

# Building Resilience, Strengthening Human Rights: Human Rights Support Mechanism in Turkey

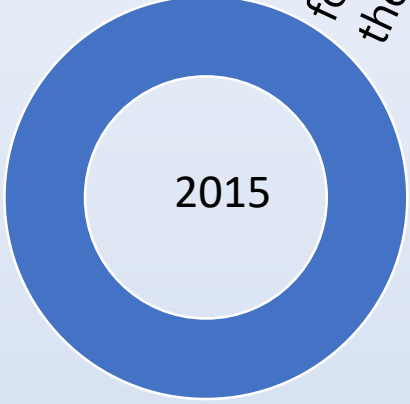
Support To Rights Program

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# Support to Rights Program

- The program operates as a sub-granting mechanism financed by the Delegation of the European Union to Turkey and managed by TJMC and Heinrich Böll Stiftung.
  - ✓ Sub- granting mechanism
  - ✓ Capacity building program involving mentoring
  - ✓ Facilitate the survival of right- based CSOs with core support
  - ✓ Supporting their organizational capacities
  - ✓ Increasing & strengthening their impacts throughout mentoring & one to one expert support



2015

*Turkey entered a highly conflictual period following the collapse of the peace process.*



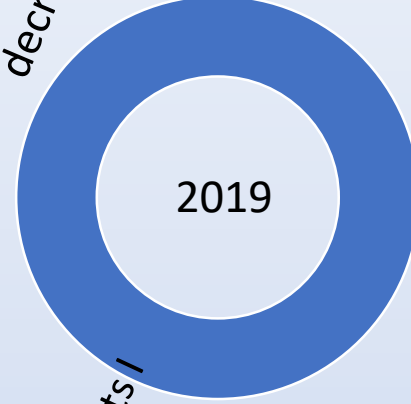
2016

*state of emergencies declared after the failed coup attempt*



2018

*Second wave: closed down of 36 CSO with decree law*



2019

*Support to Rights I*



2020

*COVID 19 PANDEMIC*



2021

*Law No. 7262 on the Prevention of the Financing of Mass Destruction*



2022

*Support to Rights II*

# Support to Rights I (2019)

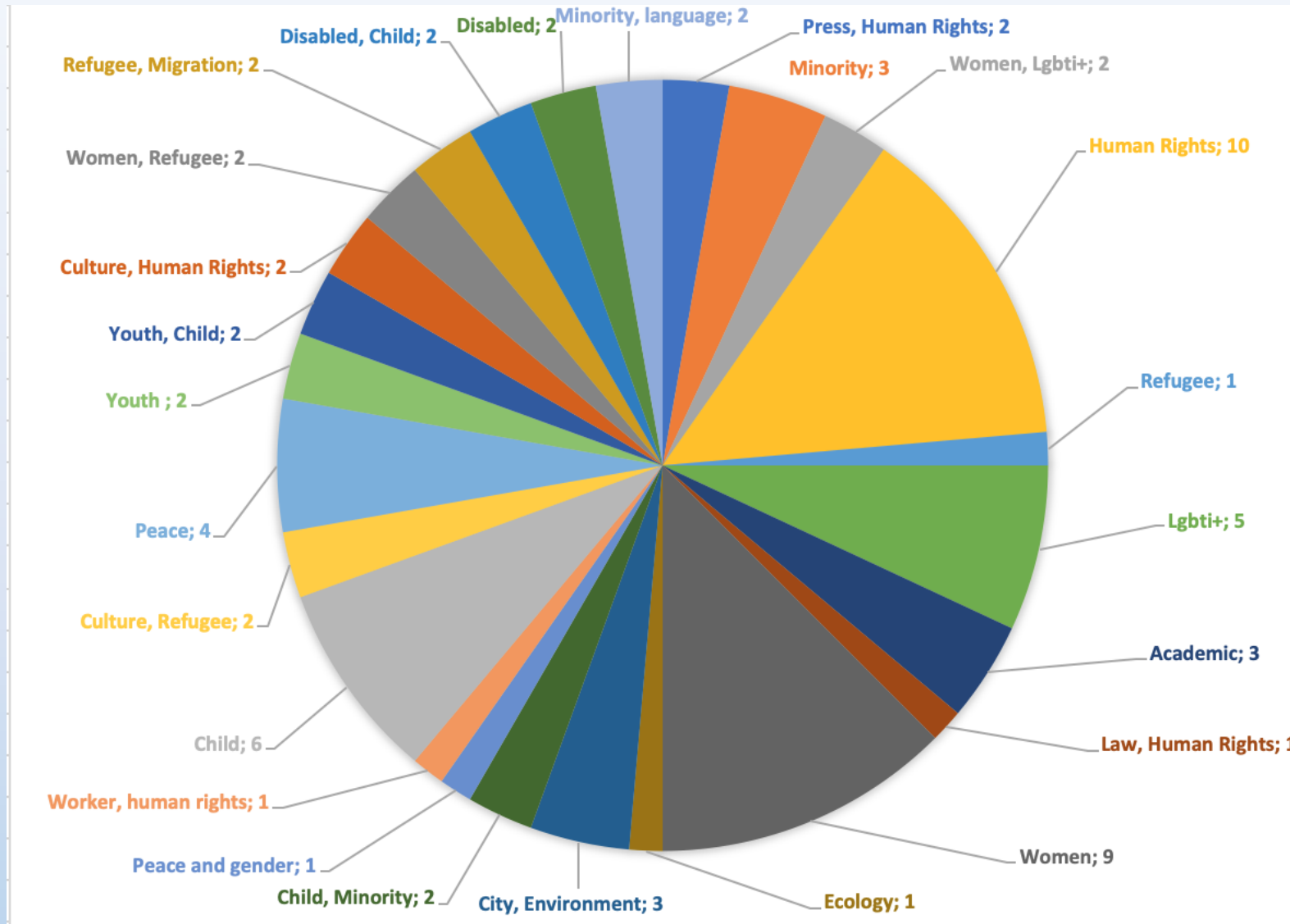
Aimed at contributing to the advancement of human rights and participatory democracy by supporting small scale and grassroots human rights organisations

- ✓ Especially after 2015, attacks on areas such as freedom of expression, freedom of association and peaceful assembly intensified in Turkey. The movement and sphere of influence of rights defenders and non-governmental organizations were restricted, information production and advocacy activities were interrupted.

## **Program priority defined was**

- right to life,
- right to not to be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment,
- right to freedom of opinion and expression
- right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.
- HR CSOs whose work emphasizes gender and minority issues as either thematic or cross-cutting.
- 48 human rights CSOs from 12 different cities of TR were awarded and supported for 1 year

# Thematic breakdown of 48 Grantees



# Capacity Building program in a glance

- The process of needs assessment was implemented
  - ✓ 97 % of CSOs claimed that needs analysis tool facilitated the prioritization process
- The common three area of prioritization were as follow:
  - ✓ Planning and conducting advocacy and lobbying activities
  - ✓ Financial sustainability
    - ✓ **94% of CSOs** either built a new model for financial planning or revised their existing plan.
  - ✓ Strategic planning
    - ✓ **81% of grantees** worked with their consultants on their organization's strategic planning. 4 out of 48 built a strategic plan from scratch during the one-to-one support.
- 10 consultants have implemented the one-to-one support to grantees. Close monitoring and support were held during 12 month of support.
- 21 expert from prioritised areas have provided technical support (financial management, human resources, organisational management)
- COVID 19 changed the whole structure of the capacity building program- increased the number of trainings, workshops, one to one support.
- The most successful element of the capacity building program was the one-to-one technical support in priority areas identified by the CSOs themselves. Main activities of the capacity building program were:
  - 3 training sessions and webinars for all the CSOs,
  - 7 thematic workshops on prioritised areas
  - 40 One-to-one technical assistance/expert support for specific needs of CSOs.

# Capacity Building- COVID 19

<i>COVID 19's positive impact over capacity building program:</i>	Planned	Realised
# of training	3 training with 48 CSOs	3 training with 48 CSOs
# of workshp	0	7
# of webinar	0	2
# of CSO benefited from one to one support	25	40
# hours allocated for one to one support	200	1296

A glance over the capacity building support & areas	
Strategic planning for the CSOs	Training & Expert &booklet
Financial sustainability	Training & Expert &booklet
Planning and conducting advocacy and lobbying activities	Training & Expert &Booklet
Planning and conducting advocacy and lobbying activities	Webinar
Having a rights-based approach	Webinar
Financial management	Workshop & Expert &Booklet
Project design and implementation &	Workshop & Expert
Advocacy-Lobbying	Workshop
Advocacy- campaign	Workshop
Ability to reach the target audience & Increasing the visibility of the CSOs	Webinar & Workshop & Expert
Monitoring and Evaluation of the CSO's Impact	Workshop & Expert
Planning and managing human resources & Volunteering	Workshop & Expert

# The content of one-to-one support

- The amendment made in the Law on Associations
  - ✓ Administrative audits were quickly put into effect following the change in the law, constituted one of the important agenda items of most of the 48 non-governmental organizations participating in the Haklara Destek Program in 2021. – *One to one expert for these CSOs was provided*
  - ✓ 32 Grantees were subjected to annual audits depending on the newly introduced risk assessment system.
- Some of the grantee CSOs or their members/executives experienced legal pressure during the implementation period and legal advice was provided in some cases:
  - ✓ Some of the members of the organizations (6) were detained; investigations against them were opened; documents and other organizational materials were seized during an office raid. – *Legal support*
  - ✓ Lawsuits against the president of the association – *advocacy and visibility campaign*
  - ✓ LGBTI+ organisation aimed to set a model for public institutions by developing service models for LGBTI+ communities, to eliminate all forms of discrimination in these areas, and to offer special services to LGBTI+s through public and private sector collaborations in the long run. because of their work area the CSO became a target – *an advocacy by an expert was designed together with the organization*
- The conditions described above while making the implementation of the capacity building program made harder but it also made the program itself more meaningful for the target audience.
- During the pandemic the financial support meant a life support for most of the CSOs as well as they could have more time for trainings/one-to-one support to strengthen their institutions.



# Plans for Support to Rights II

- **A set of tailored training, coaching, technical support and capacity building packages will be delivered to selected groups of HROs according to their specific needs.**
  - A need analysis tool will be used to identify individual capacity gaps of the sub-grantee organisations at the beginning of the program.
  - Each sub-grantee organisation will be actively involved in identifying their capacity gaps and preparation of their capacity building roadmap
  - 4 general trainings (two on organisational development issues and two on internalisation of RBA principles and gender mainstreaming)
  - 2 rounds of legal training to assure knowledge on legal compliance requirements and rights of the organisations,
  - a tailor-made capacity development program will be developed for all supported HROs. Moreover, each sub-grantee will have access to 96 hours/12 days of one-to-one support (or grouped trainings if possible) during the 24-month implementation period for capacity gaps they identify themselves with the help of related experts in the field.

Thank you!

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