## ANNEX I – IPA III Action Fiche

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|  | Indicative title of the Action | **Civil Society Facility** |
| **CRITERIA FOR RELEVANCE ASSESSMENT** | Key thematic priority | **Window 1: Rule of law, fundamental rights and democracy**  *Thematic Priority 7: Civil Society*  *Thematic Priority 5: Fundamental rights* |
| Links with specific policy instruments of the enlargement process | The Civil society Programme targets the main pillars of the EU guidelines for support to civil society in the enlargement region 2020-2027[[1]](#footnote-1).  The Guidelines translate the political objectives of the Commission into a concrete "results' framework" containing the outcomes to be achieved in the next financing period as well as the indicators to monitor them. The measurement of indicators will provide information for the elaboration of the yearly country progress reports and for the programming of IPA support. The monitoring exercise will also allow for comparison of results achieved by the different countries in the development of enabling and stimulating participatory democracy.  The actions of the program will be coherent with the results set in the EU guidelines for support to civil society and the EU guidelines for support to media freedom and integrity of media in the enlargement region 2021-2027 (under preparation).  This programme is also linked to address the recommendations of the European Commission expressed in the annual progress report, which outlines the need for improving the environment for civil society, ensuring the structured involvement of civil society organisations in the negotiation process and sector policy dialogue, and enhancing the contribution of the civil society to the key reforms launched by the country. |
| Links with national, regional and global strategies | The action addresses the principles, findings and recommendations of:   * EU guidelines for support to civil society in the enlargement region 2021-2027; * EU guidelines for support to media freedom and integrity of media in the enlargement region 2021-2027; * National Strategies for the cooperation with the CSOs; * February 2018 Commission Communication on “A credible enlargement perspective for and enhanced EU engagement with the Western Balkans”; * Enlargement strategy. |
| Coherence with the Sector Approach | This action will support the participation of the civil society in crafting and implementation of all sector policies, making the sector policies and strategies better tuned to the needs of the citizens, the sector policy dialogue - richer and the monitoring of the results – more relevant and consistent.  The empowered and active civil society is an essential component of any democracy. Civil society organisations (CSOs) can contribute to address many societal challenges, by engaging in coherent, structured and inclusive manner in the policy creation, proposing innovative, sustainable and inclusive solutions and monitoring the results of reform processes in the field. |
| Regional dimension | The programme is complementary and support the regional dimension of the Civil Society Facility improving the efficiency, effectiveness, coherence and ultimately the achievement of sustainable results in the Commission's support to civil society in the IPA Beneficiaries.  The above components will develop actions in all the 7 IPA beneficiaries. The regional interventions are complementary to the bilateral actions. All bilateral and regional intervention of the Facility are targeting the same results of the above-mentioned EU guidelines. An annual monitoring of the results and indicators will assess the achievement of national targets.  The regional component will specifically focus on actions responding to regional needs, and will include the exchange of best practices among regional CSOs networks. |
| Indicative budget | | *IPA Funding: EUR 3,000,000* |
| Implementation Modality | | The action will be implemented through direct management and will involve procurement (service) and grants. |
| Budget Support Readiness | | *N/A* |

**LOGICAL FRAMEWORK MATRIX**

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| **OVERALL OBJECTIVE(S) / (IMPACT(S))** | **OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS** | **BASELINES**  **(INCL. VALUE & REFERENCE YEAR[[2]](#footnote-2))** | **MILESTONES**  **[OPTIONAL]**  **(INCL. VALUE & REFERENCE YEAR )** | **TARGETS**  **(INCL. VALUE & REFERENCE YEAR)** | **SOURCES & MEANS OF VERIFICATION** |  |
| To strengthen the participatory democracy in North Macedonia | Civil Society Participation Index  Percentage of people who believe that CSOs can effectively scrutinise the authorities  % of people employed by the CS sector  Number of volunteers in the CSOs  Revenue of CSOs (by grants, business activities and donations) | 5 (2018)  45% (2019)[[3]](#footnote-3) | 7 (2025)  50% (2023) | 8 (2027)  55%(2027) | World Bank  Balkan Barometer  State statistical office  Tax office |
| **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE(S) / OUTCOME(S)** | **OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (\*)** | **BASELINES** | **MILESTONES** | **TARGETS** | **SOURCES OF VERIFICATION** | **ASSUMPTIONS** |
| To enhance the contribution of civil society in addressing the key priorities of the country | Number of CSOs actively participating in the Sector policy dialogue (sector working groups meeting)  Number of CSOs’ opinion on the proposed laws and strategies  Number of CSOs actively engaged in the negotiation process  Number of CSOs (and proportion of CSOs to all providers of services), delivering community-based social services  Number of environment-focused activities/services, run by the CSOs | 23 (2019)  X  0 (2020)  0 (2020)  30 (2019) | 50 (2023)  300 (2023)  30 (2022)  20 (2024)  100 (2024) | 90 (2027)  500 (2027)  50 (2027)  At least 50 CSOs (30% of all service providers)  300 (2027) | Attendance lists of the SWG  ENER[[4]](#footnote-4) statistics  SEA negation structure  Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare Annual report on social services | Social and economic development of the country allows stronger support to CS agenda |
| **OUTPUTS** | **OBJECTIVELY VERIFIABLE INDICATORS (\*)** | **BASELINES** | **MILESTONES** | **TARGETS** | **SOURCES OF VERIFICATION** | **ASSUMPTIONS** |
| **Output 1**  Improved capacities of civil society to deliver services to citizens and participate in the accession process | Number of CSOs trained to deliver services and participate in the accession process  Number of CSOs involved in implementation of EU grants  Number of CSOs working in cooperation with EU CSOs and subject to enhanced transfer of know-how  Number of community-based services (of sustainable nature) established by CSOs  Number of beneficiaries of the established services | IPA III  0 (2020)  0 (2020)  0 (2020)  0 (2020)  0 (2020) | IPA III  250 (2023)  50 (2023)  20 (2023)  15 (2023)  300 (2023) | IPA III  850 (2027)  200 (2027)  100 (2027)  50 (2027)  700 (2027) | Project reports | Interest on behalf of the CSOs to develop and grow and provide benefits to the society  Interest on behalf of the Government to support financially, institutionally and legally the development of a vibrant civil sector  Public considers civil society an important vector of democracy |
| **Output 2**  Improved legal, procedural and financial framework for the operation of civil society | Number of new laws adopted/amended improving the operational environment for CS  Value of state funding for CS sector  Number of CSOs receiving state funding | 0(2020)  1 MEUR (2020)  20 (2020) | 1 (2024)  3 MEUR (2024)  50 (2024) | 2 (2027)  5 MEUR (2027)  100 (2027) | Official Gazette  Report of the Council for Cooperation with CSOs |
| **Output 3**  Improved public support for the CSOs | Number of volunteers attracted by the CSOs in implementing EU projects  Volume of private donations attracted  Number of communication products released | 0 (2020) | 100 (2024) | 500 (2027) | Project reports |
| **BROAD ARRANGEMENTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION (IF AVAILABLE)** | The action will be implemented through direct management and will involve procurement (service) and grants. | | | | | | |

1. under preparation, based on the previous versions 2014-2020 [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The baseline value may be "0" (i.e. no reference values are available as the Action represents a novelty for the beneficiary) but cannot be left empty or include references such as "N/A" or "will be determined later". [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Serbia – 52%, Montenegro – 63%, Albania – 48% [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. ENER is the IT system put in place by North Macedonia to consult all strategies and laws. The current upgrade of the system will allow structured data on the input to be produced. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)