

NARRATIVE REPORT FOR PROJECT GOOD GOVERNANCE THROUGH OPEN GOVERNMENT

This project was supported through a grant provided by the Center for Research and Policy Making in the framework of the EU funded project *Advocacy for Open Government – civil society agenda-setting and monitoring of country action plans*. The main goal of the project is the actualization of the goals and opportunities offered by the OGP initiative and to serve as the foundation for the establishment of a regional network for the participation and monitoring of the implementation of the OGP AP 2016 -2018 for the CSOs in Pelagonia region.

This project was implemented as two sessions seminar through which the participants learned about the key measures in the 8 priority areas of the Action Plan for OGP 2014-2016 and about how they can get engaged and shape the process to address more public issues. This seminars was the first step for establishing a network of CSOs from the Pelagonia region that will support the OGP initiative and actively engage in the activities at the national level.



Implementation of the projects Good Governance through Open Government Partnership launched with a call for participants in both workshops provided by the project. The call was posted on 28/10/2016 and was dedicate to civil society organizations from Pelagonia Region. The call was successful and we received 26 applications from more than 20 Organization from different municipalities in Pelagonija Region .

The first session of the seminar was held on 11.03.2016 in Hotel Teatar Bitola. In the period from 10:30 to 11:00 participants arrived and registered. The seminar was officially opened by Marija Risteska, Executive Director of CRPM Skopje and Diogen Hadji- Kosta Milevski, President at CEDI Bitola. In the welcome remarks, participants were introduced to the project objectives the process of implementation and expected results from this project.

The first session of the seminar was realized in two panel discussions. The first panel discussion bore the title MACEDONIA'S ACTION PLANS: AIMING TOWARD TRANSFORMATIVE COMMITMENTS and was held from 11:30 to 13:30. Panelists for this session were Ms. Gordana



Gapik Dimitrovska - National Coordinator for OGP in Macedonia and Marija Risteska - Project Coordinator for OGP, CRPM - Skopje. Through this panel participants had an opportunity to learn about the process of making OGP Action Plan 2016 - 2018 and the relationship between the relevant Government



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departments and NGOs. The purpose of this panel was to encourage the representatives of civil society organizations to consider how their organizations can engage and modulate the process for it to cover more issues of public interest.

After this panel participants had a short break with a buffet lunch at the restaurant Premier Centre near the hotel where the seminar is held.

The second panel was named **THE CO-CREATION AND IMPLEMENTATION PRACTICES IN MACEDONIA AND ABROAD. THE PANEL** started at 14:30 and was opened by Qenderesa Sulejmani, an expert on open government, from CRPM Skopje and was focused on the process



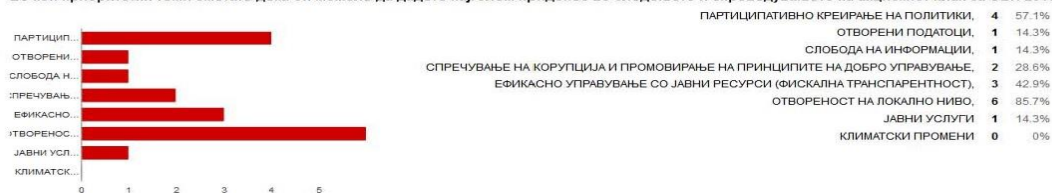
of networking of CSOs in Macedonia and the establishing of the relationship between civil society organizations and government as a crucial precondition for realizing the objectives of OGP action plan. Second panelist on this panel was Tim Hughes, manager of the program for OGP in CSO Involve from UK who shared the experiences from



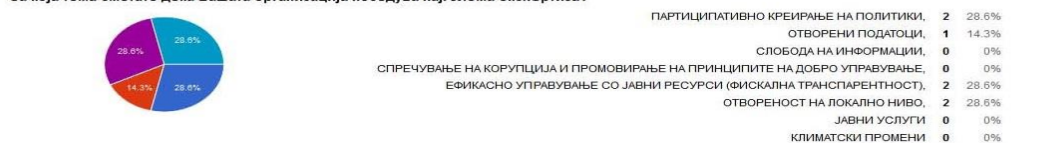
his country in the process of creating a network of civil society organizations that monitor the process of implementation of the activities from initiative for Open Government Partnership. The panel ended at 16:30 pm.

Based on the experiences and information that were received by the organizations at the first session of the seminar CEDI conducted online questionnaire aimed for mapping of opportunities for involvement in the monitoring and implementation of OGP action plan 2016-2018 by civil society organizations in Pelagonija region.

Во кои приоритетни теми сметате дека би можеле да дадете најголем придонес во следењето и спроведувањето на акцискиот план за ОВП 2016 - 2018 ?



За која тема сметате дека Вашата организација поседува најголема експертиза?



The questionnaire consisted of 11 questions, which aimed to determine the needs and interests of organizations. The responses to the questionnaire gave the team of CEDI a clear picture of what are the priority areas of the Action Plan for OGP 2016-2018 in which organizations from Pelagonija region have an interest to get involved.

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Based on the results of the questionnaire it was determined that the primary interest of the organizations are in the fields of participatory policy making and openness at the level. These data were used in the modeling of the second session of the seminar aimed to inform participants with the activities in these two areas.

The second session of the seminar within the project GOOD GOVERNANCE THROUGH OPEN GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP was held on 18.11.2016 at Hotel Teatar. The session started at 11:00 with the introductory speech by Diogen Hadji-Kosta Milevski, project coordinator and President of CEDI Bitola and Qenderesa Sulejmani, an expert on open government, from CRPM Skopje. Within this introduction the participants were informed of the plan for implementation of activities in the second session and the initial plans for establishing a network for support of implementation of OGP by the organizations from Pelagonia region.

The activities of the second session of the seminar were conducted in two parallel working groups during the period from 11:40 to 14:30. The first working group Participatory policy making was mentored by Gordana D. Dimitrov - National Coordinator for OGP in Ministry for Information Society and Administration and coordinator of the activities in the framework of the measure participatory policy making during the creation of the Action Plan for OGP 2016-2018. The participants in this group had the opportunity to learn about the tools and the ways in which organizations can be part of the participation policy making and method of proposing new future measures.

The second working group OPENNESS AT LOCAL LEVEL was mentored by Qenderesa Sulejmani, an expert on open government, from CRPM Skopje. Representatives of civil society organizations had the opportunity to learn about the measures and actions foreseen in the field of openness at the local level, key organizations that drive this measure, priority objectives and mechanisms through which municipalities in Pelagonija region could accede to create individual commitments for openness. Working in groups ended at 14:30 after which the participants had a cocktail lunch at restaurant Premier Center.



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The final panel of the seminar was held in the period from 15:30 to 16:30 in Premier Centre, which meets the main objectives of this project, the formation of Network for monitoring of the implementation of OGP action plan by the CSO`s in Pelagonia region. Moderator of this session was Diogen Hadji-Kosta Milevski, project coordinator and President of CEDI Bitola. This session marks the beginning of the process of planning further activities that will be carried out by the Network for monitoring of the implementation of OGP action plan by the CSO`s in Pelagonia region. By mutual consent it was established that the partnership is a great opportunity to give a voice to all organizations that are part of the network. The first concrete activity of the network is planned to be implemented after completion of the electoral process in Macedonia in the period between 20/01/2017 and 15/02/2017.



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