Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

'Money in Politics' in South-Eastern Europe





Saying 'no' to corruption and bribery in politics

Money is a necessary element of any political process. However, corruption in political financing poses a risk to democratic and economic systems. Politically exposed persons, given their access to state resources and decision-making power, are prone to corrupt activities. Combating and preventing corruption requires the protection of a strong system of regulations and integrity mechanisms.

corruption in these areas and what mechanisms could be used to improve their efforts.

Beneficiaries

Financial Intelligence Units, anti-corruption agencies, auditors, election oversight and public procurement authorities, prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, and civil society.

Project facilitators

The project is implemented as a partnership among the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the OSCE Field Operations in South-Eastern Europe.

The project:

- Aims at assessing the level of co-operation between relevant anti-corruption bodies in selected Mission areas in South-Eastern Europe to identify key challenges and existing gaps;
- Examines the relationships between
- political party finance regulations, public procurement procedures, the role of politically exposed persons (PEPs), and declarations of assets and income by political and public officials;
- Discusses what the relevant authorities in South-Eastern Europe do to combat

Project phases



- Scoping missions conducted in the first half of 2016 to selected Mission areas to meet with relevant authorities.
- Questionnaires disseminated to all relevant institutions to gather information on preventing and combating corruption, highlighting mechanisms in place, channels for communication and existing challenges.
- Assessment reports to serve as tools for providing policy and technical assistance recommendations.
- To identify trends and share best practices in combating corruption:

Among representatives of anti-corruption agencies

'Money in Politics' Expert Meeting on Sharing Best Practices in Combating Corruption, Prague, 14 September 2016 Among NGOs

'Money in Politics' NGOs Meeting on Sharing Best Practices in Combating Corruption, held as a side event at the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Warsaw, 19 September 2016

OSCE Anti-Corruption Expert Meeting "Lessons from South-Eastern Europe", Vienna, 24-25 October 2016

Officials from anti-corruption agencies, Financial Intelligence Units, public procurement bodies, prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, and civil society representatives discuss threats, trends and regional best practices to develop a list of policy recommendations and technical assistance requests.

Expected results

- Gather and exchange best practices on combating corruption in the area of political party financing, public procurement, prosecution and investigation to create a platform for discussion and information sharing in the field of anticorruption;
- Identify vulnerabilities of the institutional procedures,

- mechanisms and interagency co-operation (gap analysis);
- Produce a set of targeted recommendations as a guiding instrument for the Financial Intelligence Units, anti-corruption agencies, auditors, election oversight and public procurement authorities. prosecutors, law

enforcement agencies, and civil society.

Project facilitators will continue discussing further relevant activities in the region on detecting. investigating and disrupting corruption following the completion of this project.

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