

## II. THE ACTION

### 1. DESCRIPTION

#### 1.1. Objectives

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Assessors will refer to information already provided under Part A (Concept Note), therefore **do not** include any information here as it will not be taken into account.

#### 1.2. Relevance

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Assessors will refer to information already provided under Part A (Concept note), therefore **do not** include any information here as it will not be taken into account.

#### 1.3. Description of the action and its effectiveness (max 14 pages)

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**Overall objective** is to strengthen and promote civil society organisations' role in reforms and democratic changes taking place in the EaP partner countries, through increased participation and monitoring in the fulfillment of EaP objectives.

**Specific objectives** of the action are:

- i) capacity building of National Platforms of the EaP CSF
- ii) to foster active social dialogue between social partners as well as civil dialogue between private, public and civil society stakeholders
- iii) to monitor developments in implementation of EaP goals
- iv) to monitor developments in EU relations with the Partner countries

The effect of the project will be based on the skills acquired by the civil society leaders and capacities built of the CSOs and Authorities and as result to be able to strategize more effectively, to participate in European Integration Process.

The project encompasses many results that will improve the situation of the target groups and beneficiaries, and will improve the technical and management capacities of target groups and the local partner.

The main expected results of the project are:

- *Stronger and more effective CSF National Platforms (NP), increased policy capacity and ability to provide well-timed, constructive contributions to the EaP intergovernmental platforms and expert panels;*

A wide-range of well-targeted trainings will be developed by implementation team in close cooperation with NPs, which will be defined on basis of the results obtained from a survey, identifying the needs of the NPs, e.g. on capacity-building/training needs, project partner search, understanding EU policymaking, effective techniques to open up dialogue with policymakers at the national and local level.

The capacity building activities are planned for all National Platforms in the partner countries. Different trainings in different areas will increase capacities of the NPs to be more strongly involved in the EaP initiatives. Trained CSOs will be able to contribute to the EaP intergovernmental platforms and especially to come with structured opinions on the expert panels. Special attention will be made to involvement in the EaP process of the social partners.

Strong NPs means strong working groups. The structure of the NPs is similar to the structure of the CSF. Each NP includes 4 WGs (fifth WG is expected to be created at the IV CSF in Stockholm). The four Working Groups until recently organised their work around one meeting per year (supported by EC). Their representatives were not allowed to attend sittings of the permanent platforms and expert meetings at the official level. Analytical materials and reports produced by the WGs, as a result, did not have clearly identified target audience and did not represent sometimes valuable input material for the EU-EaP dialogue. With the invitation for CSF representatives to take part in meetings of Thematic Platforms, the need is growing for the Working Groups to produce high-level expert analysis, which requires seriously established and continuous work process of the Groups. Building the expert capacity of CSOs is of utmost importance in order for them to make relevant contributions to discussions at the intergovernmental platforms and expert panels of the Eastern Partnership initiative. Thus, the project will facilitate the capacity building process by addressing issues related to coordination, exchange of information and knowledge between the EU and EaP experts, access to funding possibilities for member groups of the National Platforms and assistance for CSOs with participation in meetings at the official level.

- *Organised monitoring process of the EU engagements undertaken by EaP governments on issues related to human rights, justice, economic integration, environment and other;*

During the last years the dialogue with civil society in most of the partner countries (except Belarus and to some extent Azerbaijan) has been noticeably improved and measures have been taken to increase access to information and the transparency of the public decision-making process. This positive trend was possible through the governments' new approach towards engaging the civil societies.

Performing monitoring of the central public authorities activities according to the objectives of the four Eastern Partnership working groups, namely: Human Rights and Democracy, Economic convergence, Environment and Energy Security, Contacts between People will keep pressure on the partners countries' governments to fulfil their obligations towards transparency and accountability. For the data collecting and analysis on compliance to the objectives and values of the Eastern Partnership by partner countries, there will be created a monitoring team composed of local representatives of the four working groups of the National Platforms and independent experts.

- *Promotion of the Eastern Partnership initiative in six participating countries through information campaigns, organisations of public debates and discussions with participation of broader groups of EaP societies.*

The success of the project fully depends on the understanding and acceptance by the population in partner countries of the project's goal and objectives. Thus public awareness activities will be implemented during the whole period of the project implementation. The public awareness sub-component of the project will address all the beneficiaries of the project. The main methods which will be used within this sub-component will be seminars, training, publications, informative materials, and highlighting the project activities and results in written and audiovisual mass media

Public participation is extremely important in the project implementation. The general public needs relevant knowledge to understand, respect and be actively involved in the successful realization of planned activities. From this point of view it is necessary to identify and promote diverse forms of communication, which will allow the population to be informed of the project activities and benefits, including the environmental benefits. It is important to involve the experts in public participation issues, which facilitate public awareness and information. It is important to involve all the social groups in this component realization, including the education institutions.

Within the project will be published a lot of informative materials, e.g.:

- Brochure on EaP Initiative
- Leaflets on project activities, NPs and WGs
- Flyers, posters on project promotion
- Monitoring reports
- Experts papers

The most positive impact of the Forum work until now can be witnessed on the national level in EaP countries. National platforms have been created in all EaP countries. Establishment of the National Platforms have resulted in a more intense exchange of information and more frequent development of common positions among different civil society organisations. This potential should not be wasted.

The NPs helps its participants, both individuals and organisations, to better understand the Eastern Partnership initiative. Thus it fulfils an important educational role in respect to the EaP. On the other hand, this demonstrates that there is still a deficit of information on the EaP among third sector organisations. This information deficit needs to be addressed, especially in view of the fact that civil society generally supports EaP developments. However, the Forum is often perceived as burdened with too many functions and expectations. These include the need to give civil society greater opportunities in the EaP agenda. This means that a way must be found to inform the participants of EaP developments on an on-going basis.

One of the main objectives of this project proposal is to strengthen the National Platforms of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum.

In order to overtake at least some of the challenges and to strengthen the NPs the following group of activities will be implemented:

## **GA1 Regional Activities involving all 6 National Platform (or few of them)**

### **1.1 Media independence in EaP countries**

One of the main initiatives of the media Sub Working Group was the joint overview of the media situation in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. Presenting the various aspects of this domain in one study report allowed disclosing both the common trends, typical for all countries of the region, and specific problems. The representatives of journalistic associations, the media experts took part in developing of an overview, entitled “Media Landscapes of Eastern Partnership Countries” and published in 2011. Unfortunately, the problems of media freedom are not reflected in the current agenda of official Platform 1, and the authors of the publication have hoped that drawing attention to them will help to define specific objectives for ensuring the independence and professionalism of the press within the Eastern Partnership initiative. Free and quality media can play a crucial role in the whole process of the EaP and the European integration. This activity will continue the assessment of media independence in the EaP partner countries. The comparative study of public policies and practices to sustain media independence in six EaP partner countries would not only assess the existing situation and trends within countries, but as well as developing the recommendations for respective governments and EC for further action. We hope the study to become a useful resource for the development of the reform policy in the information domain of the Eastern Partnership partner countries.

## **1.2 Monitoring of implementation of commitments undertaken by EaP country governments through EaP processes (both bilateral, as well on a multilateral level)**

The monitoring will be organized in accordance of EaP working Platforms and would cover all major areas, including - Human Rights and democracy, Economic convergence, Environment and Energy security, Peoples to peoples. Based on monitoring results once a year the country reports will be prepared and will be available for EU institutions, national governments and general public. The following activities are supposed to be implemented in all 6 partner countries or few of them:

- **Democracy, Human Rights, Good Governance & Stability:**
  - a) Monitoring of election environment, including the media monitoring and elaboration of recommendations and means to ensure the fair election (reports on Parliamentary election for 2012 and Presidential for 2013 in Georgia, Parliamentary elections in Ukraine in 2012 and Presidential in 2014, Presidential elections in Azerbaijan in 2013 , Parliamentary elections in Moldova in 2014, Parliamentary elections in Belarus in 2012). Results of the monitoring reports will be presented to the EU Institutions, analytical community, partner countries' governments and other interested parties.
  - b) Monitoring problems and challenges of local authorities (especially the decentralisation strategies implemented in few partner countries)
  - c) Monitoring and reporting on the implementation of the New National Anti-Corruption Strategy in Moldova and Azerbaijan National Anticorruption strategy for 2012/2014. The reports will also include the recommendations both for government as well as for EU institutions and other donors.
- **Economic Integration and convergence with the EU Policies:**
  - a) Facilitate the social dialogue between partner countries governments and Trade Unions. The ODB in cooperation with EcoSoc will organise meetings for representatives of social partners from EaP partner countries with relevant institutions in Brussels or interested EU countries.
  - b) Monitoring the DCFTA negotiations, challenges and opportunities related to it (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine),
- **Environment, Climate Change and energy security:**
  - a) Monitoring the implementation of ENP in the field of sustainable development and environment protection, providing the relevant recommendations, shadow reports (Georgia, Moldova, Belarus)
  - b) Monitoring energy policies and challenges for formation of sustainable energy system, including development of renewables, Energy efficiency, Climate Change mitigation and adaptation issues, natural disasters management and Eco refugees (Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus);
  - c) Work to ensure public participation in decision making and implementation of Aarhus Convention
- **People to people working group will focus on:**
  - a) Support the non-formal education, creation legal environment and development of opportunities for volunteerism
  - b) Involvement of youth in decision making at all levels;

All partners will be involved in the implementation of these activities in their countries. It is important to mention that the partners will work closely with the NPs and WGs in order to

involve as many as possible CSOs in the implementation of activities. The Partner 1 (ODB) will work closely with NPs on dissemination of monitoring results and if needed to organise meetings with relevant institutions in Brussels. For better coordination of activities partners and/or experts will be meeting to discuss the process of monitoring, achieved results and next steps.

### **1.3 Policy dialogues and Consultations**

National Platforms will facilitate the involvements of its member groups in different consultation processes and policy dialogues carried out by national governments, support the Civil Society Forum Participation in multilateral platforms, as well as other political processes related to EaP, providing consolidating input towards processes.

Since the first Civil Society Forum was organised within the EaP in Brussels and the creation of the Steering Committee, the Forum is becoming more and more active. The EU institution considers CSF and National Platforms very important partners and in Poznan was mentioned that building the expert capacity of CSOs that are part of National Platforms is of utmost importance in order for them to make relevant contributions to discussions at the intergovernmental platforms and expert panels of the Eastern Partnership initiative. This is becoming even more important now when the CSF got a status of permanent observers within the official intergovernmental platforms. In order to be able to contribute efficiently - the support of the NP members' is needed. At the same time NP members' need sometime possibility to attend different events, especially where the substantive Forum's input is expected and prepared jointly by the EU and EaP members (expert panel). EC is supporting participation of one-two representatives from each NP in such a meetings organised by EC but there are different regional or national meetings where NPs members' have to participate.

Each partner will be responsible for the implementation of this activity in their country. Partner 1 will link the partners' countries' partners with the EU institutions.

### **1.4 Increasing awareness on EaP and European integration and promoting social dialogue**

This activity is to be implemented within the context of the broad objective of promoting EU values, partner countries' socio-economic integration with EU, and the economic, political and social development of partner countries in line with the priorities set out in the EU Eastern Partnership initiative (EaP). Specifically, the activity addresses providing (1) awareness, (2) policy analysis, (3) advocacy and (4) capacity building towards EaP principles and priorities of better economic and political integration with the EU.

All partners will be involved in the implementation of this activity. Partner 1 will be responsible for providing to other partners the latest information about the new developments within EaP Initiative and if needed to organise meetings of the NPs with the EU institutions.

## **GA2 Country Specific activities**

This group of activities will be focused on strengthening capacities of the NPs at the country level. Within this group of activity the following activities will be implemented:

### **2.1 Republic of Moldova**

### **2.1.1 Capacity building of Civil society groups affiliated with National Platform**

This will be achieved through organizing relevant training and workshops for civil society groups in relation of the EaP, ENP and European Integration issues. It is planned to organise at information meetings for all Districts of the country, Transnistria and Gagauzia) about the EaP initiative, ENP and European Integration issues. We consider this very important because of lack of adequate information about these processes the population becoming more pessimistic on the Moldova's orientation towards EU. In order to strengthen the collaboration and communication between civil societies from Transnistria and Moldova through participation in debates and public policies analysis there will be NGO's from the Transnistrian region involved in the implementation of the planned activities. The activities also imply active participation of the Transnistrian NGOs in the discussion of certain legislative initiatives and laws, which have a direct impact on solving the frozen conflict as well as initiatives that concern the economic, social and cultural relations between Moldova and Transnistria.

### **2.1.2 Tripartite meetings between Government, National Platform and EU**

The National Platform will organize the trilateral meetings on selected issues.

The tripartite meetings are planned to be held in the form of consultations and dialogues in which members of Workgroups will present its findings and recommendations on country commitments to the Eastern Partnership. The first meeting will be held at the beginning of the project implementation to establish contact with stakeholders and to ensure a good cooperation in carrying out project activities. The next meetings will be organised on the regular basis, at least twice per year and will be focused mainly on presenting the monitoring reports, conclusions and recommendations to central / local authorities and other stakeholders on the monitored issues.

### **2.1.3 Capacity Building and Awareness Campaigns on EU Moldova DCFTA negotiations**

On-going negotiations between Moldova and EU on DCFTA are important event in life of Moldovan society. The presentation of midterm report of Trade Sustainability Impact assessment prepared by EC subcontractors raised more questions that provided answers. Therefore it is important, to increase capacity of Moldovan CSOs on Free Trade Agreement impact. Activity will consist especially on development of expert's papers on impact of EU-Moldova DCFTA in the field of agriculture. The series of 5 workshops to discuss the given issues and prepare recommendations for Moldovan Government how to reduce and mitigate social, environmental impacts of DCFTA will be organised. Around 100 people from CSOs, Academia and local governments will participate in meetings. The materials prepared by experts will be published on EaP National Platform web site, as well as on the CSF forum web.

### **2.1.4 Strengthening cooperation between CSOs and social partners**

At the 4th CSF to be held in Stockholm it is planned to establish the new WG5: Social Dialogue - to be focused on social rights and social dialogue, labour market and other social and economic issues pertinent to the Eastern Partner countries. It is clear that there is a real need for civil dialogue to be strengthened. Strengthening of civil dialogue between governments and civil society at national level is a prerequisite for the democratisation of society and for convergence with European values. Unfortunately, social partners in Moldova are not strong, their voices are not heard and even more social partners are not active. There were not applications from the

social partners for the CSF in Stockholm. We plan to have a series of 5 workshops (South, Central, North part of Moldova, Transnistria and Gagauzia) to explain and to inform social partners about the EaP Initiative, how it works and what are benefits for the social partners being involved in EaP. The activity will be also focused on informing the social partners about the creation of the WG5, its objectives, working plan, etc

Applicant will coordinate activities to be implemented in Moldova and will be working closely with the NP and WGs to develop a proper implementation plan.

## **2.2 Azerbaijan**

In order to consolidate the Azerbaijan's NP is proposed to implement the following activities at national level:

### **2.2.1 Capacity Building and Awareness Campaigns to Acceleration of Azerbaijan Accession to the WTO;**

Macro purposes of the activity are to increase public awareness by providing them with necessary information and materials in order to enhance their participation in WTO negotiations and make them propagandist and vanguard of advantages of Azerbaijan's Accession to the WTO. Micro purposes of the activity are to different stakeholders including familiar business people with changes in trade regime, in tariff and subsidies policy, in legislation in terms of Azerbaijan's Accession to the WTO and to assist them to consider the impacts of those changes in their activities.

### **2.2.2 Promoting policy convergence in priority areas in Azerbaijan to support European Integration within the EU Eastern Partnership Initiative**

This activity will outline the relevant policy landscape in Azerbaijan, conduct a policy gap analysis and regulatory needs assessment for policy convergence in the trade and cross-border cooperation fields, set priorities and promote the outcomes of analyses and assessment for effective deployment and involvement of the necessary capacity among state and civil society actors, and for effective communication with EU institutions;

### **2.2.3 Holding of Online portal to promote information sharing**

This is important from few points of view:

- The portal will allow all stakeholders to communicate and exchange information, experience and best practices. It will also be available to the public so as to be transparent and open and will make all information widely available. More people within Azerbaijan are filled with the knowledge and capacity to communicate effectively with others and transfer knowledge about capacity building within CSOs and local authorities.
- The portal will host all project materials, information and documentation making for easy availability and thereby strengthening the organisational and technical skills of the local implementing partner.
- The PMC will collectively decide what content to post on the online portal, but it will link to all associates websites and carry their information including the local and state authorities involved in the project.

## 2.2.4 Open CSO Trainings

The following trainings are planned:

- a. Understanding Civil Society and Setting Up of CSOs: At the end of the course participants will be able to: Build an understanding of CSOs and organisational development; Identify organisational strengths and weaknesses in relation to other actors in society; Develop awareness of an organisation's existing and potential role in strengthening the civil society sector; and Increase understanding of how different sectors in society relate to each other and for what purpose.
- b. Strategic Visioning and Planning in CSOs: At the end of the course participants will be able to: Define different ways of thinking creatively and strategically; Explain different approaches to strategic and creative thinking; Apply tools in strategic and creative thinking; Understand and appreciate environmental context for strategy development; Apply models and tools in strategic planning.
- c. Managing Staff and Volunteers in CSOs: At the end of the course participants will be able to: Provide an overview on the strategic approach to recruiting and managing volunteers and staff; Introduce the key elements of a volunteer recruitment and retention strategy; Share 'good practice' in people management; Exchange experiences and concerns regarding volunteer and staff management.
- d. Fundraising for CSOs: At the end of the course participants will be able to: Provide an overview on the fundraising issues and approaches; Conduct fundraising planning; Share top tips in fundraising and examples of successful fundraising strategies; Explore the funding environment in Azerbaijan, including the availability of funding from international and local sources.
- e. Communication and Outreach for CSOs: At the end of the course participants will be able to: Understand the importance of communication for CSOs; Develop skills for communicating with main target groups; Understand the main communication channels and activities; Understand the function of public relations in CSOs; Prepare sponsorship packages, media kits, press releases; Develop an understanding of brand building and branding; Establish image and reputation for their CSOs.
- f. Advocacy and Campaigning in Civil Society: At the end of the course participants will be able to: Analyse the policy-making dynamics and be able to identify appropriate 'levers of influence'; Understand the role of research and evidence in campaigning; Understand the various stages of the advocacy planning cycle; Lobby decision makers and relate to the media with more confidence; Embed monitoring and evaluating systems and procedures within advocacy programmes.

## 2.2.5 Support web site [www.eap-csf.az](http://www.eap-csf.az)

Partner 2 will be responsible for the implementation of activities in Azerbaijan.

## 2.2 Georgia

### 2.3.1 Informational Campaign for public awareness raising in Georgia



The campaign will focus on increasing the visibility of the EaP, ENP, Association Agreement, Social Dialogue and DCFTA related processes. The campaign would involve promotion activities through the use of media, as radio, TV, websites, newspapers, etc.), The National Platform website will be further developed and updated, it will get at least 6000 hits per month. At least 10 000 unique visitors are expected during the project life time. The Platform will intensify its new media presence through Facebook and Twitter, as well as addressing the traditional media outlets. At least 10 articles and 10 radio programs will be developed and published and broadcasted.

### **2.3.2 Capacity building of Civil society groups affiliated with National Platform**

This will be achieved through organizing relevant training and workshops for civil society groups in relation of the EaP, ENP and European Integration issues based on the needs on national platforms:

#### *2.3.2.1 Capacity Building and Awareness Campaigns on EU Georgia DCFTA negotiations.*

Ongoing negotiations between Georgia and EU on DCFTA are important event in life of Georgian society. The presentation of midterm report of Trade Sustainability Impact assessment prepared by EC subcontractors raised more questions that provided answers. Therefore it is important, to increase capacity of Georgian CSOs on Free Trade Agreement impact. Activity will consist from development of 5 expert's papers on impact of EU-Georgia DCFTA and series of 2 workshops to discuss the given issues and prepare recommendations for Georgian Government how to reduce and mitigate social, environmental impacts of DCFTA. Around 50 people from CSOs, Academia and government will participate in meetings. The materials prepared by experts will be published on EaP national Platform web site, as well as on the CSF forum web.

#### *2.3.2.2 Trainings on Budget monitoring*

EU moves towards more budget support to Georgia, as well as to the ENP countries. The budget support process should be the best examples for enforcement of the development objectives. However, there is need for stimulating good practice, capacity and awareness building because the budget process could be of key importance for increasing transparency, accountability, effectiveness and sustainability of the budget spending. There is a need for wide range of CSOs to see how to monitor budget support and budgetary expenses in different sectors. Trainings on various aspects will address at least 40 CSOs in Georgia.

#### *2.3.2.3 Training on local governance and local authorities monitoring*

The local authorities are independent bodies, and it should give a way of practical and daily participation of public in decision making to solve local problems, and a way of realisation by the people of the power. However, in Georgia, the local governance is quite weak and local authorities often perform its tasks none adequately. In addition, regional groups need to gain more knowledge and experience, to monitor local governments and especially local budgets, as well as to support them to better plan the budgeting as well as perform their tasks. The training will address that needs and support regional organizations and media to monitor local self-governing authorities and support them to fulfil their tasks.

#### *2.3.2.4 Green Economy in Georgia*

The assessment of on-going economic reforms from sustainable development/green economy point of view and promotion of EU sustainable development model is needed in Georgia. The recent plans of Georgia government that aims to support economic growth in country may pose significant threat to environment. The plans involve the construction of new city Lazika in Ramsar protected area, construction of more than 10 large dams, leasing out forestry resources without proper inventory. The study will aim to assess the development of economy from sustainable development/green economy point of view and provide recommendations to ensure that the strategy for sustainable development is developed in accordance with principles and approaches of EU for sustainable development and compliance with of on-going economic and social reforms. The assessment will be developed in close cooperation with working group.

### **2.3.3 Cultural Heritage**

National Platform will work to monitor the process of cultural heritage protection in Georgia, and assessment of the policies and practices of cultural heritage protections, as well as its compliance with International Standards. The aim will be to improve the heritage management, develop cooperation between government and CSOs, and involvement in decision-making process, as well as to increase the capacity of local stakeholders to enhance the heritage role in sustainable economic development;

Partner 3 will coordinate activities in Georgia.

## **2.4 Ukraine**

### **2.4.1 Capacity building of National Platforms of the EaP CSF**

#### *2.4.1.1 Capacity Building of Ukrainian National Platform of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum*

The performance of National platform is based on the voluntary contribution of participating organizations, mostly in the spheres that the organizations are dealing with. It causes some limitations, namely knowledge management of Ukrainian National Platform of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum is irregular. There is no desirable performance within the topics which were defined by the National platform as of high priority and which are not prioritized by the participating organizations. The communication of National Platform with the other interested parties is quite scarce. The funds are usually raised for particular topics which limits the possibilities for development of National Platform itself. In order to overcome such limitations we need to strengthen capacities of the platform, namely ensure the activities of a standing body – a Secretariat of the National Platform and conduct of annual Conferences of participating organizations.

#### *a) Performance of Secretariat*

Proper performance of Steering Committee Secretariat of Ukrainian National Platform of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum will help ensure knowledge management, strengthen organizational capacity of National Platform and create incentives for ongoing activities, including work with media. 3 persons will be engaged into the activities of the Secretariat:

national coordinator assistant, PR-manager, financial manager. The main aim of the Secretariat: conduct of operational activities of the National Platform.

#### *b) National Platform Conference*

Two conferences of Ukrainian National Platform of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum are envisaged. During these meetings of National platform the rotation of working groups coordinators will be conducted, main priorities for the further activities of National Platform participating organizations will be set. It is planned that all the regions of Ukraine will be represented at the Conference. The result of such conferences will be establishment of permanent and standing operation of National platform during the next two years, involvement of new participants and establishment of permanent constructive dialogue among them.

The implementation of this point will meet the following needs/demands of Ukrainian National Platform of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum:

- a. Strategic vision and planning of Ukrainian National Platform of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum;
- b. Constant communication of NGOs, European Commission and national authorities;
- c. Fundraising.

### **2.4.2 Capacity building of NGOs – participants of National platform: conduct of “Eastern Partnership School of European Integration”**

One of the major challenges for the development of Eastern Partnership (EaP) is a low awareness level of civil society organizations with the peculiarities of EaP policy and the principles of EU institutions operation.

In order to overcome this challenge conduct of “Eastern Partnership School of European Integration” is envisaged. The participants will be 60 representatives of civil society organizations and other interested parties. Two sessions (2-3 days) each for 30 leaders are planned. During the School sessions the participants will have an opportunity to get acquainted with the peculiarities of EaP policy, its goals, assignments, instruments of EaP activities, and the possibilities of active involvement for NGOs.

This activity will result in the awareness rising of EaP policy which will serve as an incentive for development of National platform institutional capacity.

### **2.4.3 Rising awareness of society on the public involvement into EaP**

#### *2.4.3.1 Seminars for Media*

2 seminars for around 30 journalists are planned. The main aim of such events will be to inform mass media representatives on the EaP policy, its peculiarities, goals and activities. The seminars will not only increase the number of journalists who will write on EaP, but they will also improve quality of media materials and help establish cooperation with NGOs, experts that are actively involved into the performance of National Platform of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum. It is estimated that these seminars will be followed-up with more than 10 materials in Ukrainian media dedicated to the EaP issues.

#### *2.4.3.2 Use of new media*

Permanent information presence of National Platform in new media and social networks like Facebook, Twitter will be one of the main channels of Ukrainian National Platform of Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum communication. It is expected that through these channels more

than one thousands of users will be involved. Use of social networks and new media will bring an opportunity to raise the awareness level on EaP and activities of National Platform that will subsequently facilitate the implementation of EaP policy. Also three regional information vents are planned.

This stage will result in the awareness rising of citizens of Ukraine on the aims, assignments and activities of EaP policy.

#### **2.4.4 Dialogue for the implementation of EaP roadmap**

EaP Roadmap is one of the key documents prepared with the help of National Platform that will define the development of Eastern Partnership in the nearest future. The efficient implementation of the roadmap needs task-oriented dialogue of interested parties for emphasizing its goals and assignments and monitoring of their implementation or fulfilment. Multilateral consultations including civil society organizations, national authorities, EU representatives and EaP participating countries are planned.

##### *2.4.4.1 Consultations with the interested parties, including authorities*

10 consultations of National platform participating organizations with the other interested parties on the progress in the implementation of EaP Roadmap are planned. The content of consultations will be based on the monitoring done by National platform participating organizations. The consultations will be formatted as the roundtables; representatives of national authorities, EU representatives, EU member-states/ EP countries diplomats, representatives of civil society organizations, labour unions, think tanks and other civil society organizations will take part.

##### *2.4.4.2 Information support of EaP Roadmap implementation*

It envisages preparation and dissemination of the information online digests. The text of the digests will contain information on monitoring, as well as the results of consultations on roadmap implementation. The digests will be disseminated among interested parties (national authorities, European institutions, EU and EaP civil society organizations, key experts).

This stage will result in the permanent attention of interested parties to the EaP roadmap implementation process and stimulation of public attention to the monitoring results.

Partner 4 will be responsible for the implementation of activities in Ukraine.

## **2.5 Belarus**

**2.5.1 Special web-page of the Belarus' CSF National Platform will be launched** It will help to provide visibility of civil society and its involvement of the Eastern partnership program. Information will be updated several times a week. It will focus on the developments within the NP, especially existing sub-working group, digest of publications, other materials; interesting experience of other NPs in other EaP-countries will be placed there. The site will work on a permanent basis and will be promoted among the interested media-resources. The web-page will also promote the Eastern Partnership program and the Dialogue on Modernization of Belarus among the wider public. A part of the informational work will be carried out using the social media.

**2.5.2 National Conferences of the Belarus' CSF National Platform** The Belarus' CSF National Platform holds general conferences were representatives from all the

interested parties, participating organizations gather to discuss topical issues, to consider and decide on the NP's internal structuring, governance and leadership; to adopt the major statements and appeals; to participate in the selection procedure of those who will represent Belarus in the EaP Civil Society Forum etc. The national conferences proved to be one of the key-stones of the NP functioning.

### **2.5.3 Raising Awareness activities**

The raising awareness activities will be carried out to increasing awareness on EaP and European Dialogue on Modernization for Belarus. The main goal of the activities measures will be to promote EU values; the economic, political and social development of Belarus in line with the priorities set out in the EU Eastern Partnership initiative (EaP); need and prospects of modernization and reforms in the country. Specifically, the activities will aim at (1) awareness, (2) policy analysis, (3) advocacy towards EaP principles and priorities of better economic and political integration with the EU. The special competition and public lectures will be held to address wider audience.

### **2.5.4 Expert meetings on the EaP/ Dialogue on Modernization development for Belarus**

Regular monitoring on the development of the EaP/ Dialogue on Modernization will be carried out. Such a monitoring will be enriched with discussions on further EaP development and prospects for Belarus and its' civil society. Those meetings (conferences/round tables) will be carried out with the participation of a broad range of the interested CSOs as well as expert community, media. These meetings are planned to be held on the ad-hoc basis. As a result, meetings will contribute to the analysis of situation which will be published in independent media and web-resources. Meetings will be held both in Minsk and other cities (if needed). Meetings in the province will follow the same patterns as described above.

### **2.5.5 Working Groups activities**

All

the Working Groups will have an opportunity to hold meetings, public hearings, spread information and carry out other relevant activities to promote their issues. The main idea is to empower specialized groups within the National Platform to be able effectively work on the EaP/Dialogue on Modernization issues; promote them among the relevant stakeholders, to advocate them in public. An integral part of the Working Groups activity is to hold policy analysis and develop policy papers on the issues in focus.

Partner 5 will be responsible for the implementation of activities in Belarus. Part of the work will be done in cooperation with the Partner 1.

## **2.6 Armenia**

Even there is no formal partner representing Armenia (due to the problems Armenia NP has faced last two years) the project is going to support the activities in Armenia. This will be done through CSOs – members of the Armenian NP. For the moment at least 2 major activities are identified:

### **2.6.1 Meetings of working groups**

As was said the NP has the same structure as the intergovernmental platform and CSF. Strong NP means strong working groups. Within this activity it is planned to support meetings of working groups. At least 1 meeting of each working group is planned per year.

## **2.6.2 Annual conference of the National Platform**

In order to consolidate the National Platform the annual conference will be organised. Besides the members of the NP at the annual conference will be invited all interested CSOs and social partners. The participants will discuss the results achieved during the previous year and will plan activities for the next year. It is planned to organise annual conference or before the annual CSF or immediately after the CSF.

## **2.6.3 Awareness campaign**

The campaigning will be carried out to increasing awareness on EaP. The main goal of the campaign measures will be to promote EU values; the economic, political and social development of Armenia in line with the priorities set out in the EU Eastern Partnership initiative (EaP); need and prospects of modernization and reforms in the country. Specifically, the activities will aim at (1) awareness, (2) policy analysis, (3) advocacy towards EaP principles and priorities of better economic and political integration with the EU.

Applicant has a preliminary agreement with the NP of Armenia concerning the implementation of activities in Armenia. The Applicant will meet at the very beginning of the project with national coordinator of NP of Armenia and with other CSOs to discuss the implementation of the project in Armenia.

## **GA3. Management and coordination of the action**

This group of activities will be focused on:

- 3.1 Organisation of project team meetings
- 3.2 Organisation of Steering Committee meetings
- 3.3 Preparation of Interim and Final Reports
- 3.4 Participation in the seminar in Brussels for the purposes of training, exchange of experience and networking

This group of activities will deal with the project management, coordination and communication activities. In order to implement properly the proposed activities the team will be created that will consist of the Project Manager, Country Coordinators, financial manager and technical assistant. Short term experts could be hired up to the necessity. For better coordination of activities team meetings will be held each 3 months (usually through web conference). At the first team meeting the work plan will be discussed and approved for the entire project as well as the detailed work plan for the first year of the project. Also it is planned to create a Steering Committee of the project. After long discussions with partners and with the CSF Steering Committee elected at the Forum in Poznan was decided to create the SC of the project from the members of the CSF SC extended by representative of the EC and/or EEAS. Once established the Secretariat of the CSF will delegate its representative to the SC of the project. This is proposed because of few very important reasons:

- CSF SC will be a link between project and the NPs, WGs and CSF
- CSF SC is elected at each CSF and during the project implementation project SC will represent changes in the CSF

- The project implementation team will be informed on the main developments of the NPs, WGs and CSF in general
- The costs of the SC meetings will be much, much lower because CSF SC anyway are meeting at least 4 time per year

It is planned to have project SC meetings organised back to back with the CSF SC. It is planned to have at least two meetings per year. The Project Manager will attend the SC meetings in order to inform the SC on the project implementation status and to get feedback from the SC on the developments at the NPs, WGs levels and developments of the CSF in general.

### **Budget**

<b>1. Human Resources</b>	<b>€ 190,288</b>
<b>2. Travel</b>	<b>€ 54,700</b>
<b>3. Equipment and supplies</b>	<b>€ 15,400</b>
<b>4. Local office</b>	<b>€ 60,000</b>
<b>5. Other costs, services</b>	
5.1 Publications	€ 106,000
5.2 Studies, research	€ 15,000
5.3 Costs of conferences/seminars	€ 238,530
5.4 Visibility Actions	€ 66,000
5.5 Translation, interpreters	€ 12,500
5.5 Expenditure verification	€ 20,000
<b>6. Other</b>	
6.1 monitoring of commitments related to the WG 1	€ 70,000
6.1 monitoring of commitments related to the WG 2	€ 30,000
6.1 monitoring of commitments related to the WG 3	€ 50,000
6.1 monitoring of commitments related to the WG 4	€ 30,000
<b>7. Contingency reserve</b>	<b>€ 19,168</b>
<b>8. Administrative expenses</b>	<b>€ 39,103</b>
 <b>Total</b>	 <b>€ 1,016,690</b>