

Increasing financial sustainability of Civil Society Organizations in the Republic of Moldova

Description: The project is designed to assist the Government of the Republic of Moldova, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and private sector to create a favourable environment to increase the sustainability of CSO by promoting individual giving and corporate giving, social entrepreneurship and quality services.

Providing assistance to the Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, Tax Authority, CSOs and private sector the project will contribute to the development of CSOs institutional capacity, transparency and effectiveness in mobilizing resources for the poor.

Dates of implementation: 2006 – 2009.

Objectives pursued:

- Create a favourable legal and fiscal environment and mechanisms for Civil Society development. That is achieved through a comprehensive analysis of current legislation, drafting laws on the related framework, NGO development, changing public opinion.
- Improve capacities of CSOs to mobilize resources through individual giving, developing economic activities/social entrepreneurship and deliver services.
- Develop Community Foundations – independent philanthropic organizations – which collect, manage and redistribute donations from a wide range of mainly local donors to meet important needs of local community.
- Develop and apply the corporate giving programme (in cooperation with Global Compact), which can help the businesses make wise decisions about which community programs to support, to increase the sense of satisfaction that everyone in the company derives from charitable giving, and to strengthen ties to customers and the community.

Benefits expected:

- Individual giving will redirect part of taxes from citizens, thus making them to decide over the state budget. People will participate in funding important public activities along with the State. That will encourages citizen participation and will create trust to civil society. The most important is the recognition of the social value of NGOs as people “vote” by every cent for the civil society.
- Interaction between NGOs, tax administration and financial incentives for citizens will make NGOs more responsible for their missions and the quality of services.
- At the least three Community Foundations developed in the country.
- The businesses will take more social responsibility.

Public awareness: Public awareness campaign for NGOs, government and citizens developed:

- PR campaign for taxpayers (mass-media and PR companies).
- Consulting taxpayers, NGOs, tax administration (free phone line and TV).
- Seminars for NGOs.

Budget: The total budget is USD 550,000 equally funded by UNDP and Soros Foundation.

Partners: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Finance, CSOs, private sector.

Noteworthy: Community Foundations sustainability is ensured by endowing funds contributed by many donors to be used for charity (e.g. grants to local NGOs to strengthen

their capacity or scholarships to poor talented young people for more rapid community development). This endowment also gives community foundation's donors a guarantee that their help will have a long-term impact.

Contacts:

Vlad Melnic, Project Manager
Address: 82, 31 August str., office 321, Chisinau, Moldova
Tel.: (373 22) 20-14-26
E-mail: vlad.melnic@undp.org