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Social **L**egacy **P**rogram (SLP):
Transparent Education Network (TEN)

Program Update: Armenia

TEN Transparent Education Network

July 2009

The Transparent Education Network (TEN) brings together key individuals and organizations from the Europe and Eurasia region to foster peer-to-peer collaboration and dialogue and share lessons learned, best practices, challenges, and knowledge / resources relevant for understanding and addressing the issues related to corruption in education.

EDC is working with various organizations to implement project activities with youth including: 1) **NGO Center (NGOC)** in Armenia; 2) **YUVA Humanitarian Center (YUVA)** in Azerbaijan; and 3) **Youth Educational Forum (YEF)** in Macedonia.

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Project Overview

The USAID Eastern Europe & Eurasia Social Legacy Program (SLP) reaches out to youth and other vulnerable groups in the Europe and Eurasia region, giving them the tools they need to become local leaders and promote social change. SLP is implemented by Education Development Center (EDC) through EQUIP3 — a USAID-funded mechanism focused on youth development. SLP is implementing three components in the E&E region: 1) Anti-corruption in Education in Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Macedonia; 2) Disabilities in Armenia and Georgia; and 3) Workforce Development in Kosovo and Montenegro.

The SLP **Anti-Corruption** component has developed the Transparent Education Network (TEN) aimed at: (a) raising awareness about corruption in education and its impact on society; (b) strengthening local capacity to analyze effects of corruption in education at individual and school levels; and (c) promote a culture of transparency and accountability in secondary- and tertiary-level schools.

SLP-TEN Activities in Armenia.

In Armenia, EDC and NGO Center (NGOC) activities are raising youth awareness of the power they have to address issues related to corruption in education. NGOC has been working with youth groups in Yerevan, Gavar, and Vanadzor to increase youth capacity to: (1) perform advocacy campaigns ; (2) effectively carry out research, and (3) provide support for other activities that youth are interested in and that can in turn help address issues related to corruption in education. Training on conducting research was held in June where youth learned about research methodologies including interview, survey, and questionnaire design techniques to gather and analyze information from their communities and from higher education institutions (HEIs). The goal was to provide youth with a space to gain knowledge and brainstorm ideas in order for them to best identify the main problems related to corruption, particularly in the education sector in their community.

One of the outcomes of this workshop is a questionnaire designed by the trainees that would allow them to gather information to help better understand the perceptions and attitudes of youth and HEIs towards corruption as well as towards anti-corruption efforts. During these sessions, youth shared their knowledge related to corruption in education in their universities and their experiences working towards addressing corruption. Much of the discussion highlighted behavioral norms that should be introduced to prevent and decrease corrupt practices in education.

SLP-TEN youth participants in Armenia engaged in Research Training Sessions

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