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M'Base

Projects Supported in the
Third Call Within the Project
**CSOs in Montenegro – From Basic
Services to Policy Shaping M'BASE**



Center za
gradansko
obrazovanje

Centre
for Civic
Education

FRIEDRICH
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VLADA CRNE GORE
MINISTARSTVO JAVNE UPRAVE



MINISTARSTVO
EVROPSKIH POSLOVA

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Category I

Trust in the Social System – The Strength of Citizens

Lead Organization: **Montenegrin Foundation for HIV and Viral Hepatitis (CHF/MHF)**

The overall objective of the project is to enable the effective raising of awareness about tolerance and the strengthening of human and administrative capacities in the protection of human rights, as well as to reduce the stigma and discrimination of people living with HIV.

Specific project objectives: analysis of the protocols for the storage of health documentation of HIV-positive individuals and providing recommendations for their improvement; raising the level of knowledge and awareness about the specifics of HIV/AIDS from a socio-medical and legal perspective among patient rights defenders in public and private healthcare institutions; strengthening the human capacities of NGOs and their skills in providing services in the area of patient rights for individuals living with HIV/AIDS; raising public awareness and

knowledge about scientifically proven innovative methods for HIV infection prevention (TsP/treatment as prevention), through the implementation of the U=U campaign.

Expected results: successfully trained 20 patient rights defenders and 16 representatives from the NGO sector; developed an analysis of protocols for ensuring confidentiality and safeguarding the health data of individuals living with HIV; implemented the U=U campaign (TaP).

The project activities include two two-day training sessions, analysis of data storage protocols, and implementation of the U=U (TaP) campaign.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 19,308.45 EUR.

InterCOOL Schools

Lead Organization: **NGO Children of Montenegro**

Partner Organization: **Association of Pedagogues of Montenegro**

The overall objective of the project is to build the capacities of young people and develop intercultural skills that contribute to the spirit of solidarity and cooperation among the youth of Montenegro in the educational system.

Specific project objectives: to increase the number of teachers and educational content that contribute to the respect of differences among members of different ethnic groups and cultures in secondary schools in the central part of Montenegro; strengthen young people's awareness of the need to nurture and promote tolerance and cultural diversity.

Expected results: strengthened capacities of 6 secondary schools from Tuzi, Danilovgrad, Cetinje, Nikšić, and Podgorica to work with young people on the themes of reconciliation and intercultural dialogue, through establishing cooperation, training for teachers, and cultural-educational activities; increased awareness among high school students about the need to nurture tolerance and cultural diversity, along with enhancing their intercultural skills through a series of training sessions, workshops, and theater performances; increased aware-

ness among young people about the importance of tolerance and interculturality through a campaign via media and social media platforms.

Project activities include:

- organizing training for teachers and students from 6 secondary schools in central Montenegro on education against prejudice;
- organizing workshops by teachers in secondary schools with students as a practical part of the training;
- conducting research among high school students from 6 schools;
- organizing training for high school students and mentor teachers from 6 schools on the forum theater method;
- implementing forum theater performances by high school students in all 6 schools across 5 cities for other students and parents, with the assistance of teachers;
- conducting a campaign through media and social networks on the importance of tolerance and interculturality.

The project duration is 8 months, and the total approved budget is 19,178.22 EUR.

Partnership for the Local Community – Strengthening the Contribution of Civil Society to the Development of Local Policies and Practices in the Field of Ecology and Sustainable Development

Lead Organization: **NGO Association for Responsible and Sustainable Development (NGO UZOR)**

Partner Organization: **NGO ALB Progress**

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to strengthening the capacities of local CSOs to be active, responsible, and independent actors in environmental protection and advocating for sustainable local development, thereby contributing to the improvement of Montenegro's integration into the European Union.

Specific project objectives: improvement of the capacities of local CSOs to participate in decision-making processes and the implementation of decisions in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development at the local level; strengthening local CSO initiatives in the field of environmental protection and sustainable development, in cooperation with local governments.

Expected results: increased knowledge and skills of local CSOs and citizens in Podgorica and Tuzi to participate in local decision-making processes related to environmental protection and sustain-

able development; increased visibility and impact of local CSOs in Podgorica and Tuzi, through activities that promote environmental protection and encourage community activism; strengthened awareness of sustainable development and ecological issues in local communities in Podgorica and Tuzi.

Project activities include initial meetings with stakeholders; workshops for local CSOs and civil activists on decision-making and the implementation of policies related to environmental protection and advocating for sustainable development; organization of an Eco Festival for children and youth in the municipality of Tuzi; signposting of the Trabojin – Grzoz trail in partnership with local government, the business community, and local CSOs.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 16, 510. 00 EUR.

ROZA – Digital School of Feminist and Socially Caring Writing

Lead Organization: **NGO NOVA - Center for Feminist Culture**

Partner Organization: **NGO "Yellow Turtle"**

The overall objective of the project is to reduce the growing influence of sexist, retraditionalist, and gender-discriminatory media content.

Specific project objectives: journalistic and theoretical empowerment of 12 young female journalists for media advocacy of feminist and socially responsible policies; promotion of the social potential of feminist policies, particularly among young people.

Expected results of this project are: empowered 12 young female writers for feminist journalism; published 48 articles advocating for feminist policies; launched the ROZA portal for feminist policies; around 10,000 young people will increase their knowledge about feminist policies.

Project activities include:

1. PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES:

- final planning of the content for the ROZA digital mentoring workshop on feminist writing;

- recruitment and selection of participants for the ROZA digital mentoring workshop/ and members of the evaluation focus group;
- initial dissemination of project information;
- development of the project's visual identity, web design, and portal programming;
- selection of participants and formation of the focus group.

2. ROZA - DIGITAL SCHOOL OF FEMINIST AND SOCIALLY CARING WRITING:

- preparatory educational workshop;
- mentoring workshop – creation and distribution of articles.

3. FINAL ACTIVITIES AND INCREASED VISIBILITY:

- public presentation of the project and award ceremony;
- evaluation activities.

The project duration is 6 months, and the total approved budget is 18,119.76 EUR.

Inclusion of Vulnerable Groups in Social Life as a Starting Point for Achieving Their Rights and Potential

Lead Organization: **Red Cross Organization of the Capital Cetinje**

The overall objective is the active inclusion of elderly people and people with disabilities in all spheres of social life, which will contribute to ensuring that their potential and needs are considered when creating public policies aimed at this vulnerable group.

Specific project objectives: preventing social isolation and unwanted loneliness as a consequence of the social marginalization of elderly people and people with disabilities in the local community.

Expected results: provided psychosocial support and legal assistance to elderly people and people with disabilities from the Cetinje municipality; conducted training for elderly people and people with disabilities to integrate them into the volunteer network of the Red Cross

of Cetinje; successfully completed digital literacy training for elderly people and people with disabilities from the Cetinje municipality; collected data on the needs and expectations of elderly people and people with disabilities from the Cetinje municipality; organized a conference with representatives of all relevant institutions from Cetinje, as well as representatives from all municipal Red Cross organizations, aimed at influencing local and national policies.

Project activities include: psychosocial support and legal assistance workshops; volunteerism training; integration into the volunteer network; digital literacy training.

The project duration is 8 months, and the total approved budget is 17, 561. 44 EUR.

Gender Equality and Economic Empowerment of Women

Lead Organization: **NGO MARE MARE**

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the greater protection of human rights and freedoms in Montenegro, with a particular focus on the rights of marginalized groups.

Specific project objectives: improvement of gender equality in Herceg Novi through the economic empowerment of women, especially women from vulnerable groups; promotion and preservation of traditional crafts, particularly gold embroidery, as part of Montenegro's cultural heritage.

Expected results: at least 10-15 women from the Herceg Novi area trained in the craft of Montenegrin gold embroidery - ošvice, and economically empowered to start their own businesses; established collaboration between key social actors in the Herceg Novi municipality to support women in achieving economic independence and equality; increased awareness among the citizens of Herceg Novi, as well as the entire country, about the need to preserve traditional Montenegrin gold embroidery as part of Montenegro's cultural heritage, with a focus on gender equality and the challenges faced by women from various vulnerable groups and population.

Project activities include:

- gold embroidery workshops for at least

10 to 15 women, in collaboration with other NGOs from the Herceg Novi area, lasting 4 months;

- training on (female) entrepreneurship and starting own business/production and sales chain;
- signing of memorandums of cooperation with key social actors in the Herceg Novi municipality (cultural institutions, the municipality, NGOs, entrepreneurs, etc.), as well as organizing meetings and consultations to ensure greater support for women from vulnerable groups;
- presentation of the participants' works at a public exhibition, with a donor evening and the awarding of certificates to successful participants;
- implementation of a campaign to raise awareness among the citizens of Herceg Novi, as well as other parts of Montenegro, through media and social networks, about the need to preserve traditional Montenegrin gold embroidery as part of the cultural heritage of Montenegro, while highlighting gender equality and the challenges faced by women from various vulnerable groups.

The project duration is 7 months, and the total approved budget is 16, 047. 00 EUR.

Towards Independence with a Sighted Guide

Lead Organization: **Organization of the Blind for Nikšić, Šavnik, and Plužine**

Partner Organization: **Organization of the Blind for Podgorica, Danilovgrad, Kolašin; Organization of the Blind for Kotor, Herceg Novi, Budva, and Tivat**

The overall objective is to improve the position of visually impaired individuals at the local level in Montenegro, creating conditions for their inclusion in all areas of society on an equal basis.

Specific project objectives: inclusion of visually impaired individuals in all spheres of social life; raising awareness within the community about the importance of providing support services for living in the community.

Expected results: sighted guides implementing the service in the field; provision of Sighted Guide services for 30 visually impaired individuals over a period of 4 months; preparation of the study "Social and Child Protection Services at the Lo-

cal Level"; a roundtable held on the topic "Social and Child Protection Services at the Local Level," gathering 35 participants; creation and broadcasting of tutorials on proper approaches to persons with disabilities (PWD); monitoring and evaluation conducted.

Activities of this project include implementation of the Sighted Guide service; preparation of the study; preparation and printing of the study; organization of the roundtable; activities contributing to the visibility of the project; monitoring and evaluation.

The project duration is 7 months, and the total approved budget is 19,178.145 EUR.

#LetTheVoiceOfYoungRoma AndEgyptiansBeHeard!

Lead Organization: **NGO Center for the Affirmation of the Roma and Egyptian Population - CAREP**

The overall objective of the project is to improve youth policies and the position of young people from the Roma and Egyptian communities through activism and volunteering.

Specific project objectives: improve and increase the level of involvement of young people from the Roma and Egyptian communities in decision-making processes in the municipalities of Nikšić and Bar; empower young people from the Roma and Egyptian communities who are active citizens in the municipalities of Nikšić and Bar in the field of volunteering.

Expected results: enhanced skills and knowledge of young Roma and Egyptians to become youth activists; increased number of young people from the Roma and Egyptian communities engaged in volunteering in their municipalities; strengthened capacities of young

Roma and Egyptians in the targeted municipalities for youth participation.

Project activities include:

- Implementation of a two-day training for young people from the RE community on activism and volunteering;
- Conducting the *School of Activism*;
- Organizing volunteer actions;
- Organizing two forum theaters (one per city) on the everyday issues faced by young people from the RE community;
- Public campaign "Differences Are Not Barriers" (April 8 - International Roma Day).

The project duration is 7 months, and the total approved budget is 14, 104. 30 EUR.

Psychosocial Empowerment and Legal Education of Persons with Disabilities

Lead Organization: **NGO Municipal Association of Multiple Sclerosis Bijelo Polje**

The overall objective is strengthening the organization's capacity, providing psychosocial support, and offering legal education to persons with disabilities.

Specific project objectives: preventing social isolation of persons with disabilities; strengthening the identity of persons with disabilities; empowering and improving support services, both psychosocial and legal, for persons with disabilities; protecting and promoting the human rights of persons with disabilities (PWD); strengthening the partnership between the NGO Municipal Association of Multiple Sclerosis Bijelo Polje and the local government by enhancing cooperation with the Municipality of Bijelo Polje's Office for Persons with Disabilities; protecting and promoting human rights, especially for marginalized groups; raising public awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Expected results: strengthened and socially visible organization for individuals

with multiple sclerosis in Bijelo Polje; legally educated persons with disabilities (PWD); psychosocially empowered PWD and their families; improved cooperation between the Multiple Sclerosis Association and the Municipality of Bijelo Polje; promoted human rights, with a special focus on the rights of marginalized groups; increased public awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities.

Project activities include formation of the project team and development of a work plan; engaging and motivating persons with disabilities to participate in the project; psychological workshops (psychosocial support for persons with disabilities); legal-educational workshops for persons with disabilities; organization of a roundtable dedicated to persons with disabilities; public awareness campaign on the rights of persons with disabilities.

The project duration is 9 months, and the total approved budget is 11. 000, 00 EUR.

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Category II

Strengthening the Network of Aarhus Centers in Montenegro

Lead Organization: **NGO Natura**

The overall objective is to contribute to the increased participation of citizens in the decision-making process at the local level in the field of environmental protection.

Specific project objectives: contribution to the implementation of the Aarhus Convention by strengthening the capacity of the NGO sector to monitor its application, enhancing cooperation with local governments, and raising public awareness of environmental protection.

Expected results: strengthened capacities of Aarhus Centers and the local NGO sector in northern Montenegro for monitoring the implementation of the Aarhus Convention; enhanced partnership between the civil sector and local government through joint efforts to improve the local regulatory framework in the field of environmental protection; increased awareness and knowledge of the local community about environmental protection.

Project activities include:

- capacity building training of Aarhus Center representatives and environmental organizations – *Implementation of the Aarhus Convention in Montenegro*;
- study visit to the Aarhus Center in Nikšić;
- assessing the needs of local governments in northern Montenegro for the development of local air quality management plans;
- public opinion research on citizens' awareness of the impact of air pollution on human health and environmental quality in northern Montenegrin municipalities;
- production and broadcasting of a promotional-educational documentary video.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 26. 432, 70 EUR.

Legal Recognition of Gender - A Step Towards Inclusive Policies

Lead Organization: **Association SPECTRA**

The overall objective is to contribute to the improvement of the quality of life for transgender, gender variant, and intersex (TIRV) individuals in Montenegro.

Specific project objectives: contribution to the process of creating and adopting the Law on Legal recognition of gender; improving the level of social acceptance of transgender individuals; empowering the TIRV community for active participation in the realization of their rights through psychosocial support services.

Expected results: contribution to the work of the Working Group for the creation of the Law on Legal Recognition of Gender and the advocacy process for its adoption; improved social acceptance of TIRV individuals and better understanding of the need for a self-determination-based Law on Legal Recognition of Gender among the general population;

empowered transgender individuals for active participation in the realization of their rights through the strengthening of social support services.

Project activities include:

- organizing a seminar on advocacy campaigns for legal recognition of gender for members of the Working Group for the draft Law on Legal Recognition of Gender;
- implementing a campaign for legal recognition of gender;
- organizing educational workshops on gender, sex, and gender roles for high school students;
- organizing a self-support group for transgender individuals.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 31. 977, 00 EUR.

Let's Talk About...

Lead Organization: **NGO Anima**

The overall objective is democratization, decentralization of decision-making, and advocating for gender equality policies at the local level, taking into account the social context and daily life policies.

Specific project objectives: advocating for gender equality and integrating (connecting) different political actors at the local level; encouraging civic activism, particularly among women; assessing changes in attitudes towards women's rights and gender equality among men and women; creating spaces for exchanging experiences and knowledge within local communities.

Expected results: increased awareness and knowledge about gender equality strategies and civic activism within the community, with active involvement in public interest issues through alternative means by more women and men participating in the political community

Project activities include:

- five team meetings with collaborators-organizers from local communities;
- 16 Forums for meetings and dialogue – Tivat, Bar, Bijelo Polje, Nikšić – four in each city;
- research on the state of women's human rights in Montenegro 2022 – how do women and men perceive it?
- two press conferences in Podgorica (at the beginning and end of the project implementation);
- presentation of the publication;
- ongoing and final evaluation of the process.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 29. 620, 12 EUR.

Agenda for the Development of Youth Entrepreneurship in Montenegro

Lead Organization: **Union of Young Entrepreneurs of Montenegro (UMPCG)**

The overall objective is contribution to the development of a favorable ecosystem for the growth of youth entrepreneurship in Montenegro.

Specific objective: formulating recommendations for the development of youth entrepreneurship while strengthening the advocacy capacities of young entrepreneurs for their implementation; promoting the importance of youth entrepreneurial initiatives for the social and economic development of the country.

Expected results: developed analysis with recommendations – *Agenda for the Development of a Supportive Environment for Youth Entrepreneurship*; strengthened capacities and competencies of UMPCG members for better advocacy in improving public policies in the field of youth entrepreneurship development; increased awareness of the importance of youth entrepreneurship for socio-economic development.

Project activities include:

1. research and Analysis: desktop analysis of the existing legislative and institutional framework and support programs for youth entrepreneurship development in Montenegro; meetings with relevant institutions, NGOs, and media; meetings with business entities from various industries (IT, agriculture, trade, tourism, and services) to identify the potentials and challenges for youth entrepreneurship development; focus groups with young entrepreneurs in all three regions to gather information on how they perceive opportunities for starting a business, barriers, and possible solutions for challenges; preparation of the analysis – *Agenda for the Development of a Supportive Environment for Youth Entrepreneurship*;
2. strengthening UMPCG's Advocacy Capacity: organizing a two-day training for 20 participants from the Union on effective advocacy approaches;
3. Youth Entrepreneurship Project and Initiative Award Competition;
4. Project Results Presentation and Advocacy: organizing a final conference to present the project results and open a discussion on the *Agenda for the Development of a Supportive Environment for Youth Entrepreneurs*; preparing a STV from the final conference; social media campaign; developing at least 10 infographics illustrating key findings and recommendations from the Agenda; creating at least 5 video stories about successful youth entrepreneurship examples.

The project duration is 9 months, and the total approved budget is 26. 969, 80 EUR.

Strengthening the Resilience of Youth and the Existing Support Network of National and Local Organizations and Institutions for the Effective Implementation of Drug Use Prevention Programs

Lead Organization: **Montenegrin Harm Reduction Network LINK**

The overall objective is strengthening the capacities of CSOs and local institutions to be an influential factor in participatory democratic processes related to drug policies and their effects on youth.

Specific objectives: contributing to the improvement of Montenegro's integration into the EU by strengthening the participation of civil society and local institutions in decision-making processes and implementing reforms in the field of drug use prevention; strengthening partnerships between CSOs, as well as between CSOs and local governments, in the area of drug use prevention.

Expected results: increased involvement of civil society in political dialogue on drug use and prevention, as well as collaboration with national and local authorities; improved quality of support services in the field of drug use prevention; enhanced position of youth in drug use prevention efforts; increased awareness within local contexts regarding the human rights of individuals who use drugs.

Project activities include:

- Creating visuals and publicly presenting project activities and results;
- Compiling a list of organizations and institutions working in the field of addiction

prevention, as well as those that engage and/or provide accommodation for youth in various municipalities (including institutions such as *Dom "Mladost"* in Bijela and *Center for Accommodation of Children and Youth with Behavioral Problems "Ljubović"* in Podgorica);

- Meetings and signing Memorandums of cooperation with institutions and organizations at the local level;
- Developing a detailed plan and program and conducting two training sessions with the National Office for Drugs, local addiction prevention offices, and local CSOs on human rights of individuals who use/inject drugs and harm reduction programs (including services provided by civil society organizations), as well as project writing and funding;
- Accreditation of a training program for professional workers and associates in the social child protection system on first-use prevention and the needs of children and youth who use drugs;
- Developing a detailed plan and program and conducting workshops with youth engaged by local organizations and institutions.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 29. 870, 00 EUR.

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Category III

Legal Support for Migrants

Lead Organization: **Legal Center**

Partner Organization: **Caritas Montenegro**

The overall objective is to contribute to the improvement of migration management and the asylum system in Montenegro in accordance with the highest human rights standards.

Specific project objectives: to enhance the status of migrants, foreigners seeking international protection (asylum), or those who have been granted such protection by ensuring access to rights and services in line with the highest international human rights standards through free and professional legal assistance; to contribute to the improvement of public policies and practices in migration and asylum management in Montenegro by strengthening capacities and networking of CSOs and institutional actors.

Expected results: professional and free legal assistance provided to migrants, foreigners seeking international protection (asylum), or those who have been granted such protection, ensuring their

access to rights and services; enhanced capacities of civil society organizations and institutions in implementing migration and asylum management policies in Montenegro; developed recommendations for improving the implementation of the Law on International and Temporary Protection of Foreigners in Montenegro.

Project activities include:

1. legal Assistance, Information, and Counseling - legal aid, legal representation, multilingual brochure, field visits, humanitarian assistance, psychosocial support;
2. capacity building and networking – workshops, training for officials, practical work, handbook;
3. monitoring and advocacy - recommendations, final conference.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 48. 700, 08 EUR.

Promotion of Human Rights within the Roma and Egyptian Community

Lead Organization: **Center for Roma Initiatives**

The overall objective is to improve the quality of life for the Roma and Egyptian communities in Montenegro.

Specific project objectives: improved conditions for the exercise and realization of human rights for the Roma and Egyptian populations.

Expected results: increased knowledge about human rights and strengthened capacity of youth to become peer educators for promoting equality in human rights; empowered young and adult Roma and Egyptian community members to become aware of their gender roles and norms in realizing human rights; enhanced awareness of relevant institutions in working with the Roma and Egyptian communities.

Project activities include:

- preparation and organization of three two-day training modules for at least 20 high school students from the Roma and Egyptian communities from Nikšić, Podgorica, and Berane;
- creation of a video (up to 10 minutes)

featuring at least 10 youth participants (5 Roma/Egyptian and 5 Roma/Egyptian women) on human rights;

- preparation and implementation of 30 peer workshops (10 in each of Nikšić, Podgorica, and Berane) for young people aged 12 to 20 in the Roma/Egyptian community on human rights;
- preparation and implementation of 5 street actions to mark significant human rights dates;
- promotion of the video in 3 cities through 20 workshops (Nikšić - 6, Berane - 6, Podgorica - 8), with at least 200 adults from seven Roma settlements participating;
- preparation and implementation of 5 one-day seminars for representatives of relevant institutions (primary and secondary schools, police, social work centers, judiciary, prosecution) in Nikšić, Podgorica, Berane, Bijelo Polje, Ulcinj, Bar, Tivat, and Budva.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 42. 924, 00 EUR.

Cooperation for Better Position of Children and Youth with Developmental Disabilities

Lead Organization: **NGO Union of the Associations of Parents of Children and Youth with Disabilities – Podgorica**

The overall objective is to contribute to the improvement of the position of children and youth with developmental disabilities.

Specific project objectives: development of the capacity of parents' associations through the provision of services to children and youth with developmental disabilities and cooperation with local governments.

Expected results: contribution to the development of service provisions for children and youth with developmental disabilities in 4 municipalities (Podgorica, Kolašin, Berane, and Andrijevica); improved psycho-physical and educational development through special education workshops for 47 children and youth with developmental disabilities; enhanced mobility and independence in walking through physiotherapy exercises for 37 children and youth with physical disabilities; improved language and speech abilities for 45 children with developmental disabilities through speech therapy; improved psycho-social condition for 36 children and youth with developmental disabilities through psychological workshops; educated 165 parents by specialists (special educators, speech therapists, physiotherapists, and psychologists) on how to properly care for and support their children at home; provided legal-administrative and informational support to around 230 children and youth with

developmental disabilities and their families; contributed to the improvement of public policies related to the position of people with disabilities through cooperation with local and state authorities and the NGO sector, influencing the creation of public policies.

Project activities include:

- signing contracts with project team members and professionals (workshop facilitators) participating in the project;
- engagement of 3 special education teachers, 4 physiotherapists, 2 speech therapists, 2 psychologists, and the legal-administrative and informational support service;
- purchase of didactic and office materials for project activities;
- work of the working group and collaboration between the applicant and partner organizations with local and state authorities and the NGO sector in the creation and improvement of public policies in the field of disability;
- promotion and publication of a brochure about project activities;
- monitoring, internal and external evaluation, reporting.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 55.075,30 EUR.

Strong Civil Society for the Preservation of the Forests of Prokletije and Komovi

Lead Organization: **NGO Green Home**

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to strengthening civil society organizations, activists, and individuals active in the Prokletije and Komovi regions in forest management.

Specific project objectives: to improve forest management in the Prokletije and Komovi regions by identifying key issues and strengthening civil society organizations for their active participation in decision-making processes, which will lead to a better status for protected areas and Montenegro's integration into the EU.

Expected results: strengthened and networked targeted CSOs and activists; conducted monitoring of the implementation of public policies in the field of forest management in the Prokletije National Park and the Komovi Nature Park, with a set of recommendations provided; improved public awareness of the importance of forest conservation within protected areas.

Project activities include:

- needs assessment analysis of CSOs and activists operating in the Prokletije and Komovi areas;

- two-day thematic training focused on forest management, tailored to the needs of CSOs;
- two-day thematic training focused on civic activism, tailored to the needs of CSOs;
- preparation of a monitoring report on the implementation of public policies in the field of forest management;
- analysis of the implementation of public policies in forest management, creating a set of recommendations for decision-makers;
- two-day conference "Forest Management in Protected Areas: Prokletije National Park and Komovi Nature Park";
- organization of the photography exhibition "Forests of Prokletije and Komovi";
- creation of two video materials "Forests of Prokletije" and "Forests of Komovi";
- preparation and printing of promotional materials.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 51.792,00 EUR.

EVORRA – European Integration for Sustainable Rural Development

Lead organization: **Network for Rural Development of Montenegro**

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the capacity of CSOs from Montenegro to participate in the creation and implementation of policies and strategies related to Montenegro's EU accession process.

Specific project objectives: to contribute to increasing the participation of CSOs from Montenegro in the creation and implementation of policies and strategies aligned with the EU acquis and the Common Agricultural Policy of the European Union, through the development and use of tools for education and networking of rural and agricultural development stakeholders, with a focus on less developed regions of Montenegro.

Expected results: the establishment of the first CSO office for rural development, organization of the first Montenegrin Ru-

ral Parliament; 10 CSOs from Montenegro have enhanced their capacities for policy creation and monitoring, advocacy, and participation in participatory democratic processes in the field of agriculture and rural development; 4 LAG initiatives established, connecting at least 12 rural development stakeholders (4 CSOs, 4 local self-governments, and 4 farmers).

Project activities include:

- establishing a rural development office;
- organizing the first rural parliament;
- organizing training for CSOs;
- encouraging the initiatives of Local Action Groups – LAG.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 47,754.10 EUR.

"Block, Cancel, Unfollow" – Violence Against Girls and Women

Lead organization: **Women's Safe House**

The overall objective is to contribute to the creation of a culture of zero tolerance for online violence directed at women and girls.

Specific objectives: to establish a more effective mechanism for protecting women and girls from online violence through the provision of support and assistance services, and raise awareness of the issue through research and a public campaign.

Expected results: provided support services for 50 women and girls who have survived online violence; conducted an assessment of the current situation regarding online violence against women and provided recommendations for improving the legislative framework and practices; increased awareness among citizens of Montenegro about online violence against women and girls.

Project activities include:

- providing legal aid, psychosocial support, and assistance to women and

girls who have survived online violence, as well as confidential services;

- conducting research, including an analysis of the existing legal framework with a comparative analysis, and qualitative research on the experiences of women who have survived online violence; defining recommendations for improving the legal framework and practices; public advocacy through promoting the research;
- involving 5 men and 5 women public figures and representatives of the international community in the campaign; recording short videos featuring these men and women for social media and promoting them; developing and printing educational leaflets for girls and women; developing and printing educational leaflets for men; creating and producing a TV spot; promoting the campaign through social media; organizing public actions in five cities across Montenegro.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 35.176,89 EUR.

Mo(mental) health!

Lead organization: **NGO CAZAS**

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to strengthening the process of Montenegro's integration into the EU through enhancing the mental health care system.

Specific project objectives: improving the framework for action, collaboration, and access to mental health services in Montenegro; increasing the involvement of CSOs in the dialogue with decision-makers on providing quality services to the most vulnerable groups in society, with a focus on addressing the mental health consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Expected results: increased level of coordination, cooperation, and involvement of CSOs in the mental health protection system; strengthened capacities of CSOs to provide innovative and high-quality services in line with good EU practices; increased awareness among the general population and vulnerable groups about the importance of mental health and the reduction of stigma and discrimination in accessing professional treatment and support services.

Project activities include:

- seminar "The Role of CSOs in the Mental Health Care System – Opportunities and Challenges";
- preparation of an analysis of the situation and alignment with EU practices and WHO recommendations in the field of mental health care in Montenegro;
- public advocacy campaign;
- organization of the final national conference;
- two trainings for service providers on first interventions in crisis situations for vulnerable groups;
- preparation and distribution of guidelines for providing first interventions in crisis situations for CSOs;
- awareness-raising campaign focused on the rights of people with mental challenges;
- provision of individual and group counseling and support services for vulnerable groups.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 52. 246, 00 EUR.

EU Corner

Lead organization: **NGO Multimedia Montenegro (MMNE)**

The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the capacities and improve the position of NGOs and youth in the northern part of Montenegro, to take an active role in education, information dissemination, and public opinion formation about Montenegro's European Union integration process.

Specific project objectives: to bring the EU integration process closer to the residents of northern Montenegro, especially to the youth, while increasing awareness and raising the general public's understanding of the EU, the EU accession process for Montenegro, and the EU's support for Montenegro.

Expected results: increased public awareness, especially among youth, about the activities and services of the EU Corner in Bijelo Polje as a place for dialogue and debates, cultural, political, and social exchanges among experts, academics, journalists, civil society, and young people on various socially important topics; enhanced knowledge and expertise of NGOs, youth, and the media regarding the EU integration process; strengthened role of youth and civil society in actively promoting EU values and Montenegro's integration process; increased connection between young people from Montenegro and those from EU countries; increased visibility of EU activities, programs, and

support for Montenegro, and improved awareness and understanding of citizens in northern Montenegro about the EU accession negotiations.

Project activities include:

- improvement and efficient management of *the EU Corner* in Bijelo Polje and EU information points in Bijelo Polje, Berane, Mojkovac, Petnjica, Kolašin, and Rožaje, providing information to the citizens of northern Montenegro about the values of the EU and the EU accession process;
- organization of various promotional and educational activities and events for different identified target groups (youth, civil society, media, business community) to understand the negotiation process, individual EU policies, and the functioning of EU institutions;
- strengthening the role of NGOs and youth in the decision-making process, understanding the EU accession process, peer education, and informing the wider public about Montenegro's negotiations with the EU through the formation of the "Youth Council for the EU" and informing the public about the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance and other EU support for Montenegro.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 58.003,03 EUR.

Psychological Support for Persons with Disabilities - Preventing Severe Consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic

Lead organization: **NGO Equivalent**

Partner organization: **NGO Discovering Personal Truth Montenegro (O.L.I.CG)**

The overall objective of the project is contributing to a higher level of protection of the rights and social integration of persons with disabilities by strengthening the capacity of CSOs for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities (PWD).

Specific project objectives: strengthening the capacity of 12 to 16 local CSOs to protect the rights of PWDs by providing psychosocial support services for persons with disabilities and creating conditions for improving the protection of mental health for persons with disabilities.

Expected results: a study on the mental health status of persons with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic; improved capacities of 12 to 16 professionals and local CSOs for the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities in line with the requirements for licensing social-educational and advisory services for persons with disabilities; psychological support provided for at least 20 persons with disabilities and 20 parents of children with disabilities; the target public made aware of the importance of protecting the mental health of PWDs.

Project activities include:

- conducting research on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the mental health of persons with disabilities; creating a questionnaire to explore the mental health status of persons with disabilities during the COVID-19 pandemic; conducting the research and preparing a study on the mental health of persons with disabilities during the pandemic;
- organizing one-day workshops to strengthen the capacities of local CSOs from the northern and southern regions of Montenegro for the development of programs to provide social-educational and advisory services for persons with disabilities;
- group counseling for parents of children with disabilities; individual psychotherapy for persons with disabilities;
- implementing a continuous awareness-raising and public information campaign about the importance of protecting the mental health of persons with disabilities.

The project duration is 10 months, and the total approved budget is 46.564,96 EUR.

