

Third FSTP CoP Online Meeting

6 February 2024



***COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE** are groups of people who share a concern, a set of problems, or a passion about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge and expertise in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis.”*
— **Etienne Wenger**, *Cultivating Communities of Practice: A Guide to Managing Knowledge*



Purpose of the meeting

- Follow-up to the Annual FSTP CoP meeting held on 8 – 9 November 2023 in Sarajevo, BiH.
- To present the FSTP regional calendar for 2024.
- To discuss the proposal of introducing national FPs for FSTP.
- Update on the FSTP practices in the region.

*If you are with us
for the first time...*

- ✓ Please, join the [FSTP CoP on LinkedIn](#)
- ✓ Visit [TACSO Online Library](#) and search „FSTP”
- ✓ Send your inquiries to capacitybuilding@tacso.eu



Agenda for today

TIME	TOPIC	RESOURCE PERSONS
11:00 – 11:10	Welcoming	TACSO
11:10 – 11:30	Follow-up to Annual Meeting	Ms Ivana Jelača, MDI Ms Iskra Belcheva, CCM
11:30 – 11:50	FSTP practices in the region – country level updates	Ms Arjola Agolli, Partners Albania
11:50 – 12:00	Short break	
12:00 – 12:30	National Focal Points and other ideas	
12:30 – 12:45	Simplification of procedures case study – Working Group	Ms Jasmina Ristovska, MCIC
12:45 – 13:00	AOB	



Annual FSTP CoP Meeting, 8 – 9 November 2023

Meeting highlights

- Second live meeting
- 45 live and 18 online participants
- Exchange of regional and country practices
- Peer-to-peer learning concept
- Active involvement of participants as key speakers, facilitators, and contributors to the report
- New ideas on how to foster ownership and community engagement



Main topics

- **Monitoring** of FSTP grant contracts
- **VAT** practices and challenges
- Reaching smaller organisations with **simplified** application and reporting procedures;
- Development of inclusive **selection criteria** to reach out to more CSOs who have limited experience and financial capacity
- Presenting the **gender mainstreaming** checklist – what has been learned from experience
- **Communication** and **visibility** aspects of the FSTP grant beneficiaries



Key conclusions

- Further work on the **simplification** of procedures is needed.
- **Regular meetings** with grant beneficiaries are important to receive timely feedback.
- **Gender-sensitive perspectives** should be visible in all aspects of the project design.
- Strengthening of capacities in the **assessment process** is needed.
- Capacity building of grant beneficiaries in **finance management** and **communication and visibility** is needed.



Key recommendations

- To introduce **national FSTP Focal Points**.
- Active involvement of **CoP members** in the **design and implementation** of future events.
- To support **national-level activities** (i.e. Webinar on VAT exemption procedures).
- To establish **working groups** on specific topics (i.e. simplification of procedures).
- **Capacity building** of **FSTP implementors** to further transfer knowledge to grant beneficiaries (i.e. **Communication and visibility** requirements of EU-funded grants).



FSTP Calendar 2024*

DATE	TOPIC	FORMAT/VENUE
7 February	Simplification working group	Online
12 March	New EU visibility requirements	Online
17 – 18 April	Assessment of proposals and role of Evaluation Committees	Belgrade, Serbia
4 July	Development of gender-sensitive indicators	Online
26 – 27 Sept	Annual FSTP CoP meeting	Budva, Montenegro
18 October	VAT practices in N. Macedonia	Online
3 December	Fourth FSTP CoP meeting	Online



FSTP Capacity Building practices in Albania



10 minutes

National Focal points - wishes & capacities

Whishes

- To strengthen country-based FSTP practices.
- Communicaiton in local languages.
- Establishment of country Community of Practices.

Capacities

- Who is interested?
- Availability seems a crucial issue.
- What are your ideas and thoughts?
- What about the small steps approach?

Simplification of procedures

- Working group of 5 – 10 members.
- Facilitated by EU TACSO 3 project.
- Purpose: to create a case study on the transformation of one procedure (i.e. Application process/format, Selection process/format, Reporting procedure/format).
- Documentation of example „before and after”.
- Piloting/testing of procedure
- Publishing and presenting
- Methodology and work plan
- First meeting: 7 February 2024, Wednesday at 11:00hrs via [Zoom](#)



Other ideas and questions