

Call for civil society organisations and informal groups

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ORGANIZATION TRAINING

Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) encourage civic participation by empowering communities in the countries where they operate. Community organization, however, is a complex process that requires ongoing commitment, adequate resources, and knowledge to be successful and sustainable. While Kosovo's CSOs are deeply committed to public life, citizen participation in their work and the expansion of the group of people with whom they interact remain limited. Despite ongoing efforts to broaden their constituency by the CSOs, only 4.5% of citizens are members of a CSO, and only 5% of them participate in CSO activities. Supporting and encouraging individuals to participate in public life and decision-making processes, strengthens the community and improves social and economic life. When CSOs communicate and collaborate closely with the community, they help better articulate their views, have and use a variety of resources, communicate with a wider group of citizens, and, consequently, create stable and active communities for the public good.

With the aim of organizing the community and expanding the CSOs constituency in all Kosovo regions, the Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF), through the **Citizen Engagement Activity (CEA)**, implementing in partnership with the USAID mission in Kosovo, during the months of **October-December 2024**, will organize a **six-day training** on the topic **"Community development and organization"**. The training includes three modules, where each module will be held for two days within one month. In this training cycle, 16 organizations/ informal groups from all regions of Kosovo will be selected.

What do you benefit from this training?

The goal of the "Community development and organization" training is to build CSOs and informal civil society groups' capacities and competences in mapping and organizing the community, building practices for constituency engagement, and networking with other community stakeholders.

Through a curriculum designed for the needs of CSOs in Kosovo, you will gain knowledge and skills on:

- Community development and organization and its importance;
- Community development forms and expansion of membership and constituency;
- Application of evaluation tools and design of integrated method for community development;
- Identification of methods for community organization and development;
- Role and importance of cooperation and networking in the development of communities;

- Advocacy, policy change and use of social networks and media for community development;
- Identification of new ideas applicable to community development;
- Applying the theory of change to community development initiatives.

Also, you will put into practice skills acquired by preparing a community development and organization initiative and you will have the opportunity to apply for a grant to implement your initiative.

Who can apply and what are the application criteria?

Any CSO or informal group in Kosovo that is interested and determined to learn and put into practice knowledge and techniques for the development and organization of the constituency, is eligible to apply.

Each CSO or informal group must propose a staff member whose responsibilities relate to community development and expansion of the organization's constituency.

Application criteria:

- ✓ Must be a CSO registered in Kosovo, or an informal group operating in Kosovo;
- ✓ Must be a CSO or an informal group that operates mainly at local level;
- ✓ Have “capacity building for development and organization of the constituency” identified as a need;
- ✓ Have community activity and/or interest for citizens involvement in the work of the organization;
- ✓ For applying CSOs, the applying staff member is preferred to be a senior staff member, such as the leader of the organization or the person responsible for community development and organization.

How to apply?

The application is done by completing the electronic form in the following section:
<https://forms.office.com/r/Rth1AUTNnQ>

The application form can be filled in Albanian, Serbian or English.

Only applicants that fulfil the defined criteria will be contacted for participation in the training, in which case they will also be officially notified of the logistical details.

Should a large number of applications be received, KCSF will prioritize those who applied first, giving particular attention to ensuring gender equality, ethnic diversity, and those operating outside of Pristina.



❖ **Application deadline: 20.10.2024.**

Logistics information

Selected candidates will be required to be physically present at the training. Transportation and food expenses will be covered by KCSF.

For other information, please contact us at the email address naim.robelli@kcsfoundation.org or at the telephone number: 038 600 634.