



**Interregional Workshop
on the Role of Civil Society Organizations in Regional Cooperation**



**CEI ACTIVITIES: GENERAL OVERVIEW AND
VIS-À-VIS CIVIL SOCIETY**

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Establishment: 1989

Membership: 18 Member States
(9 EU and 9 non-EU Member States)



Mandate: Intergovernmental forum for regional cooperation among Member States of Central, Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, fostering political and socio-economic development

Governmental Dimension

- ❖ High-level Meetings: Meeting of the **Heads of Government** (CEI Summit) and Meeting of the **Ministers of Foreign Affairs** (MFA Meeting)
- ❖ **Committee of CEI National Co-ordinators (CNC)**
- ❖ **CEI Presidency**
- ❖ Groups of **Experts**, Networks of **Focal Points**

Role: political and economic orientation of the Initiative; decisions on organisational and financial matters

Parliamentary Dimension

Role: cooperation among the Parliaments

Business Dimension

Role: promoting business and entrepreneurship

- ❖ **CEI - Executive Secretariat (CEI-ES)** in Trieste
- ❖ **Secretariat for CEI Projects (CEI-PS)** located both at the CEI Headquarters in Trieste and at the EBRD in London

Role: administrative and conceptual support to CEI structures; administration and management of CEI funds and instruments; implementation of activities and projects

approving actions

(CEI Summit, MFA Meeting)



recommending actions

(CNC, CEI Presidency)



identifying needs on the ground

(Experts, CEI Secretariats)

implementing actions

(appropriate structures)

- ❖ to work for **cohesion of a united Europe**, without dividing lines, a Europe with shared values, embracing all countries, regions, peoples and citizens of the continent
- ❖ to focus co-operation within the framework of the CEI in particular on **assistance to strengthen the capacities** of the least advanced member countries and of those having the greatest need for accelerated economic development or recovery

- ❖ strengthening co-operation among its Member States
- ❖ supporting further European integration
- ❖ strengthening cooperation with the European Union
- ❖ promoting the development of the civil society

Political dialogue reinforced with a strong project-oriented with **focus** on:

- ❖ economic and technical co-operation
- ❖ transport, energy, agriculture
- ❖ environmental protection
- ❖ capacity building, strengthening the democratic institutions and observance of human rights
- ❖ science and technology, media, culture, education, youth exchange, tourism
- ❖ cross-border and interregional co-operation

CEI PROJECT CYCLE

(applicants: public and private institutions,
civil society organizations, International
and Regional Organizations)

proposal

implementation

(applicants)

evaluation

(CEI Secretariats, Experts)

approval

(CNC, appropriate CEI Structures)



- ❖ CEI Trust Fund
- ❖ CEI Cooperation Fund
- ❖ CEI Know-how Exchange Programme
- ❖ CEI Solidarity Fund
- ❖ CEI University Network
- ❖ CEI Science and Technology Network
- ❖ Participation in EU Projects

Objective: supporting projects in CEI Member States and in CEI areas of cooperation

Facts and Figures

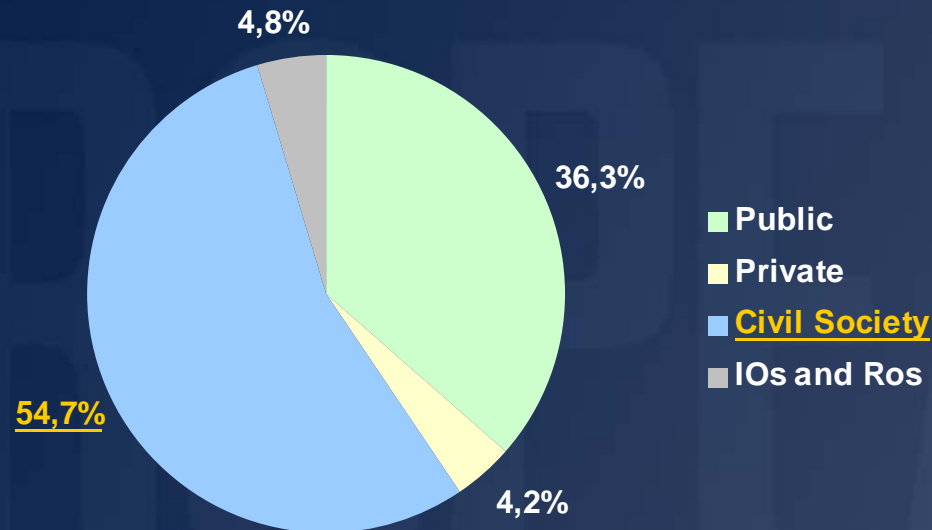
- established in **1992** at the EBRD by **Italy**
- managed by the **CEI-PS**
- financing **Technical Co-operation (TC)** linked to large EBRD investments; promoting and supervising **Development Programmes** in partnership with other IFIs and IOs; a part of the **CEI Know-how Exchange Programme; CEI-PS**
- **priority areas:** transport; municipal and environmental infrastructure; energy efficiency and response to climate change; agribusiness; SMEs and financial institutions; power and energy
- Italian contribution = **32.5 million EUR** (out of which more than **19 million EUR** committed to **TC**)

Facts and Figures

- established in **2001**
- contributed by **all CEI Member States**
- administered by **CEI-ES**
- co-financing **CEI Cooperation Activities**
- ~ **560** CEI Cooperation Activities supported with more than **5.7 million EUR** (15% of the total project cost = 38 million EUR)

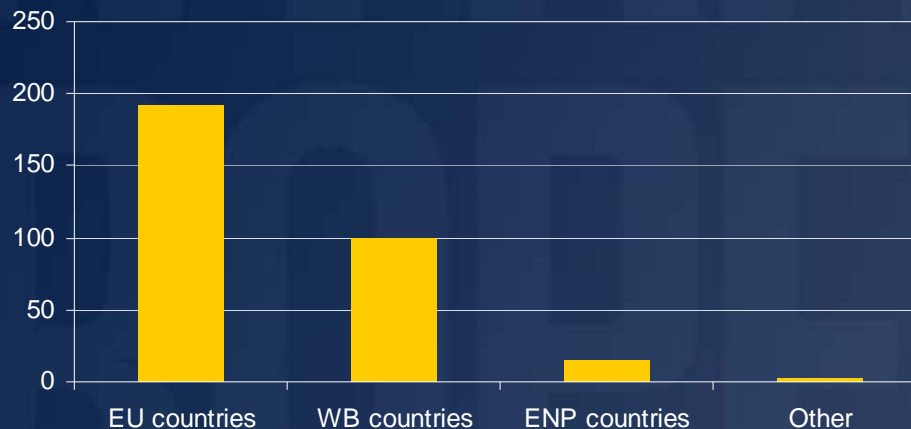
- **form:** multilateral, small-scale projects
- **eligible activities:** CEI Plan of Action 2010-2012
- **eligible applicants:** public and private sector bodies and civil society organizations from all CEI Member States; International and Regional Organizations
- **eligible location:** CEI Region
- **type of assistance:** grants (a maximum of 50% of the total cost of the project within a ceiling of 30.000 EUR)

Involvement of CS in CEI Cooperation Activities (%)

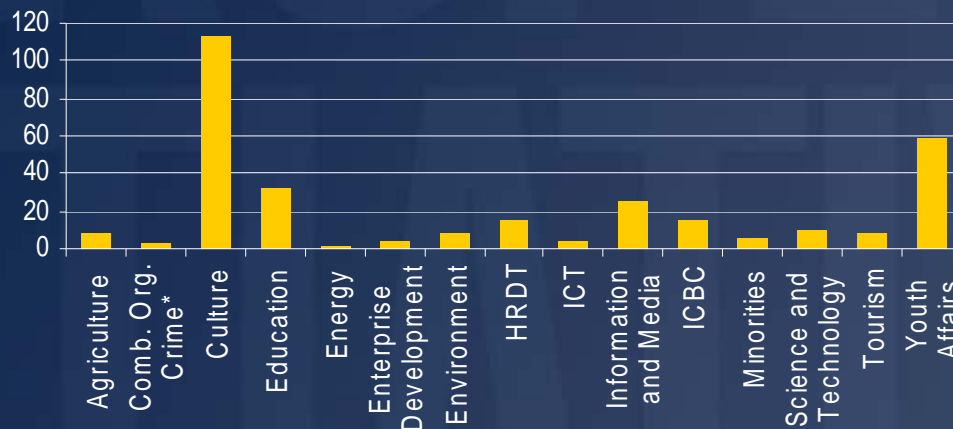


CEI Contribution to Civil Society = ~ 53% of the overall CEI Contribution to CEI Cooperation Activities

Involvement of CS in CEI Cooperation Activities (country)



Involvement of CS in CEI Cooperation Activities (area)



Some Recent Examples

Regional Training Workshop (RTW) – Building Civil Society Capacities for Improved Security	Albania
Unifying Europe through Culture - 100 steps towards Europe	Austria
International Forum on Promotion of Life Safety Culture among Youth	Belarus
Journalism for a European Future	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Living Together – Embracing Diversity – Acting for Unity: Youth work for peace-building, conflict prevention and conflict transformation	Bulgaria
Coming Together Through Cultural Dialogue	Croatia
CEI GLE Seminar (the European Learning Network dissemination seminar in Prague)	Czech Republic
NEXT GENERATION in the region	Hungary
European Integration and Development of the Civil Society in the Balkan countries	Italy
“Virtually Active” - training on using new-media-content to establish online-active-citizenship	Macedonia
"Connecting Nations - Have a Passion for Every Nation" Summer University	Moldova
South-East Initiatives Student Network Meeting	Montenegro
International Conference: ‘Freedom, what is that? Democracy – Society – Individual’ (during Multimedia Festival the Art of the Document)	Poland
MUSIC CORNER - Young Musicians in Action	Romania
Youth Network of Differences Against Xenophobia	Serbia
European Volunteering Forum: Strengthening of Cross-sectoral Dialogue in Policy-making in the Area of Volunteering	Slovakia
Glocal Europe - YouthNETwork for Participation (media and marketing training for youth NGOs)	Slovenia
Technology Transfer and Innovation Support Networks: European Experience and Prospects for Ukraine - international workshop	Ukraine

Facts and Figures

- established in **2004**
- financed by the **CEI Trust Fund** at the EBRD and the **Austrian Development Agency**
- administered by the CEI-PS (KEP TF) and the CEI-ES (KEP Austria)
- financing **projects** aimed at transferring experience from EU CEI Member States (donors) to non-EU CEI Member States (recipients)
- **51 KEP Projects** supported with **1.4 million EUR** (39% of the total project cost = 3.6 million EUR)

- **form:** bilateral, medium sized projects based on the relation donor / recipient
- **eligible activities:** European integration, capacity building and market economy; infrastructure planning and development; agriculture, energy and environment
- **eligible applicants:** public and private sector bodies and civil society organizations from EU CEI Member States; International and Regional Organizations
- **eligible location:** CEI Region
- **type of assistance:** grants (not exceeding 50% of the total cost of the project; maximum grant to a single project cannot exceed 40.000 EUR)

Facts and Figures

- established in **1998**
- based on **voluntary contributions** by CEI Member States
- administered by the **CEI-ES**
- **facilitates participation** of the representatives and experts of all CEI Member States in CEI projects and activities
- ~ **300 experts** supported

Facts and Figures

- established in **2003**
- **network of Universities** across the CEI region
- managed by the **CEI-ES**
- financing **Joint Programmes** (i.e. PhD, Master's courses, etc.)
- **~1 million EUR** disbursed in **grants and scholarships**

Facts and Figures

- established in **2004**
- composed of **seven Trieste-based research centres** of world wide repute and their partners in the CEI region
- managed by the **CEI-ES**
- promoting **mobility of researchers** through grants or fellowships to make their research work
- **~1 million EUR** disbursed in grants and fellowships

Facts

- **Secretariat for EU Projects** established in 2004
- oriented to **foster transnational and interregional cooperation**
- supports **CEI participation in EU programmes** both as Partner and Lead Partner
- **areas covered:** transport, energy, sustainable development, information society, SMEs, civil protection, cross-border cooperation, culture, higher education, science and technology

Figures

First Phase 2004-2007

9	Projects as Partner
8.490.532,26 EUR	Total value of projects
718.877,56 EUR	Total share managed by the CEI*

Second Phase – Programming Period 2007- 2013

2	Projects as Partner
4	Projects as Lead Partner
13.6 million EUR	Total value of projects
9.3 million EUR	Total share managed by the CEI*

* In some cases, the CEI-ES provided a financial contribution either by earmarking some resources from its funds or by assuring the employment of internal staff.

Aim: to enhance the CEI's identity (events carrying its name in their title or dedicate a special segment to the CEI)

- ❖ CEI Special Event – Trieste Film Festival
- ❖ CEI Dubrovnik Diplomatic Forum
- ❖ CEI Venice Forum for Contemporary Art
- ❖ CEI Journalists' Forum
- ❖ CEI Energy Forum
- ❖ CEI Round Table - Vilenica International Literary Festival
- ❖ CEI International Summer School of Cervia
- ❖ CEI Forum on Human Resource Development
- ❖ CEI Youth Forum

Aim: to honour and encourage initiatives and activities of talented people from the CEI Member States

- ❖ CEI Award at Trieste Film Festival
- ❖ CEI Prize at “Maremetraggio Festival”
- ❖ CEI SEEMO Award for Outstanding Merits in Investigative Journalism
- ❖ CEI Fellowship for Writers in Residence
- ❖ CEI Award at International Design Contest “Trieste Contemporanea”

Thank you for your attention!

www.ceinet.org