

REPORT ON ESE'S WORK FOR THE PERIOD JUNE 2007 – JUNE 2008

The program year 2007-2008 was marked with continuous efforts in the implementation of the planned activities in the areas that ESE works and in this regard, it has introduced a progressive concepts and initiatives.

ESE's efforts on all program lines were oriented towards the assessing of the factual position of women on different issues that later on served as a basis for development of the needed policies on national level.

Activities implemented besides the functioning of the Legal Aid centers encompass the following: The survey concerning the prevalence of DV was promoted and it rose into publication named as "Life in Shadow". The survey "Life in shadow", served as a basis for preparation of the National strategy, thus including detailed data for the dark number of the phenomenon and the institutional response towards this problem. Additionally, the adoption of the National strategy for protection against domestic violence established strategic response towards this serious form of violence against woman, thus defining the priority areas and the measures and activities for their achievement for the period 2008-2011. The activities in regard to the unification of the civil justice system and unification of the criminal justice system continued in the reporting period as well. Practical guide for professionals dealing with domestic violence within the civil justice protection system was prepared and published; Practical guide for professionals dealing with domestic violence within the criminal justice system of protection was developed. Legal changes in the Family Code as regard to the DV issue were adopted by the Parliament of R.M. International campaign for combating Violence against women including all relevant stakeholders was organized.

The publication of the research "Health, health protection and the influence of the Roma health in Macedonia" aimed in raising awareness among the relevant institutions about the importance of having a multi coordinated approach in the process of easing the assess to health insurance for Roma people. As an addition to the research, a Policy paper was developed, including areas of concern and recommendations regarding improvement of health status and access to health for Roma people. In order to further strengthen the capacities of the local community stakeholders in access to health insurance as well as strengthening and facilitating the dialogue for access to health on local level, 14 members and volunteers from the partner NGO – CDRIM were trained. On the other hand, ESE traditionally continued with provision of direct services for women. The operations of the Legal aid center and the Health Information Centre served number of clients that clearly showed the need of the types of services provided. Furthermore the HIC has enriched

services in order to meet the women's needs. These services included: free bone densitometry check ups, direct financial aid for obtaining prescribed medicines, free, reliable, quality, professional, health counselling on menopause, contraception, advices for pregnant women and **direct services**: provision of contraceptives, vitamins for osteoporosis, financial aid for medicines, measuring blood pressure, and blood values of glucose, cholesterol and triglycerides.

The concept of "Open communities" was introduced in front of the women and men in rural areas in the participating municipalities. The attempts were put on greater participation in local government, where it was emphasized that greater people's participation will not necessarily automatically lead to greater participation of women. Often institutions of participation are gender-neutral and ignore the reality of differing power and status between women and men or they are gender-blind and do not promote a model of society and development that is based on the transformation of relations between men and women. Specific measures are often needed to transform unequal gender relations that disfavour women's participation, especially participation on rural women. Therefore, ESE has continued to place its efforts into the improvement of the position of the rural women and men, through educational activities and counsellings on designated topics.

ESE has continued undertaking numerous efforts aimed at raising funds using different techniques and methods, in the development of relations with prospects and donors. A fundraising letter has been sent to a broader group like embassies, municipalities, companies and individuals data base for donations have been created. A data base was created in order to track the donations and donors. Part of the fundraising efforts for this year was incorporated in two ESE's campaigns: International Sixteen Days of Activism Against Gender Violence campaign and Osteoporosis awareness campaign. For its philanthropic engagement in the campaign, **Osteoporosis awareness** as nominee from ESE, "Kendi" won the Award for philanthropy for small and middle company.

The already prepared PR strategy was incorporated in all of the ESE's programme activities, which will facilitate ESE in building up her strong public image thus helping the public to understand the organization its products and services. In addition to this, we created corporative brochure that will represent ESE's outreach activities and core values from its work. For the first time, ESE created thematic www page on domestic violence and upgraded the current one. "Open doors" were organized for the general public who was familiarized with ESE's mission work and services it provides. In order to offer easy accessible information for domestic public, ESE's web page www.esem.org.mk, is upgraded and updated. Small, current updates are made continuously, by the ESE staff. Additionally, in order to promote and to play a role of reliable resource in the field of domestic violence the first Macedonian thematic web site, www.semejnonasilstvo.org.mk related to the issue is created. As a result, now we have all relevant documents and activities undertaken on

this field for the last decade, systematize and available. In order to present factual position of women in Macedonia and to popularize CEDAW as an instrument for protection of their rights, we initiated and implemented a project for media presentation, supported by of Macedonian Institute for media. Serial of six episodes and short documentary film *Voices of the women* were produced and broadcasted in cooperation with the National Television Channel 5, covering the whole territory of Macedonia.

In the reporting period ESE prepared and presented the Shadow report on the UN Convention against Torture (CAT) in front of the UN Committee in Geneva, Switzerland. In regard of the preparation of the policies and laws related to ESE's mandate of operation, ESE has participated in reviewing the draft **Law on pro bono legal aid**, prepared by the Ministry of justice and on initiative for adoption of a separate law on domestic violence in the country. ESE, guided by its strategic milestones to work continuously on improving the DV legislative framework on 7th of February was invited and participated on the meeting organized by the **Parliamentary Commission for the protection of human rights and freedom**.

During the reporting period ESE staff was engaged in **delivering trainings to different target groups on violence against women, with focus on domestic violence phenomenon**. The newly established **Academy for education of judges and public prosecutors** has invited ESE to deliver trainings as part of continues education of these professional structures. ESE has actively participated in designing of the training program, preparation of the training materials, as well inclusion of the appropriate trainers.

Development of ESE's human capacities, this year was focused on building and strengthening its capacities on issues related to organizational and institutional development, as well as on thematic issues related to the program components of women human rights, good governance and health. The human capacities of ESE related to the core mandate of ESE's activities were aimed at the staff of women human rights program, good governance and women and health program.

In the frames of the Executive Board and the G.A. a Committee for fundraising and Committee for programme work is to be established in September 2008. And finally, the newly established **System for programme and staff evaluation**, based on the scope and size of work was exercised during the reporting period.

During the reporting period, ESE has participated on **consultation for process related to European integration**, such as the preparation of the JIM (Joint Inclusion Memorandum) that the Government has initiated last year. ESE was also invited on the reception with Ms. Henrietta H.Fore, Director of US Foreign Assistance and Administrator of USAID, also in organization of

USAID that focused on the results of U.S. Government assistance to Macedonia over the last 15 years.

In this period 5 ***project proposals*** were prepared and submitted by ESE. From the total number of submitted project proposals 2 were rejected, 1 was approved and for 2 proposals we are waiting for reply. Throughout the reporting period ESE applied for 5 consultancy engagements. From the total number of submitted applications, 1 was rejected, 3 were approved and for 1 we are waiting reply.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD MAY 2007 – AUGUST 2008

Overview of the planned and implemented assets for the program activities in the period 2007-2008

Type of costs planned	Assets planned in EURO	Assets planned in MKD	Assets implemented in MKD for period 2007-2008
Women's Human Rights programme	94.489,00	5.795.104,92	1.242.522,00
Women and Health programme	155.774,00	9.553.774,80	3.303.593,00
Women in Politics and Decision-Making Processes programme	54.509,00	3.343.091,47	633.042,50
Development Unit activities	62.276,00	3.819.449,35	1.300.294,74
Administrative costs	128.652,00	7.890.355,81	2.320.801,50
Reserves	4.300,00	263.723,00	/
Total	500.000,00	30.665.500,00	8.800.253,74

Incomes	
Total income in MKD	8.110.302,00 MKD
Foreign currency income	92.450,00 €
Foreign currency sale inflow	5.507.382,00 MKD
EED share in total income for the period August 2007-August 2008	5.200.632,00 MKD
Percentage of EED's share in total income	64 %
Unspent income from the previous program year	/
Income received for implementation of program activities	8.110.302,00 MKD
Costs for the implementation of the program activities for the period 2006-2007	8.800.253,74 MKD
Leftover	/

Report of the audit on the income of funds from EED and other donors and their expenditures in the period May 2007 – August 2008

1. The financial reports referring to the period August 2007 – August 2008 were subjects to audit. The funds received from EED (first transfer made for the 20060237G Project) and other donors were planned for the second year of the Work Programme (2007-2008). The insight into the documentation on the costs incurred was conducted for the purposes of rendering opinion on the financial reports arising from the said period. By applying the Macedonian legal regulation, which is in line with the International Accounting Standards, we tried to establish whether their financial reports (planned expenditures and costs) contained major mistakes and are substantiated by material evidence. The insight was conducted on the basis of a test of the evidence which substantiates the amounts in the financial reports.
2. We reckon that our insight in the documentation represents legal basis for our opinion.
3. In our opinion, the financial reports truly and accurately disclose the sources and use of funds from the hard currency account of the Association for Emancipation, Solidarity, and Equality of Women of the RM, acquired from EED and other donors for the 20060237G Project under the 2006-2009 Work Programme in compliance with the International Accounting Standards, the national legal regulation, and the objectives of the programme.
4. As per the cost statements:
 - a) The costs have been incurred for the purposes of the activities which were conducted in order to accomplish the programme objectives in an economical, cost-effective and purposeful manner.
 - b) The documentation was kept in an appropriate manner to substantiate the incurred costs;
 - c) The costs incurred and the equipment procured were substantiated by contracts and invoices.

Skopje, September 2008

Audit conducted by:

Goran Conevski