

Economic empowerment of women in Syunik region and other regions of Armenia

Project Summary

According to the 2016 Report of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), besides other gaps in the level of implementation of gender commitments, women still represent a disadvantaged group in the field of employment, including self-employment, and entrepreneurship. The establishment of a network of Women Resource Centres (WRC) since 2008 has represented a significant step towards advancing the agenda of women's empowerment in Armenia. The OSCE has strongly supported the network and the improvement of the services provided at local level. The WRCs have proved to be critical in reaching out and assisting women in vulnerable situations, but also in promoting greater political and economic participation of Armenian women.

Building on this long-standing cooperation, the project '*Economic empowerment of women in Syunik region and other regions of Armenia*' aims at promoting the economic participation of women in vulnerable situation in Armenia. The project intends to improve the services provided by the network of the Women Resource Centres (WRCs) particularly in the field of self-employment and income-generating activities, through a combination of capacity-building measures, targeting social workers of WRCs, and direct assistance activities, benefitting women in vulnerable situation. On the basis of the lessons learned during its implementation, the project will envisage the development of a set of guidelines as a roadmap for future actions and an advocacy tool for policy improvement in the field of women economic empowerment.

Building on previous undertakings, the project seeks to build synergies and complementarities with the varied community of players active in the field of female poverty reduction and economic empowerment in Armenia.

Supporting women economic participation and empowerment is an essential tool to achieve the common objective of promoting cohesive, prosperous, inclusive and secure societies, which is at the core of the mandate of the Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA).

Geographical coverage:

Armenia

Project duration:

24 months

Donors:

Finland, Italy, Norway, United States

Budget: 400,000 EUR

Reference person:

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