



Cooperation between NGOs and GOs

Baltic Sea NGO Forum

16 – 17 April 2010, Vilnius

- Consolidation of the NGO representation regulations;
- Dissemination of information between NGOs and other sectors;
- Self-regulation of NGOs and the development of transparency;
- Arrangements concerning decisions of national interest (strategies, legislation, finance);
- Cooperation in elaborating and implementing public policy and developing civil society;

Legislation, strategies, documents:
NVO participation in drafting and implementing
strategies and documents of national interest

**Development of the
NGO sector:**

Strengthening of NGO
activities operating on
the national and
municipal levels (in
particular of the
umbrella NGOs)

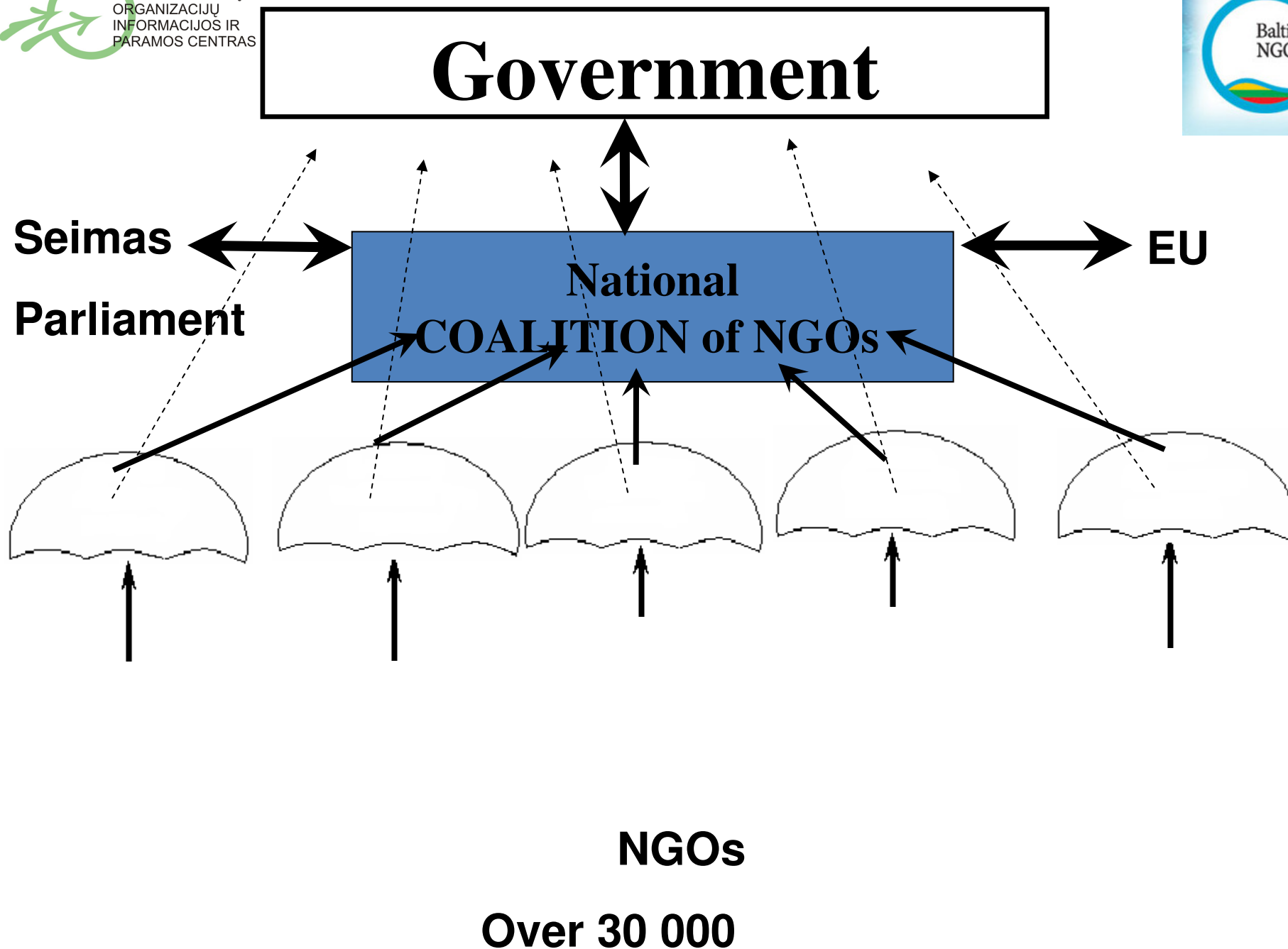
**State funding
of NGOs:**

Analysis of programmes
and tenders,
presentation
of new initiatives,
promoting
of accountability and
transparency,
2% system proposals

**General issues
of the NGO
sector**

NGO mutual relations:
Information, accountability,
self-regulation, cooperation

Development of voluntary activities:
Regulation of voluntary activities
and the development of
voluntarism traditions





National *Coalition* of NGOs

- On 16 December 2009 a joint Protocol of Understanding was signed by 13 organizations concerning cooperation in the following:
- Drafting and discussing long-term national development plans and other national development documents related with the strengthening of the NGO sector and the development of civil society;
- Informing the society about decisions taken by the authorities and management institutions with regards to the NGO sector and the civil society;
- Establishing public advisory bodies at the Government, Ministries and other authorities and management institutions;
- Taking part in the process of supervising the drafting and implementation of programmes under the EU Structural Funds and other Funds, improving the system of NGO funding and accountability;
- Exchanging information on the support of NGOs and their activities;
- Strengthening institutional capacities of NGOs;
- Elaborating and implementing the national NGO development policy;

National *Coalition* of NGOs

Organisations Signatories of the Protocol:

- Coalition of Environmental NGOs
- Association „MENOrama“ of cultural organisations
- Coalition „Galiu gyventi“ (I may live)
- Council of Lithuanian Youth Organizations
- Lithuanian Forum of the Disabled
- Lithuanian Association of Adult Education
- Lithuanian Lobbying Organization of Women
- The National Poverty Reduction Network
- The National Development Cooperation Platform
- The National Confederation of Consumers
- NGO Information and Support Centre
- NGO Confederation for Children
- Knowledge Economy Forum

NGO Development Concept

- Adopted by the RL Government on 20 January 2010;
- The RL Ministry of Social Security and Labour is responsible for the supervision of the implementation of the NGO development concept;
- Key issues to be addressed:
 - NGO concept and the beneficiary status;
 - Definition of useful activities for the public;
 - Delegation of public functions to NGOs;
 - NGO funding and accountability;
 - Regulation of NGO establishment and activities;

- **Goals of the NGO Concept:**
 - Regulate entities capable of overtaking the implementation of public functions, and define criteria for NGOs claiming for state and municipal budgetary funding;
 - Provide that institutions/organisations established by the state or municipalities were not eligible to the means and other privileges granted for NGOs;
 - Strengthen the representation of the NGO sector;
 - Ensure consistent cooperation between the state and the NGO sector;

- **Goals of the NGO Concept:**

- Define the fields of useful for the public activities in the legislation and encourage NGOs to provide services in the corresponding fields;
- Establish transparent principles for financial NGO support, for procurement and appraisal of services from entities creating public benefit, and fundamentals of responsibilities;
- Introduce new measures for NGO support and the development of philanthropy;
- Publicize information on NGO funding programmes and public procurement tenders, including outcomes;
- Legalize voluntary work;
- Simplify the process of NGO establishment, reorganization and liquidation;

Commission of NGO Affairs

- Commission of NGO Affairs was operational in 2007 – 2008, and lost its authority in December 2008;
- In April 2009 an NGO Working Group was set for drafting the NGO Development Concept;
- A new Commission of NGO Affairs is due to be instituted in 2010 following the regulation of the NGO Development Concept;
- It is planned that NGO Commission will be structured by parity principle (50% of representatives from ministries, and 50% of NGO representatives from NGO associations);