

platforma

CiviKos

The logo features the word "CiviKos" in a bold, sans-serif font. The "Civi" part is blue, and the "Kos" part is black. A thick, blue, curved line arches underneath the text, starting from the left and ending on the right, with a slight gradient effect.

Annual Report 2014



Assembly of CiviKos Platform members

On April 4, 2014 at Restaurant Sheshi 21, CiviKos Platform held its annual assembly of members. The Assembly was attended by more than 75 representatives of member and non-member organizations, where 68 participants from member organizations were eligible to vote. In this meeting assembly elected new CiviKos Platform Board consisting of: Taulant Hoxha (KCSF), Sihana Mehmeti (KFOS), Driton Selmanaj (KDI), Feride Rushiti (KRCT), Petrit Tahiri (KEC), Bujar Kadriu (Kosovo Association of the Blind), Hajrulla Çeku (EC Ma Ndryshe), Petrit Zogaj (FOL) and Hilmi Jashari (CRP Kosovo), who in a democratic and transparent way were voted by the members present in the assembly. In this assembly meeting it was adopted and entered into force the following documents: Code of Ethics, Rules of Procedure for CiviKos activities, Regulations of the Board, and two articles in the Statute of CiviKos Platform were changed: Article 1.2 and 8.2. In addition to the aforementioned documents, the work report and financial report for 2012-2013 were presented and approved by the assembly.



Strategic Planning of the CiviKos Platform

Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform together with CiviKos Board members, and with the support of TACSO office in Kosovo, from 04.07.2014 - 06.07.2014 at Hotel "Magra Austria" in Bogë/Boge-Rugova, held a joint workshop to develop a strategic plan for CiviKos Platform 2015-2017. The workshop included defining the vision and mission of CiviKos, SWOT Matrix, prioritize opportunities and threats, prioritize strengths and weaknesses, prioritize strategic objectives of CiviKos, CiviKos work methodology as well as the action plan for the finalization of strategy.

Three Strategic objectives that emerged from CiviKos Platform workshop are:

- Strategic Objective 1 - Strengthen relationships with members and non-members and expanding portfolio of services,
- Strategic Objective 2 - Coordination of civil society for implementation of Government's Strategy for Cooperation with Civil Society,
- Strategic Objective 3 - Develop a structured dialogue between civil society and other public authorities.



Government Strategy for Cooperation with Civil Society 2013-2017

Establishment of the Council for supervision of implementation of the strategy

In order to ensure implementation of the Government Strategy for Cooperation with civil society 2013-2017, it is foreseen the establishment of the Council for Supervision on Implementation of Government Strategy 2013-2017. The decision to establish this council was taken at the meeting of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo on 02.04.2014, where it was decided that the council will be consists of 29 members, 14 of whom are from the Government of the Republic of Kosovo and 15 members from civil society. At the request of civil society organizations, it was decided that the level of representation of members of the Council from the government not to be at political level, while civil society representatives should be selected by the voting process, which is organized by the Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform.

On April 25, 2014 the Office of the Prime Minister/Office on Good Governance, in cooperation with CiviKos Platform organized the Conference for Promotion of the Strategy for Cooperation with civil society. This conference promoted Government Strategy for Cooperation with civil society. In addition to representatives from civil society there were participants from government, the European Commission - Office in Kosovo, and representatives of international organizations.

One-day workshop with Igor Vidacak- Head of the Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs in Croatia

CiviKos Platform in cooperation and with the support of TACSO office in Kosovo on 29.04.2014 organized one day workshop with Mr. Igor Vidacak, who is the head of the Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs in Croatia. The workshop was attended by representatives of government and civil society, and where it was discussed and finalized the document - Rules of Procedure for the Council, and they also discussed models of selection for council members. Government Strategy for Cooperation with Civil Society and implementation challenges were among the topics discussed by the participants with Mr. Vidacak.

Informational meetings about the mechanisms accompanying Government Strategy (2013-2017) - Functionality of Council

Immediately after the conference that aimed at launching and promoting the Governmental Strategy, so that members of the CiviKos Platform take the ownership for the entire process, and get familiar with the functioning of the mechanisms accompanying the strategy, such as the establishment of the council and working groups based on the strategic objectives, Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform, during June-July 2014 organized a series of consultative meetings with members in all regions of Kosovo. Meetings were held on 25.06.2014 in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, 26.06.2014 in Ferizaj/Uroševac, 27.06.2014 in Klinë/Klina, 29.06.2014 in Prizren and Prishtinë/Priština on 03.07.2014. The recommendations that emerged from these meetings with members helped Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform in organizing elections for civil society representatives in the council.

The selection process of the members of civil society in the Council on implementation of the Government Strategy for Cooperation with Civil Society

Following the decision of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo for the establishment of the council and a long process of consultation with civil society organizations in all regions of Kosovo, CiviKos Platform developed Terms of Reference for the council, OPM/Office on Good Governance on 22.07.2014 on their website announced the call for nominations of civil society representatives in the council. The Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform had also published the call, together with other supporting documents on their website, social media and has constantly repeated the call where encouraging all member and non-member organizations to nominate their representatives.

After the deadline for nominations has ended, CiviKos Platform had received 32 applications, out of which six were from CiviKos non-member organizations, and four of the applications came from organizations that come from minority communities living in Kosovo. Regarding the gender break-down, twelve were women, and nineteen men. After verification of applications three (3) of the candidates have not entered the race since they did not meet the forth-set criteria.

Verification of nominees and voting process

To verify the nominations CiviKos Platform has appointed a committee consisting of Trendelina Dreshaj - Official from Office on Good Governance, Petrit Zogaj from Lëvizja FOL - Member of the CiviKos Board and Mimoza Murati – Coordinator of Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform.

After verifying the documentation, three (3) candidate did not meet the foreseen criteria to be part of the council, where it was assessed that one candidate did not have the required experience - three years of engagement in Civil Society, and two (2) representatives were nominated by organizations that operate (are established) less than three (3) years. All the applications of candidates who were in the competition, along with their CV, were posted on the CiviKos website www.civikos.net, and the announcement was also distributed through social media of the CiviKos Platform. To be more transparent in the voting process, CiviKos has borrowed a ballot box from CEC (Central Electoral Commission), where all the votes were casted there. Voting was open from 09.09.2014 until 13.09.2014, where the possibility of voting was through e-mail, regular mail, and in person by casting the vote in the box located in CiviKos office. After the deadline had expired, there was total of 42 organizations that voted; 5 of those voted in person at the office and 37 via e-mail.

Counting the votes of the representatives of CSOs at the Council on Governmental Strategy Implementation for cooperation with civil society

Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform, as the host of the process of organizing elections for the council, and in the presence of observers present on 18.09.2014 at CiviKos offices, organized the counting of votes for council representatives. In order for the process of counting to be transparent, CiviKos invited as observers representatives of CSOs, media representatives, associations and various networks operating in Kosovo and representatives from the Office of the Prime Minister/Office on Good Governance, and the Office for Registration of NGOs in Kosovo.

To the invitation for observer responded these representatives: Trendelina Dreshaj - OPM/OGG, Dren Puka - Kosovar Civil Society Foundation, Artan Stavileci- GLPS, Sihana Bejtullahu- Foundation Together Kosova.

After verification of the voters, all the votes were counted and there were 42 votes in total, all of them valid. After counting, five candidates resulted with equal votes, and then based on the Rules of Procedure of the CiviKos Platform, members with equal number of votes shall be elected by lot (drawing). Five candidates were entered in the lot, where one of the members from the observers drew the name of the candidate who in the final list was placed under number 14.



The final list of members of the council after the ballot:

No.	Name and Surname	Organization	No. of votes
1	Taulant Hoxha	Kosovo Civil Society Foundation - KCSF	22
2	Driton Selmanaj	KDI	21
3	Albert Krasniqi	KIPRED	19
4	Afërdita Syla	CBM	18
5	Besnik Salihu	Agro-Vet Development	15
6	Shpend Emini	Democracy For Development D4D	15
7	Bujar Kadriu	Kosovo Association of the Blind	14
8	Mirlinda Kusari - Purrini	Women's Business Association "SHE-ERA"	14
9	Fidan Kalaja	Movement FOL (Lëvizja FOL)	13
10	Hilmi Jashari	Civil Rights Program-Kosovo	13
11	Luljeta Demolli	Kosovo Centre for Gender Studies	13
12	Shukrije Gashi	Partners Center for Conflict Management	13
13	Veton Mujaj	Syri i Vizionit (Eye of the Vision)	13
14	Naime Sherifi	Center for Protection of Women and Children - CPWC	12

The first meeting of the Council on supervision of Government Strategy for Cooperation with civil society 2013-2017

Following the decision to establish the Council on Implementation of Government Strategy for Cooperation with civil society, 2013-2017, on 15.10.2014 the first meeting of the council was held. The meeting was chaired by the Secretary General in Office of the Prime Minister, Fitim Krasniqi and Valdete Idrizi, representative of CiviKos Platform, also co-chair of the council. At this meeting were approved Rules of Procedure of the Council on Implementation of Government Strategy for Cooperation with civil society and the decision on the establishment of working groups, based on four objectives identified in the Government Strategy on Cooperation with civil society 2013- 2017. This council will be a mechanism for the implementation of government Strategy and developing the cooperation between Kosovo government and civil society organizations in Kosovo.



Council Workshop 02-04 December 2014, Prevallë/Prevalac

Right after the establishment of the council, Prime Minister's Office/Office on Good Governance in cooperation with CiviKos Platform and in support of TACSO in Kosovo, organized a three-day workshop with council members at Hotel Sharri- Prevallë/Prevalac from 2-4 December 2014. The purpose of the workshop was to draft a work plan of the Council for 2015.

This workshop served to determine the priorities for 2015 and also determining the steps to be taken for the implementation of activities defined in the Plan of activities.



The second meeting of the Council on supervision of the Government Strategy for Cooperation with civil society 2013-2017

The second meeting of the Council was held on 19.12.2014. In this meeting it was also confirmed continued support from newly established governance. At this meeting they discussed the new webpage of OPM/OGG with special focus on the strategy, which has just been launched. It was also approved the Work Plan for 2015, which was drafted in the three-day workshop in Prevallë/Prevalac. Valdete Idrizi informed the council that they will also be monitored by working groups that will be created by CiviKos Platform. They also discussed the selection of Coordinators of the working groups of the Council, which according to regulations of the council; the working groups will select themselves the coordinator.

CiviKos pledged to provide technical assistance in the organization of workshops with the CNVOS network from Slovenia during the month of February 2015, and with the Office for NGOs from Croatia during the first half of 2015. These workshops will serve to exchange the experiences and knowledge with countries in the region.

Consultations with member organizations - November 2014 - Establishment of working groups based on strategic objectives

CiviKos Platform supported by Friedrich Erber Stiftung (FES) during the month of October-November 2014 organized a series of consultations with members in six regions of Kosovo. The purpose of these consultations was to directly inform the members with recent developments in the CiviKos Platform with particular emphasis on the establishment of working groups based on Government Strategy for Cooperation with civil society 2013-2017. Meetings were held on 11.10.2014 in Pejë/Peć, 12.11.2014 in Gjilan/Gnjilane, 13.11.2014 in Prizren, 14.11.2014 in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, 24.11.2014 in Mitrovica north and 27.11.2014 in Prishtinë/Priština.



Public Consultations with members

The secretariat of the CiviKos Platform consistently observed all draft laws that have been sent for review (consultation) by the Government. In all draft laws where deadlines for consultation was not respected, official Serbian language, and there were no tables for comments or additional documents, CiviKos contacted the responsible officials and it was intervened by asking that all draft laws coming for consultation with civil society to be in both official languages of the Republic of Kosovo, and to respect the deadline in accordance with Article 32 of the Rules of Procedure of the Government 09/2011.

Cooperation with Kosovo Assembly to mark the “International Day of Democracy”

CiviKos Platform together with the Secretariat of Kosovo Assembly participated in the preparations for organizing the celebration of the International Day of Democracy on September 15, 2014, where CiviKos Platform helped in coordinating activities between Kosovo Assembly and member organizations. The NGO Fair was held on September 15, where Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform attended by introducing various promotional materials.



CiviKos Platform meetings during the 2014

Apart from informal meetings that Board members have held among themselves and with the secretariat of CiviKos, and also establishment of small groups working on different issues related to the Platform CiviKos, during 2014 there were total of 4 regular meetings of the Board.

11.02.2014 – the eighth meeting of the CiviKos Platform Board.

15.05.2014 – the ninth meeting (first meeting of the new Board) of the CiviKos Platform Board, elected on the last assembly members meeting,

22.10.2014 – The tenth meeting of the CiviKos Platform Board, and

17.12.2014 – The eleventh meeting of the CiviKos Platform Board.

To directly communicate with the Board of CiviKos Platform, please address the communications to this email: bordi@civikos.net



Support of the European Commission through the project: “Working together. Towards a productive working relationship between Civil Society and the authorities in Kosovo”

The first phase of the project “Working together” supported by the European Commission ended at the end of September 2014. The main achievements of this project are: promotion of the process of development of Government Strategy for Cooperation with Civil Society 2013-2017, strengthening of the CiviKos Platform, support of other initiatives of cooperation between Civil Society and Government.

CiviKos continues to be supported by the European Commission for another two years whereby implementing the second part of the project “Working together”. Within this project there were also held regular meetings of the Project Steering Committee, and they were held on 20/05/2014 and 30/09/2014.

Communication with members

In addition to formal and informal meetings that CiviKos organizes with members in all regions of Kosovo, the Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform consistently followed all draft laws and draft administrative instructions that were introduced for consultation by the government of the Republic of Kosovo via email, website and social media. To facilitate the process of public consultation on website of CiviKos it was placed a set of guidelines for public consultation, document which has been prepared by KCSF in cooperation with the Office of the Prime Minister and it is an official document of government the Republic of Kosovo. In addition to calls for contributions to draft project laws and Administrative Instructions that came from the Government of the Republic of Kosovo, the Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform consistently and in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of CiviKos has forwarded information to members, such as calls for grants, participation opportunities in various events, reports relevant to civil society and different information in interest to the daily work of civil society organizations.

Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform constantly monitors public consultation processes, and consistently reacts to all the irregularities that emerged during this process, such as not sending draft project laws in two official languages, or not respecting the deadline of 15 days.

In order for the information service to its members is more efficient and closer to the needs of member organizations, Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform has organized a research with most of its CSO members

from all regions of Kosovo, where the results of this research will be presented in January 2015 and will serve as the basis for the continuation/improvement of this service to its members.

During the period January-December 2014, Secretariat of the CiviKos Platform forwarded a total of 48 draft project laws and administrative instructions for public consultation and about 53 different publications, such as the opportunities for grants, participations in conferences, etc.

Communication Strategy and CiviKos Newsletters

In order that communication with members is to become more effective and structured, CiviKos compiled Public Relations Strategy for CiviKos Platform for 2015-2017.

As continuation of regular sharing of information with member organizations, on August 15, 2014 it was released the first number of the electronic CiviKos newsletter, whereas on 18.11.2014 newsletter No. 2 was released. CiviKos will continue to distribute to its members newsletters on regular bases, one edition every three months.

Apart from email communications, Secretariat of CiviKos has consistently posted information on the CiviKos website, and through CiviKos social networks like Facebook, twitter, linkedin, etc.

CiviKos on Media

CiviKos presence in the media during 2014 has increased. CiviKos has had numerous appearances in electronic (television) and print media. Special focus was on the selection of civil society representatives in the Council on Implementation of Government Strategy.

Some of appearances in the media:

- 14.07.2014- Executive Director of CiviKos Platform Valdete Idrizi was invited to the morning show on KTV (Koha Vision) to talk about “the role of women in peace building”. Also in this presentation it was mentioned the work that CiviKos is doing.
- 21.07.2014- Executive Director of CiviKos Platform Valdete Idrizi was a guest on the show “Vision Show”, where the subject of the debate was Poverty and Social Inequality in Kosovo.
- 24.07.2014- Executive Director of CiviKos Platform Valdete Idrizi was invited to the morning show on RTK along with the director of the Office on Good Governance Habit Hajredini, where they talked about the establishment of the Council for Supervision of Government Strategy 2013-2017, and process of selection of members of Civil Society.
- 25.07.2014- Executive Director of CiviKos Platform Valdete Idrizi was invited to “Bon Bon” show on RTV 21, where they discussed the establishment of the Council for supervision of Government Strategy 2013-2017, process of selection of members of Civil Society Organizations for this Council and overall activities of the CiviKos Platform.
- 23.07.2014 on www.telegrafi.com published information regarding the selection of civil society representatives in the Council.
- 23.07.2014 call for nominations by Civil Society representatives in the Council on www.koha.net
- 11.09.2013 Communication and Reporting Officer Ardiana Osmani was invited on “Bon Bon” show in RTV21, where she talked about the voting process for members of the council.

