



This project is funded by
the European Union



ReLOaD

Regional Programme on Local Democracy in the Western Balkans

in Albania

#WesternBalkans #LocalDemocracy

The Regional Programme on Local Democracy in the Western Balkans is funded by the European Union and implemented by UNDP.

ReLOaD objectives



ReLOaD overall objective is to strengthen participatory democracies and the EU integration process in the Western Balkans by empowering civil society organizations (CSOs) to actively take part in decision making.

One of the main pillars of the programme was to stimulate an enabling legal and financial environment for civil society organizations.

All activities were designed to strengthen partnerships between local governments (LGs) and CSOs by scaling-up a successful model of transparent and project-based funding of CSOs from local budgets.

This aimed to enhance engagement of CSOs in decision making and local service delivery improvement.

Partner Municipalities in Albania

12

partner municipalities were selected through an open and transparent approach.

Dibra, Durrës, Elbasan, Korça, Lezha, Librazhd, Përmeti, Prrerjas, Roskovec, Shkodra, Tirana and Tropoja.



All partner municipalities have adopted and approved Reinforcement of Local Democracy (LOD) methodology as a tool to allocate public funds to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs).

The LOD methodology is a technical tool based on a comprehensive approach that considers the full cycle of granting from the moment the grant is awarded to the implementation and monitoring. The key principles include identification of needs through consultations, open and competitive public calls, and transparent process of evaluation and thorough monitoring of the implementation process.

+100

local government staff from 12 partner municipalities, were trained on LOD methodology and Project Cycle Management.



ReLOaD partners involvement

24 CONSULTATION MEETINGS

locally organized for the selection of strategic priorities



323 PROJECT PROPOSALS submitted from CSOs.

140 CSOS

actively participated in the consultation meetings



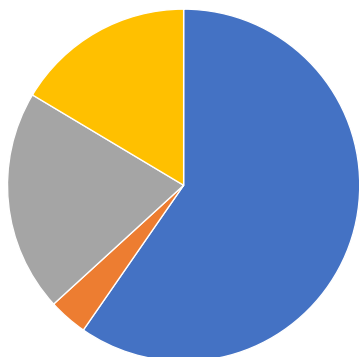
24 PUBLIC CALLS implemented in ReLOaD partner municipalities

82 projects were selected with a total budget of **EUR 1.13 million**

Partner municipalities funded **20% - 25%** of the grant
European Union funded **75% - 80%** of the grant.

ReLOaD beneficiaries

28.000 total beneficiaries



• 16,700 youth and children

• 1,000 vulnerable individuals

• 5,700 women

• 4,600 men

Projects and CSOs



398

representatives of

150 CSOs

benefited
from PCM trainings and mentoring
sessions.

58 CSOs implemented 82 projects on:

23

PROJECTS

environment and
tourism

18

PROJECTS

youth empowerment
and participation

14

PROJECTS

advancing social
inclusion

10

PROJECTS

strengthening human
rights and empowerment
of women

6

PROJECTS

boosting local
democracy

11

PROJECTS

combating Covid-19

Independent public calls in partner municipalities

Based on LOD methodology, for the first time in Albania, 8 partner municipalities (Elbasan, Korça, Librazhd, Përmeti, Prrenjas, Roskovec, Shkodra and Tirana) carried out independent public calls for CSOs. The calls were managed in line with a transparent, competitive and project-based approach.

EUR 230,000 were foreseen from the local budget of LGs for community service delivery improvement through partnerships with CSOs.

Until October 2020, 7 independent public calls have been successfully executed from 5 partner municipalities. Meanwhile, 3 independent public calls are launched and in process in 3 partner municipalities.

7 public independent calls fully granted from local budgets of partner municipalities, supported **26 projects** out of 98 applications.

6

PROJECTS

dedicated to promotion of
tourism

4

PROJECTS

dedicated to youth

2

PROJECTS

dedicated to vulnerable
groups (PwD and Elderly)

3

PROJECTS

dedicated to environment and
promotion of local products

11

PROJECTS

on women economic
empowerment

Main outputs

2 studies on mechanisms for allocation of local public funds to CSOs in Albania were completed

+ 20 local studies/plans conducted on waste management and environment; participation of youth in local decision making; social home services for elderly; medicinal plants; tourism promotion; forest management; air and river pollution; etc.



1500 saplings and flowers planted



+ 10 local fairs promoted local products.



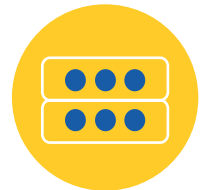
+ 50 artisanal products and one official city brand were developed



+ 30 interventions promoted local tourism



+4 public buildings became accessible for people with disabilities



2 databases with information for Children with disability were set up



Young people were mobilized in 5 youth councils



+ 10 projects developed by young people



1 platform for citizens' participation in local policies in place

1. Arte
2. Shpresë për të ardhmen
3. Shoqata e Artizaneve & Zejtareve
4. The Door
5. Kryqi i kuq Shkodër
6. Mandarina Project

1. Alpin
2. Gështenja e Tropojës
3. Trium
4. Forumi Shqiptar Social Ekonomik
5. Gratë në Shërbim Publik

1. SDC
2. Dora e pajtimit
3. Mary Ward Loreto
4. SHRPKK
5. CDI
6. Wisdom

1. Agro Eko Dibra
2. Delfini
3. Agritira Vizion

1. ACFEP
2. QSHM Drejt Zhvillimit
3. CSDC
4. EPER Center
5. Juvenilia 2014
6. Udhëtim i lirë

1. Albnatyra
2. SHBL
3. SoekIN
4. Agri EN
5. ETMI

1. ASET
2. NCCS
3. LKGV
4. Ndhimoni Jetën
5. WDN Albania
6. Down Syndrom Albania
7. ETMI

1. Medpak
2. Joscelyn
3. FGE
4. SHBL
5. Agri EN
6. CFD
7. Northgreen

1. Epoka e re
2. SDI
3. WDN Albania
4. ETMI

1. AVCD
2. DMO
3. Shoqata e Gazetarëve
4. Qëndistarët
5. Youth Act
6. Mandarina Project

1. Fondacioni Drin
2. Action for Albania
3. FGE
4. Medpak
5. QZSHS
6. Albnatyra
7. SDI

1. SHZHIPKPR
2. CIOFF
3. MUP
4. Antigonea
6. Vjosa Explorer
7. Solidariteti tani
8. SDC