

Strategic directions	Priorities	Measures	% of implementation presented by government representatives during the National Council for Civil Society (NCCS) meeting	Comments by Partners Albania for Change and Development based on monitoring of the enabling environment for civil society and the information obtained directly by the institutions
Strategic direction 1: Institutionalized government - civil society cooperation in policy making and EU Integration	Priority 1: Creation and maintenance of a nationwide strategic policy for civil society development: Actions 1.1.- 1.5	Measure 1.1. Proper planning and implementation of the Road Map according to their quarterly and annual work plans	100 %	There was and still is no public information, neither on planning nor on implementation of the Road Map by the responsible institutions. If this would have been realized 100%, the Roadmap would have been realized to the same extent as well.
		Measure 1.2 Ensure active CSO involvement in the progression of the Road Map, through comprehensive and inclusive dialogue with the sector.	100%	Based on the response received from the Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS) as the secretariat of the NCCS, was held only one meeting with NCCS council members who are representatives of civil society, on the of discussion of the Law 80/2021 "On the registration of NPOs". The ASCS website, regarding the NCCS activity, contains announcements, the procedure on selection of members, and minutes of meetings. The website does not have a space for communication, nor a platform for receiving feedback and involvement of CSOs.
		Measure 1.3. Set up an internal tracking mechanism on the implementation progress via the Project Management tool	75 %	There is no public information on this measure.
		Measure 1.4 Enable the identification of CSOs in the Government Public Consultation Portal	50%	

		Measure 1.5 Draft National Strategy/Road Map 2024-2028 for CSO support	0%	
	Priority 2: Service-minded government institutions valuing cooperation with CSOs: Action 2.1-2.9	Measure 2.1 Ensuring the efficient functioning of National Council for Civil Society in line with its work plan and government commitments	85%	NCCS continues to be an ineffective and non-functional structure, not playing its role for increasing institutional cooperation with civil society organizations thus contributing to democracy strengthening, consolidation of good governance and increase of transparency in public decision-making, through a better involvement of civil society in this process. Over the years, NCCS has not held the minimum number of meetings defined in the law. In 2022, the meeting of June 22 <sup>nd</sup> was the first of the year. During 2021, no meeting of the NCCS was held, apart one meeting of civil society representatives in the NCCS. The situation has been similar in previous years as well. In addition to the number of meetings, even in the cases where the meetings were held, the discussions were focused on the presentation of the new members of the Council, and presentations from the Government on different initiatives, without having inherent discussions between the representatives of the organizations and of the government on issues of concerns for the sector.
		Measure 2.2 Ensuring efficient administrative support to the Council, including quality preparation for all activities and ensuring proper follow-up of all Council meetings and activities	75%	As part of this measure, the staff of the ASCS should have been increased and the agency should have been provided with the necessary resources to support the NCCS (3 persons). In the annual reports, it is mentioned that there has been an increase in the number of staff, but on the ASCS website, there is only one contact person for the NCCS.

		Measure 2.3 Agency to develop a manual on how to conduct the annual elections for the CSO members of the Council based on the previous support rendered by international donor community and facilitate elections according to the law	100%	Measure implemented.
		Measure 2.4 NCCS involved as an advisory body in all government civil society development initiatives and programmes	100%	Only in some cases, there is public information on this involvement (such as the discussion on the draft law "On registration of NPOs"). For other cases, there is no public information.
		Measure 2.5 Update and implement the Agency's 2015-2021 strategy and annual work plans to achieve main objectives including its role as secretariat to the NCCS	100%	In the ASCS annual report, the work with NCCS is not reflected.
		Measure 2.6 Draft and implement communication, information and outreach plan for ASCS to respond to increasing demand for information and support from local CSOs	100%	In the ASCS website there is no communication plan published.
		Measure 2.7 Continue technical assistance for ASCS to further develop the capacities in the priority areas of the organisation's revised strategic plan	100%	
		Measure 2.8 Define the concrete tasks of the Agency for Dialogue and Co-Governance in their support function to the PMO for the overall coordination, implementation and monitoring of the Road Map progress	100%	

		Measure 2.9 Appoint CSO contact persons in ministries of strategic importance to CSO cooperation	100%	Based on the Partners Albania request for information sent to the ministries in the framework of the preparation of the Monitoring Matrix on the Enabling Environment for Development of Civil Society 2021, as well on the official information published on the relevant pages, no ministry has appointed a contact point with CSO. Furthermore, if they would have appointed, they should have been made public (as the roadmap action plan defines).
	Priority 3: Sustainable and effective involvement of CSOs in policy making process	Measure 3.1 Effective implementation of the Law on Notification and Consultation, through awareness raising and engagement of CSOs	100%	In relation to this measure, it is unclear how the guarantee of efficient implementation of the law and the achievement of 100% of the result was measured. Consultations and participation of NPOs in policy-making and decision-making processes on a large scale remain ineffective, regardless of the cooperation mechanisms established by the government. Referring to the study reports from the sector as well as international institutions (EU Progress Report for Albania, The Monitoring Matrix on Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development, Country Report for Albania 2021 etc.) the efficient implementation of public consultation and the inherent involvement of CSOs in the process remains problematic. In the reports of the acts, the participation of CSOs still continues not to be identified/mentioned.
		Measure 3.2 Adapt the electronic register on public notification and consultation to include CSOs as a standalone contributor category	100%	In the electronic register still the NPOs nor their number can be identified. There is no public report on how many NPOs visit and use the register.

		Measure 3.3 Develop a methodology for annual reporting on the results of public consultations and transparency of the decision-making process	100%	
		Measure 3.4 Prepare a manual for civil servants on conducting effective public consultations, with detailed step-by-step guidelines	100%	Measure implemented.
		Measure 3.5 Set up an official training programme for civil servants that would be run by the Albanian School of Public Administration (ASPA) focused on government-civil society cooperation in public policy making and related areas to public consultations and dialogue	100%	
	Priority 4: Ensure CSO contribution to Albania's EU accession process in line with EU good practice	Measure 4.1 Drafting the Platform of Civil Society Involvement in the accession negotiation process of the Republic of Albania in European Union	100%	Measure implemented.
		Measure 4.2 Involvement of CSOs in the accession process in accordance with the European Integration Partnership Platform	100%	In regard to this measure, it is unclear how the involvement of CSOs in the membership process and the achievement of 100% of the result was measured. Despite the information on the negotiation structures and process, as well as what are the 33 discussion and advisory tables for acquis chapters, the European Integration Partnership Platform does not contain information on current activities implemented. Although several discussion and advisory tables

				<p>have been established, it does not provide any information on the number of committees, their members, or information on the meetings' minutes. Despite the scepticism expressed by civil society actors on the clarity of the application and decision-making criteria for participation in these tables, there is no improvement. NPOs should actively participate in the EU integration process, effectively using the space they have in the European Integration Partnership Platform and other consultation mechanisms while public institutions must make these mechanisms effective through transparent participation protocols, and recognition of the contribution of NPOs as legitimate partners in this process.</p>
		Measure 4.3 Enhance participation of CSOs in the management of the EU pre-accession instrument based on the principle of partnership	100%	
		Measure 4.4 Coordination of funding and EU programs for the development of civil society	100%	
		Measure 4.5 Enable effective involvement of CSOs in the work of the National Council for European Integration (NCEI)	100%	<p>In regard to this measure, it is unclear how the efficient involvement of CSOs in the work of NCEI and the achievement of 100% of the result was measured. During 2021, the National Council for European Integration, an important structure within the frame of Albania's EU membership, has organized 4 meetings and 3 awareness activities. Also, NCEI has elected 14 members,</p>

				<p>representatives of non-profit organizations, all based in Tirana.</p> <p>A meeting of the Council dedicated to the contribution and role of civil society during the negotiation process for European integration was organized. In this meeting, representatives of NPOs in the Council, as well as other invited NPOs, expressed their concerns towards institutions that neglect the contribution of civil society, the lack of follow-up on issues raised in council meetings, delays in the creation of discussion and advisory tables for the negotiation chapters. They emphasized the importance of the participation of civil society in the discussion and consultation tables.</p>
	Priority 5: Support CSO volunteering and active citizenship with a special focus on local level	Measure 5.1 Develop a national concept on volunteering	60%	
		Measure 5.2 Improve Law and necessary bylaws on volunteering and solve insurance issues based on a national concept	33%	<p>For two years now, the National Resource Center in cooperation with Beyond the Barriers and a group of organizations working in the field of volunteerism, have been engaged in raising awareness among institutions and civil society organizations about the problematics on the legal framework for volunteerism in the country and the need for its full revision. Since 2021, a dialogue has started with the responsible institutions, and in 2022, a working group was created with representatives of the government and CSOs for the revision of the law. The National Resource Center and Beyond Barriers have also presented a legal opinion and several</p>

				<p>studies related to the many problems of the legal framework in Albania and the practices of other countries in the region, EU and beyond.</p> <p>Following, only an introductory meeting of the working group was held and no revision of the law or by-laws was conducted so far.</p>
		Measure 5.3 State-funding schemes to promote volunteering as defined in the Concept	100%	There is no public information on state funding schemes for the promotion of volunteering.
		Measure 5.4 Design instruments and a methodology for collecting data on the frequency and spread of voluntary activities	63%	There is no public information in this regard.
		Measure 5.5 Support for the involvement of special target groups such as the elderly, people with disabilities, minority groups, and unemployed people in all volunteer actions	60%	There is no public information on how volunteering was encouraged, what were the measures that encouraged and supported the inclusion of the mentioned groups.
Strategic direction 2: Enabling legal environment and data governance	Priority 6: Introducing a more enabling legislative framework for the registration and operation of CSOs	Measure 6.1 Change the current registration law to introduce a simpler and more efficient registration procedure for CSOs and envisage the creation of a National Electronic Register of CSOs by law	100%	
		Measure 6.2 Change the Law on NBC and other associated legal acts (bylaws or regulations) to enable the National Business Centre (NBC) to take over the registration process of the CSOs through the creation of a	80%	With the new law "On the registration of NPOs", the process does not take place in the NBC, so there is impossible that this measure is achieved 80%. This measure should be removed from the Roadmap action plan.



		National Electronic Register of CSOs		
		Measure 6.3 Adopt additional necessary primary and secondary legislation related to CSOs	50%	There is no public information on these acts.
	Priority 7: Collection and availability of data on civil society development	Measure 7.1 Build a National Electronic Register of CSOs with full functionality	0%	
		Measure 7.2 Digitize CSO records and archives	0%	
		Measure 7.3 Build the MIS system of ACSC	27%	
Strategic direction 3: Enabling fiscal and funding framework	Priority 8: Creating a public funding framework for supporting CSO programmes in line with EU good practice	Measure 8.1 Based on gap analysis, revision of existing legislation related to financing of CSO initiatives funded by central and local government Institutions, including clarification of the procedures related to calls for proposals	100%	There is no public information on the existing laws that have revised. As part of this measure was foreseen the: the forecast in the medium-term budget program (MBP) of financial support funds for social enterprises 2020-2022, which is not been realized yet. Furthermore, regarding the meetings of the Evaluation Committee that must be convened periodically, there is no public information or minutes of the meetings.
		Measure 8.2 Performing of the SE status and social enterprise financing procedures through three forms of financial support	83%	Regarding this measure, the procedures for obtaining the status of Social Enterprise have been carried out, but the financial support has not yet been implemented.
		Measure 8.3 Social Plan assessment procedures and Social Service Financing Procedures through the Social Fund Program conducted	100%	There is no public information.  According to this measure, the support of the Local Government is foreseen for the drafting of Social Plans and the provision of community-based social services.

				While there is no information on this regard. On the Local Portal (portavendore.al) has been published information for 5 municipalities, but without the general local plans.
		Measure 8.4 Ensure comprehensive information on public funding opportunities for CSO programmes (funding plans and annual reports) and procedures for establishment and functioning of the Social Fund	100%	
	Priority 9: Financial reporting / accounting and taxation of CSOs	Measure 9.1 Repeal the legal requirement obliging CSOs to have one full-time paid and insured staff member.	0%	
		Measure 9.2 Align the current by-laws with the new VAT law from 2015 on the VAT tax treatment of CSOs	100%	The establishment of a working group for the preparation of draft amends in the legislation, was foreseen, in this measure. There is no public information in this regard.
		Measure 9.3 Draft a Tax Audit Manual for tax inspectors only for the purpose of treatment of the CSOs that considers the sector's specificity and training	20%	There is no public information on the drafting of the manual.
		Measure 9.4 Amend Law on Sponsorships of 1995 and other tax laws to allow possibility for all individuals to deduct the donations to CSOs in order to encourage the individual philanthropy	0%	