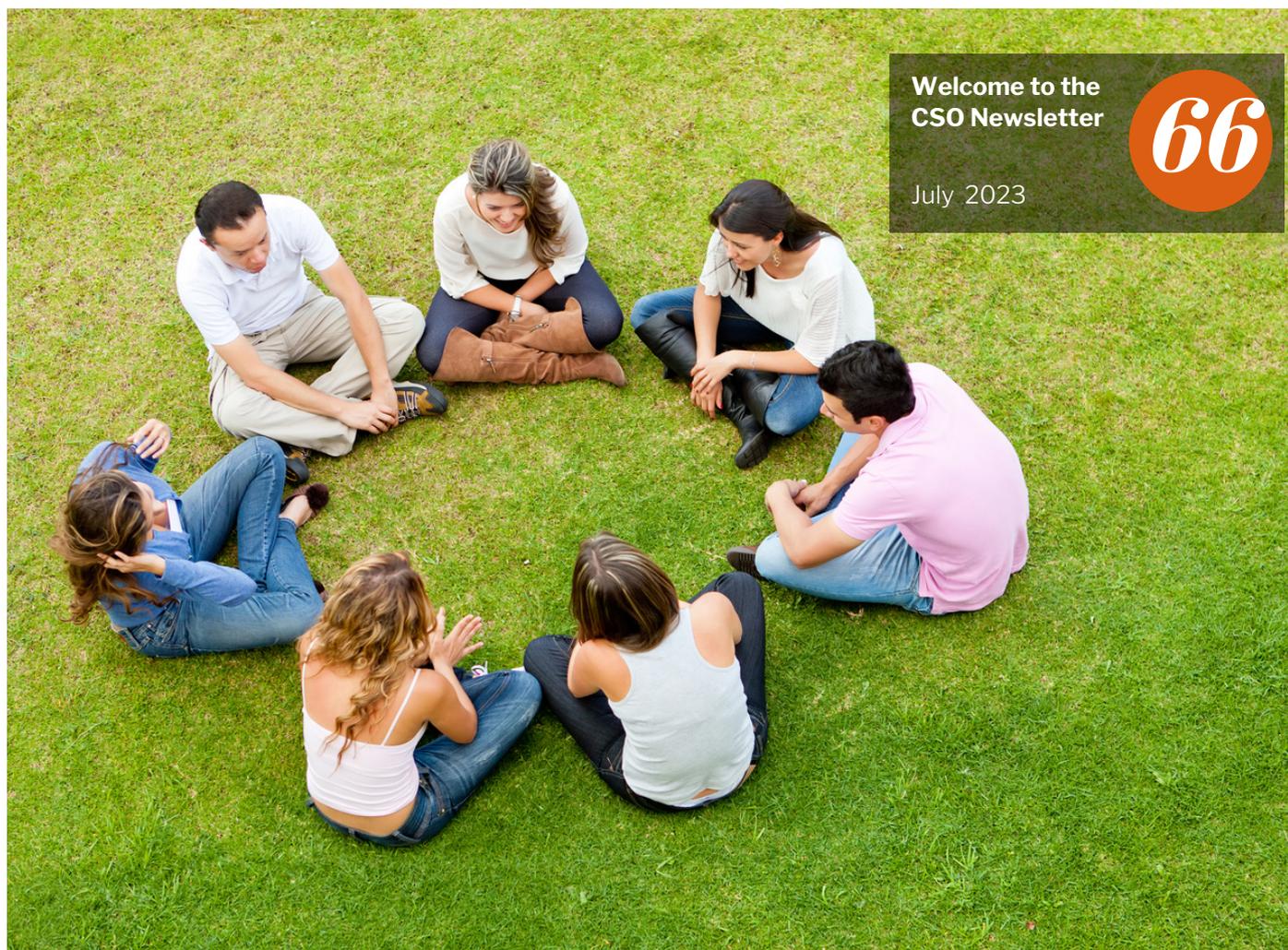


EBRD-CSO Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with the EBRD



Foreword

Dear Reader,

In this summer edition we reflect on the rich array of projects we undertook in the first half of the year.

We launched several projects focused on the economic integration of Ukrainian refugees – promoting employment and self-employment, facilitating access to career, legal and psychological counselling – contributing to better inclusion of Ukrainians into host communities and benefiting local economies.

In Türkiye we launched a guide on digital transformation for civil society in partnership with Sivil Toplum Destek Vakfi and Turkey Mozaik Foundation, as well as embarking on the second phase of our project supporting the digital transformation of CSOs.

Another important milestone was the kick-off meeting with KEDV Oxfam to support refugee women in Türkiye.

We are also pleased to call for applications for the advisory CSO Steering Committee we are creating in the context of the new Strategic Approach for civil society engagement. Read on to find out more about the consultation for the Strategic Approach document.

We wish you a nice summer break!

The CSE team



See the back page for
links to more content

POLICY ACTIVITY

Supporting Ukraine



In the first half of 2023 we worked hard to support the integration of Ukrainian refugees across our regions.

In Poland we launched a project to support the non-governmental organisation (NGO) Help Center; the project was carried out under the [EBRD's Civil Society Capacity Enhancement Framework](#) with donor funds from the Korean Technical Assistance and Cooperation Fund. The project will provide Ukrainians with career, legal and psychological assistance.

In Croatia, the EBRD initiated a project in partnership with the SVOJA Association and the Solidarna Foundation, and with funding from the TaiwanBusiness-EBRD Technical Cooperation Fund. This project will increase the provision of skills training and assistance to Ukrainian refugees seeking work. Both projects will provide better opportunities for displaced Ukrainians to work, therefore benefiting local economies.

In Romania, we began our work on the Memorandum of Understanding with Mastercard Inc's philanthropic hub,

the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth. Together, the Center and the EBRD will help female Ukrainian refugees and their children by providing employment and childcare support, with the employment element being carried out through Jobs for Ukraine and childcare support being provided through the programme's implementing partner, Save the Children Romania.

In June, on the sides of this year's Ukraine Reconstruction Conference (URC) that took place in London, the CSE team welcomed into the EBRD's HQ several CSO representatives from Ukraine to discuss matters of importance to Ukrainian civil society. We also hosted a [URC side event with CSOs and the private sector](#) to discuss how to build a transparent and accountable Ukraine and the key steps to recovery.



The event was co-hosted by the Alliance for Securing Democracy at the German Marshall Fund of the United States, USAID's Support to Anti-Corruption Champion Institutions, RISE Ukraine Coalition, the EBRD, Transparency International Ukraine and Transparency International UK, highlighting Ukraine's financial integrity and transparency efforts despite the war.

UKRAINIAN REFUGEE INTEGRATION

Read more about our projects in Poland, Croatia and Romania.



Empowering civil society in Türkiye

In March 2023 we launched the second phase of our digital transformation project for civil society in Türkiye in partnership with Sivil Toplum Destek Vakfi. This phase will focus on supporting CSOs affected by, or working in regions affected by, the devastating earthquakes of February 2023. It will last two years and have two cohorts of participating CSOs.

In July we launched the guide complementing the digital transformation of civil society. This guide is a blueprint for other organisations that wish to create similar digital capacity building projects for civil society organisations.

Also in July we kicked off another critical project for the country with KEDV - Oxfam Turkey. This project will enhance refugee and local women's participation in the local economy by helping them build/share business skills and get involved in local decision-making processes. The project will be implemented in Gaziantep, Sanliurfa and Mardin providing technical assistance to women for access to market and business development and analysing the trends in local economies in the region after the earthquakes and Covid-19.

We look forward to sharing more information on these projects in future newsletters.

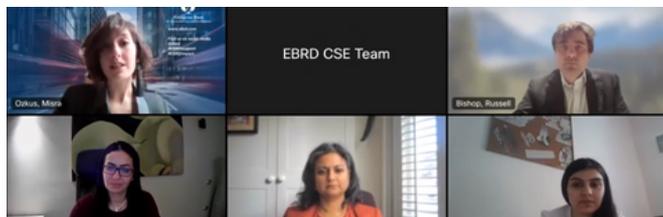


READ THE DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION GUIDE



POLICY ACTIVITY

Partnering for climate impact



In March we hosted an event entitled “Partnering for Climate Impact” to discuss the role and reach of civil society in tackling the effects of climate change, and generated ideas on how to promote holistic climate action.

Speakers included Saba Almbaslat (Director of MENA at Ford Foundation), Aleema Shivji (Chief Impact Officer at Oxfam GB), Russell Bishop (Head of Sustainable Finance Policy at the EBRD) and Mariam Khmiadashvili (youth climate activist).

During the discussion, civil societies were identified having a vital role as a bridge between decision-makers and individuals. The importance of civil society in changing the narrative around climate-related issues was also highlighted.

WATCH THE PANEL



Consultation for EBRD Strategic Approach for civil society

At the EBRD Annual Meeting 2023 in Samarkand, we presented the objectives of our new EBRD Strategic Approach to civil society engagement for the next five years (2023-28).

The strategy is under development and subject to internal consultations.

With this strategy we are looking to transform how we engage with civil society, from risk mitigation to impact generation, and to advance civil society engagement across the Bank’s operations.

We aim to hold a public consultation for the full document in the autumn.

 **Call to Action**

Please reach out to CSO@ebrd.com if you want to be invited to the event

CSO Steering Committee election process



Under the new EBRD Strategic Approach for civil society engagement, the Bank is creating an advisory Civil Society Steering Committee. The Committee will act as an additional forum for dialogue and communication between the Bank and civil societies and help the Bank to enhance its civil society engagement.

All entities seeking to apply for the CSO Steering Committee must:

- share the aims and purposes of the EBRD and conform to the EBRD’s policies
- be considered a non-governmental organisation in line with the [definition set by the EBRD](#)
- have geographical representation in the EBRD regions
- have good connectivity and communication tools such as internet and a working e-mail account
- **provide two reference letters** (this is in addition to the online application), each of which must be a page long and written in English. Please **submit your reference letters to: cs0@ebrd.com**.

TERMS OF REFERENCE



APPLY ONLINE



2023 ANNUAL MEETING CSO PROGRAMME IN DETAIL



OVERVIEW OF CSE ACTIVITY

The CSE team has held the following events as of 26 July 2023:

- 9** presidential CSO meetings
- 7** senior management CSO meetings
- 7** events/external activities
- 5** Board meetings with CSOs

EBRD PUBLICATIONS



EBRD SUSTAINABILITY REPORT 2022



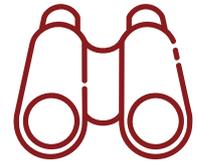
IPAM 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



ANNUAL REVIEW 2022



LOOKING AHEAD



- Our **Evaluation Policy** consultation runs until **29 August 2023**.
- Our **Slovak Republic** consultation runs until **1 September 2023**.
- Our **Energy Sector Strategy** consultation runs until **15 September 2023**.
- Our **Mining Sector Strategy** consultation runs until **15 September 2023**.
- Our **current and upcoming country and sector strategies** will be available on our dedicated consultation page below.

HAVE YOUR SAY



Review all our open consultations

ACCESS PROJECT INFORMATION



Environmental & Social Policy and Access to Information Policy consultation



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