from the whole country to implement court civil monitoring. The facilitators were Georgi Milkov, Krasimira Petrova and Elin Harizanov from the NGOs Center in Razgrad.

The participants in the Second training got a good theoretical instructions to use the instruments of court civil monitoring, goals and priorities of monitoring in the courtrooms; got knowledge about the right selection of members of Civil Consultative Group and abilities to motivate and develop the capacity of experts; working out a duty record and signing partnership agreements with experts; got theoretical knowledge and practical abilities to work out monthly and three-months reports on court civil monitoring. Work out statistics for the reports; Got knowledge and abilities for successful presentation of project activity and report

on court civil monitoring inform of community and court – how to organize media campaigns, working breakfast with journalists, press conferences, internal briefings with judges, public forums and informational meetings, how to make publications, announcements to press. The representatives of the organizations received very good instructions, theoretical knowledge and practical skills to implement court civil monitoring.

Third Training- setting up a National Network for Court Civil Watch

The National network for court civil watch was established on 2nd of June 2007 in hotel "Biovet", Pchelina place, near Razgrad. The organizations that united to cooperate and implement the goals of coalition through exchange of information, experience, good practices and ideas are: the NGOs Center in Razgrad, Bulgarian Association for Fair Elections and Civil Rights-Razgrad, Association "Partners Turgoviste", Foundation for community cares "Diva" Plovdiv, Association "Euroyouths"- Shumen, Foundation "SOS –families in risk" – Varna, Civil association against corruption and illegal building – Sofia, Center for training programs and social initiatives –Jambol, Association "Open door Center" – Pleven, Association for civil society development" – Pleven, Association "Eco directions 21" – Pleven, Centre for women support – Strazets, Association "Youth Forum2001" Razgrad, Women` association "Ekaterina Karavelova" – Silistra, Association "Hope -2002"- Gorna Oriahovitza, association "Partners for European development" – Elhovo.

The following decisions were discussed and taken during the Constitutive meeting: The National network for court civil watch was set up for non-fix terms. The civil organizations from the coalition cooperate between themselves through exchange of information, experience, good practices and ideas. All organizations in the coalition cooperate between themselves through the NGOs Center in Razgrad. The NGOs Center in Razgrad, as an organization will long and rich experience in the field of court civil monitoring, give the network members consultant, informational and technical help Организациите в коалицията могат да се сдружават за изпълнението на общи проекти и програми, условията на които се договарят допълнително. . The organizations of the coalition may associate to implement joint projects and programs, which circumstances will be contracted later. All coalition participants are equal; they keep their independence and autonomy. The organizations will look for funding programs and other possibilities to implement joint projects. The coalition members will organize regular meetings. A website of the national coalition will to be set up and developed. They will communicate between themselves and share information through the telephone, fax, e-mail, correspondence, web site, and chat-forum. The member organizations will work out and adopt an "Ethical Code of the "National network for court civil watch" coalition" in 6 months term after the establishment of the coalition.

Brochure

A brochure was printed within the project through which the NGOs Center in Razgrad will popularize the court civil monitoring in the whole country. The brochure presents information about why civil monitoring is needed, what results it attains and also it presents the main object of monitoring. The main project goals and tasks are presented. The brochure points the web site of the organization that presents the whole present experience and development of the organization in the field of civil monitoring. The brochure is issued in 15 000 copies, fully colored. All organizations, constituents of the national network, received brochures to distribute them in the places they live and where they implement court civil monitoring. The brochure will reach NGOs, citizens, representatives of judicial and public institutions in the whole country.

A guide for implementation of court civil monitoring

A guide for implementation of court civil monitoring was printed in June 2007. The guide may be used in three options – printed, issued in 1500 copies, accessible version in electronic form at the website of the project and in CD.

The issue is a practical guide for implementation of court civil monitoring**.** It will be very useful to organizations that passed the training on court civil monitoring. The guide informs why the civil monitoring is needed, practical advices to make partnership with judicial system, the whole process of court civil monitoring is described – defining the monitoring object, how to select court cases, main participants in the process of civil monitoring – civil observers and members of the Civil consultative group, selection and training of civil observers, instruments for implementation of civil monitoring how to implement civil monitoring, how to fill the monitoring cards, how to work our reports, how to organize a survey on the public opinion and evaluation of the court public image, how to popularize the activity and what mechanisms to use to present the reports on court civil monitoring. The guide is a unique and very useful issue for organizations willing to develop in the field of civil monitoring.

1. Comments and recommendations for activities that are not fully implemented

The NGOs Center in Razgrad fir the first time organizes a project on national level. Within the project there are no plan activities that were not implemented. The project team and the project partners successfully organized the activities according to the plan-schedule and coordinated their implementation in cooperation with the monitored courts in the five towns.

2. Review on the main project goals and the examined problems as well as conclusions on the base of project results

The main project goal is to improve the functioning of the court on national level through popularizing good practices of court civil monitoring in Northeast Bulgaria. Within the project we trained 20 NGOs that developed capacity to implement court civil monitoring an open and accessible data base is set up to organize court civil monitoring. With the current project the NGOs Center in Razgrad made a capacity on national level to implement court civil monitoring.

- 6 Informational meetings are organized with the participation of more than 120 NGOs from the whole country to popularize good practices and results of civil monitoring in five district Centers;
- A public procedure to select 20 motivated NGOs from the whole country to participate in the trainings was implemented;
- A brochure of 15 000 copies was issued, it is distributed free and popularizes the civil monitoring in the whole country;
- A guide on civil monitoring is printed in 1500 copies, a CD is issued in 1500 copies as well as free and accessible version in the website of the NGOs Center in Razgrad http://court-rz.hit.bg;
- The issues is a result of the three years experience of NGOs Center in Razgrad in the field of court civil monitoring in generally 6 district administrative Centers;
- Three two-days trainings with 20 NGOs representatives from the whole country are organized to develop their capacity for court civil monitoring;
- A National networkwork of 20 NGOs is created in Bulgaria to implement court civil monitoring and supports the judicial reform on local level;
- The National networkwork for court civil monitoring is open to all NGOs that develop or are willing to develop in the field of court civil monitoring;
- The National networkwork for court civil monitoring will continue developing after the end of the project through exchange of ideas, good practices and cooperation in the field of court civil monitoring;
- The website http://court-rz.hit.bg presents actual information about the process of project implementation and achieved results.
- The knowledge of public institutions representatives, community and civil society about the necessity and benefits of court civil monitoring is raised;
- A capacity of national level to implement court civil monitoring is build up.

- The NGOs Center in Razgrad raised its capacity in the field of selection and training of NGOs and develops as an organization for consultations and training. A positive adjustment is created in society to use transparent and public procedures for selection.
- The mechanism of court civil monitoring is improved on the base of the survey that 20 NGOs from the whole country made on the cooperation of court with civil society and the process of transparency and publicity of the judicial institution.

3. Summery of the undertaken activities and on the stuff that implement them (the contribution of everyone has to be precisely pointed)

The following activities are implemented within the project: 6 Informational meetings in the whole country to share good practices and the process of establishing an effective partnership with the court; 20 active and motivated NGOs from the six plan regions of Bulgaria are selected by a public procedure to participate in trainings on court civil monitoring; A guide on court civil monitoring is issued in printed and electronic version – a book in 1500 copies, a CD in 1500 copies and an accessible electronic version in Internetwork on the website of NGOs Center in Razgrad - http://court-rz.hit.bg; A National networkwork for court civil monitoring is set up and it will continue developing in the field of court civil monitoring after the end of the project.

The project team participated actively in the implementation of all project activities as the personal tasks were distributed in balance.

4. Difficulties that the granted organization met within the project implementation and undertaken measures

The NGOs Center in Razgrad did not meet difficulties within the project realization. The organization for the first time implements a project on national scope and managed successfully with the organization, coordination and implementation of project activities.

5. Learn lessons

During the last three years the NGOs Center in Razgrad develops its capacity in the field of court civil monitoring. As a result of the implementation of the two projects the organization improved and enriched the methodology for civil monitoring, work out a Bulgarian System for court civil monitoring with practically examined instruments and methodology. From the end of 2006 the organization implemented two projects with regional scope to multiply the good practices and positive effect of court civil monitoring in other six administrative Centers and set up local teams for court civil monitoring. The learn lessons from the project "Popularizing the Good Practices from the Civil Observation on Court" are basically concerned with the necessity to share and pass on the positive experience and good practices in order to advance considerable and tangible changes in forming definite politics. Many active NGOs with a serious experience in the field of social activity and anticorruption initiatives and activity that is somehow related to judicial institution applied documents in the public procedure for participation in the trainings on court civil monitoring. It was very important for them to get knowledge and experience for successful partnership with court.

The NGOs Center works already fourth year with court and expands the scope of cooperation from local and regional to national level. It gained considerable experience during the last years and set up a serious database that with the current project will popularize good practices on court civil monitoring. The idea of the organization to train 20 motivated NGOs from the whole country to implement court civil monitoring was realized. The NGOs Center in Razgrad accomplished its main goal – to develop a capacity on national level for court civil monitoring to support the reform of judicial system on local level to improve social image and trust in court. The organization set up an "open database" accessible for free use from everyone who is interested in court civil monitoring.

6. The final summarizing report should include a summery of one page in English - the summery covers project activities and their results

In the period January 2007 – June 2007 the NGOs Center in Razgrad implemented a project with national scope. Through it the organization popularizes its three-year experience in the field of court civil monitoring.

The following activities were implemented within the project:
6 Informational meetings in the whole country to share good practices and the process of establishing an effective partnership with the court; 20 active and motivated NGOs from the six plan regions of Bulgaria are selected by a public procedure to participate in trainings on court civil monitoring; A guide on court civil monitoring is issued in printed and electronic version – a book in 1500 copies, a CD in 1500 copies and an accessible electronic version in Internetwork on the website of NGOs Center in Razgrad - http://court-rz.hit.bg; A National networkwork for court civil watch is set up and it will continue developing in the field of court civil monitoring after the end of the project.

Achieved results:
As a long lasting and stable result is set up a National networkwork of 20 NGOs in Bulgaria to implement court civil monitoring and to support the judicial reform on local level; The National networkwork for court civil watch is open to all NGOs that develop or are willing to develop themselves in the field of court civil monitoring; The National networkwork for court civil watch will continue developing after the end of the project through exchange of ideas, good practices and cooperation in the field of court civil monitoring;

6 Informational meetings are organized with participation of more than 120 NGOs from the whole country to popularize good practices and results of the civil monitoring in five district Centers; a public procedure is implemented to select 20 motivated NGOs from the whole country to participate in the trainings; a brochure of 15 000 copies is issued, it is distributed free and popularizes the civil monitoring in the whole country; A guide on court civil monitoring is issued in printed and electronic version – a book in 1500 copies, a CD in 1500 copies and an accessible electronic version in Internetwork on the website of NGOs Center in Razgrad http://court-rz.hit.bg; The issue is a result of the three-years experience of NGOs Center in Razgrad in six district administrative Centers; Three two-days trainings are organized with the participation of 20 NGOs representatives from the whole country to develop their capacity in court civil monitoring; The website http://court-rz.hit.bg presents actual information about the process of project implementation and achieved results; Representatives of public institutions, community and civil society will know more about the necessity and benefits of court civil watch;

A capacity to implement court civil watch is build on national level; The mechanism for court civil monitoring is improved on the base of the surveys of 20 NGOs from the whole country on the cooperation between court and civil society and the process of transparency and publicity of judicial system. The NGOs Center in Razgrad raised its capacity in the field of selection and training of NGOs and develops as an organization for consultations and training. A positive adjustment is originated in society to use transparent and public procedures for selection;

8. At least one successful story, each one page –1 page – result of court civil monitoring

Setting up a National Network for Court Civil Watch
A National network for court civil watch was established for the first time in the country. It unites NGOs from the whole country. The 4 years experience of NGOs Center in Razgrad in the field of civil monitoring was conveyed to other 20 NGOs.
The National network for court civil watch was established on 2nd of June 2007 in hotel "Biovet", Pchelina place, near Razgrad. The NGOs Center in Razgrad, Bulgarian Association for Fair Elections and Civil Rights-Razgrad, Association "Partners Turgoviste", Foundation

for community cares “Diva” Plovdiv, Association “Euroyouths”-Shumen, Foundation “SOS – families in risk” – Varna, Civil association against corruption and illegal building – Sofia, Center for training programs and social initiatives –Jambol, Association “Open door Center” – Pleven, Association for civil society development” – Pleven, Association “Eco directions 21” –Pleven, Centre for women support – Strazets, Association “Youth Forum2001” Razgrad, Women` association ”Ekaterina Karavelova” – Silistra, Association “Hope -2002”- Gorna Oriahovitza, association “Partners for European development” – Elhovo united to cooperate and implement the goals of coalition through exchange of information, experience, good practices and ideas .

The National network for court civil watch was set up for non-fix terms. It is open to all NGOs from the whole country that develops or is willing to develop in the field of court civil monitoring. Civil organizations gathered in a coalition for cooperation through exchange of information, experience, good practices and ideas in the field of court civil monitoring. Coalition participants are equal; keep their independence and autonomy. All organizations in the coalition will cooperate through the NGOs Center in Razgrad. The NGOs Center in Razgrad, as an organization will long and rich experience in the field of court civil monitoring, will give the network members consultant, informational and technical help. The organizations of the coalition will unite to implement joint projects and programs concerning court civil monitoring.

Through the network the organizations will exchange good practices and positive experience to cooperate with court; innovative methods for court civil monitoring and for activating the process the judicial system to open to citizens and community, they will communicate between themselves to raise their capacity in the field of court civil monitoring. The national network will contribute to the development of effective partnerships between the organizations, to distribute the positive experience and knowledge, to improve communication and resource provision of the existing partnerships to solve definite problems in the judicial system on local level.

A website of the national coalition is coming to be set up and developed, as well the adoption of an “Ethical Code of the “National networkwork for court civil watch” coalition”.

7. **Information from monitoring and evaluation according to the table below – enclosure**