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CITIZENS AGAINST CORRUPTION



Goals

Create a broad social movement against corruption in North Macedonia

Increase citizen, civil society, media, and private sector knowledge, engagement, and collaboration in the fight against corruption

Duration

April 2023 – April 2028

USAID Funding

\$5.9 million

Implementing Partner

Macedonian Center for International Cooperation

in collaboration with

- Center for Civil Communications
- Institute for Democracy Societas Civilis, Skopje
- Economic Chamber of North Macedonia
- Balkan Investigative Reporting Network, North Macedonia
- Investigative Reporting Lab, North Macedonia
- 360 Degrees

Key national partners

- State Commission for Prevention of Corruption
- Deputy Prime Minister for Good Governance Policies
- Ministry of Justice
- State Audit Office

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BACKGROUND

Corruption in North Macedonia continues to erode trust in institutions, weakens accountability and transparency, obstructs economic growth, and contributes to political fragility and instability.

Corruption is caused by a combination of factors, such as minimal political will, lack of the rule of law, impunity, institutional underperformance, and the limited capacity, oversight, collaboration, and communication within institutions. In addition, public apathy and acceptance of corruption as “part of the system” contribute to the prevalence of corruption.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This activity will create a broad social movement of like-minded actors demanding zero tolerance of corruption. By fostering a culture of awareness, integrity, and accountability, citizens can individually and jointly exert pressure for improved government responsiveness and effectiveness in addressing corruption.

The activity will promote partnerships and facilitate dialogue between civil society, media, the private sector, and state institutions with the aim of developing and implementing effective anti-corruption policies and measures.

EXPECTED RESULTS AND IMPACT

- Citizen knowledge and awareness of the importance of fighting corruption and promoting good governance and accountability will increase. Citizens will be more engaged in government oversight, pressuring authorities to address corruption.
- Civil society organizations will be more empowered to investigate and disclose corruption. They will engage citizens, media, academia, and the private sector in carrying out anti-corruption initiatives.
- Media will be more engaged in investigative journalism detecting and exposing corruption.
- Private sector organizations will have a stronger culture of integrity and corporate accountability, and will be more engaged in fighting corruption and raising awareness of its damaging effects.



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