



Annual Report 2005



CIVIC ASSOCIATION DEVELOPMENT WORLDWIDE

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Introduction

DEVELOPMENT WORLDWIDE (DWW), civic association, was founded in the autumn 2001 and started with its activities in 2002. From the very beginning we concentrated mainly on the improvement of the Czech official development assistance (ODA) system and on strengthening the role of Czech organizations and experts in this field. Our overall long-term goal is the raised quality of development projects and programs, effective cooperation at both national and international level and real improvement of our developing partners' situation.

Just four years of our existence have brought number of valuable experience:

- § Since 2001, we regularly conduct workshops at the Summer School of Development and Humanitarian Assistance organized by the Palacky University in Olomouc.
- § In 2002, we became a founding member of the "FoRS - Czech Forum for Development Co-operation", a national platform of non-governmental non-profit organizations (NGOs) working in the field of development assistance, development education and humanitarian aid. Among other activities within the platform, DWW has been represented in its Secretariat and Managing Board.
- § In 2002, we initiated the program of official trainings and seminars focused on ODA Project Cycle Management in co-operation with the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and Development Centre of the Institute of International Relations (DC IIR).
- § In 2002 and 2003, we took a share in the introduction of the Canadian ODACE programme, aiming at capacity building of emerging donor countries in Central Europe.
- § In the autumn 2003, we participated in introduction of the new Slovak development assistance system as well as in the initial trainings of key Slovak development actors.
- § Since 2003, we take part in the expert appraisal of ODA project proposals.
- § In 2004, we succeeded in the first Call for proposals under the new grant scheme of the MFA dedicated to NGO capacity building. This grant programme was established thanks to the effort of the national NGDO platform FoRS.
- § Since 2004, we closely cooperate with the DC IIR and MFA in ODA evaluation.
- § Since autumn 2004, we conduct a regular one-semester course on "ODA Project Management" at the University of Economics in Prague.
- § In 2004, we also assisted in ODA systems building in Lithuania and Latvia (co-operation continued throughout 2005 as well).
- § In 2005, we succeeded in the MFA grant programme again, we launched a pilot project in Vietnam under the new MFA and ODACE grant scheme for trilateral projects; and initiated a project in Malawi funded by private donors. We also gained the support in a trilateral Regional Partnership Programme for Austria and Neighbouring New Member States. All mentioned projects will be described in more details in the Annual Report.

The above list brings a proof that development activities can be meaningful if they are based on common ideals and if they are supported by all stakeholders.

International ODA must principally start with an open co-operation at national and European level. We support such cooperation and we believe we are not alone in our effort.



Daniel Svoboda, DWW Vice-Chairman

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DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION - ENHANCING CZECH DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

When implementing our project on “Development education - enhancing Czech ODA” supported by the “ODA Education” grant of the Czech MFA, we concentrated our activities on six specific fields where DWW can offer expertise and long-time experience:

A) Finalization of Czech ODA guidelines and training of the relevant partners

- Ø DWW commented and suggested some crucial modifications of several key government documents: Country strategy papers for Vietnam, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Mongolia, Regulations of the Czech ODA and Manual on Project Cycle Management of the Czech ODA (published at the beginning of 2006).
- Ø DWW organized and lectured training for FoRS members (with a participation of representatives of Development Centre IIR, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Agriculture) on 8th and 9th December 2005; more seminars were planned but postponed due to delay in publishing the Manual.
- Ø DWW realized special seminars at the Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague and at the Slovak Technical University in Trnava and individual trainings for the staff of Czech Caritas (Project Cycle Management) and ADRA (preparation for RPP projects appraisal); organization of a seminar for the Czech Association of Water Managers was postponed till the beginning of 2006.
- Ø Consultations for NGOs as well as for institutional partners; and facilitation of contacts between both national and international development organizations were essential parts of our activities. We were also involved in experience exchange among new member states of EU (Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia).

B) Regular participation in the Summer School of the UP in Olomouc

- Ø DWW prepared and lectured 2 workshops for the Summer School of Development and Humanitarian Assistance at the Palacky University in Olomouc and afterwards another 2 workshops for EADI Summer School at the University of Economics in Prague.

C) Seminars on “ODA Project Management” at the University of Economics in Prague

- Ø DWW lector, Mgr. Daniel Svoboda, together with PhDr. Lenka Adamcová and Mgr. Petr Halaxa designed the syllabi for accreditation of a Minor on Development Studies at the University of Economics in Prague. During 2005, two semesters on “ODA Project Management” were taught (2 academic credits each) with a participation of 16 students. Based on the previous experience, the content of the course has been updated and more interactive exercises have been included. The seminar will continue in 2006.

D) Preparation of a guide for Czech NGOs

- Ø “European Union’s Development Funds”, a manual for Czech NGOs was published in December 2005 and is being distributed to all partners. The preliminary demand exceeds the expectations so the number of prints has been increased from 100 to 150 (88 pages). The manual should serve as a guide to facilitate the NGOs’ orientation among the funding opportunities offered by various European programmes. Its electronic version containing hypertext links is available on the DWW web pages www.dww.cz.



E) Support for the FoRS platform and its involvement in preparation of ODA strategies

- Ø DWW continued in management and administration of FoRS platform (*Daniel Svoboda - Vice-chair of Managing Board, Jana Pícková - assistant to the FoRS Secretariat*)
- Ø We were involved in the preparation of most of the expert position papers regarding both Czech development partners and EU institutions.
- Ø We represented FoRS at the majority of events organized by MFA, DC IIR or foreign partners (e.g. A.R.S. Progetti, RBEC UNDP Bratislava, A.R.S. Progetti & MFA Riga, TRIALOG Vienna), organised roundtable on development co-operation with Vietnam or participated in a panel discussion on Vietnam organized by organisation AMO.
- Ø We participated in several activities under the TRIALOG and ODACE projects and collaborated in preparation and initialization of the new trilateral programme RPP (Regional Partnership Programme for Austria and Neighbouring New Member States) where we represent FoRS in the RPP Steering Committee.
- Ø At the end of the year 2005, we joined international working group “EU Funding for Development and Relief” (FDR) under the European NGO Confederation for Relief and Development (CONCORD).



F) Ongoing DWW involvement in monitoring and evaluation of development projects and in Country Strategy Papers preparation

- Ø DWW manages FoRS working group for Vietnam, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Mongolia, in addition we are members of WGs for Serbia and Monte Negro and for Development Education.
- Ø In 2005, we were involved in evaluation of three UNDP projects concerning “hot spots” that were prepared as a follow up of a workshop and of a common publication UNDP and Ministry of Environment called “Environmental Hot Spot Remediation - The Czech Experience“(11/2004). Two of the projects have already started with the support of UNDP Trust Fund and UNDP Regional Programme.
- Ø We participated in evaluation of the second most financially demanding Czech ODA project (“Coal-Mines and Power Supply Recovery in Bosnia and Herzegovina”) and in appraisal of 30 project proposals for non-priority countries of the Czech ODA as well as of 2 proposals for humanitarian aid for Bulgaria.
- Ø We also undertook internal participatory evaluation of our trilateral project in Vietnam. The results were presented to local partners in Bac Ninh province during roundtable discussions and to Czech and Canadian Embassy representatives in Hanoi as well as to Czech partners in Prague.
- Ø Besides the above mentioned expert comments to the Czech strategy documents, we took part in preparation of the CONCORD position papers concerning, among others, cooperation of the EC and civil society, planned modification of rules for 2006 or EU environmental policy concept.



INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Within the second phase of the ODACE programme supported by Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and Czech MFA, DWW together with a Canadian organization Alternatives prepared and realized a pilot trilateral project **“Improvement of Environmental Situation in the Paper Producing Villages Duong O, Phong Khe, Yen Phong in the Bac Ninh Province”** in Vietnam. Its results were presented during four workshops (two in Vietnam and two in the Czech Republic) by the end of 2005. Based on the results appreciated by all stakeholders and after the partners’ agreement, it was decided to propose a follow up project for Phong Khe commune **„Environmentally Friendly Production - Demonstration of Benefits”**.



New project, again within the ODACE programme, will be focused on waste water recycling and on awareness raising and preventive measures concerning environmental and health risks.

DWW with two Czech and several foreign volunteers launched a private-funded development project in Malawi **“New Chance for New Generation”**. The project is focused on pre-school facility construction, educational support and social development in a selected community. The project team was well established in the community by the end of 2005, finished the construction works and is going to stay with the projects for two more years.

There was another trilateral project ran by DWW and an Austrian partner organization Welthaus Diözese Graz-Seckau, approved by the Austrian government and Czech MFA under new trilateral programme RPP. The project **“Strengthening capacity of Vietnam Environmental Fund through transfer of experience from Central and Eastern European environmental funds”** will be initiated in 2006 and it is focused on sustainable development, environment protection co-operation and human health issues.

OTHER AD HOC ACTIVITIES ACCORDING TO THE NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Participation in national and international development co-operation events

- Ø Besides continuous actions organized in cooperation with neighbouring countries (e.g. Fund-Raising Training held in Prague 8th - 10th March 2005 or Central NGDO Training in Bratislava 14th - 15th March 2005 organized by TRIALOG programme), we participated in the First Biennial Conference of the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS) held in New Delhi in April 2005 and in the following IDEAS project team workshop held in Cairo in November 2005. During the workshop we presented 3 project proposals on behalf of the Czech Republic; one of them concerning academic co-operation in the field of development education has been approved and included into the IDEAS working plan. Moreover, we proposed the next IDEAS conference in 2007 to be held in Prague.



Co-operation within the national NGDO platform FoRS

- Ø Beside the ordinary agenda for FoRS platform, we would like to mention a meeting with the European Commissioner for Development, Mr. Louis Michel on 25th February 2005 or active involvement in preparation and realization of two seminars in the Czech Parliament

and Senate at the beginning of 2005: “EU Development Co-operation - Principles, Instruments and Financing” organized by A.R.S. Progetti on 4th March 2005 and Development Centre’s seminar on development education held on 29th April 2005.

- Ø Out from the joint activities of the FoRS, we can mention the collaboration with Volonté organization in the preparation of a training module GLODEV or common preparation of a training module for NGOs with ADRA and other FoRS members. The latter was successfully presented as the project proposal within the JPD-3 programme of the EU Structural funds at the beginning of 2006.

Continuous consultancy and advisory services, facilitation of contacts

- Ø DWW was continuously providing consultations to the FoRS members (e.g. to EDUCON for the project “Czechia Against Poverty” or to Likvidace Lepry for a project proposal submitted to the Presidency Fund). While cooperating with assistants and students of the University of Economics in Prague, we prepared a project proposal presented to the Internal Grant Agency (unfortunately without success) and we advised and assessed one graduation thesis.

International exchange of experience

- Ø Besides the above mentioned workshops on “Project Cycle Management” at Slovak Technical University held in Trnava on 8th June 2005, we were engaged in the UNDP analysis of the emerging development constituency in Lithuania and Latvia where we conducted three workshops directed especially to ministries and NGOs representatives. We gave consultations to Slovak development projects applicants and stayed in contact with the ACU UNDP and Slovak MFA. The Hungarian ODA system was virtually derived from the one prepared by us for Slovakia at the end of 2003.

Preparation and realization of trilateral projects

- Ø The support for the realization of UNDP trilateral projects (projects in Kazakhstan and Albania, consequential to our activities related to environmental hot spots events in 2004, have been launched) as well as DWW’s own trilateral projects have been already mentioned. We consider their demonstrative character as highly beneficial as we openly share our experience, both positive and negative, with other partners.
- Ø There are consultations running between DWW and Luxembourg partners related to the possibilities of future trilateral co-operation. We are awaiting progress in the negotiations at the beginning of 2006.

DWW PROJECTS’ CONTRIBUTION TO THE TARGET GROUPS

- § Based on our practical experience we are trying to influence a set-up of a functional system of development assistance and education. That is why we consider the **staff of Czech MFA, Development Centre and line ministries** as one of the key target groups. Our project experience as well as experience with adjusting and enforcing functional and effective ODA regulations can be well employed by these target groups. We believe that DWW’s comments and suggestions have helped to eliminate certain critical moments of the Czech ODA system which could otherwise led to its infirmity or even collapse. Nothing but practice can reveal more constraints of the system and DWW is ready to actively participate in their identification and chiefly in seeking the solutions.



- § As we prepare and examine training modules in the educational process, we consider **university students and lecturers** as another important target group. When conducting seminars we aim at a mutually open and partner approach which is very useful also for evaluation and consequent update of given modules. We strongly believe that this target group benefits from result based management trainings as this approach increases their employment credits, moreover potentials of the whole programme of Czech development assistance would prosper from their capacities acquired.



- § Thirdly, in order to have a feed back and to link theory, research and practice, we direct our activities towards the **project managers** especially from **NGDO sector**. Knowledge and experience exchange should lead to quality increase, to improved and effective management and consequently to stronger impacts of development projects. This would hopefully raise the chances of the mentioned target group to succeed in the raising both national and international development “competition”.

- § The most important target group, however, are definitely the final beneficiaries of development projects - **our partners in developing countries**. All activities we do must serve to their own interests and must gain their direct support.

Our motto reads as follows: International development assistance has to be based on effective co-operation already at national level and on intensive communication among donor and partner institutions. Therefore we strive to promote the partnership principle in all the projects and activities we do, we seek for mutual benefits and learning. Such approach should help to fulfil the theory of changes and prove the added value of high-quality work.

PROJECT'S CONTRIBUTION TO DWW TEAM

As already mentioned, development assistance and development education is based on experience transfer, mutual learning and capacity building of all the partners. Our project managers acquired invaluable experience and established many new and promising friendly relations throughout the year 2005. The DWW team is convinced, and it has been proven true so far, that this experience and the ties we gained would fructify in our future development activities.



CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

DWW actively contributed to the positive changes made in the Czech system of development assistance and to strengthening of relationships with international partners:



- § we influenced new procedures of Czech ODA and wrote position papers to many strategic documents;
- § we participated in developing CSPs for Czech ODA priority countries;
- § we were supporting raising quality of development projects by participating in their selection, implementing our experience gained from projects' evaluation and from consultancy and educational activities;

- § we promoted the interest for development issues thanks to collaboration with universities, their students and lecturers and we identified students and volunteers for certain development activities;
- § we have contributed to increased co-operation among member organization of national NGDO platform FoRS and among different sectors in the Czech Republic, furthermore we helped to strengthen the FoRS position both at national and international level;
- § we managed to reinforce experience transfer among new and old EU member states (thanks to UNDP projects or direct involvement in CONCORD activities among others) and through International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS) we aim at worldwide change of the approach towards higher effectiveness of development co-operation;
- § we showed the way to other organizations when realizing two pilot trilateral projects under the ODACE and RPP programmes;
- § we prepared a manual “European Union’s Development Funds“ which is intended to serve as a guide to better understanding EU development policy and the opportunities how to use and influence it;



The overall evaluation of the year 2005 makes us suggest several recommendations or more precisely priority tasks for our civic association in the following year 2006:



- Ø we should focus on capacity stabilization of DWW team and on assuring necessary technical and expert backup, furthermore we should prepare ourselves (and other organizations) for the possibilities to join the EU and other international programs;
- Ø we should concentrate on Vietnam as our strategic region and promote coordinated programmatic approach of Czech development co-operation, we should continue with our project in Malawi and verify the possibilities of co-operation with Bosnia and Herzegovina and with Serbia and Monte Negro;
- Ø we should go on with human resources development, more specifically conduct seminars and trainings together with Czech MFA, Development Centre, FoRS platform and with particular universities; we should try to involve line ministries, too;
- Ø we should continue working for IDEAS and attempt to push through the organization of next IDEAS international conference in Prague;
- Ø finally, we should support the operation of FoRS and of CONCORD working groups.

BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT DWW, CIVIC ASSOCIATION

PRIORITY AREAS OF DWW ACTIVITIES

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION AND RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS

(seminars, workshops, conferences, publications)

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

(ODA trainings and education of experts and students)

CONSULTANCY AND ADVISORY SERVICES

(for all the government and non-government bodies)

IMPLEMENTING OF HIGH STANDARDS INTO CZECH ODA SYSTEM

(effective project cycle management, sustainability and result based orientation)

ASSISTANCE BY BUILDING THE CZECH DEVELOPMENT CONSTITUENCY

(enhancing capacities, especially co-operation with FoRS, Development Centre and MFA)

PREPARATION, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF ODA PROJECTS

(emphasis on pilot projects and on demonstration of procedures and results)

FACILITATING CONTACTS WITH DEVELOPING AND DONOR COUNTRIES

(appropriate response to the needs and opportunities)

DWW MEMBERS

At present DWW has 22 members with specific expert experience covering a wide range of development problems, especially in the following areas:

- ú environmental protection, including environmental management systems
- ú geology, hydrogeology, geochemistry and geophysics
- ú community works - human health protection, social care, work with children
- ú development education and awareness
- ú support to small and medium size enterprise
- ú financial instruments for sustainable development and development institutions building

DWW and its individual members are actively engaged in building the new ODA systems in the Czech Republic, as well as in Slovakia, Latvia and Lithuania. DWW members have working experience in the following countries:

Ÿ Afghanistan Ÿ Albania Ÿ Belgium Ÿ Bolivia Ÿ Bosnia a Herzegovina Ÿ Bulgaria Ÿ Egypt
Ÿ Estonia Ÿ Philippines Ÿ France Ÿ Georgia Ÿ Croatia Ÿ India Ÿ Iran Ÿ Ireland Ÿ Israel
Ÿ Cameroon Ÿ Canada (among others: WB International Programme for Development
Evaluation Training - IPDET) Ÿ Latvia Ÿ Libya Ÿ Lithuania Ÿ Luxembourg Ÿ Hungary Ÿ
Macedonia Ÿ Malawi Ÿ Moldavia Ÿ Mongolia Ÿ Germany Ÿ Palestine Ÿ Peru Ÿ Poland Ÿ Austria
Ÿ Romania Ÿ Greece Ÿ Slovakia Ÿ Slovenia Ÿ Serbia and Monte Negro Ÿ Sudan Ÿ Syria Ÿ Spain
Ÿ Tanzania Ÿ Tunis Ÿ Turkey Ÿ United Kingdom Ÿ Vietnam Ÿ Zambia.

Prague, 5th May, 2006