



MISSION

Association ESE is a civil society organization that works on improving exercise of social and economic rights by vulnerable groups of citizens, by means of their empowerment, mobilization and engagement in creation, implementation and evaluation of public policies and services in the Republic of Macedonia.

VISION

ESE's driving force is its commitment to resolution of problems. By promoting and improving the human rights, we improve social and economic justice, having in mind that human rights are an invaluable collection of standards that should be enjoyed by all. We are particularly devoted to work in the field of promotion and improvement of health rights and women rights. Therefore, we are focused on two goals, those being: to address urgent needs of citizens, in particular the needs of vulnerable groups of citizens, and to influence creation of sustainable and long-term changes. We do much more than documenting, reporting and publicly condemning injustices in the society. We provide legal and paralegal assistance, allowing citizens to exercise their rights and change their living conditions. Moreover, we advocate for changes of legislation and policies that affect exercise of health rights and women rights. We advocate at national and at international level. We draft and submit "shadow reports" and other types of documents to competent international bodies concerning the degree of implementation of international treaties on human rights.



PROBLEMS THAT PEOPLE FACE

THE WASHINGTON

The Strategic plan 2020-2024¹, builds heavily on the priorities and objectives set with the previous Strategic plan of ESE, which is the plan for the period 2017-2020. This plan relies on the results achieved and evidence gathered on the effectiveness of the measures and methodological approaches applied. It also relies on the opinion of our partners; collaborators; donors; members of the Executive Board etc. In the period 2020-2024, we will continue to work on the already set priorities. The problems that women and other most vulnerable and marginalized citizens face in regard to the implementation and enjoyment of the economic and social rights unfortunately still remain largely unresolved and persistent. However, a modification of the approaches used on some of the priorities is needed. Therefore, in the forthcoming period we will continue to work on everyday social and economic problems of the women, poor and vulnerable; to challenge the exclusion and to advocate for a more inclusive and accountable democracy. We will continue to work on enhancing access to justice and moreover, we will expand in addressing the gender-related needs of those who deliver justice. Monitoring of transparency, accountability, and effectiveness will also expand to another sector. In our case, in the monitoring of the governance principles of one independent human right institution.

NO CITIZENS PARTICIPATION INTO THE PROCESSES OF PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF LEGAL REGULATION, BUDGETS AND SERVICES

The state continually fails to ensure citizens participation into the processes of planning, conduction and monitoring of the policies and budgets related to the fulfilment of the social and economic rights. Namely, there is no established legitimate, non-selective and continuous process of citizens' involvement in the operation of central and local government. That is, after 31 years of entering into force the European Charter of Local Self-Government, the citizens of Republic of North Macedonia continue to be treated only as a constituency and not as an active contributor involved in the policy and budget process i.e. making decisions that are implemented at the national and local level, although there are legal possibilities in this regard. Citizens are not sufficiently familiar with the composition, organization and work of the executive and legislative power and public administration. They are not familiar with the national policy and budget processes and the oversight mechanisms and they are not aware for their rights to participate in these processes. As a result of this the citizens are neither involved in the decision-making process relevant to them, nor are involved in the process of their monitoring. Part of the reasons for this situation lies into lack of trust in the public institutions on national and local level. Moreover, there is still insufficient number of CSOs that work on methodologies for

¹ 2020 , 2021, 2022 and 2023



demanding accountability from the Government; this is especially relevant for the CSOs working on local level. Additionally, there is lack of transparency of the Government regarding the processes of planning and implementation of the relevant policies and budgets. Government also lacks oversight and control mechanisms for the implementation of different policies which are financed through the state budget. The above described situation results in lack of demanding accountability from the Government by the citizens.

As a result of this situation the State budget allocated for fulfilment of the social and economic rights is not progressive; is not developmental; do not satisfy the principles for non-discrimination and equal access to services for different groups of citizens; and is more dependent on foreign aid. The process of budget allocation for different sectors is not priority driven budgeting process, but the budget allocation is based on developed calculation formulas. Thus, the policies aimed for fulfilment of these rights are not priority and needs based and thus do not adequately address the needs of the citizens. The lack of oversight and control mechanisms, leads to the situation in which the policies and budgets that are adopted are not reaching the citizens as it is foreseen. This practice has especially negative impact on the fulfilment of social and economic rights of the vulnerable groups from the population, including Roma minority, women, mother and children and other groups. Lack of demanding of accountability from the citizens resulted in the situation where the Government continued with this negative practice in the past years.

ESE through its work on social accountability and legal empowerment in the past eight years has collected numerous evidences on how the aforementioned situation in the country has directly impacted on the fulfilment of the social and economic rights, with main emphasis on the right to health, right to social protection and right to employment.

As a result of the work on the field of right to health we have noted that the Ministry of Health continuously fails to adequately implement policies and services aimed for improvement of the health of Roma, improvement of the reproductive health of women and improvement of the health of mothers and children (including National action plan for Roma health and national health preventive programs - Program for active health protection of mothers and children, Program for medical check-ups of pupils and students and Program for cervical and breast cancer screening). Moreover, when speaking about health and development of the newborns, infants and toddlers, there is no existing services or policies which will target both parents and other family members in order to ensure healthy pregnancy and proper care of the child. This is due to the fact that the policies are not based on the real need of the target groups and are prepared without their inclusion. Also, this situation is due to the failure to allocate needed amount of resources and even to spend the allocated resources to implement these policies. The failure can be illustrated through the fact that the budget for preventive health care has insignificant portion in the budget of the Ministry of Health. Namely, in average in the period 2012 - 2019 the budget for preventive health care represented only 9% from the Ministry of Health budget on

200 mm.

annual level. Moreover, the allocated funds for preventive health care are constantly decreasing in the period 2016 – 2018. The failure of the Ministry to spend the allocated budget can be illustrated through the fact that in the period 2012 – 2019 in average 24% of the budget for preventive health care remained unspent annually.

Moreover, there is lack of human and technical capacities in the health care sector responsible for implementation of these policies, which is most evident in the lack of gynecologists on primary level, lack of patronage nurses, lack of pediatricians on primary level, and lack of primary preventive teams for child's health. In addition to this situation the Ministry of Health does not have any single mechanism for oversight and evaluation of the implementation of these Programs, and it relies only on the reports submitted by the implementers of the Programs.

This situation leads to inadequate coverage of the vulnerable groups with these policies. This can be noted through the findings from ESEs work elaborated further. National action plan for Roma health remains under implemented in the past decade. The activities aimed for improvement of health of Roma mothers and children adopted with proper budget allocation in 2011 by the Ministry of Health, were continuously decreased to be completely removed from the Program for health care of mothers and children in 2015. In 2018 Ministry of health again adopted specific measures aimed for Roma communities, but with allocated budget lower than in the Program in 2011. Thus, there is no consistency in the efforts of the Government to address the health of Roma mothers and children, as a result of this Roma people are not sufficiently covered with preventive health services for improvement of the health of mothers and children, including health education and visits from the patronage nurses and Roma health mediators. Despite the lack of coverage with health services Roma people also face other barriers when accessing health care in greater extent that the rest of the population, including discrimination in health care settings, financial barriers and violation of patients' rights. In addition to that, since Roma people represent one of the most marginalized and vulnerable groups of the population, their participation in the decision-making processes is even on lower level than general population. Thus far ESE with partner Roma CSOs has worked on empowerment of Roma communities in order for them to be able to actively demand fulfilment of their right to health on specific issues, including women's reproductive health, health of mothers and children and patient's rights. Yet there is a need for broadening the scope of this work.

Program for cervical cancer screening in the past 5 years also was underfunded and not planned according to the needs, moreover the budget for this Program in 2019 was reduced for 2.8 million MK Denars in comparison to 2018. This results with the fact that in the past six years only 28% of the women from the target group were covered with this Program, while the scientific evidence is saying that cervical cancer screening Program that covers below 35% of the target population is not an efficient Program. Moreover, European



Commission in its 2019 Report for North Macedonia² stated that "funding for cancer screening is insufficient" and that "there is no national program on breast and cervical cancer screening programme".

The situation with improper planning and implementation of preventive health policies has clear negative impact on the health outcomes, especially for the vulnerable population. Namely, there is increase in number of death cases as a result of the cervical cancer from 15 deaths in 2011 to 47 deaths in 2016, as a result of lack of proper planning, budgeting and implementation of the Program for cervical cancer screening. The situation is even graver regarding the health outcomes of the mothers and children. This is clearly indicated through the increase in infant mortality rate in the period from 2011 when the rate was 7,6³ on 11,9 in 2016, which is more than twice higher than the infant mortality rate in EU countries. The infant mortality rate in 2017 has decreased on 9,2 per 1000 live births, but its yet to be seen how the mortality trend will develop in the following years. The situation is even more serious among Roma minority where the infant mortality rate in 2016 is 1,5 times higher than among Macedonian ethnicity. Another devastating fact which shows the inequalities that Roma face is that almost 50% of deaths among Roma occur before the age of 65 years, in comparison to 24% of deaths before the age of 65 on national level.

Despite the significant increase in the trend of the infant mortality in the period from 2011 to 2016, the Government started to undertake more significant efforts yet in 2018. These efforts included inviting WHO mission and work of the national experts in order to determine the possible causes for the increase of the infant mortality. One of the main conclusions from these efforts was the lack of proper quality data which will enable proper analysis of the situation. Also, since 2018 the Government undertook certain measures, but mostly regarding improvement of the health care on secondary and tertiary level, without more significant efforts for interventions on primary level and on community level. It must be noted that Infant mortality rate is an important indicator of health for whole populations, reflecting the intuition that structural factors affecting the health of entire populations have an impact on the mortality rate of infants.

In the field of the right to social protection ESE has elaborated the obstacles regarding the rights for social protection of the persons and families that provide care in their households for seriously ill family members which are not able to take care for themselves. This issue is closely related to both spheres of social and health protection. In this area we are also witnessing how the negative practices, including non-involvement of the citizens in the decision-making process, and Governments planning of the policies and budgets which are not need and priority based has its reflection in this area as well. This can be illustrated by the lack of capacities in public health and social institutions for accommodation and provision of care for these people, which is a problem that lingers for decades. Namely in

³ Rate is calculated per 1000 live births

² https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhood-enlargement/sites/near/files/20190529-north-macedonia-report.pdf

200 naux

public institutions there are only around 390 beds for accommodation of these persons, while in the private sector there are around 550 beds, and this number is constantly rising in the private sector. Accommodation in private sector is not financially affordable for majority of the population, thus the poor and most vulnerable people must take care for these persons in their households. Until 2018 the State did not provide any type of service which will assist in the care work at the households. Since 2018 the State introduced the concept of Personal assistant, which among other issues could be involved in provision of the care. Yet at the moment there are no publicly available data regarding how this concept is implemented in practice. Another noted problem is the amount of the financial social benefit which the state is providing for the care of these persons. The amount provided on monthly basis is fairly low (around 4.000 MK Denars) and is barely sufficient to cover purchase of basic medical materials and medicines for the persons that needs care, but does not cover the other costs related with care (transportation, health services, clothes and linens etc.) and does not cover the costs related to the time allocated for provision of care. The data that ESE gathered through the nationwide survey showed that majority of the primary care providers are women (73%) in the households and they allocate approximately 20% of their time to provide the care. The provision of care seriously affects their ability to work in paid jobs as well as on other aspects of their life, including social life, use of media etc. Moreover, the provision of care has negative impact on the physical and mental health of the caregivers. The provision of care in the household also has financial impacts on the entire household. From one side the caregivers are unable to work in paid jobs, or are working in lower paid jobs, and on the other hand there are increased expenses as a result of the provision of care, including purchasing medicines and medical materials, utility bills, food bills etc. This situation also reflects on the health and the wellbeing of the person needing the care. Thus, it is of utmost importance these caregivers and families to receive the needed support from the state, not only in financial means, but also in direct help for provision of the care, education for care provision etc. The Government thus far does not have any official data on the scope and burden of the unpaid care work on the families and primary care givers. Thus, this issue shows that the State does not plan for policies which will promote gender equality and does not have established mechanisms for gender sensitive budgeting in its practice.

In regards to the right to employment the situation is the same as in the other public sectors. There is significantly low or better to say nonexistent culture of participation in policy processes and with lack of knowledge and skills to do so, local communities and especially women are unable to take their role and raise their voice as citizens. The citizens face a situation of total ignorance and passiveness of behalf of the local and national institutions. One of the key concerns of the local communities as well as whole country is the issue of unemployment. The deprivation of exercising one of the basic human rights, right to work has lead to deterioration of the living standard and therefore possibility to exercise other core human rights. The public employment policies do not reflect the gender



perspective or this is especially because of the absence of gender sensitive policies. The violation of the right to employment, the inequality in the access of men and women in the labor market, the lack of policies that are gender sensitive, the absence of policies that reflect the real needs of the citizens of the Republic of Macedonia, the inefficient use of budget funds, inefficient policy planning and employment measures are the key features of the public employment system in the Republic of Macedonia.

Public institutions responsible for planning and implementation of employment policies and measures in the Republic of Macedonia are characterized by high level of closure and non-transparency in their work. As a result of the non-transparency of public institutions and the non-transparency of the processes of planning and implementation of employment policies and measures, current policies and measures for employment do not reflect the real needs and interests of citizens, especially the needs and interests of women. Additionally, there is no culture for active citizenship (this means that citizens should be active and participate in the decision-making processes from the beginning to the end), which is a result of the non-functioning of the mechanisms for citizen participation in the decision-making processes and the absence of practices for mobilizing and strengthening a larger number of citizens who would further independently engage in public processes. In 2018, ESE has started to work with the State Employment Agency on improvement of their capacities to increase the level of transparency and accountability and establishing mechanism for involving citizens in the creation and assessment of the active employment measures and services. The work

The results from the program and budget analysis, as well as from the conducted inquiry among the unemployed and employed citizens as a result of the active employment measures for the period 2014 - 2018 shows the following: SEA on annual basis collects on average 13.6% more revenues than the planned amount and spends 25.6% less than the total amount of actually collected revenues; the expenditures in the SEA budget are reduced by an average of 5% annually, and each year 10% more revenues are generated; there is a significant increase in the funds transferred from SEA to UNDP for implementation of the active employment measures and services (in 2014, the budget of the Republic of Macedonia did not plan to transfer funds of the UNDP, in 2016 it was planned to transfer 49,400,000 MKD, in 2017 - 541,247,050 MKD, and in 2018 - 405,881,283 MKD), while UNDP decrease its own contribution in financing of the active employment measures and services; in 2018, there is a significant decrease in the funds for implementation of active employment measures and services by 44%; each year the Agency has unpaid liabilities to the entities involved in the implementation of the Operational Plan for employment in an average of 24,412,370 out of which 46% are unpaid liabilities to UNDP; in 2017 the Agency allocated 158% more funds compared to the previous year or 76% more than in 2014, however 83% of the total number of unemployed persons covered by the survey are not familiar with the possibilities coming from the Operational plans for employment; in the period 2016 and 2017 through the project Macedonia employs 1 and 2, the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia has damaged the budget by 1,401,109,591 MKD or for

1,400,094,511 MKD more than the planned amount by exemption from payment of employment contributions for 31 019 persons or 21 019 persons more than the envisaged number (10 000); the employment services that are an essential part of active labor market policies, are an essential weakness of the state in the same time, especially in the area of strategic planning of the type and the scope of services offered, the manner of their provision, the manner of their recording and the manner of their evaluation; more than half of the unemployed citizens (63%) in Bitola, Tetovo, Strumica and Sv. Nikole, covered with ESEs survey are people who are long-term unemployed i.e. haven't been employed for more than four years; the access to active employment measures and services is significantly limited for the citizens due to the small percentage of citizens (54%) registered in the SEA evidence for more than 2 years (45%); 74% of the registered unemployed persons do not know that they have the right to access the active employment measures and services; women use the active employment measures and services less than men; there is no enough detailed publicly available data on the amount of funds spent for implementation of each employment measure and services; the annual reports on the operation of SEA is not aligned with the annual operational plans for active programs and measures; there is a very low quality of information provided by SEA in the procedure for free access to public information; data related to implementation of the employment measures where UNDP is involved are not provided by SEA; etc.

NO EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE

The state failure to progressively realize social and economic rights is closely related with the failure to promote and establish effective access to justice for marginalized and vulnerable groups in our society. We cannot discuss about the effective implementation of social and economic rights if the position of the most vulnerable groups in the society has not changed, and they are still facing significant barriers when approaching the system of justice.

Recent years data on a lack of justice and the scale of failure to meet people's justice needs has shown that there are three dimensions of the justice gap. At least 253 million people live in extreme conditions of injustice, 1.5 billion people cannot resolve their justice problems and 4.5 billion people are excluded from the opportunities the law provides. In total, 5.1 billion people (two thirds of the world's population) lack meaningful access to justice. People in all countries are affected however the burden of this injustice is not randomly distributed. Women and children find it hardest to access justice. Poor people, people with disabilities, and people from minority ethnic communities are among vulnerable groups.

200 mus

The failure to provide justice is costly as well. Lost income, damaged health, and the cost of seeking redress cost OECD countries between 0.5 and 3 percent of their annual GDP. Everyday justice problems cost more than 2 percent of GDP in most low-income countries. A growing body of evidence demonstrates that expenditures on peoples-centered justice can deliver a high return on investment. Every dollar invested in justice is likely to return at least 16 dollars in benefits from reduced conflict risk. Not to speak that legal system reforms, such as the specialized courts, restorative justice and Citizens Advice service are highly cost effective and generate savings. The latest developments on international level have also emphasized the link between the access to justice, enjoyment of human rights and development. Namely, the Sustainable Development Goals of the UN adopted in 2016 have introduced separate development goal 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions, and correlating goal 16.3. Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and ensure equal access to justice for all.

First estimate on how much would it cost to close the justice gap or to meet everyday justice needs in an accessible and affordable way was also launched recently. The estimate includes legal advice, legal empowerment in communities, formal justice institutions that play a frontline role in resolving conflicts and disputes, and alternative mechanisms to resolve these justice problems, including accountability mechanisms. According to this estimate in low- income countries, it would cost 20\$ to provide each person with access to basic justice services. In middle -income countries, it would cost 64\$ per person per year and in high-income countries 190\$. High — income countries are comfortable to afford this expenditure, however middle- and low-income countries will find it challenging. In order to increase the affordability to finance justice for all. Namely, they need better data on current resources allocation in order to shift expenditures away from ineffective justice approaches and instead target the most urgent justice needs. Most importantly the existing resources could be redirected towards lower-cost approaches with higher potential to deliver justice, such as legal empowerment and non-formal approaches.

Six areas account for most justice problems on a global level: violence and crime, land disputes, housing or neighbours, unresolved family disputes, problems related to money, debt or consumer issues, or those related to public services and employment and business. Even tough each justice problem has its specificity, in general taking justice problems what matters is whether people achieve a satisfactory resolution and whether the justice seekers are treated fairly along the legal journey. The justice journey starts with empowerment of people and communities; followed by having access to people-centered justice services and ends with fair outcomes. Along with enabling satisfactory legal journey, justice system must prevent problems. Effective prevention strategies include: promotion of trust in justice systems; tackling the root causes of injustice; and using the law to reduce the risk.

As noted before, the justice problems are not randomly distributed. Some groups are more likely to suffer injustice than others or to have distinctive needs when they seek justice.

200 nmus

Finding ways to empower disadvantaged and to solve most difficult justice problems or the justice problems of women, children and excluded, enables counties to reach the furthers behind first. Moreover, this is a promise that derives from the 2030 Agenda. Surveys show that women and have roughly the same unmet justice needs as men, but the nature of these needs reflects women's experience of violence, discrimination, disadvantage, and exclusion. The poorest women face the highest barriers, as well as women in counties where the situation of women is worse overall.

The Republic of North Macedonia is classified as an upper middle-income country. The poverty rate according to last available data from 2016 is 21,8% (State Statistical Office Survey on Income and Living Conditions). Presumable this indicates that the access to justice and resolution of the justice problems is problematic for many. The only national survey in Macedonia that explored respondents' experience of legal ("justiciable") problems over the past three years dates from six years ago (Srbjanko et al, 2013). The study explored the nature of the problems experienced, what respondents had tried to do about them, and what the results of their actions were. The survey reveals that almost half (49%) of respondents had experienced at least one legal problem over the past three years, and many of those who had experienced problems had experienced more than one in this period. Two-thirds of those who reported problems said that they had taken steps to resolve them. One third of these sought legal advice on how to tackle the problem. Two thirds of respondents who sought advice had to pay for the advice. Further, one-fifth of those who had a problem did not do anything about it because they did not have the money to do so. As expected, poorer people, younger ones, the unemployed, and Albanians were least likely to take action. More than half of those who did not take action, don't have confidence that help would be available. Furthermore, less than 10% of those with problems were involved in any court proceedings (formal resolution) related to their legal problem. Exemption for certain court procedure costs and the Law on Free Legal Aid (adopted in December 2009 and commence with its implementation in July, 2010) were some of the legal reforms that aimed at enabling easing access to justice. The intention of the Law on Free legal Aid was to provide free legal aid to poor. Overall the implementation of the law turned out to be very restrictive and not fulfilling its original intention. Recently a new law was adopted. Worth's to be noted that the implementation of this law was closely monitored by the CSO's working in this area.

In addition to the only national research on the legal needs and monitoring of the implementation of the Law on Free Legal Aid till recently there was a lack of evidence that will point and identify the bottlenecks in accessing justice in general and especially for the poor and disadvantaged. This gap was fill in by the projects undertaken under the Shared Framework on Legal Empowerment initiated by the Open Society Foundations. This initiative aims at institutionalizing and implementing policy framework that respond to the unmeet justice needs of the poor and marginalized. As a result, a certain evidence base related to the legal needs and how certain barriers influence the access to justice, including

200 mm

the cost benefit of provision of legal aid and assistance by the CSO's⁴ and costs related to resolving legal problems were conducted. Although certain evidence and estimates were acquired still we are far from having a comprehensive evidence base body that will allow appropriate policy design in this area. Not to mention the collection of statistics that the respective governmental institutions have an obligation to gather and report upon to the SDG new goal- 16.3 Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels. The current situation in this regard after an analysis on the availability of data on the indicators set by this goal⁵ shows that there is a lack of information and knowledge about this development goal among the state institutions, civil society organizations and judiciary; there are no systemic efforts nor mechanisms planned for monitoring the implementation of this development goal; there is a lack of official data about the access to justice for different vulnerable categories and State statistical office is not collecting sufficient data on the implementation of the SDGs. There is need for mobilization of all relevant stakeholders and development of plan for incorporation of this development goal in our system.

Many categories of people, including women that suffered violence, Roma, sexual workers, people that use drugs, textile workers and others have reported that have limited access to justice. CSO's that work with these categories of people are already providing a different type of legal aid and assistance. Over the years three modalities of provision of free legal aid and services such as preliminary free legal aid, community-based paralegals, and lawyering for the marginalized were developed. Needless to say, that many other CSO's implement activities for raising the level of information, knowledge and to some extend skills of the poor and disadvantage to attain their legal rights. In order to provide timely and appropriate aid and assistance, CSO's providing different types of aid and assistance have introduced procedures and practices that imply a certain working standard that aim at quality assurance of the aid and assistance provided, as well activities aimed at capacity building of the legal aid and services providers. Although an evident progress was made in training of the legal providers and introducing working procedure and practices still there is a need of continuous capacity building and provision of technical assistance related to all aspects of aid and assistance provision to these CSO's. Not to mention the possibilities of expanding and combining the legal empowerment strategies with other strategies, especially the social accountability. Here we are specifically talking about the programs for paralegal assistance and support that were established by a number of local Roma organizations and which provide aid and assistance to Roma due to the discriminatory and marginalized position in the enjoyment of the right to health. Namely, Roma people are facing discrimination and non-adequate treatment in health care settings, violation of their rights as patients, and are restricted from the needed health services as well. Their access to health protection is even more limited due to their unfavorable socio-economic situation.

⁴ https://www.esem.org.mk/en/pdf/Publikacii/2018/Cost%20Benefit%20Analisys.pdf

⁵ https://www.esem.org.mk/pdf/Publikacii/2019/PUBLIKACIJA%20SDG.pdf



Addressing this situation ESE since 2011 started to develop the community based paralegal⁶ model that relies on own community human resources i.e. community where the activities are implemented, are at community disposal and have a full understanding of the community tradition and culture. Paralegals are the new, innovative and effective way of addressing the legal needs of Roma and other disadvantaged groups in Macedonian society.

Women who suffered violence are among those that face many barriers when accessing justice. The lack of information on the legal solutions to their problem, including lack of trusts and inappropriate proceeding of relevant stakeholders are some of many barriers that these women face on the path to justice. In accordance to the Macedonian legal system the resolution of the violence can be resolved concurrently trough the civil and criminal justice court systems. On how these women are treated and what type of barriers these women face during the court proceedings ESE has collected solid information through USAID's Women Legal Protection Project and Civic Engagement Project, paths to justice for women victims of domestic violence. Court monitoring on civil and criminal cases related to violence revealed numerous deficiencies. There are not unified proceedings of the judges from the civil courts in relation to the length of the procedure and evidence collection. Moreover, there is lack of effective sanctioning and there are no criminal procedures initiated against the perpetrators that are violating the temporary measures of protection issued by the courts. As for the criminal protection, although punishable, psychological and sexual domestic violence are still not punished. Domestic violence is not fully punished for withdrawal from criminal proceedings for crimes committed as a result of domestic violence. Perpetrators do not receive the deserved punishment, or with another words their punishment is not corresponding to the severity and circumstances under which family violence occurred. Delivery of justice in cases of domestic violence is delayed and women who have suffered domestic violence are experiencing and witnessing again the violence for the purpose of conducting the criminal procedure. These are the key conclusions derived from the detailed analysis and brief preview of the analysis findings based on judgements brought in number of cases of domestic violence.

Looking from a supply side i.e. those that deliver justice, except the trainings that were organized by the CSO's alone or in cooperation with the Academy of Judges and Public Prosecutors, there are no other activities undertaken that examines the importance of women ad justice deliverers. Namely a diversify justice sector is critical for progress on gender equality and the legitimacy of the justice system. With increased demand for judiciaries to play a more independent role championing human rights and the rule of law, and to be representative of the constituencies that they serve, it's imperative to find way to

⁶ https://www.esem.org.mk/pdf/Publikacii/2018/PPP%20go%20skrshi%20mrazot.pdf

https://www.esem.org.mk/pdf/Publikacii/2019/Кривичноправна%20заштита%20на%20жените%20жртви%2

⁸ https://www.esem.org.mk/pdf/Publikacii/2019/Се%20казнува%20ли%20семејното%20насилство.pdf



support women justice professional. This especially refers to women judges. On the other hand, the judiciary should also apply the principles of transparency and accountability. Currently we face a huge lack of publicly available data that can play a crucial role in assessing and improving the position of both seekers and deliverers of justice. The same stands for the independent human rights protection related bodies, such as the Commission for protection against Discrimination.

LOW LEVEL OF FISCAL TRANSPARENCY

Fiscal transparency performance of the public institutions in the Republic of Macedonia is regularly unfavorable assessed from the civil society sector and the relevant international organizations and institutions. US Embassy Fiscal Transparency Assessment Report, European Commission Progress Report, International Partnership for Budgets – Open Budget Index Report and many other relevant sources are confirming indicating this assessment.

According to the Fiscal Transparency Assessment Report of the Republic of Macedonia prepared by the US Embassy in Macedonia⁹, the country meets the minimum requirements for budget transparency. The budget of the Republic of Macedonia, including data on public debt, is publicly available and clearly presents the types of planned costs, by category and by institution. However, according to the annual budgetary reports, the revenues and realized expenditures for the repayment of the year do not coincide with those planned according to the budget. The findings of the independent State Audit Office are regularly published. The audit reports are constantly indicating that there are inconsistencies in the work of the public institutions, issuing recommendations for overcoming these wrongdoings. These reports are subject of revision by the Parliament each year. However, no measures are taken for their implementation. On the other hand, the independent state auditor has no institutional power to initiate legal action against public institutions that are not working in accordance with the law. This, as well as the criticism towards the way how public procurements are performed, is the key factors of putting Republic of Macedonia as a country in categories of countries that fulfill minimum requirements for fiscal transparency.

Negative assessment and recommendations for urgent improvement of the country's budget transparency situation are regularly part of the European Commission's Progress Reports. For example, the Progress Report for 2019 states that "progress has been made in improving budget transparency through the publication of a citizens' budget and increased budgetary data." but "Budget transparency and accountability of public fund management should be ensured through efficient monitoring by the executive and the Parliament. This

⁹ US Embassy Macedonia. (2017). *Macedonia 2017 Fiscal Transparency Assessment.* Retrieved December 17, 2017 from https://mk.usembassy.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/249/Macedonia-2017-Fiscal-Transparency-Report.pdf



includes following up on the State Audit Office recommendations.". Additionally, the report states that "the Parliament should continue to work on the efficiency of the democratic political system, including on the implementation of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO recommendations on transparency of party funding." and "the transparency in financing of political parties needs to be further improved" ¹⁰.

In Macedonia, there is a lack of efficient and effective mechanisms through which the implementation of the budget will be monitored, and efficiency and effectiveness of government policies would be evaluated. In addition, the public procurement system and the way it is implemented must be strengthened to ensure transparency, efficiency and effectiveness, as well as to overcome allegations of corruption and violation of the principle of equal access and treatment of participants in the public procurement.

Working on these issues from 2011, and following and evaluating the reactive and proactive transparency of public institutions in terms of the budget cycle (planning, implementation and reporting), ESE has data that clearly shows trend of institutional performance and through which can clearly and accurately identify future advocacy areas in order to improve fiscal transparency and accountability at the national and local level.

According to the report findings on the pro-active transparency of the institutions monitored by ESE in 2018¹¹ on average, only 28% of the budget and program documents and information that should be publicly available on the web sites of the monitored institutions are proactively. The monitoring process also shows that only 22 out of 25 monitored institutions do not publish budget and program information and documents i.e. are not proactively transparent to the citizens and none of the monitored institutions has published a pre-budget statement and audit reports. Furthermore, the monitored institutions do not provide information in open format at all, except the Ministry of finance for some information. Monitoring and reporting on the level of proactive transparency of the institutions aims to encourage the participation of the citizens and the civil society sector in the work of the Government and the public institutions, thereby increasing the transparency and accountability of the institutions. The level of proactive transparency is an indirect indicator of the institutional corruption. With more open and willing institutions to publish data, the citizens confidence in institutions operation is strengthen and citizens are

North Macedonia Report 2019 - European Commission; https://ec.europa.eu/neighbourhoodenlargement/sites/near/files/20190529-north-macedonia-report.pdf

¹¹ Здружение за еманципација, солидарност и еднаквост на жените - ECE. (2019). Проактивна транспарентност 2018. Скопје, Република Македонија: http://www.esem.org.mk/pdf/Publikacii/2019/Анализа%20на%20проактивната%20транспарентност%2020 18.pdf



encouraged to take part in the policy making and decision-making processes, thus contributing to building a healthy and strong democratic society.

Regarding reactive transparency, ESE's monitoring report for 2018¹² shows that "institutions provide more information on submitted requests for information of public character, rather than make them available on their behalf". The Law on Free Access to Public Information is only partially respected by the institutions, and the institutions are only partially transparent in their work. In 2018, 72 public institutions were monitored, of which 24 (33%) were found on the list of reactive non-transparent institutions, which during the year did not work in accordance with the Law on Free Access to Public Information. Of the total number of institutions, 22 (30%) partially complied with the law, and 26 (36%) of them worked fully in accordance with this Law.

ESE's public procurement monitoring report for the period 2016 – 2017¹³ shows that all 62 monitored public health institutions are publishing information on the subject of public procurement, provide limited or no information regarding the estimated value of the procurement with VAT included and source of funds that will be used for payment. Additionally, the institutions sometimes do not publish information regarding the number of offers received, value of the signed contract for procurement and the company selected for providing the subject of procurement, for all the procedures conducted. The overall scores on the level of transparency shows that the public health institutions need to work on improving of their level of transparency in the public procurement procedures, where they spent over 8 billion MKD on close to 10 thousand projects.

The fiscal transparency is one of the government priorities. However, the Government shows lack of will and capacities to implement and address the requirements and commitments for improvement of the level of transparency. There are also a set of barriers that prevent citizens from following the public institutions performance and operation. Citizens are also facing problems with enjoyment of their basic rights for access to information, lack of knowledge regarding their rights for access to information, lack of knowledge to understand what the public institutions present in the documents, lack of trust in the system and the institutions, and lack of will to engage themselves in the long bureaucratic process to access public information which at the end do not guaranty their basic right to access information. The measures for improvement in the level of fiscal transparency and transparency in general by undertaking measures, such as: adopting list of mandatory 20 documents that should be published on the institutions web sites, promoting

¹² Здружение за еманципација, солидарност и еднаквост на жените - ECE. (2019). Реактивна транспарентност 2018. Скопје, Република Македонија: http://www.esem.org.mk/pdf/Publikacii/2019/Анализа%20на%20реактивна%20транспарентност%202018.p

¹³ http://www.esem.org.mk/pdf/Publikacii/2019/Analiza%20Javni%20nabavki.pdf



an open data portal, developing strategy on transparency in the work of public institutions, establishing citizens budget portal, participation in the Open Government Partnership initiative, introducing new provisions in the public procurement policies, etc., are still partially implemented or not implemented at all and do not give the expected benefits/results.







Over the 2020-2024 we will continue to work:

- 1) To engage citizens in the processes on planning, implementation and evaluation of legal regulations, budgets and services in the field of social and economic rights.
- 2) To ensure equal access to justice in the field of social and economic rights.
- 3) To promote fiscal transparency of institutions in the field of social and economic rights.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:

TO ENGAGE CITIZENS IN THE PROCESSES ON PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF LEGAL REGULATIONS, BUDGETS AND SERVICES

We will strengthen capacities of local and national level CSOs to implement the social accountability and legal empowerment methodologies, including Roma CSOs, CSOs working in the health area, CSOs working on gender equality and employment, and CSOs working with different marginalized groups. This will be conducted in order these CSOs to empower and mobilize the communities with which they work in order to strengthen the participation of CSOs and citizens in demanding accountability from the Governmental institutions. Also, this work will strengthen their capacities for participation in the decision-making processes and in the processes of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of relevant policies and budgets with focus on right to health, right to employment and right to social protection. At the same time, we will strengthen capacities of the Governmental and public institutions from the health sector in order for them to increase the citizen's participation in the processes of decision making and oversight of the implementation of the relevant policies and budgets.

We will meticulously gather evidence on implementation of the relevant policies and budgets and the scope of coverage of the direct beneficiaries and the impact that these policies are meant to achieve including — level of access, status and outcomes of the beneficiaries. We will gather data related to different social and economic rights such as health of Roma, women's' reproductive health and health of mothers and children; affirmative employment measures and policies with emphasis on women; unpaid care work in the households and implementation of the policies and budgets relevant to this issue.

We will demand accountability from duty holders and improvement of: the health status and health outcomes of the vulnerable groups of the population, status of employment and status of the families and individuals providing the care, especially improved access to social and health protection.



PRIORITY 2:

TO ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

We will empower people and poor and vulnerable communities to take active role in solving their justice problems, and support the implementation of cost-effective alternatives that will help them to resolve their unmet justice needs. ESE will continue to strengthen the capacities of CSO's providers of legal and paralegal services and promote the concept of community paralegals as informal mechanism of provision of legal aid to enable access to justice to poor, marginalized and vulnerable in our society.

We will collect people – centered justice data and provide evidence to facilitate access to justice for poor and vulnerable, by stressing their needs in the policy making. We will advocate for resolving the justice problems that matter the most to people and have their voice heard as users of justice. We will demand elimination of all the barriers in accessing justice and increased state support to CSO's for addressing the legal needs of poor and vulnerable groups.

We will promote and provide access to specialized people centered justice services for vulnerable groups of women, such as women that suffered domestic violence. We will empower and encourage them to use court procedures for their protection and at the same time work together with the courts in order to improve the responsiveness and effectiveness of the court protection provided.

We will support the work of the formal justice institutions that play a frontline role in delivering justice and address their needs when delivering justice. We will develop methodologies and instruments for measuring their transparency, accountability and effectiveness, as deliverers of justice. We strive to strengthen the judiciary, in order to improve legal predictability and to ensure fair and timely proceedings.



PRIORITY 3:

TO PROMOTE FISCAL TRANSPARENCY OF INSTITUTIONS IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

We will raise public awareness and status of information of citizens by providing information and educational content related to the fiscal transparency and the need for budgeting based on priorities, which will contribute toward strengthening the capacities of the citizens to understand and practice their rights for access to information, better understand how the public system works, better understand the information provided by the public institutions, as well as use the information to hold the government accountable.

We will continuously evaluate the level of proactive and reactive transparency of public institutions, as well as the level of transparency in public procurement procedures. We will work on identification of the fluctuations in level of openness of the public institutions and deficiencies in the procurement procedures and we will make continuous pressure on the public institutions in order to emphasizes how much they are lagging behind, and at the same time to know that their work is continuously monitored.

We will provide solutions and follow-up of adopted measures for promotion of fiscal transparency and access to information through participation in the process for open government that are already in place.



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:

TO ENGAGE CITIZENS IN THE PROCESSES ON PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF LEGAL REGULATIONS, BUDGETS AND SERVICES

OBJECTIVE 1: Strengthening and promoting engagement of citizens in the processes on planning, implementation and evaluation of legal regulations, budgets and services, as part of the social accountability and legal empowerment approach

Outputs:

- Strengthened capacity of Roma CSOs and secured technical support for implementation of the integrated approach (social accountability and legal empowerment) aimed at improving the health status of Roma people
- Strengthened capacity of CSOs working in the field of employability and employment of women and secured technical support for implementation of social accountability methodologies, for the purpose of improving employability and employment of women.
- Strengthened capacity of CSOs and secured technical support for implementation of social accountability methodologies

OBJECTIVE 2: Capacity building for public institutions to involve citizens and CSOs in development, implementation and monitoring of legal regulations, budgets and services

Outputs:

- Strengthened capacity of the Ministry of Health and other public institutions for application of social accountability and legal empowerment methodologies

OBJECTIVE 3: Improving the health status and access to health services for women, mothers/parents and children

Outputs:

- Performed monitoring on the exercise of social and economic rights
- Conducted advocacy efforts on issue of decreasing the perinatal and infant mortality and continuous monitoring of the situation in this regard
- Performed monitoring on the preventive health services for women reproductive health and follow-up advocacy efforts
- Health information provided by the Health info centre



OBJECTIVE 4: Improving the health status and access to health services for Roma people, including both women and men

Outputs:

- Performed monitoring on exercise of social and economic rights by Roma people
- Performed monitoring and analysis of reasons that influence indicators on infant, perinatal and maternal mortality among Roma people and follow-up advocacy efforts
- Performed monitoring of the preventive health services for Roma women reproductive health and follow-up advocacy efforts
- Documented and promoted findings on the effects of interventions implemented in Roma communities

OBJECTIVE 5: Improving access to the labour market for women

Outputs:

- Performed monitoring on the exercise of social and economic rights by women
- Performed monitoring on budgets and policies related to implementation of active employment measures and follow-up advocacy efforts

OBJECTIVE 6: Offering systemic solutions to unpaid care work for adult persons in need of care

Outputs:

- Conducted advocacy efforts for improvement of the conditions for the people in need of care in their households, as well as for their caregivers and entire family

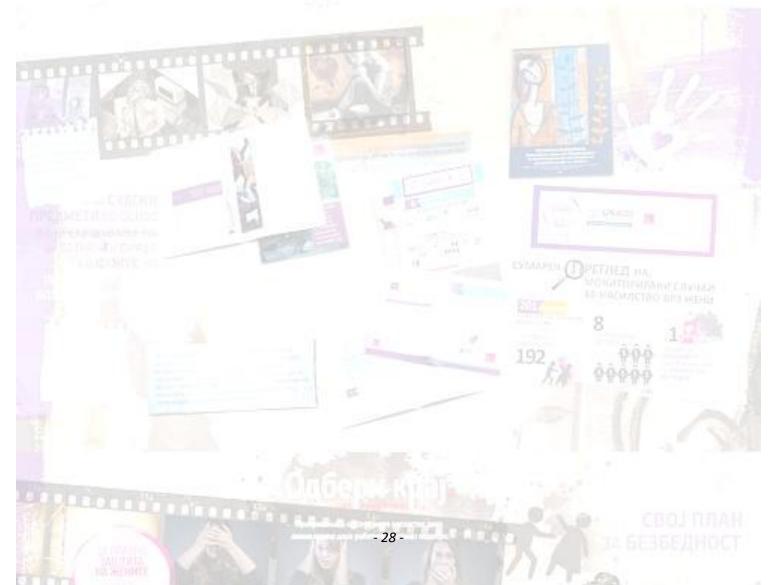
PLAN OF ACTIVITIES, TIMEFRAME AND FINANCIAL PLAN

Strategic objective 1.1: Strengthening and promoting engagement of citizens in the processes on planning, implementation and evaluation of legal regulations, budgets and services, as part of the social accountability and legal empowerment approach

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|--|--|------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Strengthened capacity of Roma CSOs and secured technical support for implementation of the integrated approach (social accountability and legal empowerment) aimed at improving the health status of Roma people | Mentorship for organization of educative events, by securing themes, guidelines and directions on implementation of such events in Roma communities. | 2020 -2024 | ESE | 6.316 |
| THE ENTER OF SCHOOL SERVICE | Provision of technical support for implementation of the process on community mapping, by developing relevant guidelines for this process. | 2020 -2024 | ESE | 264 |
| | Revision of the questionnaire for data collection from Roma households under the integrated approach | 2020 and 2022 | PEN DESTRUCTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERT | 3.158 |
| | Provision of technical support animators and facilitators in the course of data collection in Roma communities. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE 1 | 264 |
| | Delivery of training on processing and analysis of data collected as part of budget monitoring and analysis. | 2020-2024 | ESE | 1.444 |

| | Provision of technical support to animators and facilitators in the course of scaling up their work on the integrated approach in Roma communities. | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 6.576 |
|---|--|-----------|---------|-----------------|--------|
| | Delivery of one-day training sessions for animators and facilitators concerning their work on newly identified problems that will be addressed in the future under the integrated approach, delivered by external experts. | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 2.508 |
| ringer | Drafting advocacy strategies of ESE and its partner CSOs on national and local level, by provision of technical support. | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 2.316 |
| THE METH SO SCHOOL | Assistance and support for provision of paralegal assistance. | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 1.060 |
| Tally Country on the second | Monitoring, support and coordination of activities performed by animators and facilitators. | 2020-2024 | ESE III | NV)RSI PEHIN | 264 |
| Strengthened capacity of CSOs and secured technical support for implementation of social accountability methodologies | Delivery of trainings on capacity building for CSOs from Macedonia and countries in the Region of South Eastern and Central Europe on application of social accountability methodologies. | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 26.340 |

| | Mentorship for CSOs from Macedonia and countries in the Region of South Eastern and Central Europe on application of social accountability methodologies. | 2020-2024 | ESE | 26.340 |
|--|---|-----------|-----|--------|
|--|---|-----------|-----|--------|



Strategic objective 1.2: Capacity building for public institutions to involve citizens and CSOs in development, implementation and monitoring of legal regulations, budgets and services

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|--|--|------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Strengthened capacity of the Ministry of Health and other public institutions for application of social accountability and legal | Delivery of training on application of social accountability and legal empowerment methodologies. | 2020-2024 | ESE | 7.096 |
| empowerment methodologies. | Provision of technical support and assistance for development of plans and templates on implementation of social accountability and legal empowerment methodologies. | 2020 -2024 | ESE | 6.316 |



| Strategic objective 1.3: Improving the health status and access to health services for women, mothers/parents and children | | | | | | |
|--|--|----------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|--|
| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) | | |
| Performed monitoring on the exercise of social and economic rights and follow-up advocacy efforts | Development and presentation of the report on exercise of the right to health towards the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights | 2021 | ESE | 5.000 | | |
| HA TOP | Development and presentation of the report on exercise of the right to health towards the Convention against Torture | 2023 | ESE | 5.000 | | |
| | Development and presentation of the report on exercise of the right to health towards the Convention on the Elimination | 2022 | ESE | 5.000 | | |
| | of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. | | Town H | | | |

СУМАРЕН ПРЕТИЕД НА МОНИТОТИВНИ СЛУПИЯ НЕ НАСМИСТВО ВТВ ИСПИЛЕ

| | A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH | | | | |
|--|--|-----------|------------------------|--------|--------|
| Conducted advocacy efforts on issue of decreasing the perinatal and infant mortality and continuous monitoring of the situation in this regard | Preparation of measures and activities which should be undertaken by the Government and the Ministry of health in order to decrease perinatal and infant mortality rates, in cooperation with the established group of experts on this field. Measures will be based on the previously conducted analysis by ESE and working group of experts and will be developed for national and regional/local level. Proposed measures will aim to address the needs of women in reproductive age, pregnant women, mothers, fathers and the entire family in support for healthy pregnancy and proper child care. | 2020 | ESE | | 27.864 |
| THE BARTHER SCHOOL TO BE A SCHOOL TO | Preparation of advocacy strategy on national and regional level based on the findings from the previously conducted analysis and prepared measures and activities aimed for decreasing the perinatal and infant mortality rates | 2020-2021 | DPETRIED IN CONTROLLED | CHYDIA | 6.316 |
| | Conducting activities for advocacy according to the developed advocacy strategy | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 1.580 |
| | Informing the general public for the proposed measures and advocacy demands through traditional and social media | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |

| | Conducting continuous monitoring on the level of adopted and implemented measures and activities from the relevant institutions and monitoring of the trends of perinatal and infant mortality rates. | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |
|---|--|-------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|--------|
| | Sharing information with the relevant stakeholders and the general public from the continuous monitoring process | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |
| | Preparation of report based on Collection and processing of data on the impact of global economic trends/decisions on national macroeconomic policy and their influence on implementation of the overall budget allocated for health care of mothers and children, including specific preventive programs and services | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 14.572 |
| Performed monitoring of preventive health care services on women reproductive health and follow-up advocacy efforts | Preparation of analysis for the needed costs for scaling up the Program for cervical cancer screening, and the benefits for the women and the State from the scaled-up Program | 2020 - 2021 | ЕSE РЕП. ОРЕТИЕМ НА НА НАСИЛСТВО ВН | DV()(D) PSIERII | 31.746 |

| | A Company of the Comp | | | | |
|---|--|----------------|---|-------------------|--------|
| | Preparation of one report based on collection and processing of data on the impact of global economic trends/decisions on national macroeconomic policy and their influence on implementation of the overall budget allocated for promotion and protection of women reproductive health, including specific preventive programs and services | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 14.572 |
| | Development of annual advocacy document for promotion of health and access to health care services for women, mothers and children. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |
| CCACON | Organization of annual press conference and public debate. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 1.580 |
| THE DEED COURT OF THE PARTY OF | Organization of annual workshop on assessment, planning and advancement of ESE's work in the field of assessment and analysis of macroeconomic policies. | 2020 - 2024 | РЕТИЕД НА МОНИТОРИИМИТЕ НА МОСИЛСТВО ВТ | HVORIS SCENIII | 46.476 |

| | Preparation of report based on collection and processing of data on utilization of the | 2020-2021 | ESE | 88.0 | 31.746 |
|---|--|-----------|----------------------|--------------------|--------|
| | financing portfolio used for improving the | | | | |
| | health of mothers and children by signing | | | | |
| | memorandum for cooperation with | | | | |
| | International Finance Corporation and | | | | |
| | State Secretariat for Economic Affairs for | | | 7 25 | |
| | development and implementation of the | | | - A | |
| | project for light industry which envisages | 100 | | | |
| | concluding long-term contracts for the | 19 | | | |
| | purchase of medical equipment for the | 0.0 | | 17 2 3 | |
| | public health institutions, as well as for | (4) | | | |
| | starting a procedure for awarding a multi- | | | 5- 183 | |
| | year contract for public procurement of | | | | |
| | medical equipment. | | | 210 | |
| - STATE | | | 100 | | |
| Health information provided by the Health info centre | Provision of free-of-charge, quality and reliable health information and support for | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |
| TOTAL STREET, ST. | issues related to health for women and | CVAN | PETREE IN | | |
| 1000 | men, such as: menopause, osteoporosis, | 2 | A CONSTRUCTOR OF C | TVDD | |
| | contraception, sexually transmitted infections, advice for youth, and other | 201 | The second state and | PERSONAL PROPERTY. | |
| | topics in the field of reproductive health. | | 8 1 | | |
| | Provision of free-of-charge health services, | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 1.052 |
| | such as: fast testing for blood glucose, | | | | |
| | cholesterol and triglycerides, and blood pressure. | | | | |

Strategic objective 1.4: Improving the health status and access to health services for Roma people, including both women and men

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|--|---|-------------|--|--|
| Performed monitoring on exercise of social and economic rights by Roma people and follow-up advocacy efforts | Development and presentation of the report on exercise of the right to health by Roma people towards the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights | 2021 | ESE | |
| | Development and presentation of the report on exercise of the right to health by Roma people towards the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of t Racial Discrimination. | 2023 | ESE | |
| THE PARTY OF THE P | Development and presentation of the report on exercise of the right to health by Roma people towards the Convention against Torture. | 2022 | ESE | |
| Conducted advocacy efforts on issue of decreasing the perinatal and infant mortality among Roma population and continuous monitoring of the situation in this regard | In the activities described under Strategic objective 1.3., Output 2, regarding drafting measures for improvement of the situation and conducting advocacy on national level, special part will be devoted for improvement of the situation among Roma minority | 2020 - 2024 | Service of the servic | Invited a series of the series |

| | In the activities described under Strategic objective 1.3., Output 2 for preparation of the report based on Collection and processing of data on the impact of global economic trends/decisions on national macroeconomic policy and their influence on implementation of the overall budget allocated for health care of mothers and children, including specific preventive programs and services, specific emphasis will be given on the coverage of Roma communities with these services | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | |
|--------------------|--|-------------|--|-----------------|-------|
| CONCRETE OF STREET | Collection and processing of data from Roma communities related to coverage of mothers and children with health care services aimed for promotion of health of mothers and children, as part of the integrated approach. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |
| | Conducting empowerment process through education and information of the Roma communities, including women, men and entire family regarding their rights and entitlements related to the health care services aimed for improvement of the health of mothers and children and the identified obstacles for access to these services. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE PET OPETARED HA. WOMATTERWANT C. LA PACHACTAO AND 8 1 | IIVOLA PERIO | 6.316 |

| | and the second s | | | | |
|--|--|-------------|---|-----------------|-------|
| | Preparation and implementation of Local level advocacy strategy for improvement of the situation with active involvement of the Roma community | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 264 |
| | Development of advocacy document for improving the health status and access to health care for Roma mothers and children. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | 1 5 | 6.316 |
| | Organization of annual press conference and public debate for elaboration of findings and presentation of advocacy demands. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 1.580 |
| Performed monitoring on preventive health services for Roma women reproductive health and follow-up advocacy efforts | In the activities described under Strategic objective 1.3., Output 3 for collection and processing data on the impact of global economic trends/decisions on national macroeconomic policy and their influence on implementation of the overall budget allocated for promotion and protection of | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | / |
| | women reproductive health, including preventive programs an services, special part will be given for the influence on the budget allocated for improvement of the health of Roma women | DM E | очен Оретпед их. мериатричения ва масилетно ви- | IVODA PETRIO | |
| | Collection and processing of data from the Roma communities regarding the coverage of Roma women with health care services for reproductive health, as part of the integrated approach. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |

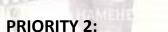
| | Conducting empowerment process through education and information of the Roma women regarding their rights and entitlements related to the health care services aimed for improvement of reproductive health and the identified obstacles for access to these services. | 2020 - 2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |
|---|--|-------------|-------------|--|-------|
| | Preparation and implementation of Local level advocacy strategy for improvement of the situation with active involvement of the Roma community | 2020 -2024 | ESE | | / |
| CONCRET | Development of annual advocacy document for improving the health status and access to health care services for reproductive health for Roma women. | 2020 -2024 | ESE | | 6.316 |
| | Organization of annual press conference and public debate for elaboration of findings and presentation of advocacy demands. | 2020 -2024 | OPETAGE IIA | | 1.580 |
| Produced knowledge generation products aimed for other | Production of 2 short videos | 2020 -2024 | ESE | MANUAL MA | 1.796 |
| organizations/practitioners for implementation of Social accountability and Legal empowerment methodologies | Preparation of 4 (four) knowledge generation products prepared and made publicly available | 2020 -2024 | ESE 1 | | 6.316 |

Strategic objective 1.5: Improving access to the labour market for women

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|--|---|------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Performed monitoring on the exercise of social and economic rights by women and follow-up advocacy efforts | Development and presentation of the report on exercise of the right to employment towards the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. | 2020 and 2022 | ESE | |
| Paris Carlo | Development and presentation of the report on exercise of the right to employment towards the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. | 2021 | ESE | |
| Performed monitoring on budgets and policies related to implementation of active employment measures and follow-up | Collection and processing of data related to planning and implementation of active employment measures. | 2020 - 2021 | ESE | 14.572 |
| advocacy efforts | Development of advocacy documents based on findings from the performed analysis. | 2020 - 2021 | ОР ESE НА НА НАСИЛСТВО ВИ | 14.572 |
| | Organization of press conference and public debate. | 2020 - 2021 | ESE 000 | 1.580 |

Strategic objective 1.6. Offering systemic solutions to unpaid care work for adult persons in need of care

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|--|--|-----------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Conducted advocacy efforts for improvement of the conditions for the people in need of care in their households, as well as for their caregivers and entire family | Drafting recommendations for improvement of the situation based on the previously conducted national population based research. Recommendations will be drafted in two main domains: health care and social care. | 2020 | ESE | 6.316 |
| COLORE | Conducting desk research/review in order to determine relevant policies from the health and social sphere which should be amended according to the drafted recommendation. | 2020-2021 | ESE | 6.316 |
| | Preparation and implementation of advocacy strategy based on the recommendations and conducted desk research | 2021-2024 | PESE IIA. | 6.316 |
| | Organization of public forum and press conference for presenting recommendations. | 2022 | ESE | 395 |
| TOTAL RESOURCES NEEDED FOR IMPLEMEN | NTATION OF STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1. | | | 413.845 EUR |



TO ENSURE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN THE FIELD OF SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

OBJECTIVE 1: Strengthening capacities of t cost – effective alternatives in order to help people resolve unmet justice needs

Outputs:

- Enhanced knowledge and skills of CSOs and community paralegals that provide paralegal assistance to various vulnerable groups of citizens.
- Provided technical assistance and support to CSOs that provide paralegal assistance to poor and vulnerable groups of citizens and especially to Roma organizations for providing paralegal assistance

OBJECTIVE 2: Collect people - centered justice data and provide evidence to facilitate access to justice

Outputs:

- Determined use of the right of poor as a way of facilitating access to justice, followed by advocacy efforts
- Determined access to justice for poor and vulnerable groups of citizens trough monitoring of the indicators set for preparation of justice index and the Sustainable development Goal 16.3, followed by advocacy efforts

OBJECTIVE 3: Provide access to people centered justice services for women that suffered domestic violence

Outputs:

- Performed monitoring on the implementation of the Convention against All Forms of Discrimination of Women -CEDAW
- Assessed level of legal and court protection for women who suffered violence
- Secured direct assistance through legal aid and psychological counseling to women who suffered violence
- Determined costs and quality of access to justice for women who suffered domestic violence

- Accelerated crucial reforms in the criminal and civil legal system for protection of women who suffered domestic violence

OBJECTIVE 4: Enhancing access to justice and the rule of law by investing in the formal justice institutions that play a frontline role in delivering justice Outputs:

- Monitored transparency, accountability and effectiveness of the Commission for Protection against Discrimination (CPD)
- Assessed functional capacities of the Appellate Courts, Supreme Courts and Public Prosecutors Offices (PPO) from gender perspective followed by continuous monitoring

PLAN OF ACTIVITIES, TIMEFRAME AND FINANCIAL PLAN

Strategic objective 2.1: Strengthening capacities of the cost – effective alternatives in order to help people resolve unmet justice needs

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|---|--|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| Enhanced knowledge and skills of paralegals that provide paralegal assistance to various vulnerable groups of citizens | The state of the s | 2020-202 <mark>4</mark> | ESE | 66.484 |
| Provided technical assistance and support to CSOs that provide paralegal assistance to poor and vulnerable groups of citizens | Regular meetings with CSO's | 2020-2021 | ESE | / |
| and especially to Roma organizations for providing paralegal assistance | Supervisory meetings | 2020-2021 | ESE | / |

Фратиед на монаторизмогенувая

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|---|---|------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Determined use of the right of poor as a way of facilitating access to justice, followed by advocacy efforts | Conducting interviews with women that suffered domestic violence | 2020 | ESE | 16.636 |
| | Entering and analysis of the data | 2020 | ESE | 16.636 |
| A CONTRACTOR | Preparation of analysis and recommendations | 2020 | ESE and foreign consultant | 42.352 |
| Determined access to justice for poor and vulnerable groups of citizens through monitoring of the indicators set — for preparation of justice index and the Sustainable Development Goal 16.3. followed by advocacy efforts | Engagement of national expert for preparation of the Index of Access to Justice | 2021 | ESE | 3.161 |
| | Interviews of citizens for preparation of the Index of Access to Justice | 2021 –2022 | ESE | 3.000 |
| | Organization of a focus group discussions for preparation of the Index of Access to Justice | 2021 –2022 | ESE | 600 |
| | Provision of human and technical resources for implementation of project activities | 2020 | ESE and the Coalition | 3.161 |
| | Support the development of plan of action for implementation of SDG 16.3. by the Ministry of justice and institutions involved in delivering justice. | 2020 | ESE and the Coalition | 3.161 |
| | Organization of meetings with competent institutions and CSOs | 2020 | ESE and the Coalition | 3.161 |

| | Monitor the implementation of the national plan and collection of publicly available data on implementation of the development goal 16.3. | 2021-2024 | ESE and the Coalition | 12.644 |
|---|---|-----------|--------------------------|--------|
| Prepared and submitted proposals for the promotion of access to justice to the relevant | Preparation of proposals based on the findings | 2020-2024 | ESE | 16.636 |
| state institutions | Submission of the findings/ presentation of the findings on public forums or debates | 2020-2024 | ESE | 16.636 |

Strategic objective 2.3: Provide access to people centered justice services for women that suffered domestic violence

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|---|---|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Performed monitoring on the implementation of the Convention for Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women - CEDAW | Development of parallel report towards the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women | 2022 | ESE | |
| Secured direct support for women who suffered violence | Provision of legal assistance | 2020-20 <mark>2</mark> 4 | ESE – Centre for Legal Assistance | 22.220 |
| ******* | Provision of psychological counseling and support | 2020-2024 | ESE – Centre for Legal Assistance | 21.276 |
| предристи по оснос | Court representation | 2020-2024 | ESE – Centre for Legal Assistance | 17.980 |
| Assessed level of court protection for women that suffered domestic violence | Collection of data on civil and criminal court cases related to domestic violence and preparation of report | 2020-2021 | ESE and Basic Court Judges | 7.000 |
| Determined costs and quality of access to justice for women who suffered domestic violence | Prepared annual and comparative cost benefit analysis. | 2020 | 8 ESE 12 | 15.873 |
| Accelerated crucial reforms in the criminal and civil legal system for protection of women who suffered domestic violence | Implementation of advocacy plan for improving civil and criminal legal system for protection | 2020-2021 | ESE and Basic court Judges | 8.318 |

Strategic objective 2.4: Enhancing access to justice and the rule of law by investing in the formal justice institutions that play a frontline role in delivering justice

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|--|--|----------|--|---------------------------------|
| Monitored transparency, accountability and effectiveness of the Commission for Protection against Discrimination (CPD) | Provision of human, spatial and technical resources for implementation of project activities | 2020 | ESE and Institute of Human Rights | 4.159 |
| 114 11 | Organization of one-day meeting with the members of the CPD for presentation of the developed monitoring methodology. | 2020 | ESE and Institute of Human Rights | 380 |
| | Organization of four round tables to communicate the monitoring findings with the public | 2020 | ESE and Institute of Human Rights | 3.460 |
| THE AMETIT OF SCHOOL | Organization of social media campaign on the transparency, accountability and effectiveness of the CPD (preparation of advocacy videos). | 2020 | ESE and Institute of Human Rights | 8.653 |
| Assessed functional capacities of the Appellate Courts, Supreme Court and Public Prosecutor Office (PPO) from gender perspective, followed by continues monitoring | Provision of ESE's expertise for implementation of project activities | 2020 | ESE in cooperation with Price Water Coopers (PWC) and Centre for Legal Research and Analysis (CLRA) | 15.838 |

| | Analysis of the data collected | 2020 | ESE in cooperation with Price Water Coopers (PWC) and Centre for Legal Research and Analysis (CLRA) | 7.829 |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------|---|-------------|
| | Preparation of improvement plan and budget for Appellate Courts, Supreme Court and Public Prosecutor Offices (PPO) | 2019-2020 | ESE in cooperation with Price Water Coopers (PWC) and Centre for Legal Research and Analysis (CLRA) | 7.829 |
| THE WELL COUNTY | Monitoring the implementation of the improvement plans on the proposed gender improvement measures | 2020-2024 | ESE in cooperation with Price Water Coopers (PWC) and Centre for Legal Research and Analysis (CLRA) | 15.838 |
| TOTAL RESOURCES NEEDED FOR IMPLEM | ENTATION OF STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2. | | | 364.381 EUR |

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3: To promote fiscal transparency of institutions in the field of social and economic rights

OBJECTIVE 1: Increasing public awareness on the importance of fiscal transparency and the need for priority-based budgeting

Outputs:

- Secured and delivered information and educational contents on the importance of fiscal transparency and the need for priority-based budgeting.

OBJECTIVE 2: Assessing and enhancing the level of fiscal transparency and accountability of public institutions followed by advocacy efforts

Outputs:

- Assessed level of proactive and reactive transparency of public institutions, followed by advocacy efforts.
- Assessed level of transparency in public procurement procedures implemented by public health care institutions, followed by advocacy efforts.
- Assessed level of implementation of the recommendations proposed by ESE, through preparation of shadow reports and participation in national and international processes.

PLAN OF ACTIVITIES, TIMEFRAME AND FINANCIAL PLAN

Strategic objective 3.1: Increasing public awareness on the importance of fiscal transparency and the need for priority-based budgeting

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) |
|---|---|-----------|--|------------------------------|
| Secured information and educational contents on the importance of fiscal transparency and the need for priority-based budgeting | Upgrade and maintenance of the internet portal www.fiskalnatransparentnost.org. mk | 2020-2024 | ESE | 7.096 |
| | Upgrade and maintenance of thematic Facebook page and other social media "Fiscal Transparency Macedonia". | 2020-2024 | ESE | 18.796 |
| THE PRETITED SCHOOL STATES | Developing and implementation of program for Online educational courses and online debates in the filed of fiscal transparency. | 2020-2024 | ESE ME IN CONTRACT | 22.308 |
| | Developing capacities of other CSOs to apply methodologies for fiscal transparency assessment and practicing the FOI Law | 2020-2024 | ESE 8 999 | 18.796 |

| Outputs | Activities | Timeline | Implementing entity | Necessary resources (in EUR) | |
|--|--|-----------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Assessed level of proactive and reactive transparency of public institutions, followed by advocacy efforts | Development and submission of at least 2.000 information requests per year pursuant to the instrument on free access to public information, addressed to at least 80 institutions per year | 2020-2024 | ESE | 2.268 | |
| | and implementation of other legal remedies. | | | 1 | |
| | Collection and processing of data, publication of 16 key programme and budgetary documents on the websites of 25 public institutions per year. | 2020-2024 | ESE | 16.200 | |
| | Collection and processing of data needed to assess compliance of at least 80 institutions per year with obligations arising from the Law | 2020-2024 | ESE | 16.200 | |
| | on Free Access to Public Information. | | MONATORINATOR | OTV(DD) | |
| | Developing at least 4-assessment report and submission of proposals for improvement of the | 2020-2024 | ESE 8 | 17.780 | |
| | level of proactive and reactive transparency to at least 105 public institutions that are subject of | 11 | 192 | | |
| | monitoring, per year. | | | A 18 | |

| | Organization of at least one public event per year to promote findings and recommendations from the independent monitoring. | 2020-2024 | ESE | 1.132 |
|---|--|-----------|------------------------|--------|
| Assessed level of transparency in public procurement procedures implemented by public health care institutions, followed by advocacy efforts | Collection, processing and analysis of data on public procurement procedures implemented by 62 public health care institutions. | 2020-2024 | ESE | 16.200 |
| | Development of at least one report on annual bases and submission of proposals to at least 63 public institutions, for improvement in the efficiency, effectives and cost effectiveness in the public procurement procedures in the health sector. | 2020-2024 | ESE | 1.580 |
| | Organization of at least one public event per year to promote findings and recommendations from the conducted monitoring. | 2020-2024 | ESE MANUEL DETRICE HAS | 1.164 |
| Assessed level of implementation of the recommendations proposed by ESE, through preparation of shadow reports and participation in national and international processes. | Development of shadow reports to present actual implementation of measures for improving free access to information and fiscal transparency. | 2020-2024 | ESE .1 | 1.580 |

| | Monitoring implementation of adopted measures and policies for improving free access to information, fiscal transparency and citizen's participation. | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 14.572 |
|--|---|------------------|--|------------------|--------|
| THE AMERICAN AND ADDRESS OF TH | Participation in at least two events for promotion of ESEs independent assessment findings and recommendation at national and international level. | 2020-2024 | ESE | | 49.172 |
| | Participation in working groups tasked to develop measures under the priority areas on fiscal transparency and free access to information from OGP Action Plan. | 2020 and 2022 | ESE | | 7.286 |
| | Participation in working groups tasked to monitor implementation of adopted measures for improving free access to information and fiscal | 2020-2024 | ЕSE МАКРЕН ОРЕТИЕМ НА: МОНИТЕННИАНИТЕ ВЕ НАСИЛСТВО АВ | TVOICE PETHIA | 7.286 |
| The state of the s | transparency. | | 8 1 | | |

