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GYLA Presented Results of Vaziani-Gombori-Telavi Road Rehabilitation Project

In frames of the human rights week, GYLA in association with Green Alternative presented results of Vaziani-Gombori-Telavi road rehabilitation project. The monitoring was implemented in frames of the Coalition "Transparent Foreign Aid to Georgia", with support of Open Society Institute and Open Society-Georgia Foundation.

Implementation of Vaziani Gombori-Telavi road construction and rehabilitation project started in 2009. Works performed by now were funded from the State budget, while

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main portion of the project will be funded from resources provided by the World Bank as a loan.

GYLA monitoring aimed to examine legitimacy of state procurement process, control rational spending of financial resources, prevent identified violations of law, and to furnish society with information.

Cases of systematic disregard of law were observed in process of state procurement.

Provisions key to securing objective and impartial procurement were violated.

Monitoring identified following legal violations:

- Poor planning of state procurement;
- Violating and evading legal procedures while conducting tenders;
- State procurement of services despite insufficient financial capacities;
- Ineffective spending of budgetary funds;
- Lack of coordination with corresponding bodies while conducting construction works.

Violations exposed by the monitoring prove the necessity of transparency of these processes. Currently the road construction project is in the process of implementation; hence, GYLA's report is the analysis of present data and results. Evaluation of subsequent stages of Vaziani-Gombori-Telavi road construction project will be presented in next report of GYLA.

Aim of Green Alternative was to increase transparency, encourage involvement of society in decision-making process, to raise accountability and awareness of the government and donors and to lobby decisions corresponding to sustainable development principles.

Scope of the organization's work included monitoring of project's correspondence with national legislation and regulations of international financial institutions, protection of the rights of local population and environmental issues. Specific violations directly linked to the project, as well as problems within the system were identified. At the same time, it shall be noted that timely exposition of these problems and purposeful lobbying has already resulted in tangible positive results for improvement of the project and increase of spending efficiency.

Analysis of monitoring results made it possible to estimate following problems in implementation of subsequent stages of the project: disregard of interests of local population, negative effects on environment, violation of permit conditions. Monitoring of Green Alternative will focus on such threats in the future.