Accountability, Transparency and Institutional Openness in South East Europe – ACTION SEE
Towards Open and Accountable Institutions in Montenegro
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Good governance is key to rule of law. While corruption, transparency, rule of law and good governance are always in the spotlight, the understanding of systemic problems, which hardly receive sufficient coverage, remains inadequate. The “Accountability, Technology and Institutional Openness Network in South East Europe – ACTION SEE” project aims to raise awareness of such challenges by facilitating cooperation among civil society organizations and consolidated strategic efforts for representation.

ACTION SEE provides a platform for dialogue and a concrete tool for measuring the degree to which state institutions uphold the principles and standards of open governance through its Index of Openness.

The project aims to increase the inclusion of civil society and media organizations in decision-making processes and creation of public opinion and policies, as well as to raise the capacity of civil societies to address sensitive issues.

CDT contributed to implementation of this initiative in the period from 2016 to 2021.

- Researched the level of openness of institutions from all branches and levels of governments: core executive, line ministries, executive agencies, parliament, local self-governments, courts, public prosecution offices, judicial council and prosecutorial council in 2016, 2017 and 2018.
- Developed in total more than 500 indicators for measuring openness of all the institutions based on four organizational principles: transparency, accessibility, integrity and awareness.
- Developed 12 policy papers on institutional openness with the aim to contribute to implementation of the public administration reform, to have the effect on strengthening the principles of good governance and to help the institutions implement them more effectively in their work.
- Addressed around 150 recommendations for improvement of institutional openness.
- Organized more than 50 meetings with representatives of institutions with the aim to jointly work on the improvement of openness and transparency in their work.
- Organized three regional conferences in Montenegro where institutional openness and recommendations for improvement were directly discussed with stakeholders.
- Analyzed opportunities for CSO’s engagement through case studies in media reporting.
- Supported six civil society organizations through ACTION SEE grant scheme.
- Increased capacities of more than 40 civil society and media organizations from Montenegro for project and financial management, policy advocacy, media and marketing.
ActionSEE is a network of civil society organizations that jointly work on promoting and ensuring government accountability and transparency in the region of South-East Europe, raising the potential for civic activism and civic participation, promoting and protecting human rights and freedoms on the internet and building capacities and interest within civil society organizations and individuals in the region in using technology in democracy promotion work.

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