

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2017

ВО ПЕРИОД КОГА СЕ БЕЛЕЖИ ДРАСТИЧЕН ПОРАСТ НА ДОЕНЕЧКАТА СМРТНОСТ КАЈ РОМИТЕ, ВЛАДАТА НА РМ И МИНИСТЕРСТВОТО ЗА ЗДРАВСТВО ГИ КРАТАТ АКТИВНОСТИТЕ И СРЕДСТВАТА НАМЕНЕТИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ЗДРАВЈЕТО НА МАЛКИТЕ И ДОЧАТА РОМ

ЗА ШТО СЕ ПОТРОШЕНИ ВЕТЕШИТЕ, А НЕРАСПРЕДЕЛЕНИ 3,8 МИЛИОНИ ЕВРА ЗА ЛИЦАТА СО РЕТКИ БОЛЕСТИ?

ОД 100% ЖИВОТ НА ЛИЦАТА КОЈА СЕ НАПЛАТА ПО ЛАРЧЕ ЦИГАРА

ЗА РЕТКИ БОЛЕСТИ ОДИ САМО 3%

Во РМ ЖИВЕАТ 200 ЛИЦА коишто боледуваат од ретка болест, А СО ПРОГРАМАТА СЕ ЛЕКУВААТ САМО 74 ПАЦИЕНТИ

ПРЕГЛЕД НА СУДСКИ ПРЕДМЕТИ ВО ОДНОС НА ПРЕКРШУВАЊЕ НА ЗАКОНИ ЗА ПРАВА СЕО ФОКУС НА ПРЕДМЕТНИ СУДСКИ МИНИМАЛНИ ВОЗНИ МИРУВАЊЕ НА РАДОТНО МЕСТО

СУМАРЕН ПРЕГЛЕД НА МОНИТОРИРАНИ СЛУЧАИ ЗА НАСИЛСТВО ВРЗ ЖЕНИ

201 КАЖОКНИ НАСИЛСТВО ВРЗ ЖЕНИ
192
8 ТИПОВИ НА ТИПОВИ СО ЛИЦА
15 ТИПОВИ НА ТИПОВИ СО ЛИЦА

Одбери крај

ПОДГОТВЕТЕ СВОЈ ПЛАН



Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women

ABOUT ESE

ESE is a civil society organization that works to improve the implementation of the social and economic rights of vulnerable groups, by strengthening them, mobilizing and engaging in the planning, implementation and evaluation of public policies and services in the Republic Macedonia.

ESE's driving force is its commitment to resolution of problems. By promoting and improving the human rights, we improve social and economic justice, having in mind that human rights are indivisible collection of standards that should be enjoyed by all. We are particularly devoted to work in the field of promotion and improvement of health rights and women rights. Therefore we are focused on two goals, those being: to address urgent needs of citizens, in particular the needs of vulnerable groups of citizens, and to influence creation of sustainable and long-term changes. We do much more than documenting, reporting and publically condemning injustices in the society. We provide legal and paralegal assistance, allowing citizens to exercise their rights and to change their living conditions. Moreover, we advocate for changes of legislation and policies that affect exercise of health rights and women rights. We advocate at national and international level. We draft and submit "shadow reports" and other types of documents to competent international bodies concerning the degree of implementation of international treaties on human rights.

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The most significant achievements in 2017

- We started with the practical implementation of the integrated concept (social accountability and legal empowerment) in order to improve the health of Roma communities, following the planning and preparation process that took place in 2015 and 2016.
- We have improved our cooperation with the Ministry of Health through joint cooperation on using social accountability in monitoring of the ministries programs and increased transparency, as well as through participation in working groups for preparation of amendments to the Law on Health Care and the working group for preparation of the Program for Active Health Care of Mothers and Children.
- We have conducted a nationwide population-based survey to determine the extent and impact of unpaid care work in the household, the first of its kind in our country.
- We have expanded the application of community monitoring to another social and economic right, namely the right to employment.
- As partners of the Coalition for Sexual and Health Rights of Marginalized Communities, we started promoting the rule of law and equal access to justice for all, as part of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs) 16.3. These are initial efforts that will be subsequently followed by development of national action plan for access to justice, with focus on vulnerable groups of citizens.
- We have undertaken pioneering steps in determining the costs and benefits from the provision of different types of free legal aid in the country through data collection related to the different types of costs incurred by the beneficiaries of CSO's, and their experience and satisfaction from the services provided.
- We have continued to devote special attention and serious efforts to the process of continuous strengthening of the knowledge and skills of 35 paralegals, that are providing paralegal assistance and support to Roma, sex workers, textile workers and other vulnerable groups of citizens in the country. This year we held two trainings on topics of criminal law and procedure; family, property and inheritance law and domestic violence as a form of violence against women.

- We have developed recommendations for the improvement of the judicial and legal system of protection against violence against women, based on the court monitoring assessment on 344 cases, or 780 court hearings of civil and criminal cases related to violence against women.
- We organized Forum for Legal Protection of Women Victims of Violence with judges, practitioners and relevant institutions, and defined recommendations for improving the legal framework and the proceeding of courts and other institutions involved in the legal system of protection.
- We have developed and disseminated multi lingual informative Guides for legal protection from violence against women, in Macedonian, Albanian and Roma.
- We have worked on raising the public awareness on the importance of fiscal transparency through the Fiscal Transparency Macedonia campaign, as well as on promotion of the results of ESE's work through social media campaigns publishing over 600 individual information, viewed over 2.5 million times
- The Government obliged the Ministry of Health to finalize and publish annual reports on program and budget implementation for each of the preventive and curative programs within the ministry's budget and begin with piloting of the social accountability methodologies.
- Our long-term efforts for improvement of the level of reactive transparency have resulted in improved implementation in the procedures for free access to public information, as well as changes in the Law on Free Access to Public Information initiated by the Ministry of Justice.
- The Government of the Republic of Macedonia has adopted a list of documents and information that public institutions should make publicly available on their websites, while the Public Procurement Bureau introduced the possibility for publishing the awarded contracts in the conducted public procurement procedures.
- We have made a significant contribution in raising the public awareness on the issue related to free access to public information by marking the International Day for the Right for Access to Information and strengthening our cooperation with the Commission for Protection of the Right for Free Access to Public Information.

СТРАТЕГИЧЕН

ВО ПЕРИОД КОГА СЕ БЕЛЕЖИ ДРАСТИЧЕН ПОРАСТА НА ДООЕНЧКАТА СМРТНОСТ КАЈ РОМИТЕ, ВЛАДАТА НА РМ И МИНИСТЕРСТВОТО ЗА ЗДРАВСТВО ГИ КРАТАТ АКТИВНОСТИТЕ И СРЕДСТВАТА НАМЕНЕТИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ЗДРАВЈЕТО НА МАЛКИТЕ ДЕЦА СО РОМСКА ПОТКОЛОРНИ

ЗА ШТО СЕ ПОТРОШЕНИ ВЕТЕРИТЕ, А НЕРАСПРЕДЕЛЕНИ 1.8 МИЛИОНИ ЕВРА ЗА ЛИЦАТА СО РЕТКИ БОЛЕСТИ?

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А СО ПРОГРАМАТА СЕ ЛЕКУВААТ САМО 74 ПАЦИЕНТИ

ВЛАДАТА НА РМ И МИНИСТЕРСТВОТО ЗА ЗДРАВСТВО ГИ КРАТАТ АКТИВНОСТИТЕ И СРЕДСТВАТА НАМЕНЕТИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ЗДРАВЈЕТО НА МАЛКИТЕ ДЕЦА СО РОМСКА ПОТКОЛОРНИ

Скопирајте на дигитална скрининг во РМ а други земји во Европа како што е во Шведска. За да се подобри здравјето на РМ деца, владата на РМ и министерството за здравство треба да се фокусираат на подобрување на здравјето на малките деца со ромска потколоторни.



ФТМ

ПРИДОНЕСИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ФИСКАЛНАТА ТРАНСПАРЕНТНОСТ ВО Р. МАКЕДОНИЈА

Објавувајте ги резултатите од мониторингот во јавно, за да можете да ги следите и да ги користите, така што можете да ги следите резултатите од мониторингот и да ги користите за да ги следите резултатите од мониторингот.

STRATEGIC GOALS

ПРЕГЛЕД НА СУДСКИ ПРЕДМЕТИ ВО ОДНОС НА ПРЕКРШУВАЊЕ НА РАБОТНИ РАД ПРАВА СО ФОКУС НА ПРЕДМЕТИ ЗА ВОЗНЕМИРУВАЊЕ НА РАБОТНО МЕСТО

Одлучна факторите на спроведувањето на законите се: транспарентност, јавност, независност, квалитет, брзина и ефикасност на процесот на спроведување на законите.



СУМАРЕН ПРЕГЛЕД НА МОНИТОРИРАНИ СЛУЧАИ ЗА НАСИЛСТВО ВРЗ ЖЕНИ



Одбери крај



ПОДГОТВЕТЕ СВОЈ ПЛАН ЗА БЕЗБЕДНОСТ

Својот план за безбедност е клучен за заштита на вашата безбедност и она на вашите деца. Тоа е план којшто ви помага да ги избегнете опасностите и да ги следите резултатите од мониторингот.



ПРОЕКТИ ЗА ПРАВНА ЗАШТИТА НА ЖЕНИТЕ

Engaging citizens in planning, implementing and evaluating legal regulations, budgets and services in areas of social and economic rights



1.1.

STRENGTHENING AND PROMOTING ENGAGEMENT OF CITIZENS IN THE PROCESSES ON PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF LEGAL REGULATIONS, BUDGETS AND SERVICES, AS PART OF THE SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY AND LEGAL EMPOWERMENT APPROACH

In terms of strengthening the capacity of our three Roma partner CSOs, working in Suto Orizari, Delcevo, Pehcevo and Vinica, and providing technical support in implementation of the established integrated approach (social accountability and legal empowerment) to improve the health status in the Roma communities, ESE continued to work closely with them throughout 2017. As part of our technical assistance and support, we have continuously monitored the community survey conducted by the organizations and the process for data collection from the Roma communities, which follows the preparations from 2016. The purpose of the community survey was to collect data from Roma households in regards to the health-status of the families, their access to the public health services and cases of violations of their health rights by public institutions. In order to implement the survey consistently, we have provided continuous guidelines and instructions to the organizations on how to implement it and we have conducted quality control on the data collected. Following the implementation of the community survey, in collaboration with consultants from the Johns Hopkins University School of Public Health, ESE initially processed the data related to maternal and children health and women's reproductive health. The data was shared with our partner Roma organizations in order for them to be able to gain insight into the situation in their communities. In order to inform the citizens in the Roma communities about the findings based on their input, we have developed a methodology and data bases for the development of Community Score Cards. The Community Score Cards were developed by the partner organizations and the findings were shared with the community representatives. In addition to the community survey quantitative data collection process, we have prepared and conducted focus group discussions in the Roma communities. The information collected from the focus groups was used as qualitative input to the scores presented in the community cards.

In order to educate and inform the Roma communities about their health rights, more specifically about the health rights of women, mothers and children, and the patients' rights, ESE have prepared materials and guidelines for education. According to the prepared materials, the facilitators from the Roma partner organizations conducted educational workshops within Roma communities.

In addition to the activities described above in this section, ESE has also provided technical support to the Roma partner organizations for the process of conducting the social audit methodology. The organizations have conducted social audit on the access of Roma

communities to the services of the patronage nurses, as well as on their access to the Program for Cervical cancer screening. The technical support was comprised of: preparation of a list of information that should be collected from the relevant institutions, development of database for inserting and analyzing the data obtained and provision of guidelines for conducting the social audit process.

In 2017, for the Roma partner organizations, ESE has also provided technical support for the implementation of the budget monitoring and advocacy process on local level. The partner organizations have monitored the program and budget implementation of the Program for Active Health Care of Mothers and Children, Regular Medical Check-ups for Pupils and Students and the Program for Cervical Cancer Screening). In this regards, we have prepared a list of information that should be collected on local level in order the local organizations to be able to extract conclusions about the budget and program implementation of the above mentioned health programs. We have also provided technical support for the preparation of the requests for free access to public information and we have also prepared an electronic database for entering and processing the data obtained. Based on the needs of the partner organizations, we have conducted one-day training for partner Roma organizations on the topic of budget data analysis.

In 2017, we have provided technical support in the process of preparation of the local level advocacy strategies to the partner organizations. The aim of the strategies is to improve the mothers and children health status and women's reproductive health in the Roma communities, where our partners work, by enhancing citizens' access to preventive health services. The process was also supported by an external expert who held two meetings with the organizations and provided guidance and recommendations for draft strategies improvement. The strategies include activities that should be implemented in 2018 and at the end of this year we are in a phase of finalization of the documents.

In terms of strengthening the capacities of CSOs working in the field of women's employability and employment for implementation of social accountability methodologies, this year ESE has conducted two training for representatives of 11 local CSOs (the activity is described in detail in point 1.5).

In addition to the activities for capacity building of CSOs, working in the area of health, ESE is continuously working on increasing the application of social accountability and legal empowerment methodologies in South East Europe and Asia region. In this regards, in 2017, we have conducted six three-day trainings on budget monitoring and analysis and budget advocacy attended by over 200 CSO representatives from Lithuania, Georgia, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia. For the purpose of strengthening the capacities of the organizations working in the area of harm reduction, we have developed a manual for budget monitoring and advocacy. We have also provided mentorship on budget monitoring and budget advocacy to five CSOs from the Republic of Macedonia, the National

HIV Prevention Platform, the Eurasian Network of Harm Reduction Organizations and the South East Europe Drug and Policy Network. We also prepared and conducted two strategic planning workshops on the implementation of the community monitoring methodology for two organizations working in the field of Roma health in Romania (Bucharest and Cluj).

In 2017, ESE has presented the social accountability and legal empowerment at an international event, organized by the Open Society Foundations, attended by 25 CSOs working in the field of improvement of Roma health in Macedonia, Bulgaria and Romania.

1.2.

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS TO INVOLVE CITIZENS AND CSOS IN DEVELOPMENT, IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING OF LEGAL REGULATIONS, BUDGETS AND SERVICES

Based on the obligations foreseen under the Open Government Partnership Action Plan, the Ministry of Health was obliged to pilot the implementation of the social accountability methodologies in order to monitor and evaluate the preventive health programs. In this regards, in 2017 we held a meeting with representatives from the Ministry of Health where we presented the Community Monitoring and Social Audit methodologies. At the meeting, it was determined that the application of these methodologies will be piloted on the Program for Active Health Care for Mothers and Children. In addition, we have provided resource materials for application of these methodologies.

1.3.

IMPROVING THE HEALTH STATUS AND ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES FOR WOMEN, MOTHERS AND CHILDREN

In 2017 ESE has conducted monitoring on the program and budget implementation of three preventive health programs foreseen in the Ministry of Health budget for 2016. The programs monitored include activities for improvement of mothers and children health and enhancement of women's reproductive health (Program for Active Health Care of Mothers and Children, Program for Regular Medical Check-ups for Pupils and Students and the Program for Early Detection of Malignant Diseases - the Cervical Cancer Screening Component and the Screening for Breast Cancer Component). The monitoring process was based on data received through procedures for free access to public information in front of the Ministry of Health and all other public health institutions involved in the implementation of the preventive health programs. The data obtained through the FOI

procedure was entered into an electronic database and further analyzed based on already established indicators for assessment. Based on the results from the conducted analysis, a document will be prepared in order to show the level of realization of the programs, identified shortcomings and provide recommendations for their improvement.

Additionally, in 2017 we have participated in the established working group of the Ministry of Health for development of the Program for Active Health Care for Mothers and Children for 2018. By our participation in the working group operation we have elaborated all our findings raised from the communities and the budget monitoring process and proposed specific measures that should be included in 2018 program in order to improve the access of mothers and children to preventive health care and improve their health status. The recommendations were specifically referring to improvement of the health status of vulnerable groups (Roma and rural communities). However, in addition to the recommendations provided during the working group operation, ESE has also requested changes in the current program activities directly from the Deputy Minister of Health by submitting written request for changes. Same format of written request was developed and submitted to the Deputy Minister of Health for improvement of the Cervical Cancer Screening Program for 2018.

In 2017, the ESEs Women's Health Information Center continued to provide free, quality and reliable information and counseling to women on reproductive health, menopause and osteoporosis, as well as offering free services. During 2017, 32 women approached the center to obtain health information as well as blood pressure measurements.

1.4.

IMPROVING THE HEALTH STATUS AND ACCESS TO HEALTH SERVICES FOR ROMA PEOPLE

The data, collected through the community survey (described in point 1.1.), was entered in a statistical database and analyzed by ESE. The purpose of the analysis was to assess the coverage of Roma mothers and children with preventive health services, such as: visits by patronage nurses during on pregnancy and after delivery, health education activities on children's health, as well as coverage of children with vaccination. We also analyzed data to determine the coverage of Roma women with reproductive health services, such as: coverage with a gynecological services, preventive gynecological examinations by chosen gynecologist, health care during pregnancy, and coverage of women with activities envisaged within the Cervical Cancer Screening Program. Based on the analyses we identified the key problems that Roma community face when accessing the above-mentioned services. Based on the community survey findings and the findings from the budget monitoring of the preventive health programs, we began with the preparation of a National Advocacy Strategy aimed to promote the Roma mothers and children health and the reproductive health of Roma women.

In 2017, ESE has participated in the process for revision of the National Action Plan for Improvement of Roma Health, initiated by the Minister without portfolio in charge for implementation of the Strategy for Roma Integration.

1.5.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO THE LABOR MARKET FOR WOMEN

For the purpose of monitoring of the implementation of women's social and economic rights, i.e. monitoring the processes of planning and implementation of budgets and policies for active employment and advocacy, ESE in partnership with Akcija Zdruzenska, in 2017, has promoted and launched the Project "Social Accountability for Gender Equality". The main goal of the project is to build a network of CSOs that will work on implementation and promotion of the social accountability methodologies for gender equality. In addition, in 2017, ESE in partnership with Akcija Zdruzenska achieved significant impact on 11 local CSOs in application of the social accountability methodologies, through a process of strengthening their capacities by delivering two-module training. At the same time, ESE has made a significant contribution to national efforts for monitoring and evaluation of the national employment policies and measures through a range of activities: concluded a partnership and technical support agreement with four local CSOs from four municipalities to monitor the implementation of the employment policies and measures at local level and educate citizens on their employment rights; conducted a process of monitoring of the program and budget implementation of the Operational Plans and Policies for employment for the past three years; started promoting the need to create policies and budgets for employment based on priorities and gender equality, etc.

1.6.

OFFERING SYSTEMIC SOLUTIONS TO UNPAID WORK AS CARE FOR SERIOUSLY ILL PEOPLE

In 2017, we have conducted a nationwide population survey in order to determine the scope and impact of the unpaid work provided to seriously ill persons on the households. The survey was conducted in households based on prepared questionnaires. In order to implement the survey we have selected and trained a group of interviewers. The survey was conducted according to previously prepared statistically relevant sample. The collected data was entered into an electronic database and statistically analyzed. The analyzed data will serve to prepare the research report.

ENSURING EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN THE FIELDS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RIGHTS



2.1.

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF CSO FOR PROVIDING PARALEGAL ASSISTANCE TO POOR AND VULNERABLE GROUPS OF CITIZENS

In 2017, ESE continued to work on strengthening the capacity of CSOs for applying the methodology of measuring the costs and quality of access to justice, including the perspective of those who exercise justice. As follow up on the activities undertaken in the previous year, in 2017 we collected data on the other costs related to the provision of different legal aid modalities: costs incurred by the beneficiaries of CSO's; costs related with engagement of lawyers providing free legal aid; and conducted research aimed at valorizing the potential benefits to beneficiaries of free legal aid. We will continue to implement these types of activities in the future, taking into account that one of the limitations which we faced in 2017, was that the data was not collected for all the beneficiaries who were provided with legal aid and not all the costs that incurred until their problems resolution were included. The overall objective of these activities is strengthening capacities of CSOs for continuous monitoring of these costs incurred by the beneficiaries they are serving.

We continued to strengthen the knowledge and skills of paralegals who provide assistance and support to different vulnerable groups of citizens, since their continuous education about the human rights and obligations in different spheres of the societal life is crucial for legal literacy and empowerment of vulnerable groups of citizens that they are serving. ESE is the first organization that developed and established the model for providing paralegal assistance and support in the country, in relation to the Roma communities and their right to health protection, health insurance and protection of patients rights. In 2017 we broadened the education of paralegals in other areas of law and involved all the paralegals from the country that are providing these kind of services to different vulnerable groups of citizens, such as: Roma, textile workers, sex workers, users of drugs etc. as part of the Shared Framework for Legal Empowerment of the Foundation Open Society Macedonia. In this regard, based on the contents of the Manual for paralegal education which was developed in the previous year, we started implementing trainings for paralegals that provide paralegal assistance and support in the frames of different CSOs: IRIS, CDRIM, KHAM, HOPS , HERA and the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights.

In this regard, we have conducted two three-day trainings on several topics, with the help of three trainers. The paralegals have strengthened their knowledge and skills on the following topics: the division of State powers: sources of law and the position of the judicial system; the proceeding of the police, public prosecution and criminal courts; the proceeding of civil courts in family, property and inheritance disputes, including how to obtain free legal aid; recognition of domestic violence and the proceeding of Centers for Social Welfare (CSW) and CSOs regarding the protective measures for women who have

suffered domestic violence. The paralegals had the opportunity to apply the knowledge gained during the trainings, by working on case studies and role playing, that were designed for that purpose. The paralegals were tasked with answering questions to validate their knowledge at both trainings. Both trainings were evaluated as useful by the paralegals, i.e. over 90% of the participants stated this way. The content and approach of the trainings were developed in cooperation and consultation with the paralegals and were based on the results of the conducted knowledge verification.

2.2.

PROVISION OF EVIDENCE ON THE NEED OF PROVISION LEGAL ASSISTANCE BY CSOS IN ORDER TO ADDRESS THE LEGAL NEEDS OF POOR AND VULNERABLE GROUPS OF CITIZENS AND PROVISION OF EVIDENCE TO FACILITATE ACCESS TO JUSTICE

In 2017, ESE as a partner of the Coalition for Sexual and Health Rights of Marginalized Communities has undertaken a series of activities aimed at promoting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16.3. Promote the rule of law at national and international level and ensuring equal access to justice for all. We worked to identify the relevant institutions for the implementation of SDG 16.3. and all the activities undertaken for planning and implementing development goals at the national and local level. In this regard, we have collected and analyzed all data sources that indicate the implementation of this goal in our country. We also devoted equal attention to developing strategy for awareness raising on this SDG among CSOs and relevant institutions. As a result of these efforts, we have prepared a brief information brochure and held a roundtable with CSOs working to provide access to justice in our country.

In 2017 we worked to determine the costs and benefits of providing different types of legal aid in the country. The aim of these activities is to determine the cost of the three different legal aid modalities provided to the poor and vulnerable groups of citizens. In this regard, the intention is not to show whether one legal aid modality cost more or less in comparison to the other, but to calculate the current costs of providing these services, to highlight who is covering those costs and to calculate what costs the state should cover in order to ensure effective access to justice. Thus, the findings of the analysis has shown that "If preliminary free legal aid is provided to all poor people in need of such assistance, by applying extended eligibility criteria, and permitting the use of lawyers without passing the bar exam, and if the associations receive compensation even if the case is not brought to court, the annual cost would be 154,998,523 MKD, and if paralegal services were provided to all Roma in need of such assistance, the annual cost would be 63.726.467 MKD. These estimates do not include: legal aid costs for court initiation, which will incur a higher cost per client than the cost calculated for the preliminary legal aid; and administrative costs, costs of expert evidence and other costs of clients and CSOs for court

and administrative proceedings." In addition, with the analysis conducted in 2017, we try to assess the benefits for the beneficiaries provided with help and support within the different legal aid modalities. The findings of the analysis indicate that: "The cost of the beneficiary represents 14% of the cost of CSOs providing legal aid under LFLA, 36% of the cost of organizations providing free legal aid, and 47% of the cost of organizations providing paralegal assistance and support. In relation to the benefits, organizations providing free legal aid outside the LFLA system are rated at 97%, those providing paralegal assistance and support at 93%, while authorized organizations providing preliminary legal aid under the LFLA have a much lower score of 69%." It should be noted that these activities are the first such attempt in our country and hence, all the obstacles and recommendations we have identified have been carefully noted and will be taken into account in the further implementation of the activities.

In 2017, we also collected data on the costs and quality of access to justice for women who suffered domestic violence. In the period from April to December 2017, data was collected on the costs incurred for a total of 53 women who were provided with legal aid within ESEs Legal Aid Center. The initial review of the case logs shows that the most common costs incurred by the clients are travel costs, as well as costs for initiation of court procedure. In the beginning of 2018, follow-up telephone interviews with these beneficiaries will be conducted in relation to the following: the time spent in searching for legal aid for resolution of their problems; quality of the services provided by ESE; the emotional stress experienced as a result of the problem and as a result of the process for its resolution. Based on the collected data on the costs, as well as the data from the follow up interviews, a cost-benefit analysis from the provision of free legal aid to women who have suffered domestic violence will be prepared.

In order to improve access to justice for Roma, in 2017 we continued to provide the necessary technical assistance and support to three Roma organizations who are providing paralegal assistance and support to local Roma communities in Shuto Orizari, Delcevo, Pehcevo and Vinica. Namely, in addition to the aforementioned activities for education of paralegals, we have been working to improve the system of data collection and case management within the programs for paralegal assistance and support. In this regard, we simplified the data collection system and enabled cross-over of data collected on the field from the households and those collected from the beneficiaries of paralegal assistance and support in order to determine the impact of interventions undertaken. In a direction of improving the work of the paralegals, in 2017, we organized two supervisory visits per organization, or six in total. After each supervisory visit, a report is developed with recommendations for improving different aspects of the paralegal's work. In addition, ESE continued to provide consultations on legal matters upon request of the paralegals.

2.3.

IMPROVING LEGAL PROTECTION OF WOMEN WHO SUFFERED VIOLENCE

In the course of 2017, ESE continued to undertake substantial efforts to improve the legal protection of women who suffered violence. At the end of 2017, together with Akcija Zdruzenska, LA STRADA and the Coalition for Sexual and Health Rights of marginalized communities, we started preparing a Shadow/Parallel report to the Convention for Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), in relation to the level of implementation of women's human rights standards in our country. ESE is preparing part of the report in relation to the legal protection for women who have suffered violence, by using the court monitoring findings and the Analysis of the legal framework and institutional response toward violence against women prepared within the USAID Women's Legal Protection Project. The parallel report will be submitted to the UN Committee for Elimination of Discrimination Against Women in January 2018 and thereby will contribute for increased international pressure on our country to implement internationally accepted human rights standards for the protection of women's human rights.

In the course of 2017, as part of the USAID Women's Legal Protection Project, we increased our efforts to enhance the level of legal and court protection for women who suffered violence. We worked to improve the proceeding of judges in court cases related to violence against women, as well as to advance the legal framework and improve the response of the relevant institutions involved in the legal system of protection. In this regard, we have prepared a court monitoring report with main findings from the collected data on 344 cases and 780 court hearings related to violence against women, in the following Basic Courts: Basic Court Skopje 1, Basic Court Skopje 2, Basic Court Bitola, Basic Court Tetovo, Basic Court Veles, Basic Court Shtip, Basic Court Radovish, Basic Court Gostivar, Basic Court Kumanovo and Basic Court Prilep. Together with the judges, we have made specific recommendations for improving different aspects from the courts proceedings in cases related to violence against women. One of the aspects that should be improved in the proceeding of judges is the imposition of appropriate penal imprisonment policy against perpetrators of domestic violence, since the court monitoring findings illustrate that probation sentences or fines were imposed in most of the criminal cases. For example, for the crime of "grievous bodily injury" which represents a serious form of domestic violence, out of the seven convictions imposed, there were five probation sentences, one was acquittal and only one imprisonment judgment was imposed by the judges.

At the end of 2017, as part of the USAID Citizen Engagement Project, together with the judges we began to revise the court monitoring methodology and instruments, that will be used for continuation with court monitoring in 2018. We have also prepared a

comprehensive analysis of the legal framework and institutional response to violence against women (domestic violence, human trafficking and sex worker violence) and together with professionals from various institutions have defined a total of 48 recommendations for changing or amending the laws, and overcoming the identified deficiencies in institutional proceedings. In parallel, we have developed and disseminated multilingual Guides for legal protection, in Macedonian, Albanian and Roma, in order to inform women who have suffered violence about the legal mechanisms for protection and to encourage them to report the violence and initiate court proceedings in this regard.

Recognizing the need for provision of direct support to women who suffered violence, in the course of 2017 we continued to provide free legal aid services and psychological counseling to women who suffered domestic violence. Legal aid, i.e. legal advices and preparation of written submissions was provided in a total to 150 clients, i.e. for 101 new and 49 existing clients in the Legal Aid Center. The most common legal needs faced by the women were the divorce proceedings, and in total 57 divorce lawsuits and 45 other written submissions were prepared. A smaller proportion of women were provided with legal aid in the procedures for issuing temporary measures of protection against domestic violence. Psychological counseling was provided for a total of 30 women who suffered domestic violence. The need to provide direct support to women and the satisfaction with the services provided are illustrated with this statement by the beneficiary of ESE's Legal Aid Centre "God and the people helped me to find the Legal Aid Center. Here, I received help, support and trust from the entire team, from a lawyer and a psychologist. I decided to put an end to violence for myself and my children."

In order to accelerate the substantial reforms in the civil and criminal system for protection of women who have suffered domestic violence, in June 2017, we organized a Forum for Legal Protection of Women Victims of Violence, which was attended by Presidents and judges from Basic Courts, judges of the Court of Appeal, representatives of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, the Ministry of Justice and the relevant institutions with legal mandate to proceed in cases of violence against women. The forum was organized with the aim of opening a broader discussion and defining recommendations for improving the existing laws in this field, as well as improving the proceedings of the institutions involved in the system of protection, such as the Courts, Public Prosecution Offices, Centers for Social Welfare, police. For this purpose, the forum participants were presented with the main findings of the Analysis of the legal framework and institutional response toward violence against women, as well as the court monitoring findings related to the civil and criminal court cases related to domestic violence and trafficking in women. The identified deficiencies at the level of legal regulation and at the level of individual proceeding of the relevant ministries and institutions, were discussed in detail by judges and other professionals working with women who suffered violence and specific recommendations were proposed to overcome them. With this ESE is employing an approach which means involving practitioners in decision-making processes, i.e. the judges and other professionals from the relevant institutions had the opportunity to be

directly involved in the processes of changing and amending the existing legal framework for protection of women's human rights. Recommendations for improvement of the legal framework, institutional and judicial proceeding in cases of violence against women will be submitted to the relevant ministries in January 2018.

PROMOTION OF FISCAL TRANSPARENCY OF INSTITUTIONS IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

ВО ПЕРИОД КОГА СЕ БЕЛЕЖИ ДРАСТИЧЕН ПОРАСТ НА ДООНЕЧКАТА СМРТНОСТ КАЈ РОМИТЕ, ВЛАДАТА НА РМ И МИНИСТЕРСТВОТО ЗА ЗДРАВСТВО ГИ КРАТАТ АКТИВНОСТИТЕ И СРЕДСТВАТА НАМЕНЕТИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ЗДРАВЈЕТО НА МАЈКИТЕ И ДЕЦАТА РОМИ

ВЛАДАТА НА РМ И МИНИСТЕРСТВОТО ЗА ЗДРАВСТВО ГИ КРАТАТ АКТИВНОСТИТЕ И СРЕДСТВАТА НАМЕНЕТИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ЗДРАВЈЕТО НА МАЈКИТЕ И ДЕЦАТА РОМИ

Ситуацијата на доенечката смртност во РМ е двојно повисока споредено со земјите од Европскиот Сојуз и има осцилацион карактер, додека во земјите на ЕУ во изминатите 15 години бежежи кон планирано намалување.

ЗА ШТО СЕ ПОТРОШЕНИ ВЕТЕНИТЕ, А НЕРАСПРЕДЕЛЕНИ 1,8 МИЛИОНИ ЕВРА ЗА ЛИЦАТА СО РЕТКИ БОЛЕСТИ?

од **100%** ИЗНОС НА АКЦИЗА КОЈА СЕ НАПЛАКА ПО ПАРЧЕ ЦИГАРА

ЗА РЕТКИ БОЛЕСТИ ОДИ САМО 3%

Во РМ ЖИВЕАТ **200** ЛИЦА коишто боледуваат од некој тип на ретка болест.

А СО ПРОГРАМАТА СЕ ЛЕКУВААТ САМО **74** ПАЦИЕНТИ

76,5% од жените Ромки ИМААТ избрано МАТРИЧЕН ГИНЕКОЛОГ

Имено, 10% од жените Ромки младици не баде на гинеколог, а 15,5% одат на гинеколог дотуку ретко.

Само 42,5% од жените Ромки знаат дека истава право да извршат безплатно ПАП теста на одолжителна основа од страната на извршени гинекологско-сопствени Програми.

Половина од средствата од акцизите за цигари, алкохол и за цигари, кои секоја година ги добива Министерството за здравство, наместо за обезбедување здравствена заштита се користат за широките трошоци на Министерството.

ФТМ
Фискална Транспарентност Македонија

ПРИДОНЕСИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ФИСКАЛНАТА ТРАНСПАРЕНТНОСТ ВО Р. МАКЕДОНИЈА

3.1.

INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND THE NEED FOR PRIORITY-BASED BUDGETING

In 2017 ESE has continuously worked on raising the awareness among the general public on the importance of fiscal transparency and the need to increase the current level of transparency in the work of the public institutions, by providing information, educational materials and videos as part of its social media campaign "Fiscal Transparency Macedonia" and its thematic website www.fiskalntransparentnost.org.mk. Through the campaign, we have prepared and published 312 individual information and videos, that were visited 1,200,000 times. In addition, ESE have continuously informed the public about the results of its overall operations through its campaign on social media "ESE" and its website www.esem.org.mk. Through the campaign, we have prepared and published 312 individual information and videos, that were visited 1,276,000 times. With the content published on ESEs website, we have reached 5.317 persons.

3.2.

ASSESSING THE LEVEL OF FISCAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

As a result of the activities conducted in relation to the assessment of the level of proactive transparency of the public institutions we have prepared a report on the level of proactive transparency for 2016. The report presents the availability of 16 key programatic and budget documents on the websites of 25 public institutions. This report was used by the public institutions, civil society organizations and the media at national level as a relevant source of information for presentation of the status and the progress in the proactive publication of the programmatic and budget documents; initiating and implementing reforms in the public system in the RM of this domain; as well as taking steps to increase the number of documents and information that will be published by public institutions. In October 2017, the Government adopted a list of documents and information that the Ministries are required to publish on their websites. The list envisages publication of a total of 21 documents and data on the program and budget performance of the ministries. Despite the level of proactive transparency, in 2017 we have assessed the level of reactive transparency of the public institutions, as well. Based on the assessment conducted we have developed annual report that shows the level of reactive transparency of the institutions for 2016. The report shows the level of fulfillment of the obligations arising from the Law on Free Access to Public Information by 54 public institutions. As with the previous report, this report is used by the public institutions, CSOs and the media at

national level as a relevant source of information to present the status and the progress of the public institutions' implementation of the Law on Free Access to Public Information; initiating and implementing public sector reforms in the Republic of Macedonia in this domain; as well as taking steps to improve the performance of public institutions in the procedures for access to public information. It is important to be noted that public institutions in the past five years have improved the level of reactivity, i.e. improved their performance in the procedures for access to public information. Namely, the findings of the report indicate that the number of institutions assessed as reactive non-transparent has decreased, the deadline for providing public information in official procedures has been reduced, the number of appeals for public administration silence has decreased, the number of rejected or stop procedures decreased as well, etc. In 2017, the Ministry of Justice initiated a procedure for amending the Law on Free access to public information. In order to ensure the continuity in the progress of public institutions in the application of the Law on Free Access to Public Information, ESE in 2017 conducted 1,345 public information request procedures before 68 public institutions and initiated 120 appeals procedures.

In 2017 as a result of the activities to assess the level of transparency in public procurement procedures conducted by public health institutions, we have prepared the report "Public Procurement Gray Zone in the Public Health Sector" in collaboration with Debbie Budlender. Through the assessment conducted, we have identified and presented the key shortcomings in the implementation of 7,054 public procurement procedures by 62 public health institutions in the period 2011-2015. The report also stipulate the recommendations for overcoming these shortcomings. In addition, during 2017, in order to show the progress/regression in this area, we have continued to monitor the public procurement procedures conducted by the same public health institutions for the period 2016 and 2017. In 2017, the Public Procurement Bureau introduced the possibility of publishing the awarded contracts for public procurement that allows the general public to have access to them.

3.3.

ADVOCACY FOR IMPROVED LEVEL OF FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

In 2017, we have undertaken a series of activities to propose solutions to improve the situation. However, besides proposing solutions, we also followed the implementation of the measures adopted regarding improvement of the fiscal transparency and access to information. Namely, based on the findings of the monitoring carried out on the level of reactive and proactive transparency of the public institutions ESE prepared and submitted recommendations to more than 70 public institutions. In addition, based on the findings of the overall work within the framework of the budget monitoring and analysis program,

ESE submitted information and a request for a meetings with the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia in order to present ESE's work and requirements. In order to systematize and target the action to promote the level of fiscal transparency, ESE in cooperation with a national advocacy expert has developed a three-year advocacy plan (2017 - 2020), which has operationalized it into a one-year advocacy action plan.

In 2017, as a result of ESE's active participation in the fiscal transparency and access to information working groups in the Open Government Partnership process, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia obligated the Ministry of Health to finalize and publish the reports on program and budget implementation of each of the preventive and curative programs in the budget of the ministry, as well as to promote them. The Ministry of Health, on proposal and in direct consultation with ESE, has developed formats for semi-annual and annual program and budget and program reporting for each of the 22 preventive and curative programs from the Ministry of Health's budget. The Ministry is to publish these reports on its website for the first time in January 2018. In addition, within the same process, the Government of the Republic of Macedonia obliged the Ministry of Health to start piloting the social accountability methodologies. Hence, with the technical support and assistance from ESE, the Ministry of Health identified a program to implement the social audit methodology pilot. It is the Program for Active Health Protection of Mothers and Children. On a request from the ministry, ESE developed and submitted a draft methodology for piloting the social audit, a draft monitoring subject and a proposal for municipalities where this methodology could be piloted. In the forthcoming period ESE will implement a process of strengthening the capacities of the representatives of the Ministry of Health for applying the social audit methodology and will facilitate the piloting process of this methodology. Also, as a result of ESE's participation in the Open Government Partnership process, ESE has raised the issue of how the ORIO grant has been used by the Ministry of Health, as well as generally raised the need to inform the public on the way how the foreign aid is used by the public institutions. Through its participation in the national OGP process, ESE in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance has reviewed and approved the information that the Ministry of Health and the Secretariat for European Affairs proposed to publish on their websites regarding the program and budget implementation of the ORIO grant. These institutions should publish the information by the beginning of 2018 at the latest. At the same time, through the participation in the working group for improving the efficiency in public finance management and continuous pressure, the Ministry of Finance prepared and announced a civil budget of the Budget of RM and the amendments and supplements to the Budget of RM for 2017. In order to inform the public about the implementation of the Open Government Partnership in the country and to show the level of realization of the commitments undertaken by public institutions, as well as to give independent evaluation and recommendations for the implementation of the process, ESE prepared and promoted a shadow report on the implementation of priority 3 (access to information) and priority 5 (efficient management

of public resources - fiscal transparency) from the Open Government Partnership Action Plan 2016/2018.

As a result of ESE's overall efforts to improve the functioning of the fiscal system in the Republic of Macedonia and to improve the level of fiscal transparency, the Ministry of Finance in September 2017, through the adoption of the Public Finance Management Reform Program 2018 - 2021, pledged to works to promote seven key areas of public finance, partly addressing the shortcomings and weaknesses in the public finance system identified and represented by ESE. Through the Program the ministry is committed to working on: Priority 1: improved fiscal framework (enhanced public finance planning and adoption of fiscal rules); Priority 2: strengthening the legal framework and procedures for revenue mobilization; Priority 3: Improve planning and budgeting; Priority 4 - strengthening budget execution; Priority 5: Increase transparency of government budget reporting; Priority 6: Strengthening internal control and Priority 7: External control and parliamentary oversight.

As part of its public information access activities in 2017, ESE has made a significant contribution to marking the International Day for the Right to Free Access to Information by preparing and publishing three individual citizen stories about the obstacles they face in exercising their rights to access to public information; developing and promoting a documentary showing the practice of implementation of the right for free access to public information and the implementation of the Law on Free Access to Public Information in which ESE, CEA and BIRN shared their experience; organizing and conducting a press conference followed by a public debate to promote the documentary and presenting findings from ESE's report on measuring the level of reactive and proactive transparency. In addition, ESE in cooperation with the Commission for Protection of the Right to Free Access to Public Information has begun developing a plan to launch a public awareness campaign on the right to access public information. Based on ESE's experience of actively practicing the Law on Free Access to Public Information and active participation in the OGP working groups on access to information, we have submitted proposals to the Ministry of Justice to amend the existing Law Free Access to Public Information.

КРАТКО СЪОБЩЕНИЕ

ВО ПЕРИОД КОГА СЕ ВЕЛЕЖИ ДРАСТИЧЕН ПОРАСТ НА ДОЕНЕЧКАТА СМРТНОСТ КАЗ РОМИТЕ, ВЛАДАТА НА РМ И МИНИСТЕРСТВОТО ЗА ЗДРАВСТВО ГИ КРАТАК АКТИВНОСТИТЕ И СРЕДСТВАТА НАМЕНЕНИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ЗДРАВЈЕТО НА МАЛКИТЕ И ДОСТАТА РОМИ

МИНИСТЕРСТВОТО ЗА ЗДРАВСТВО ГИ КРАТАК АКТИВНОСТИТЕ И СРЕДСТВАТА НАМЕНЕНИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ЗДРАВЈЕТО НА МАЛКИТЕ И ДОСТАТА РОМИ

Средствата за здравство на РМ се групирани во три категории: Национален буџет, Буџет на Република Македонија и Буџет на општини. Во 2017 година, вкупно 200 лица со ретки болести се лекуваат со програмата. До 2017 година, вкупно 100% на акциза на цигари се наплаќа по ларче цигара.

ЗА ШТО СЕ ПОТРОШЕНИ ВЕЧЕНИТЕ, А НЕРАСПРЕДЕЛЕНИ 3,8 МИЛИОНИ ЕВРА ЗА ЛИЦАТА СО РЕТКИ БОЛЕСТИ?

ЗА РЕТКИ БОЛЕСТИ ОДИ САМО 3%

Во РМ ЖИВЕАТ 200 ЛИЦА со ретки болести. А СО ПРОГРАМАТА СЕ ЛЕКУВААТ САМО 74 ПАЦИЕНТИ

ФТМ
Финансисна Транспарентност Македонија
ГРАДОНЕСИ ЗА УНАПРЕДУВАЊЕ НА ФИСКАЛНАТА ТРАНСПАРЕНТНОСТ ВО Р. МАКЕДОНИЈА

Градоноесите се одговорни за транспарентност и отвореност во управувањето на државните финансии. Македонија е членка на Европскиот Сојуз и се обврзува на транспарентност во управувањето на државните финансии.

76,5% на акциза на цигари во РМ се наплаќа по ларче цигари. До 2017 година, вкупно 100% на акциза на цигари се наплаќа по ларче цигари.

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE PERIOD January 2017 - December 2017

ПРЕГЛЕД НА СУДСКИ ПРЕДМЕТИ ВО ОДНОС НА ПРЕКЛУПУВАЊЕ НА СОПСТВЕНИ ПРАВА

ПРЕГЛЕД ЗА ПРОЕКТИ НА ВОЗНЕЖИРУВАЊЕ НА РАБОТНО МЕСТО

МАКЕДОНСКИ СУДСКИ ПРЕДМЕТИ ВО ОДНОС НА ПРЕКЛУПУВАЊЕ НА СОПСТВЕНИ ПРАВА

Овој извештај е резултат на мониторингот на судските предмети во однос на преклупување на сопствени права. За периодот од јануари до декември 2017 година, вкупно 192 предмети се регистрирани во судовите. Овој извештај е резултат на мониторингот на судските предмети во однос на преклупување на сопствени права.

МАКЕДОНСКИ СУДСКИ ПРЕДМЕТИ ВО ОДНОС НА ПРЕКЛУПУВАЊЕ НА СОПСТВЕНИ ПРАВА

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Одбери крај

ПОДГОТВЕТЕ СВОЈ ПЛАН ЗА БЕЗБЕДНОСТ

ПРОЕКТ ЗА ПРАВНА ЗАШТИТА НА ЖЕНИТЕ WOMENS LEGAL PROTECTION PROJECT

Овој проект е финансиран од Европскиот Сојуз и е реализиран од Националниот центар за правна заштита на жените. Проектот е финансиран од Европскиот Сојуз и е реализиран од Националниот центар за правна заштита на жените.

Овој проект е финансиран од Европскиот Сојуз и е реализиран од Националниот центар за правна заштита на жените. Проектот е финансиран од Европскиот Сојуз и е реализиран од Националниот центар за правна заштита на жените.

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Revenues	amount in MKD
1. Transferred surplus of revenues from previous year	5,773,571
2. Income from interest rates and exchange rate discrepancies	13,490
3. Income from donations, membership fees and gifts	23,659,171
- FOSM (Foundation Open Society Macedonia)	12,610,756
- European Commission	3,621,207
- East West Institute for Management	610,800
- USAID	5,392,719
- Other income	1,423,689
Total	29,446,232

Expenditures	amount in MKD
- Material expenditures, services and depreciation	6,756,061
- Capital and other assets	826.573
- Assistance, donations and other grants	26,631
- Salaries and social benefits	6,071,553
- Taxes and contributions that do not depend on the result	64,194
- Other expenditures	10,579,023
Total	24,324,035



**ASSOCIATION FOR EMANCIPATION,
SOLIDARITY AND EQUALITY OF
WOMEN**

www.esem.org.mk