



PROGRAMME FOR DECENTRALIZED COOPERATION

REGION LOWER NORMANDY – MACEDONIA

ACTION PLAN 2009-2010

November 2009

Last update in April 2010

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Preface

The institutional cooperation between the French region of Lower Normandy and the Republic of Macedonia is based on a three-years-long term Programme developed by the combined work of several French and Macedonian associations, working in tandem, and together with the support and the involvement of local bodies such as public institutions, schools and other associations as well. The Programme is granted by the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs and is coordinated by the Association of Local Democracy Agency (ALDA).

The project is willing to develop new actions in the field of the local governance, and this in particular within the following fields of interest: new information technologies, youth, media, cultural exchanges and cultural heritage. The aim of the programme is to contribute to a better and long-lasting relationship between the French region of Lower Normandy and the Republic of Macedonia. And this throughout the institution of a specific platform enchanting all relations and exchanges between these two territories while opening them and their cultures to the world.

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Introduction

The decentralized cooperation between the French region of Lower Normandy and Republic of Macedonia is now developing its third year of work. The success of the first two years has enabled the project to develop even more than the initial objective made. The second year, in particular, was marked by new initiatives and new partners that joined the project in all the field of cooperation. The entire work has been realized and direct partnership between local authorities has been created.

The most important event that marks this new year of cooperation was the signing of agreements on decentralized cooperation between lower Normandy Region and Macedonian Ministry for Local Self-Government. With the signing of this agreement on 20 October 2009 in Caen, Lower Normandy Region has not only formalized the institutional cooperation but has obtained a political interlocutor in Macedonia. From now on, the Region will determine the direction of cooperation together with the Ministry.

Therefore, we start this 3th year with satisfaction provided by the good results of our projects, but also with a motivation to face the new challenges. The activities will be implemented by the same project leaders, focusing part of the activities in service of Lower Normandy Region. The axes of the cooperation are extended by a new theme: agriculture, which recently added a new partners and new beneficiaries. The aim of this development is also to continue to involve other partners such as associations, institutions or schools.

The main objective of this project remains the strengthening of local governance capacities of local communities in lower Normandy and Macedonia. Local representatives of the two territories will be actively involved in the activities. One of the important issues is the regional elections in France in March and April 2010. The goal will be to encourage the local authorities to initiate the decentralized cooperation with local government in Macedonia. Some of the contacts have already been taken and these will be realized during this third year of the project.

Finally, this last year of the project is not the final year of cooperation. The Basse-Normandie Region, with ALDA and Macedonian partners, will submit a three years project (2010-2013) in French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in February 2010. The activities of this year will introduce new perspectives of the project: on the one hand developing the project on regional level with the involvement of other stakeholders in the Balkans and in the other hand opening of the project to Europe by increasing the activities to the other European actors. Certainly, this fits in the perspective of European integration of Macedonia and the efforts of mutualisation the initiatives of cooperation by French local authorities in the Balkans.

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The present document is aiming to present all scheduled activities for the second year of project, from November 2009 to October 2010. An activity description is also included, as well as all project leaders and partners of the cooperation. In attachment also a schematic action plan, a timetable and all contact information about the actors involved in this cooperation and present in this document.

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1. **Local governance and use of information and communication technologies (ICT)**

Objectives

General objective

- To enable local actors to appropriate uses of ICT for democratic practices
- Consolidate the implementation of actions to allow actors in Lower Normandy to get involved in the project of cooperation particularly in the area of EPN-BN.

Specific objective

- To continue the activities for rapprochement between the EPN Lower Normandy and the Macedonian digital clubs by starting joint projects between the structures for their respective users
- To develop awareness/information in municipalities for the functionaries and their elected.
- To continue the process of rapprochement between the Agency for civil servants of Macedonia and operators of distance-training in Lower Normandy. The Polytechnic and IAE are particularly targeted for the establishment of e-learning courses in the field of management.

Project leaders

- Metamorphosis (MK)
- Regional Council of lower Normandy (BN)

Partenaires du projet

- Polytechnicum – Lower Normandy
- Agency for civil servants of Macedonia
- EPN and digital clubs
- The municipalities interested in decentralized cooperation

Activities

1.1. Cooperation between the EPN and digital clubs

1.1.1. Workshop "Digital Solidarity" Horizons Solidaires

Date: October 2009

Place: Lower Normandy

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Hosting a delegation of 3 animators from the macedonian digital clubs in Lower Normandy. The study visit is organized in order to better understanding the role of digital clubs in Lower Normandy, in particular the concept of animation. .

1.1.2. Study visit to Macedonian animators of EPN in Lower Normandy

Date: 16-21 November 2009

Place: Lower Normandy

A meeting / debate on solidarity and technology organized in the third edition of "Afrikales" festival of African culture. Francine Rochefort, Basse-Normandie Region and an animator of EPN will speak during the debate.

1.1.3. Workshop of restitution the animators study visit

Date: 16 -21 November 2009

Place: Lower Normandy

In the framework of the animator's visit from the Macedonian digital clubs, a workshop of restitution the two visits will be organized: a kind of shared analyze of Macedonian animators on their perception of practices and crossed visions from both territories.

1.1.4. Training of animators from EPN in Lower Normandy and animators from Macedonian digital clubs

1.1.4.1. Training : animation movies, cartoon and comics on the Internet – LaCartoonerie.com et Bubblaka.com

Date: January 2010

Place: Macedonia

In January 2010, 3 animators from Lower Normandy will travel to Macedonia. They will lead a training session of 2-3 days on the techniques of film animation and cartoons/comics on Internet.

1.1.4.2. Training on the topic animation Digital Story Telling

Date: 9 – 11 February 2010

Place: Lower Normandy

In February 2010, 3 animators from Macedonia will travel to Lower Normandy, hosted by the Resource Center of EPN. They will lead a training session of 3 days on the techniques of Digital Story Telling, practice already used by the animators themselves. .

1.1.5. Digital Exhibition in Lower Normandy and Macedonia from the project workshops with users of EPN and DCH

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Date: September 2010

Place: Lower Normandy

A Digital Exhibition will be organized in Lower Normandy and Macedonia with an opening simultaneously in 3 departments in Lower Normandy and in 3 regions in Macedonia during the first fortnight of September 2010. The goal is to educate more people about the issues of digital democracy and e-citizenship.

1.2. Action for local authorities

1.2.1. Regional Seminar of awareness for elected representatives and technicians from the communities in Lower Normandy

Date : June 2010

Place: Lower Normandy+ Macedonia

The seminar will take place in June 2010, in Lower Normandy, with 2 distinct parts: contribution on local democracy and examples of democratic practices using ICT tools. The seminar will provide a better understanding of issues related to digital democracy, through use of ICT tools.

1.2.2. Concrete project shared with Metamorphosis for local authorities

Date: March 2010

Place: Lower Normandy + Macedonia

Feasibility study for the use of the site www.mysociety.org. The identification of two municipalities interested in this type of project and preparation of action for effective implementation in the fourth quarter 2010.

1.3. Establishing a partnership between the Agency for civil servants of Macedonia and Ingenium Lower Normandy on the use of e-learning resources

Several e-conferences among the partners

Date: January – June 2010

Place: Lower Normandy – Macedonia

The Agency for civil servants of Macedonia has always a need for training of employees and wants to have recourse to the utilization of e- learning. The activity consists of virtual meetings between potential partners.

1.4. Conference “ Active Citizen participation through new media ”

Date: 2-3 December 2009

Place: Macedonia

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The conference will take place on 2 and 3 December 2009. It will be organized in partnership with the Courrier de la Macédoine. The conference will bring together stakeholders in this field involved in projects of decentralized cooperation between France and the Balkans.

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2. Youth, education, local and European citizenship

Objectives

- Work on youth policies within cities and rural communities interested closer to the experiences of youth involvement.
- Involvement in opening the first center for youth information in Macedonia, in contact with integration structures and other host and orientation structures, the information coupled with the accompaniment.

Project leaders

- Platform of Youth Organizations « SEGA » (Macedonia)
- Maison de l'Europe from Caen-Lower Normandy

Project partners

- French Embassy (Office for Linguistic cooperation)
- Macedonian Agency for Youth and Sport
- Macedonian Ministry for Local-Self-Governing
- The Association of the Auto-units – Local Governing – ZELS (Macedonia)
- Lower Normand Regional Direction for Youth and Sports
- Caen board of Academic Education
- Association “Mémoire pour la vie”
- Ligy de l'enseignement –Lower Normandy

Activities

2.1. Support local authorities to define and implement policies for sustainable youth and participatory

2.1.1. Summary Seminar

Date: June 2010

Place: Macedonia

2.1.2. Developing a good practice guide

Date: August 2010

Place: Lower Normandy + Macedonia

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2.2. The young actors of their life course : to be directed in his formation, his job, to be mobile in Europe

2.2.1. Study visit about the information, direction and support for Young

Date: 8 – 12 March 2010

Place: Lower Normandy

A delegation from Macedonia will be in Lower Normandy, from 8 to 12 March 2010, for a Study visit on orientation and professional integration of young people. The program consists meetings with associations and other structures around Caen about tools and services allowing to respond to the needs in the field of professional integration: information, orientation, accompaniment, training, and access to employment.

2.2.2. Day of Europe. Europe view from Lower Normandy and Macedonia

Date: 9 May 2010

Place: Lower Normandy + Macedonia

This year, young people from Macedonia and France have decided to celebrate 9 may, the day of Europe together. A video – conference will be organized where young people from both countries will have the opportunity through the use of new technologies to exchange ideas on Europe, cultural diversity, young people’s life in general. It is through debate on these issues that the young people can contribute to European constitution.

2.3. La francophonie, carrier of civic humanist and universal values

2.3.1. Training of elected high-school students and representatives from Union of high-school students

Date: May 2010

Place: Macedonia

Training for high – school student will take place in Macedonia in May, organized by the Coalition of Youth organizations from Macedonia “SEGA” and House of Europe from Caen, Lower Normandy. This training will be on the theme “commitments and responsibilities in instances of high – school life” will bring together high – school students from France and Macedonia. The aim of this seminar is to enable young people to find tools and means through their own proposals on the future of youth policy in both territories.

2.4. Transverse activities : involvement of elected representative in decentralized cooperation programme Lower Normandy – Macedonia

2.4.1. Pilot training on active citizenship

Date: November/December 2009

Place: Lower Normandy + Macedonia

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2.4.2. European voluntary

Date: March 2010 - January 2011

Place: Macedonia

2.4.3. European Youth exchange

Date : July 2010

Place: Macedonia

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3. Society for information and Medias

Objectives

General Objective

- Bring closer the local information to citizens
- Develop a resource centre normando – macedonian

Specific Objective

- Establish sustainable links between the editors of local newspapers of Lower Normandy and Macedonia
- To allow fluid communication between all partners of cooperation Lower Normandy - Macedonia

Project leaders

- Courrier des Balkans (LN)
- Courrier de la Macédoine/Glasnikot (MK)

Project partners

- Ouest-Fraternité
- Ouest France
- Association of journalist of Macedonia
- Municipalities in cooperation

Activities

3.1. Bring closer the local information to citizens

3.1.1. 2 Visits of local correspondents during the delegations trip

Date: 9 – 13 May 2010

Place: Berovo - Macedonia

In this third year, two visits of local correspondents are foreseen. During the visits of delegations from municipalities one local correspondent from local media will accompany the delegation concerned to cover the event and to meet a colleague. This kind of meeting will enable the exchange of practices among local journalists.

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3.1.2. 2 round tables in Macedonia on issues of local democracy

Date: TBC

Place: Macedonia

During the 3th year of the project 2 round tables will be organized in Macedonia. The goal is to establish a dialogue between citizens, actors from Macedonian civic society, with participants from Lower Normandy to exchange experience.

3.2. Develop a relevant information in French and in Macedonian

3.2.1. Diffusing information about Macedonia in French language

a. Translation (6 articles per month)

b. Redaction of articles (2 articles per month)

c. Writing a bimonthly newsletter on Macedonia (2 articles per month)

Date : November 2009 to October 2010 – 11 months continuous (except August)

Place: Lower Normandy- Macedonia

During the 3th year of the project, will be translated and published articles in French on the web site « Courrier des Balkans ». The translated articles will allow a better knowledge of Macedonia and the Region, not only to the partners from Lower Normandy but also to the francophone public.

3.2.2. Animation on the website for decentralized cooperation project Lower Normandy - Macedonia

Date: november2009 to October 2010 (continuous)

Place: Lower Normandy- Macedonia

The web site of decentralized cooperation lower Normandy – Macedonia is presented in 3 languages: French, Albanian and Macedonian. CdB ensure upload and update links/articles on topics of interest for the cooperation.

3.2.3. Regional conference on new communication technologies

Date: 2-3 December 2009

Place: Macedonia

Same activity as 1.4. Axis 1 (New Technologies)

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4. Cultural policies

Objectives

General objectives

- Awareness of cultural policies, the decentralization of culture;
- Encouraging cooperation and partnership between local and national institutions and NGO's
- Encouraging artistic exchange and mobility between Macedonia and Lower Normandy

Specific objectives

- Continuation of the dialogue dedicate on the culture in Lower Normandy and Macedonia and strategies of cultural development at national, regional and local level;
- Creating a basis for the next phase during 3 years project development for decentralized cooperation, dedicate to creating platforms for cooperation and dialogue between civic sector and public institutions in order to develop models to creating a cultural policies
- Improving cultural and artistic cooperation and mobility of artists between the two territories.

Project leaders

- Lokomotiva (MK)
- Regional Council of Lower Normandy (decentralized cooperation services)

Project partners

- Several municipalities in Lower Normandy and Macedonia
- Association « Balkan Transit »
- Museum of Normandy
- Museum of Fine Arts
- Comédie (Comedy) of Caen
- Theatre of Caen
- The Courier des Balkans (Balkan Courier)
- French cultural centre of Skopje
- French embassy in Macedonia
- National Theatre of Macedonia
- Skopje city Museum
- National Gallery of Macedonia

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- Cultural centre TOCKA
- Metamorphosis
- Le Courrier de la Macédoine

Activities

4.1. Conference on the decentralization of cultural policies

4.1.1. Meeting to prepare the conference

Date: may 2010

Place: Lower Normandy

In order to better prepare the conference on the decentralization of cultural policies, a technique meeting for preparation will take place in Macedonia in January.

4.1.2. Conference on the cultural decentralization

Date: September 2010

Place: Lower Normandy

In June 2010 in Caen, will be organized the conference on the cultural decentralization. The goal is to meet persons who work in area of culture, local representatives and other actors from this field in order to exchange ideas to develop the local and cultural policies.

4.2. Research of the needs of some local authorities in the field of culture

Date: February – may 2010

Place: Macedonia

During the first half of 2010 a research will be realize from Lokomotiva in 3 Macedonian municipalities in order to explore the potential of developing a local cultural policy. These are municipalities that are already included in the project whit Lower Normandy to strengthen the direct links between local authorities in Lower Normandy and Macedonia.

4.3. Printemps Balkanique

4.3.1. Photos exhibition on Macedonia in Lower Normandy (by: Emmanuel Luce)

Date: spring 2010

Place: Lower Normandy

During the festival « Printemps Balkanique » an exhibition of the photographer Emmanuel Luce will be organized. This photographer has had the opportunity to stay in Macedonia for 5 months in 2009 in order to photograph the activities of decentralized cooperation programme Lower Normandy – Macedonia. Apart from the photos on the project, this

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photographer had made many photos representing the life in Macedonia. These photos will be exhibited in Lower Normandy.

4.3.2. Support the festival « Printemps Balkanique »

Date: April, May and June 2010

Place: Lower Normandy + Macedonia

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5. Cultural heritage and sustainable tourism

Objectives

General objective

- To increase the capacity of local government to support the development of alternative tourism in their municipalities and to emphasize the cultural heritage
- Increase public awareness by concrete actions of enhancing the cultural heritage
- To promote direct links between the peoples of both territories

Specific objective

- Find institutional or/and private partners in order to facilitate the sustainability of concrete initiated actions
- Making better the partnership with other centers of cooperation
- To strengthen partnership action Lower Normandy – Macedonia involving municipalities

Project leaders

- Savoir-faire et découverte (Lower Normandy)
- Center for institutional development– CIRA (Macedonia)

Project partners

- Heritage inventory services of the Regional Council of Lower Normandy
- Chamber of tourism in Macedonia
- Several municipalities from lower Normandy and Macedonia
- Regional Center of ethnologic and ethnic cultures – CRECET
- University of Skopje – Faculty of architecture

Activities

5.1. Development of alternative tourism in Macedonian municipalities

5.1.1. Study visit of representative of 3 Macedonian municipalities in Lower Normandy (Berovo, Novaci and Mariovo)

Date: 22 – 25 February 2010

Place: Lower- Normandy

In February 2010 3 representative of municipalities Novaci, Berovo and Mariovo will be on study visit in lower Normandy. The goal of this study visit is to visit different actors who

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work on sustainable tourism and cultural heritage in Lower Normandy. The aim of the initiative will be to organize a structured offer to attract tourist in these 3 Macedonian municipalities.

5.1.2. Tourist offer in Macedonia for people in Lower Normandy

Date: July 2010

Place: Macedonia

5.1.3. Inventory of cultural heritage

Date: 27 June – 1 July 2010

Place: Macedonia

The practice of cultural heritage inventory that was done the first two years in Novaci and Berovo will also be done in Mariovo this year. This is rather to identify the potential of the territory (cultural and natural heritage) in order to put them in service of sustainable tourism. Students and French and Macedonian experts will be involved in inventory during 7 days.

5.2. Networking municipalities around sustainable tourism

5.2.1. Promote the video about the inventory of cultural heritage

Date: 6th, 7th and 10th April 2010

Place: Macedonia

During the second year of the project was made 2 videos: one on the inventory of cultural heritage who took place in Berovo in July 2009 and another on the formation of the renovation of build in Jance, Mavrovo in September 2009.

These 2 videos will be presented during the 3 round tables organized:

- on 6th April 2010 in Novaci
- 7th April 2010 in Mariovo – Rostuse
- 10th April 2010 in Berovo

The goal of this activity is to present all the good practices and exchange of experiences in Macedonia fostering the development of cultural heritage in these 3 municipalities.

5.3. Cultural heritage preservation

5.3.1. Fundraising for the renovation training

Date: December 2009 - May 2010

Place: Macedonia

5.3.2. Training on the house renovation whit traditional materials

Date: September 2010

Place: Macedonia

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6. Agricultural sectors

Objectives

General objective

Specific objectives

Project leaders

- Afdi Lower Normandy (LN)

Project partners

- FFRM, Federation of Farmers in the Republic of Macedonia (MK)
- IADK, Initiative for Agriculture Development in Kosovo (Kosovo)

Activities

6.1. Study visit in Lower Normandy

Date: December 2009

Place: Lower Normandy

In December 2009 a study visit will be organized in Lower Normandy for the representative of Federation of farmers in Macedonia. The aim of the study visit is to become a familiar with the situation of agriculture in Lower Normandy and in France in general.

6.2. Mission in Macedonia

Date: January 2010

Place: Macedonia

In January 2010, 2 persons from AFDI Lower Normandy will come on a mission to Macedonia to prepare the future activities with the federation of farmers of Macedonia.

Action plan schema

		2009			2010			
		October	November	December	January	February	March	April
0	General						Steering committee	
							Steering committee	
1	ICT	Workshop 1.1.1	Study visit 1.1.2	Conference 1.4	Formation 1.1.4.1	Formation on the topic of animation 1.1.4.2	Concrete project share whit Metamorphosis 1.2.2	
			Workshop 1.1.3					
2	Youth		Training active citizenship 2.4.1				Information workshop 2.2.1	Meeting with high-school representatives 2.3.1
3	Media			Conference on the media 3.2.3				
4	Cultural policies				conference preparation 4.1.1	Research 4.2		
								conference preparation 4.1.1
5	Sustainable tourism				Networking seminar 5.2.2	Study visit 5.1.1		
6	Agriculture			Study visit 6.1	Mission in Macedonia 6.2			

* This document does not contain the ongoing activities, but only punctual events

** The events in blue are held in France

***The events in violet are held in Macedonia

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		2010					
		May	June	July	August	September	October
0	General	Intermediary report				Final report	
1	TIC		Seminar 1.2.1			Digital exposition 1.1.5	
2	Youth	Day of Europe 2.2.2	Syntheses seminar 2.1.1	Youth exchange 2.4.3	Guide elaboration 2.1.2		
3	Media						
4	Culture	Research 4.2				Conference on the cultural decentralization 4.1.2	
5	Sustainable tourism	Training on renovation 5.3.2	Inventory of cultural heritage 5.1.3	Tourist offer 5.1.2			
6	Agriculture						

Annexes

1. Schematic action plan (attachement)
2. List of partners (attachment)
3. Budget 3th year (attachment)