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PARTNERSALBANIA
FOR CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT



NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTRE
OF **CIVIL SOCIETY IN ALBANIA**

Program of the National Resource Centre for Civil Society for 2022-2025

In the coming three years, the National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Albania aims to continue to provide services to the sector and all relevant stakeholders, based on more enriched and diverse programs.

Launched in 2019, the Centre is an initiative of Partners Albania for Change and Development, which is implemented in partnership with the Albanian Centre for Population and Development (ACPD) and the European Movement in Albania (EMA), with the support of the European Union.

Since its establishment, the Centre has consolidated its role as a platform for civil society at national and local levels, in support of strengthening the capacity of the sector, promoting and facilitating policy dialogue and advocacy efforts to create an enabling environment.

As part of the 2022-2025 Program, with its offices based in Tirana, Shkodra and Vlora, and through the provision of online services and onsite activities in various cities of the country, the Resource Centre will support civil society organizations, CSO networks, informal groups, activists and other civil society stakeholders with a wide range of consolidated services, as well as new programs specially designed in response to the needs identified in the sector.



Help Desk Services

Information

on (i) the non-profit sector, legal framework and sector developments for CSOs, CSO networks, donors, institutions, and other stakeholders inside and outside the country; (ii) funding opportunities in the country, region, Europe and globally; (iii) consultative processes of institutions at central and local level, Parliament, donors, etc., (iv) public events open for participation for CSOs, etc.

Onsite and online assistance

to organizations and CSO networks to address their organizational development needs and advocacy initiatives.

Legal services for civil society organizations, informal activist groups

As part of this service, the Resource Centre shall provide:

- (i) **Legal Information and Education for NPOs** on access to public administration institutions, access to the judicial system of NPOs, general instructions on how to draft claims/lawsuits, procedures, etc.
- (ii) **Legal Advice on:** legal registration, operation, dissolution of NPOs; licensing of NPOs, tax regime for NPOs (non-profit and non-economic activities); declaration and reporting obligations for NPOs; AML and CFT (anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing) legislation applicable to NPOs; NPOs acting as employers and in relations with volunteers; contractual relations, including financing contracts, etc. Kindly find more information about this service and how you can benefit from it at the [link](#). This new service is enabled thanks to the support of the Embassy of the United States of America in Tirana.



Networking for civil society organizations

at local, national and regional level and beyond. The Centre will continue to enrich the online [CSOs Directory](#) on the website of the Resource Centre, by providing additional information on networks of organizations in the country, region and beyond, as well as by organizing networking events.



Undertaking advocacy initiatives by facilitating sector advocacy efforts and inter-institutional dialogue

for greater and more effective participation in policy-making and implementation activities.



Support to CSOs to achieve the highest standards

in the organizations good governance; human and financial resource management; transparency and accountability to beneficiaries, members and supporters; accountable advocacy and building partnerships, and increasing public trust.

The Resource Centre will continue to serve as [the Secretariat of the Code of Standards for CSOs in Albania](#), aiming to improve the effectiveness of the work of non-profit organizations and increase public trust in the sector.



Capacity building for organizations and CSO networks

Based on annual assessments of the needs of the sector as well as the requests or needs of organizations arising from the development of dynamics related to the sector and beyond, the Resource Centre has designed a series of training and assistance programs for the period 2022-2025.

Programs in progress



The NPO Academy, an annual program that contributes to increasing the capacity of NPO executives and managers. Initiated since 2015 by Partners Albania for Change and Development, the NPO Academy has been consolidated as a non-formal education and to enhance skills and develop competences of NPO executives and managers of civil society organizations across the country, through a unique curriculum, the most recent learning methodology as well as diverse professional expertise of exchanging experiences from the country, the region, Europe and beyond.



Technical Assistance Program for Networks, Coalitions and Informal Groups of CSOs, in support of their institutional development and advocacy initiatives.



Regional training programs designed based on the requirements of NPOs or based on periodic needs assessments conducted by the Resource Centre. For 2022, the trainings will mainly focus on fund-raising^[1] and using alternative ways (Crowdfunding etc.) that provide more support and sustainability for local organizations.



New Programs



"Grant management and monitoring" - training program designed for organizations that provide financial support to other CSOs, through various sub-grant schemes mainly based on EU funds and other donors;



"Revenue generation model for CSOs from fee-for service activities, products and assets" - long-term training and mentoring program for organizations engaged in developing strategies and plans in fundraising and revenue generation from concrete products and fee-for services. As part of the program, CSO-Business speed-dating events will be organised aiming to build bridges of cooperation and explore concrete opportunities for partnership between the two sectors.



"Volunteering and participation of CSOs in EU Programs" - regional training and mentoring programs for CSOs from across the country to increase know-how and facilitate the accreditation process to engage in volunteering programs at European level.



"EU acquis, engagement and role of CSOs in the EU integration process" - regional periodic training programs to further strengthen the knowledge of CSOs and increase their contribution to inter-institutional working groups, throughout the phases of European integration process and EU accession negotiations.

Another novelty of the Resource Centre program during these recent years is the organization of the **"National Civil Society Week"** dedicated to the sector to promote its work and contribution. With a dedicated series of events organized by CSOs across the country, the **"National Civil Society Week"** will provide more opportunities for networking and inter-institutional dialogue on issues of special relevance to the sector and to the development of the country.



info@resourcecentre.al



[@resourcecentre.al](https://www.facebook.com/resourcecentre.al)



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[1] Based on the survey findings of the Annual assessment on the State of the Enabling Environment and Capacities of Civil Society in the Western Balkans and Turkey, against the Guidelines for EU support to Civil Society in Enlargement Region 2014-2020, in the frame of the Technical Assistance project for Civil Society Organizations (TACSO 3) in the Western Balkans and Turkey, funded by the European Union.