

non-for-profit civil society organization

MILIEUKONTAKT MACEDONIA

Company Profile

www.mkm.mk

2019

MKM is a non-for-profit, civil society organization, supporting initiatives of civil society organizations (CSOs) on environment, nature and sustainable development.

 **Milieukontakt Macedonia**

Established in 2012 following 12 years of successful implementation of Milieukontakt international programs in Macedonia.

MKM has 6 full time employees as well as pull of experts from various areas and subjects.

Except the permanent staff MKM has IT and technical team that contributes towards professional execution of tasks and excellent performance of the organization.

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Our Mission & Approach

Our vision is to help create a strong, visible, professional, self-sustainable environmental CSO movement, based on the principles of democracy and openness. This means a movement that is highly visible in society, able to raise public awareness and capable of playing an important role in policy and decision-making processes, on local, national and international level.

MKM initiates partnerships to improve the quality of life by enhancing people's participation in the development of environmentally sustainable societies. It cooperates with international partners, because environmental problems do not stop at borders. Many of the current environmental challenges are worldwide. Locally, people can get support and learn from the experiences of others working on the same problems in other parts of the world.

MKM connects people, organizations and networks that deal with the same challenges and want to cooperate to enhance people's participation in defining their own future.

MKM provides people with the means and skills to use the possibilities for participation, including training, advice, assistance and seed financing.

As participatory decision-making processes are essential in these partnerships,

MKM focuses on designing and implementing tools for participatory learning, decision making, and project implementation.

Our Strengths

- Application of participative methodologies in decision making and process
- Capacity building through mobilization of participant knowledge and skills in training
- Advise and coaching of networks for sustainable development

Our Areas of Expertise

1. Capacity building
2. Networking and linking people and organizations
3. Public participation in decision making
4. Joining different sectors
5. Solving environmental problems
6. Development of public campaigns on environmental issues
7. Democratization and EU accession

As Part Of

MKM as part of the Milieukontakt Internacional Network

Milieukontakt International is a network of organizations, committed experts and trainers who believe that public participation and stakeholder involvement are essential to achieve results in sustainable development projects.

We operate in 20 countries in Europe and Asia, supporting citizens to improve their quality of life through the principles of sustainability:

- (1) Healthy environment
- (2) Social justice
- (3) Economic prosperity

Full name: Association for Sustainable Development
MILIEUKONTAKT MACEDONIA Skopje

Short name: ASD MKM Skopje

Address: 133b, Bukureshka str, 1000 Skopje, Macedonia

Contact: www.mkm.mk

Email: info@mkm.mk

Tel/Fax: +38922460876

Executive Director: Maja Markovska

Email: maja@mkm.mk

Banking Detail:

ASD Milieukontakt Macedonia, Skopje Ul.Kukushka 4a, Skopje, Macedonia

NLB Tutunska Banka AD Skopje

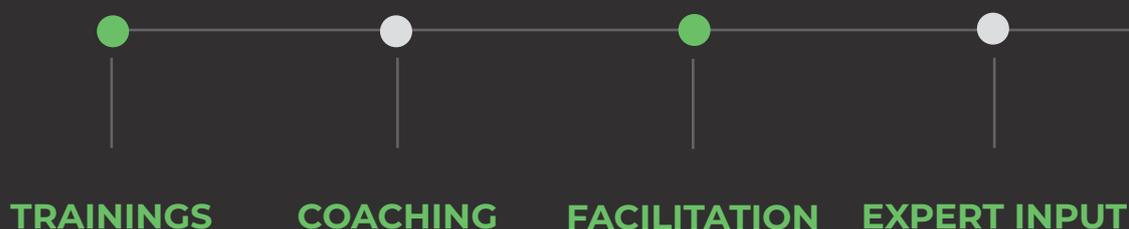
ul. Majka Tereza 1, Skopje, Macedonija 210-067775460125

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Being an environmentalist means life-long learning, and that is why it is so interesting! To be effective, an environmental movement requires a certain set of skills that are not easily learned at school or university. Environmentalists must know about a wide range of subjects covered within the term 'environment'. Energy, climate change, waste, water management, sanitation, chemicals and agriculture are some of the issues with totally different context. We also must keep up with developments in scientific and political circles.

These days, it is all about climate change and what it will or will not bring in the future. We must keep our knowledge up-to-date to be partners with governments and other stakeholders. Besides this knowledge on global issues, we must know what is going on in our country, region, town or village to be effective in our actions. This means that we are constantly learning and adapting scientific knowledge to our own day-to-day work. We must be able to translate this knowledge into policy and action. Communication skills are essential, as are legal expertise and negotiating skills. We sometimes must go to court or negotiate if we cannot reach our goals in any other way.



Our Capacity Building Programs

Our Capacity Building Programs are aimed at:



IDENTIFYING VALUES

CREATING LOCAL OWNERSHIP

ENSURING WIDE PARTICIPATION

EMPOWERING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

From 2000 to 2015 **With MKM** support CSOs in Macedonia

*improved their skills in playing a constructive role towards a sustainable society
raised their visibility on the internet
increased their capacity to operate in national and international networks
enhanced their use of tools for information sharing
strengthened their role in the EU integration process
got better in obtaining funds for their activities
were trained to take part in decision making process*

Public Participoation

from Informing
to Involving

MKM achieves high quality results by stimulating stakeholder involvement in its projects. It uses innovative participative methods for effective and sustainable decision making and can reach and directly involve local citizens.

MKM works with local and national authorities, business and civil society. through our partners in the milieukontakt international net- work, we have direct access to social and political networks, know country specific laws, regulations, cultural aspects, civil society, environment and local networks in 20 European and Asian countries.



APPROACH

Through our methods we build trust and relationship with relevant stakeholders and we ensure project sustainability, as all our projects are based on local priorities, needs and wishes.

The method is special participation in the process is not limited to experts or certain stakeholder groups, but is broad and open to all; thus, the process and its results are genuinely owned by the local people. Our work is result-oriented without losing an eye on the process.



The Green Agenda

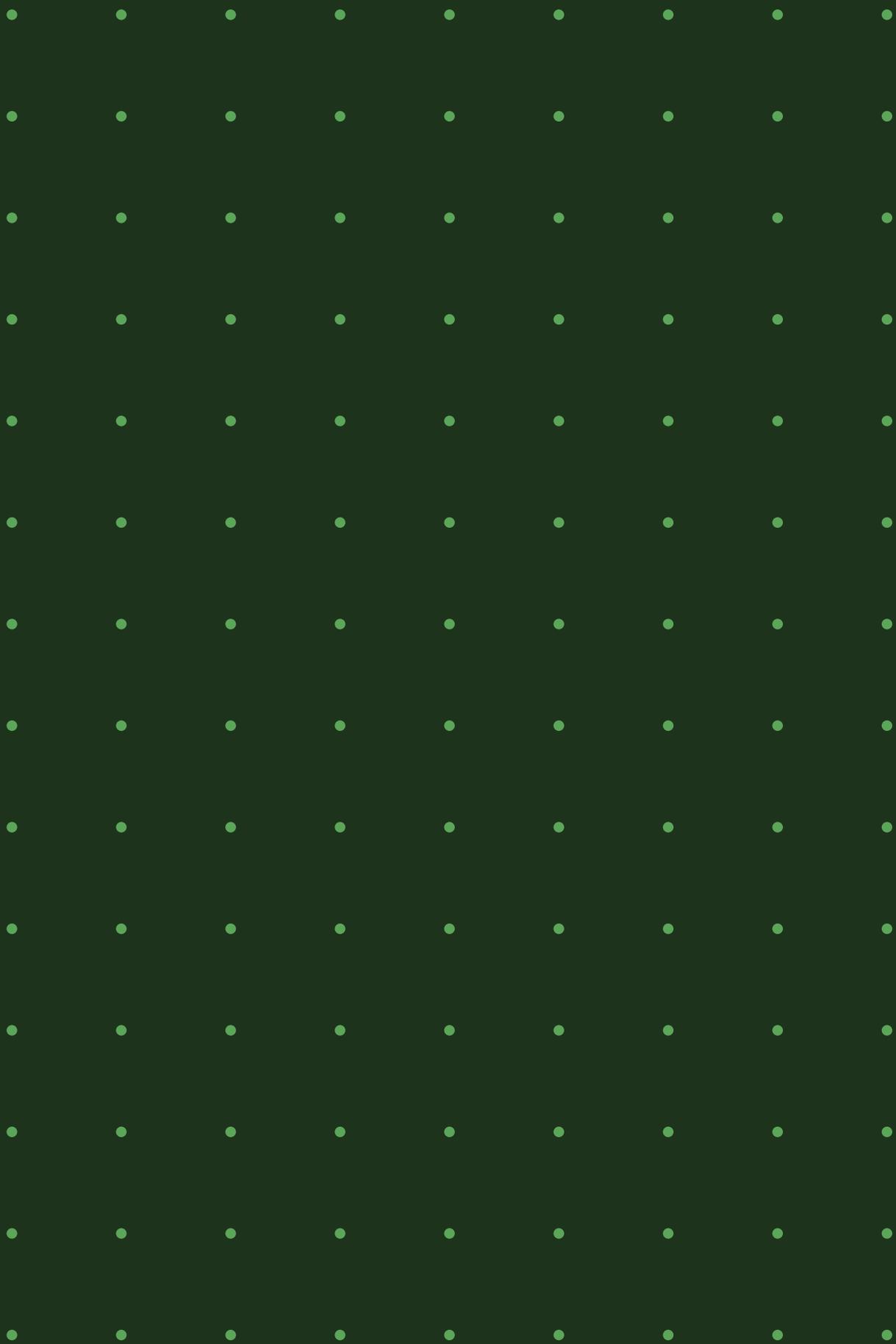
The Green Agenda method that we developed and used in more than 10 countries in Europe and Asia is based on involving citizens in creating sustainable community strategies on preservation of cultural and natural values. In Macedonia the methodology was further enhanced for development of Municipal Climate Change Strategies.

MKM adapted the Green Agenda methodology and used in 10 pilot municipalities. The project aims at preparing municipal stakeholders to better manage local climate change challenges, with a special focus on improving local democratic processes and increasing capacity to adapt to climate change.

The project approach seeks to address both the need to strengthen civil society and to raise awareness, boost activism, and bolster local resilience to climate change. Using an innovative methodology Green Agenda, it proposes to bring together various stakeholders, including CSOs, citizens, the private sector and municipal authorities, to develop a consensus-based strategy and action plan to address adaptation to climate change and mitigation of its effects. It also supports the implementation of urgent actions and pilot projects which will boost the municipal fight to climate change.



Solving Environmental Problems



Cleaner drinking water in Macedonia

This project was identified as an urgent action during the green Agenda process in Pehcevo in 2013, when developing their municipal climate change strategy. In a participatory approach the members of the thematic working group on water agreed that this urgent action is of highest priority in this area.

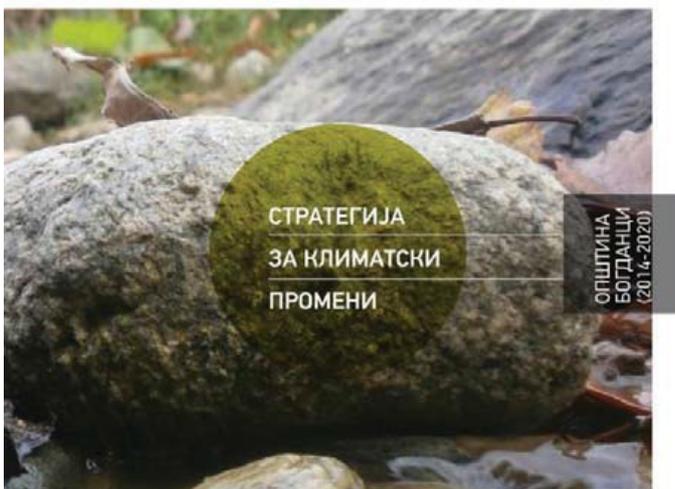
The installation of a new filter in the existing water treatment plant solved the problem of contamination of drinking water with sand which used to occur during heavy rainfalls that now happen more often due to climate change. The new filter also had positive economic impact on the population by reducing citizens' costs for buying drinking water and for transportation of water in tanks from the nearby mountains.

More energy efficient public buildings in Macedonia

The capacity building and citizen involvement pillars of MKM's activities are meant to help build a sustainable society and specifically to help prevent and solve environmental problems. Solving environmental problems is the third of our pillars. MKM connects the three pillars in the conviction that one cannot be done without the other. Creating a sustainable society requires involvement of citizens and capacities of skilled experts.

During the development of municipal climate change strategies in Tearce, Kivogashtani, Bogdanci, Pehcevo and Mavrovo Rostushe in 2013 and 2014, the following climate change mitigation measures were selected through the participatory green Agenda process:

- Replacement of old mercury lightbulbs with energy-efficient and installation of digital timers in the public lighting systems in Tearce and Pehcevo
- thermal insulation of a kindergarten roof in Bogdanci
- thermal insulation of outside walls and new roofs on the town halls in Kivogashtani and Pehcevo
- Thermal insulation, new energy efficient heating systems 3 public buildings in Kivogashtani, Pehcevo and Mavrovo Rostushe.
- the following long-term results were achieved:
- 20% less energy for heating



New Public service in Macedonia

In 2012, MKM started an initiative to stimulate citizens to be more proactive in solving environmental problems in three pilot communities. The shoot & react project introduced a new citizen friendly service for reporting local environmental problems.

The project combined a website, telephone hotline and smartphone app and enabled citizens to directly report local problems, shortened reporting procedure, and provided real-time feedback on the status of reported problems. It also shortened the time authorities need to act upon the problems, making these services more effective and efficient.



Our Projects

2018 - 2019

Contracting authority: UNDP CO - Republic of Macedonia
Project Title: Conservation of biodiversity in mountain grazing areas of Shara

Project objective:
Strengthen capacity on sustainable pasture management and improve local livelihood
Capacity building programme for pasture management
Total Budget: 4.480,258,00 MKD

2018 - 2020
EU

Contracting authority: EU Delegation Albania
Project Title: River Basin management and transparency

Project Objective:
to strengthen CSOs capacities for involvement in the process of development of River Basin Management plans in Albania and contribute toward wider public support of RBM Plans
Total Budget: 295,248.00 EUR

2018 - 2021

Contracting authority: EU Delegation- Macedonia
Project title: Building capacities of environmental CSOs to increase democratic processes in Macedonia

Project objective:
Create enabling conditions for environmental CSOs to actively participate in policy and decision making on environmental topics
Total Budget: 412.306,20 EUR

Projects

2016 - 2017

Contracting authority: EU Delegation
Project Title: CEEU2020

Project objective:
Improve the environmental governance in Macedonia by creating conditions for CSOs to participate effectively in the decision-making processes related to EIA/SEA procedures in EU 2020 climate and energy package
Total Budget: 255.090,00 EUR

2014 - 2015

Contracting authority: GIZ/ORF
Project Title: Regional Model for smart municipal Reporting system

Project objective:
To jointly develop a regional model for a smart municipal service reporting system used by citizens, local government associations and consumer organizations in Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro.
Total Budget: 90,130 eur

2012 - 2017

Contracting authority: USAID
Project Title: Municipal Climate Changes Strategies Project

Project objective:
improve local democratic processes and increase capacity to adapt to climate change.
Municipal stakeholders better prepared to face local climate change challenges
Total budget: 3,080,000 USD

Projects

2009 - 2011

Contracting authority: European Commission
Project Title: European Partnership for Local Green Agendas

Project Objective:
Promotion of good governance principles through the green Agenda process
Total Budget: 360.000,00 EUR

2009 - 2010

Contracting authority: PSO
Project Title: A window to Green Agenda in the Western Balkans

Project Objective:
To enhance the capacities and effectiveness of 18 local partner CSOs in six Western Balkan countries, who participated in the Milieukontakt's green Agenda program
216.059,00 EUR



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Macedonia**

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