

Project title: Local Policies Under a Magnifying Glass – Monitoring the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals in Local Communities

Project leader: CROSOL – Croatian Platform for International Citizen Solidarity

Partner br. 1: Europe House Vukovar

Partner br. 2: Youth Association Podum

Partner br. 3: Citizens Foundation

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Project total value: 90.000,00 €

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Link to relevant internet pages: <https://crosol.hr/hr/>

Project summary:

The project aims to strengthen the advocacy capacities and watchdog role of civil society organizations (CSOs) in underdeveloped local areas, focusing on public policies within the framework of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In Croatia, these activities are mostly concentrated in Zagreb and larger urban centers, while they are less prevalent in smaller communities, such as Vukovar-Srijem (VSZ) and Lika-Senj counties (LSZ).

The target groups include:

- CSOs from VSZ and LSZ, whose advocacy capacities in the SDG domain will be enhanced.
- Representatives of local governments (LGUs) as the main stakeholders in advocacy activities.
- Citizens of these counties, who will be informed about SDGs, their local implementation, and the importance of civic participation in shaping public policies.

The general goal of the project is to empower local CSOs in VSZ and LSZ to take a more active role in advocating for and monitoring the implementation of SDGs.

Key Activities

1. **Capacity building:** Organizing workshops on public advocacy, public communication, SDGs, organizational management, and internal capacity assessment.
2. **Advocacy activities:** Preparing a report on local SDG implementation, its public presentation, organizing online campaigns, and holding advocacy meetings with LGUs.

Capacity-building activities will have a broader impact through the public release and sharing of methodologies with other stakeholders, including CROSOL members and interested CSOs across Croatia. Advocacy activities will expand through citizen engagement, raising public awareness of SDGs, and fostering future CSO initiatives and collaborations with LGUs. The project will contribute to strengthening participatory democracy in local communities and promoting their active involvement in SDG implementation.