



EU AND SERBIA AT WORK

FACT SHEET

STOP CORRUPTION

The project “Stop Corruption” implemented by Radio Boom 93 from Pozarevac seeks to enhance investigative reporting on local level by producing quality media content focused on local level corruption in health-care, judiciary, media, educational system, self-government, administration of justice and correctional institutions, law enforcement and privatisation, through production of radio programs and public debates.

The theme of fight against corruption, abuse of position and office is covered through the project by exposing cases of corruption on the local level that are not abstract for citizens but part of their daily lives. Focus is on local institutions, elected officials and local self-government. Causes of the problem are many, including the slow reform of the judicial system, weak institutions in Serbia along with strengthening of non-institutional power of political parties, and selective and slow law enforcement. These causes can be identified on the national, regional and local levels. But on the local level the fight against corruption is much more personal and more visible than in the large city.

The project (full title **Advancing freedom of expression and the rule of law: investigating corruption at the local level/ Stop Corruption**) is aimed at engaging media and important stakeholders, including citizens, in raising awareness about corruption, identifying it, and reporting it to authorities. Radio Boom 93 project is aimed at encouraging citizens to participate in the fight against corruption and providing them with the information on mechanisms of combating corruption. Understanding the problem of corruption by the public is the first step in fighting it.

Corruption in Serbia is a serious and widespread social problem. This is evident in research results of citizens’ attitudes, analysis by national and international organizations dealing with corruption, reports of independent state institutions (Anti-Corruption Council, Anti-Corruption Agency, State Audit Institution), in priorities of all post-October 5th governments, and in political party programs. Although the extent of corruption cannot be precisely determined recent research shows that Serbian citizens consider corruption one of the biggest problems in society (with poverty, unemployment, and crime).

In spite of having adopted and ratified most important international conventions, passed important anti-corruption laws (Law on Free Access to Public Information, Law on the Fight against Corruption, the Law on Public Procurement, the Law on financing political activities) and adopted the National Anti-corruption Strategy and the Action Plan for its implementation, there are no significant results in fighting corruption in Serbia. This is why it remained in the focus of the EU grant scheme “Strengthening media freedom”, under which the project Stop corruption has been supported.

Beneficiaries of the project are citizens in the Branicevo district.

The project has been implemented during 2014 and 2015 at Pozarevac and district of Branicevo.

The EU assistance amounted to **€51,030.82**, while Radio Boom 93 contribution was **€6,307.18**.

In the frame of project activities, Radio Boom 93 has implemented a series of radio shows, public debates and public opinion surveys and pointed to forms of corruption in the local environment

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the freedom of expression and improve investigative reporting by production of quality media content in the area of rule of law focusing on local-level corruption.

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