

New Eurasia Establishment

Minsk, Belarus



- Founded in 2005, the New Eurasia Establishment (NEE) is an independent entity based in Minsk, Belarus

- The Eurasia Foundation is the NEE's sole founder and oversees the NEE's activities through a managing board and an audit committee.

www.eurasia.by

- The main goal of the NEE programs in Belarus is empowering civil society organizations through their professional and institutional development.

- NEE focuses on organizations that show the greatest potential to make a positive impact in their communities.

Program 1: Civil Society and Community Development

The program focuses on building capacities in various sectors of civil society to improve existing organizations, communities, and civic initiatives.

Civil Society Organizations include: public unions, university legal clinics, business and professional associations, think tanks and research institutions, civic initiatives aimed at local community development, and Euroregions.

Legal Clinics Support Project

To promote and enhance civic engagement by making university based legal clinics more effective and sustainable in:

- providing **pro bono legal services** (including legal aid and awareness) to the most **vulnerable groups** of citizens, including pensioners, women and new mothers, students, the very poor, and prisoners and their families;
- practical **professional development of future lawyers**;
- building the **community of law students** competent and eager to defend rights of citizens;
- promoting **social responsibility** within the lawyers' community, and
- expanding **networking** between the clinics.

Enhancing Professional Capacity within Legal Clinics

Since 2006 NEE provides methodological support to existing and newly established legal clinics in partnership with Belarus State University

- Over 60 students and clinical practitioners enhanced their professional capacity through 6 workshops and roundtables and follow-up international conference for representatives of 11 clinics (including 7 outside of Minsk) on diverse topics such as client interviewing skills and managing the legal clinic
- On-line methodological resource developed and launched at <http://www.law.bsu.by/site/?44>
- Formal university curriculum and an extensive textbook on legal clinical education developed and published
- Providing on-going legal assistance to vulnerable groups
- Implementing public legal education programs
- Providing networking and professional development events for peer legal clinics

Empowering Local Communities through Euroregions Project

- The project goal is to assist communities and civic initiatives in solving local social and economic development problems through cross-border cooperation and adoption of best practices from the neighboring democratic societies with the use of Euroregions framework
- **Project Objectives:**
 - 1) To facilitate cross-border cooperation between NGOs, local authorities and civic initiatives aimed at implementation of appropriate urgent and prospective solutions for local social and economic development in specific thematic areas which were identified in the frames of "Using Euroregions to Integrate Belarus with Europe" project;
 - 2). To enhance the institutional capacity in solving local development problems among the organizations representing communities that belong to Belarus' Euroregions.
 - 3). To advocate for the Euroregions model as an efficient tool for local social and economic development among the Belarusian state, public and private institutions.

Partnerships for Sustainable Development / Partnerships for Better Energy Use Projects

- The projects will target 9 rural communities whose authorities and stakeholders demonstrated a commitment to cooperate in order to enhance economic development in their communities and develop effective energy management practices in the rural regions of Belarus.
- The projects will benefit nine rural communities in the Minsk, Viciebsk, Hrodna, Homel and Brest oblasts

Program 2: Business and Economic Development

- A. Capacity-enhancement for small and medium business support institutions
- B. Improving Belarusian business and economic education in order to better meet the needs of the private sector
- C. Facilitating public debate and research on urgent economic development issues
- D. Ensuring compliance of the program activities with actual changes and deviations

Belarusian Regional Business Training and Education Project

- Introducing Distance Learning Techniques into Belarus Business Education – School of Business and Management of Technologies, Association of Business Education
- Promoting Small and Medium Business in the Regions of Belarus – Business Union of Entrepreneurs and Employers
- Professional Development of Entrepreneurship Support Infrastructure – Homel Regional Agency for Economic Development
- Promoting Efficient Management – Directors' Club "Viales"