Questionnaire

1. **What capacity building initiatives have been taken to implement/incorporate human rights in local administration?**

-Training was organized for the institution's staff regarding the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct, which stipulates the obligation of public officials to promote the supremacy of the law through their acts and deeds, to respect the Constitution and laws of the country, the rule of law, the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens in the relationship with the public administration.

- In the implementation of the projects financed by POCA, information and communication tools were used regarding the promotion of human rights, equal opportunities between men and women, equal treatment regardless of race, nationality, ethnicity, language, religion, social category, beliefs, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, chronic non-contagious disease, HIV infection, belonging to a disadvantaged category, as well as any other criterion that violates human rights and fundamental freedoms.

**a. Please provide information on institutional structures for coordination and harmonization of capacity building initiatives.**

The collaboration of Vaslui City Hall with the People's Advocate institution through the Iasi territorial office and the National Council for Combating Discrimination.

**b. Please provide information on the involvement of civil society, the private sector, academia, etc. in capacity building initiatives.**

- implementation of the participatory budgeting process at the level of the Municipality of Vaslui through the regulation of the participatory budgeting process;

- citizen's participation in the opinion poll by using the questionnaire to identify the local public perception of the citizens of the Vaslui Municipality on issues related to corruption;

- correctly informing citizens about public affairs and issues of national and local interest by complying with Law no. 544/2001 on free access to information of public interest, a law that appeared as a result of the need to increase transparency in public institutions, the control exercised by civil society on the institutions but also as a condition for the consolidation of democracy.

**c. Please provide information on any monitoring or evaluation mechanisms assessing the effectiveness of capacity building initiatives and their impact on the promotion and protection of human rights at the local level.**

-a study was drawn up and published on the perception among citizens and the staff of the Vaslui City Hall regarding issues related to corruption;

-the research carried out sought to ensure a level of representativeness for all age groups, equally for women and men, and without making any discrimination of any kind between the respondents.

**2. What are the capacity building gaps and needs of local governments in relation to implementing/incorporating human rights at the local level?**

The lack of financial and human resources at the local level that determines a lack of information for citizens and initiatives in this field.

**3. What measures are needed to further strengthen the capacity of local governments to implement/incorporate human rights at the local level?**

The organization at the level of the local public administration of some meetings of citizens - experts in human rights, to ensure information and consultancy in the field.

4. What are existing procedures and practices for engaging local governments in the work of the United Nations human rights mechanisms and in implementing, reporting and following up on relevant recommendations? How could the existing level of engagement be enhanced?

The Vaslui Social Assistance Directorate - unit subordinate to the Vaslui Local Council, ensures the development and application of social services accessible to all beneficiaries at the local level.

The level of involvement can be improved by completing and revising the mechanisms and procedures for financing social services, especially considering the context of decentralization. The main objective is to redirect more resources to community-based services by focusing funding on at-risk families and supporting family-type services, developing community integrated intervention teams, especially for poor and marginalized communities.

At the same time, the procedures for public institutions regarding the collection and use of donations and sponsorships must be simplified.

**5. What are the capacity building gaps and needs of local governments in relation to engaging with the United Nations human rights mechanisms and in implementing, reporting and following up on relevant recommendations?**

The lack of financial and human resources at the local level in order to implement, report and follow up the recommendations to support citizens with initiatives and better inform them in the field of human rights.

**6. What are the main challenges in your country in the promotion and protection of human rights at the local level?**

Fighting poverty and social inclusion, protection of vulnerable people.

**Please provide examples, good practices, challenges, and recommendations with regard to the above-mentioned issues.**

Implementation of the 2020-2025 medium-term local strategy for the development of social services through the Action Plan for the implementation of the strategy and the system for evaluating and monitoring the implementation of the strategy by the Social Assistance Directorate of Vaslui;

-Development of a system of services for vulnerable groups including children, people with disabilities, the elderly and other vulnerable groups.

-Development and financing of personalized social services for other vulnerable groups, including teenage mothers, adults deprived of liberty or under judicial control, homeless people, people addicted to drugs, alcohol and other harmful substances, victims of human trafficking and victims of violence.

Prepared,

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