EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA
REGIONAL GOVERNANCE CONFERENCE
ANKARA | June 11-12, 2019

Opportunities for Journalists and NGOs to Interact with Anti-Corruption Systems

Breakout Session E - Drivers and Enablers of Policy Effectiveness

Presented by
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SIGMA
Creating Change Together
UN WOMEN

Baseline

- Solid hierarchy of power. Lack of any political or “corrupt” competition.
- Paucity of data and of the possibilities to analyze it.
- Lack of reaction by the law enforcement and the executive authorities.
- The society’s faith in changes and the media as their enabler is low.

Tasks and Goals:

- To change everything you saw in the previous slide. Preferably, for the better. 😊

IMPLEMENTED ACTIONS

ACTIONS TAKEN TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES:

- Expand the teams that conduct journalistic investigations.
- Journalists take part in public councils of state agencies, including by vetting the candidates for state authorities.
- Investigative journalists work on making the data in state registers public.
- Creation of services for journalists and NGOs based on those data.
- Working with the public opinion, eradicating the term *budget (no one's) money*. Introducing the notion of *taxpayers' money (your money)*. Engaging citizens to participate in analytical or investigative projects.
- Create law groups which would take the role of an intermediary (translator) between the journalist and the law enforcement to facilitate a more effective reaction to the investigations.
- Criticism and control of state agencies (including the newly-created ones).

IMPLEMENTED ACTIONS

Creation of Projects With the Participation of:

- Specialized investigative journalists.
- IT experts, foremost on development, systematization, and data analysis.
- Lawyers.
- Representatives of state agencies (unofficially)
- Experts in various aspects of the economy.

RESULTS

SUCCESS STORIES (based on our team's work):

- 192 proceedings, commenced by various agencies in 18 months.
- Regular reaction by the state agencies (without the commencement of criminal proceedings).
- More than 30 thousand people take part in volunteering projects.
- The most popular open data projects were made by NON-governmental organizations.
- The amount of saved taxpayers' money exceeds 1 billion hryvnias.

RESULTS

SUCCESS STORIES:

- The journalistic investigations triggered the commencement of proceedings against: the head of the National Guard, the head of NACP, deputy head of Foreign Intelligence, deputy head of SBU, several MPs, including heads of committees...

LESSONS LEARNED

LESSONS TO SHARE:

- Talk to everyone in their language.
- Trust institutions, but don’t trust their members.
- Bring together people with different expertise.
- Develop regional organizations.

THANK YOU!

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