

# The REGIONAL MOBILITY FUND for EXPERTS IN THE BLACK SEA REGION & THE BALKANS

## PRESENTATION

**The Regional Mobility Fund for Experts in the Black Sea Region and the Balkans** is initiated by the Romanian NGDO Platform – FOND with the financial support of CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness – CPDE. This pilot activity will be implemented during the 5<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2015.

**The Regional Mobility Fund is part of the follow-up activities of the Black Sea NGO Forum** organised by FOND with the support of the European Commission, Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness - CPDE. The last edition of the forum (December 2014/ Kyiv, Ukraine) launched the process of creating a strategic framework for civil society organisations in the Black Sea Region, through organising a regional multi-stakeholder consultation in order to identify the common needs and challenges concerning the enabling environment for CSOs in the region. As a result of the consultation, participants expressed their need for more knowledge sharing, expertise and exchange of best practices as a means to support capacity building in the region, especially in this field.

**The objective of the Regional Mobility Fund** is to encourage the mobility of civil society/ think tank/ academic experts in the region as to foster knowledge sharing, expertise and exchange of best practices **within the framework of enabling environment for CSOs and the Istanbul Principles**.



**The Black Sea NGO Forum is an annual regional event launched in 2008 by the Romanian NGDO Platform (FOND)**, in the framework of the Black Sea Synergy, with the support of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Representation of the European Commission to Romania and the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation. Since 2013, the Forum is supported by the Romanian MFA, the European Commission and CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness – CPDE. The goal of the Black Sea NGO Forum is to create an open space for debate, mutual knowledge and understanding, communication and cooperation among civil society representatives, governments and international organizations active in the wider Black Sea region, with a focus on sharing good practices in various domains and success stories of regional cooperation.

**Since 2013, the Black Sea NGO Forum hosts consultation sessions for the NGOs from the Black Sea region and the Balkans promoting the Istanbul Principles and the activity of the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness – CPDE.** The Romanian NGDO Platform (as main organizer of the Black Sea NGO Forum) currently holds the secretariat of the Black Sea and the Balkans sub-region of the CPDE (as part of the CPDE European Region, alongside the EU sub-region).