Financing of higher education under magnifier

June 2019
Logic behind the intervention?

- University of Montenegro (UoM) is the oldest Higher Education Institution in Montenegro, and it financed from the state Budget of Montenegro.
- In the last seven years 119.302.237,55 EUR were opted from the state Budget to this HEI with no independent assessment conducted on the manner of spending these funds.
- The earlier practices of arbitrary behavior at UoM indicate that it is an institution that obviously has certain inclinations to misuse of its powers and autonomy.
- The only documents which are made available to the public are Financial plans and Consolidated Financial Statements.
- Report on Revised Annual Consolidated Financial Statements of the University of Montenegro for 2009, which is the only time the State Audit Institution has audited this institution, was evaluated as a conditionally positive one.
What are the objectives?

*Overall objective* of the project contribution to the reduction of corruption in higher education in Montenegro.

*Specific objective* is to increase the transparency and financial responsibility of the University of Montenegro (UoM).
Project outputs

1. Developed functional methodology for monitoring of the system of financial planning, public procurement and financial reporting at the state UoM;

2. Independent overview of planning and spending of the UoM in last five years, including public procurement system, with proposals for improvement of existing practices;

3. Boosted dialogue of decision-makers, management of UoM, CSOs, media, academic community and other stakeholders on modalities of advancement of transparency and financial responsibility of accountable financial planning and reporting of UoM
Planned activities

**Objective 1:**

A1.1. Forming of expert team;

A 1.2 Meetings of expert team;

A 1.3. Developing methodology on monitoring of financial planning and reporting at the UoM;
Planned activities

Objective 2:

A2.1. Desk research on financial planning, financial conduct and public procurement at the UoM;
A2.2. Policy study on financial management of the UoM;
A2.3. Translation of policy study into English;
A2.4. Infographics and animation of findings;
A2.5. Presentation of the policy study;
Planned activities

Objective 3:

A3.1. Meetings with MPs, officials from the educational authorities and State Audit Institution;

A3.2. Organisation of one TV show at the TV with national coverage on financial conduct of the UoM with relevant stakeholders

A3.3. Social media campaign on expense of corruption and misconduct in financing of higher education
Key stakeholders

*Target groups* are decision-makers at the state level and management of University of Montenegro who have their portion of responsibility when it comes to spending of public money at the UoM.

*Final beneficiaries* are citizens of Montenegro which have been deprived of any information regarding the way UoM spends their money meaning that an informative campaign is much needed in order to inform them of the way finances are handled at UoM in the form of respecting their right to know.
Miloš Vukanović,
Programme Associate
milos@cgo-cce.org
info@cgo-cce.org
Bulevar Svetog Petra Cetinjskog 96
81 000 Podgorica
Montenegro