

## **Strategy of Association Civic Alliance-Latvia,**

**2011 – 2015**

Association Civic Alliance-Latvia (CAL) since 2010, had been discussing its strategic development directions for the period of 2011-2015. The Council of CAL proposed the draft of the Strategy to the annual meeting of Alliance members on March 29, 2011. The meeting approved of and accepted the strategic activity directions. The Strategy envisages the implementation of the aim of the Civic Alliance-Latvia – **to improve legal and financial environment for the non-governmental sector in Latvia and to strengthen capacity of the NGOs for efficient public advocacy performance.**

Civic Alliance-Latvia has the following core areas of strategic directions:

- 1) To impact the political process in the country, respecting the common interests of associations and foundations,
- 2) To promote availability of financial resources for associations and foundations,
- 3) To strengthen capacity of associations and foundations so that they can carry out their core activities,
- 4) To publicly promote the activities of associations and foundations,
- 5) To develop and promote activity of Latvian non-governmental organisations internationally.

In order to achieve outstanding results in every field of strategic direction, they are specified into concrete tasks.

### **I To impact the political process in the country, respecting the common interests of associations and foundations.**

1. To achieve proficient, well-organized and pluralistic representation of NGOs, by succeeding that CAL is a qualitative negotiation partner whose opinion is highly respected when decisions are taken at national level on NGO environment. One priority is to participate in drafting and implementation processes of the National Development Plan.
2. To develop and ensure research about NGO sector in Latvia including the main problems associated with civic participation and the possible legal initiatives to divert these problems.
3. To participate actively in the development of legal initiatives that influence functioning of associations and foundations; to regularly follow the developments in the public administration.
4. To inform organisations about national policy initiatives and legal bills by ensuring participation in the meetings of state secretaries and in other essential governmental institutions.
5. To improve cooperation between the NGOs and the ministries so that the state policy is planned and implemented taking into account the interests of organisations, and to promote participation of associations and foundations in the drafting process of policy documents and legal bills in all ministries. To ensure observing the norms of the existing legal regulation.

6. To improve cooperation between Saeima of the Republic of Latvia and NGOs so that the interests of the organisations are observed in legislative level and in order to increase transparency of the legislative process.
7. To create and support new policy initiatives that are in line with the common interests of associations and foundations by actively informing and involving in this process a broader society.
8. To perform activities that strengthen independence of non-governmental organisations.

## **II To promote availability of financial resources for associations and foundations.**

1. To achieve creation of a unified NGO Fund in Latvia.
2. To work on availability of financial resources for NGOs from the state budget, European Economic Area and Norwegian financial mechanisms, European Union Structural Funds and other financial resources.
3. To work on ensuring financing for implementation of civil society development activities.
4. To work on renewing national NGO co-financing program with the aim to obtain co-financing from the state budget for the projects that are submitted in international financing programs/instruments.

## **III To strengthen capacity of associations and foundations at their core activities.**

1. To create an NGO incubator with a support program for new non-governmental organisations and development of civic initiatives.
2. To develop tailor made methodological materials and publications for NGOs about organizational development and participation in decision making process.
3. To provide organisations with information and consultations with the aim to motivate them to participate in drafting of legal and policy documents.
4. To strengthen partnership between the NGOs and state institutions in achieving common goals.
5. To develop cooperation among associations and foundations for further exchange of experience.
6. To promote wider public participation in associations and foundations.

## **IV To publicly promote the activities of associations and foundations.**

1. To ensure good reputation and positive awareness of Civic Alliance-Latvia.

2. To inform national government in a focused manner about importance of activities of associations and foundations and possibilities of NGO participation in the decision making process.
3. To popularise activities of NGOs among entrepreneurs, and to promote corporate social responsibility movement in Latvia.
4. To enhance mutual awareness of organisations and cooperation in implementing joint activities.
5. To maintain and renew information that is important to associations and foundations in the portal of Civic Alliance-Latvia [www.nvo.lv](http://www.nvo.lv)
6. To inform NGOs and other cooperation partners about relevant issues by forwarding an electronic weekly publication „*Nesēdi tumsā!*” and to provide informative materials to the members of Civic Alliance-Latvia.

**V To develop and promote activity of Latvian non-governmental organisations internationally.**

1. To improve cooperation with NGO networks in the European Union and other parts of the world.
2. To ensure activities that develop creation of an International NGO Day supported by United Nations.
3. To implement programs that ensure exchange of experience between Latvian and international NGOs.
4. To set up a data base of international cooperation partners in order to develop and improve cooperation among NGOs of various sectors and that would allow to form expertise in the fields of research on NGO sector, advocacy, availability of financing and other spheres of interest to Latvia.
5. To develop and implement projects that address civil society issues on an international level and ensure involvement of partners from various countries.

The legitimate base for the association Civic Alliance-Latvia to perform the above mentioned activities is in its aim, which is formulated in its Statutes. Reaching the statutory aim of CAL is implemented by involving its member organisations and applying their knowledge and experience in specific spheres of activity.