



COBERM
A Joint EU-UNDP Initiative



What is COBERM?

COBERM is an apolitical, impartial and flexible joint EU-UNDP programme, which is currently in its fourth phase (2019-2022). Since its launch in 2010, COBERM continues to provide a neutral ground for addressing the prevailing needs of the local communities and for developing new approaches to peace and confidence building. More than 200 confidence-building sub-projects have been successfully implemented to date.

The overall objective of COBERM IV is to sustain and further enhance an enabling environment for reconciliation within and across divided communities in Georgia, to promote inclusive peace, stability and human security.

The main objectives of COBERM are the following:

1. Support innovative, grassroots initiatives with tangible impact on confidence building;
2. Contribute to further enhancement of an enabling environment conducive to peace, stability and human security;
3. Foster academic research and analysis in the sphere of confidence building and peace.

COBERM IV Restricted Call (for Media Organizations)

After a decade-long peacebuilding work, the Restricted Call for Media Organisations was announced by COBERM with the aim to open new avenues for promotion of COBERM's multi-year gains in confidence-building and ensure greater visibility of its accomplishments.

The announcement for Restricted Call was distributed among selected CSOs and Media Outlets in July 2020. The purpose of the call was to identify project ideas in the field of media proposing increased and sustainable cooperation, with a demonstrable positive impact on the building of trust between societies affected by conflict, as well as on the attitudes and perceptions leading to confidence-building and reconciliation.

In result of the Call, a total of 16 project ideas were received from local CSOs. Criteria for evaluation of project ideas included: relevance, tangible impact, do no harm, special focus on women and youth, sustainability, feasibility and cost efficiency. As a result of thorough selection process, 13 organizations were invited to submit full project proposals. Through further assessment, 10 projects were supported aiming to strengthen capacity of media workers, wider dissemination of confidence-building messages and providing opportunities for creation of sustainable platforms for cooperation.

Table 1. Restricted Call Financial Overview

Total amount of projects funded in Restricted Call (for Media Organizations)	USD	713,029
Capacity building trainings and consultations conducted in 2020	USD	6,970

Strengthening Capacity of Civil Society

In its fourth phase, COBERM continues supporting the capacity building of CSOs through a number of specialized, tailor-made trainings and consultations. All 13 organizations shortlisted under Restricted Call for Media Organizations were offered online training on Conflict Sensitive Communication. Additionally, individual consultations were provided by the international consultant in September-October 2020, enabling the applicant organizations to design quality full proposals in line with COBERM requirements.

For more information, please contact us at:

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Projects funded under Restricted Call (for Media Organizations)

#	Project title	Brief description	Budget
1	JAMnews: Reducing the Impact of Stereotypes, Misinformation and Propaganda through Free, Fair, Unbiased, Pluralistic Reporting	The project aims to contribute to improving knowledge of young journalists through advancing their professional skills in media reporting and strengthened cooperation among the media professionals, as well as to facilitate increased supply of quality, unbiased and multi perspective media content.	88,260 USD
2	Confidence Building for Conflict-affected Young Journalists	The project aims to reduce the informational vacuum between societies divided by conflict through ensuring fact-checked and unbiased reporting. In addition, the project envisages provision of trainings to new generation of journalists from the South Caucasus with special emphasis on professional ethics and values.	91,603 USD
3	Enhancing Media Literacy of Journalists and Bloggers	The aim of the project is to build trust between journalists from conflict-affected regions through collaboration and exchange of objective and trustful information. With this purpose, the action will build capacity of social media journalists and bloggers to access reliable information sources and distinguish fake news from objective information.	73,488 USD
4	Bridging the Gap: Youth-Led Vision	The aim of the action is to decrease an alienation by fostering peaceful journalism in conflict affected communities. With this purpose the action capacitates youth through joint trainings and production of a documentary. The action also promotes peace activism by equipping young journalists, bloggers and civic activists with new media and multimedia techniques.	69,425 USD
5	Let's Get to Know Each Other Again	The project aims to bring conflict-affected communities closer by facilitating their exposure to each other's daily lives, thoughts and ideas. The action will promote changes in perceptions and attitudes and eliminate alienation towards each other through rethinking stereotypes and foster mutual empathy between conflict-affected communities.	97,850 USD
6	Documentary Films: Learning and Filming	The action supports cooperation among young professional journalists from conflict-affected areas through providing an opportunity to meet, exchange, and study together, as well as develop trust by collaboration for producing joint documentary films for wide dissemination via social media channels.	67,957 USD
7	Lasting and Sustainable Change in Conflict Narratives & Media Development across the South Caucasus	The Project aims to empower young, independent journalists, photojournalist and documentary filmmakers to counter disinformation and facilitate alternative narratives across South Caucasus region. The action will support capacity building and professional cooperation among young specialists, encouraging them to raise voices regarding the social issues affecting their communities.	72,076 USD
8	Cooperation Platform for Confidence Building	The main aim of the project is to ensure the cooperation between media representatives to produce quality media content through creating a neutral environment and sustainable platform for cooperation. The project envisages to advance skills of young journalists and expose them to new techniques in media reporting and video production.	73,199 USD
9	Sensitive Coverage of Conflicts	The aim of the action is to develop a guideline document on conflict sensitive media reporting, based on international standards of journalism. The document will provide an overall framework for conflict sensitive coverage of news and other media content and will be enriched with local examples and cases. The guideline document will be prepared with the engagement of international and local journalists and media experts.	40,670 USD
10	No Fake News	The goal of the project is to create a positive informational environment to enable a constructive public discourse and provide informational support for the work of local CSOs and international organizations. For these purposes, young bloggers will be capacitated to produce and disseminate accurate, reliable and verified information with due consideration of conflict sensitivity aspects.	29,500 USD