

TRAINING “HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY”

On 10-12 June 2009, UNICEF in Batumi organized training-seminar on “HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION AND ADVOCACY”. The theme of event was advocacy strategies, working with Media, relations with public officials and support. Jim Shultz, executive director of the Democracy Center in Bolivia, led the training. E-mail: jimshultz@democracyctr.org Web-page: www.democracyctr.org

There were participants from 20 regional NGOs attended the training: Charity Humanitarian Centre “Abkhazeti”, Civic Development Institute, Kutaisi Educational, Development and Employment Center, Young Pedagogues Union, Youth Alliance, “Sapari”, Association of Disabled women, Local Democracy Agency Georgia, “Progress”, GYLA Kutaisi, GYLA Batumi, UNA, Youth Organizations National Council, Droni Youth Association, Community Reading Center, Human Rights Office.



At the beginning of the training, trainers acquaintance to the participants. After that, each participant represented his/her organization.

After acquaintance Mr. Jim represented power point slide show containing the articles:

- Purpose of Advocacy
- Key Principles
- Code of practice for advocates
- Finding an Advocacy service
- Advocacy Models
- Other forms of support

There were also five important issues of advocacy:

- What are you going to achieve? (purposes)
- Who is able to execute these purposes? (auditory)
- What do they need to know? (messages)
- How they can get the information? (coalitions)
- How can you support them to get the messages? (lobbing)
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After presentation, there was some working with groups. Every group showed their members and organizations attitudes toward the Advocacy. After all, Local "TV 25" and Radio journalists were involved into the training process. They talked about their relations with NGOs and appealed them to be more active with Media and Television to their activities being more obvious for society.



The second day was as interesting as the first one with full of information, “energizers”, working with groups and interesting comments too.

As for organizing details, everything was perfect which the sign of high professionalism of UNICEF was.

The meeting was very interesting and productive. At the end, all training participant was given certificates.