

MACEDONIAN ANTI-POVERTY PLATFORM **HANDBOOK**



Ludwig Boltzmann
Institute of Human Rights (BIM)



financed by

Austrian



Development Cooperation



HANDBOOK

Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform (MAPP)



Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM)



financed by
Austrian
 Development Cooperation

January, 2011

PUBLISHER

Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform (MAPP)

**The preparation and the printing of this publication is financially supported by
The Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC)**

PREPARED BY

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights – BIM-FV Skopje

PROJECT

Social Inclusion and Human Rights in Macedonia

Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights

(BIM-FV Skopje)

Veljko Vlahovik 1a- 1/4

1000 Skopje

Phone num: +389 (0)2 3216 956

Fax: +389 (0)2 3216 982

BIM-FV SKOPJE SUPPORT TEAM

Petranka Delova Miladinova – Project Manager

Stojan Misev – Human Rights Advisor

Ninoslav Mladenovik - Human Rights Advisor

Jagoda Iljov – Administrative Assistant

**The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of
The Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM) and the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC)**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	5
Manifesto of the Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform (MAPP)	6
Principles and Guidelines to the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA)	9
MAPP Work Programme (2010-2012)	23
MAPP Statute	30
List of MAPP Members	41
For the Publishers	45
Bibliography	47

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

MAPP	– Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform
BIM-FV	- Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights - Research Association
ADC	– Austrian Development Cooperation
EAPN	– European Anti-Poverty Network
HRBA	– Human Rights Based Approach
NGO	– Non-governmental organization
CSO	- Civil Society Organization
MLSP	– Ministry of Labor and Social Policy
CSW	– Center for Social Welfare

AS
SOCIETY
ADVANCES
THE
STANDARD
OF
POVERTY
RISES



INSTEAD OF A PREFACE

The preparation of this handbook is supported by the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, within the framework of the project Social Inclusion and Human Rights in Macedonia. The main objective of the project is incorporation of the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) in the decision-making processes at national and local level. At national level, the Institute supported the establishment of the Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform (MAPP), while at local level it provides support for development of Local Strategies and Action Plans for Eradication of Poverty and Social Exclusion to eight municipalities in the Republic of Macedonia.

The Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform is established as a network of independent civil society organizations which contribute to eradication of poverty and social exclusion by pursuing realization of human rights of different vulnerable groups that MAPP represents. This publication incorporates the basic documents for operation of MAPP, such as the Principles and Guidelines for application of HRBA into MAPP's work, Work Program 2010-2012, as well as the constitutive document of the platform, the Statute of MAPP.

We hope that the current and future MAPP members, as well as all other individuals and organisations will find this publication useful, understand more about MAPP's work and about the approach to be applied when working with and empowering right-holders in realization of their human rights.

MACEDONIAN ANTI POVERTY PLATFORM (MAPP)

MANIFESTO

Poverty is the worst form of violence - Mahatma Gandhi

Poverty is a human rights violation of the outmost form. In poverty, people have such inadequate levels of income and resources that they are excluded from having a standard of living considered acceptable in the society in which they live. Poverty arranges its circle of human rights violations in such a way that almost every aspect of human life is affected: income, education, health, accommodations, business dealings, and even the ability to participate in social and political life within the community. Poverty affects all aspects of human life, smothering dignity and well-being. Clearly, poverty excludes and marginalizes our co-citizens and neighbours. The poor, the excluded, and other vulnerable groups – including women and children – are often the first and most numerous victims of violence. Their poverty and marginalization often make them easy and defenceless victims within society, very often prone to violence of all types.

The depth of worldwide inequality is frightening. At least 80% of humanity lives on less than \$10 a day; 25,000 children die each day as a result of poverty; 12.3 million people work in forced labour; 186 million people are out of work; and nearly a billion people entered the 21st century unable to read or write. Macedonia is not a remote isle. It is part of the global poverty and social exclusion picture. By some estimates, approximately 50% of the Macedonian population lives in some form of poverty. While the poverty rates are high for the entire territory and population, some groups are hit harder by poverty than others.

Poverty, exclusion and discrimination are not individual problems. These are issues affecting each one of us. Poverty and social exclusion are beyond the domains of charity and dependence; they are violations of basic human rights.

Therefore, we banded together to establish the Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform: an anti-poverty alliance that is voluntary, non-partisan, and non-governmental in character; a gathering of citizens and associations from every region in Macedonia, all under a single umbrella. It is assembled to joint those elements of civil society, which dedicate their efforts to the promotion of social justice, equality,

participative democracy and solidarity. We share the vision of a free society of active individuals – composed of empowered women and men, without forgotten citizens – that is part of a country that is established on democratic and accountable systems. We initiate debates over these issues. We strive to strengthen our civil society by networking with the larger European and global communities working in this field; those who share similar values and missions. We urge governments to be accountable and responsible for the realization and implementation of the undertaken international human rights obligations.

The National Anti-Poverty Platform membership is opened to all of those who want to eradicate poverty and social exclusion; those who share our mission and vision and “choose to be the change they want to see.” The members of the National Anti-Poverty Platform are made up of a variety of organizations, including human rights NGOs, grassroots community groups, marginalized individuals, individuals facing or at risk of poverty and social exclusion, voluntary organizations, charity organizations, policy makers, researchers and academics. Therefore, we call on all of civil society to join us in our mutual efforts to address the issues of poverty, social exclusion, discrimination and isolation. We urge our members to strengthen the network for better enforcement of our goals. We call on, lobby toward, and put pressure on the government to eradicate poverty in a transparent, accountable and democratic manner. We call on to the government to emphasize gender equality when planning and executing strategies for the eradication of poverty. We call on to the government to include all its citizens and inhabitants in the laws protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms.



WHEN
POVERTY
COMES
IN
AT DOORS
LOVE LEAPS
OUT
AT WINDOWS

**PRINCIPLES
AND GUIDELINES
TO THE
HUMAN RIGHTS
BASED APPROACH**

HRBA IN THE WORK
OF THE MACEDONIAN ANTI-POVERTY
PLATFORM

December 2010

The Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA), its application to poverty reduction strategies and its connection with the realization of the human rights is the basis for the functioning of the Macedonian Anti -Poverty Platform – MAPP.

The first part of this document is called HRBA and the reduction of poverty and social exclusion. It gives information on the relationship between HRBA and poverty reduction strategies, through presentation of the participatory and capability approach.

The main elements of HRBA related to reduction of poverty and social exclusion are presented in **the second part**. It also includes practical examples of how the HRBA is applied.

The third part of this document focuses on the role of MAPP toward applying HRBA in its work. It focuses on the active participation of the poor and vulnerable, and the actions that MAPP should undertake in order to empower the poor. It includes positive examples for inclusion of poor and vulnerable within the Campaign on Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion 2010, implemented by MAPP.

In the last two decades, at the international level, there is a tendency to connect poverty reduction strategies with the realization of human rights. This is mainly due to the establishment of the so-called “people centered approaches” to poverty reduction, which “differ in their theoretical origins but share a common concern with people, both as beneficiaries and actors in development. Both the participation and capability approaches emphasized the importance of the human agency, what poor people can do themselves, and the importance of ‘empowerment’ as both an end and a strategy for poverty reduction” (Human Rights and National Poverty Reduction Strategies, Sakiko Fukuda-Parr, 2007).

HRBA AND POVERTY REDUCTION

Violations of human rights (the rights to food, shelter, health, education, and non-discrimination), and a powerlessness to influence decision-making, are all circumstances that contribute to the endurance of poverty. All these factors add up to the denial of a dignified life, as the international human rights norms proclaim. Poverty is described in terms of a range of interrelated and mutually reinforcing deprivations, which do not necessarily mean only lack of means, but include the stigma, discrimination, insecurity and social exclusion associated with it; all are inclusive in this phenomenon. Overall, poverty is a condition of ill-being. However, efforts to increase respect for or protection of human rights (characterized by the rights to health, education, participation etc.) can contribute to lifting people out of poverty. This means that human rights play an essential part in efforts to eradicate and reduce poverty.

Thus, a central point of the Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) is ensuring that human rights are the baseline factor in all policymaking and political choices. It means that such policies ensure that people have the political, institutional and material means to demand, exercise and monitor their human rights, and to actively participate in the related decision-making processes. HRBA focuses on those who face discrimination (in gender, race, religion, etc.) and those that are vulnerable to human rights violations (poor, otherwise marginalized groups in society, etc.).

No poverty-reduction strategy can be considered effective if it does not reduce the poverty of the ones who are facing it constantly in their everyday life. “It is widely recognized that effective poverty reduction strategy is not possible without empowerment of the poor”¹. Because of its potential to empower the poor, HRBA uses the international normative framework as its starting point, or basis, for the operational execution of its poverty reduction processes.

It is an approach that helps detecting poverty and the accompanying marginalization and exclusion. It identifies the roots of poverty, identifies the marginalized and vulnerable groups in society, and identifies the right holders and duty bearers. It anchors the right holders to the corresponding duty bearers, thus, when applied in practice, it empowers the poor and excluded members of society to be visible and heard.

1. A Human Rights Based Approach to Poverty Reduction Strategies, OHCHR 2002

Summary: All our planning, programming, and fighting against poverty activities are based on the human rights and freedoms established in the international human rights framework of protection. The contents of the rights represent the needs of the people. The needs of people necessarily include the rights. It is all about having rights but also having responsibilities. As Urban Johnson points out: to be healthy and well-nourished today reflects satisfied needs; to be sure that same condition will prevail is a realized right.

HRBA empowers people to become active participants in the process of realizing the rights and freedoms they are entitled to as human beings. At the same time, it focuses on the governments as the main (but not exclusive) duty bearers, whose responsibilities arise from the international and national legal frameworks on the protection of human rights and freedoms.

In essence, on one side there are the rights, and on the other side there are the corresponding obligations for the promotion, fulfillment and protection of these rights. All the right holders have a particular duty bearer and they trigger responsibility.

In few words, to apply HRBA means to use human rights to hold people and institutions in power accountable for fulfillment of their responsibilities. Since all people have rights, all governments and institutions have responsibilities and duties, and they are all part of the human rights framework.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN HRBA AND CHARITY APPROACHES

While very often a tool associated with poverty is charity, when we speak about human rights, charity is not an issue.

So when we speak of human rights, claiming the duties and obligations relating to these rights is essential. This is also characteristic of the HRBA. This realization of rights approach tends to differentiate between the satisfying of needs approach.

- While the charity and needs approach emphasizes the people, their rights (to assistance) towards the duty bearers are seen as passive.
- While the charity and needs approach sees people as victims, the rights approach emphasizes the empowerment of the people who will take their own destiny in their own hands and decide what they need.
- While the charity and needs approach sees poor people as deserving of the charity, out of moral duty to them, the rights approach sees people as members of society that are entitled to the assistance.
- While the charity and needs approach sees government as morally responsible but not obliged to assist them, the rights approach sees the government as legally obliged to assist them.
- While meeting needs is dependent on political will, meeting rights is a political obligation.

MAPP will apply HRBA by introducing its main elements as a basis for its operation in the field of combating poverty and social exclusion.

Firstly, all the basic principles of HRBA – such as equality, non-discrimination, human rights inter-relatedness and monitoring and accountability – should be visible and promoted through the operation of the platform.

All the actions undertaken by MAPP will be based on the identified needs and concerns of the poor and vulnerable, calling upon the international and national legal framework for protection of their rights, and ensuring the direct participation of the poor and vulnerable in decision-making processes.

MAIN ELEMENTS OF HRBA

The human rights based approach does not present a methodology on its own. It is a process that is applied, as an improvement, toward methodological approaches, which are already in use. It is a process that assures that the priorities, measures and activities introduced in strategies and action plans will be based on the factual situation and real needs of the people. The process is especially focused on the empowerment of the poor and vulnerable, and enabling them to express their needs and concerns toward the decision makers.

The Main Features of the Human Rights Approach to Poverty Reduction are the Following:

- Identification of the poor
- Recognition of the relevant, established national and international human rights framework
- Participation and empowerment
- Equality and non-discrimination
- Progressive realization of human rights
- Monitoring and accountability

STEP 1 - Identification of the Poor and Vulnerable (right holders), Their Problems and the Human Rights Being Violated

a) Identification of Poor and Vulnerable

A rights holder can be anyone. However, in this approach, when we speak of rights holders we are usually addressing the vulnerable, discriminated-against or otherwise marginalized groups within a society. Particular attention should be put on identifying whether vulnerable subgroups within the main identified group exist, or if multiple acts of discrimination make one particular group more affected by an issue or problem than another group or the general population. For example, if we take the problem of dropouts from elementary school, the affected target group is students 11-14 years old. If we assess whether a certain group is more affected by this problem than another is, our assessment will show that girls are more affected by this problem than boys, taking into consideration the practice whereby parents usually decide that the boy will continue with the education and the girl is forced to stay at home.

Right Holders ID

Who is a right holder?

Who is representing the right holders?

Who are the most vulnerable, excluded, or left behind?

Which groups are discriminated against (legally and/or in practice)?

What are the main discrimination issues at stake (international standards/principles)

Do women and men experience the problem differently?

What rights are violated?

The Roles of Right Holders

This defines their role as right holders. The role is usually stipulated in the national and international human rights laws, policies and practices.

What are the right holders entitled to?

Do the right holders know their rights?

Can they exercise their rights?

Do they know how to claim their rights?

What, specifically, is owed to the rights holders?

What mechanisms of delivery, accountability, and redress exist, and what mechanisms should be established?

Capacity Gaps for Right Holders

The capacity of right holders is the main factor that prevents them from claiming their rights. Here we should focus on deciding about the reasons why the right holders are not claiming their rights.

Therefore, we have to determine who the rights holders are. What rights do they have; is there a more marginalized/discriminated-against group within the larger group; why are they marginalized/discriminated against; do they belong to a particular ethnic, gender, sexual, linguistic, etc. group; or does their age, disability status, political affiliation, economical situation or other factor make them such.

Another important and inevitable set of questions that must be clarified has to do with the right holder's capacity to claim their rights; and are there mechanisms at their disposal for the protection of the rights and for redress, and which mechanisms are missing?

b) Problem Identification

In order to have an overall picture of the economic, social and political context of the country, especially regarding the human rights situation, a preliminary assessment must be conducted. At this starting point, there is a need to examine the overall human rights situation with regard to the issues in question. However, we must not overextend, but focus and setting rational priorities.

At this stage, we will identify the most pressing problems; violations of rights, the groups that are most affected this situation and the key actors within. For example, the problem of domestic violence among women in our country affects the rights to life, freedom of movement, and physical and psychological integrity, etc. The Roma women are specifically stressed as one of the more vulnerable categories. Once we've identified a main target group (Roma women, for example), the next step is to further classify and identify the different subgroups effected by the problem (domestic violence). These subgroups may include girls who get into arranged marriages, under aged mothers, women without elementary education, etc.

The problem is characterized by a lack of formal regulation in the protection of particular rights as well as a lack of implementation of already established mechanisms for rights protection. No less important is the identification of problems on the cultural level (people's traditions, cultural beliefs, religion, etc). For example, if MAPP members identify that a certain vulnerable group

Main Questions:

Do they understand the problem?

Do they have the capacity/resources (financial, skills, technical, etc.) to claim their rights, including the ability to access information, organize and participate, advocate claims and policy change, as well as obtain redress?

Are they organized?

Are there any cultural, traditional, religious (and other) practices, which limit their participation?

Are there any risks in performing their role?

What are the prevailing problems? (i. e. HIV)

What is going on at the national level regarding this issue? (i.e. Which issues the government, NGOs, donor communities are working on)?

Were there any incidents regarding these issues?

Which human rights are being violated? (Health, education, information)

What are the related rights? (work, participation, legal protection, etc.)

Who is affected by that? (men and women, drug users, sex workers, child sexual abuse, etc.)

Are people in certain sub-categories more vulnerable than the other are? (MSM prisoners, drug users, girls)

What are their problems?

Are the poor and vulnerable directly involved in the problem identification? (No information for prevention, no protection from infections, violence, etc.)

Consider the issues of stigmatization, discrimination, exclusion etc. when assessing the problems that the vulnerable groups have.

Why is this happening? (example: stigmatization prevents sex workers from getting HIV tests. Prison authorities think MSM deserve this)

What rights remain unfulfilled?

What measures have been undertaken?

is not even guaranteed protection by law, then their efforts should be directed toward assessment of the situation, drafting of legislation, lobbying, etc (the bottom-up approach).

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL LEGAL FRAMEWORK

In compliance with their determination to respect and improve human rights and freedoms, as a basis for the development of democracy in the country, the Republic of Macedonia has become party to a number of international conventions on human rights within the United Nations and the Council of Europe. This includes the recognition of the control mechanisms established for implementing these conventions.

In the legal system of the Republic of Macedonia, the relationship between national and international law represents a legal and constitutional matter. According to Article 118 of the Constitution, international treaties ratified in compliance with the Constitution shall become part of the national legal order and cannot be changed by law. Under this configuration, with the hierarchical setup of legal norms, the international norms supersede national laws.

MAPP should define what the general human rights framework is and identify which relevant national and international human rights legal documents deal with these particular rights and issues. Besides the general, legally binding instruments of convention, covenant and protocol, it would be useful if the nonbinding documents were included in the research. This includes explanatory reports, general comments, and concluding observations regarding a particular issue, recommendations, country reports, and reports from special reporters. Information from special reporters is especially important because it provides an interpretation of human rights standards, which authorities should understand.

Other useful inputs are policy documents, national and local strategy documents, poverty statistics, poverty-related analysis, and surveys, particularly those disaggregated by gender, race, or similar sub-categories.

The international community through international documents has exerted significant influence in the recognition, improvement and protection of the human rights.

Such an influence by the international documents directly or indirectly affects the creation of the national legal system in the Republic of Macedonia. Ratification of the international documents is an integral part of the legal order in the Republic of Macedonia. Indirect influence is exerted by the recommendations given by the international organization where the Republic of Macedonia is a member state (UN and its agencies, Council of Europe).

UN Documents

- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), 1966
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), 1966
- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), 1965
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), 1979
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), 1984
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), 2006

Council of Europe

- European Convention on the human rights and fundamental freedoms (ECHR, 1951)
- European Social Charter (1996, 1991)

In addition, reports from watchdog organizations represent a great source of information in this regard, as they tend to provide a more realistic picture of the actual implementation of rights, explaining the actual situation in the field. At this stage, it is useful to conduct a comparison between existing, internationally protected rights and the domestic counterparts. Such a comparison would indicate whether there are proper legal guarantees for the protection of the human rights or not, whether the law is being implemented or not, or if legal gaps exist.

In this regard, the shadow reports of civil society organizations reflect the compliance of our legislation with international documents and levels of implementation. They also provide data on the factual situation of different vulnerable groups. For example, a MAPP member association known as ESE prepared, in 2005, a shadow report for the Convention for the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women, thus providing detailed analysis on the legal and factual position of women in Macedonia.

Another thing that can be especially important is data coming from the target groups themselves; i.e. children (disabled, HIV carriers, orphans, etc), women (rural women, girls, minority women, sex workers, etc), homosexuals (MSM, lesbians), prisoners, refugees, homeless, etc. Here, in a significant manner, MAPP can use existing data from those parties (legal aid centers, SOS lines, daily centers, etc.) that provide direct services to these vulnerable groups.

To a considerable degree, the Republic of Macedonia – regarding the harmonization of our legislation – satisfies the internationally established human right standards. Taking into consideration that the problem is the implementation of the legal provisions which are already in force, MAPP will direct its efforts toward pursuing implementation of the existing laws, strategies, action plans and programs that relate to housing, education, labor markets, health protection, social protection, gender equality, etc.

National Legal Framework – thematic laws

- The Constitution of R.M.
- Criminal Code (Official gazette R.M. nb.37/1996);
- Law on Implementation of Sanctions (Official gazette R.M. nb.2/2006);
- Law on Courts (Official gazette R.M. nb.58/2006);
- Law on Mediation (Official gazette R.M. nb.60/2006);
- Law on Internal Affairs (Official gazette R.M. nb.92/2009);
- Law on Police (Official gazette R.M. nb.114/2006);
- Law on Political Parties (Official gazette R.M. nb.76/2004);
- Law on Civil Servants (Official gazette R.M. nb.76/2010);
- Law on Civil Offences (Official gazette R.M. nb.62/2006);
- Laws on Elementary Education (Official gazette R.M. nb.103/2008);
- Law on Secondary Education (Official gazette R.M. nb.52/2002);
- Law on High Education (Official gazette R.M. nb.35/2008);
- Law on Equal Opportunities of Women and Men (Official gazette R.M. nb.66/2006);
- Law on Labor Relations (Official gazette R.M. nb.16/2010);
- Law on Employment of Disabled Persons (Official gazette R.M. nb.87/2005);
- Law on Family (Official gazette R.M. nb.80/1992);
- Law on Social Protection (Official gazette R.M. nb.79/2009);
- Law on Health Protection (Official gazette R.M. nb.17/1997);
- Law on Protection of Patients Rights (Official gazette R.M. nb.82/2008);
- Law on Mental Health (Official gazette R.M. nb.71/2006);
- Law on Prohibition and Protection of Discrimination (Official gazette R.M. nb.50/2010);
- Law on Housing (Official gazette R.M. nb.99/2009);
- Law on Free Access to Information (Official gazette R.M. nb.12/2006);
- Law on Protection of Personal Data (Official gazette R.M. nb.7/2005);
- Law on Public Assembly (Official gazette R.M. nb.55/1995);
- Law on Civil Associations and Foundations (Official gazette R.M. nb.52/2010);
- Law on Local Self Government (Official gazette R.M. nb.5/2002);
- Law on Movement and Residence of Foreigners (Official gazette R.M. nb.35/2006);
- Law on Asylum and Temporary Protection (Official gazette R.M. nb.19/2009);

HR PRINCIPLES

Indivisibility, Inter-Dependence and Inter-Relatedness. Whether civil, political, economic, social or cultural, these rights are factors that contribute to the dignity of every human being. In assessing whether these principles are being respected, we should ask ourselves if some of the rights are being given preferential treatment or attention over some of the other rights.

The realization of one right depends upon the realization of other rights. The infringement on one right causes a violation of other rights. And vice versa, the protection, promotion and respect of one right can lead to the same for other rights. For example, the realization of the right to health may depend on the realization of the right to information, food, nutrition, safe water and sanitation, education, privacy, etc. Compliance with these principles of indivisibility and interdependence helps to uphold different types of human rights at the same time².

Equality and Non-Discrimination. All individuals are equal, by virtue of the fact that they are human beings. All human beings are entitled to their human rights, without discrimination of any kind, including, but not limited to, discrimination based on race, color, sex, gender, age, language, religion, beliefs, political or other opinions, national or social origin, disabilities, property, birthplace, health status, sexual orientation and other factors. The list is all-inclusive and open, and has been established by human rights treaties and interpreted by human rights bodies. The advancement of human rights for both men and women on the basis of equality is an absolute requirement.

Accountability and Monitoring. Accountability is further strengthened by HRBA via the clear identification of the roles and responsibilities of the right holders and duty bearers regarding the realization of concrete human rights. States, their bodies, local authorities, other authorities, the

2. Operationalizing Human Rights-Based Approaches to Poverty Reduction, Interim Pilot Project Report, UNDP 2007

The principles inherent of the human rights concept in general are the guiding vehicle of the process of realization of the rights and the main principles of the HRBA.

Precisely the principles of indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of the human rights are the core principles of the HRBA. Other principles included in these concepts are equality and nondiscrimination, participation, inclusion and accountability.

From a theoretical point of view, these principles cover all standards. This means that standards are understood as goals that should be reached, but the principles should be applied to all processes and steps that should be executed along the way.

These principles should be respected and present in all the work done by MAPP.

Progressive Realization of Human Rights

International law recognizes that the realization of human rights is related to the existing resources in the states. Yet, MAPP must intensify its efforts and lobby among the state authorities for realization of human rights of poor and vulnerable people that MAPP represents.

communities, and the individuals (right holders and duty bearers) all are accountable for the realization of human rights.

It is important to mention that HRBA is not just a tool to enhance the capacities of right holders in claiming their rights, but it is also a tool designed to enhance the capacities of the duty bearers in upholding their obligations. This means that, sometimes, authorities will lack the resources or the ability to interpret human rights or use the HRBA, so strengthening their capacities can improve accountability.

Participation and Empowerment. Although listed as a principle, the participation issue also falls into the framework of the rights of right holders, in the field of accountability.

Every person is entitled to active, free and meaningful participation in democratic society. Every person is entitled to participate in civil, economic, social, cultural and political development, through which human rights and fundamental freedoms can be realized.

Every person has the right to decide what is important for her/him and their community, and, by their own measure, influence duty bearers to adopt policies.

This participation also means that constructive criticism will lead to better results. Such participation and inclusion is particularly important in efforts to empower the most marginalized, vulnerable, excluded and invisible members of society. People who do not have the ability or opportunity to claim their rights are not able to envision the required change.

The reasons for their inabilities are related to poor living conditions and a lack of human rights (the right of access to information and education, the freedom to assemble, etc.). These are also circumstances, which empower a sense of powerlessness and increase the difficulty of organizing and acting to help them. When empowerment does flourish, these people are clearly seen and heard.

The principal of empowerment means that people actively participate in the decision making process, which effects their rights and freedoms, their living conditions and circumstances. Empowerment means that people are included and considered in

Campaign 2010

Tribunes in Stip, Kicevo and Prilep – positive example of enabling participation of the poor and vulnerable

In **the first part** of the event the representatives of relevant institutions, such as: local authorities, MLSP, CSWs, CSOs, are providing information about their work to the participants, thus promoting the **access to information**. The MLSP is representing strategic efforts undertaken on national level, while other institution is presenting their work done on local level. This enables poor and vulnerable to get informed about their rights and procedures for their protection.

The second part of the event presents discussion among representatives of the institutions and poor and vulnerable people, asked and encouraged to express their problems and concerns.

The questions raised and problems identified are incorporated in a document, which will be delivered to MLSP prior to the development of the Operational Plans to the National Strategy for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion in Republic of Macedonia.

the processes of programming and projecting strategies/policies. It means they are heard, and their opinions are considered and included in the final decisions/policies that affect their lives. Empowerment is also connected to a deeper involvement in the implementation and monitoring processes.

On the other side of the empowerment coin is the accountability of the duty bearers. The inclusion of each relevant actor and the fulfillment of the principle of participation acts to provide transparency to the process, thus contributing toward and strengthening the duty bearer's accountability.

If we want the poor to participate in the poverty reduction strategies, they must be free to organize without restriction (right to association), to meet without impediment (right of assembly), and to say what they want without intimidation (freedom of expression). Furthermore, they must know the relevant facts (right to information) and they must enjoy an elementary level of economic security and well-being (right to reasonable standard of living and associated rights).

UN Principles and Guidelines – HRBA to Poverty Reduction

III HRBA IN THE WORK OF MAPP

MAPP is promoting HRBA in its work through enabling active participation of the poor and vulnerable, using the relevant legal framework and human rights principles as a basis, thus, and attempting to influence the relevant policies in order to improve the life of the people it represents. In this manner, MAPP, in its Program for Work, apart from the institutional strengthening, has established the influence on state policies as its main strategic focus.

In order to achieve this influence, MAPP needs to properly identify the poor and vulnerable (problems they are facing and the rights that are affected by those problems); call upon the existing legal framework; and continually monitor the poverty and social exclusion situation in our country.

IDENTIFICATION OF THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

The direct contact MAPP members have with the people they are representing (women, children, elderly, people with disabilities, minorities etc.) should help in the identification of the poor and vulnerable groups. It is essential to properly identify the main groups, subgroups, needs and problems, and then correlate those findings with any concrete rights violations or non-realization of human rights.

For example, in the 2010 Campaign for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, during a tribune with poor and vulnerable people at a local level, MAPP identified single parents as one separate vulnerable category possibly not realizing their full rights to social protection. The tribunals also led to the identification of a specific subgroup; single parents (mothers) of children with disabilities.

ACTIVE AND MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION

MAPP must increase its efforts to enable the participation of the poor and vulnerable in the decision-making processes. In order to achieve this, it is crucial for MAPP to **empower** them.

Taking into consideration that, in Macedonia, there is a general lack of information about the existing legal framework and systems of protection for different vulnerable groups, an **increased access to information** needs to be the first step. This will be crucial in allowing the poor and vulnerable to explain their problems and needs. Another important issue is their **direct inclusion** in the implementation of MAPP activities.

We will look at the previous example here, where the local tribunals enabled direct participation of the poor and vulnerable in its activities. At the beginning of the tribunals, the focus was on access to information by providing info on the work that MLSP was doing and the mandates of local social welfare centers, local authorities and member of the civil society sector. The participants also understood the meaning of research findings. On this way, the representatives of the poor and vulnerable were first informed about their rights and procedures for protection, and were then asked to express their problems and concerns.

RELEVANT LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The previous analysis of the situation regarding vulnerable groups should be used as a basis for MAPP's future actions. Namely, it is possible that MAPP will need to focus its efforts for "pushing" the authorities to implement the legal framework, which is already in force. Another possibility will be to amend the existing legal framework or work on its advancement.

For example, the input provided by the poor and vulnerable during the local tribunals, in the form of a written document, will be submitted by MAPP to MLSP for the purpose of developing an Operational Plan for a National Strategy to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion.

MONITORING AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Continuous monitoring of the poverty and social exclusion situation will enable future steps to be planned, but furthermore, it will insure state authorities are made to be accountable for their performance.

The establishment of indicators for this purpose, along with the preparation of an annual report on poverty and social exclusion by MAPP, will enable the platform to develop concrete conclusions and recommendations for improving the overall situation in Macedonia.

REMEMBER
THE
POOR-
IT
COSTS
NOTHING



WORK PROGRAMME OF THE MACEDONIAN ANTIPOVERTY PLATFORM (2010 – 2012)

The Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform (MAPP) is an umbrella of about 30 national nongovernmental organizations and associations. These nongovernmental organizations (including the association of trade unions) operate in a variety of fields, including those relating to human rights, the social sector, non-discrimination, health issues, women's issues, children's issues, poverty and people affected by poverty, disabilities, refugees and internally displaced populations, ethnic minorities, sexual minorities, etc. The organizations have come together to call attention to the concerns of citizens with regard to these issues of common interest.

It is a platform, which will insure a wide dissemination of information relating to the EU policies regarding antipoverty, social inclusion and antidiscrimination. The ultimate aim of MAPP is to improve living conditions and promote policies relating to poverty in Macedonia and the wider community.

MAPP has not been established to replace its constituent parts, but to facilitate the work of its members in a complementary way. This document sets out the proposed work program for MAPP in the 2010-2012 period. The work program seeks to identify and document:

- MAPP's mission, vision and goals
- The structure of MAPP
- Priority areas of focus, activities that will contribute to high-priority goals, and the expected results for the 2010-2012 period
- Budget and financing details

MAPP MISSION AND VISION AND AIMS

MISSION

The mission of MAPP is to foster the principles of equality, solidarity and non-discrimination, and to promote and protect the human rights and freedoms of all Macedonian citizens.

VISION

The vision of MAPP is a society based on welfare, non-discrimination, development and peace.

OUR GOALS:

The goals of MAPP are:

- To reduce poverty and social exclusion;
- To develop cultural, economic and social values;
- To develop a strong network to fight against poverty and social exclusion;

- To work with impoverished communities and their empowerment;
- To eliminate of all forms of discrimination and to promote equality;
- To foster participative democracy;
- To provide advocacy, lead lobbying efforts, and influence public policies and strategies in the spheres of social and health protection, employment, poverty reduction, social inclusion, human rights and non-discrimination;
- To raise awareness of poverty-related issues;
- To create an environment which enables economic development;
- To network and collaborate with other national and regional anti-poverty platforms;
- The inclusion of impoverished, marginalized, vulnerable and socially excluded communities at all levels of its decision-making process;
- To strengthen the internal capacities of its members;
- To conduct research and analyses in the fields of poverty, human rights, social inclusion, non-discrimination, health protection, employment, and education; thus suggesting concrete measures for overcoming identified problems

MAPP STRUCTURE

1. **General Assembly:** The General Assembly is the highest authority within MAPP. It sets the policy guidelines and priorities for MAPP and adopts MAPP's annual budget.
2. **President:** Represents the platform in all legal matters.
3. **Executive Board:** Adopts statements and common position papers, and sets up working groups.
4. **Supervisory Board:** Responsible for oversight of the platform's financial work.
5. **Secretary General:** Coordinates all MAPP activities; is responsible for MAPP's overall management and coordination, and for the preparation of MAPP strategies, work-plans and budgets; is responsible for external contacts and for representing the Platform, where appropriate, under the supervision of the Executive Board; and is responsible for dealing with daily administrative tasks and managing the practical aspects of MAPP.
6. **Thematic Working Groups:** There are 9 working groups, corresponding to the following themes: women and gender equality, human rights and non-discrimination, economic development and social inclusions, health, education, housing, children and youth, the elderly, and Roma and other ethnic minorities. The established working/thematic groups will act as a forum for an exchange of views and as a platform for cooperation among MAPP members in their efforts to resolve relevant issues of common interest. On some of these issues, they will prepare common positions to be adopted by the Steering Board, promoted by MAPP members, and disseminated to the public. Working groups have a flexible structure, allowing for ad hoc or standing 'sub-groups' to be established to deal with specific issues within the working group. The main working groups will meet between three and six times per year. Between the group meetings, other working methods will be utilized, such as email or Skype consultations, or meetings of sub-groups that are handling specific tasks (e. g. drafting or development of strategies).

BUDGET AND FINANCING

- Funding for the position of the Secretary General for a period of 18 months (2011-2012) was secured by BIM-FV, through the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC).
- Funding for the 2010 Campaign against Poverty and Social Exclusion was secured by BIM-FV, also through ADC.
- After the phasing-out of BIM-FV in Macedonia (beyond 2012), institutional support is expected from the Macedonian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, as well as through projects supported by other national and international institutions.

PRIORITY ACTIVITIES	TIMETABLE	RESPONSIBLE STAKEHOLDER	EXPECTED RESULT
Priority no. 1 - Strengthening MAPP internal structure and work methods (institutional development)			
Organizing workshops for human rights, HRBA, non-discrimination, gender equality, poverty, strategic planning and promotion of EAPN principles	2010	BIM-FV EAPN	Prepared Statute and Work Programme and formally established platform
Adoption of Strategy for External Communication	2010	Executive Board	Selected bodies of the platform Established WG on specific thematic priorities
Adoption of a Rule-book on Internal Communication between MAPP Members	2010	Executive Board	
Maintaining regular consultative meetings with MLSP and other relevant institutions	2010-2012	President Secretary General	Organized event for promotion of the MAPP work and opened dialogue with relevant public institutions and Government bodies
Maintaining regular annual meetings with EAPN	2010-2012	President Secretary General	Organized meetings with EAPN representatives
Priority no. 2 - Influencing the policies			
Awareness raising activities			
Organizing campaign against poverty and social exclusion, with active participation of the vulnerable social groups	2010	Executive Board (through MAPP member associations)	Organized campaign against poverty and social exclusion, with active participation of the vulnerable social groups

Identifying common positions and preparation of press releases	2010 - 2012	Executive Board President Secretary General	Identified at least one common position and prepared at least one press release
Design of independent web-page	2010		Designed and functional independent web-page
Conducting monitoring activities	2010 - 2012	Executive Board (through MAPP member associations)	Prepared annual national poverty report
Increasing labour market access for vulnerable social groups		Working group composed of member association representatives	
Research of the labour market oscillations	2011		Conducted assessment and analyses of labour marker offers and demands
Identification of target groups and creation of database	2011		Created database
Lobbying and advocacy for priority employment opportunities and vocational training of the identified vulnerable social groups	2011 - 2012		Organized work meetings with relevant public institutions, business and NGO sector representatives Established programme for priority vocational training of the identified vulnerable social groups Conducted public campaign and organized public tribune and/ or media event aimed at making familiar the identified vulnerable social groups with the priority employment and vocational training opportunities

Improvement of the social protection legal framework		Working group composed of member association representatives	
Preparation of legal analyses of the Law on Social Protection, Family Law and National Strategy for Poverty Reduction and Social Inclusion	2011		Prepared legal analyses, proposals for changes and amendments Prepared at least one press release and organized at least one press conference
Preparation of proposals for changes and amendments of the existing laws and by-laws	2012		
Ensuring support during the elaboration of the local development strategies	2011 - 2012		Secured participation of the vulnerable social groups in the process of elaboration of the local development strategies
Improvement of the opportunities and conditions for access of the vulnerable social groups to the education system		Working group composed of member association representatives	
Lobbying for equal and transparent access to information for the vulnerable social groups	2011 - 2012		Organized work meetings with relevant national and local institutions Reached agreement for legal changes
Awareness raising activities among parents, teachers and relevant public institutions	2011 - 2012		Organized public tribunes and media events
Organizing thematic focus groups	2011 - 2012		Organized thematic focus groups
Conducting research and monitoring activities in the educational sector	2011/2012		Conducted research and prepared report for the conditions in the educational sector

Monitoring of the public policies/ strategies/programmes in the health sector, advocating on behalf of the identified vulnerable social groups, and lobbying for appropriate and high quality health services, care and treatment		Working group composed of member association representatives	
Preparation and publication of monitoring report	2011		Prepared and publicized report
Analysis of the problems and needs of the identified vulnerable social groups	2011		Prepared analysis for the problems and needs of the identified vulnerable social groups
Lobbying for introducing appropriate solutions and mechanisms aimed at fostering the national health protection and health insurance system	2011 - 2012		Conducted initiatives for approximation of the health policies/ strategies/programmes with the applicable EU standards
Lobbying for equal and transparent implementation of the Government's social housing policies and advocating on behalf of the identified vulnerable social groups		Working group composed of member association representatives	
Organizing work meetings with relevant public institutions and Government bodies	2011 - 2012		Conducted meetings with representatives of all the relevant stakeholders in the housing sphere
Monitoring of the Government's social housing policies	2011 - 2012		Coordinated methodology and clarified common positions Prepared analysis and proposals for changes
Preparation and publication of the monitoring report	2011 - 2012		Prepared and publicized report

STATUTE OF THE MACEDONIAN ANTI-POVERTY PLATFORM (MAPP)

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform (hereinafter known as MAPP) is a voluntary platform composed of NGOs and individuals whose aim is to reduce poverty through the promotion of social justice, participative democracy, protection of human rights, equality, non-discrimination and the rule of law.

Article 2

MAPP acts within the territory of the Republic of Macedonia, and realizes its rights, duties and obligations in accordance with the Statute, Constitution and laws.

Article 3

MAPP is autonomous and independent in the establishment and realization of its aims, interests and activities, as identified with the Statute and the Work Programme.

Article 4

MAPP is a separate legal entity with its own bank account. Authorized signatories of the bank account are the President and the Secretary General. By decision of the Executive Board, the President can authorize another person to be a signatory

Article 5

MAPP is a non-profit, non-partisan and nongovernmental organization. If profit is to be generated in the course of its activities, such profit shall be used exclusively for supporting and realizing the aims and activities identified with the Statute. MAPP shall not perform profit-generating activities, and it is responsible for the proper functioning of the entirety of its properties and assets.

Article 6

The official name of MAPP is Macedonian-Anti Poverty Platform. The abbreviation that is going to be used is MAPP. MAPP is headquartered in Skopje at Veljko Vlahovic St. No. 2-1/17.

Article 7

MAPP has its own stamp, seal and logo, in the Macedonian language, chosen by the Executive Board upon a previously conducted call for creative solutions. The stamp has a circular form with a diameter of 4cm and inserted text: Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform (MAPP). The seal has a rectangular form and inserted text: Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform (MAPP), File No. //// Date //// Skopje.

Article 8

The work of MAPP is to be conducted using the Macedonian language. Representatives of the NGOs belonging to the non-majority communities can use their own language. All the external MAPP correspondences are to be conducted in the Macedonian language, and, if necessary, in the official language of the other non-majority communities. Upon the request of individual MAPP members or their representatives, the internal correspondence can be translated to the required language of the community on behalf of which the request has been submitted.

Article 9

The work of MAPP is public. Publicity relating to MAPP work is to be realized through the following means:

- regular updates to the general public about its activities;
- ensuring the attendance of MAPP members and other persons at its work meetings and sessions of its elected bodies;
- access to MAPP reports and other activities for its members and other interested persons; mass media activities;
- collaboration with other NGOs, platforms and public institutions;
- printed materials;
- web pages, etc.

Article 10

MAPP can collaborate, apply, and become a member of other international NGOs, coalitions, platforms, networks and similar organizations.

VISION, MISSION AND AIMS

Article 11

The vision of MAPP is society based on welfare, non-discrimination, development and peace.

Article 12

The mission of MAPP is fostering the principles of equality, solidarity, non-discrimination, and the promotion and protection of human rights and freedoms for all Macedonian citizens.

Article 13

The aims of MAPP are:

- the reduction of poverty and social exclusion;
- the development of cultural, economic and social values;
- the development of a strong network to fight against poverty and social exclusion;
- working with impoverished communities and helping them to become empowered;
- the elimination of all forms of discrimination and the promotion of equality;
- fostering participative democracy;
- advocating, lobbying and influencing public policies and strategies in the sphere of social and health protection, employment, poverty reduction, social inclusion, human rights and non-discrimination;
- the raising of awareness for poverty-related issues;
- creating an enabling environment for economic development;
- networking and collaborating with other national and regional anti-poverty platforms;
- the inclusion of impoverished, marginalized, vulnerable and socially-excluded communities at all levels of its decision-making process;
- strengthening the internal capacities of its members;
- conducting research and analyses in the field of poverty, human rights, social inclusion, non-discrimination, health protection, employment, and education, thus suggesting concrete measures that overcome identified problems.

MEMBERSHIP

Article 14

A MAPP member can be any individual, NGO or informal citizen association who shares its aims and objectives. The MAPP General Assembly decides on the accession of new members by a simple majority vote, upon previous written request by the interested party and the submission of at least two recommendations from any of the founding members.

Article 15

MAPP membership is on a voluntary basis. Upon previous proposal submitted by the President or the Executive Board, MAPP General Assembly shall terminate the membership by simple majority vote in the following cases: when members act against the statutory provisions; when members disrespect or refuse to comply with the decisions of MAPP bodies; when members disrespect the basic work principles and refuse to comply with the MAPP Work Program; when members devalue MAPP's integrity or the integrity of other MAPP members; or when members have not paid their membership fee for the last calendar year.

Article 16

MAPP members pay a membership fee. The amount and method of payment is determined by decision of the Executive Board.

RIGHTS, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Article 17

Each MAPP member has the following rights and duties:

- to vote and be elected; to propose representatives in the elected MAPP bodies and to oversee their work and activities;
- to contribute towards the development of MAPP policies and the strengthening of MAPP structures;
- to initiate proposals for the realization of MAPP aims and objectives;
- to abide by the statutory provisions and other acts of the elected MAPP bodies;
- to actively participate in the implementation of the MAPP Work Program and related project activities;
- to contribute towards proper functioning of the platform;
- other rights and duties as stipulated with the Statute, acts of the elected MAPP bodies and proper legal regulations.

BASIC WORK PRINCIPLES

Article 18

The proper functioning of MAPP is based on the following basic work principles:

- impartiality and independence;
- transparency;
- legality;
- interdependence and solidarity;
- equality and equity.

Article 19

In accordance with the National Occupational Classification, MAPP's main activity is 94.99 - Activities of other membership-based organizations, unmentioned at any other place. According to the National Occupational Classification, MAPP's field of work is also 58.19 – Other publishing activities.

STRUCTURE

Article 20

The MAPP structure is composed of the following bodies:

- President;
- General Assembly;
- Executive Board; and
- Supervisory Board.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA)

Article 21

The General Assembly is composed of representatives of all the MAPP members, and they are elected for a period of 4 years.

Article 22

Elected representatives of the GA have the following rights:

- to attend and participate at GA sessions and working groups where elected;
- to vote and be elected in the MAPP bodies;
- to oversee the work of other MAPP bodies;

- to abide by the statutory provisions and the MAPP Work Program;
- to represent the interests and positions of their nominating organizations;
- to submit proposals in common interest of the platform;
- to regularly report to their domicile organization on the progress of MAPP work and activities;
- to contribute towards the realization of MAPP aims and objectives;
- other rights and responsibilities in accordance with the acts of the elected MAPP bodies and proper legal regulations.

Article 23

The President convenes the GA at least once a year. The GA can also convene by proposal of the Executive Board, or upon the request of 1/3 of the MAPP members.

Article 24

The GA can only work if more than half of the MAPP members are present at a session. As a general rule, the GA adopts its decisions by simple majority vote, unless otherwise decided for specific types of decisions. GA sessions can also be attended by representatives of non-member organizations and individuals without voting rights. In extraordinary situations, the GA can adopt decisions via e-conference or other types of internet communications.

Article 25

As a general rule, the GA adopts its decisions by public vote, unless otherwise decided by a majority of the MAPP members present at session. Each member has a right to one vote.

Article 26

The GA has the following responsibilities:

- enacts the Statute, other acts of elected MAPP bodies, and decides on their amendments;
- reviews and adopts the MAPP Work Program, strategies, annual reports, principles and guidelines;
- makes decisions on the establishment and termination of MAPP working groups, commissions and related organizational structures;
- reviews and adopts financial plans and reports;
- assesses MAPP activities, achieved results, and reviews the factual situation;
- decides for membership in other platforms and international organizations;
- makes decisions regarding the accession of new members and the termination of existing members;
- elects MAPP bodies;
- makes decisions on the termination of MAPP;
- performs other duties as stipulated by the Statute, other MAPP bodies, and proper legal regulations.

PRESIDENT

Article 27

The GA elects the President for a period of 2 years. The President has a right to be re-elected. In case of absence or performance incapability, the President is to be replaced by a member of the Executive Board that is appointed by the GA.

Article 28

Each MAPP member has the right to nominate a presidential candidate. The election of the candidate is determined by simple majority vote of GA representatives present at session.

Article 29

The President has the following rights and duties:

- calls and prepares the GA sessions;
- represents MAPP in all the legal matters;
- signs and cares for the implementation of all decisions, conclusions and other acts of the GA;
- together with the Secretary General, is the authorized signatory of the MAPP bank account;
- governs the Executive Board meetings;
- provides support for the work and activities of the GA, Executive Board, and other MAPP bodies;
- submits an annual report to the GA.

Article 30

The function of the President ceases:

- upon a personal demand; or
- upon a discharge proposal submitted by the Executive Board or any other MAPP members.

Article 31

The proposal for discharge of the President, including the reasoning, shall be elaborated in detail. The President is discharged by simple majority vote of the GA representatives present at session, upon previous thorough discussion of the submitted discharge proposal.

EXECUTIVE BOARD (EB)

Article 32

The Executive Board is composed of nine representatives. Each MAPP member has a right to nominate a representative to the EB. Representatives of the EB are elected by simple majority of the GA members present at session. Representatives of the EB are elected for a period of 4 years, with the possibility for re-election.

Article 33

The EB meets as required, and at least four times per year. The President governs the sessions of the EB. EB sessions can be attended by donors and other interested parties without voting rights.

Article 34

The EB decisions are valid if more than half of its representatives are present at session. The EB adopts its decisions by simple majority vote. Each EB representative has a right to one vote.

Article 35

The EB has the following responsibilities:

- participates in drafting and approves project proposals of common interest for MAPP members;
- adopts decisions for the acquisition and distribution of MAPP financial assets;
- prepares and proposes an annual financial plan;
- proposes and elects MAPP working groups and ad hoc work commissions;
- elaborates the MAPP strategic plans, Work Program and other acts as requested by the GA;
- calls extraordinary GA sessions;
- proposes accession and termination of MAPP membership;
- proposes the discharge of the President;
- determines the amount of membership fees and methods of payment;
- establishes and maintains the collaboration with relevant public institutions;
- submits an annual report to the GA.

SUPERVISORY BOARD (SB)

Article 36

The Supervisory Board has the following responsibilities:

- giving insight into the financial work of MAPP;
- conducting analyses of and controlling financial reports of MAPP bodies and working groups;
- controlling the acquisition and distribution of MAPP financial assets;
- pointing out irregularities that might result in the damage of MAPP financial records;
- submitting proposals and recommendations to the GA for recalling EB members and MAPP employees prior to the expiry of their tenure, as a result of inappropriate, illegal and work against the Statute;
- submitting an annual report to the GA.

DISTRIBUTION AND ACQUIRING OF ASSETS

Article 37

MAPP assets are to be acquired and used exclusively for the fulfilment of its aims and objectives.

Article 38

MAPP assets are ensured through:

- membership fees;
- donations;
- charities;
- gifts;
- organized profitable activities aimed at generating funds;
- funds allocated from the state budget, budgets of the local self-government units, and the budget of the city of Skopje; and
- other sources.

Article 39

The manner of acquisition and the distribution of MAPP assets is regulated by the Statute and in accordance with proper legal regulations.

Article 40

The EB decides on the acquisition and distribution of MAPP assets.

CONTROL MECHANISMS

Article 41

Overall control over MAPP functions are performed by the GA. Control over the MAPP financial work is performed by the SB. Control over the legality of MAPP work and activities is performed by the relevant public institutions.

Article 42

Each member has a right to initiate review of the MAPP work and activities before relevant MAPP bodies, in accordance with their area of responsibility, as established by the Statute and proper legal regulations. The relevant MAPP body is responsible for providing for submission, within reasonable a time, a written explanation regarding the member's initiative.

CESSATION

Article 43

MAPP ceases to exist:

- by majority decision of the GA members present at session;
- if the number of MAPP members falls under the legally-prescribed minimum;
- by relevant court decision;
- in other cases envisioned by law.

Article 44

In case of cessation, the remains of the MAPP property and assets will be distributed as stipulated by law.

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 45

Authoritative interpretation of the statutory provisions is provided by the GA, during a period that is in-between two GA sessions of the EB.

Article 46

This Statute becomes effective and legally binding to the members on the day of its adoption at the constitutive assembly session.

IT'S
POVERTY
TO DECIDE
THAT A CHILD
MUST DIE
SO THAT
WE CAN LIVE
AS WE WISH



Macedonian Anti-Poverty Platform – MAPP List of NGOs - members of MAPP

	Citizens' Association	Place	Priority field of work
1	Association for Health Education and Research HERA www.hera.org.mk Representative Mila Carovska (mila.carovska@hera.org.mk ; +389 078 332 305)	Skopje	Health protection
2	Association for Democratic Initiatives ADI - www.adi.org.mk Representative Ivana Vlahovic (ivana@adi.org.mk)	Gostivar	Human rights
3	Center for International Cooperation, Development and Implementation "Chekor Plus" Representative Kosta Galimanoski (galimanoski@yahoo.com ; +389 070 827 627)	Kicevo	Economic Development
4	Association of citizens "Nikulec" Representative Darko Petrovic (darkopetrovik@yahoo.com ; +389 070 891 446)	Negotino	Education
5	Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women in RM – ESE www.esem.org.mk Representative Aneta Petrushevska (humanrights@esem.org.mk ; +389 070 436 925)	Skopje	Women and Gender Equality
6	SOS Children's Village www.sos.org.mk Representative Mario Janchev (jancev@sos.org.mk ; +389 071 373 618)	Skopje	Elderly persons
7	Association for improvement of the conditions for care and accommodation of elderly and feeble persons "Humanost" (Humanity) www.humanost.org.mk Representative Jana Popovska (jana_popovska@yahoo.com ; +389 071 322 842)	Skopje	Children and Youth
8	Initiative for Social Change - InSoC www.insoc.org.mk Representative Samet Skenderi (samet.skenderi@insoc.org.mk ; +389 078 223 710)	Skopje	Roma
9	Association of defectologists and associates – "Podaj Raka" www.podajraka.org.mk Representative Meri Stojkova (meristojkova@yahoo.com ; +389 070 696 223)	Skopje	Persons with disabilities
10	Association of citizens "Forum for Safety" http://mfb.blog.mk/ Representative Marija Zlateva (zlateva.marija@yahoo.com ; +389 077 655 794)	Skopje	Safety and security in the communities
11	Organization of Women of the City of Skopje Representative Marjonka Petrovska (marpetrovska@yahoo.com ; +389 070 852 244)	Skopje	Women and Gender Equality
12	Association of citizens "Polio minus" Representative Zorica Talevska (zoricatalevska@yahoo.com ; +389 075 577 892)	Skopje	Persons with disabilities

13	Association for a fight against cancer – “Nov zivot” (New life) Representative Lidija Vasilevska (novzivot@hotmail.com ; +389 078 479 068)	Stip	Women and Gender Equality
14	National Council for Gender Equality – SOZM www.sozm.org.mk Representative Blagorodna Shopova (sozm@mt.net.mk ; +389 070 315 364)	Skopje	Women and Gender Equality
15	Association for support of socially excluded persons and groups at risk “Scorpion” Representative Rubin Arizankoski (rarizankoski@gmail.com ; +389 077 535 834)	Prilep	Social Inclusion
16	Institute for Strategic Research and Education - ISIE www.isie.org.mk Representative Julia Brsakoska (julijab@yahoo.com+389 070 575 087)	Skopje	Children and Youth
17	Association for humanitarian activities “Sinergija” (Synergy) www.sinergija.mk Representative Stojche Tashkov (sinergia_mkd@yahoo.com ; +389 071 270 970)	Stip	Humanitarian activities
18	Macedonian – Turkish association “Kemal Ataturk” Bitola Representative Senol Memis (senol_memis@yahoo.com ; +389 075 816 594)	Bitola	Humanitarian activities
19	Association of citizens “Svetla zvezda” Representative Dance Sotiroska (sotiroska_dance@yahoo.com ; +389 070 824 612)	Krusevo	Humanitarian activities
20	Association for Health Education, Prevention and better treatment “Hepta” www.nvohepta.mk Representative Biljana Mirceska (biljana.mirceska@gmail.com ; +389 070 600 484)	Skopje	Health protection
21	Association of Persons with Haemophilia of Macedonia “Hemolog” Representative Cvetanka Josifovska (josifovskacvetanka@gmail.com ; +389 071 243 264)	Bitola	Health protection
22	Association of citizens “Synthesis” Representative Danica Mladenovska (ddikoti@yahoo.com ; +389 078 517 736)	Skopje	Humanitarian activities
23	Women’s Organization of the municipality of Sveti Nikole www.womsvetnikole.org.mk Representative Aleksandra Kocevka (wom_org@yahoo.com ; +389 071 389 975)	Sveti Nikole	Women and Gender Equality
24	Association of citizens “Sumnal” www.sumnal.org Representative Elena Nesovska (elena_nesovska@yahoo.com ; +389 072 603 341)	Skopje	Education
25	Association for Sustainable Rural and Regional Development “Bela Vista” Representative Sasho Matovski (belavista.macedonia@yahoo.com ; +389 070 581 277)	Tetovo	Rural development
26	Foundation for Economic Development and Information Technology “Ler – IT” Representative Lazar Sokolovski (ler_it@yahoo.com)	Stip	Economic Development
27	Union of Balkan Egyptians www.ubaeg.org Representative Verica Dzijanovska (vericadzijanovska@yahoo.com ; +389 071 325 672)	Skopje	Minority protection

28	Association for improvement of the status of women in contemporary social processes "Women's Action" www.zenskaakcija.org.mk Representative Dragica Miloshevska (wactionmk@yahoo.com ; +389 070 590 014)	Skopje	Women and Gender Equality
29	Association of Roma citizens "Avena" Representative Dragancho Georgiev (avenakocani@yahoo.com +389 071 560 547)	Kocani	Roma
30	Union of independent and autonomous trade unions - UNASM www.unasm.org.mk Representative Divna Zmejkovska (divnaz@yahoo.com ; +389 070 727 467)	Skopje	Trade Union
31	Crisis Center Nadez (Hope) www.krizencentar.org.mk Representative Emilija Gievska info@krizencentar.org.mk	Skopje	Fight against domestic violence
32	Association of Social Workers http://zsr-skopje.mk Representative Vladimir Ilievski (zsr_skopje@yahoo.com +389 078 371 053)	Skopje	Association of social workers
33	Macedonian Scientific Society for Autism www.mssa.org.mk Representative Rozalija Davitkovska (rozaly23_d@yahoo.com)	Skopje	Persons with disabilities
34	Movement Against Disability "Polio Plus" www.polioplus.org.mk Representative Elena Kochoska elena@polioplus.org.mk ; +389 070 346 496	Skopje	Persons with disabilities
35	Association of citizens "Akcija Zdruzenska" www.zdruzenska.org.mk Representative Bobi Badarevski (badarevski@gmail.com : +389 071 442 169)	Skopje	Women and Gender Equality
36	Roma Resource Center http://blog.rrc.org.mk/ Representative Ersej Demirovski ersej.demirovski@rrc.org.mk ; +389 071 253 649	Skopje	Roma
37	Association for Child's Rights Representative Vladimir Ortakovski (ortak@sonet.com.mk ; +389 070 255 997)	Skopje	Children and Youth
38	Association of users of retiring and family pension "Solidarity – Aerodrom" Representative Ilija Gligorov (ilijag52@yahoo.com ; +389 070-648-064)	Skopje	Elderly persons
39	Association of citizens "Detska Nadez"(Children's hope) Representative Orhan Asan (orhan.oki.aerodrom@hotmail.com ; +389 078 614 146)	Skopje	Children and Youth
40	Regional Roma Network of Northeast and East Macedonia "Intelekt" (Intellect) Representative Juljeta Memedova (julietamemedova@hotmail.com; +389 070 481 394)	Delcevo	Roma
41	Association of citizens "Artizanati" Representative Giljman Osmani – Musliji (gilmane_osmani@hotmail.com ; +389 072/696-600)	Studenicani	Women and Gender Equality
42	Association for democratic development of Roma "Sonce" www.sonce.org.mk Representative Ferdi Ismaili (f.ismaili@sonce.org.mk ; +389 070 682 112)	Tetovo	Roma

POVERTY
IS THE
WORST
FORM
OF VIOLENCE



Macedonian Anti Poverty Platform
www.mpps.org.mk

The Macedonian Anti Poverty Platform (MAPP) is a network of 42 national civil society organizations. These organizations have established alliance in order to promote social equality and justice, participative democracy and citizens solidarity. They all share the same vision, which is Republic of Macedonia to be society of wellbeing, achieved gender equality and established system for democratic and accountable governance.

The main mission of MAPP is eradication of poverty and related problems in Republic of Macedonia, through promotion of social justice, participative democracy, protection of human rights, equality, non-discrimination and rule of law.

The Human Rights Based Approach, which promotes non-discrimination, participation, transparency and responsibility or accountability, will be the basis for all the actions undertaken by the MAPP.

MAPP believes that poverty, exclusion and discrimination are not an individual problem. These conditions are influencing everyone and each one of us, thus poverty and social exclusion are not related strictly to economic dependence, but they also present severe violation of human rights.

The platform will initiate networking with other European and international networks and alliances that share the same or similar values. MAPP will strive to provide responsibility and accountability of the relevant state public institutions and governmental institutions toward the implementation of their obligations undertaken on international level. The affirmation and promotion of EU policies, as well as of national policies directed toward eradication of poverty, social exclusion and discrimination are integral part of MAPP's objectives.

The process of establishment of the Macedonian Anti Poverty Platform was initiated and supported by the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, and financed by the Austrian Cooperation for Development (ADC).

For Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM)

<http://bim.lbg.ac.at/>

The Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM) in Vienna was established in 1992 as independent research centre with the aim of contributing to the scientific human rights discourse at the national, European and global level.

Human rights constitute the only universally recognized value system of our contemporary world and an essential element of democracy. We wish to contribute to the strengthening of human rights and to improve the living conditions of persons who are persecuted, discriminated against or otherwise marginalised.

We see ourselves as part of the scientific community, taking the role of an interlocutor between the state, business, media and civil society.

Our research is based on a holistic approach covering civil, political, economic, social, cultural and collective human rights. As human rights are relevant for all areas of life, the research approach in this field needs to be multidimensional and interdisciplinary.

Our research methods are dedicated to the principles of empowerment, equality of all human beings and the participation of all parties concerned.

Our work relates theory with practice. The results of our research establish the basis for our work in the fields of counselling, implementation, monitoring, education and university teaching.

Since 2006, the Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights (BIM) is present in the Republic of Macedonia with a project office in Skopje, which implements projects in the field of social inclusion, human rights and poverty reduction.

For Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC)

<http://www.entwicklung.at/>

The Austrian Development Cooperation is part of the Austrian external policy and EU development policy, which aims to promote world peace in cooperation with other industrialized countries and developing countries. The Austrian Development Agency (ADA) presents operational unit of the Austrian Cooperation for Development and cooperation in Eastern Europe.

The Austrian development policy is guided by the following objectives:

1. Combating poverty in developing countries through promotion of the economic and social development in a process of sustainable economic activity and economic growth combined with structural, institutional and social changes.
2. Provision of peace and security for the people, especially through promotion of democracy, rule of law, human rights and good governance.
3. Protection of environment and natural resources as a basis for sustainable development.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- UN Principles and Guidelines
- UN Philippine: RBA to Development Programming – Training Manual, July 2002
- UNESCO's Response, Human Rights-Based Approach to Programming, 2005
- CARE Human Rights Initiative, Basic Introduction to Human Rights and Rights Based Programming, Facilitators' Guidebook,
- Human Rights in the context of UN Reform, (ppt. file), June 2007
- Save the Children, Child Rights Situation Analysis, July 2008
- Joachim, Promoting rights-based approaches experiences and ideas from Asia and the Pacific, Save the Children, Sweden, THEIS, 2004
- HRBA to Programming, Facilitation Guide, OHCHR, 2007
- IHRNA – HRBA to Development, www.ihrn.org
- UNDAF, Tool for UNCTs: Human Rights Based Analytical Tools for a Common Country Assessment, February, 2006
- GTZ Eschborn, Documentation: Human Rights Based Approaches in Development Cooperation Workshop for Consultants, Facilitators and Advisors, September, 2008
- ActionAid, Human Rights Based Approaches and the European Union Development Aid Policies, 2008
- Aanchal Kapur and Nata Duvvury, ICRW, A right based approach to realizing economic and social rights of poor and marginalized women, 2006
- Raul Wallenberg Institute, HRBA to Development,
- AM Ireland, Our Rights, Our Future Human Rights Based Approaches in Ireland: Principles, Policies and Practice,
- Methodology and Tools for Human Rights Based Assessment and Analysis; Rights Based Municipal Assessment and Planning Project, 2004
- Manfred Novak, Human Rights and Poverty Reduction,. Conceptual Framework, OHCHR, 2004
- Urban Jonsson, HRA to Development Programming, UNICEF, April 2003
- Urban Jonsson, A Human Rights-Based Approach to Development, Experiences, Issues and Challenges, RWI Conference, 16 September 2008, Lund, Sweden
- Jakob Kirkemann and Tomas Martin, Applying HRBA, an inspirational guide for civil society, 2007
- Nyamu-Musembi and Andrea Cornwall, 'What is the "rights-based approach" all about? Perspectives from international development agencies' Institute of Development Studies, IDS Working Paper 234, Sussex, 2004
- Malcolm Malone and Deryke Belshaw, HRBA to Development, Transformation, April, 2003
- Hisayo Katsui, Negotiating the Human Rights-Based Approach and the Charity-Based Approach in Development Cooperation Activities: Experiences of Deaf Women in Uganda, 2008

- Robert Nash, Alan Hudson, and Cecilia Luttrell, Mapping the Political Context, A toolkit for civil society organization, July 2006
- William O'Neil CCA/UNDAF and RBA study, HURIST, November, 2004
- International and national human rights related legal and policy framework in anti poverty and social inclusion field, BIM 2010
- On the Path to EU: A contribution of the civil society sector in the creation of the policy of social inclusion in the Republic of Macedonia, 2008

WEBSITES

- <http://hrbaportal.org/>
- <http://www.undg.org/index.cfm?P=221>
- <http://www.undg.org/index.cfm?P=531>
- <http://www.unescobkk.org/en/education/appeal/programme-themes/lessons-learned-project/hrba-links/hrba-links/introduction/>
- <http://www.unescobkk.org/en/education/appeal/programme-themes/lessons-learned-project/hrba-links/hrba-links/general-documents/>
- <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Pages/WelcomePage.aspx>
- <http://www.unicef.org/rightsresults/index.html>
- <http://www.unfpa.org/rights/approaches.htm>
- <http://www1.umn.edu/humanrts/>
- <http://www.amnesty.ie/>





MACEDONIAN ANTI-POVERTY
PLATFORM

MACEDONIAN ANTI-POVERTY PLATFORM
HANDBOOK