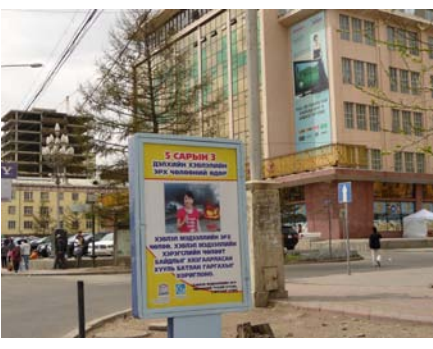
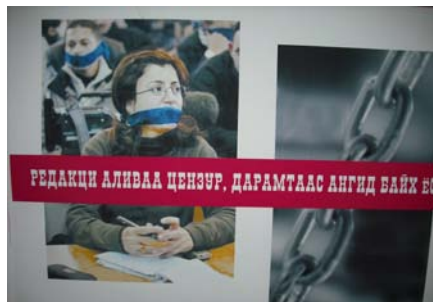


# Monitoring Press Freedom and Supporting Independent Media in Mongolia



November 2009, Ulaanbaatar



# **Monitoring Press Freedom and Supporting Independent Media in Mongolia**

## **Final Report**

**October 1, 2008 - October 1, 2009**

*Submitted to: Open Society Forum*

Project Leader	Kh.Naranjargal
Project Budget:	15,000 USD
Total Expenditure:	15,129 USD (7,769 USD +7,360 USD)

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- Financial Report            Appendix A
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## I. INTRODUCTION

Globe International completed the project “Monitoring Press Freedom and Supporting Independent Media in Mongolia” which started in October 2008. The present report period is October 1, 2008 and October 1, 2009.

Main goal of this 12-month project was to promote greater democratisation and openness in Mongolia by campaigning for the public’s right to have access to free and uncensored news and government information.

Project objectives are to protect the rights and independence of journalists by monitoring threats and attacks on journalists and media organisations; and to promote the media self-regulation system

The project established the professional team consisted from 10 journalism teachers and media experts. Four team meetings organised to discuss the work plans, project process and outcomes and develop the event agendas and content of educational materials.

During the reported period, Globe International has registered in total, 79 cases of the free expression violations. The reports on the violations distributed through six issues of webzines in English and Mongolian languages that distributed through our e-mailing list consists from 1,802 individuals and organisations and our web site [www.globeinter.org.mn](http://www.globeinter.org.mn) which has been visited by 24,247 by the end of October 2009.

As a part of the programme, we ran a campaign devoted to the World Press Freedom Day through publication and presentation of 2009 Media Freedom Report, the students’ event “New Generation for Fair Journalism and billboards and banners in the most crowded streets of Ulaanbaatar.

155 persons directly in freedom of expression issues and media self-regulation through three events devoted to the round table due to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UHRD, WPF and July 1 event which evidenced the biggest free expression violations that reached the audiences through live coverage on Eagle TV.

In the framework of the programme, we also carried out the study on the civil defamatory cases against media and journalists.

We have raised additional 2,500US\$ from the IFEX for the information distribution and producing the 2008 Media Freedom Report and 500\$ from the US Embassy for the WPF celebration as well as 2,500USD for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UHRD round table and UNESCO has supported the WPF campaign awarding a grant amounted 5,000USD .

## II. PROJECT RESULTS

The project planned to carry out two-inter-related activities: Monitoring and reporting on threats and attacks on journalists, and campaigning to promote self-regulation. We have achieved the following results during the reported period

i) Monitoring and reporting on threats and attacks on journalists

During the project period, we have registered in total, 79 cases against journalists' rights violations. 19 journalists did not want to alert on the cases. 50 of the cases reported through the national monitoring network.

**Please see a list of 2009 free expression violations. Attachment 2.1**

Particular results of the project are:

- GI saved life of B. Byamba-Ochir (newspaper photo journalist) who suffered from the July 1 riot while reporting on the event through fund raising campaign. GI raised more than 6,000 USD for his second surgery in Seoul, Korea. The donors are CJFE, the IFJ, Danish Union of Journalists and Norwegian Journalists' Union, and local Mongolian community. Byamba-Ochir returned to his job.
- GI defence service saved a female journalist D. Javzansuren from Ovorkhangai province from imprisonment winning the criminal defamation case at the Supreme Court.
- According to GI protest and action stopped the non-competence decision of the Citizens' Representative Meeting of Bayan-Olgii province, in the far western Kazakh province of Mongolia to intervene the local public broadcasters' activities.
- GI defended the two civil deflation cases against Zavkhan local newspaper and Khentiin Medee, local newspaper. GI won the civil defamation case of Zavkhan at the Supreme Court. Newspaper published a letter of reader who criticized the public officials for misuse of the public resources. Two mln. MNT fine of Khentiin Medee reduced to 200,000 MNT. The case was against B.Battsetseg, chief-in-editor of Khentiin Medee, local newspaper and issued by G.Baatar and J.Bataa, members of the MPRP for the article "The MPRP members were drank" published in 2008 November's issue No 7. The plaintiffs worked in the local election district of Khentii center. The article was paid. Globe International has provided the legal consultancy and helped to find an experienced advocate.
- GI protested a contract of the State Police Department signed with some media outlets. GI considers the contract is attempt to censor the media. According to the contract media outlets must report on the mass disorder basing only on the police information

source and the police will protect only those reporters whose working outlets signed the contract.

- Civil defamation is still remaining a censorship. In total, 33 civil defamation cases were heard by the courts in accordance with the study on the court cases against media and journalists in 2007. In 38.4 % of the cases, the plaintiffs were MPs and other public officials and 6% belong to the pop stars. The rest of the defamation complains were brought to the courts by the ordinary citizens.

### **Information Distribution**

For this component of the project, we have used the IFEX funding.

- App. one in third of the Mongolian journalists and media professionals received the news and informed in free expression violation in Mongolia and abroad, GI activities, journalism training and other events, new publication on media and journalism and legal and practical tips for journalists through six issues of Mongolian and English webzines produced and distributed through e-mailing list. We have signed the contract with General Lights- e-marketing company to distribute the webzines. Webzines included news and information on E-mailing has been developed and it contains 1,804 in total. The English e-mailing list contains 779 and Mongolian 1,025 individuals and organizations.

Links of the webzines:

<http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Content&id=686&menuid=324> /in english/

<http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Content&id=680&menuid=306> /in mongolian/

- Total access to website reached 24,247. The number increased by 8,628 compare to the mid-term results that was 15,619. The website was registered at <http://webstats.motigo.com/s?id=4606154> from March 12, 2009. From the date, 6,477 visitors read 20,712 pages. We have posted 71 news and other materials. It was 40 by the mid-term report period.
- News on the launch of webzines published by two daily newspapers: Odriin Sonin(Daily News) and Niigmiin toil(Mirror of Society)

ii) Campaigning to promote self-regulation

- A team of 10 media professionals consisted from media experts and journalism has established in order to contribute to the development of the strategy for the efficient self-regulation system in Mongolia
- One in third of the Mongolian journalists and media practitioners (In total, 1,155) educated on the media self-regulation through 500 copies of handbook, web site ( 506 readers ) and 155 through three events
- Two presentations "Should we regulate or should Mr. Nyamdorj regulate?" by Ts.Onon, independent researcher and 'Role of trade union in protection of journalists' rights' by Ch.Choisamba, Ph.D in Journalism discussed by 42 round table participants on December 8, 2009

**Output:**

- "Article 19: Everyone has right to opinion and freely express"

The project established an editorial team consisted from 4 persons and they worked on the gathering of materials and prepared 112-pages handbook for printing. Handbook was printed in 1,000 copies and widely distributed to relevant parties. The handbook compiled the international documents that were translated by Globe International during its work to support freedom of expression. Handbook contains the five chapters that include international standards on free expression, freedom of information, freedom of media, elections and media and broadcast media

Link: <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&id=510&menuid=204>

- The 2008 Media Freedom Report is available in Mongolian and English.

The report was distributed to Globe International Mongolian mailing list that contains 888 persons/organizations and English mailing list that contains 1,802 persons/organizations. This report comprises three chapters; Chapter One contains information on national legislation that guarantees or restricts freedom of expression, Chapter Two includes information on the events of July 1, 2008, when government action taken to handle the riot that erupted after the public protest against 2008 Parliamentary elections showed how media freedom is still fragile in this country. It was particularly unfortunate for the Mongolian media because six journalists were injured and several media outlets were seriously fire-damaged, while the government imposed direct control over all public broadcasting and Chapter Three includes examples of violation of the rights of the media and of journalists as reported by monitoring. In 2008, a total of 59 cases of violation of the rights of the media and journalists were registered by GI monitoring network.

For the Mongolian report: <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&id=621&menuid=4>

For English report: <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&id=592&menuid=204>

- *Self-regulation Handbook*

The handbook educates on the advantages of having self-regulation system, models of journalism ethical codes, media council and ombudsman and experiences of media councils in Denmark, Great Britain, Sweden and Bosnia. The handbook developed by a team led by Ts. Onon, MA in Journalism and included 8 other journalism teachers and experts.

Link: <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&id=623&menuid=4>

### **III. ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT**

With the support of OSI, GI has built a free expression violations monitoring system that reports cases nationally and internationally in 2005. At the moment, we have 21 local correspondents/monitors in 21 aimags/provinces and in Ulaanbaatr, the capital.

- *The Professional Team*

The project has established the team of media professionals consisted from 10 persons seeking the professional support to the project activities. During the project period, we organized four team meetings to discuss the work planning, project process and outcomes and develop the event agendas and content of educational materials. The team members have taken presentations at the project events and contributed to the publications.

#### **List of team members and meeting minutes attached to the mid-term report**

- Study on the civil defamation cases

During the reported period, Globe International conducted the study on the civil defamation cases heard by the courts in 2007. In total, 33 defamation cases reviewed by the courts of Mongolia. Two occurred in the provinces.

38,4 percent of all defamation cases were initiated by MPs and government officials, 6 percent- by the singers and rest- by the ordinary citizens.

Only 9.1 percent of the court cases were won by journalists and media outlets, 69.7 percent were lost, and 12.1 percent reached a consensus. 9.1 percent- annulled by the plaintiffs.

Nine of the defamatory articles were published by the daily newspapers. Topics that are touched by the media:

- 9,1%- public concern
- 27,3%- critical materials about the wrong-doing of the government agencies
- 63,6%- private lives of the high-ranking people

Maximum demand for damage was 100 mln. MNT and actually awarded is 5 mln. MNT (app.4.600US\$) to pay to Mr. Munkhbat Jigjid , owner of Gold medal of 1998 Mexico Olympic Games in free style wrestling. He is a winner of several world champions and Mongolian national wrestling. He is also famous that his son Hakuho ( Mongolian name is Davaajarga) is famous champion of Japanese Sumo wrestling.

A tabloid newspaper “Terguun Sonin” published a story titled “Champion Muyo(champion’s short name) is under home detention” in its October issue of 2007. The story said that champion is seriously sick and staying at home. Mr. J. Munkbat demanded 8,000,000 mln. MNT to recover his good name, honor and reputation.

Chingeltei district court decision was taken on 28 November 2007 and the newspaper was accused in defaming his good name, honor and reputation under article 21.2, 497, 511.1, 57.1, 119.2 and 120.3 of the Civil Law of Mongolia and fined 5,000,000 mln.MNT. On 27 March 2008, the newspaper appealed the case to the Ulaanbaatar city court, but the decision of the district court remained.

Link: <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&id=556&menuid=204>

- *Public awareness campaign to advocate the freedom of media*

In total, 94 billboards and banners installed the most frequented streets in the Mongolia capital, Ulaanbaatar will display eye-catching banners and billboards which will contain references to the Mongolia Constitution and Media Freedom Law as well as international declarations on freedom of opinion and expression, public’s right to know and independent press. The statements will be accompanied by images of journalists reporting on the recent political crises, as well as respected media personalities moderating popular TV debates.

- One billboard sized 3x 4 m installed near the main square of Ulaanbaatar - Sukhbaatar Square for 30 days April 15- May 15, 2009 and informed the Declaration of Windhoek- UNESCO and the IFJ, which states “ in Independent press is a press independent from governmental, political or economic control or from control of materials and infrastructure essential for the production and dissemination of newspapers, magazines and periodicals”
- 93 boards sized 82x122 sm installed in the streets for 15 days starting from April 27- May 11, 2009

Link: <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&id=627&menuid=204>

## Events

### Round table: Article 19 and Independent Journalism

44 participants represented journalism community, media professionals, journalism teachers and NGOs attended the round table held on December 8, 2008 at Conference Hall of Open Society Forum. Mr. D.Galaarid, GI Board member moderated the meeting. The professional team met three times to discuss the round table strategy and concept, program and list of participants and content of presentations. Meetings held on 5 November, 20 November and 5 December 2008.

The round table discussed the current situation of freedom of expression and environment that affects freedom expression. It focused on three main areas: legal issues and censorship, problems of professional journalism and media self-governance and regulation.

Mrs. Kh.Naranjargal began the round table with her presentation titled: "Article 19 and legal framework"

10 media researchers and journalism teachers have taken their presentations on the topics:

- Mongolian media today, G.Gungidmaa , Head of research division, Press Institute
- Media freedom and reality, J.Batbaatar, Head of journalism department, Uiversity of Education of Mongolia
- Election "business news", D.Tserenjav, media researcher
- Advertising and dependent journalism, D.Dagiimaa, Head of journalism department, University of Humanities of Mongolia
- Skills of moderators of televised debates, L.Ariun, journalism teacher of UHM
- Writing in newspaper, M.Narmandakh, Head of journalism department of journalism college "Soyol Erdem"
- Editorial independence, Press Institute
- At whose hands Mongolian media are? D.Galaarid, journalist, GI Board member
- Should we regulate or should Mr. Nyamdorj regulate? Ts.Onon, independent researcher
- Role of trade union in protection of journalists' rights, Ch.Choisamba, Ph.D, professor of journalism department of Mongolian State university

The participants stressed that Mongolia reached significant achievements to promote freedom of expression, particularly during the democratic changes.

- Freedom of expression and media freedom guaranteed by the Constitution and other important laws such as Media Freedom law and Law on Public Radio and TV adopted
- Occurred structural changes in the media
- Economic changes occurred
- Role of journalists in the society changed. It plays role of watch-dog

***The participants highlighted that following problems are faced by media and journalists:***

- Censorship is reality and it gets harsher
- Editorial independence is the biggest problem and journalists are like dolls at hands of media owners
- Writing skills of journalists are very bad because insufficient quality of secondary education
- Insufficient quality of journalism schools affects the journalism quality
- Media cannot be economically independent and it affects the journalism quality
- Journalism ethics failed
- Role of media as public watch-dog fails because media serve the politicians and business groups
- Conflict of interests is reality among media owners
- Advertising is not ethical

***The participants focus on the following ways to solve the problems:***

1. Need for laws enabling environment and regulating media activities including:
  - Law on media ownership transparency
  - Law on media concentration
  - Law on freedom of information
  - Broadcast law
  - Law on protection of sources
2. Development of self- regulation
  - Establishment of media council
  - Establishment of journalists' trade union
3. Other
  - Support journalism training
  - Establish a body to control press circulation

More information is at <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&id=509&menuid=204>

***“New Generation for Fair Journalism” event***

World Press Freedom Day is the greatest opportunity for raising awareness and focus on the media problems. Informed citizenship that is aware of the need for media freedom is the best protection for media freedom. Mongolian media community started marking WPF Day every year on 3d May since 1991 by an initiative of Mongolian Free and Democratic Journalists' Association. Globe International conducted a campaign “We want to Tell the Truth, but...” dedicated to the World Press Freedom Day 2009. Globe International raised additional funds from UNESCO, the IFEX and the US Embassy to make this event real.

The campaign started on 15 April 2009 installation of the promotional billboard and banners in the main Ulaanbaatar streets and it involved the journalism students' event titled "New Generation for Fair Journalism", production of the 2008 Media Freedom Report and media coverage.

66 people representing the journalism schools, journalists and NGO attended the event organised at Press Institute on May 1, 2009. Six most famous Mongolian journalists were invited to the meeting by the journalism students' request and they talked about their problems faced every day in enjoying their professional rights. 12 journalism schools took the presentations on their opinion and view on the present media freedom situation in Mongolia. Five types of 28 promotional materials produced educating the people on the legal regulations and international standards, and informing the people in the 2008 facts of violations of media freedom and journalists' professional rights in Mongolia and abroad. A cartoon "Freedom of Speech" by Herluf Bidstrup, a famous cartoonist was also used to promote the event and 10 cloth caps with GI WPFDF logo wore by the organising committee members and a banner with the donors' logo posted.

The event began with short video vox-pops produced by the journalism students asking ordinary citizens in the streets, if they trust the media content and what they want from the Mongolian media. The people said they do not trust media content and they want more objective information from the Mongolian media.

The students produced a call for better journalism environment produced by the journalism students.

It was agreed by a team of journalism experts that we should give the journalism students an opportunity to express their opinions and deliver their voices to the society what they want as future journalists. An Organising Committee working group consisting from 10 students representing Journalist college of Press Institute, Mongolian State University, University of Education and a college "Soyol Erdem" in cooperation with Globe International staff on the development of the event program and list of participants through 6 meetings held on April 13, April 18, April 22, April 25 and April 30, 2009.

For more information, visit <http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&id=628&menuid=204>

Globe International encouraged the Mongolian National Public Television (MNB) and other media outlets to deliver the media freedom issues to their audiences. MNB aired a 50-min program titled "The Public Hour" dedicated to the WPFDF on May 1, 2009. The program used the images of the billboards/banners and reinforced the discussion. D.Oyuntsetseg, journalist from daily newspaper Ardyn Erkh newspaper was a guest speaker. Seven people called to the program during the live show. Journalism students- the WPFDF Event Organising Committee members also had a chance to express their opinions on the Mongolian media situation.

Eagle TV(EBC), a news channel devoted their daily broadcasting to the theme of press freedom in Mongolia. They used the images of the UNESCO supported billboards/banners, covered the WPDF event and quoted the information package prepared by Globe International. NTV aired 20-min program devoted to the WPDF and the television channels SBN, NTV and Eagle covered the WPDF event held at Press Institute.

**Please see the programme, list of participants, copies of invitation, banner and posters informing in world and Mongolian free expression violations.**

**Attachments 3.1-3.6**

### July 1: Test of Media Freedom

GI organised this event on June 30, 2009 at the Bishreht hotel. The event reached the audience through live coverage of Eagle television. 45 people represented the government, police, media and NGOs attended and contributed to the discussions.

July 1, 2008 was a day which has gone down in history of Mongolia as a day that tested the authenticity of democracy and guarantees of human rights. Mongolia has been credited as one of Asia's successful democracies for the last 18 years, guaranteeing very crucial human rights under its Constitution as well as ratifying most international human rights treaties and conventions.

Mongolia's 2008 general parliamentary elections were held on June 29, 2008, when 12 political parties and one coalition contested 76 seats. On the next day, June 30, 2008, the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP) convened a press conference, at which they claimed to have won the election with an absolute majority. However, the General Election Commission had not yet officially announced the final results. The opposition parties protested, claiming that the elections had not been fair, and demanded a re-count of the vote in some electoral districts.

On July 1, 2008, the Civic Coalition held a public demonstration in front of the MPRP headquarters building. After several hours, the demonstrators attacked the building. The rioters started to vandalize and loot the MPRP building. The police were unable to control the situation, and the MPRP building was entirely burnt out. The rioters then attacked the City Cultural Palace complex near the MPRP building; B Block was completely burnt out and C and G Blocks also suffered arson damage.

On July 1 at 23.00 the President of Mongolia proclaimed a State of Emergency.

During the events, five people died and over 800 arrested. The courts heard 50 cases against 261 individuals, including 17 youths, 13 of whom were found guilty by the end of 2008.

Eagle television aired a documentary "Do not forget!". A small exhibition of photos taken by the reporters was in display during the event.

Kh. Naranjargal, GI President had taken a presentation titled “July 1: Test of media freedom” and highlighted the key points of freedom of expression violations during the July 1 riot in 2008. The report of the media monitoring on human rights violation conducted by Globe International introduced by G.Tsogtbaatar, IRIM researcher’s team leader.

GI launched a first ever Media Freedom prize and handed over the journalists who suffered from reporting July 1 riot. The names of the owner are listed below:

1. D.Bayamba-Ochir, photo reporter, Onoodor, daily
2. N.Ariunaa, photo reporter, Mongolyn Medee, daily
3. N.Batbayar, TV8 cameraman
4. Kh.Erdenebulgan, MNB news reporter
5. T.Ankhtamir, reporter, [www.gogo.mn](http://www.gogo.mn) news portal
6. D.Uuganbayar, Eagle TV cameraman
7. L.Olziibayar, , Eagle TV cameraman
8. B.Baasanbayimba, MNB news reporter( reported on the killing and he had no access to screen)

<http://www.globeinter.org.mn/?cmd=Record&menuid=355>

**Please see the programme, list of participants and copies of presentations in English.**

**Attachments No 3.7-3.10**

- *Project Publicity*

The project events publicised through media outlets, Globe News webzines and GI website. In total 17 media reports produced and published/aired.

**Please see the list of media materials and copies of newspaper publications.**

**Attachments No 3.11**

#### **IV. PROJECT FUNDING**

Additionally, we have raised 2,500\$ to support the information distribution from the IFEX and 2,500\$ from the US Embassy to discuss the pressing issues of the media freedom taking an opportunity to devote it to the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The US embassy also granted 500\$ to organise

## V. PROJECT PERFORMANCE

All the activities planned by the project fully carried out.

Activities	Results
Free expression monitoring	79 cases registered. 50 alerts distributed. GI defended three defamation cases and a local government action stopped and police decision protested
Information distribution	Six issues of webzine and web site
Establishment of professional team	10 journalism and teachers and media experts
Self-regulation handbook	500 copies of handbook produced and distributed
2009 Media freedom report	Published and posted at web site and distributed through e-mailing list
Round table	Three major events organised with additional funding support from the IFEX, UNESCO and the US Embassy and 155 participants involved to three events

## VI. EVALUATION/REPORTING

The project produced a mid-term report and submitted to OSF. The mid-term report included the detailed financial report and attachments documenting the activities.

The results of the internal evaluations are below:

### 1. Monitoring and reporting on threats and attacks on journalists

Anticipated Outcomes	Actual Results	Verification
Identification of major cases in region and efficient preparation of Action Alerts from 21 districts	79 cases registered and 19 journalists did not report on the cases  50 alerts produced and distributed through the local network	Alerts coordinator's log book concerning performance of monitors
Alerts are processed more efficiently and with better writing and style than in 2007	7 cases reported to the IFEX	Evaluation by international alerts expert. Posted at the IFEX web site
Production of at least 40 Alerts	This is 62.7% of increase	Records of number of Alerts

per year – an increase of 25 per cent	compare to 2006. See the grid below.	prepared and distributed
Mongolian government acknowledges major protests from GI	Five protest letters sent to the local governments	Letters received from government officials or phone calls made to government
IFEX members endorse two Joint Actions per year launched by GI	No joint actions carried out because of the limited finding	Press releases, articles in newspapers, GI records  Number of IFEX groups that sign up for Joint Actions
Doubling to 240 of GI's Alerts mailing list	Now 1,802 in the e-mailing list. It increased by 1,191 from 611 in 2007	Subscriber list statistics
Alerts and other information reach wide audience through webzine	Six webzines published and distributed to the local and international users through the e-mailing list	Number of issues published, and how many organisations, people receive them

### Journalists' rights violations

Type of violations	October 2005 end of 2006	2007	2008	End of October 2009	Total
Assaults	3	3	6	-	12
Threatening/pressure/insult including family members	16	7	23	13	59
Denial in information	8	10	13	2	33
Damage/confiscation of equipment	3	3	2		8
Court, police and other pressure of the force institutions/civil defamation	2	8	5	3	18
Demand of repealing information source	3	1	5	1	10
Censorship/publications/broadcast programmes banned or attempts to ban	2	1	3	1	7
Criminal defamation/detained/arrested	4	4	2	-	10
Total	41	37	59	20	157

#### Constraints:

- For 2008 and 2009, we did not have sufficient funds to pay to the provincial monitors, so some of the local monitors were not fully committed exposing FOE violation cases
- Journalists are scared from further attacks, so even in the case of their rights are violated, try to avoid alerting it. We have 19 journalists who did not want to alert on the cases

- In the provinces, the journalists do not have solidarity to fight for their common values. At the local level, they are too much politicized and serve the interests of certain political groups, so they fight each other
- The provincial lawyers do not have sufficient knowledge on the media law
- The local media in the provinces are still not financially independent, so they under pressure of the authorities and mentality of the public officials still remain very old to promote the free media
- The most of advocates in the provinces are members of the political parties and they do not defend the journalists, if the plaintiff belong to her or his party
- The journalists are still not able to use the on-line legal consultancy because some of them do not have access to Internet. Some of journalists are not aware of such a service, so the intensive promotion is needed

## 2. Campaigning to promote self-regulation

Anticipated Outcomes	Actual results	Verification
At least five professionals contributed to the development of the strategy for the efficient self-regulation system in Mongolia	Ten professionals contributed to the campaigning	Reports of the working meetings and meetings with the leaders of media and associations
At least half of the journalists educated on the importance of self-regulation	In total, 1,155 journalists educated on the self-regulation through 500 copies of handbook 506 readers of web site and 155 through three events	Publication available and posted at web site and promoted through e-mailing list
The media practitioners and their associations engaged to the process of self-regulation dialogue through the round table	Participants of three events discussed the issues of self-regulation, but the commitment is very low, so more campaigning is needed	Media materials, interviews  Report of roundtable meeting and media Letters, stories in media

### **Constraints:**

This component of the project was not perfectly worked out by the below mentioned reasons:

- Self-regulation activities could not be a real campaign because of the limited funding
- The Mongolian media leaders and the professional associations are not aware of importance of the self-regulation system
- The Mongolian media leaders and the professional associations are not committed to develop self-regulation system
- By the above mentioned reason, no stories were in the media

## **VII. Conclusion/Recommendation**

Globe International and its activities are getting more recognized in the local and international arena. We have been contributing to the main media freedom reports issued by the Freedom House, Journalists without Borders and Article 19. In 2009, we also contributed to Amnesty International Report.

Despite the fact that Globe International project has been successful, the free expression situation in Mongolia still remains one of the key indications of democracy, which cannot function when media freedom is violated and journalists are threatened. Radical growth of number of media outlets and strong influence of the media owners and ignorance of the professional journalism standards by them, lack of knowledge on legal safety of the new comers in the field, close link of media managers to the authorities and unprotected editorial independence and create the problems for the journalists to exercise their professional rights to serve the public with quality true information. In addition, the famous July 1 case shows that monitoring of free expression violations and publicizing the facts are still important for the public and campaigning the protection of journalists' rights are still crucial need.

From our experiences in the past, we conclude that the journalists are still not aware of the violations of their rights and number of journalists who do not alert on their cases is decreasing. The problems of journalists are getting more hidden because of high editorial censorship and self- censorship.

### **Recommendations**

- Continue the free expression violation monitoring so that the journalists will get skills to report on their cases using the content management soft ware
- Provide on line education for journalists on their legal safety and create platform for journalists to exchange information on their professional rights and problems through blogs so on
- Make the local and international community aware of the real free press situation in the country
- In order to make our works more efficient, GI should obtain the skills on conducting campaigns and engage more human rights and NGOs to advocacy campaigns so that the authorities are more aware that they must be accountable when they violate the law.
- Increase the quality of information on the media situation, particularly for English versions

**Report by Kh. Naranjargal, project leader  
November 20, 2009, Ulaanbaatar**