

TACSO BiH Technical Assistance to LACON (Legal Anti- Corruption Network) in BiH REPORT

TA- NETWORKING 22 February, 2012

LACON NETWORK (LEGAL ANTI - CORRUPTION NETWORK IN BIH)

Civil Society Centre *Kyodo* approached TACSO BiH to provide technical assistance at first training/workshop for capacity building of network members, which was held on 22 February 2012 in Hotel Herzegovina, Iliđža.

LACON NETWORK members

| Organisation |
|--|
| Rights for All |
| Mediacentar |
| Soros Foundation |
| University Centre for Human Rights |
| <i>Uzbunjivači</i> |
| Centre for Citizen Interest Advocacy |
| Alumni Association of American Students |
| Legal Institute |
| European Association of Law Students, BiH |
| Association of Citizens <i>Zašto ne</i> |
| <i>Tender – Banja Luka</i> |
| Centre for Investigative Journalism |
| RS Helsinki Committee |
| Corruption Prevention and Anti-Corruption Agency |

Purpose of Support

Purpose of the support was to assist in the following:

- a) establishment of the LACON network and
- b) facilitation of action planning

Major Challenges

During a daylong workshop, it was projected that concrete results should guide and connect future Network action. Agenda below was designed in the form of two workshops (the first part - presentation of project results; following the discussion in the second part issues for actions were identified). Network members further developed identified issues into action plans.

Workshop/training agenda

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 10:00 - 10:15 | Introductory remarks and short Project presentation – Project PR Manager |
| 10:15 - 10:45 | Presentation of prepared amendments for three areas: education, salaries, contributions – 10 minutes each area - Project Legal Expert |
| 10:45 - 11:00 | Discussion on proposals presented |
| 11:00 - 12:00 | Brainstorming session – moderators: Project PR Manager and |

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Top questions of the session:

How could prepared proposals be implemented in institutions?

How should these amendments and messages be presented to the public?

LACON Network – initial activities, who are they aimed at, what changes can we introduce?

13:00 - 15:00

Lecture and group work – Networking

Lecturer and working groups moderator - TACSO BiH Resident Advisor

Communication

Management

Resources

Responsibility

15:00 - 15:45

Media and Anticorruption – 20 minute lecture, 25 minute discussion

Lecturer: CIN, Centre for Investigative Journalism (project partner) representative

15:45 - 16:00

Conclusions and assessment

Major Achievements

Training participants worked in two groups.

Questions defined during the workshop were applied to two specific activities, resulting from previous networking session, which the group will jointly implement.

Activity 1 – On behalf of Legal Anticorruption Network, KYDO Civil Society Centre will submit proposal of amendments for education area to the Commission for Ethic of Sarajevo University Senate (UNSA) as the first instance to consider the amendments. Network members will jointly lobby for their adoption, simultaneously encouraging Commission for Ethics and the Senate to promote and advocate for the proposed amendments.

KYDO will also submit an Exam Taking and Anticorruption Guide to the UNSA Commission for Ethics to be further distributed to faculties.

Activity 2 – In order to promote efficient amendment advocacy in the area of contributions and salaries for civil servants and appointed officials, the Centre for Citizen Interest Promotion (CPI) made calculations of funds collected by the authorities for contributions per work contracts into the budget, while citizens paying them, get no health care in return, nor do any of finances paid go to pension funds.

In addition, CPI and CIN calculated the amount spent on specific fees paid to civil servants and appointed officials in addition to salaries. The sums were then recalculated into average salaries of employees in the economy. The purpose of this activity is to assist citizens create a picture of how tax payers' money is spent and estimate fairness of salaries vs. work performance.

Members of Legal Anticorruption Network will jointly communicate these messages and advocate for amendments proposed in these areas by KYODO Civil Society Centre, defined on the basis of detailed analyses of current legislation.

Two mentioned activities were developed through the following questions discussed in the facilitation process:

1. What would you as Network members like to see as a result of our joint engagement following project closure? (answers follow SMART principles)
2. Which microclimate will change through this project and networking? How do we know we change it?
3. Which institutions do we address (primarily project partners and targeted groups) and how? Who are institution actors identified as key to our starting activities as LACON network?
4. How can other network members incorporate results of previous KYODO activities into their activities?
5. What changes could occur on the basis of KYODO and LACON Network results? What is the first step that we, members of the Network, take and towards whom?
6. What are initial activities that we/individual organisation can do?

Feedback provided by CSO Kyodo, organiser of the event:

Strengthening Capacity of Partners' Organizations Training was prepared and held with TACSO BH Team technical assistance.

The agenda and workshop objectives were defined with very useful suggestions by TACSO team.

LACON members evaluated entire workshop *very good to excellent*. All categories provided in the evaluation list reflected Kyodo issues: materials, lecturers and suggestions for future workshops improvement.

