SUPPORT TO CIVIL SOCIETY IN KOSOVO

KSV/025



The Support to civil society in Kosovo project aims to strengthen democratic participation and develop a strong and dynamic civil society in Kosovo. The project focuses on fostering inclusive gender and minorities development, advancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda, supporting social entrepreneurial initiatives, enhancing digital and financial capacities, and advocating for media excellence (transparency and integrity, aligned on European Union and other international standards).

The project supports the development of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), selected through direct engagement and open calls for applications. Through partnerships with CSOs, the project advocates for the empowerment of marginalised and under-represented communities, whilst strengthening the women, peace and security, social entrepreneurship and media sectors.

The implementation foresees strengthened cooperation between CSO's, including small-scale organisations, to ensure sustainability by scaling up support in targeted under-represented communities. Overall, the project aims to contribute to a stronger and more diverse civil society that fosters social cohesion and sustainable development.

EXPECTED CHANGES/RESULTS

The project focuses on three main results:

- women and minorities are empowered, enabling their active participation in promoting peace and security;
- minority focused CSOs' capacities are empowered through entrepreneurship, financial, and digital literacy;
- capacities of CSOs promoting media transparency and information integrity in Kosovo are strengthened.

MAIN ACTIONS

- establishment of a partnership agreement with the Jahjaga Foundation to create the Women, Peace and Security Institute;
- development and launch of an open call for proposals for CSOs on social entrepreneurship, digital and financial literacy, media transparency and information integrity;
- selection of four CSOs following evaluation of the calls for proposals and establishment of partnership agreements with selected CSOs.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND NEXT STEPS

During the inception phase, the project focused on establishing partnerships with CSOs to implement the planned activities and cooperation with international donor organisations to share information and mitigate the duplication of efforts.

On 18 March 2024, LuxDev and the Jahjaga Foundation concluded a 30-month partnership agreement to implement the establishment of the Jahjaga Women Peace and Security Institute.

Following evaluation of an open call for proposals, the project has selected four CSOs to implement activities foreseen under results 2 and 3. The operational partnership agreements with these CSOs are expected to be concluded during October 2024, with a maximum implementation length of 22 months.

By the end of 2024, the project will have five delegation agreements for funds and implementation signed. These partnership agreements will contribute to strengthening the capacities of the selected CSOs; to strengthening the financial and digital capacities of CSOs in underrepresented communities; to establishing three social entrepreneurial initiatives; and to strengthening media transparency oversight and public awareness of information integrity.

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