

Knowledge for Social Development



SeConS

ORGANIZATION

PROFILE

Development Knowledge

SeConS
development Initiative group

Knowledge for Social Development

SeConS Development Initiative Group is an independent think-tank organization of experts from Serbia, established with the aim of contributing to long-term socio-economic development and improvement of living conditions of individuals and social groups in Serbia and the region. It was founded in 2005, as an initiative of a group of sociologists who worked on issues of social development at universities and in other civil society organizations in the country and abroad. Today, SeConS brings together interdisciplinary experts to conduct empirical

research, analyze policies and processes, challenges and specific social and economic environments to build a reliable base for further development of methodologies, recommendations and measures to advance the development and implementation of national, regional and local policies. SeConS educates, empowers and trains other organizations and institution representatives, and its quality of work and expertise has been recognized outside country borders as well.

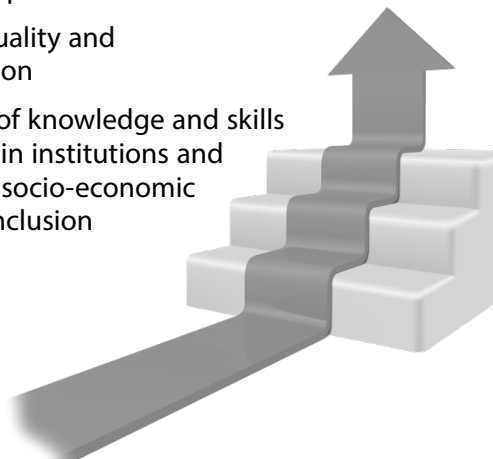
SECONS VISION IS INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SERBIA AND SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE

Our mission is to help advance adequate and effective socio-economic development programmes by conducting analyses of social trends and public policies. SeConS supports and activates various stakeholders from the public, private and civil sector to make a more effective contribution to development on the national, regional and local level.



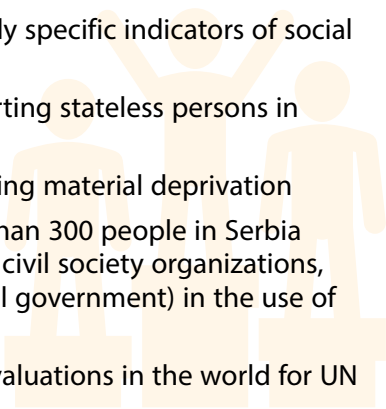
OUR GOALS

- ▶ To contribute to inclusive and sustainable social and economic development
- ▶ To contribute to the development of regional cooperation in the field of social inclusion
- ▶ To support modernization of social inclusion services in accordance with the most developed European practices
- ▶ To facilitate social inclusion of marginalized and vulnerable social groups
- ▶ To contribute to social equality and eradication of discrimination
- ▶ To support improvement of knowledge and skills of individuals and groups in institutions and organizations engaged in socio-economic development and social inclusion



SECONS UP-TO-DATE

- ▶ First mapping of social enterprises in Serbia
- ▶ First conducted in-depth research of poverty in rural Serbia
- ▶ In-depth research of domestic violence against women
- ▶ Provided participation of Serbian citizens in global process of SDG
- ▶ Developed set of recommendations for reduction of political clientelism in Serbia priorities selection
- ▶ Developed first set of nationally specific indicators of social exclusion and poverty
- ▶ Progress assessment in supporting stateless persons in Serbia
- ▶ Revised indicators for monitoring material deprivation
- ▶ Improved capacities of more than 300 people in Serbia (journalists, representatives of civil society organizations, public administration and local government) in the use of the data in their work
- ▶ Conducted one of four best evaluations in the world for UN Women in 2015



IN NUMBERS

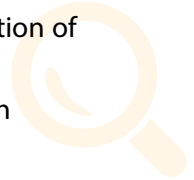
- ▶ 56 publications published
- ▶ 160 projects
- ▶ 120 research
- ▶ 25 program evaluations
- ▶ 8 national strategies
- ▶ 3 evaluations of national strategies
- ▶ Cooperation with more than 200 researches
- ▶ Internship of 20 young researches

“They are accurate, fulfil everything they promise”

SERVICES

Research

- ▶ Development of methodologies and implementation of applied research
- ▶ Analyses of policies, legislation and measures with recommendations
- ▶ Conducting comparative and sensitive studies



Capacity Building and Training

- ▶ Designing and delivering training and mentoring
- ▶ Empowerment of and advocacy for marginalized groups



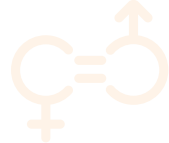
Monitoring and Evaluation

- ▶ Monitoring, evaluation and impact assessment of programmes, policies and projects



WORK AREAS

- ▶ Gender equality
- ▶ Rule of law
- ▶ Human security
- ▶ Sustainable development goals
- ▶ Social inclusion and poverty reduction
- ▶ Employment
- ▶ Migration
- ▶ Local development
- ▶ Youth and children
- ▶ Social economy and entrepreneurship



SeConS Values

tolerance
nondiscrimination
interculturalism
human rights
minority rights
gender equality

SeConS Principles

professionalism
work ethics
impartiality
transparency
independence
solidarity

EVIDENCE BASED POLICY MAKING AND ADVOCACY WORK IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS

▶ Anti-Poverty Network – Serbia

The Network operates in all areas where it can improve the quality of life of individuals and groups stricken by poverty as well as social inclusion processes in Serbia. The Anti-Poverty Network – Serbia is part of the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN).



“Flexible and well organized”

- ▶ The Cross-Border Citizens' Network for Peace, Inter-Communal Reconciliation & Human Security – Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo, Montenegro, Macedonia and Greece

The Network approaches the issue of human security from different perspectives, thus focusing on a particular aspect (local, civic, regional) and field of activity (advocacy, broader social mobilization, research). It aims to create security-oriented political culture and build structures within their communities.

- ▶ Open Parliament – Serbia

The Open Parliament serves to help citizens become more familiar with the work of the National Parliament. The coalition's work is based on values contained in the International Declaration on Parliamentary Openness.

- ▶ Coalition for Social Entrepreneurship Development (KorSP) – Serbia

The Coalition aims to raise key stakeholders' awareness of the importance of this concept for economic progress and sustainable development of society as a whole, in order to establish an appropriate legal framework and sustainable financing mechanisms for social enterprises.

WE COOPERATED WITH:

Delegation of the European
Union to Serbia

UNCT Serbia

UNDP Serbia

UNICEF Serbia

UN Women Serbia,
Montenegro, Bosnia and
Herzegovina

World Bank

UNAIDS

UNFPA Serbia, Bosnia and
Herzegovina

Open Society Foundation

USAID/ISC

IOM Serbia

UNHCR

ILO

Statistical Office of the
Republic of Serbia

Ministry of Labor, Employment
and Social Policy of the
Republic of Serbia

Social Inclusion and Poverty
Reduction Unit of Serbia
(SIPRU)

Ministry of Agriculture of RS
Republic Institute for Social
Protection

Provincial Secretariat for
Health

Agency for Gender Equality of
Bosnia and Herzegovina

Gender Center of the
Government of the Republic
of Srpska

Gender Center of the
Federation of Bosnia and
Herzegovina

Gender Equality Department
at the Ministry for Human and
Minority Rights of Montenegro

Youth with Disabilities Forum

Ministry of Youth and Sport of
the Republic of Serbia

European Agency for
Reconstruction

International Management
Group

Swedish International
Development Cooperation

Agency SIDA

Gender Equality Directorate of
the Republic of Serbia

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation (SDC)

University of Fribourg
Switzerland

CRDP

FREN

Women Space

Tourism Organisation of Serbia

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

Ministry of Agriculture
and Rural Development of
Montenegro

Center for Peace Studies of the
Republic of Croatia

YUCOM

hCa ORC

IRIS

ZID

hCa Turkey

Centre for Ethics, Law and
Applied Philosophy (CELAP)

Trag Foundation

Transparency International

VESTA Federation of Bosnia
and Herzegovina

EDA Republic of Srpska

Forum Syd Sweden

Network of Organizations for
Children of Serbia (MODS)

SEESAC

“Gladly transfer their knowledge to others”

SECONS TEAM

Olivera Vukovic

Executive Director

Olivera Vukovic is a sociologist with an academic background and extensive experience in policy oriented research. She has wide experience in planning and implementing organization's programs and services, as well as training curricula development and training delivery and evaluations. She is experienced in cooperating with international and national institutions, local governments, and civil society organizations. The main field of her expertise is social policy and social protection, and she is very skilled in designing surveys and analytical reporting.

Marija Babovic

Director of Programme

Marija Babovic, PhD, is a full professor at the University of Belgrade, Department of Sociology. The main fields of her expertise are socio-economic development, economic sociology, social inclusion, and sociology of work. Her research and policy analysis focus is on poverty and social exclusion, gender equality, labor market, migration, and inequalities from a regional and structural perspective. She is a senior consultant in international networks and coalitions. She is very skilled in evaluations. Babovic is member of the EU Inclusion Strategies Group. She was a visiting fellow at the Centre for the Study of Global Governance at LSE (UK) in 2008 and 2010. Currently, she is editing the *Monitoring of Social Situation in Serbia* web platform.

Slobodan Cvejic

Director of Research

Slobodan Cvejic, PhD, is a full professor at the University of Belgrade, Department of Sociology. Key areas of his expertise are economic sociology, social research methodology, and statistics. Most of the research he conducted has been in the fields of social inequalities, social and economic development, social inclusion, employment, and education. He has abundant experience in research design and he is familiar with key survey methodologies, such as Labour Force Survey, Statistics on income and living conditions, Human Development, Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, Time use surveys, European Social Survey, and World value surveys. In 2000-2001 he was a visiting scholar at the University College London. He is the Editor in Chief of the SCOPUS ranked journal *Sociologija*.

Danilo Vukovic

Supervisory Board Member and Senior Consultant

Danilo Vukovic, PhD, is an Associate Professor at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Law. The main areas of his academic interest are empirical sociology of law, social policy in the post-socialist context, public policy analysis, and civil society. He was the director and team leader in UNDP Serbia. Vukovic is experienced in cooperation with state institutions, private and consulting sector in the region, particularly in the fields of social protection, youth and civil society. He has developed, managed and evaluated numerous projects and programs. He conducted international research as LSE Fellow.

Tomislav Novovic

Senior Consultant

Tomislav Novovic, MA, is a senior consultant for monitoring and evaluation, with twenty years of professional experience in public administration reform, decentralization, local and regional development, development planning and improving local competitiveness. He is an expert for monitoring and evaluation with extensive experience in evaluating national strategies and policies and project and programme evaluations in Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine, Macedonia, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, the Philippines and other countries. He has been working primarily with international organizations.

Mina Petrovic

Consultant

Mina Petrovic, PhD is a full professor at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy. Key areas of her academic interest and expertise involve urban sociology, sociology of space, sociology of housing and environmental sociology. Key subjects of her research work are socio-spatial inequalities, material deprivation and housing exclusion, social housing and housing policy, sustainable development of cities. During her long standing research career, she worked with international organizations (EC, DFID, WB, CEHODAS, FEANTSA, ENHR UNDP, UNHABITAT, etc.), government institutions, domestic and foreign universities and civil society organizations.

Jovana Obradovic

Researcher

Jovana Obradovic, MA, took part in numerous research projects conducted by SeConS over the last 6 years. The main field of her interest is economic sociology. She participated in different research projects, and focused on issues related to the position of workers in the privatization process, migrations, domestic violence, etc. She is very skilled in qualitative research and methodology development, as well as analytical writing. Jovana is a PhD student at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Philosophy, where she was a student assistant at the Department of Sociology.

Tijana Veljkovic

Junior Researcher

Tijana Veljković is a Master student in Sociology at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade. Previously, she interned at SeConS as a field researcher and conducted various research across the country. Her main areas of interest are youth research, with a particular focus on socio-economic inclusion and migration issues.

Jasna Pantovic

Office Manager

Jasna Pantovic is office manager and coordinator of various activities in SeConS. She attended the Business School in Belgrade and passed the

state exam for certified brokers. Her main task is to collect documentation, communication with the people responsible for the projects and dealing with finances.



ADVISORY BOARD

Vesna Bojicic Dzelilovic

Vesna Bojicic Dzelilovic, PhD, is an Associate Professorial Research Fellow at the Civil Society and Human Security Research Unit of the Department of International Development, and an Associate Fellow of the Research on South Eastern Europe at the European Institute of the London School of Economics and Political Science. Her main areas of research are political economy of conflict and post-conflict reconstruction, post-communist economic transition, political economy of policy making, decentralization and regional development. She has published a number of academic and policy papers on these topics with a focus on South East Europe.

Dalibor Petrovic

Dalibor Petrovic, PhD, is an Associate Professor at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Engineering and Faculty of Philosophy. His main area of expertise is sociology of e-communication with a focus on social impact of Internet use. His book “Sociability in the age of the Internet” was awarded a Plaque from the Society for Informatics for the greatest scientific achievement in the field of information technology in 2014. Dr Petrovic participated in a number of national and international projects that, directly or indirectly, dealt with various aspects of social use of the Internet.

Natalija Bogdanov

Natalija Bogdanov, PhD, is a Full Professor at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Agriculture. Her main areas of academic research involve rural

development and agricultural and rural policy. Most of her activities focus on transitional reforms of agricultural and rural policies and institutional adjustments in the context of European integration, as well as socio-economic aspects of structural changes in agriculture and development of rural areas. Natalija Bogdanov has participated in creating policies for numerous local and international research and development projects.

Elena Bataglini

Elena Bataglini, PhD, is a Senior Researcher. She is the director of the Urban and Regional Economics' Research Area of Giuseppe Di Vittorio Foundation in Rome, where she has been working since 1992. She holds an MSc in Political Science and a PhD in Environmental and Spatial Sociology. She has published more than thirty books, peer-reviewed articles and international research reports in the field of regional endogenous development and innovation processes. She teaches methods and techniques of spatial analysis at the PhD Program in Landscapes of Contemporary Cities at the University of Rome.

Svetlana Stanarevic

Svetlana Stanarevic, PhD, is an Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Security Studies, University of Belgrade, and she is also engaged at the Faculty of Law, University of Novi Sad. Her main areas of expertise include human security, urban security and security culture. She is the director of the Human Security Research Centre, an organizational unit of the Faculty of Security Studies, University of Belgrade. She participated in COST action (the oldest program of European cooperation in scientific and technologic research) TU 1203 Crime Prevention through Urban Design and Planning.



“They are open for suggestions”



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