



CIVIL SOCIETY
RESOURCE
CENTRE

Newsletter #9
January - February 2020



This project
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the European Union

i, the citizen!

Activities of the Civil Society Resource Centre in January – February 2020



Implemented Trainings on Visibility, Monitoring and Evaluation and Financial Transparency

Over 50 CSOs' representatives acquired applicable knowledge in the areas of communications and visibility of CSOs, monitoring and evaluation of CSOs' operation and financial management, financial transparency and accountability. These were the last trainings under the current capacity building programme, more trainings will follow from September 2020.

[Read about training on visibility and communications](#)

[Read about training on monitoring and evaluation](#)

[Read about training on financial management, financial transparency and accountability](#)



Seven Projects on Advocacy of Local Initiatives Supported

Seven CSOs were awarded grants by the Civil Society Resource Center.

In the next 6 months they will work to advocate for improving the situation of the Roma community, youth and gender initiatives, raising public awareness about environment and establishing a sustainable system for surplus food donation.

The total fund awarded for these actions is 1.224.883 MKD.

[Read more](#)



Open day with CSOs within the Mobile Resource Centre

In February Mobile Resource Centre was held in Kratovo.

At the meeting it was discussed about how to motivate volunteering, how to promote cooperation between the associations and the institutions as well as how to do fundraising.

The open day was organised in partnership with the Regional Centre for Sustainable Development Kratovo and the Association for Environmental Protection and Protection of Cultural and Historic Landmarks – IZVOR from Kratovo.

Read more about the Mobile Resource Centre in [Kratovo](#).



Motivating New Generations of Volunteers from Shtip

The Resource Centre in Stip hosted for the second time an interactive meeting with 20 pupils from the local primary schools.

The participants learned the characteristics of volunteering, brainstormed about how volunteering can contribute to their environment, and were encouraged to become volunteers.

Through group work, they had the opportunity to exchange experiences with their peers from other schools, discuss ideas together and plan how to achieve them.

[Read more](#)

The Grantee „New Bridge“ with New Communication Plan



Representatives of the association “New Bridge” from Prilep participated at two-day workshop for preparing communication plan.

Through defining the communication objectives, the target audience, the communication messages and tools, they will work on increased media coverage in the next period.

[Read more](#)

Support provided by the Civil Society Resource Centre in the period 15 February 2018 – 29 February 2020

Responded to 588 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.

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

260 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 25 monthly overviews of funding opportunities for CSOs with 242 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 18 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

- **On-line Information session on the call for proposals of the Delegation of the European Union**, 6 March 2020, Shtip and Gostivar
- **Personal Data Protection – Right of Every Citizen**, 16 March 2020, Skopje
- **Mobile Resource Centre in Resen**, 27 March 2020, Resen
- **Mobile Resource Centre in Gevgelija**, 23 April 2020, Gevgelija

Key information for civil society and enabling environment for CSOs

This section of the Newsletter is dedicated to important information for the civil society in the country undertaken by other stakeholders

On 22-23 January in Skopje, the regional project TACSO 3 organised the Regional Civil Society Forum, where it was discussed about IPA 3 as well as the future of the EU support for civil society organisations in the region. TACSO 3 opened on-line consultations with CSOs about IPA 3.

[Read more about the event](#)

[Consultations on IPA 3](#)

On 30th January, the association Public organised meeting of the Network of social enterprises. At the meeting, among other issues, it was discussed about the priorities of the social enterprises in the country.

[Read more about the meeting conclusions](#) (in Macedonian)

On 18th February, meeting was held of the working group of all stakeholders involved in the implementation of the National Action Plan on Open Government Partnership 2018-2020 and the Founding Meeting of the CSOs' network for open government partnership

[Read more about the meetings](#) (in Macedonian)

On 23rd February, Youth Educational Forum and Radio MOF organised the ninth edition of the Conference on Social Activism ENGAGE.

[Read more](#) (in Macedonian)

On 27th February, Eurothink – Centre for European Strategies and NGO Infocentre presented and launched the web-site Resource platform for EU Accession MK&EU"

[Read more](#) (in Macedonian)

[Resource Platform for EU Accession](#) (in Macedonian)

Rendir APP is a self-assessment tool aiming at improving the accountability of CSOs. The tool is a fast and easy way for organisational self-assessment in respect to the Global standards on accountability of civil society organisations and it aims at pointing out their strengths and weaknesses.

[Access to the self-assessment tool](#) (in Macedonian)

In February, CARNEGIE EUROPE published the analysis „New Directions for Civil Society Support: Lessons from Turkey, the Western Balkans and Eastern Europe”

[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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This Newsletter has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this newsletter is the sole responsibility of the project implementers and it does not reflect the official opinion of the European Union.