

# NEWSLETTER No. 23

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This Newsletter is publication of Balkan Civil Society Development Network. It is published on a monthly basis in English. It is prepared by the Secretariat and edited by Network's Coordinator, Tanja Hafner. On behalf of partner organizations, she heads the Secretariat, which is currently based in the Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation, Macedonia. For more information on the network visit <http://www.balkancsd.net> or contact [secretariat@balkancsd.net](mailto:secretariat@balkancsd.net).

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the latest edition of the Newsletter published by Balkan Civil Society Development Network!

The main aim of this publication is to inform partner organizations about latest news in the network and networks' website <http://www.balkancsd.net>. Each Newsletter consists of short information about the news from the website and "Announcement Board", which covers monthly reports on developments in the network. In order to view links contained in the Newsletter choose Text Select Tool in the Acrobat Reader toolbar and copy-past each link into Internet Explorer.

## EVENTS

### EXCHANGE VISIT

### NEW FRIENDS, NEW IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND JOINT INITIATIVES



Pokrov Foundation and Philanthropy from Serbia exchange staff with visits to their organizations and projects between 13-17 May and 13-16 June, 2005. The idea for the exchange was born on ToT training in January 2005 organized by Pokrov Foundation for its staff and BCSDN members where staff from both organizations participated. There, both staff realized they have much to learn from each others' experience in terms of their daily work, projects and relations with their environment. Read more at: <http://www.balkancsd.net>

## PUBLICATIONS

### PUBLICATION

#### DEMOCRATIZATION WITHIN EUROPEAN INTEGRATION: THE WESTERN BALKANS



The present 40-paged document reflects the result of lessons learnt and best practices shared among the APRODEV partners in the Western Balkans. Read more at: <http://www.balkancsd.net>.

## FUNDING DATABASE

BCSDN Funding Database offers information on 107 sources offering funding and other support for projects in the SEE region. The database is accessible through a search engine or alphabetical list. Search is possible by one category at a time. For easy and user-friendly access, please consult The Short Guide to the Funding Database. The Database can be found at: <http://www.balkancsd.net/default-en.asp?ItemID=498D6714114A9E4E96C2C687BB6E8338>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Implementation of recommendations from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Steering Group Meeting in Tirana (1-2 April, 2005)**

The preliminary analysis of the web-survey has been made and is to be shared with partners.

### **Revision of capacity-building activities due to EU grant**

Revised programme and budget is being developed and will be presented to partners after finalization of negotiation. A kick-off meeting will be announced as soon as the contract is signed with the EC (expected data of signing: mid to end September).

Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN) was launched in 2003 by 11 church-related and civil society organizations from the Balkan region (Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro-including Kosovo). The network is committed to sustainable peace and stability, prosperity, harmony of societies in the Balkan region. The mission of the network is to strengthen civil society through developing indigenous civil society concepts, practices and empowering civil society actors. The main objectives of the network are to increase communication with civil society actors in the region as a basis for bi/multilateral co-operation; to increase mobilization of resources and support; to increase knowledge and skills as a base for higher quality of their work and to promote culture of resource-sharing as a basis for efficient/effective network.