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MISSION STATEMENT

The Soros Foundation-Moldova is a non-governmental, non-profit, non-partisan organization established in 1992 by philanthropist and financier George Soros to promote open society values in Moldova. The Foundation contributes to the democratization of the society by developing and implementing programs in various areas, such as independent media, judiciary reform, good governance, civic engagement and public health.
MESSAGE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

With a new strategy for the next four years and with new initiatives, 2014 was for the Soros Foundation-Moldova a year of challenges and changes. For 2014-2017, we designed a concrete strategy focused on specific interventions and approaches that could be used to advocate for systemic changes at legislative or policy levels.

Starting with 2014, the Foundation is intervening in five areas addressing current challenges in the Moldovan society:

- Challenge corrupt and non-transparent management of public funds
- Protect and promote media independence and pluralism to sustain democracy
- Safeguard procedural guarantees in the pre-trial stage of the criminal process
- Reduce arbitrary limitations on human rights
- Advance equality, non-discrimination and social inclusion of marginalized groups, with a particular emphasis on health

Along with these directions, we enhanced our partnerships with CSOs, which advocate for the justice reform (Legal Resources Centre from Moldova), access to reliable data on citizens’ perception regarding the reforms (Public Policy Institute), and improving public health policies (Center for Health Policies and Studies).

The 2014 was successful in implementing projects funded by Open Society Foundations and other donor-partners, including for example the „Moldova, Europa” Communication Campaign. It came as a response to signing the Association Agreement and the limited information of citizens about this process. It was the widest and most diverse campaign in terms of accessibility, number and type of products and activities, including meetings with people from rural communities, TV and radio ads, exhibitions of cartoons, an Eurobus campaign, and a song performed by local artists.

Within another project, we offered support to the educational reform in Moldova. This initiative was launched in September 2013 at the request of the Moldovan Government and was developed by the Education Support Program of the Open Society Foundations as a result of an international expert mission set-up by the OSF in March 2014. The project is implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Education of Moldova and three non-governmental organizations. The Foundation’s support focused on three major areas: technical assistance on curriculum reform, involvement of civil society organizations active in the educational field in an efficient dialogue with various stakeholders, and creating and launching Multimedia Classrooms in 29 schools around the country.

I would also want to highlight the successful implementation of the „Boosting the Democratic Process in Moldova through Empowerment and Engagement” project, supported financially by the Government of Sweden. We succeeded throughout two and a half years to enhance the paralegals network, strengthen the activity of the regional TV network, and put the foundation of a network of women actively engaged in political and social life at local level. Through these initiatives, thousands of people from rural communities – women and men - were empowered with legal knowledge to defend their rights and to get involved in local decision-making processes.

One of the major objectives of all our activities was to enable citizens to become better informed. Nowadays, we are witnessing an overload of information, while the power is held by those who have reliable data and facts. The better informed citizens of our country will eventually demand that politicians adopt measures towards an efficient management of public assets – whether it relates to education, public finance, justice, media or health.
I invite you to read a more detailed retrospective of our results achieved in 2014 on the following pages where the program staff reported on the initiatives, services and activities that marked these past twelve months of work.

I would like to thank the Soros Foundation-Moldova's staff, members of the National Board and specialized program sub-boards, and our partners for their sustained support in promoting the values of an open society in Moldova. We believe that an open society can be created and developed with the engagement of each of us – public servant, human rights fellow, student, civil society representative, parliamentarian, teacher, businessman or doctor.
**PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM**

**Acronyms**
- IDUs: Injecting Drug Users
- FSWs: Female Sex Workers
- MSM: Men who have Sex with Men
- NHIC: National Health Insurance Company
- HRU: Harm Reduction Union
- HIV/AIDS: Human Immunodeficiency Virus Infection/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
- TB: Tuberculosis
- DOT: Directly Observed Treatment
- GFATM: Global Fund to Fight AIDS, TB and Malaria

**Vision**
The Public Health Program aims to contribute to advancing the health and rights of marginalized people by empowering the civil society to participate in the development, monitoring and evaluation of health policies.

**Context**
A new strategy laid at the basis of the activities carried out in 2014. In line with the strategy for 2014-2017, the Program supported and implemented projects in the following priority areas: mental health, palliative care, and HIV prevention in HIV most at risk groups.

In 2014, the funding for the services provided by NGOs was reduced. However, financial support was provided to continue the political dialogue with public authorities in order to ensure the sustainability of the services provided by NGOs and their gradual transfer and integration into the public system.

**Priority 1: ADDRESSING THE EXCLUSION AND DISCRIMINATION OF PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AND PROMOTING COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES**

The Program sought to expand the activities implemented during previous years and contribute to:

- **promotion of legislation and policies that support social inclusion** and full social participation of people with disabilities, as well as monitoring their effective implementation by assisting central and local authorities in policy and activities development, designing new models of community services and providing support for self-representation;
- **establishing the mechanism for empowering civil society and the government** in promoting, developing and disseminating community services and ensuring the necessary support to enhance the independence of people with severe and complex disabilities through specific projects of innovative community services, including opportunities for accommodation and employment, as well as supporting new forms of training and professional qualification.

Hence, as a result of the support provided to the Ministry of Labor, Social Protection and Family through the Keystone Moldova Association, the Regulations and standards for the social service **Specialized Family Placement/Foster Care** were approved by a government decision.

To ensure the financial sustainability of the newly created community services for people with disabilities, the Soros Foundation-Moldova, through Keystone Moldova, assisted national and local authorities to develop and plan the costs for new services. As a result, in 2014, the government covered 100% of the operational costs for such services as **Foster Care, Respiro and the Mobile Team**, developed in
partnership with Keystone Moldova and 70-80% of the running costs of the Community Home and Sheltered Housing services, developed in 2013.

Furthermore, assistance was provided to local authorities for the accreditation of the newly created social services. Thus, five "Foster Care" services and 11 "Mobile Team" social services, developed with the support of Keystone Moldova got a five-year term accreditation.

In 2014, eight new social services were initiated to support people with intellectual disabilities: two Community Homes, two Specialized Foster Care services, two Sheltered Housing services, a Respiro service and one support service for employment.

In addition, with the support of the Soros Foundation-Moldova, Keystone Moldova deinstitutionalized 24 children and adults from the boarding house from Orhei, an institution for children with severe mental disabilities and integrated them in families and community services. Other 115 deinstitutionalized persons were provided with individual support (psychological, behavioral, educational inclusion, enhancing personal autonomy), in order to ensure their decent living in the family and the community. The deinstitutionalized people were helped to find jobs. Thus, 10 people were employed and other 14 were involved in income generating activities, including greenhouse vegetable growing, rabbits and quail breeding, eco bags manufacturing, etc.

A particular attention was paid to advocacy activities, self-advocacy and media advocacy to prevent discrimination against people with disabilities. To this end, the deinstitutionalized youth from the Orhei boarding-house, established a self-advocacy group and participated in the development and dissemination of media materials focused on promoting community life and involvement of people with intellectual disabilities, including 10 video clips broadcasted on three TV channels, 16 stories narrated through the storytelling method on various TV channels and radio stations, 41 photographs produced through the Photo Voice method and exhibited in a national exhibition and on web pages.

Along with this initiative, the NGO "Woman and Child - Protection and Support" promoted inclusive education in two schools in Orhei: "Ion and Doina Aldea Teodorovici" and "Mihai Eminescu" gymnasiuems. Over 40 teachers, assisting teachers, members of the multidisciplinary intra-school committees, gained skills in developing and implementing educational and rehabilitation plans for children with special educational needs. 20 trainers of trainers in inclusive education were coached, who subsequently organized seminars on inclusive education for children with special educational needs for 381 teachers from Orhei. Around 59 children with special educational needs from Orhei were assisted in receiving a specialized support in education, based on their individual development needs.

Furthermore, through a grant provided to the Early Intervention Center „Voinicel”, we continued to support the integration of early intervention services into the current social and medical systems. In close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, National Health Insurance Company and civil society, including the Center for Health Policies and Studies, a framework Regulations on the organization and operation of early intervention services and the minimum quality standards of these services were developed.
Unfortunately, these documents were not approved by the government, and therefore, it was not possible to complete the cost estimation of the early intervention services and their subsequent approval by the Ministry of Health. The team of the Centre for Early Intervention „Voinicel” will further advocate for the approval of the necessary regulatory framework in 2015, continuing to provide quality services to families and disseminating good practices across the country. It is worth mentioning that during 2014, the team of the Centre for Early Intervention „Voinicel” undertook a series of actions for the accreditation of the institution, which is indispensable for ensuring the sustainability of their services and for accessing funds from the national budget.

**Priority 2: PROMOTING THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF PEOPLE FACING LIFE THREATENING DISEASES AND ENSURING ACCESS TO PALLIATIVE CARE**

For 2014-2017, the Program aims to expand the activities implemented during previous years and contribute to:

- increasing the availability and access to pain relieving medicines by providing assistance in estimating the annual needs in opiates. To this end, we advocated for an increase in government funding for procurement of morphine and diversification of available opioids;
- sustainable development of palliative care education (basic and continuous) by integrating palliative care into undergraduate and graduate curricula;
- increase national funding for palliative care;
- development of pediatric palliative care.

Technical assistance was provided to the Ministry of Health in developing a public policy on palliative care. The document will be submitted for review to the Ministry of Health in 2015.

In 2014, the number of palliative care service providers increased significantly in the country. As a result of the advocacy initiative launched by the National Association of Palliative Care and due to the ongoing dialogue with the Ministry of Health, the latter issued an order based on which palliative care beds were established in the districts hospitals all over the country. Furthermore, two new NGOs – „Angelus Soroca” and „Wings of Hope” - were contracted by the National Health Insurance Company to provide home care services. Two other palliative care services started to assist people leaving with HIV/AIDS in Chişinău and Bălţi.

An important achievement in the accessibility of pain relieving medicines is the availability on the pharmaceutical market of Moldova of Fentanyl in patches and initiation of the use of Methadone in the control of severe chronic pain.

In the meantime, the costs of palliative care were reassessed (day/bed and home visit) and submitted to the Ministry of Health for review and approval. They are to be used by the National Health Insurance Company in contracting services in 2015.

To ensure a sustainable development of palliative care basic and continuous education, a project was supported, which aims at integrating palliative care into undergraduate and graduate curricula. The project was launched in December 2014 and the first results are envisaged for the coming year.
**Priority 3: INCREASING THE INVOLVEMENT OF HIV MOST AT RISK GROUPS AND PROMOTING THEIR RIGHTS**

The program continued to mobilize communities affected by HIV in order to ensure the allocation of national resources for harm reduction activities, as well as to promote the observance of the rights of HIV most at risk groups.

For the first time in 2014, the National Health Insurance Company (NHIC) contracted the Methadone substitution treatment for 30 patients, drug users. The allocation of resources was possible due to the successful advocacy efforts made by the Harm Reduction Union (HRU) and other partners from the field, which were directed to the Ministry of Health and NHIC. In 2015, HRU will intensify its efforts to expand the contracting of services for the Methadone substitution therapy by NHIC.

In addition, HRU initiated advocacy activities for the promotion within the harm reduction programs of Naloxone distribution, a medication that can reverse an overdose caused by an opioid drug, by organizing several meetings and a roundtable with the decision-makers from the Ministry of Health. To that end, on November 7, 2014, a street event was organized in front of the Republican Narcology Dispensary. The three participating initiative groups of drug users from Chișinău, Bălți and Tiraspol called the Dispensary representatives to address seriously, the problem of overdoses associated with drug use. The participants also requested access to Naloxone, which is an opiate antidote that quickly restores breathing after an opiate overdose. Ensuring accessibility to this medicine could definitely save dozens of lives.

In 2014, the Ministry of Health allocated financial resources from the state budget to fund HIV prevention among injecting drug users, but because the Ministry of Health lacks funding mechanisms for NGOs, the disbursement of funds was not possible. In view of analyzing the existing funding mechanisms in the region, a study visit to Estonia was organized with the participation of the representatives of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Finance, National Health Insurance Company and the civil sector. As a result, a pilot project on funding a syringe exchange program from national resources will be launched in 2015.

**Publications launched in 2014:**

The Promo-Lex Association carried out and launched the study *Perceptions and Police Behavior towards Injecting Drug Users in Moldova* on July 13, 2014, within a grant offered by the Soros Foundation-Moldova. The study showed that although in recent years there have been significant changes in the Moldovan legislation regarding the sanctions for drug users and preventing discrimination against them, still there is no effective mechanism to apply the legislation and to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the new provisions. Consequently, injecting drug users continue to be subjected to discrimination by the police.

The study results, discussed and reviewed in partnership with representatives from organizations active in the field, determined the Promo Lex’ involvement in monitoring the police, in particular with regard to the development by the Ministry of Interior of Police Guidelines for preventing HIV/AIDS and reducing the number of new cases of infection among injecting drug users. Moreover, during 2015, Promo-Lex will monitor the court hearings involving drug users from all the regions of the country.
Fealty to Field Concept: THE HEALTH MONITOR

The Health Monitor is a multiannual initiative implemented by the Center for Health Policies and Studies. The goal of the project was to develop and implement sustainable mechanisms and objective independent monitoring of public policies in order to promote good governance in the health system in Moldova.

The project team developed several policy reports, including:

- Patient’s Satisfaction – an Emerging Health Policy Issue in Moldova;
- Informal Payments in Hospitals;
- Barriers to Patients’ Access to Hospital Services;
- Population’s Perception about the Quality of Hospital Services.

A study on the Population’s Access to Quality Health Services was conducted within the project and the findings of the study will be released in 2015. The public launch of the report was postponed to 2015 due to the delay in the investiture of the new government, following the general election of November 30, 2014.

During 2014, the PAS Center monitored the health authorities’ actions, including the Law on Medical Collegium; hospital care; quality and access to health services; public-private partnerships in the health system; wage policies of medical staff; public expenditure; corruption and conflict of interests in the health system; the set of laws on tobacco control; human resources in the health system; public health strategy; access to safe medicines; the Ministry of Health and the Parliamentary Commission for Social Protection and Health. Throughout the year, over 630 news items were produced; about 20 site views, 15 weekly pieces of news and 15 interviews were posted on the site www.e-sanatate.md.

The information and communication platform in health - E-Sanatate.md - was still administered by the PAS Center. The website contains the following modules: a) health news; b) information and education on TB; c) evaluation of public hospitals, and d) the monitoring of hospital activity. The modules are designed to inform the users about health issues, the latest news, both internal and external, in textual and video format, depending on the specific subject.

The module on the Evaluation of Public Hospitals provides the users with a tool to assess patients’ satisfaction regarding healthcare provided in public hospitals in terms of the environment, access, attitude of personnel, patient’s rights and the quality of services.

The use of the media in monitoring the health policies generated specific results.

For example, the bill on hospitals, a legislative initiative of a group of members of the parliament was covered in several media materials, displaying publicly the incompatibility issues with regard to certain
provisions of this law, the unclear and contradictory provisions in the draft law (infringement of the rights of the hospital founder, undue interference of the Medical Collegium in the management of public hospitals, hospital management brought under parliamentary control, etc.) and corruptibility risks. As a result, the bill was withdrawn.

Another example is the draft Health Code. Through the media, the citizens were informed about the incompatibility of the Code with the requirements of legislative techniques, as well as about the provisions of the bill that are in competition or in conflict with other legislative provisions (the law on decentralization, civil code, the law on patient’s rights and responsibilities, unresolved legal issues at the system level, including the structure of the health system, the management system, etc.) corruption and conflict of interests risks. The representatives of the Ministry of Health recognized the shortcomings of the bill and it is now being reviewed.

The Health Monitor project will be financed in 2015 as well.

**Publications launched in 2014**

- Patient’s Satisfaction – an Emerging Health Policy Issue in Moldova;
- Informal Payments in Hospitals;
- Barriers to Patients’ Access to Hospital Services;
- Population’s Perception about the Quality of Hospital Services.

**Projects supported with funds from other donors**

**OUTREACH ACTIVITIES FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS**

Funded by the Coordination, Implementation and Monitoring Unit of the Health System Restructuring Project from the resources of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS/TB/Malaria during 2013-2014, the project aimed at reducing the transmission of HIV infection among the most at risk HIV populations, including injecting drug users (IDUs), female sex workers (FSWs) and men who have sex with men (MSM), by ensuring access of vulnerable populations to prevention.

The Public Health Program pursued the goal to cover with HIV prevention services up to 60% of IDUs and FSWs and 45% of MSM, which fully corresponds to the objectives of the National Program on the Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS and STIs. The project activities were implemented in partnership with the civil society and local and central public authorities.

During the year, funding was provided to five projects in HIV/AIDS and STIs prevention among IDUs in the civil system, in 24 localities, including Chişinău, Bălţi, Ungheni, Făleşti, Singerei, Glodeni, Orhei, Rezina, Şoldăneşti, Căuşeni, Soroca, Drochia, Donduşeni, Rîşcani, Edineţ, Otaci, Ocniţa, Briceni, including in the East: Tiraspol, Bender, Ribniţa, Kamenka and Slobozia. Other two projects were funded in the penitentiary system, which covered 16 prisons, including three in the eastern region of the country. A whole range of activities, including syringe exchange, distribution of condoms, disinfectants and informational materials, were carried out within these projects. Information meetings and other activities focused on changing the injection practices were held with the beneficiaries of the programs. Furthermore, psychological and support counseling was provided to IDUs, as well as HIV counseling and testing with rapid tests on saliva, etc.
Similar HIV prevention services were provided to FSWs. To this end, three projects were funded in Chişinău, Bălţi, Orhei and Ungheni. These activities were also expanded to the Eastern region of the country, in Bender.

In 2014, we continued to provide the necessary support to ensure the Methadone substitution therapy in Chişinău, Bălţi, and the penitentiary system. To increase the access of detainees from prisons to this type of treatment, four new prisons were included in the program; hence, the number of prisons covered with the aforementioned service reached 11.

During the year, activities aimed at preventing HIV/STIs among MSM and LGBT group were carried out in Chişinău, Bălţi and Tiraspol. The activities included peer to peer and online counseling, psychological counseling, HIV counseling and testing with rapid tests on saliva, information sessions/seminars for the target group, distribution of "safer packs", distribution of condoms, lubricants and information materials.

In December 2014, the Youth for the Right to Life Association, the branch from Bălţi, inaugurated the Integrated Support Centre for most at risk HIV populations. The Center will provide integrated services to drug users and other HIV vulnerable groups within adequate and well-equipped premises, which will increase the access of the most at risk groups for HIV to safe and qualitative services.

The results attained by non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the National Program on the Prevention and Control of HIV/IDS/STIs are nationally recognized. The Global Fund will continue to fund these activities during 2015-2017.

**CARE AND SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS**

The project aims at enhancing the quality of life of people living with HIV/AIDS and at reducing the impact of HIV infection by providing care and support for adherence to treatment for people with HIV. This support is provided through a multi-sectoral and multidisciplinary client oriented approach, in line with the main priorities of the national program on the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS, STIs during 2011-2015. The project “Care and Support for People Living with HIV/AIDS” is funded by the Center for Health Policies and Studies as part of the program "Reducing HIV Burden in Moldova", from the resources of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, for 2010-2014.

Within this project, the Public Health Program of the Soros Foundation-Moldova, as a sub-recipient and NGOs’ facilitator in implementing activities within the project „Care and Support for People with HIV/AIDS”, pursued the following objectives:

- to enhance care and support for people with HIV/AIDS by strengthening and expanding the existing programs and services provided by NGOs working in the field of HIV/AIDS,
- to establish innovative, client-oriented models of care and support,
- to strengthen the capacities of multidisciplinary teams,
- to provide community services to people living with HIV/AIDS (adults and children),
- to empower the healthcare specialists and non-medical care providers with knowledge and skills through a distance-learning program.
In 2014, five grants were offered to NGOs to support and complement the services provided within the Regional Social Centers for people with HIV/AIDS - a joint initiative of central and local public authorities and NGOs. The Centers cover the four regions of Moldova (North, Centre, South and East) offering a comprehensive package of care and support for people living with HIV/AIDS, to improve their quality of life and increase adherence to treatment. It is important to note, that since 2014, the funding of the Centers has been supported partially by the state, ultimately expected to be entirely financed by public authorities.

Additionally, through 10 grants offered to NGOs active in the field of HIV/AIDS, care and support was provided to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families, including children infected and affected by HIV, as well as medical, psychological and social counseling, peer assistance, referral services, peer support groups, information and education, homecare, nutrition support, social support (clothing and school supplies) for children infected with HIV. Around 4500 HIV infected people received care and support services during 2014 offered within these grants.

Furthermore, the members of the families of people living with HIV/AIDS were also covered with services. More than 1100 adult people living with HIV/AIDS received food packages during 2014. At the same time, a total of 332 children affected by HIV and 235 infected with HIV, as well as children born from HIV positive mothers received social support (food packages and sets of clothing and school supplies).

Another component of the project was aimed at empowering healthcare specialists and non-medical care providers through a distance-learning program. Around 280 persons, representatives of NGOs active in the field, students of the School of Public Health Management, and medical specialists from different fields were trained in HIV/AIDS through e-learning. The web e-learning platform is a new initiative launched to strengthen the capacities of service providers in the field of HIV/AIDS through distance learning.

A special direction of the project was to improve the knowledge on HIV/AIDS and build the capacity of the specialists involved in providing care and support to people living with HIV/AIDS and their families through training courses. 63 persons were trained within 3 training courses organized by the team of the Public Health Program.

The significant contribution of NGOs to the implementation of the National Program on Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS/STI is highly appreciated at the national level. The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria will continue to finance NGOs for such activities during 2015-2017.

EMPOWERMENT OF PEOPLE WITH TUBERCULOSIS AND COMMUNITIES IN MOLDOVA

The project „Empowerment of People with Tuberculosis and Communities in Moldova“ funded by the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), through the PAS Center (2011-2015) aims to increase civil society’s involvement, including people with TB, and with HIV, and other vulnerable groups, in the fight against the epidemic of tuberculosis and achieve tuberculosis control objectives in the Republic of Moldova.

Within the current project, the Soros Foundation-Moldova, as a sub-recipient of GFATM funds, is responsible for supporting activities carried out by NGOs to achieve the following objectives: to increase
early detection of tuberculosis; to improve adherence to treatment in out-patient conditions; and to achieve high rates of treatment success. The project is implemented in accordance with the National Program on TB Control (2011-2015).

In 2014, the Soros Foundation-Moldova financed 8 projects from Bălți and Chișinău municipalities, as well as from Florești, Soroca, Căușeni, and Bender districts. Within these projects, the NGOs provided the following services: symptomatic screening, referral and accompaniment to medical institutions for diagnosis, the monitoring of the treatment, counseling for treatment adherence, educating and counseling family members to support persons in TB treatment, social assistance for the homeless, IDUs, people with TB at higher risk of treatment default and their family members, and people from vulnerable groups.

As a result of the activities implemented by NGOs, 138 persons returned to TB treatment, 192 persons were monitored to complete the treatment successfully, 857 persons were investigated for TB, and 199 persons were diagnosed with TB.

The NGOs informed and educated 2288 persons from project communities, involving local multidisciplinary teams and local government representatives in monitoring and supporting people with TB.

Within the projects for mutual support of TB patients, NGOs provided peer-to-peer counselling services to 399 persons from four specialized TB institutions and 433 TB persons from Bălți, Florești and Șoldănești.

Due to the projects for early detection of TB among homeless people in Chișinău and Bălți, 1269 persons were screened for TB, 371 persons were investigated, of which 91 persons were diagnosed with TB and 69 were hospitalized for treatment, and 43 persons in outpatient directly observed treatment (DOT) were monitored.

The Public Health Program team organized training and information activities on TB control, including community involvement in support of people with TB, for 62 volunteers from the NGOs involved in the project implementation and 62 people living with HIV.

The support provided by non-governmental organizations to the health system in informing and educating the society, co-participation in the DOT treatment, in identifying people at risk of treatment default and referral, accompanying them to medical institutions, as well as the achieved results are nationally recognized and as a result, funding for these activities will be covered by the Global Fund in 2015-2017 as well.
**Vision:**
The Equality and Civic Engagement Program contributes to the establishment and strengthening of mechanisms aimed at promoting equality and nondiscrimination through civil society.

**Context:**
The Equality and Civic Engagement Program (ECE), following its strategy for 2014-2017, seeks to maximize the efficiency in the implementation of the Law on Ensuring Equality in partnership with civil society organizations and public institutions and to promote equality and diversity. ECE has established the following priorities: support NGOs and legal professionals in identifying discrimination and building cases in front of the Council for Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality and courts; test and improve the Law on Ensuring Equality by promoting amendments and undertaking cases on strategic litigation; collect data and facilitate the promotion of personal stories of potential targets of discrimination. These priorities are justified by the need to explain, promote, test and improve the nondiscrimination legislation and raise public awareness of the fact that discrimination can affect each of us.

In order to achieve its strategic objectives, ECE established new partnerships by supporting initiatives of civil society organizations and by continuing the partnerships started a year ago. Although changes in institutions and perceptions occur during decades, a few results in strategy implementation can be highlighted.

We believe that a key factor in ensuring a person’s rights is to empower him/her with knowledge and abilities to claim his/her rights. To this end, a group of 15 persons with intellectual disabilities, deprived of the right to live in their community, was taught about techniques of self-representation. The participants learned the terminology and language of disability, rights and discrimination, which helped them identify discriminatory situations. It is worth mentioning the case of a young man who, due to the training, became more responsible for his duties, more independent in choosing his wardrobe, and learnt to choose the work that suited him better. This is an authentic example of self-representation taught in one of the projects funded by the ECE Program.
In 2014, the rights of persons with disabilities were maintained on public agenda due to several nongovernmental organizations’ advocacy initiatives funded by the Foundation. For example, in order to increase awareness on the importance of access to public infrastructure of persons with physical impairment, one of the program grantees worked closely with the representatives of the State Construction Inspectorate, the Association of Architects, students from Technical University and College of Construction and other target groups. One of the outputs of these activities is the accessibility map, which is a useful source of information for persons in wheelchairs, the elderly, mothers with infants or other persons who need an adjusted infrastructure to access public places. The map includes currently over 850 buildings from the Chișinău Municipality, Cahul, Edinet and Hîncești. Because of this initiative, several public institutions and businesses adjusted their buildings in accordance with the official standard.

To promote nondiscrimination and ensure equality in the workplace, the program supported several initiatives aiming at improving the relevant legal framework and the quality of life of persons exposed to this phenomenon. In this regard, one of our grantees carried out an analysis of the national legislation on nondiscrimination in the workplace compared with the European and international standards, and made a compilation of the main legal provisions concerning this area. The authors discussed their findings with the relevant public authorities. In addition, the organization identified three discrimination cases in the workforce and represented one of them in court, and the other -- in front of the Council for the Prevention and Elimination of Discrimination and Ensuring Equality, and submitted another one to the European Court of Human Rights. For a better understanding of discrimination in the workplace by employers and employees two handbooks were developed. The materials explain discrimination, how it occurs in the workplace, what the obligations of the employer are in preventing and solving the issues of discrimination; what sanctions apply in case discrimination occurs; what institution and legal mechanisms for submitting discrimination complaints exist. The handbooks include useful templates for employers.

In the same context, more than 100 persons from UTA Găgăuzia benefited from pro-bono legal assistance on issues concerning workplace discrimination and access to medical services.

Continuing education of decision-makers and population on equality and social equity was a priority this year as well. The media campaign on awareness carried out by the Investigative Journalism Center included over 20 investigations on sensitive issues of discrimination. The materials were published in national and regional newspapers and web portals with over 400 thousands of viewers.

The *Journalists for Equal Opportunities and Diversity* campaign kept public attention on discriminatory practices, raising awareness on these issues, informing citizens about their rights, and encouraging them to denounce discriminatory situations. An incumbent effect of this campaign was the strengthening of press capacities in writing about issues of discrimination.

At least six investigations triggered reactions, such as criminal cases, formal inquiries or other actions taken by relevant authorities on discriminatory cases investigated by the journalists. For example:

- After the investigation *(Un) Equal Opportunities in Education* was published, the rayon Council from Soroca decided to close the gymnasium from the village of Egoreni, which had inappropriate conditions for an educational facility. The children from this locality were given the opportunity to attend a better school, located three kilometers away from their community.

- Six months after the investigation *Persons with Hearing Impairment with No Voice in Courts* was published, the Government approved a regulation on funding interpreting services for people with hearing problems.
- Due to the investigation *Begging in Moscow under the Surveillance of a Former Officer. A Moldovan Citizen Cannot Escape from Traffickers*, the Center for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings opened a criminal case on this issue. The International Organization for Migration initiated a request for repatriation for the Moldovan citizen involved in this case.

- The case of the Syrian citizen documented in the investigation *Moldova, My Adoptive Country. The Drama of Foreigners Living for Decades in the Republic of Moldova without Being Granted Moldovan Citizenship* was taken by a lawyer specialized in refugees matters, who initiated a lawsuit against the Citizenship Committee. At the same time, the Bureau for Migration and Asylum developed a set of amendments for improving the relevant legislation in accordance with the international treaties ratified by the Republic of Moldova.

- Two investigations *Persons with Disabilities – Who Ensures Their Right to Vote?* and *Persons with Disabilities with No Right to Vote* revealed that the persons deprived of their legal capacities and living with their families could exercise their right to vote, while institutionalized persons with no legal capacities could not vote. As a result, a nongovernmental organization initiated a lawsuit on grounds of discrimination and reclaimed the rights of persons deprived of their legal capacity.

Adding to these results, other 50 video materials on human rights and nondiscrimination covered issues of gender-based domestic violence, social inclusion of children with disabilities, challenges faced by Roma women, persons with visual impairment, religious and linguistic minorities and some others. Approximately 30 discriminatory cases were identified and reported through video documentation. Over 70,000 tele-viewers from rural areas were informed on daily problems of discrimination in kindergartens and schools, in accessing social services and allowances in health institutions, in employment and workplace.

Aspiring to a society free of stereotypes, stigmatization and discrimination should be a concern for both public administration and the whole society. It is also obvious that the respect for equality and nondiscrimination principles in a rule of law society cannot be limited to legal measures; the authorities should also pursue the implementation and monitoring of the impact of nondiscrimination policies. At the same time, civil society organizations should extend the debate and dialogue on issues of discrimination with a more persistent and continuous approach in helping the persons exposed to discrimination to undertake counteractive measures against the act of discrimination. Based on this reasoning, during 2015 the program intends to build on and strengthen partnerships between legal professionals and national and local organizations working with marginalized groups in identifying and addressing discrimination, as well as in strengthening their capacities to undertake strategic litigation in cases on discrimination. This will be achieved by organizing trainings and supporting financially the initiatives of civil society organizations.

**Key achievements in 2014**

- A group of 15 legal professionals was taught to become trainers in antidiscrimination within a nine-day program, in partnership with Romanian experts.
- Seven initiatives on promoting nondiscrimination were supported financially, focused on:

  o Diminishing the homophobic hate discourse of public officials in the pre-election period;
  o Reducing discriminatory attitudes of the population towards people with HIV/AIDS by raising public awareness in the rayons of Cahul, Cantemir and Leova;
  o Increasing the socio-professional inclusion of persons with disabilities in the rayons of Bălți and Singerei by building their vocational and entrepreneurial skills;
  o Promoting the equality of Roma youth from the town of Soroca in access to education, employment and cultural services;
  o Promoting the rights of socially-vulnerable people from UTA Găgăuzia who are discriminated in employment and medical assistance and facilitate their access to justice by providing them with pro-bono legal assistance;
  o Developing a comparative analysis of the results of two surveys regarding the perceptions of the population on discrimination and issue practical recommendations for preventing and fighting discrimination in Moldova;
  o Organizing a support and exchange program in Romania on strategic litigation in order to increase the capacities of Moldovan lawyers to identify, represent and promote strategic cases on discrimination;
  o Supporting organizations that represent marginalized groups in diversifying their tools to advance equality and diversity by promoting personal stories of victims of discrimination.

Publications launched in 2014

**Analysis of the Compatibility of National Legislation on Discrimination in Workplace with European Standards** (developed by the Legal Resource Center from Moldova)
The study provides a comparative analysis of national legislation on discrimination in the workplace with the standards of the Council of Europe and European Union and analyzes the national enforcements mechanisms applied by Moldovan authorities and courts with regard to discrimination.

**Preventing Discrimination in the Workplace. Handbook for Employees** (developed by the Legal Resource Center from Moldova)
The handbook targets employees and employers and explains discrimination, how it takes place in the workplace, what the obligations of the employer are in cases of discrimination, what the sanctions for discrimination are, provides information about the institutions and legal remedies relevant for complaints on discrimination.

**Preventing Discrimination in the Workplace. Handbook for Employers** (developed by the Legal Resource Center from Moldova)
The guide targets the employers and explains what discrimination is, how it takes place in the workplace and how it can be prevented, what the legal obligations and sanctions for employers are in cases of discrimination, what relevant institutions and enforcements mechanisms exist. The guide also includes useful templates for employers to help them prevent discrimination in their organizations or companies.

**Booklet on UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** (developed by Keystone Human Services International Moldova Association)
The booklet was developed with the participation of self-advocates, persons with intellectual disabilities who were deprived of their right to live in community. The opinions expressed in the booklet, reflecting the difference between the life in an institution and life in the community, belong to self-advocates who participated in a larger project funded by the Foundation.
Projects supported with funds from other donors

EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN FROM RURAL COMMUNITIES

Ensuring gender equality is one of the prerequisites for a sustainable development of a democratic society. In Moldova, multiple structural and psychological barriers hinder the enforcement of this principle. Statistics reveals that women are underrepresented in many fields, including in decision-making and in politics. In this context, the project "Empowerment of Women from Rural Communities" aimed at building the capacity of women in rural communities to influence local democratic processes and learn to communicate within a network of women leaders in rural areas that would promote the advancement of women in local leadership. The project was implemented from June 2012 to December 2014, in cooperation with the "Partnership for Development Center", with financial support from Sweden.

The project took a unique approach towards women’s empowerment in Moldova by working simultaneously on several levels: on individual level through training programs, on local level through community and networking projects, and on national level through the Annual National Forums of Women Leaders from Rural Areas.

Within the Women Leadership Academy (CIVITA Program) and the Election Leadership Program, 80 alumnae enhanced their knowledge and practical skills in leadership, good governance, local decision making and in organizing and coordinating local grassroots election campaigns. As a follow-up of CIVITA, the project supported the implementation of 36 community initiatives in different regions of the country. On regional level, within the networking grant program six grants were awarded that were implemented in 14 rural communities. Due to these activities, the CIVITA beneficiaries had the opportunity to apply their newly learned skills in practice.

Svetlana BUDISTEAN from Varnita village, Anenii Noi district, CIVITA participant, identified that "there was no place in the community authorized for the storage of household and livestock waste. Local residents used to throw garbage in makeshift and unauthorized spaces, thus increasing the level of pollution of water, soil and air." Svetlana mobilized community members to contribute to the construction of a canal for drainage of groundwater and of a concrete platform in one district of the community. To extend this service to the entire community, Svetlana persuaded the LPA to develop an environmental sanitation plan for Varniţa community.

Another project beneficiary, Tatiana DENISENCO, succeeded in collecting over 33 thousand lei in a fundraising campaign conducted in the village of Cucoara, Cahul district. The idea of the project "Joy for Children" came "as a result of reading the study conducted by the Centre for Preventive Medicine, which states that children often suffer from respiratory infections". Therefore, Tatiana decided to raise money and provide children with premises equipped for sports activities. The whole village was involved in the
fundraising campaign. The village mayor, Aliona GOŢA, promised to support further all local initiatives that lead to the social, cultural and economic development of the village.

We developed a solid and dynamic platform for communication among participants through the Annual National Forums of Women Leaders from Rural Areas. This event gathered 370 participants in the course of the three editions. Women from different regions of the country had the opportunity to share ideas and best practices in different fields and discuss issues that rural women currently encounter and then present them to decision-makers at the national level.

The 2014 Forum of Women Leaders from Rural Areas aimed at encouraging rural women to act together and get involved in social life. The event hosted in-depth discussions and debates through four workshops on the following topics: women’s participation in politics and decision-making, social entrepreneurship, social commitments for the future Government and Parliament and strengthening communities through art, culture and traditions. We wanted to emphasize that women are not a minority in our country, but an important part of society. They make a crucial contribution to the economy, education and cultural development of their communities. The conclusions of the Forum were included in a final resolution that was discussed with decision-makers.

The 2014 Forum was implemented by the Foundation with the financial support of Sweden and in partnership with several other actors: the National Federation of Agricultural Producers of Moldova “AGROniform”; the Joint Integrated Local Development Program and the “Women in Politics” Program, within the United Nations Development Program; and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women, with the financial support of the governments of Sweden and Denmark.

The „Empowerment of Women from Rural Communities” project achieved its objectives. It helped women develop their leadership skills and become agents of change within their communities. It enhanced women’s visibility and increased communities’ trust in women’s leadership capacities. One of the main project results is the increased rate of women’s participation in decision-making along with improved general perception of the importance of women’s involvement in community development and in decision-making processes.
**MEDIA PROGRAM**

**Vision**
The Media Program contributes to the development of an independent press, of free access to information and of a proper legal framework, while helping create an environment in which Moldovan citizens are objectively and pluralistically informed, as a necessary condition for building an open, participatory and democratic society.

**Context**
For the Media Program the year 2014 was marked by launching the implementation of a four-year Strategy with new objectives and approaches, which were not part of previous strategies. The formulation of the Strategy key objectives was based on identifying the top issues that the Moldovan media faced in recent years. More particularly, we found out that a serious issue of the Moldovan society is the low level of social culture, primarily manifested by the political class, which perceives the media merely as an ideological instrument. At the same time, Moldova has no general concept/strategy for media development in place, making it difficult to consolidate efforts in overcoming the issues that hinder the strengthening of this specific sector, in line with democratic principles. Lack of political will on the part of state institutions and the media’s inability to resist the invasion of foreign information, especially of Russian media with Soviet origins, reveals an overall frailty of the media sector on the one hand, and a decisive influence of politics in Moldova’s media sector, on the other hand.

Following the analysis of the existing major issues, the Media Program has identified three specific objectives for 2014-2017, as follows: 1) monitoring the media market situation, the quality of informational materials provided to citizens, and, in particular, the negative trends that have spill-over effects on the diversity and independence of information; 2) creating a framework that encourages professional competition, adherence to quality standards and dissemination of knowledge and positive practices through an exchange of ideas and experience, aiming at ensuring an unbiased, fair, balanced and ethical journalism; 3) supporting professionalism in the field of investigative journalism by creating an accessible and relevant online archives, including video, audio and printed materials produced by journalists in Moldova.

Given that the 2014-launched Strategy is at its initial phase of implementation, we can broadly refer to certain interim results, while the expected impact is to be reached over the coming years. To start with, SFM supported the first research on the media pluralism and diversity in Moldova and organized a broad debate on the conclusions drawn by the authors of the report. Additionally, SFM supported the development of a road map laid out by independent experts to strengthen the media sector. Drawing on the research conclusions and recommendations, a task statement was developed, the implementation of which would help overcome many of the issues identified by experts. Also in 2014, with the support of media NGOs, the process of launching the “MediaForum” started – an online platform aimed at encouraging professional competition, discussing issues affecting journalists and media managers, strengthening quality standards and disseminating knowledge, experience, and good journalistic practices. Lastly, within the third priority area of the strategy, a group of independent experts started collecting documents for the archives of investigative journalism, while an IT company selected through a public tender took on the technical challenge of creating the online version of the archives.

It is already evident that the lack of political will to overcome the problems facing the media in the country makes it more difficult than expected to achieve the performance indicators planned under the Foundation’s Strategy. Apparently, the road map regarding the improvement of the media situation prepared by independent experts involved in the project, will have to be strongly promoted by civil society before any decision-makers consider its recommendations as an effective action guide.
Priority 1: PROVIDE REGULAR INSIGHTS INTO THE SUPPLY OF PUBLIC INFORMATION AND PARTICULARLY INTO THE EFFECT OF MEDIA CONCENTRATION ON THE DIVERSITY AND INDEPENDENCE OF INFORMATION AND PROMOTE MEDIA PLURALISM DEBATE IN MOLDOVA

Under this initiative, we financed the development of two studies regarding the media external and internal pluralism in Moldova. These analyses allowed us to assess the diversity of existing media institutions, but also the diversity of information provided to citizens, the degree of reflection of the views of different social groups or of the current trends and concerns present in the society.

In the first study, we wanted to assess the external pluralism of the Moldovan media on the most important segments in terms of audience, including television and the Internet. The authors’ main conclusion is that defined in terms of audience, the relevant media market in Moldova appears as unbalanced regarding political, cultural and geographical pluralism, and that bodies that should exercise control over the media sector and ensure the adoption of reforming instruments are themselves flawed. The report further concluded that the provisions of the Government Action Plan for the years 2011-2014 adopted by the Government on March 23, 2011, (by Government Decision No. 179), which required the amendment of the Broadcasting Code of the Republic of Moldova No. 260-XVI of 27 July 2006, to ensure a strict regulation over the retransmission of foreign broadcasters, transparency in media ownership, limiting the concentration of media ownership, and media audience measurement (page 27), were not implemented. It should be noted that the deadline for this action was the third quarter of 2011.

The other report focusing on the media internal pluralism identified a number of highly relevant issues as a result of monitoring 8 TV stations, namely: Prime TV, Moldova 1, Pro TV Chișinău, Jurnal TV, Publika TV, TV 7, 2 Plus, and Canal 3. The findings revealed that of the 12 thematic areas, which were analyzed, 5 were more pronouncedly covered by the 8 TV stations, while the remaining 7 areas show considerable disparities for each TV station, but also as a whole. Journalists fail to use an important tool for enhancing internal pluralism, which is gender diversity. Although all monitored TV stations broadcasted news stories of a confrontational nature, none had fully complied with the rule of two or more sources of information. Equally worrisome was another report conclusion stating that none of the 8 TV stations was impartial in its presentation of news. Thus, in each case of biased attitude, journalists broke an important professional rule, while also limiting the diversity of voices and distorting the informational picture of the day.

The situation, as reported by the authors of the two studies, brings along risks for both media pluralism and for the relevance of media products offered to the public. The source of these issues is related to multiple factors, including a flawed national legislation, which fails to counteract the rise of monopolies or the dominant positions on the media market; lack of concern by policy makers, both with regard to multiplying and diversifying local media products and ensuring access thereto; limited interest and low capacity of media institutions to diversify media products and to meet professional standards.

The natural conclusion to be drawn is that concerted efforts are needed to redress the current situation. To help authorities and other stakeholders initiate this process, we supported a group of independent experts in developing a task statement entitled Roadmap for Strengthening Media Pluralism in Moldova, based on the above-mentioned studies. This task statement has defined the challenges and risks to pluralism and diversity in the media, as well as the constraints and problems arising in the media system, media institutions, and at media content level. Of utmost importance in the document is the chapter containing a matrix of actions aimed to strengthen media pluralism in Moldova, including the adjustment of national legislation to European standards, implementation of this legislation, and establishing the responsibilities of broadcasters, academics, and the civil society within the process.

Both the analyses and the task statements were subject to large debates in a conference attended by journalists and media managers, experts, policymakers, and civil society representatives. Conference participants discussed and expressed support for the actions proposed in the “Roadmap for Strengthening Media Pluralism in Moldova”. Unfortunately, the reduced interest and participation of the specialized parliamentary committee, the Broadcasting Coordinating Council and Teleradio-Moldova Supervisory Board’s representatives confirm the need for continued efforts to raise the awareness of
officials from the broadcasting sector about the challenges in the media sector and the need for urgent actions to improve the situation.

As the year 2015 marks the transition to digital television, the situation in the broadcasting area in terms of pluralism, diversity and information independence will remain in the focus of the program. The relevant European research methodology in the field will be adapted to the national context and subsequently, applied to monitor the situation in the broadcasting field after the mentioned transition is completed. In order to stimulate and strengthen media pluralism, we deem it appropriate that some actions should be taken to provide for the prevention of monopolies, dominant positions and ownership concentration in the media market; ensuring a fair and effective competition within the media and commercial advertising markets; countering the invasion of foreign media products into the domestic information space; encouraging the production of domestic informational content; independence and autonomy of central specialized authorities regulating the media sphere; effective independence of media institutions, i.e. protection against political and economic/financial interferences.

**List of publications launched in 2014**

- Internal Media Pluralism in the Republic of Moldova: Between Opportunity and Reality
- External Media Pluralism in the Republic of Moldova: Between Opportunity and Reality
- Roadmap for Strengthening Media Pluralism in the Republic of Moldova

The general conclusion of the studies conducted by local and Romanian experts is that Moldovan media pluralism calls for sustained efforts to meet European standards. These studies represent an absolute novelty for our country and for many other European states. The authors based their conclusions on the research of informational offers across the two types of media with the greatest public impact: television and the Internet. 8 TV stations and 30 news portals were analyzed. Experts evaluated both the degree of external pluralism (i.e. diversity of channels and websites) and internal pluralism (i.e. diversity of program services and of contents).

The authors of the studies noted a set of factors affecting media pluralism, including no mechanisms in place to prevent monopolies over the information space; weak content-production capacity of existing media institutions; absence of a clear vision of the field and, consequently, absence of appropriate actions undertaken by authorities, etc. The studies were followed by a Roadmap that included recommendations for policymakers and media institutions, which, once implemented, would ultimately contribute to an adequate provision of information to citizens throughout the country.
Priority 2: CONFIGURE A LARGE MEDIA NGOS’ UMBRELLA INITIATIVE USING BOTH ON-LINE AND OFF-LINE DISCOURSE FOR AN ETHICAL AND QUALITATIVE JOURNALISM, PROFESSIONAL COMPETITION, QUALITY STANDARDS OBSERVANCE AND KNOWLEDGE SPILLOVER THROUGH EXCHANGE OF IDEAS AND EXPERIENCES AIMED AT ACCURATE, UNBIASED AND ETHICAL REPORTING

At the initial stage, our approach to this objective consisted in creating a platform for online deliberation, which would allow journalists and other citizens to monitor and discuss current media content, to debate on quality standards and to address some of the broader issues related to the status and prospects of Moldovan media, such as applicable law and current practices in media ownership; the broadcasting licensing system; the public broadcasting service’s independence; editorial freedom; journalistic professionalism; relationships between media institutions and political actors, and other key issues. Essentially, we would like this platform to become a transparent and credible self-regulating tool offered to the journalistic community and the civil society aimed at constant media content analysis and assessment of journalists’ independence, accountability and objectivity – and, by extension, of media products. Positive journalistic practices would be encouraged, while negative ones would face critics.

We have taken a mixed approach to implementing this initiative. The first stage involved setting up a consortium of media NGOs tasked with holding initial consultations; preparing the platform development concept; defining the online platform’s vision and objectives, the architecture and design of the platform; setting specifications for the future slogan and logo, as well as for management methods and management team responsibilities, etc. In line with this vision, the platform management was entrusted to the Press Council, which by virtue of its status should contribute to holding the media accountable to media consumers, promoting quality journalism and keeping media institutions, news agencies and/or information portals in compliance with journalistic deontology.

The construction of the MediaForum platform was funded through a grant to the Independent Press Association (API) – an organization that administers the Secretariat of the Press Council of Moldova. API finished the concept by defining the slogan’s final version — “The Platform of Media Professionals” — and the manner in which users would directly access the platform. The original Concept envisaged the “MediaForum” platform as an extension of the Press Council’s webpage, with the possibility of its subsequent separation as a stand-alone web resource. Following further consultations, it was decided to develop a completely separate website, which would interlink with the Press Council’s page.

To achieve its mission, the platform will address media sector issues in line with the portal’s 5 main headings: deontology and ethics, legislation, professionalization, management, and media criticism. All the debates on the five current topics under each of the above-mentioned headings will be moderated by qualified experts, while regular platform users will be able to submit their own discussion topics by using the “Submit a Discussion Topic” module. In March 2015, following the completion of work on the “MediaForum”, the platform started to operate.

While the results obtained in 2014 on this segment are only interim results, with the impact from the project’s interventions being expected over the coming years. 2014 did not only mark the launch of online debates, but also of additional activities carried out by media NGOs. One such activity was the launching of a competition for the “National Award for Professional Journalistic Ethics and Conduct”, under the “MediaForum” platform.
Another idea to be materialized in the course of 2015 is the first edition of the offline Moldovan Media Forum, scheduled for June, which would be based on the hottest online thematic debates.

Also under the aegis of the “MediaForum”, the platform management plans to hold debates either at the public TV station Moldova 1 or at Radio Moldova, centered around journalistic ethical issues, the media duties and social responsibility, and also ways to deal with manipulation and to defend one’s right to fair and unbiased information, etc.

**Priority 3: Empower Professional Investigative Journalism by Setting up A Reliable Online Archive That Would Collect Media Programs Produced by TV Channels, Written and Online Outlets From Moldova, and Act as a Resource Center and An Official Data Supplier**

In line with its social mission, the Media Program supported journalistic professionalism by creating a Journalist’s online library, i.e. a database / online archives. The library would thus become a tool in the service of journalists and citizens, allowing for the digital searching, documentation and analysis of how the priority social, economic, political, and other issues are addressed in the Moldovan media. At the same time, the online archives would provide sufficient support for journalists’ professional growth, which is necessary for a proper exercise of their profession.

In its first phase during 2014, the project set-up of a group of experts from the field of investigative journalism tasked with laying out the archives’ concept and structure; defining the online library’s vision and objectives, its architecture and design; setting specifications for the future slogan and logo, as well as for management methods and management team responsibilities, etc.

The work will be completed during 2015, when the archives are to be filled out with all the materials collected. However, the collection of materials and their transfer to the library will take place on an ongoing basis, along with the library’s operation as a source of materials in service of interested users. Also in the course of 2015, we will host a roundtable aimed at assessing the effectiveness of the launched database, as well as at determining the impact and adjusting the media archives' operating tools.

We believe that the “Investigations” section will be particularly valuable to journalists, since it provides direct online access to investigative materials from a number of different publications across several years of coverage. Featuring an advanced search tool, this library may well become an indispensable information source for any investigative journalist and not only. The “Investigations” section alone has gathered so far over a thousand investigative materials from various sources.
Projects supported with funds from other donors

STRENGTHENED REGIONAL MEDIA NETWORK FOR INFORMED CITIZENRY, PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The project “Strengthened Regional Media Network for Informed Citizenry, Participatory Governance and Accountability” was implemented by the Media Program from June 2012 to December 2014, with financial support from the Government of Sweden. The project activities sought to increase the access of rural population on both banks of the Nistru River to objective and pluralistic information of public and community interest.

The project results:

- The organizational capacity of regional broadcasters, members of the “Meridian” Association, was enhanced, and as a result, the number, quality and diversity of programs broadcasted to the rural population on both banks were increased.

- The cooperation between regional TV stations in Moldova, members of the “Meridian” Association, with the central studio in Chişinău was strengthened, resulting in duplex broadcasting by a simultaneous connection of two or more TV studios – each with its own guests. This made it possible to tackle complex issues such as social participation, human rights, justice, agriculture, public administration and other matters of public interest on a local and national level, in a relevant way and in the context of local realities.

- The launch of the joint TV channel “Canal Regional” with a national coverage via cable, satellite, IP TV (Moldtelecom, Starnet, Sun Communications) and Internet has increased the access of citizens across the country, including Transnistria and Gagauzia, to news, TV shows, and other programs broadcasted by regional TV stations in Moldova. At the same time, the launch of the joint TV channel has provided the partner TV stations with a valuable tool to attract advertising and enhance their sustainability in the media market.

- The organizational capacity and professionalism of the regional press was enhanced, thereby earning it an increased trust among the rural population. A national survey conducted by regional TV stations via ‘vox populi’ (voice of the people) and other methods showed that the rural population’s confidence in regional media has increased by almost 40% compared to 2011.

- SFM’s Media Program will continue to support the regional media sector under a new project funded by the US State Department. The project aims to strengthen regional media capacities in using various information dissemination platforms (terrestrial/cable broadcasting, but also the Internet – including social networks) so as inform citizens in an objective, accurate, and unbiased way about democratic values and the EU Association Agreement signed by the Republic of Moldova and to support the population in its efforts of democratic development and advancement towards European integration. For more information about the project, visit http://soros.md/UE-media.
**GOOD GOVERNANCE PROGRAM**

**Acronyms**

ADEPT  Association for Participatory Democracy  
AIP  Association for Independent Press  
NAC  National Anti-Corruption Center  
NCI  National Commission for Integrity  
CAPC  Center for the Analysis and Prevention of Corruption  
OBI  Open Budget Index  
OICP  Civic Initiative for a Clean Parliament  
IPP  Institute for Public Policies  
CSO  Civil Society Organization  
OSF  Open Society Foundations  

**Vision**

Increased transparency, accountability, effectiveness and efficiency of the government in line with European agenda

**Context**

Public funds and public budget are the main instruments of the government through which the priorities of the society are reflected and implemented. The way these funds are managed directly affects the life of each citizen. A more transparent public funds management results in a higher efficiency of public spending, a fairer distribution of resources and reduced waste. Moreover, promoting integrity and accountability in the public function, with emphasis on such issues as conflicts of interests at high level and gaps between official income and properties owned by public officials are goals linked to challenging the misuse and misappropriation of public funds.

In this context, the general goal of the Good Governance Program (GGP) is to reduce corruption and increase the responsibility in public funds management. The Program focused its objectives for 2014-2017 on two directions of intervention:

*Establishing Specific Checks to Ensure a Transparent and Correct Budgetary Process at All Levels*

To have a more transparent budgetary process, when the voice of civil society is taken into account, we set as objective to offer journalists, CSOs and the general public new tools for a better understanding and participation in the decision-making regarding the budgetary process. At the same time, we also aimed to make the authorities more accountable for public funds management.

Within this component, the GGP continued to support the multi-annual project *The Budget Process in Moldova: Monitoring Transparency and Promoting Public Control*, implemented by the Expert-Grup Analytical Center.

In 2014, the most important results were achieved in enhancing the visibility of the issues related to budget execution and public property management, as well as an increased focus of the Ministry of Finance on budget transparency related issues. To this end, the Ministry of Finance developed and published a Citizens’ Budget 2015; the budget transparency framework became more open; the budgetary process agenda became more complex and coherent; reporting the half-year budget execution in the Parliament became mandatory; the Parliament shall approve the macro-budgetary limits; while the officials who do not execute the Court’s of Accounts decisions can be penalized, based on the new amendments to the Misdemeanor Code.

*Promoting Integrity in Public Function through Increased Civic Control*

Instead of a general approach towards integrity and anti-corruption, we aim at specific interventions, which would lead to combating impunity through advocacy, advice to the National Commission for Integrity (NCI),
and National Anti-corruption Center (NAC), grants for monitoring and investigations, and for professional development of journalists active in this field. Our overall objective is to dispel the perception that high level officials and magistrates are untouchable and can never be sanctioned or removed for corruption related offences.

This initiative is implemented through a partnership of the Program with four NGOs, members of the Civic Initiative for a Clean Parliament, including the Center for the Analysis and Prevention of Corruption (CAPC), ADEPT, Association of Independent Press (AIP), and Center for Investigative Journalism (CIJ). These organizations provided, on the one hand, monitoring, expertise and recommendations on some specific issues and on the other hand, they ensured journalistic support, advocacy and media campaigning, through two thematic websites www.moldovacurata.md (Clean Moldova) and www.anticoruptie.md, as well as a web application on monitoring the profiles of top officials. In 2014, this partnership set the basis for a campaign for promoting integrity in public function.

In addition to the aforementioned priorities, the Program continued to support the implementation of the Public Opinion Barometer through a grant offered to the Institute for Public Policies, in view of providing access to objective information regarding citizens’ perceptions on actions and reforms conducted by the governance.

Considering the political and geo-political context of 2014, the GGP implemented a complex communication campaign entitled “Moldova, Europa”, with the financial support of the OSF Eurasia Program and the US Embassy in Chișinău. The campaign aimed at contributing to a correct information of the public about the substance, implications and consequences of the European integration and the Association Agreement including DCFTA between Moldova and EU, and fighting some myths related to the Agreement.

**Priority 1: ESTABLISHING SPECIFIC CHECKS TO ENSURE A TRANSPARENT AND CORRECT BUDGETARY PROCESS AT ALL LEVELS**

We regret to say that in 2014, political instability and the November parliamentary elections brought a significant delay in the budgetary process schedule. Thus, the preliminary results of the Budget Transparency Index for years 2013-2014, to be published in spring 2015, show a comedown of the situation comparing to the previous evaluation period (2012).

Even in these conditions, we continued to promote budget transparency and the accountability of authorities through the project implemented by the Expert-Group.

One of the objectives of the GGP within this project was advocating for the publishing by the Ministry of Finance of a Citizens’ Budget, according to best international practices. The Expert-Group team promoted consistently the implementation of the concept of the citizens’ budget, offering the Ministry a guide with recommendations. Thus, in April 2015, the Ministry of Finance developed and published the Citizens’ Budget for 2015.

The project implemented by the Expert-Group was also focused on the approval of the new law on public finance and as a result, in July 2014, the Law on Public Finance and Budgetary Fiscal Responsibility (#181 from 25.07.2014) was approved through assuming the Government’s responsibility. The new law creates a more coherent general framework regarding budgetary process, which provides for the approval by the Parliament of macro-budgetary limits and the bi-annual report on budget execution, both recommendations being promoted within the project. The law contains a number of other provisions that improve the quality and discipline of budgetary process.

At the same time, the project experts drafted trimestral reports on the activity of the Court of Accounts (CA) and presented publicly a study on the execution of the Court’s recommendations in 2013. At the presentation events held with the participation of the representatives of the CA, parliament, government and international agencies, the experts promoted the idea on the necessity to enhance the responsibility of the government and parliament for the efficiency in public expenditures. Currently, there
is a clear understanding by the main actors of the fact that without the parliament’s accountability the problem cannot be solved and there is a need for amending the existent legal framework to require the government to report in the parliament on the execution of CA’s recommendations and for the institutionalization of the current control by the parliament on the implementation of Court’s decisions. A step forward in this direction made in 2014 was the approval of a number of amendments to the Misdemeanor Code that provide for the disciplinary liability of officials responsible for the implementation of recommendations.

**Publications launched in 2014**

In 2014, three studies were developed and published: *Fiscal Discrepancy – an Invisible Reality, Public Procurement in the Republic of Moldova: Problems and Solutions* and a study on the budgetary transparency in the Chișinău municipality. The research studies meant to contribute to solving the problems in these fields. For the first time in Moldova, the study on fiscal administration analyzed the importance of non-coercive methods in collecting incomes, demonstrating in this way the role and importance of the transparency, communication and fighting corruption factors in raising budget incomes.

*The study on the budget transparency in the Chișinău municipality* showed that the current level of budget transparency is insufficient and is not aligned with international practices. The process of public procurement is closed and contains severe violations of the existent normative framework; while current practices of public assets management has a high risk of their defalcation. The study contributed to intensifying criticism for local authorities on the formation and particularly on spending public funds and public property management. The research generated a number of journalistic investigations, which revealed some well-established schemes of encroaching public lands. As a result of these investigations, the National Anti-corruption Center and the Anti-corruption Prosecutor’s office opened several criminal cases.

**Priority 2: PROMOTING INTEGRITY IN PUBLIC FUNCTION THROUGH INCREASED CIVIC CONTROL**

As a result of the lessons learned during the last few years, the Civic Initiative for a Clean Parliament was re-launched last year, as *the Civic Initiative for Integrity in Public Function*. Thus, instead of monitoring electoral candidates, partner organizations decided to focus on ongoing monitoring of the integrity of top public officials and heads of the most important public institutions.

During 2014, ADEPT developed a web application dedicated to the integrity of top officials - [www.averes.promis.md](http://www.averes.promis.md), in order to increase the efficiency of the mechanism of checking the income and property and personal interests declarations of public officials. ADEPT gathered and digitized around 1000 income and personal interests’ declarations of over 170 top officials. The portal offers citizens access to generalized information on the income, properties and interests of Moldovan officials presented in a user-friendly manner. It also offers the public the possibility to compare top officials by the size of their declared income, real estate and cars, as well as to visualize how these assets have increased from the moment of taking a public function.

Within this initiative, journalists from the AIP and CJI conducted a series of investigations on the issues related to integrity and corruption. Over 150 articles and short investigations were published on [www.moldovacurata.md](http://www.moldovacurata.md) (MC) portal, including a cycle of investigations on *People’s Electees 2014-2018: Assets and Interests*, related to parliamentary elections. Based on the MC articles, the NCI initiated 26 controls, of which 20 for the violation of the assets declaration and six – on the conflict of interests and incompatibilities. As a result, NCI issued 10 acknowledgement statements and sent them to the Anti-corruption Prosecutor’s Office and NAC for applying fines. Two cases are in courts, but are contested by the related officials. *Other six cases based on the NCI’s acknowledgement statements* after MC articles from previous periods (30.04.13-30.04.14) are currently in courts.
The Center for Journalistic Investigations carried out a series of investigations about affairs and assets of members of the parliament and heads of public agencies and donations made during the electoral campaign. NCI initiated some controls but considering the electoral context, these cases had no finality. Instead, other investigation cycles on the Moldsilva (National Forestry Agency) “affairs” and schemes of encroaching public lands in the Chișinău municipality had a resonance in the society. Thus, journalists managed to reveal at least four schemes of abusive encroaching of public lands avoiding public tenders in the Chișinău municipality. As a result of these investigations, several criminal cases were initiated, including cases of judges involved in encroaching of public lands.

As a result of the investigations and debates on the Moldsilva cases, the schemes of forestry lands encroaching and initiating constructions contrary to legal norms were blocked in several localities in the neighborhood of the capital. The Moldsilva Agency put a moratorium on the law giving the right to persons and economic agents to rent forestry lands for constructions. The law enforcement bodies opened at least nine criminal cases as a result of these investigations. After publishing the cycle of articles under the title The Secret from Moldsilva on the MoldovaCurată portal, two officials were dismissed and four hectares of forestry lands rented by some officials were returned to state administration.

To increase the number and quality of journalistic investigations on integrity related issues, we organized a training session for nine investigative journalists in cooperation with RISE Project Romania. At the same time, during two training sessions organized by the AIP within this Initiative, we strengthened the capacities of other 28 journalists from local and national media outlets on the subjects related to integrity, conflict of interests, etc., and investigations on these issues.

Unfortunately, the results of this initiative were affected by political and geo-political instability in the context of parliamentary elections. Not all the activities had the desired impact. Fighting corruption remained one of major arrears of the government, acknowledged by development partners, the public and civil society. However, we anticipated this risk, considering the lack of a genuine political will to fight corruption. The Civic Initiative for the Integrity in Public Function will continue its efforts in promoting integrity in civil service. The activities carried out in 2014 put an important basis for future actions.
The Moldova, Europa Communication Campaign was launched by the Foundation, together with several NGOs. The main goal of the Campaign was to offer citizens more information, in an accessible manner, about the European integration process and the Association Agreement with the EU signed on June 27, 2014, as well as to dispel some myths related to signing the Agreement.

The Campaign came as a response to signing the Association Agreement and the limited information of citizens about this process revealed by public opinion polls. It was carried out during June 27-October 23, 2014, and was the only complex and well-structured pro-European Communication Campaign in the related period. It was the widest and most diverse campaign in terms of accessibility, number and type of products and activities.

The campaign included two major components. On the one hand, we unfolded a wide promotion campaign in the media, which included a number of TV and radio ads, information fillers about the

"MOLDOVA, EUROPA" COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGN

Publications launched in 2014

The study The National Commission for Integrity after Two Years of Activity: Expectations and Achievements evaluated the NCI’s practices of checking and control of officials’ integrity. The report contributed to the draft strategy reform of NCI initiated by the Ministry of Justice.

To enhance the promotion of restorative measures in fighting corruption, which are neglected by authorities, the CAPC experts developed a complex study on transposing the Civil Law Convention on Corruption of the Council of Europe in the legislation of the Republic of Moldova. It was the first analysis of the implementation framework of the Convention in Moldova. The related measures particularly focus on compensation for damage for persons who suffered as a result of corruption; introducing certain mechanisms for liquidation of the consequences of corruption acts, such as declaring null and void contracts providing for corruption, etc. The research was based on studying the best practices during a study visit to anti-corruption institutions from Romania with the participation of experts and representatives of the relevant institutions (NCI, NAC, Secretariat of the Parliament, Ministry of Justice).

The study identified a number of legislative and institutional gaps and offered a detailed analysis of the best practices in the field of confiscation of property from other countries. The experts presented recommendations to the responsible authorities. The study was also presented during the National Anti-Corruption Conference. Some of the recommendations have already been used in some draft laws developed by the Ministry of Justice, particularly, in promoting a new instrument for the recovery of unjustified assets – civil confiscation. In 2015, our partner NGOs envisage to promote a draft law through public authorities responsible for this field, to fill the gaps in the legal framework revealed in the study.

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"A Normal Life" was the campaign's slogan

"A Normal Life" was the campaign’s slogan
advantages of the EU integration and other promotional products, including a song performed by local artists.

In addition, several CSOs implemented diverse activities with elements of direct campaigning, targeting particularly rural regions. Thus, the Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova conducted information sessions in all the 32 districts of Moldova, including Gagauzia, explaining to local public authorities the implications and advantages of the European integration and the Association Agreement.

The Institute for Development and Social Initiatives “Viitorul” organized a series of exhibitions of cartoons describing Moldova’s and European Union’s reality. The cartoons exhibited in 12 regions aimed at dispelling myths and offering accessible information about the reforms that need to be carried out as a result of the EU rapprochement. The CONTACT Center unfolded a Eurobus campaign -- the bus with volunteers reached eight districts of Moldova informing citizens about the process of the EU Association. The APEL Association of Electronic Press prepared and distributed to regional TV networks Meridian TV and Elita TV eight thematic talk shows about the advantages of the Association Agreement and successful projects implemented in rural localities with the EU funding.

The Campaign messages and activities were based on the time tested idea that the European integration plays a major role in the consolidation of democracy, human rights and civil liberties, rule of law, prosperity, modernization of infrastructure and economy, tolerance and understanding among people and nations.

According to the outreach measuring report, the media products of the Campaign reached an impressive 92.2% of the targeted audience, which is virtually the entire population of Moldova. At the same time, the November 2014 Public Opinion Barometer suggested that almost 60% of Moldovan population heard or saw the advertising/information campaign about the EU association.

According to POB data, 54% of the respondents liked the campaign; 59% said that these campaigns helped them to get better informed about the Association Agreement (6% - very much, 19% - much, 34% - average); while 24% (of those 59% who saw/heard about the campaign) positively changed their opinion about the Association Agreement with the EU. At the same time, comparing to April 2014, the number of respondents who were not at all informed about the Association Agreement decreased with 5% (from 17% to 12%). These figures allow us to consider that the Campaign had the expected impact and that the population became more informed about the EU association process.
**JUSTICE PROGRAM**

### Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ECtHR</td>
<td>European Court of Human Rights</td>
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<tr>
<td>IRZ</td>
<td>German Foundation for International Legal Cooperation</td>
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<tr>
<td>LARN</td>
<td>Legal Aid Reformers’ Network</td>
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<tr>
<td>LRCM</td>
<td>Legal Resources Center from Moldova</td>
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<tr>
<td>NORLAM</td>
<td>Norwegian Mission of Rule of Law Advisers to Moldova</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCM</td>
<td>Superior Council of Magistracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>CoE</td>
<td>Council of Europe</td>
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<td>EU</td>
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<td>LARN</td>
<td>Legal Aid Reformers’ Network</td>
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<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-governmental organization</td>
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### Vision

The Justice Program contributes to the development of an accessible, predictable, and fair justice system, which guarantees respect and protection for fundamental human rights.

### Context

The year of 2014 signaled the beginning of a new conceptual approach in the Program activity, framed by the Strategy of the Soros Foundation-Moldova for 2014-2017. According to its provisions, the Program implements projects in three areas, vital for the fulfillment of its vision, including Criminal Justice, Human Rights, Judicial Independence and Accountability.

In the area of Criminal Justice, the Program pursues the effective implementation of its strategic concept "**Safeguard Procedural Guarantees in the Pre-trial Stage of the Criminal Process**." As for the human rights domain, the Program acts in the frames of its second strategic concept named "**Reduce Arbitrary Limitation of Human Rights**."

In the area of **Judicial Independence and Accountability**, the Program operates through its Fealty to Field mechanism by developing and supporting lasting partnerships with non-governmental actors, renowned for their professional involvement in the justice sector reform.

Aiming to reach its objectives in each of these three areas, the Program made use of the opportunities existing at the beginning of the year. Throughout the year, they turned occasionally into challenges, pointing once again to the need of flexibility and multifaceted approaches. A realistic estimation suggests that we cannot have a totally different reality in a four-year term, yet irrevocable changes could and should be achieved.

Our vision for the future and corresponding actions focus on a more predictable criminal justice system, which is better anchored to human rights than it is today. The Moldovan society needs the legislation and practices of the crime investigation bodies, which would guarantee early access to the case files to crime suspects, to those charged with crimes and to their defenders. People who get into contact with the criminal justice system shall face less arbitrariness and shall be better informed about their rights. We also advocate for effective respect for the presumption of innocence, for the right to silence, for the right to reasonable time and sufficient conditions to prepare the defense, for equality of arms during witness hearing procedures, for the right to translation and for the right to information on reasons of arrest. Although these values and principles are not entirely alien to criminal justice actors, their fulfilment in the daily practice is still challenging, while the real reasons for this situation need yet to be identified and properly dealt with. Systemic violations of procedural rights are not entirely triggered by the individual attitude of police officers, prosecutors or judges, but rather mirror impediments of bureaucratic essence, false success indicators, inadequate training and huge discrepancies between theory and fieldwork. Therefore, for police officers, prosecutors and judges, human rights shall become at least as important and real as they are for the defense part, while bureaucratic hindrances on procedural pathways shall not be the *raison d’etre*. We hope that due to our intervention within the strategy timeframe, criminal justice actors will no longer treat these rights as impediments to knowing the truth, crime discovery, and punishment. We truly believe that in
2014 we made important steps towards this vision. There are at least two opportunities, which support our hopes and open gates for our targeted interventions: the Justice Sector Reform Strategy of the Government and the new Law on Police Activity. These are clear indicators of political will, which both the Program and other human rights organizations shall seriously consider when planning their human rights work in criminal justice.

The human rights work of the Program in other fields than criminal justice aims to respond to at least three systemic challenges, which make the further implementation and promotion of human rights more challenging: shortage of human and other resources to monitor, collect data, report and advocate at local and international levels, abusive limitation of rights, and unbalanced polices for conflicting rights. For instance, the case of invoking the use of religious freedom in order to limit other fundamental rights or limitations introduced under the disguise of national security concerns, as it is the case of abusive classification of public interest information. In response, the Program initiated a multifaceted project aiming to consolidate professional capacities of the human rights activists, to monitor the respect for freedom of religion and its impact on other rights, and the interaction between religious denominations and the state. We also engaged in analyzing the legislation and practices in the area of freedom of information and its classification in light of the new Global Principles of National Security and Freedom of Information. Although we reached the 2014 targets, we had to face a number of risks and challenges, which exceeded our initial expectations. They mainly referred to limited human resources, the complexity of relations between rights in democratic society, and lack of any intervention strategies and methodologies tested on the ground. In many ways, it was a year of our learning by doing together with our partners and beneficiaries from both governmental and non-governmental sectors.

2014 was the first year in which we tested the Fealty to Field approach. The Program is convinced that an independent and efficient judiciary is also an accountable one. To this end, we made sustained efforts to promote transparency in the judicial decision-making process. As this area of intervention requires a complex and professional approach, the Program initiated a long-term partnership with the Legal Resources Centre from Moldova (LRCM) aimed to develop a strategic plan for monitoring and assisting the judicial system in ensuring transparency and accountability. The Soros Foundation-Moldova (SFM), the Legal Resources Center and the Supreme Council of Magistrates (SCM) signed an agreement of cooperation, which governs the monitoring activity of the LRCM. LRCM also provide consultancy to the SCM for the development of a new judicial accountability mechanism. We gained positive results at the legislative level and methodologies. However, by the end of the year, we had to admit that the degree of openness of the judicial system was lower than expected, while its political dependence was still perceivable, especially in cases of initiation of disciplinary proceedings and promotion or appointments of judges.

**Priority 1: REDUCE ARBITRARY LIMITATIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS**

During the last few years, the government has been regularly submitting national human rights reports to the UN treaty bodies, Council of Europe and the EU-RM Human Rights Dialogue. Both the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights visited Moldova. The UN Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, Heiner Bielefeldt, who also visited Moldova in September 2011, mentioned, “… the remaining obstacles mainly derive from the predominant position of the Orthodox Church, which enjoys a privileged status at variance with the constitutional provision of a secular state”. The multiple limitations of other rights and the aggressive involvement of the Moldovan Orthodox Church in the decision-making process on political and legislative levels, has determined the Program to address this area through the lenses of international human rights standards.

"Following the large number of requests addressed to church representatives by parents and parental committees regarding the inclusion into the school curricula of some immoral subjects, hidden under the cover of health education, the Synod of the Moldovan Orthodox Church proposes to combat this negative phenomenon by requesting to introduce Christian Orthodox religion as a mandatory discipline in the pre-university education program." Decision of the Synod of the Moldovan Orthodox Church no.5 as of 02.10.2014.
The international community signals an increasing tendency of abusive classification of information held by public authorities under the excuse of national security and criminal investigation secret. Most frequently, this relates to issues regarding disbursement and spending of public funds. Moreover, it seems that the current legislation provides for a relatively simple mechanism of classification of public information and requires difficult procedures for its declassification.

"There is need for clarification and for a consolidated approach towards the limitation of access to public interest information on grounds of national security. When it impacts the free access to information, it can be achieved either through a more precise definition of national security or through limiting the concept to state security." Report on the conformity of Moldovan legislation with the Global Principles on national security and the right to information.

The real situation of human rights in the country can be described only with the help of civil society groups who professionally monitor and collect data. Adequate responses are also available only if human rights activists are strong and well informed. Therefore, the Program relaunched the capacity development fellowship program for human rights fellows. A new generation of dedicated human rights activists will contribute to more efficient and professional responses to human rights violations. The Program identified a group of 17 young persons who benefited from individual and group coaching from two international experts. In 2014, the group was trained on best practices of human rights monitoring, advocacy techniques, data collection and strategy planning. The group created its blog www.dozadedrepturi.wordpress.com, which serves as a professional development platform and a national advocacy instrument.

The fellows developed mini-concepts and small scale projects in different human rights areas, aimed to generate the monitoring bodies’ attention, adequate reactions from authorities, and donors’ interest.

Despite a promising start, the Program still needs to respond adequately to the risk of high turnover and abandonment of human rights work. We need a strategy to ensure the fellows’ long-term commitment with monitoring and advocacy and encourage the transfer of best practices to the next generations of human rights activists. In 2015, the Justice Program will redesign the program, seeking for more sustainable linkages and long lasting involvement of human rights defenders and activists.

The insufficient governmental capacities to ensure balanced strategies and approaches to freedom of religion, nondiscrimination, freedom of assembly, the right to healthcare, sexual and reproductive rights, etc., has determined the program to develop a unique methodology on monitoring the freedom of religion in conjunction with other rights. This is also necessary in the context of emerging cases of hate speech used by majoritarian religious groups and of their predominant status recognized by law, which often generate limitations of the rights of other persons. The Program trained a group of monitors to test the methodology, and proceeded to data collection. However, the information gathered during the monitoring campaign was not sufficient for the development of a comprehensive report to be used for the promotion of adequate policies in areas of conflicting rights and for the adjustment of church and state relations to international human rights standards. Therefore, the project timeframe was extended to 2015.
Even if the European Court of Human Rights ruled against the Republic of Moldova in a freedom of expression case, the whistleblowing for public interest is still dangerous and not protected (e.g. *case Guja vs. Republic of Moldova*). The endorsement by the CoE Parliamentary Assembly of the Global Principles on national security and right to information in 2013, and the subsequent recommendation to the member states to adjust national legislations and practices, was an excellent opportunity for the Program to assess the Moldovan legislation on access to information and national security against Global Principles. Although the compatibility report has not been published yet, the preliminary findings suggest that the Program should intensify its efforts to promote the Global Principles in 2015, to monitor the public authorities’ actions, to support strategic litigation, advocacy and other instruments familiar to the nongovernmental sector in order to decrease informational manipulation and excessive classification. The program will also promote legislative changes in accordance with the findings of the report.

**Key achievements in 2014**

- The mechanism for data collection in cases of violation of freedom of religion and on abusive use of religious freedom to limit other rights was developed and tested
- A monitoring campaign on freedom of religion had been launched before the parliamentary elections held in 2014
- A group of 17 human rights activists were selected through an open call and trained on human rights monitoring
- The national legislation on access to information, national security and state secret was analyzed against the Global Principles on National Security and the Right to Information. An analytical report was developed

**Priority 2: PROCEDURAL GUARANTEES IN THE PRE-TRIAL STAGE OF THE CRIMINAL PROCESS**

The violation of the right to liberty and security of individuals is one of the most frequent infringements that the Moldovan criminal justice system has encountered over the last decade. The large number of ECIHR convictions, signal the fact that the violations bear a systemic nature and hence the need for more actions in order to remedy all procedural flaws and institutional malpractice.

In this context, the Program has a comprehensive approach to the pre-judicial phase of the criminal process through interventions at various levels - legal framework, practices and awareness. The program assists the criminal justice actors to develop and insert best practices and standards of adequate reasoning of the decisions on pre-trial measures, including arrest, in accordance with the ECIHR jurisprudence. It also supports the development of the legal framework and effective safeguards for the implementation of pretrial related rights.

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*Signing the Cooperation Agreement during the official meeting of the Executive Director of the Soros Foundation-Moldova, Victor URSU, and Ed Lloyd CAPE, Professor of Criminal Law and Practice at the University of the West of England, Bristol, UK, with Dorin RECEAN, Minister of Internal Affairs and Ion BODRUG, Chief of the General Inspectorate of Police.*
The Program supported the activity of an expert group, which analyzed international and national standards for procedural guarantees of the suspects detained in police custody and developed a Practitioners’ Handbook. The guide contains samples of coherent reasoning procedural documents issued for the application of police apprehension, as well as the police officers’ actions in delivering an effective respect for suspects’ rights. The handbook was approved by the General Inspectorate of Police and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and is recommended for the daily activity of practitioners.

In order to prevent police abuse and arbitrary actions when applying apprehension and custody, the Program provided one grant to initiate strategic litigation cases on violations of suspect’s rights and criminal procedure rules admitted by the police officers at the pre-trial stage of the criminal process.

In addition, a monitoring guide was developed, which offers practical guidance and information on police oversight facilities and practices to NGOs, HR activists, lawyers and journalists. In the context of the Ministry of Internal Affairs’ Reform that started with the new law on Police and the Status of Policemen (Law No. 320 entered into force in March 2013), the Program commissioned the services of the Institute for Public Policy to develop a snapshot evaluation report on the degree of implementation of the Law on Police and the Police Officer’s Status.


A training module on observing the suspects’ rights was developed by a team of trainers, which aims at enhancing the criminal investigation officers’ knowledge and skills about the respect of the procedural rights of suspects in police detention.

The training methodology was tested within a pilot-seminar organized in partnership with the General Inspectorate of Police with the participation of 15 criminal investigation officers. Based on the participants’ feedback, the team of trainers adjusted the agenda, thus in 2015, other seminars for almost 100 police officers would be organized.

The Program also supported the activity of an expert group to develop the performance evaluation mechanism for prosecutors and criminal investigation officers through human rights lenses. This was a challenge for the Program, because the performance evaluation of police officers and prosecutors is a closed process developed in accordance with internal specific regulations. The project expert members, including representatives of the criminal justice system, were hesitant in making solid recommendations on reconsidering the current system of professional performance evaluation. After this experience, we learned that this area should be approached through available European experiences by contracting an international expert to provide an external evaluation of the system and recommend solutions for
improvement of the legal and institutional framework, aiming at transparency in joining and career advancement in the law enforcement institutions.

In 2015, the Program will keep focus on the pre-trial stage of the criminal process and will implement the outputs developed in 2014, especially, the training framework on the provision of due process rights and safeguards on police apprehension; the monitoring guide on police oversight regarding the effective implementation of the procedural guarantees during police apprehension; the research on respect of the suspects’ rights inside police custody in the Republic of Moldova.

**Key achievements in 2014**

- The Practitioners’ Handbook for criminal investigation officers on procedural safeguards and guarantees during police custody was published and distributed to practitioners.
- The Monitoring Guide for NGOs, HR activists, lawyers and journalists regarding effective implementation of the procedural guarantees during police apprehension was developed. The guide will be used to in 2015 to monitor the police apprehension facilities and practices.
- The Snapshot Evaluation Report on the degree of implementation of the Law on Police and the Police Officer’s Status was developed by the Institute for Public Policy at the initiative of the Program. The report was launched in partnership with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova.
- An interactive training module for police officers on observing suspects’ rights during police apprehension was developed and tested within one pilot-seminar.
- 4 strategic litigations cases on violations of suspect’s rights and criminal procedure rules committed by police officers were initiated by a nongovernmental organization, Amnesty International Moldova.

**Fealty to Field: PROMOTING EFFECTIVE JUDICIAL ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS IN MOLDOVA**

Based on the assumption that judicial independence can be fully ensured only in parallel with providing and ensuring effective accountability mechanisms, the Program established a partnership with the Legal Resources Center (LRCM) to implement the project activities. The project was developed for a period of four years (2014-2017) and is meant to address gradually the main gaps in the field of judicial accountability in Moldova.

During the project implementation, LRCM and the Program will offer expertise to SCM for the implementation of a new system of performance evaluation and disciplinary responsibility of judges, in particular, improvement of the mechanism of investigation and examination of disciplinary offences. Also, the SCM will be supported to improve the efficiency and transparency of its sittings and the procedure for adoption and publication of decisions.

In 2014, the project started by signing a Cooperation Agreement among the Superior
Council of Magistracy, the Legal Resources Center from Moldova and the Soros Foundation-Moldova on May 22, 2014.

During the first year of implementation, the activities were aimed at achieving two main objectives: to improve the efficiency and transparency of the SCM’s decision-making and to implement a new system of disciplinary responsibility of judges.

Under the first objective, the SCM meetings were monitored by the LCRM experts and technical assistance was provided for the development of the new rules and practices to ensure the transparency of procedures and hearings of SCM. A study visit to Romania was organized aimed to familiarize the representatives of the Moldovan SCM with the functioning of SCM in Romania and to take over the best practices for improving the legal and practical functioning of the institution.

Under the second objective, the LRCM team of experts developed a public policy document on the Draft Law on the Disciplinary Responsibility of Judges and organized public consultations on this document pointing out the feasibility of the amendments to this law. On July 25, 2014, the government assumed responsibility for the Law on the Disciplinary Responsibility of Judges.

A workshop for the SCM Disciplinary Board members was organized aimed at sharing experience and best practices with the members of the Judicial Inspection and Disciplinary Board of the SCM from Romania. The invited experts included Cristi DANILEȚ, judge, member of the SCM in Romania; Olimpia LOYSSE-RĂDU, judge, head of Department, Judicial Inspection from Romania and Laura ŞTEFAN, expert in justice and anticorruption, Expert-Forum, Romania. The discussions were focused on the disciplinary system in Romania and elements of investigation and examination of disciplinary cases relevant for Moldova.

During February-December 2014, the meetings of the Disciplinary Board were monitored by the LRCM experts and the development of internal analysis on the Disciplinary Board’s activity in 2014 was initiated. The document will include analysis of the effectiveness of the new mechanism on the admissibility of complaints and regulations of the Disciplinary Board’s activity.

In order to offer access to advanced European experience, a study visit to Aurich, Germany was organized. During the visit, the delegation presented the Moldovan judicial system, the role of the SCM and the disciplinary rules according to the new Law on the Disciplinary Responsibility of Judges. The study visit was organized in partnership with IRZ Foundation.

Projects completed in 2014 in accordance with a previous strategy

**EFFECTIVE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PRETRIAL DETENTION IN MOLDOVA**

The project aimed to address abusive and illegal use of pretrial detention in the judicial practice of Moldovan courts and obviate arbitrary pretrial arrest practices. It also aimed to determine criminal justice actors to issue justified and well-reasoned decisions on pretrial detention through consolidating mechanisms of judicial accountability and enhancing transparency of pretrial procedures in Moldova. This intervention was based on the main findings of the Analytical Report on the respect of the right to liberty and security of the person when applying pretrial detention in the criminal procedure in the Republic of Moldova. Through empirical research, the Program came to the conclusion that the most problematic issues of the criminal justice system, which lead to the violation of Article 5 of the ECHR, are identified at...
The project had three objectives. One focused on empirical research of the best practices and on advocacy for legal review of several provisions regarding detention during criminal procedure, aimed at enhancing transparency and improving the respect for human rights during pretrial procedures on arrest. The second one aimed at raising awareness of criminal justice actors through in-service training on one hand and at consolidating external mechanisms of judicial accountability through continuous public watch over the judiciary at the pretrial phase on the other hand. The third objective focused on legal analysis and supported measures for developing a functional mechanism for investigative judges’ evaluation and integration into the ordinary court system.

The activities under the first two objectives were implemented in partnership with the Norwegian Mission of Rule of Law Advisers to Moldova (NORLAM). For the implementation of the activities under the third objective a grant to the Legal Resources Center from Moldova was awarded.

**Key Achievements**

The Program experts advanced the endorsement of the amendments to the Criminal Procedure Code no.122-XV from March 14, 2003. The proposed amendments include provisions defining “reasonable doubt”, increased access of the defense to case files, as well as provisions making pre-trial detention hearings open as a rule, with exceptions allowed in extraordinary and clearly defined cases.

A study visit to Norway for the Project Expert Group members was organized aiming to empower the project expert members with knowledge about human rights observance during pretrial detention in Norway and to come up with possible solutions and recommendations for Moldovan criminal justice authorities. After the visit, a comparative study on pre-trial arrest in European countries was developed.

The Program organized 8 in-service trainings for judges, prosecutors and defence lawyers to capacitate them to properly reason procedural acts regarding pretrial arrest, according to national and European standards. The seminars were organized in partnership with the National Institute of Justice, Superior Council of Magistracy and General Prosecutor’s Office. Over 160 criminal justice actors participated in the seminars (61 judges, 57 prosecutors, and 42 defence lawyers), with a coverage of 30% from Chișinău, and 70% from rayons. The seminars had a new approach to practical work in this area at level of attitudes and beliefs, with particular emphasis on developing the skills of reasoning, aimed to reduce cases of arbitrary pre-trial arrest and ensuring a proper motivation of arrest warrants and to optimize conditions for the lawyers to prepare defense effectively.

In order to provide support for knowledge building of criminal justice actors in the field of pre-trial arrest, the Program supported the translation into Romanian of the book *Inside Police Custody. An Empirical Account of Suspects’ Rights in Four Jurisdictions*, by Ed CAPE and others, published at Intersentia in November 2013. The publishing of the book is linked with Program priorities included in the new strategy for 2014-2017, which establishes a larger target group and various means of intervention in the criminal justice system. The book will be published in 2015 and will be distributed to criminal justice institutions and academia.

The project implemented by LRCM under the third objective had an important impact on the system of investigative judges. First of all, the ongoing reform of investigative judges was put into light and closely monitored by the civil society. This project contributed to raising awareness of the SCM members on
issues related to the activity of investigative judges. The deficiencies of remand procedures were strongly linked to the personality of investigative judges. As former prosecutors and criminal investigators, they were generally generous toward accusation. This situation changed after the legal and institutional reforms carried out in 2012, when investigative judges were re-appointed based on performance evaluation.

The documents developed within the project, in particular the Report on Reforming the Institution of Investigative Judges, contain recommendations for streamlining the mechanism of appointing investigative judges and recommendations on optimizing the workload of investigative judges for every court in the country. LRCM initiated discussions and legal review and improving the regulations concerning the evaluation of investigative judges and their reappointment as judges of general jurisdiction.
List of publications launched in 2014

Police Apprehension – Guide for Practitioners
The guide was developed by Cristi DANILEȚ, Judge, member of the Superior Council of Magistracy from Romania, in partnership with Gheorghe MALIC, Head of the Criminal Investigation Department, General Inspectorate of Police; Eduard BULAT, Head of the Section for Combating Human Trafficking, General Prosecutor’s Office and Mihaela VIDAICU, University Lecturer, Law Department, State University of Moldova.
The guide contains international and national standards for effective delivering of pre-trial related rights during police apprehension, as well as samples of procedural documents, including letter of rights, that are to be applied by law enforcement institutions from the Republic of Moldova.

Practical Guide on Monitoring the Due Process Rights during Police Apprehension
The guide was developed with the contributions of Alexandru COCIRȚĂ, Victor MUNTEANU, and Radu FOLTEA.
It is a practical instrument and offers to NGOs guidance and information on how to monitor the observance of human rights of the persons detained in police custody during 72 hours since the deprivation of liberty. While being primarily designed for NGOs that intend to conduct monitoring activities of the suspects’ rights in police custody, it is also a useful instrument for experienced organizations in this field, HR activists, lawyers, journalists or representatives of state structures responsible for monitoring human rights in places of detention and anyone else interested in this subject.

European Criminal Law: An Integrative Approach, André KLIP, Intersentia-Cartier, 2014
The book is a thorough analysis of the ECHR case law and community legislation. The book includes analysis of legal materials relevant to the practice of EU member states, which may serve as good practices for the Republic of Moldova, in particular in the prospect for the association to the European Union. The book was translated into Romanian and published in 500 copies to be distributed free of charge to law schools libraries, public institutions currently involved in the rule of law reform, NGOs active in human rights defense and to the legal aid system.

Pre-trial Detention in the Republic of Moldova and in European Countries: a Comparative Research
The comparative study was developed by Igor DOLEA, PH.D., University Professor, Chair of the Criminal Procedure Law and Criminalistics Department, Law School, State University of Moldova; Judge, the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Moldova; Sergiu URSU, University Lector, Deputy Dean of the Law Department, State University of Moldova; Bjørn LARSEN, Police Prosecutor, Norwegian Prosecution Authority; Denis ARCUȘA, National Legal Consultant, NORLAM. The study acknowledges that in the Republic of Moldova the issue of pre-trial detention is still a systemic one although efforts have been made to greatly decrease the problems in this segment of criminal procedure. The research reviews in a comparative manner the similarities and differences between the Norwegian and the Moldovan systems in the area of application of pre-trial detention. To a great extent, the emphasis was placed on the Norwegian system, which is well-known for its efficiency and
Projects supported with funds from other donors

**LEGAL EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL COMMUNITIES THROUGH A NETWORK OF COMMUNITY-BASED PARALEGALS**

The project sought to contribute to the improvement of the lives of rural communities in Moldova through legal empowerment, facilitated by community-based paralegals. The project was financially supported by Sweden and was implemented through a joint effort of the state and civil society, involving the Soros Foundation-Moldova, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labor, Social and Family Protection, National Legal Aid Council (NLAC).

The project was launched in line with the Strategy of Justice Sector Reform for 2011-2016, which provides for “Promotion of legal culture and access to legal information; reducing the legal nihilism” through establishing the “primary legal assistance system through a functional network of community-based paralegals, which also includes the social assistants network”.

One of the project goals consisted in empowering people in rural communities to efficiently handle legal issues at local level with the assistance of paralegals, and to integrate legal empowerment through the network of paralegals into the governmental policies and civil society agendas.

The project was successful in establishing a network of paralegals equipped with working instruments, including with offices offered by local authorities, based co-operation agreements. All paralegals were trained and monitored. The project established legal empowerment mechanisms for rural population, by encouraging people to understand legal remedies and seek legal protection at the community level.

In view of achieving the project goals, the activities focused on developing the professional capacities of paralegals; community legal empowerment; improving the legal framework which regulates the primary legal assistance offered by the paralegals; sharing experiences and success stories; constant dialogue with state authorities and civil society in view of promoting primary legal assistance; keeping the public informed about the services offered by paralegals and project achievements.

The project offered added value to the society at large and to the selected rural communities specifically, as it channeled potential litigation to primary legal aid, offered solutions to persons who couldn’t afford such services in the upper levels of the legal aid scheme, avoided the escalation of potential litigation and subsequent consumption of public resources available for complex and high risk litigation and other legally related issues. At the end of 2014, the network of 32 paralegals was taken over by the National Legal Aid Council and offered them the required equipment and materials. The legal framework, previously modest and fairly inconsistent in provisions regarding paralegals, was revised, amended and supplemented to respond to the practical needs of a functional primary legal assistance system. Nearly 12,000 people received legal advice and information from the network of paralegals. Thousands of people gained non-stop access to hundreds of answers to their legal questions.

An innovative instrument created within the project, the website [www.parajurist.md](http://www.parajurist.md), allowed over 107,000 visitors to find answers to legal issues. People used the website not only as a quick information tool, but also as an interactive way to address questions to paralegals, especially related to inheritance, work, marriage, domestic violence, participation in the decision-making process, effective communication with local and central authorities, consumer rights, contracts, property, etc. The motivational videos as well as the documentary movie about paralegals’ activity enhanced the network’s visibility through national and local media, and motivated many people to address questions on-line or via the phone. The
use of informational and communication technologies such as the website www.parajurist.md, has a big potential and should be the key-element of any SFM future intervention in this area.

The project ensured its sustainability during a 32-month period, kept the support and the interest of the main counterparts, including the Ministry of Justice and the NLAC, and paved the way for other potential areas of intervention where public endorsement is already available, such as the local public administration reform.
MOLDOVA EDUCATION REFORM PROJECT

Acronyms
CSO Civil Society Organization
ESP Education Support Program
IT Informational Technology
MERP Moldova Education Reform Project
MoE Ministry of Education
OSF Open Society Foundations
TL Theoretical Lyceum
WG Working Groups

Vision
The Moldovan education system is adjusted to the standards and requirements of the contemporary society.

Context
This project was initiated in September 2013 at the request of the Moldovan Government and was developed by the Education Support Program (ESP) of the Open Society Foundations (OSF) as a result of an international expert mission set-up by the OSF in March 2014. This project is implemented through the Soros Foundation-Moldova with OSF support. The main project partner is the Ministry of Education (MoE) of Moldova.

The credo of the project represents the conviction that only by joint efforts of all social actors, direct and indirect beneficiaries of education, we can increase social awareness and responsibility for education. This can lead to a better understanding of the reform process and a greater openness towards it. Thus, by providing technical assistance to the Ministry of Education engaged in implementation of reforms in education, the project facilitates the involvement of all educational actors in effective policy development and mobilizing the participants in the educational process to support quality education.

The support was focused on three major areas:

- logistical support for the activities of Working Groups on curriculum reform and human resources development, established by the MoE, that envisaged revising and developing a new curriculum and new policies aimed to improve teaching performance and the development of standards in different areas of competences;
- involvement of civil society organizations in an efficient dialogue with various stakeholders through a process of consulting and enhancing the efforts aimed at strengthening educational policies;
- extension of IT application in the process of teaching/learning/evaluation within general education institutions through creating learning laboratories, equipped with modern information technology.

The new wave of reforms in education calls for support and involvement of experienced organizations and institutions, both national and international, in order to obtain qualitative and lasting results. Through consultancy services aimed to review and develop the national curriculum for general education as well as to improve educational policies, increase stakeholders’ knowledge in education and empower them through direct involvement in decision-making, a benefit was offered to education reform in particular, and to the transformation of the society in general.
Among the challenges encountered during the project implementation, the following can be mentioned:

- The collaboration between different stakeholders interested in the education reform and creation of a platform for open and constructive dialogue became feasible only through joint efforts;
- The attempt to raise interest and engage the public in the education field, the efforts directed to inform and empower actors and direct and indirect beneficiaries of education, in an uncertain and reluctant to change socio-political context;
- New technologies in education versus a traditional teaching-learning methodology, in order to encourage teachers to make them acceptable and necessary in the daily process of teaching.

The encouraging outcome and the lesson learned during the implementation of this project gives us the confidence that qualitative changes can occur over time as a result of persistent and repetitive work that ultimately can change attitudes and perceptions of educational stakeholders, which later will turn into accepted values in the community, such as responsibility, commitment, openness to change, desire for qualitative services, etc.

**Component 1: EDUCATION IN MOLDOVA: COMPETENCES FOR TODAY AND TOMORROW**

In June 2014, ten Working Groups (WG) were established by the Ministry of Education through an open competition, involving about 80 local experts, to which the Foundation provided technical support related to logistics and experts' fees. The WGs’ activity was focused on the following main directions:

1. **Curriculum development** to ensure the relevance of general school education for personal, social and professional development of students;
2. **Human resources' development** aimed at improving the quality of general school education.

On June 15, 2014, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Soros Foundation-Moldova and the Ministry of Education was signed, establishing a general framework of cooperation and highlighting the responsibilities of each party, engaging them into a joint activity focused on pursuing the proposed goals. Eight international experts were hired by ESP to conduct the activity of the WGs, the MoE being the direct beneficiary of the deliverables developed by WGs.

The main task of the Working Groups was to revise the Moldova National Curriculum Framework, develop a National Program for Human Resources Development for Quality Education, finalize the policy paper/proposal for the National School Inspection in Moldova, establish professional standards for teachers in different areas of competences and develop recommendations for the Department of Curriculum Development and Evaluation. The main part of that work was done and consultations and discussions on these documents were largely completed. The draft versions were presented to the MoE and the second revised versions had been finalized by the end of December 2014.

**For 2015, it is planned to continue the Working Groups’ activities on the following directions:**

**I. Curriculum Development.** The local experts group led by international consultants has developed the National Curriculum Framework. The document describes students’ competences by the end of schooling and the descriptions of seven curricular areas. The need underlined by the groups is to further elaborate on the competences acquired in each of the seven areas per each educational level (primary, gymnasium, lyceum), as well as to enrich the document with recommendations for the methodological approach for teaching, learning and evaluation. In this way, a common approach will be ensured for further subsequent work on each of the school subjects. This common approach was lacking in the previous curriculum documents.
II. Human resources development envisages developing teacher policies and establishing professional standards development groups to improve the quality of general education. In this regard, the work on the development of the National Program and Action Plan for the development of human resources in education will be continued. The documents will serve as basis for further reforms in the field, clearly establishing the priority areas for action in order to improve the situation in this field, both for the government and for all education stakeholders.

III. Development of tools for self-assessment, annual evaluation, and external evaluation of teachers. The developed assessment tools will be the basis for a teacher training program to empower teachers to apply standards and set individual professional growth goals. In this way, the National Inspectorate and District Education Departments will receive all the necessary information for the implementation of the Education Code in the process of teachers’ assessment.

### Key Achievements in 2014

- The Education Code was voted by the Moldovan Parliament on 18 July 2014;
- The National Curriculum Framework was developed;
- A study on the assessment of the system and teacher training programs from general education was conducted;
- A study on policy measures to improve the process of attracting, training and retaining teachers in education was conducted;
- Professional standards for teachers were developed;
- Professional standards for managers were developed;
- The Regulation on the organization and operation of the National Agency for Curriculum and Assessment was developed.

The National Agency for Curriculum and Assessment, an administrative authority under the Ministry of Education, will be responsible for coordinating the development and implementation of the National Curriculum for all the institutions of preschool, primary, secondary, and high school education. The reorganization by transformation of the Quality Assurance Agency into the National Agency for Curriculum and Assessment was necessary to ensure the modernization of the curriculum.

Component 2: SOCIAL COMPACT FOR EDUCATION REFORM / CIVIL SOCIETY ENGAGEMENT IN SUPPORTING EDUCATION REFORM

This component offered an opportunity for involving civil society in the process of enhancing the efforts in the field of educational policies development. Thus, the intended outcome was to encourage educational think tanks and civil society organizations to engage in and support policy dialogue among various education policy stakeholders during the implementation of comprehensive policy reforms by the Ministry of Education.

Based on an open call, seven project proposals were received, out of which three projects were supported. The grantees, including the Institute for Public Policy, Catalactica Association for Social-Economic Development and Promotion and Pro Didactica Educational Center managed to engage in public debates the voices of all social actors involved in the process of educational reform in Moldova.

The support aimed primarily at increasing the knowledge of citizens about the reforms, which are carried out in education and about the efforts made on improving the educational policy. The expected impact relates to embedding the principles of educational policy development in an open and transparent manner, involving parents, students, teachers, managers, and community experts.
“By implementing the project, we expect that the authorities would direct their education policies more towards the needs of the beneficiaries of the educational system and that they would acquire a complete understanding of the potential factors that can slow down the reforms. Our expectation is that students and parents would become more involved in activities aimed at modernization of education,” said Anatol Gremalschi, the Program Director at the Institute for Public Policy, which implemented the project Strengthening Education Policy and Increasing Its Support among Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries.

A considerable part of project activities was directed towards increasing transparency in education. In addition, contributions were made to the modernization of primary and secondary education by including policy proposals in the draft documents that were under development: the National Curriculum Framework, Reconceptualization of High School Education, Teachers’ Code of Ethics, etc. Employees of District and Municipal Education Departments were trained to raise awareness about the importance of reforms and mobilization of indirect beneficiaries of the educational system, in particular parents and local advisers, by organizing public debates.

Catalactica Association for Social-Economic Development and Promotion from Moldova implemented the project E-Durabil - An Efficient and Sustainable System for Informing, Consulting and Engaging in Education Reform. “Through the implementation of project activities we are committed to contribute to the creation and operation of a reliable and effective system of public consultations, participation and involvement, in order to inform, consult and engage citizens in the design and implementation of educational reforms in Moldova. We will promote quality education and hold public discussions about the impact of educational reform implementation processes, about their necessity and the courses of action”, said Nicolae Sali, director of CATALACTICA Association, at the launching event.

This project brought arguments in support for educational policy decision-making based on the collection of relevant, current and valid data gathered during national representative surveys and research. As a result, the project contributed to the creation of favorable conditions and positive representations on educational reforms through the development of coherent information actions, promotion and popularization of specific educational initiatives and events among both direct beneficiaries (teachers, parents, pupils/students, professionals, etc.) and the general public (through traditional and new media). In addition, this initiative can be regarded as a significant contribution to strengthening the skills and capacity of civil society and increasing the participation of citizens in the field of education.

The Pro Didactica Educational Center implemented the project Supporting Qualitative Reforms in Education. Rima Bezede, President of the Center, mentioned the following, “The project aims to
contribute to the promotion and implementation of current qualitative reforms in education through active involvement of all stakeholders, including members of rural communities. The project activities will ensure the visibility of reforms in education and will provide opportunities for participation and social dialogue focused on the process, relationships, and results. The priority issues addressed in the activities will include: transparency in decision-making, anti-corruption, sustainable partnerships and participatory management.”

The public debates conducted within this initiative concluded by developing concrete proposals for solving the local problems that persist in education. In addition, some recommendations for improving these policies by involving parents, teachers, NGOs, initiative groups, etc., were developed. The communities in which public discussions took place showed an openness to change and reforms. The social actors involved in the reforming process (parents, teachers, representatives of LPA, and students) better understood the importance of these reforms, expressing their readiness to involve actively in them and participate in the development of quality education in the country. During the debates, both weaknesses and reform implementation risks (uncertainty, political and economic instability, the problems of outdated mentality, corruption, unreformed justice, etc.) were pointed out. Teachers appreciated the community support, underlining that while schools got an autonomous self-management, the mayor and local councilors continue to participate in implementing joint education activities. School administrations acknowledged the fact that most of non-formal education activities in their communities are referring to arts, technology or sports education of children. One of the proposed solutions was suggested involving more actively the retired teachers in everyday education of children, holding more community activities facilitated by informal actors such as business owners, crafts persons, etc.

**Publications launched in 2014**

**Institute for Public Policy**

The study *Inclusive Education Reform in Moldova* confirms an improved attitude of the society towards children with special educational needs (SEN). At the same time, there are significant differences between teachers who have received training in inclusive education and those who have not. The longer the training period was the more positive the attitude towards inclusion became. Teachers have the weakest abilities and knowledge for inclusion of children with hearing and visual disabilities. Despite the arguments in favor of children with SEN, some teachers believe that inclusive education imposes limitations, including less attention given to other students, an increased volume of work, insufficient teaching materials and supplies, the need to adjust the classroom and teaching methods, etc. However, the analysis showed the effectiveness of trainings organized by NGOs in the field and their impact on general attitudes of all actors at all levels regarding the implementation of inclusive education.

Among the recommendations of the study *Analysis of Educational Policies in General Education* the following can be highlighted: developing independent pedagogical studies to assess the complexity of the curriculum in light of the particular age of the child; expanding the range of published materials, focusing not only on textbooks but also on intuitive and reference materials; harmonization of the assessment within the teaching system, comparing national curriculum with international practice in this area; ensuring a sustainable education by employing young teachers and implementing effective policies for maintaining these young specialists in school.

The purpose of the *Analysis of Education Policies on School Performance Evaluation* consists in the analysis and systematization of national and international practices related to the evaluation of school
results. The focus was shifted from targets-based pedagogy towards a competence-based one. The author developed the following recommendations for improving the assessment: the development of a Regulation on the implementation process of evaluation and assessment, which was approved later by the Ministry of Education; development of a database of items for all school subjects, which can serve as models of subjects for various summative assessments for students and teachers and support for the development of the final tests in the framework of examinations at all levels; development of specialized software for digital evaluation, etc.

According to the study Evaluation of Access, Relevance and Efficiency of Education in Early Education Institutions, the quality of education is influenced by the training level of teachers that requires both the knowledge of teaching programs and methods and the motivation, positive attitude towards the profession and children, a success-oriented attitude, etc. Teachers should get better familiar with the issue of access to education, its importance, the issue of quality and relevance of education, other aspects of education policy. The study also recommended introducing educational policy strategic documents in the education plans of the district/municipal departments of education.

CATALACTICA Association for Social-Economic Development and Promotion

Due to this initiative, three research reports were developed and brought to public attention: Analysis of Qualitative Data Obtained by Conducting Focus Groups with Teachers, Parents, Students and Other Stakeholders, Analysis of the Needs and Priorities of Education Reform in Moldova, and Social Responsibility in Education. Based on this research, the current state of educational needs and priorities and the level of knowledge of the population related to education issues were revealed. The authors managed to find out that the level of social actors’ engagement in policy decision-making is insufficient and even insignificant because social actors know little about the benefits of their involvement in the educational process.

Among the proposals related to more general aspects of reforms inherent to education, the following can be highlighted: shifting the emphasis of educational content from theory to functional skills and an increase in practical activities; decongestion of curricula (especially for primary school students) by increasing its flexibility regarding optional subjects; specific proposals referring explicitly to certain aspects of the reform such as curriculum, assessment, and promotion, etc. Another category of proposals referred to the process of creating and implementing reforms in terms of interaction with all stakeholders, whether they are participants, direct or indirect beneficiaries of the education process, or those responsible for ensuring the continuity of the reform process.
Key achievements in 2014

**Institute for Public Policy**

- Educational Policy Recommendations were discussed at the meetings of the Working Groups „Curriculum Development“ and „Human Resources Development“, established by the Ministry of Education.
- In September-October 2014, three seminars were organized: for directors of District and Municipal Education Departments, local government representatives and journalists interested in topics related to the education reform. The following categories of beneficiaries participated in these seminars: 30 employees with leadership positions in education, 30 representatives of local authorities and 20 media representatives.
- A web portal was developed that offered a wide public access through the web pages of the Ministry of Education and Institute for Public Policy (http://sime.ctice.md/; www.edu.gov.md; www.ipp.md). This portal is connected to the Mapping system of the Ministry of Education and provides open access to data on general education. The performance of each educational institution, including the number of students per class, the number of pupils per teacher, teacher qualifications, national tests and examination results, the budget and its execution, are open to citizens under the School Report Cards.
- Public debates, involving teachers and local authorities from the Chişinău Municipality were organized. The discussion held on November 27 was attended by 147 managers and teachers of primary and secondary schools and 9 officials from the Department of General Education, Youth and Sports Chişinău. The one from December 10 was organized with the participation of 137 managers and teachers of preschool educational institutions and 8 representatives the same Department.

**CATALACTICA Association for Social-Economic Development and Promotion**

- 10 local coordinators were trained within a seminar, in which they were familiarized with issues related to public consultations; the responsibilities and roles of each of the local coordinators were discussed.
- 10 meetings of working groups took place at the local level. Attended by local coordinators, previously trained to engage other interested persons, these meetings served as a discussion platform on the topics related to school and social context, education and current reforms. They also offered the opportunity to discuss the preliminary results derived from the national sociological survey. Each meeting concluded with a summary report, which was posted on the project website.
- 100 so-called ambassadors for quality education were trained following their participation in the research and consultations with local coordinators. To effectively promote and explain educational reforms, the ambassadors learned how to analyze educational policies and strategies, what steps they need to make in order to empower decision-makers (school authorities, local authorities, etc.), to monitor developments in education and to be able to take a stance and engage in the field, etc.
- A National Campaign for public consultations based on local working groups was launched successfully. The following five topics were addressed during the campaign: school and social context; school and family; school and local institutions (city hall, city council, police, health care units); school and stakeholders with an educational role in the community (business owners, church, NGOs); decentralization as the basis for establishing school-local community partnerships.
Pro DIDACTICA Educational Center

- 10 local public discussions were organized covering 10 topics of major interest, bringing together more than 300 people involved in the debate, including parents, teachers, representatives of LPA, NGOs, etc.
- 3 regional roundtables were organized in order to strengthen educational policies and promote the need for reform in education with the participation of various community stakeholders.
- 3 key issues / policy papers were discussed during several roundtables, including: Education Code and 2020 Strategy, Sectorial Decentralization Strategy, School Network Optimization.
- 3 sets of recommendations were made for the implementation of these fundamental documents at different levels.
- The publication Supporting Qualitative Reforms in Education was developed in Romanian and Russian languages and was disseminated in different localities.

Topics covered during the debates and localities in which they were organized:

- Structural reform and school network optimization (Enichioi, Cantemir);
- Informal education: Increasing community potential for diversification of the educational offer (Boşcana, Criuleni);
- Specific issues related to the educational process in multiethnic communities (Taraclia);
- Involving parents in decisions-making on the educational process (Feteşti, Edineţ);
- High school graduation examinations versus the quality of education (Drochia);
- School as a community center: Local opportunities for increasing school attractiveness (Cazangic, Leova);
- The problem of limited financial capacity of small schools (Soroca);
- The key mission of Parents’ Associations from the perspective of various community stakeholders (Comrat);
- The importance of social partnerships: schools, parents and public authorities at all levels (Călăraşi);
- Children with special needs and their integration in education and school community (Popeasca, Ștefan Vodă).

Component 3: SCHOOL LEARNING LABS / MULTIMEDIA CLASSES

In order to facilitate the process of teaching and learning, several schools throughout the country were equipped with learning laboratories. This was done firstly with the aim to transform schools into a more interactive and attractive place for students and secondly - to encourage teachers to apply IT tools in the education process, developing students’ digital and entrepreneurial skills through online learning. In this context, a special Expert Committee was set up to develop the technical specifications of the future Learning Labs, a Multimedia Classroom, relevant to the Moldovan education context.

The Theoretical Lyceum (TL) Petre Ştefănucă from Ialoveni, TL Varniţa from Anenii Noi, TL Alexandr
Pushkin from Făleşti, TL M. Sadoveanu from Călărași and TL Constantin Stere from Soroca were the first educational institutions that were granted specific facilities related to Multimedia Classrooms. Each classroom included a multimedia interactive SmartBoard with an attached projector, a teacher's laptop, 20 tablets with detachable keyboard for students, a Wi-Fi router to connect all computers in the classroom in a wireless network and a high-resolution webcam. A new element consisted in equipping the classroom with a special educational soft - Netop Vission Pro Class Kit - that offers the teacher the possibility to ensure an efficient classroom management, interacting either with all students in the classroom or communicating with each one individually.

The representatives of central authorities, who participated in the opening of the first Multimedia Classroom, reiterated, „An affordable and qualitative education was and will remain a national priority”.

„The Soros-Foundation Moldova has been supporting the reform and modernization of education in our country during the last 20 years by implementing dozens of projects. With the launch of Multimedia Classrooms, we are witnessing a change in the philosophy of classrooms, where students interact more efficiently with the teacher. Contemporary children are already familiar with digital devices. However, this project offers them the opportunity to study in the way they want – in a more dynamic, a more creative, and a more efficient way. When students receive an intelligent education, they are better equipped for the future,” stated Victor Ursu, the Executive Director of the Soros-Foundation Moldova, during the official launch of Multimedia Classrooms.

The 29 institutions of general education, which got grants for multimedia classrooms, were selected through an open call, launched by the Soros-Foundation Moldova in July 2014. Initially, it was planned to open 20 multimedia classrooms. The large number of applicants, from more than 150 educational institutions, determined us to increase the number of schools.

In 2015, the organization of a new contest Digital Educational Resources for Multimedia Classrooms was planned aimed to increase the use of digital resources in the schools that have such classrooms.

**Key achievements in 2014**

- 29 schools were equipped with Multimedia Classrooms
- 87 teachers from selected educational institutions, more specifically three teachers of different disciplines per school, went through a specialized training course developed by CTICE (Centre for Information and Communication Technologies in Education) in order to familiarize them with teaching methods by using the equipment available within Multimedia Classrooms.
### 2014 EXPENDITURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soros Foundation - Moldova Expenditures 2014</th>
<th>2014 Expenditures (in US Dollars)</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equality and Civic Engagement</td>
<td>$239,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moldova Education Reform Project</td>
<td>$811,250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Justice</td>
<td>$648,305</td>
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<td>Good Governance</td>
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<td>Media</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Health</td>
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<td>„Moldova, Europa” Communication Campaign</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administration and Other</td>
<td>$1,177,206</td>
<td>18.40%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$6,397,494</strong></td>
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**Graphic Representation of Soros Foundation-Moldova Expenditures 2014**

- Public Health: 35.36%
- Administration and Other: 18.40%
- "Moldova Europa" Communication Campaign: 10.67%
- Good Governance: 4.29%
- Media: 4.72%
- Justice: 10.13%
- Moldova Education Reform Project: 4.27%
- Equality and Civic Engagement: 3.75%
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**ANNEX**
Projects financially supported in 2014

**Public Health Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr.</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Implementer/NGO</th>
<th>Budget/USD/Euro</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Priority 1: TACKLING THE EXCLUSION AND DISCRIMINATION OF PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES AND MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS AND PROMOTING COMMUNITY ALTERNATIVES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Early Intervention – a reality for the Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>&quot;Voinicel&quot; Center for Early Intervention Public Association</td>
<td>27,592 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Together we act for inclusion</td>
<td>NGO &quot;Woman and Child – Protection and Support&quot;</td>
<td>36,000 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Development and strengthening the early intervention service in the Republic of Moldova – shifting to the state funding</td>
<td>&quot;Voinicel&quot; Center for Early Intervention Public Association</td>
<td>49,735 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Participation in the &quot;International Conference ISSA – Creation of a society for all: a new approach to early intervention services&quot;, Budapest, Hungary, October 10-12, 2014</td>
<td>Ina CAZACU, Ann LARROW</td>
<td>2,938 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assistance for organizational development for &quot;Voinicel&quot; Center for Early Intervention</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>4,265 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal expenditures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>120,530 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Priority 2: PROMOTING THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF PEOPLE FACING LIFE THREATENING DISEASES AND ENSURING ACCESSS TO PALLIATIVE CARE</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pain management through adequate opioid medication in the Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>National Association of Palliative Treatment</td>
<td>24,850 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>World Hospice Day 2014 - Who Cares? We do!</td>
<td>National Association of Palliative Treatment</td>
<td>4,100 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Development of Education in Palliative Care</td>
<td>National Association of Palliative Treatment</td>
<td>36,360 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Development and sustainable financing of Palliative Care services</td>
<td>National Association of Palliative Treatment</td>
<td>48,778 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Technical assistance to the Ministry of health for the development of public policy proposals on the &quot;Development of the system of Palliative Care&quot;</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>7,000 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal expenditures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>121,088 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Health and Media Initiative</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Media and communication for an inclusive society</td>
<td>Keystone Human Services International Moldova Association</td>
<td>30,000 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>World Hospice Day 2014 - Who Cares? We do!</td>
<td>National Association of Palliative Treatment</td>
<td>2,050 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Development of Education in Palliative Care</td>
<td>National Association of Palliative Treatment</td>
<td>1,000 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal expenditures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>33,050 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Fealty to Field Concept: The HEALTH MONITOR</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Health Monitor</td>
<td>Center for Health Policies and Studies, Public Institution</td>
<td>48,740 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority 3: INCREASING THE INVOLVEMENT OF HIV HIGH RISK GROUPS AND THEIR RIGHTS PROMOTION</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing the financial sustainability and the capacity to implement Harm Reduction Programs in the Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>Union of Organizations Operating in the Field of Harm Reduction</td>
<td>19,617 USD</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Promoting the observance of the IDUs’ rights through monitoring, reporting and litigation</td>
<td>PROMO-LEX Public Association</td>
<td>47,418 USD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in the “Study visit in the field of harm reduction”, Estonia, Tallinn, 02-04 December, 2014</td>
<td>Group of 6 persons</td>
<td>5,766 USD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project OUTREACH ACTIVITIES FOR VULNERABLE GROUPS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal expenditures</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<p>| Substitution Treatment with Methadone in Balti and districts in the neighborhood | Municipal Clinic Hospital from Balti | 7,247 EUR |
| Substitution Treatment with Methadone in Penitentiary Institutions in the medical institution of the Department of Penitentiary Institutions (DPI) | Department of Penitentiary Institutions, Ministry of Justice of Republic of Moldova | 25,980 EUR |
| Substitution Treatment for IDU | Republican Narcology Dispensary | 16,814 EUR |
| HIV/AIDS and STIs Prevention among FSWs from Bălți and Ungheni within the Framework of the Harm Reduction Strategy | NGO „Youth for the Right to Life”, Bălți branch | 34,500 EUR |
| Prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs among FSWs in Chișinău and Bender | NGO &quot;Medical Reforms&quot; | 37,670 EUR |
| Prevention of HIV/AIDS and STIs among FSWs in Orhei | NGO &quot; TEENAGER &quot; | 18,650 EUR |
| LGBT Choose the Safe Sexual Behavior | NGO „GenderDoc-M” Information Center | 30,700 EUR |
| HIV/AIDS prevention among IDUs within the Framework of the Harm Reduction Strategy | NGO &quot;For Present and Future&quot; | 51,308 EUR |
| HIV/AIDS and STIs prevention among IDUs from Bălți, Fălești and Ungheni within the Framework of the Harm Reduction Strategy | NGO „Youth for the Right to Life”, Bălți branch | 59,980 EUR |
| HIV/AIDS prevention among IDUs from Transnistria | NGO „Healthy Future” | 16,488 EUR |
| HIV/AIDS and STIs prevention among IDUs from Orhei AND Rezina | NGO &quot; TEENAGER &quot; | 28,380 EUR |
| HIV prevention among IDUs in the northern region of the country, 2014 | NGO „Young Women-Cernoleuca” | 23,732 EUR |
| Prevention of HIV / AIDS in prisons from the Transnistria region, including needle | NGO „Medical and Social Programs” | 16,724 EUR |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Implementing Organization</th>
<th>Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CARE AND SUPPORT FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>Reducing the transmission of communicable diseases and risk behavior associated with drugs use by implementing the needle exchange program in prisons</td>
<td>Department of Penitentiary Institutions of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>30,492 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Social Center for PLWHA from Tiraspol</td>
<td>Ensuring nutritional supplement for PLWHIV and HIV/AIDS infected/affected children and aid in procurement of clothing, shoes and school supplies. East Region</td>
<td>NGO „Healthy Future“</td>
<td>40,478 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to PLWHIV from Dnestrovsk, Slobozia and Grigoriopol</td>
<td>Support and care services to PLWHIV in Transnistrian Prisons</td>
<td>NGO „Healthy Future“</td>
<td>14,688 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republishing of information material for PLWHA from GFATM, HIV funds</td>
<td>Republishing of information material for PLWHA from GFATM, HIV funds</td>
<td>NGO „Healthy Future“</td>
<td>5,295 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer camps for children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, Eastern region</td>
<td>Summer camps for children infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, Eastern region</td>
<td>NGO „Healthy Future“</td>
<td>3,320 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission +</td>
<td>Ensuring nutritional supplement for PLWHA and HIV/AIDS infected/affected children and aid in procurement of clothing, shoes and school supplies.</td>
<td>Benderscoe Gorodskoe Obshhestvo „Miloserdie“</td>
<td>24,687 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Social Center „Life with hope“ Bălți</td>
<td>Support to People Living with HIV/AIDS through the Multidisciplinary Team in the North of Moldova (including Bălți, Dondușeni, Fălești, Șoldănești, Edineț, Ocnița, Glodeni, Briceni, Sîngerei, Drochia)</td>
<td>NGO „Second Breath for the Elderly and Inactive People“</td>
<td>53,146 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support to PLWHA from the central region</td>
<td>Summer camps for children infected affected by HIV/AIDS, North region</td>
<td>NGO „Second Breath for the Elderly and Inactive People“</td>
<td>4,080 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care and support for PLWHA from the central region</td>
<td>Ensuring nutritional supplement for PLWHA and HIV/AIDS infected/affected children and aid in procurement of clothing, shoes and school supplies, Northern region</td>
<td>NGO „Second Breath for the Elderly and Inactive People“</td>
<td>42,940 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and Care for PLWHA from the Southern Region of Moldova</td>
<td>Care and support for PLWHA from the Southern Region of Moldova.</td>
<td>NGO „Biaș Gul“</td>
<td>10,416 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Social Center for PLWHA „Together for life“, Comrat</td>
<td>Regional Social Center for PLWHA „Together for life“, Comrat</td>
<td>NGO „Biaș Gul“</td>
<td>18,623 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer camps for children infected affected by HIV/AIDS, Southern region</td>
<td>Summer camps for children infected affected by HIV/AIDS, Southern region</td>
<td>NGO „Biaș Gul“</td>
<td>1,800 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring nutritional supplement for PLWHA and HIV/AIDS infected/affected children and aid in procurement of clothing, shoes and school supplies, southern region</td>
<td>Ensuring nutritional supplement for PLWHA and HIV/AIDS infected/affected children and aid in procurement of clothing, shoes and school supplies, southern region</td>
<td>NGO „Biaș Gul“</td>
<td>11,600 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and Care for PLWHA from the Southern Region of Moldova</td>
<td>Public Institution – Regional Social Center for PLWHIV &quot;Together for Life&quot;</td>
<td>4,189 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional Social Center for PLWHA „Together for life”, Comrat</td>
<td>Public Institution – Regional Social Center for PLWHIV &quot;Together for Life&quot;</td>
<td>8,510 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring nutritional supplement for PLWHIV and HIV/AIDS infected/affected children and aid in procurement of clothing, shoes and school supplies, Southern region</td>
<td>Public Institution – Regional Social Center for PLWHIV &quot;Together for Life&quot;</td>
<td>6,360 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Social Center for PLWHA, Chişinău</td>
<td>NGO „Faith“</td>
<td>57,649 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer camps for children infected affected by HIV/AIDS, Central region</td>
<td>NGO „Faith“</td>
<td>4,800 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increasing Access to Support and Care Services for PLWHA</td>
<td>NGO „Faith“</td>
<td>30,013 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ensuring nutritional supplement for PLWHA and HIV/AIDS infected/affected children and aid in procurement of clothing, shoes and school supplies, Central region</td>
<td>NGO „Faith“</td>
<td>63,770 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support and Care to PLWHA in Floreşti and Rîşcani Districts</td>
<td>NGO „Faith North“</td>
<td>17,043 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access of PLWHA to Support and Care in the rayons of Ribniţa and Cămenca</td>
<td>NGO „Trinit“</td>
<td>24,044 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring the Access of PLWHA to Psychological and Social Services</td>
<td>NGO „New Life“</td>
<td>80,604 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional Social Center for PLWHIV, Chişinău</td>
<td>NGO „New Life“</td>
<td>35,343 EUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increasing the capacity of service providers in HIV/AIDS through e-learning</td>
<td>NGO „Master in Public Health“</td>
<td>30,140 EUR</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Development of palliative care services in HIV/AIDS in Chişinău and Bălţi</td>
<td>Medico-Social Foundation „Angelus Moldova“</td>
<td>66,337 EUR</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project: EMPOWERMENT OF PEOPLE WITH TUBERCULOSIS AND COMMUNITIES IN MOLDOVA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevention, early detection and treatment activities for TB risk groups in Bălţi</th>
<th>NGO &quot;Youth for the right to live&quot;, Bălţi branch</th>
<th>9,720 EUR</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social and psychological support to TB patients</td>
<td>NGO &quot;Medico-Social Programs&quot;, Bender</td>
<td>11,374 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Together against tuberculosis</td>
<td>NGO „Hope of Land&quot;, Bălţi</td>
<td>10,284 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing access to TB diagnosis and treatment services for homeless people from Chişinău</td>
<td>NGO &quot;AFI&quot;, Chişinău</td>
<td>23,879 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Together for a completed treatment</td>
<td>NGO „National Association of TB patients (ANBT) in Moldova &quot;SMIT, Bălţi&quot;</td>
<td>4,000 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strengthening the capacity of community actors in increasing the success rate in the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis</td>
<td>NGO „Tighina Psychological Association“, Căuşeni</td>
<td>9,504 EUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduce the incidence of TB in Soroca through involvement and information</td>
<td>NGO &quot;Social Center &quot;House of Hope”&quot;, Soroca</td>
<td>8,977 EUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Face to face III**  
NGO „National Association of TB patients (ANBT) in Moldova “SMIT, Bălți  
9,151 EUR

### Equality and Civic Engagement Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Implementer</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Establishment and strengthening of the mechanisms to promote equality and nondiscrimination through civil society</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>Training of Trainers on Antidiscrimination</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>27,412.7 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>Words Can Lead to Hate</td>
<td>GENDERDOC-M Information Center</td>
<td>10,316 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>Replace Shame with Solidarity and Fear with Support</td>
<td>Step by Step South Region Public Association</td>
<td>22,109 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>Social Inclusion through Community Mobilization</td>
<td>Association of Business Women from Bălți Municipality</td>
<td>24,775 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>Differences are not Obstacles</td>
<td>DACIA Resource Center for Youth</td>
<td>24,943 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>Defending the Rights of Socially-Vulnerable Persons Exposed to Discrimination in UTA Găgăuzia</td>
<td>Legal Clinic from Comrat</td>
<td>18,462 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Comparative Analysis of Population’s Perceptions on Discrimination in the Republic of Moldova</td>
<td>Institute for Public Policy</td>
<td>7,972 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>Professional Support and Exchange Program in Strategic Litigation on Discrimination</td>
<td>Promo-LEX Association</td>
<td>34,000 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>Storytelling to Fight Discrimination</td>
<td>Keystone Human Services International Moldova Association</td>
<td>19,996 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.10</td>
<td>Program administrative costs</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>45,905 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Subtotal 1</strong> 235,890.7 USD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Empowerment of Women from Rural Communities project funded by Sweden**

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Project title</th>
<th>Implementer</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Two editions of Election Leadership Program for Women from Rural Areas</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>28,950.18 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Capacity building for resource group organizing the Forum of Women Leaders from Rural Communities</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>14,882.82 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Forum of Women Leaders from Rural Communities, 2014 edition</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>27,863.41 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>External evaluation of the project</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>4,312.2 USD</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Project administrative costs</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>20,619.3 USD</td>
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<td><strong>Subtotal 2</strong> 96,627.9 USD</td>
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**Total program expenditures**: 332,518.6 USD
**Media Program**

<table>
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<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Priority 1</strong></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Internal Media Pluralism in the Republic of Moldova – between Opportunity and Reality</td>
<td>Electronic Press Association APEL</td>
<td>36,526 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>National Conference on Media Pluralism in the Republic of Moldova: Opportunities and Reality</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>8,978 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Informing citizens on the results of media pluralism research (advocacy campaign)</td>
<td>Association of Independent TV and Radio Directors &quot;Meridian&quot;</td>
<td>10,500 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total expenditures on Priority 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>56,004 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Priority 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Develop the on-line MediaForum platform and launch public debates</td>
<td>Independent Press Association API</td>
<td>31,794 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Creation of a framework for professional competition, quality standards observance and knowledge spillover through exchange of ideas and experiences aimed at accurate, unbiased and ethical reporting</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>3,745 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total expenditures on Priority 2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>35,539 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Priority 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Empower professional investigative journalism by setting up a reliable online archives</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>23,973 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Develop the on-line investigative media library (data base)</td>
<td>RT Design Studio” Ltd</td>
<td>15,840 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total expenditures on Priority 3</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>39,813 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Third party</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Strengthened Regional Media Network for Informed Citizenny, Participatory Governance and Accountability (June 2012-December 2014) supported by the Government of Sweden</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>235,456 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total operationally managed expenditures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>287,992 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Program Expenditures</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>366,812 USD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Good Governance Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
<th>Amount USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The budget process in Moldova: monitoring transparency and promoting public control</td>
<td>Independent Analytical Center &quot;Expert – Group&quot;</td>
<td>$76,399</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Public consultations on budget transparency in Moldova</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>$1,321.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total (priority 1)** 77,720.26 USD

**Priority 2: Promoting Integrity in the Public Function through Increased Civic Control**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
<th>Amount USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Promoting integrity of public officials through <a href="http://www.moldovacurata.md">www.moldovacurata.md</a> (Clean Moldova) portal</td>
<td>Association of Independent Press</td>
<td>$35,625</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Enhancing public control on the integrity of public officials</td>
<td>ADEPT Association of Participatory Democracy</td>
<td>$35,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>New approaches and solutions in fighting corruption</td>
<td>Center for the Analysis and Prevention of Corruption</td>
<td>$26,842</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Journalists for the integrity in public function</td>
<td>Center for Journalistic Investigations</td>
<td>$28,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Study visit to Romania to study the practice of implementing provisions of the Civil Law Conventions on Corruption</td>
<td>Mixed project: operational project travel grant</td>
<td>$1,794.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Advanced training in investigative journalism</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>$9,171.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Support to organization of the 2014 National Anti-Corruption Conference</td>
<td>National Anti-corruption Conference</td>
<td>$821.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Participation in the workshop for developing anti-corruption strategies, organized by the OSF EURASIA Program</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>$1,433.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Participation in the workshop for developing anti-corruption strategies, organized by the OSF EURASIA Program</td>
<td>Travel grant</td>
<td>$926.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total (priority 2)** 143,709.19 USD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
<th>Amount USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Public Opinion Barometer 2014</td>
<td>Institute for Public Policy</td>
<td>$37,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** 37,000 USD

**“Moldova, Europa” Communication Campaign**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr</th>
<th>Project title</th>
<th>Beneficiary</th>
<th>Amount USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Information campaign for local public authorities on European integration and Association Agreement with the EU</td>
<td>Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova</td>
<td>$48,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Advocacy Campaign in support of the European integration: European Street University</td>
<td>IDIS „Viitorul”</td>
<td>$26,885.91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total 75,721.91 USD
## Justice Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr</th>
<th>Project Title</th>
<th>Implementation Mechanism</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Priority 1: Reduce arbitrary limitations on human rights</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Address alleged conflicts between selected rights (freedom of religion, non-discrimination, assembly, sexual and reproductive rights, health, assembly)</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>43,236.83 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>International advocacy visit to the office of the International Commission of Jurists, office of the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, and international NGOs working on human rights, 17-22 November, 2014, Geneva, Switzerland</td>
<td>Tatiana CHEBAC, Georgeta ANUSCA</td>
<td>1,877.54 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Secure observance of human rights through effective monitoring, reporting and advocacy techniques</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>24,577.43 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2a</td>
<td>Professional development and scholarships program for youth interested in human rights</td>
<td>Eleonora ANDRIUȚA, Georgeta ANUȘCA, Viorica BEJAN, Tatiana CHEBAC, Irina CHICU, Ilie CHIRTOACĂ, Ion CIOBANU, Lilia COJOCARU, Elena GARAZ, Dumitru MELNIC, Liliana MUNTEANU, Ana-Maria NISTOR, Violetta ODAGIU, Cristiana SÎTNIC, Dumitru SLIUSARENCO, Serghei ȚAPORDEI</td>
<td>19,200.00 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Reducing human rights violations pertaining to unjustified classification of public information</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>5,017.04 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3a</td>
<td>Promoting and implementing the Global Principles on National Security and Right to Information</td>
<td>Institute for Public Policy</td>
<td>22,574.00 USD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total** 683,951.53 USD

**TOTAL** 942,380.98 USD
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Project Type</th>
<th>Cost (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Enhancement of quality assurance tools and management of the legal aid system in Moldova</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>94,415.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4a</td>
<td>Participation in the international conference: &quot;Access to legal aid in the criminal justice systems&quot;, 24-26 June 2014, Johannesburg, South Africa</td>
<td>Victor ZAHARIA</td>
<td>2,401.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4b</td>
<td>Second research meeting of researchers and project teams from Moldova, Georgia and Ukraine within the LARN “Inside Police Custody” regional project, September 24-25 2014, Budapest, Hungary</td>
<td>Tudor OSIOANU, Mihaela VIDAICU</td>
<td>2,041.38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Legal empowerment of rural communities through a network of community-based paralegals</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>226,314.54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total expenditures for Concept 1**: 441,656.54 USD

**Priority 2: Procedural Guarantees in the Pre-trial stage of the Criminal Process**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Project Type</th>
<th>Cost (USD)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Review the Existing Framework on Safeguards Regarding Pretrial Related Rights</td>
<td>Operational project</td>
<td>12,716.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1a</td>
<td>Participation of the Working Group responsible for the development of the best practices guide for police officers in the study visit to Oslo, Norway, September 1-4, 2014</td>
<td>Gheorghe MALIC, Eduard BULAT, Mihaela VIDAICU</td>
<td>4,264.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Prevent Police Abuse and Arbitrary Actions when Applying Apprehension and Custody</td>
<td>Operational Project</td>
<td>12,202.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2a</td>
<td>Initiating strategic litigation cases on violations of suspect’s rights and criminal procedure rules admitted by the police officers at the pre-trial stage of the criminal process</td>
<td>Amnesty International Moldova</td>
<td>18,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Determine Criminal Justice Actors to Issue Well-reasoned Decisions on Pre-trial Measures</td>
<td>Operational Project</td>
<td>14,098.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3a</td>
<td>Participation of the Working Group responsible for the development of the performance evaluation indicators for prosecutors and police officers in the study visit to Bucharest, Romania, October 19-22, 2014</td>
<td>Nadejda VIERU, Oleg OPREA, Ion GUZUN</td>
<td>2,393.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3b</td>
<td>Participation of the Group of Judges responsible for the development of sentencing guidelines for judges in the study visit to Bucharest, Romania, January 19-22, 2015</td>
<td>Valeria ȘTERBET, Gheorghe ULIANOVSKI, Maria GHERVAS, Liliana CATAN, Viorica PUICĂ</td>
<td>2,760.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Project Operational Costs</td>
<td>Operational Project</td>
<td>21,746.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Effective Observance of Human Rights in Pretrial Detention in Moldova</td>
<td>Operational Project</td>
<td>68,423.18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Participation of the Working Group responsible for pre-trial detention legal review in the study visit to Oslo, Norway, April 6-10, 2014

| 5a | Participation of the Working Group responsible for pre-trial detention legal review in the study visit to Oslo, Norway, April 6-10, 2014 | Igor DOLEA, Raisa BOTEZATU, Vladislav GRI BinCEA, Sergiu URSU, Sergiu BUFTEAC | 12,752.88 USD |
| 6 | Maintenance of the Legal Aid Reformers’ Network website http://www.legalaidreform.org/ | Operational Project | 1,699.64 USD |
| 7 | Initial training within LARN “Inside Police Custody Research in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine”, Chisinau, April 24-25, 2014 | Operational Project | 3,530.78 USD |

**Total expenditures Concept 2** 175,350.58 USD

**Fealty to Field: Enhance Judicial Accountability as a Pre-Condition for Justice Reform**

| 1 | Promoting Effective Judicial Accountability Mechanisms in Moldova | Legal Resources Centre from Moldova | 84,000.00 USD |

**Total spent on fealty to field** 84,000.00 USD

**Administrative Costs** 77,588.41 USD

**Total Program Expenditures** 778,595.53 USD

**Moldova Education Reform Project**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr</th>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Implementer/NGO</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Component 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Education in Moldova: competences for today and tomorrow</td>
<td>Ministry of Education of RM, Soros-Foundation Moldova</td>
<td>190,029 USD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Evaluation mission of international experts</td>
<td>ESP OSF</td>
<td>5,147 USD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total expenditures for Component 1** 195,176 USD

| Component 2 | | | |
| 1. | Strengthening Education Policy and Increasing Its Support Among Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries, | Institute for Public Policy | 115,000 USD |
| 2. | EURabil - An Efficient and Sustainable System for Informing, Consulting and Engaging in Education Reform | CATALACTICA Association Moldova | 100,000 USD |
| 3. | Supporting Qualitative Reforms in Education | ProDidactica Education Center | 34,200 USD |
| 4. | Operational costs for organizing the contest for NGOs | | 800 USD |

**Total expenditures for Component 2** 250,000 USD

| Component 3 | | | |
| 1 | Learning laboratory – multimedia classrooms | Soros-Foundation Moldova | 370,000 USD |

**Total expenditures for Component 3** 366,377 USD

**Administrative expenditures:** 13,787 USD

**Total project expenditures:** 825,340 USD