

PUBLIC ENGAGES MORE IN CIVIC ACTIONS



This project is funded by the European Union.



www.civicspace.eu

OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To contribute to build, in the Turkish Cypriot community, a stronger civil society, which supports democratic changes and confidence-building measures.

PURPOSE

- The public engages more in civic actions.
- CSOs' civic engagement and role in decision-making are reinforced.
- A more enabling environment for CSOs' actions is promoted in the TCc.
- Greater links with CSOs in the Greek Cypriot community are encouraged.

PROJECT

Support to CSOs in the Turkish Cypriot community

Service Contract 2020/418-443

Project start date: 21 December 2020

Project end date: 20 June 2023



BUDGET

1,749,000 EUR



KEY EXPERTS

Evrin Pekar (Team Leader)
Selen Lermioglu (KE2)



PROJECT MANAGERS

Vincent Curie, Sabine Boeltken, Ghadir Metlej

Communication

- **Communication Strategy** produced.
- Website (www.civicspace.eu) in English, Turkish and Greek. Almost **43.378** views, **17,979** visitors and **10,191** unique visitors since October 2021.
- **Extensive use of social media channels** (Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Linked In, YouTube, Telegram) to make the EU's support for civil society, the diversity and benefits of Cypriot civil society more visible.
- **58 Grow Civic** articles and action outputs showcased on website to show the diversity and achievements of Cypriot activism and EU support.
- More than **31 newsletters** accessed to **871** subscribers.
- **15** videos/films to promote Grow Civic.

Database & Library

- A **database containing 266 CSOs' contact** information and field of work for networking/partnering shows the civil society's diversity in Cyprus.
- A **digital library** with **315** resources to make available local and international documentation related to civil society.

Consultation & Outreach

- **21 digital surveys** to consult the potential project beneficiaries before starting an activity or collecting feedback/assessment on a completed activity.
- Civic Space's **capacity-building** and networking events have gathered **690** participants, among who **317** different persons and **150** various CSOs.
- Info-sessions in **Lefka/Lefke, Morphou, Iskele/Trikomo, Limassol, Paphos.**





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CSOS' CIVIC ENGAGEMENT & ROLE IN DECISION-MAKING ARE REINFORCED

Help Desk

- **522** tailor-made help desk support provided to more than **81 CSOs & activists** on capacity-building topics that took about **716 hours (89.5 days)**.
- **340** of the HD sessions were for CS VII and VIII CfPs, lasting about **426 hours (54 days)**.
- **9 out of the 12** Civic Space recipients were awarded with grants.

Trainings & Mentoring & Thematic Support

- **5 mainstreaming guidelines** produced: **Accessibility, Ecology, Gender, Rights-Based Approach and Youth. 4 workshops** held to introduce them.
- **30 trained mentors** in the pool. Ongoing supervision and skills-building support. **9 CSOs** benefiting from mentoring.
- **3 Exchange Initiative** partnership of 6 CSOs supported with mentoring.
- **9 capacity-building trainings** held followed by coaching support.
- **22 trainers'** training skills improved.
- **3 thematic working groups** - enabling environment, environment and youth - supported with technical help desk.

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Grow Civic Programme (ACM)

- **74** support requests received, **23** of them **approved**. **5** actions completed. **4** actions under eligibility check.
- Approved actions' budget total is about **101,887 EUR** (61% of the total); budget of those under eligibility check is **17,800 EUR**.
- **56** request owners: **35 CSOs and 21 activists**.
- Requesters' regions are: **Nicosia (55%), Famagusta (16%) Kyrenia and Lefka (9%)**
- Top **3 thematic fields** of request owners: **nature an environment, peace and reconciliation and human rights**.
- Top **3 thematic topics** of approved actions: **nature and environment (26 %), health (22 %) and peace and reconciliation (18 %)**.
- Origin of support owners: Nicosia (16), Trikomo (2), Kyrenia (3), Famagusta (1), and Lefka (1).
- A **local call** was organised to reach out to rural areas, **10** requests received, **5** found eligible with pre-condition & **3** supported.
- **72 % of the request owners** were newcomers and did not receive prior funding from EU or Grow Civic.
- At least **668 Grow Civic help desk** provided at all stages for about **585 hours (73 days)**.
- **192 request owners** received help desk: **111 CSOs and 81 activists. 68 % of them were new comers** with no experience of EU grants or Grow Civic support.
- **MIS system and Toolkit of guidelines** to facilitate request and implementation



GREATER LINKS WITH CSOS IN THE GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY ENCOURAGED



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A MORE ENABLING ENVIRONMENT FOR CSOS' ACTIONS PROMOTED

- Support to drafting and finalisation of the **multi-annual strategy to support civil society development** in the Turkish Cypriot community.
- **Assessment of the civil society environment** in the Turkish Cypriot community (2022)
- **Joint working group with the Turkish Cypriot local bodies and CSOs** initiated and followed to improve the enabling environment for CSOs.
- Workshops to local bodies and CSOs on **freedom of association and participation in decision-making**.
- Currently, **2 guidelines** for implementing the legal text on associations are under production, one for 'district officers' and one for CSOs.
- **Standards for participation to decision-making** are produced and published.



sivil civic Χώρος
alan space Πολιτών

- **54 help desk sessions** for intercommunal networking and partnership
- **11 requests made by intercommunal partnerships; 13** requests aimed directly at peace and reconciliation, while **6** others indirectly.
- **5 Grow Civic supported actions implemented in intercommunal partnership.** The topics are peace and reconciliation, human rights, environment, health.
- **5 supported actions that aimed at EU MS and IPA level partnership and networking.** The topics are human rights, peace and reconciliation, health and disabilities.
- **Exchange Initiative with 6 CSOs** (3TC and 3 GC) for **5 months**
- **English translation** provided to maximum events and trainings for intercultural participation
- **3 Greek Cypriot mentors** in the mentors' pool
- **1 multicommunal CSO** receiving mentoring support
- **Environment multicommunal networking group** supported by held desk
- **Greek website** <https://civicspace.eu/gr/>

