



ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC INITIATIVES

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ASSOCIATION FOR DEMOCRATIC INITIATIVES

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Introduction

Dear Reader,

Thank you for your interest in Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) Sarajevo! This Annual Report for 2011 contains detailed descriptions of project activities that were implemented in 2011. Several projects described in the Report have been extended, new activities have been added, and we have received additional support and funding for their implementation in this year as well.

We hope that you find the Annual Report for 2011 useful and informative. Moreover, we hope that this Report will help you understand better our work and efforts we invest into democratization of public institutions, protection of human rights, and promotion of EU integration processes in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We are open for cooperation with diverse societal actors and have worked in the past with great number of non-governmental organizations, public institutions, and business representatives. Therefore, contact us if you would like us to work together and build a partnership!

Sincerely,

ADI Team



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About us

Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) is a non-governmental organization working on **political and economic development, the rule of law, protection of human rights, and EU integrations in Bosnia and Herzegovina** by fostering participatory and direct democracy practices and instigating partnerships between the civil society, governmental institutions and the private sector. ADI realizes its objectives through proposing policy solutions, implementing projects and advocacy campaigns, and organizing educational trainings. Particularly, ADI's efforts are directed towards building institutional capacities of civil society organizations and promotion of their role in the society.

During its 10 years of existence, ADI has worked on diverse national and regional projects on issues in area of development of political and economic institutions, instigating participatory democracy mechanisms, strengthening the civil sector, and protection of human rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since its creation until 2008, ADI has served as the Secretariat for the Balkan Human Rights Network (BHRN), coordinating activities and projects with 44 human rights organizations in the Balkans region. During this period ADI implemented great number of projects in cooperation with national and regional partners/NGOs. Some of ADI's past project include, successful regional schools "Human Rights and Business" and "Regional Summer School on Human Rights" held in Malta. In last five years, ADI implemented several projects focusing on the reform of the justice sector and development of public participation practices in this sector: "Strengthening the Role of the Professional Associations in the Justice Sector in BiH" and "Creating the Preconditions for the Cooperation between Non-governmental organizations and the Ministry of Justice of BiH". Within this last mentioned project, ADI developed, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice in B&H internal public consultation procedures for the Ministry as well as the stakeholder database for public consultations.

In addition, ADI held numerous trainings for civil society organizations (CSOs) focusing on developing their knowledge and skills in writing project proposals; trainings on organizing advocacy campaigns and public consultations; preparing applications for EU funds, World Bank, and other international and national donor organizations; financial management; strategic planning; monitoring work of public institutions; building communication strategies. Similar trainings were organized for municipalities and small businesses throughout the country. As part of its



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projects' activities, ADI prepared and published great number of guidebooks, research and public policy papers.

ADI possesses strong partnership relations with great number of institutions in the country and regionally. In realization of our current project activities, for example, ADI draws from its established partnerships with more than 300 CSOs in the country, several municipalities, the Ministry of Justice BiH, and the Ministry of Human Rights, Refugees and Civil Affairs in BiH. ADI has skilled staff to manage and implement projects and programs, organize and coordinate large-scale public consultations and advocacy campaigns, research and write policy analyses and comparative studies, and lead promotion activities. Large number of donors and particularly international development organizations present in BiH, have recognized our expertise, professional attitude, dedication and enthusiasm we bring into our work. ADI's current donors are: Government of Great Britain, USAID, Swiss Government; while some of its former donors were: European Commission, Danish Center for Human Rights, USAID, USAID BiH, Government of Great Britain, Catalonia Ombudsman, UNDP BiH, UNDP in Serbia, British Embassy in BiH, OSCE Mission in Croatia, and Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Aside from regional presence that we developed through implementation of projects with our partner organizations in Macedonia, Kosovo and Serbia, we also built our international experience working outside of the Balkans especially in the Euro-Mediterranean region as a member of the educational working group within Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network and consultant in the process of establishing Turkish Human Rights Network.



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Implemented Projects in 2011

Human Rights Awareness Rising and Education Project: Selection and participation of one representative of BiH to MEDAC human rights course in Malta in 2011

The Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies (MEDAC) is an institution of higher learning offering advanced degrees in diplomacy with a focus on Mediterranean issues. MEDAC is based in Malta and was established in 1990 pursuant to an agreement between the governments of Malta and Switzerland.

The Human Dimensions Program of the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies - in collaboration with Ireland and with the financial support of the Swiss Development Cooperation of the Swiss Ministry of Foreign Affairs – organizes a specialized yearly summer training course on Human Rights and Development: Educational Perspectives. Through lectures by established experts, case studies, group discussions and simulations, the training course offers the participants an opportunity to study basic principles of human rights, international law development and education. The course is also a very useful match-making event and an opportunity to confront different experiences and points of view when it comes to HR in different cultural contexts.

Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) was engaged in “*Human Rights Awareness Rising and Education Project: Selection and participation of one representative of BiH to MEDAC human rights course in Malta in 2011*”. For the fourth year, the Embassy of Switzerland provided the financial support and granted one full scholarship to one candidate from Bosnia and Herzegovina for the participation at the summer training course in Malta on human rights, identities and gender. ADI organized and participated in the selection process of BiH applicants for mentioned summer school.

Major strength of the Project was addressing the lack of interdisciplinary approach to human rights. Multidisciplinary approach to human rights is being offered only by few programs and MEDAC School is perfect example of innovative approach which is at the same time participant oriented and general and it roots human rights issues in daily lives and global trends.



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Also, the Project is addressing young people with previous human rights knowledge who wish to focus on a certain area, broaden their knowledge, and are dedicated to continue working on human rights issues. This is ensured by the selection criteria and with the interviewing process. Despite being very frequently issue in all political and legal discussions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the realization of the right to education and equal treatment within it has not yet produced adequate legal and substantive results.

Period of project implementation: 01/03/2011 – 30/09/2011.

The project was funded by the Swiss Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Inclusion of civil society organisations in the process of monitoring the implementation of the Justice Sector Reform Strategy (JUP BiH)

Preconditions for inclusive policy development process are manifold, but key ones are: developed and recognized expertise of civil society organizations (CSOs) and mutual appreciation and understanding of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Justice Sector Reform Strategy 2008 – 2012. Thus this project targeted grass root CSOs throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina which are often neglected and without real influence on the decision making process in the justice sector. Project aimed at building technical expertise on issue of strategic planning and policy development, while substantive expertise is built on the issues central to the reform of the justice sector and supported by communication and outreach strategy for the promotion of Justice Sector Reform Strategy.

The project's overall purpose was to develop conditions for substantial involvement of civil society organizations in the process of monitoring and evaluations of the Justice Sector Reform Strategy.

Three indicators were designated in accordance with the project's overall purpose: five sub-networks/coalitions of civil society organization with different mandate and capacities across Bosnia and Herzegovina are created; at least two reports as a result of the process of monitoring and evaluation of the JSRS provided by the sub-networks of CSOs are prepared; and monitoring system that includes all necessary phases for monitoring the implementation and evaluation of the JSRS is developed.

Five outputs were originally designated as the results of the project's activities, intended to achieve the project's overall purpose: Justice Sector



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Reform Strategy (JSRS) communicated to a large number of CSOs and to the general public, CSOs are encouraged to play proactive role in the monitoring of the implementation of the JSRS; members of five sub networks/coalitions are strengthened through skill building and training process to maintain the role of monitors of the implementation of the JSRS; cooperation between the CSOs throughout BiH developed by establishment of coalitions/sub-networks among CSOs capable to monitor the implementation of the JSRS (in all five pillars identified in JSRS); cooperation between CSOs and Ministry of Justice in BiH is institutionalized; coordination body among five NGOs that already signed MoU with MoJ is established and they are a part of the functional working group (FWG).

Period of project implementation: 01/11/2009 – 31/03/2011.

The project was funded by the British Government.

Strengthening the Role of Civil Society Organizations in the Justice Sector, Establishment and Development of Justice Sector Civil Society Network (JSCSN) – JSDP 2

Although one of the main objectives of strategic reforms in the justice sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina is establishment of a responsive legal system to needs and interests of common citizens, civil society has had limited impact on their content and mode. In order to respond to the deficit of civil society involvement in the justice sector, Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI), in partnership with East West Management Institute (EWMI), implemented the “*Strengthening the Role of Civil Society Organizations in the Justice Sector, Establishment and Development of Justice Sector Civil Society Network (JSCSN)*” project. Resulting from project activities, Justice Network in Bosnia and Herzegovina - an informal network of civil society organizations involved in the justice sector issues – consisting of 57 non-governmental organizations and professional associations.

The Justice Network members identified great numbers of justice sector policy problems in BiH and developed action plan how to address them: through future public policy engagement in research, public advocacy, and monitoring work of implementation of UPR recommendations.

Considering the fact that justice sector issues are complex, technical, and require extensive specialized knowledge, further investment in capacity



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building of Network members is necessary. In order to meet this need, Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI), in partnership with East West Management Institute (EWMI), implemented the second phase of the *Strengthening the Role of Civil Society Organizations in the Justice Sector* project, which focused on enhancing capacities of Network members in public policy research and advocacy, and governmental oversight, including the continued engagement in the Universal Periodic Review process of BiH. The project also incorporated activities directed towards ensuring Network sustainability through coordination of planned Network activities and fundraising capacity development trainings.

In this way, ADI's goal was through implementation of this project to advance the rule of law and improve the public's understanding of justice-related issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina by increasing involvement of civil society organizations in the development of justice sector public policies and legal reform initiatives in Bosnia and Herzegovina; and by increasing public demand for the rule of law and public confidence in justice institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this way, the project intends to promote integration of BiH into the European Union.

Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI), in partnership with the East West Management Institute (EWMI), implemented projects activities within four pillars: Public Policy Research in the Justice Sector; Public Policy Advocacy in the Justice Sector; Capacity Building of Justice Network Member Organizations and Coordination and Facilitation of Justice Network in BiH.

Period of project implementation: 20/08/2010 – 30/06/2011

The project was supported by the USAID/ Justice Sector Development Project 2.

Strengthening Judicial Protection of Human Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina through UN Universal Period Review Process – JSDP 3

In its already third year of creation and facilitation of Justice Network activities, ADI in cooperation with the Human Rights Center (HRC) in Sarajevo, focused on fostering those JN activities that have proven to be quite successful and unique to the Justice Network: those related to the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) recommendations. Based on previously



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conducted JN activities on promotion and application of this international UN human rights mechanism in B&H, ADI and HRC continued with UPR monitoring and reporting activities and incorporated strong advocacy elements into the process in order to advocate for implementation of UPR recommendations and JN recommendations related to the UPR process in B&H. Simultaneously, two project pillars were facilitated within this project: UPR monitoring and reporting, and UPR advocacy.

The overall goal of this project was to advance the rule of law and improve the public's understanding of justice-related issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The specific objectives of this project were: to increase involvement of civil society organizations in the development of justice sector public policies and legal reform initiatives in Bosnia and Herzegovina; to increase public demand for the rule of law and public confidence in justice institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina; to promote integration of BiH into the European Union; to foster better protection of human rights through the judiciary in Bosnia and Herzegovina; to increase understanding of the UPR process of justice sector stakeholders, civil society and the public.

Period of project implementation: 01/09/2011 – 30/04/2012

The project was supported by the USAID/ Justice Sector Development Project 2.

Equality in Rights Programme – Antidiscrimination phase 1

"Equality in Rights Programme – Antidiscrimination" aimed to contribute to promotion of Antidiscrimination Law, through specialized trainings for law students as a part of professional-aspects of project, and through street actions and public advocacy as a part of more general community approach to this issue. We obtained permits and established contacts for our activities in four major political centers in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Mostar, Banja Luka, Sarajevo and Eastern Sarajevo. To effectively manage and support this project, we established connections with our activists in those cities in order to have full local support. We aimed at discriminated groups and law students, as key players in implementation of Antidiscrimination Law in future.



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The main focus of the project "*Equality in Rights Programme – Antidiscrimination*" was promotion of the Anti-Discrimination Law which was adopted in June 2009 by the Parliament.

The main target groups for our project were young people, law students in Sarajevo, Eastern Sarajevo, Mostar and Banja Luka. Direct beneficiaries of our project were vulnerable groups and individuals, those protected by the Anti-Discrimination Law, and in broader sense end-beneficiaries are all citizens i.e. general public, as the project was important to raise awareness on the basic elements of discrimination.

Activities for this project included organizing workshops, organizing street actions, creation of web site section – Antidiscrimination, creating contact service for receiving reports on violation of rights, survey with questionnaires, creating database – organizations that support antidiscrimination.

Period of project implementation: 22/10/2010. – 22/04/2011.

The project was funded by the Civil Rights Defenders.

Equality in Rights Programme – Antidiscrimination phase 2

The purpose of the project was to raise the knowledge level of law faculty students about legal mechanisms and institutional frame related to the Anti-Discrimination Law, raise awareness of the citizens and general public about Anti-Discrimination Law by organizing promotional activities.

The core theme of the project "*Equality in Rights – Antidiscrimination phase 2*" promoted the Anti-Discrimination Law focusing on reducing the level of discrimination in the education system in BiH. This is one of the key preconditions when it comes to ensuring high quality education and effective employment of youth in BiH.

Equal access to high quality education and access to employment are in close correlation; thus discrimination of any group in the education system will lead to higher rate of unemployment of people coming from discriminated groups.

The target group were the young people, students of Law, Political Sciences, Journalism, Economy and Sociology coming from universities in Sarajevo, Mostar and Banja Luka, previously engaged in first phase of the project and students coming from faculties in Brčko, Bihać and Tuzla.



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These young people will become the driving force in promoting antidiscrimination principles in the in their own local communities. After they got the possibility to learn more about discrimination, Anti-Discrimination Law, its provision for protection, responsibilities, they will be in position to apply their knowledge while doing in depth research, preparing reports and advocating for better solutions.

Project activities included: research in 6 towns (Sarajevo, Mostar, Banja Luka, Tuzla, Bihać, Brčko); established connections with OSCE BiH, Universities in Bihać, Brčko and Tuzla and local NGOs; follow up trainings; workshops, conference, round tables, street actions, preparing guidebook, radio shows, media coverage and created basic concept and content sources for the web site.

Period of project implementation: 01/07/2011 – 31/12/2011

The project was funded by the Civil Rights Defenders.

Ensuring CSOs' Capacity To Effectively Engage in the Justice Sector Reform Strategy (JSRS) Monitoring and Advocacy in Bosnia-Herzegovina (MoU)

The purpose of this Project was to intensify and optimize the independent CSOs' impact on the justice sector political officeholders and implementing agencies to bring about a timely and efficient implementation of reforms relating to critical issues in each of the five Justice Sector Reform Strategy (JSRS) pillars. Project was implemented in cooperation between Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) and five organizations: Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in BiH (HCHR BiH), Association "Vaša prava BiH", Human Rights Office Tuzla, Center for Civil Initiatives (CCI) and PAR Excellence Sarajevo.

Each CSO, respectively, developed, distributed and received feedback on their questionnaires for the purpose of monitoring of JSRS, which served them as one of the main data collection and assessment tools and helped them not just to verify the attained progress, but also to detect factors, gaps and barriers that are preventing progress in terms of the implementation of JSRS for the relevant justice sector pillar. Moreover, each CSO organized follow-up meetings with relevant justice sector stakeholders in order to obtain missing information, or verify unclear



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responses in further detail. All these CSO activities provided them with the substantial input into their monitoring and evaluation findings and recommendations.

Period of project implementation: 01/07/2011 – 31/03/2012

The project was funded by the British Government and Canadian Embassy.

Out Partners

- Members of the Balkan Human Rights Network (BHRN)
- Danish Institute for Human Rights
- Human Rights Centre at the University of Sarajevo
- Youth Initiatives for Human Rights
- South East Europe Youth Network
- TWINNING Platform
- Euro - Mediterranean Human Rights Network (EMHRN)
- Ombudsmen of Catalonia
- Municipality Bijeljina
- Municipality Vitez
- Cantonal Chamber of Commerce of the City of Tuzla
- East West Management Institute
- Association of Refugees and Displaces Persons BiH
- The Board for Civil Society
- Centre for the Promotion of Civil Society
- Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network
- TERCA
- ATOS consulting
- ACIPS
- Ministry of Justice of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Professional Associations in the Justice Sector
- And many other organizations and individuals!
- PAR Excellence
- Human Rights Office Tuzla



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- Vaša prava BiH,
- Centri civilnih inicijativa
- Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in BiH

Out Donors

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA)
- British Government
- USAID /JDSP
- Swiss Embassy Sarajevo
- UNDP BiH
- Catalan Ombudsman
- Canadian Embassy
- Civil Rights Defenders

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