



EU TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
TO CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS
IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY



COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FORUM 2021

20-21 OCTOBER, 2021

BELGRADE, SERBIA



EU Financial Support to Third Parties (FSTP) Enhanced Outreach to CSOs

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Who are we and how we became Implementing partners (IP) for FSTP?

The Belgrade Open School (BOS) is a civil society organisation founded in 1993.

BOS develops human resources, improves public policies and strengthens the capacities of the civil, public and business sectors in order to develop a better society based on freedom, knowledge, and innovation.

BOS and FSTP?

So far...

- started with FSTP back in 2014
- two ongoing projects with FSTP component funded by the EU Delegation in Serbia, with financial support to beneficiaries of more than 1.6 million EUR (more than 0.5 million EUR per year)
- one completed Regional Western Balkan FSTP (Brussels funded Regional Thematic Networks), with financial support of 150,000 EUR
- ... and two Swedish SIDA funded programmes, one USAID funded programme, all worth 0.75 million EUR per year



Thoughts, views, conclusions...?

1/3

- **We are not grant-giving foundations!**
- **...we are still the same CSO, thus partners, peers, colleagues, which struggle with similar problems as our FSTP beneficiaries (maybe on a different scale, but still...)**
- **FSTP is an additional tool, an instrument, a financial mechanism, and much more...**



Thoughts, views, conclusions...?

2/3

- **Maximum transparency in the call, selection procedure (and later in implementation)!**
- **There are (in theory) simplified procedures for FSTP recipients, but – be careful, pay attention – full financial responsibility of Implementing Partner!**
- **Yes, F in FSTP stands for “financial”, but capacity development (training, mentoring, coaching, one-on-one, peer-to-peer etc...) is equally important, thus**
- **ultimate goal is the “growth” of FSTP beneficiaries, who would become stronger and capable for any other EU funding and many more.**

Thoughts, views, conclusions...?

3/3

- **FSTP is a great opportunity for coordinated national policy and advocacy activities of FSTP (local) beneficiaries, designed and lead by FSTP Implementing partner;**
- **Yes, there are numerous benefits of FSTP component (there are also some shortcomings), there is enhanced outreach to CSOs (but also decision-makers, other stakeholders, and many more) so definitely go for it!**



Thank you!

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