

THE CIVIL SOCIETY PARTICIPATION IN LOCAL DEVELOPMENT, AN IMPORTANT FACTOR FOR SUSTAINED PROCESS

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Abstract

Since 1991, the District of Shkoder operate associations and civil society organizations with a broad participation of different activities in support of social, economic and political community. They are mainly based on the needs of this district communities have managed to absorb significantly from donors monetary value, material, advisory capacity, awareness to serve the different needs of different target groups at the same time becoming an important factor the recommendations, assessments and analysis to improve the lot of laws approved in Parliament, etc. Participation in tourism development activities, the problems of unemployment, to raise the economic status of targeted vulnerable groups of the community, the performance of some social services to help the elderly, youth, women and children, disability, etc.. civil society has done with all the functional bodies already an indispensable force of its role society. What are some activities that have made different associations in the region of Shkodra: 1. Activities in service of raising the economic status of women, by developing training, trade fairs, exhibitions, meetings, conversations with local institutions, businessmen, etc. 2. Promotional activities for tourism development in coastal and mountainous area 3. Social services for youth, women, elderly, disability, etc. 4. Activities awareness and sensitizing the community, women and youth to fight against domestic violence, trafficking in human beings (women and children) using drug and alcohol 5. Activities to increase women's participation in polls and reaching 30% quota in legislative bodies and decision-making 6. Activities for environmental conservation and regeneration of green areas in cities and for angles of games. 7. Development of conferences, workshops, seminars, cultural activities and sports. 8. In support of flooded areas with awareness, awareness, humanitarian aid and social services, etc... An important role played women's associations in improving social services for women, seniors, youth and children, the Center for Women "Light Steps", "Reflections", "Women in development", "Human Dimension", "Women for wife", "Intellectual Woman of Shkodra", etc. that have developed hundreds of activities in terms of increasing economic status of women, to increase the institution of a network of services for the elderly, women and children, etc.. Some of the problems of local government cooperation with civil society organizations: 1. Local government has not well-organized work with civil society 2. Local government does not have a code, or way or how should cooperate with civil society organizations under the missions they have in accordance with the goals, mission or organization 3. No date-base in the municipality or region for all legitimate organizations of civil society according to the mission and goals are, what to cover and which target groups work 4. Each meeting of the City Council or county is not done with the participation of civil society to give suggestions, observations and recommendation. Approval of the budget year that definitely requires a broad discussion with the participation of civil society is important as an actor asset value of the company. 5. Local government plans very little funding for civil society activities, and when that happens the relationship is differentiated favorite only a few who get steadily. 6. None of the parties participating in elections has no municipal candidates or municipal council members of civil society. This also occurs after a certain time of choice becomes part of the party that has proposed. 7. Local government should also assist regional activities such as fairs, festivals joint exhibitions in many cases brought by associations operating in the circle. 8. A more efficient cooperation that should have priority in local government should be engaging, participating in projects of the European Community in collaboration with civil society. But a civil society itself is responsible for relations with local government. Here are some of the pitfalls and difficulties course of their work: 1. Civil society itself does not cooperate with local authorities, not lobbying against a decision of the City Council that it harms the community as a reflection of a relationship that for years is not because lack of institutional communication 2. There is no monitoring by civil society of city budget, as funds are used and whether they disability move them into proper destination 3. Work of civil society is based on receiving funds mainly from foreign donations, and little or no budgetary planning by municipal councils. This effect of a war they do little to budget planning for their activities. 2. There is no monitoring by civil society of municipal budget, as funds are used and whether they move them into proper destination

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They are mainly based on the needs of this district communities have managed to absorb significantly from donors monetary value, material, advisory capacity, awareness to serve the different needs of different target groups at the same time becoming an important factor the recommendations, assessments and analysis to improve the lot of laws approved in Parliament, etc. Including a number of these organizations in the process of economic development of Shkodra district, has brought auxiliary results that do not only work by the local government but also central.

Participation in tourism development activities, the problems of unemployment, to raise the economic status of targeted vulnerable groups of the community, the performance of some social services to help the elderly, youth, women and

children, disability, etc.. conducting more studies in various fields of socio-economic development, active participation in drafting the strategy of Shkodra district, major role for increasing women's participation in politics and achieving the quota of 30% in all legislative bodies and decision making, large number of published materials that affect most of the various problems has made civil society the functional bodies already an indispensable force of the role of many young people and women to be ready to face the challenges market economy. The active participation of civil society in many meetings of municipal councils, with Note, suggestions and recommendations on processes to assist economic and social development of cities included in the district of Shkodra, has increased the quality of services, environmental or economic process.

What are some activities that have made different associations in the region of Shkodra? Some of them are:

1. Activities in service of raising the economic status of women, by developing training, trade fairs, exhibitions, meetings, conversations with local institutions, businessmen, etc.
2. Promotional activities for tourism development in coastal and mountainous area
3. Social services for youth, women, elderly, disability, etc.
4. Activities awareness and sensitizing the community, women and youth to fight against domestic violence, trafficking in human beings (women and children) using drug and alcohol
5. Activities to increase women's participation in polls and reaching 30% quota in legislative bodies and decision-making
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An important role played women's associations in improving social services for women, seniors, youth and children, the Center for Women "Light Steps", "Reflections", "Women in development", "Human Dimension", "Woman to woman", "Intellectual Woman of Shkodra", "etc. that have developed hundreds of activities in terms of increasing economic status of women, to increase the institution of a network of services for the elderly, women and children, etc.. With a large number of publications, studies, posters, leaflets, books on various socio-economic, etc.. they have influenced the increased sensitivity of the public, local authorities and central government for a greater attention to the vulnerable strata of community, for those target groups that are out of focus, and local care and can not perform services to them. These associations have become the levers of power being introduced where these bodies have been unable to enter or interest are left out intentionally or unintentionally, within or out of reach, this no problem but the purpose of associations has been on protection and assistance these target groups.

The Center for Women "Light Steps", for some years is trying to convey changes in the female world of Shkodra district. It is intended to sensitize women to its values, rights and its potential. Today the center has become the center of social services for women and young people failed to solve many problems in the quarter of the city but also in those quarters that are populated by people that are coming from the rural areas of Shkodra district, and where the problems are large. The latest action by this association with the Municipality of Shkodra city for waste separation for recycling according to their composition, has been a good coordination to increase effectiveness of work. Association **"Reflections"** has become a very voluminous work but also effective for reducing unemployment in the target groups of women who are under the poverty line, helping many Roma women in terms of employment, education and health services. Association **"Human Dimension"** has become an important center of the elderly where they receive basic services, where amuse oneself and spend free time. Association **"Woman Intellectual Shkodra"**, a great job has done for raising the economic status of women and

especially in rural areas. Aiming at increasing the economic status of women, different training *"How to open and develop a business"*, opening of 16 trade artisan fairs, at home and abroad, work continued to help women artisan to promote their products, are some of the most important activities of this organization that have helped some group targets women to walk the path of market economy. ☒

Association "The Door" has done an excellent job in terms of social services for women, children and youth. The assistance that has made this association for disability, to help them to raise spirits, to introduce into society, using different stimulation methods, is a particular services for this target group. Construction of several angles of play, organizing activities for youth and children, as concerts, folk games, the establishment of women's football team, etc., have made this association leader of civil society in this region. This organization is a good example as well as cooperation with local institutions. Giving some concerts abroad with disability, organization of football girls game outside the city has made this organization promoter of activities showing how important is the work of civil society in support of those activities that local government has hardly to interfere.

Civil society a value and contribution has shown in actions to help the Shkodra population of the areas flooded by the great precipitation who have fallen in recent years. Their commitment to the committees of emergency material aid, food, logistics that they gave voluntarily, has been not only an aid to population of these areas but also contributes to local authorities, facilitating work in some hot spots emergency situation. Many leadership of associations with their staff have gone to boarding schools where there were concentrations of population in flooded and have distributed aid, have organized activities with children, have held meetings and talks in terms of recognition caused damage and psychological relief to the situation. Likewise emotive psychosocial services as consultations, meetings, conversations, visits to the doctor to alleviate and eliminate post-traumatic phenomena caused to humans, have been a job that even today continues to be made where necessary and compulsory

But how is cooperation with local government and civil society organizations? We can not say that the Municipality not is active with civil society. The had done some activities with several organizations, but the problem is that they must to turn in their work priority.

They must to encourage social society for participation in discussions of the problems or in the activities that serve for development our cities.

Some of the problems of local government cooperation with civil society organizations:

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2. Local government does not have a code, or way or how should cooperate with civil society organizations under the missions they have in accordance with the goals, mission or organization

3. No date-base in the municipality or region for all legitimate organizations of civil society according to the mission and goals are, what to cover and which target groups work

4. Each meeting of the City Council or county is not done with the participation of civil society to give suggestions, observations and recommendation. Approval of the budget year that definitely requires a broad discussion with the participation of civil society is important as an actor asset value of the company.

5. Local government plans very little funding for civil society activities, and when that happens the relationship is differentiated favorite only a few who get steadily.

6. None of the parties participating in elections has no municipal candidates or municipal council members of civil society. This also occurs after a certain time of choice becomes part of the party that has proposed.

7. Local government should also assist regional activities such as fairs, festivals joint exhibitions in many cases brought by associations operating in the circle.

8. A more efficient cooperation that should have priority in local government should be engaging, participating in projects of the European Community in collaboration with civil society.

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5. By the local government should not be taken important decisions in resolving social or economic problems without consultation with interested target groups which in many cases referred by the civil society.

CONCLUSIONS

1. Civil society is an important factor, and promoter of development that consistently generates processes that help the community but also local authorities in fulfilling their obligations under their social development.

2. Very great work that has made the civil society in the region of Shkodra shows that it has shown its effectiveness in many problems community being made an example of voluntary local government.

3. Better coordination of the development of these processes between local government and civil society would help and better must be effective solving many problems

4. Must be planned and budgets grow, municipalities and counties on the activities of civil society to give their work space, thus increasing volunteer participation in local governance.

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