

15
FLGR
years

2009
annual
report

Mission Statement

The Foundation for Local Government Reform is an independent professional resource centre, whose mission is to support local democracy and promote effective, partnership-based local development, based on democratic values, social inclusion and prosperity.

FLGR Governing Body

Lachezar Rosenov, Chair of the Board, Municipal Councillor, Dobrich Municipal Council, Mayor, Municipality of Dobrich (1995 - 2003)

Ginka Kapitanova, Board Member and Executive Director of FLGR, Mayor, Municipality of Zlatograd (1991 - 1995)

Deni Kamenov, Vice-Chair of the Board, Mayor, Municipality of Vidin (1991 - 1995)

Emilia Panayotova, Board Member, Senior Assistant, Legal Department, St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia

Roumen Draganov, Board Member, Director, Institute for Analyses and Assessments in Tourism

The Team of FLGR

Zdravko Sechkov, Acting Director

Irena Boneva, Subgrant Programme Manager

Dessislava Tencheva, European Programmes and Projects Expert

Vasilka Sirachevska, IT Programme Coordinator

Nikoleta Efremova, Programme Coordinator

Rositsa Raycheva, Programme Coordinator

Elvira Koleva, Cashier-Accountant

Demir Deyanov, Office Manager

During the years the organization has established a countrywide network of 30 local professionals, who join our projects relevant to their area of expertise on a part-time basis.

Brief History Of The Organization

FLGR was established in May 1995 as a non-governmental organization by a group of mayors. For 15 years of existence the Foundation has gained wide recognition at national level. Currently it has a proven record of successfully implemented projects and programs contributing to the democratisation of local government in Bulgaria and enhancement of public awareness on local government issues.

Geographic Area And/Or Demographics Served

FLGR headquarters are based in Sofia but we have also opened a regional office in Smolyan to serve this south-west mountainous area.

About 80% of our customers reside and work in the country, outside the capital. In general they are representatives mainly of local administrations, non-governmental organizations and educational institutions – schools, community centres (chitalishte), etc. We have also managed to expand our target audience by implementing expertise initiatives in partnership with district administrations, companies and business associations as well as business centres and incubators.

Our professional experience and support to introduction of structural reforms in local governance, has truly won us a remarkable reputation among the other transitional countries. Thus we have been invited to assist local development in Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo, Romania, Serbia, Montenegro and Kaliningrad.



Memberships

- FLGR is a member of American Chamber of Commerce in Bulgaria.
- FLGR is a founding member of Donor Fund Bulgaria.
- FLGR is a member of Local Government Information Network. The mission of LOGIN is to promote the professional development of local government officials and their staff and to strengthen the capabilities of organizations that support the reform of public administration at the local level. LOGIN does this by facilitating the exchange of timely and useful information at the municipal, regional and national level throughout the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union.

Partnerships in 2009

- FLGR further developed the close relationship with the Bulgarian Environmental Partnership Foundation (BEPF) in management of NGO Fund, EEA Grants – Bulgaria and creation and joint management of the NGO Fund, EEA Grants – Bulgaria site ngofund.flgr.bg
- FLGR built a network of 23 partner organizations and an NGO resource site ngo.flgr.bg
- In consortium with 3 NGOs: NGO Links, Bulgaria, Centre for Liberal Strategies, Bulgaria, and transForma, Romania, FLGR carried out Bulgarian Local Government Integrity Project.
- In partnership with the Economic Policy Institute (EPI) the Distance learning course (DLC) “Prevention of the Corruption on Local Level” was developed.
- In carrying out of the National Round Table dedicated to the topic ‘Good Governance Principles at Local Level – Practices and Recommendations’ FLGR partnered with Municipality of Kardzhali and the European Institute.
- In elaboration of the Methodology for assessment of the application of 12 good governance principles in Bulgarian municipalities FLGR partnered the the National Ombudsman’s Office.
- In carrying out trainings for representatives of local authorities on the topic ‘integrity’ FLGR partnered with NGO Links.
- In carrying out distance learning courses FLGR partners with the LOGIN network.
- In carrying out public discussions FLGR partnered with the municipalities of Veliko Tarnovo and Maritsa.
- By the end of 2009 FLGR established working relationships with the Council for Integration of Roma into Bulgarian society to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy and participated in the formulation of goals and objectives of the second half of the Decade of Roma Inclusion.
- FLGR established working contacts with several EU companies, with them jointly developing projects proposals.

Raising Professional Qualification of FLGR team in 2009

- The team of FLGR went through specialized training and improved its capacity in application of Common Assessment Framework (CAF) system in Bulgarian municipalities.
- Two representatives of FLGR took part in the working meeting of the UNDP RCPAR Network of National Coordinators and Focal Points from Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, November 2009.
- 5 members of the team of FLGR were approved and were trained by the Ministry of agriculture and food as experts in application of the LEADER approach in Bulgaria.

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FLGR is an independent professional resource centre, supporting local democracy.

Outreach and Communication Channels

During the years FLGR developed effective and recognizable communication channels to contact with customers and partners:

www.flgr.bg – The FLGR website records up to 40 000 visitors per a month in the working months or 34 000 monthly visits on average.

www.invest.bg – This is the marketing website of Bulgarian Municipalities, which enjoys 16 000 monthly visits

ngo.flgr.bg – The resource site for NGOs , enjoying 3 800 monthly visits

ngofund.flgr.bg – NGO Fund under EEA FM in Bulgaria site, 3 000 monthly visits

ccouncils.flgr.bg – website to present Community Councils, 1 200 monthly visits

wp.flgr.bg – FLGR blog, enjoying 1 250 monthly visits

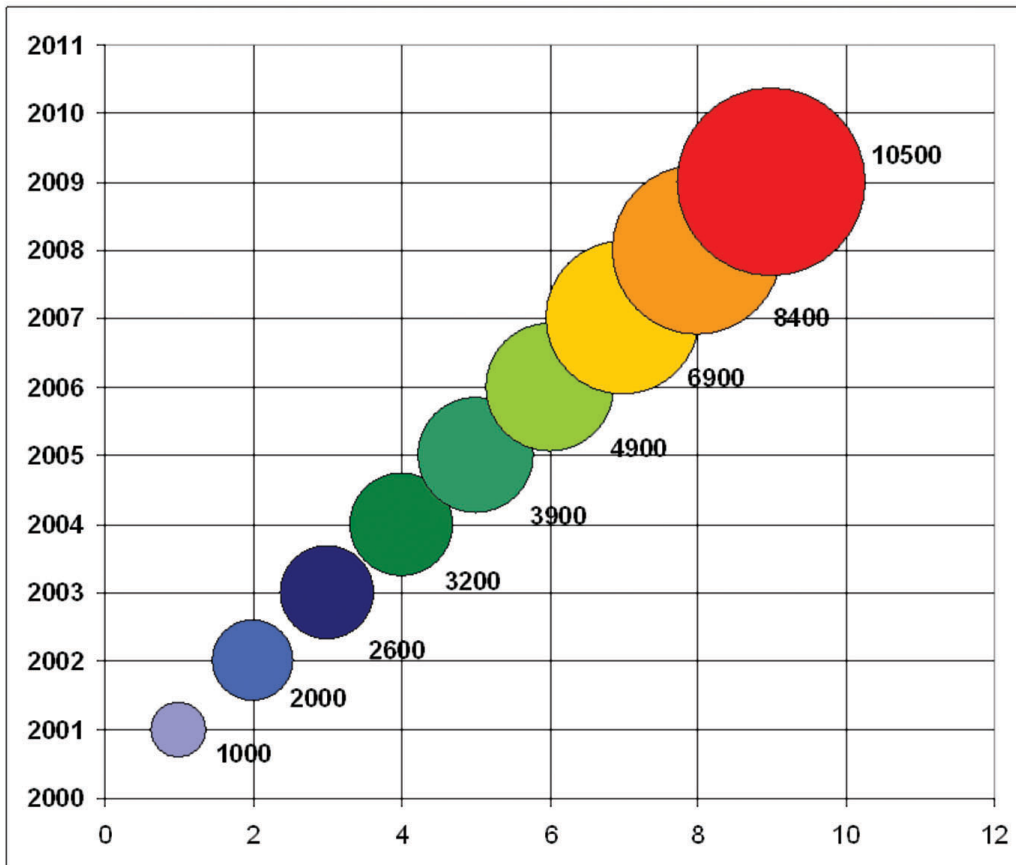
E-Weekly bulletin

In 2009 50 issues of the e-Weekly informed its readers on 524 possibilities for funding and on 200 training possibilities.

At the beginning of 2009 the number of its subscribers was 8 400, and at the end of the year it reached 10 500.

Atanaska Stoyanova, Community Centre ‘Prosveta”, Lyulyakovo Village:

I am a subscriber to your e-Weekly for years and thank to this edition I find new initiatives and ideas.



e-Weekly Subscribers 2000 - 2009

FLGR website www.flgr.bg

In 2009 FLGR website registered 365 621 visits (more than 34 400 monthly visits on average) and 2 722 335 pages visited.

In the FLGR website one can find:

Online Library

Yearly the Library is enriched with some 130 editions in Bulgarian.

Online database of innovative practices of Bulgarian municipalities

The electronic library consists of more than 1000 good practices of Bulgarian municipalities and their social and economic partners. This information resource is enriched yearly with about 100 new practices.

Innovative Municipality Award 2009

For the 12th year in a row, FLGR encourages, collects, publishes and disseminates good practices through its Innovative Practices Project.

The project started in 1998 and provides a forum for the exchange of experience and has proved to be a sustainable model for collecting and disseminating innovative practices within Bulgarian local government system. Since 2002 FLGR conducts Innovative Practices competitions on different topics and awards its Annual Innovative Municipality Award to municipalities that shared the most innovative practices within the current year.

90 practices, realized on the territory of 29 municipalities, gathered between March 2008 and May 2009 participated the last FLGR National Contest Innovative Municipality 2009. 65% of the practices were presented by NGOs.

Municipality of Yablanitsa participated with 9 practices. Sofia Municipality presented 10 practices. Municipality of Kozlodui presented 31 practices and won the Innovative Municipality Award 2009.



Trainings/Study Tours

The Centre for Training and Qualification within the Foundation for Local Government Reform was established in 2003 aiming at institutionalizing the training activities offered by FLGR.

- In 2009 jointly with Utilities Services FLGR carried out training course "The role of municipal and regional administrations in management of water supply systems", November 2009, Sofia.
- The team of FLGR held trainings for representatives of municipal administrations in the municipalities of Sozopol, Primorsko and Tsarevo on possibilities and methodology of application of public-private partnerships (PPP) at local level.
- The team of FLGR held trainings and information campaign in the field of PPP in several municipalities.
- The team of FLGR held training of application of LEADER approach in the Municipality of Kubrat.
- In the period 13 - 17 July 2009 FLGR facilitated a study tour of a municipal delegation from Kaliningrad Oblast to Bulgaria. The main goal of the visit was to explore good practices of Bulgarian municipalities in improving administrative services and building e-governance.

Distance Learning

In the summer of 2009, for the members of the LOGIN a distance learning module was developed - a tool that allows anyone interested to undergo training in the most convenient time and place, using his/her personal computer. Each week participants have online access to a new lesson, as well as to practically oriented material attached to it (good practices or documents). Course participants can work on the training materials also offline. Each lesson ends with a test on the topic of the lesson. Successful completion of the test is a key for access to the next lesson. Each course ends with a Final Test.

FLGR team developed and held three training courses:

ИЗБОР НА ЕЗИК: Български

ТЪРСЕНЕ НА КУРС

Име на курса

ТЪРСИ

ПОПЪЛНЕТЕ ВАШЕТО ИМЕ И ПАРОЛА

Име

Парола

ВХОД

ТЪРСЕНЕ НА КУРС

Разширено търсене >

Търсене по тема >

Всички курсове в азбучен ред >

Начало

ДИСТАНЦИОННО ОБУЧЕНИЕ

Добре дошли в Дистанционното обучение на LOGIN - иновативен начин да усъвършенствате знанията си по различни теми. Тук можете да търсите курс, да се включите в курс и, след като се регистрирате, да влезете във Вашата класна стая.

ВСИЧКИ КУРСОВЕ В АЗБУЧЕН РЕД

Платен курс 1. Превенция на корупцията на местно ниво, 14 април - 2 юни 2010 г.

Базиран на методологията на Програмата на Обединените нации за човешките селища (UN-Habitat)

Платен курс 2. "Прилагане на принципите на добро управление на местно ниво", 15 март - 2 май 2010 г.

Курсът е базиран на 12-те принципа за добро управление, формулирани в Стратегията за иновации и добро управление (Валенсия 2007).

Предниш << < 1 > >> Следващ

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- Distance Learning Module for representatives of NGOs and municipalities “**12 good governance principles and their application at local level**”, based of the Strategy for Innovation and Good Governance at local level (Barcelona 2007), July – August 2009;
- “12 good governance principles and their application at local level”, **based of the Strategy for Innovation and Good Governance at local level (Barcelona 2007)**, October – December 2009;
- “**Prevention of the Corruption on Local Level**”, October – December 2009. The course was developed in accordance with the Methodology of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) and jointly with the Economic Policy Institute (EPI).

144 participants from 46 towns and 5 villages from all over the country participated the courses. 104 of them represented NGOs, incl. community centres (chitalishte), educational organizations, Agencies for economic development, business centres, and regional associations of municipalities. 29 of them were representatives of municipal administrations and municipal councils. 7 were the representatives of the central government and its branches in the country, 4 representatives of the business also completed the courses.

The students, that successfully completed the courses, were certified by FLGR.

Thank you for you terrific course. It was tailor made; information was provided in an absolutely accessible and understandable manner, so that everyone could handle it without difficulties. I hope in future there will be similar courses because the Internet is a powerful tool that reveals many opportunities and we have to learn how to use it in the best and effective way. Distance training FLGR course “12 good governance principles and their application at local level” is a great example of this. Thank you for the new knowledge that I gained!

Desislava Paterkova, Regional Youth Council Initiative, Stara Zagora

The topics were interesting, written in a concise way, including the most important issues - and I read them with pleasure.

Boriana Naidenova Gankov-Naletova, Association “Chance and support”, Tryavna

The training was really useful, effective and efficient. It personally helped me a lot in my work as a journalist. The chosen form of education – distance learning - is quite appropriate and convenient. Hopefully in the future you will provide similar trainings.

George Shishmanov, Centre for Human Rights “Vasil Levski” – Karlovo

I thank the team of FLGR for the opportunity to participate in the training! It was very helpful!

Mariika Georgieva, NGO “Agency for Regional Economic Development”, Sliven



Conferences / Round Tables

In 2009 FLGR organized and held as primary or as co-organizer the following fora:

- 10th national conference on e-Governance “e-Administration in Bulgaria - Achievements and Prospects”, 11-12 March 2009, Sofia
- Closing conference of the project “Improving Bulgarian Local Government Integrity”, March 20, 2009, Sofia
- Two conferences on the topic “Citizen society without citizens? How to bind personal and community interest?” (July 9, 2009, Veliko Tarnovo and 10 July 2009, Plovdiv)
- Thematic round table on “The citizen impact on local policies - forms of direct citizen participation”, June 12, 2009, Plovdiv
- Thematic Round Table “Partnership and clear vision for development - precondition for successful project financing”, June 26, 2009, Plovdiv
- Thematic round table “NGOs - effective partners in public service provision”, July 3, 2009, Plovdiv
- National Round Table “The good governance principles at local level - practices and recommendations, September 25, 2009, Sofia



Implemented projects in 2009

NGO Fund – Bulgaria 2008 - 2011

In 2009 FLGR in partnership with Bulgarian Environmental Partnership Foundation administered the NGO Fund – Bulgaria, realized with the support from the European Economic Area (EEA) partners Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein. The Fund grants to Bulgarian NGOs the amount of 2, 064, 000 euro for a three-year period in the following focus areas:

- Protection of the environment and promotion of sustainable development;
- Provision and development of social services, such as health and childcare;
- Development of civil society and protection of human rights.

The NGO Fund was officially launched in July 2008.



In February 2009 the evaluation of the 321 project proposals submitted for the first call was completed and the projects were approved to be financially supported as follows:



Opening of the Centre for Social Rehabilitation – Silistra, December 2, 2009

Foundation “Saprichastie”, Branch Silistra

Funded by EEA Grants

- Priority area 1 - Protection of the environment and promotion of sustainable development – 7 projects;
- Priority area 2: Provision and development of social services, such as in health and childcare – 11 projects;
- Priority area 3: Development of civil society and protection of human rights – 10 projects.

In March 2009 the summaries of the approved projects were published in Bulgarian and in English on the FLGR website www.flgr.bg and on the website of the NGO Fund - Bulgaria ngofund.lgr.bg.

In the beginning of April 2009 the second call for proposals was announced. The deadline for submitting proposals was June 19, 2009.

In the period 9 – 15 April 6 regional information meetings were held in the towns of Sofia, Varna, Burgas, Veliko Tarnovo, Plovdiv and Vratsa to explain the requirements for applicants and details of application forms.

80 questions and answers to them were published in the Q&A section of the NGO Fund website.

The second call for proposals under the NGO Fund Bulgaria within the EEA FM was closed on June 19th, 2009. The total number of projects submitted was 383.

The approved projects under the second call under the NGO Fund within the EEA FM were as follows:

- 8 projects (out of 103 submitted) in the Priority area 1 - Protection of the environment and promotion of sustainable development;
- 13 projects (out of 150 submitted) in the Priority area 2: Provision and development of social services, such as in health and childcare;
- 13 projects (out of 130 submitted) in the Priority area 3: Development of civil society and protection of human rights.

By the end of 2009 a total of 61 organizations have received 955,658 EUR for implementation of the approved projects.



Project “Social Theatre for Empowerment Support, Activity and Innovations”

Foundation „Centre for European Initiatives”

Funded by EEA Grants

NGOs - Reliable Partners for Development (2008 - 2009)

In July 2009 FLGR completed the NGOs - Reliable Partners for Development Project, funded by the Operational Programme Administrative Capacity, co-funded by the European Social Fund. The project was funded with the sum of 171,221 EUR and lasted 18 months.

The main goal of the project was to strengthen the capacity of the NGO sector in South Central planning region in developing and implementing local and regional policies in partnership with the public administration.

The main objectives of the project were:

- 1) To develop specific knowledge and skills of the civic organizations, working in the fields of local development, good governance, civil rights and social activities, for partnering with the public administration;
- 2) To improve the organizational capacity of key NGOs contributing to the development of the NGO/public administration relations in South Central planning region;
- 3) To develop FLGR capacity for delivery of CAF (common assessment framework) services to public institutions.

The target groups of the project were:

- Representatives of NGOs, working in the field of local development, good governance, citizen rights, social services from the South Central Planning Region (incl. region of Stara Zagora)
- Local governments from the South Central Planning Region (incl. region of Stara Zagora)
- The team of FLGR.

The expected results were achieved as follows (in chronological order):

- Current situation analysis of the NGO sector in South Central Planning region, needs assessment in information and trainings was elaborated;
- Training programmes to strengthen the capacity of the NGOs in the spheres of interaction with the local governments, local development and institutional strengthening were designed;
- 45 organisations, chosen on a competitive basis went through 2 training cycles, that is 21 trainings as a whole (15 trainings in local development and 6 trainings in institutional strengthening);
- 60 representatives of NGOs successfully passed through trainings in local development and were certified as Expert in community development and institutional partnership;
- 36 representatives of NGOs successfully passed through cycle of 3 trainings "Facilitation of public hearings and public discussions" and were certified as Expert Facilitator of public hearings and public discussions;
- 27 NGOs were certified as Mediator between citizens and local government;
- Organisational strategies of 11 NGOs were elaborated;
- The team of FLGR strengthened its capacity in application of CAF system in the Bulgarian municipalities;
- FLGR established Innovative Practices Team that developed feasible models for partnership between NGOs and public administration in formulation and implementation of local policies in 10 areas of community interest;
- NGO resource site was developed and activated where news on NGO initiatives, library resources, good practices are published. The site was designed as a tool for partner search in the sphere of local and regional development. 238 NGOs registered themselves at the site and have the possibility to update their profile.
- 72 e-Weekly Bulletins with the rubric NGO News were issued and disseminated among 10 000 subscribers;
- Collection of 20 Innovative Practices "Partners for Development" of successful partnerships for development between NGOs and local authorities was issued in 1000 print run and disseminated. The good practices come from old EU member states such as Belgium, Portugal, Luxembourg, France, Greece, UK, Spain, Germany and Finland, and also from the new - of 2004 - member states, such as Poland, Slovakia, Lithuania and Hungary;



- Analysis named “Legal framework for participation of civic organizations in the government. Models. Conclusions and recommendations” was issued and disseminated (1000 print run);
- As a whole 400 people participated in three thematic round tables (“The citizen impact on local policies - forms of direct citizen participation”; “Partnership and clear vision for development - precondition for successful project financing”; “NGOs - effective partners in public service provision”) and in the 2 Closing Conferences entitled “Citizen society without citizens? How to bind personal and community interest?”
- A network of partner organizations working in the field of local development was built;
- The Network started initiative Citizen Community (Grazhdanska zadruga).

FLGR highly appreciates all NGOs for their active participation in the activities under the project and for their support in carrying them out. FLGR declare its readiness to continue working on common initiatives in the future.



The Good Governance Principles: Bridging Citizens and Governments 2008 - 2009

FLGR carried out the project “The Good Governance Principles: Bridging Citizens and Governments” (2008 – 2009), financially supported by GMF/ The Balkan Trust for Democracy/ Bulgaria Fund.

The project main objectives were:

1. To raise the awareness, introduce and make recognizable the good governance principles among local administrations, municipal leaderships, civil society and businesses nation-wide and especially in the 2 pilot municipalities – Pazardzhik and Slatina District, Sofia Municipality.
2. To develop and apply in practice effective mechanisms for organizing, mobilizing, activating and empowering local communities (including various socio-economic groups within them) to be participants and corrective in the application of the good governance principles in the pilot municipalities.
3. To revise and improve the performance of the local administrations and leaderships in terms of internal administrative procedures and rules based on recommendations from the citizens and local businesses and within the context of observing the good governance principles.

In the framework of the project:

- A long term information campaign was carried out, dedicated to the 12 good governance principles, as formulated in the Strategy for innovation and good governance at local level (Lisbon 2007), comprising of:
 - ◆ 162 articles, good practices and surveys in the thematic field published and disseminated;
 - ◆ 10 models of partnerships between NGOs and local governments disseminated;
 - ◆ 5 radio-shows, 3 of them being 1-hour on the Hristo Botev Programme of the National Radio;
 - ◆ Public discussions and informational meetings;
 - ◆ Edition of “Good practices of Bulgarian municipalities in the field of the application of good governance principles” issued and disseminated.

The information environment was improved at national and local levels regarding the good governance principles. The thematic area of good governance principles has become part of the public information circle and is no more bound to the narrow information circle of local authorities.

■ In the 2 pilot municipalities the municipal procedures, rules, policy documents and related to the priority area legal municipal framework were revised and adapted so that the good governance principles are applied at higher level.

■ In the 2 pilot municipalities surveys were conducted on the informational environment, the level of development of municipal IT systems and the municipal websites with regard to the better service provision.

■ Summary of the findings, conclusions and recommendations related to the partnership between the local government and the social and business actors were prepared and presented to the Municipal Councils. Decisions were taken for their implementation.

■ In the 2 pilot municipalities surveys among local NGOs and businesses were carried out and a priority sphere for intervention was formulated for each municipality. The voice of citizens was articulated and directly inserted into the process of policy implementation within that priority area.

■ In the 2 pilot municipalities capacity building seminars were organized for the municipal administrations to raise the capacity in the field of good governance principles application.

■ Distance learning courses on the topics “12 good governance principles and their application at local level” and “Prevention of the Corruption on Local Level” were held.

■ On a competitive basis 4 projects of local NGOs were financially supported and implemented, putting into practice the good governance principles.

■ Financially were supported updates of the websites of the 2 pilot municipalities.

■ In the 2 pilot municipalities were carried out Open Door Days, that were extremely successful.

■ A National Round Table was held to present the project achievements (September 25, 2009). 80 participants from more than 30 towns in Bulgaria - representatives of central government, local governments, municipal experts, local NGOs, educational and community centers, and media - took part in the forum. Special guests were H. E. Mr. Paul Beijer, Ambassador of Sweden in Bulgaria, Ms. Zinaida Zlatanova, Head of Representation of the European Commission in Bulgaria, Mr. Andrey Kovatchev, president of the Bulgarian delegation into the Group of the European People’s Party in the European Parliament and member of the Committee on Regional Development of



the European Parliament, Mr. Ginyo Ganev, National Ombudsman, Ms. Maria Dimitrova, Head of the Managing authority of the Operational Programme Administrative Capacity, Ms. Ani Nedkova, European Institute, Mr. Hakif Emin, Local Ombudsman in the Municipality of Kardzhali.



H. E. Mr. Paul Beijer, Ambassador of Sweden in Bulgaria, his country presiding the European Union, July - December 2009:

“Democratic societies are based on trust. Without the trust of its citizens the institutions of a democratic society do not function well, and the ability to maintain stability, grow and prosper is seriously impaired. The services provided at the municipal level, and the authority exercised there, are people’s most immediate contact with public institutions. I would argue that it is there that the battle for trust us won or lost.

It is therefore a great pleasure to participate this Round Table that marks the end of a project designed to raise awareness of the 12 good governance principles formulated and adopted by the European States and the Council Of Europe in Valencia in 2007.

To me, these 12 principles represent key objectives for government at any level, but particularly at local level, which bears the responsibility if being the face of government in the eyes of ordinary citizens.”

Angel Angelov, ADIG Foundation: *“I would like to thank you for the possibility to participate the Round Table. The organization was of a very high level and the presenters were remarkably competent. For me it was a school in local governance.”*

Nadezhda Doneva, City of Dryanovo: *“Thank you for the invitation to take part in the National Round Table on good governance, held on 25 September, 2009. It was very valuable and fruitful. The working materials are extremely practically oriented.”*

■ 51 recommendations to the local governments for improvement of the good governance principles application at local level were formulated, presented and disseminated.

Bulgarian Local Government Integrity Project (2007 – 2009)

FLGR has been part of the Consortium of Bulgarian NGOs jointly implementing the “Improving Bulgarian Local Government Integrity” project. The project was financed by MATRA Programme of the Dutch Government and was carried out in 9 Bulgarian municipalities by a Consortium of 4 NGOs: NGO Links, Bulgaria, Centre for Liberal Strategies, Bulgaria, Foundation for Local Government Reform, Bulgaria, and transForma, Romania.

A series of trainings in integrity were carried out for municipal administrations and municipal councillors.

On-spot Local integrity groups were formed, consisting of representatives of municipal administrations, municipal councils, NGOs, business and media. They prioritized the problems at local level, concerning integrity and proposed strategy, an action plan according to the specifics of each municipality and carried that plan out.

The project was framed by two sociological surveys on the quality of the municipal administrations performance from the integrity viewpoint.

On the 20 March 2009 Closing Conference under the project “Bulgarian Local Government Integrity”.

The topics discussed were:

- Achieving integrity in Bulgaria at national and local level;
- Conflict of interest act;
- Work of the municipal administrations and the integrity;
- Good practices of Bulgarian and European local governments.

FLGR was responsible for the work with the municipalities of Kozlodui, Panagyurishte and Mezdra.

Methodology for assessment of good governance principles application in the Bulgarian municipalities

The team of FLGR carried out the elaboration and pilot application in 19 municipalities of a Methodology for assessment for good governance principles application in the Bulgarian municipalities, commissioned and disseminated by the National Ombudsman’s Office.

Training of 120 representatives of the pilot municipalities in the application of the methodology was held.

In the period 20 – 25 July 2009 the team of FLGR organized and carried out pilot testing of the Methodology for assessment of good governance principles application in the Bulgarian municipalities in 19 municipalities: Belene, Breznik, Burgas, Byala (Rousse), Veliko Tarnovo, Kazanlak, Karlovo, Kardzhali, Letnitsa, Lovech, Pazardzhik, Pernik, Pomorie, Svishtov, Sevlievo, Smolyan, Sredets, Straldja and Tundzha.

In each of the pilot municipalities an evaluation committee was formed and its work was organized by a coordinator from FLGR. At working meetings the committees worked on self-evaluation of the municipalities on 2 of the good governance principles. At these working meetings the participants gave valuable recommendations to the methodology and helped turning it into a working tool, applicable in every Bulgarian municipality.

The methodology was disseminated among all Bulgarian municipalities.

Evaluation and analysis of the anti-corruption measures 2006 - 2008

The monitoring was a joint project of the team of the Deputy Prime Minister of EU Funds Management Meglena Plugchieva and the NGOs: Transparency International Bulgaria, Foundation for Local Government Reform, Center for Economic Development, “ACCESS-Sofia” Foundation and Center for the Study of Democracy (December 2008 – March 2009).

The objective of the project was to evaluate the execution of the National anticorruption strategy in 2006 - 2008 years and to outline future steps.

For first time civic sector monitored the National Strategy. The NGO sector representatives concluded that as a whole the Strategy is fulfilled, but in the future it is more important the anticorruption measures to be filled with content and result oriented and not so important is their number that is theoretically big, but in practice there are many started but unfinished initiatives.

On the 31 March 2009 in Sofia a Round Table was carried out to discuss the monitoring of a three-year anticorruption government action plan.



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