



**THE NGO FUND – BULGARIA  
2008-2010  
UNDER THE EEA FINANCIAL MECHANISM  
Project**

**Public Awareness Campaign on New Standards in the Access to Information Area**  
(Contract No. П03-20-00)

**Project objectives:**

To enhance the execution of the right of access to information by:

1. Promotion of higher standards for the provision of public information.
2. Promotion of international standards in the field of access to information through raising public awareness on the principles set forth by the Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents, adopted on November 27, 2008.
3. Promotion of the amendments to the Bulgarian Access to Public Information Act (APIA) as of December 5, 2008 which correspond to the principles of the Convention.
4. Campaigning for the ratification of the Convention by the Bulgarian government.

**Main activities:**

1. Comparative analysis of the Bulgarian APIA and the Convention, preparation of training materials, and participation in the national debate on the ratification of the Convention.
2. Preparation and organization of public discussions in 26 regional towns in Bulgaria.
3. Holding public discussions with representatives of NGOs, journalists, civil servants, and active citizens in 26 regional towns in Bulgaria.
4. Media coverage of the public discussions.

**Expected results:**

1. Overcoming the problems with the access to information by the application of the standards set forth by the Convention and the APIA amendments.
2. More transparent and accountable government.
3. Compliance assessment report on the APIA and the Convention.
4. Dissemination of the translated text of the Convention and the Explanatory Report to all participants (approximately 1300) in the public discussions and the libraries. Presentation and clarification of the texts of the Convention and APIA to a wider interested audience.
5. Enhancing civic culture regarding the European standards in access to information.

**Target groups:** NGOs, journalists, public officials, active citizens

**Duration:**

November 2009 – December 2010