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## Social Legacy Program (SLP): Transparent Education Network (TEN) Program Update: Armenia



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### 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.

**TEN Activities in Armenia.** Since February 2009 NGOC and EDC are implementing “Anti-corruption Education in Armenia.” The goal of this initiative is to contribute to the formation of active civic disposition and anticorruption behavior among Armenian youth through workshops on anticorruption issues, improvement of youth capacities and skills to provide research in their communities, development of Anticorruption Code of Conduct and Youth Anticorruption Strategy.

On March 29, 2009 the first in a series of workshops was held in Gavar city (Administrative Center of Gegharkunik region in Armenia) covering the Central part of Armenia. About 18 young people aged 18 to 25 and representing various organizations (such as Gavar State University, Youth Club, Martuni “Youth Bank”) from Gavar City and adjacent villages participated in the training. At the workshop, participant youth gained a deeper understanding and knowledge about corruption. Topics covered included: what is corruption?; types of corruption; outcomes and impact; approaches to fight it; corruption in Armenia; key stakeholders; current legislation to prevent corruption.

At the workshop, participants were given youth friendly manual kits with this information. The manual was presented to the participants through various interactive methods. Role play was organized where the participants represented key stakeholders in the struggle to promote transparency in schools: Higher Educational Institution Authorities, Students, NGOs and civil society, and employers (business/ private sector). The participants succeeded in finding cooperation lines between these actors for jointly struggle against corruption. The next workshop is scheduled on April 16, 2009 to be held in Vanadzor (Administrative Center of Lori region) with participant youth from the Northern towns and villages of Armenia.



SLP-TEN youth participants in Armenia engaged in the ‘How to Achieve Your Goals Without Corruption’ Workshop.

