



CIVIL SOCIETY
RESOURCE
CENTRE

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March - April 2020



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the European Union

i, the citizen!

Activities of the Civil Society Resource Centre in March – April 2020



Seven grants for urgent response to COVID-19 awarded

During the next three months, seven CSOs that are sub-grantees of the Civil Society Resource Centre will provide a solidarity response to the COVID-19 crisis. They will help more than 1.000 socially disadvantaged families, members of marginalized groups, farmers and victims of domestic violence.

The total budget for this purpose is 715.631 MKD.

[Read more about the new sub-grantees](#)



The first online training from CSRC Academy open for applicants

The online training is designed for CSOs to learn how to better develop their idea into a project application. Over a two-week period, participants will go through all the points of a regular grant application, will be encouraged to approach the calls analytically, better understand the evaluation criteria and what to pay more attention to when writing the application.

[Read more](#)



On-going sub-grantees showed solidarity towards the target groups

The seven sub-grantees for advocacy on local level that started with the implementation of their projects on 1st March successfully adjusted to the crisis situation and showed great pro-activeness and solidarity in their communities.

Vulnerable families, single parents and unemployed from Kocani, Skopje and rural areas of Sveti Nikole, in addition to humanitarian aid received appropriate information about protection from COVID-19, as well as information about economic, social and health measures of the state and the local self-government.

[Read more about the sub-grantees](#)

[Read more about activities of Bright Future](#)



Identifying CSOs' capacity building Needs

The Civil Society Resource Centre is in the process of preparing the third capacity building programme for CSOs to be implemented from October 2020.

In order for the program to be the best fit for organisations' needs, CSOs can give their view and opinion through this questionnaire and substantially contribute in determining the topics to be covered by this program.

[Questionnaire](#)

Support provided by the Civil Society Resource Centre in the period 15 February 2018 – 30 April 2020

Responded to 621 help-desk requests. Interested organisations may pose their questions using the [request for support](#) or to contact directly the offices of the resource centres in Skopje, Shtip and Gostivar.

504 E-mails with relevant information sent to the CSOs. If you want to receive information, joint the [mailing list](#).

264 events organised in the premises of the Civil Society Resource Centre by other CSOs or other stakeholders. If you need to use the premises, fill in the [respective request](#).

Prepared and shared 27 monthly overviews of funding opportunities for CSOs with 263 open calls in total. Read the [monthly overviews of funding opportunities](#) for CSOs.

Prepared and shared 66 weekly overviews with information about opened law-making processes and draft-laws published on ENER and 22 monthly overviews from the monitoring of the openness of the law-making processes. Read the [weekly and monthly overviews](#).

Up-coming Events of the Civil Society Resource Centre

Due to the COVID-19 crisis, all planned events have been postponed. However, the Civil Society Resource Centre has made efforts to introduce online trainings for CSOs. Follow our announcements for online trainings.

More important information from the civil society related to the CSOs' response to the COVID-19 crisis



During the COVID-19 crisis, CSOs were among the first to recognise the urgency and show great solidarity in providing support to marginalised groups and vulnerable communities. The organisations have adapted to the new situation and redirected their regular activities, and some even their project activities, to meet the needs of the people in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic.

In the past period, they undertake many initiatives and activities in areas such as:

- Providing and distributing humanitarian aid to the most vulnerable groups
- Services for purchasing medications, food products and personal hygiene items and their delivery to the homes of old people, weak people living alone, chronically ill, families with disabilities and other vulnerable categories of citizens
- Information, announcements, advice and guidelines for health care and dealing with the crisis situation caused by COVID-19

- Free legal aid, psychological support, and other SOS support lines for the target groups in the crisis situation
- Services for helping and supporting victims of domestic violence.
- Analyses and research on the impact of COVID-19 in the relevant areas
- Proposals, reactions, requests to state institutions
- Providing tools, educational and resource materials for the target groups

[Read more](#)

The project “National Resource Centre for Civil Society Organisations” or shortly Civil Society Resource Centre is funded by the European Union and implemented by Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation and the project partners Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI) from Gostivar and Media Plus from Stip. The project duration is 15.02.2018-14.02.2021 and the total budget for the project is 507.820 EUR.

The project overall objective is empowered civil society that actively takes part in decision making and contributes to strengthened participatory democracy in the country, whereas the specific objective is to provide services for building the capacities of CSOs to be effective and accountable independent actors and to contribute to environment that is conducive to civil society. The primary target group of the project are civil society organisations in the country, however, the project will also target relevant state institutions and other civil society actors.

Three resource centres are opened in Skopje, Gostivar and Shtip.

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