## PHOTO EXHIBITION THROUGH THEIR EYES

We have a pleasure to present to you a photography exhibition "Through Their Eyes" consisting of photo addressing the socio economic situation of women from Albania, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Macedonia, Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia, Ukraine and Uzbekistan. The photographs have been submitted to a photography competition announced in the first half of 2008. The artists submitting their works were invited to shown their own vision of the economic situation of women from their countries in a way which on one hand will undermine existing stereotypes related to the socio-economic situation of women but at the same time depict the current reality of women's changing lives.

The unique nature of the exhibition is linked to the fact that it gives an opportunity to present a subjective view of the lives of women from the above mentioned countries, via (as in a title of the exhibition) through the eyes of women themselves. This are photos of women and by women. The descriptions of the photo are actually statements written by the photographers themselves and are integral part of the exhibition. The descriptions are sometimes very obvious, sometimes suppressing, but they add the personal touch to the photographs, and facilitate deeper understanding of the problems, challenges and joys which consist lives of the women portrayed in the photos. During the opening international jury consisting of: Saba Amirejibi (film director from Georgia), Anna Bedyńska (photographer, from Poland and chair of the jury), Poupette Choque (feminist activist, Belgium), Alexandar Metodijev (journalist, Macedonia) and Valeria Zacharova (photographer, Slovakia) selected the winners. The exhibition is a part of regional project cofinanced by European Commission "Through Their Eyes, Through Ours: Raising the public's awareness about development problems faced by women from developing countries in the EU Eastern Neighbourhood, Balkans and Central Asia." Being implemented by KARAT Coalition with its national partners: Women in Development Europe - WIDE (Belgium), GenderMediaCaucasus Journalists' Association (Georgia), Permaculture and Peacebuilding Center PpcShtip (Macedonia), WOMNET (Germany), Slovak Centre for Communication and Development (Slovakia).