



IRIS Network



Project is funded
by European Union



Project is implemented by
Arbeiter Samariter Bund



WHO ARE WE?



*ONLY REGIONAL
NETWORK THAT
BRINGS TOGETHER
CSOs SOCIAL SERVICE
PROVIDERS IN
SOUTH EAST EUROPE*

WHO ARE WE?

We connect currently 140 member organizations that provide different types of social services to different vulnerable groups: people with disability, children and youth at risk, women victims of family violence, refugees, asylum seekers etc.

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Our aim is to strengthen the role of not-for-profit social service providers throughout SEE and to ensure that these organizations are recognized as equal partners by the public sector.

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IRIS was founded in 2012 and from the mere beginning we had a huge support from our partners in the European Union and in the CSF program.



WHAT WE DO?



Connecting different social services providers from the SEE region



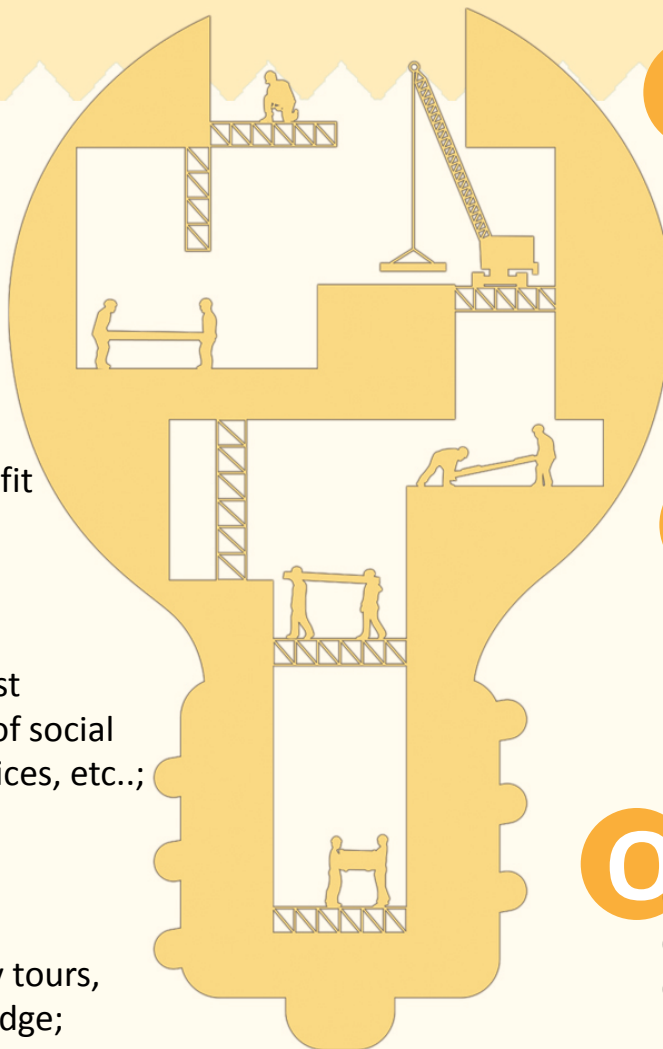
Promoting the role of non-profit social service providers;



Providing to its members the most relevant information in the field of social inclusion, provision of social services, etc..;



Offering to its members educational materials, specialized trainings, study tours, access to grants, exchange of knowledge;



Providing to our members quality business and development support through training and services of specialized associates;



Lobbying for better solutions among stakeholders from the public and private sectors in the EU and SEE region;



Organizing meetings, conferences, lectures and other public events.



Facts on IRIS:

1

Connects and builds capacities for more than 150 organizations from SEE region providing social services;

2

10.000 beneficiaries are provided necessary social and health services each day by our member organizations

3

IRIS has five national secretariats in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Montenegro and Serbia and two in formation in FYROM and Albania by the end of 2014;

4

More than 500 decision makers and stakeholders from civil and public sector attended our national events in 2014

5

We encourage a consensus among decision-makers, experts and civil society on the needs of effective coordination and use of available local resources and future EU funds earmarked for social inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized groups;

6

Over 600 000 people all over SEE region followed our work throughout member organization media appearances in local, regional and national television and radio stations, as well as in online and printed newspapers;



Facts on IRIS:

- 6** Our online platform, www.iris-see.eu, is a platform for exchange of knowledge between different organizations and people involved in the provision of social services throughout the region;
- 7** Our annual events with SOLIDAR in European Parliament gather relevant regional and EU stakeholders and prominent members of EU Parliament;
- 8** E-learning curriculum IRIS lunch is a help tool for capacity building process for the IRIS network members and other interested organizations and professionals;
- 9** IRIS trained more than 150 professionals in organizational management of CSOs through a training program *“Efficient management – better services”*;
- 10** IRIS developed handbook for trainers for “Organizational Management of CSOs providing social services”;
- 11** In 2014 we supported 23 grass root projects focused on improving social services on the local level: five in each of Bosnia, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia, and three in Kosovo.

FUTURE WORK



Based on the inputs from our members IRIS developed new 2-years cycle of support for our members. In the period 2015-2016 we will work on:

- Providing our members with the possibility for ISO 9001:2008 certification
- Supporting our members in Licensing process for the services they provide
- Launching the Mentoring program with professional mentors who will support our members in different fields
- Launching Traineeship program for young people engaged in the IRIS network in EU-based social service providers in Sweden, UK, Netherlands, Italy, Spain and Belgium

IRIS NETWORK



FUTURE WORK

Lunching a grants scheme for IRIS network members which will allow funding of 12 best projects

Organizing Summer school on social services for IRIS members

Reshaping IRIS strategic and advocacy plans

Campaigning on local, national and EU level for improvement of position of non-for-profit providers of social services

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www.iris-see.eu