



**Subgroup Local Government and Public Administration Reform – Working Group 1
Civil Society Forum for Eastern Partnership – Batumi, Tbilisi, 20th/21st of November
2014**

Achievements

The Subgroup on Local Government and Public Administration Reform (of the Working Group 1 on Democracy and Human Rights) is composed of more than 20 CSOs from the EU and Partners countries. The members took part in a number of initiatives at the national and EU levels to orient the policies towards decentralisation, empowerment of local governments with a specific focus on citizens/CSOs' participation, to support public administration reform for better effectiveness and accountability.

1. Joint initiatives with the CORLEAP – Committee of the Regions Assembly and a political forum of local and regional authorities from the EU and the EaP countries.

- i. Acting as a permanent observer in CORLEAP, the Subgroup participated and brought in valuable insights to the CORLEAP General Assembly, held in Tbilisi in September 2014. In a joint statement, disseminated and presented at the event the subgroup reiterated their key messages on the state of local development policies and current practices from their countries respectively.
- ii. Members of the Subgroup took part in a training session on fiscal decentralisation and territorial cooperation organised at the CoR in April 2014,, discussing the multilevel approach to governance and its potentialities in Partner countries.

2. Support to the development of the Flagship initiative on Municipal Development promoted by DG DEVCO/EEAS

The subgroup contributed to the formulation and elaboration of the EU Municipal flagship initiative by providing expertise and inputs to DG DEVCO on the development of the flagship criteria, and the priorities and methods for its implementation, stressing the importance of accountability and citizens/CSOs participation in the local decision-making. The Flagship Initiative on Municipal Development will soon be launched in EaP countries..

- 3. Regular participation in the EaP Expert Panel on Public Administration Reform of the EEAS**
- 4. Constant exchanges of expertise and project development/implementation with the members of the Subgroup**