

INTERNATIONAL UNION of BLACK SEA NGOs (Black Sea NGO Network)



www.bsngon.com

Black Sea NGO Forum
October 31-November 2, 2008
Bucharest

IUBSNGO (Black Sea NGO Network)



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Establishment:

1st Regional Forum of Black Sea NGOs (Yerevan, January 15-17, 2004).

Officially registered in Armenia, August, 2008.

Members and geography:

IUBSNGO unites efforts of 40 NGOs active in social sphere from 10 countries of the region.

Union's main partner:

International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW)

Sponsors:

Governments of Sweden and Norway.

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Organization Structure

- General Assembly
- Council
 - President
 - 4 Council members
- Office
 - Secretary General



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Mission:

Support poverty reduction and sustainable development actively engaging the NGOs in the process of collaboration with each other, as well as with Governments, intergovernmental structures, international organizations and all interested institutions.

Goal:

Consolidate efforts of NGOs and collaborate with each other for the overall development of social partnership, support for the solution of social issues, as well as for the elaboration and execution of efficient and effective social policy in the region.

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Strategic Issues:

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1. *To strengthen NGOs' cooperation at a regional level, to promote strengthening of Civil Society Institutions in the region.*
2. *To lobby regional intergovernmental organizations (primarily Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) and Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC)).*
3. *To promote social policy improvement at regional, national and LSG levels through cooperation with relevant governmental institutions and implementation of lobbying and advocacy within their scopes.*
4. *To address the needs of vulnerable groups through elaboration and implementation of joint programs.*

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Achievements:

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- *Creation of Advocacy Manual for NGOs in Black Sea region (2008) entitled: "Advocacy in International Institutions by Civil Society Organizations. A Practical Guide".*

The Manual describes and analyses 5 international institutions: BSEC, PABSEC, EU, WHO and UNDP. In the manual you will find the structure, activities of these organizations, their experience of interaction with Civil Society Organizations, the possibilities and mechanisms and how to lobby and advocate to these organizations.

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Achievements:

- *Participation in the meetings of BSEC Organization: Presentations during the meetings of BSEC Working Group on Institutional Renewal and Good Governance (October 2006 – March 2007, Istanbul).*
- *Participation and presentation during the 27th Plenary Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of BSEC (July 2006, Yerevan).*
- *Creation of Network website and Newsletter editions.*
- *2 Regional Forums of Black Sea NGOs in Yerevan (January, 2004; December, 2005). The Network third Meeting in Sofia (December, 2007).*

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Plan for the near future:

- *Obtain "Sectoral dialogue partnership" status in BSEC Organization for further development of cooperation with BSEC Organization.*
- *Prepare policy papers on social issues and to submit them to intergovernmental organizations, national governments and parliaments.*
- *Develop and to implement joint projects with BSEC and PABSEC, to organize joint events, discussions, etc.*

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Plan for the near future:



- *Together with the Union members elaborate and implement joint projects directed to assisting concrete vulnerable groups.*
- *Within the Union framework create working groups to make its activities in specific areas more effective.*

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Cooperation Invitation

We invite all the interested NGOs, foundations, Networks and individuals to cooperate with us!

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