

Program of the National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Albania for 2025–2029

Over the next four years, the National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Albania will continue to serve as a key enabler for the sector and its stakeholders through a richer, more diverse, and inclusive programme of services.

Launched in 2019 by Partners Albania for Change and Development, in partnership with the Albanian Centre for Population and Development (ACPD) and the European Movement in Albania (EMA), and with the support of the European Union, the Centre has been consolidated as a central platform supporting civil society development at both national and local levels.

Since its establishment, the Centre has contributed to strengthening the sector's capacities, fostering constructive dialogue in policymaking processes, and enhancing the overall enabling environment in which civil society organisations operate.

Building on these foundations and achievements, from 2025 to 2029, the Centre will continue to extend its support to civil society organisations, networks, informal groups, activists, and other actors through its physical offices in Tirana, Shkodra, and Vlora, as well as through a growing range of online services and outreach activities in cities across the country.

OUR SERVICES ARE BASED ON FIVE MAIN PILLARS



Tailored support – providing training, mentoring, and legal assistance that reflect the real needs, challenges, and priorities of organisations on the ground.



Close to organisations, Where They Operate – operating through three regional centres and a mobile resource centre to ensure access and presence where organisations work.



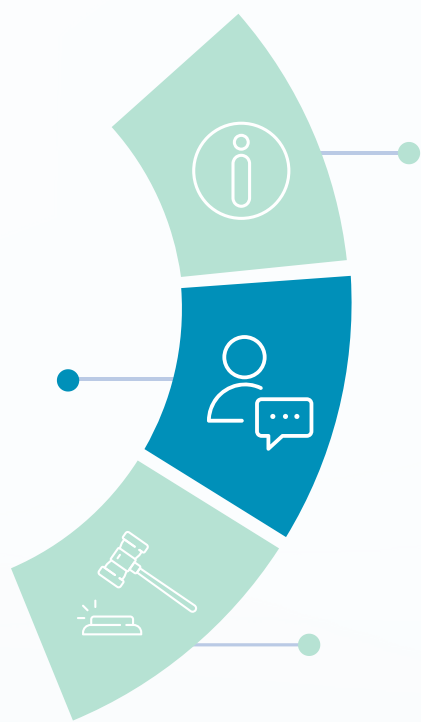
Context-Based Approaches – taking into account local, national, regional, European, and global dynamics that influence civil society.



Practice-Driven by Field Experience – grounded in direct organisational work, not only in policy or strategic documents.



Collaboration at the Core – fostering sustainable connections among civil society organisations, public institutions, academia, and donors to build mutual understanding and promote joint action.



HELP DESK SERVICES

Information

on the (i) nonprofit sector, legal framework, and sector developments for CSOs, CSO networks, donors, institutions, and other stakeholders within and outside the country; (ii) funding opportunities in the country, region, European and globally; (iii) consultative processes of institutions at both central and local levels, Parliament, donors, etc.; (iv) public events open for participation by CSOs, etc.

Online and Onsite Assistance

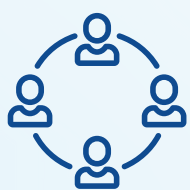
To organisations and CSOs networks to address their organisational development needs and advocacy initiatives.

LEGAL SERVICE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS , INFORMAL ACTIVISTS 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 (nonprofit non-economic and economic activities); NPOs' obligations for declarations and reporting; applicable AML and CFT legislation (anti-money laundering and anti-terrorism financing); NPOs acting as employers and in relations with volunteers; contractual relationships, including financing contracts, etc.

More information about this service and how you can benefit from it can be found [here](#).



NETWORKING FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

At local, national, regional level, and beyond. The Centre will continue enriching the online CSOs Directory on the website of the Resource Centre by providing additional information on networks of organisations 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 policymaking and implementation activities.



SUPPORT TO CSOS TO ACHIEVE THE HIGHEST STANDARDS

In the organisations' good governance; human and financial resources 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 NPOs and increase public trust in the sector.



CAPACITY BUILDING AND ASSISTANCE FOR ORGANISATIONS, CSO NETWORKS, AND CIVIL SOCIETY GROUPS

Based on the annual assessments of the sector's needs and the dynamic developments affecting it, the Centre will continue to provide support through training and mentoring programs for CSOs, networks, coalitions, and informal groups, with the aim of enhancing their capacities, sustainability, and effectiveness in fulfilling their mission.

Programs in progress

- **The NPO Academy**, an annual program that contributes to increasing the capacities 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 organisations 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.
- **Regional training programs** designed based on the requirements of NPOs or based on periodic needs assessments conducted by the Resource Centre.
- **“Grant Management and Monitoring”** training program designed for organisations that provide financial support to other CSOs, through various sub-grant schemes mainly based on EU funds and other donors;
- **“Volunteering and CSO Participation 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 the Role of CSOs in the Country’s 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.
- **National Civil Society Week**: a consolidated initiative of the Centre dedicated to promoting the civil society sector across the country. Every year, through a series of events organized by the CSOs themselves, the Week offers more opportunities for networking, inter-institutional dialogue, and public awareness on the role and contribution of the sector in the country’s democratic and social development. It also serves as a space for cooperation and joint engagement, placing at the center the work and concrete impact of organisations in the community.



NEW New Programs

- **Advanced Finance Management Academy for Nonprofits**: A professional program, certified by the Ministry of Economy, Culture, and Innovation, designed to strengthen the knowledge and skills of finance managers and specialists in the non-profit sector. The program offers in-depth professional development based on advanced standards and contemporary financial management practices, equipping participants with the necessary tools to enhance efficiency, transparency, and accountability within their organisations. Designed to address real financial management challenges, the Academy contributes to the sustainability of organisations and the development of the financial capacities needed for a more responsible and transparent sector.
- **Thematic Sub-Sectoral Platforms for Coordinated Initiatives and Advocacy**: The program aims to support the creation and functioning of thematic platforms of civil society organisations in various fields such as good governance, social services, human rights, the environment, and other areas of interest to the sector.

✦ through mentoring, facilitation of cooperation, and the engagement of field-specific experts, the program creates spaces for joint initiatives and coordinated advocacy, both at the local and national levels. These platforms will serve as mechanisms for collaboration and influence, contributing to cross-sector dialogue, thematic roundtables with public institutions, and the active participation of civil society in the European integration process and the country's reform agenda.

Risi **Mobile Resource Centre:** An annual tour of activities aiming to engage directly with civil society organisations (CSOs), local communities, and key stakeholders. This initiative seeks to stimulate mobilization and enhance participation in the civic space by bringing NRC's resources and expertise closer to those outside Tirana.

>>> Exploring Impact – Field Visits to CSOs with Journalists: This program aims to strengthen cooperation between the media and civil society organisations by creating opportunities for direct exposure to the realities in which NPOs operate at the community level. These visits help highlight the impact of civil society work, encourage more informed and higher-quality reporting, and raise public awareness of the issues addressed by the non-profit sector. At the same time, they contribute to increasing the visibility and credibility of civil society as a key actor in the country's democratic and social development.

