

## Civil Society Facility 2013, amending the programme for 2011 - 2012

### (5) Kosovo\*

#### **1. Basic information**

- 1.1 CRIS Number:** 2011/22-965; 2012/23-324; 2013/24-081  
**1.2 Title:** Civil Society Facility Kosovo Programme  
**1.3 ELARG Statistical code:** 35 (Civil Society)  
**1.4 Location:** Kosovo

#### **Implementing arrangements:**

- 1.5 Contracting Authority:** European Union Office in Kosovo  
**1.6 Beneficiary:** Civil society organisations in Kosovo

#### **Financing:**

- 1.7 IPA contribution:** Total: EUR **3 300 000**  
2011: EUR 1 100 000  
2012: EUR 1 100 000  
2013: EUR 1 100 000<sup>1</sup>

#### **1.8 Final date for contracting:**

30 November 2012 for the 2011 budget appropriations  
30 November 2013 for the 2012 budget appropriations  
30 November 2014 for the 2013 budget appropriations

#### **1.9 Final date for execution of contracts:**

30 November 2015 for the 2011 budget appropriations  
30 November 2016 for the 2012 budget appropriations  
30 November 2017 for the 2013 budget appropriations

#### **1.10 Final date for disbursements:**

30 November 2016 for the 2011 budget appropriations  
30 November 2017 for the 2012 budget appropriations  
30 November 2018 for the 2013 budget appropriations

## **2. Objective and Purpose**

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the IC J Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence .

<sup>1</sup> Budget appropriations for 2013 are subject to the approval of the Budget Authority of the 2013 budget

## 2.1 Overall Civil Society Facility Overall and Programme Purpose:

The Commission Communication on the Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2007-8<sup>2</sup> and the latest Strategy Documents (2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011<sup>3</sup>) underline the importance of civil society being able to play its role in a participatory democracy.

The 'Civil Society Facility' (CSF) was set up in 2008 to financially support the development of civil society. This programme sets out the strategy and scope of activities for the CSF for the next three years with associated budget appropriations for 2011 and 2012, as well as for 2013 subject to availability of funds for this purpose under the 2013 budget.

In line with the original vision for the Civil Society Facility (CSF), the overall **objective** for the CSF programme for the period is: *'To contribute to anchoring democratic values and structures, human rights, social inclusion and the rule of law, thereby supporting the EU integration process.'*

The **programme purpose** is to achieve: *'A more dynamic civil society actively participating in public debate on democracy, human rights, social inclusion and the rule of law and with capacity to influence policy and decision making processes.'*

For the period ahead, the CSF will focus on the achievement of **three outcomes** which have been identified on the basis of needs analyses<sup>4</sup>, internal and external reviews, and feedback from EU Delegations responsible for national programming:

- Greater benefit of civil society from national legal and financial frameworks and improved dialogue with state institutions;
- Greater commitment and capacity of civil society organisation (CSO) networks to give citizens a voice and influence public sector reform processes through analysis, monitoring and advocacy etc; and
- Increased access of grass-root organisations and civic initiatives to financial resources, in-kind contributions or expertise from established CSOs and CSO networks.

## 2.2 Kosovo fiche purpose:

To strengthen civil society to actively participate in the decision and policy making process at all levels of governance.

In Kosovo specific context, the purposes of the project are:

1. to develop and increase the role of civil society in Kosovo through supporting the promotion of the rights of youth and their key role in socio-economic and cultural development;
2. to foster and facilitate the constructive dialogue initiated between the government and civil society;
3. to develop the capacity and increase the role and representation of social partners in Kosovo in socio-economic development process;
4. to strengthen and increase the role of civil society in Kosovo in good governance through developing the capacity to demand transparency and accountability of public

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<sup>2</sup> COM (2007) 663 "Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2007-2008"

<sup>3</sup> COM (2008) 674 "Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2008-2009"

COM (2009) 533 "Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2009-2010"

COM (2010) 660 "Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2010-2011"

COM (2011) 666 "Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2011-2012"

<sup>4</sup> TACSO (2010): "Civil society organisations' capacities in the Western Balkans and Turkey - A comparative summary of the eight country CSO needs assessments"

authorities in the management of human, natural, economic and financial resources for the purposes of equitable and sustainable development;

### **2.3 Link with recent Enlargement Strategies and Progress Reports:**

The Enlargement Strategy 2010-2011 outlines the following:

*"Civil society activities are essential for a mature democracy, the respect for human rights and the rule of law. Such activities enhance political accountability, stimulate and expand the space for discourse on societal choices and strengthen the consensus for a pluralistic society. By contributing to a more open, participatory and dynamic democracy, a lively and vibrant civil society is also conducive to tolerance and reconciliation. The involvement of civil society organisations in the pre-accession process contributes to the quality of and public support for accession-related reforms.*

*A culture of acceptance and appreciation of the role played by civil society need to be in place to allow civil society organisations to engage in an effective policy dialogue. Public consultation on policy initiatives and draft laws should become the general principle. The access of civil society to government support is frequently hindered by a lack of transparency and poorly developed allocation criteria.*

*The civil society facility helps civil society organisations to strengthen their capacities and professionalism, allowing them to engage in an effective dialogue with public and private actors and to monitor developments in areas such as the rule of law and respect for fundamental rights. The facility finances initiatives at local level, regional networking and short-term visits to the EU.*

*The Commission has reviewed the facility to better reach out to local community-based organisations, taking into account feed-back from civil society organisations. The Commission will better target needs in each country and provide longer-term seed-funding to NGOs. Stronger, well-established organisations could become mentors and facilitators for smaller organisations."*

For Kosovo, the 2010 Progress Report specifies:

*"Freedom of association and assembly has not improved. NGOs participate on an ad hoc basis in the legislative process as well as in the work of central administrations. Government plans to amend the Law on freedom of association in non-governmental organisations have raised concerns within **civil society**<sup>5</sup>. Public understanding of the role of civil society remains low. The latter continues to depend mostly on international funding preventing any long-term strategy. The monitoring capacity of NGOs is increasing, but remains limited. Overall, no*

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<sup>5</sup> The government drafted a very controversial law on freedom of association in NGOs in 2010. The main concern was the aspect of registering an NGO with public benefit status. Currently an NGO needs to get its public benefit status from the Ministry of Public Administration. It has been common practice that this Ministry has also de-registered NGOs. This has to do with the legitimate concern of the government that some businesses register themselves as NGOs. By doing this such NGOs are evading taxes. However, giving the government the opportunity to define that this organisation has NGO status also represents a clear risk/danger for local civil society. The de-registering has to take place in a court. Throughout 2010 EC Liaison office and the Kosovo Foundation for Civil Society have been advocating for a draft law in line with best European practice. The government formed a working group for the drafting process moderated by the Office of Legal Services in the Prime Minister's Office. The draft law was changed. The Assembly still has yet to discuss it and vote on it. The EC Liaison Office keeps monitoring the process.

*progress can be reported in this area. The environment in which NGOs operate needs to be significantly improved. The government does not make sufficient use of civil society expertise.*

*In the area of **labour and trade unions rights**, the Law on strikes has been adopted. Trade unions representing public services organised protests during the reporting period, affecting the health and education sectors, public administration, justice, correctional services, mining, fire services, the police and energy utilities. All the protests resulted in salary increases and, in some cases, improvements in working conditions. There is still no Labour law. Labour inspectorates' resources remain poor and do not allow for effective monitoring across Kosovo. Overall, the labour and social legislation remains inadequate. The adoption of the Labour law and the Law on the economic and social council remains urgent. Other challenges are linked to the low capacities in this sector. The dialogue between the trade unions and the government needs to be enhanced."*

The Enlargement Strategy 2011-2012 outlines the following:

*"In May 2011, the Commission organised a conference on freedom of expression, which brought together media and civil society stakeholders from the Western Balkans and Turkey. This conference aimed to reach out, beyond its official government interlocutors, to those directly concerned and listen to their views and experiences. The conclusions of the conference will continue to feed into the Commission's work in this area.*

***Public support** is key to the success of enlargement policy. The authorities of Member States and enlargement countries at national, regional and local level have a central role to play in information and communication efforts to this end. The Commission is committed to facilitating an informed public debate about the enlargement process, based on user-friendly, factual information. The Commission encourages the development of an active civil society as an essential element of democracy, also as a facilitator of an informed debate on EU enlargement.*

Kosovo specific:

*Freedom of assembly and association is largely respected. The right to association is secured with the adoption of the amendments to the law on freedom of association in NGOs. The environment in which civil society operates needs to be significantly improved. The government needs to use civil society expertise better.*

*As regards labour and trade unions rights, some progress can be reported. The labour law was adopted as well as the law on trade unions and the law on the Economic and Social Council."*

For Kosovo, the 2011 Progress Report specifies:

*"**Freedom of assembly and association** continues to be exercised in Kosovo. Various demonstrations took place in Kosovo. The newly-amended law on freedom of association in NGOs ensures that their right to association is not hindered. With regard to the development of civil society organisations, little progress can be reported. The President of Kosovo has invited several representatives of civil society to advise her. The institutions need to find ways to ensure more structured cooperation with civil society. Public understanding of the role of civil society remains low. It is a concern that civil society is subject to undue political pressure and intimidation if its activities do not correspond to the views of authorities. Overall, there has been a mixed progress on efforts to fully guarantee freedom of assembly and association.*

*The environment in which NGOs operate needs to be improved. The government, the assembly and municipalities need to cooperate more effectively with civil society.*

*In the area of **labour and trade union rights**, some progress has been achieved. The law on labour was adopted in November 2010. This improves working conditions notably in terms of work-contracts. It also introduces paid maternity-leave up to 9 months. The Socio-Economic Council became operational and the law on the Socio-Economic Council was adopted regulating its organisation, mandate, and actions. Labour inspectorates were reorganised, but they lack the necessary capacity to monitor labour conditions throughout Kosovo. The law on trade-unions was adopted clarifying the employees' rights to establish and participate in trade unions. There are concerns as to the alignment of the law on strikes with the European Charter for Fundamental Rights and international standards. Overall, labour and trade union rights are largely guaranteed. The implementation of the existing legislation will be crucial to make changes tangible. “*

The 2011-2012 Enlargement Strategy and Progress Report reveal that there has been some progress in comparison to the previous reporting period. Namely, the Law on freedom of association in NGOs was amended to ensure that right of NGOs to association is not hindered. As a result, the 2011 Progress Report noted that “*Freedom of assembly and association continues to be exercised in Kosovo*”. The law on trade-unions was adopted clarifying the employees' rights to establish and participate in trade unions. The Socio-Economic Council became operational and the law on the Socio-Economic Council was adopted regulating its organisation, mandate, and actions.

#### **2.4 Link with Multi-annual Indicative Planning Document (MIPD):**

Civil society development is a crossing-cutting issue that affects all three key priorities identified in the 2011-2013 MIPD, i.e. rule of law, private sector development and public administration reform, albeit not in equal measure. Civil society has a particular role to play in rule of law and public administration reform.

*"The European Commission Communication on the Enlargement Strategy and Main Challenges 2007-2008 and the related Strategy Documents (2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011) underlined the importance of civil society being able to play its role in a participatory democracy. The "Civil Society Facility" (CSF), financed under both the IPA multi-beneficiary and the IPA annual programmes, was set up as the tool to financially support the development of civil society. The CSF includes actions to strengthen freedom of expression, as it represents a basic precondition for a functioning democracy. An adequate legal framework allowing media to operate freely needs to be put in place. A network of technical assistance desks (TACSO) has been established in the Western Balkans. This network became operational in autumn 2009. Also, Local Advisory Groups have been established consisting of representatives from the EU Delegations, governments, civil society and other donors."*

#### **2.5 Link with Beneficiary Strategies on Civil Society:**

In the Kosovo Youth Action Plan 2010-2012 adopted by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, strengthening the capacity of youth organisations to increase their activities and promoting recognition of voluntary work are especially underlined.

The Government of Kosovo and CIVIKOS (civil society platform in Kosovo) are in the process of drafting the governmental strategy for cooperation with the civil society which will enable the establishment of structured cooperation mechanisms between the government of Kosovo and the civil society sector.

### **3. Description of project**

#### **3.1 Background and justification:**

Effective pluralism implies the respect for human rights, the rule of law and the possibility for political change. Civil society activities – often defined as primarily non-state, non-business and non-private activities – mirror this pluralism. They encourage citizens to organise themselves and to collaborate in their common interest. A thriving civil society contributes to a more open, participatory and consequently a more dynamic democratic society. Through its advocacy activities, civil society can help ensure that accession negotiations between the candidate country institutions and the EU are not merely technical discussions. Accession will only be successful when it is supported by citizens who understand the necessary institutional, political and economic changes.

#### *Kosovo*

In terms of civil society's contribution to building a democratic society, Kosovo presents a mixed picture. The NGO registration and liaison unit of the Ministry of Public Services is responsible for the registration and supervision of civil society organisations. According to the registry, there are more than 3,000 civil society organisations (CSOs) in Kosovo. Only organisations with a public benefit status are monitored and are required to submit annual reports on their activities and financial status. There are currently some 270 such NGOs. About one third of the CSOs have ethnically mixed staff, including the Civil Society Network in Mitrovica.

However, there are believed to be far fewer active NGOs than are registered. The landscape of civil society organisations consists of rather small organisations, which are often dependent on short-term funding from a single donor. CSOs are mainly ethnically exclusive and there is very little cooperation between ethnically divided NGOs in Kosovo. The administrative, financial, and managerial capacities of civil society organisations are very uneven, and are particularly poor at municipal level, which obstructs their development. Cooperation between the authorities and civil society organisation remains uneven. Overall, the capacity of Civil Society Organisations remains weak. Civil society in Kosovo and the government of Kosovo do not have, or have very limited, partnership and dialogue. CIVIKOS Platform, a civil society organisation forum, was set up in 2007 with the aim of establishing structured cooperation mechanisms between the government of Kosovo and the civil society sector. However, only recently (in November 2011), the process of drafting the governmental strategy for cooperation with the civil society has been initiated and is foreseen to be completed during the first half of 2012.

There are several donors supporting civil society sector in Kosovo (USAID, KFOS, SIDA, SWISS Cooperation, DFID, etc.) in addition to the European Commission: their support is more targeted in terms of Sector (Rule of Law, European integration, support to RAE communities, etc). Whereas EIDHR will continue to cover a broad range of issues linked to democracy and human rights, IPA can be more focused on areas which remain specific challenges for Kosovo - in line with both the EU and Kosovo's strategic priorities: foster cooperation between CSOs and institutions, especially at policy level (cf draft MIPD 2011-2013 for Kosovo: justice and home affairs/rule of law and public administration reform); promoting the dynamism of Kosovo youth CSOs (drawing on Kosovo's strength which is its young population – largely unemployed), especially the ones involving volunteerism work; support to social partners in Kosovo such as employees' organisations and employers' organisations and promoting their role in socio-economic development; strengthen the 'watchdog' role of CSOs in good governance, with special focus on combat against

corruption; specific support to Kosovo Serb CSOs to raise their capacity and thereby ensuring a better link to the needs of Serb communities throughout Kosovo; facilitating the dialogue between EU based and Kosovo based CSOs through creating sustainable sectoral networks.

In the Kosovo Youth Action Plan 2010-2012 adopted by MCYS, strengthening the capacity of youth organisations to increase their activities as well as promoting recognition of voluntary work are especially underlined. Under the IPA programmes, youth is targeted through infrastructure and education programmes, but support to youth through the civil society sector has not been included so far.

The TACSO office in Kosovo and the Local Advisory Group (LAG) created within TACSO is envisaged to serve as a basic platform for general discussions on the EU support to civil society in Kosovo. This practice will continue in the second phase of the TACSO project with increased focus on needs of community based organisations and civil society in this sector.

For this particular action, TACSO is to be further used to streamline the capacity building activities with the real needs in the field. Different youth organisations – that are already assessed as very weak in Kosovo – are envisaged to benefit from different support activities implemented within TACSO. Through a closely coordinated approach with EU Office in Kosovo, specifically designed training programmes can continue to be delivered to the beneficiary organisations of national IPA civil society programmes in order to improve and strengthen their implementation methodology.

As TACSO is a crucial link in identifying the participants of P2P programme, the beneficiary organisations will be duly informed on the objectives of this programme and encouraged to participate according to specific topics of the study visits.

As mentioned previously, the LAG platform can also serve to enhance the constructive dialog between key civil society representatives and relevant government institutions since both parties are already represented in the LAG. The projects granted under the objectives of this project fiche can use the LAG to further develop their actions and reach the objectives, contributing towards their sustainability. The LAG will therefore become the natural hub for discussion and assessment of the impact of the IPA programmes defined here.

The annual allocations proposed here are mainly based on the assessment of the absorption capacity of the beneficiary CSOs in Kosovo as well as the management capacity of the EU Office, which also implements programmes to support civil society under the European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), unlike the usual practice in EU delegations.

### **3.2 Activities:**

The following activities have already been identified

- Activity 1: action grants to youth organisations, focusing on increasing their capacities and strengthening their role in overall social economic development.

This activity addresses the need to support youth CSOs to build up their institutional capacities and abilities in constituency building, networking, advocacy and lobbying, and policy dialogue. The aim is to ensure the sustainability of youth CSOs as well as to promote their role and the rights and voice of the youth in their communities.

- Activity 2: action grants with the aim of supporting the implementation of the strategy for government and civil society dialogue in Kosovo.

In 2007 the CIVIKOS platform, which counts 130 NGO members, established a formal framework of cooperation with the government through an MoU signed with the Prime Minister's Office. CIVIKOS aims to represent civil society in relations with the government but has so far failed to push for implementation of the MoU which lays out the principles for cooperation and a government strategy towards development of civil society. Objectives include building a partnership in policy development to ensure effective dialogue between both sectors, and establishing clearly defined procedures on financial and non-financial support for civil society. The MoU also commits each ministry to sign a similar MoU with NGOs they work with in order to develop 'points of contact', however, this has proved to be too ambitious. Only the Ministry of Environment has signed a MoU with environmental NGOs active in Kosovo, aimed at fostering cooperation (2008). Similar actions are still to be taken for other sectors. In reality, neither CIVIKOS nor the government have pushed for implementation of the MoU so far.

Activity 2 recognises the need to support the dialogue between civil society and the government independently of how CIVIKOS and its formal partnership with the government may evolve. EU funds will be given to proposals and organisations seeking to establish a strategic dialogue with the government. The aim is to ensure that civil society is systematically consulted on and able to contribute to policy development in Kosovo. It is envisaged that funded projects will cover a specific sector and be implemented by a coalition or network of NGOs, thereby strengthening their legitimacy.

- Activity 3: action grants with the aim of developing the capacity and increasing the role and representation of social partners in socio-economic development in Kosovo.

Findings of the 'Thematic Evaluation of EU's support to civil society in Western Balkans and Turkey'<sup>6</sup> suggest that there is a need for strengthening the collaboration between NGOs and other CS actors such as trade unions, professional associations. Moreover, the Preliminary opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee on the role of civil society in EU-Kosovo relations recommends the development of capacity-building programmes specifically targeting social partners as they are found to not have an important role in the European Integration process and economic development process. Activity 3 acknowledges the need to build the capacity of social partners in Kosovo, such as trade unions, support their dialogue with public authorities and promote their cooperation with CSOs. The aim is to ensure that social partners have sufficient capacity to take active part in decision-making and policy dialogue processes related to socio-economic development in Kosovo.

- Activity 4: action grants with the aim of strengthening and increasing the role of civil society in good governance through developing the capacity to demand transparency and accountability of public authorities in their work.

This activity addresses the need to strengthen the 'watchdog' role of the civil society in ensuring clear decision-making procedures at the level of public authorities, transparent and accountable institutions, the primacy of law in the management and distribution of resources and capacity building for elaborating and implementing measures aiming in particular at preventing and combating corruption.

### **3.3 Expected results and measurable indicators**

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<sup>6</sup> 'Thematic Evaluation of EU's Support to Civil Society in the Western Balkans and Turkey', commissioned by DG Enlargement and implemented by IBF International Consulting in collaboration with BAA (Spain), not yet finalised.



### Expected results:

1. Increased capacity of youth organisations and their participation in the decision making process.
2. Strengthened and constructive dialogue developed among the government institutions and civil society in Kosovo.
3. Increased capacity and representation of social partners in socio-economic development.
4. Strengthened 'watchdog' role of civil society organisations in monitoring, evaluating and responding to the good governance practices of public authorities.

### Measurable indicators:

1. Number of young people involved in the networks created throughout Kosovo and number of opportunities organised for the benefit of youth with aim of promoting the rights of young people and their voice in the decision making process in Kosovo.
2. An action plan developed and starting to be implemented of the Strategy for dialogue between the government and civil society in Kosovo.
3. Number of employees' and employers' representatives with strengthened capacities to represent social partners in decision making and policy making processes in Kosovo.
4. Number of collective initiatives undertaken to monitor, evaluate and respond to the government's management practices.

The EU Office in Kosovo will be responsible for monitoring and evaluation throughout the implementation phase. Result-Oriented Monitoring and external contractors will be mobilised as necessary.

### **3.4 Selection mechanism**

In Kosovo regular contact is ensured with Civil Society Organisations throughout the year for (1) their contribution to the Progress Report and the sectoral Stabilisation and Association Process Dialogue meetings; or (2) through TACSO in the various training sessions/workshops and LAG meetings where relevant Task Managers collect the input from CSOs (and other donors) on IPA Programming and the definition of its priorities for civil society. In addition, close monitoring of the projects ensures the link to grassroot organisations is maintained throughout Kosovo and their needs are communicated.

There is no need for additional mechanisms or structures to be created in Kosovo.

Implementation continues to be implemented following open Call for Proposal.

### **3.5 Conditionality and sequencing:**

- The main risk for the programme remains the capacity of local sectoral civil society organisations to apply for grant schemes and develop fully fledged project proposals in accordance with EC requirements.

- This programme requires the commitment of the CSOs themselves to commit appropriate resources to properly implement the selected projects.
- Support from government authorities to common activities organised during the implementation of the projects.

In the event that conditionalities are not met, suspension or cancellation of the project or specific activities will be considered.

There are two calls for proposal envisaged with four major components divided as per purposes of this project fiche. In the first call applicants will be requested to apply for one of the components from 1 to 2. In the second call, which is envisaged to merge 2012 and 2013 budget appropriations, applicants will be requested to apply for one of the components from 2 to 4. Actions are planned to have duration of 18-24 months. Based on the signature of the financial agreement and the Commission decision adoption, the two calls are planned to be launched in first half of 2012 and first half of 2013 respectively.

### 3.6 Linked activities:

- **EIDHR 2008 CBSS for Kosovo**

Name of the EIDHR grantee	Grant amount	Project's title & duration	Specific objective	Expected results
<b>Down Syndrome Association of Kosovo</b>	€ 73 439.34	Advocacy for Early Intervention programme for children with disability (24 months)	To strengthen understanding of early intervention on children with disability as human rights issue, consistent with EU and international standards. To increase the level of awareness of decision-makers and relevant authorities for inclusive education of children with disability and presenting the early Intervention model as mechanism which will help the children and families as well as the inclusive education process in general.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Changing the attitude of parents and members of families regarding the integration of their children with Down syndrome and other children with development disability in mainstream education, through visits of 160 families. Providing information on Down syndrome and other children with development disability, focusing on EIP for parents, family members, doctors, students and tutors, through six (6) lectures and four (4) workshops.</li> <li>- Creating summer program for pupils with Down syndrome on approaching their ability as peers, through intensive program and developing model for schools.-Creating regional network on early intervention and sharing experience with support of abroad expertise, through regional conference and sharing together concerns (the professionals, governmental institution and civil society) among early intervention.</li> <li>- Creating partnership and sustainable communication with relevant governmental institution and agencies, through visits in key institutional governments as well as providing them with expertise, idea and models regarding early intervention program, inclusion in general as way towards of quality life improvements.</li> </ul>
<b>Lawyers Association "NORMA"</b>	€ 96 029.06	Research and monitoring of the Implementation of the Law on Gender Equality (18 months)	The overall objective is the enhancement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through women's rights. Specific objectives of the project: - Establishment of strong bases for respecting legal provisions that aim at advancement of human rights in general & women's rights in particular - Influencing and advocating for better realisation of human rights in general and women's rights in particular.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Established monitoring mechanism for implementation of the Law on Gender Equality,</li> <li>- The other expected result is the increase of the professional and quality level of the competent authorities by application of the effective proceedings and the adequate rule of law reform.</li> </ul>
<b>Kosovar Stability</b>	€ 99 615	The Political Economies of	The overall objective is to ensure democratic participation of diverse civil society actors in	- Increased involvement of diverse civil society actors in the development of concrete economic, political, and social policies that impact their lives;

<b>Initiative</b>		Mitrovica/Mitrovicë and Gjakovë/Đakovica: impacting Social, Economic, and Political Stability (24 months)	Kosovo's social, economic, and political development toward a joint European future. Specific objectives of the project:- Civil society involvement in and democratic oversight of political-economic processes in Kosovo toward EU improved. - Policies toward political, economic, and social development in Kosovo strengthened/reformed in line with European standards. - Consensus surrounding political, social, and economic policies furthered in the divided community of Mitrovica/Mitrovicë.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Increased information and knowledge among civil society actors including citizens about previously non-transparent or unclear social, economic, and political processes in Kosovo, particularly Mitrovica/Mitrovicë and Gjakovë/Đakovica;</li> <li>- Coherent and feasible policy recommendations for political, social, and economic development in Mitrovica/Mitrovicë established;</li> <li>- Coherent and feasible policy recommendations for political, social, and economic development in Gjakovë/Đakovica established.</li> <li>- Increased information and knowledge about citizens' common priorities for Mitrovica/Mitrovicë 's development among otherwise divided communities;</li> <li>- Increased interactions and dialogue between Albanians, Serbs, and RAE in Mitrovica/Mitrovicë to discuss common concerns.</li> </ul>
<b>Handicap Kosova</b>	€ 89 576	Ending Institutional Discrimination by Promoting the Voice of People with Disability in Mainstream Media (18 months)	To raise capacities of Kosovo Journalists for enhanced professional presentation of disability related issues in electronic and written Medias and acknowledge disability as human rights issue. To raise awareness of representatives of Human Rights Units at local and national level regarding disability issues and perception of disability from the perspective of the human rights. To develop capacities of Disability Persons Organisations (DPOs) to improve the way of communication among themselves and with community as well as to built self-confidence among people with disabilities and proceed and complain to media when facing discrimination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Improved communication between persons with disability, authorities, politicians, and media and of other relevant stakeholders at national and local level.</li> <li>-Persons with disability, members of Disability Persons Organisations (DPOs), media, local authorities have acquired a good understanding of anti-discrimination principles and the possibilities that give anti-discrimination legislation, equal opportunities, and human rights.</li> <li>-Persons with disability members of DPOs, media, local authorities have acquired the capacity to identify key stakeholders and duty bearers according to the Kosovo and local legislation</li> <li>-Persons with disability have acquired the capacity for good understanding of the role of media in the social inclusion of people with disability.</li> <li>- Presentation of good practices from other countries in order to stimulate a change in the current old fashioned way of portraying people with disabilities in Kosovo.</li> <li>- Upgraded knowledge and better understanding of international and local legislation in Kosovo</li> <li>- Establishment of Coalition for each region „ Council for Protection of Disability issues”</li> </ul>
<b>Caritas Kosovo In partnership with Community Building Mitrovica</b>	€ 100 000	Women Together for Human Rights (24 months)	The women from of Mitrovica/Mitrovicë working together for their Human Rights and the rights in Mitrovica/Mitrovicë Municipality irrespective of their gender, ethnicity or religion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 5 Inter-ethnic Women's Groups, one in each location</li> <li>- 1 Association of Mitrovica/Mitrovicë Multi-ethnic Women's Groups linking and joining the five groups in activities and programme for policies fairer to all communities</li> <li>- Edition of pedagogical resources used during the training programmes</li> </ul> <p>The Women's Groups and the Association will include members from all ethnic communities and will be involved in activities for the promotion of</p>

(CBM)				Human Rights to demand equal opportunities for all and greater representation of women in the existing policing making institutions
<b>Centre of Visual Arts Multimedia</b>	€ 93 229	Forum Theatre in Kosovo (26 months)	<p>The overall objective of the action is to support community members in Kosovo to take an active role in their community by engaging them into discussion directly through forum theatre and seeking solutions to human-rights related issues and problems that these communities face.</p> <p>The specific objectives of the project are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Empowering community members to voice their opinions and subsequently influence policies and legislation;</li> <li>- Supporting Kosovo's underrepresented communities to address issues towards policy makers and thus support strengthening of civil society and civil engagement;</li> <li>- Assisting communities to confront social issues in a positive and non-violent manner;</li> <li>- Raise the awareness of Kosovo's people about issues vital to exercising their human rights;</li> <li>- Create direct possibilities for community members to be able to hold debates with relevant stakeholders on issues that previously they considered inappropriate or untimely, or even unimportant for discussion;</li> <li>- Promote art as a form of discussion, especially in rural areas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 80 theatre plays will be carried out in various communities in Kosovo</li> <li>- 5,600 persons across Kosovo will participate in the forum theatre activities directly, thus engaging in an overall public consultation platform;</li> <li>- 10,000 persons will learn of the project and hear of issues that will be addressed during performances;</li> <li>- 80 reports (one per performance) will be written;</li> <li>- 5. 500 book copies summarizing the feedback from all performances will be printed and disseminated to decision-makers and key stakeholders;</li> <li>- 20 youth will be trained on Forum Theatre methodology</li> <li>- 20 forum theatre sessions have been carried out by the trainees</li> <li>- At least 20 institutional responses will be generated;</li> <li>- Stimulate the debate and discussion culture in remote and rural areas, hence contribute towards the overall democratisation of the beneficiary and creation of a human-rights based culture;</li> <li>- Creating a platform for public dialogue and a system of communication with the communities that can be duplicated at any time and place in Kosovo;</li> <li>- Provide decision-makers with a platform for policies that are addressed and discussed during the theatre plays.</li> </ul>

<b>Centre for Common Ground (CCG)</b>	€ 99 750	Kosovo Youth for democracy and peace building (18 months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To increase the ability of youth in Kosovo to actively participate to society and engage in their own communities;</li> <li>- To facilitate integration and understanding among Kosovo youth from different ethnicities and backgrounds;</li> <li>- To promote dialogue on issues of interest to the target groups and facilitate reaching common ground solutions to problems perceived as priority;</li> <li>- To train and support Kosovo NGOs in their efforts toward inclusion, respect for human rights and active engagement in society and in their ability to respond to young people's need.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Youth understand and put in practice principles and concepts of civic participation, conflict management and leadership, learnt during trainings;</li> <li>- Youth participate and engage in their communities as their leadership and organization skills develop;</li> <li>- A higher level of integration and of reciprocal understanding among young people is achieved;</li> <li>- Kosovo youth NGOs' abilities to train and assist youth in their social life are strengthened as well as their capacities to promote human rights and civil participation;</li> <li>- Greater cohesion is achieved on promoting human rights, integration and community dialogue among Kosovo civil society and young people.</li> </ul>
<b>Kosovo Development Centre</b>	€ 84 245	Power sharing – basis for coexistence in Kosovo (18 months)	<p>The overall objective of the project is improvement of the quality of life in multiethnic communities, through effective functioning of the new democratic model of power-sharing</p> <p>Improvement of decisions/instruments/strategies for protection of minorities' rights by the Law on Local self-government and Law for protection and promotion of rights of minorities in Kosovo</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developed knowledge and skills of monitors to follow the process of implementation of Law of local self-government and Law for protection and promotion of rights of minorities in Kosovo (equal participation)</li> <li>- Implemented program of monitoring the functions of the local authorities, with special focus to minority rights</li> <li>- Conducted and published integrated report of the (dis) functioning of the 4 local municipalities</li> <li>- Multiethnic and gender balanced lobby group established and hearings conducted</li> <li>- Awareness raised among members of the Council, major and local NGOs of the concept of multiculturalism and cohabitation</li> </ul>
<b>Civil Rights Program Kosovo - CRPK</b>	€ 92 554.57	Enrolment and Registration of Roma, Ashkali & Egyptian (RAE) Children in Primary Education in Kosovo (18 months)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Representation of the alarming situation of non enrolment of RAE children in the education with a prepared analytical report</li> <li>- Increasing the awareness of RAE communities on the importance of education</li> <li>- Successful registration of RAE children in educational institutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The finalization of this project should lead to the following outcomes:</li> <li>- Increased awareness of RAE communities on the importance of education</li> <li>- Registration of up to 3,000 RAE children in educational institutions</li> <li>- Increased monitoring of RAE children enrolment in cooperation with each educational institution that will report on the improvements of the process</li> </ul>

• **EIDHR 2009&2010 CBSS for Kosovo**

Name of the EIDHR grantee	Grant amount	Project's title & duration	Specific objective	Expected results
<b>BIRN - Balkan Investigative Reporting Network</b>	€ 299 500	Life in Kosovo: Monitoring of public services and TV debates (24 months)	Promote and increase the accountability, transparency and efficiency of public authorities towards Kosovo citizens, within the framework of the TV show 'Life in Kosovo', by raising public awareness on human rights, rule of law, education and ethnic reconciliation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- improved performance and more transparent and accountable functioning of public institutions such as courts, police , hospitals and schools, towards Kosovo citizens</li> <li>- increased public awareness on the European Union reforms in specific fields such as rule of law, health, education and human rights</li> <li>- strengthened capacities of civil society organisations to lobby and advocate on issues of human rights and rule of law</li> <li>- enhanced capacity of media to promote democratic reforms in an independent and accurate manner</li> <li>- increased confidence among ethnic minorities and other vulnerable groups in front of a mainstream audience in public debates, in prime time viewing</li> <li>- enhanced dialogue between the two major Kosovo communities, Albanians and Serbs, aimed at reducing the stereotypes and prejudices between these communities</li> </ul>
<b>CPVPT - Centre to Protect Victims and Prevent Trafficking in Human Beings</b>	€ 95 570	Trafficking Prevention for Vulnerable Youth & Women in Kosovo (24 months)	Combat and forestall trafficking of human beings by raising the awareness about the threat among the most vulnerable groups of population.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increased understanding of the danger of trafficking for young participants and their ability to avoid it</li> <li>- increased understanding of the trafficking/gender based violence issues by local NGOs and their ability to monitor and follow up on those among project beneficiaries</li> <li>- strengthened awareness of local communities and mobilisation of youth/women protection networks on prevention of trafficking from a human rights perspective</li> <li>- empowerment of potential victims from higher vulnerability groups through vocational training improving their social and professional skills</li> </ul>
<b>Dokufest</b>	€ 187 705	Human Rights Film Factory – Human rights stories from the Kosovo margins (21 months)	Promote human rights dialogue in Kosovo through documentary film production. Increase the awareness on human rights violations by featuring these issues in produced films. Increase the cooperation of regional film professionals in order to create a network of human rights filmmakers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- production of 6 films dealing with human rights and their violations in Kosovo</li> <li>- greater capacity of 18 Kosovo and regional documentary film professionals to portray stories of people struggling to exert their human rights</li> <li>- screening of the 6 films at local, regional and global festivals and ad hoc events in Kosovo</li> <li>- at least 30 institutional responses will be generated on the local and regional level as a result of produced films</li> <li>- establishment of a documentary filmmaking Centre within the Dokufest organisation</li> </ul>

<b>ECMI - European Centre for Minority Issues in Kosovo</b>	€255 760.96	Enhancing the positive impact of the law for vulnerable and marginalised groups in Kosovo (24 months)	Enhance legal protection for persons from vulnerable and marginalised groups in Kosovo, including women, disabled persons,, internally displaced persons, returnees and repatriated persons.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- publication of research and awareness raising materials</li> <li>- establishment of a legal aid website</li> <li>- increased awareness among vulnerable and marginalised groups (VMG) of the legal rights and of the legal aid remedies available under the action</li> <li>- provision of legal aid to estimated 1,000 persons</li> <li>- 3-6 advocacy campaigns conducted by CSOs on issues affecting VMG</li> <li>- 4 Kosovo lawyers trained in legal research and legal aid delivery</li> <li>- enhanced judicial awareness of framework for the protection of VMG</li> </ul>
<b>IDE-The integration and Development Platform</b>	€ 299 884	TV programme "Komunikimi" (24 months)	Improve freedom of speech as a fundamental tool to protect the human rights in a democratic society. Increase the critical sense of public opinion and enhance the level of professional investigative journalism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- increased knowledge among the general public of values and standards of the European integration</li> <li>- 68 editions of TV show Komunikimi broadcasted including reportages on human rights issues in Kosovo</li> <li>- training for journalists</li> </ul>
<b>Medica Kosova</b>	€ 299 603	Strengthening the role of elderly women in promoting gender equality. (24 months)	Empower disadvantaged elderly women in rural areas to influence the achievement of gender equality in Kosovo society.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- establishment of a daily centre providing daily services and empowerment activities for women</li> <li>- emancipation of elderly women and changes in their traditional conception of woman's role in order to support the active participation of younger women in agricultural, business and other public activities</li> <li>- legal empowerment of elderly women to support realisation of their legal rights and the rights of the younger women and girls in regard to ownership and civil rights</li> <li>-psychosocial support to elderly women to improve their mental health situation and social status within their families and society</li> <li>- increased awareness of elderly women on significance of regular medical controls for their health situation and wellbeing</li> <li>- elderly women influence other women from both rural and urban areas about relevance of gender equality and start networking with formal and informal women structures to enhance gender equality at social and political level</li> </ul>
<b>ODA</b>	€284 817.81	Theatre Clubs of Cultural debate in Primary Schools	Enhancement of respect for Human Rights and fundamental freedoms through art performance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- establishment of theatre clubs at 20 primary schools around Kosovo</li> <li>- extra curricular programs for primary education focused at discovering new talents and increasing number of theatre lovers among children</li> <li>- 20 theatre performances in the municipality of Pristina, Gračanica/Graçanicë, Gjilan/Gnjilane and Prizren by children – members of the theatre clubs – raising the awareness of the society on human rights</li> </ul>



- **IPA 2008 support to civil society:**

1. Free Environment – Society for All, project implemented by HANDIKOS. The project aims at raising awareness of access to public buildings and services in Kosovo for the disabled.
2. Transcending Vulnerability through the Women's Economic Empowerment Project, project implemented by Partners for Democratic Change International. The project aims at empowering disadvantaged women in rural areas to enable them to take part in economic development and decision making in their communities and municipalities.
3. Play For All – children's festival implemented by SOS Kinderdorf. The project aims to provide a suitable environment for children in Kosovo to be able to enjoy innovative activities that promote the concept 'learning by playing'.

Other donor support includes:

**USAID:** Continuation of support to civil society through broader programme for democratisation and local governance, with specific focus on supporting actions that will monitor the rule of law sector.

**SIDA:** Continuation of support to civil society in Kosovo through small scale grants supporting more community based organisations and initiatives.

**SWISS Cooperation:** Support to civil society through action and operational grants to local civil society organisations, in the field of rule of law, gender equality, culture and youth.

**Kosovo Foundation for Open Society (KFOS):** Continuous support to civil society organisations in different field in topic such as European integration or support to Roma communities, mostly through small scale grants.

**Friedrich Ebert Stiftung:** Continues support to CSOs in Kosovo mainly in the field of labour & employment, culture and disability related issues.

### **3.7 Lessons learned:**

- Actions such as advocacy campaigns and community initiatives have produced notable successes, although the engagement of civil society remains limited and uneven.
- Exchanges with EU civil society organisations have resulted in better sustainability of the local CSOs and increased knowledge on the European integration process. In this regard the (People to People Programme) P2P has shown a positive impact.
- Particular attention should be paid to the inception phase to finetune and adjust as necessary the activities to the risks and updated context.
- The commitment and support from the EU Office in Kosovo to Kosovo has proven crucial in a number of previous civil society projects where administrators have tried to undermine EU funded independent monitoring of the activities undertaken by local NGOs. Close monitoring from the Contracting

Authority continues to be of major importance in this process, especially for the component on policy dialogue between government and civil society.

#### 4. Indicative Budget (amounts in EUR)

	EU - IPA assistance 2011-2013 (indicative only for budget appropriations 2013) All Institution Building				Total Co-financing of Project 2011-2013 (indicative)	Total IPA + Co-financing 2011 -2013
	2011	2012	2013	Total 2011-2013		
<b>Measure 1: Call for Proposals CSO Dialogue</b>	800 000	800 000	400 000	<b>2 000 000</b>	100 000	2 100 000
<b>Measure 2: Call for Proposals Youth</b>	300 000		-	<b>300 000</b>	15 000	315 000
<b>Measure 3: Call for Proposals Social Partners</b>	-	300 000	-	<b>300 000</b>	<b>15 000</b>	<b>315 000</b>
<b>Measure 4: Call for Proposals Governance</b>	-	-	700 000	<b>700 000</b>	<b>35 000</b>	<b>735 000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1 100 000</b>	<b>1 100 000</b>	<b>1 100 000</b>	<b>3 300 000</b>	<b>165 000</b>	<b>3 465 000</b>

#### 5. INDICATIVE IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE (PERIODS BROKEN DOWN PER QUARTER)

Contracts	Start of Tendering	Signature of contract	Project Completion
Call for Proposals (IPA 2011)	Q1 2012	Q4 2012	Q4 2015
Call for Proposals (IPA 2012 & IPA 2013)	IPA 2012: Q1 2013 IPA 2013: Q1 2013	IPA 2012: Q4 2013 IPA 2013: Q2 2014	IPA 2012: Q4 2016 IPA 2013: Q2 2017

#### 6. Cross-cutting issues

##### 6.1 Equal Opportunity:

Specific attention will be given to project proposals that target the most disadvantaged groups - including women, children, persons with disabilities and minorities - and provide for remedial actions to increase their integration and participation in Kosovo society (employment, access to social services, socio-economic development, etc.)

## **6.2 Environment:**

The projects to be implemented by civil society are expected to increase the awareness of the general population on the environment related issues. Project activities should be environment friendly and sensitive to specific challenges that particular community faces in terms of environment protection.

## **6.3 Minorities:**

The constitutional framework provides for protection of linguistic rights and the project will, wherever necessary, make use of different community languages.

The project design and implementation will pay attention will be paid to the specific needs of the Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities. Tailored measures/positive actions will be considered to counteract the high level of discrimination these communities are exposed to.