

**Nile Basin Initiative (NBI)  
Confidence Building and Stakeholders Involvement (CBSI), Project.**

**Annual Report 2008**

**Report for:** ANNUAL REPORT 2008

**Person Reporting:** TESFAYE WOLDE-MIHRET

**Country:** ETHIOPIA

**Date:**

Element	Activity done	No of Participants	Male	Female	Remarks
<b>21-22 March 2008: NPC Supported facilitation of NBDF 2008 National Conference</b>	National NBDF 2008 successfully conducted from 21-22 March 2008. Over 150 people participated and a total of 17 Technical Papers covering a wide range of disciplines and topics had been presented and discussed. Participants' awareness of NBI issues and activities increased. CBSI National Office was a Secretariat for the National NBDF 2008 as it was for the Regional in 2006.	150			
<b>CBDF Supported preparation of a proposal of Tansboundary activities along the border between Ethiopia and Sudan at a place called Metema. A proposed, mainly prprepared by civil society forum-EtNBDF.</b>	A proposal for a joint cultural & Musical and border trade related discussions event in Metema border town of Ethiopia where Sudanese and Ethiopians border communities are to participate prepared by a civil society group under EthNBDF prepared.				
<b>Produce and disseminate NBI communication materials</b>	NBI promotion materials produced and being distributed: T-shirts, Caps and pens. (500 each)				
<b>CBSI national office subscribed to 4 Newspapers to monitor press media.</b>	CBSI National Office subscribed to four National News Papers, 1. The <b>Ethiopian Herald</b> ; 2. <b>Addis Zemen</b> (Amharic) and from the private press, the Amharic and English News Papers- <b>the Reporter</b> . <b>Our media monitoring tasks are improving.</b>				

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<b>Strengthen National NBI Offices</b>	Bookshelf, Computer information system, Video Camera, and Digital photo Camera procured for NBI national office in 2008.				
<b>April 2-5 2008: The NPC conducted preliminary consultative meeting with officials of Tigray State.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The NPC conducted <b>preliminary consultative meeting</b> with officials of Tigray State of Ethiopia on future planned activities and collaborations to organize regional meetings on NBI issues, operations and processes for regional governmental and non-governmental Stakeholders. As a result of this consultation an agreement was reached that a regional high level governmental stakeholder's workshop be organized first in May 2008 with the involvement of the Ministry of Water Resources. Workshop participants were identified and tasks that each party plays for the workshop preparation have been agreed. Line of communication has been established between the Water Bureau of Tigray and the National NBI office, contact person designated on behalf of the regional water bureau.</li> </ul>	4	4		
<b>May 20-21, 2008: National Sensitisation Forums for Govt. ministries and District and Local Government.</b>	<b>Mekalle Governmental Stakeholders Orientation workshop on NBI issues, operations and processes conducted.</b> The Honourable president of the state of Tigray and Honourable Minister of Water resources, Nile-TAC member and Cabinet members of the state and other invited high level government officials attended the workshop. The outcome of the workshop was impressive in that participants were sensitized and substantially increased their understanding of NBI and the ongoing cooperative process. Issues presented and discussed were the Cooperative Framework Agreement (CFA), SAP and SVP projects implementation progress and their contributions to regional and national economic development and capacity building.	37	34	3	Officials present at the meeting requested the Minister for Water and NBI/CBSI for regular updates on the progress of the NBI.

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<b>02-05 September 2008: Field Trip to Amhara Regional State capital Bahir Dar on consultative meetings with officials on upcoming Governmental and non-governmental stakeholders NBI orientation workshops</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Had a meeting with officials of the regional Water Bureau,</li> <li>• CBSI and the regional water Bureau agreed to conduct a one-day workshop for high-level governmental stakeholders on NBI issues, operations and processes.</li> <li>• Identification of participants be made by the regional authorities</li> <li>• Appropriate venue be in one of Government institutions conference halls: The Amhara Development Association</li> <li>• Agreed after consulting the Minister for Water H.E. Ato Asfaw Dingamo that the regional workshop be conducted some time mid of October 2008.</li> <li>• Preparations are now underway for the Amhara regional Workshop.</li> </ul>				
<b>December 11 2008: Bahir Dar Governmental Stakeholders workshop on NBI issues, operations and process</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The workshop took place in Bahir Dar, the capital of the Amhara state of Ethiopia.</li> <li>• Participants were high-level government officials and senior civil servants of the state government.</li> <li>• The workshop was attended and moderated by H.E. Asfaw Dingamo the minister for water and the Nile-TAC member Teferra Beyene.</li> <li>• There was effective support and cooperation from the ministry of water and the water bureau of the Amhara state for the successful outcome of the workshop.</li> <li>• The venue for the meeting was at the Agricultural Research Institute of the Amhara state, they provided us the conference hall for free.</li> <li>• ENTRO was also a participant by way of presenting its activities and the progress of implementation.</li> <li>• Issues discussed and drafted as agendas for the day were: Pre-NBI Initiatives for cooperation on the Nile; NBI emergence, process, structures and prospects; NBI Strategic Action programme with details of the Shared Vision programme and the Shared Vision programme under ENTRO.</li> <li>• The Cooperative Framework Agreement had been discussed at length and in depth. The discussion had been very well moderated by H.E. the minister and the TAC member.</li> </ul>	47	42	5	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NPC presented the SVP programme and a regional project coordinator from ENTRO presented the SAPs.</li> <li>• Participants acknowledged the information and knowledge they gained from the workshop;</li> <li>• Their main concern was the delay of the signing of the cooperative framework Agreement if it was for some countries to frustrate the ongoing cooperation and effort by NBI member countries.</li> <li>• They called for more discussion and up to date information the ongoing cooperation process under NBI.</li> <li>• Issues like if the countries do not agree, how is that the basin to be protected and developed in a sustainable manner</li> <li>• What other contingency plans or options have countries planned in case they are not signing the cooperative framework agreement in time?</li> <li>• The continuity of support from donors/development partners was also an issue.</li> <li>• They also rose if at all there is a study which shows development activities and their impacts on both the upstream and down stream countries.</li> <li>• The continuity of support from donors/development partners was also an issue.</li> <li>• They also rose if at all there is a study which shows development activities and their impacts on both the upstream and down stream countries.</li> </ul>				

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<p><b>November 16-19,2008: CBSI NPC field visit to Gambella, capital of the Gambella regional national state on preliminary consultative meeting with Water resources bureau officials and assessing the awareness of government institutions and non-governmental organizations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Held discussion with head of the water bureau and his team and invited guests from other relevant bureaux on the level of awareness of government officials and civil servants on the ongoing NBI cooperation and its activities;</li> <li>• The government officers in the water bureau told the NPC that some of them who are placed in higher positions of the bureau have the knowledge and information about NBI and its activities in Ethiopia;</li> <li>• They requested that NBI orientation workshops for high level government officials and senior civil servant will be helpful to have good level of understanding of the cooperative process for the Nile;</li> <li>• In order to have adequate participation in the Baro-Akobo-Sobat multi purpose integrated water resources development project under ENTRO, awareness creation workshops remain to be important , according to the officials met during the field visit;</li> <li>• CBSI NPC promised them that all necessary efforts will be done in collaboration with the ministry of water resources to convene the necessary workshops for governmental stakeholders some time early next year(2009);</li> <li>• Ministry of Water Resources and its officials including H.E. the Minster and the TAC member believe that such workshops be conducted in all the states of FDRE falling in the Nile portion of Ethiopia.</li> </ul>				
<p><b>April 15, 2008: Facilitate regular SVP/SAP coordination meetings at National NBI Offices</b></p>	<p>First Intra- NBI Coordination meeting for the year held for one day. Main agenda of the meeting was NBI National Coordination Strategy. This was a discussion held for the first time. Participants noted that coordination should be better strengthened, and most of the strategies proposed for implementation were noted to be useful for national coordination. Participants noted that the formation of the proposed inter-ministerial steering committee and designation of a desk officer to support the TAC member are important. The meeting recommended that the TAC member with the support and consultation of relevant NPCs take quick action to implement those areas of the strategy that are noted by the meeting participants as important and useful.</p>	11	9	2	

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<b>November 4, 2008: Intra-NBI (SVP&amp;SAP) regular Coordination meeting (the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting in the year 2008)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exchange of information about NBI projects implementation progress and challenges and problems encountered;</li> <li>• Discussed on how to integrate NBI projects with national plans;</li> <li>• Exchange views on implementation of NBI coordination strategy</li> <li>• Most NPCs raised the impact of lengthy procurement process on implementation of projects;</li> <li>• Discussed also the phase out strategy in order to maintain outputs or fruits of the Projects nearing completion;</li> <li>• NBI national office commented accessing allocated fund was not easy;</li> <li>• SAP projects coordinated by government seconded NPCs who are not full time is creating delays in implementation;</li> <li>• Need for establishing Nile research institute has been emphasized;</li> <li>• Participants reiterated the importance of a focal point in accordance with the recommendations of the NBI coordination strategy.</li> <li>• After a request from the Ministry of Water resources to support celebrations of International Water Day on 22 March 2008, CBSI National office sponsored a one-day workshop titled as ‘Media and Water’ organized for journalists and Public relation officers of Federal ministries. Much of the issues covered in the workshop were issues related to sanitation and water supply and the role of media in sensitizing the general public. Participants understanding of sanitation and water supply issues in Ethiopia improved and the need for capacity building of journalists and public relations officers was noted.</li> </ul>	13	10	3	

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<p><b>June 21-24, 2008: Collaborate with Government Stakeholders and NBI Family, CBSI/Ethiopia Support to Ministry of Water.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon the request and invitation of ENTRO and the support from CBSI PMU/RPM the NPCs of the three Eastern Nile countries-Egypt, Ethiopia and Sudan participated in the ENTRO-ENSAP Cairo workshop focussed on ENTRO-ENSAP Linkages, Coordination and consultation.</li> <li>• The workshop helped CBSI NPCs to better know and understand ENTRO's activities, projects and the institutional set up. Ongoing activities and those on the pipeline were discussed. The need for more coordination and synergy was emphasized. Helps for better work with ENTRO, especially when consultations and orientations are to be made on NBI issues, operations, and processes at corporate, sub regional and national levels.</li> </ul>	36	33	3	
<p><b>April 24, 2008: Organize forums to sensitize and network with identified non-governmental stakeholders at country level</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A one-day workshop for Non-governmental stakeholders on devising the mechanisms of involvement and participation of NGOs and civil society groups conducted. The workshop mainly dealt with issues and ways of concretizing involvement of Non-governmental stakeholders in NBI.</li> <li>• An appraisal of NGO participation in NBI was presented by EtNBDF and highlights of ongoing NBI activities at national and regional levels were given. Participants agreed to seek for best ways of mainstreaming of NBI issues and activities to other existing networks in the water sector of Ethiopia.</li> <li>• Issues like linking NBDF to grassroots and possibilities of involvement of civil societies in the negotiation process of the Nile were raised.</li> <li>• Possibilities must be sought to conduct series of conferences   Similar to the Nile 2002 conferences by NBD.</li> </ul>	15	13	2	

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<p><b>April 30, 2008: National Opinion Leaders CB Forums (Elders, Lawyers and other duplicators): A MEETING FOR ELDERS</b></p>	<p>Distinguished Elders National workshop on NBI processes and issues, and the progress after the Nairobi Distinguished Elders workshop conducted.</p> <p>A four- member task force formed to coordinate the formation of National Distinguished Elders forum. Participants were drawn from various carrier backgrounds: Ambassadors, Managers, senior water professionals, university professors, and private consultants. From NBI family-ENTRO ED and his staff, WRPM Lead specialist, CBSI, TAC-members etc.</p> <p>Though all SVP and SAP projects implementation progress and their benefits for the people were discussed, the Cooperative Framework Agreement was discussed in depth and at length.</p> <p>The Elders committed themselves to play Advisory role in the cooperative process whenever they are needed. They appreciated the way governments have handled the Nile issues, but requested for more clarity of concepts and principles articulated by NBI.</p>	16	15	1	
<p><b>July 15, 2008 Media Managers and Managing Editors NBI Sensitization /Awareness Creation Workshop</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-NBI Initiatives for Cooperation on the Nile and the emergence of NBI was presented and discussed;</li> <li>• Highlights on SVP and SAP programmes from Media support and involvement;</li> <li>• NBI/ENTRO Communication Strategy presented and discussed;</li> <li>• The role and progress of NMN at national and regional levels discussed;</li> <li>• The meeting finally urged Media Executives to sustain ably promote NBI objectives, principles, programmes and activities</li> <li>• Understanding reached that Media outlets involvement in NBI has very much limited to giving coverage of events ;</li> <li>• The Participants also commented that concerned NBI organs have not done enough in utilizing the media institutions by way of providing the best ways that Media organization can work closely with NBI.</li> <li>• Agreed was that the NMN national chapter be strengthened to facilitate involvement of journalists in NBI issues, operations and processes apart form covering of NBI events.</li> </ul>	16	12	4	



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November 11-13, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two Journalists from Press and TV participated in the workshop on developing a Nile Basin Chapter workshop for Media Networks held in Nairobi, Kenya.</li> </ul>				
November 17 – 19, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One Journalist from the Press Media participated in the Nile Basin Development Forum 2008 (NBDF) held in Khartoum, Sudan.</li> </ul>				
<b>December 7, 2008: Nile Media Network National Chapter meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This meeting was conducted at Imperial Hotel in Addis Ababa;</li> <li>Participants were mainly journalists who are members of the Chapter and some few who came for the first time to such NBI meeting.</li> <li>Issues discussed and achieved consensus were: promotional role and tasks of national media outlets; the River Nile as a national agenda and as a means for regional cooperation; Media reporting on NBI activities to date and in future; Mechanisms to strengthen NMN national chapter, and strengthening journalists in general in NBI issues, operations and processes.</li> <li>NMN members agreed to integrate and mainstream NBI issues in their work programmes and institutional overall plans.</li> <li>Have committed to undertake some programmes over the following one and two months as part of their national commitment for the ongoing NBI process.</li> <li>Agreed to finalize the ongoing process to register the NMN national chapter with relevant authorities of Government.</li> <li>Replacements of some members of the Executive Committee who failed to fulfil their commitments took place.</li> <li>They agreed to work better in 2009.</li> </ul>	26	3	23	
<b>July 16, 2008 NPC participated in a Seminar on Approach for Incorporating Climate Change into Blue Nile infrastructure planning-organized by ENTRO.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Seminar was held at ENTRO and the CBSI NPC was invited to participate and contribute.</li> <li>An expatriate scholar who is working his PhD on the subject lectured the seminar.</li> <li>Participants were World Bank staff, ENTRO staff and invited ministry staff</li> <li>Discussions on the effects of climate change and variability held;</li> <li>The effects of climate change on water infrastructures at upper stream and down stream locations discussed.</li> </ul>				

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<p><b>July 18, 2008 NPC participated in a Briefing/Debriefing Session on SDBS activities in Ethiopia held at the Addis Ababa University.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The NPC, SDO officer, other NPCs from ministry of water attended the meeting.</li> <li>• It was held at the Addis Ababa University, College of Development Studies.</li> <li>• Guests from Entebbe SDBS PMU had presentations apart from the one presented by the focal person in the Addis Ababa University and his colleagues in the college.</li> <li>• Country projects were presented and discussed.</li> <li>• Quite a good level of discussions and reflections on each of the presentations and the overall objective of SDBS and the type of projects that should be focused were made.</li> <li>• We commented that the issue of benefit sharing principle or objective should be backed by a project study.</li> <li>• Another comment was that the unit of analysis of the projects identified and studied. Participants advised the Focal Point and project representatives that projects should have been focused on infrastructures in the basin instead of those outside the basin.</li> </ul>				
<p><b>August 12, 2008: Teachers Awareness Creation Workshop on NBI issues, operations and processes:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Nile-TAC member and Head of Boundary and Transboundary Department of Ministry of Water of FDRE presented the Initiatives before NBI for Cooperation on Nile. A discussion went on the experience of Ethiopia and its participation in the Hydrometer, ENDUGU, and TECCONILE.</li> </ul>	34	28	6	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Projects under the Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office have been presented by Dr. Wubalem and a discussion on their relevance to enhance cooperation and national benefits thereof thoroughly discussed.</li> <li>• The objectives and implementation progress of SVPs and their impact on cooperation have been presented by the CBSI NPC.</li> <li>• The Teachers who participated in the workshop were drawn from the Ethiopian Teachers Associations Executives members, Members of the Addis Ababa Teachers Association and other invited guests.</li> <li>• Participants appreciated that the orientation has created them better awareness about the Nile water issues and the ongoing cooperation.</li> <li>• They further recommended that such orientation on the ongoing NBI Cooperation should be also organized for wider segment of Teachers in Ethiopia, youth clubs, students unions, school clubs, politicians, school administrators etc.</li> <li>• They finally agreed that they will communicate the information they have chanced to get from this workshop to many other teachers in their constituencies.</li> <li>• They recommended that regular updating of</li> <li>• Teachers on NBI progress would help them to promote NBI issues and the cooperation to school communities.</li> </ul>				
<b>August 15, 2008 Youth Awareness Creation workshop on NBI Issues, operations and Cooperative process:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants were office bearers of 36 Youth Associations in Addis Ababa and some representatives of regional youth associations. They all were Executive members of the various Youth Associations in Addis Ababa. Though the majority of the participants were as usual male youth but the female youth who participated in the workshop in their capacity as members of the Executive Committees were brilliant and active.</li> <li>• NBI Vision had been presented and discussed from the point of view of youth's responsibility as duplicators of NBI issues and nation builders in the NBI countries.</li> </ul>				

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SVP and SAP projects and the ongoing Cooperative under the NBI had been presented and discussed.</li> <li>• Many of the participants were raising their fears that this cooperation might not succeed because according to their analysis the down stream countries have done enough enough in terms of development compared to Ethiopia.</li> <li>• Most of them do not have adequate information about the ongoing NBI activities and the joint effort being done by member countries.</li> <li>• Their level of mistrust on the relationship between the upper riparian and the lower riparian countries have been found to be serious and deep rooted, which needs more orientation and knowledge on the ongoing cooperative process by the NB countries.</li> <li>• For their Youth members who have similar problems revolving around the Nile.</li> <li>• YOUTH FORUM for Eastern Nile is created in order to create similar perception of NBI objectives, principles and programmes.</li> <li>• NBI materials for distributions to Youth Association members and other student clubs for better awareness is also sought.</li> </ul>	32	28	4	
<b>August 28, 2008 National Nile Women Forum Meetings:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participants of this meeting were members of the Nile Women Forum and other attendees who came for the first time.</li> <li>• This time there was as such formal presentations on NBI projects/programmes and issues. It was rather a sort of recapitulation.</li> <li>• The main issue of this workshop was to hear from women participants how they would like to participate in NBI; and what issues they really have for NBI</li> <li>• After discussions on issues related to gender mainstreaming, they requested the organizers to provide them the documents on gender mainstreaming.</li> <li>• We promised them that we will do so.</li> <li>• Finally new office bearers of the National Nile Women Forum were elected.</li> </ul>				

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<b>National Nile Women Forum Executive members meeting with the NPC October 24, 2008 afternoon at CBSI national office, Ministry of Water Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The seven-member Executive Committee had earlier planned to have a retreat to prepare <b>operational plan</b> for the Forum. The NPC discussed with the committee the concept note they prepared and the minute of the meeting they had.</li> <li>The committee seeks support for the retreat, and that was the main issue discussed. Both parties (the committee and NPC) agreed on the possible options available for funding – CBSI or SDO/ENTRO.</li> </ul>	5		5	
<b>November 14-16, 2008 National Nile Women Forum Nazareth retreat- organized and facilitated jointly by CBSI and ENTRO- Financial support from SDO/ENTRO budget. Retreat held in Nazareth, Rift Valley Hotel.</b>	<p>Executive Committee members (7) of the national Nile Women Forum after their August 2008 3<sup>rd</sup> members meetings agreed to develop operational plan for the forum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CBSI NPC provided the Executive committee members NBI gender related documents;</li> <li>CBSI Facilitated their meeting in Nazareth with the support of SDO/ENTRO;</li> <li>Dr. Wubalem's office helped in financing the retreat;</li> <li>ENTRO assigned its staff to facilitate the meeting in Nazareth as the CBSI NPC was not able to do that because of other overriding commitments;</li> <li>Both CBSI and SDO/ENTRO are expecting a report of the retreat and their operational plan, it is under preparation as reported from the committee</li> </ul>	10	1	9	<p>They are strongly seeking support from CBSI/NBI and other sources to implement their plans. NPC has in principle agreed to their request to do what is possible to strengthen the forum.</p>
<b>27-29 August 2008 NPC invited and participated at a JMP Scoping Study Review workshop organized by ENTRO at Hilton Hotel, Addis Ababa.</b>	<p>The NPC participated in Ethiopia/Sudan joint JMP Scoping study review on technical and economic dimensions held at Hilton Hotel from 27-29, 2008. The NPC only attended only on the 27th of August, but also attended the small group internal discussion at the ministry of Water resources in the afternoon of 28<sup>th</sup> August 2008.</p>				

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<b>15 September 2008: Stakeholder Mapping and Analysis Consultant Report Review workshop</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop held at Imperial Hotel in Addis Ababa</li> <li>• Participants were Governmental and non-governmental stakeholders drawn from government institutions, private sector, NGOs, civil society groups, independent participants etc.</li> <li>• A 50-page report produced by the national consultant Dr. Yeraswork was reviewed by workshop participants</li> <li>• Quite a good amount of input had been provided by participants to further improve the report</li> <li>• Comments by participants were welcomed by the concerned CBSI officials and the consultants</li> <li>• CBSI RPM, CBSI Lead Specialist, Regional CBSI communication specialists, RPTP representatives' did participate in the one-day Review workshop.</li> <li>• CBSI national office and the NPC helped in organizing and facilitating the workshop.</li> <li>• RPT Project financially supported the workshop.</li> </ul>	34	30	4	Workshop supported by RPT project of NBI but fully facilitated by CBSI/Ethiopia
<b>October 2008: Nazareth Regional Capacity Building Training workshop for SVP&amp;SAP NPCs organized by Social Development office, ENTRO.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Main focus of the training workshop was mainly on three agendas (issues)-Conflict management, Environmental management, and Result Based Systems.</li> <li>• As the training was supported by conceptual and practical experiences, it has been so useful for the NPCs who are responsible in coordinating implementation of SAP and SVP projects of NBI.</li> <li>• CBSI NPC participated and contributed his part in the workshop at the invitation of the Social Development office of ENTRO.</li> </ul>				