

Annual FSTP Community of Practice Meeting

Development of inclusive selection criteria to reach out to more CSOs who have limited experience and financial capacity

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Ongoing FSTP programs in BOS

- EU National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Serbia - funded by the Delegation of the EU in Serbia (2023 – 2026)
- 2 projects funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA)
- USAID funded project on biodiversity in Serbia
- CSF project on dialogue between civil and public sector

Around 90 CSO are currently being supported

Risks

- support is being provided to a narrow range of CSOs who have well developed capacities;
- opportunity of reaching out to newly established CSOs is diminished;
- potential for diversification of CSO landscape (CSOs' capacity building + citizen mobilization + policy interventions) is low.

CSO landscape in Serbia

- an increase in number of citizens being organized within CSOs or informal groups;
- the percentage of CSOs who have professional structures (human resources, project management expertise, funds, time) is extremely low.

A number of CSOs with strong base in the community, but with poor experience in project design and management

How to modify the selection process in order to reach a higher number of CSOs, especially those with less developed capacities?

Selection process – Two phase application

I phase – CSOs are submitting project ideas:

- simplified template for project idea

Evaluation committee

II phase – CSOs are preparing full application with the support of mentors (project team members/Evaluation committee members)

- project proposal template
- logical framework
- budget

Selection process – One phase application

EU National Resource Centre project - CSO receiving small grants within 2 calls (Call for development of the organization - 1,000 EUR and Call for immediate support -5,000 EUR) are submitting:

- project proposal template
- budget

NO logical framework

The project team is polishing the project application, which is the beginning of mentoring process and lasts throughout the whole project implementation.

Inclusive selection criteria

- relevance of the project proposal,
- coherence of the project proposal,
- quality of the suggested intervention,
- necessary resources.

The criteria should be broadly set and enable evaluation of the aspects of the project proposal, and not only of previous experience of the CSOs or the quality of their project writing.

Instructions for the Evaluation Committee

- the goal of the Call is to provide support not only to well established, but also to new CSOs or those with limited capacity;
- identify CSOs who have a potential for further upgrade of their capacities + a strong base in their communities.

Thank you!

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