

Moldovan civil society organizations actively diversify their domestic funding

Moldova Partnerships for Sustainable Civil Society

As of January 2017, over one million Moldovan taxpayers can choose to designate 2% of their annual income tax to civil society organizations (CSOs) and religious organizations of their choice. Woman and Child – Protection and Support (FCPS) is one of the 293 CSOs and religious organizations who benefited from this new fundraising opportunity.

“The 2% law is a great opportunity to improve the financial sustainability of our organization. The amount of MDL 31,000 (approx.\$1,800) that was designated to us in 2017 exceeded our expectations. We are looking for ideas of how to spend these funds and we will regularly inform the public on what we did with their financial support,” proudly stated Victoria Secu, FCPS’s Executive Director.

To promote this mechanism as an additional source of funding for CSOs, Moldova Partnerships for Sustainable Civil Society (MPSCS), a project implemented by FHI 360 and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), supported several CSOs in carrying out a campaign including a webpage about the 2% mechanism, a hotline for taxpayers and broadcasting of TV spots. FCPS is one of the most active and creative in educating citizens about the 2% law. The CSO has partnered with the water supplier, “Apa-Canal” from Criuleni town and printed details on the 2% mechanism in Romanian and Russian on the back cover of the monthly utility bills which are sent by “Apa Canal” to all the town water users. In addition, the CSO organized meetings with public institutions, face-to-face discussions with the public and trained 40 fiscal inspectors and 40 representatives of CSOs on how to use the 2% law. As a result, FCPS is among the top ten beneficiaries of the 2017 percentage designations.

“I’ve shared 2% of my income tax with FCPS because I appreciate their result-oriented activity and I wanted to contribute to their financial viability. I am proud of my co-workers, who, upon my advice, did the same,” stated Vasile, a lawyer from Criuleni.

FCPS has concluded a contract in the amount of MDL 99,800 (approx. \$5,800) with local authorities to provide social services to 40 beneficiaries. Due to this social contract, the FCPS mobile team, including physicians and psychologists, is providing counseling, recovery and psychosocial rehabilitation services to children with disabilities and their families to increase their personal autonomy and ensure their social inclusion.

Moreover, FCPS is assisting several CSOs to launch social enterprises and generate additional income. MPSCS continues supporting FCPS and other CSOs efforts in using and promoting newly launched financial viability opportunities for CSOs similar to the 2% law, social contracting and social entrepreneurship to consolidate the results that the project has achieved in creating a stronger sustainable civil society in Moldova.

