National Platform for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development in Kosovo

2020

OCTOBER 28, 2020

PACT – Partners in Action

Facilitator: Mrika Maliqi

SideStep project 2020-2023 is implemented by PACT (Partners in Action)

Humanrightivism, SideStep project

BACKGROUND

The human rights project HumanRightivism is supported by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). The overall goal is to create and sustain critical mass and educational approach proposed for each of the target audiences of core interest to HUMAN RIGHTIVISM program.

The program seeks to bring together highly crucial CSO partners all over three components, to further evolve the Human Rights areas that have been lacking capacities or neglected by relevant stakeholders, and that are natural, genuine, and common group interest based.

Under the umbrella of HumanRightivism project, through the project Sidestep, PACT aims at increasing CSO's skills in addressing environmental issues through increasing capacities on project management, advocacy, lobbying, watchdogging, and participation in government decision making processes with the focus on sustainable impact in society at large.

Project aims at strengthening civil society involvement in environmental protection, with increased collaborative actions through thematic coalition building and networking, in community based initiatives through impact oriented actions.

The continuous capacity building will follow through trainings and online coaching on Project cycle & project management system with the incorporation of LFA through logical framework matrix, Full project proposal writing, and reporting.

Furthermore online and offline capacity building on Environmental and Technical Issues and also on Participatory Issues will be conducted as planned during the implementation of the project.

NATIONAL FORUM

Development of National Platform for Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development in Kosovo

Through SideStep project developed under the umbrella of the Humanrighjtivism, PACT aims to strengthen cooperation among CSOs in order to enhance their influence in decision-making processes on environmental and sustainable development issues, in regard to prioritized environmental concerns, legislation, policies and regulations.

National, Regional and Local Forums will serve as a platform for dialogue among all stakeholders for priority environmental concerns at local, regional and national level. These platforms will serve as a facilitation process for the development of the national and regional platforms which will serve as a foundation for initiatives and collaboration, aiming to address successfully environmental concerns at the national, local and regional level.

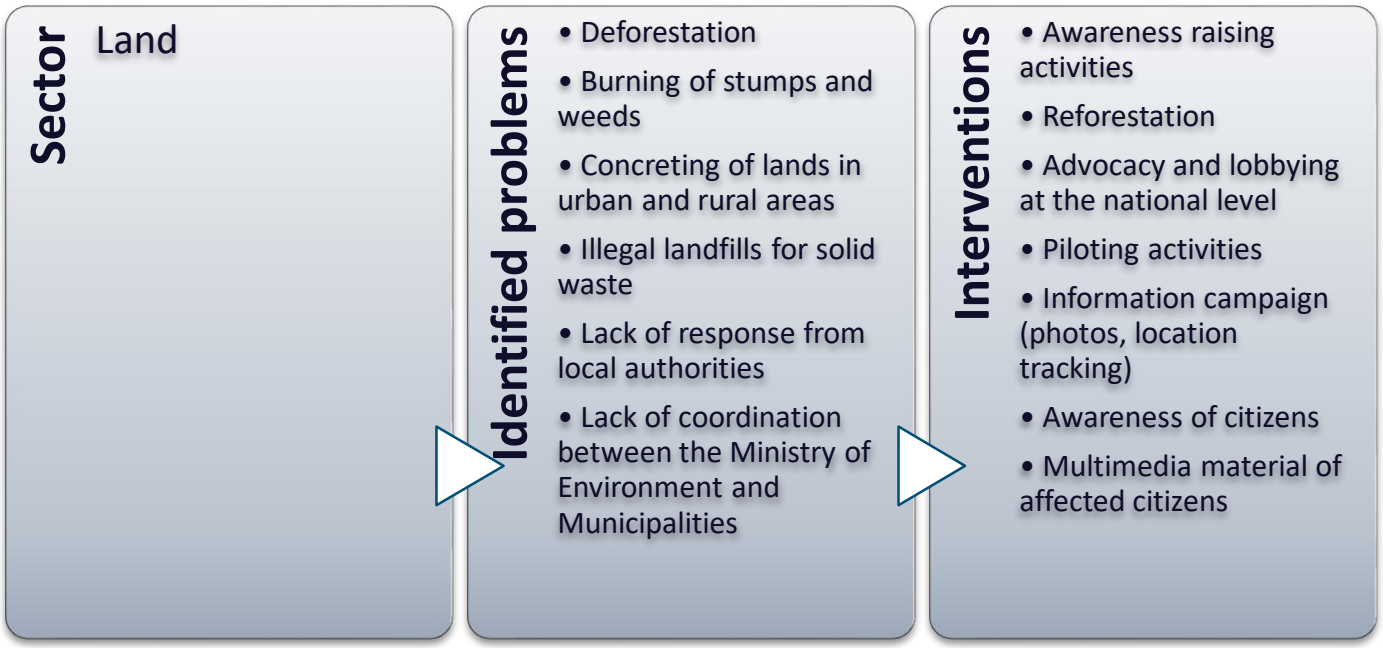
On 26th of September 2020, following with an online session on 8th of October, PACT organized a National Forum with CSO's active on environmental issues and sustainable development. 11 CSO representatives participated in the National Forum. During the event participants took part in discussions by identifying and analyzing environmental factors that are affecting Kosovo citizens.

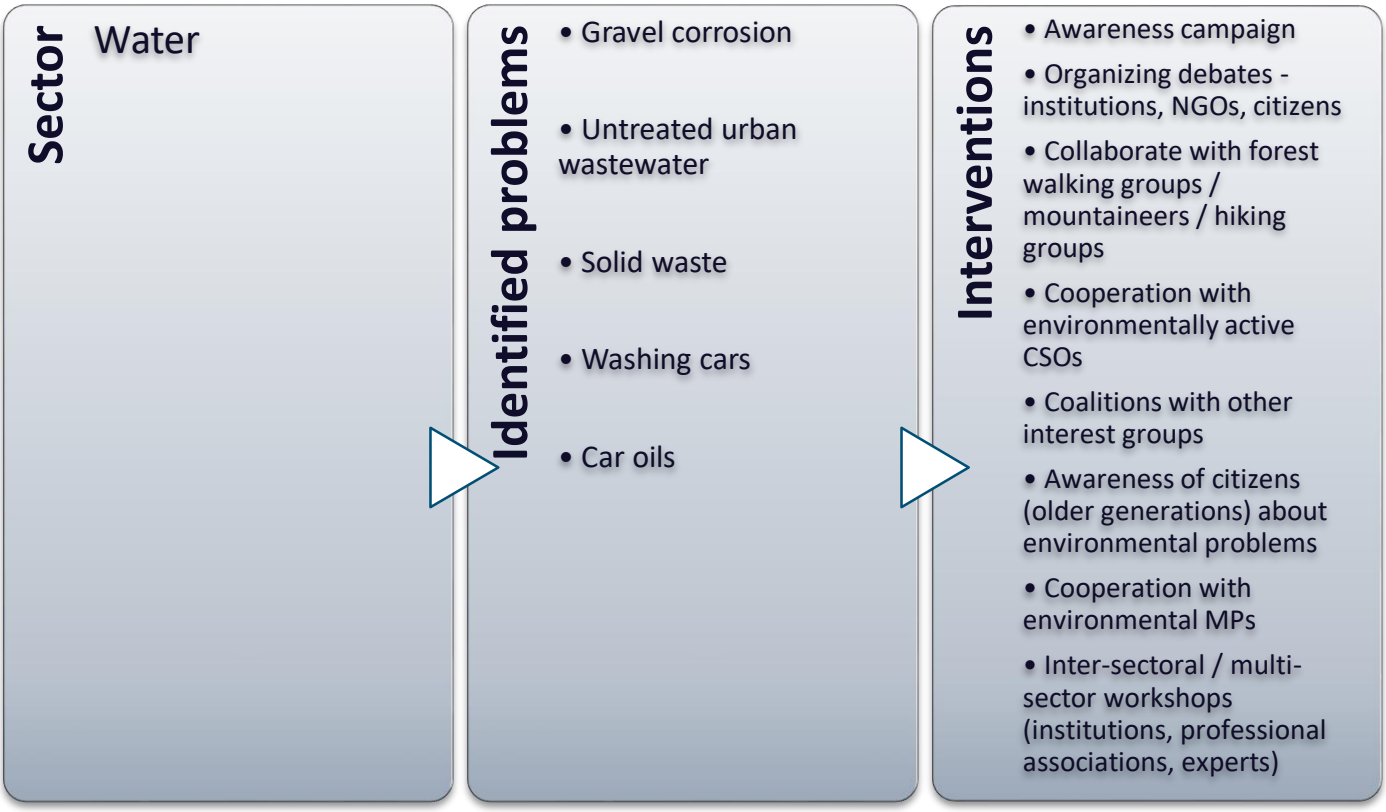
These identified problematic issues could be further delve into potential project developments which would provide relevant solutions to the specific areas of involvement. CSO's could also use it as a baseline for further cooperation and coalition building which could be more effective in tackling environmental issues at large.

'Try to leave the Earth a better place than when you arrived.'

SIDNEY SHELDON

Identification of the problems within specific sectors and propositions for interventions from CSO representatives.





Sector	Identified problems	Interventions
Air	• Old cars • Inadequate inspection of the technical condition of vehicles (gas test) • Lack of awareness on air pollution due to heavy traffic in cities • Road infrastructure in urban areas	• Advocacy not to allow old cars to be allowed in the city. • Survey with citizens on the use of old cars • Initiation of a request not to import cars older than 10 years • Information campaign on excise exemptions, etc. • Construction of cycling trails • Awareness of the use of urban / bus traffic • Lobbying for testing the quality of vehicle gases • Lobbying for taking measures against vehicles that pollute the air in urban environments • Lobbying for zonal urban spaces for the non-entry of vehicles that pollute the air
Climate change	• Flooding • Use of plastic bags by local businesses	• Local, regional and inter-ministerial cooperation • Advocacy for not using plastic

Sector

Urban environment

Identified problems

- Urban traffic
- Lack of baskets as well as classification baskets
- Lack of space for containers
- Non-implementation of the law by builders in accordance with the standards of green space
- Failure to take measures by the relevant authorities for green spaces
- High level of pollution from waste from discarded foods
- Acoustic pollution
- Lack of 'police officers' lying on the streets near schools
- Isolation of school buildings and yards in the centers against noise pollution
- Lack of plans of local authorities for acoustic pollution
- Lack of curriculum for noise pollution

Interventions

- Increasing the number of buses
- The dynamic work plan should be shortened
- Raising the voice for the regulations for green spaces (achieving the percentage determined by the territory by law)
- Research / survey with citizens (constructions according to space standards)
- Awareness of citizens about green space in their settlements
- Multimedia material for affected citizens
- Advocacy / lobbying for setting and implementing adequate standards for acoustic protection in urban spaces
- Research / survey with citizens on the level of noise and effects
- Lobbying through the Municipalities for their planning and implementation for acoustic pollution
- Awareness of citizens about the effect of noise pollution and relevant laws
- Planting trees for noise protection