

Annual report 2014



The main task of the **Bureau of Social and Political Developments** is to ensure the principles of social justice and sustainable development of communities through the integration of civil society organizations and independent experts in order to reform the social sphere of Ukraine by creation and implementation of development strategies in all spheres of social policy; Examination and improvement of the regulatory environment in order to ensure effective reforms; Developing a common vision among civil society organizations working in the social sphere.

We are working in such spheres –

SOCIAL SECURITY

SOCIAL DIALOGUE

LABOUR POLICY

During 2014, experts from the Bureau of Social and Political Developments together with the "Coalition of HIV-Service Organizations", ICF "Caritas Ukraine", "Center of Public Expertise" and other NGOs, within the framework of the activity of the Coordination and Expert Council on Social Policy of the Center for Advanced Social Research SMEs and NAS of Ukraine, developed a series of analytical and regulatory documents. The main legal documents drafted and discussed with the interested parties were:

- *Changes to the Budget CU (regarding the provision of social services), registered in the Verkhovna Rada, **No. 1556 dated December 22, 14***
- *Changes to the Tax Code (regarding the provision of social services), registered in the VRU **No.155 dated 22.12.14***
- *A new version of the Law on "Social Services" was registered in the VRU **No. 1554 dated 22.12.14***

The experts of the Bureau analyzed the systemic problems of reforming the social sphere, in particular, the system of providing social services in Ukraine:

1. Lack of clear planning and definition of the needs of the population of the administrative-territorial units in social services

The assessment of the needs of the population of the administrative-territorial unit in social services was first carried out in 2013 and was conducted in accordance with the Methodological recommendations approved by the Order of the Ministry of Social Policy No. 648 dated 15.10.2012 .

In 2013, an independent Analysis of the results (Annex 1), showed that:

- The needs assessment is conducted in part.
- There are no priorities in the field of needs for social services,
- The potential of non-state social service providers has not been taken into account.

In early 2014, the Ministry of Social Policy adopted an order dated January 20, 2014 No. 28 (registered with the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine on February 7, 2014 under No. 253/25030) "On Approval of the Procedure for Determining the Needs of the Population of the Administrative-territorial Unit in Social Services".

Therefore, an independent Needs Assessment Analysis (Annex 2) was conducted in 2014, which showed that:

- *The order of needs assessment does not ensure adequate data collection and analysis.*
- *Identification of target groups entitled to certain types of social services is unclear and discriminatory.*
- *The needs assessment was carried out in part, in most areas there was no analysis of the data received and the main priorities in the services were not defined.*
- *There are no priorities in the field of needs for social services.*

Leadership in most areas does not consider it necessary to prioritize, because such an analysis is a task of the Ministry of Social Policy.

Conclusion: the existing normative documents do not provide a definition of needs and are cumbersome and do not meet the needs of the reform of the social services provision system

2. Lack of methods for identifying priorities for the provision of social services and the allocation of appropriate funding.

The definition of priorities for the provision of social services is not carried out because it does not have the appropriate tools. In addition, even the adoption of a methodology for determining the value of social services without identifying the priorities of social services will not be able to ensure the development of programs for the provision of social services and the allocation of appropriate funding

3. Lack of the effective mechanisms for funding non-state social service providers at the expense of budgetary funds

Very often the Ministry of Social Policy becomes hostage to the development of normative and legal documents that not only do not promote reforming the system of providing social services, but preventing it, introducing new restrictions.

For example, the CMU Resolution No. 324 of April 29, 2013 approved the "Procedure for the implementation of a social order at the expense of budgetary funds" which limits the rules of several Acts of Ukraine:

- *Law on Public Procurement, Article 2, which provides that tender procedures for the purchase of services at the expense of budget funds are used starting from 100 000 UAH. The procedure introduces competitive procedures up to 100 000 UAH;*
- *Law on Social Services, article 14, which specifies that financing of social services is carried out at the expense of state and local budgets. The procedure provides only for financing from local budgets (in accordance with Article 91 of the Budget Code of Ukraine);*
- *Law on Social Services, which establishes the equality of state and non-state actors for the provision of social services. The order uses a social order only for services that are not provided by public or municipal social service providers.*

It should be noted that in a significant number of regions, there are no non-state social service providers, among which it would be possible to hold a competition for a social order

4. Lack of transparent statistical reporting on the economic activity of non-state social service providers.

In 2014, the Analytical Report "Social Services Statistics: An Analysis of Ukrainian and International Experience and Key Recommendations for its Improvement" was prepared (Annex 3).

It was determined that statistical data on the economic activity of non-state social service providers are not collected. Therefore, the economic contribution of non-state providers in the GDP of Ukraine remains in the shadow. Accordingly, these data are not taken into account in the plans for socio-economic development, which prevents the definition of the necessary funding for this area.

The specialists of the Bureau together with the WBF "Coalition of HIV-service organizations" offered NGOs providing social services a step-by-step instruction and a package of regulatory documents that ensure that the services provided by NGOs to certain social groups are taken into account in the overall needs for social services at the district or city level.

At the initiative of the Bureau of Social and Political Developments, at the request of the Coordination and Expert Council on Social Policy, with the support of ICF "Caritas Ukraine", Center for Advanced Social Studies of the Ministry of Social Policy and the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine conducted financial and economic calculations regarding the possibility of raising the subsistence minimum and simultaneously lifting the benefits to the population. In order to determine their impact on individual social payments to the population

Comprehensive proposals on social sector reform were prepared (jointly with ICF "Caritas Ukraine", "Ukrainian federation of security", WBF "Coalition of HIV-service organizations", Group 5 "Social dialogue and justice" of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum, "All-Ukrainian Alliance" Trade unions ") Complex proposals were sent to the Prime Minister of Ukraine Arseniy Yatsenyuk.

A number of proposals have been developed for the "Plan of Priority Actions in the Field of Public Policy to Promote Civil Society Development and the Implementation of Democracy of Participation"

The implementation of the Transitional Plan for financing local budgets for social services provided for in the National Target Social Program on HIV / AIDS for 2014-2018 from 2017, after the end of the Global Fund grants, was developed and launched.

The question of implementation of the **Transition Plan** has been submitted to the National Council for TB and HIV / AIDS.

Together with **the European Economic and Social Committee and the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum**, the social dialogue in the countries of the Eastern Partnership, which sign the EU -Agreement, was monitored. As part of the monitoring, a number of study visits were conducted to study the principles of social dialogue in the participating countries - Georgia and Moldova, as well as in Lithuania and Latvia. On the basis of the monitoring was published. **An analytical note on the reform of the social dialogue in Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia, as envisaged.**

1. To conduct an audit of the legal and regulatory framework that regulates all aspects of the participation of social dialogue partners in implementation of

socio-economic policy in Ukraine On the basis of the audit, develop a "Green Paper on social dialogue reforms in Ukraine";

2. To involve all stakeholders: trade unions, employers, civil society organizations, state bodies and deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine into the discussion and the European model of social dialogue and further implementation;

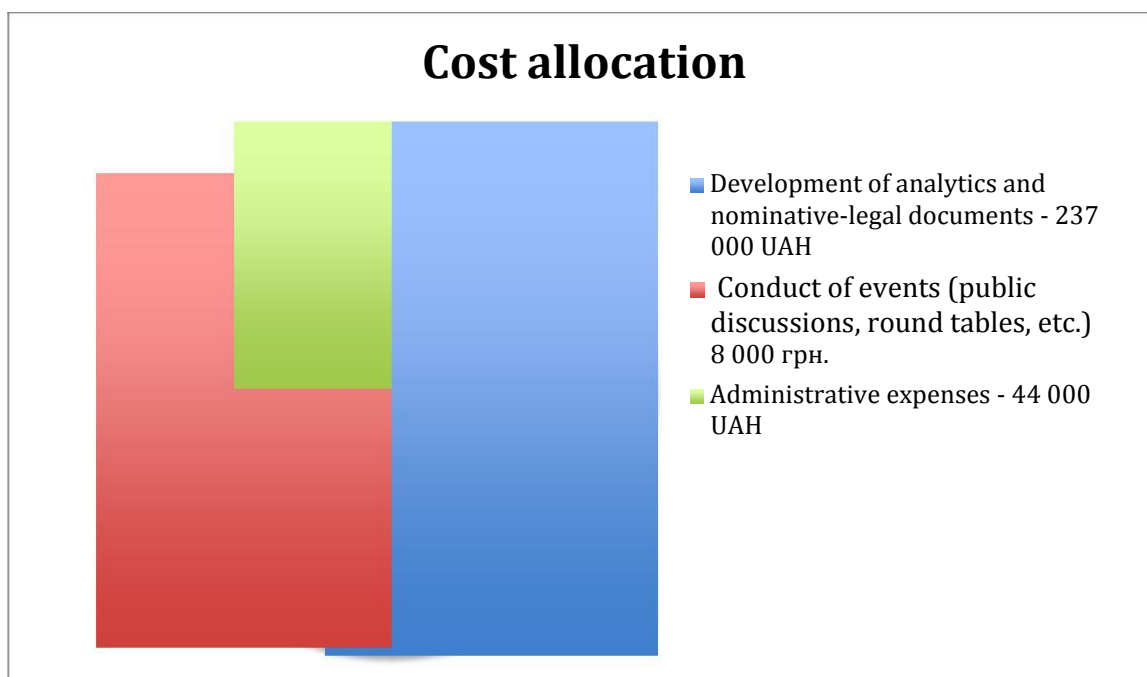
3. To sign separate Declarations on the equality of trade union rights by all trade union associations wishing to participate in the social dialogue within the trade union party and on the equality of the rights of employers' organizations and public associations of employers-employers wishing to participate in social dialogue in The composition of the employer's side stipulated in the provisions of their statutes;

4. According to the signed Declaration, to form a new trade union party and a party of employers that will ensure withdrawal of their representatives in the boards and supervisory boards of social insurance funds guilty of committing corrupt schemes with the funds of social funds. And the new trade union delegation delegates its representatives to the Social Insurance Fund;

5. To reform social insurance system

Finances

The total annual income of the organization amounted to 140 778 UAH within the framework **Secretariat of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum**



The Bureau of Social and Political Development **conducted more than 30 events**: the 4th meeting of the Working Group on Social and Labor Policy and Social Dialogue of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum

11 meetings of the Coordination and Expert Council on social policy issues of the CPR of SMEs and the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, as well as of the "Social Reform" group of the Reanimation Package of Reforms

3 round tables on social dialogue, social services and social security

14 public deliberations of legal acts and draft laws

Representatives of the Bureau of Social and Political Developments took part in the creation of the following public initiatives:

*Civil Society Platform Ukraine-EU
Maidan Social Reforms headquarters*