

Environmental Considerations

Environmental considerations are a crosscutting issue throughout the EJA Kosovo program. Integrating environmental awareness and sustainability into your interventions is essential to ensure that your interventions contribute positively to the environment and do not cause harm. This guide provides a non-exclusive list of questions to consider when designing, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating your interventions.

Environmental Analysis is the first step that should be conducted to examine the relationship between your intervention and the environment. This includes identifying potential positive contributions to environmental sustainability, potential negative impacts, and climate vulnerabilities. The goal is to design interventions that maximize positive impacts and minimize or manage negative impacts effectively.

Some questions to consider throughout project design and implementation:

- Could the program/project offer opportunities for positive contributions to environmental sustainability? What are these opportunities, and how can the program/project enhance them?
- Could the program/project have any negative impacts on the environment? What are these potential impacts, and how can the program/project avoid, reduce, or manage them?
- Are environmental concerns and opportunities addressed in the management plans for the program/project's implementation, monitoring, and evaluation?
- Does the organization have the capacity for environmental management, including staff capacity, policies, guidelines, and an environmental management system? How can this capacity be improved?

General environmental awareness

For many CSOs, integrating environmental considerations may be a new concept. Here are some additional questions to help you think about how your work may intersect with environmental issues:

- How does your organization currently handle waste and recycling? Are there ways to improve these practices to be more environmentally friendly?
- Does your program/project promote the use of sustainable materials and resources? For example, can you use recycled materials, reduce paper usage, or incorporate renewable energy sources?
- How can you educate your beneficiaries and community about the importance of environmental sustainability? Can you include environmental awareness activities in your program/project?
- Are there opportunities to collaborate with local environmental organizations or experts to enhance your program's/project's environmental impact?
- What transportation methods are used for program/project activities? Can you promote car sharing and public transportation, or other environmental-friendly transport practices that contribute to reducing carbon emissions?

Co-financed by: