

# COOPERATION OF STATE ADMINISTRATION AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

Baseline Study for the Development of the first National Strategy  
for Creating an Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development  
in the Republic of Serbia 2015-2019



Финансира  
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Република Србија  
ВЛАДА



Канцеларија за сарадњу  
са цивилним друштвом



EU podrška  
Kancelariji za saradnju  
sa civilnim društvom





This study was conducted for the purpose of development of the first National Strategy for Creating an Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development in the Republic of Serbia 2015–2019.

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The study was conducted by “Ipsos Strategic Marketing” from Belgrade.

The contents of the study are the sole responsibility of the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society and do not necessarily represent the views of the European Union.

All the terms in this study denoted in masculine refer also to the same terms in feminine and vice versa.

*Belgrade, June 2015*



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# INTRODUCTION

This is the first study about the status of civil society organizations (CSOs) and cooperation between the CSOs and public administration, based solely on data collected by the state institutions. The study was conducted in the first half of 2015 and the data collected refer to the period 2013–2014, depending on availability. This is a unique undertaking based on official records and statistics, which provide an overview of the operation and functioning of civil society organisations (CSOs) in Serbia.

This study is an integral part of the National Strategy for Creating an Enabling Environment for Development of Civil Society in the Republic of Serbia 2015–2019 (hereinafter: Strategy). As such it is a basis for future standardized collection, processing and presentation of data for regular annual monitoring

and reporting to the Government of the Republic of Serbia on implementation of the Strategy, and to the European Commission on progress achieved in this area.

The study presents basic information on associations, foundations and endowments, as much as such information is collected by the state institutions. During the development of the study, a number of deficiencies related to the existing data sources were identified. As opposed to some other areas where official statistics are the dominant source of data through regular annual surveys official by the Statistical Office, they do not exist for CSOs. Even when available, the data on operation of CSOs are dispersed across institutions, or included in sporadic surveys conducted by individual institutions and CSOs. Part



of the data is carefully collected by state institutions, but is neither processed nor regularly published. For instance, the Pension and Disability Insurance Fund (PIO) collects data on persons engaged, contributions and years of service (also for CSO sector *inter alia*), but such data have not been presented to public to date.

Some of the data vital for CSO sector do not exist – for instance, there is no systematic approach to collection of data on volunteering, which is of exceptional importance for assessing the situation in the CSO sector, its strength and relevance of contribution to the progress of the society and cohesion. The situation is similar with respect to statistics about informal education wherein CSOs play a very important role. A multitude of other CSOs activities are not classified and standardized, making monitoring difficult.

Notwithstanding, we believe that current data provide sufficient information about the profile of civil society organizations in Serbia in 2014. Only financial data refer mostly to 2013 due to the time of publication of this study and dynamics of data collection by the relevant state institutions.

The Strategy refers to associations, foundations and

endowments, as a part of the civil society sector. The study thus presents data only for these civil society organizations. Foreign associations, foundations and endowments are not subject of this study.

The data are shown relative to five regions: Belgrade, Vojvodina, Šumadija and Western Serbia, Southern and Eastern Serbia and Kosovo and Metohija.

The data are presented in such a way to follow the Action Plan for the Strategy implementation. First are so called status data – the basic information from the official records of the Serbian Business Registers Agency (number of associations, foundations and endowments; year of establishment, geographical distribution; membership of association, etc.). Next are the data referring to institutional and legal framework for cooperation of state administration with the civil society collected through separate survey. The situation regarding financial sustainability of CSOs is presented through an overview of their revenues, number of employees and persons engaged in CSOs. These are followed by the data presenting the role of CSOs in socio-economic development and their role in European integration. Although the Strategy contains a chapter on informal education, the official data on engagement of CSOs in this domain do not exist. The only available information is about



allocated funds to CSOs through a public call from the relevant ministry.

The first part of the study offers key summary data presented in tables and graphs accompanied by a brief description. The second part consists of annexes with detailed tables and data on CSOs by municipality. This part aims to provide additional information that would serve for further analyses and comparisons to those who are interested to do so.

The Office for Cooperation with Civil Society of the Government of the Republic of Serbia is in charge of formulation and implementing the Strategy. The entire process is supported through technical support to the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society within the framework of EU IPA 2011–2013 (*Technical Assistance to the Government Office for Cooperation with Civil Society*, EuropeAid/132544/C/SER/RS).

We take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all the state institutions which provided the data, as well as to all the experts and civil society organisations which took part in the consultative process and thus shaped the text of the National Strategy for Creating an Enabling Environment for Development of Civil Society in the Republic of Serbia.

*Office for Cooperation with Civil Society  
of the Government of the Republic of Serbia*

June 2015





# RESUME

The subject of this study are 26,042 national civil society organisations (CSOs) registered at the Serbian Business Registers Agency (SBRA) at the end of 2014, of which 25,416 associations and 626 foundations and endowments.

CSO sector in Serbia is relatively young, as the majority of associations, foundations and endowments were formed after the year 2000. At the same time, one should bear in mind that some associations in Serbia were established more than 100 years ago, and that Serbia has a long tradition of philanthropy and endowment philanthropy. Some of the biggest endowments were established in the 19th century.

The majority of associations is located in Vojvodina, followed by Belgrade, while the others are equally

distributed across the regions. Just over 25% of associations registered a business activity, leaders among them being the newly-established associations, and the associations located in Vojvodina. Less than 20% of associations, most of which in Vojvodina, are members of a network. Most of the longest-standing associations are members of some network.

Most foundations and endowments are located in Belgrade - twice as many than in Vojvodina, while their number in other parts of the country is negligible. Of 626 foundations and endowments, foundations are the most frequent form of organisation - 75% in total. Endowments engaged in public benefit activities represent some 20% of the total number of foundations and endowments.



The majority of legal representatives of CSOs are men - 72% in associations and 64% in foundations and endowments.

A separate survey on mapping the cooperation between the public administration and civil society, which represents an integral part of this publication, was conducted in early 2015 for the purpose of the Strategy. Of the total number of state bodies (32) that submitted information on cooperation, only more than 30% have resources for cooperation with the civil society. But having an organisational unit or a focal point in charge of cooperation with the civil society did not lead to more frequent cooperation with the CSOs in 2014 relative to those state institutions that didn't have them. This officially speaks in favour of the assertion that availability of resources is not key for the public administration – civil society cooperation.

Only two of the nine bodies that have organisational units or focal points in charge of cooperation with the civil society conducted public hearings last year. Seven did not.

There are only two cases of dedicated organisational units which deal with the activities related to cooperation between the state administration and civil

society organisations, whereas the remaining seven bodies delegate these activities to the departments primarily tasked with other duties: international co-operation, public information, administration, etc.

The Parliament of the Republic of Serbia passed a total of 146 laws, of which 115 (79%) in an urgent procedure in the period 01 January – 31 December 2014. There is a pronounced trend for the public hearings to be conducted for a very limited number of acts, or not to be conducted at all in absence of a legal obligation to that effect. On the average, public hearings are conducted for one in ten acts adopted or submitted to the Government (10.5% of the total number of acts). Similarly, public hearings were organised for a very small number of acts also among the bodies that were the proponents of a high number of acts in the course of 2014.

The representatives of the state bodies themselves do not perceive a small number of public hearings as a lack of cooperation with the civil society – they deem the cooperation was in place even if a public hearing had been organised only once during the previous year. The most frequent reason for absence of a public hearing was absence of a legal obligation to conduct it.



From the perspective of state authorities' representatives – the high number of comments submitted during public hearings cannot be accepted as they are declaratory and do not contain concrete and specific proposals for changes of acts.

Other forms of cooperation – informing, counselling, participation – appear twice as frequently – for 20% of acts on the average. All 16 bodies that reported this form of cooperation also reported direct involvement of civil society representatives in the work of established project or working groups.

During the course of the year, only a few of the surveyed state bodies established working groups to which they invite, most often, certain civil society organisations that they recognise as relevant for different reasons. Public calls to CSOs for membership in working groups are published much less frequently (only eight of the total 38 working groups in 2014). The organisations are primarily selected on the basis of concurrence of areas of fulfillment of objectives with the working group topic or according to earlier publications, results and cooperation with the state authorities.

Taking into account the facts above, strengthening capacities of all stakeholders relevant to the operation

and activities of civil society organisations represents a significant component of the Strategy. It is about the capacities of civil servants, representatives of local government units, civil society organisations, the media, representatives of institutions at national and local levels and others.

Trainings are organized by the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society, Ministry of Finance, Human Resources Management Service, European Integration Office, other institutions at national level as well as local governments. Currently, there are records on the structure of participants and the information on the content and topics of trainings in the Human Resources Management Service. Yet, there are no centralized and systematized data for all state administrative bodies that organize trainings nor there are data that would imply topics relevant to CSOs. Therefore, this is the area with ample space for more work related to standardized collection of data on trainings organized by state authorities.

As for the total revenues of associations a slight growth in Serbian Dinar sums over the past several years has been recorded. Nevertheless, when impact of inflation is taken into account, a slight drop is evident in 2013. One should also bear in mind that the number of associations has been growing from



one year to another which resulted in the increase of the number of associations that do not generate revenues. The total revenues of foundations and endowments grew more progressively and so the total revenues in 2013 are 50% higher than those in 2010.

Taking into account regional distribution in 2013, more than 50% of revenues were generated by the associations from the region of Belgrade, and around 25% by associations from Vojvodina. Approximately 75% of total revenues are generated by foundations and endowments from the region of Belgrade and 25% by those from Vojvodina.

Among the 10 associations with the highest revenues in 2013, there are as many as nine from the territory of the City of Belgrade and only one from Kragujevac. However, when looking into type of organization, one may conclude that none of them is a “regular” association but rather an organization with a special status (governed by law), linked with business sector or certain profession, or established by the staff of a foreign organisation.

Of the 10 foundations and endowments with the highest revenues, six are from the region of Belgrade, three from Vojvodina (Novi Sad, Vršac, Subotica), and one from Southern and Eastern Serbia (Vranje).

They differ depending on the objectives they promote and safeguard and almost all of them – with the exception of the Endowment of Ilija M. Kolarac – were established in recent past.

According to the data of Serbian Business Registers Agency, more than 80% of CSOs that submitted reports did not have a single employee in the period 2010 - 2013. The majority of persons were employed in associations and a significantly lower number in foundations and endowments. According to the data of the Pension and Disability Insurance Fund, the total number of persons working in CSOs decreased significantly, irrespective of the type of contract they were engaged on. In line with the drop of the number of persons engaged, contributions also decrease and so the total years of service for persons engaged on the basis of labour contracts. In 2013, the share of CSOs employees in the total number of employees in Serbia is 0.7%.<sup>1</sup>

In 2013, most of the employees work in CSOs located in the region of Belgrade which corresponds to the fact that the majority of CSOs with the highest total revenues are located in this region.

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<sup>1</sup> Source of data for the total number of employees: Labour Force Survey, 2013, Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade, 2014, Internet, [http://webbrzs.stat.gov.rs/WebSite/repository/documents/00/01/35/42/SB-578\\_ARS\\_2013-SAJT.pdf](http://webbrzs.stat.gov.rs/WebSite/repository/documents/00/01/35/42/SB-578_ARS_2013-SAJT.pdf).



With respect to breakdown by municipality, the City of Belgrade leads with nine associations with the highest number of employees, while one organization is located on the territory of the City of Novi Sad. Out of this number, the two are faith-based organizations. The size of the budget is not necessarily in proportion with the number of employees as the comparison between total revenues and the number of employees shows.

Among the foundations and endowments with the highest number of employees, seven are from Belgrade, two from Subotica and one from Topola. They differ by year of establishment, form of organization and the objectives they promote, safeguard and advance. As with the associations, the number of employees is not in proportion with the size of budget. In other words, foundations and endowments with significantly lower total revenues relative to others have a higher number of employees.

No systematized data exist on the number and type of CSOs providing social protection services, and the number and type of services. These data may be extrapolated from the general information collected by the Republic Institute for Social Protection.

With respect to social services' provision, local governments trust public social protection providers

more than the ones from private sector or civil society. For the most part civil society organisations that provide social services at the local level are associations of persons with disabilities, and thus the services provided by CSOs are most often directed to persons with disabilities – children and youth primarily. Less than 30% of accredited programmes for social service providers are from CSOs, while less than 50% of trainings were implemented by CSOs according to the ledger of realized trainings kept since the establishment of accreditation programme. At the same time, according to the records in early 2015, the trainings implemented by CSOs mostly related to the area of support to marginalized groups.

The number of volunteers in Serbia based on official reports submitted by organizers to the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy each year, shows modest 1,166 registered volunteers in 2014. On the other hand, the CSOs themselves depict completely different picture and estimate the number of volunteers in the sector to be much higher.

The role of civil society organisations in the health care sector, in health policies and normative acts is not defined. The cooperation of the Ministry of Health and CSOs takes place through the Programme of Support to Associations and Organisations which provided financial support to 15 CSOs in 2013. This



Programme also includes support to the activities the Red Cross of Serbia.

There are no systematized data on informal education and CSOs as service providers in this field. The only information relates to the number of CSOs that were supported from the budget through public calls. The system for cooperation with CSOs will be established once the corresponding by-laws are endorsed.

The participation of CSOs in the process of European Integration happens largely through cooperation with the European Integration Office (SEIO), and the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society. In the course of 2014 SEIO supported five CSO projects dealing with information sharing about different aspects of European Union and European integration of Serbia. SEIO maintains regular cooperation with CSOs and coalitions focused on EU and the EU integration of Serbia.

Memoranda on cooperation in the area of planning, programming, monitoring and reporting on international development assistance between the Office for European Integration and the leading sectoral civil society organisations (SEKO) were signed in November 2014. Eight SEKO consortia were selected and their representatives take part in various

meetings related to EU support programming. SEIO and the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society organised several trainings for CSOs SEKO mechanism representatives. Minimum financial support for SEKO operation was ensured by TRAG Foundation.

In the earlier EU financial cycle 2007-2013, 412 civil society organisations took part in implementation of projects in the programmes of cross-border and transnational cooperation which represents 19% of all the beneficiary institutions that implemented projects within the framework of these programmes in Serbia.



# STATUS INFORMATION

## ASSOCIATIONS

### Geographical distribution of associations +

On 31 December 2014, there were 25,416 registered associations in Serbia. This represents an 11% increase compared to 2013. Of this number, the majority were located in the Vojvodina (34%) and Belgrade (29%), with a smaller number of associations in Šumadija and Western Serbia (19%), and Southern and Eastern Serbia (16%).

Table 1.1 – Geographical  
distribution of associations +

Region	Associations by region	Share in total no. +
Belgrade	7,431	29.2%
Vojvodina	8,749	34.4%
Šumadija and Western Serbia	4,860	19.1%
Southern and Eastern Serbia	4,158	16.4%
Kosovo and Metohija	218	0.9%
Total	25,416	100.0% +



Most of the associations work in the largest cities. There are 5,284 (21%) registered associations in several central Belgrade municipalities (Stari Grad, Novi Beograd, Savski Venac, Palilula, Voždovac, Vračar, Zvezdara) only. In Novi Sad, there are 2,115 (8%) registered associations- the highest CSO representation by cities/municipalities relative to the total number of associations. The municipality of Stari Grad (Belgrade) follows with 5% participation in the total number of associations, Kragujevac and Subotica with 2.5% each. The lowest number of associations are seated in Crna Trava (0.03%) and Mali Zvornik and Trgovište (0.06% each).

In addition to the number of associations, the level of activism and citizen participation is also depicted by the number of citizens<sup>2</sup> by association, whereby a lower number of citizens by associations implies higher activism and *vice versa*. The leading municipality in this respect is Stari Grad (Belgrade) with 39.17 inhabitants by association, followed by two more Belgrade municipalities (Savski Venac with 55.18 and Vračar with 81.05 inhabitants by association).

<sup>2</sup> Source: Census of Population, 2011, Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia



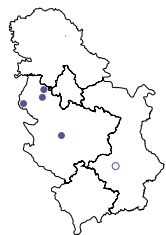
Graph 1.1 – Municipalities with the lowest number of inhabitants by association



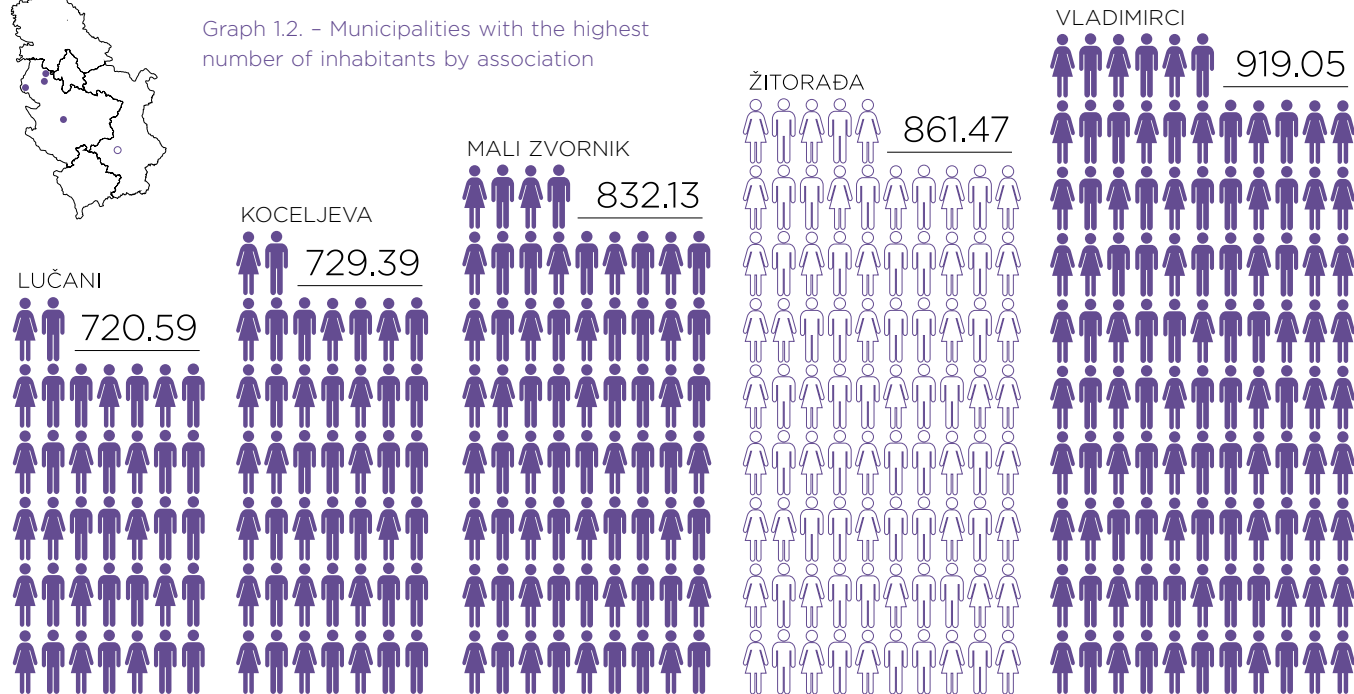


The municipalities with the highest number of inhabitants by association are Vladimirci (919.05), Žitorađa (861.47), Mali Zvornik (832.13), Koceljeva (729.39), and Lučani (720.59). When looking at the number

of associations by inhabitant, one may observe that the same municipalities have an average of 0.001 associations by inhabitant.



Graph 1.2. - Municipalities with the highest number of inhabitants by association





## Year of establishment

By looking into the associations by year of establishment shows that the civil society sector in Serbia is relatively young. A trend of growth is evident, especially over the past several years. More than 50% of associations (52%) were established in 2010 and later, approximately 25% (26%) between 2001 and 2009, and some 13% before 1989. The lowest number of associations - only 9% of them - was established in the period 1990 - 2000.

Table 2.1 - Associations by year of establishment

Year of establishment	No. of associations	Share in total no. of associations
Until 1989	3,237	12.7%
1990-2000	2,301	9.1%
2001-2009	6,715	26.4%
2010 and later	13,163	51.8%
Total	25,416	100%

Among the associations established in 2010 and later, the majority was established in 2011 (22%), and the lowest number in 2010 (18%). The trend of es-

tablishment in 2013 and 2014 is quite the same (21% and 20% respectively).

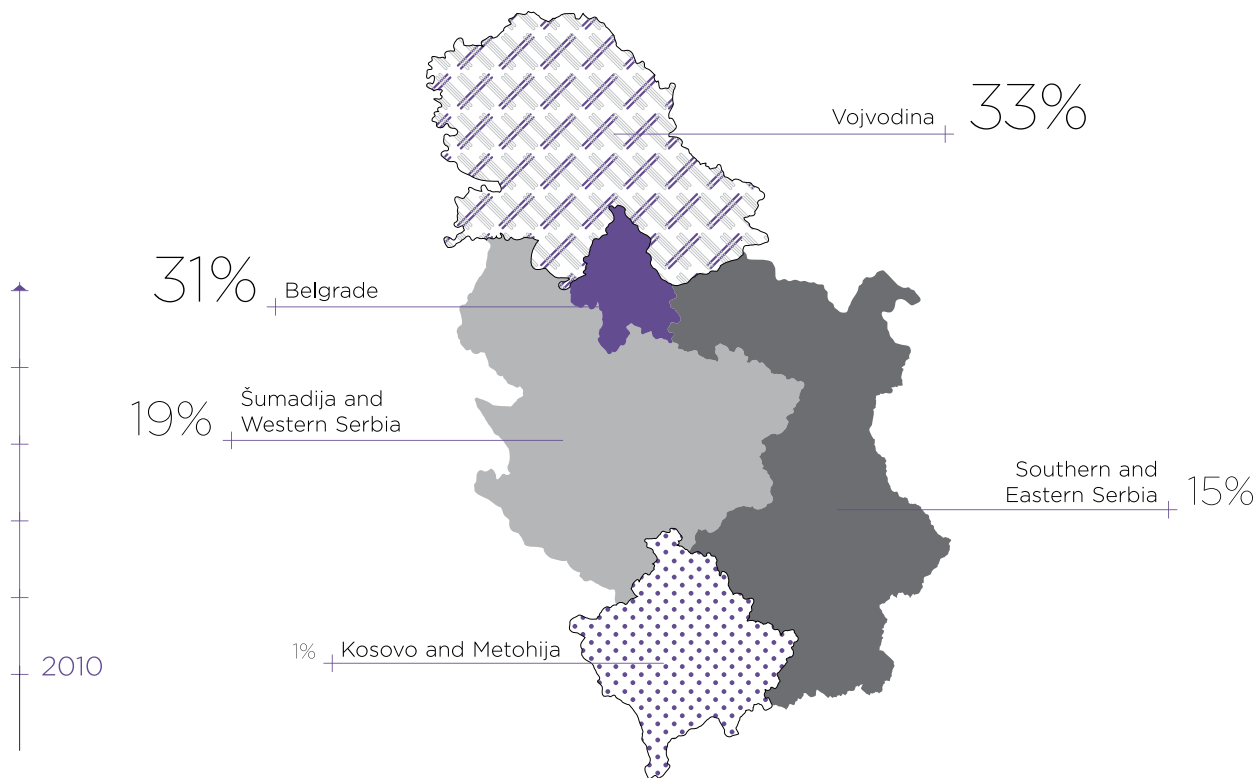
Table 2.2. - Associations established after 2010, by year of establishment

Year of establishment	No. of associations	Share in total no. of associations established in 2010 and later
2010	2,323	18%
2011	2,930	22%
2012	2,583	20%
2013	2,749	21%
2014	2,575	20%
Total	13,163	100%

Based on the regional distribution, the trend of establishment of organisations until 2010 and later does not differ significantly from the geographical distribution of all the associations. Vojvodina comes first with some 30% (33%) of all associations, followed by Belgrade (31%), Šumadija and Western Serbia (20%), and Southern and Eastern Serbia (15%).



Graph 2.1 – Associations founded after 2010 by region





## Economic activity

Approximately 25% of associations registered business activity (25,6%). As many as 77% of them are the associations established over the past 14 years or 52% those established since 2010. Associations established in the period 2001–2009 (25%) and those until 1989 (15%) follow. The lowest number of associations that registered business activity – 8% only – were established in the period 1990 – 2000.

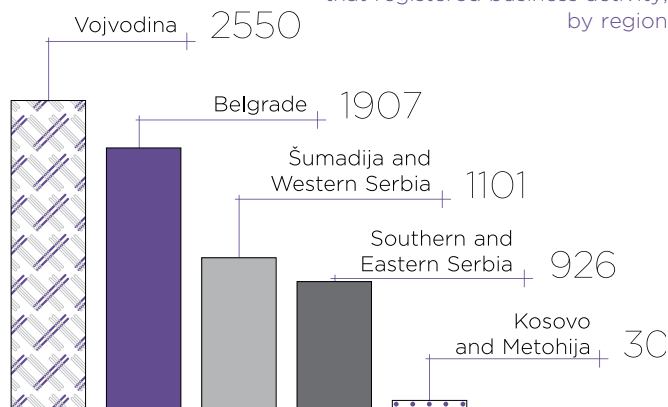
Table 3.1 – Associations that registered business activity, by year of establishment

Year of establishment	No. of associations	Share in total no. of associations with business activity
Until 1989	985	15%
1990–2000	544	8%
2001–2009	1,629	25%
2010 and later	3,356	52%
Total	6,514	100%

The highest number of associations that registered business activity is located in Vojvodina (39%). It is followed by associations from Belgrade (29%), Šumadija and Western Serbia (17%), Southern and

Eastern Serbia (14%). From the aspect of municipalities, the associations from Vršac proved to have “most entrepreneurial spirit” – 54% of the total number of associations in this municipality registered a business activity. They are followed by municipalities from Boljevac (52%), Brus and Bački Petrovac (50% each). The least “entrepreneurial spirit” prevails among the associations in the municipalities of Žagubica, Bujanovac, Medveđa, Barajevo (Belgrade) and Opovo, where less than 10% in each have registered business activity.

Graph 3.1 – Number of associations that registered business activity, by region





## Membership of association

Less than 20% of associations -18% of them- are members of a network or an alliance. It is worth noting that this information differs from the data obtained in other surveys, since associations most often do not register information on their involvement in networks, alliances or associations in SBRA, after they had done it when registering for the first time. In practice, the number of associations that are part of a larger network is higher, and according to different estimates range between 35% and 75%.

Among those that are members of some association, the majority is located in Vojvodina (33%), Belgrade (24%), Šumadija and Western Serbia (21%) and Southern and Eastern Serbia (21%).

Table 4.1 - Associations that are members of networks/alliances, by region

Region	No. of associations	Share in the total no. of associations with membership
Belgrade	1.099	24%
Vojvodina	1.547	33%
Šumadija and Western Serbia	1.004	21%

Southern and Eastern Serbia	980	21%
Kosovo and Metohija	52	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.682</b>	<b>100%</b>

The highest share of associations that are part of a larger network (45%), compared to the total number of associations in the municipality, are registered in the municipality of Rekovac. It is followed by the municipalities of Ub (42%), Veliko Gradište (41%) and Velika Plana (41%). In the municipality of Mali Zvornik, one of the municipalities with the lowest number of associations, as many as 40% of them are members of a larger network.

The municipalities whose associations are members of a larger network in less than 10% of cases, relative to the total number of associations in a municipality, are: Novi Beograd (9,5%), Niš - Pantelej (8,1%), Žabalj (7,2%), Niška Banja (5,4%), Pećinci (4,9%) and Čajetina (4,4%).

Most of the oldest associations are members of a larger network. From the perspective of the year of establishment, the associations established until 1989 are in the lead with 39% of them being members of



a wider network, followed by those established between 2001 and 2009 (32%), and those established in the period 1990 - 2000 (21%). The associations established after 2010 and later are members of larger networks much less - only 8% of them.

Table 4.2 - Associations that are members of network/ alliance, by year of establishment

Year of establishment	No. of associations	Share in total no. of associations with membership
Until 1989	1,842	39%
1990-2000	964	21%
2001-2009	1,489	32%
2010 and later	387	8%
Total	4,682	100%

## Gender of legal representative

According to the law, an association may have more than one legal representative. Thus, the total number of legal representatives outnumbers the total number of associations: there were 27,561 legal representatives in 2014, which is 8% more than the total number of associations. Of this number, as many as 72% are men and only 28% are women.

Table 5.1 - Legal representatives of associations, by gender

Gender of legal representative	Number	% in total
Male	19,780	72%
Female	7,781	28%
Total	27,561	100%

The highest representation of women among the legal representatives exists in Belgrade (34%), followed by Vojvodina with 30%. In other regions, approximately 20% of legal representatives are women.

Table 5.2 - Legal representatives of associations by gender, by region of establishment of association

Region	Male	Female	Total
Belgrade	5,511	2,779	8,290
Vojvodina	6,576	2,863	9,439
Šumadija and Western Serbia	4,001	1,082	5,083
Southern and Eastern Serbia	3,528	1,016	4,544
Kosovo and Metohija	164	41	205
Total	19,780	7,781	27,561



# FOUNDATIONS AND ENDOWMENTS

## Geographical distribution of foundations and endowments

The total number of foundations and endowments registered into the Serbian Business Registers Agency at the end of 2014 was 626. Foundations and endowments are mostly concentrated in Belgrade (60%), Vojvodina (28%). A significantly lower number of them are present Šumadija and Western Serbia (7%) and Southern and Eastern Serbia (5%). With respect to breakdown by municipality/city, the highest number of foundations and endowments are seated in the Belgrade municipality of Stari Grad (26%), followed by Novi Sad with 13%, and the Belgrade municipalities of Savski Venac (7%) and Vračar (6%).

Not a single foundation or endowment has been registered in more than 50% of Serbian municipalities/cities. In the majority of municipalities where foundations/endowments exist, this number is below 1% relative to their total number in Serbia. These data lead to a conclusion that this is a not yet well known type of citizens' organization in Serbia, although foundations are easier to establish compared to associations in terms of number of persons required

for their establishment and the managerial rights of the founders.

Table 6.1 - Foundations and endowments by geographical distribution

Region	Foundations and endowments	Share in total no. of foundations
Belgrade	374	59.74%
Vojvodina	176	28.12%
Šumadija and Western Serbia	44	7.03%
Southern and Eastern Serbia	32	5.11%
Total	626	100%

## Year of establishment

Like associations, foundations and endowments are relatively "young". The majority of foundations and endowments were established in 2010 and later (41%), after the adoption of the Law on Foundations and Endowments; approximately 30% (33%) in the period 2001-2009; followed by those established in



the period 1990–2000 (16%), and the smallest number established before 1989 (10%). At the same time, one should bear in mind that Serbia has a tradition of philanthropy and endowment philanthropy and that some of the biggest endowments were established more than 150 years ago (during the 19th century).

Thus, for instance, one of the biggest donors was Captain Miša Anastasijević (1803–1885), “Rothschild of Serbia” the wealthiest Serb of his time. In 1863, he presented his edifice in Belgrade to “his fatherland” for educational purposes. This edifice housed: Great School, Gymnasium, Ministry of Education, National Library and Museum. Captain Miša bequeathed funds to the University of Belgrade which made it third on the list of the wealthiest universities in Europe.<sup>3</sup>

Table 7.1 – Foundations and endowments by year of establishment

Year of establishment	Foundations and endowments	Share in total no. of foundations
Until 1989	65	10%
1990–2000	99	16%
2001–2009	206	33%

2010 and later	256	41%
Total	626	100%

Over the past five years, 256 foundations and endowments were established. Their number continues to increase from over years and thus the share in the total number of foundations and endowments established after 2010 grew each year: from 12% in 2010 to 27% in 2014.

Table 7.2 – Foundations and endowments established after 2010, by year of establishment

Year of establishment	Total no. of foundations and endowments	Share in total no. of foundations and endowments founded after 2010
2010	31	12%
2011	38	15%
2012	50	20%
2013	67	26%
2014	70	27%
Total	256	100%

<sup>3</sup> Source: Branka Pavlović, *Poruke vremena prošlih: istorija i tradicija filantropije u Srbiji u XIX and XX veku*, TRAG foundation, Belgrade, 2007



Among the foundations and endowments established before 2010, the majority was established in Belgrade (57%), followed by Vojvodina (28%), and considerably less in Šumadija and Western Serbia (8%) and Southern and Eastern Serbia (7%). By municipality, the highest number was founded in the municipality of Stari Grad (17%), Novi Sad (15%) and Novi Beograd (8%).

Table 7.3 - Foundations and endowments established after 2010, by region of establishment

Region	Total no. of foundations and endowments	Share in total no. of foundations and endowments established after 2010
Belgrade	146	57.03%
Vojvodina	71	27.73%
Šumadija and Western Serbia	21	8.20%
Southern and Eastern Serbia	18	7.03%
Total	256	100%

## Type of organization

Foundations are the most frequent type of organisation with the share exceeding 75% (80%) in the total number of endowments and foundations. Endowments engaged in public benefit activities represent 19.5% of all the endowments and foundations. Only one sports foundation and one private-interest endowment have been registered so their individual share in the total number is 0.16% each. Bearing in mind that establishment of an endowment requires foundation capital amounting to EUR 30,000 (in Dinar countervalue), while this is not required for foundations, it is understandable that this should be one of the key reasons for foundations to be a more frequent form of organisation.

Table 8.1 - Foundations and endowments by type of organisation

Region	Total no. of foundations and endowments number	Share in total number
Foundation		80.19%
Endowment engaged in public benefit activities	122	19.49%
Sports foundation	1	0.16%
Endowment with private interest	1	0.16%
Total	626	100%



## Objectives promoted, safeguarded and advanced by foundations and endowments

When establishing the foundations and endowments, the founders may select among 19 objectives offered for promotion, safeguarding and advancing. They may also opt for “other objectives” not specifically listed in the registration form with multiple choice allowed. Data show that almost 25% (23%) of foundations and endowments opted for “other objectives”, which mostly includes a combination of several existing /offered objectives or specific sectors (for instance, concrete support or preserving memory about someone). Science and education follow with 10.5%, and humanitarian activities (9.3%). The lowest number of foundations and endowments opted for objectives such as animal protection (1.3%), consumer protection (0.9%) and anti-corruption (0.7%).

Table 9.1 - Foundations and endowments by objectives promoted, safeguarded and advanced

Promotion, safeguarding and advancement:	No. of foundations	% in total no. of foundations
Other objectives	552	22.8
Science and education	255	10.5

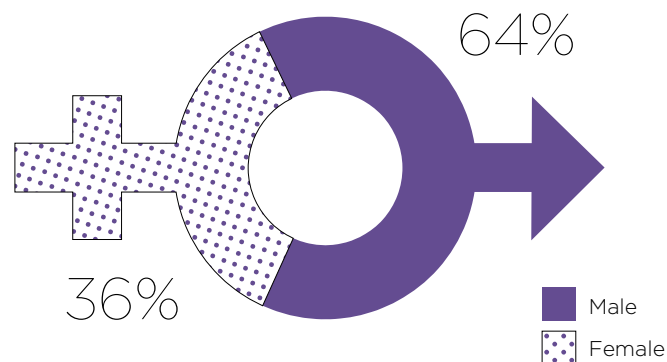
Humanitarian activities	224	9.3
Culture and public information information	169	7.0
Arts	165	6.8
Care of children and youth	151	6.2
Social and health care	92	3.8
Human, civic and minority rights	92	3.8
Environmental protection	88	3.6
Position of persons with disabilities	81	3.3
Democratic values	78	3.2
Regional development	78	3.2
Sustainable development	74	3.1
EU integration and global understanding	72	3.0
Amateur sports	71	2.9
Assistance to elderly	65	2.7
Gender equality	42	1.7
Animal protection	31	1.3
Consumer protection	22	0.9
Anti-corruption	17	0.7
Total	2,419	100%



## Gender of legal representative

As opposed to associations in which assembly is the highest management body, foundations and endowments must have a steering board and an administrator. Administrator is a legal representative of a foundation /endowment (other titles for this office are also possible). In late 2014, the number of legal representatives was identical with the number of foundations/endowments (626). Of this number, 64% were men and 36% women which is a somewhat more balanced gender structure than in associations, although favour of men persist.

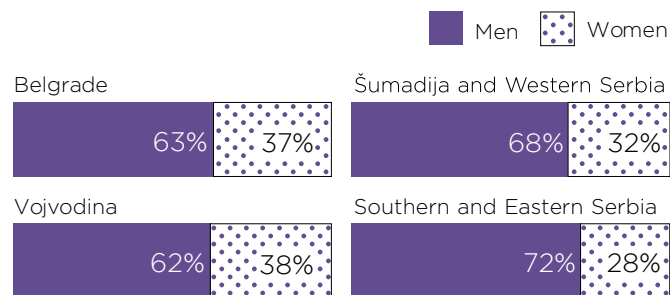
Graph 4.1 – Share of male and female legal representatives in total number of foundations and endowments



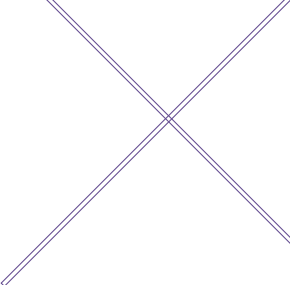
The highest share of women among legal representatives in foundations/endowments is evidenced in Vojvodina (38%), followed by the region of Belgrade (37%), Šumadija and Western Serbia (32%), with the lowest being in Southern and Eastern Serbia (28%).

Since foundations and endowments are not registered in more than 50% of Serbian municipalities, there is only one in some of them and consequently, information on legal representatives by gender and municipality is not conducive. However, data analysis showed that the share of women among legal representatives is increasing with the later year of establishment of foundations.

Graph 4.2 – Gender structure of legal representatives of foundations and endowments, by region







# INSTITUTIONAL AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION OF STATE ADMINISTRATION WITH THE CIVIL SOCIETY

## INTRODUCTION

The first institutional step in strengthening cooperation and partnership with the civil society was the establishment of the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society of the Government of the Republic of Serbia in 2010. The Office was established as a Government department on the basis of the Decision on the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society (*Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia*, no. 26/10). The Office executes expert duties for the Government aimed at

ensuring harmonized actions of state administration with the civil society organisations.

Aiming at internal reforms and harmonization with *EU acquis communautaire*, Serbia made significant steps towards establishing a legal framework for participation of civil society organisations in the development and formulation of the legislation and strategic documents during the past decade. Inter alia,



the obligation of transparency of work of state institutions and the right for public to access information of public interest was introduced; general availability of laws and other regulations was regulated; the possibility of conducting public hearings in legislative processes was introduced; e-administration system was improved and Guidelines for Involvement of Civil Society Organisations in Legislative Processes were adopted.

## MAPPING COOPERATION – SURVEY METHODOLOGY

This part of the baseline survey focuses primarily on the results of “Mapping Cooperation of Institutions and CSOs”. This online survey was conducted in the period 19 January - 26 March 2015. The call was sent to 42 state administration bodies with a request to fill the questionnaire electronically via online Internet application. In all, 32 state administrative bodies responded<sup>4</sup>.

The themes covered by the questionnaire referred to:

1) Organisational resources that the state administrative institutions have at their disposal for cooperation with associations and other civil society organisations;

At the same time, more effort should be invested in further advancement of institutional and legal framework, especially related to amendments of acts governing the issue of organising public hearings, improvement of legal framework for consultations, establishment of the Council for Civil Society Development, etc.

2) Type of cooperation that the state administrative institutions harboured with the associations and other civil society organisations in 2014:

- o Conducting public hearings,
- o Informing, counselling and participation,
- o Working groups, project groups and other types of bodies;

3) Reasons for non-inclusion of associations and other civil society organisations in legislative processes.

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<sup>4</sup> List of state administration bodies who responded to the questionnaire in Annex 5, Table 1



## RESOURCES FOR COOPERATION WITH THE CIVIL SOCIETY

Of the 32 state administrative bodies that submitted data during the survey, nine stated they had a dedicated organisational unit or a focal point for cooperation with the civil society organizations.

Table 10.1 – Organisational units in charge of cooperation with civil society in state administrative bodies

Body	Organisational unit in charge of cooperation with civil society
Ministry of Youth and Sports	Dept. for Cooperation with Youth Offices and Associations
Republic Secretariat for Public Policies	Group for Cooperation with Companies and Citizens and Launching Initiatives
Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications	Sector of Information Society
Ministry of Health	Sector for Public Health and Programme Health Care

Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development	Sector for Education Development and Int'l Cooperation in Education and Science
Commissariat for Refugees and Migration of the Republic of Serbia	Group for Returns, Cooperation with Int'l Organisations and Public Relations
Public Procurement Directorate	Dept. for Analysis of Public Procurement System and Int'l Cooperation
Republic Agency for Peaceful Resolution of Labour Disputes	Legal Department
Office of the Coordination Body of the Government of the Republic of Serbia for Municipalities Preševo, Bujanovac and Medveđa	Sector for Projects and Public Relations

Of this nine organisational units, the two have “cooperation with the civil society” denoted in their titles. In the remaining seven, other sectors dealing with international cooperation, legal departments, etc. – take this role.



## PROCESS OF ADOPTION OF LEGAL ACTS IN 2014

Of the total number of state institutions and bodies that submitted information (32), eight did not have any activity<sup>5</sup> related to passing of acts in 2014, 18

adopted or referred to the Government up to 14 acts and six had passed or submitted to the Government more than 20 acts.

Table 11.1 – State institutions and bodies that adopted and referred to the Government the largest number of acts during 2014 (more than 20)

+ Body	No. of acts adopted or referred to the Government		
Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transportation, Construction and Infrastructure	85	Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications	41
Ministry of Youth and Sports	69	Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs	29
		Ministry of Health	23
		Ministry of Finance	23

<sup>5</sup> European Integration Office, Railroad Directorate, Centre for Demining, Directorate for Commodity Reserves of the Republic of Serbia, Office for Cooperation with the Media, Agency for Peaceful Settlement of Labour Disputes of the Republic of Serbia, Intellectual Property Office of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



## PUBLIC HEARINGS

In all, 11 state bodies that participated in the study stated that they had held public hearing within the process of adoption of acts in 2014.

Table 12.1 – State administrative bodies that organised public hearings during 2014

Institution	No. of acts passed or sent to the Government	No. of acts subject to public hearing
Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transportation, Construction and Infrastructure	85	15
Ministry of Justice	14	6
Ministry of Culture and Information	3	3
Ministry of Interior	2	2

Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs	29	2
Ministry of Finance	23	2
Ministry of Economy	14	2
Ministry of Youth and Sports	69	2
Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development	1	1
Office for Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia	4	1
Ministry of State Administration and Local Government	12	1

Interestingly, the bodies that were the most frequent endorsers and proponents of acts, conducted public hearings for one in five, ten or even less acts. Some did not even initiate public hearings.

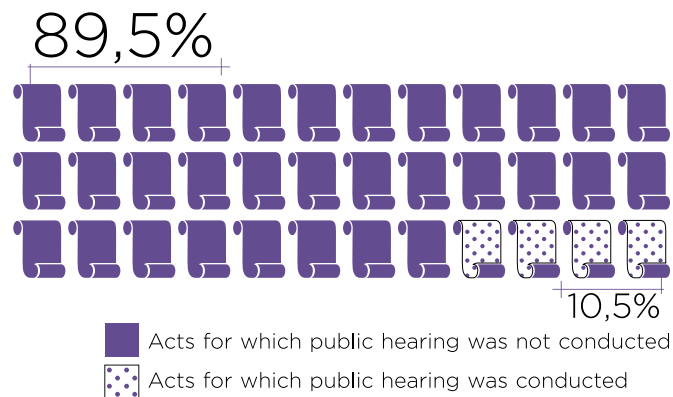


Table 12.2 – Public hearings conducted at state administrative bodies which most frequently passed or proposed acts

Institution	No. of acts adopted or referred to the Government	No. of acts referred to public hearing
Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transportation, Construction and Infrastructure	85	15
Ministry of Youth and Sports	69	2
Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications	41	0
Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs	29	2
Ministry of Health	23	0
Ministry of Finance	23	2

From the aspect of the total number of acts adopted in 2014, it is worth noting that public hearings were organised for one in ten acts only – of the total of 351 acts adopted, public hearings were organised for 37 acts (10, 5%) in all.

Graph 5.1 – Percentage of acts subject to public hearings in 2014



The number of public hearings conducted by the bodies with resources for cooperation with the civil society (an organisational unit or a focal point) compared to the ones which do not have them does not differ much in 2014. Out of nine bodies that have organizational unit/focal points for cooperation with civil society, only two organized public hearings in 2014.



Table 12.3 – Number of public hearings compared to existence of organisational unit /focal points for cooperation with the civil society

	Bodies that have an organisational unit / focal points for cooperation with civil society	Bodies that do not have an organisational unit / focal points for cooperation with civil society
Bodies that conducted public hearings	2	7
Bodies that did not conduct public hearings	7	16

With respect to participation of associations and other civil society organisations in the public hearings, the information shows that in the majority of cases they had been involved in all the public hearings,

with the exception of one state administrative body wherein the organisations were included in 50% of the public hearings held.

Table 12.4 – Number of acts adopted, number of acts subject of public hearings and number of public hearings in which associations and other civil society organisations participated

Body	No. of acts adopted or referred to the Government	No. of acts subject of public hearing	No. of public hearings enlisting participation of CSOs
Cabinet of the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Transportation, Construction and Infrastructure	85	15	8
Ministry of Justice	14	6	6



Body	No. of acts adopted or referred to the Government	No. of acts subject of public hearing	No. of public hearings enlisting participation of CSOs
Ministry of Culture and Information	3	3	3
Ministry of Interior	2	2	2
Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs	2	2	2
Ministry of Economy	14	2	2
Ministry of Youth and Sports	68	2	2
Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development	1	1	1
Ministry of Finance	23	2	1
Office for Human and Minority Rights of the Republic of Serbia	4	1	1
Ministry of Youth and Sports	1	1	1
Ministry of State Administration and Local Government	12	1	1

+

+



With respect to the type of acts subject to public hearings –the majority of public hearings in 2014 were organised for laws (23), development strategies (4), two action plans and one rulebook.

Table 12.5 – Acts that were subject of public hearing in 2014, by type

Type of act	No. of acts subject to public hearing
Law	23
Development strategy	4
Action Plan	2
Rulebook	1
Total	30

In the majority of cases (28), public hearing lasted as prescribed by the regulations - 20 or more days, and shorter than that in only two cases.

Table 12.6 – Duration of public hearings in 2014

Duration of public hearing	No. of acts
Less than 20 days	2
20 days and longer	28
Total	30

In 2014, public hearings were conducted in several ways, as a rule – the participants had the possibility of submitting comments in public meetings (28 acts), on the webpage of the proponent (28), and on the e-administration portal (5).

Table 12.7 – Ways of conducting public hearings

Manner of holding public hearing	No. of acts subject of public hearing
Public event (round table, work meeting, panels, etc.	28
Webpage of proponent (online public hearing)	28
E-administration portal	5

In the course of last year, the associations were the most frequent participants in the public hearings conducted (21 act), followed by interested individuals (17), business sector (12), academic community (11), and foundations and other civil society organisations (10).



Table 12.8 – Participants in public hearing in 2014

Participants in public hearing	No. of public hearing they participated in
Associations	21
Interested citizens (individuals)	17
Business sector (companies, employers, chambers of commerce)	12
Academic community	11
Other CSOs (foundations, endowments)	10
State authorities	1
Youth of political parties	1

The number of comments received in public hearings ranged from 0 to 100, whereby 15 comments were submitted in the majority of hearings (16). The number of comments exceeded 20 during 11 public hearings. Not a single comment was submitted in three public hearings.

Table 12.9 – Number of comments submitted by public hearing

No. of comments submitted	No. of public hearings
Not one comment	3
1-15 comments	16
22-36 comments	4
60-100 comments	7

All the submitted comments were taken into consideration in the majority of cases (17 hearings). Half of the comments were taken into consideration in five hearings, and not a single comment was taken into account in five hearings. Interestingly, these were public hearings with more participants and more comments received.

Table 12.10 – Share of comments taken into consideration

No. of comments taken into consideration	No. of public hearings
Not a single comment taken into consideration	5
Up to 50% of the comments taken into consideration	5
All comments taken into consideration	17



In approximately 30% of public hearings, up to 50% of comments were accepted (9); more than 50% of comments were accepted in four public hearings, and all the comments were accepted in four public hearings. Not one comment was accepted in ten public hearings.

Table 12.11 – Share of comments accepted

Share of comments accepted	No. of public hearings
Not a single comment accepted	10
Up to 50% of the comments accepted	9
More than 50% of the comments accepted	4
All comments accepted	4

Speaking of the reasons for rejecting comments in public hearings, the representatives of state administrative bodies most often state that these were declaratory, that they contained either praises or criticism and that they offered no viable suggestions for amendment of the proposed act.

Table 12.12 – Reasons for rejecting comments from public hearings

Reasons for rejecting comments from public hearings	Number of public hearings
The comments were declaratory-praises or criticism	9
The comments offered no concrete suggestion for amendment of a regulation	7
The comments were in contravention of the effective regulation	5
The comments referred to subject of another regulation	5

Reporting on the conducted public hearings was most often in the form of publication of the reports on public hearings on the webpages of the proponents (18), publication of integrated comments on the webpages of the proponents (7), submission of reports to the Government (7), publication of reports on e-administration portal (5) and informing of the associations about the adoption of their comments (4).



Table 12.13 – Method of reporting on conducted public hearings

Method of reporting on conducted public hearings	No. of reports
Publication of reports on public hearing on webpages of the proponents	18
Publication of integrated comments on the webpages of the proponents	7
Report to be submitted to the Government	7
Publication of reports on e-administration portal	5
Informing of the associations about the adoption of their comments	4

When asked about the reasons for not conducting public hearing in general (taking into account that they are conducted for one in ten proposals of acts), the representatives of state administration most often referred to the absence of a legal obligation to do so.

Table 12.14 – Reasons for absence of public hearings

Reason for absence of public hearings	No. of bodies that stated the reason
For a regulation adopted by a state administrative body there is no obligation to hold a public hearing	5
Regulation adopted in an urgent procedure	1
Representatives delegated by relevant ministries took part in public hearing	1

## OTHER FORMS OF COOPERATION – INFORMING, COUNSELLING, PARTICIPATION

Half of the state institutions and bodies (16 of them) reported that they had harboured some form of co-operation with associations and other civil society organisations in 2014. This cooperation entailed informing, counselling and/or participation related to

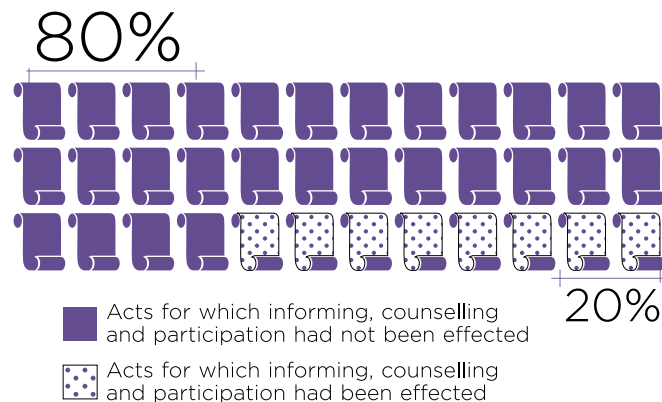
adoption of acts. Cooperation was not harboured by an equal number of bodies.

Cooperation with CSOs through informing, counselling and participation was realised last year twice as



often as compared to public hearings – of 351 acts adopted or referred to the Government, informing, counselling and participation had been effected for 69 acts (20%).

Graph 6.1 – Share of acts with respect informing, counselling, and participation



Interestingly, the most frequent way of cooperation last year was involvement of associations and other civil society organisations in the work of committees, working and project groups and other types of bodies, which represents the highest form of participation. This is followed by posting of informative materials on the Internet and organisation of round tables, panels and expert debates.

Table 13.1 – Forms of cooperation in 2014

Forms of cooperation	Number of times
Participation in the work of committees, work groups, project groups, negotiation teams, etc.	16
Informing – information materials on the Internet	13
Informing – panels, round tables, presentations	12
Counselling – expert debates, round tables, meetings, workshops	12
Counselling – in writing	7
Informing – media campaigns	5
Counselling – focus groups	4
Internet counselling	1

This forms of cooperation was established in more than 50% of the cases of adoption of laws.

Table 13.2 – Types of acts subject to cooperation in 2014

Type of act	No. of acts
Law	35
Other types of acts	10
Rulebook	8
Development strategy	7
Action plan	5
Regulation	4



## WORKING AND PROJECT GROUPS AND OTHER TYPES OF PROVISIONAL AND *AD HOC* BODIES

In all, 13 bodies that responded to the questionnaire established 38 working groups and other types of bodies involving associations and other civil society organisations in 2014.

With respect to mechanisms of bringing CSOs into working groups and other types of bodies, the majority of state institutions reported that they send invitations to particular associations or civil society organisations to directly invite their representative to the body. Public calls were sent out in less than 50% cases.

Table 14.1 - Ways of inviting participants into working group / body

Ways of inviting participants into working group/body	No. of invitations
Invitation sent to a particular CSOs to propose representatives	19

Public invitation for participation of CSO in the work of a group/body	8
At the proposal of state body/ independent institution	6
Invitation for participation of CSO in work of a group /body	2
Invitation sent via Office for Cooperation with Civil Society	2
Invitation sent to the reps of representative trade unions	2

Most frequently cited criteria by the representatives of state administrative bodies for selecting CSO participants was the CSO area of expertise in line with the theme of the established working group, followed by credibility of the organisation, previous track record in policy development, etc.



Table 14.2 – Criteria for selection of participants into a working group /body

Criteria for selection of participants into a work ing group /body	No. of times stated
CSOs objectives in line with the theme of the working group	26
Credibility of organization proven through years of operation and the project results achieved	15
Participation in policy development and work of other work groups, previous cooperation	15
Specific expertise of the CSO in a particular area	12
Membership of a network of CSOs (representativeness for particular area)	7
Absence of conflict of interest	2
No criteria defined	1

## REASONS FOR ABSENCE OF COOPERATION

Most common reason for the absence of cooperation between the state administration and civil society organizations was the lack of legal obligation stands

out. Other reasons listed by the state bodies include a lack of resources and absence of communication with competent civil society organisations, etc.



Table 15.1 – Reasons for not involving associations and other civil society organisations in the process of adoption of acts

Reasons for not involving associations and other civil society organisations in the process of adoption of acts	No. of times stated
Public hearing not mandatory	9
No resources for involvement of associations and other civil society organizations	5
We do not know of /we have no contact with the competent associations and civil society organisations	5
There was no time to involve associations and other civil society organizations	4
We believe there are no competent associations and other civil society organizations	1
Representatives of various state administrative bodies were involved in the work related to adoption of acts	1

## Decisions related to public hearings

In 2014, 99 decisions referred to public hearings out of which 52% requested their conduct, and the rest concluded that there was no need to have them. As many as 96% of the decisions referred to the need to conduct a public hearing about a draft law and only 4% about the proposal of a strategy.

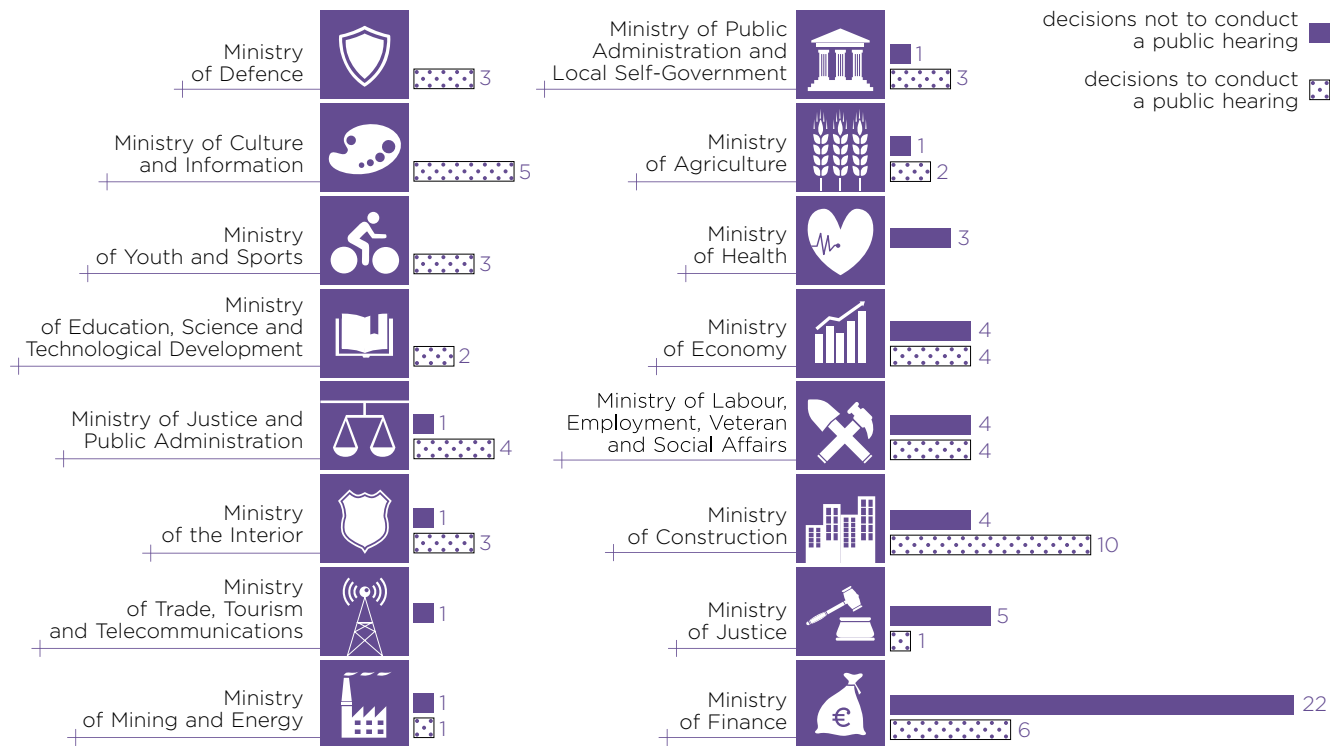
Table 16.1 – Decisions related to public hearings

Type of act	Decisions about the need to hold public hearings	
	Public hearing should be conducted	Public hearing should not be conducted
Draft law	48	47
Proposal of strategy	0	4

Of the total number of decisions adopted, the majority was adopted by the Ministry of Finance (28%). This ministry is also in the first place in the total number of decisions not to conduct a public hearing - 46%.



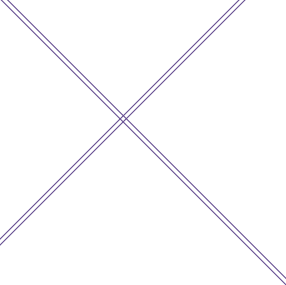
Graph 7.1. - Decisions on conducting/ not conducting public hearing by state body



At the same time, it is worth noting that the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia passed 146 laws (115

of them or 79% in an urgent procedure) in the period 1 January – 31 December.





# STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES OF EMPLOYEES IN STATE ADMINISTRATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, CSOs

## OFFICE FOR COOPERATION WITH CIVIL SOCIETY

The Strategy recognizes the need to strengthen capacities of civil servants at all levels of the Government. From the moment of its establishment, the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society has conducted trainings to enhance the capacity of state administration to recognize the significance and mechanisms of cooperation with CSOs on its own and in cooperation with the Human Resources Manage-

ment Service. In addition, the focus was also on the capacities of representatives of local governments, civil society organisations, the media, institutions at national and local level and others. This part provides information on trainings organised or initiated by Office for Cooperation with Civil Society. Other parts of the Baseline Study provide information on other types of trainings, by sector covered by the Strategy.



## Meetings

As stated in the 2014 Annual Report on Operation of the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society,<sup>6</sup> “an important part of the mandate of the Office is convening round tables, meetings and conferences aimed at strengthening capacities and enhancing sustainability of civil society organisations as well as cooperation and sharing of experiences with similar governmental institutions in the region, in the countries of European Union and in the world. In order to fulfill its mandate, the Office initiated and partnered in organising numerous national, regional and European meetings”.

The total number of meetings initiated by the Office or the meetings in which the representatives thereof took part in, in the period 2011 – 2014 was 184. Of this number, more than a half of them (54%) were organised in 2014 which implies that the number of meetings increased as the Office developed.

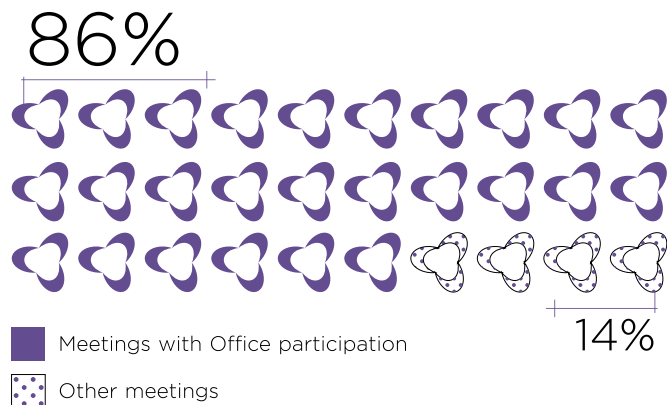
Graph 8.1 – Meetings organised by the Office and other parties in 2014

<sup>6</sup> For more information about the work of the Office in 2014 see Annual Report, Internet, <http://civilnodrustvo.gov.rs/media/2012/10/1zve%C5%Altaj-o-radu-2014..docx>.

Table 17.1 – Number of meetings

Year	Meetings	Share in the total number of meetings
2011	12	7%
2012	31	17%
2013	42	23%
2014	99	54%
Total	184	100

Of the total number of organised conferences in 2014, the Office initiated, organised or was a partner in 85 events (86%).





The themes of the meetings largely varied, so approximately one half of them (49.5%) may be categorized as “other” and refers to the most different areas that the civil society in Serbia engages in: co-ordination meetings with CSOs (floods, preparation for 2015 chairmanship of the Republic of Serbia in the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)); consultative meetings with the ministries and other institutions, novelties in the area of registration in birth registries, registration of habitual residence and issuance of personal documents; info sessions on establishment of an EU-Serbia Civil

Society Joint Consultative Committee (JCC); public hearing – Draft Law on Changes and Amendments of the Law on Higher Education, etc. Approximately 25% (24,2%) were explanatory screenings. Some 10% of all the meetings took the form of briefings on bilateral screening and consultations related to the national strategy (11.1% each). It is worth mentioning that the consultations and the initial conference held in February 2014 enlisted participation of 433 representatives of local governments and civil society organisations. The least number of meetings were convened to present the Annual Summary Report (4%).

Table 17.2 – Themes of meetings in 2014

Themes of meetings in 2014	% of the total no. of meetings
Other	49
Explanatory screenings	24
Briefings about bilateral screening	11
Consultative meetings related to national strategy	11
Presentation of Annual Summary Report	4
Total	99



## Sectoral meetings

As stated in the Annual Report “in 2014, the Office pursued the practice of convening regular sectoral meetings in the presence of decision-makers from the line ministries and the representatives of civil society organisations. In addition to the information-sharing character, these meetings offer the possibility of CSOs influencing decision-making processes, establishing cooperation and networking both between the civil sector and among different sectors. In these meetings the representatives of the ministries present plans for the future with special emphasis on the activities that CSOs may get involved in and the current changes of legislative framework. The current and new mechanisms of cooperation with CSOs are presented and the ways in which these organisations may get involved in the activities of the ministries, contributing to and influencing the decision-making processes by improving the current draft regulations primarily. Five sectoral meetings on agriculture, health, education and anti-corruption efforts were held in 2014.

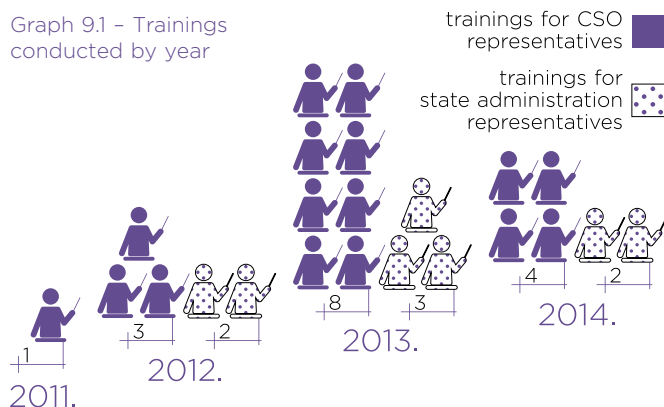
## Trainings of civil servants and CSOs

As part of civil servants trainings, the majority of trainings related to significance and mechanisms of cooperation with CSOs were organised in cooperation of the Office and Human Resources Management Service of the Government of the Republic of

Serbia (HR Service) – seven since 2012. The topic of most of them was “Cooperation of State Administration and Civil Society in the Process of Development and Implementation of Public Policies”. In the course of 2014, HR Service organised two trainings on “Co-ordination and Cooperation in the Process of Development of Regulations” for 44 state administration representatives, providing also overview of cooperation of state bodies with CSOs.

In the same period, the Office organised more than twice as many trainings (16) for CSO representatives. Most of the trainings focused on EU integration, three trainings for SEKO mechanisms, and two for the media in 2011 and 2012 on the role of media in promotion of the civil society.

Graph 9.1 – Trainings conducted by year







# FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

As part of its regular activities the Office prepares the Annual Summary Report to the Government on expenditure of funds to the associations and other civil society organisations from the budget of the Republic of Serbia as support to programmatic activities (hereinafter: Annual Summary Report). The first Annual Summary Report contained analysis of the collected information of line ministries and other Government institutions at Republic level on the funds earmarked from the budget of the Republic of Serbia in 2011 for funding programmes and projects of associations and other civil society organisations. The second Report had an improved methodology of data collection and analysis and contained analysis of reports received from the republican, provin-

cial and local bodies which supported – financially and non-financially – the associations and other civil society organisations. Collection of information on support to associations and other CSOs in 2013 was pursued in 2014 according to the same methodology and by the bodies of all three levels of government.

The above mentioned Report presents the total sum of planned and approved funds in support of associations and other civil society organisations from public funds, gives an overview of the sources of financing and economic classifications wherefrom funds are earmarked for financing the programmes/projects of associations and other civil society organisations. It also offers an overview of procedures



of allocation and methods of monitoring results of the supported programmes/projects; includes data on all the programmes/projects supported and the overview of associations and other civil society organisations that the support had been approved to. The report also presents information on areas in which the approved programmes/projects were approved, their end beneficiaries, territorial (regional) distribution of the funded programmes and projects. Also, aiming to strictly distinguish between the approved and realized (paid) funds, these sums were

separately presented and the reasons for differences among them within a budget year analyzed.

According to the data of the 2013 Annual Summary Report, the total sum paid to CSOs from public sources amounts to 5,608,538,446 Serbian Dinars or 19% of the total revenues of associations, foundations and endowments (29,190,172,000 Serbian Dinars). The largest number of the supported programmes – 46% - lasts between 6 and 12 months.

## ASSOCIATIONS

CSOs are obliged to submit official financial reports to SBRA once a year, even if they had no transaction on their accounts. From the information on submitted and processed financial reports of associations, it may be concluded that the number of submitted and processed reports does not fully correspond to the increase of the number of associations. In 2013, there was a drop in the absolute number of financial reports submitted which may be linked to the increase of the number of associations without any revenues (from 22% in 2010 to 25% in 2013), and which may not be aware of their obligation to submit reports. At the same time, this is a theme

for reflecting on proportionality of obligations and requirements put on small organisations and those with no income.

Table 18.1 – Associations that submitted financial reports to SBRA (processed), 2010–2013

Year of submission of report	No. of associations
2010	13,476
2011	15,764
2012	17,714
2013	17,304



## Total revenues

In absolute terms, the total revenues of associations recorded a slight growth in the period 2010 – 2013. However, in light of the impact of inflation and the fact that the number of associations continued to grow – the total sum of revenues shows a slight drop.<sup>7</sup>

Graph 10.1 – Total revenues by year, in thousands of Serbian Dinars



From the aspect of height of revenues, almost identical representation in the total observed period is that of associations without income (21% to 25%), with income up to 100,000 Serbian Dinars (24% to 25%) and with the income ranging from 100,000 to 500,000 Serbian Dinars (23% to 25%). Therefore, together they represent almost 75% of all associations. Only 9% of associations have an income ranging 500,000 to 1 million Serbian Dinars, while an average of 17% to 18% of associations have an income range of 1 million to 10 million Serbian Dinars. The income of only 2% of associations exceeds 10 million Serbian Dinars.

Table 19.1 – Associations that submitted financial reports by total revenues, 2010–2013

Sum of presented total revenue in ranges	No. of associations by range of total revenue			
	2010	2011	2012	2013
More than RSD 200 million	4	5	7	8
RSD 100 million - 200 million	8	10	10	9
RSD 50 million to 100 million	27	24	36	28
RSD 10 million to 50 million	277	303	333	361
RSD 5 million to 10 million	365	441	468	489
RSD 1 million to 5 million	2,084	2,312	2,542	2,416
RSD 500,000 to 1 million	1,251	1,478	1,585	1,527
RSD 100,000 to 500,000	3,136	3,981	4,395	3,972
Up to 100,000	3,388	3,872	4,388	4,213
No income	2,936	3,338	3,950	4,281
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,476</b>	<b>15,764</b>	<b>17,714</b>	<b>17,304</b>

<sup>7</sup> Total revenue of associations in 2013 decreased relative to 2012 (from EUR 222,998,000 to 222,195,000). Foreign exchange rates of the National Bank of Serbia as at the last day of both years were taken as basis for calculation.



## Total revenues by region

As for the regional distribution in the course of 2013, more than one half of revenues (54%) were those of the associations from the region of Belgrade, and approximately one fifth (22%) those of the associations from Vojvodina. The share in total revenues is significantly lower in associations from Šumadija and Western Serbia (12%), and Southern and Eastern Serbia (10%).

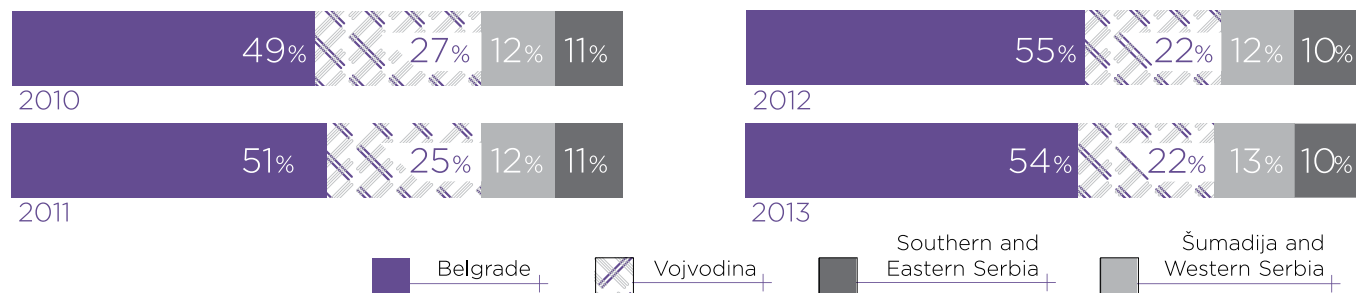
In the period 2010 to 2013, the share of associations located in the region of Belgrade in total revenues grew from 49% to 54%. At the same time, the share of associations from Vojvodina dropped from 27% to 22%. The associations from other regions maintained a more or less same share in total revenues.

Table 20.1 – Total revenues of associations by region and year, in thousands of Serbian Dinars

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Belgrade	8,984,548	11,122,859	13,824,111	13,723,175
Vojvodina	5,047,000	5,560,679	5,602,664	5,718,711
Šumadija and Western Serbia	2,257,581	2,586,060	3,134,064	3,190,598
Southern and Eastern Serbia	2,000,234	2,365,902	2,645,191	2,622,623
Kosovo and Metohija	163,990	188,706	148,879	208,495
Total	18,453,353	21,824,206	25,354,909	25,463,602



Graph 11.1 – Associations by region – shares in total revenues



## TOP 10 associations by total revenue in 2013

Among the 10 associations with the highest revenues in 2013, as many as nine are located on the territory of the City of Belgrade and only one is in Kragujevac. However, when looking at the type of organization, one may conclude that none of them are “typical”,

but organisations with special status and mandate (governed by the law), linked with business sector /particular profession or founded by the staff of a foreign organisation.

Table 21.1 – Top 10 associations by total revenue in 2013

No.	Title of legal entity	Municipality – title	Total revenues (in thousands of Dinars)	Average no. of employees
1.	Association of Serbian Insurers	Belgrade – Novi Beograd	2,095,328	34



2.	Association of Serbian Banks	Belgrade - Vračar	692,227	40
3.	Automobile and Motorcycle Association of Serbia	Belgrade - Zvezdara	467,429	67
4.	Red Cross of Serbia	Belgrade - Stari Grad	287,608	72
5.	Standing Conference of Towns and Cities - Alliance of Cities and Municipalities of Serbia	Belgrade - Stari Grad	281,529	56
6.	Serbian Medical Chamber	Belgrade - Stari Grad	257,460	49
7.	SOKOJ - Organisation of Music Authors of Serbia	Belgrade - Vračar	254,611	53
8.	Citizen Association "Vizija" - Kragujevac	City of Kragujevac	209,943	10
9.	Chamber of Nurses and Health Technicians of Serbia	Belgrade - Rakovica	186,809	27
+ 10.	Voluntary Firefighting Society "Vračar" - Belgrade	Belgrade - Vračar	139,614	147 +

## Full-time employment

When looking at the number of employees in associations only full-time employed are taken into account according to SBRA data (as opposed to the Fund of Pension and Disability Insurance which collects data on persons engaged on different types of contracts). The total number of full-time employees in associations in 2013 was 6,170 – a 20% drop relative to 2012, when there were 7,700 persons employed.



Graph 12.1 – Total number of employees in associations, by year



More than 80% of associations that submitted reports did not have a single employee in the period 2010 - 2013 (86% to 88%). In all, 10.5% associations had one to four employees, only 1.2% from five to nine employees and 0.5% more than 10 employees in 2013.

Table 21.2 – Associations that submitted financial reports by number of employees, 2010-2013

Reported no. of employees in ranges	No. of associations by range of the reported no. of employees			
	2010	2011	2012	2013
50 and more	5	8	7	5
20 to 49	17	24	30	22
10 to 19	54	85	88	64
5 to 9	168	194	222	205
4 employees	103	88	106	107
3 employees	185	203	217	239
2 employees	412	419	448	446
1 employees	918	883	963	1,018
No employees	11,614	13,860	15,633	15,198
Total	13,476	15,764	17,714	17,304

## Employees by region and year

Most of employees in 2013 were in the associations located in the region of Belgrade (37%), Vojvodina (26%), Southern and Eastern Serbia (19%), and Šumadija and Western Serbia (18%). The biggest oscillations in the total number of employees are noticed among the associations in Belgrade, followed by Southern and Eastern Serbia.

Table 22.1 – Number of employees in associations by region

Region	2010	2011	2012	2013
Belgrade	1,963	2,253	3,138	2,266
Vojvodina	1,376	1,454	1,570	1,582
Southern and Eastern Serbia	965	1,558	1,457	1,155
Šumadija and Western Serbia	1,006	1,270	1,365	1,083
Kosovo and Metohija	80	100	170	84
Total	5,390	6,635	7,700	6,170



## TOP 10 associations by number of employees in 2013

Of the associations with the biggest number of employees, the City of Belgrade comes first with nine associations. One organization is located on the territory of the City of Novi Sad. Out of these ten the

two are faith-based organizations. The size of the budget is not necessarily proportional to the number of employees, as evidenced from the ratio between the total revenues and the number of employees.

Table 23.1 – TOP 10 associations by number of employees

No.	Title of legal entity	Municipality	Average no. of employees	Total revenues (in thousands of Dinars)	Total revenues by employee (in thousands of Dinars)
1.	Voluntary Firefighting Society "Vračar" – Belgrade	Belgrade – Vračar	147	139,614	950
2.	Red Cross of Serbia	Belgrade – Stari Grad	72	287,608	3,995
3.	Automobile and Motorcycle Association of Serbia	Belgrade – Zvezdara	67	467,429	6,977
4.	Standing Conference of Towns and Cities – Alliance of Cities and Municipalities of Serbia	Belgrade – Stari Grad	56	281,529	5,027
5.	SOKOJ – Organisation of Music Authors of Serbia	Belgrade – Vračar	53	254,611	4,804
6.	Serbian Medical Chamber	Belgrade – Stari Grad	49	257,460	5,254
7.	Organisation of Serbian Manufacturers of Phonograms	Belgrade – Vračar	42	139,103	3,312



No.	Title of legal entity	Municipality	Average no. of employees	Total revenues (in thousands of Dinars)	Total revenues by employee (in thousands of Dinars)
8.	Association of Serbian Banks	Belgrade - Vračar	40	692,227	17,306
9.	Ecumenical Humanitarian Organisation	City of Novi Sad	39	107,208	2,749
10.	Christian Humanitarian Association "Bread of Life"	Belgrade - Vračar	37	35,721	965

### Persons engaged by type of contract, years of service and contribution

As opposed to the Business Registers Agency that collects data only on full-time employees through annual financial reports, the Republic Fund for Pension and Disability Insurance (Fund) collects information also on the persons engaged based on Authorship agreement, service contracts and other types of contracts, as well as on total years of service and contributions. At the time of collection of data for this study (early 2015), data for 20102 and 2013 were available. Bearing in mind that SBRA and the Fund use different methodologies of data collection, there are differences in absolute numbers (relative to the number of persons with full-time employment),

but this bears no effect on the main conclusions in this area.<sup>8</sup>

The total number of contracts concluded for the persons working in associations, according to the data of the Fund, has dropped from 17,122 in 2012 to 14,206 in 2013. representing a 17% decrease. In the structure of contracts, the biggest drop is observed with the full-time contracts (from 40.9% in 2012 to 34.8% in 2013) and to a certain extent with the Authorship agreements (from 37.8% to 36.6%). There is an increase of service contracts (from 14.9% to 19.7%) and other contracts (from 6.4 to 9.0%).

<sup>8</sup> The Pension and Disability Insurance Fund keeps records of persons with indefinite employment with respect to who the employers had submitted registration forms M4 or MUN. In SBRA, this information is processed on the basis of financial reports of associations, foundations or endowments as an average number of employees based on the status at the end of each month.



Table 24.1 – Persons employed and engaged in associations by type of contract

Type of contract	2012	%	2013	%	Other contracts	1,093	6.4	1,275	9.0
Full-time contract	7,001	40.9	4,941	34.8	Total	17,122	100	14,206	100
Authorship contract	6,477	37.8	5,197	36.6	With the decrease of the number of engaged persons, contributions also decrease and so the total years of service for persons engaged on full-time contracts.				
Service contract	2,551	14.9	2,793	19.7					

Table 24.2 – Associations by number of employees, sum of total contributions and total years of service

2012	2013
Full-time contract	Full-time contract
No. of employees	No. of employees
Contributions	Contributions
Total years of service (yyyy mm dd)	Total years of service (yyyy mm dd)
Service contract	Service contract
No. of persons engaged	No. of persons engaged
Contributions	Contributions
Authorship contracts	Authorship contracts
No. of persons engaged	No. of persons engaged
Contributions	Contributions
Other contracts	Other contracts
No. of persons engaged	No. of persons engaged
Contributions	Contributions



## FOUNDATIONS AND ENDOWMENTS

Foundations and endowments are subject to the same rules on obligation to submit financial reports to SBRA that apply on associations. The increase of the number of submitted reports corresponds to the increase of the total number of foundations and endowments - from 264 submitted and processed reports in 2010 to 442 reports in 2013, representing a 67.4% increase.

Table 25.1 - Foundations and endowments that submitted financial reports to SBRA (processed financial reports)

Year of submission of reports	No. of foundations
2010	264
2011	300
2012	389
2013	442

### Total revenues

The total revenues of foundations and endowments increased in absolute amounts since 2010, and so the total revenues in 2013 was 50% higher than that in 2010 (revenues in the graph expressed in thousands of Serbian Dinars).

Graph 13.1 - Total revenues of foundations and endowments by year, in thousands of Serbian Dinars



Observed by the sum of revenues, there is an evident difference in structure as compared to associations. In the course of 2013, the share of foundations and endowments without income and with the income ranging 1 million to 10 million Serbian Dinars (22 %) was equal. Also, approximately identical was the representation of foundations and endowments with income up to 100,000 Serbian Dinars (19%) and within range 100,000 to 500,000 Serbian Dinars (18%). The total revenues of approximately one fifth (12%) of foundations and endowments exceeded 10 million Serbian Dinars. The smallest share is that of foundations and endowments with income ranging 500,000 to 1 million Serbian Dinars.

Looking at the period 2010-2013, there is an evident increase of share of foundations and endowments without income (from 16% to 22%).



Table 26.1 – Foundations and endowments that submitted financial reports by sum of total revenues, 2010-2013

Sum of expressed total revenue AOP in ranges	No. of foundations and endowments by range of total revenues			
	2010	2011	2012	2013
More than RSD 200 million	1	2	3	4
RSD 100 million - 200 million	5	4	3	4
RSD 50 million to 100 million	6	4	11	9
RSD 10 million to 50 million	28	39	35	36
RSD 5 million to 10 million	24	16	27	22
RSD 1 million to 5 million	53	58	76	75
RSD 500,000 to 1 million	17	29	29	33
RSD 100,000 to 500,000	50	52	58	79

Up to 100,000	38	45	69	84
No income	42	51	78	96
Total	264	300	389	442

### Total revenues by region

As for the regional distribution in 2013, 71% of the total revenues were realized by the foundations and endowments from the region of Belgrade, followed by Vojvodina with 24%.

### TOP 10 endowments and foundations by total revenues in 2013

Of the 10 foundations and endowments with the highest total revenues, six are from the Belgrade region, three from Vojvodina (Novi Sad, Vršac, Subotica), and one from Southern and Eastern Serbia (Vranje). They differ in the objectives they promote, safeguard and advance, and almost all of them – with the exception of the Endowment of Ilija M. Kolarac – were founded in recent past.



Table 27.1 – TOP 10 foundations and endowments by total revenues – sums in thousands of Serbian Dinars

No.	Title of foundation / endowment	Municipality	TOTAL REVENUE	Average no. of employees
1.	Foundation EXIT	City of Novi Sad	438,560	3
2.	Open Society Fund	Belgrade – Stari Grad	425,231	14
3.	Foundation “Fund B92”	Belgrade – Stari Grad	319,693	11
4.	DELTA Foundation	Belgrade – Novi Beograd	288,666	9
5.	Foundation HEMOFARM – Vršac	Vršac	126,550	6
6.	Humanitarian Law Fund	Belgrade – Stari Grad	121,281	25
7.	Foundation <i>Caritas</i> Luxembourg – Regional office Vranje	Vranje	106,521	7
8.	Foundation “Endowment of Holy Monastery Chilandar”	Belgrade – Savski Venac	104,935	20
9.	Endowment of Ilija M. Kolarac	Belgrade – Stari Grad	94,277	75
10.	Foundation “Panonija”	Subotica	92,856	47

## Full-time employment

As by 2013 SBRA data, the total number of employees on the basis of labour contracts in foundations and endowments was 559. This is 20 less than the number of employees in 2012 (579).

Graph 14.1 – Total number of employees in foundations, by year





80% of foundations and endowments did not have employees with full-time appointment in 2013, while 16% foundations and endowments had one to four such employees. A very limited number of these organisations had five to nine employees with full-time contracts (4%), and more than 10 (5%). Interestingly, although the total amount of revenues increased, the share of foundations and endowments without employees increased (from 75% to 80%), and those with one to four employees decreased (from 16% in 2010 to 13% in 2013).

Table 28.1 – Number of foundations and endowments by number of employees, by year

Reported no. of employees in ranges	No. of foundations and endowments by range of reported no. of employees			
	2010	2011	2012	2013
50 and more	2	1	1	1
20 to 49	4	4	6	5
10 to 19	6	6	8	10
5 to 9	11	13	17	13
4 employees	4	6	5	7
3 employees	5	9	8	6
2 employees	6	9	10	16

1 employees	28	26	27	30
No employees	198	226	307	354
Total	264	300	389	442

## Employees by region and year

In the course of 2013, most of the employees were in the foundations and endowments located in the region of Belgrade (70%), followed by Vojvodina (20%), and with a significantly lower number of employees in foundations and endowments in Šumadija and Western Serbia (6%) and Southern and Eastern Serbia (3%). There is an evident decrease in the share of employees in the region of Belgrade (from 75% in 2012 to 70% in 2013), as well as an increase of the share of employees in Vojvodina (from 17% in 2012 to 20% in 2013).

Table 29.1 – Foundations and endowments by number of employees, by region

Region	2010	2011	2012	2013
Belgrade	372	353	421	393
Vojvodina	86	87	110	114
Šumadija and Western Serbia	33	35	32	34
Southern and Eastern Serbia	6	9	16	18
Total	497	484	579	559



## TOP 10 endowments and foundations by number of employees in 2013

Of the foundations and endowments with the highest number of employees, seven are located in Belgrade, two in Subotica and one in Topola. They differ by the year of establishment, form of organization and the objectives they promote, safeguard and ad-

vance. As with the associations, the number of employees does not correspond to budget size. In other words, foundations and endowments with a higher number of employees have significantly lower total revenues than the others listed.

Table 30.1 – Top 10 foundations and endowments by number of employees

No.	Title of foundation/endowment	Municipality	Average no. of employees	Total revenues (in thousands of Dinars)	Total revenues by employee (in thousands of Dinars)
1.	Foundation of Ilija M. Kolarac	Belgrade – Stari Grad	75	94,277	1,257
2.	Foundation “Panonija”	Subotica	47	92,856	1,976
3.	Endowment of King Petar I Karađorđević	Topola	26	37,200	1,431
4.	Humanitarian Law Fund	Belgrade – Stari Grad	25	121,281	4,851
5.	Publishing Fund of the Serbian Orthodox Church – Belgrade-Karlovac Archdiocese	Belgrade – Stari Grad	20	57,948	2,897
6.	Foundation of the Holy Monastery of Chilandar	Belgrade – Savski Venac	20	104,935	5,247
7.	Fund “The Royal Palace”	Belgrade – Savski Venac	19	58,829	3,096
8.	Innovation Fund, Belgrade	Belgrade – Savski Venac	19	72,496	3,816
9.	TPAΓ foundation	Belgrade – Zvezdara	18	39,525	2,196
10.	“Poverello” Foundation	Subotica	15	8,970	598



## Persons engaged by type of contract, years of service and contribution

According to the data of the Pension and Disability Insurance Fund, the total number of contracts concluded with the persons engaged in foundations and endowments dropped from 1,213 in 2012 to 1,083 in 2013. In the structure of contracts, Authorship contracts lead but their share dropped from 48% in 2012 to 42% in 2013. The share of labour contracts is relatively high and has not changed (41% each), and neither did the share of service contracts (5% and 6% respectively). The biggest increase is recorded in the share of "other" contracts - from 6% in 2012 to 11% in 2013.

Table 31.1 – Persons employed and engaged in foundations and endowments by type of contract

Type of contract	2012	%	2013	%
Labour contract	497	41	443	41
Authorship contract	578	48	458	42
Service contract	61	5	64	6
Other contracts	77	6	118	11
Total	1,213	100	1,083	100

Since the number of employees decreased, so did the total sum of contributions and the total years of service of the persons engaged on the basis of labour contracts.

Table 31.2 – Foundations and endowments by number of employees, total contributions and total years of service

2012		2013	
Full-time contract		Labour contract	
No. of employees	497	No. of employees	443
Contributions	RSD 85,428,363.52	Contributions	RSD 81,343,880.91
Total years of service (yyyy mm dd)	0401 02 06	Total years of service (yyyy mm dd)	0366 02 00
Service contracts		Service contracts	
No. of persons engaged	61	No. of persons engaged	64
Contributions	RSD 1,709,680.75	Contributions	RSD 2,500,633.09



Authorship contracts		Authorship contracts	
No. of persons engaged	578	No. of persons engaged	458
Contributions	RSD 10,166,689.01	Contributions	RSD 7,305,144.99
Other contracts		Other contracts	
No. of persons engaged	77	No. of persons engaged	118
Contributions	RSD 2,804,342.45	Contributions	RSD 5,052,806.32
+		+	

## TRAININGS ORGANISED BY THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Organisation of various trainings by the Ministry of Finance represents an aspect of financial sustainability of associations. These are trainings for civil servants and the staff of the Ministry of Finance and bodies it is comprised of (e.g. Treasury, Tax Administration, etc.).

In 2014, Tax Administration organised trainings in the area of tax laws implementation governing, *inter alia*, tax benefits for the charity sector:

1. Citizens' income taxes – a training was held on usage of the application for withholding taxes and

contributions (unified collection), for 2,447 participants;

2. Income taxes of legal entities – training held for 1,358 participants; and

3. Value added tax – training held for 3,500 participants.

Currently there are neither records on the structure of participants nor a more detailed information on content, topics and number of days of training, so this is an area that more efforts should be invested in to standardize the information related to the trainings organised by the Ministry of Finance.





# ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## CSOs IN THE SOCIAL PROTECTION SECTOR

The Republic Institute for Social Protection prepares an Annual Report on the work of institutions and social welfare centres offering a comprehensive overview of data on operation of these institutions. It also records the activities of CSOs to a certain extent. Although systematized information on the number and type of CSOs providing social welfare services, the number and type of the services are lacking, these information may be extrapolated to a certain degree from the general data.

The 2013 Annual Report of the Republic Institute for Social Protection shows that a total of 445 local social services differing in type, target group and service provider had been organised in 137 local communities.<sup>9</sup> It is very important to note here that the local communities on the territory of AP Kosovo and Metohija have been included in the total number of cities and municipalities presented. The services

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<sup>9</sup> 2014 Report is being developed.



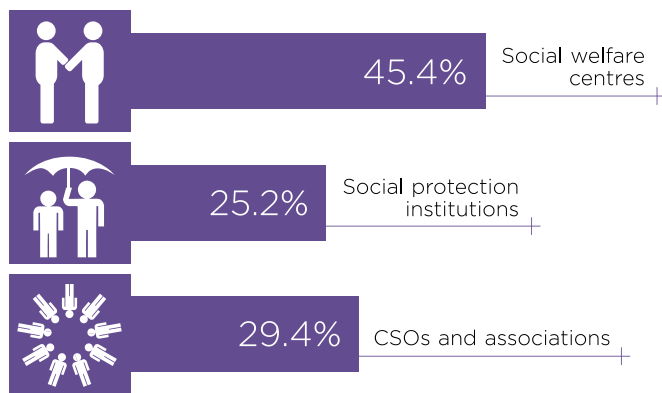
most represented are:

- assistance and care at home;
- day care; and
- support for an independent life.

Local governments trust public social welfare institutions more often (70.6% services) than the civil sector organisations (29.4% services). In other words:

- 202 services are provided by social welfare centres;
- 112 services are provided by social protection institutions; and
- 131 services are provided by civil society organisations and associations.

Graph 15.1 – Services in local governments by provider



Civil society organisations that provide local social services are, for the most part associations of persons with disabilities and that is the reason that the services provided by CSOs most often target persons with disabilities – children and youth in the first place. Of the total 64 communities where day care for children and youth with developmental problems is organised, CSOs (mostly associations of persons with disabilities) provide services in 31 – and these are the services of assistance and care at home for children and youth – five of 16 CSOs in all. With respect to the services for adults and the elderly, public sector institutions – centres for social welfare and institutions for accommodation of beneficiaries (gerontology centres) prevail.

With respect to financing, these services have been stipulated in the local government budgets. It is worth noting that local governments may secure budget funds in different ways – from donations, from the Republic budget, municipal budget, etc.

As for the number and type of accredited training programmes for social services providers, the Register of Accredited Programmes of the Republic Institute for Social Protection lists 119 accredited trainings by areas in early 2015:

- development of general competencies in social



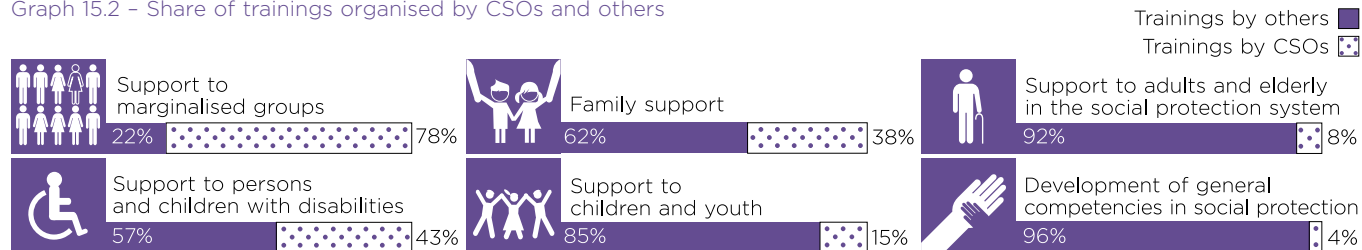
protection: 25;  
 - support to adults and elderly in the social protection system: 13;  
 - support to children and youth: 20;  
 - support to marginalized groups: 9;  
 - support to persons and children with disabilities: 28; and  
 - family support: 24.

Of this number, 33 or 28% are implemented by CSOs, indicating that they represent an important resource in training programmes. Most of the accredited trainings of CSO representatives focus on support to marginalized groups (78%), followed by support to persons and children with disabilities (43%) and family support (38%), and the least on development of general competencies (4%) and support to adults and elderly (8%).

Table 32.1 - Number and type of accredited trainings

	Total no. of trainings	No. of trainings conducted by CSOs	% of trainings conducted by CSOs
Development of general competencies in social protection	25	1	4%
Support to adults and elderly in the social protection system	13	1	8%
Support to children and youth	20	3	15%
Support to marginalized groups	9	7	78%
Support to persons and children with disabilities	28	12	43%
Family support	24	9	38%

Graph 15.2 - Share of trainings organised by CSOs and others





The authors of most accredited programmes are individuals, while some were developed by organisations. The teams of authors are often comprised of representatives of different systems, so one cannot precisely ascertain the type of accredited programmes implemented by CSOs. If the fact that the part of authors team comes from the non-governmental sector or that the focal point for a certain training is a representative of an NGO is taken as a criterion, the situation is as follows:

Of the total of 1001 trainings implemented in the records of the implemented trainings, 438 (44 %) refer to those implemented by CSOs.<sup>10</sup>

Table 32.2 - Trainings implemented depending on implementer

+ Trainings implemented +		
Trainings implemented by CSOs	438	44%
Trainings implemented by others	563	66%
+ +		

More than one half of the trainings implemented focused on family support – protection from family violence (59%); 16% focused on support to persons and children with disabilities, and 12% on support to

marginalized groups. Almost 30%, or eight of 33 accredited programmes implemented by CSOs, was not completed to date.

In all, 56 accredited trainings of which 15 implemented by CSOs (27%) were carried out in 2014. These programmes had a total of 159 trainings, of which 34 carried out by CSOs (21%).

Most of the programmes were implemented in the area of family support (17) – protection from family violence, followed by support to persons with disabilities (11), and the lowest number in the area of support to children and youth (only one).

The Republic Institute for Social Protection does not have the information on existence of a specific accredited training for the staff of local governments. There are trainings in support of establishment of social protection services, but none of them focuses specifically on support to civil society organisations as service providers.

The trainings accredited in social protection are intended for professional advancement of professionals (experts and associates) in the social protection system. Representatives of local governments do not represent a direct target group for trainings.

<sup>10</sup> Data refers to the whole period of monitoring programme implementation.



## VOLUNTEERING

According to the Law on Volunteering, the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Policy keeps records on organizers of volunteering activities. They have an obligation to register themselves to the Ministry when organising the first volunteering activity.

Since coming into effect of the Law on Volunteering (6 December 2010), the Ministry received 212 registrations for entry into the Records of Organisers of Volunteers of them 26 during 2014 (12%).

In accordance with the Law on Volunteering, the organizer is to submit to the Ministry a report on volunteering by 31 March of the current year, for the previous year. Thus, in 2014, 52 organisers of volunteering submitted their reports.

According to the reports submitted, 1,166 volunteers of whom 787 (67.5%) women and 379 (32.5%) men were registered in the Republic of Serbia in 2014. This information differs from the last available data on the number of volunteers in Serbia – 2011 Survey,<sup>11</sup> that mentioned some 150,000 active volunteers in Serbia.

## ROLE OF CSOs IN SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP

State administrative bodies and state institutions do not have the data on social entrepreneurship. Various CSOs conducted numerous researches. As yet, there is no adequate legal framework that would govern status issues related to social entrepreneurship and therefore this topic needs to be further advanced in order to secure appropriate data.

## ROLE OF CSOs IN THE HEALTH CARE SECTOR

According to the data of the Ministry of Health, civil society organisations participated in the health protection-related activities through the programme "Support to Associations and Organisations" funded from the budget of the Ministry of Health as follows:

- programmatic activity "Encouraging Activities of Expert Organisations, Councils and Associations";
- programmatic activity "Public Powers Conferred to the Red Cross of Serbia"; and

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<sup>11</sup> Assessment of the situation in CSO sector in Serbia, September 2011; Civic Initiatives in cooperation with the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society.



- programmatic activity "Program of the Serbian Cancer Society and Alliance of Vojvodina Cancer Societies".

In all, 15 civil society organisations participated in the programmatic activities "Encouraging Activities of Expert Organisations, Councils and Associations" conducted in 2014. The objective thereof was to improve quality of life of vulnerable populations and patients facing illnesses of greater socio-medical significance, promotion of health and healthy life styles. In other words, the main content of these activities was educational work related to health, and support to persons suffering from illnesses of particular socio-medical significance.

The activities of the Red Cross of Serbia in the area of health protection conducted in line with the Law on the Red Cross of Serbia took the form of programmes of:

- promotion of health and improving health of certain population categories and prevention of addictions;
- "First Aid"; and
- "Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Response".

In line with the Law, the Red Cross of Serbia conducts the programmes of assistance to children, per-

sons with disabilities, the elderly and incapacitated persons; raises public awareness on health preservation measures; organizes and takes part in cooperation with health care institutions in the activities related to health promotion, promotion of voluntary blood donations and others.

The objective of programmatic activities of the Serbian Cancer Society and Alliance of Vojvodina Cancer Societies is support to the patients and raising awareness of the population on significance of prevention and early detection of malignant diseases as well as provision of information on the method and complexity of treatment of malignant diseases.





# ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN INFORMAL EDUCATION

The Strategy of Development of Education in Serbia by 2020 which is the basis for development of the education system in the Republic of Serbia provides for informal education, in addition to formal education. The Strategy aims to improve the quality of education and increase capture of the Serbian population at all levels of education.

In order to regulate informal education comprehensively, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development initiated the process of adoption of by-laws that would define the activities, actions, procedures and mechanisms for implementation of this form of education in detail. These would

also regulate the issue of keeping registers of activities related to informal education, programmes and publicly recognized organisers of adult education.

In accordance with that, systematic data processing will be established and implemented once these regulations are in place. In the course of 2014, the activities related to informal education carried out by 12 CSOs that received funds following a public call were systemically monitored. Some of the information may be obtained also from the CSOs engaged in provision of informal education services which have the data related to implementation of their activities in this sector.





# ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN EU INTEGRATION PROCESS

Aiming to encourage public hearing and a debate about the European Union and the EU accession of the Republic of Serbia to the EU, and in line with the Communication Strategy for the Accession of the Republic of Serbia to the European Union and based on the Regulation of the Government of Serbia on funds for promotion of programmes or the funding gap for funding public interest programmes implemented by associations – the Office for European Integration supported, in 2014, five projects of CSOs engaged in raising awareness of different aspects of European Union and EU Integration of Serbia.

The themes of this public call were:

1. Myths about the EU in the Serbian public;
2. EU supports creation of a more organised state (concrete effects of EU membership);
3. Environment and European Union; benefits of membership; and
4. Youth and the European Union; benefits of membership.

Funding for the projects subject of this public call were earmarked in the 2014 budget of the Republic of Serbia.

The Office maintains regular cooperation with CSOs focusing of EU integration of Serbia.



In order to ensure transparency of EU funds programming and participation of civil society organisations, the Office for European Integrations prepared an indicative calendar of programming activities in 2014 including activities related to national IPA programming, multi-beneficiary IPA and cross-border cooperation programmes. The indicative programming calendar was sent to the civil society organisations involved in the SEKO mechanism and published on the ISDACon (*Intersectoral Development Coordination Network*) website in Serbia.

Concretely, the activities related to 2014 National IPA Programme are:

1. In late January /early February 2014, eight meetings of representatives of the led line ministry, civil society organisations (consortium within the framework of SEKO mechanism) and the focal point in charge of the concrete sector in the SEIO were convened. IPA 2014-2016 Intervention Logic was presented and priority themes and sequence of sectoral support for IPA 2014-2016 discussed. The order of development of methodology of Sectoral Planning Document (SPD) and the indicative calendar of 2014 programming activities were also presented;

2. Two rounds of sectoral working groups for pro-

gramming and monitoring EU funds and international development assistance (16 meetings in all) were organised for the participants of the SEKO mechanism consortium. The first round of meetings was focused on presentation of priorities and planned interventions in sectors for a three-year period of the first draft 2014 Action Documents and the current and planned interventions of donors active in a particular sector. The second round of meetings focused on discussions about the presented three-year planning framework for EU assistance programming in line with the drafts 2015-2017 SPD and exchange of information for use of the remaining development assistance at sectoral level;

3. The representatives of civil society organisations had the opportunity to give their suggestions and comments on the first draft of 2014 Action Documents and Draft SPD 2015-2017.

With respect to multi-beneficiary IPA, since the European Commission manages the programming process fully, the records of regular coordination meetings were sent to the CSO representatives who were included in SEKO mechanism.

Concrete activities in the process of programming eight programmes of cross-border and transnational



cooperation (development of operational programmes for the period 2014–2020) are:

1. Draft operational programmes for programmes of cross-border and transnational cooperation were published on programmatic on programme websites and on the ISDACON website and thus available to the interested public to submit comments and suggestions;

2. In all, 34 consultative workshops were organised in the course of development of operational programmes. Representatives of civil society organisations were also invited;

3. A consultative workshop for SEKO mechanism representatives only was convened in Belgrade on 12 May 2014. The objective was to discuss the presented drafts of operational programmes focusing on proposed activities within the agreed thematic priorities;

4. A total of 412 civil society organisations took part in implementation of projects related to cross-border and transnational cooperation programmes during the previous financial cycle 2007–2013. This represents 19% of all the beneficiary institutions that implemented the projects within these programmes in Serbia.

With respect to trainings organised for representatives of civil society organisations, in 2014:

1. Training for civil society organisations included in the SEKO mechanism was organised to present the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance in the new funding cycle 2014–2020. године (IPA II) – presentation of the general IPA II framework, development phase of IPA II sectoral planning document and the analysis phase of the development of IPA II sectoral document;

2. Training for civil society organisations included in the SEKO mechanism was organised with a focus on preparation of IPA II Action Documents;

3. A workshop for civil society organisations included in the SEKO mechanism was organised with the representatives of state administration on the preparation of IPA II Sectoral Planning Documents.

With respect to concrete projects the beneficiary of which was the Office for European Integration, where project activities require CSO and local governments' involvement, the following projects are relevant:

- "Socio Economic Development of the Danube



Serbia Region“ (IPA 2011) – one of the activities provided by the project was a grant scheme aimed at developing socio-economic potentials of the municipalities in the region of Danube, organised in early 2013; the total budget amounted to EUR 3.5 million (EUR 2.5 million from the EU funds and EUR 1 million from the funds of Austrian Development Agency). With a view to a better preparation of potential project beneficiaries, information workshops were organised in Novi Sad, Belgrade, Donji Milanovac, Bor and Apatin in late 2012. In early 2013, trainings for potential project beneficiaries were organised in Donji Milanovac, Sremski Karlovci, Apatin and Pančevo to explain in detail each item in the project application and budget elaboration. The projects covered by the above mentioned grant scheme were implemented in the course of 2014 – of the 16 supported projects, seven were headed by civil society organisations active primarily in the area of environmental protection. The total value of the projects managed by the civil society organisations is EUR 1,270,941.93; and

– Within the European PROGRESS programme targeting 34 municipalities in the South and Southwest of the country, a public call for funding projects resulting from partnership. These were focused on social inclusion, migration reduction and advancement

of inter-ethnic dialogue. An info session was organised for nine new municipalities (Svrljig, Bela Palanka, Brus, Merošina, Doljevac, Babušnica, Knjaževac, Gadžin Han and Aleksinac) in Niš in early October 2014. The event was attended by 33 representatives of CSOs and local governments who were informed of the programme and the public call. In late December 2014, the Steering Committee of European PROGRESS supported the recommendations for funding 20 project proposals. Through this programme, the European Union and the Government of Switzerland provided RSD 45,953,017 (approx. EUR 382,000) for funding these projects while the CSOs and local governments ensured additional 10% contributions. Most of the projects will contribute to social inclusion and employment of vulnerable and marginalised persons, Roma in particular, persons with disabilities and women. A smaller number of projects focuses on reducing population migration and improving inter-ethnic dialogue. The implementation of these projects started in February and March 2015 and the planned duration thereof is 6 to 12 months. Importantly, European PROGRESS is a continuation of EU PROGRESS implemented in the period 2010–2014, that targeted 25 municipalities in the South and Southwest of the country and which supported 67 projects implemented in partnership of CSOs and local governments.



## Activities related to selection of new consortia within the framework of SEKO mechanism

In November 2014, the Office for European Integration and the leading sectoral civil society organisations signed memoranda on cooperation in the area of planning, programming, monitoring and reporting

on international development cooperation. The signing event was preceded by a public call for selection of sectoral civil society organisations that was published on 25 May 2014.

SEKO mechanism is comprised of the following sectoral civil society organisations:

+ SEKO sector	Consortium (leading partner and other partners) +
Internal affairs	Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, Group 484, Belgrade Centre for Human Rights
Public sector reform	European Movement in Serbia, European Project Centre, European Policy Centre, Belgrade Open School, Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence
Competitiveness	National Alliance for Local Economic Development – NALED, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Serbia, Institute for Territorial Economic Development– INTER, Center for Advanced Economic Studies – CEVES
Human resources development	Belgrade Open School, European Movement in Serbia, Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence, SMART Collective
Environment and climate changes	Young Researchers of Serbia, Association “Environmental Engineers“, UNEKOOP, Association for Protection and Development of Environment and Architectural Heritage, CEKOR– Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development



SEKO sector	Consortium (leading partner and other partners)
Energy	Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development - CEKOR, Association "Environmental Engineers", Association "Environmental Movement Ibar Kraljevo", Centre for Free Elections and Democracy -CESID, UNEKOOP
Civil society, media and culture	Citizens' Association for Democracy and Civic Education "Civic Initiatives", Independent Journalists' Association of Serbia - NUNS, Association "Independent Cultural Scene of Serbia"
Agriculture and rural development	Association for Development of the Ibar Valley "IDA", European Project Centre Belgrade, Serbian Rural Development Network, Rural Education Centre Subotica

In the sector *Transportation and Justice*, no civil society organization fulfilled the administrative verification even after three repeated public calls:

- Within the framework of the sector *Internal Affairs*, SEKO consortium temporarily took over lead of the sector *Justice* (in the previous cycle 2011-2014, SEKO sector *Rule of Law* included sectors *Justice* and *Internal Affairs* and that sector was led by the consortium now representing the sector *Internal Affairs*). Conditions allowing, the Commission will repeat the public call for SEKO sector *Justice*, within one year at the latest.

- Within the framework of the SEKO sector *Transportation*, no consortium of civil society organisations is currently in place as none of the SEKO consortia wished to take provisional lead of this sector. The decision was made for the Office for European Integration, in cooperation with other stakeholders, to be actively involved in promotion of significance of CSO participation in this sector. Conditions allowing, a new call for establishment of a consortium will be published within one year at the latest.

Since the establishment of new consortia, TRAG foundation supported initial activities of all SEKO mechanisms with a donation of EUR 1,000 each.



# INDEX

## ABBREVIATIONS

SBRA	Serbian Business Registers Agency	10
EU	European Union	2
ISDACon	Intersectoral Development Assistance Coordination Network	75
JCC	Joint Consultative Committee	48
SEIO	Government of the Republic of Serbia - European Integration Office	15
KSCD	Office for Cooperation with Civil Society	15
LG	Local Governments	77
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe	48
CSO	Civil Society Organizations	5
PIO	Pension and Disability Insurance Fund of the Republic of Serbia	8
ISP	The Republic Institute for Social Protection	67
SEKO	Sectoral Civil Society Organizations	15
SPD	Sectoral Planning Documents	75
SAA	Stabilization and Association Agreement	233
SUK	The Government Human Resource Management Service	12



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