



**EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MINORITY ISSUES – ECMI KOSOVO**

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**Workshop on Community Engagement and Institutional Coordination**  
**25 July 2009**



On Saturday 25 July at the Grand Hotel of Pristina, the European Centre for Minority Issues Kosovo (ECMI Kosovo) organised a workshop on 'Community Engagement and Institutional Coordination'. This workshop aimed at concluding the ECMI Kosovo project of Support to the Office of the Prime Minister funded by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland. The workshop aimed at providing a forum of discussion between governmental institutions for communities, exploring ways of

increased coordination and engagement with communities. Representatives of central level institutions for communities and ECMI Kosovo participated in the workshop.

The workshop was opened by Mr. Alan Phillips, a member of the ECMI Kosovo Board, who welcomed the participants and explained the aim of the meeting. An introduction to the institutional system for communities was then delivered by Ms. Gaëlle Cornuz, ECMI Kosovo Project Manager. Subsequently, key central level institutions – the Ministry of Communities and Returns (MCR), the Office on Good Governance (OGG), the Office for Community Affairs (OCA) and the Consultative Council for Communities (CCC) – presented their work and strategies to ensure the implementation of community rights. A presentation of the potential areas for increased cooperation was then delivered by Ms. Gaëlle Cornuz as a basis for discussion in the working groups

In the afternoon, the participants were divided into two working groups, respectively on Development, and monitoring and evaluation of legislation and policies and Programming and public information. The first working group's recommendations included increased cooperation among ministries, as well as among the MCR, OCA, OGG, and CCC, the organisation of a consultation of the CCC on the action plan for the implementation of the Strategy for Integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities, and a consensus to focus on the development of employment and professional training to enable integration of communities, in particular Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian. Discussions in the second working group highlighted the need for transparency and fair distribution of funding for communities. The OCA proposed the creation of an Advisory Board for community projects including members of MCR, OCA, CCC, line ministries and donors, which will enable coordination and joint budget planning.

Mr. Alan Phillips closed the workshop by summarising the key outcomes of the meeting and thanked all participants for their presence and constructive contributions.

