

Civil Society Law Reform

Strengthening Civil Society Development and Civil Society-Public Sector Dialogue in Turkey Project

Strengthening Civil Society Development and Civil Society-Public Sector Dialogue in Turkey Project was launched in cooperation with Third Sector Foundation of Turkey (TUSEV), Civil Society Development Center (STGM) and YADA Foundation. The overall objective of this project that is financed by the European Union and the Republic of Turkey Ministry of EU Affairs is to have strong democratic institutions and civil society promoting pluralism and the values of European integration in Turkey. The specific objectives are improved environment and organisational capacity for civil society and strengthening the capacities of organised active citizens; more effective civic participation in policy processes at all levels, including a better legal framework for establishing, operating and funding civil society organisations; as well as support provided to the sustainable development of grassroots civil society organisations and established organisations and networks. TUSEV will be holding a local consultation meeting in Van on 18 October 2012 as a part of this project. The purpose of the meeting is to strengthen civil society public sector dialogue through developing a “Code of Conduct”. TUSEV will be organizing the meeting to share the ideas and expectations of civil society representatives regarding what they expect from civil society public sector dialogue.

News From the Sector

CIVICUS World Assembly 2012

CIVICUS (the World Alliance for Citizen Participation) hosted its World Assembly titled Acting Together for A Just World- Defining A New Social Contract Making the Future Together in Montreal between 5-7 September, gathering over 800 civil society experts and practitioners to share key methods and new ways of working with partners across the globe, including key national associations. This year’s session themes focused on “changing nations through citizens”, “building partnerships for social innovation” and “redefining global governance”. TUSEV’s Secretary General Tevfik Başak Ersen, presented the state of social entrepreneurship in Turkey as part of the working session entitled “searching for innovative and entrepreneurial solutions in social problems” .



TUSEV Launched the Civil Society Monitoring Project 2012

TUSEV) launched the Civil Society Monitoring Project 2012 with the financial contributions from

Chrest Foundation, Open Society Foundation and German Marshall Fund. The second edition of the Civil Society Monitoring Report will focus on developments in the 2011-2012 period to report on the strength and overall viability of non-profit sector in the country. Furthermore, the report will highlight both advances and setbacks in sectoral development. Following the first edition in 2011, TUSEV will continue with this research initiative on a yearly basis to allow for comparisons over time.

This year's report will provide information on various aspects of civil society such as, government-CSO relations, legal and fiscal environment, financial resources of the non-profit sector, governance of CSOs and international relations. Monitoring Report aims to open up a discussion on the role and impact of the non-profit sector in Turkey with case studies focusing on CSOs participation in Turkey's new constitution making process, activities and role of the non-profit sector following Van Earthquake (October 2011), role of international donors in supporting Turkish CSO's and media-CSO relations.

A New Service from TUSEV: Philanthropy Advice for Individuals and Families

TUSEV has recently started offering philanthropy advice to individuals and families in partnership with Yapi Kredi Private Banking for the first time in Turkey. High net worth individuals need guidance in their giving as they shift from traditional way of giving to strategic giving. The goal of this service is to assist the donors to find the cause that they are most enthusiastic about and apply the most suitable philanthropic strategy to maximize the effect of their giving.

According to research, majority of donors recognize the need for expert advice on philanthropy. Yet, the majority of wealth managers feel they are not adequately trained to discuss philanthropy. Based on its expertise in social investment, connections with various CSOs and international platform and knowledge of the nonprofit sector in Turkey; TUSEV informs families and individuals who want to invest their resources strategically and sustainably for the benefit of society and helps them reach informed decisions on their philanthropic ambitions in private advisory sessions. .

Enhancing democracy and fighting poverty: European Commission commits to further support civil society in partner countries

The European Commission announced that it would engage further and provide more support to civil society organisations (CSOs) in its partner countries. In a new Communication on 'The roots of democracy and sustainable development: Europe's engagement with Civil Society in external relations', the Commission recognises that civil society organisations can be efficient independent development actors, and commits to promote a more conducive environment for their actions, so they can fully play their role in the delivery of social services, advocacy of transparency and good governance, and contribute to policy making. The EU will commit €65 million to the neighbourhood civil society 2011-2013 (mostly through the new civil society facility) For further information please

click [here](#).

Three new publications on philanthropic giving coming out

Through its Social Investment Program, TUSEV undertakes a series of activities to promote philanthropy in Turkey, an important one being producing resources for corporate and individual donors, as well as grantmaking foundations. TUSEV has three new publications coming out this fall 2012 in a new series “Best Practices, Innovative Methods, Future Steps in Philanthropic Giving”. The first publication of this series is called Supporters of Social Change: Inspirational Donor Stories. As personal stories in philanthropy provide inspiring, real life examples of individual who have made a difference in the lives of other, our goal is to introduce such individual success stories to the wide community. These individual profiles will guide people who would like to be success stories themselves. The second publication examines innovation and best practices in corporate support for non-profit organizations. The publication uncovers current best practices and innovation in corporate giving and looks for emerging trends. The third publication introduces diverse grant making mechanisms designed and implemented by Turkish foundations and compiles information about resources that can inform foundations starting grant programs or seeking to implement best practices.

EVPA meeting on Venture Philanthropy

TUSEV is hosting the first ever workshop on ‘Venture Philanthropy’ in Turkey in collaboration with the Anadolu Foundation, and the European Venture Philanthropy Association (EVPA). The workshop aims at introducing the concept of venture philanthropy to a selected group of Turkish social entrepreneurs, investors and foundations, and to discuss how this concept can be developed within Turkey. The panel is going to be held on October 17 at TUSEV Office in Karakoy, Istanbul. Venture Philanthropy (VP) applies venture capital investment principles and tools to as well charitable giving as social investments. As such, it offers an alternative model for societal development. EVPA is the leading Venture Philanthropy network in Europe, and its members are the most advanced practitioners within the VP-space. Please see the information note on VP. Our keynote speakers, Mr. Roelof Prins, the director of the Stichting De Verre Bergen Foundation, and Ms. Nina Hoas, Director at UBS Philanthropy Services, will share their experience in VP. After having learned how EVPA works in Europe, our panelists, Ms Sevda Kılıçalp of TUSEV and Mr. Selim Güven of Anadolu Foundation will discuss the chances and challenges of VP in Turkey, assisted by Mr. Kurt Peleman, the CEO of EVPA.

Community Foundation Model Support Program For New Community Foundations

TUSEV has launched a support program for potential community foundations. The candidates are encouraged to fill in an application form which includes questions about attitudes to philanthropy,

level of collaboration between private-public and non-profit actors, economic-social development; applicants' motivation, needs and opportunities etc. TUSEV is going to support up to seven local communities which apply to the support program and are able to meet the selection criteria that take into account the current level of philanthropic efforts; existing/emerging leaders who can mobilize the main players in the communities; and a significant number of existing civil society organizations and active-supportive business community. The local groups will be selected by TUSEV and Project Advisory Committee composed of independent experts. Under the support program, the local groups who are organized around the idea of exploring the model and likely to establish a community foundation in their prospective cities will be provided with technical assistance in conducting feasibility study, developing an organizational strategy, creating a fund development plan, designing a communication strategy, establishing governance structures, managing legal, fiscal and administrative processes and setting up a grant making mechanism.

Study Visit to the Community Foundations in Poland

TUSEV attended the site visit to the community foundations in Poland on July 16-20, as a part of Mott Foundation's learning, networking, and research initiative to support the community foundation (CF) field development in Central and Eastern and Russia CEE/Russia. The purpose of this initiative is to link up the existing CF initiatives and promising developments by providing a platform for reflection, discussion, research, and communication on a wide range of CF-related issues. The participants visited CFs in Bilgoraj, Lezajsk, Tomaszow Lubelski, Tzew, Nidzica and Sokolka. They also met with large and diverse representation of the people involved in their CFs Board members, staff, partners and collaborators. The site visits were followed by a plenary reflection session.

News from Our Members

Sabancı Foundation Chairman Guler Sabancı Recognized By Former US President Bill Clinton for Commitment to Ending Child Marriages in Turkey and Abroad

In a session opened by President Barack Obama at the 2012 Clinton Global Initiative (CGI) Annual Meeting, Sabancı

Foundation Chairman Guler Sabancı was recognized by Founding Chairman of CGI, US former President Bill Clinton, for her commitment to ending child marriages in Turkey and the rest of the world. Guler Sabancı was the recipient of the prestigious Clinton Global Citizen Award for her leadership in supporting programs to promote the rights of women and girls in Turkey at the 2011 CGI Annual Meeting. The Sabancı Foundation's Commitment to Action builds on these efforts to support capacity building initiatives delivered by 'Girls Not Brides' (a global partnership to end



child marriage) for 60 NGOs from 12 countries and provide continued support for Turkish NGOs working to end child marriages at local and national levels. [Click](#) for more information

Interview with Anadolu Foundation Took Place in EFC Spotlight

EFC Spotlight that publishes on the internet and gives one EFC member per month a chance to tell their story gave a place to Anadolu Foundation for October 2012. There is an interview with Anadolu Foundation General Manager Selim Guven in EFC Spotlight, in which .globally leading foundations such as Rockefeller Fund, Siemens Stiftung were appeared in previous months. Please click [here](#) for the interview.



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