

- Recommendations to the Forum itself, regarding its structures, meetings, participation (including ideas on inclusiveness in the activities of the Forum after 16-17.11 meeting)

Forum should be a platform for a dialogue of representatives of civil society between EU and non-EU countries. Forum should be an independent structure in Eastern Partnership and represents interests of civil society at all meetings and activities within Eastern Partnership, organization of annual meetings and conferences. Forum could include the following structure as *Secretariat and Working groups*.

Main responsibilities of the *Secretariat of the Forum* could be as coordination of activities of civil society in neighboring countries within Eastern Partnership, representation of interests of civil society in all events within Eastern Partnership, organization of annual meetings and conferences of the Forum of civil society. *Working groups* could be organized based on the planned thematic platforms proposed by EU. The main responsibilities of these groups could be discussion in details problems, presented within the Forum event, and elaboration suggestions for priorities in relation to activities within the Initiative.

Participants of the Forum from address neighbouring countries should rotate every year. Every year results of the Forum should be circulated to relevant stakeholders in participating countries.

- Recommendations on the Eastern Partnership structures

The proposed structures of the Eastern Partnership are transparent. Because the Eastern Partnership is aimed to promote active participation of civil society, the representatives of the Forum of Civil Society should participate in all official phases and programmes and meetings within the Eastern Partnership Initiative. Representatives of Belarus, including officials, academics, etc. would participate also in working groups within thematic platforms.

- Recommendations regarding policy areas covered by the Eastern Partnership, i.e. democracy, good governance and stability, economic integration and convergence with EU policies; energy security; people to people contacts and any other recommendations.

The following recommendations could be suggested to be covered under the Eastern Partnership (according to expertise of organization).

Energy security

- Promote progress on energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy sources by increasing of public awareness about the problem, creation of dialogue and cooperation of various stakeholders, developing capacity of professional training in this field, organization of joint research programmes and projects, exchange of best available technologies between countries of Eastern Partnership Initiative and develop technical capacity of Belarusian industry, improvement of specialized policy and investment climate for implementation of the projects.

Research, development and innovation

- Enhance cooperation between Belarus and EU in the field of science and technology/ innovation by participation in FP7 and joint scientific projects, promotion of participation of Belarusian researches (with special focus on young scientists) in academic mobility programmes, including participation in conferences and meetings, participation in exhibitions, and other actions that would develop capacities for network-building;

- Promote capacity development for the introduction of new technologies in practice: establishing of "techno parks" based on collaborations of business and universities and etc.

Education, training and youth

- Bring education and training systems closer to EU standards and the Bologna Process by promotion of greater autonomy of Universities, updating curricula, publishing training materials and monographs, creation of international master programmes, promotion of cooperation with employers and graduates, and etc.;

– Promote using of IT tools in education including on-line Universities and distant-learning;

- Enhance cooperation in the field of education and training: creating regional windows in the Erasmus Mundus programme, encouraging regular relationships between universities in non-EU member states and EU member states by encouraging universities from neighbouring countries to participate in TEMPUS programme; enhance the field on non-formal education for young and adults with focus on development of leadership, innovation, cooperation, partnership and etc. in various areas among citizens (continue "long life learning").

Environment and climate change

- Support integration of environmental issues into the national policies, including those for industry, transport, regional development, agriculture and forestry by the promotion of the tools of strategic environmental assessment;

- Strengthen structures and procedures of strategic environmental assessments / environmental impact assessment (in particular as related to public participation), including the transboundary issues; development of relevant legislation and experience through educational seminars and projects;

– Support activities of civil society actors and local authorities towards the development and implementation of communication strategies (platform for dialogue between various stakeholder groups at various levels) to reach various stakeholder groups concerned about nature degradation;

– Continue actions for prevention of deterioration of the environment, protection of human health and wise use of natural resources: (1) support the adaptation of legislation for the following areas: water quality and management of water resources (in line with the Water Framework Directive), waste management (waste separation and recycling), environmental pollution, biodiversity conservation and ecological networks (Natura 2000), landscape management (European Landscape Convention); (2) strengthening the professional and administrative capacity for the implementation of international environmental agreements including the following activities as gaining knowledge on functioning of ecosystems and existing practice in country; development of guidelines and methodologies for realization of requirements of agreements; (3) increase international cooperation by creation of networks and exchange of experience;

– Promote development and implementation of adaptation strategies addressing climate change, including: building knowledge base on the impact of climate change for Belarus (comprehensive assessment of climate risks); integration of adaptation into Belarusian policies on health, agriculture, forests, biodiversity, ecosystems and water and infrastructure (design and implementation of policy instruments); using guidelines, partnerships and other instruments for effective activities to adaptation; increase international cooperation on adaptation to climate change (network building and development of national expertise for successful science-policy interfaces);

– Enhance transboundary cooperation on environmental problems through joint projects, participation of Belarusian NGOs in European organizations and networks;

- Support development of social and environmental responsibility of business: (1) increasing awareness; (2) developing pilot projects to achieve the "doing by learning" effect and (3) providing policy support.

Economic and social cohesion (regional development)

- Promote sustainable regional development aimed to reduce economic and social disparities across the country, to enhance urban-rural cooperation and support sustainable urban development through (1) implementation of projects on regional and rural development using of EU best practices, (2) demonstration of knowledge and experience of EU member states during educational seminars and exchange visits which will be useful both for governmental and non-governmental organizations in realization of such projects to ensure efficient implementation of actions; (3) creation of administrative and human capacity of citizens from regions by distribution of information, educational and training seminars, provision of support to help citizens to start their activities.

- Enhance strategic planning in Belarus: cross-sectoral and spatial planning through public participation and introduction of assessment of consequences of planned activities on social and economic situation and environment using tools of strategic environmental assessment; promote organization of prognosis and forecast research / investigations of development.

Good governance

- Promotion of platform for facilitating dialogue between various stakeholder groups at various levels - experts and non-experts, different sectors, public and private, national and international actors;

- Promote civil society cooperation with government (also through the public participation), for example, using instruments of strategic environmental assessment;

- Improve administrative capacity (promote educational and projects to change the mentality of administrative officials from closedness, inertness and marginalization to innovative, leadership thinking, development of culture of openness, cooperation and partnership);

- Internet-based communication between various groups of stakeholders (creation of social networks and so on).

Culture

- Promoting a search for the national ID (support to the development and promotion of national values).