

ACTIVE CITIZENS FUND CZECH REPUBLIC

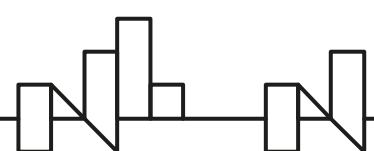
Barbora Hořavová
20 February 2019

Launch Conference of the EEA and Norway Grants 2014 – 2021, Prague



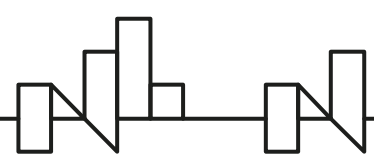
Civil Society in the Czech Republic

- **Shrinking space** for civil society
- **Stigmatization of civil society** in the public sphere
- Focus on **professionalization and services**
- **Limited citizen participation** in democratic affairs and policy processes
- **Lack of available resources** for capacity development of CSOs



Challenges for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs)

- **To formulate their goals and communicate their activities well enough** to gain public as well as donor support
- To reinforce **partnership between civil society organizations and public institutions**
- To work more on **constituency building**



The Active Citizens Fund

Civil society & active citizenship strengthened & vulnerable groups empowered

- **Financial support:** grants
- **Education:** workshops, ongoing consultancy, pre-defined project on advocacy work
- **Networking, cooperation and sharing best practices:** world-cafés, bilateral and regional cooperation, communication of programme results, pre-defined project on youth participation

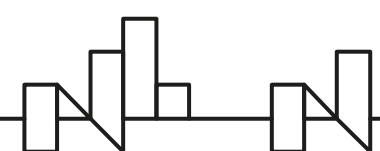
To support:

Activities

Capacity building of CSOs

**Better awareness among
public**

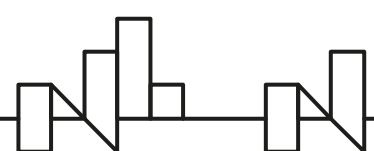
Youth engagement



Programme Areas

1. Democracy, active citizenship, good governance and transparency
2. Human rights and equal treatment through combating any discrimination
3. Social justice and inclusion of vulnerable groups
4. Gender equality and gender-based violence
5. Environmental and climate change

Less-experienced CSOs
Under-served regions
Vulnerable groups

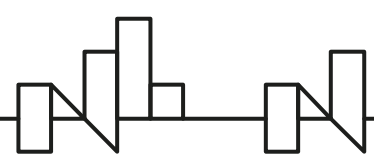


Programme Outcomes

- **Increased citizen participation** in civic activities
- Strengthened civil society **advocacy and watchdog role**
- **Vulnerable groups are empowered**
- Increased support for **civic education and media literacy**
- **Increased capacity and sustainability of the civil society sector** and CSOs organizational capacity

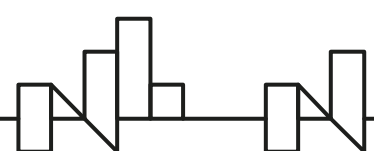
15% of regranting allocated to capacity development and sustainability of CSOs

All programmes shall include youth inclusion



Expected Results

- **To strengthen the capacities and sustainability** of the civil sector across programme areas
- **To support networking and cooperation** between civil society organizations and **mutual transfer of experience** from more- to less experienced organizations
- **To strengthen the work of civil society with the public** and its ability to address inactive or marginalized groups, and to activate civic participation;
- **To strengthen advocacy and watchdog** activities of civil society
- **To reinforce partnership between civil society organizations and public institutions**



Fund Operator

**Open Society Fund Prague (OSF
Prague)**

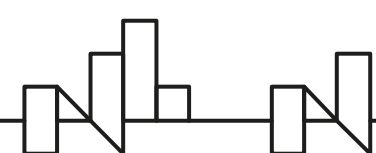


**OPEN SOCIETY FUND
PRAGUE**

**Committee of Good Will - Olga Havel
Foundation (VDV)**



Czech Scouting Institute (SI)



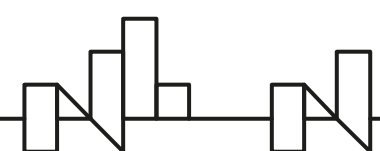
Open Society Fund Prague

Supports the development of an open society and promotes systemic changes that help to strengthen democracy in the Czech Republic.



Open Society Fund Prague (leader)

- Was founded in 1992 as **one of the first grant-making institutions** in the Czech Republic
- **Introduced numerous new concepts** to the Czech Republic (a palliative care, watchdog organizations, an inclusive education)
- Promotes NGO **cooperation and networking**
- **Encourages NGOs, civic initiatives, and individuals to actively influence conditions** in their region
- More than 1.38 billion Czech crowns (over EUR 53 million) for more than **9,400 projects**



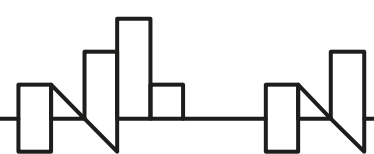
Open Society Fund Prague - programmes

Education and Youth
equal chances to education for
all children

Let's Give (Wo)men a Chance
equal opportunities for women
and men

Journalism Award
journalistic professionalism and
quality

Our State, Our Data
transparency and digitalization
in the Czech Republic



Committee of Good Will – Olga Havel Foundation

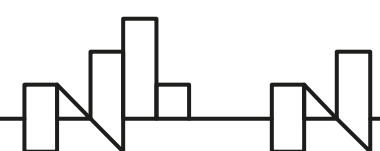
Supports non-governmental non-profit organizations within the field of health, social, humanitarian and education.

Organizations that aim at dignified inclusion of people with handicap, abandoned children, ill and elderly citizens.



Committee of Good Will – Olga Havel Foundation (partner)

- Was founded 28 years ago by Olga Havlová, the first wife of president Václav Havel
- **Supports several hundred NGOs** (social inclusion, healthcare, human rights) and more than 1 000 disadvantaged individuals every year
- Joins the activities to **enhance legislation** that would lead to **better social and healthcare services and protection of human rights**
- Multiannual **scholarships for 460 physically or socially handicapped students** were given
- Enabled **800 doctors** of all specializations to participate in top medical seminars in Austria
- Distributed contributions in the amount of CZK 750,000,000 (30 mil EUR)



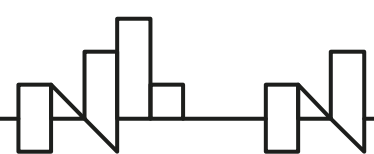
Committee of Good Will - programmes

Pathways Towards Integration
helping handicapped children/
adults to integrate into society

Senior
opportunities for active lifestyle
to the elderly

Education Fund
grants for talented children with
disabilities or socially
disadvantaged

Ordinary Life
help people living outside the
“ordinary life” to return to life



Czech Scouting Institute

Keeps the hundred-years-old memory of Czech scouting movement alive. Drawing from it, we aim to further the importance and influence of the values of scouting in public and in society.

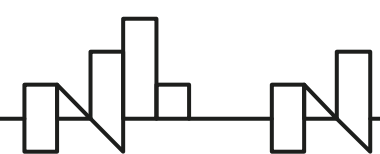
Our mission is personal development of young people in the spirit of these values.



Czech Scouting Institute (partner)

Goals:

- Creating **platforms for personal development, education and discussion**
- Looking for **new trends in society** which could shape the future of education
- Looking after **the history of scouting** and commemorating its memorable events



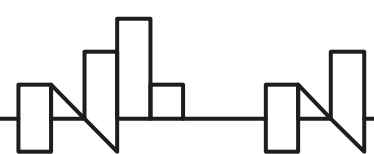
Czech Scouting Institute

50+ free public events every month

Teams in 4 cities and others in development

New educational programmes for scout troops

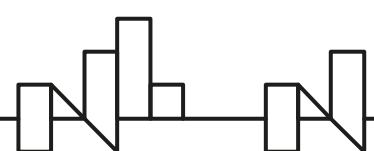
Dozens of active volunteers



What Happens Next...

- **Signing PIA** – ... soon 😊
- **Launch of the programme** – May 2019
- **First call for proposals** – May or June 2019
- **ACF Days on civic education in Oslo** – 12-13 June 2019
- **Start of projects supported** – January- March 2020

- **Monitoring, monitoring, monitoring ... and fruitful cooperation!**



Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway

Active
citizens fund

Thank you!

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www.osf.cz

