



FACT SHEET - IRIS PROGRESS

Project Title	Strengthening capacities and policy engagement of community service providers - IRIS PROGRESS
Duration	February 2023 - January 2026
Donor	European Union - Civil Society Facility Partnership Programme for Civil Society Organizations (SCF)
Project partners	<i>Arbeiter - Samariter - Bund Deutschland (Germany)</i> <i>Initiative for Development and Cooperation (Serbia),</i> <i>Center for Labour Rights (Albania),</i> <i>Center for Independent Life (Kosovo*),</i> <i>LIR CD (BiH),</i> <i>Community Development Institute (North Macedonia),</i> <i>Alfa Center (Montenegro)</i>
Project value	822,770 EUR
Goals	Overall objective is to achieve participatory democracies in EU approximation process of WB countries by advancing regional cooperation and good neighborly relations.
Target groups/stakeholders	1. More than 200 CSOs service providers/human right defenders in WB, 2. At least 18 Ministries in charge for social welfare policies, protection of human rights and European integration, 3. Up to 10 000 marginalized population (Roma, women victims of violence, persons with disability, migrants/refugees, youth at risk, LGBTQ); 4. At least 120 government institutions: Centers for social welfare, National Employment Services, Ombudspersons, Social councils, 5. At least 60 local self-government (LSG) units, EU Institutions and stakeholders involved in the processes approximation, 12 students from 6 Faculties of social sciences in WB, 1 million of general population and media.
Main activities	Cluster 1. Empowerment of IRIS network Cluster 2. Policy influencing and awareness rising
Result	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Gender mainstreamed Standard Operation Procedure of Iris Network• 30 Iris Network members trained in implementing gender mainstreaming• 500 Iris Network members participated in regional and national network meetings• 12 Iris Network members CSOs social service providers supported through Granting Facility - developing community based services• 24 Iris Network staff members trained in project management, visibility and HRBA in provision of social services• At least 30 Iris Network members supported through mentoring for licensing and increasing quality standards,• At least 90 persons increased capacities through 3 Regional Social Academies• 12 students completed traineeship programme in local CSOs in 6 WC



	<p>countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regional Social Progress Benchmark Study prepared and disseminated to relevant stakeholders• 18 Civic dialogue sessions "Towards increased inclusion" between civil society organizations and representatives from government institutions from 6 WB countries realized• Regional Shadow Report prepared and disseminated to relevant stakeholders• 80 EU representatives, national and local government institutions and civil society organizations agreed on joint regional activities in the area of social protection at the Regional conference „Social dimension of WB EU approximation"• At least 1.200 persons participated in the Balkan caravan - best HR and social inclusion practices promotion• At least 1 million citizens informed through the awareness raising campaigns
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