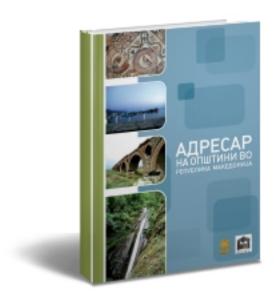
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The Macedonian Center for International Cooperation (MCIC) actively participates in the development of local capacities both in the civil sector and the local government. In the past, these activities were not connected, but now facing the great challenge of decentralization there is an increasing need for exchange of experience and joint action.

In 2002, MCIC in cooperation with the Association of the Units of Local Self Government (ZELS) and the Local Government Reform Project (LGRP) published the first Directory of Local Self Government units. This publication has proved to be very successful, with significant impact on improving the dissemination of information about the municipalities. With the new Directory of the Local Self Governments we intend to replicate this positive experience.

The purpose of this Directory is to improve the mutual communication and dissemination of information among the municipalities and with the other stakeholders in the public, business and civil sector.

MCIC and ZELS have succeeded in collecting the data of all municipalities, including the City of Skopje. The 100 percent coverage provides the reader with an opportunity to get relevant information about the all 85 municipalities from one source.

The Directory presents the data we have considered to be crucial for improving the information and communication. These include data and contact information of The Mayor and The Council; general information on the municipality; information on the structure of the municipality; local economic development and information on the realized and planned projects and activities.

The Directory is published in a hard copy in Macedonian, Albanian and English language. The data will be also available on a CD-ROM and on the following MCIC's web-sites: www.mcms.org.mk, www.graganskisvet.org.mk and www.civicworld.org.mk as well as on ZELS's web-site www.zels.org.mk.

At the end, I would like to extend my gratitude to the Association of the Units of Local Self Government (ZELS) and the municipalities that have provided the necessary information as well as everyone that contributed for this publication.