

Core

Strategic Paper on ALDA's engagement in the Eastern Partnership countries 2018 – 2021

Monitoring and Evaluation

Foundation

Vision
(how we see ALDA in EaP in 2021?)

Under ALDA's umbrella, local and regional authorities and Local Democracy Agencies from EaP countries work together and in partnership with other European regions and CSOs to make local communities more socially and economically successful, more inclusive, sustainable and fair. Participatory democracy is well implemented at local level and contributes to life improvement of citizens and for achieving the sustainable development goals.

We stand for

- Democracy in all of its dimensions: with free and fair elections; mobilized and prepared institutions; informed, prepared and engaged citizens.
- Decentralization process and subsidiarity in governance
- Participatory governance engaging elected representatives, civil servants and citizens;
- Stronger and deeper value-based association with the countries of the eastern and southern neighborhoods of the European Union;
- Inclusive communities respectful of human rights and minorities;
- Synergy between democracy and development;

Goal and Objectives

Goal:
Promote Local Democracy as the key process to achieve sustainable local development, while ALDA and its Local Democracy Agencies are recognized as the most active and professional actors in the field within Eastern area and beyond.

In order to achieve our long-term goal, we are targeting the following objectives for 2018 – 2021:

1. Act as a vibrant CSO actor in the region by actively engaging in different policy and social processes;
2. Extend the network of Members and LDAs in the EaP Countries and beyond;
3. Increase the number of projects implemented in the region that contributes to local development through local democracy process;

Action Plan

Steps
(What we have to do, to achieve the objectives?)

Objective 1: Act as a vibrant CSO actor in the region by actively engaging in different policy and social processes

- Each LDA will actively engage in different platforms, events and processes at local, regional or national level according to its topics of interests and expertise. At the same time, LDAs will make continuously effort to regularly participate at events and networking with potential partners (EU Delegation, Embassies, UN Agencies etc.);
- All LDAs will become members of its National Platforms within Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF) and engage in different working groups according to their interests and expertise;
- Black Sea NGO Forum and EaP CSF will become regular events to promote ALDA's work at the regional level;
- EaP Coordinator will play the ALDA representative role at regional events and/or international events where a regional perspective is required.

Objective 2: Extend the network of Members and LDAs in the EaP Countries and beyond

- EaP Coordinator will make continuous assessment and monitoring of national realities to explore the possibilities of extending LDAs' network in the countries where no LDAs currently exist (Azerbaijan and Belarus). At the same time, considering potential challenges in this process, as temporary solution, ALDA will continue to develop its network of partner CSOs active in those countries;
- In close coordination with ALDA ambassadors, EaP coordinator will use emerging opportunities to open new LDAs in the countries where ALDA is already present;
- Based on arising opportunities, ALDA will take active steps in extending its area of operations and membership beyond EaP region. A priority in this sense will be CIS countries (Community of Independent States);
- LDAs' delegates with the support of EaP Coordinator will make continuous efforts to increase the number of partners for each LDA.

Objective 3: Increase the number of projects implemented in the region that contributes to local development through local democracy process;

- In each EaP country ALDA will have a running project that contributes to local development;
- ALDA staff will pro-actively support LDAs' in identifying fundraising opportunities and develop relevant project proposals;
- Each LDA, at any given moment, will be implementing at least one project that will advance ALDA's vision;
- With ALDA support, LDA's will pro-actively cooperate in order to apply and implement bi-lateral and/or multi-lateral projects;

Key Performance Indicators

Targets
(How we measure success?)

- KPI1.1:** Each LDA will be member of at least 2 national platforms/processes
KPI1.2: Two LDAs representatives will be elected in leadership positions within National or regional EaP CSF platforms and/or other CSO platforms;
KPI1.3: All LDAs representatives will meet at least once a year for internal coordination, evaluation and planning;
KPI1.4: EaP Coordinator, on behalf of ALDA, will attend four international/European events (one per year).

- KPI3.1:** ALDA will coordinate or co-implement two projects with engagement of Belarus and Azerbaijan partners;
KPI3.2: Two new LDAs will be opened by 2021 with the focus on Western Ukraine, Belarus and Azerbaijan;
KPI3.3: One new member from CSI countries will join ALDA;
KPI3.4: LDAs will have 1 new partner comparing to 2018 situation;

- KPI4.1:** ALDA will implement four projects in EaP by 2021;
KPI4.2: ALDA together with LDAs will develop and submit for financing at least 10 project proposals;
KPI4.3: Each LDA will implement at least two projects by 2021;
KPI4.4: LDA's will initiate the implementation of two bi or multi-lateral projects

Final remarks

EaP Coordinator developed this Strategic Paper:

- in close consultation with ALDA's leadership and EaP LDAs;
- based on ALDA Strategic Framework document adopted by its General Assembly on May 4th 2018;
- considering previous Strategic Paper on ALDA's

This document was approved by ALDA's Secretary General and represents the foundation and strategic guidance of organisation's work in the Eastern Partnership Region