

# ANNUAL REPORT $\frac{20}{22}$

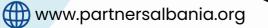








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TOTEL COLOS



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## FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Partners, Stakeholders, and Friends of Partners Albania!

In looking back at the journey of Partners Albania throughout 2022, we find a year filled with challenges met head-on with courage, innovation, and unwavering resilience.

This annual report offers a narrative of our accomplishments and endeavors in 2022, providing a transparent insight into our impact at both local and national levels.

Our commitment to strengthening the Non-profit Sector in Albania was exemplified by the Code of Standards for NPOs, under the leadership of National Resource Centre (NRC). This initiative serves as a cornerstone of our dedication to enhancing governance, transparency, and accountability within the civil society sector. Our vision extends beyond our individual efforts, aiming to create an ecosystem where organisations operate with utmost integrity and dedication.

Within this context, legal services, newly introduced as part of the National Resource Centre Help Desk Services played a pivotal role in assisting numerous NPOs and informal activist groups. Additionally, we facilitated the acquisition and training of the "Alpha Cloud" software for 13 dedicated NPOs, contributing to better financial governance. Our goal has always been to strengthen the foundations of civil society organizations, providing them with the tools and support needed to effectively operate.

In the realm of governance, we continued our mission to ensure excellence and accountability within civil society organizations. Initiatives focused on enhancing organizational resiliency, utilising the Resiliency Framework, emphasised our commitment to enabling civil societies to thrive amid external pressures.

Our engagement extended beyond Albania's borders. Collaborations with international partners and projects, reinforced the importance of cross-border unity. We relied on these partnerships at regional and European level to actively work to prevent restrictions on civil society organizations, advocating for their essential role in shaping vibrant communities and unreplacable role in EU integration.

We were very happy to bring to the civil society in Albania, the Tirana Convention Center that will be officially launched in 2023, a cutting-edge virtual space dedicated to hosting meetings, training sessions, and networking opportunities. It replicates the immersive experience of in-person gatherings, providing participants with access to audio and video feeds of speakers and peers, along with shared resources. It was part of our long term digitalisation's agenda, aiming to address the evolving networking and visibility needs of civil society sector.

When it comes to Entrepreneurship and Social Innovation, the year 2022 marked significant strides in promoting sustainable and green entrepreneurship. Initiatives like the "Balkan Green Ideas" competition, the "Balkan Green Academy," and ever-increasing community of Dua Partner Invest (DPI), showcased our commitment to fostering start-ups focused on environmental and social impact.

Our commitment to nurturing the potential of local youth remained unwavering. Initiatives such as the WORK4YOUTH crossborder boot camps equipped young individuals with valuable entrepreneurial skills, while the WISE4YOUTH project underscored our dedication to shaping the next generation of leaders.

Partners Albania continued its long-standing work in promoting philanthropy in the country. Events like the "Giving Circle" and the support to SMILE.AL, Albania's first crowdfunding platform, garnered tremendous support, reinforcing social responsibility and fostering a sense of solidarity within our communities.

As we present this annual report, we must acknowledge that each achievement represents not only a milestone for Partners Albania but also a beacon of hope, progress, and evolution for the broader civil society framework in Albania.

We extend our deepest gratitude to every individual, partner organisation, and stakeholder involved. Your unwavering faith and support have been instrumental in our journey. We enter the new year with a renewed spirit, fortified by collective experiences, and inspired by the limitless possibilities that lie ahead.

Thank you for being an integral part of our journey. Here's to more achievements, collaborations, and shared successes in the future!

Juliana Hoxha, Director

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**Neritan Kallfa** Chairperson

*Mirjeta Emini* Treasurer

**Klodiana Kapo** Secretary

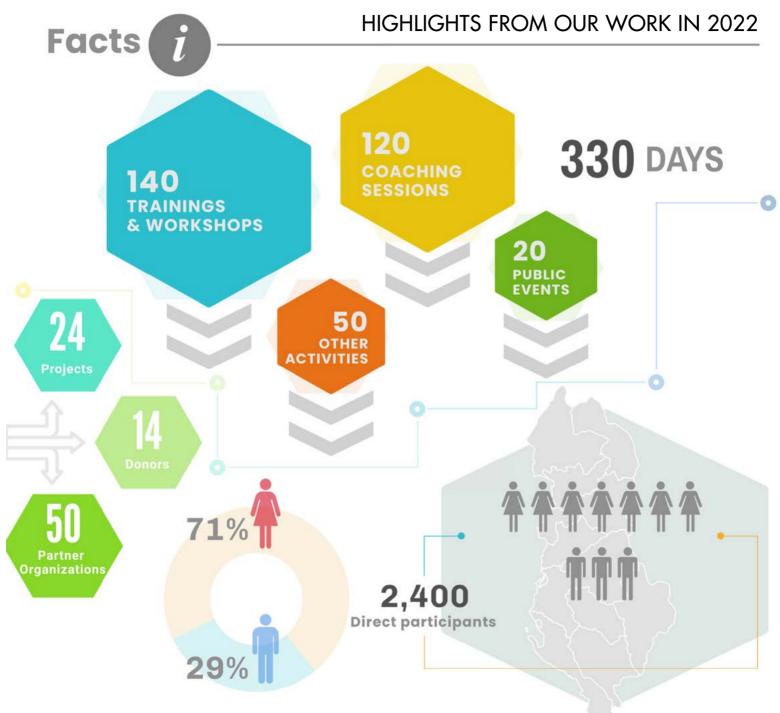
**Alketa Skëndaj** Member

**Elira Sakiqi** Member

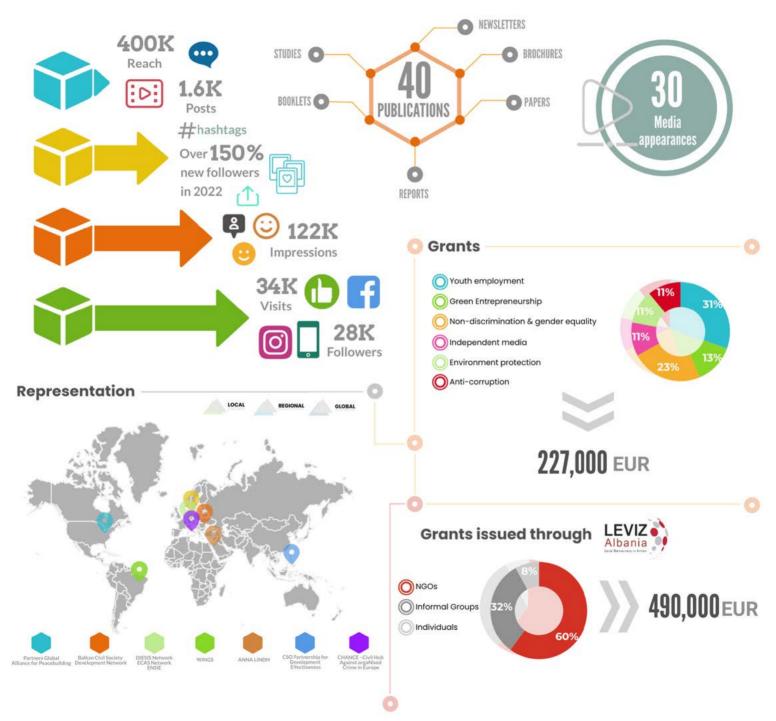
## TEAM

Juliana Hoxha	Director
Arjola Agolli	Manager of the National Resource Center for Civil Society in Albania
Klotilda Kosta	Director of Programs
Jonida Alite	Director of Programs
Elona Kapexhiu	Communication Manager
Jetmira Hysenaj	Finance Manager
Kostandina Keruti	Program Manager
Maris Selamaj	Project Manager
Xhoana Zeqo	Project Manager
Alis Mustafa	Project Manager
Era Sherifaj	Project Manager
Fjoralba Balla	Finance Officer
Iris Panariti	Grants Programme Manager – LevizAlbania
Eriona Kaceli	Individual Grants Manager – LevizAlbania
Kristina Lato	Program Assistant
Enxhi Rexhepi	Office Assistant
Artan Sauku	Logistics
Mare Paplekaj	Maintenance













## ENABLING ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL SOCIETY









The National Resource Centre for Civil Society managed by Partners Albania, has consolidated its role as a platform for civil society at the national and local levels, supporting the strengthening of sector capacities, promoting and facilitating dialogue in policy-making, and advocating for an enabling environment. Here are some highlights from NRC activity in 2022.



## CSO CAPACITY BUILDING

## PROGRAMMS IMPLEMENTED

#### NPO ACADEMY 2022

- 23 Participants
- 11 Lectures delivered
- 55 Mentoring sessions
- 13 Lectors and Experts engaged
- 4 Visits in institutions

#### CSOS REVENUE GENERATION FROM FEE-FOR-SERVICES

- 16 Participants
- 70 Trainings and Mentoring
  - 8 Services/ Products Developed
  - **CSO-Business Event**

#### TRAINING PROGRAMS ON DEMAND

- 85 Participants
- 8 Regional Program Trainings

- 5 Topics
- MPOs Fiscalisation
- Alternative Sources of Fundraising for NPOs
- 🏹 Project Proposal Writing and Management
- Marketing of Crowdfunding Campaigns EU aquis, engagement & role of CSOs in the country's EU integration process

**VOLUNTEERING & SOLIDARITY** 

15 NPOs Supported for the Quality

EUROPEAN PROGRAMME

27 Trainings and Mentoring

**GRANTS MANAGEMENT** 

AND MONITORING

17 Beneficiary NPOs

4 Training Days

55 Participants

Label

## 200 BENEFICIARIES



40% Beneficiaries outside the capital





#### SNAM

## ADVOCACY & LOBBYING

#### **Reports and Policy Papers**

Monitoring Matrix on Supportive Environment for CSOs Development in Albania, **Country Report** 2021

Summary Document "Roadmap for the Enabling Environment for Civil Society Implementation Monitoring" **Policy Paper** Social Enterprise Status – Ambiguities and Opportunities for Enhancement

#### **DIALOGUE** with Institutions

#### Law on Voluntarism - Sector initiative for legal changes

Meetings with the Ministry of Finance and Economy State Ministry for Youth and Children National Employment and Skills Agency

Establishment of a joint working group with institutions and NPOs Meetings and discussions on legal framework issues

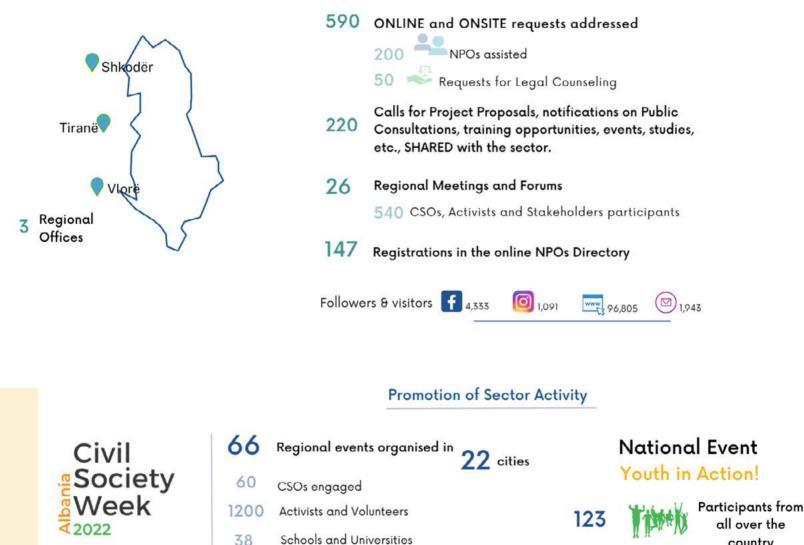
Proposals for legal amendments

#### Law on the Right to Information

Recommendations for amendments, part of the consultation process initiated by the government



## HELP-DESK SERVICES AND NETWORKING



Schools and Universities



country



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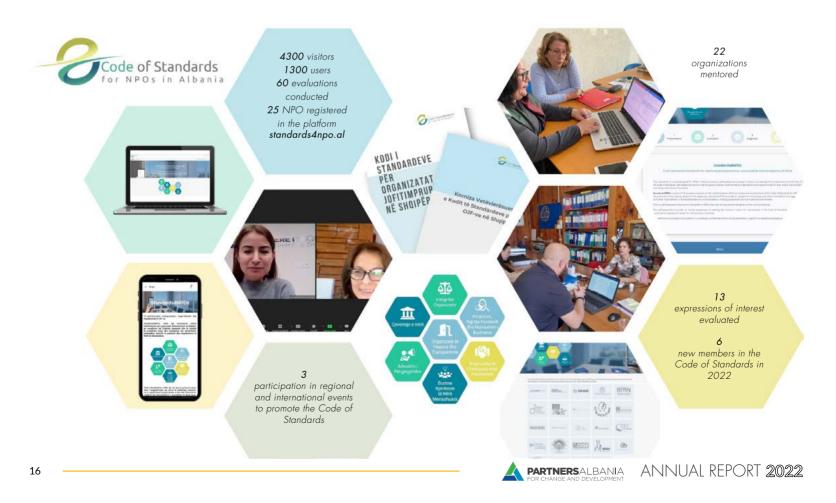


## CODE OF STANDARDS FOR NPOs IN ALBANIA

The primary objective of the Code of Standards for NPOs in Albania is to enhance the effectiveness of these organizations' work and build trust among supporters, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders. This is achieved by promoting good governance, transparency, and accountability within the sector. The code consists of a set of principles and commitments that guide the conduct of NPOs and their activities.

In Albania, the National Resource Centre for Civil Society serves as the Code Secretariat, overseeing its implementation and enforcement. Since its introduction in 2021, the code has garnered a growing number of member organizations, with several new ones joining in 2022. The application process remains open throughout the year, allowing organizations to join at any time.

To assist CSOs in assessing their adherence to the Code's standards, Partners Albania has developed an online self-assessment mechanism called STANDARDS4NPOs. This tool provides both qualitative suggestions through automated written feedback and a quantitative scoring system. It is accessible through the website https://standards4npo.al/ and mobile applications available for iOS and Android.



## TIRANA CONVENTION CENTER VIRTUAL REALITY PLATFORM



Partners Albania's latest venture, the Tirana Convention Center, introduces a cutting-edge virtual space dedicated to hosting meetings, training sessions, and networking opportunities. Comprising nine (9) versatile virtual areas, the platform seamlessly accommodates a wide range of events, from intimate team gatherings to large-scale conferences, fairs, and pitching sessions. Its design aims to replicate the immersive experience of attending an in-person event, offering attendees access to audio and video feeds of speakers and other participants, as well as shared resources and materials. Moreover, the platform facilitates interaction and networking among participants and event organizers.

A convenient Event Notice Board showcases a comprehensive list of upcoming and past events, granting users the convenience of finding and registering for events of their interest, all in one centralized location. Anticipated to launch in 2023, the Tirana Convention Center promises to revolutionize virtual event hosting, fostering dynamic and engaging online and hybrid gatherings.







## NEW SERVICES AND ASSISTANCE FOR CSOs

The *Legal Service* is an integral component of the National Resource Centre for Civil Society's Help-Desk Services for NPOs and informal activist groups. This service offers two primary aspects: legal information and education for NPOs, along with legal advice pertaining to their establishment, operations, legal and fiscal compliance, and legal de-registration.

Throughout 2022, the Legal Service received and successfully addressed a total of 50 requests, providing assistance to 40 NPOs and Networks from 11 different cities. Within this period, the service managed to effectively tackle and resolve 19 distinct issues faced by these organizations.





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## DIVERSIFICATION OF FUNDING SOURCES FOR CSOs



NPO-Business Speed Dating event, aiming at fostering effective partnership between civil society and businesses. The event gathered over 40 representatives of businesses and NPOs from five cities. Tirana, November 22, 2022.





## INCREASING THE RESILIENCY OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS

Resilience is vital for civil society to effectively tackle challenges by adapting and responding proactively and efficiently. Achieving this requires a different mindset and approach that goes beyond organizational strengthening. Based on the Resiliency Framework developed by Partners Global, Partners Albania launched in 2022 a new program to assists organizations in becoming more resilient by developing an analysis process, identifying and prioritizing key resilience challenges, and devising a plan to enhance adaptability to critical issues. Initially, the program began with three organizations and will continue annually, extending its support to other organizations interested in diversifying funding sources, fostering creative communication and enhancing public image, embracing new technologies, engaging with supporters, investing in human resources, and promoting staff welfare and support.

By addressing these aspects, the program empowers organizations to increase their resilience and effectively navigate the most pressing challenges they face.





Partners Albania, as part of the team of coaches of the Partners Global network, in the frame of the INSPIRES global project, during 2022 continued the work on the implementation of the Resiliency+ framework with six civil society organizations in Tanzania. Organizations are being assisted and mentored on the development and implementation of the Resiliency Roadmaps.

With civic space shifting rapidly around the globe, faster and more potent interventions are critical for bolstering local civil societies. INSPIRES is increasing knowledge and capacity to respond to growing restrictions on democratic freedoms of association, assembly, and expression.

#### Photo: "Resilient Civil Society Learning and Networking Summit", November 14 - 18, 2022, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania.

The Summit was designed as a global event of INSPIRES program, for connection, exchange, and multi-directional learning, with the participation of 24 civil society organisations from Ecuador, Georgia, Serbia, Kenia, Tanzania, Nigeria, Senegal.



## CIVIL SOCIETY PROGRAM FOR ALBANIA AND KOSOVO

The Civil Society Program for Albania and Kosovo (2018-2022) was implemented by the Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) with Partners Albania for Change and Development (PA) as partner organization. The program supported democratic participation and the development of a strong and vibrant civil society in Albania and Kosovo, by supporting NGOs that advance the EU accession process by contributing to one of the five thematic areas: non-discrimination and gender equality; independent media; minorities and marginalized groups; environmental protection, and the fight against corruption. Since 2018, in the framework of this program, Norway supported 46 projects of civil society organizations in Kosovo (27) and Albania (19) with a total of about 1.5 million EUR.



The five supported NPOs through the third Call of the sub-granting scheme implemented their initiatives during 2022, contributing to increased public awareness on the rights of the Roma and Egyptian community, and the LGBTI+ community, improved services for marginalized groups, a more enabling environment for free and independent media, increased transparency of institutions in terms of public information, environmental protection and the implementation of SDGs at the local level. Above row, from left: Institute of Romani Culture in Albania (IRCA), QSNNN FushëArrëz, ALTRI Institute. Below row from left: MJAFT! Movement, Streha Center.



## PREVENTION OF RESTRICTIONS ON CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE NAME OF PREVENTING MONEY LAUNDERING AND THE FIGHT AGAINST THE TERRORISM FINANCING IN ALBANIA



Partners Albania's ongoing efforts to prevent undue restrictions on civil society organizations culminated with the development of the *Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment Methodology for the NPO Sector in Albania* in 2022. This methodology, based on an international standard by Greenacre Group, helps countries understand and mitigate terrorist financing risks in their NPO sector. It aligns closely with FATF requirements and is prepared collaboratively with NPOs, state institutions, law enforcement, the financial sector, and religious communities. The Supervisory Body, including these stakeholders, oversees the implementation of the methodology to effectively combat terrorist financing risks.

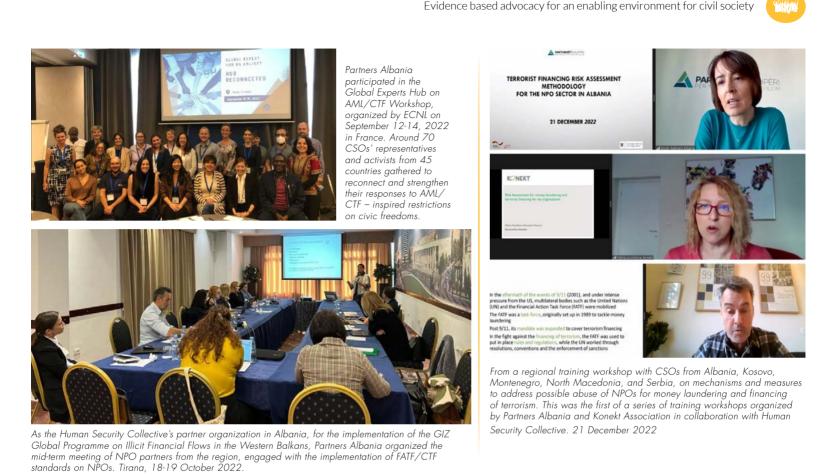
Partners Albania work on the Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment Methodology for NPO Sector, in cooperation with the General Directorate of Taxation will enable the Albanian state to respond to FATF's requirements regarding Recommendation 8 for NPOs.



Round table with all relevant stakeholders, to share preliminary findings of the "NPO Sector Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment Methodology", 17 June 2022. There was a constructive discussion among the participating stakeholders regarding the level and risk factors of the non-profit sector to terrorist financing. The main recommendation of the report "Review of the legal and regulatory framework so that the NPO sector is not classified as a high risk to terrorism financing, but to reflect the categorization of the sector according to real assessments carried out in accordance with the requirements of the FATF methodology", found the support of the participants at the round table and the commitment to its implementation as part of a collaborative process among all stakeholders.









As part of the regional workshop on "The risk of misuse of non-profit organizations for terrorist financing in the Western Balkans", organized by GIZ on December 15 - 16, 2022 in Tirana, Partners Albania presented the Terrorist Financing Risk Assessment Methodology for the NPO Sector in Albania.



## MONITORING MATRIX ON ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT



From the round table with 36 representatives of public institutions, non-profit organizations, donor agencies and media, discussing the findings and recommendations of the Monitoring Matrix on Enabling Environment for Civil Society, Country Report for Albania, as a means of advocating towards the creation of an enabling environment for the development of civil society in the country. June 13, 2022



## PROTECTING CIVIC SPACE

From the regional conference "Remote Working in the WB6 - implications to labour rights, gender and social rights", organized by the Center for Labour Rights, beneficiary of ad-hoc grants of the "Regional Civil Society Development Hub" project, implemented by the Balkan Civil Society Development Network in partnership with Partners Albania and other member organizations from the region. 2-3 November 2022.



## EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Partners Albania, as the focal point of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE), organized a series of discussions with NPOs and other actors on effective development cooperation.



The Multi-stakeholder Dialogue on CSO Effectiveness, November 21, 2022. More than 45 representatives of public institutions, the donor community, and CSOs, discussed and acknowledged both successes and shortcomings in their efforts to promote the meaningful engagement of CSOs in development cooperation. The participants stressed the significance of enhanced dialogue, transparency, effective consultation, cooperation, and equitable partnerships to support the implementation of the country's development priorities.



The NPOs and Social Enterprises Dialogue, October 28, 2022. The event gathered 52 participants including social entrepreneurs, research institutions, financial institutions, youth organizations, support organizations, networks. The discussion highlighted the significance of advocacy initiatives for effective development cooperation between non-profit organizations and social enterprises, considering the country's current challenges and opportunities.



The CSO Accountability in Effective Development Cooperation Forum, October 7, 2022. About 55 representatives of CSOs, donors, and partner institutions discussed on NPO accountability and effective development partnerships.



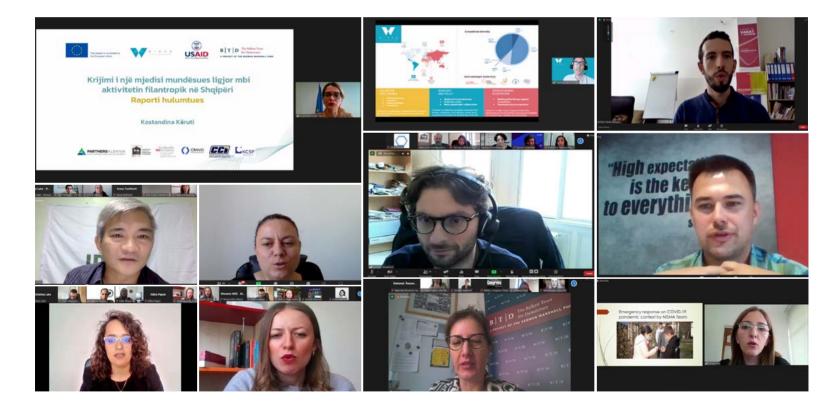




## FOSTERING REGIONAL COOPERATION AND POLICY RESPONSES IN TIMES OF CRISIS

Partners Albania led a collaborative effort among five regional organizations serving as civil society resource centres in their respective countries. Through a series of forum discussions with civil society organizations, regional networks, international organizations, academia, state institutions, and other stakeholders in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Northern Macedonia, and Serbia, they facilitated the exchange of experiences, best practices, and challenges related to adapting to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The topics covered included the response and adaptability of civil society organizations to the Covid-19 situation, the economic impact with a focus on the social economy, the role of an enabling environment in supporting philanthropy and solidarity during crises, access to services during the pandemic, human rights along with access to information, etc.





## STRENGTHENING CIVIL SOCIETY - MEDIA PARTNERSHIP AND COOPERATION









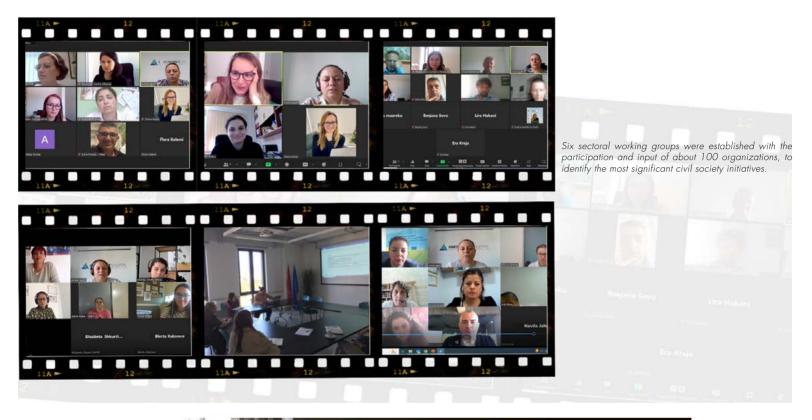
Top row: Training program with a group of 25 journalists and representatives of CSOs, September 26, 2022. Below rows: Four regional forums with the participation of 77 CSOs and journalists during 2022.







## PROMOTION OF CSOs ACTIVITY, ROLE, AND IMPACT



30 Years Civil Society in Albania-The Effort Continues! was a spot prepared by Partners Albania, to promote the achievements, dedication, continuous and tireless efforts of civil society organizations in Albania, and the impact of their work. The spot was widely broadcast on national TV channels and PA's social media.





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## TWIST - TOWARDS A NEW SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP MODEL IN CONFISCATED ASSETS IN ALBANIA



TWIST project plays a significant role in enhancing the effectiveness of social entrepreneurship as a means to increase the social reuse of confiscated assets from organized crime and as a viable model for inclusive economy and social business. It aims to provide services, skills, employment, and support to vulnerable groups, including victims of organized crime. The project is co-funded by European Union and implemented by Libera in partnership with Partners Albania and Municipality of Tirana, and in cooperation with the Agency for the Administration of Seized and Confiscated Assets.



Launching event of TWIST, April 27, 2022, Tirana.

















Partners Albania and Libera conducted three rounds of regional trainings in Tirana, Shkodra, and Vlora. These trainings, attended by approximately 90 representatives from civil society organizations and municipalities, focused on developing social entrepreneurship in Albania and managing confiscated assets for social reuse. The participants were exposed to various aspects of social entrepreneurship and the importance of strategic collaboration between social enterprises, civil society organizations, and local and national authorities to enhance the social reuse of confiscated assets.





## SUPPORTING GREEN START-UPS









PARTNERËTSHO

Konkursi



A PARTI



From the Green Businesses Competition, May 19, 2022. This is an activity organized by Partners Albania since 2012. It aims to stimulate and encourage innovation for green business ideas at the local level and explores the role of philanthropy in engaging local communities to generate green business ideas that utilize local resources and revitalize disappearing traditional production chains and community-based markets.

Competitors are social enterprises, individuals, small business ventures, and non-profit organizations. During the competition they present their business ideas which are evaluated by an independent jury of experts in the area of economy, education, and business development.



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"Shebenik Egnatia Explorers" sets mobile camps in the Shebenik National Park and other segments of the Egnatia road, creating more mobility and entertainment opportunities , for tourists.





"Qukapiku Educative Toys" is an enterprise that offers to the Albanian consumers safe educational toys for children, made from wood untreated with chemicals.





"Funky Cabins - Glamping" offers a 5-star outdoor hotel through ecological Indian-style wooden cabins with 360-degree glass views, exploring the wonderful nature of our country.



"Belsh Smart City" is a second-time winner of the Green Business Competition. In 2022, they expanded the existing bicycle rental business, including City Coco electric motors, thus creating a new service that will enable tourists to explore the area more extensively.

"Lika Apitourism" is a small accommodation unit welcoming the tourists in the village of Sebisht. They improve tourist's experience offering different activities during their stay, such as tasting local food, involving them in the bee-keeping processes such as feeding, guarding, caring, and collecting honey, otherwise called "Api tourism'







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"Balkan Green Ideas 2022", the eleventh edition of the regional competition organized by Balkan Green Foundation, in support of the development of small local and sustainable green ideas in the Western Balkans and Greece. The annual competition is organized in cooperation with partner organization from the participating countries. Thessaloniki, September 20 - 23, 2022



During March 2022, the second edition of the "Balkan Green Academy" took place in Skopje, where the winners of the national Green Business Competitions from the Western Balkans and Greece, participated in training and workshops on sustainable development of ideas in green entrepreneurship. Albania was represented by the social enterprises "Romix Toys" and "Punnet of Taste", two among winners of the national competition in Albania in 2021.



Mentors and entrepreneurs from the Western Balkans countries conducted a study visit to Albania in November 2022, where they discussed the potential of young people to develop green businesses in their countries, and shared their experiences in organizing national green business competitions. They visited and learned more about the journey of several green social enterprises in Albania.

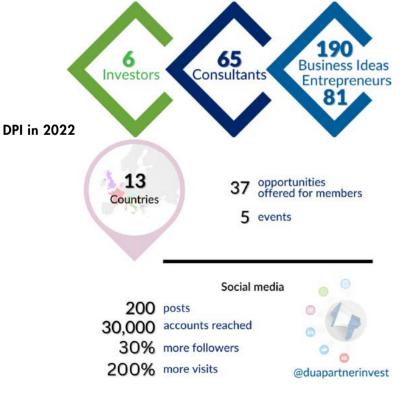




## DUA PARTNER INVEST

In 2021, Partners Albania launched Dua Partner Invest (DPI), an innovative collaborative platform focused on entrepreneurship and innovation. DPI serves as a virtual hub, providing a valuable developmental platform for start-ups in the Western Balkans region. The platform offers a comprehensive range of services, encompassing initial funding opportunities, mentoring, market exposure, international partnerships, and promotion.

By bringing together three key actors, DPI actively supports the entrepreneurship ecosystem. Firstly, it connects *start-ups* in search of funding opportunities with a diverse range of international *investors*, including companies, venture capital funds, donors, and impact investment schemes. Secondly, DPI facilitates the engagement of experienced *consultants* with specialized expertise in the start-up sector, presenting a unique chance for the growth and advancement of start-ups that generate both social and environmental impact. Overall, DPI strives to foster a thriving entrepreneurial landscape by empowering start-ups and promoting impactful ventures in the Western Balkans region.



### www.duapartnerinvest.com





**Partnership with Travelife for Tour Operators**, three online information sessions for Tour Operators for the sustainability in tourism organized during 2022.



Presenting DPI at the **Job Fair** organized by Faculty of Economy at the University of Tirana, April 28, 2022





## WORK4YOUTH



As part of the WORK4YOUTH crossborder initiative we organized two Innovation Boot Camps in 2022 with young people, in Albania and Montenegro. The youngsters gained practical skills to engage in entrepreneurial and business activities through the use of innovative approaches and technologies. They pitched their business ideas to a jury of experts, followed by mentoring sessions with experts for the winning teams, to turn ideas into business plans as an instrument for receiving further support. We are proud to see that after two years of intensive work and support, 32 young people with an entrepreneurial spirit from the region of Shkodra, and the municipalities of Tivar, Tuzi and Podgorica, are ready to enter the market and contribute with their business ideas to increased employment and local development of their communities.





# MAKING THE LABOR MARKET WORK FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN ALBANIA



RisiAlbania is an innovative project, supported by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, SDC, in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and Economy and implemented by Helvetas and Partners Albania. The project works to provide more employment opportunities for young women and men in Albania, aged 15-29, in a socially inclusive and sustainable way, through interventions in main pillars like:

### JOB DEMAND

Increase the demand for new jobs in the private sector; tourism, agribusiness and information and communication technologies.



### SKILLS SUPPLY

Stimulate non-formal training providers offer through innovative programmes and methodologies in high demand from businesses in the sectors where the project stimulates job demand.



# CAREER GUIDANCE & INTERMEDIATION

Improve labour market services through strengthening career guidance and intermediation services.

### GENDER & SOCIAL INCLUSION

Ensuring inclusiveness of vulnerable and socially excluded young people in the Albanian labour market.





Partners Albania and RisiAlbania announced in April 2022 a "Call for Expressions of Interest" for Albanian municipalities, to benefit from a support scheme for the establishment of career guidance offices at the local level. In order to help interested municipalities to make a well-informed decision to apply for this support, Partners Albania organized two information sessions followed by two study visits to the Career Guidance Office at the Tirana Municipality. May 5-6, 2022









Social Economy School, a three-day training event was held in Albania on December 5-7-9. Similar programs were organized in each of the Western Balkans countries by the WBSEA project implementing partners, aiming to encourage young people to start a social business and support them at every stage of their entrepreneurial journey, following the methodology developed as part of the activities of the project.







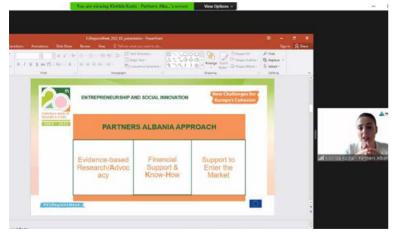


As part of the **EYSET** initiative, Partners Albania organized in October 2022 the workshop "How to boost social entrepreneurship among young people, including young people with disabilities".

Representatives of youth organizations participants in the workshop were introduced to documents prepared by the project, aiming to contribute to raising the capacities of youth organizations in supporting young people, including young people with disabilities that want to become social entrepreneurs. The discussion focused on alternative ways to boost social entrepreneurship among young people through the support services offered by youth organizations.



As one of the implementing partner of the **RISE-ALB** project, Partners Albania was part of a delegation from Albania that conducted a study visit on October 18-21, 2022, in Emilia Romagna region in Italy. The group visited several successful social enterprises and was introduced to good practices derived from policies implemented by local institutions.



WISEs as a tool for the development of local youth entrepreneurship workshop, was one of the events of the EURegions/Week (11-13 October 2022), the biggest annual Brusselsbased event dedicated to cohesion policy. We presented PA's experience in support of youth entrepreneurship in Albania. The workshop was organized by ENSIE, our implementing partner in the regional project WISE4YOUTH.



The second **RISE** project Regional Forum convened key stakeholders from the Western Balkans and Europe to discuss the significance of establishing supportive mechanisms and legal frameworks to promote social entrepreneurship. This forum emphasized social entrepreneurship as a potent tool for regional social and economic development.

In the session "Bang the Drum for Social Economy in WB6" of this forum, we shared Partners Albania's experience in mapping the social entrepreneurship ecosystem, identifying gaps in support services, and exploring opportunities for regional collaboration to bolster the social entrepreneurship cycle. Tirana, 6-8 September, 2022

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The Western Balkans Youth Social Economy Alliance – WB SEA project partners conducted a study visit in Italy, on 12-18 of September 2022, hosted by the partner organization COSV, in collaboration with Consorzio Nazionale Gino Mattarelli and Consorzio Comunita' Brianza. During this study visit, participants had the chance to learn more about the development of the Social Economy ecosystem in Italy and to exchange practices aiming at their replication and contribution to the improvement of the ecosystem in their respective countries in the Western Balkans.





Social Economy Potential in the Western Balkan Region - the final conference of the WBSEA project - was held on December 12-14, 2022 in Podgorica. The event brought together the most important stakeholders of the Western Balkans region and Europe in the field of Social Economy, such as representatives of state institutions, youth CSOs, social entrepreneurs, and representatives of institutions responsible for youth employment, to contribute to the quest for a new approach to the development of Social Economy. It served as an opportunity to present and analyse practices at the European level as well as present the Social Economy as an instrument to engage, empower and create opportunities for the Western Balkans youth.









Partner organizations, social economy actors in the Western Balkans and members of the Diesis Network, established SEEWEST - the first regional alliance in support of social economy. They signed a Memorandum of Understanding with clear cooperation objectives for achieving long-term goals in the field. Members of this alliance are Partners Albania for Change and Development, ARNO, Mladi ambasadori, LENS, CDP "Globus", COSV - Cooperazione per lo Sviluppo, ADP-Zid, Coalition for the Development of the Solidarity Economy, Public, Caritas Šabac. Podgorica, December 14, 2022





At a seminar on the re-purposing of criminal assets, specifically for social use, PA presented the obstacles faced and accomplishments achieved during our multi-year endeavours in establishing social enterprises in confiscated assets. This initiative was carried out in collaboration with the Agency for the Administration of Seized and Confiscated Assets in Albania. The seminar was organized as part of the OSCE project on asset confiscation and reuse in South-Eastern Europe, Rome, June 2022.

Klotilda Kosta, PA Director of Programs, moderated the discussion on the Albanian experience of social re-use of confiscated assets, during the National Workshop on Social Re-use of Confiscated Assets in Albania organized by OSCE. Tirana, November 25, 2022.









## PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITY AND SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE









### GIVING CIRCLE ALBANIA

In its continued efforts to promote philanthropy in Albania and generate public support for disadvantaged groups, Partners Albania organized in 2022 the third "LIVE" crowdfunding event called "Giving Circle".

During the event, about 90 participants including individuals, representatives of the business sector, donor community, diplomatic institutions, civil society, and media, generously provided financial and material support for the three chosen initiatives. The total amount raised of **2,100,000** ALL more than doubled the goal of 900,000 ALL, reinforcing social responsibility and solidarity for communities in need.







Pop-up book! - an initiative of the organization SHKEJ, raised contributions which made possible the creation of a library - a welcoming, progressive, and inventive space - on the premises of the school "Ferraj" which serves 148 students.



"Have a Nice Day, Our Grandparents1", an initiative of the organization Roots, helped create a new recreational space for the elderly community in Shkodra.

A dental service was established at the Community Center "Gonxhe Bojaxhi" in Tirana, thanks to the efforts of the Albanian Center for Family Development's initiative "Healthy children, healthy community!". Through the contributions raised in the Giving Circle event, more than 400 children from vulnerable families in Administrative Unit no. 4 will receive now the much needed dental care. Ambjenti që do të transformohet në mini-klinikën e re, ku 400 fëmijë nga komuniteti i Bregut të Lumit do të marrin shërbime dentare





\* 🖻



Throughout 2022, PA provided training and mentoring for 35 CSOs, focusing on crowdfunding platforms, "Telling your story!" – promotion of crowdfunding campaign" to mobilize supporters and raise funds.







Shuma deri tani: 20.020 Lekë

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Shkolla 9-vjeçare "Naim Frashëri" në Korçë funksionon dhe si Qendër Komunitare. Shkolla përfshin mbi 106 nxënës të kategorizuar si: nxënës jetimë (8); pa atësi (5); me ndihmë ekonomike (30); me prindër pa ndihmë ekonomike (20); me prinder me aftësi të kufizuara (13); me prindër të papunë (14): të kthyer nga emigracioni (8); me gjyshërit si kujdestarë ligjorë (2) ose jo ligjorë (6). Situata social-ekonomike e këtyre fëmijëve është mjaft e vështirë si në konsumim shumë të ulët të ushqimit dhe cilësisë së tij dhe shpesh janë të privuar nga dashuria prindërore. Projekti synon që me fondet e dhuruara, të ndihmoen.

Objektivi: 599 648 Leke

04/01/2023 - 04/05/2023

Lexo më shumë Dhuro

Dhuro

Dhuro

SMILE.AL, the first crowdfunding platform in Albania established in 2021, supports community projects by mobilizing financial resources from individual and institutional donors.

The platform serves as a means to gather contributions and aid in the implementation of community initiatives, emphasizing the importance of both financial support and broader engagement in supporting projects throughout the country. It is an initiative led by the Credins Foundation in collaboration with Partners Albania, Vodafone Albania Foundation, and Grant Thornton Albania.



1

#### MIKE në lagjen time

Qëndra M.I.K.E.synon në tre muaj krijimin e shërbimit në familje për të moshualt e qytetit të Tiranës me sëmundje afatgjatë si: Demencë, Alzaimer, Parkinson, rehabilitim pas spitalor, klienté té cilét kané nevojé 24/7 për shërbim nëpërmjet ekipeve vetmenaxhuese. Modeli do të aplikohet në Njësinë Administrative 2 me dy ekipe nga 12 infermjerë, për 30-40 të moshuar secili ekip. Me synim zgjerimin për gjithe Tiranën dhe Shqipërinë. Infermjerët nëpërmjet këtij modeli shërbimi kanë autonominë e tyre kur organizojnë klientët dhe vizitat. Ata menaxhojnë trajtime mjeksore, kujdes për shërbime mbështetëse (veshje, larje, përgatitje ushqimi ,angazhim të pacientëve në komunitet. Ekipet punojne ngushte...

Objektivi: 594,000 Lekë

D 01/12/2022 - 01/03/2023





#### Rrugëtim i ndryshëm i njëjti destinacion

Mbështetje për gratë dhe fëmijët e dhunuar

Teatri nuk është luks. Projekti "Rrugëtim i ndryshëm i njëjti destinacion" është një projekt i dedikuar për fëmijët jetim. Ky projekt ka si qëllim të realizojë me fëmijët jetim të shtëpisë së fëmijës Zyber Hallulli në Tiranë një shfaqje teatri dhe nëpërmjët kësaj shfaqje të përcjelle në mënyrë indirekte nëpërmjët argëtimit.edukimin, të punohet në grup, të rëspëktojnë hapsirat dhe të drejtat e tjetrit .Të kuptojnë vlerën nga antivlera. Të afrohen me shume me librin. Nëpërmjet shfaqjes fëmijët vënë në analize vehten e tyre, kuptojnë dëshirat e tyre, zbulojnë preferencat apo talentin e tyre. Ky projekt është nië mundësi shumë e...

Objektivi: 600.000 Leke D 01/12/2022 - 01/04/2023

Objektivi: 660.000 Lekë

01/11/2022 - 01/05/2023

FGE është një Organizatë jo Fitimprurëse që për mbi 23 vite bën tre shërbime konkrete

për të mbijetuarat e dhunës në familje dhe fushata ndërgjegjësimi të komunitetit për

veprimtarinë në 7 Bashkitë e Qarkut Elbasan dhe Bashkitë Rrogozhinë dhe Kavajë të

Oarkut Tiranë. Në salë dhe të kësal pune të bërë, nga dita në ditë është rritur numri l

grave/vajzave që denoncojnë dhunën në 5 Komisariatet e Policisë Elbasan dhe në

përfitimet dhe penalitetet në zbatim të legjislacionit të dhunës. FGE ushtron

Komisariatin Kavaje ku FGE ushtron aktivitetin. Konstatojmë që gratë mbasi

denoncojnë dhunën në polici dhe kërkojnë konform legjislacionit



#### **Dhuro dhe Festo!**

Të gjithë së bashku për një ditëlindje! Projekti "Dhuro dhe Festo" synon të sjellë gëzim në jetët e dhjetë vogëlushëve nga komunitetet më në nevojë në zonat ku World Vision Albania punon, të cilët kanë humbur njërin nga prindërit. Secilit prei fëmilëve do t'u organizohet nië festë surprizë për ditëlindie me piesëmarrien e miqve, të afërmve dhe permes kontributit tend bujar. Je i/e ftuar në një ditëlindje për të sjelle gëzim dhe për të rikthyer një buzëqeshje! Fëmijët vijnë nga komunitetet më në nevojë në zonën e Tiranës, Durrësit e Shkodrës dhe disa prej tyre nuk kanë pasur asnjëherë mundësi.

Objektivi: 550,000 Lekë

01/11/2022 - 10/02/2023

#### Dhuro Lexo më shumë

#### Trauma në fëmijërinë

A e dini se trauma prek shumë fëmijë, adoleshentë dhe të rritur? Trauma nuk është e rrallë: statistikat tregojnë se 50% e fëmijëve kanë përjetuar trauma. Trauma ndikon gjithçka--- aftësinë e një personi për të mësuar. për të menaxhuar emocionet dhe sjelljen, shëndetin e tyre, marrëdhëniet, etj... Prandaj qëllimi i fushatës është të pajisin 60 fémijét dhe 50 personat që punojnë me ta me mjete konkrete për të lehtësuar impakti negativ i traumës (për shkak të abuzimit, dhuna në familje, neglizhimi, eti). Fondacioni Alo! Mik (www.alomik.org) në kuadër të kësaj fushate do të realizojë këto aktivitete: (1) Aktivitete psikosociałe me.,

Shuma deri tani: 58,101 Lekë

Objektivi: 774,870 Lekë

01/12/2022 - 01/03/2023

Six of the participating CSOs in the Crowdfunding training and mentoring program, were selected to promote their projects in SMILE.AL.

Lexo mē shumi



Shuma deri tani: 40.000 Leki

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Dhuro



Partners Albania provided tailored assistance to two non-profits and an informal group that aspired to establish themselves as Community Foundations. They received assistance in identifying community issues and creating plans for mobilization and income generation. These organizations have already begun implementing their first initiatives as community foundations, garnering support from the local community, businesses, and public institutions.

Additionally, the Partners Albania team actively participated in discussions organized by the European Community Foundation Initiative, sharing their experiences in working with Community Foundations and engaging in meaningful dialogue with other participants.



A round-table with colleagues from the "European Initiative for Community Foundations" (ECFI) network, discussing a series of interventions from Community Foundations and supporting organizations of Community Foundations in Europe, for the management of the refugee crisis in Ukraine. March 30, 2022.



Working with the three groups, March 10, 2022.



Youth Academy Pogradec



Global Care Albania



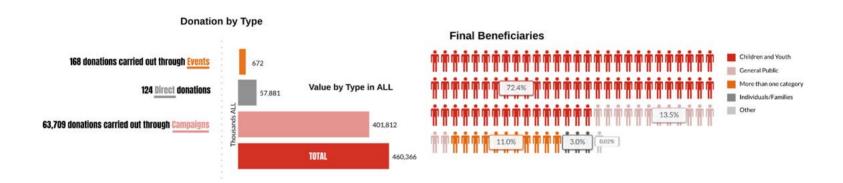
ARSIS

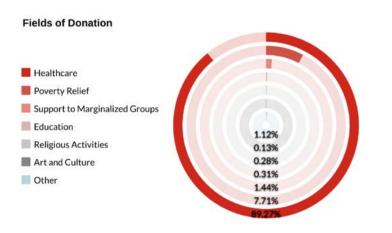


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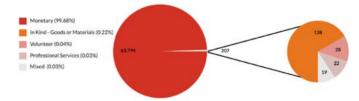
## MONITORING OF PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITY

In 2022, the monitoring of philanthropic activity in Albania revealed a surge in individual contributions. *Crowdfunding* campaigns have gained widespread popularity as a means of donation, with a remarkable count of 63,709 donations documented. *Monetary* donations are the predominant type, with *children and youth* emerging as the primary recipients. The total recorded value of these contributions amounts to 460,366,227 ALL (4,361,100 Euro). Here are some quick facts from the monitoring, while more information is available in our website.

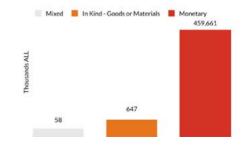




#### Number of Donations by Nature



#### Value by Nature in ALL









### PHILANTHROPY WEEK 2022

We brought again in 2022 the **Philanthropy Week**, a dedicated series of events aimed at promoting philanthropy. Activities included recognizing philanthropic individuals, delivering open lectures to students, presenting facts and trends in philanthropic development, hosting a networking event, and participating in media discussions.



### CREATING AN ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF PHILANTHROPIC ACTIVITY



As a member of the WINGS Global Network and a recipient of the Enabling Environment Fund (WINGS EE Fund), Partners Albania organized a series of round-table discussions with business sector representatives to discuss the legal and regulatory framework surrounding philanthropic donations in Albania. The discussions contributed to the formulation of a policy document that promotes an enabling environment for philanthropic activity in the country.



## TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE PARTICIPATORY GOVERNANCE







### LEVIZ ALBANIA

### www.levizalbania.al ๙



LevizAlbania is a project that aims to strengthen the local democracy in Albania through the engagement of civil society actors and individuals as champions of democracy toward a better local government. LevizAlbania is implemented by a consortium of three organizations: Open Society Foundation for Albania, Partners Albania for Change and Development, and Co-Plan.





In January 2022, LevizAlbania launched the 9th Call for Applications, aimed at engaging youth, youth non-profit organizations, informal groups, and individuals. The primary objective of this call was to provide assistance and enhance the capabilities of young individuals involved in community activities that foster a sense of unity, encourage civic engagement, and implement tangible solutions to address community challenges. From the applications received, 25 wining projects were selected.



Again in 2022, LevizAlbania organized the Local Democracy Week, a significant occasion for showcasing not just the accomplishments of LevizAlbania and the supported initiatives, but also for addressing the obstacles and requirements of local communities in their pursuit of driving change. Taking place from June 6-11, the Local Democracy Week 2022 consisted of a series of 22 activities and concrete actions of civil society actors engaged in improving local democracy and the quality of local aovernance.



Partners Albania, within the VASS program of LevizAlbania, provided assistance and mentoring for 44 beneficiaries of LevizAlbania grants (CSOs and informal groups). Six (6) thematic networking sessions and 100 days of mentoring facilitated the exchange of information on ongoing local initiatives, sharing of best practices in collaborating with local communities and public institutions, and the development of action plans for partnership in advocacy efforts.







As part of LevizAlbania's VASS program, Partners Albania implemented the Youth Movement - A New Page for Local Communities initiative. This four-year program aimed to educate and inspire young individuals, promoting voluntarism, activism, and responsibility while fostering stronger relationships between youth and local communities to enhance local democracy. Since 2019, Partners Albania has organized 28 youth camps, involving 487 high school students from 17 cities in Albania. These camps have resulted in the design and implementation of 28 local initiatives focused on various areas such as peer-to-peer education, creating recreational spaces for youth, supporting the elderly and children without parental care, developing school labs, and raising environmental awareness.

Top row: "Youth Speak up" event, June 7, 2022, Kruja. The event provided a platform for youngsters to share their experiences and the impact of their actions, highlighting the importance of youth engagement in fostering local democracy. Second top to last row: Youth camps organized during 2022 in 8 schools, 7 cities across Albania.

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### WESTERN BALKANS & TURKEY FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT



Partners Albania is a founding member of Youth Hub for Western Balkan and Turkey established in 2016, a network of more than 60 youth organizations from Western Balkan and Turkey whose objective is to ensure greater involvement of young people in Albania, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.



Albania has 11 member organizations in the YHWBT Network. Eight new organizations from across Albania joined the Youth Hub in 2022. Through the support of the sub-granting scheme of the program, they implemented initiatives contributing to improved capacities of NEET youth for better access in the labour market.



Since 2016, Partners Albania prepares the "Youth Participation Index in Political, Economic and Social life in Albania", an annual report produced in each of the network countries, which contributes to a regional report that assesses youth participation across political, economic, and social dimensions. The report provides valuable data on youth engagement and offers recommendations for policy advocacy to improve youth participation in these areas. In a national consultative debate held in Shkodër in December, PA shared the findings of the Youth Participation Index for Albania 2021 report.



In December, the team of the "Youth Hub for Western Balkans & Turkey" convened in Istanbul to review the outcomes of the initiatives carried out in Albania, Serbia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Turkey. The meeting also focused on discussing intervention plans for 2023 with the aim of supporting youth employment in the region.









Juliana Hoxha, Partners Albania's Director, was one of the speakers at the National Anti-corruption Conference organized on June 13-15, 2022.



In 2022, Partners Albania became a member of **The Alliance for Peacebuilding** (AfP), a leading organization in the field of peacebuilding. AfP is a nonpartisan network consisting of 150+ organizations operating in 181 countries, dedicated to ending violent conflict and promoting peace. The alliance comprises non-profits, civil society organizations, universities, and for-profit companies based in the United States and globally. These diverse entities bring their expertise to the table, sharing a common goal of advancing nonviolent solutions to prevent, resolve, and recover from conflicts.



Juliana Hoxha, Partners Albania's Director, was part of a group of 23, selected to serve as mentors for 110 fellows from 70 countries around the globe, as part of the 2021-2022 Community Engagement Exchange Program.

The Program is a one-year-long transformational leadership development experience, designed to enable civil society leaders, ages 21-28, to harness the power of networks, relationships, and information for the public good, specifically on issues related to civic dialogue and peace-building, open and participatory governance, women and gender, resilience and sustainable development and youth engagement.

CEEP is a program of the US Department of State with funding provided by the U.S. Government and supported in its implementation by IREX.



Partners Albania is part of the network CHANCE - Civil Hub Against orgaNised Crime in Europe, a network of organizations, informal groups, and activists from all over Europe. Its aim is to promote cooperation among Civil Society Organisations of different countries confronting organized crime, mafia, and corruption, and to promote equity and solidarity in European society. It features civil society initiatives in the fight against organized crime, including the social reuse of confiscated assets. www.chance.international



### FEE-BASED SERVICES

Partners Albania provides fee-based, customizable services that include training and mentoring tailored for both private sector and civil society organizations. These programs encompass a diverse array of subjects that align with the clients' specific interests and needs. By fostering skill growth and knowledge enrichment, these services empower client institutions to enhance effectiveness and efficiency in pursuing their goals.





Top row, from left to right: Training in Advocacy and Lobbying with IPKO Foundation, Kosovo; Training on Customer Care and Effective Sales with Agro&Social Fund. Middle row, from left to right: Training on Customer Care and Effective Sales with NOA Finance, Besa Fund. Down row, from left to right: Training on Customer Care and Effective Sales with FIBANK, training for EDYN Network.

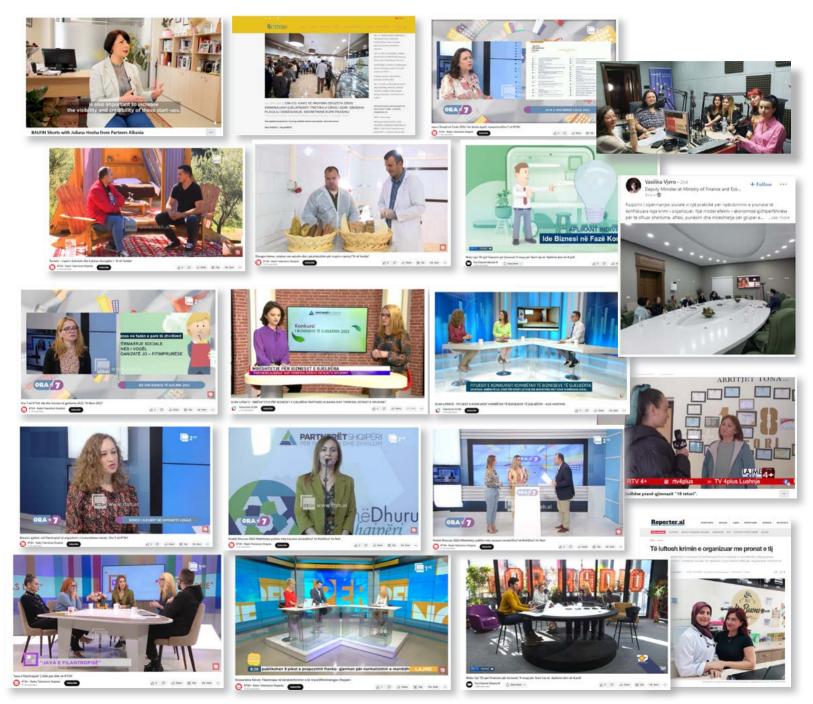


### PUBLICATIONS





### PARTNERS ALBANIA PROGRAMS IN MEDIA FOCUS



### LIST OF PROJECTS

PROJECT	DONOR
Local Democracy in Action - LEVIZALBANIA	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
Making Labor Market Work for Young People in Albania- RISI ALBANIA	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)
National Resource Centre for Civil Society in Albania	European Union
Enhancing accountability, public trust and resiliency of civil society organizations	United States Embassy in Albania
Enhanced Philanthropic Activity and Support Infrastructure in Albania	Rockefeller Brother Funds
The Civil Society Programme for Albania and Kosovo	Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs represented by the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Pristina
Work4Youth	European Union through Cross Border Cooperation Programme Montenegro – Albania 2014-2020 under the IPA II
TWIST- ToWards a new social entrepreneurShip model in con-fiscaTed assets in Albania	European Union through the EU Delegation to Albania
Western Balkan &Turkey for EmploYouth	European Commission
RISE-ALB Rafforzamento dell' Impreditorialita Sociale in Albania	Agenzia Italiana per la Cooperazione Allo Sviluppo (AICS)
Enabling and Protecting Civic Spaces—Illuminating New Solutions and Programmatic Innovations for Resilient Space (INSPIRES)	USAID, through Partners Global
Western Balkans Youth Social Economy Alliance (WBSEA)	European Union, Erasmus + Programme
Fostering Regional Cooperations and Policy Response in Time of Crises	Balkan Trust for Democracy, a project of the German Marshall Fund of the United States and the USAID
NPOs Sector Financial Terrorism Risk Assessment	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Albanian NPOs and FATF Recommendation 8	Human Security Collective (HSC) under GIZ Global Pro-gramme on Illicit Financial Flows
Enhance cooperation's to enable the environment for philanthropic activity in Albania	WINGS Network
Protecting civic space - Regional Civil Society Development Hub	The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through Balkan Civil Society Development Network
Empower Youth Organisations through Social Entrepreneurship in Tourism (EYSET)	European Union, Erasmus + Programme
WISEs4Youth in Western Balkans	European Union, Erasmus + Programme
Country Initiatives Framework	CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness (CPDE)
Giving Circle Albania	The Funding Network
Balkan Green Ideas – Sustainable Green Entrepreneurship Program in Western Balkan	European Union, Erasmus + Programme

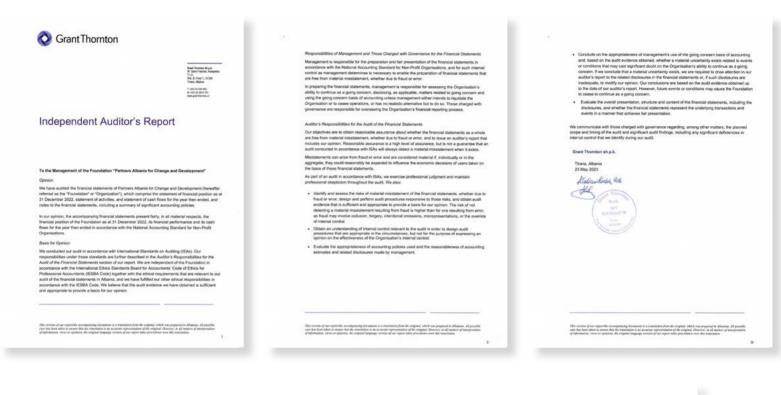


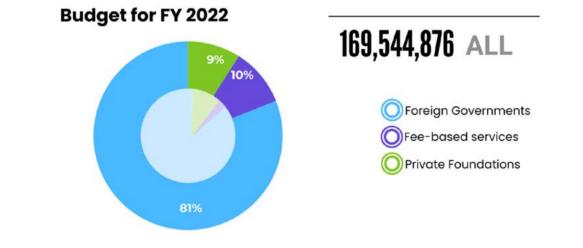
### OUR MAIN SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS



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### **FINANCES**





\*Budget managed directly by Partners Albania, excluding LevizAlbania and RisiAlbania projects.





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