



**ALDA**  
Association of Local  
Democracy Agencies

# Acting for development



Europe for Citizens  
Programme



COUNCIL  
OF EUROPE  
CONSEIL  
DE L'EUROPE



*Transborder cooperation, Strasbourg*



*Fair for development and NGOs, Padova*



*Youth groups, Macedonia*



### **A promoter of good governance and civic participation at the local level...**

ALDA believes that strengthening good governance and civic participation at the local level is a major instrument for peace and development – and that cooperation between different stakeholders at the local level is essential to efficient development work. ALDA mainly works in South East Europe and the European neighbourhood countries.

### **...defending a long term vision of development...**

ALDA has a long term vision of development and focuses on encouraging deep changes in the every day life of people. For ALDA the priority is to be involved in activities which have positive and lasting effects for the local population rather than conducting activities with immediate but only temporary visible effects.

### **...based on the multilateral decentralised cooperation method...**

Based on this vision of development ALDA uses an original instrument in most of its activities: the multilateral decentralised cooperation. This method involves a multi-stakeholder approach which focuses on strong partnerships between Local Authorities and non-governmental organisations. ALDA is convinced that this joint commitment represents a condition sine qua none for the development of the local communities. These multi-actor partnerships are the most efficient way to fill the gap between Local Authorities and civil society and they bring local actors the necessary tools to build their own future together.

### **...and acting in different ways.**

ALDA acts in different ways depending on the needs and possibilities of the local communities. ALDA can – thanks to its large network – act to facilitate cooperation between local authorities and civil society through various types of activities involving partners from multiple countries.



*Citizens panels, Rovigo*



*General Assembly 2009, Brussels,  
Committee of the Regions*



*Development activities in Verteneglio/Brtoniglia*

**ALDA** coordinates and supports 12 Local Democracy Agencies based in the Balkans and South Caucasus. These Local Democracy Agencies are agents of development in their local community and conduct their activities through long term partnerships with Local Authorities and NGOs.

**ALDA** conducts its own projects such as projects on citizen participation which involves partners coming from a number of countries, most often a mixture of EU member states and countries from the wider Europe. In other **ALDA** projects civic initiatives are supported to allow for the participation of civic groups in local development work and decision making. **ALDA** for instance supported civic initiatives in Belarus, such as a youth group in Gomel which engaged people in the protection of the local environment and ensured that the local authorities also got actively involved in this issue.

**ALDA** acts as partner to support other stakeholders' initiatives in development and contributes to

development programmes in the regions where **ALDA** is active. **ALDA** is for instance coordinating the decentralised cooperation programme between the Region Lower-Normandy (France) and Macedonia which includes activities for youth, education and local citizenship, cultural and artistic exchanges and sustainable tourism.

ALDA is always open for new ideas and partnerships

Please visit our website at  
[www.alda-europe.eu](http://www.alda-europe.eu)

for more information

and let us know if you are interested in helping us build strong partnerships for the development of local communities.



*Development activities in Verteneglio/Brtoniglia*



*Development and planning, Subotica*



*Waste management, Kragujevac*

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*Citizens panels, Strasbourg*



*Support for refugees in Georgia*



*Exchanges of best practices for municipalities*