

Green Agenda Consultative Meeting

ONLINE, 21 September 2023, 10:00 – 12:00hrs

“Green Agenda for ALL CSOs: The World is facing a climate emergency: what can ordinary citizens and CSOs do to combat climate change before it is too late? Local action for the Green Agenda in the Western Balkans”

Key notes from the meeting

The meeting is organised with the purpose of exchanging information, and ideas and stimulating communication on how CSOs operating in different sectors can contribute to the promotion of implementation of the EU Green Agenda for the Western Balkans.

The EU TACSO 3 project is working with CSOs that are not necessarily specialists in environmental issues. The aim is to broaden awareness and activities of organisations that can complement and enlarge the efforts for Green Agenda implementation. Rule of law specialists, anti-corruption campaigners, media outlets, emergency preparedness organisations, social service providers, youth associations, policy advocacy organisations and many more can all contribute to improving our environment.

The consultation meeting succeeded in gathering 60 participants, both from environmental specialists and non-specialist CSOs who discussed the key issues of Green Agenda implementation in the region.

These are the key points from the meeting held:

- More transparency is needed on who does what on Green Agenda implementation, and what opportunities exist for civil society engagement, and especially how the CSOs can participate in this process.
- The Green Agenda foresees the green transition which is quite a demanding transition and is quite important that we keep into account the difficulties that we will face in terms of just transition process and leave no one behind when we talk about the green transition of the Western Balkans.
- The first report on the implementation of the Green Agenda will be published soon by the Regional Cooperation Council. For more information, please visit their [website](#).
- Strengthening of capacities of CSOs on how to monitor Green Agenda implementation and how to participate in effective implementation are listed as possible future actions for capacity-building implementors.
- Cooperation with other sectors on building capacities and further mainstreaming the green transition is needed (i.e., cooperation with universities, businesses, and local governments).
- Strengthening of non-environmental CSOs is recommended including different types of organisations having capacities to tackle environmental issues from different perspectives. For example, organisations like the associations of prosecutors or lawyers, associations of journalists, or organisations supporting and protecting vulnerable groups etc.



- Capacity building of the local level initiatives is also important to ensure local communities can monitor the process and be ready for active involvement in the process of Green Agenda implementation.
- Raising public awareness about climate change issues, and the need for actions contributing to environmental protection is a sphere where CSOs and media can cooperate and contribute to the Green Agenda implementation.

