



Subgroup of the WG1 on Local Government and Public Administration Reform

Objectives and Action plan for 2013

1. Objectives

The Subgroup on Local Government and Public Administration Reform met during the Civil Society Forum in Stockholm and discussed its activities and plans for the coming year.

It identified the following objectives:

- To promote reforms in the EaP countries to support local governments, their autonomy and capacities, towards a better decentralization
- To promote local self-government and public administration reforms in EaP countries
- To promote the role of civil society in promoting local governments and decentralization and public administration reform
- To monitor the commitments of the EaP countries as for local governments capacities and autonomy, and in terms of public administrative reform
- To exchange best practices among the civil society actors involved in public administration reform and local governments capacities and autonomy

2. Action plan

The subgroup identified the following specific areas to follow in its work:

1. Fiscal Decentralisation and decentralisation in general

To continue the work on promoting and lobbying for fiscal decentralisation in the EaP area and follow up to the document the subgroup developed on fiscal decentralisation in September 2012. This needs to be combined with the broader question of decentralisation in general, and the workgroup members will see how these two issues can best be promoted together.

2. Work for Civil Society and citizen participation in governance in the EaP area

To work for stronger civil society and citizen participation in governance through public administration reform and change of practices. Specifically work to promote and follow up on the results of CSRDG's project on "Promotion of Citizen Participation in Local Self-Governance in the Eastern Partnership Countries" and the report developed as part of the project. As part of this objective the subgroup will

also work to improve the quality and effectiveness of the work of civil servants and the involvement of the public and civil society in the decision making processes at different levels.

3. Work towards establishing a network of organisations working on local government and public administration reform

To work in an inclusive and open way in the subgroup and try to engage more organisations in its work. A first step in this direction will be to keep everyone from the subgroup from the past year included in the subgroup and its mailing list. The subgroup and enlarged network will monitor the development and changes of local governments and public administration and will continue to update the data bank of experiences and documents existing in EaP currently hosted on the ALDA website at: <http://www.alda-europe.eu/newSite/eap/home.php>

4. To continue the cooperation with CORLEAP, the Committee of the Regions and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and other relevant institutions

The subgroup will continue its cooperation with CORLEAP and participation in CORLEAP's meetings with observer status. In particular the subgroup will work towards a common conference with CORLEAP / CoR on fiscal decentralisation to be held around May 2013. Further the Subgroup will try to be actively involved in CoR's work especially the CIVEX meetings. Further the subgroup will also liaise actively with the Congress and EURONEST and share information about its work and follow topics related to the subgroup's work.

5. Exchange best practice and follow discussions on public administration reform in the EaP area

The subgroup will participate in the Eastern Partnership Panel on public administration reform attached to EaP Platform 1 and will also follow other discussions related to public administration reform. Further the members will share and exchange information on their own activities and initiatives related to public administration reform in the EaP area.

These objectives serve as a framework for the subgroup and further elements and more specific plans can be added in the course of the year depending on available resources and ad hoc possibilities.

ANNEX: List of Subgroup Members

Coordinator: Association of Local Democracy Agencies (France)
Armenia
CFOA
IUBS mission Armenia
Urban Foundation
World Vision Armenia
Azerbaijan
BINA - The NGO Alliance for Municipality Development, Azerbaijan
Center For Support For Economic Initiatives
Belarus
Belarusian Helsinki Committee
Lev Sapieha Foundation
Georgia
Centre of Strategic Research and Development of Georgia
Moldova
CALM Congress of local Authorities of Moldova
Institute for Urban Development Moldova
Resource Centra "CONTACT"
Ukraine
CCC Creative Centre
Civil Network OPORA
CPLR, Ukraine
DRO Committee of Voters of Ukraine
GURT Resource Center
Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation
PAUCI Foundation, Ukraine
SEUU
TI Ukraine
Ukrainian Alternative
Ukrainian Institute for Public Policy
EU
AMO - Association for International Affairs (Czech Republic)
Centre of Eastern Studies (Poland)
German Council on Foreign relations (Germany)
International Relations Research Institute (Poland)
Youth Eastern Partnership (Poland)