



Foreword

Dear Reader,

Welcome to another edition of the CSO newsletter!

With the summer break nearly upon us, we look back over what have been a busy few months.

At the heart of our engagement was the 2022 EBRD Annual Meeting and Business Forum. The CSO Programme, along with the Business Forum, gave us the chance to meet many of you and our clients in person after two years.

As the EBRD works to support Ukraine and other countries affected by the war, we continue to champion civil

society mainstreaming with our engagement across multilateral development banks (MDBs).

We would also like to thank our CSO partners who completed our engagement survey and took part in the interviews for the update of the Civil Society Engagement Roadmap. Your feedback on EBRD engagement is crucial in helping us further enhance our partnership and communication with you.

After the summer break we will be able to share some of the insights and update you on our

approach for civil society engagement.

Lastly, we have launched our video on how the EBRD works with civil society. Keep reading to find out more!

In the meantime, we wish you all a lovely summer break.

The CSE team

MAIN ACTIVITY

Civil Society Programme at the 2022 EBRD Annual Meeting

Our long-anticipated 2022 Civil Society Programme took place in a hybrid format on 10-12 May 2022, as part of the EBRD's Annual Meeting and Business Forum in the vibrant city of Marrakech, Morocco. The event attracted around 200 civil society representatives.

The Programme consisted of two dedicated sessions between civil society organisations (CSOs) and the Board of Directors and the EBRD President, an open panel focusing on how partnerships between governments, the private sector and civil society can foster a more inclusive and peaceful future, and a civil-society-led open panel focusing on civil society in sustainable energy transitions. Similarly to 2021, the Programme featured a session on the Bank's Independent Project Accountability Mechanism. This year, the Programme also included a session on the Bank's independent Evaluation Department.

The meetings with the Board and the EBRD President allowed CSOs to engage in a constructive dialogue and present issues of concern and recommendations on key strategic themes and operations of the Bank. The Board, as well as the EBRD President, recognised the importance of working together with CSOs to achieve greater impact.

The Programme also featured a multi-stakeholder panel focused on building partnerships between civil society, government and the private sector. The panel looked into how partnerships, coordination and alignment between entities can foster new opportunities for growth and impact. Panellists were from MasterCard, the Disasters Emergency Committee, Oxfam and the Sawiris Foundation.

This year's event also featured a CSO panel led by E3G that looked into the role of civil society and MDBs in the context of sustainable energy transition. Representatives from E3G, the EBRD, the Moroccan Alliance for Climate and Sustainable Development and the High Atlas Foundation sat on the panel, along with other climate experts.

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



REPLAY SESSIONS



CSO PROGRAMME IN DETAIL



EBRD Civil Society Engagement video

During the Annual Meeting in Morocco we launched our video on EBRD engagement with civil society



Play our video



MAIN ACTIVITY

Enhancing inclusive and sustainable development

In late May, Olena Koval, head of the Civil Society Engagement and Private Sector Partnerships team, attended the first CSO Forum of the Islamic Development Bank. The panel participants shared their insights from their respective organisations on the importance of CSOs in attaining the Sustainable Development Goals, and how partnerships with CSOs can help MDBs achieve their mission through sustainable development interventions.

While the **Covid-19 pandemic** posed additional challenges to the functioning of governments, markets and communities, it also highlighted the importance of digitalisation. During the pandemic we increased our dialogue with civil society stakeholders to better understand their needs and challenges due to the crisis. Under our Civil Society Capacity Enhancement Framework, we started to increase CSOs' digital capacity and address ICT skills gaps with our civil society digital transformation programme.

The **war on Ukraine** has also shown the importance of civil society actors, both in responding to the humanitarian crisis and documenting war crimes. Their role will come into its own during the reconstruction phase once the war is over. In Ukraine, working and supporting civil society's resilience and sustainability is also vital to the EBRD's work. We started to work with various CSOs to support the coordination efforts and to address specific aspects of the crisis.

Both crises demonstrated that partnerships with CSOs should be at the core of MDBs' work on the ground, and civil society should be an equal actor to the private sector when it comes to policy development. We are committed to working with our MDB colleagues to mainstream civil society engagement as well as partnerships with CSOs across our regions.



POLICY ACTIVITY

CSO engagement workshops

In June we organised several workshops in Istanbul, Ankara and Tbilisi as part of the "Capacity Building Project for Stakeholder Engagement in the Covid-19 Crisis and Beyond", piloted in Georgia and Turkey. The goal of the project is to build the capacity of EBRD clients so they can operate effectively with communities, and to train and equip community liaison officers (CLOs) so that they can initiate trust and open dialogue between EBRD clients and community representatives, thus increasing the potential for better development outcomes from Bank-financed projects.

The workshops were a key milestone in the development phase of training materials and techniques, and the start of the roll-out and testing of the toolkit and e-learning modules will guide CLOs towards transparent, inclusive, sincere and communications-focused engagement.

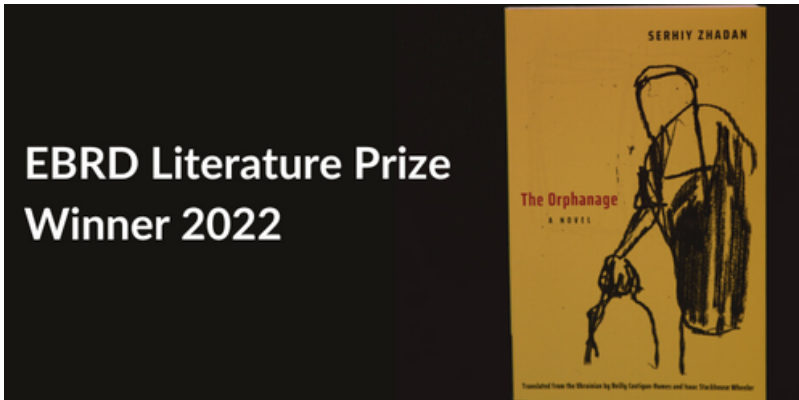
As part of the EBRD's efforts to support equal opportunities for women and men in the automotive manufacturing sector, we facilitated a workshop in the Sekerpinar industrial zone. During the workshop, we discussed gender equality with the Turkey Automotive Suppliers Association (TAYSAD) and its members, while the participant companies drafted their companies' gender equality action plans. As a result of the EBRD's support, we are looking forward to the first-ever gender strategy for the automotive supply industry in Turkey.

WATCH
THE
FORUM



MAIN ACTIVITY

EBRD 2022 Literature Prize



The Orphanage, a novel written by Serhiy Zhadan and translated from Ukrainian by Reilly Costigan-Humes and Isaac Stackhouse Wheeler, has won the 2022 EBRD Literature Prize.

Set in contemporary eastern Ukraine, the book, which was published by Yale University Press, is a raw, compelling story of a civilian's desperate journey through conflict zones to reach home.

The EBRD Literature Prize was created in 2017 by the EBRD in cooperation with the British Council. It recognises the best work of literary fiction originally written in a language from the EBRD regions and translated into English, and which is published by a UK or a Europe-based publisher. As EBRD President Odile Renaud-Basso explained, "the Bank not only invests in changing lives across its regions, but it also engages with the cultural traditions of these countries, as we are an institution that strives to make a positive impact beyond economics".

The €20,000 prize is split between the author and translator.

The two runner-up titles received €8,000, also split between writer and translator. These were *The Book of Katerina* by Auguste Corteau, translated from Greek by Claire Papamichail (Parthian Books); and *Boat Number Five* by Monika Kompaníková, translated from Slovak by Janet Livingstone (Seagull Books).

This is now the fifth year of the EBRD Literature Prize.

**REPLAY THE
PRIZE
CEREMONY**



OTHER ACTIVITY

JP Morgan Corporate Challenge

After two years of virtual racing due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the CSE team participated in one of the world's largest corporate running events, which dates back to 1977. This year, the JP Morgan Corporate Challenge took place in person on 7 July at Battersea Park in London.

Fostering camaraderie among employees, cultivating a healthy workplace culture and promoting best environmental practices lie at the core of JP Morgan's Corporate Challenge mission. This year, and in light of the war on Ukraine, the participants ran in support of Ukraine, raising much needed funds for humanitarian aid. The EBRD Staff Council sponsored and provided the runners with "We stand with Ukraine" t-shirts.

Along with this, JP Morgan donated to the UK's leading children's charity, the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children ([NSPCC](#)), which aims to end child abuse, protect children who are suffering today, and help rebuild children's lives and support families.

Given the business-to-business nature of the event, the EBRD and other companies had the opportunity to bond over a shared experience and raise funds for a good cause.

OVERVIEW OF CSE ACTIVITY

The CSE team has held the following events as of 30 June 2022

5 presidential CSO meetings

4 country / sector strategy consultations

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT MONITORING

Read about our joint project with the Open Contracting Partnership in Kosovo and the Kyrgyz Republic



EBRD PUBLICATIONS



**KAZAKHSTAN
COUNTRY STRATEGY
APPROVAL**



**EBRD
SUSTAINABILITY
REPORT**



**ANNUAL
REVIEW
2021**



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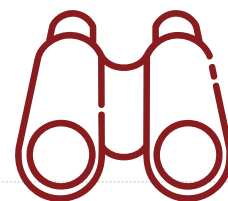
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LOOKING AHEAD



- Our 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**



**ACCESS TO
INFORMATION**



Read the 2021 Access to Information Policy report



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