Breakout session:
Global standard, self-assessment and self-regulation

Civil Society Code

This **Civil Society Code** aims to strengthen the self-regulation system and to contribute to greater professionalism and accountability. One of the biggest challenges we face today is building trust with the citizens and the general public. As civil society organizations that operate at the local and national level, we need to ensure broader accountability for our work and thus confirm our public interest in the policy-making processes that benefit the citizens, for which we receive resources.

Preparation of the Civil Society Code
Initiative of more than 50 CSOs

Phase 1
- Consultative meetings with grantees about the situation in the civil society sector in terms of transparency and accountability and ways to improve it.
- Four workshops for presentation of different self-regulation tools for civil society organizations that are present in the countries of the region but also globally (Slovenia, Croatia, Albania and South America).

Phase 2
Internal workshops for preparation of the text of the Code:
- Initial workshop: setting the areas, standards and principles that should be included in the Code and preparation of the first draft text of the Code.
- Second workshop and several bilateral consultations for improvement of the text – second draft text of the Code.
- Third workshop for wider involvement of civil society organizations in the preparation process (Civica Mobilitas Grantees) – final version of the Code.

Structure of the Code

● **7 Fundamental values**
1. Respect for **human rights**
2. **Justice and equality**
3. **Accountability and transparency**
4. **Participation and inclusiveness**
5. Guaranteeing our **not-for-profit** aspect
6. **Environment and the sustainability of our planet**
7. Acting with faith in **solidarity**

● **44 Standards and principles**

● **8 Commitments**
1. Responsible decision making and transparent organizations
2. Good governance
3. Ethical funding and responsible resource management
4. Strong links with the employees, membership, supporters and volunteers
5. Responsible advocacy
6. Available and affordable (social) services and beneficiary care
7. Strong partnerships
8. Open two-way communication with all stakeholders

Civil Society Code Implementation Guide

- Prepared to assist the implementation and understanding of the Civil Society Code.
- For each standard of the Code, more detailed guidance on what this standard means and what it refers to, is given.
- For certain standards, appropriate procedures that must be observed are listed, and for some, only a more detailed explanation is given.

In general, civil society organizations should independently find appropriate solutions for the application of this Code in accordance with the scope and complexity of the work processes and programs they implement.

Official promotion and adoption of the Code

How can CSOs join the Code?
- *Statement for acceptance of the Code*

Officially promoted on the Day of CSOs in the city park in Skopje on September 25th 2021.
Four organizations which are most vocal on the issues on transparency and accountability and they officially first signed the Code for CSOs and served as example for the other CSOs to take part.

92

organizations joined the Code
by signing the
STATEMENT
for acceptance of the Code

Кодекс за граѓански организации

Водич за имплементација на Кодекс за граѓански организации

https://mcms.mk/mk/kodeks-za-go

Follow up activities

- Capacity building of the signatory organizations of the Code
- Meetings for promotion and branding of the Code
- Finalizing the process of branding of the Code (14 branding solutions from Brainster graphic design academy students)
- Monitoring the work of organizations and regular reminders to fulfill their basic obligations (e.g. preparation of annual reports)
- Proposal for developing **Navigator for CSOs Transparency** to attain greater abidance by the commitments set in the Code
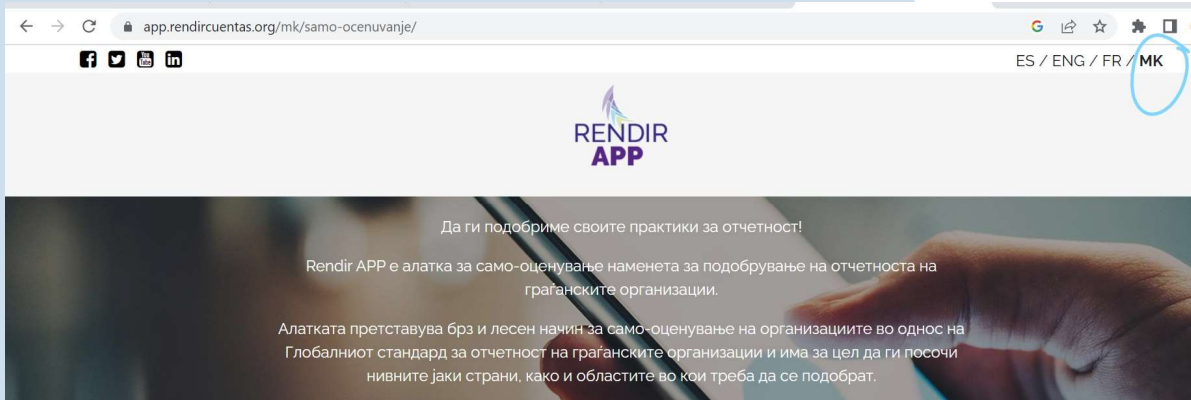
Challenges

- CSOs' commitments and involvement in the process
- Lack of CSOs' human resources and knowledge on the self-regulation tools
- Lack of a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the performance of CSOs based on the Code
- Recognition of the Code in donor programs and policies and other stakeholders

RendirApp

Quick and easy tool for organizations to self-assess their organizational transparency and accountability practice towards the Global Accountability Standard for CSOs and detect the areas in which they need to improve.

https://www.app.rendircuentas.org/

app.rendircuentas.org/mk/samo-ocenuvanje/

ES / ENG / FR / **MK**

RENDIR
APP

Да ги подобриме своите практики за отчетност!

Rendir APP е алатка за само-оценување наменета за подобрување на отчетноста на граѓанските организации.

Алатката претставува брз и лесен начин за само-оценување на организациите во однос на Глобалниот стандард за отчетност на граѓанските организации и има за цел да ги посочи нивните јаки страни, како и областите во кои треба да се подобрат.

Thank you!