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CIVIL SOCIETY SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAM IN B&H (CSSP)

Association Women to Women within the Civil Society Sustainability Program in B&H (CSSP), which is implemented by Centers for Civil Initiatives (CCI) and the Centre for Promotion of Civil Society (CPCS) with the financial help of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in B&H in the women's right sector, implement projects: (1) establishing and developing sector network and (2) campaigns and monitoring.

The key partner in implementing of these projects is the Humanitarian Association of citizens Woman of Trnovo. The program has three components: (1) Developing stakeholder networks, establishing and developing Womennet network; (2) Conducting advocacy campaigns to address the priority issues identified through sectorial networks of stakeholders- campaigns and monitoring and (3) Creating and implementation of sustainability strategies and communication with the citizens.

Establishing and developing a sector network (Womennet) has the goal to establish a Bosnian-Herzegovinian base regarding consultation on the elimination of discrimination and social exclusion of women by using women rights network to achieve a greater impact on improvement of public policies in accordance with women human rights and gender equality.

Womennet is trying to achieve cooperation, coordination and collaboration of different individuals "stakeholders" in a joint action that could lead to changes in public policies and improve social services. The network supports their common interaction through exchange and collection of information, ideas and resources to achieve mutual goals. The network is a valuable instrument for this task achievement. Involving citizens, business representatives and academic community who are rarely involved in this initiative as well as the participation of representatives of civil society organizations, institutional mechanisms for gender equality, government and the media is a very effective way to achieve long-term social change.

Personal motivation and commitment of individuals, women and men to join their efforts in achieving a common goal are the main criteria for joining the network. Following the representative structure (geographical coverage and the represent area), all members of the network have a unique role in raising awareness, informing and sensitizing the general public, and the impact on the improvement of public policies and laws that prevent discrimination and violation of human rights of women in employment, protection from gender-based violence and political participation.

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The environment is a constant source of obstacles that threaten the realization of women's human rights and can be divided into several groups: inadequate legislation; inadequate monitoring and implementation of the law ; resources; administration and services at all levels of administration; traditional, information, communication and socio-economic barriers and inadequate public attention to the most vulnerable groups, especially to women.

Key issues that will be addressed through Womenet public advocacy actions in the future activities are:

- Women are not familiar with existing legislation, policies and documents directed towards women's rights, and this especially refers to extremely poor women and women who are exposed to multiple discrimination - Roma women, lesbian, bisexual and transgender women, women with disabilities, women from ethnic minorities , older women and women from rural areas.
- Domestic violence
- Discrimination on the basis of gender in employment, progress and providing various benefits
- Laws and other legal acts-statutes, strategies, rules, etc. are not in accordance with the law on Gender Equality, and Law on the Prohibition of Discrimination which has led to a chaotic legal situation in the country in terms of access to economic and social rights of women.

Conducting advocacy campaigns to address the priority issues identified through sectorial networks of stakeholders aims to active participation of citizens and their organizations focus through the campaign "Human rights for all women in B&H" refers to decision makers to implement of public policies that are prohibiting discrimination and social exclusion of women.

Joint and active participation will: 1. encourage a desirable exchange of information and cooperation among sectors in society (public, profit and non-profit) with the media and citizens to focus on the problems of women; 2. raise awareness of the wider community about the human rights of women and the specific needs of individuals and vulnerable groups in order to create a common understanding of the needs and unfulfilled rights of women; 3 make influence on the government representatives to act responsibly and transparently regarding application of policies, laws, strategies and other documents and that the decision-making include representatives of civil society organizations; and 4. encourage a continuous monitoring of programs, decisions, strategies and laws that authorities provides by civil society organizations and citizens.

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Creation and implementation of sustainability strategies and communication with citizens, refers to the OCA assessment of the capacity of the organization, making sustainability strategy of the organization for the period 2014-2019 and making communication strategies.

As part of the program and its key components are carried out various **activities** based on the support, participation, influence / pressure (the decision makers and policy) and communication strategy through the public events- actions, round tables, consultations (meetings, surveys) and campaigns , informs, motivates, persuades, requests and launches the target (s) audience(s) to implement and make public policy, but also changing behavior in the implementation of public policies that prohibit discrimination and social exclusion of women.

Activities are conducted in both entities including Brčko District - in urban and rural communities. The ultimate beneficiaries / users: all citizens in the project area. Target group- primary and secondary: citizens involved in NGOs and their users, citizens gathered in local communities, as well as their families and friends, politicians, officials, businessmen, media, unions, utilities and public institutions. We inform the wider public on key issues of women that lead to discrimination and social exclusion of women by distribution of promotional materials and through other types of activities that take place within the campaign and meetings with women, meetings with decision makers, public debates and local actions, proposed by local organizations working in the field of women's rights and gender equality that are members of the network Womennet. In the distribution of promotional all available materials are used; traditional and new channels of communication such as the Internet (portals, social networks).