

Croatia: Partnership for Social Development (PSD), Active Policy Advocacy Project

Project Adviser: Knud Kjaer Nielsen

Budget and Timeline: A Grant Agreement between PSD and PTF for \$29,935 was signed on August 20, 2010. Total budget for the project is US\$ 29,935, to be disbursed in three tranches of US\$ 7,000 (disbursed on October 30, 2010), US\$ 10,000 and finally US\$ 12,935.

Background and Objectives: The Partnership for Social Development is a non-governmental not for profit civil society organization established in 1999 in Zagreb, Croatia. The main objective of PSD is development of a democratic society through the suppression and circumvention of conflicting interests, corruption and organized crime within the Republic of Croatia. The main objective of this project is to positively impact the development of the Republic of Croatia's system of public procurement by strengthening the principle values of transparency, fairness, integrity, competitiveness and professionalism. An integral part of the project is the partnership with the Ministry of Economics' Department of public procurement.

Over the past eight years the legal, regulatory and institutional framework of public procurement in Croatia has been reformulated in three legislative acts in 2002, 2007 and 2008, which have changed the methods of public procurement. The partial objective of the Partnership for Social Development in this project will be to gain technical and procedural knowledge of the new system of public procurement from the Ministry of Economics and utilize this knowledge to set up and implement a civil society mechanism for the monitoring and oversight of the new system.

Partnership for Social Development will submit a structured monitoring tool for a peer review from the Department of Public Procurement and Civil Society Organizations to ensure that no obvious gaps exist within the monitoring tool. Quarterly monitoring reports will be discussed with government and stakeholders throughout the project. The final report is expected to serve as a helpful tool for public procurement process in the Republic of Croatia. Publication will be made through press conferences and on the Partnership for Social Developments webpage. A summary version of the final report presents the outcomes of the monitoring process and policy recommendations.



Activities and Current Status (March 2011): The project commenced on October 1, 2010. The first tranche of \$7,000 has been transferred. PTF received the first quarterly report in January 2011.