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catalyst



Call for civil society organizations (CSOs) and activists

BASIC TRAINING FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND FUNDRAISING

The financial sustainability of civil society organizations (CSOs) is one of the main challenges faced by civil society in Kosovo, where the greatest financial support for CSOs comes from foreign donors and public funds. Support as such, dependent mainly on two single sources of funding, endangers the sustainability of civil society. Therefore, it is necessary to explore other possibilities of financing and diversification of resources, including other forms of non-financial support.

The diversity of financial and non-financial resources means the identification and mobilization of alternative financial support, as well as the contribution through voluntary support from citizens, the private sector, experts in Kosovo and the diaspora. This would enable CSOs to be more successful in implementing their mission, strengthen the connection with the constituency, as well as increase accountability and transparency in relation to citizens.

In order to contribute to the issue of resource sustainability of civil society organizations, the Kosovar Civil Society Foundation (KCSF) through the **Citizen Engagement Activity (CEA)** which it implements in partnership with the USAID mission in Kosovo, invites CSOs, informal groups and activists operating anywhere in Kosovo to apply for the one-day basic training for diversification and fundraising.

Basic training will be provided by the group of professional trainers and mentors trained by KCSF and Catalyst Balkans. The same will provide key information on different fundraising models and will be the first level of the training cycle on the financial sustainability of CSOs. As such, it will be mandatory to continue pursuing the next level of training, the advanced one, and direct mentoring to fundraise for the organization. **The advanced training** will delve deeper into community resource mapping and concrete work within the framework of fundraising. **Mentoring** will support successful participants of these trainings in developing plans and strategies for diversification and fundraising, as well as/or organizing various campaigns for fundraising.

The training will be held in the Albanian language, while there will be a translation in the Serbian language as well. The one-day training will be offered on three different dates and two cities in Kosovo, as follows:

- Prishtina/Priština, on October 24, 2024;
- Peja/Peć, on October 29, 2024;
- Prishtina/Priština, on October 31, 2024;

The locations where the training courses will be held will be determined in the meantime and the information will be communicated to the selected participants. Candidates, during the application, must select the preferred training location and date.

What do you gain from this training?

The main purpose of this training is to increase the capacities of CSOs and civil society activists through information on different models of fundraising, which would ensure greater sustainability in their work, in the communities where they operate.

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

- Research and identification of different sources for financing the work of your organization or your initiatives;



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- Analysis of different fundraising models, such as: fundraising through donations, membership fees, targeted individual fundraising campaigns, cross-sector partnerships, donation boxes, digital campaigns, etc.;
- Building partnerships with businesses;
- Preparation of campaigns and events to mobilize funds;
- The most adequate means and forms for collecting funds from individuals and businesses;
- Mobilizing the diaspora to raise funds;
- Using technology to mobilize funds;

Participants of the basic training will be automatically invited to the advanced level of training where their knowledge of diversification and fundraising will be deepened, while successful candidates will also have the opportunity to benefit from direct mentoring that will be provided by the experts of CEA.

Who can apply and what are the application criteria?

Civil society organizations, informal groups and activists who are interested in learning new forms of fundraising are eligible to apply

Each CSO or informal group should propose 1 member to participate in the training based on their responsibilities within the organization/group.

Application criteria:

- ✓ Be a Civil Society Organization (CSO), registered in Kosovo, non-formal group or civil society activist operating in Kosovo;
- ✓ The activity of the CSO / informal group / activist should be mainly at the local and community level;
- ✓ To have identified as a need the development of capacities for alternative forms of fundraising for the organization or community in which they operate;
- ✓ Have activity in the community and/or interest in involving citizens in the work of the organization/informal group/activist;
- ✓ The applying CSO staff member is preferably responsible for fundraising for the organization.

Selected applicants will be required to be physically present at the training, in which case their public transportation costs will be covered.

KCSF encourages inclusiveness in terms of gender and geographic representation from all regions of Kosovo.

How to apply?

The application is made by completing the electronic form in the following links: for Albanian <https://bit.ly/3ZKLIZJ> and for Serbian <https://bit.ly/3Bw0gCi>

Only applicants who meet the defined criteria will be contacted for participation in the training, where they will also be officially notified of the logistical details. In case of receiving many applications, KCSF will give priority to those who applied first, with special emphasis on ensuring gender equality and those operating outside of Pristina.

Application deadline: October 14, 2024.

For more information, please contact our team at enes.toska@kcsfoundation.org or by phone at 038 600 634.