



REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

AGENCY FOR THE SUPPORT OF CIVIL SOCIETY

Empower together...

January – February – March 2019

ASCS ➤ **Newsletter 21**

Date: **23.04.2019**

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Macedonian Association "Ilinden" – Tirana celebrates its 10th anniversary

Tirana, 6 February 2019



A representative of the Agency for the Support of Civil Society (AMShC) attended the reception organized on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the Macedonian Association "Ilinden" – Tirana, by the invitation of Mr. Nikolla Gjurgjaj, the President of the Association.

The welcome speech was opened by Mr. Tihomir Stojanovski, professor at the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Skopje, Republic of Macedonia; Mr. Nikolla Gjurgjaj, President of the Macedonian Association "Ilinden" – Tirana as well as Mr. Danko Markovski, Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia in Tirana.

Following Mr. Gjurgjaj distributed awards and certificates of gratitude to people with special merit in life, history, culture and preservation of the authentic Macedonian tradition in Albania.





During the ceremony the following books were presented:

1. *Decade of the Macedonian Society "Ilinden" – Tirana*
2. *Macedonians and Albanians from the Berlin Congress to the Ilinden Uprising*
3. *Ethnography and Anthropology of Macedonians" Nashinci "from the Macedonian-Albanian border" by Dr. Meri Stojanova*



The 3rd Meeting of Managerial Committee of the Program "Strengthening Community Policing in Albania" - Phase II, 2017-2020

Tirana, 14 February 2018



Representatives from the Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS) participated in the 3rd Meeting of Managerial Committee of the Program "Strengthening Community Policing in Albania" - Phase II, Implementation Period 2017-2020, which was held at the premises of the General Directorate of State Police.

This project is financed by Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation

Agency) and implemented by FCG Swedish Development AB.

The opening speech and the presentation of the agenda was held by Mr. Ansi Shundi - Program Leader, and Mr. Ardi Veliu - General Director of State Police and Chairman of the Managerial Committee Program expressed the State Police's assessment of the program's results.

At the meeting, the program's program activities and progress so far were presented for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018. At the end there were participants' discussions on their activities and expectations for the program.

Consultation meetings with representatives of Local Government and Civil Society Organizations to determine the priorities of the Call No. 12 for project proposals

January – February 2019

With the aim of public consultation regarding the priorities of the next Call No. 12 as well as within the framework of a fruitful and successful cooperation between the Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS), the Civil Society Organizations and the Local Government, under the slogan "Strengthen together", were organized consultation meetings following cities and dates:

1. **Korça**, 22 – 23 January 2019
2. **Gjirokastra**, 25 January 2019
3. **Peshkopi**, 29 – 30 January 2019
4. **Shkodra**, 31 January 2019
5. **Vlora**, 5 – 6 February 2019
6. **Kukes**, 7 – 8 February 2019
7. **Tirana**, 14 February 2019



KONSULTIM PUBLIK

me përfaqësues të Pushtetit Vendor
dhe të Organizatave të Shoqërisë Civile

mbi përcaktimin e prioriteteve
të Thirrjes Nr. 12 për projekt-propozime

**KORÇË • GJIROKASTËR • PESHKOPI
SHKODËR • VLORË • KUKËS • TIRANË**

ONLINE: www.amshc.gov.al

At these meetings, the representatives of the ASCS presented the main topics:

- *Challenges and priorities of the Civil Society Sector for each county, and more specifically, how many registered NGOs are active in the cities and areas around, that contribute to solving these challenges*
- *Receiving feedback on various issues and suggestions for financial support for their resolution through the contribution of Civil Society*
- *Issuance of priority areas to be included in the next Call, suggested by the participants and representatives of Civil Society*



Korça, 22 January 2019
Meeting with Civil Society Organizations in Korça



Korça, 23 January 2019
Meeting with representatives of Project Sector – Municipality of Korça



Gjirokastra, 25 January 2019
Meeting with Ms. Albana Allushaj - Director of the Directorate of Social Services – Municipality of Gjirokastra



Gjirokastra, 25 January 2019
Meeting with Civil Society Organizations in Gjirokastra



Peshkopi, 29 January 2019
Meeting with Civil Society Organizations in Peshkopi



Peshkopi, 30 January 2019
Meeting with Deputy Mayor of Dibër



Shkodra, 31 January 2019
Meeting with representatives of Civil Society Organizations together with Ms. Deana Alibali and Ms. Stela Mardusha from the Directorate of Strategic Planning and Business Climate Improvement at the Municipality of Shkodra



Vlora, 5 February 2019
Meeting with Mr. Jeton Puka - Economic Advisor to the Mayor of Vlora



Vlora, 6 February 2019
Meeting with the Civil Society Organization in Vlora



Kukes, 7 February 2019
Meeting with Mr. Dilaman Nela – Deputy Mayor of Kukes



Kukes, 8 February 2019
Meeting with the Civil Society Organization in Kukes



Tirana, 14 February 2019
Closing Consultative Meeting with representatives of Civil Society Organizations in Tirana

From the meetings that were organized and by reviewing all materials taken electronically and submitted in hard copy, where representatives of NGOs, local government and other stakeholders listed all their suggestions, are summarized as follows:

1. *Supporting environmental protection projects focusing on forests and thermal resources; Focusing and addressing the damages caused during and after the transition and now to the Albanian maritime and coastal areas*
2. *Development of tourism, especially the family tourism taking into account the traditional products of the area*
3. *Art and Cultural Heritage; activating younger generations to preserve our heritage and cultural identity*
4. *Implementing the LEADER method through the establishment and empowerment of rural forums to promote lobbying, advocacy and community representation in rural areas, mainly mountainous and disfavored*
5. *Support for local investigative media*
6. *Corruption and the fight against it*
7. *Good local governance*
8. *Monitoring Justice Reform and Vetting Process*
9. *Protection of children's rights*
10. *Youth interaction in awareness campaigns to promote new talents in art, culture and sculpture*
11. *Support and accessibility for people with disabilities, social inclusion of people with intellectual abilities*
12. *Awareness, mobilization and youth activism in integration processes, volunteering and philanthropy*
13. *Young people to be aware in the use of protective measures against sexually transmitted diseases*
14. *Information and awareness on the rights of young people, mainly in rural areas*
15. *Support for vocational education, empowerment and employment of women and young people*
16. *Identification, addressing and development of regional natural areas with potential tourism vulnerable to uncontrolled economic developments*
17. *Promoting religious harmony and coexistence*
18. *Improving social services*
19. *Support for the third age, provision of social services in the residence*
20. *NGOs capacity building to write concrete projects, especially local ones*

Local government representatives during conversations expressed willingness for institutional cooperation and provision of facilities and support for the implementation of NGOs projects.

Thirrja Nr. 12

për projekt-propozime

28 shkurt - 1 prill 2019

The CALL for proposal

February 28th - April 1st 2019

ASCS announces Call No. 12 for proposals

28 February – 1 April 2019

The Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS) announces Call No. 12 – interested NGOs are pleased to bring project proposals and that have as object and cover these priority areas:

1. Youth - Investing and guarantees for the country's European future

- Strengthening entrepreneurial capacities in different areas of development (promotion of domestic products, development of rural and urban tourism, historical, cultural, ethnographic, folkloric etc.)
- Activism of excellence student groups in study programs such as: scientific, innovation etc.
- Youth in the value market (art, culture, innovation, etc.), bridges of cooperation between the generations Youth and Third Age (exchange of experiences, friendly discussions, stories from the past etc.)
- Youth in a comprehensive focus on ensuring sustainable development
- The awareness raising and discussion table, initiatives for the development of activism and volunteering, participation, entrepreneurship, partnership, education, vocational training etc.

2. Integration - Civil society as an important factor, actor and partner in the European and regional integration processes of the country

- Awareness raise, capacity building for an enabling environment in the integration processes
- European integration, regional economic integration (Balkan etc.), recognition of democratic standards, discussion, debate, dialogue, different thinking and ability to listen; development of ideas and regional initiatives etc.
- Good governance (central and local government), transparency, accountability, fight against corruption, accountability and integrity, justice reform, capacity building, innovation, monitoring, partnership etc.
- Strengthening capacities in concepting, writing, implementing, monitoring and reporting projects for youth, rural, newly established associations; applying the LEADER method etc.
- Civic education in function of integration processes (family, school, community, business, state institutions, etc.)

3. Social Development, Social Services

- Partnership with vulnerable groups in capacity building etc.
- Support for vulnerable groups (abused persons, traumatized groups, abandoned children, confined people, etc.), prevention of conflict and violence; psychological assistance; peaceful resolution of conflicts, protection from sexually transmitted diseases, etc.
- Empowering / diversifying social services for vulnerable groups in guaranteeing human rights throughout the spectrum of political, economic, cultural, social, etc.

4. Environment, Tourism and Sustainable Development

- Environment protection and rehabilitation; Strengthening capacities for prevention and managing of natural emergency situations (floods, fires, earthquakes, etc.)
- Activism and volunteering, important factors in protecting a healthy and competitive environment of sustainable development
- Promotion and preservation of historical, ethnographic, touristic, artistic, cultural, tourist guides, collectors, religious tolerance etc. as the historical value of the Albanian nation and obligation to future generations

Information and consultation meetings on the selection process of civil society members of the National Council for Civil Society (NCCS)

February – March 2019

The Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS), in the role of the Technical Secretariat of the National Council for Civil Society (NCCS), during February – March 2019 held several information and consultation meetings with civil society organizations on the selection process of civil society members of NCCS.

Information meetings were held according to the calendar:

1. **Berat**, 26 February 2019
2. **Vlora**, 28 February 2019
3. **Gjirokastra**, 5 March 2019
4. **Saranda**, 6 March 2019
5. **Kukës**, 8 March 2019
6. **Korça**, 12 March 2019
7. **Shkodra**, 13 March 2019



TAKIME INFORMUESE *me aktorë të shoqërisë civile*

*mbi procedurën e zgjedhjes së anëtarëve të rinj
në Këshillin Kombëtar për Shoqërinë Civile (KKShC)*



Berat



Saranda



Vlora



Gjirokastra



Kukës



Korça



Shkodra

During the meetings of the representatives of ASCS and NCCS with representatives from civil society organizations were presented and discussed the criteria for candidates, supporting documentation and phases of the process for selection of candidates for civil society members at the National Council for Civil Society.

Joint working meeting on OGP between the Prime Minister's Office Department of Development and Good Governance and the National Council of Civil Society

Tirana, 15 March 2019



In the framework of the engagement taken by the Albanian Government to be part of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and the visit of the OGP high representatives, Mr. Joe Powell, Deputy CEO and Ms. Sandra Pernar, Regional Coordinator for Europe, held a joint working meeting between the Prime Minister's Office Department of Development and Good Governance and the National Council for Civil Society (NCCS).

This event on "Open Government Partnership Visit to Albania" was held at the premises of the Center for Openness and Dialogue (COD) at the Prime

Minister's Office. Present were high representatives of the Open Government Partnership (OGP), the Agency for the Support of Civil Society (ASCS) and the Civil Society Organizations. The joint working meeting was chaired by Ms. Ardiana Jaku - Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection.

In this joint working meeting, the Fourth National Action Plan on Open Government Governance for Albania 2018 - 2020 was presented.





Roundtable on improving local good governance policies

Tirana, 20 March 2019

Representatives of the Agency for the Civil Society (ASCS) participate in the entitled activity "Improving local good governance policies through citizens' democratic participation", organized by the Institute of Social Studies and Humanities, supported by USAID.

Present were representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, civil society and the Director of ADISA, Mr. Lorin Ymeri. The meeting focused on the presentation of the results of the study conducted in the city of Tirana, one of the five municipalities selected for the implementation of this project.



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