

ARMENIA 2024

KEY FINDINGS ON EU CIVIL SOCIETY ASSISTANCE

EU Support to Civil Society in 2024



Ongoing Grants
37



Subgrants funded through
on going grants
902¹



Total EU funds
€50.08 million



Funds to local organisations
€12 million¹

- > **Local Civil Society:** 316
- > **Individuals such as: Entrepreneurs, Activists, Youth:** 400
- > **Local Public Bodies such as Schools, Kindergartens, Municipalities:** 65
- > **Media outlets:** 23
- > **Private enterprises such as social businesses, creative and tourism enterprises:** 78



- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Tavush
Projects: 200 | 7 Armavir
Projects: 22 |
| 2 Shirak
Projects: 149 | 8 Kotayk
Projects: 18 |
| 3 Yerevan
Projects: 144 | 9 Aragatsotn
Projects: 12 |
| 4 Lori
Projects: 143 | 10 Vayots Dzor
Projects: 8 |
| 5 Syunik
Projects: 35 | 11 Ararat
Projects: 4 |
| 6 Gegharkunik
Projects: 27 | |

¹. These figures include subgrants funded through country specific grants (bilateral) as well as Eastern Partnership regional grants. (Bilateral: 668 subgrants and EU contribution of €7.6 million, Regional: 234 subgrants and EU contribution of €4.4 million). A limited number of subgrants are implemented in more than one region and are not represented in the map.



Positive Key Findings

- > **Increased funding:** Additional funds allocated and greater distribution to local organisations in the regions
- > **Enhanced Participatory Approaches:** Active engagement of beneficiaries in decision-making, implementation, and monitoring.
- > **Greater Adaptability:** Implementing partners responded effectively to increased social service demands, using real-time feedback to adjust interventions.
- > **Diversified Financial Models:** Several projects adopted social enterprises and revenue-generating activities, reducing dependence on external grants.
- > **Stronger Government Collaboration:** Several CSOs secured state accreditation, ensuring long-term public funding for essential services.
- > **Strengthened Communication and Visibility:** Innovative outreach efforts increased the awareness of EU support among beneficiaries.
- > **Improved Monitoring and Evaluation:** Simplified logframes used by sub-grants enhanced projects results monitoring and assessments.



Key Challenges

- > **Financial Planning Gaps:** Underestimated operational costs led to staffing, logistics, and outreach constraints, while incomplete renovations limited infrastructure use.
- > **Project Duration Constraints:** Short project duration limited the ability to sustain advocacy efforts and ensure long-term engagement.
- > **Gender Equality Challenges:** Some projects reinforced traditional gender roles rather than fostering leadership and reformative empowerment for women.
- > **Low Visibility of EU Support among Vulnerable Groups:** Even if innovative communication strategies were introduced many beneficiaries are still unaware of the EU's role as donor.
- > **Dependency on Donor Funding:** Many CSOs still lack financial resilience, relying heavily on external grants without long-term sustainability plans.

Success stories

Employment and Entrepreneurship

Vocational training and business support helped marginalized groups gain skills, secure jobs, and start small businesses, fostering financial independence.

Social Services and Partnerships

Collaboration with government institutions ensured long-term support for vulnerable groups through state-accredited and co-financed services.

Arts and Culture

Participatory approaches empowered communities by involving them in decision-making, ensuring sustainability and responsiveness and making arts and culture accessible and inclusive for all.

Crisis Response

Adaptive funding and rapid adjustments allowed projects to address urgent needs, providing both immediate relief and long-term socio-economic support.

Community Participation

Projects actively involved local communities in shaping decisions, making sure their voices were heard, thereby making projects more responsive to real needs.



How can more impact be made



Improving Monitoring, Evaluation & Reporting

- Promote real-time monitoring systems to improve data collection and decision-making.
- Adopt streamlined logframes for sub-grants to enhance impact tracking and offer training to simplify administrative and reporting processes.



Advocacy & Inclusive Development

- Integrate advocacy strategies from the outset, ensuring continuous engagement with policymakers to align projects with broader policy frameworks.
- Promote gender-responsive approaches and inclusive policies, encouraging women's participation in leadership and entrepreneurship.



Strengthening Financial Resilience

- Ensure adequate budget allocation for sub-grants, operational costs, and visibility efforts while introducing flexible funding mechanisms to adapt to emerging needs.
- Promote social enterprise models and income-generating activities to reduce donor dependency.



Enhancing Visibility & Public Awareness

- Strengthen outreach through media, digital storytelling, and public events to increase awareness of EU support.
- Tailor visibility strategies to ensure vulnerable groups recognize and access available services.



Promoting Sustainability

- Foster partnerships and co-funding with municipalities, private sector actors, and community organizations to promote long term sustainability.