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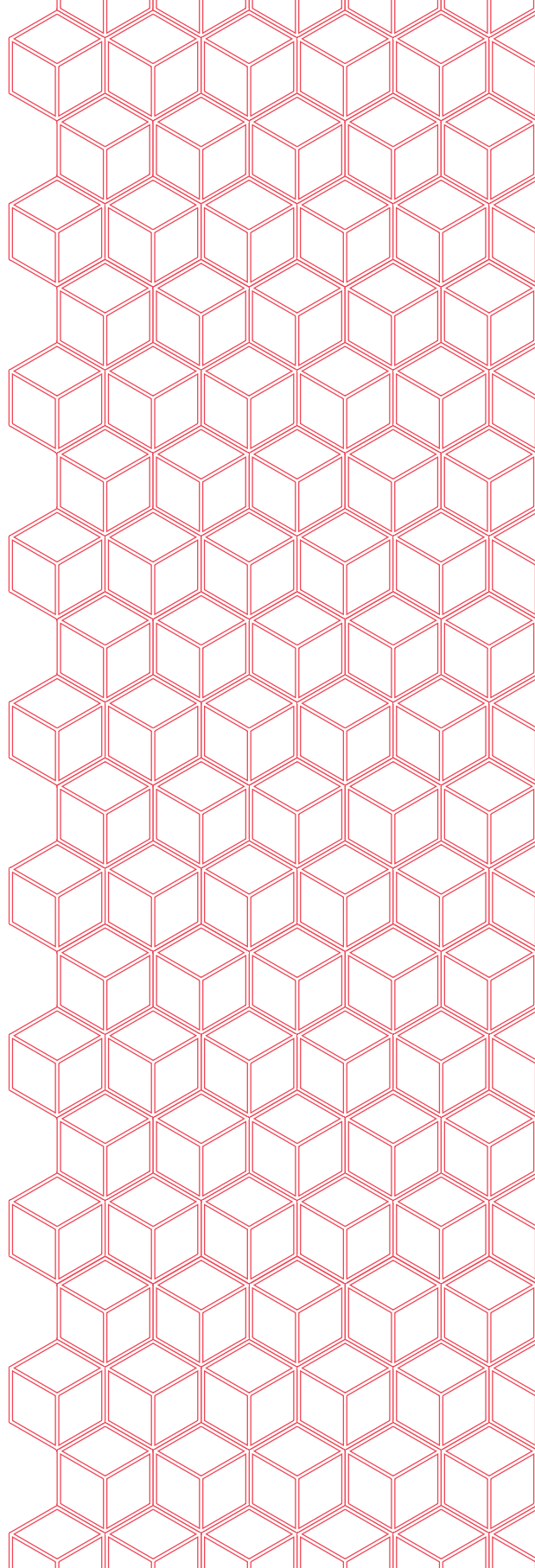


**EU CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY
SERBIA PROGRAMME
2011-2013**



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**EU CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY
SERBIA PROGRAMME
2011-2013**



EU CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY SERBIA
PROGRAMME 2011-2013

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Authors:

Branka Anđelković and Ljubica Gojgić

Translator:

Mirjana Ivanović Milenovski

Graphic design:

Marijana Rolović

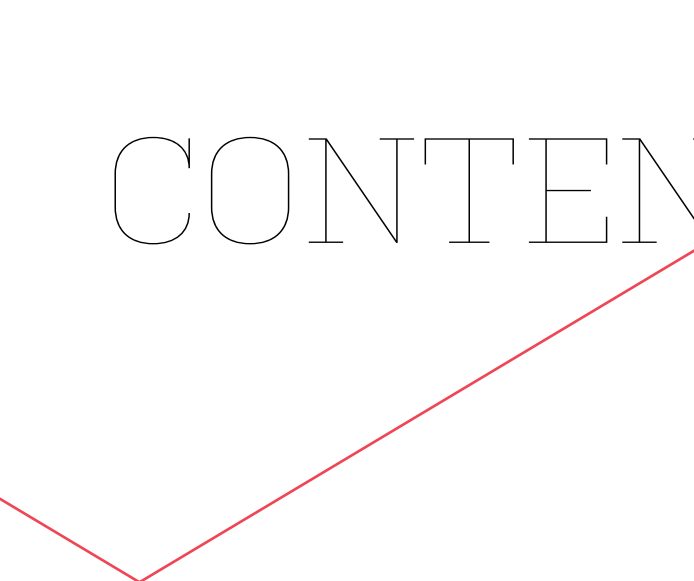
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CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY PROGRAMME
2011-2013

FOREWORD BY
AMBASSADOR
MICHAEL DAVENPORT,
HEAD OF THE
EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION TO THE
REPUBLIC OF SERBIA



Citizen participation is essential for democracy. The European Union therefore puts the citizen at the centre of all our policies and programmes, based on the three key principles of democratic governance confirmed by the Lisbon Treaty: democratic equality, representative democracy and participatory democracy. Serbia shares these common EU values and has committed to implementing them on its EU accession path. In order to help Serbia to put these principles into practice, the EU has been actively promoting and supporting Serbian civil society. Over the last decade we have provided grants to Serbian civil society organisations worth in total more than € 30 million. The EU has funded more than 250 projects in areas such as development of democracy, good governance, rule of law, anti-discrimination, social inclusion and culture.

Additionally, the EU has helped the government of Serbia to establish a strategic and normative framework to enable civil society to be more active in building democratic institutions. Since 2013 the EU has been providing support to the Government Office for Cooperation with Civil Society to boost dialogue between the state and civil society, and to ensure that a proper strategic framework for this co-operation is in place. With EU technical and financial support, the Office has grown and developed over the last three years. It has become a real focus for proactive engagement, stimulating civil society organisations to rise to new challenges and seize fresh opportunities for funding and development, not only in the framework of EU-funded programmes, but also more widely.

In the context of Serbia's path to EU membership, civil society organisations play a particularly important role. They are advocates of democratic values and of a society of tolerance; they encourage the government to act responsibly and effectively in the interests of those whom they serve; at the same time they bring the most burning concerns of fellow citizens to the attention of policy-makers.

Yet we believe that the voice of citizens in Serbia should be even louder! Individually and through civil society organisations, citizens should be able to take part in shaping policies which have an impact on their lives. They should also have a role in ensuring that policies are implemented in a way which takes proper account of the interests of citizens. This is where the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society comes into its own. The office can promote dialogue between public and civil society sectors, but can also help to raise public awareness and focus the attention of state institutions on the importance of involving civil society and citizens in decision-making at all levels.

The European Union will continue to make support for civil society a high priority in Serbia. Through the EU's Civil Society Facility we plan to support all enlargement countries in improving their strategic, legal and institutional frameworks for civil society development. Serbia's accession to the European Union will ultimately only be successful with the strong involvement of citizens and civil society organisations.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Within the EU Civil Society Facility Programme 2011 – 2013, SIPU International – Swedish institute for public administration with the consortium, implemented a project “EU Support to the Government Office for Cooperation with Civil Society” in the total amount of 1.198.750 EUR. The EU funds were programmed for institutional support to the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society of the Government of Serbia and for technical support to the EU Delegation in Serbia for managing and monitoring of grants within multi-beneficiary IPA 2011–2013. The project was implemented over the period of three years, from November 2012 until November 2015.

EU SUPPORT TO THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFICE FOR COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT'S OFFICE FOR COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

After years of advocacy by civil society the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society was established by the Government of Serbia in 2011. The 2009 Law on Associations was a basis for instituting the Office as an advisory mechanism to the Government of Serbia, set to initiate and maintain dialogue between the government and civil society organizations (CSOs). The Office advises the government on a variety of topics, which span from legislative and regulatory to monitoring and reporting. The role of the Office is also to create and establish standards and procedures for including the CSOs at all levels of decision making process.

Specifically, the mandate of the Office is geared towards the achievement of three main goals:

- To establish a permanent mechanism for the dialogue between the state bodies and civil society in matters of general and mutual interest;

- To strengthen inter-sector cooperation in areas where CSO have an important role in public policy formulation and implementation; and
- To enhance policy framework for operations of civil society in Serbia, as CSOs are recognized as a great resource of human and social capital, whose active participation in public life is important factor in a plural and democratic society.

Additionally, the Office plays an active role in creating a horizontal cooperation platform in the Western Balkans regarding civil society-government dialogue. The Office further facilitates CSO participation in the EU flagship program “Europe for Citizens”, through which local CSOs, social partners, local governments and citizens in direct partnership with EU organizations implement numerous activities, varying from employment and social cohesion to strengthening the European citizenship identity.

“Despite the fact that governmental institutions have considerably improved their communication and cooperation with the civil society sector within the last decade, it is essential to make next step towards capacity building of the whole system in favor of the inclusion of all those voices that represent the interests of Serbian citizenship.”

Ivana Ćirković, Former Director of the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society

ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT

Thanks to the EC financial support, the Office achieved significant results in consolidating actions of public administration and promoting the cooperation between the state and civil society.

The Office improved the legislative and regulatory framework necessary for the civil

society development in Serbia as a part of the overall legislative and public administration reforms. The largest part of activities undertaken by the Office was dedicated to proposals for amendments of acts with the aim of creating enabling environment for civil society development.

LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS SUPPORTED BY THE OFFICE:

- Standards in cooperation between CSOs and public administration.
- Analysis of legal framework relevant for CSOs in Serbia - Law on Volunteering (2010), Law on Public Procurement (2012), Law on Protection of Consumers (2014), Law on a Publication of Laws and Other Regulations (2013), Rulebook of the Government of the Republic of Serbia, Rulebook of the National Parliament of the Republic of Serbia.
- Analysis of fiscal and financial legislation relevant for CSOs in Serbia (the Law on Value Added Tax (2012), Law on Personal Income Tax (2012), amendments to the Law on Corporate Profit Tax (2013), Property Tax Law (2013), the Law on Accounting, the Law on Audit (2013), the State Lottery Law (2011)

Moreover, the project produced “The Analysis of Mechanisms and Methods of Cooperation between State and Public institutions with Civil Society Organisations”, and “The Guidelines for the Participation of Civil Society in Formulation of Legislation and Bylaws in Serbia”. The Guidelines were highly praised in the European Parliament Resolution of March 2015. The document established principles and general criteria for cooperation between public and civil sector. Additionally, over 100 local self-governances took part in the Office’s trainings and activities, and critically contributed to its creation.

A JOINT VISION - THE FIRST NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

The highlight of the EU support project was a preparation of the first National Strategy for Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development in the Republic of Serbia 2015-2019.

The National Strategy is a result of a robust discussion between the Government and the civil society, with the support and facilitation of the Office for Cooperation with Civil

Society. It is the framework, first of a kind, aimed to strengthen linkages between public and civil sector, and created in a spirit of a key civic values of participation and public policy making. A range of stakeholders have been involved in these in-depth consultative processes, which began in February 2014. Over 600 civil society organizations have made the critical contribution to the Strategy.

The civil society plays one of the key roles in the development of the Republic of Serbia. Namely, it not only encourages democratization and self-organization of the society but it also gives support and controls the state in the reform processes it conducts. In 2015 there were more than 26,000 civil society organizations (CSOs) registered at the Serbian Business Registers Agency (SBRA), of which large majority are associations, and few are foundations and endowments. Civil society sector in Serbia is relatively young, as the majority of associations, foundations and endowments were formed after the year 2000. Yet, Serbia has a long tradition of philanthropy and endowment philanthropy: some associations and most influential endowments in Serbia were established in the 19th century.

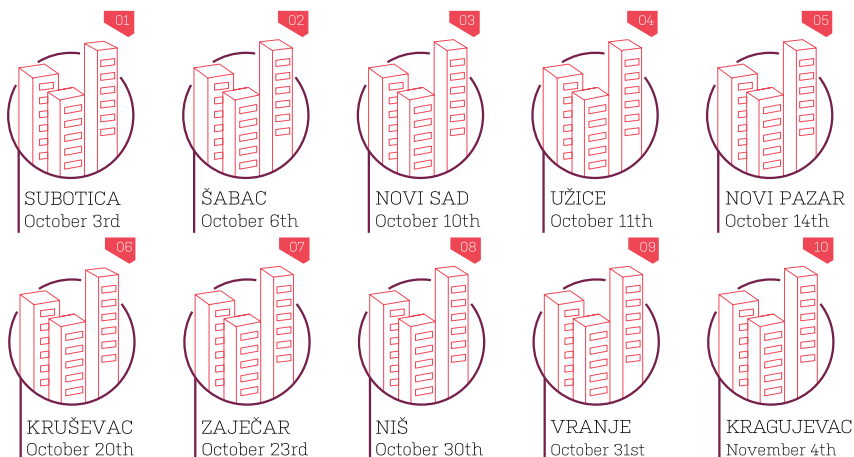
The Office applied open space method inviting CSO to identify the priorities for the Strategy. The five priority areas have been identified by the CSOs: institutional and legal framework for cooperation between public and civil sector; financial sustainability of the civil society; the role of civil society in socio-economic development; the role of civil society in non-formal education; and the role of civil society in European integrations. Additional inputs from civil society generated from open web-platform and a numerous meetings held on both local and national level, were included and clustered into these five priority areas. The Strategy is accompanied with the Action Plan, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Baseline Study which

features key characteristics of civil society organizations in Serbia and the cooperation between state bodies and CSOs in the areas covered by the Strategy.

The extensive consultations held over a period of a year and a half, in lieu of creation of the Strategy encompassed in-depth negotiations and discussions with the civil society representatives, local governments, line ministries, media sector and wider public. Thus, the creation of the Strategy through an all inclusive and participatory process, paves the road to what the Strategy upholds for - an inclusive and participatory society - a strategic goal that the Serbian Government sets forth to the European path.

GUIDANCE FOR A BETTER SOCIETY

The schedule for consultative meetings organized by Government Office for Cooperation with Civil Society in Serbia



GUIDANCE FOR A BETTER SOCIETY

The National Strategy for an Enabling Environment
for Civil Society Development in the Republic of Serbia

TRANSPARENT FINANCING OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

In order to increase transparency of financing of CSOs from public funds, in 2011 the Office began to prepare Annual report on budgetary expenditures to associations and other civil society organizations in Serbia. As of then the regular annual report collates financial reports received from ministries and other government institutions from national and local levels.

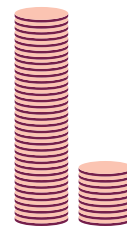
Reports show the total amount of planned and disbursed funds for supporting associations and other CSOs from public budget. Reports also give an overview of the allocation procedures, the manner of monitoring results of the supported programs and

projects, contain the data about all supported projects as well as the associations and other CSOs for which support was approved. Reports further offer the data about the areas in which the approved programs and projects were realized, their beneficiaries as well as the data about the territorial distribution of financed programs and projects.

The regular annual report is a flagship report of the Office and the Government as a whole, as it regularly provides information on trends and types of activities supported through the public budget. As such, the report is a leading transparency effort of the Serbian Government.



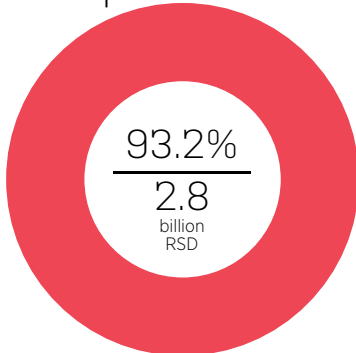
● Republic bodies



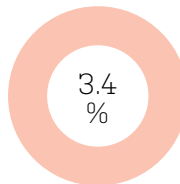
3,052,736,657 RSD



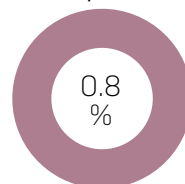
481 | donations to NGOs



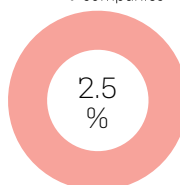
472 | social security compensation



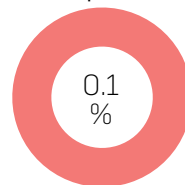
424 | specialized services

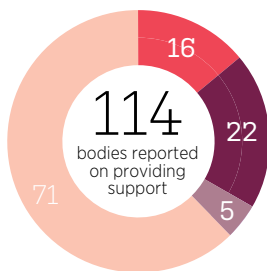


451 | subsidies to public non-financing companies

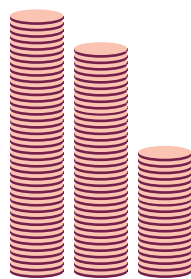


423 | contract services



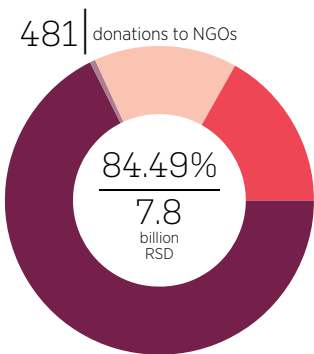


- local self-government bodies
- bodies of city governments in Belgrade, Novi Sad and Niš
- Republic bodies
- bodies of AP Vojvodina

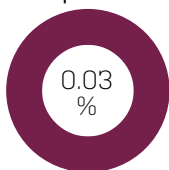


2012

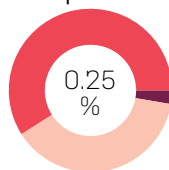
8,629,788,784 RSD



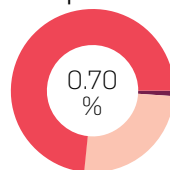
462 | donations to intl
organisations



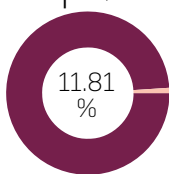
424 | specialized
services



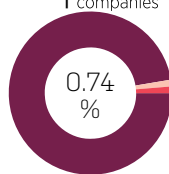
423 | contract
services



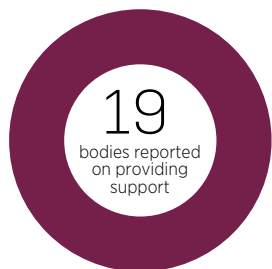
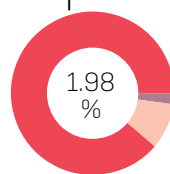
472 | social security
compensation



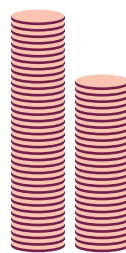
451 | subsidies to public
non-financing
companies



other

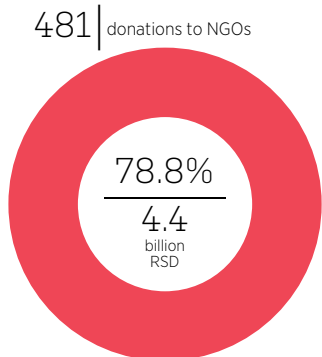


- Republic bodies

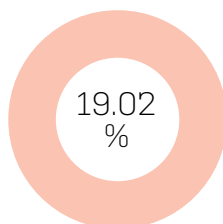


2013

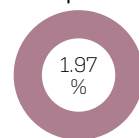
5,608,538,446 RSD



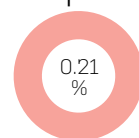
472 | compensation for
social protection
services



424 | specialized
services



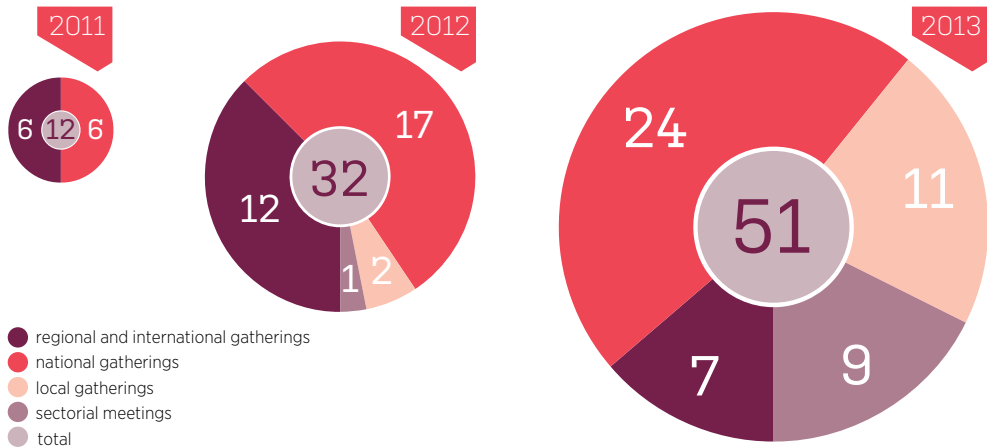
423 | contracted
services



CAPACITY BUILDING - CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS

In the past three years the Office was supported to organize a series of gatherings, conferences, trainings, panels, consultations, sectorial meetings, regional conferences and study tours. The gatherings were attended by representatives of state institutions,

CSOs, partners and associates from Serbia, as well as the Western Balkan region and Europe. Study tours to Croatia, Poland, Sweden and Estonia were organized for the Office staff in order to enhance their advisory capacity.



MILENA BANOVIĆ,
AD INTERIM AND HEAD
OF DEPARTMENT FOR
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ENABLING ENVIRONMENT
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE
OFFICE FOR COOPERATION
WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

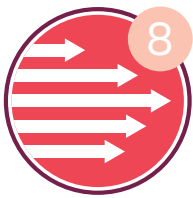


“Since it was founded the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society has achieved tangible results in all aspects of its work: it has been enhancing enabling environment for sustainable development of the civil society – from initiating amendments to laws and by-laws, it has been participating in working groups for writing regulations, actively cooperating in preparation and monitoring of implementation of national strategic documents, preparing annual reports on financing of CSOs from national and local budgets, organizing regular sectorial meetings for representatives of civil society organisations and decision- makers, establishing cooperation with the government institutions in the Western Balkans, improving capacities of Serbian CSOs in the process of EU accession, as well as strengthening support to development of corporate philanthropy in Serbia. Expertise provided by the EU project as well as continued capacity development of the Office staff were instrumental for such a success.”

EUROPEAN UNION ACCESSION NEGOTIATIONS

According to the Decision on establishing the Coordination body for EU accession process, the Office participates in the work of the Council of the Coordination body and is a member of ten Negotiating groups. With the support of the Project “EU Support to the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society”

the Office organized trainings with the aim to increase capacities of CSOs in relation to the EU accession process of the Republic of Serbia through sectorial civil society organisations (SCSO). 284 participants attended these training from 241 civil society organizations during the duration of the project.



Negotiating Group on Competition



Negotiating Group on Justice and Fundamental Rights



Negotiating Group on Information Society and the Media



Negotiating Group on Justice, Freedom and Security Issues



Negotiating Group on Agriculture and Rural Development



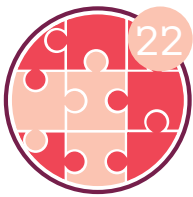
Negotiating Group on Education and Culture



Negotiating Group on Social Policy and Employment



Negotiating Group on Environment



Negotiating Group on Regional Policy and Coordination of Structural Instruments



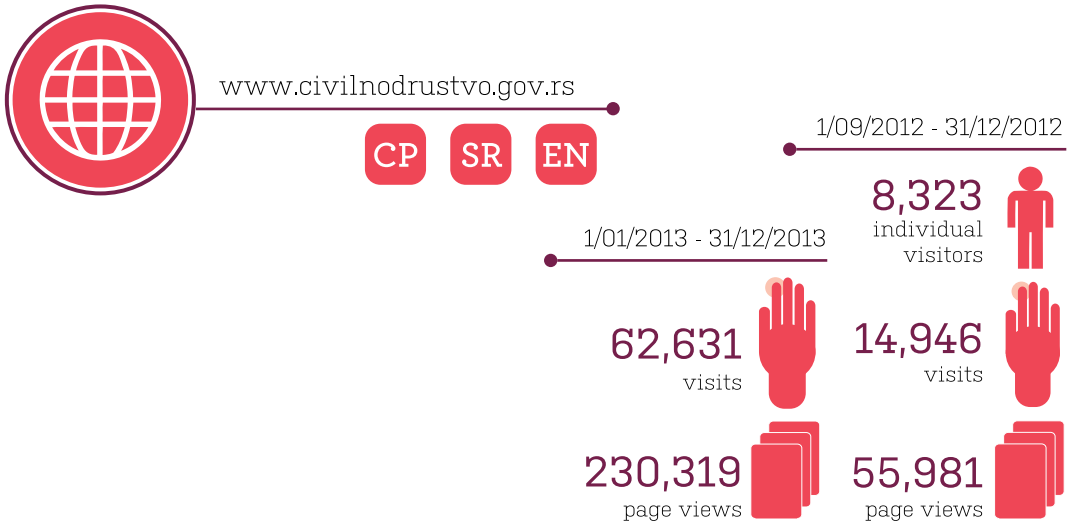
Negotiating Group on Consumer Protection and Health Protection

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VISIBILITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

In fulfilling its mandate, the Office's communication with public has been of key significance. The principles of the Office work with different parties are transparency, availability, willingness to cooperate with all sectors,

permanent learning and development of capacities. Promptness in response to queries and accuracy of the information has been the paramount communication motto.



GORDANA BEKČIĆ- PJEŠČIĆ,
INDEPENDENT ADVISER FOR COMMUNICATION PLANNING
AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES IN THE OFFICE
FOR COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY



“The visibility of the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society significantly increased over the last three years due to the permanent investment of the EU project in our communication capacities and knowledge. This is also what made the Office so different from other state institutions and bodies, which most often avoid the attention of the media. Development of the Office Communication Strategy and Communication Plan 2013- 2015 were fundamental for this success. At the same time, I was supported by the project in keeping permanent Office exposure in the traditional and social media, and this was of key importance to my own professional growing.”

EU SUPPORT TO THE CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN SERBIA – CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY PROGRAMME 2011-2013

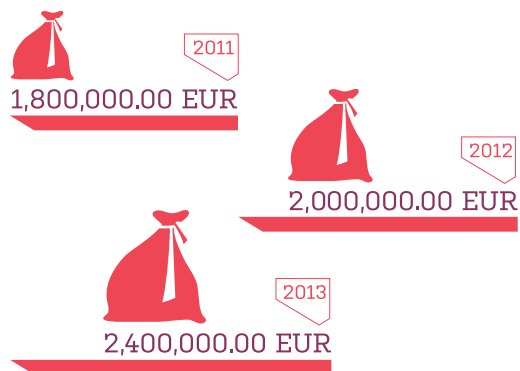
The two-pronged approach of the EU project also included the support to the Delegation of the European Union in Serbia in managing and monitoring grants allocated to civil society organisations through the Civil Society Facility 2011- 2013.

The Civil Society Facility Programme (CSF) was set up in 2008 with the overall objective of 'providing assistance for and contributing to anchoring democratic values and structures, human rights, social inclusion and the rule of law thereby supporting the EU integration process in candidate and potential candidate countries'. CSF focuses on achieving three outcomes:

- Greater benefit of civil society from national legal and financial frameworks and improved dialogue with state institutions;
- Greater commitment and capacity of CSO networks to give citizens a voice and influence public sector reform processes through analysis, monitoring and advocacy; and
- Increased access of grass-roots organizations and civic initiatives to financial resources, in-kind contributions or expertise from established CSOs and CSO networks.

Over 60 projects were supported in Serbia between 2011 and 2013 by CSF funds, ranging from the good governance and anti-corruption, to strengthening inter-cultural dialogue and local capacities and initiatives.

The total amount of grant for the Republic of Serbia within the Civil Society Facility Programme for the period 2011-2013



All of the supported projects contributed to further development of Serbia's civil society, resulting in a numerous and diverse initiatives that substantially benefited both citizens and state institutions. Due to a limited space, on the following pages, only selected projects are presented.

DAH THEATRE PROJECT 'FOCUS' – FOR CULTURE IN SERBIA

The project “Focus” realised by “Dah Teatar” and “Group 484” aims to support local art groups and civic initiatives promoting intercultural dialogue and nurturing democrating values in their environment.

The project was implemented at several levels. “Dah Teatar” and “Group 484” supported nine local campaigns promoting cooperation and tolerance. The call “Action: Revival” - as this segment was dubbed, was answered by the activists’ organisations from Sjenica, Kosjerić, Užice, Kruševac, Vranje and Novi Pazar.

Support to the “Alternative Centre for Girls” in Kruševac helped organise the “Festival of Peace-Devoted Secondary School Performances”. At the same time, 25 young people and 10 professors of four secondary schools in that city took part in the educational programme stressing the role of engaged theatre in establishing intercultural dialogue. Some of the projects supported within the project “Focus”, point up lack of cultural diversity or absence of alternative cultural scene in the cities like Vranje. Similarly, alternative expression is sought by young people in Užice who chose jazz, blues and rock as a vehicle of expressing their opinions about the society they live in. The project supported in Novi Pazar allowed a group of some 30 teenagers to express their view of the world around them through photography and point to the typical spots of their social milieu. An estimated 8,000 persons have been included in eight local campaigns supported within the framework of the project “Focus”.

The projects were followed by public debates which included local government representatives. In some cities, literary panels were organised where young people, local authors and also reputable men of letters such as David Albahari, the laureate of “NIN” participated. A journalist

of local daily “Vranjske” described his conversation with young people about the relevance of literature for critical opinion, recognition of universal values and breadth of spirit, as follows: “I have never seen anything as exciting as this. I had expected a usual literary event where the author, surrounded by critics, describes in a monotonous voice, what it was that he had wanted to say. Instead, I saw young people with initiative and capacity to organise a wonderful event.”

“Dah Teatar” and “Group 484” issued two new publications which pursue the narrative on power of dramatic and literary text in the process of strengthening intercultural dialogue. The magazine “Tekstura” targets teachers, art professors, school librarians. The collection of stories “Little Box”, which contains five works about different cultures, adaptation and their immigrants’ experiences of authors from Serbia currently living elsewhere, is intended for pupils.

In January 2014, “Dah Teatar” organised a two-day discussion “Between Education and Culture: 45 minutes for Alternative Scene”. More than 70 participants spoke of the importance of culture and education in initiatives promoting human rights and intercultural dialogue and sensitization to the needs of minority and vulnerable social groups.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2011, theme “Civic and capacity building initiatives”.



Theatre play about the social history of Užice “Invisible City”, performed on the bus line Užice - Zlatibor, photo by Dah Theater

NISVILLE JAZZ
FOUNDATION
JAZZ: MULTICULTURAL
EXPRESSION

International jazz festival in Niš was founded more than thirty years ago and became one of the most important music festivals held in Serbia. The popularity of this event which brings dozens of performers and visitors to Niš each year, was used by the Nisville Jazz Foundation to launch a project unveiling the mysteries of jazz to young musicians, strengthening their relationships and establishing cultural dialogue and tolerance.

Together with the Music School from Niš and the Music School "Stanislav Binički" from Leskovac, the Nisville Jazz Foundation organised some 60 young people to hold joint concerts, simultaneously held in six cities towards marking the "International Jazz Day". The concerts were held in Bujanovac, Leskovac, Niš, Vranje, Vladičin Han and Bosilegrad – the cities inhabited by members of different communities: Serbs, Albanians, Roma and Bulgarians. The event represented more than music cooperation.

It was a singular assertion of the fact that art promotes communication among people and overcomes cultural, religious and other differences. The gathering of young musicians in Niš presented an opportunity to stress cultural diversity of the South of Serbia. According to the appraisal of the authors, this approach should strengthen resistance to all forms of ethnically-motivated discrimination.

The interest of young musicians for the project exceeded the organizers' expectations, as instead of 45, double that number of musicians participated in the programmes. According to the estimates of the Nisville Jazz Foundation, several thousands of people attended the concerts and took part in the supporting events such as public discussions in all the six cities where the representatives of local governments, state institutions and civil society organisations discussed cooperation,

arts, education and youth. Local governments in each of the six cities supported the implementation of this project.

The concert held at the youth stage of the Jazz Festival "Nisville", where the young musicians gathered around the project "Jazz – Multicultural Expression", was attended by more than 1,000 visitors. And thanks to the project of the Nisville Jazz Foundation, the youth scene became an integral part of the famous Jazz Festival in Niš as of 2014. In the course of the project, a network "Serbian Jazz Youth" was started that should link young musicians more permanently with the continued support of the Nisville Jazz Foundation and the music schools from Niš and Leskovac.



Concert on the Youth Stage in Nisville festival in Niš,
photo by Miloš Stojanović-Shime

The cooperation of youth from the South of Serbia in the domain of music attracted interest of numerous media, and their play and joint marking of the "International Jazz Day" was recorded in the documentary "Behind the Scenes" broadcast on nine regional and one national television station. More information about the project are available at www.omladinskajazzmreza.com that will serve to establish youth jazz network, the registration of which is under way. A DVD with six joint concerts held on the occasion of the "International Jazz Day" was printed in 1,000 copies and the accompanying publication was published in five languages – Serbian, Albanian, Bulgarian, Roma and English.

The project was funded within the "Civil Society Facility" Programme for 2012, theme "Cultural Diversity".

GROUP 484

PROACTION - PROTECTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION OF ASYLUM-SEEKERS AND UNACCOMPANIED CHILD MIGRANTS

In line with its decades-long engagement in assisting refugees and internally displaced persons, and now migrants, the Group 484 initiated a project aimed at strengthening the rule of law and respect of human rights in cases involving migrants and asylum-seekers in Serbia, and in particular in cases involving children migrants who embark on the voyage without parents.

Bearing in mind the important role of civil society organisations in care and accommodation of migrants and efforts towards respect of their rights, Group 484 implemented a project to strengthen their capacities to protect the migrants and prevent discrimination and violation of their rights. The support was two-pronged: for activities in the field i.e. identification of cases of discrimination, provision of legal assistance to migrants and asylum-seekers, including those in detention and unaccompanied minors. The second track was training of civil society organisations' activists for monitoring changes in legislation and the practice in cases involving migrants before the national courts. More than 60 civil society organisations dealing with migrants professionally were thus included in the network.

Group 484 and partner organisations provided services in more than 2,000 cases of discrimination, with approximately 100 cases involving children. The project implementation showed that the rights of migrants and asylum-seekers, including children, are violated on a daily basis although the Serbian legislation – notably the Law on Asylum – contains a precise definition of obligations of the state agencies and competent services. The manifestations of withholding the rights differed, starting with entry of migrants into

the country, legal procedure of seeking asylum, through to waiting for the decision.

In order to improve the response to the challenges presented by the migrant crisis, training of 80 employees in institutions competent for issues of migrants and asylum-seekers, including children, was organised. The joint training involved the representatives of the Ministry of Interior – services in charge of border control, suppression of trafficking in human beings, and asylum issues. In addition, the representatives of the Asylum Commission, judiciary, Commissariat for Refugees, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Ministry of Health, Ombudsman and Trustee for Equality participated.



Social support to asylum seekers in the centers in Krnjača and Bogovađa, photo by Group 484

In order to prevent resistance of local communities to migrants and intolerance which, in the case of the city of Mladenovac originated from the local government representatives, the project involved 40 representatives of local governments. At the same time, awareness-raising campaign was launched targeting citizens in the cities where the reception centres are located. The objective of the activity involving approximately 10,000 persons, was to alter the statistics saying that 40 % of the inhabitants of towns were the migrants are accommodated find that fact disconcerting.

The project was funded within the "Civil Society Facility" Programme for 2013, theme "Antidiscrimination".

TRAG
FOUNDATION
CIVIL SOCIETY
FOR ACTIVE COMMUNITIES

The media most often mention the town of Lebane in the south of Serbia as an underdeveloped place of enormous poverty. Nevertheless, the engagement of the Trag Foundation in this town showed that its inhabitants lack neither initiative nor environmental awareness despite small salaries and difficult life. The environmental society “Green Footprint” from Lebane is one of the 35 activist organisations whose activities were supported by the Trag Foundation within the framework of the project worth 100,000 Euros.

The donation amounting to 2,958 Euros allowed the activists of the “Green Footprint” to build bicycle parking lots in Lebane. These were promoted as environmentally-safe transport vehicles, suitable for getting around this small town. This local initiative was supported by the local government bodies, pupils and professors of the local technical school “Vožd Karađorđe”, and even several local entrepreneurs. Success of the project gave visibility to the organisation “Green Footprint”, which resulted in allocation of funds for civil society organisations from the local budget.

Similarly to the “Green Footprint”, the Trag Foundation supported (by donations amounting to 3,450 Euros) the work of 35 activist organisations in 29 Serbian cities, that are conducting local initiatives and resolving the issues of public interest involving the citizens into these activities. Almost 9,000 inhabitants of the involved municipalities are estimated to have taken part in the projects supported by Trag Foundation. Some of them entail rehabilitation of public spaces, sponsoring cultural, artistic and intercultural programmes, as well as support to environmental projects and projects of social inclusion of marginalised groups.

The Trag Foundation supported also local environmental projects in Belgrade, Bački Monoštor, Krupanj, Prokuplje, Prijepolje and Niš. In Bajina Bašta, western Serbia, “Forum of Women” was supported which helps empower middle-aged, unemployed women. In Valjevo, a local initiative for construction of skate park for extreme sports lovers was funded. An informal group “Vesna’s Children” from Pančevo received support for the project of acquainting and befriending of young Serbs, Hungarians, Slovaks and Romanians through conversation and learning about each other’s customs, traditions and cultural heritage.

The activities of 25 activist organisations supported by the Foundation “Trag” were presented at the Civil Society Organisations Fair in Belgrade in February 2014. Appraising the work of organisations in the field, Tanja Bjelanović, Director for Funds and Communications of the Trag Foundation said: „we are doing concrete things which give concrete results; these efforts strengthen our society and our country“. Many activist organisations from small cities in Serbia and several from rural areas that were supported were identified as a special quality of this project.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2011, theme “Civic and capacity building initiatives”.



Cycling initiative in Novi Sad,
photo by Trag foundation

TRANSPARENCY SERBIA ENHANCED TRANSPARENCY AND EFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN FOUR AREAS

One of the primary missions of the non-governmental organisation “Transparency Serbia” is to strengthen the rule of law and transparency in work of state administration and public institutions with a view to improving the quality of services provided to the citizens.

The implementation of the project aimed at verifying the extent to which the state institutions observe the legal obligation to publish information about their work, was conducted at four levels. “Transparency Serbia” sought to find out to which extent were the data about the work of state bodies accessible to the citizens; it monitored whether public discussions were held prior to adoption of laws and how public procurement processes, and public-private partnerships in particular, were being conducted.

The conclusion drawn on the basis of the analysis of operation of 35 state bodies is that visible improvements have been made despite the persisting problems. These improvements include: the state institutions started to publish information on their activities in the “Operation Information Bulletin”, the introduction of which was advocated “Transparency Serbia”. Based on monitoring, a conclusion was made that the number of public discussions preceding adoption of laws has increased both at national and local levels. Having taken part in public discussions preceding passing of laws and regulations, “Transparency Serbia” responded by submitting amendments or comments to 15 laws, action plans and urban-planning designs with uneven success.

“Transparency Serbia” analyzed the way in which 23 public procurement processes were

conducted and identified irregularities in two cases. The state institutions (Thermal Power Plan “Nikola Tesla” and “Pharmacies Belgrade”) corrected the deficiencies identified in both cases.

The authors identified monitoring of public-private partnerships as the most important segment of the project, and the first analysis thereof was ever made. This is a form of investment activity which remains an enigma in Serbia although the law providing for it was adopted in 2011. Analyzing 12 cases, “Transparency Serbia” noted that the biggest public-private partnerships and some public procurement processes had been conducted on the basis of bilateral contracts, and thus are not subject to national legislation and the anti-corruption measures.

This assessment is also true of the most popular public-private partnership for construction of “Belgrade Waterfront”. “Transparency Serbia” took an active part in public discussions on all the proposed laws and urban-planning designs adopted towards construction of the residential and business district on the bank of the river Sava. This engagement attracted public attention and spurred a wide discussion on the legal aspects and economic viability of this investment model.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2012, theme “Public Administration Reform”.



Monitoring of Public Procurements,
photo by Aleksandar Đekić

ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT ELECTRONIC MEDIA – ANEM ILLUSTRATED GLOSSARY OF CORRUPTION

Serbia ranks among the countries with widespread corruption according to the Corruption Perceptions Index of the international organisation Transparency International. According to this Index, Serbia ranked 78 out of 175 countries in 2014. Corruption is identified as a problem by state bodies and civil society organisations alike.

The Association of Independent Electronic Media, gathering radio and television stations from the whole Serbia, identified a need to educate the citizens and the journalists reporting on this phenomenon to better understand corruption. The key concepts in this area are collected and explained in the “Illustrated Glossary of Corruption”.

The Glossary explains 26 terms relevant to better understanding the phenomenon of corruption. In consultation with the experts of Anti-Corruption Agency, the publication defines the meaning of terms that the wide public is familiar with such as “bribery” “nepotism”, “accumulation of functions”, “property cards”, etc. The Glossary provides a definition of anti-corruption efforts and recalls the mandate of Anti-Corruption Agency, the significance of controls and transparency of operation of institutions in combating corruption.

In parallel with the development of the Glossary, ANEM associates engaged on the project composed an electronic guide for journalists that should facilitate their daily work on researching and exposing corruption. The guide lists the laws relevant for combating corruption, clarifies the key legal concepts and stresses the importance of oversight of financing of political parties and the need to control all the revenues and gifts to public policy makers with a view to preventing illicit influences. Both the Glossary and the electronic guide

are available in English and in Serbian on the web page of ANEM. The electronic version of the Glossary has also been posted on the official website of the Anti-Corruption Agency.

Within the ANEM project 21 radio and TV programmes were recorded, as well as a singular audio-visual illustration of the Glossary. The series broadcast on 40 radio and 25 TV stations – members of ANEM network. It represents a collection of stories from all over the country showing different forms of corruption at different levels of public work. The journalists researched bribery in Požarevac, nepotism in Niš, the case of “whistleblowers” in Bojnik, abuse of discretionary powers in Knjaževac, etc. The series includes interviews with 70 collocutors from 43 institutions and organisations where corruption appears or which have a duty to curb it.

With a view to enhance project visibility, ANEM created a special podcast “Corruption in Focus” on its web page which includes all the information on “Glossary of Corruption”, TV and radio documentaries on individual cases of corruption reported in Serbia. In the meantime, the section became an address where all the relevant corruption-related information from Serbia and abroad are collected.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2011, theme “Strengthening the Rule of Law”.



Round table “Illustrated glossary of corruption”,
photo by Media center Belgrade

BELGRADE OPEN SCHOOL
LOCAL TRANSPARENCY
BOOSTER: RAISING
ACCOUNTABILITY AND
PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

The importance of transparency in the work of local authorities as basis for oversight and prevention of corruption is the objective of the project of the “Belgrade Open School” and its partners. The project, involving some 50 civil society organisations, targeted most of the cities and municipalities in Serbia.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2013, theme “Fight against corruption”.

One of the key steps in the project implementation was conducting a survey on the transparency of the work of local government bodies, and the extent of availability of data on policies, strategies and decisions relevant to the citizens. The survey collected all the documents relevant to oversight of local authorities’ work. The researchers focused on documents on local budgets, expenditures, public procurement, employment ads, reports of inspectorates, etc. They took note of the documents readily available on local government web sites and databases. With respect to those that had not been published, assistance of the Commissioner for Information of Public Importance and the competent public authorities was sought, in view of the fact that combating corruption is one of the priorities of the Serbian Government.

The database, developed in the course of research and representing a very clear overview of the situation in 123 municipalities and 23 cities in Serbia, will be open to the civil society organisations, local government employees, the media, citizens and the independent agencies such as Anti-Corruption Agency. As an integral part of the project, the experts of the “Belgrade Open School” and partner organisations developed a manual to facilitate oversight of local authorities’ work by all the stakeholders.



Workshop about the availability of public data,
photo by Sanja Naveski

Further to training of activists of civil society organisations who acquired additional knowledge for monitoring the transparency of public authorities’ work, the project is focused on strengthening capacities in the local governments and their networking with a view to standardisation of operation and quicker identification of deficiencies in the system. Therefore, a “Network of Heads of Local Administrations” was established. The idea of the project is to organise a gathering for the members of the “Network” – “Transparency Day” - where they would analyse implementation of the law and recommendations of the competent bodies and civil society organisations in their cities and municipalities, in addition to regular communication.

FEDERATION OF JEWISH COMMUNITIES IN SERBIA PORTRAITS AND MEMORIES OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN SERBIA BEFORE THE HOLOCAUST

Between 35,000 and 37,000 Jews lived in Serbia before World War II. According to the historians, 86% perished in a pogrom during the war.

The Federation of Jewish Communities in Serbia launched a project aimed at preserving the memory of the Jews and at raising awareness of the younger generations about the proportion of crimes, making them realise that Holocaust must happen never again by teaching about their suffering. The authors of the project pertain that dealing with issues such as Holocaust represents not only learning about the past but also a strong contribution to building a system of values in which human rights hold a prominent place.

Attempting to revive the faces of people who perished 70 years ago and bring the story about their lives and deaths closer to the modern generations, the Federation of Jewish Communities in Serbia decided to build an archive of photographs collected from the descendants and acquaintances of those who died. These photographs, as a unique window into the past, remind of what the Jews in Serbia 1919-1942 looked like, where they lived, what they studied and engaged in, how they entertained themselves. In order to collect and process the photographs, the project established documentation centres in Belgrade, Novi Sad and Subotica in the local Jewish municipalities. Up until the breakout of World War II, the majority of Jews lived in these cities and in their surroundings.

The collected photographs were supplemented by testimonies of members of the Jewish community who survived Holocaust - some 400 of them. Their memories gave life to the people represented on

black and white photographs, in many cases serving as an only source of information on the lives and the tragic deaths of some of the victims. At the same time, the descendants of the Serbian Jews (according to the estimates, some 1,000 Jewish households live in Serbia today) were urged to share the information about their ancestors with the communities they live in.

The photographs and the memories of those perished in Holocaust, recorded as video or audio materials, were linked into a multi-media exhibition that is to be shown in seven bigger cities in Serbia with the highest pre-war population of Jews. In addition to Belgrade, Novi Sad and Subotica, these are Niš, Sombor, Šabac and Kragujevac.

A special group targeted by the exhibition are young people, and therefore cooperation with local primary and secondary schools was established. An education programme aligned with the exhibition and providing additional information on the topic has been prepared for pupils and teachers. Two books served as basis of education: "Holocaust and its Significance" and "A Textbook about Holocaust". Both are available in Serbia. The objective of the proposed education is both to provide an explanation of the exhibition and to instruct teachers and lecturers on how to prepare the pupils for the exhibited material.

The project was funded within the "Civil Society Facility" Programme for 2012, theme "Cultural Diversity".



Portraits and memories, former German pavilion, Staro Sajmište, Belgrade, photo by Andrea Palašti

YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES FORUM

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITY

Four organisations: “Youth with Disabilities Forum”, Citizens’ Association “Chance”, “Center for Inclusive Society Development” and Citizens’ Association “Perspective” implemented a project of enhancement of civil society activities in the domain of social inclusion. The project aimed to strengthen the existing and create new capacities engaged in community-based social protection, education and employment .

A comprehensive “Study on Service Providers in the Area of Social Protection, Education and Employment” conducted in five cities across Serbia (Belgrade, Užice, Požarevac, Kikinda and Leskovac) within the framework of this project, showed that the number of services provided to persons with disabilities continues to be insufficient due to the lack of funds. It was also asserted that the local authorities are not conducting accurately defined monitoring and evaluation of the services provided. The local authorities lack information on the necessary services and databases of potential beneficiaries and their needs. Persons with disabilities continue to face difficulties in access to the services they need, and meet with prejudices of public service employers and employees. That is why, the Study concludes, there is an enormous potential for engagement of civil society organisations in the above mentioned areas.

Responding to deficiencies identified in the Study, the “Youth with Disabilities Forum” and partner organisations organised five seminars aimed at establishing better communication among the stakeholders engaged in provision of community-based social protection services. The project also organized workshops on public-private partnerships as a potentially new way of drawing

investments into the area of social protection, education and employment.

The project managers funded the community-based activities implemented by partner civil society organisations in five cities. These included provision of psycho-social support to families of adults with disabilities in Kikinda; founding of day-care centres for persons with disabilities in Požarevac; support to employment of persons with disabilities in Belgrade. Personal assistants services for persons with specific needs were re-established in Užice and Leskovac.

With a view to improving communication, identified as a key precondition of quality service provision to persons with disabilities, the “Youth with Disabilities Forum” and the project partners joined social networks (Facebook, Youtube, Twitter), and opened a web page www.servisipodrske.info with the information useful to the beneficiaries of the above services. The web page contains data on type of services, addresses of venues they are provided at, prices, and other useful information. This page was already viewed by some 7,000 visitors and more than 1,000 started communicating on the social networks.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2011, theme “Civic and capacity building initiatives”.

The International “Zero project” conference, organized by the Essl Foundation, Wien, Austria. Innovative practice award - Online platform on community-based services for persons with disabilities - www.servisipodrske.info, photo by YWDF



BELGRADE CENTRE
FOR SECURITY POLICY
A-COP: CIVIL SOCIETY AGAINST
POLICE CORRUPTION

Forming an anti-corruption network between six civil society organizations dubbed A-COP, and strengthening their capacities for monitoring anti-corruption measures in the police was the aim of this project. It was implemented with the “Centre for Democracy and Human Rights” from Toplica and “Novi Sad School of Journalism”.

A comprehensive research into corruption in law enforcement represented a significant part of the project. This research confirmed the impression that anti-corruption efforts in the police and competent institutions need to be enhanced. Improving work in the area of human resources, enhancing internal control service, strengthening police autonomy and reducing the impact of daily politics are the most important steps towards increasing police integrity. The findings of the study were published in a publication “Corruption in Law Enforcement in Serbia: Cases”.

The results of the research into the cases of corruption in the police were presented at six panel discussions organised in Brus, Prokuplje, Niš, Majdanpek, Zrenjanin and Bečej. The discussion in Brus was particularly interesting as five policemen talked about the problem of corruption in their department and the cameras recorded one of them explaining 10 causes of corruption.

Wishing to re-assert the conclusions of the study, the “Belgrade Centre for Security Policy” (BCBP) and its project associates organised six interviews with the representatives of police trade unions in Zaječar, Kragujevac, Vranje, Niš, Novi Sad and Brus. Anti-corruption policy as an integral part of the development strategy of the Ministry of Interior was in the limelight.

BCBP also organised discussions with the citizens in Prokuplje, Majdanpek, Brus, Zrenjanin, Niš and Bečej in order to ascertain the perception of the citizens about the cases of corruption in the police. It was concluded that the citizens continuously fail to identify significant changes in comportment of policemen with respect to corruption. An expert meeting was also convened during the project implementation period where the experts talked with the representatives of the Ministry of Interior, and the competent specialised departments – Internal Controls, Human Resources Department, Criminal Police, Border Police and the representatives of police trade unions.



Final A-COP conference in Belgrade,
photo by BCSP

The conclusions of the study, the panel discussions and consultations with the citizens, policemen and the representatives of the Ministry were presented at a conference held in Belgrade in June 2014. More than 100 representatives of the Ministry, National Parliament and the Government, civil society organisations and the media took part in the conference. It was held as a joint initiative of the project A-COP and project PACS – joint initiatives of the European Union and the Council of Europe “Strengthening Capacities of Law Enforcement and Judiciary in the Fight against Corruption in Serbia”.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2011, theme “Strengthening the Rule of Law”.

RADIONICA INTEGRACIJE ROMEO AND JULIET

Two non-governmental organisations, from Belgrade and Priština: Radionica integracije and Quendra Multimedia (“Multimedial centre”) – chose William Shakespeare’s tragedy “Romeo and Juliet” about the families at war whose hatred prevents love of a young couple, for the first theatrical cooperation of artists from Serbia and Kosovo post-1999.

The project was developed based on the belief that the political agreement signed by the governments in Belgrade and Priština in Brussels provides an opportunity for cooperation and advancing reconciliation between the two peoples, but also that the two societies remain divided by animosity and prejudices despite the political agreement on normalisation of relations – just like in Shakespeare’s drama.

By staging a theatre play, well known and liked in both communities where associations to tragic consequences of hatred and conflict of Serbs and Albanians are easily discernible, the initiators of the project bring down the dialogue about the past and the future from the highest political levels to topics that the ordinary citizens are interested in. Insisting on the idea that dialogue is possible despite the seemingly impossible conditions, the artists act in both languages simultaneously and so Romeo and the Montague family speak in Albanian while Juliet and Capulet speak Serbian, without interpretation.

The premiere of Romeo and Juliet, gathering actors from Belgrade, Priština, Sombor, Sarajevo and New York was held in national theatres in Belgrade and Priština. The premiere and five re-runs were strongly supported by the ministries of culture of both communities.

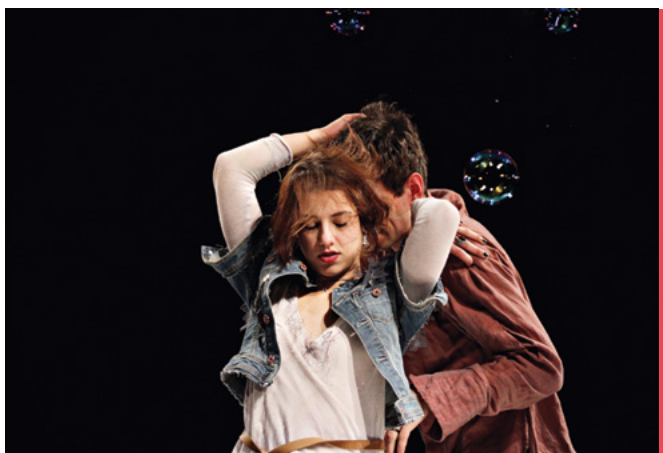
The play was followed by discussions about its roots organised as panels with the audience

and the renowned cultural figures from both communities, thus increasing the number of persons directly involved in re-establishing the severed dialogue. The director, a respected Yugoslav actor Predrag Manojlović said that a single play cannot improve Serbian-Albanian relations but can stimulate other people, ideas and processes leading to solutions and enabling co-habitation.

Wishing to offer cooperation on this play as a model to be replicated by other artists, figures of culture and civil society activists, the initiators of the project filmed a documentary thereon during the rehearsals and the reactions of the audience to cooperation of the actors from Kosovo and Serbia. The documentary will be shown on national television stations and some 1,5 million people are expected to see it in more than ten performances.

Artistic cooperation on Romeo and Juliet, the first Serbian-Albanian co-production in the last couple of decades, attracted much media and public attention. The comments mostly assessed that the initiative reasserted the power of art in overcoming divisions and boundaries and thus represents a perfect tool to strengthen cooperation and enhance understanding between people.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2013, theme “Support to Cooperation between Serbia and Kosovo”.



Theatre play “Romeo and Juliet”, Jovana Gavrilović as Juliet and Alban Ukaj as Romeo, photo by Maja Medić

CENTER FOR DEMOCRACY
FOUNDATION
CITIZENS FOR INSPECTIONS
REFORM – TOWARDS
EFFICIENT INSPECTIONS
SYSTEM

Inspections play a key role in implementation of laws and transparency of work of public services at all levels – from national to local. The project, implemented by “Center for Democracy Foundation” in cooperation with the Center for New Communications “Dokukino”, was aimed at increasing participation of civil society organisations in public sector reforms with a special focus on inspections.

In order to implement the project, a coalition of six civil society organisations from Majdanpek, Požega, Belgrade, Kikinda, Kraljevo and Knjaževac was formed. Their activists were trained in monitoring the work of inspections and advocacy for reforms in that area. They were lectured by 12 experts in decentralisation and public administration reforms, but also by representatives of local governments, the media and online activists.

The project also entailed a research on the perceptions of citizens about the inspections in their cities. The public opinion poll was carried by telephone and some 5,000 respondents took part therein. The findings have shown 30% of the respondents to have had direct contact with one of the inspections and that they most often contacted public services inspections, followed by construction and market inspections. Almost one half of the citizens surveyed (47.9 %) stated that they had objections to the services received. The most frequent objections were those pertaining to lack of efficiency, employees’ lack of interest and protracted resolution of complaints. Corruption, inconsistent criteria in solving citizens’ complaints, and lack of competence were also mentioned. The conclusions of the

research served as basis for an advocacy campaign for the reform of inspections.

An integral part of the project was also organisation of eight workshops where CSO activists and other relevant stakeholders in the public administration reform exchanged experiences. The workshops were held in six cities and attended by 123 participants.

The research, contacts with the citizens, experts, the media and the decision makers in the subject domain served as basis for development of a set of recommendations. These include the necessity to conduct a comprehensive analysis of correlation between the new Law on Inspections and other laws in this area, and developing an action plan to align these. Also, a new law on administrative procedures is called for that would serve as a framework law governing the law of inspections. In line with the National Strategy on Decentralisation, the work of inspections should be a topic of the decentralisation process. Inspection capacities need to be strengthened and an accurate number of inspectors required at local level established. Better coordination of inspections in the field is also needed. The recommendations were set out in a brochure and sent to all the relevant addresses including all members of the National Parliament.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2012, theme “Public Administration Reform”.



Round table in Majdanpek,
photo by CDF

BELGRADE CENTRE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS OUT OF THE BOX

The project of the Belgrade Centre for Human Rights gathered more than 2,000 young people from 12 cities in Serbia around joint efforts to promote tolerance, understanding and respect for diversity. The project was implemented also by The Committee of Lawyers for Human Rights, Beta Media Centre and the Centre for Theatrical Research.

The cooperation of young people coming from various economic, social and ethnic backgrounds was organised at the level of 12 youth offices that organised 12 two-day workshops (347 young people participated), and then 12 direct gatherings of young people (some 90) who took part in the project. They were encouraged to think about customs, habits and specificities of their communities in order to translate them into so called “cultural packages” typical of the communities they live in. A special creative map of Serbia was developed in this way and its networked members stressed the characteristics of their areas through artistic expression. This map was turned into a Facebook application and so became accessible to a large audience even after the end of the project. A jury of experts pronounced the best “cultural packages” to have been made in Prijepolje (recorded multicultural graffiti), Vranje (memory of a great man of letters Bora Stanković revived) and Priboj (30 minute video-material about the city). As Serbia was affected by big floods during the implementation period, the youth group from Obrenovac engaged in recording testimonies of inhabitants of this city which suffered dire consequences.

The crown of the project was a theatre play “HBW: The House of Big War” which examined nationalism and intolerance and the impact that this kind of climate in a society may have on young people, contrary to the commercial TV programme of mostly trivial content an allusion to which is made by its title (“Big Brother”). The aim of the project authors

was to raise awareness about the importance of cohabitation in a society of ethnic, religious and cultural diversity. The participants of the project devised 40 literary miniatures with this theme that competed for the final version of the text of the play “The House of Big War”. “When Children Played War” was proclaimed the best story. It was printed and distributed to participants and visitors at the final conference in Belgrade.

The play “HBW: The House of Big War” represents a collection of personal stories told by the chosen seven young people reflecting on their relationship to stereotypes, intolerance and aggression based on lack of understanding of diversity. Some of the testimonies about real life events were so disconcerting that the data on them were sent to the Office of the Trustee for Gender Equality. Workshops, joint discussions and the play proved young people to be more than well aware of the world around them, part of which are intolerance and discrimination. This play was shown to an audience of 500 people in six cities including Belgrade, where more than 400 persons saw the final performance. Its quality is also witnessed by the fact that the Belgrade Centre for Cultural Decontamination included it in its repertoire.

The project was implemented in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports. The offices of OSCE, Ombudsman, Trustee for Gender Equality and numerous NGOs were informed about all the phases of its implementation.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2012, theme “Cultural Diversity”.



Theatre play “HBW: The House of Big War”,
photo by Nebojša Petrović

NGO ATINA
OPENING DIALOG WITHIN
LOCAL COMMUNITIES –
MIGRANTS AND CITIZENS
TOWARDS TOLERANCE
AND NON-VIOLENCE

Non-governmental organisation (NGO) “Atina” and its partner “Centre for Protection of Asylum-Seekers” became aware of the significance of the theme of migrants even before the Balkans became their main transit route from Turkey and Greece to the EU countries, Germany in the first place in summer 2015. NGO Atina and the partners initiated the dialogue between the local communities, citizens and migrants with a view to enhancing tolerance and preventing violence and discrimination.

To that effect, “Local Intercultural Network” was established in five cities that faced larger influx of migrants and where the reception centres for accommodation of asylum seekers were already located – Subotica, Sremska Mitrovica, Šid, Loznica and Lajkovac. The objective of the network was to strengthen capacities of local governments in setting up a set of measures to resolve the issues of migrants and their integration, and to promote intercultural dialogue between the migrants and local population. The project was implemented by 20 professionals from 15 civil society organisations, and was joined also by the representatives of state institutions mandated for migrants.

One of the pillars of the project undertaken by NGO “Atina” and the partners was a comprehensive analysis of migrants which rendered accurate data on them in five above-mentioned Serbian cities, the characteristics of the asylum system and consequences of irregular migrations, in particular for women and children who are the most frequent victims of trafficking in human beings.

The analysis, inter alia, identified lack of communication between the migrants and local

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2012, theme “Cultural diversity”.



*The refugee center and refugee life,
photo by NGO ATINA*

population so a training of the “mediators of culture” was undertaken. Mediators of culture are to assist the process of inclusion of migrants and promote tolerance among the populations from different cultures. They are trained to inform the migrants and local population about the migration policy, health care of migrants and their potential education in Serbia. The fact that the migrants from Egypt, Somalia, Lybia and Syria participated in the trainings alongside NGO activists is particularly important.

At the same time, the campaign of the “Local Intercultural Network” spreading information on migrants targeted approximately 100,000 people. The activities of the organisation and its partners were video recorded and made into a documentary “Up the Road” dealing with the phenomenom of migrations from Asia and Africa.

CENTER FOR CULTURAL DECONTAMINATION

THE CONTEXT STUDIES: THE DIVERSITY OF THE DIVERSITY

The project “The Context Studies” is an educational platform aiming to raise awareness about the importance of recognizing diversity and understanding the context in which misunderstandings in communication appear. It was implemented in cooperation with “YuRom Center” from Niš, “Active Region” from Subotica and organisation “Sent” from Novi Pazar, and was targeting youth seeking to express their standpoints through art.

The Center for Cultural Decontamination and partner organisations organised a series of educational workshops based on three cultural patterns: “Brecht as a Method”, “Translation as Cultural Form” and “Diversity of Cultures of the Youth” wishing to prompt young people to critical thinking often limited by borders imposed by centralised cultural systems, the deficiencies of the educational system and poor financial situation. Each programme was moderated by a selected mentor and the participants had the opportunity to widen the circle of people involved in discussions proposing also other lecturers for specific themes. And so the educational platform gathered 40 lecturers, activists, artists, historians, authoris, etc. Young people, grouped around three themes, expressed themselves in different ways: a documentary on never constructed Museum of Revolution was recorded; a discussion inspired by Strindberg’s “Miss Julie” was organised; a performance on breast cancer was held as was a performance about the memory of growing up in Serbia in the 1990s. The Novi Pazar branch met in National Library; one of the topics of discussion in Niš was also folklore of the South of Serbia, and some of the young people chose to express their view of their reality by a series of photographs. The project attracted many more participants than initially expected; more than

100 of them are thought to have participated in one of the offered programmes.

Public appearances, workshops, films and exhibitions of young authors – as many as 20, attracted attention in the communities they were organised in and managed to prompt discussions on respect of diversity as opposed to discrimination on political and economic level, as is the case with the Roma community in Niš. The project promoted young authors and artists in Novi Pazar and Subotica combating marginalization and prejudices and overcoming the stigma by a universal artistic expression.

The closing event of the project was a four-day plenary “The Context Studies” directed by Borka Pavićević, which gathered participants of all the four cities in Belgrade and gave them a chance to get to know each other better and to exchange experiences and impressions. In the course of the plenary, the seat of the Belgrade “Center for Cultural Decontamination” saw the opening of six exhibitions, five performances and four theatre plays. Four short documentaries were filmed, two lectures and five group discussions were held. This asserted the importance of free and unconventional exchange of knowledge and expression of critical opinion about the reality in an artistic way.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2012, theme “Cultural diversity”.



The Context Studies: The Diversity of the Diversity,
photo by Srđan Veljović

ASSOCIATION OF BUSINESS
WOMEN IN SERBIA
WOMEN IN PROGRESS –
CAPACITY BUILDING AT THE
LOCAL LEVEL FOR GENDER
ECONOMIC MAINSTREAMING
IN SERBIA

The “Association of Business Women in Serbia” has 15 years of experience in strategic education, organising and networking of organisations supporting female entrepreneurship and self-employment Serbia-wide. The current project of support to women entrepreneurship was implemented at two levels: in Novi Pazar and Bujanovac, the cities where organising of women who have their own businesses is just starting, as well as in four cities in the southwest of Serbia where they are already networked into the “Association”, but must enhance their visibility and impact in local communities. The project was implemented in Valjevo, Čačak, Kragujevac, Niš, Novi Pazar and Bujanovac.

In the course of the project founded on the principle that knowledge and experience are transferred constantly, daily communications were organised with the experts of the Association with the women from the networked organisations. Business women from the six above mentioned cities received support to organise, register or better manage their associations. The programme included training for developing projects for calls published by local governments, international organisations, or the Office for Cooperation with the Civil Society.

In all, 120 women from the six above mentioned cities (20 from each of the cities) participated in the project implementation, and thus seized the opportunity to expand their knowledge and acquire new skills related to successful management of professional organisations. A film “Women on the Move Upward” was shown at the

final press conference and the participants gave recommendations for improvement of the cooperation in the future.

In the course of the project implementation, the following results were achieved: an agreement with local government in Kragujevac that provided the meeting space and funds from the local budget for the “Association of Business Women in Serbia”. Municipality of Niš also offered business women to partake in local development projects, and the members of the Association proposed that establishment of the “Women Chamber of Commerce” be the next phase of networking. Establishment of an association of business women from Bujanovac met with the immediate support of the local government which put computers, a vehicle and funds from the local budget in addition to office space at their disposal. In Čačak, a discussion started on limiting working hours for women who constitute the majority of employees in trade and whose working hours differ from those of kindergartens and schools their children attend; participants from Valjevo proposed continued networking with business women from the region, and with their counterparts from Bosnia and Herzegovina in particular.

The project was funded within the “Civil Society Facility” Programme for 2011, theme “Civic and capacity building initiatives”.



Closing conference in Belgrade,
photo by ABW Serbia

APPENDIX - LIST OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS FUNDED BY THE EU CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY PROGRAMME 2011-2013

CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY PROGRAMME 2011

THEME 1: Strengthening the Rule of Law

PROJECT	ORGANIZATION	GRANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Illustrated Glossary of Corruption	Association of Independent Electronic Media (ANEM)	129,973.00	The project aims to contribute to more effective fight against corruption by active involvement of citizens and media. This is achieved by building capacities of both the media and citizens through improving their knowledge, stimulating investigative reporting and monitoring/evaluation of the work of public officials and through building cooperation between relevant actors, thus influencing responsible conduct of public office holders.
Local Communities Against Trafficking	NGO Atina-Citizens' Association For Combat Trafficking In Human Beings And All Forms Of Gender-Based Violence	107,240.49	The action's goal is to increase the capacities of CSOs to develop mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of local strategies and action plans related to protection of victims of trafficking and prevention of human trafficking. This is achieved through establishing regional networks with a view to improving the position of the groups especially vulnerable to trafficking, as well as by improving regional cooperation and civil society dialogue.

A-COP: Civil Society against Police Corruption	Belgrade Centre for Security Policy	116,112.00	The project aims to enhance the involvement of civil society in public oversight of the implementation of an anti-corruption policy in the police. The project is addressing the deficiencies in the capacity of Serbian CSOs to monitor, evaluate, and advocate for the implementation of an anti-corruption policy in the police and connecting CSOs into a nation-wide anti-corruption group in the police (A-COP).
Stop Corruption that Threatens Decent Work	Center for Democracy Foundation	108,115.94	The project aims to strengthen anti-corruption efforts in the domain of socio-economic rights and rights to decent work. It fosters the participation of CSOs in policy making and monitoring of the implementation of strategies and laws. Project activities include a survey on decent work and corruption; monitoring of decent work fulfilment, training and coaching of local CSOs and local councils, and an awareness raising campaign.
Monitoring of Implementation of the Agreement Concluded between Kosovo and Serbia in the Field of Free Movement of People and Goods	Center for Regionalism	96,749.00	The general objective of the project is to provide support to the regional cooperation between Serbia and Kosovo, which is a precondition for EU integration of both, as well as to facilitate the free flow of goods and people. The main project activities include research and monitoring, drafting and distribution of the expert report and policy paper, lobbying and public advocacy, and media and public promotion of the project.
Striving for Better Judiciary Reform Results	Centre for Human Rights-Niš	111,073.50	The project aims to enable CSOs to take an active role in judicial reform and contribute to ensuring the right to a fair trial. The main project activities include monitoring of the practice of courts regarding requests for repeated procedure; research/integrity tests and improving the understanding of the concept of a fair trial among judges and prosecutors.
Our money, Our concern	Centre for Development of Non-Profit Sector (CRNPS)	110,129.40	The goal of the action is to provide civil society with tools that let them engage in informed public debate on budgetary issues, but also to mobilize them to complement each other's efforts, exchange experiences and ideas, and brainstorm for new initiatives and actions towards greater government accountability at national and local level. This facilitates an effective dialogue on public finances between the civil society and the government.

Accommodating legal needs of persons with mental disabilities	Centre for Advanced Legal Studies	102,867.45	The action aims to tailor legal responses to the specific needs of persons with mental disabilities. It is contributing to the capacity-development of national and local grassroots organizations representing persons with mental disabilities to recognise and accommodate the legal needs of their beneficiaries. By fully involving the line-ministry, the action is contributing to the drafting and creating of new regulations and public policies.
Fostering Civic-Political Cooperation to Improve Accountability for War Crimes in Serbia	Humanitarian law Centre	102,020.00	This project aims to contribute to the improvement of the work of Serbian institutions and judiciary in the prosecution of war crimes. This ensures increased participation and a more active role of CSOs in identifying priorities, shaping policies, monitoring progress, and supporting the Government in its EU accession negotiations in the domain of accountability for war crimes in the context of Chapters 23 and 24 of the acquis.
Active citizens against corruption: Best practices to cure and prevent corruption in local communities	Partners for Democratic Change Serbia	80,070.00	The project works with selected local governments and public institutions to assess their vulnerability to corruption and to improve the procedures identified as most prone to corruption. This is achieved by implementing innovative anti-corruption methodologies, increasing citizens' participation in monitoring the work of the public administration, and creating an interactive on-line platform identifying common cases of corruption.
Neighbour watch	The Timok Club	64,366.64	The action is focused on enhancing the regional cooperation between Serbian and Bulgarian CSOs in capacity building for monitoring and evaluation of selected public services. This helps to further improve the effectiveness of civic participation in local communities, increasing transparency and accountability of local governments and enhancing the expertise of CSOs through peer-to-peer and training-of-trainers approaches.

THEME 2: Civic and capacity building initiatives

PROJECT	ORGANIZATION	GRANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Women in Progress – Capacity building at the local level for gender economic mainstreaming in Serbia	Association of Business Women in Serbia	104,616.00	The goal of this project is active participation of the female business population in the creation of local economic policy in underdeveloped areas of Serbia. This is achieved through the formalization and professionalization of grassroots organizations devoted to women's economic development; helping local leaders recognize the contribution of women entrepreneurs; and the creation of more gender-sensitive local development plans.
Local Networking for Sustainable Development	Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence	136,445.00	The focus of the action is to enhance the regional cooperation and good neighbourly relations through new partnerships and civil society dialogue between Serbia, Kosovo and Croatia, especially among the local policy and civil society leaders. The action provides knowledge sharing and trainings in skills of vital importance to building capacity for civic action, promoting civil society development and inter-sectoral as well as inter-municipal networking.
Improving CSO capacities in professionalization of service delivery at the local level	Centre for Liberal-Democratic Studies (CLDS)	87,691.00	The action aims to increase CSO capacities to deliver social services at the local level, by improving professional capacities and competencies in the areas of service management and efficiency, service quality and standards, and service monitoring and evaluation, including advocacy. Networking and partnership of CSOs at national and grassroots level are enhanced by establishing an open professional network of CSO service providers.
FOrCulture in Serbia - FOCUS	DAH Theatre Research Centre	113,290.37	This project contributes to strengthening the role of civil society by raising CSO capacities in the field of inter-culturalism. The project strengthens primary artistic and cultural initiatives, and brings together CSOs, young leaders, educational and cultural workers, and other local and national stakeholders, helping them to launch activities, spark public debate, and influence policy in order to promote intercultural dialogue.

Civil Society for Active Communities	TRAG foundation	134,936.18	This project is supporting grassroots CSOs in local communities throughout Serbia, particularly those from rural and underdeveloped areas. The main goal is to provide action grants and technical support to grassroots CSOs which engage citizens in decision making processes in local communities, with the aim of making them aware of the legal framework and helping them enlist support and get in contact with national level actors.
Sustainable community based services for persons with disability	Youth with Disabilities Forum	86,533.65	The project activities are aimed at increasing the number of service providers in education, employment, and social protection through mobilizing and bringing together all individuals and organizations dealing with service provision at the local level. The project is improving the functionality of services in local communities and increasing visibility through the establishment of a functional open database of service providers.

CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY PROGRAMME 2012

THEME 1: Public administration reform

PROJECT	ORGANIZATION	GRANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
For introduction of accountability, efficiency and transparency in prosecutors' offices - citizens' support in establishment of internal financial management and control (FMC) system	Association of Public Prosecutors and Deputy Public Prosecutors of Serbia	75,802.44	This project supports creating a partnership between CSOs and prosecutors in order to introduce accountability, efficiency, and transparency, to prevent corruption, and to increase the consistency of working procedures. Representatives of CSOs, prosecutors and prosecutors' staff, and local self-governments will work together on creating monitoring mechanisms for public prosecutors offices' (PPOs) work.
CSOs support to public administration in IPA Rural Development II with focus on Measure 202	Citizens' Association Leader +	85,211.06	This action aims to enhance the transparency, efficiency and service orientation of public administration in regards to IPA rural development policy formulation and decision making. This is achieved by involving CSOs in policy development and accreditation of rural development Measures for IPA II, but also by improving inter-sectoral thematic cooperation of public bodies relevant for IPA RD II through networking activities.

<p>Achieving Effective Policy Monitoring and Evaluation through Evidence Supplied by the Civil Society – Public Administration and Social Policy and Employment Sectors</p>	<p>Foundation for the Advancement of Economics – FREN</p>	<p>83,813.47</p>	<p>The project aims to involve CSOs in policy M&E and to improve the understanding of policy makers, civil servants, and CSOs about the benefits and ways of involving civil society in policy M&E. The project studies evidence of the impact of civil society on the M&E process in the EU and in Serbia. A series of round tables is organized, focusing on improving the quality of the M&E processes through CSO involvement.</p>
<p>Citizens for Inspections Reform – Towards Efficient Inspections System</p>	<p>Center for Democracy Foundation / CDF</p>	<p>85,498.09</p>	<p>This project is creating workshops for stakeholders, training sessions for CSOs, and supporting the development of a CSO coalition aimed at involving CSOs in public administration reforms. Focus is placed on strengthening CSOs capacities to advocate for inspections reforms at national and local level, for the respect of the rule of law, and for a transparent public administration harmonized with the EU standards.</p>
<p>Enhanced transparency and efficiency of public administration in four areas</p>	<p>Transparency Serbia</p>	<p>79,149.67</p>	<p>This project seeks to improve transparency of public administration and to improve compliance in: accurate and comprehensive pro-active publishing of information about services provided by public institutions and use of approved budgets; enhanced transparency and tools for consultation with interested public in legislative processes at all levels; and arrangements based on Law on Public Private Partnerships and Concessions.</p>
<p>ReForce – Reinforcing the Role of Civil Society Organisations in Community Development and Public Administration Reform</p>	<p>Belgrade Open School</p>	<p>98,740.62</p>	<p>The project aims to increase the influence of CSOs in the public administration reform in Serbia. Representatives from public administrations and CSOs participate in a results-oriented dialogue on local community development, improving transparency and accountability, and management of local public funds assigned for CSOs. Grants support to grass root initiatives also contributes to increasing the role of CSOs in local development.</p>

THEME 2: Cultural diversity

PROJECT	ORGANIZATION	GRANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Opening Dialog Within Local Communities – Migrants and Citizens Towards Tolerance and Non-violence	NGO Atina – Citizens’ Association for Combat Trafficking In Human Beings and All Forms of Gender-Based Violence	91,067.76	The action aims to increase capacities of community-based CSOs to facilitate intercultural dialogue with the migrant population by promoting equality, cultural diversity and tolerance, and by developing effective models for addressing xenophobia and discrimination. Trainings and outreach activities are organized to allow for appropriate integration of migrants into local communities.
The Context Studies: The Diversity of the Diversity	Center CZKD - Centre for Cultural Decontamination	91,584.00	The goal of the action is to create an educational platform that relies on learning about the importance of recognizing differences and understanding the context in which misunderstandings in social communication can take place. Participants are using the CZKD production space, as well as its archive, to create and display messages that promote cultural diversity of the Serbian society.
Portraits and memories of the Jewish Community in Serbia before the Holocaust	Federation of Jewish Communities in Serbia	90,234.04	The project aims to work with youth and to preserve the memory of the Jewish community that existed before the Holocaust, promoting human rights, tolerance and cultural diversity through Holocaust remembrance and education. Archives of photographs and testimonies are being created and developed into exhibitions and educational programmes presented at schools throughout Serbia.
We Must Learn to Live in a World of Differences	Association of Roma “Prokuplje”	68,753.05	This project targets members of ethnic minorities (Roma, Bulgarians and Albanians) and Serbian youth, in order to support the promotion of cultural diversity and tolerance. Project activities include training of trainers, workshops, round tables, meetings with local authorities, exchange visits and intercultural fairs for youth, aimed at promoting the spirit of interculturality.

Neighbours	Association KROKODIL	58,836.97	Polip festival from Pristina and Krokodil festival from Belgrade are coming together for a series of events and residential programs. They are stimulating cultural dialogue among the countries of the Western Balkans to promote culture of reading, bringing the writers from Kosovo and Serbia in the focus of attention. The project also includes a one-month writers-in-residence exchange.
Jazz: A Multicultural Expression	Nisville Jazz Foundation	96,670.00	This project is increasing the intercultural dialogue and promoting tolerance between diverse ethnic communities (Serbian, Albanian, Roma and Bulgarian) by organising joint youth jazz concerts, bringing together the cultural influences that have contributed to the present cultural identity of South Serbian citizens. The project aims to establish a Serbian Jazz Youth Network, to produce music TV shows, and to become part of the Nishville festival.
Out of the box	Belgrade Centre For Human Rights	84,208.01	The project involves youth from various ethnic communities in workshops creating cultural products, reflecting their ethnic identity, and presenting themselves to others in the form of introspection. They also have the opportunity to present to other ethnic communities, whilst fully respecting the principles of equality and non-discrimination. The process includes an awareness raising campaign targeting the general public.
ISLANDS: Interconnecting Stakeholders in Learning and Drama in Serbia	BAZAART	99,329.60	The project is enhancing the reform of education in Serbia by promoting intercultural drama learning in formal education. Local CSOs are trained to support teachers who promote tolerance and diffuse intercultural drama at the local and regional level. Teachers are empowered to democratize teaching practices and gradually become important stakeholder in the reform of education.
Safe and Equal: Non-discrimination and Diversity Management in Employment	Students' Cultural Center ŠKUC	93,070.00	The project focuses on introducing measures against discrimination and promoting diversity management policies in employment practices, through the training of trainers who work with social partners to introduce non-discrimination policies into the mechanisms of civil dialogue. The project is working to create thematic publications, surveys, training seminars, an awareness raising campaign and cultural diversity festival.

THEME 3: Capacity building at the local level

PROJECT	ORGANIZATION	GRANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
We plan strategically – and contribute to an accelerated development of local community	Centre for Equitable Regional Development – CenTriR	64,670.24	The project supports CSOs in underdeveloped municipalities in Serbia, providing them with the necessary knowledge and skills to actively participate in the next local strategic planning consultative process in their respective administrative areas. Also, local municipalities are encouraged to organize public debates and to actively involve all local actors in their strategic planning processes.
Together We Can	Women Space	68,265.95	This project supports Roma women's initiatives and helps them advocate for the provision of funds for the improvement of the position of Roma women from local budgets. Roma women's initiatives are given small grants, as well as practical knowledge about CSO operation. Local Action Plans (LAPs) for the advancement of the position of Roma women are created to help provide a better dialogue between Roma CSOs and local self-governments.
Provision of the community based services for vulnerable and marginalized groups in society	Foundation of Dutch Friends of the SOS Children's Villages	98,958.60	This project focuses on capacity building of local institutions and CSOs in the area of the community based integrated services (support groups, provision of legal aid, community events) for adults, children and youth from socially and economically disadvantaged families; and enabling adults and youth from socially and economically disadvantaged families to lead sustainable lives (support in preparation for employment).
Networking for Community Child-Oriented model	World Vision Austria	92,609.25	The Action provides a model of collaboration and networking of primarily local stakeholders for the improvement of the position of vulnerable children. The approach is designed according to assessment of needs of vulnerable individuals; based on community tailored collaboration. It involves a comprehensive research on child welfare reform and the creation of guidelines for a child-oriented model of community and networking.

ESSP – Equal in Social Service Providing	Civic Initiatives – Citizens’ Association for Democracy and Civic Education	96,745.26	This project is reviewing the existing local policies and documents relevant for service provision, creating needs assessments for new social services, providing capacity building sessions on social services/providers standardization and advocacy, developing a manual for service providing by CSOs, and awarding small grants to local CSOs for their advocacy efforts to improve local rules, policies and practices for providing social services.
Improving Older People’s Access to Human Rights in Serbia	HelpAge International	98,012.60	This project is focused on improving the capacity of CSOs and individual elderly persons to advocate for their rights, monitor the delivery of policy commitments, and to increase Government commitment to elderly persons’ human rights. The main activities will include workshops, development of guidelines for support, networking, meetings with local stakeholders and advocacy activities.
PRO.ME.NE. - PROMotion of MEntal health NETwork	CARITAS Serbia	91,263.92	This project aims to empower and raise the capacities of eight Serbian CSOs which provide mental health services, enabling them to join national networks and to successfully advocate and influence policies. The project is also mapping the situation of CSO’s dealing with mental health in Serbia, analyzing European and national legislation, and activating 2 new pilot-services managed by the participating CSO’s.
Women entrepreneurs contribute to the development of new economic policy in new political context	Association of Business Women in Serbia	82,123.58	The project aims to influence public policy makers in the area of women’s entrepreneurship and gender mainstreaming. It proposes new, sustainable mechanisms for a dialogue between the state administration and women’s CSOs, focused on economic empowerment. The project targets two levels of decision-making, including panel discussions in Parliamentary committees but also local authorities in South Serbia.

CIVIL SOCIETY FACILITY PROGRAMME 2013

THEME 1: Fight against corruption

PROJECT	ORGANIZATION	GRANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
PRO-CURE: Strengthening Civil Scrutiny of Procurement Performance in the Security Sector	Belgrade Centre for Security Policy	141,218.17	The project focuses on increasing transparency and efficiency of public procurement procedures in security institutions at both the national and local levels. Local CSOs are trained in performance assessment, after which they conduct case studies of procurement planning at the local level. The project raises public awareness on corruption, its specific manifestations, and anti-corruption mechanisms.
Towards Increased Transparency and Clear Criteria for Employment in Public Sector – Stop Political Employment	Center for Democracy Foundation	99,940.52	The project aims to increase the role of CSOs in addressing the issues of corruption and contribute to a more efficient fight against corruption, the development of an anti-corruptive culture, and to a more transparent and open public administration and public sector in general.
Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre (ALAC)	Transparency Serbia	126,037.44	This project empowers CSOs, citizens and small and medium enterprises witnessing corruption, maladministration or lack of transparency in public finances to address their initiatives and reports and thereby to hold institutions accountable. It also works on strengthening the ability and willingness of institutions to receive and act upon complaints and identifies weak points in the system (e.g. legal loopholes).
Budget Advocates in Action	Center for Research, Transparency and Accountability – CRTA	117,957.87	Delivery of capacity building trainings on budget advocacy and on-going mentorship are empowering local CSOs to implement campaigns for resolving of budget issues specific to their communities. Using the skills and tools for evidence-based budget advocacy, they are building more interest in increased citizens' participation in the budgeting process and improving general budget literacy.
Towards Transparency in Staff Recruitment	Center for Free Elections and Democracy (CeSID)	93,211.76	The project is increasing the effectiveness of Serbian CSOs in undertaking initiatives focused on the fight against corruption in the public administration recruitment process, and empowering citizens to actively participate in the promotion of transparency, openness and accountability of the public administration in their staff recruitment procedures.

Participatory Budgeting Process - Community Voices Shaping Public Policies	Balkan Investigative Reporting Network – BIRN Serbia	115,607.19	The action addresses the lack of transparency and public participation in public finances management, which is shaping the community's development. By introducing the practice of public participation in the decision-making and monitoring, the project seeks to strengthen the role that the media, civil society, businesses and citizens (including vulnerable groups) play in the democratic process.
Local Transparency Booster: Raising Accountability and Prevention of Corruption in Local Governments	Belgrade Open School	105,731.78	This project aims to provide free continuous on-line access to all selected documents of public interest adopted by the local administration, thereby reducing the preconditions for corruption in local administrations and public utility companies. Local CSOs are supported through capacity building in order to advocate for a policy and legal framework for continuous obligatory on-line availability of documents of public interest.

THEME 2: Antidiscrimination

PROJECT	ORGANIZATION	GRANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
PROACTION - PROtection Against disCriminaTION of asylum-seekers and unaccompanied child migrants	Group 484	119,490.60	This project strengthens 60 CSOs to provide legal assistance to asylum-seekers, detained migrants, and unaccompanied child migrants, as well as to identify cases of discrimination and use the mechanisms of protection against discrimination, and to prevent the long-term development of discriminatory practices. They further aim to influence decision makers to create an advanced legal and institutional framework in line with international standards.
Combating Discrimination in Educational System	Užice Child Rights Centre	65,153.04	The objective of the project is to develop and apply non-discriminative practices towards vulnerable groups of children in targeted primary and secondary schools. The project works with 450 teachers and school managements on building their capacities to apply non-discrimination policies, and supports 4500 children from vulnerable groups and other children of targeted schools to act as promoters of tolerance, non-discrimination and peaceful coexistence.

Monitoring of Rights of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Serbia	Philanthropy	114,136.05	This Action provides direct support, capacity building and mentoring in the process of human rights monitoring to persons living with HIV/AIDS. It will collect data on human rights violations through monitoring of the implementation of the legal framework, and strategic documents, and it will enhance the system of monitoring by CSOs, providing material for complaints and legal cases.
Equal opportunity perspectives for readmitted people	Ecumenical Humanitarian Organization	78,721.60	The action aims to support 160 readmitted people, assisting them in fulfilling their human rights within the local communities they live in. Local regulations and mechanisms regarding readmitted people are being monitored, with data published in the policy monitoring report. The action additionally empowers informal groups of readmitted people to act as autonomous protagonists in challenging discriminatory practices at the local level.
Support to Non-discriminatory Enjoyment of Rights by Asylum Seekers	Asylum Protection Center – APC	130,349.59	The objective of the action is to support 3000 asylum seekers to enjoy their rights without discrimination, especially the 400 accompanied and unaccompanied minors. The action provides information on rights and provision of legal aid, as well as psychological and intercultural counselling. Local stakeholders are activated to prevent discriminatory practices against asylum seekers and the implementation of the new Law on Asylum is monitored.
Combating discrimination of vulnerable groups of children	Centre for Advanced Legal Studies (CUPS)	132,764.00	The project provides a comprehensive response to the needs of vulnerable groups of children by organizing a free legal aid service to the members of all discriminated groups of children and their family members inside the network of well-trained civil society organizations. A White Book on the rights of the child is being drafted, and a documentary film is being produced on the same subject.
Equitable Policies and Services for Rare Disease Patients	Association of Lawyers for Medical and Health Law of Serbia – SUPRAM	112,754.39	The project focuses on enhancing the position and combatting the discrimination of patients with rare diseases. The project follows the methodology of the Public Health trials. It assesses current discriminatory practices, develops consistent and coherent policies, and sets up assistance contact points providing patient counselling, a web portal, and a campaign for raising public awareness.

Children with disabilities in residential care as victims of multiple discrimination	Mental Disability Rights Initiative - MDRI-S	62,012.39	The project aims to ensure support to children with disabilities in residential care, who are victims of multiple discrimination within the education system in Serbia. Overall, the project aims provide and interpret meaningful data on the scope of the issue, and to build capacities of local schools and local community actors for direct support to vulnerable children.
CoE Campaign "1 IN 5": Enhancing Childhood Sexual Assault Prevention Policies and Reforms in Education	Incest Trauma Center	78,923.63	The action aims to influence public policies concerning Childhood Sexual Assault (CSA) survivors, especially prevention policies. The project teaches children, youth, education and media professionals about CSA, about becoming a child advocate, and using opportunities from their own domains either to be better decision makers in Child-friendly Judiciary proceedings, teenage agents of change, or CSOs service providers.

THEME 3: Support to the Cooperation between Serbia and Kosovo

PROJECT	ORGANIZATION	GRANT	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Serbia and Kosovo: Intercultural Icebreakers	Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia	132,280.79	The project is stimulating an intercultural dialogue between Serbia and Kosovo to support the implementation of the Brussels Agreement (April 2013); to promote joint activities of young people, the academic community, media and civil society from Kosovo and Serbia; and to break down stereotypes on both sides by using art, culture, debate and youth exchanges in Kosovo and Serbia.
R&J	Radionica integracije	129,100.67	The project supports the cooperation between Kosovar and Serbian artists, cultural workers and culture-related state institutions, contributing to the formation of solid, self-sustaining and long-term connections between the two communities. A joint Serb-Albanian art and cultural product – a theatre production based on the famous Shakespeare play Romeo and Juliet, will be created and played in Belgrade and Pristina.

<p>Encyclopaedia of the Alive – An Artistic Intervention in Serbia and Kosovo Realities</p>	<p>Center for Cultural Decontamination – CZKD</p>	<p>120,753.36</p>	<p>The project creates joint cultural and political activities that promote a dialogue between Serbian and Kosovar cultural actors, and enhance the cooperation between the two countries' institutions. The proposed common performance "Encyclopedia of the alive - An artistic intervention in Kosovo and Serbia realities" is intended to stimulate institutions to improve effective cooperation.</p>
<p>Lajk it – promoting intercultural dialogue between communities in Serbia and Kosovo</p>	<p>NGO LIBERO</p>	<p>63,278.88</p>	<p>The project promotes intercultural dialogue among different ethnic and religious groups in Serbia and Kosovo, by engaging young people in online activism. Seventy-two young leaders from Serbia and Kosovo are taking part in project activities through training, creation of joint working teams, and development of a web portal, videos, and other interactive materials.</p>
<p>Promoting Youth Employment through Social Partnerships and Cooperation (YESPC)</p>	<p>Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence</p>	<p>117,497.56</p>	<p>The project is enhancing the cooperation between Serbia and Kosovo local governments, business representatives, professional groups and CSOs in the field of youth employment, through the exchange of creative new ideas at the local level. It aims to familiarize the key stakeholders in youth employment in Serbia and Kosovo with their peers across the border, and initiate platforms for exchange of best practices.</p>
<p>Kosovo Serbia: LIVE</p>	<p>Independent Journalists' Association of Serbia- NUNS</p>	<p>100,142.37</p>	<p>The project contributes to a better flow of information between Serbia and Kosovo, strengthening the journalist exchange program. Through the training and exchange activities, 24 journalists from 10 media from Kosovo and Serbia are creating 24 joint investigative stories, developing a web portal in two languages, and organizing 4 round tables in Belgrade and Pristina.</p>

