



**Community Resilience Forum  
DRAFT AGENDA  
20-21 October 2021, Belgrade, Serbia**

<b>19 October, Tuesday</b>	
Afternoon hours	<b>Arrival of participants</b>
<b>20 October, Wednesday</b>	
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Registration of participants and welcoming coffee</b>
09:30 – 11:00	<p><b><u>Introductions, goals and objectives of the event</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Welcoming by EU Representative</b></li> <li>• <b>The role of EU TACSO 3 project in strengthening of CSOs to enhance community resilience in fragile contexts</b>, Tanja Hafner Ademi, Team Leader, the EU TACSO 3</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Why communities matter?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Key speakers to be confirmed</b></li> </ul> <p>The Community Resilience Forum will be organised after a period of over year time marked with number of challenges for CSOs and communities in the Western Balkans and Turkey. The global COVID-19 pandemic has brought enormous life changes to citizens all over the world and has affected the way of living in almost all segments. The most vulnerable and deprived have been the most affected and many citizens and communities have overcome the past year with support provided by local activists and CSOs. However, the past period also provided opportunity to all of us to think and re-think about our role in the society and how we communicate and support local communities as key constituencies of CSOs. The first day of the Forum will be dedicated to the introductory session with purpose to inspire and stimulate open discussion, especially by tackling some of the following questions: <i>How far away are we from our communities? Whether and where have we lost contact with our constituencies? Whether citizens' priorities changed? How CSOs observe needs of the citizens? What can we improve to ensure our accessibility to citizens?</i></p>
11:00 - 11:30	<b>Break</b>
11:30 – 13:15	<p><b><u>What makes a resilient community?</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Key speakers to be confirmed</b></li> </ul> <p>This session will be dedicated to the overview of the theory, presentation of example(s) of good practice with purpose of stimulating the solution focused approach of the event and learning based on the successful and inspiring experiences. The session will also include active involvement of Forum participants through engaging in the group task and discussing the challenges in developing a resilient community. By applying this approach participants will be stimulated to apply some of the principles of resilient communities in their practice.</p>
13:15 – 14:45	<b>Lunch</b>
14:45 – 16:15	<p><b><u>Parallel sessions (workshops, presentations, networking)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Vulnerability in the time of crisis – presentation of cases of CSO support to vulnerable groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Contributors will be selected through public call</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<p>The crises times have proved most vulnerable ones in society are becoming the most stressed with the crisis situations. However, it was also observed that community solidarity is strong in the time of crisis even in the most deprived communities. The speakers of this session will share their experience of mobilising community resources and providing support in time of crisis to most vulnerable groups. Also, they will share with the group lessons learned and ideas how communities can be strengthened based on this experience.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Strengthening and mobilizing – how to support communities to recover when everything falls apart</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Contributors will be selected through public call</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>For many communities, recent period has not been only the time of crisis due to the COVID-19 pandemic but were also strongly affected with natural disasters like earthquakes, floods and fires. How to mobilise community after everything falls apart is the key question of this session at which community activists from affected communities will share their experiences including how they organised their work, volunteers, from where they have started, which methods were used to mobilise resources and how their actions were prioritised. They will also share their thoughts with participants on how they see that experienced crisis and recovery process will affect the future of the affected communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Observing the needs of communities and knowing your constituency, tools and practices (workshop/presentation of the case)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Contributors will be selected through public call</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Monitoring is the key aspect of any operation, also including community actions and services to citizens. However, often this aspect of CSO work is neglected due to the lack of time, human and financial resources in relation to the number of activities and services CSOs are conducting. This session will be implemented in the form of the short workshop presenting several simple tools that can help community based CSOs to effectively monitor their actions, and in the same time assess the changing needs of the constituencies.</p> <p>*Coffee/tea refreshment will be served/available during the work</p>
16:15 – 17:15	<b>Forum: Reporting from parallel sessions and wrap up of the Day 1</b>
17:15 – 19:30	<b>Recess period</b>
19:30 – 21:00	<b>Reception for Forum participants</b>
<b>21 October, Thursday</b>	
09:00 – 09:30	<b>Registration of participants and welcoming coffee</b>



09:30 – 11:00	<p><b><u>EU financial support to third parties - Enhanced Outreach to Civil Society Organisations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Key speakers to be confirmed</i></b></li> </ul> <p>Financial support provided by EU is mainly dedicated to organisations with strongest capacities to implement large scale of actions and manage larger budgets. However, by introducing the Financial Support to Third Parties concept, the EU has succeeded to provide financial support via sub-granting mechanism to community-based organisations. In this way, the EU has succeeded to enter the number of local communities and support extensive number of locally based CSOs and their actions. This session will provide comprehensive overview of this learning experience by involving all parties involved in this process emphasising the lessons learned, ideas for further exploring of this approach and vale of EU support for community initiatives.</p>
11:00 – 11:30	<p><b>Break</b></p>
11:30 – 13:00	<p><b><u>Parallel sessions (workshops, presentations, networking)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Strength of Community Support - Community Philanthropy and Funding for resilience</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Contributors will be selected through public call</i></b></li> </ul> <p>The session will provide an overview of the current status of the community philanthropy and fundraising activities. Key experts working on development of the community philanthropy will share their observations and views on the community resources successfully used in the past period and opportunities that are still not explored or widely used.</p> </li> <li>• <b>Resilient Models of Activism - New Approaches in Digital Era</b> (digital activism and communication, how can we include those without digital skills) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Contributors will be selected through public call</i></b></li> </ul> <p>Whom citizens trust? What are the new approaches to activism (digital activism and communication)? How to support those that are not having digital skills neither access to digital tools? These are just key questions that will be explored during the session by CSO and community activities which will share their experience conducting advocacy actions, supporting public participation in decision-making process, and providing community service to citizens during the period of the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> </li> <li>• <b>Importance of adopting Human Rights Based Approach in building resilient communities - How to Persist in Activism in Turbulent Circumstances</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Contributors will be selected through public call</i></b></li> </ul> <p>To apply Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) in practice CSOs are required to improve not only the design and approach to implementation of their actions but also to dedicate time and resources to develop and adopt their internal organisational polices. What is needed to adopt HRBA and how the experience of this process is perceived by CSOs will be the key features of this session in which several CSOs activists and experts will present their findings on this process.</p> </li> </ul>
13:00 – 14:30	<p><b>Lunch</b></p>
14:30 – 15:30	<p><b>Forum: Reporting from the parallel sessions and wrap up of the Day 2</b></p>



15:30 – 16:00	<b>Break</b>
16:00 – 17:00	<b>Message to Persistent Community Mobilizers - Presentation of the Key Forum Messages, Conclusions and Recommendations</b> <i>Summarized messages to inspire, recover, lead; what we have to learn more about, how can we be better; what represent the future we envisage for our constituency, communities and CSOs.</i>
	<b>Closing of the Forum</b>
<b>22 October, Friday</b>	
<b>Departure of participants</b>	