



**TWINNING LIGHT PROJECT
FURTHER INSTITUTIONALIZATION
OF STRUCTURED MECHANISM/S
FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE
GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL SOCIETY**

**2nd Steering committee meeting, Wednesday, 5th September 2018, Skopje
Progress/Final Report Presentation**



2nd meeting of the Steering Committee - AGENDA

5th September 2018, 10:00

I INTRODUCTION

- 1. Welcome and introductory speech - Presentation of participants*
- 2. Presentation of the Agenda and its adoption*
- 3. Presenting of the SC Members*
- 4. Adoption of Minutes from previous SC meeting*

II PROJECT PROGRESS

- 5. Presentation of Progress/Final Report*
- 6. Discussion on implementation*

III ANY OTHER BUSINESS

IV CLOSING REMARKS



ABOUT THE PROJECT

- ❑ **IPA 2013 Twinning Light Project:** Further institutionalisation of structured mechanism/s for cooperation between the Government and civil society
- ❑ **The overall objective and the project purpose:** to create an improved environment for civil society through a functional Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society and preparation of new Action Plan (for the period 2018-2020) for the implementation of the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society
- ❑ **The implementation period:** January – September 2018
- ❑ **The budget:** 250 000 EUR (funded by the European Union – Twinning Light Instrument)



The implementing partners:

- The Beneficiary Country (BC):
 - a. The General Secretariat of the Government of the Beneficiary Country – the main BC institution
 - b. The Central Financing and Contracting Department (CFCD) of the Ministry of Finance - the Contracting Authority

ABOUT THE PROJECT



The implementing partners:

- The Member State (MS) Partner :
 - a. **The Government of the Republic of Croatia - the Office for Cooperation with NGOs** - the MS body responsible for implementation
 - b. **The Central Finance and Contracting Agency (CFCA)** - the MS body responsible for administrative and financial management
 - c. **The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Croatia** – the MS institution providing its short-term expert

ABOUT THE PROJECT



Component 1 –

Support the establishment of a functional institutional body (Council) for dialogue and cooperation between the Government and civil society

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Revision of the Decision for establishment of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society and preparation of recommendations /amendments for improvements of the Decision

Preparation of Rules of Procedures of the Council for Cooperation between the Government and civil society

Preparation of training programme and training materials and organization of workshops, trainings, on-the-job trainings for transfer of knowledge



Component 1 –

Support the establishment of a functional institutional body (Council) for dialogue and cooperation between the Government and civil society

THE EXPECTED PROJECT RESULTS

01

Prepared assessment of the Decision for establishment of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society, with recommendations/amendments for improvements

02

Prepared operational methodology for the Council by preparing Rules of Procedures for the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society

03

Capacity building of all selected members (civil society and public administration) of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society for performing their roles and responsibilities



Component 1 –

Support the establishment of a functional institutional body (Council) for dialogue and cooperation between the Government and civil society

PROJECT INDICATORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

01

Decision for establishment of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society is amended and adopted according to the recommendations

*** Achieved**

02

Selection process of the members of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society according to the amended Decision for establishment of the Council is conducted in the first half or the implementation of the project

*** Achieved**

03

Operational methodology is developed and Rules of Procedures of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society are adopted

*** Achieved**



Component 1 –

Support the establishment of a functional institutional body (Council) for dialogue and cooperation between the Government and civil society

PROJECT INDICATORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

04

All selected members (CSOs and public administration) of the Council trained to perform necessary tasks for smooth operation of the Council with clear division of their role and responsibilities

*** Achieved**

05

All CSOs members of the Council trained to use functional mechanisms for inclusive consultation with their constituencies and thematic/sector CSOs groups, represent their views and needs in the Council as well as feedback them on the outcome

*** Achieved**



Component 2 – Enhanced cooperation between the Government and civil society

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Revision of the
Strategy for
cooperation of
the Government
with civil society
(2012-2017)

Preparation of new
Action plan for the
period 2018-2020
for implementation
of the Strategy for
cooperation of the
Government with
civil society with
possible focus on
secondary legislation
and harmonisation
of the relevant
legislation

Preparation of
written
recommendations
on existing draft
documents related
to priority measures
from the Strategy
for cooperation of
the Government
with civil society

Preparation of
training
programme and
training
materials and
organization of
workshop and
on-the-job
trainings for
transfer of
knowledge



Component 2 – Enhanced cooperation between the Government and civil society

THE EXPECTED PROJECT RESULTS

01

Revised Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society and preparation of new Action Plan (for the period 2018 – 2020) for the implementation of the Strategy, with possible focus on secondary legislation and harmonisation of the relevant legislation

02

Provided written recommendations on existing draft documents related to priority measures from the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society

03

Enhanced capacity of the network of civil servants for cooperation with civil society, for monitoring of the implementation of the Action plan (2018 – 2020) for the Strategy for cooperation between the Government and civil society, including clear procedures, requirements and deadlines for the monitoring process



Component 2 – Enhanced cooperation between the Government and civil society

PROJECT INDICATORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

01

The revised Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society and the new Action plan for the period 2018-2020 for implementation of the Strategy is prepared

*** Achieved**

02

Approximately 200 CSOs reached and involved in the consultation process for preparation of the Draft-Action plan for the period 2018-2020 (online consultations, public debates etc.)

*** Achieved**

03

Written recommendations on existing draft documents related to priority measures from the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society (e.g. legally binding document for standardisation of the state funding for CSOs, harmonisation of the tax legislation related to CSOs etc.) are prepared

*** Achieved**



Component 2 - Enhanced cooperation between the Government and civil society

PROJECT INDICATORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

04

Approximately 25 members of the network of civil servants for cooperation with civil society trained for monitoring of the new Action plan for the period 2018-2020 for implementation of the Strategy, including clear procedures, requirements and deadlines for the monitoring process

*** Achieved**



Component 3 –

Promotion of the work of the Council and the Action plan (2018 – 2020) for the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society in public

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Support in organizing at least one awareness raising event to promote of the work of the Council and the Action plan (2018-2020) for the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society

Support and assist the Beneficiary in organization of approximately 3 meetings with already established thematic/sector CSOs networks (IPA mechanism, Network 23+, and other networks especially those established through Civil Society Facility grants), to communicate and disseminate views and needs of the sector CSOs and their constituencies, including feedback on the outcome/accomplished results in the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society

Support and assist the Beneficiary in organization of approximately 3 meetings with local self-government units, public administration on central level and CSOs for presentation of the new Action plan for the period 2018-2020 for implementation of the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society and sharing mutual experience in cooperation with civil society



Component 3 –

Promotion of the work of the Council and the Action plan (2018 – 2020) for the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society in public

THE EXPECTED PROJECT RESULTS

01

Promoted and awareness raised of the work of the Council and the Action plan (2018 – 2020) for the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society

02

Views and needs of the sector CSOs and their constituencies, including feedback on the outcome/accomplished results in the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society communicated and disseminated

03

Strengthened cooperation between local self-government units and CSOs



Component 3 –

Promotion of the work of the Council and the Action plan (2018 – 2020) for the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society in public

PROJECT INDICATORS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

01

At least 1 (one) awareness raising event (conference, round table, public debate, etc.) organized to promote of the work of the Council and the Action plan (2018-2020) for the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society
*** Achieved**

02

Approximately 3 meetings held with already established CSOs networks to communicate and dissemination views and needs of the sector CSOs and their constituencies, including feedback on the outcome/accomplished results in the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society
*** Achieved**

03

Approximately 3 meetings held with local self-government units, public administration and CSOs for presentation of the new Action plan for the period 2018-2020 for implementation of the Strategy and sharing mutual experience in cooperation with civil society
To be achieved by September 2018. (last mission)



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

1st mission, 15th -18th January 2018

- ❑ **Assessment Report** - MS experts analysed all relevant documents and legislation related to cooperation of the Government and civil society through the Council in order to provide a complete overview of the situation that would enable implementation of subsequent activities.
- ❑ MS experts held **several meetings** with relevant institutions and other stakeholders in the BC as well as **meetings with representatives of the Delegation of the EU and CFCD** as regards the technical and operative issues of the project implementation and the follow up of the 1st mission, with discussion of the mission plan for the rest of the project implementation.
- ❑ **A meeting with the Ambassador of the Republic of Croatia** to the BC.
- ❑ revision of the Decision for establishment of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society prepared and discussed with BC partners.
- ❑ Written comments on the **Form for giving support** for a candidate for a member of the Council for Cooperation with and development of the civil society from association and foundations was The MS experts provided the BC with the know-how and presented Croatian **good practice experience** regarding the selection process for the representatives of the CSOs in the Council.



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

2nd mission, 12th -16th February 2018

- ❑ As a follow up of Activity 1.1, the MS experts developed and prepared operational methodology for the Council by preparing a document with comments on **Draft Rules of Procedures of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society** and they drafted Rules that include comments from STEs.
- ❑ The MS experts **analysed and revised the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society (2012 – 2017)**.
- ❑ Following the analysis, **revision of the Strategy with recommendations** for the priorities of the Draft-Action plan for the period 2018-2020 was prepared.
- ❑ **Numerous meetings of STEs with the relevant state bodies:** Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ministry of Information Society and Administration and Central Registration, as well as with representatives of the network of civil servants for cooperation with civil society organizations.
- ❑ **A workshop with relevant stakeholders** using a world café method with the aim to make a revision of the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society 2012-2017.



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

3rd mission, 12th-16th March 2018

- ❑ **The Kick-off event** on 13th March 2018 in EU Info Centre Skopje in order to present the Project to more than 50 attendees. In order to ensure good visibility of the Project, **leaflets and other promotional materials** were prepared and disseminated, presenting all relevant information about the Project. Moreover, media representatives were invited and a press release was issued.
- ❑ **A series of consultative meetings** both with representatives of administrative bodies and with representatives of CSOs. Along with Croatian STEs from the Office for Cooperation with NGOs, one STE from the Croatian Ministry of Finance also participated in this mission (Ms Filipčić), and thematic meetings with colleagues from the BC Ministry of Finance were organized.
- ❑ MS experts analysed all relevant existing documents and draft documents related to priority measures from the Strategy for cooperation of the Government with civil society. The analysis aimed at providing a complete overview of the proposed solutions and elaboration of recommendations regarding each specific document.
- ❑ STEs prepared **first draft of the Action Plan** that includes activities, a timetable for their implementation and indicators for subsequent monitoring of implementation, and it was submitted to the Unit at the beginning of April 2018.



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Kick-off event, 13th March 2018



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Meetings of the working group for preparation of the Strategy for Cooperation with and Development of the Civil Society, March 14th and 15th 2018



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

4th mission, 16th - 20th April 2018

- ❑ **Public debate on the Draft Strategy of the Government for Cooperation with Civil Society 2018-2020 and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy – Skopje, 16th of April 2018.**
- ❑ **Public debate on the Draft Strategy of the Government for Cooperation with Civil Society 2018-2020 and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy, Bitola 19th of April 2018.**
- ❑ **On April 18th 2018, the first meeting of the Project Steering Committee was held to present to the committee members the draft Start-up Report on the project implementation and discuss possible open issues.**
- ❑ **Constitutive session of the Council for cooperation with and development of the civil sector was held in the premises of the Government in Skopje on 16th of April.**



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Public debates on the Draft Strategy of the Government for Cooperation with Civil Society 2018-2020 and the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Strategy, 16th and 19th April 2018



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

5th mission, 14th - 18th May 2018

- ❑ **Second session of the Council for cooperation with and development of the civil sector** - the premises of the Government in Skopje on 14th of May. Project team members presented recommendations/amendments for improvements of the Decision for establishment of the Council for cooperation between the Government and civil society.
- ❑ Additional consultations with key state administration bodies including Council for cooperation with and development of the civil sector regarding the draft Action plan for implementation of the Government Strategy for cooperation with and development of civil society 2018 – 2020.
- ❑ **Two days Workshop for capacity building of the members of the Network of civil servants for cooperation with civil society on theoretical and practical models of monitoring the implementation of the Government Strategy for cooperation with and development of civil society 2018 – 2020 and the Action plan** - Skopje, May 16th and 17th 2018 at the Club of the state administration bodies.
- ❑ **On-the-job training of the staff of the Unit for cooperation with NGOs of the General Secretariat for coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the new Action plan 2018 – 2020** aimed to improve the knowledge and skills of the staff of the Unit necessary for the efficient coordination and monitoring of the implementation of an operational document. Additionally, in cooperation with colleagues from the Unit, examples of specific forms for monitoring the Strategy were developed which will could be used after the implementation of the project in their daily work related to the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of the Strategy.



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Second session of the Council for cooperation with and development of the civil sector 14th May 2018



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Workshop for monitoring the implementation of the Strategy and the Action plan for implementation of the Government Strategy for cooperation with and development of civil society 2018 – 2020, 16th and 17th May 2018



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

6th mission, 4th - 8th June 2018

- **Workshop for members of Council for cooperation with and development of the civil sector June 6th** - operational planning of the Council's work and connecting of the members of the Council.
- **Workshop for the members of the Council for cooperation with and development of the civil sector, representatives of civil sector, June 7th** - strengthening the capacity of members of the Council for communication with civil society organizations from the sectors they represent and communication between the members of the Council and development of a **communication plan**.
- Both workshops demonstrated the need and importance of discussing topics related to the communication methods of civil sector representatives with the subsectors who chose them as members of the Council.
- STE analysed relevant documents and draft documents related to priority measures from the Strategy aimed at providing a complete overview of the proposed solutions and elaboration of recommendations regarding each specific document, according internationally recognized best practices in specific areas while taking into account local circumstances, all of the previous outputs in the Project and information gained through meetings held through project implementation, in order to adjust recommendations to specific local needs. The result were also several additional outputs, namely a Handbook with examples of tender documentation regarding the output related to written comments on legally binding document for standardisation of the state funding for CSOs.
- MS Project leader participated in the "Open Days for Initiatives of Civil Society Organizations: "Practice Cooperation between Government and Civil Society Organizations - How to Improve Co-operation?" organized by the Government.



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Workshops for members of Council for cooperation with and development of the civil sector 6th and 7th June 2018



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

7th mission, 2th - 6th July 2018

- On 5th July 2018, Round table ‘Further institutionalisation of structured mechanism/s for cooperation between the government and civil society’ - Club of the state administration bodies - an awareness raising event discussing potential challenges in the future implementation of the Strategy and Action plan with representatives of the Council and competent state administrative bodies.
- In order to ensure good visibility of the project and its results, leaflets about the new Council and the role of the Unit for cooperation with NGOs in coordination of monitoring the new Action plan were prepared and disseminated.
- Concerning the adoption of the Strategy, STEs produced an expert opinion on the comments of the Council members regarding the Draft Strategy and the Action Plan. The aforesaid opinion was translated into Macedonian and is to be part of the accompanying materials in addition to the text of the draft Strategy and the Action Plan when it comes to the adoption of the Government.
- Project team organized several follow up meetings with representatives of CSOs in the Council, regarding the development of the communication plan (follow up to training conducted in the 6th mission) - meeting with members of Blueprint group in the area of economy and finance, meeting with members of Association Resource center of parents of children with special needs and meeting with members of anticorruption network.
- MS Project team participated in the second event organized by the Government “Open Days for Initiatives of Civil Society Organizations: "Practice Cooperation between Government and Civil Society Organizations - How to Improve Co-operation?”.



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

Round table 'Further institutionalisation of structured mechanism/s for cooperation between the government and civil society', 5th July 2018



PROJECT OUTPUTS AND OUTCOMES

8th mission, 3th - 7th September 2018

- In order to present new Action plan for the period 2018 - 2020 for implementation of the Strategy, share mutual experience in cooperation with civil society, and strengthen cooperation between local self-government units and CSOs, **3 meetings was/will be organized** in Tetovo (4th September), Skopje (5th September) and Bitola (7th September).
- On September 5th 2018, **Project Steering Committee meeting** with the aim to provide quality supervision of the implementation of this Twinning light project.
- The **Final event** 6th September 2018, in order to present the project results (including also a review of lessons learned and key recommendations of the project) to the stakeholders, the media and other relevant participants. In order to ensure good visibility of the project results
- **Leaflets** printed and disseminated presenting all relevant information about the project, Council and Unit for cooperation with CSOs.
- **Media representatives invited and a press release issued** with purpose to consolidate and disseminate the results and impacts of the project to all stakeholders, as well as to formulate conclusions on the activities to be followed in order to further develop the stimulating environment for civil society development.



PROJECT VISIBILITY



PROJECT IN NUMBERS

- ❑ More than **25 documents** analysed and produced
- ❑ **7 workshops** and trainings prepared and conducted
- ❑ **30 meetings** held with more than **400 relevant stakeholders** (representatives of state administration bodies, civil society organizations and other experts)
- ❑ Analysed and responded on **106 comments received** on the Draft Action Plan (received from public consultations, opinions of the relevant state authorities and written comments of members of the Council for cooperation with and development of civil society)
- ❑ **500 leaflets** printed and disseminated presenting all relevant information about the project, Council and Unit for cooperation with CSOs.
- ❑ **5 press releases** produced,
- ❑ **2 roll up banners** made and
- ❑ **Facebook page** of the project published with **15 posts** regarding news from the project



PROJECT TEAM



VESNA LENDIĆ KASALO
MS Project Leader



MARINA LOCHERT ŠOŠTARIĆ
MS Short Term Expert



STELA FIŠER MARKOVIĆ
MS Short Term Expert



IVA RAŠIĆ
MS Short Term Expert



LUKA KEVEŠEVIĆ
MS Short Term Expert



SANDRA PERNAR
MS Short Term Expert



DARIJA MARIĆ
MS Short Term Expert



BRANKA LOVRIĆ
MS Short Term Expert



LILJANA BREULJ ŠTIMAC
MS Short Term Expert



NEMANJA RELIĆ
MS Short Term Expert



MILANA ROMIĆ
MS Short Term Expert



HAJDICA FILIPČIĆ
MS Short Term Expert





**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE
CONTACT US AT:**

www.udruga.gov.hr

twl-mk@udruga.vlada.hr

**[https://www.facebook.com/
TwinningLightMacedonia](https://www.facebook.com/TwinningLightMacedonia)**



THANK YOU FOR THE COOPERATION!

The contents of this presentation are the sole responsibility of the Government of the Republic of Croatia - the Office for Cooperation with NGOs, and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

THIS PROJECT IS FUNDED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

