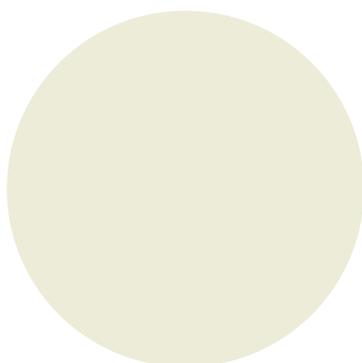
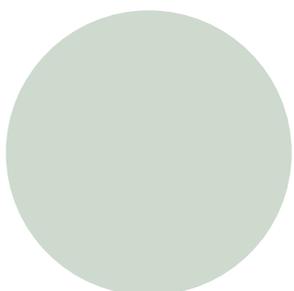
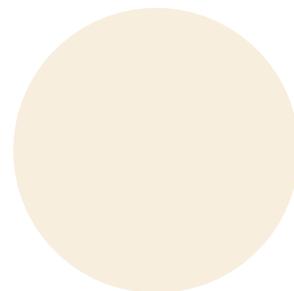
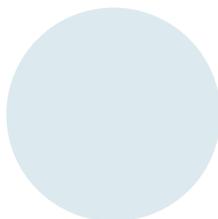
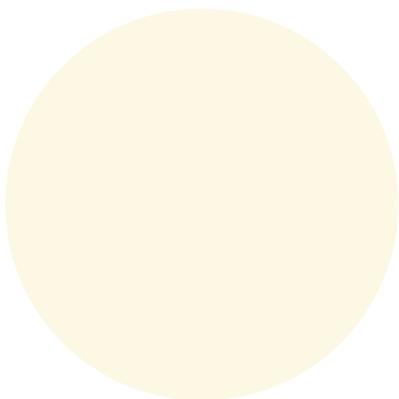
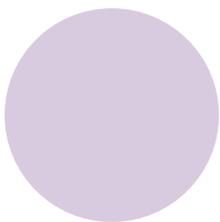




COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS  
AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONS  
IN EUROPE (2018)



# Imprint

**Bibliographic information of the German National Library (DNB):**

This publication is listed in the German National Library.

Detailed bibliographic data is available on the Internet at <http://dnb.d-nb.de>.

**Publisher:**

Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen e.V. (Association of German Foundations)

Mauerstrasse 93 | 10117 Berlin | Germany

Telephone +49 (0)30 897 947-0 | Fax -11

[www.stiftungen.org/verlag](http://www.stiftungen.org/verlag)

[post@stiftungen.org](mailto:post@stiftungen.org)

© Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen e.V., Berlin 2018

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**Printed by:**

LASERLINE DRUCKZENTRUM BERLIN KG

ISBN 978-3-941368-94-1

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Given the indirect nature of the work of support organizations it is difficult to make the case of their importance to the development of the field. This report however shows that despite limited capacity they have played a critical role, and will continue to do so as the movement develops. Not only do they provide professional support, in particular in the early stages of development, but they continue to build professionalism and help open conversations and develop practice on new approaches and areas of work.

There is at least one community foundation support organization or initiative supporting existing community foundations or the development of community foundations in 17 countries in Europe. In total there are 22 active community foundation support organizations and initiatives with an additional five community foundations that act as national champions. These organizations and initiatives support a field of some 798 community foundations in Europe, with at least a further 60 in the process of establishment.

Community foundation support organizations are diverse in scale and structure, ranging from membership organizations to time-limited initiatives.

Their work includes facilitating general networking and peer learning and engaging with relevant stakeholders, thereby connecting to wider discourses. Most offer advice/training and focus on building capacity and raising professionalism;

conduct or commission research; and undertake awareness raising and advocacy type work – encouraging giving generally, and promoting the concept and values of community foundations. Three-quarters (16) provide support to start or otherwise support growth of community foundations of which almost half (10) offer financial assistance.

This work is informed by the range of contextual, operational and engagement challenges faced by community foundations. Support organizations are also important players in stimulating discussion and promoting engagement with other stakeholders around a range of current relevant topics.

There is evidence of a shift towards community foundations becoming more strategic in their ambitions and in seeking to provide community leadership. Support organizations and initiatives, as a critical component of a modern ecosystem, need to ensure that they can meet a wide variety of needs and be forward-thinking in order to build a progressive and dynamic European community foundation movement. ECFI has already impacted on their development and effectiveness and will continue to play an important role in creating physical and virtual spaces for learning and the building of relationships, thus adding to their potential to contribute to building and strengthening the community foundation movement in Europe.

# INTRODUCTION

ECFI's mission is to strengthen and promote the community foundation movement in Europe. The presence of community foundations in Europe has the potential to grow in terms of number and countries covered, but their spread and success depends greatly on the effectiveness of support provided and the connectedness of that support to the community foundation field and donors in Europe.

A modern ecosystem for institutional philanthropy, which offers new ideas and opportunities, is emerging. Building a picture of the infrastructure that underpins the field is important to help understand the ecosystem, and to identify how to help in its development. Community foundation support organizations have an important role to play and their development is critical to the development of the community foundation movement.

In 2018 ECFI conducted a survey of community foundation support organizations/initiatives and national champions across Europe. Thirty-two organizations from 27 countries participated in the study.

This report presents the findings of the survey, providing an overview of the support infrastructure and the community foundation field it serves. The work of the community foundations is described and challenges and issues they face are highlighted. Conclusions are drawn which will inform the work of ECFI and which will be of interest to funders that are committed to supporting the development of the community foundation movement.

# OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SUPPORT FIELD

**According to our research there are 22 active community foundation support organizations/initiatives in Europe.**

Support for the development of the community foundation field comes in a variety of forms. This may be provided by dedicated organizations, including membership-based associations, and support initiatives with a specific focus on community philanthropy, delivered by NGOs or in some cases a foundation or lead community foundation in their country or region. In some countries there are both national support organizations and specific community foundation networks/initiatives offering support to community foundations, e.g. in Germany, Romania, Russia and Serbia.

There is at least one community foundation support organization or initiative supporting existing community foundations or the development of community foundations in 17 countries in Europe. In Ireland there is one national community foundation that provides support for the establishment and management of local area-based funds, and in four countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia and Spain) there are community foundations that assume a lead

role nationally. In a further five countries (Albania, Austria, Denmark, Georgia and Portugal) there are philanthropy support organizations but with no current remit to provide support for the development of community foundations.

In total there are 22 active community foundation support organizations/initiatives in Europe, 16 of which have been established in the last 20 years.

---

### Year established

<b>Before 1990:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Between 1990 and 1999:</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Between 2000 and 2009:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Between 2010 and 2018:</b>	<b>3</b>

---

It should also be noted that community foundation development is also supported informally and indirectly by other support organizations and established community foundations.

There are various forms of organization which may be categorized as follows:

## Membership organizations

(dedicated to community foundations) (7)

- Czech Republic, **Czech Association of Community Foundations**
- Latvia, **Community Foundation Movement in Latvia**
- Poland, **Federation of Polish Community Foundations**
- Romania, **Romanian Federation of Community Foundations**
- Slovakia, **Association of Community Foundations in Slovakia**
- United Kingdom, **UKCF**
- Russia, **Association 'Partnership of Community Foundations'**

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## Wider membership organizations

(with an interest in community foundations) (3)

- France, **French Foundation Centre**
- Italy, **Assifero**
- Turkey, **Third Sector Foundation of Turkey (TUSEV)**

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## Support initiatives for community foundations

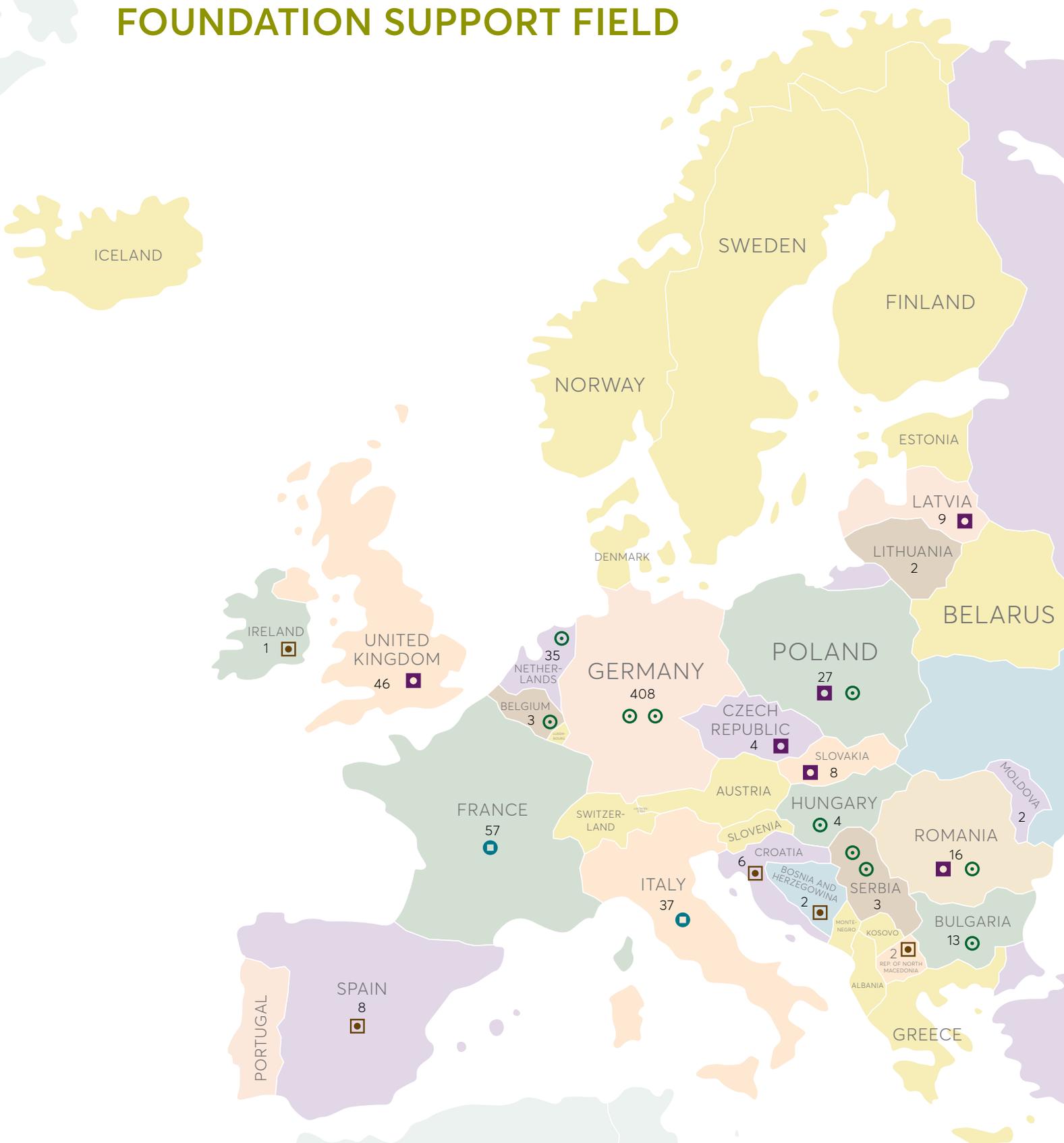
(12)

- Belgium, **King Baudouin Foundation**
- Bulgaria, **Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation**
- Germany, **Bündnis der Bürgerstiftungen Deutschlands**
- Germany, **Aktive Bürgerschaft**
- Hungary, **Roots and Wings Foundation**
- Netherlands, **Stichting Lokale Fondsen Nederland**
- Poland, **The Academy for the Development of Philanthropy in Poland**
- Romania, **Association for Community Relations**
- Russia, **Charities Aid Foundation**
- Serbia, **Trag foundation**
- Serbia, **Zaječar Initiative**
- Ukraine, **The Initiative Center to Support Social Action (ISAR) Ednannia**

In addition, in the following five countries there are community foundations which **play a lead role nationally**, and are considered to be **'national champions'**:

- Bosnia and Herzegovina, **Tuzla Community Foundation**
- Croatia, **Community Foundation Slagalica**
- Ireland, **Community Foundation of Ireland**
- Macedonia, **Local CDF Štip**
- Spain, **Fundación Maimona**

# OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SUPPORT FIELD



Source: ECFI Survey 2018 on national support organizations or National CF champions

**LEGEND**

- Membership organizations (dedicated to community foundations)
- Wider membership organizations (with an interest in community foundations)
- ⊙ Support initiatives for community foundations
- ▣ Community foundations which play a lead role nationally, and are considered to be 'national champions'

The figure underneath each country shows its number of community foundations

RUSSIA

70



KAZAKHSTAN

1

UKRAINE

33



GEORGIA

AZERBAIJAN

1

TURKEY

1



# OVERVIEW OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FIELD

According to our research there are 798 community foundations in Europe with at least a further 60 in the process of establishment.

Community foundations by country (those shaded have no dedicated support organization or support initiative).

Country	Number of operational community foundations in 2018	Year of establishment of first community foundation	Number of community foundations in process of being established
Azerbaijan*	1	2014	0
Belgium	3	2001	1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	2003	0
Bulgaria	13	2002	2
Croatia	6	2000	0
Czech Republic	4	1997	0
France	57	1997	2
Germany	408	1996	4–15
Hungary	4	2011	0
Ireland	1	2000	0
Italy	37	1999	5
Kazakhstan*	1	2008	0

Country	Number of operational community foundations in 2018	Year of establishment of first community foundation	Number of community foundations in process of being established
Latvia	9	2003	0
Lithuania*	2	2002	0
Netherlands	35	2004	30–35
Moldova*	2	2007	0
Poland	27	1997	3
Rep. of North Macedonia	1	2008	0
Romania	16	2008	4
Russia	70	1998	5–11
Serbia	3	2013	0
Slovakia	8	1994	0
Spain	8	2000	0
Turkey	1	2003	0
Ukraine	33	1995	3
United Kingdom	46	1975	1

(Source: Survey respondents except those marked \* where the information is from the CF Atlas 2014.)

Countries which lack community foundations as yet but where there is interest in establishing them include Albania, Austria, Denmark, Georgia and Portugal. Other countries where there is potential and interest from support organizations to further develop

the movement are France, Hungary, Netherlands and Russia. It should be noted that there remains a lack of consistency on the definition of a community foundation. This is an area of work that some support organizations have requested clarification/ input from ECFI.

# DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

**This work is informed by the range of contextual, operational and engagement challenges faced by community foundations. Support organizations are also important players in stimulating discussion and promoting engagement with other stakeholders around a range of current, relevant topics.**

As well as facilitating general networking and peer learning and engaging with relevant stakeholders, thereby connecting to wider discourses, e.g. around inequality, SDGs, climate change and to new thinking/approaches, most offer advice/training and focus on building capacity and raising professionalism in a number of areas including:

- Leadership and governance
- Financial management
- Grantmaking
- Communications
- Fundraising and testing of new approaches
- Tax and legal affairs

Nineteen support organizations are conducting or commissioning or are planning to conduct or commission research, and 17 undertake awareness raising and advocacy type work – encouraging giving generally, and promoting the concept and values of community foundations.

Seventeen provide support to start or otherwise support growth of community foundations, of which ten offer financial assistance and one is planning to do so next year.

In the case of Belgium, KBF acts as a legal hub in which community foundations can be set up, managed and supported.

Here are some examples of what support organizations aim to do and offere:

---

» *We offer one-stop consulting services for new and established community foundations. We inform board members, staff and volunteers in community foundations about important trends and challenges, support them in all fields of work, help mobilize resources for local community foundations and increase the awareness and reputation of community foundations in Germany. Our Community Foundation Finder connects people willing to give their time, talent or assets to their local community foundation.*  
Stiftung Aktive Bürgerschaft

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» *We strive to inspire and help people to work in many different ways. We have been creators of programmes and campaigns that are social brands. We support local communities, we recognize socially involved companies, and we provide the people willing to help with the methods to do so. We believe that through the development of modern philanthropy, we can slowly create a world in which people trust and help each other, they can share experiences with each other and solve problems together.*  
Academy for the Development of Philanthropy in Poland

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» *Our mission is to support the development of community foundations and organizations striving to become community foundations, to support their cooperation and communication and to promote and disseminate the model of a community foundation in the Czech Republic.*  
Czech Association of Community Foundations

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# CURRENT TOPICS/ISSUES BEING DISCUSSED IN THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FIELD

Current topics of interest in the community foundation field included:

- Promoting the community foundation concept (and plurality of operational models)
- Donor circles / alternative fundraising models
- Community-assets-based approaches
- Community needs analyses (e.g. Vital Signs)
- Civic engagement / participatory democracy
- Migrant/refugee issues
- Global issues at local level (SDGs)

Others were more specific to geography and socio-economic and political context as shown below:

Central and Eastern Europe	Western Europe
Government reform (decentralization)	The low interest rate environment
Political environment / shrinking space	Digitization
Interaction with local authorities	Mental health
Diaspora philanthropy	Loneliness
Diversification of funding sources	Extremism
Youth development and engagement	

There are countries such as Croatia, Denmark, France and Portugal where there is a desire to formulate a clear definition or to articulate characteristics of a community foundation before support organizations can become active in the field.

## CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR ECFI'S WORK

There is evidence from the survey that there is a role for support organizations in:

- Institution building and professionalization – and in particular in the establishment of new community foundations.
- Understanding needs and assets in communities.
- Development of leadership within communities.
- Appreciation of inter-dependence and the value of building relationships between private, public and non-profit sectors.
- Connecting to wider discourses and promoting action in priority areas of work.

Given that support organizations and national champions play a critical role in the development of the community foundation movement it is important for ECFI to continue to encourage their participation

in peer learning activities and to support their work. It is imperative that exchanges, study visits and thematic meetings as well as social media platforms for exchange (e.g. the Community Foundation Practice Lab and the Community Foundation Practice Exchange) create space for learning and the development of relationships; address the contextual, operational and engagement challenges they face; and cover topics that are currently of interest to the community foundation field – which can then be applied in their own organizations. Capturing and sharing the practical application of this learning will be an important part of ECFI's work in the future.

Twenty-five support organizations and national champions indicated that they had participated in ECFI activities, with 23 stating that this had led to a change in their work. Below are listed some comments on the learning that has been applied.

Bulgaria, Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation

*Enhanced strategic thinking and added some urgent issues (e.g. migration) to our list of priorities.*

Serbia, Trag Foundation

*Through the engagement with other community foundation practitioners Trag has developed a strategy on how to grow the movement in Serbia and support the emerging community foundations in the country and the region. Also, experiences of other community foundations and support organizations provided insight into some of the challenges that await us along the way and how they can be effectively mitigated to push the process forward.*

Romania, Romanian  
Federation

*More focus on supporting  
member foundations in  
building resilience for  
the community and the  
organizations.*

Germany, Bürgerstiftungen  
Deutschlands

*The exchange with European partners  
has intensified. There is increased  
awareness of common European issues  
and the different national challenges.*

Georgia, The Centre of Strategic Research  
and Development of Georgia

*We participated in a CF2CF exchange with  
our Hungarian colleagues from the Roots  
and Wings Foundation. Before the visit, only  
one representative of CSRDG was actively  
involved in the ECFI activities. Now three key  
persons from top and middle management  
in CSRDG are involved in the exchange  
programme.. As CSRDG works on macro and  
mezzo levels, it considers itself as a possible  
CFSO, supporting the development  
of community foundations in Georgia.*

Italy, Assifero

*Assifero believes that learning and sharing experiences, themes and procedures is essential for community foundations as very rooted realities in their own territory. We are now promoting partnerships on projects, peer-to-peer learning meetings, and hosting an annual Italian meeting for community foundations.*

UK, UKCF

*New set of contacts and relationships.*

Russia Association 'Partnership of Community Foundations'

*Wider partnerships, promotion of youth banks technology, education for community foundation leaders.*

Romania, ARC

*It helped us stay closer to our European colleagues and see how they deal with similar problems. We launched the Resilience Lab in cooperation with ECFI.*

Netherlands, Lokale Fondsen

*We feel we are part of a global movement and network. We have been in contact with community foundations in England about cooperation in the Dutch Floriade. We would like to expand our contacts with and learn from other umbrella organizations.*

Ukraine, The Initiative Centre to Support Social Action (ISAR Ednannia)

*We started to shift our attention from just providing technical assistance to community foundations to transforming community foundations into real leaders of their respective communities. This means that the focus shifted from social engagement to creating social impact, thus changing the life of communities for the better*

Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
Tuzla Community Foundation

*Got more knowledge about community foundations in Europe.*

Serbia, Zaječar Initiative

*The networking aspect of these activities was the most important one. In particular, ECFI activities offer a unique opportunity for partnering and peer learning among European community foundations.*

# ANNEX: SHORT COUNTRY PORTRAITS FROM SURVEY RESPONDENTS

## ALBANIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 0

POPULATION: 2.8m (2017, Eurostat)



### Partners Albania

Partners Albania (PA) is an independent Albanian NGO established in 2001, working to support civil society and facilitate inter-sector cooperation in order to strengthen democratic institutions and advance economic development. The organization works in five programmatic areas: Philanthropy Development; Enabling Environment and Sustainable Development of CSOs; Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation; Increase Employment Opportunities for Youth; and Transparency and Good Governance. Even if there

are no community foundations as yet, Partners Albania is trying to stimulate their development by organizing the first Giving Circle in Albania. This could lead to the emergence of community foundations in the future. PA works for the development of philanthropy in multiple ways to promote the culture of giving in Albania, conducts research to better understand the characteristics of philanthropic activity and acts as an advocate to create an enabling and conducive environment through building bridges between sectors.

Website: [www.partnersalbania.org](http://www.partnersalbania.org)

## AUSTRIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 0

POPULATION: 8.8m (2017, Eurostat)



### Association for the Charitable Giving of Foundations

The Association for the Charitable Giving of Foundations is an independent

and autonomous. Founded in 2014, the association. It currently has 100 members

and focuses its work on foundations and funds that support charitable causes, because they guarantee sustainability and are important drivers of social innovation. It represents and constitutes a network of charitable donors, foundations and funds in and for Austria and wants to form a movement that is committed to making society more resilient and sustainable. The association offers its members information and knowledge transfer, consultation and

advanced education, image cultivation and media relations, representation of interests in politics and administration. To date there is no legal framework for community foundations in Austria, but in theory the model is interesting for Austria. In its activities, the Austrian Association of Charitable Donations also wants to promote and improve the framework conditions for community action in Austria.

**Website:** <https://www.gemeinnuetzig-stiften.at>

## BELGIUM

**NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 3**

**OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Community Foundation West Flanders (2001)**

**POPULATION: 11.4m (2017, Eurostat)**

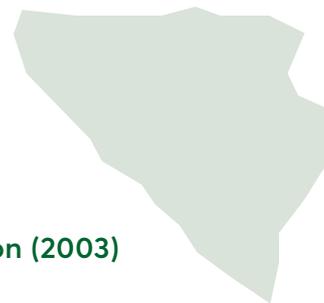


### King Baudouin Foundation

The King Baudouin Foundation (KBF) was established in 1976. The organization is financed through programmes, donations and funds. In Belgium, it is the legal hub in

which community foundations can be set up, managed and supported. KBF works with 89 staff members and more than 2,200 volunteers.

**Website:** <http://kbs-frb.be>



## BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 2

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Tuzla Community Foundation (2003)

POPULATION: 3.5m (2017, Eurostat)

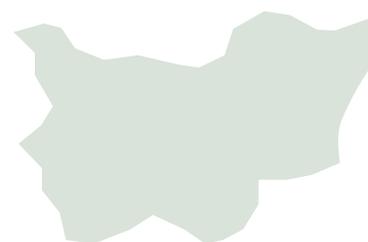


### Tuzla Community Foundation

The Tuzla Community Foundation (TCF) was established in 2003. Its mission is to support initiatives, networking and partnership of citizens. Its purpose is to encourage open education and participation of all citizens in the community development. TCF promotes philanthropy and encourages local giving through fundraising events for pooled funds or concrete projects. Currently TCF is focusing on supporting

young citizens and entrepreneurs. The biggest challenge for TCF is to increase financial support from the government and local donors. The organization supports the community foundation movement in the Western Balkan region through exchange of experiences and cooperation with other community foundations and philanthropy organizations from Serbia and Croatia.

Website: [www.fondacijatz.org](http://www.fondacijatz.org)



## BULGARIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 13

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Gabrovo Community Foundation (2002)

POPULATION: 7.1m (2017, Eurostat)



supporting initiative communities

### Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation

The Workshop for Civic Initiatives Foundation was established in 2001. Its mission is to encourage communities to take responsibility and work actively

for social development, utilizing local resources. Currently, community foundations in Bulgaria are trying to focus on youth development, especially youth

unemployment in the country. However, at the moment the biggest challenge for

community foundations in Bulgaria is the decreasing corporate funding.

Website: [www.wcif-bg.org](http://www.wcif-bg.org)

## CROATIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 6–10

(The concept of a community foundation is not formally recognized in Croatia.)

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Community Foundation of Runovići, 2000

POPULATION: 4,2m (2017, Eurostat)



### Community Foundation Slagalica

The Community Foundation Slagalica was founded in 2008. The foundation's main goal is to develop successful, encouraging, active and inclusive communities. As the concept of a community foundation is not formally recognized in Croatia, it is difficult

to define who is a community foundation. The Community Foundation Slagalica nevertheless helps other communities to establish community foundations and is involved in the National Philanthropy Week with a variety of public events.

Website: <http://www.zaklada-slagalica>

## CZECH REPUBLIC

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 4

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: The Ústí Community Foundation (1997)

POPULATION: 10.6m (2017, Eurostat)



### Czech Association of Community Foundations (Spolek A.K.N.)

The Czech Association of Community Foundations was established in 2006. In the

Czech Republic, the Association is faced with a shrinking space for civil society. Therefore,

the Association is trying to achieve more effective grant-making. Approaching new major donors is one of the main current

topics of the Association, along with the constant objective to inspire citizens for the development of new community foundations.

Website: <http://akncr.cz>

## DENMARK

**NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS:** There is no data regarding the exact number of community foundations in Denmark.  
**POPULATION:** 5.7m (2017, Eurostat)



### Knowledge Centre for Danish Foundations

The Knowledge Centre for Danish Foundations (Fondenens Videnscenter) was established in 2017. Its mission is to collect and communicate knowledge about the work and conditions of foundations in

Denmark, and to strengthen and facilitate cooperation between its members of Danish foundations and philanthropic associations and their sharing of knowledge.

Website: <https://fondenensvidenscenter.dk>

## FRANCE

**NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS:** around 60 (together with around 50 funds under the aegis of the Fondation de France)  
**OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION:** Fondation de Lille (2008)  
**POPULATION:** 67m (2017, Eurostat)



### French Foundation Centre

The Centre Français des Fonds et Fondations was established in 2002. Its

mission is the support and development of the endowment funds and foundations in

France through different actions, including advocacy, seminars, publications and field trips. The CFF has pioneered the transposition of the community foundation concept in France through workshops since 2008 and a publication in 2013, interpreting "community" in a geographical way that is more appropriate to the French culture and reality. Community foundation is not a legal status in France, but a way of acting with and for a territory.

The current development is dynamic throughout the country. It is difficult for the organization to give a precise number of community foundations. There is wide interest by public institutions and cities because of the shrinking public subventions. This has launched a debate on how, in this context, the concept of community foundations should be developed as a private tool that is independent of politics.

**Website:** [www.centre-francais-fondations.org](http://www.centre-francais-fondations.org)

## GEORGIA

NUMBER OF CF: 0

POPULATION: 3.7m (2017, Statista)



### The Centre of Strategic Research and Development of Georgia

The Centre of Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSR DG) was established in 1995. Its mission is to promote good governance, stable and inclusive economic development and the formation of an active civil society for the welfare of Georgian society. The Centre contributes to the sustainable development of the country by promoting democratic values, strengthening active civil society,

encouraging socially responsible business and supporting good governance. CSR DG is actively participating in learning activities and experience sharing with a focus on community foundations. Recently, CSR DG completed the second part of the ECFI-funded CF2CF exchange programme with Hungarian partners from the Roots and Wings Foundation.

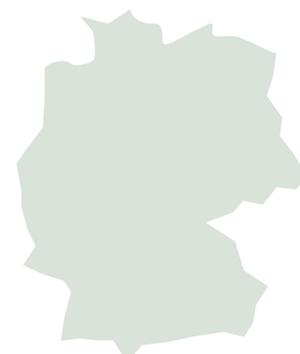
**Website:** <http://new.csr dg.ge/>

## GERMANY

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: more than 400

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Bürgerstiftung Gütersloh (1996)

POPULATION: 82.8m (2017, Eurostat)



### Bündnis der Bürgerstiftungen Deutschlands

Community Foundations of Germany (Bündnis der Bürgerstiftungen Deutschlands) was established in 2001 as the Alliance of Community Foundations in Germany, located at the Association of German Foundations. The Alliance represents and supports community foundations in Germany. During the last

few years the Alliance has intensified the exchange with European partners, which increased awareness of common European issues and the different national challenges. It strengthened the belief that it is even more important to promote and support committed civil society in times of political instability.

Website: <http://buengerstiftungen.org>

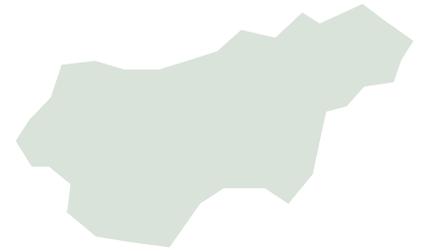
## STIFTUNG AKTIVE BÜRGERSCHAFT

### Aktive Bürgerschaft

Stiftung Aktive Bürgerschaft is the competence centre for civic engagement of Germany's cooperative banking group. Its mission is to sustainably foster civic engagement and non-profit organizations nationwide, with a main focus on strengthening community foundations and service learning. Therefore, it offers consulting services and support for new community foundation initiatives as well as established community foundations.

It informs board members, staff and volunteers about important trends and challenges, supports them in all fields of their work, helps mobilize resources for local CFs and increases the awareness and reputation of community foundations in Germany. One highlight is the Förderpreis Aktive Bürgerschaft which it annually awards for best practices within the more than 400 community foundations in Germany.

Website: <https://www.aktive-buergerschaft.de>

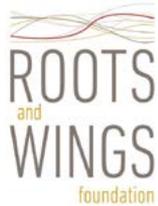


## HUNGARY

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 4

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Ferencváros Community Foundation (2011)**

POPULATION: 9.8m (2017, Eurostat)



### Roots and Wings Foundation

The Roots and Wings Foundation (R&WF) was registered in late 2014 to foster the development of communities, philanthropy and the media in Hungary. R&WF's work focuses on the Community Foundation Support Programme (KözösALAPON in Hungarian) with the goal to empower people to act for the common good. R&WF also promotes 'donor circles' to

bring people with a philanthropic purpose together to support worthy causes. In 2017, R&WF supported four community foundations with grants and development assistance. The organization is planning to develop eight fully fledged community foundations by 2022, reaching about one million people.

Website: <http://gy-sz.hu>

## IRELAND

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 1

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Community Foundation for Ireland (2002)**

POPULATION: 4.8m (2017, Eurostat)



### The Community Foundation for Ireland

The Community Foundation for Ireland was established in 2000. The organization aims to help people to engage in more effective

and rewarding philanthropic activity by connecting donors to the most deserving and impactful causes. Since the year 2000,

the Community Foundation for Ireland has made grants on behalf of donors of over €45m. Currently the organization is facing

the challenge of government regulations on political donations to charities. It is aiming for better state support for private giving.

Website: [www.communityfoundation.ie](http://www.communityfoundation.ie)



## ITALY

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 37

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Fondazione della Provincia di Lecco ONLUS, Fondazione Provinciale della Comunità di Comasca ONLUS (1999)**

POPULATION: 60.6m (2017, Eurostat)

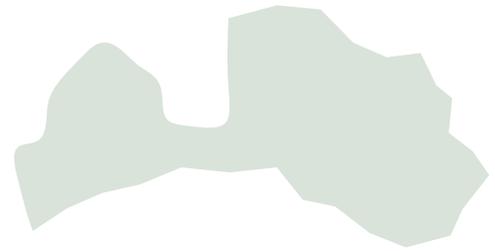


## Assifero

Assifero was established in 2003 with the mission to promote an Italian institutional philanthropy that is visible, informed, connected, effective and acknowledged as a strategic partner in sustainable human development. In Italy, community foundations face different challenges in every region, but the biggest obstacle for all of them is to gain trust in institutions and institutionalized philanthropy.

Assifero believes that learning and sharing experiences are essential for community foundations, which is why it is promoting partnerships on projects as well as peer-to-peer learning meetings and an annual Italian meeting for community foundations. The very first national conference on community foundations was launched in November 2017.

Website: [www.assifero.org](http://www.assifero.org)



## LATVIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 9

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Talsi Region Community Foundation (2003)

POPULATION: 1.9m (2017, Eurostat)

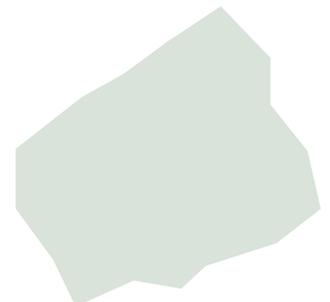


### Community Foundation Movement in Latvia

The Community Foundation Movement in Latvia (CFM) was established in 2006. Nine community foundations are members of the Movement. The organization's main goals are to promote and develop community

foundations nationally, but also to develop and monitor national standards of community foundations. At the same time, CFM is working to strengthen the capacity of Latvian community foundations.

Website: [www.kopienufondi.lv](http://www.kopienufondi.lv)



## REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 1

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Local Community Development Foundation (2008)

POPULATION: 2.1m (2017, Eurostat)



### Local Community Development Foundation Stip

Local Community Development Foundation Stip is a nonprofit, nongovernmental organization founded in December 2006. As North Macedonia's first community foundation (and the first Youth Bank) it provides a range of services to encourage

effective citizens' participation in public policy making and its proper implementation. One key topic at the moment is lobbying for changes in laws in order to create a better environment for foundations, donations and sponsorship.

Website: [www.frlz.org.mk](http://www.frlz.org.mk)



## NETHERLANDS

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 35

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Texelfonds (2004)**

POPULATION: 17.1m (2017, Eurostat)



lokale  
fondsen  
nederland

### Stichting Lokale Fondsen Nederland

Stichting Lokale Fondsen Nederland was established in 2014. It stimulates civil initiatives and the setting up of community foundations to further enhance social cohesion and quality of life in local communities. The organization dreams of an inclusive and liveable local society for every resident and supports community

foundations all over the country. Currently Stichting Lokale Fondsen Nederland is focusing on inviting citizens to request financial support for their local initiatives, but also on expanding its portfolio of services for existing community foundations in the Netherlands.

Website: <http://www.lokalefondsen.nl>

## POLAND

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 25

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Snow Mountain Community Foundation (1998)**

POPULATION: 37.9m (2017, Eurostat)



### The Academy for the Development of Philanthropy in Poland

The Academy for the Development of Philanthropy in Poland was established in 1998 with the strong belief that through the development of modern philanthropy a world can be created in which people trust and help each other, share experiences and solve problems together. Currently,

the Academy is focusing on establishing new community foundations despite the challenging political situation in Poland. Since they don't receive any support from the state, a lot of NGOs are being closed, which is why the Academy is working on new, modern fundraising models.

Website: <http://www.filantropia.org.pl>

## Federation of Polish Community Foundations

The Federation of Polish Community Foundations is a membership association which was established in 2008. The mission of the Federation is solving the problems of local community foundations, joint efforts on standards and promotion of their activities taking into account that each

foundation or association is an independent non-profit organization acting in its unique environment. The Federation organizes workshops, conferences, study trips and charity events and additionally promotes the growth of community foundations in Poland.

Website: <http://www.ffl.org.pl>

## PORTUGAL

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 0

POPULATION: 10.3m (2017, Eurostat)



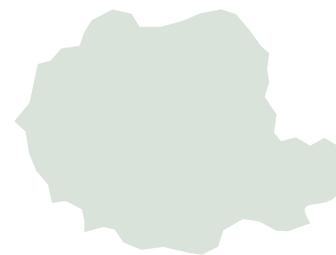
## Centro Português de Fundações

The Portuguese Foundation Centre (CPF) was created in 1993 under the initiative of the Eng. António de Almeida Foundation, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the Oriente Foundation. The goal of the Foundation Centre was to create a platform that would serve as the sole mediator between foundations, state authorities and other civil society

organizations. To develop the practice of philanthropy in Portugal, CPF provides a networking space for organizations, hosts meetings of Portuguese foundations as well as foundations of Portuguese-speaking countries. Additionally the CPF is focused on further education for organizations and maintains a comprehensive database of the whole sector.

Website: <http://www.cpf.org.pt>





## ROMANIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 16

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Odorhei and Cluj (2008)

POPULATION: 19.6m (2017, Eurostat)



### Association for Community Relations

The Association for Community Relations (ARC) was founded in 2001 in Cluj-Napoca by a small group of people who realized that a country's welfare depends on its local communities' well-being. The organization's goal is to bolster the philanthropic awareness in Romanian society by offering various tools and frameworks to enable citizens, informal leaders, companies and NGOs to meet, work and produce a positive change in their communities. One of ARC's main programmes is the National Programme

for Community Foundations Development to provide existing foundations with grants and technical assistance. The organization also offers legal, administrative and financial assistance to initiative groups before they evolve into a community foundation, and of course it connects community foundations and initiative groups. With its work, ARC has supported the creation of 16 community foundations up to now. Four other initiative groups are working towards becoming foundations.

Website: <http://www.arcromania.ro>



### Romanian Federation of Community Foundations

The Romanian Federation of Community Foundations (RFCF) was founded in 2012 for the purpose of representing and supporting its members. The organization provides mechanisms for attracting funds and a good communication network. It also monitors and evaluates activities in

support of partner foundations. At the moment, RFCF is concentrating on helping those community foundations which are starting their first endowment and reserve funds in order to build sustainability for the Romanian community foundations.

Website: <http://www.ffcr.ro>



## RUSSIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 70

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Tolyatti City Foundation (1998)

POPULATION: 144m (Statista, 2017)



### Charities Aid Foundation Russia

Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) Russia was established in 1993. It is a member of the Charities Aid Foundation Global Alliance. The organization supports a thriving and independent civil society by pioneering effective and sustainable ways of giving. In Russia this support can be the management of programme research, grant-making

or monitoring and evaluating impact. Specifically with respect to community foundations, CAF works closely with them in order to build their capacity and fundraising capabilities. CAF moreover supports conferences and study trips of community foundations.

Website: <http://www.cafrussia.ru>



### Partnership of Community Foundations Association

The Partnership of Community Foundations Association was founded in 2003. The organization's main goal is the promotion of community foundation technology, but also exchange of experiences. Currently, the Association is facing a lack of human resources and leaders. Also, due to the country's economic crisis, communities

and businesses suffer from low incomes, which results in less successful fundraising activities for the community foundations. An important topic for the Partnership of Community Foundations today is the education of community foundation leaders.

Website: <http://www.p-cf.ru>



## SERBIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 3

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: *Step Forward in Zaječar* (2013)

POPULATION: 7.0m (2017, Eurostat)



### TRAG Foundation

The Trag Foundation was established in 1999 as a UK charity called Balkan Community Initiatives Fund (BCIF) that was subsequently registered in Serbia in 2004. BCIF changed its name to Trag Foundation in 2013. Trag's main mission is to contribute to the development of active and open communities by providing financial, capacity building and other types of support to citizens' initiatives in these communities. Since its establishment, Trag has supported more than 1,300 local initiatives with over €9.5m. In the area of philanthropy development Trag actively promotes and develops individual and corporate strategic giving, advocates a more favourable legislative and fiscal framework, builds capacities of civil society organizations to

mobilize resources on the local level and contributes to the development of the community foundation movement in the country and the Western Balkans region. Trag is currently coordinating the work of SIGN – Southeast European Indigenous Grantmakers Network and participates in the work of WEBCFI – Western Balkans Community Foundations Initiative. The community foundation movement in Serbia is growing and the main challenges it currently faces encompass shrinking space and the inability to involve local governments into their work, fluctuating levels of community engagement and ensuring sufficient levels of local individual and corporate funding needed for their more flexible and sustainable functioning.

Website: <https://www.tragfoundacija.org>



### Zaječar Initiative

The Zaječar Initiative was established in 2001. The organization provides strategic advice to community foundations and helps them to build a network. Currently the Zaječar Initiative is trying to support

the further growth of existing community foundations and provide assistance to those who are trying to establish new foundations. In Serbia the level of locally raised funds by community foundations

is on a very low level, they are highly dependent on foreign funding. That is why the Zaječar Initiative is working on tailor-

made approaches for diversifying funding sources in the country.

Website: <http://zainicijativa.org>

## SLOVAKIA

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 8

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Healthy City Banská Bystrica (1994)**

POPULATION: 5.4m (2017, Eurostat)



### Association of Community Foundations in Slovakia

The Association of Community Foundations in Slovakia (ACFS) was founded in 2003 in order to become an equal partner to national corporations capable to realize common philanthropic projects all over the country. The Association's activities are focused on helping to create local networks and bases for exchange of community experience. The first successful project, 'The Club of Donors', has been a cooperation with the corporate partner Orange and was followed by other cooperations, such

as the programme 'Young Philanthropists' in partnership with the Slovak Gas Transfer Company. For the eight associated community foundations, ACFS brought a lot of benefits – they started to meet regularly, shared their work experiences and provided mutual support. Currently ACFS is not only working on consolidating the base for exchange among community foundations, but also on increasing public awareness of the concept of community foundations and philanthropy.

Website: <http://www.asociaciakns.sk>



## SPAIN

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 8

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Fundació Ciutat de Valls (1984)**

POPULATION: 46.5m (2017, Eurostat)

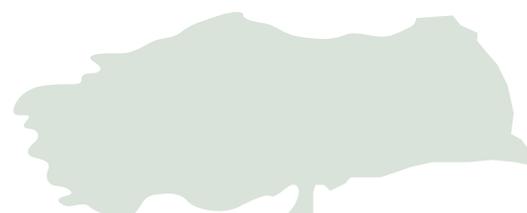


### Fundación Maimona

The Fundación Maimona was established in 2000. It is currently focusing on financial sustainability and the impact of community foundations in the country. The Fundación Maimona encourages creativity and innovation in Spain by training young people

and entrepreneurs in different business areas. At the same time, the organization tries to provide access to environmental resources for community needs and helps developing cultural projects.

Website: <http://www.maimona.org>



## TURKEY

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 1

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Bolu Community Foundation (2003)**

POPULATION: 79.8m (2017, Eurostat)



### Third Sector Foundation of Turkey (TUSEV)

The Third Sector Foundation of Turkey was established in 1993. Since then, it has been working to create an enabling environment for civil society. With its 114 members, TUSEV can provide solutions to common and emerging problems of civil society.

Besides the reform of the non-profit law in its country, the main objectives of the organization are research on civil society and philanthropy, the promotion of social investment and social justice philanthropy.

Website: <http://www.tusev.org.tr>



## UKRAINE

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 33

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: Princes – Benefactors Ostrozky Foundation (1995)

POPULATION: 42.3m (2017, Statista)



### The Initiative Centre to Support Social Action, Ednannia

The Initiative Centre to Support Social Action (ISAR) Ednannia was established in 1997 and officially registered in 1999. 'Ednannia' stands for 'unity', which is the organization's philosophy and mission. ISAR Ednannia systematically trains community foundations based on their needs, challenges and trends in civil society. Currently, the implementation of the decentralization reform in Ukraine

is leading to growing influence of local authorities and local self-governments. ISAR is trying to establish community foundations as motors in this development, since they already have knowledge, skills and instruments for community work. Still, the organization is facing the challenge of getting people engaged and making community foundations sustainable.

Website: <http://www.ednannia.ua>



## UNITED KINGDOM

NUMBER OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS: 46

OLDEST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION: **Wiltshire Community Foundation (1975)**

POPULATION: 65.8m (2017, Eurostat)



### UK Community Foundations

UK Community Foundations is the leadership organization for the national network of 46 accredited community foundations across the United Kingdom. It helps people and organizations to invest in local communities where it is most needed and where it will make the most

impact. UKCF envisages a society where communities will be able to support all those in need. In 2017/18, the network gave grants totalling over £98 million, making UKCF one of the country's largest grant-giving organizations.

Website: [www.ukcommunityfoundations.org](http://www.ukcommunityfoundations.org)

Twitter: [@UKCF\\_tweets](https://twitter.com/UKCF_tweets)

# ABOUT ECFI – EUROPEAN COMMUNITY FOUNDATION INITIATIVE

The European Community Foundation Initiative (ECFI) is a collaborative initiative committed to strengthening and promoting the community foundation movement in Europe.

ECFI is hosted by the German Association of Foundations (Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen) and is run in partnership with the Centre for Philanthropy (Centrum pre filantropiu) in Slovakia. ECFI works with community foundations (CFs) and community foundation support organizations (CFSOs) primarily through facilitating and stimulating interactions to enable learning, knowledge-building and empowerment. ECFI is also engaged in the mapping and analysis of CF activities and in disseminating information that will facilitate development of the field. ECFI strives to be a central point of contact for wider engagement within the global community foundation movement.

## ECFI'S THEORY OF CHANGE

ECFI believes that creating spaces and opportunities for cross-national dialogues, relationship-building and sharing experiences and practices of community foundations and other philanthropy practitioners (on a variety of themes of global and cross-national importance) at various levels will impact the capacity, capability, connections and credibility within the community foundation movement. Specifically ECFI will:

- facilitate individual and organizational learning and expertise;
- inspire individuals and organizations to leadership and joint action;
- produce practice-based knowledge;

- empower CFs in dealing with difficult issues in their communities and own development trajectories;
- grow mutual solidarity and strengthen the CF field overall;
- complement face-to-face interactions with virtual spaces and online tools and resources.

## ECFI'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Facilitating interaction and learning, sharing new knowledge and fostering collaboration among CFSOs in Europe to strengthen the support infrastructure
- Inspiring and facilitating growth in the CF field in Europe
- Stimulating CFs in Europe to exercise their community leadership role and collaborate on pressing issues, including inequality, migration and climate change
- Building and sharing knowledge about the CF field in Europe
- Leveraging financial resources and other support for the development of the CF field in Europe

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We are grateful for support from the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, the Robert Bosch Foundation and the Körber Foundation.



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