The foundations for free activities of the civil society organizations have been determined by the Constitution of Republic of Macedonia and more specifically for the associations of citizens and foundations with the Law on Citizens' Associations and Foundations, This Law supports the development of the civil society sector, determines the manner, procedure and conditions for their foundation, registration, working and termination. Presently, a new law on associations and foundations is being produced. However, at the same time with the preparation of the new law, changes in the manner of the direct financial support to the organizations by the government are required. These will help increase the sustainability of the civil society organizations, based on a domestic support system.

The overall goal of the project is contribution to an improved legal framework and increased financial sustainability of the civil society organizations in Republic of Macedonia. The objective of the project is improved public financing of the civil society organizations. Target group are civil society organizations and the Government's Unit for Cooperation with the Non-Governmental Organizations. The target area is Republic of Macedonia.

The project implemented the following results: prepared tool for lobbying with the government related to the need for changes in the system for financial support to the civil society organizations by the government and for raising awareness of the civil society organizations and government.

The following activities were undertaken with the project:

- a) Analysis of the public financing of the civil society organizations in Macedonia: The analysis encompassed overview of the public financing of the civil society organizations in Macedonia and provides recommendations for improvement of the standing system.
- b) Comparative analysis of the public financing in the Central and Eastern Europe (CEE): The European Center for Not-For-Profit Law (ECNL) has prepared an analysis which relates to the mechanisms for cooperation of the countries with the civil society organizations in several European countries, with special focus on the public financing. The title of the analysis is "Legal and Institutional Mechanisms for Cooperation between the Civil Society Organizations and the Governments in Croatia, Estonia and Hungary".

c) Publication and debate "Public Financing in Macedonia" The publication contains the analyses of the public financing in Macedonia and the analysis which was prepared by ECNL, as well as measures for improvement of the direct financial support to the civil society organizations. The same was promoted on a joint debate with the Report on the Progress of the Implementation of the Strategy for Cooperation of the Government with the Non-Governmental Sector.

Извршно резиме од проектот.