

The Active citizens fund in Greece is supported through a € 15 m grant from Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway as part of the EEA Grants 2014 - 2021. The programme aims to develop the sustainability and capacity of the civil society sector in Greece, and to strengthen its role in promoting and safeguarding democratic procedures, active citizenship and human rights. The Fund Operator for the Active citizens fund in Greece is Bodossaki Foundation in consortium with SolidarityNow.

For more information: www.activecitizensfund.gr/en/

Active citizens fund Greece

Status Update EEA Grants Annual Meeting 13th November 2024





to develop the sustainability and capacity of the civil society sector in Greece, and to strengthen its role in promoting and safeguarding democratic procedures, active citizenship and human rights.



7 open calls for project proposals in the following areas:



← Increased **citizen participation** in civic activities



← Strengthened civil society **watchdog** and **advocacy role**



← Increased support for **human rights**

← **Gender equality** promoted and **gender-based violence** combatted



← **Vulnerable groups** empowered

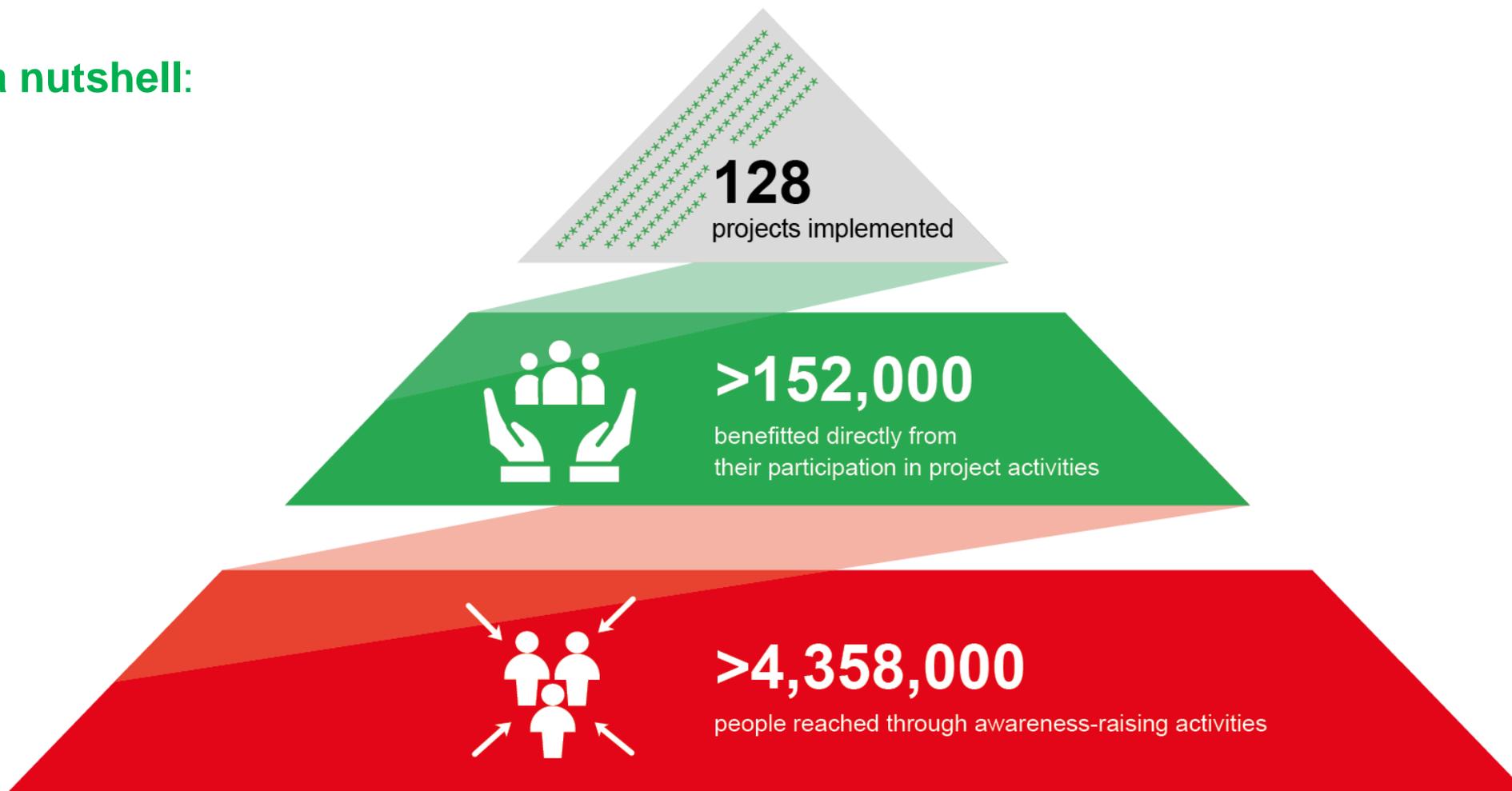


← **Organisational Grants** to support the **Institutional Development** of Civil Society



← **Platforms and networks** among CSOs developed

In a nutshell:



208 organisations funded





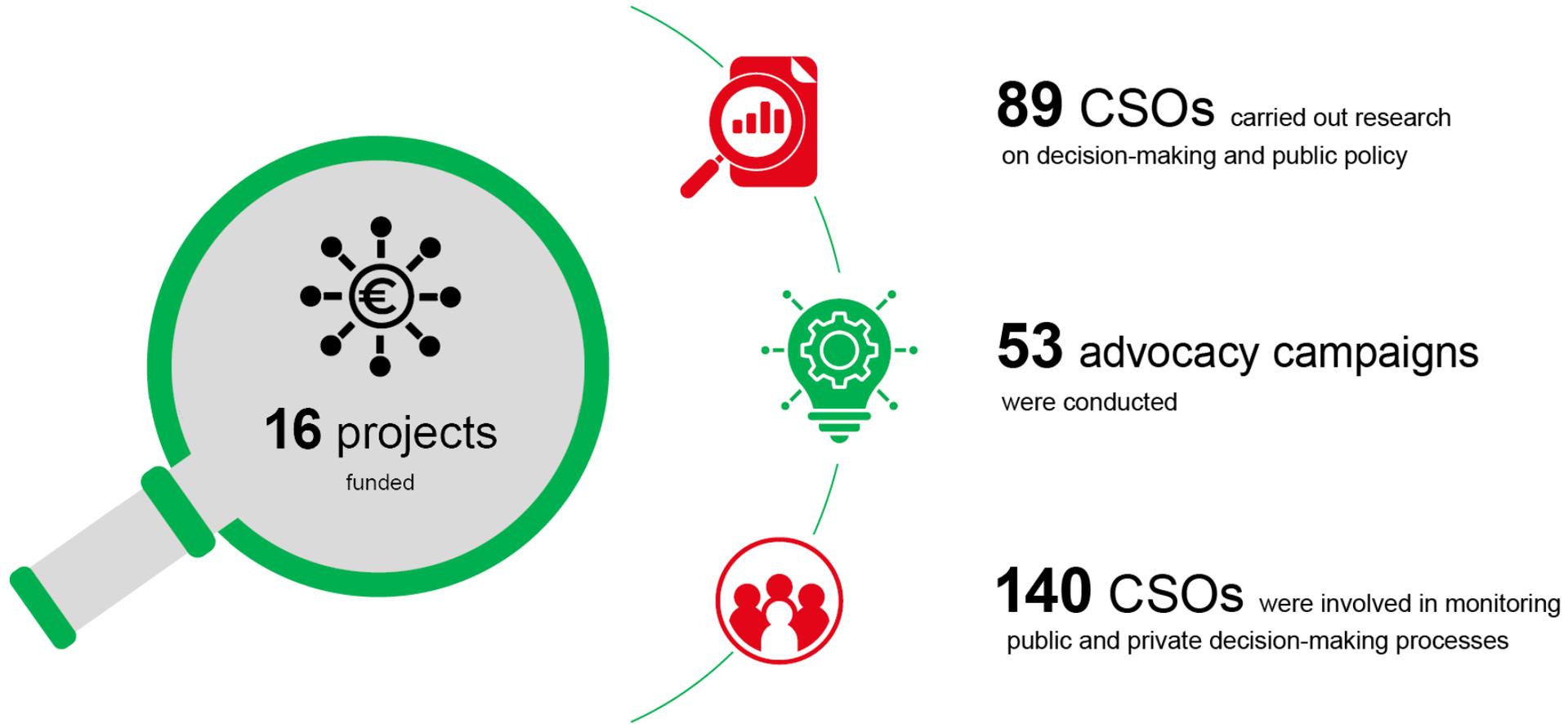
Geographic regions of Greece



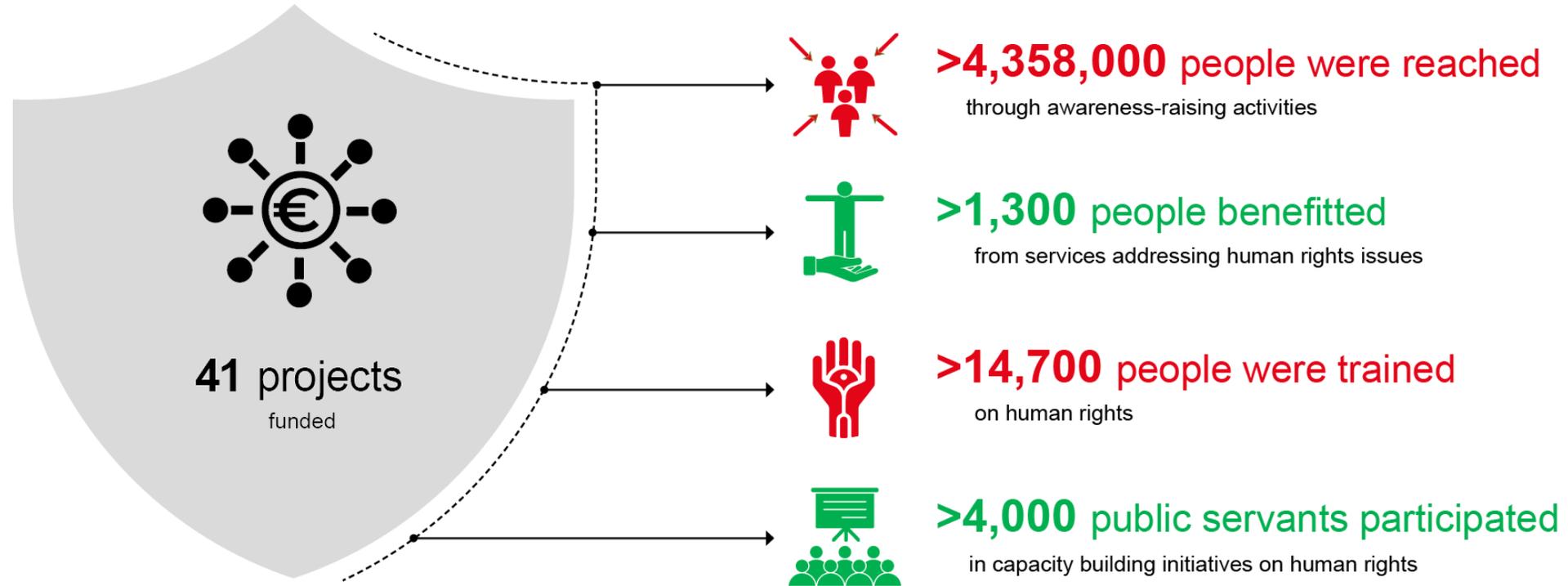
Increased citizen participation in civic activities



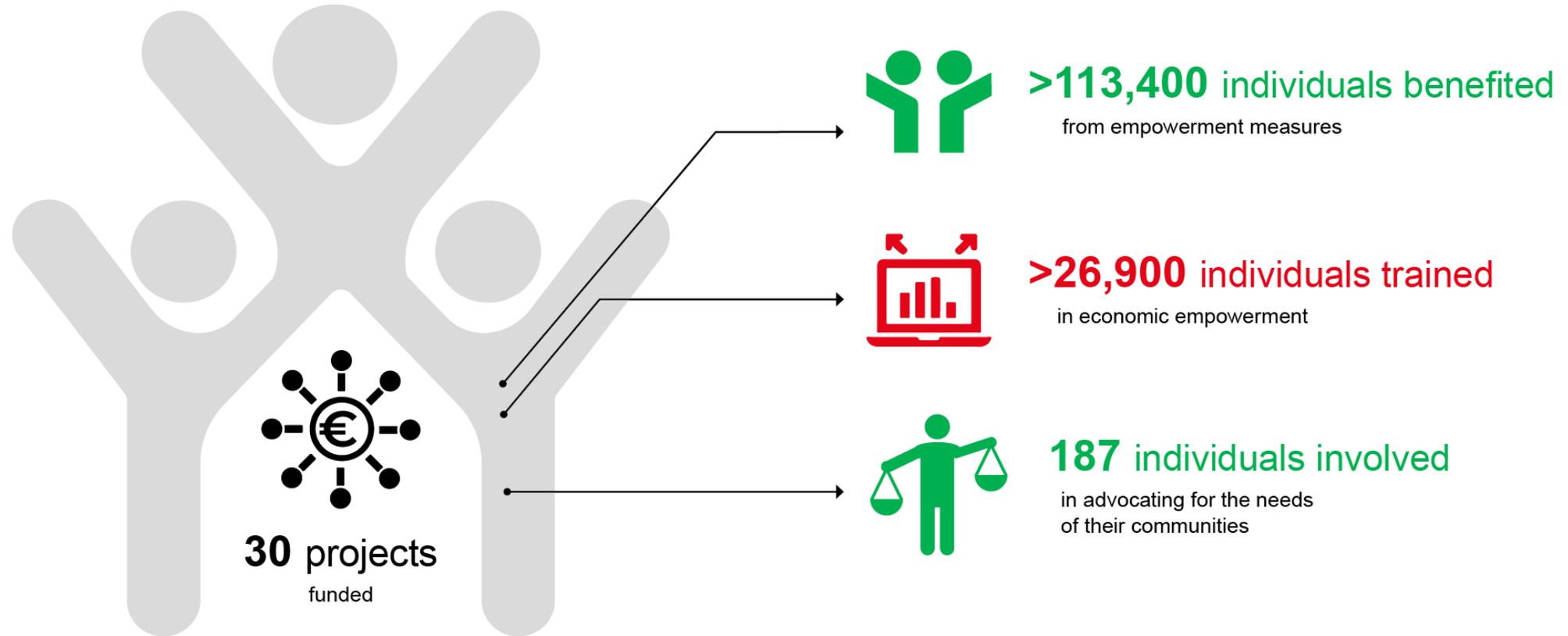
Strengthened civil society **watchdog** and **advocacy** role



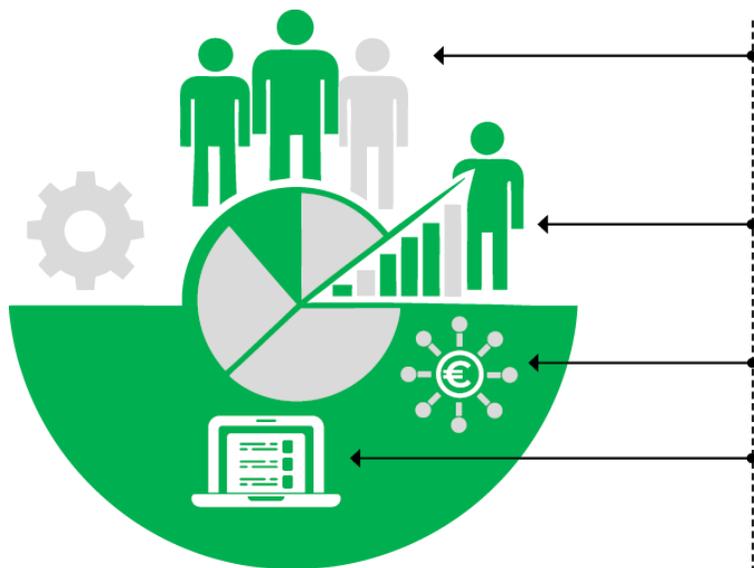
Increased support for human rights, gender equality promoted and gender-based violence combatted



Empowerment of vulnerable groups



Enhanced capacity and sustainability of Civil Society Organizations and the sector



128 CSOs participated in capacity building initiatives of the programme, which included training, team mentoring, executive coaching and consulting services

79 CSOs received funding to implement activities to develop their organisational capacity and sustainability

11 CSOs received organisational grants for their institutional development

12 CSO platforms and networks were funded, involving **321** CSOs

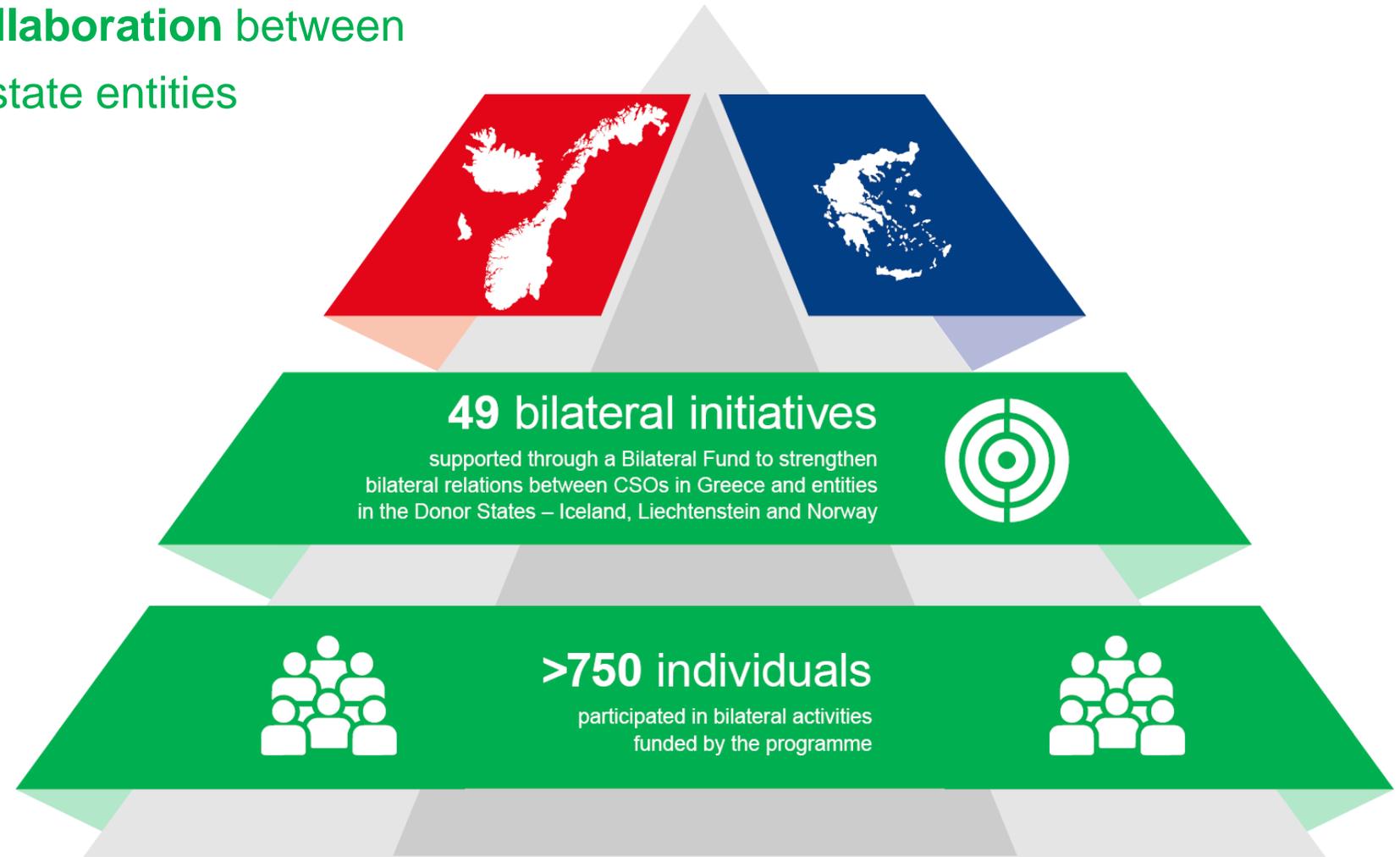


The first study to measure the contribution of civil society to the Greek economy

www.civilsocietycontribution.gr

€3 billion **1.6%** of GDP **88,400** jobs

Enhanced **bilateral collaboration** between beneficiary and donor state entities



Programme closing event: 'Stories of Change'

- ≈ 300 participants
 - Screening of documentary 'Time for Change'
 - Storytelling from projects
 - Exhibition of results and photos
-
- 21 mentions in print & online media

Available online in English & Greek at **Bodossaki Lectures on Demand (BLOD):**

<https://www.blod.gr/events/istories-allagis-to-taksidi-tou-active-citizens-fund-greece/>



Legacies & lessons learned

5 key legacies:

- Increased **organisational capacity and sustainability** of the project promoters
 - Promotion of **collaboration** and **collective bodies**: 12 networks funded, with a total membership of over 320 organisations
 - Encouraging and enabling CSOs to be **agents of change**
 - Calculating the **contribution of civil society to the Greek economy** for first time
 - 49 collaborations between **Greek and donor state CSOs**
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Lessons learned for future programmes:

- Longer project implementation period
- 100% funding rate
- Increased use of organisational grants
- Simplification/ streamlining of reporting

Thank you!

