

TO CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE FORUM 2021

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Lessons Learned from the Beneficiary Assessment Process of SDC Civica Mobilitas Programme

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About Civica Mobilitas (CM) programme

The Beneficiary Assessment (BA) Methodology

Implementation of BA in CM during 2021









CHALLENGES:

Civil Society Support as a sector, and issues around measuring intangibles

The Scope of Civica Mobilitas

The context of North Macedonia: The political environment and framing of civil society

Direct / indirect beneficiaries (and 'non-beneficiaries')

And, of course, the Covid pandemic!





BA Roles and Responsibilities





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BENEFICIARY ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Participation & Ownership

- Influence on questions and analysis
- Extent of empowerment

Inclusion

- Diversity of assessees
- Mitigate barriers (language etc)

Representativeness

- Criteria of sampling (sectors, geography etc)
- + / impact







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BENEFICIARY ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

Differentiation

 Range of perspectives (disaggregation by age, sex etc)

Critically reflective

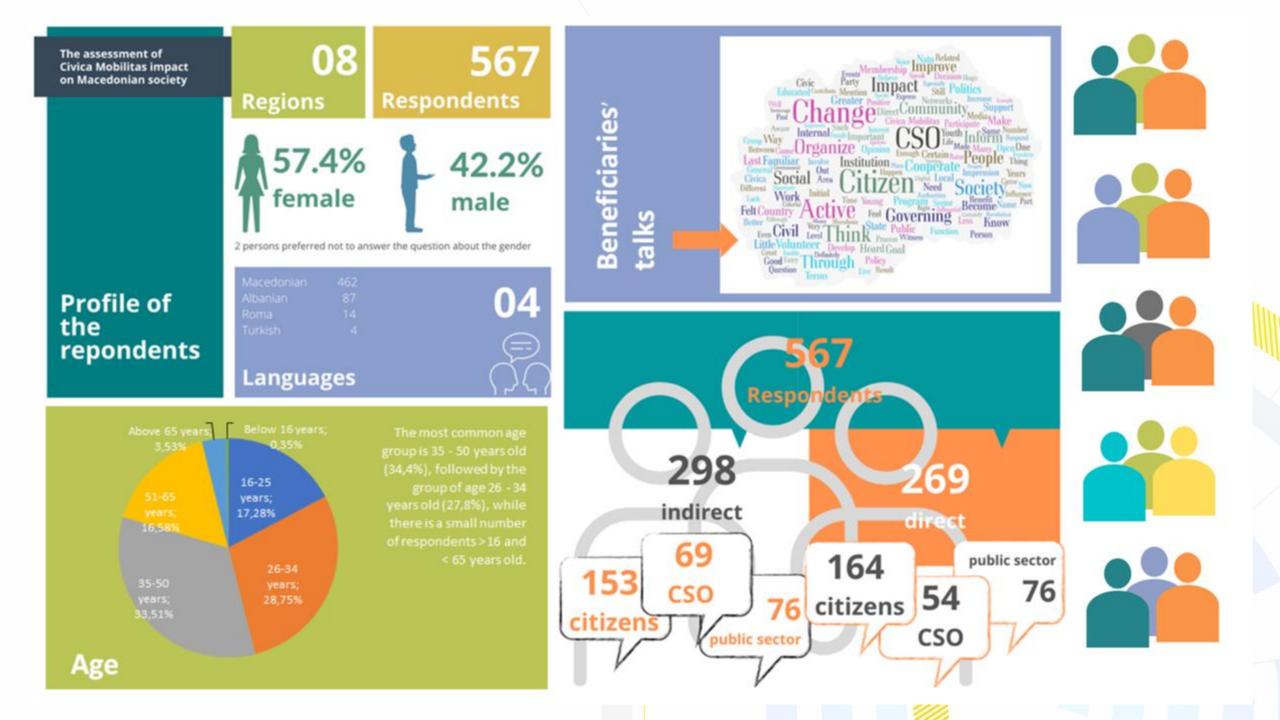
 Analysis must include any dissent, negative perspectives

Learning & Responsiveness

- Donors/implementers committed to listen
- Being responsive to beneficiaries through action















The assessment of Civica Mobilitas impact on Macedonian society

CSOs have become CSOs have become CSOs have become CSOs have directly CSOs are important more effective aspect of national impacted on my life more effective in more accountable partners for development in positive way their work to citizens collaboration with government 91 89 84 82 ⁷⁷ ₇₄ 72 71 69 64 57 52 49 46 46 48 46 43 35 34 29 29 26 24 18

Statements about CSOs



The general perception is that CSOs are becoming more distant from their constituencies, dealing with issues that are not of crucial need at the community level.









Methodology Beneficiary Assessment is suitable for evaluation of simple programs and interventions, with concrete/material product/result (one or more similar ones) which are implementing with standardized processes.







In the Civica Mobilitas context, BA gives valuable insight of citizens' opinion about social changes and the relations in civil society sector, but it is difficult to make a link between the changes and program results. In some cases, that relation can be established and be presented through the number of grants disbursed for the subject/area where the social change occurred.







140 grants were disbursed for Good governance (71) and human rights (69). 28 grants are institutional. This can confirm the perception about main social changes in the past 10 years: democratization, freedom of speech and increased civic activism.







The participatory ethos underlying the Beneficiary Assessment is not only highly relevant to Civica Mobilitas, but also the capacity building function of the BA method (with Co-Facilitators and Citizen Observers being provided the opportunity to learn more about the implementation of assessments and conducting social research) has certainly added value to Civica Mobilitas.







With more than 560 respondents engaged by 8 Co-Facilitators and 80 Citizen Observers, with national coverage, the BA methodology has generated a large amount of data.







- 1. BAs of large scale Civil Society programmes need specific sector and geographic sampling
- 2. More extensive support and effort of building the capacity of Co-Facilitators and Citizen Observers
- 3. With programmes like Civica Mobilitas (which have a wide range of activities, target groups, instruments, and geographical coverage) in countries with citizens with a high level of literacy, the BA methodology could incorporate the use of more specific tools for different types of respondents

