Social Legacy Program (SLP): Transparent Education Network (TEN)

Program Update: Macedonia

May 2009

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.

TEN Activities in Macedonia.

Macedonian youth express their views of Corruption in Education through videos

Since February 2009, as part of the Transparent Education Network (TEN), Youth Educational Forum (YEF) and EDC are implementing project activities to increase awareness and develop the local capacity in Macedonia in order to effectively address corruption in education.

Over 24 university students in Macedonia applied for a small fund provided by the TEN to produce videos to raise awareness of corruption in education. The call for videos was released targeting students across Skopje and was distributed via various mediums including Facebook, YouTube, several popular Macedonian websites and local TV channels. Based on creativity, clarity of message, and effective use of audiovisual technology, the jury selected 4 video proposals to be funded and the videos were produced during the first week of May. Videos will be used to show how corruption impacts university students in their daily lives and will showcase steps that can be taken to address corruption.

The winning videos will be shared with USAID and TEN partners in various countries in the region and will be disseminated through local media in Macedonia including websites and TV channels. A ‘video premiere’ event will be organized in a Skopje Arts and Cultural Center as a way to promote the winning videos and for the youth winners to share their message with a large student audience. The winning video submissions will also be screened at the South Eastern European University (SEEU) campus, an SLP-TEN partner in Macedonia.

It is expected that the call for videos will increase public awareness on issues pertaining to corruption in education and encourage youth to be open and honest, using their creativity to help increase their understanding the challenges that the nation faces in working towards addressing corruption in education.

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Youth participants engaged in a SLP-TEN workshop in Knezino in Western Macedonia.

This promotional flyer was used to advertise the Call For Videos in Macedonia.