




**Czech Republic
NDP 2007-2013:
Partnership in practice ?**

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Overview

- Preparations
- Bodies and structure
- NGO participation
- Partnership in practice
- Impressions and future objectives

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First steps – good beginning

- **Scheme of NGO Participation in the Preparation of EU 2007-2013 Programme Documents**
 - communication and cooperation between NGOs and the public administration
 - elaborated for Ministry of Regional Development

contents:

- analysis of partnership for 2004-2006
- survey among NGOs, expert groups discussion
- proposal of “partnership strategy” for 2007-2013

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Steering of 2007+ Programming

- **Steering and Coordinating Committee**
 - aprox. 45 members (public administration, economic and social partners, NGOs)
- **5 workgroups (thematic)**
 - Enterprises
 - Human Resources Development
 - Innovations and Knowledge Economy
 - Accessibility and Infrastructure
 - Regional Disparities
- **2 workgroups (horizontal)**
 - Horizontal WG
 - Financial WG


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NGOs implementation

- **1 + 1 NGO representative**
 - 1 member (SCC, 5 thematic WG)
 - each member has an alternate
 - a rush nomination process
 - i.e. 12 NGO representatives
 - => so called “Expert Opponency Group”
- **Expert Opponency Group**
 - joint meetings
 - sharing experiences from WGs, discussions, NGO strategy formulations
 - communication with NGOs
 - e-mail conference communication
 - possibility of “external” expert analysis

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NDP Consultations for NGOs

- **coordinating body** (CCO + CZ NGO Association)
- **set of consultations**
 - national conferences (2)
 - regional round tables (14)
- **e-activities**
 - dedicated web site
 - e-mail conferences (either general and specific-thematic)
 - special e-mail address for comments on NDP

=> **EOG**: collection of comments and providing to NDP processor

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Results of NGO participation

- **Comments and recommendations**
 - mainly focusing on principles:
 - transparency,
 - NGO equal position (esp. in comparison to “state NGOs”),
 - pre-financing conditions for NGOs
 - focusing on content:
 - environment,
 - social issues
- **Activeness of NGOs**
 - willing to be informed rather than providing comments
 - just a small group of “professional NGOs” able to focus on
 - more involved in OPs, NDP is very general and difficult

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Partnership in Practice

- **Failure of the process**
 - time schedule delay
 - first proposal for NDP finalisation – 18 October
 - now – half January 2006
 - timing pressure
 - work documents late for a disposal (2-5 days before WG meeting)
 - comments collection in 2-3 days
 - documents procedure and comments handling
 - history of documents – wrong (or no) numbering
 - coping with comments: bad quality, incomplete,
- **Failure of partners**
 - fight for money
 - individual interests overshadow matters and objectives of NDP
 - meetings and discussions mostly formal rather than effective (decisions are made in background, bilaterally)

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Partnership in Practice

- **NGOs “strategy” – looking for “right” people**
 - focus on **topics**:
 - environment and environment protection (NDP priority axis)
 - social economy (OP HRD and Employment)
 - partnership with public administration (??)
 - individual negotiation with ministries
 - focus on **principles**:
 - definition of key principles for 2007-2013:
 - partnership, NGO equality, conditions for pre-financing, simplifying
 - proposal of a governmental resolution
 - prepared by a Government Council for NGOs
- **...in process...** consultations end in mid-December

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Impressions and Future Objectives

- **Impressions**
 - Partnership officially exists but doesn't work
 - NGO capacity of “professionals” is limited
- **Challenges**
 - continue in promoting and strengthening of partnership
 - include this as a principle for “smart administration”
 - motivate NGO to participate
 - individual negotiations with ministries on OPs
 - NGO capacity building

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Thank you for attention.

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