

FLASH REPORT

Event name

ETF SURVEY ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS TO HUMAN CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CONTEXT OF LIFELONG LEARNING INSERBIA

11.00-14.00 CET - 30.03.2021

online meeting in ZOOM

Main objective/s

- Inform participants about the CSO survey results in the country, answer questions, discuss the main findings;
- Present the ETF cross-country comparison to highlight similarities and differences between countries
- Acknowledge the CSO activities in non-formal and informal learning, reflect on the present and future role of CSO for human capital development, and explore possible options for CSO involvement in the dialogue about lifelong learning.

Background

The European Training Foundation organised an event to present the methodology and findings of the survey in Serbia, as well as the comparison of results across five countries. The meeting provided an opportunity to also reflect on the CSOs' contribution to lifelong learning, notably to non-formal and informal learning and support to employment. Representatives of CSOs, policy makers, the EU Delegation, donor organisations and other stakeholders actively participated in the debate.

SHORT DESCRIPTION OF THE EVENT

The CSOs in Serbia address young people, in particular those experiencing vulnerability, more often than adult people. They offer opportunities of developing their skills through non-formal learning and in the majority of cases this is linked with supporting their employment.

During the pandemic, CSOs have shown capacity to adjust the activities and adapt the method of delivery. Online tools have been a great resource for contacts and training provision, although with clear limitations hence CSOs consider the in-presence modality as the preferred one to deliver services to various population groups. The pandemic has led to learn long-term lessons too, such as improving their organisational skills, offering new services, and attracting new funding.

Some of the issues discussed were: adult learning is an area where CSOs could contribute immensely in future hence this area deserves to be explored further between the authorities and the CSOs; the accreditation of CSOs is an instrument of quality management; the CSOs role is recognised and appreciated in the field of employment, notably their active support to youth in finding a job; the law may require an updating in order to value the variety of roles that CSOs play in human capital development and LLL; the EU Delegation sees the CSOs as valuable contributor to the development of human capital and in context of lifelong learning policies, and therefore promotes the involvement of CSOs as a partner and actor in the EU interventions that aim to make LLL a reality; the CSOs themselves perceive their valid

contribution to the policy dialogue in the field of human capital and LLL and would like to be consulted on a regular basis; moreover they are strong in detecting needs of the diversity of population groups, with particular attention to those who are at disadvantage, and in monitoring the effective results of the policy implementation.

KEY CONCLUSIONS

The CSOs in Serbia are actively contributing to the development of human capital through the provision of non-formal and informal learning and support to employment, and are therefore a recognised actor in the field of lifelong learning. This should reflect in the involvement of the CSOs in the policy dialogue related to the LLL on a more regular basis.

The Serbia country report and presentations of the speakers are available at the ETF website: [CSOs Survey Dissemination Event - Serbia | ETF \(europa.eu\)](#)

The recording of the meeting in English and Serbian, in addition to the Serbia country report and speakers' presentations, is moreover accessible for further dissemination in the ETF Open Space: [CSOs Survey Dissemination Event - Serbia | Open Space \(europa.eu\)](#)

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