



Funded by the European Union

COBERM

A Joint EU-UNDP Initiative



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

What is COBERM?

COBERM is a joint EU/UNDP initiative that promotes involvement of local Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in a wide range of areas and activities, including support to immediate and concrete initiatives, which seek to have a demonstrable impact on building confidence among communities affected by conflict. COBERM had been set up in May 2010, and implemented two phases during 2010-2015. Its third phase was launched in January 2016.

COBERM is an apolitical, impartial and flexible mechanism.

The main aims of COBERM are the following:

- 1) Support innovative people-to-people confidence-building opportunities;
- 2) Help create an environment conducive to fostering peace, stability and human security.

COBERM III Round I Call for Project Ideas

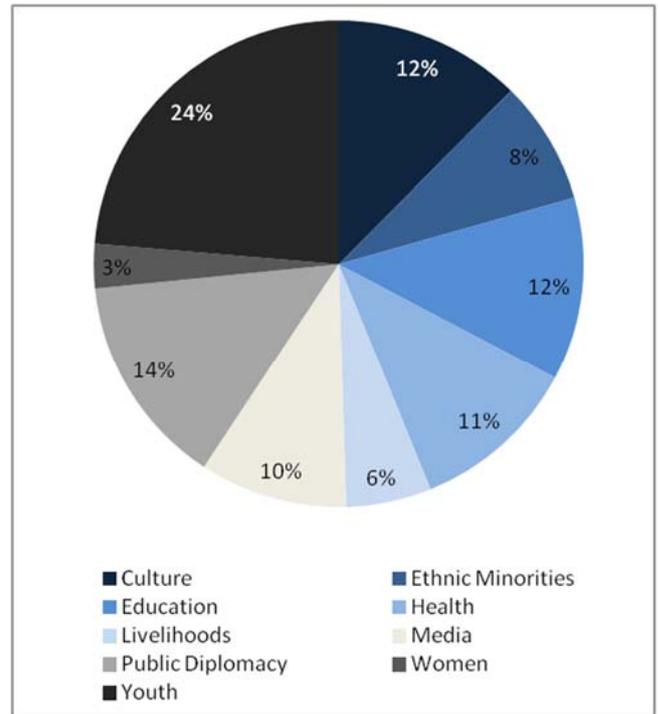
The first round of COBERM III was launched in February 2016. A total of 202 project ideas addressing key thematic areas relevant for confidence building were submitted by 186 local and 12 international CSOs. Criteria for evaluation of project ideas included impact on confidence building, conflict sensitivity, sustainability, feasibility and cost efficiency. As a result, 51 organizations were invited to submit full project proposals. The full project proposals were also assessed against the above mentioned criteria and 21 projects were selected for funding.

Table 1. COBERM III Round I Financial Analysis

Total amount available for COBERM III for confidence building initiatives	USD	3,199,466
Total available amount for capacity building component	USD	225,479
COBERM III Round I Projects funded	USD	1,767,283
Romanian Government contribution	USD	10,903
Capacity building trainings-Round I	USD	37,996
TOTAL for Round I	USD	1,816,182

Table 2. COBERM III Round I Thematic Analysis

Theme	USD	Number of projects
Culture	219,120	2
Ethnic Minorities	144,492	1
Education	215,736	2
Health	196,327	2
Livelihoods	99,380	1
Media	172,122	3
Public Diplomacy	250,060	3
Women	52,200	1
Youth	417,845	6
Total	1,767,283	21



Strengthening Civil Society Capacity Component

COBERM III continues the capacity building of CSOs initiated within its previous phase. A specific focus is put on strengthening the skills and capacities in conflict-sensitive programming, increasing knowledge of confidence building concepts and peace-building strategies and improving organizational capacity of CSOs. To date two general orientations, a series of trainings on Project Cycle Management (PCM) as well as over 200 individual consultations have been provided to over 200 representatives of local as well as international civil society organizations.

New! Funding from the Romanian Government

Romanian Government has contributed USD 10,903 for co-funding of one of the confidence building projects.

COBERM III Round II information

A second call for project ideas was launched in August 2016 and is currently on going.

For more information, please contact us at:

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Projects funded under Round I

#	Project title	Brief description	Budget
1	Reconnecting Professionals through Culture and Science	The project proposes trilateral cooperation in the area of cultural heritage, namely ethnography, archaeology, art history and museum management. Project envisages thematic conferences in Armenia, a study tour in Macedonia, with the goal to foster enhancement of professional cooperation of the involved stakeholders.	116,020 USD
2	Confidence-building through education	The project will publish a practical course in Ossetian Grammar containing important information for learners of the Ossetian language, a Georgian-Ossetian-Russian-English phrase book, and a CD with recorded academic dialogues.	103,100 USD
3	Promoting confidence between academic circles	The project aims at bilateral confidence building between representatives of academic circles interested in promotion of peace studies. The main objective of the project is to engage academia representatives in creation of a peace studies curriculum in cooperation with professors from the Dublin City University, Trinity College, and the University of Ulster.	71,520 USD
4	Levelled readers in Abkhazian language	The goal of the project is to support development of reading skills in Abkhaz language for pupils living in conflict affected communities through the development of a “reading ladder in Abkhazian language,” including development of a computer program for levelled reading texts, as well as conducting professional development workshops for interested teachers.	143,078 USD
5	Leveraging employment initiatives and networking to build confidence among various ethnic communities	The project addresses the employment constraints of conflict affected communities by using an innovative methodology, the Employment Shuttle. Beneficiaries will go through various capacity building courses, to develop different skills and to make their own business plans and fund them through a number of business grants.	139,900 USD
6	Defeat viruses, build confidence and peace!	The project aims to improve access to healthcare for vulnerable people living in conflict zones. In addition, cultural and eco tours, with active involvement of young people and women are also envisaged.	148,667 USD
7	Doctors for Peace	The project aims to promote bilateral cooperation between doctors through sharing international experience, with the overall goal to expand medical services for people living in conflict affected communities.	47,660 USD
8	To enhance inter-ethnic relations through increased opportunities for cooperation	The project aims to establish proactive peer groups composed by young community leaders from different locations who will attend a joint training program on tolerance, inter-cultural learning, and human rights. The project also envisages joint implementation of a number of small-scale socio-economic community projects.	99,380 USD
9	Cultural Diversity – the Wealth of the Society	The project aims to showcase the ethnical diversity of people living in conflict affected communities and their involvement in social life through short videos that will be presented in various media outlets.	33,200 USD
10	Cooperation for future	The project envisages cooperation between various journalists and the publication of the newspaper “Abkhazski Meridian” (AM) that will provide up to date information about social and cultural news of people living in conflict affected communities.	3,117 USD
11	Media for trust building and cooperation	The project aims to raise awareness of the wider public on activities delivered by civil society organizations seeking to improve interaction between conflict affected communities.	135,805 USD

12	Civil Hearings	The project plans to organize a series of civil hearings that address actual topics relevant to people living in conflict affected communities that will be bring together representatives of CSOs, journalists, and other professionals.	77,815 USD
13	Sports Games "Children of the Caucasus"	The project targets use of sport and cultural heritage as a means of promoting confidence building through trainings, sports and cultural gatherings.	75,245 USD
14	Archives without Border: One More Step	The project aims to enhance trust and confidence between conflict affected communities via cooperation among scientists, historians and handover of archival documents of interest to these professional communities and to the public at large.	97,000 USD
15	Mothers for Initiative and Partnership	The project supports creating an enabling environment for peace and confidence building, through engaging war affected groups and encourages the organization of Mothers and its affiliates to become more active in key areas of social life of their own communities.	52,200 USD
16	Food for Thought	The aim of the project is to utilize resources and skilled personnel to introduce youth from conflict affected communities to professional and specialized training in culinary arts. The project will also include hands-on training and master classes in a variety of culinary fields, field trips to farmer's markets, and producing of TV programs.	51,620 USD
17	Opening the Curtains: Art in support of Peace and Stability	The project goal is to support young script writers, professional and amateur actors, theatre directors from conflict affected communities in Storytelling, Dramaturgy, Theatre and Scriptwriting, Pantomime. The staging of a collaborative theatre performance by using scenario writing, critical thinking, team building, and storytelling acquired during this program is also envisaged.	134,280 USD
18	Team of Trust	The project aims at building trust among young professionals, from different locations for future involvement in peace building activities.	98,545 USD
19	Education and Job Placement of Young People through Equal Access to Information	The project offers career guidance to all categories of population and supports maintaining a specially created website to help young people in choosing a profession, and to help reorient them in accordance with the changing market conditions and demands.	52,300 USD
20	SCOUT Movement II	The project enables youth of different ethnic background residing in conflict affected areas to be jointly engaged in acquisition of scouting skills, while encouraging their integral development to become active and well-socialized members of their communities and wider society.	24,515 USD
21	Lives@Screens	The project aims to involve young journalists and filmmakers from different locations to create various media products while learning effective communication, film-making, photojournalism, creative problem-solving, and theatrical improvisation.	56,585 USD