



PODRŠKA ANTIKORUPCIJI
Strengthening anti-corruption capacities
and CSO networks in the area



This project is funded
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Unbiased view to SELDI report from Bosnia and Herzegovina

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"Project Strengthening anticorruption capacities
and CSO networks in the area"



Project is implemented by Consortium led by HD European Consulting Group



Content of presentation

Main points of the presentation:

- Project description
- Project environment and challenges
- Usefulness of the SELDI report
- Role of the NGOs in the fight against corruption
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Project description

Two year, EU funded project implemented by consortium led by the HD European Consulting Group, which includes Center for the Study of Democracy, which, through three components, provides technical assistance to main AC stakeholders in BiH:

- State anticorruption Agency
- AC bodies at the level of entities and BD BiH
- AC institutions with at level of entity and BD BiH
- NGOs active in the scope of AC in BiH

One of the key outputs of the Project is the new Anticorruption Strategy and Action plan.

Components of the Project:

- Strengthening institutional and administrative capacity of APIK to effectively fight and prevent corruption
- Support of the institutions mandated to combat and prevent corruption on different administrative levels and coordination mechanisms among them including CSOs
- Strengthening of capacity of the CSOs fighting corruption and support their cooperation with public institutions fighting corruption.

Main activities of the Project:

- Analysis of the implementation of the existing Anticorruption Strategy and its impact
- Development of the new Anti-corruption Strategy and its Action Plan
- Support to APIK in implementation preventive anticorruption measures
- Strengthening cooperation and coordination among main institutions mandated to combat and prevent corruption at state, entity and Brcko district level
- Supporting cooperation and coordination between governmental institutions mandated to combat and prevent corruption and CSOs

Main activities of the Project:

- Supporting monitoring activities of anticorruption bodies at entity and Brcko district level
- Development and implementation of tailor-made capacity building for support of implementation of anticorruption measures for CSOs and public institutions in order to enforce mutual cooperation
- Assistance to grant beneficiaries in the implementation of IPA 2010 anticorruption projects
- Organization of events to inform and share with broader civil society and public sector lessons learned and the best practices during implementation of IPA 2010 anticorruption projects

Main results of the Project:

- The Institutional and administrative capacities of APIK Agency are strengthened to effectively fight and prevent corruption
- The New Anti-corruption Strategy and Action Plan are prepared and implementation of Anti-corruption Strategy is supported
- Anti-corruption capacities of public institutions mandated to fight and prevent corruption are reinforced and cooperation mechanisms involving relevant institutions at the State and Entities level is functioning
- Participation of CSO in implementation of existing Anticorruption Strategy and Action Plan and in preparation of new ones

Main results of the Project:

- Mechanisms for cooperation and coordination among governmental and non-governmental organizations fighting corruption established and functioning
- Provided support to CSOs and public sector institutions in the implementation of the Anticorruption instruments and measures through targeted capacity measures
- Establishment and maintaining of anticorruption e-platform
- Supporting Anticorruption Agency in all scopes of work, not only ones mentioned in the ToR.

Project environment and challenges

There are many challenges to implementation of this kind of a Project, among which the most important are:

- Complex administrative setup of the country
- Fragmented, competing AC environment
- Specific position of a state bodies in BiH
- Young and freshly staffed AC Agency
- Insufficient political will and support to AC
- Strategy and AP are prepared in the election period
- Legacy from the current Strategy and AP

Usefulness of the SELDI report

SELDI report *is* or at least *can be* very useful if there is a will to consult and use them, since:

- It is "packed" with well defined AC measures
- They are well elaborated and formulated
- It is a kind of a "restaurant menu" for AC activities
- There are ready-to-use/plug-and-play measures
- They can be used both by the institutions and NGOs

The report comes in the right time for the preparation of the Strategy and Action plan of BiH 2015-2019.

It is already examined by the team of the Agency that works on their preparation, looking for the possibility to include some of the SELDI recommendations into them.

Role of the NGOs in the fight against corruption

- There are two extremes that both institutions and NGOs have to avoid:
- For NGOs:
 - not to be only critics of the institution
 - not to become instrument of the institutions
- For institutions:
 - not to try to make NGOs their instruments
 - not to make NGOs "enemies"
- Cooperation on clear, free of conflict of interest basis
- Support, not competition

Positive examples from BiH

Although situation in BiH is not significantly different compared with other SELDI countries, but, still there are positive examples:

- Developed, engaged and powerful NGO sector, not hesitating to enter the AC arena
- Openness of the AC Agency for cooperation with the NGOs active in the AC
- Inclusion of the NGOs in the preparation of the Strategy and AP
- Readiness of the NGOs to help Agency in the preparation of the Strategy and AP