

# The Local Democracy Agencies in the Balkans

- The Local Democracy Agencies in the Balkans accompanied the period of transition, since 1993. They represented a milestone of the communities for dialogue between civil society and local authorities.
- LDAs are providing better conditions for developing local democracy and citizen participation by building their capacities, initiating cooperation and helping in finding their partners for joint projects. It is an address where one can find the ground his/her activities.
- LDAs provide a direct contact with the Council of Europe and European Union in dialogue with the partners and with ALDA.
- LDAs are connected with a large network of partners and members of ALDA and can provide good elements for projects for local communities.
- The City of Kragujevac (Serbia) was one of the founders of LDA CSS. The City has been involved in many projects of the local LDAs and benefited for an intense network of projects which facilitated the work of the municipalities and offered to citizens opportunities of job and education.

# **ALDA projects implemented in Kragujevac**

## ***Handicap and Integration***

*Donor: Codess sociale*

- Establishment of the first social cooperative in Serbia,
- Establishment of “Daily Center for persons with mental disabilities”,
- Trainings in Serbia,
- Study visit to Italy.

## ***Actions of capacity building for local authorities and civil society in SE Europe***

*Donor: ANCI (The Association of Italian Cities)*

- Training for Young Entrepreneurs.

## ***Local economic development***

*Donor: Irish Aid programme*

- A conference on industrially dismissed areas.

## ***Periferie***

*Donor: Autonomous Province of Trento, Italy*

- Promotion of cultural, artistic and civil growth of young people through the exchanges.

## ***Progetto Welfare***

*Donor: City of Reggio Emilia, Italy*

- Support to the public administration in the provision of innovative services to the children with special needs,
- Creation of a partnership between the Youth Centers in Reggio Emilia and Kragujevac.

## ***Local economic development in the Balkan***

*Donor: French Government*

- Fostering economic development in local communities in the Balkans
- Establishing social cooperative “Let us grow together”
- Visit to France

## ***Strengthening awareness on waste management***

*Donor: Canton Geneva*

- Purchasing and installation of 80 containers,
- Permanent education for the pre-school children and the pupils in schools, implemented by pupils-trainers, ‘young-environmental promoters’ .

## ***Reparation of the kindergarten “Kolibri***

*Donor: City of Suresnes, France*

- Refurbishment of the kitchen,
- Revitalization of the courtyard.

## ***Institutional support of the City of Suresnes to the City of Kragujevac in defining city social policy***

*Donor: French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and City of Suresnes*

- Workshop for the officials in Local Government and Social policy Department of the City of Kragujevac,
- Study visit to Suresnes (France).

