



## LDA MOSTAR

The Local Democracy Agency of Mostar was established in 2004 within the Program of the Local Democracy Agencies of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe that aims to foster the democratic process and the respect of human rights in the Western Balkans. LDA Mostar works to support the local democracy in the Mostar area and it utilizes the method of decentralised multilateral cooperation. The year 2008 has been extraordinary proficient in strengthening our role in building up new capacities for local authorities, schooling system and CSOs in Mostar by supporting the democratic transition and the growth of a local community much more responsive to the needs of underprivileged social groups. The primary goal for 2008 has been the promotion of a series of local initiatives focusing on active civil society, transparent and capable public structures and exchange of best practices through several projects of development cooperation, good governance and sustainable local development. The path followed so far showed us how much work there is still to be done on the issues of democratic local authorities, governance, social inclusion, youth, education, multicultural policies and public service, however at the same time the response from the local institutions and citizens has been positive. The bottom-up approach gave LDA Mostar the opportunity to act as gatherer of local requests, conveying them towards appropriate answers and instruments that can foster the quality of life at local level. In particular, our actions have been focused on:

- enhancing the level of cooperation between local institutions, citizens and social stakeholders;
- raising people's awareness about their rights;
- promoting intercultural policies;
- stimulating an active citizenship;
- building capacities of local authorities and civil society organizations;
- exchange of knowledge and expertise.

Moreover, during this entire year we have been strengthening the cooperation with our partners and donors who once more listened to, trusted and helped us to achieve our goals. We would thus like to express my gratitude to them and all people who encourage us in our daily work.

### **Partners:**

Region Puglia - Italy / Partner leader,  
City of Mostar - B&H / Host partner,  
City of Monfalcone - Italy,  
Province of Venice - Italy,  
City of Kragujevac - Serbia,  
Municipality of Vejle – Denmark,  
Metropolitan City of Kayseri – Turkey,  
Municipality of Orkdal – Norway,  
Municipality of Sund – Norway,  
NGO IPSIA – Italy

LDA Mostar is member of the following associations and councils:

LDA Mostar belongs to the network of Local Democracy Agencies operating under the auspices of the Council of Europe in the territory of former Yugoslavia, Georgia and Albania; the program of LDAs, founded in 1993 by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe to support the democratic process and the respect for human rights; the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies based in Strasbourg, Brussels and Vicenza (Italy) which gathers 200 partners from 21 European countries; the Council of youth organizations of Mostar.

**Website: [www.idamostar.org](http://www.idamostar.org)**