

## 1. Organizational background:

<b>Name of the organization:</b>	
It's Your Choice (IYC)	
<b>Address:</b>  48 Charents str., apt.1, Yerevan. Armenia, 0025	<b>Phone:</b> +37410 55-45-02, 55-45-07
	<b>Fax:</b> +37410 55-45-02
	<b>E - mail:</b> iyc@arminco.com
	<b>URL or web page:</b> www.iyc.am
<b>Name of the legal representative of the organization:</b>  Harutyun Hambardzumyan  President of organization	<i>Address: 14 Mashtots ave., apt.25, Yerevan, Armenia, 0009</i>
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	<i>Cell phone: +37491 40-68-10</i>
	<i>E – mail: harut_iyc@yahoo.com</i>
<b>Date of foundation of the organization:</b>	1997
<b>Date of last registration (if applicable):</b> 12.05.2003	<b>Registration code:</b> 03 -060411
<b>Mission (objective) of the organization:</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote transparent elections and democratic processes in Armenia;</li> <li>• Establish true self-governance and accountability within the government;</li> <li>• Encourage citizen participation in community governance; and</li> <li>• Provide objective, reliable and timely information to Armenian voters.</li> </ul>	
<b>Legal status of the organization:</b>	
Non-Governmental organization	

## 2. Fields of interests:

Decentralization		Advocacy	X
Interethnic relations		Transparency and accountability	X
Participative democracy	X	Rights of minorities	
Good governance	X	Gender balance	
Citizens' education	X	Other (please specify)	

### 3. Information on projects:

Please specify the projects implemented by your organization in the last year

#### 1. Name of the project: **Strengthening Civic Advisory Committees in Communities**

*Primary objective of the project:*

- Activate CAC members through providing participation in community development projects;
- Provide CACs with skills to make projects independently and through using the potential of their communities raise funds to solve the problems of their communities;
- Inform the leaders and members of civic advisory committees about the experience of such international institutions;
- Train how to provide contact between the elected officials and voters, discuss community budgets openly and periodic accountability of community heads to citizens;
- Activate passive CACs through introducing the example of the most active CACs and their achievements;
- Support the reputation of CACs and the process of nominating community council members by them, which will support the formation of the institute of community councils;
- Activate citizen participation in the work of self-government bodies and the decision-making process through trained and informed CACs;
- Support formation of CACs as a body to provide citizen participation in local government.

*Financed by:*

Democracy Commission, Public Affairs Section, U.S. Embassy, Yerevan, RA

*Achieved results:*

As a result of implementation of the project:

- Through activating and training CACs activated community citizens to participate in the process of solving community problems;
- Activated community councils' work within their rights through training them;
- Supported active citizens participate in communities;
- Provided periodic accountability of community heads to voters, which supported community citizens to control the professional activities of community heads and citizen participation in the process of making decisions on community-related issues.

#### 2. Name of the project: **Town Hall Meetings in Participation of Local Governments and Citizens**

*Primary objective of the project:*

The project is aimed at fostering citizen participation in the process of local government, provide transparency of the activities of local government officials, raising awareness of citizens about the budgets of their communities and planned expenditures, encouraging payment of taxes on part of citizens, explaining to them the importance of paying taxes in a timely manner, encouraging involvement of community citizens in projects and implementation of those projects.

*Financed by:*

The Secretariat for State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, British Embassy, Yerevan, RA

*Achieved results:*

As a result of implementation of the project:

- The level of citizen participation in local government was increased;
- Local government officials had the opportunity to contact with community citizens directly and be accountable to them. The connection between the elected officials and voters was strengthened, and the opportunities of cooperation between them was enlarged;
- Community citizens received important information about the rights of local governments and ordinary citizens;
- Transparency of adoption of local government budgets and expenses was provided;
- Local taxes was paid in a more duly manner.
- Cooperation between community citizens and elected officials to support solution of important problems, provide information to the residents about the budget of the community was activated.

#### 4. Capacity of the organization: personnel and management bodies of the organization

Please specify the executive structure of the organization and the decision making process within the organization.

The highest body of IYC is the **General Assembly**, which is convened once every two years and it has the exclusive powers to perform the following actions:

- Adopt the organization's charter; make amendments and additions to it;
- Approve the organization's reports and property use policies;
- Appoint the organization's board of directors, president, deputy president, secretary for a term of 2 years, as well as dismiss or replace them;
- Appoint the members of the supervisory body for a term of 2 years, dismiss or replace them.

**The Board of Directors**, which consists of 10 members, is elected by the General Assembly for a term of 2 years and convenes sessions once every two months. It implements the decisions of the General Assembly, develops recommendations to the General Assembly to adopt the organization's project and charter, discusses and adopts the organization's action plan, etc.

Six committees shall be established adjacent to the Board of Directors, the members of which shall be selected for a term of 2 years.

**The Supervisory Committee**, which consists of 5 people, shall develop reports to the General Assembly of the organization to report on the results of the organization's activities, property management, balance and other policies. The sessions of the committee shall be organized whenever it may be deemed necessary, but no less than once three months.

The organization's **President**, who performs the duties of the president of the Board of Directors as well, is elected for two years period and carries out the overall management of the organization, convenes board sessions, coordinates the activities of the Board of Directors and Supervisory Committee, controls and implements the financial management of the organization.

The **Deputy President** of the organization, who performs the duties of the deputy president of the Board of Directors as well, is elected for two years term and implements overall control and coordination of the organization's work, performs the duties of the president in case of his absence, etc.

The organization's **Secretary**, who is elected for two years term, makes protocols of the sessions of the General Assembly and Board of Directors, manages the organization's paperwork, archives, etc.

**Published materials in the last year:**

**No**

If "yes" please describe it:.

## 5. Equipment and other resources

Office?	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Yes</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Central office in Yerevan</li> <li>• 10 regional offices: Artashat, Armavir, Ashtarak, Vanadzor, Ijevan, Kapan, Gavar, Yeghegnadzor, Charentsavan, Gyumri</li> </ul>
IT equipment:  1. Computers -11 /Notebooks - 4 2. Printers – 11 3. Scanner/Xerox/Fax – 1 4. Overhead projectors – 4 5. Phones - 2 6. Wireless + 4 Access Point	

<b>Financing of the organization</b>	
<b>Source of financing</b>	<b>Amount 2009</b>
1. Democracy Commission, Public Affairs Section U.S. Embassy, Yerevan, RA	1. 15 536 USD
2. The Secretariat for State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, British Embassy, Yerevan, RA	2. 7 650 GBP