

EBRD-CSO Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with the EBRD



European Bank
for Reconstruction and Development



EBRD at COP 25

As 2019 drew to a close, the EBRD took its unique business model for promoting climate finance and green investments across three continents to the annual United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP25) from 2-13 December 2019. The conference, hosted by Chile, took place in Spain's capital, Madrid, and featured a wide range of panels, guest speakers and attendees from a broad spectrum of private, public and development sectors discussing the most pressing issues surrounding the international threat of climate change.

EBRD climate specialist Josué Tanaka discussed green cities with a dazzling panel of experts, ranging from the EBRD's Lin O'Grady, WWF and the Asian Development Bank, among others. The [EBRD Green Cities](#) initiative aims to draw 100 cities into self-aware sustainability by 2024; we are helping dozens of cities reach their green potential and assisting in the generation of new ideas to build a more sustainable future. Discussion particularly focused on young people and the climate, inspired by Greta Thunberg, as Lin O'Grady talked to Egyptian energy economist Yostina Boules, a World Economic Forum Global Shaper, about the hopes and fears of the younger generation.

For more information, please visit: www.ebrd.com/news/2019/the-ebrd-goes-to-cop25-.html

EBRD grants loan to build Kosovo's biggest wind farm

In a hugely proud moment for the EBRD, we would like to announce a loan of €58 million to finance a 105 MW wind farm in Bajgora, northern Kosovo. The EBRD continues to prove its commitment to clean energy funding and aims to make 40 per cent of its annual investments in the green economy in 2020. For more information on this project, visit: www.ebrd.com/news/2019/58m-ebrd-loan-to-build-kosovos-biggest-wind-farm.html

January – February 2020

Welcome to the CSO Newsletter

The end of 2019 saw a change in Civil Society and Engagement Unit staff members, therefore we would like to introduce the new team. First of all, Olena Koval, an existing EBRD staff member and Head of the Private Sector Partnership Hub, has assumed interim management of the team, taking over from Meltem Ankara. Our new starters include: Arslan Penjiyev, who will cover Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia; Misra Ozkus, who will cover countries of the European Union (excluding Bulgaria, Croatia and Romania) and Turkey; and Marie-Josephin Asmus, who will cover the southern and eastern Mediterranean (SEMED) region. They have joined us from a variety of public and private-sector backgrounds and will each assume the roles of Associate Manager within the team. Luisa Balbi continues her role as Principal Manager, covering Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania and the Western Balkans. We wish them a warm welcome and a productive collaboration with the Civil Society community in 2020!

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➔ For more information visit:
www.ebrd.com/who-we-are/civil-society/news-and-events

Keeping you updated

The Civil Society and Engagement Unit is changing its approach towards keeping you updated with our news and events. We will be providing more regular updates via email to keep you in the loop. Please subscribe by emailing us at CSO@EBRD.com or sign up to [EBRD email alerts](#) for subject-specific communications.



EBRD supports collective action initiatives for UNCAC implementation

In the eighth session of the Conference of the State Parties (CoSP8) to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Civil Society team, in partnership with the EBRD, held a special event to present ideas and best practices in collective action initiatives for the implementation of UNCAC in south-eastern Europe. The event, held on 18 December 2019 in Abu Dhabi, reiterated a strong commitment to the Belgrade Outcome Statement that lays out concrete, practical steps towards cooperation on anti-corruption.

The UNODC and the EBRD, through three multi-stakeholder workshops in south-eastern Europe, trained over 70 CSOs and 40 private-sector entities and governments on the Convention and on ways to make good governance more effective. Ardita Seknaj, Secretary General of the International Chamber of Commerce in Albania, observed how useful these workshops have been in identifying local and regional partners and how they contributed to the birth of fruitful initiatives, such as the Week of Integrity: a Conference on Integrity and Anti-corruption, scheduled to take place in Albania in early 2020. The workshops have been instrumental in fostering multi-stakeholder collaboration alongside the eighth session of the COSP, which we are pleased to say was attended by over 100 CSOs.

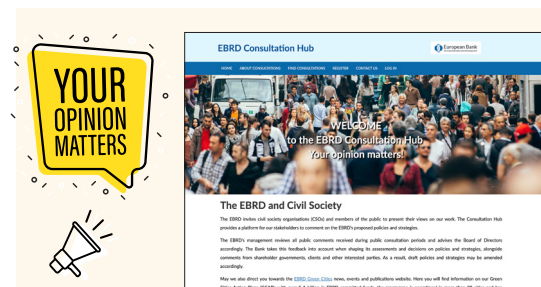
This month, the UNODC and the EBRD signed a Memorandum of Understanding, representing a partnership in the area of good governance and recognising a joint commitment to collective action in preventing corruption.

EBRD Annual Meeting and Civil Society Programme, London 2020

We are pleased to announce that registration is now open for the EBRD's 2020 Annual Meeting and Business Forum, including the dedicated two-day Civil Society Programme. We invite Civil Society organisations to register two guests free of charge, please visit the [website](#) for further information and to complete your registration.

CALLS FOR PROPOSALS FOR THE ORGANISATION OF A THEMATIC PANEL

Also, we would like to welcome calls for submissions of proposals for the organisation of a thematic panel dedicated to the overall theme of the 2020 Annual Meeting, *Developing the Future: Inspiring Private Sector Investment for Sustainable Development*. The deadline for submissions is 18th March 2020. For further information please check out our [website](#).



Civil Society Consultation Hub

The Civil Society Engagement Unit will be moving all of its strategy and consultation-related information to the recently launched [Civil Society Consultation Hub](#), a platform for feedback on upcoming CSO consultations for EBRD country and sector strategies and institutional policies. We welcome your comments.

Key dates and contacts

Country and sectoral strategies: public comment periods

Romania	Feb – Mar 2020
Greece	May - June 2020

To have your say on strategies visit: www.ebrd.com/strategies-and-policies/have-your-say.html

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