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ANNUAL REPORT



**Social
Contract
Institute**

This report covers SCI's activity from January 1 to December 31, 2020. It was prepared by SCI staff and was reviewed and approved by SCI Board.

For questions and more information about SCI's work, please, contact us at:

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Mission and Values



Activity Report



Organizational Development



Finances

Mission and Values

SCI contributes to strengthen democratic practices and institutions through civic engagement, participation in the formulation and implementation of national and local policies, and promotion of regional cooperation for a sustainable development, based on justice and equal opportunities.

SCI fulfills this aim through research, surveys, public information and education, exchange of experience and information, partnerships and networking, grant-making, capacity development for public, private, and non-profit institutions, and advocacy.

To achieve its purpose, SCI applies methodologies that ensure professionalism and sustainability of its interventions and undertakes programs and projects at the local, national, and international level, taking into consideration also the following:

SCI works to increase citizens' participation in the debate and decision-making on local and national public policies, to increase the effectiveness of citizens' participation in decision-making and citizen participation in the formulation of public policies by conveying community needs and ideas.

SCI believes in and is led by common values shared by its Board and Staff.

SCI's activity prioritizes:

- 1 Civic Engagement
- 2 Formulation and Implementation of National and Local Policies
- 3 Regional Cooperation

We:

- Believe in SCI's mission;
- Promote progressive practices, programs, and policies;
- Are committed to gender equality and social inclusion;
- Respect and value people engaged in the organization;
- Are professionals in our work;
- Are open to diversity of ideas, positions, and collaborators;
- Pay special attention to youth, women, and girls engagement;
- Treat people with fairness and dignity;
- Solidarize with citizens and people in need;
- Are creative in our activity;
- Are cooperative, without asking for protagonism;
- Promote voluntarism.

Rule of Law and Good Governance Program

Project

Alternative Sentences-Alternative for a Better Life

Partners

None

Donor

Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Albania

Budget

98,600 Euro

Timeframe

September 1, 2019- February 28, 2021

In February 2020, the project staff completed the analysis of 919 court decisions in four first instance courts and three courts of appeal for a period of 2 years. In this regard, the staff of the project conducted an analysis of First Instance Court and Appeal Court decisions in Fier, Korça, Shkodra, Tirana for the period 2018-2019. Several meetings were also organized with legal actors involved in the alternative sentences (AS) execution process. The project staff drafted a report based on the evaluation of court decisions and interviews with relevant stakeholders. During February-May 2020, the project staff continued to work with the Alternative Sentence Manual using the findings discovered during the first phase and also substantial research in the Albanian and international legal framework regarding Alternative Sentences.

The staff of the project prepared the modules for the training tailored to each of the institutions and professional groups mandated by law to engage in awarding or/and implementing AS: judges and prosecutors (in collaboration with the school of Magistrates), PbS staff (in collaboration with PbS Directorate, local governance officials, police, lawyers (in collaboration with the School of Advocacy), social workers, and psychologists. Each Training Module was focused on the specific AS-related role and competences of the respective AS actor, assigned by the law, and included a module on how to integrate the efforts and work of the above-mentioned actors into multidisciplinary teams, in order to expand opportunities for AS awarded by the courts and for enhancing the effectiveness of AS that first time and low risk offenders serve.



Civic Engagement Program

Project

Talking about Men and Women

Partners

None

Donor

East-West Management Institute (EWMI)

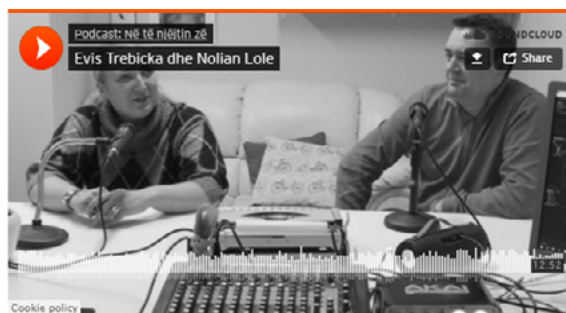
Budget

32,705 USD

Timeframe

July 2019- February 2020

SCI produced 10 podcasts that were distributed through radio and online platforms in a series entitled **Talking about Men and Women** focusing on relationships between men and women in Albania, based on real life stories. They tell stories of collaboration between men and women in professional and personal life as good examples to follow in the pursuit of a fairer and more equal society. These podcast series also address hidden gender stereotypes about the concept of family and the relationship between professional and personal life. The project was funded by EWMI with funding from the British Embassy in Albania.



Project

Young Guides

Partners

None

Donor

The Agency for Supporting Civil Society (AMSHC)

Budget

2.400.000 ALL

Timeframe

September 15, 2019- May 15, 2020

The participants of the project “Young Guides” in Gjirokastra worked on the preparation of two new tourist itineraries around the archeological center of Antigone and tourist attractions of the village Peshtan. Cultural and natural tourism is being explored recently in Albania and has brought back interest to residents to promote the culture, history, culinary and nature of the area, so the exploring of the “Young Guides” to finalize the two new itineraries became easier with the help of the residents in these areas and Prof. Iris Pojani’s expertise. SCI printed leaflets with itineraries around Antigone and Peshtan that were distributed to hotels, restaurants, youth organizations and the municipality of Gjirokastra. They were also posted on SCI’s website and on its Facebook page where it attracted over 1085 clicks and got positive feedback. In September 2020, SCI with 20 Young Guides finalized the project with a promotional video of the main attraction points in Gjirokastra which were presented by the young people themselves. Some of the attractions were: Gjirokastra Castle, Obelisk, Old Bazaar, Old Neighborhood, Cold War Tunnel, etc. This video reached out an audience of 27,659 people on Facebook and shared by others 113 times. This project was a great opportunity for the youngsters who benefited from the experts in this field and got promoted working as tour guides.



Project

US

Partners

None

Donor

GIZ Albania

Budget

5.237.500 ALL

Timeframe

September 30, 2019- September 1, 2020

"US" was a project funded by GIZ Albania, which was implemented by SCI in the regions of Tirana, Gjirokastra, Korca, Fier and Durres and was finalized on September 30, 2020 after a 1-year implementation period. After the production of 10 video messages from individuals who had managed to fulfill their dreams in various ventures, SCI conducted in 5 municipalities the trainings on "Development of Personal Skills and Access to the Labor Market" which was attended by over 50 young people. In these trainings were discussed problems that young people face in the labor market, the role of social activism in their upbringing and success stories were shared of enterprises set up by them. In September 2020, an idea contest was organized where the participants of the project submitted their ideas, about initiating a start-up; building youth centers, after-school centers, a shop where farmers can sell their products in their area and lots of other ideas. This project was finalized on September 30, 2020 but SCI still continues to support the participants, with expertise, in case they wish to submit their ideas for funding to various donors.



Sustainable Development Program

Project

New Green

Partners

None

Donor

GIZ Albania

Budget

5.709.100 ALL

Timeframe

November 1, 2019- July 30, 2020

SCI organized trainings in Tirana, Shijak, Lushnje in the framework of the project “New Green”, funded by GIZ Albania. 50 young people gained a range of skills and knowledge in creating a business in the field of agriculture. They also had the opportunity to visit several agro businesses as “Mjedra Ola” in Fushë-Prezë, “Flowers” Thumanë and “Doni Fruits” in Lushnje in order to get to know the labor market closely and to establish contacts with people who have invested in the field of agriculture. This project was successfully finalized on October 31, 2020.



Other Activities

On November 25, 2020, SCI launched an initiative entitled “Grimca”. “Grimca” is a series of online conversations, where various topics are addressed with known and unknown people and with an interactive audience. The aim of this initiative is to help a better understanding of diversity, in order to create more inclusive and cohesive communities beyond cultural, religious, social and ethnic differences by challenging prejudice, stereotypes and discrimination. This initiative was launched on November 25, contributing to the activities organized for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. In this first series of “Grimca” the speaker Ina Kasimati, shared with the audience her story and the courageous journey to get out of the cycle of violence. As part of the days of activism against gender based violence,

the second guest was Bledar Zeneli, who is a Psychotherapist by profession and currently works as a Counselor in the Counseling Line for Men and Boys. Bledar offered us a different approach to violence by analyzing what happens in the psychic of a perpetrator. Over 20 people attended the virtual conversation that took place at Zoom, by freely discussing sharing their perspectives, thoughts and concerns. This initiative has been embraced with interest by the public, reaching over 3000 people who have seen the series on Facebook, thus expanding SCI’s audience. To follow the series developed so far in “Grimca” and to be informed about future guests, we invite you to our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/507859479395785/videos/109189790962206> and Instagram as Social Contract Institute.



◆ The WeBER 2.0 project follows in the footsteps of the previous WeBER project for Public Administration monitoring. However, unlike the first, this project is divided into two monitoring cycles: (a) the first cycle included 2019-2020 and (b) the second 2021-2022. The work of the group members during the first cycle was based mainly on the SIGMA principles, while the second will focus on piloting public administration reform monitoring methods for sectoral policies based on the European Union's categorization of

these policies. WeBER MWG will aim to define the priority policy sectors where the monitoring methodology will be piloted and the presentation of the public consultation methodology implemented in the European Union. Also, like the previous WeBER project, this project aims to help local civil society organizations engage in monitoring public administration reform by providing five grants.

◆ Since April 2020, SCI was part of the working group (16 CSOs) on drafting the code of standards. The purpose of this Code of Standards is to improve the effectiveness of the non-profit sector's work and to increase the trust of supporters and beneficiaries by increasing transparency.

◆ During September-December 2020 SCI was part of the group of organizations who participated in the public consultation sessions on the new law on non-profit organizations. SCI and other CSOs, submitted the relevant comments and recommendations to the state authorities.



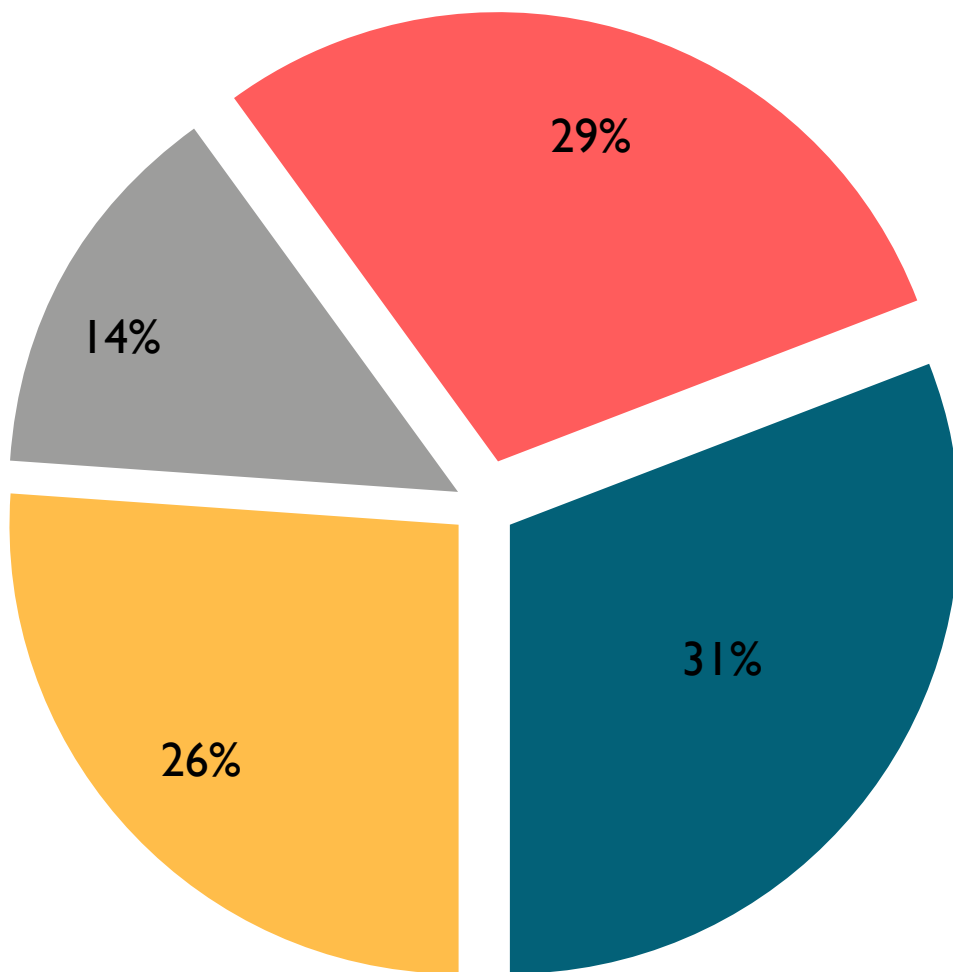
Organizational Development

- ◆ SCI participated in the two-day event “Volunteering and Solidarity - Practice, Challenges and Future Developments”, organized by Partners Albania, the Civil Society Resource Center in Albania and the Association Beyond Barriers. In this activity was discussed the volunteerism and the challenges encountered during the implementation of the current legislation, where the suggestions and recommendations of the participants on its possible improvements and practices in the country, will serve as a basis for planning further steps in addressing this issue in relevant institutions.
- ◆ SCI attended the training on Digital and ICT Tools that was held online on 29th Jun – 1st July, 2020 organized by EU TACSO 3 and delivered by trainers from SEEYN.

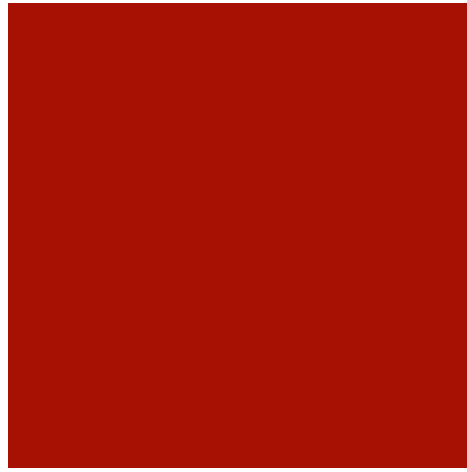
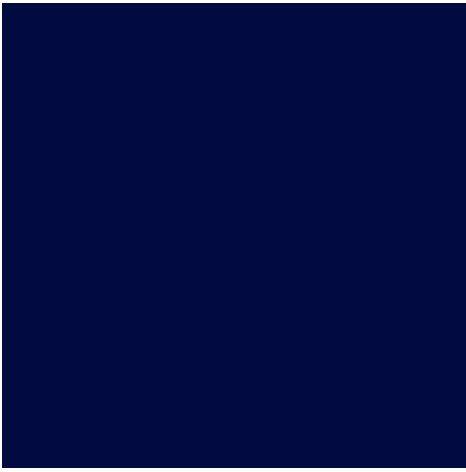


Financial Data

Budget for 2020
133,682 EUR



- ▶ Civic Engagement
- ▶ Sustainable Development
- ▶ Rule of Law
- ▶ Non-Project activities



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