

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES

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## ACTIVITY REPORT

2018





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## ABOUT ALDA

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ALDA – The European Association for Local Democracy, is dedicated to the promotion of good governance and citizen participation at the local level. ALDA focuses on activities facilitating cooperation between local authorities and civil society.

ALDA was established in 1999 at the initiative of the Council of Europe to coordinate and support the network of Local Democracy Agencies, which are self-sustainable, locally registered CSOs (Civil Society Organisations) acting as promoters of good governance and local self-government. Today, ALDA is a key stakeholder in the field of local democracy, active citizenship, and cooperation between local authorities and civil society.

ALDA is a membership-based organisation gathering 300 members (including local authorities, associations of local authorities, and civil society organisations) from over 40 countries in the enlarged Europe. ALDA is funded through membership fees, as well as project funding from the European Commission, the Council of Europe, and other public and private donors.

### **Our unique features**

Most of ALDA's work is based on the method of multilateral decentralised cooperation. This method involves a multi-stakeholder approach which focuses on strong partnerships between local authorities and non-governmental organisations. These partnerships create positive synergies and ensure that common goals are reached in a successful way.

### **What we do**

In the framework of the promotion of good governance and citizen participation at the local level, ALDA focuses on various themes, such as European integration, decentralisation, civic initiatives and volunteering, human rights and sustainable economic development.

### **ALDA conducts its activities through different forms of action:**

- Coordinating and supporting the 14 Local Democracy Agencies and 3 Operational Partners in their activities

- Conducting its own projects in the field of good governance and citizen participation at the local level
- Supporting other local stakeholders' initiatives by providing expertise gained through ALDA's knowledge and experience in the regions where ALDA and the Local Democracy Agencies are working

## **Where we work**

ALDA works throughout the enlarged Europe. Activities in the European Union focus in particular on the promotion of Active European Citizenship. Activities in the Western Balkans and European Neighbourhood focus on good governance, citizen participation, European integration, and decentralisation.

Most of the Local Democracy Agencies (LDAs) are located in the Western Balkans, which gives a natural focus on that area. But ALDA is also becoming more and more active in the European Neighbourhood. During the years, 5 LDAs have been established in various Eastern Partnership countries, while in 2017 the first one was established in the Southern Neighbourhood, in Kairouan (Tunisia). ALDA is also leading several other projects and developing partnerships in other European Neighbouring countries, such as Belarus, Morocco, Algeria, and Turkey.

## THE NETWORK OF LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES - *OUR RASION D'ÊTRE*

### ALDA at glance



### Supporting good governance and citizen participation on the field

ALDA coordinates and supports the network of 14 Local Democracy Agencies (LDAs) and 3 Operational Partners (OPs) in their activities. ALDA works throughout the enlarged Europe. Most of the Local Democracy Agencies are located in the Western Balkans, but ALDA is more and more active in the European Neighborhood with 5 LDAs in various Eastern Partnership countries and the first one in the Southern Neighborhood, in Kairouan (Tunisia), established in 2017.

The LDAs and OPs are supported by more than 100 partners (local authorities and civil society organizations) all over Europe, providing financial and political support to fulfil their mandate and to accompany local democracy, civil society empowerment and participation in the decision-making process at the local level.

Most of ALDA's and the LDA's work is based on an innovative and successful method of multilateral decentralized cooperation, which involves a multi-stakeholder approach and focuses on partnerships between Local Authorities and Non-Governmental Organizations. These partnerships create synergy and ensure that common goals are reached in a successful way. It focuses on mutual benefit of the cooperation, on a participative and long-term approach in order to strength the real effectiveness of the impact on both communities. The multilateral approach allows a better sustainability as well as a multicultural input to the initiatives.

The LDAs partnerships by means of multilateral decentralized co-operation have been developed through two main lines of action:

1. Territorial based approach, involving all the actors of the communities concerned on a geographic base;
2. Thematic networking focused on specific, commonly determined issues connecting different local communities.

Objectives of the activity of Local Democracy Agencies and Operational Partners are:

- To promote good local governance and support initiatives aimed at improving citizen participation.
- To enhance institution and capacity building at the local level through the exchange of know-how and training of locally elected representatives and administrators.
- To develop a Europe-wide network of citizens committed to the respect for human and minority rights.
- To foster the development of a civil society in which all sections of the community participate.
- To support intercultural dialogue and diversity management capacities in multicultural local communities.
- To promote the respect for human/minority rights in local communities.

## Financial sustainability of the LDAs

A study carried out by ALDA in 2013 shows that the overall yearly budget of the LDAs constantly increased since 2009 despite the economic context, guaranteeing enough availability of resources for the implementation of the respective action plans. The available funds are managed by the LDAs themselves or by the members of the 7-partnerships established for the implementation of a specific project. Following the

implementation of projects and activities, financial reports are drawn up to ensure transparency and appropriate use of the funds.

There are three different types of funding sources:

1. Funds resulting from the LDA's fundraising.
2. ALDA's support to the LDAs
3. Fees of the LDAs' partners.

The funds resulting from the fundraising activity of the LDAs have steadily increased over the years, representing in 2012 a total of 87, 10% of the total available budget. These funds come from European, national, and other international supporting programmes originating from the EU, the Council of Europe, national, regional, and local authorities and other international organizations. At the same time, the other two sources, partners' fees and ALDA's support to LDAs, considerably decreased in terms of financial support.

ALDA pursues its coordination and supporting mission to the LDAs by providing them with adequate expertise at all stages of the implementation of projects (funding opportunities, establishment of new partnerships, project implementation, and exchange and sharing of good practices, technical support, joint projects etc.). ALDA has been involved in several projects and providing support of all kind to the Local Democracy Agencies in order to further the promotion of local democracy and citizens' participation at the local level.

**DETAILED PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITES OF  
LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES IN 2018**

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## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY ARMENIA

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**Delegate:** Lusine Aleksandryan

**Established:** 2011

### **Key partners:**

- City of Gyumri, host city
- Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia (Italy, lead partner)
- Urban Foundation for Sustainable Development (Armenia)
- Journalists' Club "Asparez" (Armenia)
- "Shirak Centre" NGO (Armenia)
- Community Finance Officers Association

### **Main objectives:**

- To establish the LDA foundation Armenia as a convincing actor for enhancing Citizen Participation, good governance and local democracy
- To promote youth participation in decision-making processes and women's integration into the society
- To generate tourism and cultural development initiatives
- To foster cooperation with the French and Italian Embassies, the Black Sea NGO forum, the European Institutions and the local authorities and to enlarge the network with other LDAs in particular with LDA Georgia and LDA Ukraine while assisting with the realization of the main challenges of the Civil Society Forum for the Eastern Partnership Armenian National Platform together with the relevant stakeholders



## Our goals:



- The promotion of concrete initiatives to consolidate democracy at the local level
- The development of institutions at the local level thanks to the exchange of know-how, training of the local councillors and territorial local servants.
- The promotion of entrepreneurship initiatives through local democracy
- The promotion of respect of human rights especially women and children
- The promotion of regional & European cooperation, as well as EAP

## International cooperation

### CONCORD spring session hub 3

During the visit in Brussels from 13th to 15th of March, LDA Armenia delegate Lusine Aleksandryan facilitated a session on "CSOs as multipliers for Deliberative democracy and community engagement" during the "Promoting Civil Society Space" CONCORD spring session hub. Other sessions rose the issues referring to the difficulties for creating enabling environments for CSO's and constant funding. Alongside meetings at the offices of IDEA with Marlyin Neven and the EAP Civil Society Forum with Lidia Gromazdka took place for experience sharing and further possible cooperation.





## ALDA General Assembly

LDA Armenia delegate Lusine Aleksandryan participated in ALDA General Assembly and training for LDA's in Brussels from 3-6th of May. According to the decision of the ALDA board, Lusine was elected as President of General Assembly 2018 which was a high responsibility and a great honor. During the General Assembly "Videos of the main achievements of ALDA & LDAs" were presented, such important documents as budget and programme of 2018, strategic views and Values of ALDA were approved. The training for LDAs opened new platforms for experience exchange, approaches in citizens' participation and good governance.



## Deliberative Democracy Institute

Dayton, Ohio hosted about 150 participants from all over the world on 9-13th of July to promote community development and deliberate for the better future. LDA Armenia delegate Lusine Aleksandryan returned for the second year for the Deliberative Democracy Institute to exchange the experience in the communities on the methodology of framing issues and deliberation. Besides, she also facilitated with colleagues a session on "Citizens' participation in decision-making processes" based on the Kettering method to rise problems and suggest actions and drawbacks. Lusine Aleksandryan will keep on applying the method in the communities of Armenia.

## "The European Label of Governance' Excellence" ELOGE training

A delegation composed of ALDA experts and LDAs directors got an opportunity to participate in the training "The European Label of Governance' Excellence" ELOGE in Strasbourg, France on 13th and 14th of September. LDA Armenia delegate Lusine Aleksandryan was involved in the delegation to get experience and skills on the 12 principles of Good Governance and their implementation in the communities of Armenia. New approaches to promote accountability and transparency of local authorities and achieve real assessment.



LDA director Lusine Aleksandryan was selected to participate in the *Black Sea Basin Partner Forum* for ENI CBC Joint Operational Programme Black Sea Basin 2014-2020, in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova on 26th of September together with the LDA colleague from Georgia, Nino Khukhua and ALDA EAP coordinator, Alexandru Coica. The aim of the forum was to enable the applicants to search and find partners with similar ideas for joint proposals. LDA Armenia and LDA Georgia will combine their ideas for project proposal with new partners from the EU and LDA's from other EAP countries.

## Black Sea NGO Forum

The 11th edition of the *Black Sea NGO Forum* took place in Brussels from 12-14 of November with the participation of different civic stakeholders from the Black Sea Region. The edition aimed to strengthen our voice as civil society representatives, for building future partnerships and becoming more and more resilient by tackling together common challenges. Interactive sessions, interesting workshops, meetings with potential donors paved new ways for common visions and further cooperation.



## Meetings, conferences and trainings

On 26th of March, Ms. Lusine Aleksandryan participated in the civil society organizations meeting with the president of the permanent committee dealing with economic issues of the National Assembly, Mr. Khosrov Harutyunyan. Mr. Harutyunyan



mentioned the importance of NGOs in decision-making processes especially in the preparatory and implementation monitoring phase.



LDA Armenia delegate, Lusine Aleksandryan acted as facilitator during the training "Community involvement in decision-making processes and deliberative democracy" for the youth groups from 8 communities of the Shirak region. The training was initiated by the NGO "Women for Development, in the frames of 2 days sessions on "Community project -proposal drafting". The participants gained knowledge on community issues, ways to solve them and reflect the proposals to the donors and local authorities. Lusine's training targeted the legal framework that allows citizens to participate in the decision-making processes, city councils and community leader responsibilities and obligations defined by law and the principles of naming and framing the issues, according to the methodology suggested by Kettering foundation.



The former head of Communication Department of ALDA, Ms. Irene Zanetti visited LDA Armenia office in Gyumi on the 4th of June, holding a meeting with ALDA members, Sarapat community, the organisation "Women for Development" and other community leaders, such as Nahapatavan, Getap, Nor Kyanq, Saralanj, all interested in ALDA's activities and mission. This activity follows Ms. Aleksandryan's actions as ALDA Ambassador, thus promoting the network and supporting the communities to get more involved in ALDA initiatives. A meeting at the kindergarten "Bell" with the director where LDA Armenia implemented participative and cooperative project was followed. Irene Zanetti shared her experience on the visibility promotion of the kindergarten, opportunities for staff capacity-building on the European new approaches and methodologies.



The delegate Lusine Aleksandryan participated in the training on "Policy Analysis", on June 27<sup>th</sup>, organized by the NGO center in the frame of the project "Collaborative Governance Model of Policy making in Armenia", funded by the European Union. The training focused on procedures civil society organizations should follow in order to have a tangible impact, as well as on more technical aspects.



LDA Armenia financial officer Lilit Grigoryan participated in the trainings organized by the NGO center within the project "Collaborative Governance Model of Policy making in Armenia", funded by the EU. The theme was "State budget, project-based budgeting".



Having established a strong cooperation with the Association of Rural mayors of France, LDA Armenia was invited to participate in the joint round table "Democratic and Comprehensive local development", in October 2018, initiated by the Ministry of Territorial Management and Development and UNDP. There were different presentations held by French and Armenian local authorities on youth participation in decision-making processes, gender equality, the role of citizens in the economic and sustainable development of communities and the impact of innovative technologies.

10th of October was a great day for the LDA Armenia partner, *Communities Finance Officers Association*, being the 20th Anniversary of its establishment and the presentation of 10th book on *Local Self-Government in Armenia*. The president, Mr. Vahan Movsisyan presented the Association, its cooperation with national and international donors and the local and national authorities. He also presented the main chapters and content of the book. Different civil society and ministry representatives joined the event and congratulated CFOA staff for their achievements, pointing out their role in the local context and the importance of their activities. LDA Armenia has established real partnership relations with CFOA and values the role of the Association



On the 19th of December, the LDA Armenia participated in the 2nd consecutive forum of "Women for Development" NGO, entitled "10 years of activity in rural communities of Shirak region", with focus on gained experience, reached outcomes and future perspectives. Its purpose was to summarize WFD work in 12 rural communities of the Shirak region for the past 10 years and to discuss the results, as well as current and the future plans.



During the event the beneficiary community members presented their projects, achievements, touched upon difficulties faced during project implementation, and shared their vision for future programs. Additionally, most promising business projects, developed in the frames of a cooperation between WFD NGO and Finance in Motion, were presented and awarded with small grants.

## Ongoing projects

### “Citizens’ Voice and Action in Consolidated Municipalities in Armenia”

The project “Citizens’ Voice and Action in Consolidated Municipalities in Armenia” has started on the 31st of March and it is carried on by the consortium of Communities Finance Officers Association, the Association of Local Democracy Agencies, the LDA Armenia as a sub-contractor and the Association of Communities of Armenia. The first steering committee meeting was held on May 17<sup>th</sup> with CFOA, CAA and ALDA representatives.



Within the months of July-December different activities took place:

- A tender was announced for the design and construction of a SKI centre in Ashotsk, Shirak region. After the deadline extension 2 applications were received from which in agreement with EUD, CFOA and ALDA, Shell Construction LLC was confirmed. After some documentation issues, the grant was confirmed and from middle of October 2018 the construction commenced.
- Regional meetings were organized to make the community leaders familiar with the project, their involvement and future activities.
- Different meetings were held with the tourism stakeholders, Civil society, EUD representatives, the construction company and international tourism experts to get a better understanding and priorities of the construction of the ski center.



**The opening of the ski center took place on 26th of January 2018.**





## **“Government-CSO Dialogue for Developing Consensus-based Approach for Reduction of Plastic Bags”**

The project “CSO-Government dialogue: Towards policy reforms on reducing the use of plastic bags” started in 2016 by LDA Armenia, Urban foundation and Yerevan State University and Environmental Law Research Center. The aim was to identify consensus-based approaches and practices to reduced the use of plastic bags and develop a set of policy recommendations. During the first stage, the project has carried out several background studies on the following aspects that were deemed important for the elaboration of a comprehensive and replicable policy: legal analysis, best international practices, public opinion survey, impact of plastic waste on the nature, alternative economically viable solutions for plastic bags.

Activities carried out in the first stage showed that there is no reliable and recorded data regarding volumes of plastic waste/shopping bags being produced or imported, used and deposited that could serve as baseline for setting realistic targets for their reduction. Therefore, it is decided that this gap should be filled in the second phase of the project in order that the policy recommendations and the strategy are based on objective evidence and facts, are relevant and sustainable. This approach is in line with the Ministry of Nature Protection’s policy of piloting reduction of plastic bags in one town of Armenia –Talin of Aragatsotn region - for further replication in other communities throughout the country by which the project will have valuable contribution to the elaboration of policy and strategy for reduction of plastic shopping bags and plastic waste in general throughout the country.

In December, three experts on elaboration of strategy and policy on scaling up reduction of use of plastic, public education and behavior change, measuring effectiveness in utilization of alternative packaging were interviewed and shortlisted by LDA Armenia and Urban foundation. The ministry of Nature Protection brought its contribution in the recruitment process by holding a meeting with the potential experts. Margarita Terzyan, Heghine Grigoryan and Narine Mailyan were recruited and commenced the assignment from December 5th, 2018. The following activities have been implemented in December:

- A survey is being implemented among Talin population with the local youth support to clarify their attitude towards the use of Plastic bags and to compare with the results of the project.
- The target audiences have been mapped for the public awareness campaign.
- Community active youth was mobilized to support the project activities and to widely disseminate the ideas.

- The experts on public education and behavior change, measuring effectiveness in utilization of alternative packaging have already prepared their first reports about their assignment methodology and timetable.

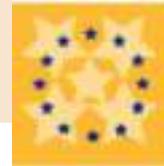
## Conclusion

In 2018 the “Local Democracy Agency” foundation Armenia reinforced its mission at the international level in Europe and USA participating as an expert in the trainings on citizens’ participation and local democracy. LDA Armenia kept on cooperation with Black Sea NGO Forum, embassies, UNDP and Union of Rural Mayors of France, local Civil Society representatives, communities.

Currently two main projects are being implemented that bring real outcomes and visibility of LDA Armenia in the local democracy landscape and tourism, youth sphere at the regional level.



*Gyumri, 11.02.2019*



## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN SERBIA

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**Delegate:** Sasa Marinkov

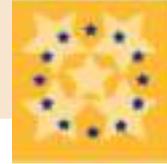
**Established:** 2001

**Main objectives:**

- Fostering democratic governance and citizen participation at the local level
- Youth empowerment
- Supporting the process of Serbia's EU integration

**Key partners:**

- Associazione Trentino con i Balcani, Italy; provides program partnership
- Municipality Knjaževac, Serbia; provides in kind contribution (rent-free office space), programme partnership and financial support through open call for CSOs' project proposals.



## Activities implemented in 2018

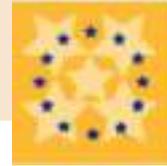
### **Balkan Regional platform for youth participation and dialogue**

A project funded by European Union through Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations - Support to Regional Thematic Associations, Western Balkans Fund and Knjazevac Municipality.

Partners: European Association for Local Democracy ALDA - FR, Local Democracy Agencies from Mostar, Prijedor, Zavidovici – BH, Niksic - MO, Peja – KS\*, Subotica – SER and ALDA Skopje – MK



Through the creation of Balkan Regional Network for Local Democracy and a series of locally and regionally implemented activities, this project aims to contribute to structuring regional thematic cooperation and coordination between CSOs and public authorities from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Kosovo\* and Serbia and help improve environment for youth activism and participation, in particular of young people with fewer opportunities from Mostar, Prijedor, Zavidovici, Niksic, Peja, Subotica, Knjaževac and Skopje.

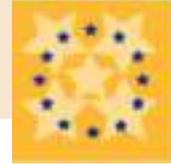


Main achievements at the local level in Knjaževac, were the establishment of the Council of Youngsters, that aims at becoming an informal youth advisory body to the local self-government for issues relevant for youth in Knjaževac Municipality and the participatory mechanism “Youth Taking Over day” - practice of regular meetings of youngsters with representatives of local self-government in order to coordinate youth related activities. Besides this, local voluntary youth info service established through this project – Info Point Knjaževac has organized a series of events to promote EU youth mobility programmes (Erasmus+) and trainings on youth activism for the students of two



high schools in Knjaževac.

At the regional level, the results from the research study “Youth cultural participation in the Balkans” have been published and promoted and several important events happened: the Network Coordination Meeting in Podgorica (MN), Balkan Youth Forum “Creative innovations towards active youth participation in the Balkans” in Skopje (MK) and Regional Round Table in Novi Sad (SRB). All these events gathered representatives of CSOs, local authorities and youth workers coming from different Western Balkan



countries and enabled valuable networking and exchange of practices in supporting youth participation in the region.

The event in Novi Sad was also a possibility for all the partners to evaluate and promote the achievements made over the past four years and to discuss the creation of the Balkan Network for Local Democracy BNLD strategy document as the comprehensive vision of the road map for working together in the forthcoming years.

## Regional Youth Compact for Europe

A project funded by European Union and the Balkan Trust for Democracy, a project of the German Marshall Fund of the United States.

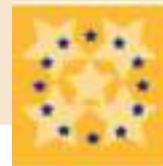
Partners: Balkan Network for Local Democracy BNLD, Center for Democracy Foundation (SRB), ALDA (FR), CRTA (SRB), Youth Act (AL) and SODEM (TUR).

This multi-annual project brings together 14 CSO partners from the EU, the Western Balkans and Turkey and diverse stakeholders and opens up the space for



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increased youth engagement in policy dialogue, advocacy and monitoring of the EU integration progress achieved in Turkey and Western Balkan countries.

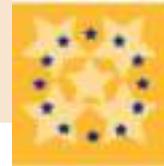
The project foresees capacity building, awareness raising, and advocacy actions organized at local, national and regional level.

During 2018, the main activities were: the first regional training for Network members, "Western Balkans and the EU, a credible perspective of the reforms towards EU integration", in Novi Sad (SRB) and the official public presentation of the project followed by the Study Visit to the National Convention on the EU in Belgrade (SRB).



**Do we know how to listen, watch and read correctly?**

A project funded by European Union through Erasmus + program



Partners: Cultural Heritage Institute, BG; Regional Advocacy Center, MK; JOL-LET, HUN; Bué Fixe Youth Organization, PT

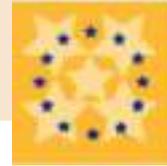
This youth exchange project aimed to advance media literacy with young people through development of their critical thinking, communication and digital technologies skills. LDACSS enabled the participation of 5 youngsters from Serbia in this 10-day exchange that took place in Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria. Host of this international seminar was the Foundation Cultural Heritage Institute from Zlatica.



## Youth's advocate

This project is funded by European Union through the Erasmus + program

Partners: Local democracy agency Mostar, Local democracy agency Prijedor, Local democracy agency Zavidovici, BH; Local democracy agency Subotica, SRB; Local democracy agency Brtonigla/Verteneglio, CRO; Open Doors Centre Tirana, AL; System & Generation Ankara, TUR; ALDA Skopje, MK; Local democracy agency Kosovo, KS\*; Association of young ecologist Niksic, MN.



This project is aimed at empowering young people for the articulation of their interests and needs by using different models, mechanisms and techniques and at strengthening capacities for participation in policy making process of youth workers from 8 countries (Western Balkan countries, Croatia and Turkey).

Main activity of this project was a 5-day training on youth policy advocacy and lobbying campaigns for 35 youth workers. The youth workers had the possibility to learn more about the practical ways of participation and involvement in the creation of local policies and actions.

## **Italian volunteerS promote active participation of disadvantaged youth**

Funded by European Union through Erasmus + program

Partners: Cooperativa Margherita, IT.

The overall objective of the project was to contribute to the creation of an open and tolerant environment, favourable for active participation of young people of Knjazevac with geographical and economical obstacles in

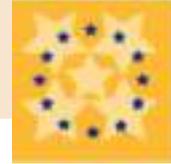


mobility programmes. more specifically we aimed to equip Italian volunteers, as well as local youngsters, with new communication and intercultural skill and promote EU values and EU supported youth mobility programmes through the local voluntary youth info point, targeting young people, their parents and educators, and raising awareness about intercultural issues and opportunities among general public in Knjazevac.

The project involved one Italian volunteer, Eleonora, committed toward volunteerism, open-minded and friendly, curious to discover a new culture and language, interested in working with youth, creative and motivated to implement activities to contribute to the awareness of young people of Knjazevac on intercultural issues and active citizenship topics.

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

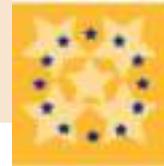
2018



Over the course of 4 months our Italian volunteer has supported local youth info service - Info Point Knjazevac by joining a team of local volunteers already running the LDA's youth info service and by organizing special presentations that provided youth of Knjazevac with information and personal EVS experience focused on EU programs promoting youth mobility and activism. The volunteer also created her own program to present elements of traditional and contemporary Italian culture in the context of Knjazevac, thus also promoting intercultural dialogue and tolerance by collaborating with local volunteers and LDA staff. Several events have been organized: the screening of contemporary Italian movie, Golden Boy, at the Street Cinema and two literary workshops presenting traditional Italian stories for kids in Municipal Library Njegos. Furthermore, our volunteer Eleonora has organized a donation of 200 Italian books to the same library.

The donation has been made by an organization from Rome, "Book-Cycle -Il Ri-Ciclo del Libro".





## **Cultural Heritage That We Share: promoting the cultural and historical heritage of the municipality of Knjaževac through artistic interpretation of young people**

Funded by Knjazevac Municipality

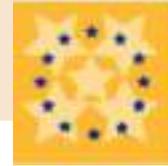


This project contributed to improving the preservation, protection and promotion of the cultural and historical heritage of the municipality of Knjaževac.

A group of young people has, through research work in municipal cultural institutions as well as through the field work, collected and created photographic materials related to cultural and historical heritage present in the municipality of Knjaževac. With the support of young artists, youngsters have transformed those materials and presented them in the form of digital collages that were published as set of postcards.

Postcards received excellent reception with the general public in Knjazevac and were also distributed to the Touristic Organization of Knjazevac and the Land Museum for further dissemination and use for promotional purposes.

Based on the success of this project a follow-up project has been presented to the Municipality Knjazevac for further funding.



## **GREENist – The future and challenges of sustainable development of South Eastern Serbia**

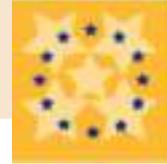
Funded by Regional Environmental Centre Serbia and SIDA - Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency

Partners: Timočki klub, Knjaževac; Entuzijasti Kučeva, Kučevo; Resurs centar, Majdanpek; Pirog, Piroć; Ženska inicijativa, Knjaževac; Asocijacija za razvoj Kladova ARK, Kladovo – SER

The project aims to strengthen capacities of CSOs from South-eastern Serbia to actively participate in the implementation of EU regulations in the field of environmental protection at the local level in the region of South-eastern Serbia; to motivate and involve local authorities and stakeholders to coordinate and cooperate in the implementation and monitoring of the implementation of the acquis of Chapter 27 at the local level in the municipalities of South-eastern Serbia; to motivate the public of South-eastern Serbia to actively participate in decision-making processes in the field of environmental protection in their communities.

During 2018 the network of CSOs from South-eastern Serbia – GREENist has raised its own capacities focusing on horizontal legislation and waste management, as topics in Chapter 27 within the EU negotiation process of Serbia. Members of the network continued to promote citizens participation in the decision-making processes regarding the environmental protection.





## Balkan Kaleidoscope

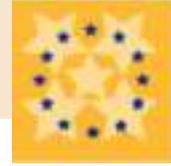
Funded by EU through program Europe for Citizens, European Remembrance

Partners: LDA Subotica (SRB), ALDA (FR), LDA Mostar (BH), LDA Zavidovici (BH), LDA Prijedor, KulturLife (GER), Institute for national history of Macedonia (MK), Centre for Peace, Nonviolence and Human Rights (CRO), Municipality of Ravenna (IT), SPES - Centro di Servizio per il Volontariato del Lazio (IT), Sombor Education Centre (SRB), Znanstvenoraziskovalni center Slovenske Akademije Znanosti in Umetnosti (SI).

The project brings attention to the importance and value of oral history and multiperspectivity in historic narrative. The project aims at promoting among young people a deeper understanding of Europe's shared history, common values and at developing respect, tolerance and appreciation of European diversity on the background of remembrance of Yugoslav Wars and their consequences for contemporary Europe and its society, as well as its importance as a milestone in European integration efforts.



During 2018 local pilot training modules were created and were implemented. Based on their own module, team of professors participating in the project on behalf of LDACSS conducted two history classes, first one with primary school children and their educators in the school "Milan Rakić" in Nis and the second one with high school students in Technical school in Knjaževac. The project was concluded with the second international event, "Lecturers and students for multiperspectivity in the transfer of history and culture of memory", in Mostar, BH, where partners from 7 countries exchanged their experiences with local pilot training modules.



## **Territorial cooperation Trento – Knjazevac**

Funded by Autonomous Province of Trento

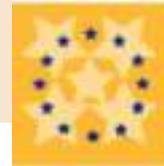
Partners: Associazione Trentino con i Balcani, Knjazevac Municipality

During 2018, within this programme a working visit of the delegation of Knjaževac Municipality to Trento has been implemented.

The working visit was organized on the basis of the 2017's Agreement on Cooperation and within the Territorial Cooperation Program of the Province of Trento and the Municipality of Knjaževac.

The aim of the working visit was to identify specific areas and forms of cooperation between the Province of Trento and the Municipality of Knjaževac for the period until 2020. To this end, the delegation had meetings with a number of actors in the field of social entrepreneurship and co-operatives, environmental protection, sustainable economic development and rural tourism: PAT Depuration Agency, Trentino Sviluppo, Cooperative Sant'Orsola, Platform 125, Foundation Edmund Mach, Consolida - Consortium of social cooperatives of Trentino, Societa Turistica di Grumes.





## **The Global Citizenship Education (ECG) for the promotion of professional skills of the teacher in a complex social context**

Funded by Autonomous Province of Trento

Partners: Center for International Cooperation, Associazione Trentino con i Balcani, Asociacija Trentino sa Balkanom, Youth Office of Trento Municipality, Technical school Knjazevac

This project aimed to develop personal ties between teachers from two schools in Trento and the Technical school in Knjazevac for the development of institutional links between their respective schools; to share visions and work together using teaching methods and resources acquired during the joint training on global citizenship concepts; to identify possible future joint projects between schools of Trentino and Knjazevac.

Activities in 2018 included training for teachers taking part in the project and two-way teachers' exchange, one in Trentino and one in Knjazevac.





## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY DNIPROPETROVSK REGION

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**Delegate:** Anzhelika Pylypenko

**Established:** 2015

Local Democracy Agency of Dnipropetrovsk Region was established on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May 2015. It became the first LDA in Ukraine. The LDA is a platform of cooperation, dialogue and exchange of experience and best practices across several aspects of regional development (cultural, social and economic) between local authorities and civil society in the EU and in Ukraine.

The LDA fosters citizen participation at the local level, and aims at mobilizing Civil Society Organizations, Local and Regional Authorities to develop joint initiatives.

The main partners of the LDA are the Lower Silesian Voivodship and the Dnipropetrovsk Regional Council.

### **Projects that were implemented in 2018:**

**Project:** *"IDPs "Social Adaptation as a Human Rehabilitation Vital Element (IDPs SAVE)"* (supported by Chiesa Valdese and ALDA, Italy). Dates: 01.05.2018-30.03.2019.

**The overall objective** of the project is to create favorable environment for adaptation and integration of IDPs into local communities, thus contributing to cohesion in society and stability in the region, minimizing possibility of conflicts and IDPs marginalization.

**The specific objective** of the project is to provide young IDP people with skills necessary to integrate into the hosting society environment and establish contact and cooperation



with young people from the hosting society, while ensuring raising awareness and mobilization of local actors for action.

## Results:

In the cities of Novomoskovsk and Kryviy Rig, and in the united territorial community of Slobozhanske, communication and training events were held for IDPs. After that, a micro-project competition was held, the best of which were funded by the project and successfully implemented.



**Project: "Digital Community"** (supported by Dnipro City Council) Dates: 10.04.2018-21.09.2018

## Objectives:

- 1) Development and creation of informational material (presentations, reference book);
- 2) Conducting trainings in the following areas:
  - "Fundamentals of Computer Literacy";
  - "Electronic Services of All-Ukrainian Level";
  - "International Electronic Services";
  - "Open Data Handling: Search and Use of Information";
  - "Electronic Digital Signature: Receipt and Opportunity".



## Results:

- 100 participants created the personal electronic signature;
- Participants registered their own Google Drive accounts and learned to create documents with distributed access;
- Participants received flash drives with all course materials and links to access existing all-Ukrainian electronic resources.

**Project: "Development and advocacy project of the Concept of e-democracy of the Dnipro city until 2020"** (supported by Innova Bridge Foundation). Dates: 01.10.2018-30.01.2019

## Objectives:

- 1) to actualize the problem of the development of e-democracy, engage citizens of Dnipro in dialogue about the topic;



- 2) to gather enterprising residents interested in the problem;
- 3) to ensure contact with the local authorities;
- 4) to develop a concept for the development of electronic democracy and a plan for its implementation of the city until 2020;
- 5) conduct an advocacy campaign to adopt the concept.

## **Results:**

- 1) created a community for the development and promotion of electronic demos in the Dnipro;
- 2) approved the concept of development of e-democracy of the Dnipro for 2019-2020 (first in Ukraine);
- 3) approved a plan for the implementation of the concept and determined those responsible for its implementation.

**Project: "We are the e-community of the Dnipro city"** (supported by Eastern Europe Foundation). Dates: 01.12.2018-30.01.2019

## **Objectives:**

- to inform the citizens of the city about the meaning and significance of e-democracy, e-services and e-governance;
- to inform the citizens of the city about the tools of e-democracy in general and about its function in Dnipro;
- to provide practical skills for successful public impact on communities' livelihoods through the use of e-government tools;
- to implement a pilot project using e-petition.

## **Results:**

- 1) created posters and brochures with information about the city's electronic services;
- 2) conducted training for heads of condominiums with a total of up to 22,000 citizens;
- 3) established coalitions to test new services.

**Project: "Digital Community"** (supported by Dnipro City Council) Dates: 10.04.2018-21.09.2018

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- 1) Development and creation of informational material (presentations, reference book);
- 2) Conducting trainings in the following areas:
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## Objectives:

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

2018



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**МИ – Е-ГРОМАДА ДНІПРА**

EGAP INNOVABRIDGE Dnipro

ПРОЗОРО І БЕЗ КОРУПЦІЇ

ЧИСТЕ СЕРЕДОВИЩЕ І ДОДАТКОВІ КОШТИ

БЕЗ ЧЕРГИ

ВЧАСНО І БЕЗ ПЕРЕПЛАТ

ЗРУЧНО І ШВИДКО

## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY GEORGIA

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**Delegate:** Nino Khukhua

**Established:** 2006

**Main objectives:**

- Capacity building programs for local authorities and Non-Government Organizations
- Promoting active citizenship and good governance
- Promotion of human and minority rights
- Supporting and initiating cross-border and regional cooperation
- Promoting EU integration and European values at local level

**Key partners:**

- City of Strasbourg, France (Lead Partner)
- City of Kutaisi, Georgia (Host City)
- Municipality of Monfalcone, Italy
- Kujawsko-Pomorskie Region, Poland;
- City of Tbilisi, Georgia
- National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG), Georgia
- Georgian Young Lawyers' Association (GYLA), Georgia
- Partners-Georgia, Georgia



## Activities implemented in 2018

### International Model United Nations' Conference (MUN), Kutaisi 2018



The local Democracy Agency Georgia, along with its partners, Kutaisi City Hall, UNDP Georgia, and the Peace Corps Georgia Model United Nations Committee, organized an International Model United Nations Conference, which was held from the 13th-15th of September. The Conference took place in the Parliament of Georgia in Kutaisi.

The goal of the project was to introduce and disseminate democratic values to youth, develop communication and professional skills, and strengthen cooperation with Kutaisi City Hall. The Model United Nations (MUN) is a simulation of the UN General Assembly and other multilateral bodies. During the MUN, students step into the shoes of ambassadors from UN member states to debate current issues on the organization's agenda. While playing their roles as ambassadors, students "delegates" wrote a paper explaining their country's position on the conference topic, made speeches, prepared draft resolutions, negotiated with allies and adversaries, resolved conflicts, and navigated the MUN conference rules of procedure - all in the interest of mobilizing international cooperation to resolve problems that affect countries all over the world. This year's topic, the European refugee and migration crisis, touched on peace and security, human rights, economic development, and globalization.

This conference included participants from Kutaisi's sister cities. We had 58 participants total (18-25 years old); 33 from Kutaisi and 25 from abroad. The first day of the conference consisted of a training. It delivered an overview of the UN and the UN system, the rules of the MUN conference, and how to write resolutions and position

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

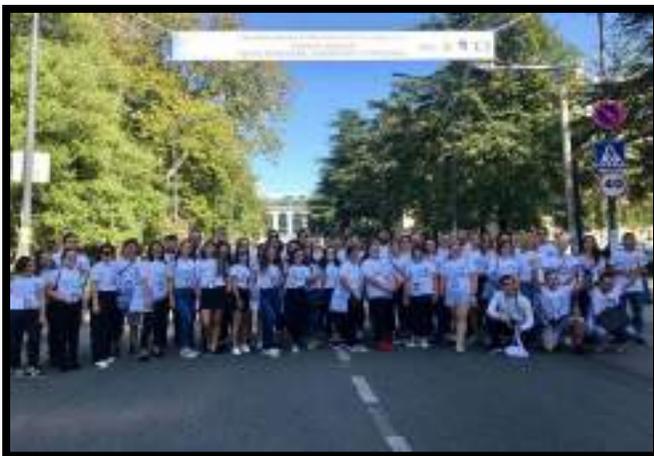
2018



papers. During the second day, participants opened the MUN conference and worked in the thematic committees. The third and final day included the General Assembly session, voting on resolutions, and an awards ceremony.

The closing ceremony was attended by the Vice-Mayor of Kutaisi, Nino Tvaltvadze; the Vice- Governor of the Imereti Region, Ioseb Khakhaleishvili; members of Kutaisi City Council; and representatives of the diplomatic corps from Estonia, Azerbaijan, and Poland. At the end of the project, winners were selected in three categories: Best Position Paper, Best Speaker, and Best Delegation.

As a result of the project, young people improved their negotiation and public speaking skills, enhanced their leadership qualities, learned more about the principles of the United Nations' work, gained more practical experience, and got to know their peers from Kutaisi's international sister cities.





## Imereti Regional HUB

In 2017, the LDA Georgia was selected as one of 11 regional hubs in Georgia through the EU-funded project Civil Society Development Initiative. Throughout 2018, we continued our work as the Hub in the Imereti Region.

During the reporting year, the LDA Georgia delivered presentations about the project in the Imereti Region's 12 municipalities and met with the people responsible for cooperating with the NGOs. We also met with local civil society and community organizations in order to provide these groups with information about the project activities, consultations, needs identification, and effective monitoring mechanisms.

In addition, we increased our visibility by maintaining a hotline service which allowed different actors to get advice, including a qualified legal opinion; we printed stickers; we added a section for the regional hub to our website; and, most importantly, we collected information about each of the CSOs and community organizations operating in the Imereti Region which resulted in a comprehensive guidebook including a brief description of each organization, the issues they work on, and their contact information.

We connected with young people by hosting meetings at universities and meeting with youth in the municipalities.

On June 22, 2018, we hosted a volunteer forum at Akaki Tsereteli State University. The forum connected those who were interested in volunteer opportunities with those who were looking for volunteers. Forty organizations participated in the forum, including local NGOs, local government, businesses, and media outlets.



# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

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The HUB project is implemented by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in cooperation with the Civil Society Institute (CSI), the Center for Training and Consultancy (CTC), the Center for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSRDG), and the Education Development and Employment Center (EDEC). It is funded by The European Union and the Georgian Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development with a total budget of 5.07 million Euros (the EU contribution is €3.8 million). The project will be carried out over 110 activities, award up to 80 sub-grants worth €720,000, and engage more than 2,500 civil society actors from across all regions of Georgia.



## **Project: "Increasing awareness about the Association Agreement with the European Union in the Imereti Region"**

The objective of the project, "Increasing Awareness about the Association Agreement with the European Union in the Imereti Region" was to increase public awareness in all 12 municipalities of the Imereti Region on the issues related to Chapter 21 in Georgia's EU Association Agreement. Chapter 21 covers regional development, trans-border cooperation, and cooperation on a regional level. The project was funded by GIZ as part of the project, "Cooperation Platform within the Association Agreement between Georgia and Moldova and Ukraine."

To achieve the project objective, LDA Georgia performed the following activities:

*Project Presentation* - staff attended from the regional governor's office, local self-governments, civil society organizations, and local media.



*Informational Meetings with Local Self-Government* - At these meetings, which had 180 total participants, LDA Georgia presented and discussed the content of Chapter 21 as well as a draft law in which relevant experts will also take part. In total, 12 info meetings took place with representatives of Imereti's 12 municipalities.

*Public Meetings* - In addition to meetings with self-government representatives, LDA Georgia held 12 meetings (one each per municipality) with the public and their municipal representatives. The focus of the project was to increase the awareness of the general public about the EU Association Agreement Chapter 21. Also discussed at the meetings were the Regional Strategy 2014-2021, the importance of public participation in local governance, and a new regional development program. In total, 180 people were reached through these meetings – 15 in each of the 12 municipalities.

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Meetings with Regional NGOs, Media, and Students - In each of the 12 municipalities, we conducted separate meetings on the Chapter 21 and related topics for NGOs, media representatives, and students, including at two universities. Fourteen meetings were conducted in total with 10 participants in each for a total of 140 participants.



Street Campaign 'Regional development means...' - We set up a camera in every municipal center and asked passersby to complete the sentence, "regional development means for me..." Videos were posted on our organization's Facebook and YouTube pages, and our website.

Poster Campaign - we printed posters reflecting projects that contribute to the regional development, including the Association Agreement's Chapter 21, the regional development program of Georgia, the Imereti Region's development strategies. The posters were in A3 format and were prepared and printed for posting in various venues.





Radio programs - project activities were actively covered by TV and radio programs and in newspapers. We also posted information on our own website. We prepared short videos targeted to deliver information to project beneficiaries, NGOs, regional and local government, and media representatives. In order to raise public awareness, we participated in six radio broadcasts. The key topics of the shows were:

- The vision and priorities for regional development of Imereti
- Social development of the region; regional economics and infrastructure; basic infrastructure and public service provision
- Basic needs for regional development of the Imereti Region.

## **Project: “Voice of More Women in Local Self-Government”**

The goal of this project was to strengthen local self-government and to raise public awareness to increase citizens’ involvement in the government’s decision-making processes under the “Participate in Management” project funded by USAID’s East West Management Institute (EWMI) Advancing CSO Capacities and Engaging Society for Sustainability (ACCESS) Program. Meetings were organized with local Gender Equality councils to support women voters’ efforts to personally present and advocate for their needs to be reflected in local government programs by lobbying for their inclusion in the 2019 budget process.

## **Regional Conference – Stronger Voice of Women in Local Self-Governance**

On June 15, 2018, we held a high-level regional conference in Kutaisi called *Stronger Voice of Women in Local Self-Government*. The purpose of the conference was to bring together national and municipal government representatives, CSO leaders, and local women to discuss the needs and concerns of female constituents from the Imereti Region, challenges and barriers women face in political and social life, and existing legislative mechanisms for ensuring gender equality at local government levels.

Speakers included the First Vice-Speaker of Georgian Parliament and Chairperson of the Gender Equality Council, Tamar Chugoshvili; Deputy Mayor of Kutaisi, Nino Tvaltvadze; Head of the Gender Equality Department of the Georgian Public Defender’s Office, Anna Iluridze; EWMI ACCESS Deputy Chief of Party, Tamar Gurchiani; Director of Georgian Young Lawyer’s Association, Irma Pavliashvili; Director of Women Information Center, Elene Rusetskaya; and the Executive Director of LDA Georgia, Nino Khukhua.

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

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Key topics discussed were the ways that “common” problems at the local level can affect women more than men, the importance of having gender-sensitive municipal budgets and the role of local governments play in pushing forward women’s issues (including some examples from the Kutaisi Municipality), and the role of Gender Equality Councils and Parliament’s commitment to their success. Domestic violence and discrimination against women and the introduction of gender quotas in Parliament as an effective measure for ensuring adequate representation of women were other issues also discussed. The Parliament’s Vice-Speaker called on participating local public officials to intensify their efforts to support empowerment of women at local levels. The Conference was held with EWMI ACCESS support.





## **Project: “Strengthening the Capacity of People with Disabilities in Elections and Politics”**

We presented the results and recommendations of our second phase of research for the project, “Strengthening the Capacity of People with Disabilities in Elections and Politics.”

The presentation was attended by representatives from CSOs, local government, the district election commission, and media. The research focused on: a) Analysis of court practice for people with disabilities, b) Focus group analysis, c) Review of the Polish experience with disabled people realizing their electoral rights. The research was based on the analysis of three focus group interviews in the Imereti Region, which were organized in Kutaisi, Baghdadi, and Zestafoni; they were attended by 30 people with disabilities.

Recommendations to better include people with disabilities in elections are:

- Have the necessary infrastructure and adapted election precincts
- Provide transportation, or have adapted transportation, so that people with disabilities can get to the polls
- Increase the awareness level of voting rights
- Promote an effective state policy towards people with disabilities and support the implementation of political rights in people with disabilities





The research and presentation were supported by USAID as part of their project, "Promoting More Competitive, Fair, and Inclusive Electoral Environment for 2016-2018 Election Cycle in Georgia."



## “Citizens’ Initiative for the Accountability of Self-Government”

Beginning in October 2018, we started a project called “Citizens’ Initiative for the Accountability of Self-Government.”The project is supported under the Powerful Civil Society for Effective Governance program, implemented by World Vision Georgia, the Association of Young Economists of Georgia (AYEG), and the Georgian Association of Social Workers (GASW) with financial support from the European Union.

The aim of the project is to ensure effective self-governance in the Zestafoni and Baghdati municipalities of the Imereti Region by facilitating citizens’ involvement in the decision-making processes through systematic reporting and continuous dialogue between local authorities and the local population.

Activities carried out in the project include:

1. Project Launch in Zestafoni and Baghdati Municipalities - We kicked off the project in both municipalities and signed Memorandums of Understanding with both local governments.

2. Focus Group Interviews - During the first stage of the project, we conducted interviews with focus groups in the Zestaponi and Baghdati municipalities. The aim of the meetings was to understand the needs of the local populations. For the focus group meetings, we selected a diverse group of beneficiaries, including those from vulnerable populations.

3. Needs Documents - Two documents were prepared and sent in December 2018, one for each municipality, with recommendations for the 2019 budget process. The report and recommendations were based on the focus group interviews and citizens’ forums.



4. Initiative Group Formation - After the focus group meetings, we invited the participants to become members of two initiative groups; one in Baghdati and one in Zestafoni with nine members each. The initiative groups will create a local level resource to support citizen engagement and advocacy campaigns. They were trained using World Vision's Citizen Voice and Action (CVA) advocacy model, which is a local advocacy methodology. This is a dialogue between the government and the public that is directed towards the welfare of society through the improvement of local services.

5. Citizens' Forums - The forums were held in both Zestafoni and Baghdati municipalities. They were attended by citizens, the Mayors, the heads of the municipal services, the Mayors' representatives from administrative units, and project consortium members from the Georgian Young Economics Association and World Vision Georgia. The Citizens' Forums emphasized the following issues: social infrastructure, preschool accessibility and quality of education, local employment opportunities and professional education programs, social services, environmental protection, health care, migration, and more.

The forums had several key results. They strengthened the organizational capacity and community mobilizing skills of Baghdati and Zestafoni municipalities' public servants.

Also, participating citizens communicated directly with their local self-government representatives and they discussed different problems together.

6. Roundtable Meetings - Our project team, along with both Citizen Initiative Groups, organized roundtable meetings to present specific problems to municipalities and come to effective solutions together. Meeting attendees felt that this format of discussion was a positive example of constructive dialogue between the different stakeholders. We will do a public information request to the Baghdati and Zestafoni municipalities and will analyze which problems were reflected in the local budgets.



7. Booklet about Budgeting - We published a booklet to educate the local populations of both municipalities about the local budget planning process and the needs of the local



authorities. This ensured effective dialogue with the local authorities on the one hand and on the other hand an increase of the municipalities' obligations at the local level.

8. TV Broadcasts - LDA's Executive Director and the Mayors of Baghdati and Zestafoni municipalities participated in two television broadcasts. Our Executive Director, Nino Khukhua, introduced the results of the focus group interviews in Baghdati and Zestafoni municipalities and the Mayors talked about the budget priorities and shared videos about priority problems. The project will be completed in March 2019.



## **Project: Support the Georgian National Platform for a More Equitable, Open, and Democratic Society**

We are the regional representative of the Eastern Partnership Georgian National Platform (EaP), and coordinator of CSF national platform Working Group 4. In 2018, Nino Khukhua was re-elected as Coordinator of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF) Georgian National Platform. All the following activities were conducted in 2018 in our capacity as the EaP CSF representative.



On August 15, the Georgian National Platform of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum, Kutaisi City Hall, and the Regional Representative of the National Platform, Local Democracy Agency Georgia, signed a Memorandum of Cooperation.

The memorandum will enhance cooperation between Kutaisi City Hall and civil society by promoting Georgia's integration into the European Union, in accordance with Article 372 of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement, raising public awareness of the European integration process in the region, ensuring the involvement of the Alliance sector in the process of implementation of the Association Action Plan, facilitating harmonization of Georgian legislation with EU legislation, regional development and regional level cooperation, as well as citizen involvement in decision making processes at local level. On June 3, we participated in the event "Euro Village" dedicated to



European Day, which served to present a common European heritage. We met with representatives from Baghdati municipality on July 26th.

On November 27, we held a discussion in the office of the organization (Fund of Women Entrepreneurs), which is a member of the Georgian National Platform.

In our final GNP EaP CSF meeting of the year, we met with students at the USAID CAC on December 20<sup>th</sup>.



## **Project “Imereti Region, Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement (DCFTA) with the European Union on Citizens' Information”**

In order to promote public awareness about Georgia’s Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area Agreement with the EU (DCFTA), we held informational meetings for the population of 12 municipalities about the project called "Imereti Region DCFTA with the EU on Citizens' Information." Meeting participants learned about the implementation of DCFTA and its related issues, including the Action Plan 2018-2020. The goal of the project was to promote public awareness in Imereti about DCFTA implementation.



The project was funded by the European Union, project "Georgia on the European Road: DCFTA and the Creation of an Effective Model for Implementation of Small and Medium Enterprises Strategy".



## **ALDA's EaP Coordinator visit to LDA Georgia's Office**

In autumn, we hosted the European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA) coordinator of Eastern Partnership countries, Alexandru Coica. While in Kutaisi, Mr. Coica attended meetings with LDA Georgia staff, representatives of ALDA, and municipalities interested in joining ALDA as members. At the meetings, the parties discussed the goals and objectives of the organization as well as needs and priorities of the municipalities. During his time at LDA Georgia, Mr. Coica and the LDA staff celebrated recent accomplishments.

## **Strasbourg Club meeting**

From November 18-22, 2018, Local Democracy Agency Georgia participated in the annual meeting of the Strasbourg Club European Solidarity Network. The Strasbourg Club unites local authorities and organizations working on local democracy development. Eighteen countries and 30 cities were represented and included delegates from a mix of European Union and non-EU countries.

The annual meeting was organized as part of the Strasbourg World Forum for Democracy (Forum mondial de la Démocratie), which is held each year at the Council of Europe and is attended by hundreds of youth delegates, NGOs, and government representatives. Last year the theme was gender equality and women's rights.



LDA Georgia was actively involved in the forum and club sessions, shared examples of successful cooperation with Strasbourg, and talked about new opportunities for cooperation.

The Georgian delegation looks forward to working on new ideas and new opportunities for international partnership!



## Youth Club

One of our main strategic directions of 2018 was to improve our youth programming. Throughout the year, we hosted regular meetings and events for our 20 youth club members. They participated in volunteer opportunities, trainings, Erasmus + youth exchanges, language clubs, and different social campaigns. With the help of the training courses designed and facilitated by LDA Georgia's Peace Corps Volunteer Erin, youth club members strengthened their knowledge and skills in different field such as: leadership, project design and management, job search skills, social media, etc. For interested members, they were invited to participate in a weekly English language club.

## No Violence Against Women - One Billion Rising Revolution!

Local organizations, led by LDA Georgia and its Youth Club, co-hosted a One Billion Rising event in Kutaisi's central park on February 17, 2018. LDA Georgia's Youth Club helped lead activities, including the flash mob dance, sign design and creation, and helping to raise awareness about gender-based violence, which remains a problem in Georgia. One Billion Rising is the biggest mass action global campaign to end violence against women (cisgender,





transgender, and those who hold fluid identities that are subject to gender-based violence). The campaign was first launched on Valentine’s Day 2012. Since then, many initiative groups from around the world have joined it.

Additional partners and supporters were Kutaisi City Hall, AkakiTsereteli State University, Georgian-American School Progress, restaurant Palaty, and Rioni TV and radio station.

## **Erasmus+ Youth Exchange “Start Up Green” in Kobuleti, Georgia**

We hosted our first Erasmus+ Youth Exchange in Kobuleti, Georgia from May 6-12<sup>th</sup> in cooperation with our German partner organization European Ways. Our 43 participants came from eight different countries, Armenia, Denmark, Georgia, Germany, Jordan, Italy, Spain, and Ukraine and were between the ages of 18-30.

The project, Start-Up Green, was designed to help participants to learn more about environmental issues, alternative energy resources, and give basic businesses skills for participants to take back home and start up their own environmentally-focused business or project.

The project activities were based on the non-formal learning methodology and included ice-breakers and team-building, program presentation and expectation analysis, Erasmus+ and future perspectives, an outdoor beach cleanup, a session on EU policy towards climate change, environmental workshops, recycling and up-cycling, creativity in entrepreneurship, a study visit to a recycling factory, country presentations about their unique sets of environmental issues, and the development of business plans for future Erasmus+ projects or for green start-ups.





## Youth Exchange “N.A.T.U.R.E” in Morfasso, Italy

The LDA Georgia Youth Programs Coordinator and four youth club members participated in the Erasmus+ funded project “N.A.T.U.R.E.+ - Nature, Arts & Technology Upgrading Respect & Expression+” which took place in Morfasso, Italy from July 3-10, 2018.

This youth exchange was focused on the way young people feel and think about nature and how they can increase their respect for nature through creative solutions using available technologies.

The activities were based on a non-formal education methodology (energizers, team building, role games, simulations, interactive presentations, intercultural moments, practical workshops), with lots of outdoor activities, video production, and storytelling.



During the seven-days program, the participants experienced how to live with technology, with a focus on being present and offline, and by expressing themselves through art and other forms of technology. Through the process, the group from LDA Georgia was able to improve key competencies (social and economic) and to have a great time learning about the topic.



## Erasmus+ Youth Exchange “Wedding Mix” in Zaragoza/Spain

LDA Georgia sent a delegation of its youth leaders and trainers to an Erasmus+ youth exchange in Zaragoza, Spain. The youth exchange, Wedding M.I.X. (Multiculturalism Instead of Xenophobia), was held from August 18-28, 2018 with partners from Croatia, Georgia, Italy, Spain, and Tunisia.



More than 40 young people participated from different social and cultural backgrounds, each bringing different needs and talents. Each night, we organized five traditional weddings, one from each participant country. The final night was a common wedding combining different cultural aspects in order to promote multiculturalism.

During the morning sessions on each of the nine activity days, participants explored topics linked with weddings like: food waste, alcohol consumption, sexual education, LGBT+, women's rights, religion, and more.



## Georgian EVS volunteers Returned to Georgia from France

LDA Georgia is an accredited European Voluntary Service (EVS) sending organization. In 2018, three of our volunteers completed their service in France and returned to Georgia. Two Georgian volunteers, Shako Chkheidze and Magda Purtskvanidze, were in Bordeaux and Nino Alavidze was in Strasbourg.



Magda Purtskhvanidze and Shako Chkheidze left Georgia in September 2017. For 12 months, they participated with representatives of ten European countries as volunteers in the project "Ambassadors of European Values," which was organized by the non-governmental organization MEBA-Europe House. The main objective of this project was to raise awareness about European values with French students, adolescents, and adults through informal education. Volunteers conducted trainings, seminars, held cultural evenings, and participated in public conferences. As part of the project, volunteers



*"It was one year of discovery and adventure. This project taught me how can I live and work with different people. It was an opportunity to improve a few foreign languages, to learn European values, and to discover myself from a different angle. I am sure this experience of volunteering will help me to be more competitive in the future to solve easily professional and private Challenges"- says Magda Purtskhvanidze*

conducted many cultural events to bring

Georgian culture and traditions to a wider audience. Nino Alavidze volunteered in the Student and University Life Service. She had the opportunity to contribute to her organization's communication on social media (for example Twitter and Facebook) targeted toward the students of Strasbourg University. She also contributed to the organization of student events, especially the ones organized for international students, such as the Nuit des Etudiants du Monde (Global Students Night). One of her tasks was to find some examples of good practices from other European and international cities. All these activities helped Nino to improve her knowledge of the French educational system. She learned best practices for how to better integrate international students and best practices related to general student life.

## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY KOSOVO

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**Delegate:** Elbert Krasniqi

**Established:** 2011

### **Main objectives:**

- Promotion of the Local Democracy Agency of Kosovo
- Promotion of the local democracy and European integration
- Promotion of culture, youth and equal opportunities
- Promotion of dialogue among communities
- Promotion of local economic development
- Support logistics for the LDA's partners

### **Key partners:**

- Association Trentino con i Balcani, Italy (Lead partner)
- Municipality of Peja/Pec, Kosovo (Host city)
- Amici dei bambini, Italy and Kosovo
- RTM Region Third World, Italy and Kosovo
- Only Equal Rights Association S.U.D, Italy
- ALFA Formation, France,
- Municipality of Yalova, Turkey
- Association of Municipalities of Kosovo AKM

## Projects funded in 2018

### **Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue**

The project was funded by the European Union through the Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations.

#### **ACTIVITIES**

##### *Network coordination and management of activities*

LDA Kosovo has achieved activities with good results, in time and as foreseen by the project, in more specific, to update the communication procedures among all LDAs, to create a working group, to specify different additional appointments of the project's steering committee group member – one per co-applicant LDA and one per associate public authority.

This objective which included these activities:

*Steering Group Meetings* - LDA Kosovo participated in this meeting during the Regional Coordination Network Meeting in Podgorica during the dates *21-23 February 2018* also in the Regional Youth Forum that was organized from ALDA Skopje during the dates: *18-21 May 2018*.

*Regional Youth Working Group meeting* that was held during the Regional Coordination Network Meeting in Podgorica during the dates *21-23 February* also Regional Youth Forum in Skopje *18-21 May 2018*.

*Regional Annual Network Coordination Meeting* was held during the Regional Coordination Network Meeting in Podgorica with the aim of strengthening the regional cooperation.

*Regional Network for local democracy evaluation and follow-up action planning, Novi Sad 17-20 October-* During the meeting, the partners dedicated some time for presenting the integrating evaluation findings in order to improve the Network's performances and so, they discussed about the Network strategy document and the definition of the Balkan network for local democracy's role in contributing to key national or regional EU integration priorities from 2018-2025. Different visits at OPENS 2019 and Vojvodina Assembly.

*Local Youth Advisory Group Meetings* - Local Democracy Agency of Kosovo regarding the implementation of the project "Balkan Regional Platform for Youth participation and Dialogue", foresees to hold in total 4 meetings with the Local Youth Advisory Group. Until now are realized all the meetings. The first one was held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2018 with 11

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

2018



participants. During this meeting were discussed topics like: Feedback from the activities of 2017, Youth correspondent's role and tasks, Activities that will occur during 2018, topic of this year "Active citizenship", and Youth fund initiative. Youngsters that participated evaluated the implementation of the project during 2017, but what was worrying for them was the low number of young people participating

in voluntarism and active citizenship. Also was made a presentation of the activities that will occur during 2018 and they were ready to contribute on the implementation of the project. It was made a short presentation for active citizenship, how a small initiative can change the situation in the community. At the end it was given an explanation for the Youth fund initiative on the topic "Active Citizenship intended for youth groups".

The second LYAG meeting was held on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June 2018 by gathering 9 participants in the meeting. It was discussed about possible activities during June and July, again for the youth fund initiative there were some participants that asked questions about the application form and the topic and also the main problem that was raised, it was about the "poor participation" of youngsters in the activities that are happening in Peja.

The third LYAG meeting was held during August by gathering 5 participants in the meeting. There was discussed about the opportunities in Peja, and what can youth NGOs do to improve life of young people in Peja.

The last meeting was held in November, and together with the members of LYAG we presented the results of the project during 2018 and the possible cooperation for 2019. Also, it was presented to them the new project that LDAK is implementing, so that we can involve them in our meetings and activities.





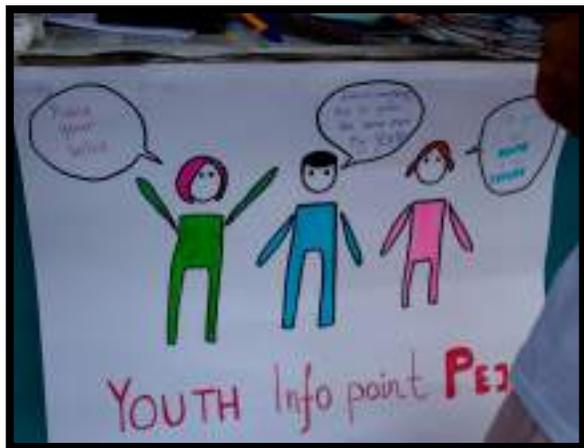
## **Outreach activities in promoting active citizenship of the young people**

This activity aims to enhance the knowledge of young people in local communities about active citizenship and to give them some real examples about this topic. It is foreseen to be organized 2 tribunes in local high schools and three public stands in most frequented places by youth, to promote Youth INFO Point Peja services.

The first info point public stand was organized on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August during the International Youth Day Celebration and the second info point public stand was organized on the 18<sup>th</sup> of August, during Anibar International Animation Festival. Young people were informed about our info point services, our projects and the ways how they can be involved in activities. They were very positive by also giving advices and opinions about youth conditions and opportunities.

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

2018



*"1st Info point public stand" / City Center/ 12th of August.*



*"2nd t Info point public stand" / City Center/ 18th of August*



*Trainings:* this part consisted in a capacity building component where YEWs and YC were trained on the topic “How to interview stakeholders”. This training was made on the 14<sup>th</sup> of June by the ALDA Skopje communication officer, who explained to participants the way how to make an interview, what you need to do and what not, what is more important for an interview to be a good one, how to prepare questions, some technical advices etc. After this training YEWs and YC together prepared the local interviews with stakeholders that were involved in the project during the 4 years of implementation.

*Outputs:* one video interview published on the website of the project and one transcript document with all the details of the interview that will serve for an external evaluation of the project.

## **The Local Fund of Youth Initiative**

### **“Summer school PLAY, LEARN and be ACTIVE“ – Nisma për Paqe dhe Unitet**

Nisma për Paqe dhe Unitet with the project proposal called “Summer school PLAY, LEARN and be ACTIVE“ aimed to:

- Teach animation to the young people and then to introduce animation at the other youngsters and pupils in school.
- Raise volunteering, informal education and active citizenship by including in the activities also marginalized group from neighborhood “7 Shtatori”.
- Develop, through animation, their creativity to prepare some animation movies with stop to motion technique.
- Prepare a final conference where the results from the workshops would be presented and also initiate an open discussion with the panelists for active citizenship.
- First activity foreseen in this project financed by the youth fund was a 5 (five) day activities in “Xhemajl Kada” elementary school. In the summer school were involved 58 participants, separated in three classes with two animators per each class. Activities that took place during those days were painting, drawing, and a lot of group games.

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

2018



The second activity, was a workshop with the aim on creation of two animation movies. This workshop started in 13<sup>th</sup> of August and ended in 18<sup>th</sup> of August. In this activity were involved 15 participants, separated into two groups. Participants had the opportunity to follow all the steps of the creation of a short animation movie, through the support of international experts, getting knowledge and using specific IT tools for the creation of short movies. The working process passed in these phases: Definition of topics of the animation movies, Story board creation and implementation, Creation of the characters, Creation of the scenery/setting, Frames shooting and Video editing.

For the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). Youth fund winners "Nisma për Paqe dhe Unitet" together with Trentino con i Balcani organized the workshop for children's rights at the LDAK office. The aim of the activity was to raise the awareness for children's rights.

During the workshop, participants had to draw based on some of the articles that are in this Convention. They were focused on the rights of equality, health, education, right to play and nutrition.



*“Summer school PLAY, LEARN and be ACTIVE” / United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child- Workshop/ 20 November.*

The last activity planned in this project was a conference with the aim on presenting the results from the workshops. In the conference 18 people were present who saw the results from the workshops with children's, and during the conference was also discussed about the role of young people and active citizenship as the main thematic of the project Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue for the year four. At the end the Director for Culture, Youth and Sport gave some examples of the ideas of young people as part of active citizenship in the Municipality of Peja.

*“Summer school PLAY, LEARN and be ACTIVE” / Conference/ 19 December*

*Awareness raising and visibility actions*

*Regional Internet Awareness Campaign* - The campaign this year is on education for active citizenship, youth participation in regional cooperation and dialogue which will be focused on the past years work in order to capitalize the past experience, and to think of the possibility of creating new activities for the platform in the way to keep this platform alive and always active.

*Youth Taking Over Day* – This activity this time was organized in a different way than the others. In Peja we see that the number of youngsters who are interested in sport, every day is increasing. So, because of the topic of education in active citizenship, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July was organized the first youth taking over day “Youth football game” in the city park at the football stage, where it was a big flux of people who came. There were created three teams to play football and another group of people who played other games. The idea was beside the game to tell the young people for the importance of active citizenship in a city.

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

2018

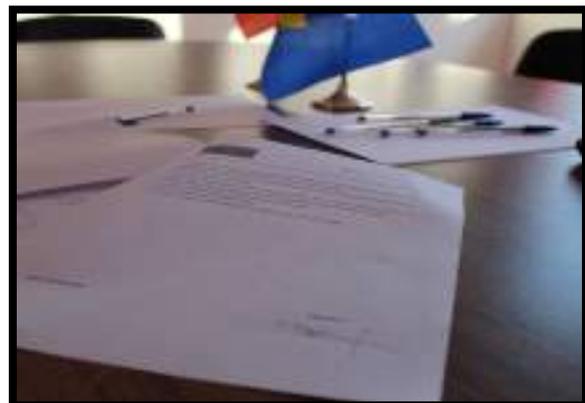


*1<sup>st</sup> Youth Taking Over Day “Youth Football game”/ City park, football stage/27<sup>th</sup> of July 2018*

*Youth Taking Over Day* - The second youth taking over day was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of October 2018 in the premises of the Local Democracy Agency of Kosovo, it was held the activity Youth taking over day. This activity was foreseen as a continuity from the activity of the Youth international Day where young people gave their opinions for youth statute in Peja.

In the activity was present the representative of the youth from the Directorate of Culture, Youth and Sport and together with him we discussed about all the points that this recommendation document has.

At the end of the meeting he signed the document and said that all the recommendations are acceptable from the part of Department of Youth in the Municipality of Peja, and together with other local youth NGOs during the beginning of the next year we will work on the Youth strategy for the youngsters of Peja.





*International Youth day Celebration* - As foreseen in the project on the 12th of August in the City Center of Peja from 18:00 until 20:00, the activity YOUTH MEGAPHONE was organized to celebrate the Youth International Day. A lot of young people came to give their opinions, wishes and ideas regarding the youth statute in Peja. The Youth International Day was organized in two ways: firstly, as we didn't have a megaphone, we decided to prepare a questionnaire with some question regarding youth, ideas and remarks, secondly, was to leave a short note and put it in the box that was posted on the spot of the performance. All the messages formulated on this day were collected and integrated in one single document and that document will be presented and submitted to local authorities.

During the activity Local Democracy Agency of Kosovo volunteers informed the youngsters about YOUTH INFO POINT PEJA, what we do and how they can be involved in our activities.

Expected results: Opinions, recommendations and wishes about the statute of youth in general, and one draft statute for youth based on the youngsters opinions.

Outputs: FB event, megaphone performance, box of wishes with recommendations, and achieved number of expected participants.



*“International Youth day celebration” in City center, 12<sup>th</sup> of August 2018*

## **Exchange of good practice among the region countries**

LDAK participated in the Regional Youth Forum for Local Democracy that was held in Skopje in 14-17 May 2018. The topic of this year in Forum was CREATIVITY and INNOVATION towards ACTIVE YOUTH PARTICIPATION in the BALKANS. In this forum



were organized three different panels for discussion with the topic: *Panel 1*: Education for Youth active citizenship, good governance and social inclusion – a generational choice for the Balkans towards the EU; *Panel 2*: Civil society and LAs: mobilizing youth for active citizenship and participation in policy making – good practices from Western Balkans *Panel 3*: Enhancing culture of participation through innovative youth cultural participation. Participants had the chance to attend a Theatre workshop that was organized in Kino Kultura Skopje, by playing different roles with different subjects. A different workshop with the topic “Cultural heritage inspiring active citizenship and youth participation” was held in the Cultural complex Macedonian village.

Also, during this forum was foreseen that youth engagement workers and youth correspondents will visit the Parliament of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The purpose of the meeting was to meet two young deputies that work in the parliament and to have a discussion with them about the conditions of young people in Macedonia. The idea was to compare the situation of youngsters in different countries of the Balkans.

## **Regional Youth Compact for Europe**

The project was funded by the European Union through the Civil Society Facility Operating grants to IPA CSO Association.

LDAK participated in the three project team meetings (Belgrade 28-29/06/2018 and Novi Sad 21/10/2018 and Belgrade on 29-30/11/2018), and in December organized the activity 4.1 “Community multi stakeholder’s platform” Monitoring reforms locally- Good Practice Becomes Our Practice”. For each of these activities it is prepared a: Preparation and coordination of project activities and a Monthly narrative and financial report.

## **Project Management Team**

This activity was held in Belgrade from 28-29 July 2018 with the presence of 14 members, 12 co-applicants and one affiliated entity. The aim of the meeting was to exchange practices and to separate the duties of each partner for the year one of the project.



*Project Management Team- BNLD*

## **Training for the members of the Network “Sharing Experience - Expanding the Network`s Thematic Working Program” in Novi Sad (19-21 October 2018)**

Three members of LDAK Participated in the Network meeting in Novi Sad. The training was organized from 19- 21 October 2018. The activity aimed to provide exchange of knowledge and experience among co-applicants and upgrade the capacity of the members of the Balkan Network for Local Democracy to initiate at the local level and participate at the national level in various forms of structured evidence-based dialogue with the government bodies and other stakeholders relevant for the implementation of reforms in the thematic area of rule of law, fundamental rights, employment and public administration reform.

The idea was to train the participants in different topics so in the future and during the project they can advocate for the establishment of dialogue within the local community, to join the organizations that deal with the area of rule of law, fundamental rights, employment and public administration reform and to participate in drafting policies documents.

The program covered 5 thematic training sessions:

- 1) Western Balkans and the EU – a credible perspective of the reforms towards EU integration
- 2) Negotiation Chapter 23 Judiciary and fundamental rights

- 3) Negotiation Chapter 24 Justice, Freedom and Security
- 4) Negotiation Chapter 19, Social Policy and Employment
- 5) Public Administration Reforms

For every thematic training beside the presentation about a specific topic it was prepared a workshop. The trainers separated the group of participants in 4 small groups with the idea to get to know better the topics in practice. Because of that participants understood much better for what it was exactly the project.

This activity is the baseline for activities on improvement of procedures for youth participation in decision making processes and monitoring of public institutions, as an output of joint advocacy initiatives within the project.



*Training for the members of the Network*

## **Study visit to National Convention on the EU (NCEU), Serbia**

The activity was organized in Belgrade on 29-30 November 2018. The aim of this activity was to provide direct insight in the functioning of the well-developed and structured dialogue between Civil Society organizations and Government established after the opening of the accession negotiations with the European Union in Serbia. It was the first meeting were beside the applicants of the projects, we had other people and speakers from different institutions, so for that reason it was decided that in this activity to make the official presentation of the Regional Youth Compact for Europe Project. It was presented the Panel: Consolidation of Networks in the Western Balkans from the prospect of Youth Related Programs in the Western Balkans



In the panel, each of the panelists presented their work, opportunities that young people have if they are part of their NGOs, researches that they did regarding youth and at the end it was discussed about the challenges facing youth in the Western Balkans region in relation to the EU integration process and how they can actively engage in their local communities as a part of it.

As the second part of the activity were made some presentations related to the European Integration process of Serbia. On the second day it was organized a visit in the European Movement in Serbia, and during the visit there have been presentations about chapters 23, 24, 2 and 19. The presentation was made from the Civil society organizations that are most active in the working groups in these open chapters. They explained each chapter, their role during this working groups and the actual situation of Serbia in the EU integration process.

## **Community multi stakeholders' platform" Monitoring reforms locally- Good Practice Becomes Our Practice" 19 December 2018.**

On the 19 of December 2018 in the Hall of Directorate for Culture, Youth and Sport within the Project Regional Youth Compact for Europe was held the first meeting "Monitoring Reforms locally- Good Practice Becomes our Practice" with the thematic: "The way of Kosovo in the European Integration".

The meeting was attended by representatives of youth non-governmental organizations. The Project Manager of RYCE presented the project Regional Youth Compact for Europe and the role of the youth non-governmental organizations in the process of monitoring reforms locally. The Director of the Directorate of Culture, Youth and Sport presented the public administration reforms in the Municipality of Peja. The Representative of young people in the Directorate of Culture, Youth and Sport presented a research that Youth section did in cooperation with Directorate for European integration for visa liberalization.

At the end of the meeting the panelists and participants focused on the rule of law, good governance, employment and social cohesion.



*The way of Kosovo in the European Integration*

## Other projects and activities implemented during 2018

### **Conference “Building trust and empowering communities-The way forward for Kosovo after the Association Agreement”.**

Funded by: Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus

On the 5th of December, in the Italian Embassy, the Conference “Building trust and empowering communities-The way forward for Kosovo after the Association Agreement” was held. This conference was organized by the Local Democracy Agency of Kosovo in cooperation with ALDA Europe and Trentino con I Balcani Onlus. In this conference, the Vice Ambassador of Italy in Prishtina addressed to the participants the importance of this conference, Greetings from the EU Delegation in Prishtina, Deputy Head of Cooperation in the EU Office, on behalf of ALDA, Mayor of the Municipality of Gjilan and ALDA board member and President of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities.

In the discussion panel facilitated by the delegate of LDA Kosovo, the ALDA General Secretary spoke, and presented the possible engagement of ALDA in supporting CSOs and LAs. The Director of Kosovo Association of Municipalities presented the topic for EU integration: challenges and opportunities for Kosovo Municipalities and the ATB Onlus

Director has talked about good practice of cooperation between Kosovo, EU partners and LAs.

The second part of the work has been dedicated to the EU integration with the collegium of Association of Kosovo Municipalities members having a training on the Program Europe for Citizens as an opportunity for Kosovo Local Authorities. Since Kosovo is eligible from this year to be part of this program this workshop was dedicated to the Directors for European Integration from all the Municipalities of Kosovo.



## **Conference “Building trust and empowering communities-The way forward for Kosovo after the Association Agreement”**

Funded by: Municipality of Gjilan

On the 6th of December 2018, in the in the office of the Mayor of Gjilan a meeting was held with the Mayors of the Municipalities Viti, Kamenicë, Novobërdë, Ranillug, Klllokot, Partesh and the Representative of ALDA Europe, the Delegate of Local Democracy of Kosovo, the Director of the ATB- Onlus and the Director of the Association of Kosovo Municipalities.

The opportunities of cooperation with ALDA Europe were discussed and an agreement about the next steps of joint actions in the framework of the program Europe for Citizens, Cross Border Cooperation and twining with other Europe Cities, was made.

At the end, to the Local and National media, they addressed the conclusions of the meeting and of the joint action and the fact that ALDA will keep lobbying at the EU level for Kosovo.



## Meeting- Opportunities of cooperation with ALDA Europe

*Funded by: Autonomous Province of Trento*

On 19 November 2018, the Electoral Assembly of LKLT was held at the Government building. This Assembly was organized in cooperation with the Office of Good Governance (OGG) - Office of the Prime Minister of the Republic of Kosovo and Trentino and Balkan Association in Italy. Liga Kosovare në Luftë kundër Tumoreve was established with the purpose of supporting early detection of tumors, providing psycho-social and health support during and after tumor treatment, rehabilitation and home care through volunteer activities in accordance with the rules pertaining to individual professions of socio-sanitary support. Furthermore, LKLT aims, together with international partners, to support relevant institutions and organizations in providing quality services to the Kosovo population.



LKLT remains committed to promoting preventative activities for carcinogenic diseases and a healthy lifestyle in co-operation between the Oncology Institute and the Liga Italiane në Luftë kundër Tumoreve.

## Campaign on healthy lifestyles and prevention

Funded by: Autonomous Province of Trento

Liga Kosovare në Luftë Kundër Tumoreve – LKLT on the 18th of August held its first campaign on healthy lifestyles and prevention in the City center of Peja at the presence of the Deputy Minister of Health of the Republic of Kosovo. LKLT staff gave to citizens informative leaflets and included children's in some games and activities.

The aim of the League is promoting healthy lifestyles, through awareness raising campaigns, and to become an informative point for the population on cancer prevention.

LDA Kosovo, will be directly involved in the campaign for prevention activities and awareness reising in the schools all around Kosovo, and will be a key partner in the coordination of activities with the youth world.





*Visit of the Deputy Minister of Health of the Republic of Kosovo Mr. Ali Berisha*

## **Balcanimazione**

Funded by: Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus.

One-week summer school in “Xhemajl Kada” elementary school with the aim to raise volunteering, informal education and active citizenship by including in the activities marginalized groups from the neighborhood “7 Shtatori”. Different activities organized in and out of the school.



## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY MARIUPOL

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**Delegate:** Tetiana Lomakina

**Established:** 2017

**Main objectives:**

- facilitating the dissemination of information between Ukraine and other European countries and stakeholders in order to ensure closer interaction and a constant exchange of best practices;
- strengthening of a level of a civic participation and awareness expending opportunities for citizens to take part in the decision-making process at the local level
- creating a platform for cooperation, building dialogue and sharing experience between local citizens, communities, municipalities and European partners
- increasing the level of interest, awareness and ability of citizens to participate in local decision making

## International cooperation

### Mariupol delegation in Gdansk

In September 2017, Mariupol Delegation visited the Center for Solidarity in Gdansk during the Week of Democracy, to discuss the possibility of opening a Center for Local Democracy in Mariupol. Yulia Stambulzhi, the Head of Mariupol Secretariat, mentioned the tools of local democracy introduced in Mariupol, and Tetiana Lomakina, the Mayor's Advisor, shared the achievements and challenges of the city on this path. ALDA delegates noted that projects focused on democracy and instruments of civic participation has been implemented successfully in Ukraine and Georgia.

“We hope that the opportunity to participate in the discussions, which is the result of the implementation of the assumptions of civil society, will facilitate representatives of the Eastern Partnership countries to understand the principles of civil society, to apply and implement them in the local structures,” mentioned Paweł Adamowicz, the Mayor of Gdansk.



During the fruitful visit, participants discussed the issues: “How to promote civic participation in schools?”, “How to support civic engagement among adults?”, “How to strengthen citizen participation tools?” and “How to promote equal treatment at the local level?” After intensive work in groups, 55 experts found answers to the question “How to support civic activities in Gdansk?”. Also, participants discussed the prospects of civic education lessons’ implementation in Mariupol schools, on the example of Gdansk.



The Secretary-General of ALDA Antonella Valmorbida noted that ALDA's cooperation with the local authorities, brings more effective results compared with the central government. She believes that there are no bad students - there are bad teachers, there are authorities that do not provide the instruments of action to their citizens.



## Changing experience

In March 2017, the delegation of Mariupol headed by the Mayor Vadim Boichenko visited Gdansk to study the experience of the development of the Polish city as well as the mechanisms for attracting foreign investments. Special attention was paid to the issues of building trust between citizens and authorities. The result of the dialogue was the development of a joint action plan aimed at the implementation of joint projects and programs for the development of democracy in Ukraine.





In the frame of the working visit, the delegation from Mariupol at the head of the Mayor of Mariupol Vadim Boichenko visited the Consulate of Ukraine in Gdansk. The Consul Lev Zakharchyshyn talked about the popularization of Ukrainian culture and traditions in Gdansk. In addition, the Consul and the Mayor discussed the importance of such visits, pointing out on the cultural exchange and mutual projects' implementation.

In his turn, the Mayor of Mariupol, Vadim Boichenko, noted that the city is open for cooperation and ready to expand its capacities and potential. The cultural potential of Mariupol is growing every year. As an example, in August 2018 the holding of large-scale music and creative festival in the city was organized. «We, in Mariupol and Gdansk, create the future together», - the Mayor resumed.

### **EaP Coordinator in Mariupol**

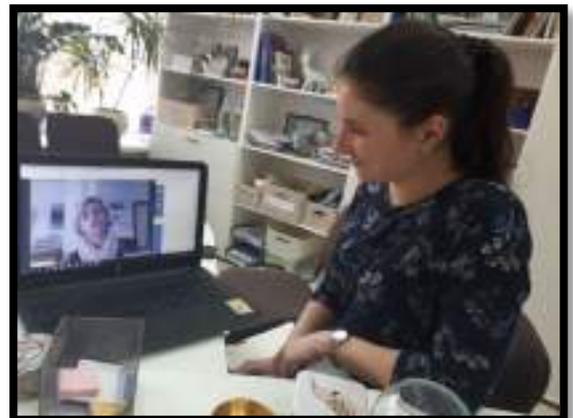
In April 2018, Alexandru Coica, ALDA's Eastern Partnership Coordinator, visited Mariupol to get acquainted with the work of the Local Democracy Agency, and discuss with the city council Secretary Stepan Makhsma the issue of joining Mariupol Municipality to ALDA. During the visit, Alexandru Coica took part in the presentation of the project "School of Active Citizens", which Mariupol City Council implements in partnership with the Local Democracy Agency of Mariupol, with financial support of the U-LEAD program.

### **Keeping in touch with Gdansk**

In March 2018, representatives of the Local Democracy Agency of Mariupol kept in touch with the partner – Municipality of Gdansk. It was a fully organized event where participants discussed a programme of the visit of Mariupol delegation to Gdansk, said "hello" to colleagues from Mariupol and planned mutual activities in 2018 and 2019.

### **Keeping in touch with ALDA**

The Local Democracy Agency of Mariupol is in constant contact with the European Association for Local Democracy. Thanks to the weekly feedback from LDAs partners, Mariupol always stays up-to-date of the latest events, new ideas and projects, the implementation of which allows to promote European values and develop democracy and principles of effective governance.





## **German-Ukrainian meeting**

In September 2018, the German-Ukrainian meeting “Social Informational Dominostein” was held in Mariupol. Mariupol Society of Germans "Vidergeburt" in partnership with LDA Mariupol invited guests from Germany – Ronald Gluckmann, a German writer, and Manfred Hammer, a teacher at the Humboldt University of Berlin aiming at establishment of cultural ties.

Foreign guests introduced the youth of Mariupol to the peculiarities of culture, traditions and ethics of the Germans. On their personal experience foreign guests told how the history of Germany influenced the formation of the cultural features and behavior of the Germans.

## **Development of diplomacy**

September 3, 2018 in Mariupol, on the occasion of the Fourth German-Ukrainian meeting of writers in Ukraine, the Deputy General Counsel of Germany Peter Schmahl presented the Paper Bridge project - “Paper Bridge”.

Summed up the meetings with German and Ukrainian writers. Peter Schmahl called the first experience of cooperation with Mariupol successful and expressed interest in the further development of bilateral relations

## **International Republican Institute in Mariupol**

With the support of the International Republican Institute (IRI), participants of the “Academy of Political Leadership” program from Kherson, Dnipro and Pavlograd visited Mariupol with a three-day visit. They had a discussion about international experience in recycling of secondary raw materials, the interaction of government and the public for a constructive dialogue in the consideration of topical issues for the community. At the meeting participants exchanged experiences in attracting donors and international partners and agreed to work together to improve the quality of life and consolidate communities.



## Local Cooperation

### Way to the dream

Way to the dream is a partner project of Ukraine and Lithuania, implemented together with NGO Women's Council of Donetchyna and Local Democracy Agency of Mariupol.

20 active internally-displaced, who wish to create their own businesses, were attended folk art trainings (knitting, Petrikov painting, making accessories, etc.). The project participants studied the basics of entrepreneurship and received the necessary tools to open their businesses.





## School of Active Citizens

In the period from April 1 to September 30, 2018, a partner project "School of Active Citizens" was implemented with the support of the Program for Ukraine on empowerment at the local level, accountability and development of "ULEAD with Europe", co-funded by the European Union and its member countries Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Poland, and Sweden. Activists of parental committees, medical and educational establishments, as well as local self-government bodies took part in the project. There were trainings, workshops, panel discussions on the implementation of the decentralization reform, mobilization and cohesion of the potential Sartana and Mariupol united territorial communities.



## Bridges of Trust

On March 15, 2018, the LDA Mariupol, together with the NGO Skhidna Brama, with the support of the USAID, launched the project Bridges of Trust. The main goal of the project is to draft general rules of discussion in Mariupol that will be acceptable to all participants in the dialogue between the community and the authorities by adopting features, differences and limitations of each of the parties engaged in the dialogue.

40 participants took part in the trainings, the purpose of which is to provide tools of effective communication, moderation of dialogue, blogging and fact-checking. Ukrainian well-known public speakers and trainers Diana Protsenko, the President of the National Association of Mediators of



Ukraine, and Irina Manokha, the Director of the Eastern Institute (Ukraine-France) were invited to conduct trainings for the participants.

The Rules of Effective Communication have been developed. Community groups on Facebook was created. A group of professional moderators has been prepared. Within the framework of the project, participants identified 12 key problems of Mariupol: *Ecology, Tourism, Parks and squares*. These topics were discussed at three public meetings.



## **Green Moneybox**

NGO Mariupol Union of Youth in partnership with Local Democracy Agency of Mariupol announced the competition “Green Money bank” for the co-owners of multi-apartment houses of Mariupol. According to the terms of the competition, the participating condominiums will have to organize collection points for recycled materials: paper, plastic, metal, glass.

The winners received color bins and valuable prizes. A training course was organized for activists of Mariupol condominiums.

## **Project Management Trainings**

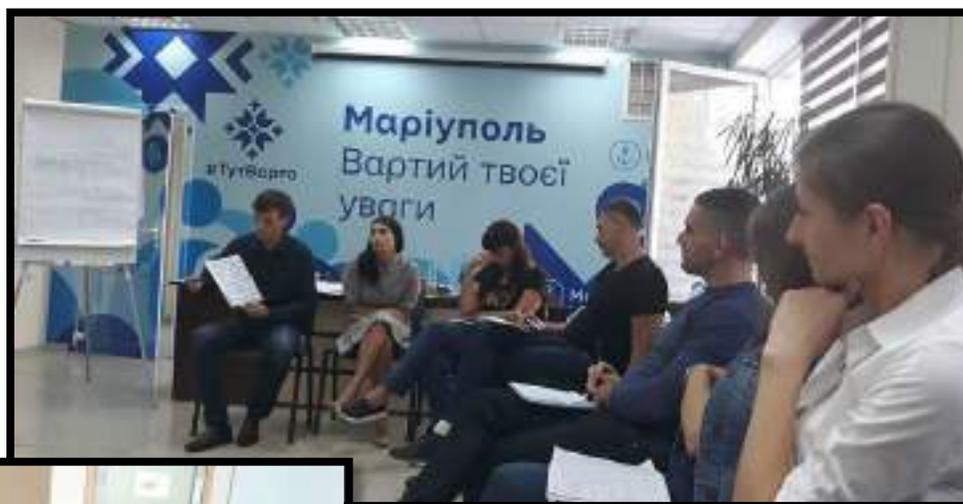
The team of the Local Democracy Agency in Mariupol is keen to develop. On September 2018, LDA managers took part in a project management training course conducted by the NGO Mariupol Development Fund. Together with the NGO Mariupol Development Fund and the NGO Zaporizhia Joint Action Platform, participants studied the peculiarities of the project management. Cynefin, design-thinking, problem tree - all

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these tools will help the LDA Mariupol team to design and implement projects for engagement and development of local communities.



## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY MOLDOVA

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**Delegate:** Nicolae Hristov

**Established:** 2017

The LDA Moldova in Cimișlia was established on 3 March 2017. It represents the first Local Democracy Agency in Moldova. Its main priorities are facilitating the participation of civil society in the decision-making process at the local level, increase the interest, awareness and capacities of citizen to take part in the decision-making process at the local level, increase the awareness and skills of the local communities and local authorities to address the needs of citizens and raise the awareness of the importance of migration with regards of local development.

## Projects and activities implemented in 2018

### **Raising public awareness of freedom of expression and access to local media (the southern region of the Republic of Moldova)**

Founded by Freedom House and the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation "Media Freedom Matters: Financial and Technical Support to Advocacy, Education and Outreach Initiatives for Media in Moldova". Time of implementation: 01.04.2018 – 30.11.2018; Within the project, research has been carried out on issues such as consumer media preferences, analyzing the confidence of the people from South region (districts: Cimislia, Basarabeasca, Comrat and Taraclia) in the local media - TV, radio, web sites and print media. At the same time, issues related to the respect of gender equality, linguistic pluralism (given that this region is the most ethnically and linguistically diverse region in the context of a strong process of ethnic minority russification) were researched by local media and regional level.

### **Increasing the degree of comfort of the population by promoting tolerance and social inclusion**

Founded by Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova. Time of implementation: 01.06.2018 – 15.12.2018; The project aims at revitalizing the central area of the town by rehabilitating the „Childhoods Park”. Beneficiaries of the project were all city residents.



### **Online and offline promotion of natural and anthropic objectives with tourism potential**

Founded by French Republic in Moldova. Time of implementation: 20.11.2018 – 30.09.2019; Its to promote sustainable tourism and conduct an inventory of local tourism

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resources and their integration into regional and national tourist circuits, also promoting local tourist areas by diversifying promotional tools;

Participation as a local partner in the "**Transparent Budgets and Active Citizens for Sustainable Development**" project. Time of implementation: 23.08.2018 – 31.07.2019; LDA Moldova contributed to involve citizens in local decision-making processes, thus promoting the initiatives to strengthening local democracy.

Participation in the annual Black Sea NGO Forum 11<sup>th</sup> edition / Brussels, 12-14 November;

Participation, as observer in the project to revitalize the localities in the river *Nârnova* (documentary visit, Strasbourg 26-30 March).



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## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY MONTENEGRO

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**Delegate:** Kerim Medjedovic

**Established:** 2017



## Projects and activities implemented during 2018

### “Balkan Regional Platform For Youth Participation And Dialogue”

January 2015 – October 2018

#### *Lead Partner:*

European Association for Local Democracy – ALDA

#### *Other Partners:*

Local Democracy Agency Mostar, Local Democracy Agency Zavidovici, Local Democracy Agency Prijedor, Local Democracy Agency Subotica, LDA Central and Southern Serbia, Local Democracy Agency Kosovo, European Association for Local Democracy – ALDA SKOPJE

#### *Donors:*

European Commission; Program: Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations; Cofounded by Ministry of finance Montenegro

#### *Purposes:*

To contribute in structuring regional thematic cooperation and coordination between CSO and public authorities from targeted countries to improve environment for youth activism and participation, in particular of young people with fewer opportunities.

#### *Activities:*

Network coordination and management of activities; Network capacity building; Awareness raising and visibility actions; Exchange of good practice among the region countries; Research and analysis;

#### *Success Stories:*

My city - Intercultural city.

The youth engagement workers, together with the youth correspondents and local youngsters worked on the creation of publications showing the intercultural side of their local communities.

LDA Niksic just published the publication "Niksic: My city - Intercultural city".

The results from the research study "**Youth cultural participation in the Balkans**" are here. Analyses of the situation with the cultural participation among the youngsters in the Balkans.

## ***"Local Youth Initiatives Nikšić"***

***The awarded beneficiaries for financial support are the following:***

1. *Project:* Let my voice be heard, too! - Center for Security, Sociological and Criminological Research of Montenegro "Defendology" – Nikšić
2. *Project:* "Equal and Different" - Informal group: Former students of Elementary School "MilevaLajovicLalatovic" Nikšić,



***The International youth day*** was marked on the 12<sup>th</sup> of August, through the public performance "Youth megaphone". This event provided direct inputs from the young regarding their needs and issues.

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On October 23, 2018, the Local Democracy Agency Montenegro organized a **Youth Taking Over Day**. The aim of this day was to bring young people closer to the work of the local self-government.

Youngsters first visited the Secretariat for Culture, Sports, Youth and Social Care of the Municipality of Nikšić, Municipality's Office desk for citizens, Office for prevention of Addictions and City Library.

**Info Day on informal and non-formal learning** for the young was organized presenting local CSOs' and their activities.

Six prominent CSOs presented to the young their missions and possibilities to get involved, trainings and workshops. Representatives of the local Secretariat for sport, youth and social care participated and contributed this event.





## **Greeters Montenegro**

July 2017 – July 2018

*Lead Partner:* CRAMARS Società Cooperativa Sociale

*Other Partners:* Carniagreeters L'Associazione, LDA Montenegro, Društvo mladih ekologa Nikšić (DMEN), Obavezna komponenta (OK)

*Associate Partners/Donor:* Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia

### *Purposes:*

This project aims to strengthen the network of volunteers, greeters in rural areas, which at the same time represent places of high rural / naturalistic values unique in the world. It also aims to further strengthen Global Greeters Network in the Balkans, promote local communities and economic and touristic development

### *Activities:*

Preparing, organizing and managing a study visit to the Carnia- Greeters in the FVG region; Organization and management of local workshops for the preparation of greeters in Serbia and Montenegro; Education and awareness raising campaign



The project strengthened the network of volunteers in rural areas with 4 workshops for potential greeters in Nikšić, Montenegro with total over 50 participants. It also contributed to strengthening Global Greeters Network in Balkan countries by registering two cities, Nikšić and Podgorica, from Montenegro with 10 greeter profiles with tendency to broaden greeters' network to Bijelo Polje and Danilovgrad. Also, a successful campaign of raising awareness was realized. Also, LDA MNE representatives held a meeting with the Vice-president of the municipality of Nikšić and presented the greeters' concept initiating cooperation with the local touristic office. Short documentary and video presentations of greeters were made. The National Greeters' Association is in process of registration and a national web site is in its final phase of preparation. Nearly 10 more potential greeters are in the process of registration of their profile. Three people are now trained for managing the Global Greeters Network web site presentations of the aforementioned registered cities.

## **De Facto Development**

2018

### *Associate Partners/Donors:*

Fund for Active Citizenship /The De facto Development project is financially supported by the European Union, within the framework of the IPA Civil Society Development Program 2016, the Civil Society Facility Montenegro Program.

### *Purposes:*

The project aim was capacity building and long-term transition from medium to large civil society organization with think tank capacities.

### *Activities:*

Retreat meeting of ALDA team members; Exploring the effects and recognition of the work of the ALDA and the importance of the thematic areas of the organization for potential users; Expanding human resources of the organization - engaging administrators; Redesign the organization's website; Production of printed promotional material; Index of transparency of work of local self- governments; Strengthening Info Point for Youth - outreach activities; Young correspondents; Promo video - "Recipe for youth participation"

### *Success Stories:*

The Empowered ALDA team with the administrative assistant held a 3 day retreat meeting where all of the crucial strategic documents were revised: Statues, Fundraising plan, Media plan.

The info point for Youth has been strengthened through four Info sessions on possibilities for youth with two high/schools bringing dozen new volunteers and

several young correspondents. Apart from the info sessions a special training for young correspondents was held in order to raise capacities of the young to address local issues and topic in modern and digital forms.

The web site is in its final stage of renewal and special promo video on youth participation was done.



## **Youth's Advocate**

October 2017 – December 2018

### *Lead Partners:*

Local Democracy Agency Montenegro OTHER PARTNERS: Local democracy agency Mostar, Local democracy agency Prijedor, Local democracy agency Zavidovici, Local democracy agency Central and South Serbia, Local democracy agency Subotica, Local democracy agency Brtonigla/Verteneglio, Open Doors Centre Tirana, System & Generation Ankara, ALDA Skopje, Local democracy agency Kosovo.

Donor: Erasmus + Programme of the European Union

### *Purposes:*

The aim of this project is empowering young people for articulation of their interests

and needs by using different models, mechanisms and techniques. The general objective is that improved capacities of youth workers, so that they can create and manage serious advocacy and lobbying campaigns for the youth polices on local and regional level.

Specific objectives:

- Education and empowerment of 35 youth workers from WB countries, Croatia and Turkey, in creation and management of advocacy campaigns for polices that concern youth throughout activities carried out in a period of 10 months.
- Exchange of experience among representatives of eight countries, and identifying its key aspects with regards to participation of young people in the policy making. - Raised awareness of youth in the WB countries and the EU about the EU standards of youth participation and active citizenship.

*Activities:*

Training seminar on youth policy advocacy and lobbying campaigns; Creation of the “patch-book” brochure with materials form the training; Dissemination of project results

*Success Stories:*

The Local Democracy Agency Montenegro organized training for 35 youth workers from 8 countries (Western Balkan countries, Croatia and Turkey), in the period from 25 –30 September 2018, in Nikšić, Montenegro. It helped to strengthen the capacities for participation in policy making process of youth workers from the targeted countries, and that young share their countries’ experiences and learn more about the possibilities and ways of participation and involvement in the creation of local policies and actions. Participants developed skills to create their own advocacy campaigns, with the acquisition of many tools, skills and knowledge in this field. In order to provide a practical upgrade of what learnt during the training sessions, participants had opportunity to visit Montenegrin Parliament, and to have interactive session with four Montenegrin MPs. The training improved the skills of youth workers from these countries on the theme of advocacy and lobbying campaigns for youth policies.

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## Youth To Youth

2018

*Lead Partner:* LDA MNE

*Donor:* Ministry of sport and youth of Montenegro

### *Purposes:*

The overall goal of this project is to: Improve the conditions and create a supportive environment for the active participation of young people in the life of the community. Within this project, the Youth Volunteer Club was created, which will be supported by the development of personal capacities through various trainings, programs, through experience in planning and organizing project activities.

### *Activities:*

- Creation of Youth Volunteer Club;
- Development of the existing Info Point;
- Exchange and capacity building for young;
- Publication of brochure for non- formal education opportunities.

### *Successful Stories:*

Through this project a **Volunteering club** was organized along with the **Young Correspondents Group** that promotes active citizenship among young people through creating articles on local topics/this was done through three workshops which brought basic knowledge and techniques of online journalism and video reporting to the young volunteers. Four **Info sessions** on possibilities for young people were held presenting Info Point, Erasmus + and EVS/ESC in two high-schools and one additional in Info Point on Project cycle as this need was recognized during the previous info sessions. The **Youth taking over day** was organized to bring

young people closer to the work of the local self-government, to get to know better the functioning of the municipality and to visit the reference services and the secretariats of local self-government. By the end of the year an Info Day for young people was held to present them opportunities for non-formal learning in the scope of local CSOs. A proper research preceded **brochure** preparation where prominent NGOs dealing with youth issues filled questionnaire and presented opportunities for the young people. Also an **International Youth Day Celebration/Youth Megaphone** was held on 12<sup>th</sup> with two aims: one is symbolical, to show a necessity to provide tools and mechanisms for youngsters to raise their voice and to have opportunity to be active participants in social life; and second aim is that through one non-formal mechanism reach larger number of young people and to gather significant amount of inputs regarding improvement quality of life of young people in communities involved.





## **Regional Youth Compact For Europe**

June 2018 – 2021

*Lead Partner:* Center for Democracy Foundation

### *Other Partners:*

CRTA, National Convent for EU, SODEM (Turkey), Youth Act Center (Albania), Local Democracy Agency Mostar, Local Democracy Agency Zavidovici, Local Democracy Agency Prijedor, Local Democracy Agency Subotica, LDA Central and Southern Serbia, Local Democracy Agency Kosovo, European Association for Local Democracy – ALDA SKOPJE

### *Donor:*

European Commission; Program: Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations



## *Purposes:*

As a logical sequel of the Balkan regional platform for youth participation and dialogue the Action responds to the need to enlarge CSOs participation in policy design and in monitoring the process of EU integration in the Western Balkans and to involve youth in this process. Special focus was on the rule of law, fundamental rights (Chapter 23 and 24 in the EU accession negotiations) and economic and social issues where employment is a priority of concern for citizens (Chapter 19).

## *Activities:*

- Project Management;
- Capacity Building;
- Monitoring and Advocacy;
- Regional Networking and Exchange programme;
- Sub-granting Programme;
- Public Campaign.

## *Successful Stories:*

The project is in its initial (first year) phase so the partners went through preparatory meetings and training.

***The First Regional training for the Network Members of the project Regional Youth Compact for Europe*** took place in Novi Sad, Serbia, from 20-21 October.

The set of training workshops envisaged various training methods: group work, case study approach, simulation, interactive debates etc.

Representatives of the project partners followed a series of workshops on the Negotiation chapters of the EU with a special attention of the Chapter 23: Judiciary and fundamental rights, Chapter 24: Justice, Freedom and Security, Chapter 19: Social policy and employment and Public administration reform. Afterwards, the partners discussed the implementation of the chapters in their respective countries and the possible actions that the project can implement in order to raise awareness about the EU and the youth role in the negotiation process.

The training was prepared by a team of high-skilled trainers and NGO experts, practitioners from national/regional CSOs engaged in EU integration related issues.

In the following period, the project Regional Youth Compact for Europe will offer a great number of activities combining awareness raising, capacity building and regional networking whose aim is to strengthen the impact of CSOs in the reform process towards the EU integration.

## ***Study visit to National Convent for EU – November 2018***

This activity provided direct insight in the functioning of the well-developed form of structured dialogue between civil society organizations and government established



after the opening of the accession negotiations with the EU of Serbia Participants had the opportunity to learn about the structure of the NCEU, meet with CSOs coordinating the working groups for the chapters 23 and 24, 2 and 19 and with CSOs which are the most active in these working groups. A special meeting was organized with youth organizations participating in various NCEU working groups.

## **Co.Co Tour**

April 2018-2020

*Lead Partner:* Regional Development Agency (Albania)

### *Other Partners:*

Himara Municipality, Municipality of Herceg Novi, Municipality of Tricase, Magna Grecia Mare, National Agency of Protected Areas NAPA

*Donor:* EU through INTERREG IPA II CBC Italy-Albania-Montenegro 2014-2020 Program

### *Purposes:*

The Co.Co.Tour project aims to guarantee a smart, inclusive and sustainable growth of the coastal communities in the target areas through a development of a cross-border model of cooperation based on heritage enhancing and tourism innovations. Starting from the example experience of Tricase Port Museum (IT), the project intends to create two new eco-museum realities in Albania and Montenegro. The project will activate a community tourism package for each territory by improving organizational and promotional capacity, activating public and dynamic eco-museums centers, improving accessibility of spaces and services, by upgrading structures, developing web and ICT devices joint with graphic and narrative tools in order to increase attractiveness and tourism competitiveness.

### *Activities:*

- Project Management;
- Communication;
- Development of a cross-border Eco-museum model;
- Development of diversified and accessible tourism products;
- Strengthening and development of ICT tools;
- Small-scale infrastructural investments.

During the initial year of the project the lead partner went through restructuring so, other



than the kick-off meeting, all other activities for 2019 were postponed.

The Representative of LDA MNE participated in the kick-off meeting of Co.Co.Tour held on June 4<sup>th</sup> 2018 in Llogora National Park in the municipality of Himara (Albania).

## **Welfare Youth Development**

Ongoing since 2004

*Donor:* Comune di Monfalcone, Friuli Venezia Giulia, Italy

Beneficiaries:

- LDA MNE
- LDA Subotica
- Municipality of Kotor

*Purposes:* Integration, socialization, and inclusion of young people

*Activities:*

- Strengthening the Info-point Niksic
- Participation in Vocational Training program for university graduates info-sessions for high-school students on opportunities for non-formal education - ESC and Erasmus +
- Project Cycle workshops for high-school students
- Info day on non-formal education through the local civil society.



## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY MOSTAR

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**Delegate: Dženana Dedić**

**Established: 2004**

**Partners:**

- Apulia Region, Italy (Lead Partner)
- City of Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Host City)
- City of Vejle, Denmark
- Fargfabriken, Sweden

**Priorities:**

- Creating active citizenship by involving citizens in decision-making processes
- Building the capacities of local authorities for better local self - government
- Supporting youth activism and the position of women
- Strengthening partnership networks (national and international) to develop strong national and regional cooperation programmes



## **PROJECTS IN 2018**

### **Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue**



**Timespan:** 01/01/2017 – 31/12/2018

**Donor:** European Commission (Civil Society Facility, Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations, Support to Regional Thematic Associations)

**Applicant:** The European Association for Local Democracy - ALDA (France)

**Partners:** LDA Mostar, LDA Prijedor and LDA Zavidovici (Bosnia and Herzegovina), LDA Subotica and LDA Knjazevac (Serbia), LDA Niksic (Montenegro), LDA Peja/Pec (Kosovo)

**Associated partner:** ALDA Skopje (North Macedonia)

**Objective:** to contribute in structuring regional thematic cooperation and coordination between civil society and public authorities from targeted countries; to improve environment for youth activism and participation, in particular of young people with fewer opportunities

#### **Activities in 2018:**

In the fourth and final year of the project, LDA Mostar initiated and implemented several local mechanisms for youth participation such as Local Youth Advisory Group, Youth Taking Over Day, Youth Megaphone - International Youth Day Celebration, Local Youth Initiatives and research which included interviews with local stakeholders. As a part of the local research LDA Mostar produced a video interview which could be found on the following link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLdE\\_u-BQn4&t=32s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HLdE_u-BQn4&t=32s)

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

2018



Final LYAG Meeting



Youth Megaphone – International Youth Day Celebration



One of this years' Youth Initiatives project

Along with our project partners we also participated in several regional project events and activities during 2018: 5<sup>th</sup> Regional Network Meeting in Podgorica (Montenegro), 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Youth Forum in Skopje (North Macedonia) and 6<sup>th</sup> Regional Network Meeting in Novi Sad (Serbia).



5<sup>th</sup> Regional Network Meeting in Podgorica



4<sup>th</sup> Regional Youth Forum in Skopje



6<sup>th</sup> Regional Network Meeting in Novi Sad

## Urban Re-Generation - The European network of cities - URGENT



**Timespan:** 01/09/2016 – 31/08/2018

**Donor:** European Commission (Europe for Citizens)

**Applicant:** The European Association for Local Democracy - ALDA



**Partners:** Università IUAV di Venezia (Italy); LDA Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Association of Albanian Municipalities (Albania); SPES – Associazione Promozione e Solidarietà (Italy); Local Councils' Association (Malta); Fundacion Privada Indera (Spain); Municipality of Kumanovo (FYROM); European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Amphictyony (Greece); Kallipolis (Italy); Rede DLBC Lisboa (Portugal); City of Strasbourg (France); Municipality of Novo Mesto (Slovenia).

## Objectives:

- to create spaces of discussion and mutual learning among citizens from different socio-cultural backgrounds and from different countries of Europe;
- to foster active citizenship and co-creation of policies and services in local societies, particularly for citizens who are often excluded from the decision-making processes;
- to enhance the capacity of local institutions to be “multipliers” in their own communities in order to engage a wide range of stakeholders;
- to provide a new impetus to the EU enlargement process, contributing to the establishment of a long-lasting thematic network of cities that are strongly active and committed as key players in Europe.

## Activities in 2018:

In the final year of the URGENT project LDA Mostar implemented several local activities. Within the project, LDA Mostar got the chance to support the publishing of the book “Cookery Book from Mostar - Food for the soul and body” by journalist Amela Rebac. The book is not only about the Mostars’ gastronomy tradition but more about co-habitation, sharing and unity. The second activity was the intervention in the public space - Park Boulevard which is located in the central urban area of the city of Mostar and was selected as the project target area after the territorial analysis in 2017. For the local population this was also the important learning process on how to use a democratic tool of participatory planning. Additionally, within the frame of the project, LDA Mostar supported the publication of the Monography of Center ADA (Center for Architecture, Dialogue and Art). Center ADA is an independent platform where citizens can consume the City as a cultural expression through architecture and art beyond the theory. The Monography will present the 6-year long work of Centre ADA and activates in establishing this independent platform by using art and architecture as a tool for a dialogue in divided



society.

Along with its project partners, representatives of LDA Mostar participated in the Final Conference “Reactivating European urban citizenship: a network of inclusive towns”,



which took place in Athens (Greece) between 30th of May and 1st of June. All the partners shared the results of the local activities and findings as well as presented their pilot projects and organization within the Inclusion Fair which was the part of Conference



program.

Within the Urgent project some important outputs have been produced: City Manifesto, Handbook, Survey, Territorial Analysis and project's Newsletter. Please find the respective documents on the following links: [www.urgent-project.eu/resources/](http://www.urgent-project.eu/resources/) or at [www.ldamostar.org/portfolio/urbana-re-generacija/](http://www.ldamostar.org/portfolio/urbana-re-generacija/)

## INnovating COworking Methods through Exchange – INCOME



**Timespan:** 01/03/2017 – 28/02/2019

**Donor:** Erasmus+ programme of the European Union

**Applicant:** Stiftelsen Fargfabriken, Stockholm (Sweden)

**Partners:** Clube Intercultural Europeu, Lisbon (Portugal); Consorzio ARCA, Italy; Development Centre Novo Mesto, Novo Mesto (Slovenia); the European Association for Local Democracy – ALDA, Strasbourg (France); LDA Mostar, Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Megahug, Schio (Italy); Municipality of Larissa, Larissa (Greece).

**Objectives:** The project targets the people who coordinate the co-working spaces in the countries involved, in order to improve their practices, skills and capacities concerning the good management of co-working spaces. They will act as multipliers, sharing the lessons learnt with their peers and colleagues. The project also wants to raise awareness on methods for supporting youth entrepreneurship and employability among a wider audience, addressing namely youth associations, business organizations, culture organizations and public authorities. Putting together different co-working spaces from all over the Europe while also discussing and investigating the concept of co-working in itself, the project wants to raise a discussion on the alternative ways of promoting youth employment and empowerment. Different examples will serve for defining the concept of



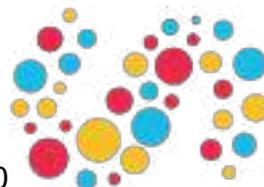
co-working, looking at comparative perspective on the practices existing in different countries, analysing their strengths, weaknesses and opportunities.

## Activities in 2018:



In 2018, LDA Mostar in cooperation with Centre ADA participated in the Job-shadowing programme within the INCOME project. The aim was to exchange the experience and practice on co-working on the local context examples between the partner organizations. In this regard, LDA Mostar hosted four representatives of the Municipality of Larissa (Greece) and vice versa. All the experiences drawn from the Job-shadowing programme are summed up in the project's final publication.

## Snapshot from the Borders - Small towns facing the global challenges of Agenda 2030



**Timespan:** 21/10/2017 – 21/10/2020

**Donor:** European Union (EuropeAid DEAR budget line)

**Applicant:** Comune Di Lampedusa e Linosa (Italy)

**Partners:** Africa e Mediterraneo (Italy); Agios Athanasios Municipality (Cyprus / Greece); Amref Health Africa Onlus (Italy); Balkan Institute of Labour and Social Policy (Bulgaria); Autonomous Province of Bolzano – South Tyrol (Italy); Constanta Municipality (Hungary); Črnomelj Municipality (Slovenia); Cromo Közhasznú Alapítvány Foundation (Hungary); Insamlingsstiftelsen Harald Edelstam (Sweden); Eine Welt Netzwerk Thüringen e. V. (Germany); Fundacion Africana Para La Medicina Y La Investigacion Amref Flying Doctors (Spain); Ville de Grande-Synthe (France); ISCOMET Institute for Ethnic and Regional Studies (Austria); Kopin (Malta); LDA Mostar (Bosna and Herzegovina); Maribor Municipality (Slovenia); Marsa Local Council (Malta); North Aegean Region (Greece); Novapolis Association – Center of Analysis and Initiatives for Development (Romania); Municipality of Pesaro (Italy); Municipality of Rhodes (Greece); Region Puglia (Italy);

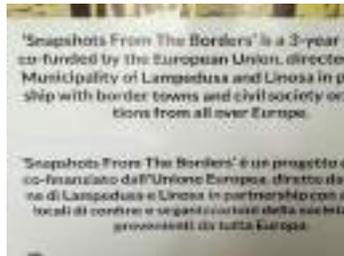


Municipality of Strass (Austria); Südwind Verein für Entwicklungspolitik und globale Gerechtigkeit (Austria); Cabildo De Tenerife (Spain); Stadtgemeinde Traiskirchen (Austria); Burgas Municipality (Bulgaria); ISCOMET Institute for Ethnic and Regional Studies (Slovenia); Siklósnagyfalu Municipality (Hungary).

**Overall Objective:** Project aims to improve the critical understanding of European, national and local decision makers and of public opinion about global interdependencies determining migration flows towards European borders, in the perspective of reaching SDGs targets, especially SDG 1, 5, 10 11 and 16. Specifically, the project intends to strengthen a new horizontal, active network among cities directly facing migration flows at EU borders, as a way to promote more effective policy coherence at all levels (European, national, local).

### Activities in 2018:

In 2018, LDA Mostar representatives, along with their project partners attended two international meetings: Kick-off meeting which took place in Lampedusa (Italy) from 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> of March and Coordination Meeting in Vienna (Austria) from 10<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> of Decembre which was an opportunity for the partners to Work on campaigning, advocacy and financial reporting to discuss messages, contents, tools and activities of the campaign as well as to collect the ideas and to discuss the establishment of Border Towns Network whose aims coincide with the specific objective of the project.



### Balkan Kaleidoscope

**Timespan:** 01/08/2017 – 01/31/2019

**Donor:** European Commission (Europe for Citizens - Strand 1: European Remembrance)

**Applicant:** LDA Subotica (Serbia)



**Partners:** European Association for Local Democracy - ALDA (France); LDA Knjazevac (Serbia); LDA Mostar, LDA Zavidovici and LDA Prijedor (Bosnia and Herzegovina); KulturLife (Germany); Institute for National History of Macedonia (North Macedonia); Centre for Peace, Nonviolence and Human Rights (Croatia); Municipality of Ravenna (Italy); SPES – Centro di Servizio per il Volontariato del Lazio (Italy); Sombor Education Centre (Serbia); Znanstvenoraziskovalni Center Slovenske Akademije Znanosti in Umetnosti (Slovenia).

**Overall objective:** The project draws attention to the importance and value of oral tradition and overview images from multiple angles in the historical narrative. The project aims to promote young people a deeper understanding of the common European history, common values, and to develop respect, tolerance and appreciation of European diversity based on memories of the Yugoslav wars and their consequences for modern Europe and its society, and the importance of foundations EU integration insistence.

### Activities in 2018:



As a part of local activities, LDA Mostar organized several linked events in 2018. Two separate workshops on "Multiperspectivity in history transmitting" were organized for the college students (10th March) and high school students (17th March). The workshops were followed by the study visit (24th March) for all the workshops participants to three different religious communities and their religious buildings. Participants visited orthodox Monastery in Zitomislici, Sisman Ibrahim-pasa Mosque in the historic town of Pocitelj and the premises of Caritas in Capljina and the catholic church which is the part of the building complex. The goal was to experience different religious communities all destroyed by the war happenings and rebuilt all over again, and whose population once refugees are today back to their homes and trying to rebuild intercultural relationships once again. The study visit was an eye-opening experience for most of the participants. For some of them it was the first opportunity to encounter different religious communities in such a close way and to learn first-hand about the interculturality and the intercultural dialogue.



From 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> of October, LDA Mostar was the host of the 2nd International Event "Teachers and students for multi-perspectivity in History and remembrance teaching" which



gathered more than 170 participants. This two-day event brought together representatives of partners' organizations from 7 EU countries and the Western Balkans as well as local stakeholders to present activities carried out in their local communities.

## Volunteer Management in Europe's Youth sector - VOLS EUROPE



**Timespan:** 01/12/2017 – 30/11/2019

**Donor:** European Commission (Erasmus + program - Capacity Building Youth - Western Balkans)

**Applicant:** Local Democracy Agency Mostar (LDA Mostar)

**Partners:** LDA Zavidovici (Bosnia and Herzegovina), LDA Knjazevac (Serbia), LDA Montenegro, ALDA Skopje (North Macedonia), United Societies of Balkans Astik Etairia (Greece), Genista Research Foundation (Malta), Association for the development of voluntary work Novo Mesto (Slovenia), Rede Portuguesa de Jovens para Igualdade de Oportunidades entre Mulheres e Homens (Portugal), LDA Kosovo (Kosovo) Fundacion Privada Indera (Spain), Consorzio Comunita 'Solidale Societa' Cooperativa Consortile (Italy)

**Objective:** The project aims to promote volunteering among young people and organizations dealing with youth issues in order to promote the Erasmus + program as a stimulus for volunteering, and especially the European voluntary service to strengthen counsellors for young people in their aspirations towards active participation (social / civil) young people how to European and local level.

### Activities in 2018:

During 2018 communication with the project partners was established and visibility materials were prepared and produced. Project activities are based on the six-day international training on volunteering in Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina) which was originally planned for May 2018 but has been postponed for March 2019 due to unforeseen circumstances. Prior to the training the capacity building activity with the team and the surveys of the consortium is planned.

## Women's Communication for Solidarity - WomCom



**Timespan:** 01/09/2017 – 03/01/2019

**Donor:** European Commission (Erasmus + program - KA2 - Western Balkans Youth Window)

**Applicant:** Cultural Center Grocka (Belgrade, Serbia)

**Partners:** GEA Coop Sociale (Italy); Association of women Sandglass - women's Association Hourglass (Serbia), The European Association for Local Democracy - ALDA (France), LDA Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Trim Vrboska - Association for the promotion of sustainable development on the island (Croatia)

**Overall objective:** increasing the capacity of young women in rural areas of the Western Balkans in order to achieve progress in equal opportunities.

### Activities:

In 2018, LDA Mostar implemented several local activities within the project. In the period between March 27<sup>th</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup>, LDA Mostar organized 10 preparatory workshops for 20 young women with the assertive communication as the main topic. The subject of each workshop was different: "Women and interculturality" (6 workshops), "Movement and communication" (2 workshops) and "History of murals – from Fresco to graffiti" (2 workshops). These workshops were the preparatory activity for the Youth Exchange international workshop "Solidarity" which was organized in Jelsa-Island Hvar (Croatia) (May 18<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>). Thirty young women, age 18-30, 5 representing each partner organization, participated in the respective 10-day workshop with the main focus on solidarity among the women through art and intercultural learning. The main result of the workshop was visual solution for 6 murals which will be later painted in each partner's local community. In the period from 15<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> of Jun, two young female artists, painted the mural on the



walls of the public theatre in Mostar in accordance with the visual solution made by participants of the aforementioned international workshop.

As a part of the preparational activities for the UN International Day of Rural Women celebration (October 15<sup>th</sup>), LDA Mostar organized the press conference



announcing three events: opening of the mural, music concert of the band "Sunday Stories" and the art performance "Remember".

The art performance "Remember" was the added value of the project itself, created by the group of young people and delivering the strong message which condemns the violence against women through assertive communication. The respective art performance arises as a valuable projects' output based on the video guide "Remember", produced by LDA Mostar within the project activities.

The video guide "Remember" can be found on the following link:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6qu5SPgal5E&t=7s>



## Youth's Advocate



**Timespan:** 01/10/2017 – 01/08/2018

**Donor:** Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

**Applicant:** Local democracy agency Montenegro

**Partners:** LDA Kosovo (Kosovo); LDA Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina); ALDA Skopje (North Macedonia); Association of young ecologists of Niksic (Montenegro); LDA Brtonigla (Croatia); LDA Knjazevac (Serbia); LDA Prijedor (Bosnia and Herzegovina); LDA Subotica (Serbia); LDA Zavidovici (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Open Doors Center (Albania), System and Generation (Turkey).

**Description:** This program wants to help strengthening capacities for participation in policy making process of youth workers in the Balkans and Turkey, and that young people learn more about the possibilities and ways of participation and involvement in the creation of local policies and action. This approach is an innovation in the Balkans because it has young people as its target group for this kind of topic and it is dealing with enhancing opportunities for the young people.

**Activities in 2018:**



During 2018, LDA Mostar representatives participated in two international events within the project. In February (21th – 22nd), projects' steering committee meeting took place in Niksic (Montenegro). The goal of the meeting was to bring together representatives of partner organizations in order to coordinate all preparation activities with project partners.



Project steering committee meeting in Niksic

In a period from 25th – 30th September, LDA Montenegro hosted the training seminar for 35 youth workers from 8 Western Balkan countries and Turkey. Training program had the aim of strengthening capacities for participation in policy making process of youth workers from the targeted countries, and that young people learn more about the possibilities and ways of participation and involvement in the creation of local policies and actions. The participants had to chance to visit the Municipal house in Niksic, as program part of the manifestation Days of European cultural heritage.

In order to provide practical upgrade of the learnt during the training sessions, participants had opportunity to visit Montenegrin Parliament, and to have interactive session with four Montenegrin MPs, on 27<sup>th</sup> of September.



Training seminar on youth policy, advocacy and lobbying campaigns



## Regional YOUTH COMPACT for Europe



**Timespan:** 20/04/2018 - 20/04/2021

**Donor:** European Commission (Consolidating Regional Thematic Networks of Civil Society Organizations)

**Co-funded by:** Balkan Trust for Democracy, a project of the German Marshall Fund of the United States

**Applicant:** Centre for Democracy Foundation (Serbia)

**Partners:** The European Association for Local Democracy – ALDA (France); ALDA Skopje; LDA Subotica (Serbia); LDA Niksic (Montenegro); LDA Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina); LDA Prijedor (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Local Democracy Agency Kosovo; LDA Knjazevac (Serbia); LDA Zavidovici (Bosnia and Herzegovina); LDA Albania; CRTA; Youth Act (Albania); SODEM (Turkey).

**Description:** Regional Youth Compact for Europe is a cooperation initiative launched by 14 CSOs from the EU, Western Balkans and Turkey with the aim to enhance the effective participation of civil society and youth organizations in the EU integration and accession negotiation process through capacity building, awareness raising and advocacy actions organized at local, national and regional level.

### Activities in 2018:

On December 19th, LDA Mostar organized its first local event within the projects' local mechanism Community multi stakeholders' platforms "Monitoring Reforms Locally – Good Practice Becomes Our Practice". The aim of respective mechanism is to create more cross sector perspective in addressing the reforms implementation focusing on issues on rule of law, good governance, employment and social cohesion and public administration reform. The issues that were treated are reflecting the role of local government in implementing European standards and policies, and the role of civil society organizations in monitoring these reforms. In the first year of the project, LDA Mostar implemented this mechanism in the form of the panel discussion titled "Bosnia and Herzegovina on its path towards EU integration" which gathered the representatives of local and regional authorities, as well as the representatives of NGO's and academic community. The main objective of the panel was to discuss the status of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the obstacles it faces within the process of EU integration.



Panel discussion started with the opening remarks made by Ms. Dzenana Dedic, director of LDA Mostar, who also presented the project and its activities to the participants.

First panel topic "Europeanisation of local government with a focus on Bosnia and Herzegovina" was presented by M.Sc. of political science, Ms. Ana-Mari Bosnjak, assistant professor, Faculty of Political Science, "University of Mostar".

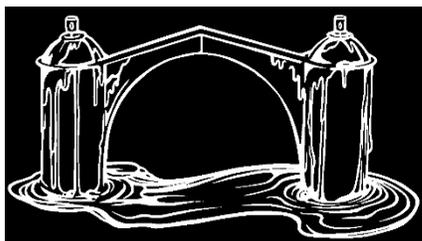
The second panel topic "Institutional and non-institutional approach to EU integrations form the local and cantonal point of view" by Mr. Ivan Jurilj, director of the Office for the EU integrations within the West Hercegovina Canton Government.

The third and last panel topic was "The Stabilization and Association Agreement - ten years after", presented by PhD. Edin Rizvanović, professor, Faculty of Law, University "Dzemal Bijedic".

Along with its project partners, representatives of LDA Mostar participated in several international project activities: First Management Team Meeting in Belgrade (June 28th-29th); First Regional Training for Network Members in Novi Sad (October 20th-22nd); Study Visit to NCEU (National Convent on EU) in Belgrade (November 29th-30th).



## BeRlin cultural Intervention - Differences Grow Equal / BRIDGE



**Timespan:** 15/04/2018 – 15/07/2018

**Donor:** Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in Sarajevo (Small Culture Funds / "Kleiner Kulturfonds")

**Applicant:** Local Democracy Agency Mostar

**Partner:** Street Arts Festival Mostar



## Description:

Bridge Concept is cultural exchange program between artists from Mostar, Sarajevo, Tuzla and Berlin through street art and music. The idea is to bind these four cities through the realization of cultural programs and art interventions in public space during the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Arts Festival Mostar.

## Activities:

The project envisaged two activities which were implemented within the frame of Street Arts Festival Mostar: mural painting and one music event. In regard to aforementioned, one of the most recognized abstract street artists from Berlin, Johannes Mudingger, painted a mural on one of the city buildings contributing to the developing street art scene in Mostar. Additionally, Mudingger visited the orphanage in Mostar and held art workshop on wall painting with the children. Another activity within the project was the performance of DJ Andre Schone from Berlin together with local DJ's in the frame of "StreetArtura Vinyl Box" event of the Street Arts Festival Mostar. This event was one day conceptual program including a DJ workshop for youth. The aim of these programs and art actions was to empower relations between artist from Mostar and Berlin, and to create positive social reactions and multicultural connections.



## Mostar Days of Oris

**Program duration:** 20/04/2018 – 22/04/2018

**Donor:** The event was financed 95% by sponsorship, 2% by entrance fees and 3% by the Cantonal Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports.

**Applicant:** Local Democracy Agency with its Centre ADA (Centre for Architecture, dialogue and art)

## Description:

This architectural event has been organized for the first time in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in cooperation of the Centre for Architecture, Dialogue and Art ADA Mostar and ORIS House of Architecture from Zagreb (Croatia). More than 500 visitors of the Mostar Days of Oris 2018 had the opportunity to participate in interesting lectures by prominent, award-winning local and international architects. They had the opportunity to learn about the



excellence and complexity of their architectural works, to discuss and socialize with professionals from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region. Mostar Days of Oris 2018 offered numerous accompanying programs of cultural and entertainment content through which visitors had the opportunity to familiarize with the City of Mostar and the region of Herzegovina.

## Activities:

Mostar Days of Oris 2018 was officially opened on April 20<sup>th</sup> with the introductory event "Architecture as a Socially Responsible Practice" with the lectures by Joachim Granit, creative director of Fargfabriken (Stockholm), Muhamed Serdarevic – architect and founder/partner in the design bureau "Normal Architecture" (Sarajevo) and Senada Demirovic Habibija – architect and custos of the Centre for Architecture, dialogue and art – ADA (Mostar).

On the same day the interactive program for children and young people took place titled "Architecture, space, design" – Mini Oris. This program was specially designed for children and youth with emphasis on the promotion and presentation of architecture and design as their potential professional orientation. That was also a chance for young people to meet and talk to some of the most prominent architects.

On April 21<sup>th</sup>, the main event of the Mostar Days of Oris 2018 took place in Mostar gathering prominent, award-winning international architects as well as large number of participants who had the opportunity to hear some interesting lectures by award-winning architect from Germany - Alen Jasarevic; Han Tümertekin - Turkish architect, winner of the Aga Khan architecture award; "2 Architects" - Croatian design studio, winner of the American architecture Prize; Snøhetta – internationally known design studio, winner of the Aga Khan and Mies Van de Rohe award for architecture.

On April 22<sup>nd</sup>, study visit was organized within the event. The participants had to chance to visit "2 Architects" design biro as well as the family estate Stanic designed by the respective design biro and the winner of the prestigious American Architecture Award.





## Other Activities in 2018

### 1. Touristic-Educational Program of LDA Mostar

**Timespan:** 07/03/2018; 09/03/2018; 22/03/2018.; 07/05/2018; 14/08/2018;

**Description:** In 2018, as a part of LDA Mostar standard Touristic – Educational program we hosted 5 groups of tourists who visited Mostar, mainly students from Italy.

### 2. Green Design Center Mostar

Representatives of the LDA Mostar and Centre ADA participated in two-day stakeholder workshop “Social impact and circular economy in the built environmental” (November 15<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup>) to test a social impact methodology for circular buildings focusing on the proposed Green Design Centre.

### 3. Coalition “Super Citizens”

LDA Mostar is a member of the Coalition “Super Citizens” initiated by the OSCE which gathers several CSO’s and whose activities are aiming at improving the social cohesion in the City of Mostar. It is based on the principles of tolerance, coexistence and respect for diversity. The Coalition works together to promote tolerance and positive values within the community and to prevent prejudices, incidents of discrimination, hate or unhappiness for the community.

**4. Network for building Peace** - in 2018 delegate of LDA Mostar was invited to apply for the position of the Governing Board member. The Network for building Peace is currently in the process of registration. Network for building Peace was established in February 2010 and currently gathers 150 NGO’s and CSO’s and 20 educational institutions legally registered Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### 5. Non-formal Network “Common Story”



Since 2018 LDA Mostar is a member of non-formal Network "Common Story". The Network emerged from the project "Promotion of professional and social integration of marginalized families - children, youth and adults / parents - in Mostar by establishing community support groups" implemented by the SOS BiH Children's Village organization, Mostar program, with financial support by the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Sarajevo. The "Common Story" Network consists of almost 40 CSO's and public institutions.

## **6. European Capital of Culture 2024 – City of Mostar Candidature**

LDA Mostar representatives, along with the representatives of other CSO's and stakeholders, participated in the development of the City of Mostar Cultural Strategy. The Strategy is one of the crucial documents within the application City of Mostar is planning to submit in 2019 in order to become the European Capital of Culture 2024.

## **7. ELoGE – European Label of Governance Excellence**

Delegate of LDA Mostar participated in the two-day workshop "European Label of Governance Excellence" organized by ALDA at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg (September 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>) and held by the Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform. The training was about the 12 principles of Good Governance, developed by the Centre of Expertise during the past 10 years to assess the performance of the Local Governments in the CoE Member States.

## **8. Ethical codex for CSO's in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

LDA Mostar actively participated in creation of the Ethical Codex for CSO's in Bosnia and Herzegovina which was initiated by the Centre for Civil Society Promotion (CPCD). The Codex is adopted to establish a mechanism for self-regulation within the community of CSO's in BiH and establishes a set of values and principles that will be used in their work and achievement of the goals. On 19<sup>th</sup> of January, LDA Mostar delegate signed the respective Codex.

## **9. Charter on Cooperation between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and NGO's**

LDA Mostar actively participated in creation of Charter on Cooperation between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and NGO's. On November 30<sup>th</sup> 2017 LDA Mostar delegate was first to sign the Charter on Cooperation between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and 74 NGO's in Sarajevo. The Charter creation was a part of the project "Capacity Building of Government Institutions to Engage in Policy Dialogue with Civil Society in BiH (CBGI) – Phase II" funded by the EU.

## **10. Pro-buducnost project working group**

LDA Mostar representative is one of three members of the City of Mostar working group within in the project "Pro-buducnost" since 2013. PRO-buducnost (Confidence,



Understanding, Responsibility for the Future) is USAID's project of building peace and trust among citizens of all ethnic and religious groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## **11. Dialogue for the future**

LDA Mostar representatives participated in the work of Focus group of the project "Dialogue for the future" constituted of CSO's whose area of activity has a special focus on underrepresented groups and civic activism. The Focus Group aimed at fostering dialogue among the activists of the City of Mostar with the focus on building a more just society through the promotion of social cohesion and diversity at the local level in BiH. Project "Dialogue for the future" is jointly implemented by the UN agencies in BiH - UNDP Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNICEF Bosnia and Herzegovina, UNESCO, in partnership with the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Center for Promotion of Civil Society (CPCD) is responsible for the local activities' realization in cooperation with the City of Mostar.

## **12. SHL – Schuler Helfen Leben BiH - Academy for Youth Leaders in Civil Society**

Within the SNL's Academy for Youth Leaders in Civil Society program, LDA Mostar provided the internship for two young students in the period from May 14th –Jun 30th and from July 25th –September 19th.

## **13. Cooperation with the Faculty of Economy, University of Dzemal Bijedić Mostar**

As a part of Cooperation with the Faculty of Economy, University of Dzemal Bijedić Mostar, LDA Mostar provided the internship for one student with the aim of linking practical and theoretical knowledge. On September 7<sup>th</sup>, respective institution awarded the certificate of appreciation to LDA Mostar.



## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY PRIJEDOR

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**Delegate:** Dragan Dosen

**Established:** 2000

Note: The activities below are realized within the projects implemented by the Association Progetto Prijedor, Partner leader of LDA Prijedor and activities implemented by ALDA support. In this document we highlight the most important activities.



## Projects and activities implemented during 2018

### Theater workshop project, the third edition

July 2018- February 2019

*Partners:*

Associazione Progetto Prijedor, Trento, Italy, Cultural association "Portland" from Trento, the Theater from Prijedor

*Donors:*

Autonomous Province of Trento

*Purpose:*

The Association progetto Prijedor of Trento and the LDA Prijedor, for the third year in row, have implemented the project "Theater workshop for young people", intended for young people aged between 15 and 25. The goal of the workshop is the creative expression of young people through acting as a tool to be able to know themselves and others and to express their feelings and needs.



*Activities:*

In the period from the 3rd to the 8th of July, the youth theater show named "There are crocodiles in the sea " took place in Prijedor. Participants were 4 young people from Trentino and 8 young people from Prijedor. Two trips to Trento took then place in the period from the 20th to the 26th of August and from the 18th to the 21st of October respectively, where participants, with help of experts, continued to work on finalizing the show already started in Prijedor. The show was presented in more locations in Trentino: San Lorenzo in Banale, Cavalese, Besenello, Mezzolombardo and in two schools: the Galileo Galilei High School and the Agricultural Institute of San Michele.

Finally, on February 19th the show was presented to the public of Prijedor at the municipal theater in the presence of numerous spectators and the Mayor of Prijedor.

*Success stories:*

- The youth from Prijedor and Trento, despite the linguistic barriers, managed to do a good job together



- The youth become more aware of their abilities
- The project helped the youth to express themselves
- The citizens of Prijedor and Trento are more aware of the importance of youth projects

## School exchanges

### *Partners:*

Associazione Progetto Prijedor, Trento, Italy, Primary and secondary schools from Prijedor and Trentino

### *Donors:*

Autonomous Province of Trento

### *Purpose:*

The main objective of the exchange between schools is to consolidate in the new generations an idea of a Europe built from below, made of solidarity and sharing, exchange of cultures, and economic relations. During 2018, two visits were realized for students from Trentino to Prijedor City. The first exchange took place in the period from March 21st to March 23rd, where, 40 pupils and 4 professors of the Galileo Galilei Gymnasium from Trento and the Agricultural Institute of San Michele, visited the Prijedor Gymnasium "Sveti Sava" and the Agricultural School.

The second exchange took place between 18th to the 21st of April 2018, where a group of 33 students and two teachers of the Predazzo Technical School visited the Prijedor Catering and Economic School. The return visit to Trento of the mentioned schools from Prijedor took place from the 18th to the 21st of October.

### *Activities:*

Tour of schools and exchange of experiences regarding the educational system. Tour of cultural and historical sights, getting to know culture and tradition, presentation of joint activities to the public, as well as to elementary school children. Agreement on future joint projects.

### *Success stories:*

- Meet each other, talk, exchange experiences





- To sensitize the younger generation on the fundamental values of coexistence such as mutual trust, reciprocity, dialogue, and beneficial exchange between different ethnic groups and religions, taking responsibility for oneself and for others

## Prijedor – city of murals

### *Partners:*

Associazione Progetto Prijedor, Trento, Italy, Association of Artists of Prijedor, family of Paola de Manincor, Association Andromeda, City of Lavis

### *Donors:*

Autonomous Province of Trento

### *Purpose:*

In 2018, for the sixth time, the invitation for artists to participate in the competition through which the best proposal for the new mural in the Prijedor is selected, was sent out, following the annual edition of the international prize named Paola de Manincor (an artist from Trentino who in 1998 painted, with the support of the City of Trento, the first mural in Prijedor). After that, the selected work was carried out on the facade of a building in the city of Prijedor.

### *Activities:*

- Writing and publishing the competition on the website of the Association and social networks – 21st of May 2018.
- Closing the competition and sorting and publishing the submitted proposals – 21st of July 2018
- Selection of winners - August 2018
- Realization of the winning mural – the first half of September
- Inauguration of the sixth mural in Prijedor – 29 of September 2018

### *Success stories:*

- Contribution for the development of culture and tourism of the city of Prijedor, that played a part to the branding of Prijedor on cultural and tourist maps of Europe,
  - Contribute to the improvement of the offer of cultural and tourist experiences in Prijedor
  - Encourage the promotion of tourism in Prijedor as a city of art and artists





- Improving the appearance of the space of the city through the rehabilitation and beautification of surfaces that need technical and aesthetic interventions
- Improve the visibility of artists from Prijedor
- Increase the motivation of people to participate in the art and in cultural and artistic events
- To train and spread a positive view on art and culture
- Provide more information to citizens about the artistic and cultural past of the city
- To encourage an increased sensitivity of policy makers towards art and culture in general

## **Study visit in Trentino for students from the agricultural school of Prijedor**

Period from 25th to 29th of June 2018

### *Partners:*

Associazione progetto Prijedor, Trento, Italy, Agricultural Institute San Michele all'Adige, Trentino,

### *Donnors:*

Province of Trento

### *Purpose:*

A group consisting of three students and three professors of the Agricultural School of Prijedor was on a study visit to the Agricultural Institute of San Michele all'Adige in the period from the 25th to the 29th of June, 2018. The theme of the study visit was "Organic production in today's agriculture".

### *Activities:*

During the stay in Trentino, the guests from Prijedor were able to learn about the techniques of cultivation, processing, and exploitation of products in viticulture and horticulture.

### *Success stories:*



- Strengthening the knowledge of young people on the subject of biological production of food.
- Motivation on improving practical teaching in Prijedor's agricultural school.
- Strengthening relations between two institutions.



## **Project “Participatory territorial planning of local development” with the aim of realizing an analysis of the situation and the needs of one of the marginalized rural areas of Prijedor**

### *Partners:*

Associazione Progetto Prijedor, Trento, Italy,  
Municipality of Prijedor, Agency for local  
economic development Prijedor

### *Donors:*

Autonomus Province of Trento

### *Purpose:*

- It is a project intending to analyze the situation and needs with the involvement of all public and private actors working in one of the most marginal area of Prijedor.
- The project offers specific training which develops professional competences for territorial planning, later to be extended to other areas of the City of Prijedor, such as the practice of city administration, including the administration of Prijedor itself.
- As a methodological model, international experiences of territorial analysis of the situation, as well as examples of territorial agreement with additional extensions (within specific local communities), were used.
- The pilot area chosen for the implementation of the project was Ljubija, a rural and marginalized area near Prijedor, known for its social and economic problems.

### *Activities:*





During the 6 months of work on diagnostics, 200 people were interviewed and were subsequently classified in interest groups for different sectors, such as the collection of medicinal herbs, harvest of small fruits, raising of livestock, beekeeping and fruit-growing. During the analysis, various meetings were organized with the inhabitants of Ljubija, also attended by representatives from the Municipality, Local Development Agency, Ministry of Agriculture and other representatives from public institutions.

Despite the numerous problems that the population of Ljubija faces, such as the lack of young people, poverty, and the lack of work in general, the diagnostic showed that there are still groups that want to get together to improve the sale of their products as wholesalers tend to buy products from individual families at very low prices. Thus came the desire to standardize their products with a local product brand, as well as to have a point of storage and sale for off-season products.

#### *Success Stories:*

- Analysis of the situation and needs of the Ljubija area, done in agreement with all actors operating in the area
- Systematization of priority proposals for projects related to Ljubija from the analysis
- Elaboration of project proposals for the development of Ljubija area
- Launch of a territorial agreement for Ljubija
- Determining the monitoring system and monitoring the development of the situation by the actors themselves operating in the area of Ljubija

### **Become an entrepreneur**

*Partners:* Associazione Progetto Prijedor, Trento, Italy, Municipality of Prijedor, Agency for local economic development Prijedor

*Purpose:* Municipality of Trento

*Purpose:*

The third edition of the project proposed by the Project Prijedor Association and financed by the Municipality of Trento aims to contribute to combating unemployment, which today stands as one of the most difficult problems to solve in the Prijedor area. Therefore, the project intends to make young people aware that the labor market is profoundly changing with a shift from dependent employment to entrepreneurship and therefore on the importance of entrepreneurship for the development of the territory. In order to make people understand the possibilities that entrepreneurial activities have, individuals, groups of young associates, or cooperatives, are provided with specific knowledge about planning, start-up and management of their business planning. Through this project, young people carry out market research, identify a product or service to offer, build a marketing plan (management organization, preparation of financial management) and



finally, with the support of the Agency for the economic development of Prijedor, combine everything in a business plan.

### *Activities:*

- Study visit to Trento for the Prijedor professors on the topic of cooperative education
- Organization of the competition for the best cooperative project in the schools.
- Choosing the best cooperative project for the schools
- Delivering incentives for startup activities
- Finding internships in local companies for high school students



### *Success Stories:*

- Improved the knowledge and skills of entrepreneurship according to the needs of young entrepreneurs and unemployed youth who plan to start their own business activity
- Promoted entrepreneurial culture in the Municipality of Prijedor
- Promoted self-employment as a model of alternative work
- Promoted the formation of business associations and cooperatives
- Contributed to decreasing the number of unemployed by promoting self-employment
- Promoted relations for entrepreneurship between the territories of Trento and Prijedor

## **Daily center with public kitchen for elderly people in Ljubija**

January 2018 – December 2018

### *Partners:*

Associazione Progetto Prijedor, Prijedor Municipal Administration, Social Service Centre Prijedor, Municipality of Trento, City of Levico, Elderly day center Ljubija, Ljubija Social Council

### *Donors:*

Autonomous Province of Trento, City of Trento

### *Purpose:*

The Prijedor Project Association, in agreement with the local administration, with the aim of mitigating the problem of the poverty of inhabitants of Ljubija, also in 2018 continued to endorse the Social Polo project with the public canteen in Ljubija, officially opened in



September 2013 with the support of the Trentino Alto Adige Autonomous Region. Users of the Polo and the canteen are people in socio-economic distress, mainly elderly, without family assistance.

*Activities:*

Continue to support the social centre Ljubija, specifically with the financing of the coordination of the centre and the coordination of the elderly day center

*Success stories:*

By supporting working spaces for social inclusion through the opening of spaces and services it is possible to improve the quality of responses to the needs of the most vulnerable groups of the population and the well-being of the community in general.

## **Remote adoption**

January 2018 – December 2018

*Partners:*

Associazione Progetto Prijedor, Committee entrusts Prijedor, Social Services Centre, Prijedor municipality

*Donors:*

Private donors

*Purpose:*

The PROJECT DISTANCE ADOPTIONS, began in 1997 and up to now involves 811 families in Prijedor and as many from Trentino This activity goes beyond economic aid: among many families a stable relationship has been formed made up of meetings in Prijedor and exchanges with Trentino.

*Activities:*

- Distribution of material assistance in the amount of 120 euros, every four months
- Visiting the families of the donors once a month
- The exchange of letters or e-mails between donors and receiving families

*Success stories:*

The economic aid, while important in itself, also becomes an instrument through which to create relationships that go beyond this dimension, and help to provide the population of Prijedor with greater hope for the future and to combat the apathy that is currently one of the major problems of the area. The recipients of this aid are especially families in economic distress, lonely elderly, and students of secondary schools and



universities, who need support in order to continue their studies and to become in this way a resource for the future of their community.

## Activities supported by ALDA

The Local Democracy Agency of Prijedor, in the last four years, together with its partners from the Balkans, carried out the project "Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue in the Balkans". The project is funded by the European Commission through the Civil Society Facility program, Operating grants IPA CSO Associations, and Support to regional thematic associations.

In the territory of Prijedor, the LDA Prijedor has carried out numerous activities, whose objective has been the creation of a regional youth network composed of youth associations and local authorities for the purpose of promoting and practicing youth activism and participation in the local community. Furthermore, work was focused on directing local authorities towards the needs of young people and on strengthening the capacities of young people for active citizenship and for participation in the decision-making.

During the four years of the project, in Prijedor, numerous training courses, workshops and meetings with young people, study visits, volunteer exchanges, and two researches among young people were organized, one on the theme of needs and mobility and one on cultural participation, all with the aim of strengthening youth capacities. In the Prijedor territory, special attention was given to the work with young people from rural areas, who have a lesser chance of realizing their ideas than young people living in the city, to representatives of the Council, and to high school students as a positive example for the local community.

The City of Prijedor has given its full support to the realization of this project and has taken an active role in carrying out numerous activities.

The most obvious result in this project in the Prijedor area is the creation of a Local Youth fund, whose objective is to support small actions useful for young people and establish a quality interaction between young people and representatives of local authorities.

Through the Youth Fund, in 2018 four actions were supported: the Sonvo - non-governmental organization fair, the small school of journalism, an open cinema, and Prijedor city of culture. In direct communication with representatives of local authorities, the young people informed of their needs defined through the laboratories "My city -



intercultural city", and demonstrated the success of the methodology created through the project, in which young people with few resources from the local fund for young people can realize some of their ideas, with a strong final effect. Related to this, the representatives of the local authorities, the president and vice-president of the Municipal Council of Prijedor met with the youngsters of Prijedor during the activity "Youth Takeover Day" where young people presented the results of the fund for the youngsters and also the results of the questionnaire of the position of young people in Prijedor.

The authorities praised the ideas proposed by the youth, their efforts to realize their ideas, which make the community more welcoming, and said that the local government will support healthy ideas, and will continue to invest in young people, who in the future must be responsible for the development of the Municipality of Prijedor, and added that the door of the local administration is always open for them.

This was the fourth and final year of the project "Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue". At the end of the project a video was created that represents the 4 years of work.

The new project is called Regional Youth Compact for Europe and is a three-year project that aims to strengthen the CSO, in particular youth organizations in the Western Balkans and Turkey, to participate more effectively in the design of policies and monitoring of the European integration process.

The Center for Democracy Foundation (Belgrade), Balkan Network of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA and ADL of the Western Balkans), CRTA (Belgrade) Youth Act Center (Albania) and SODEM (Turkey) will work together on various activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations and organizations which are dedicated to young people, in order to monitor the implementation of public policies, engage in defense based on evidence, through a structured democratic dialogue with a focus on good governance, the rule of law, economic governance, employment, and social policy reform. The combined set of capacity-building and regional networking activities aims to strengthen the impact of CSOs in the reform process towards EU integration.

## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY SUBOTICA

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**Delegate:** Silvija Patarcic

**Established:** 1993

## Projects and activities implemented during 2018

### **Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue – European Commission Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations - Support to Regional Thematic Associations**

January 2018 – December 2018

*Partners:* ALDA, 7 Balkan LDAs and ALDA Skopje

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to structuring regional thematic cooperation and coordination between civil society and public authorities from targeted countries to improve the environment for youth activism and participation, in particular of young people with fewer opportunities.

#### *Activities:*

Through the course of the project, a series of conferences, trainings, exchanges, workshops, and meetings were held in five targeted countries from the region, through the following main components of activities: 1.) network coordination and management of activities; 2) network capacity building; 3) awareness raising and visibility actions; 4) exchange of good practice among the region countries; and 5) research and analysis.

The Regional Forum in Novi Sad was one of the highlights of the year which served as a concluding and follow-up action planning event of the project. In that occasion, a round table with regional and local youth policy stakeholders was held in OPENS Novi Sad (<https://opens2019.rs>) entitled – “Millennials of the Balkans: Making smart and long-term plans vs packing the bags and leaving in search for a more comfortable life.” The main objective of the event is to highlight the importance of networking and synergies in strengthening regional co-operation across the Balkans, as the main key note speakers



and panelists were coming from Delegations of the EU, RYCO, WBF, OPENS, ALDA and other important. regional stakeholders.

## **Regional Youth Compact for Europe – Consolidating Regional Thematic Networks of Civil Society Organisations, European Commission**

April 2018 – April 2021

*Partners:* Center for Democracy Foundation, Belgrade, 8 Balkan LDAs, ALDA Skopje, ALDA, Youth Act Albania, SODEM Turkey and CRTA Serbia

The project aims to empower CSOs, particularly youth organizations in the Western Balkans and Turkey to more effectively participate in policy design and in monitoring the process of EU integration.

A combined set of awareness raising, capacity building, and regional networking activities are aimed to strengthen the impact of CSOs in the reform process towards the EU integration.

The Balkan Network for Local Democracy, acting as a consolidated cooperation/consultation platform, will be engaging local public authorities, CSOs, and youth groups from across the region in EU integration related policy dialogue through innovative mechanisms for influencing public policies and reform process.

Main project work packages, which will be implemented at local and regional level, include Capacity building, Monitoring and Advocacy, Regional Networking and Exchange, Public Campaign and Sub- granting Programme.

In 2018 the main activity was the official launching of the project in Belgrade together with a Study visit to the National Convention on the EU.



## **Balkan Kaleidoscope – Europe for Citizens Programme, European Remembrance**

August 2017 – January 2019

*Partners:* LDA Subotica, ALDA and 12 organisations/institutions/municipalities from 6 WB countries and 2 EU MS countries

Balkan Kaleidoscope is a project that involves students and teachers on the importance of multiperspectivity in learning history and indicates the knowledge of Yugoslav Wars as a fundamental tool to understand the present. The Consortium includes 13 partners, from 8 different countries.



### *Main objectives of this project:*

- Bring attention to the importance and value of oral history and multiperspectivity in the historical narrative.
- Develop teachers' capabilities of using multiperspective methodology, personal narratives and oral history, participative and interactive methods starting from Western Balkans' most recent history.
- Promote, among young people, a deeper understanding of Europe's shared history and common values, develop respect, tolerance and appreciation of European diversity on the background of the remembrance of the Yugoslav Wars and efforts for European

integration. Help them to better understand the complex and sensitive issues of intercultural and interethnic dialogue.

- Reflect on the importance of peace in Europe and of furthering the EU integration

*Activities:*

- International event in Osijek, Croatia - Training for teachers on multiperspectivity in History teaching
- Main objective: preparation of pilot training modules to be applied in respective local communities.
- Local activities in partner countries: Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, Serbia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Students learning and reflecting on the Yugoslav Wars in history classes/training workshops/non-formal education workshops moderated by the History teachers trained in Osijek.
- International conference in Mostar , Bosnia and Herzegovina - Experts, teachers, and students involved in the project will present the multiperspective approach to history, and share their personal testimonies, narratives, and methodological approaches in formal/non-formal education collected in the course of the project.
- Online platform presenting outcomes of students' research projects

## **Local Civic Monitor - European Policy Center Belgrade, WeBER project subgranting programme**

June 2017 – February 2018

*Partners:* LDA Subotica, E-portal local media associate

The project is aimed at monitoring the effects of public administration reform at the local level. Its objective is to contribute to the improvement of the principles of accountability in the field of exercising the right to access information of public importance. Project activities include educational seminars, research work, publication of analytical texts, promotion of good practice and preparation of publications on local practice in five municipalities in the Vojvodina region: Subotica, Backa Topola, Ruma, Sombor and Kanjiza.

The project is designed as a consistent and inter-related set of activities jointly implemented by the applicant and local media outlet. It comprises: awareness raising, survey and report making of local practice in implementation of the right access to public information, reporting and evidence based advocacy activities This, in order to achieve the following results: 1) Enhanced CSOs skills and competencies in monitoring and advocacy actions for consistent enactment and application of the right to access public information; 2) Established co-operation platform between grass-root CSOs and local investigative media in monitoring performances of LSGUs; 3) Reinforced role of CSOs awareness raising and information activities in support to promotion of public

participation and consultation with stakeholders; 4) Increased number of collaborative CSOs and local media actions in promoting the role of local self-government in the EU accession process.



## Vojvodina Initiative for EU - Open Society Fund

August 2016 – August 2017, continuation project August 2017 – July 2018

*Partners:* Centre for Regionalism, LDA Subotica and 7 NGOs from Vojvodina region

LDA Subotica is the founding member of the CSO platform Vojvodina Initiative for EU. Its general aim is strengthening and increasing the role of the civil society and the citizens in the negotiation process for the accession of Serbia to the EU.

With the support of the Open Society Foundation and TACSO Program for Civil Society, the Vojvodina Initiative for EU is implementing its first concrete activities in accordance with the main goals and mission of the network.

*The activities in 2017 and 2018:*

- empowering civil society organizations at the provincial level to actively participate in decision-making processes in relation to the reforms needed in the process of Serbia's EU accession;

- establishing a mechanism for the exchange of information with stakeholders in relation to section Chapters 10, 11, 12, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28;
- timely informing citizens about the accession process and the benefits and obligations that derive from it;
- establishing a mechanism for continuous dialogue and exchange of information with government institutions in the context of the negotiation process;
- civil monitoring and evaluation of policies and reforms carried out by the provincial authorities in the process of Serbia's accession to the EU.

LDA Subotica is the coordinator of the working groups for Chapters 19 – Social policy and employment, 20 – Industrial policy and entrepreneurship and 22 – Regional policy and coordination of structural instruments.

The network has over 30 NGO members, while the number of interested organizations for membership is continuously increasing, bearing in mind the need for greater involvement of civil society in the process of public consultation in the preparation, development, and implementation of action plans for chapters.

## **Every Button Counts - Europe for Citizens Programme, European Remembrance**

January 2017 – March 2018

*Partners:* 6 million + Charitable Trust, UK, LDA Subotica with partners from Italy and Poland

Every Button Counts is an EU funded project that invites partners from England, Poland, Serbia and Italy to come together to look at the connections between the stories of the Holocaust and those of contemporary refugees in four cities.

Over an eighteen month period, the project challenges participants and audiences to consider whether we do enough to prevent genocide, nationally and internationally. It encourages creative, collaborative responses to the refugee crisis in Europe, which are being shared at public events. At the conclusion of the project, reflections and outcomes will be shared with a wider European audience in the form of an online resource “Every person counts”.

The project’s four partner organizations are working together to research and reflect on the histories and stories of people persecuted during the Holocaust and in subsequent genocides.

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

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Participants are encouraged to make a direct connection with events worldwide and to examine responses to the current refugee crisis. Groups are invited to promote compassion and understanding for refugees in EU countries, dispel myths, challenge prejudices, and increase understanding and respect for one another as EU citizens.

*The aims of the project are to develop:*

- a deeper understanding of the refugee crisis in Europe and its connection to the past
- a willingness to show compassion to the ostracised and take action to help them
- increased understanding and fellowship between four European cities
- friendship between cultural groups within and outside of their own cities
- a heightened sense of confidence and enthusiasm from participants to engage in decision making processes, nationally and internationally



The ultimate aim is to share past and present stories from individuals in each country and share experiences with a wider audience using theatre, writing, music, art, and film.

## **Subotica – European Intercultural City - Provincial Secretariat for Inter-regional Cooperation and Local-Self Government, Government of Vojvodina**

December 2017 – March 2018

*Partners:* LDA Subotica, City of Subotica

The overall objective of the project is to promote the role of local governments and civil society organizations in AP Vojvodina as key actors in the EU integration process and the effective implementation of the reform measures envisaged in most negotiation chapters.

The project is designed as a set of combined activities aimed at encouraging proactive engagement of local authorities and City administration Subotica in the European Network of Intercultural Cities (<https://www.coe.int/en/web/interculturalcities>) as well as to encourage communication and cooperation between local self-government

and civil society organizations to strengthen cross-sectoral partnerships aimed at improving public consultation practices in defining local sectoral public policies, including the culture development strategy. The proposed activities are focused on strengthening the capacities of the local government for the preparation of EU projects, especially in the field of culture. The exchange of experiences with members of the European Network of Intercultural Cities is also endorsed, with the aim of increased active participation of Subotica in the preparation and realization of numerous project activities of this network, which from the initial 10 founder cities (including Subotica), today has over 90 members active in the preparation of joint projects of the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

The project contributes to the promotion and enhanced visibility of the achieved results of the City of Subotica in the implementation of EU projects, but at the same time encourages the effective functioning of the mechanism for cooperation and dialogue (Network for Development). In the long term, the project aims to promote the concept of the "Good Local Government Community" in cooperation and partnership within the European network of Intercultural Cities, as well as the promotion of the city of Subotica and AP Vojvodina in the institutions of the European Union.

## **Marking the Day of Europe in Subotica**

April - May 2018

*Partners:* LDA Subotica, City of Subotica, Delegation of EU in Serbia

Marking the Day of Europe, with the aim of raising awareness of citizens, in particular among the youth, about the EU values and possibilities that the EU promotes. The programme included an information campaign and activity on the main square in Subotica.

Informative promotional publications by the EU Information Centre of the EU Delegation in Serbia, were disseminated at the exhibition with the purpose of increasing the awareness of citizens about the EU, its member states and institutions.

Through this traditional event, in which the main objective is sharing the knowledge about Europe and European values among the citizens, LDA Subotica, the Delegation of the EU in Serbia, and the City administration had the opportunity to once again work together for a common goal. Furthermore, the exhibition gathered interested citizens, motivated to discover something new about the EU during this Europe Day promotional activity.



## **Local Initiative for Solidarity, Subgranting of Ana and Vlade Divac Foundation Belgrade within Open Society Foundations Project**

March 2018 – August 2018

*Partners:* LDA Subotica, General Hospital Subotica

The project "Local Initiative for Solidarity" is aimed at improving the local community through public space arrangement, while creating an opportunity for promoting solidarity, raising awareness, and strengthening the empathy of citizens, especially youth, towards the migrant population in Subotica through:

- volunteer action of landscaping and greening of the General Hospital Subotica and Children's Hospital
- Workshop on human rights, solidarity and volunteerism
- Eco workshops: Handicrafts of solidarity



## Practice solidarity and shape Europe - Europe for Citizens Programme, Civil Society Projects

August 2017 - January 2019

*Partners:* European House, Budapest, LDA Subotica and 9 partner organisations from EU MS countries

The aim of the project is to bring relevant EU related issues closer to the citizens, discussing proposals that foster European citizenship, solidarity, and dialogue.

Topics to be tackled are: the European Solidarity Corps, the Commission's White Paper on the future of Europe, the 2017 European Citizenship Report, the 2019 European Parliamentary elections, and others related to civil dialogue and EU policy making.



## Townlab MEET, Europe for Citizens Programme, Network of Towns

October 2018 – September 2020

*Partners:* Municipality of Chiesanova, LDA Subotica, City of Subotica and 5 partner organisations from EU MS countries

The project focuses on: the labor market integration of migrants, experience and best practice about the relationship between employment and inclusion policies, good practice sharing through twinning as a model of cooperation, ways in which intercultural relations improve the integration of refugees at the local level (methodologies, approaches and innovative tools), development of legislative and executive propositions, and protocols and organizational models about immigration policies and integration.



## Citizens of Macro Regions for a Stronger Europe, Europe for Citizens, Civil Society Projects

October 2018 – December 2019

*Partners:* European House, Budapest, LDA Subotica and 9 partner organisations from EU MS countries

The project builds upon the unused potential of a relatively new EU policy-making framework, the Macro-regional strategies (MRS). The 10 project participating CSOs from AT, DE, DK, FR, HU, IT, PL, RO, RS, and SK cover in balanced manner all the 4 macro-regions: the Baltic Sea, Danube, Adriatic-Ionian, and Alpine Regions.

The novelty of the project is that it brings together CSOs from all the Macro-regions thereby increasing their potential of influencing macro- and EU-level policy-making processes. This will be achieved by:

- a joint contribution to the elaboration of the biannual Commission's Report on MRS (released by the end of 2018) and assisting the implementation of its recommendations
- attending the Annual Forums and other macro-regional programmes of the MRS.

## **Public Administration Reform – Membership in National Working Groups**

*Partners:* Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self Government, Serbian Government Office for Cooperation with Civil Society, European Policy Centre

*LDA Subotica is member of:*

- Special Working Group for the preparation of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Public Administration Reform Strategy for the period 2018-2020 which is coordinated by the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society, in cooperation with the Ministry of Public Administration and Local Self-Government.
- National working group for Public Administration Reform within the WeBER Platform





## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY TUNISIA

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**Delegate:** Afaf Zaddem

**Established:** 2017

## Projects and activities implemented during 2018

**Since January 2018** The LDA Tunisia actively participates in the implementation and communication strategy of the PARFAIT project and coordinates the activities taking place in Kairouan and Mahdia. The PARFAIT project aims to increase women's participation at the local level by empowering them to fully access the public sphere, both as voters and candidates, but also as empowered, informed, and involved citizens, in order to enable the implementation of decentralization as entrenched in the Tunisian legislation. The project specifically targets six Tunisian governorates: Gafsa, Grand Tunis, Jendouba, Kebili and Mahdia. The LDA Tunisia is therefore an important relay in the field. She works closely with ALDA, EPD, and the Coalition pour les femmes de Tunisie, which constitute together the PARFAIT project's consortium. From January to May 2018, LDA Tunisia coordinates trainings on self-confidence and awareness, participative democracy, project management, advocacy, electoral cycle, and gender dimension in local life, Then, Trainings on civil participation in decision-making processes were also held in Mahdia (25-26 October) and Kairouan (27-28 October).



**22 March 2018**, the LDA welcomed 15 students from the International Center for European Training (CIFE), as well as Mrs Anne Von Richthofen, Project Coordinator at CIFE, in Kairouan. This observation visit was especially dedicated to students currently preparing their Master thesis, in connection with topics related to sustainable development, governance, human rights, and democracy. Mrs. Afaf Zaddem presented the LDA and its activities, the students were interactive, interested, and motivated by the visit. They were concerned by the Tunisian revolution, the democratic transition and its effects on Tunisian society, by gender issues and its integration into current Tunisian



political discourse. This visit was an important event for the LDA, as it gave greater visibility of its activities and involvement among higher education institutions, opening doors to cooperation opportunities and joint work. Moreover, it was the first time the LDA worked exclusively with a young audience.

**22 and 23 April 2018** “inter-city meetings” between different Tunisian municipalities which took place in Zarziss-Medenine and organized by the so-called “Madinatouna” UNDP project. The participation of the LDA and of PARFAIT women to these workshops was really valuable in that it allowed women, accompanied by the LDA, to raise their voices, express their concerns, take positions on regional strategies, and get involved in local decisions. The involvement of the LDA in these activities was a real opportunity to enhance visibility of the agency and create new synergies. The LDA met with the partners of Madinatouna project, as MedCities, GIZ, CILG.

**September 2018** starting friendly talks sessions in order to encourage young people to speak out in public, but also to allow them to experience a simple exercise of citizenship and to encourage them with a simplistic and age-appropriate approach, the LDA organizes discussion groups called "Friendly talk". These talks take place on a monthly basis and are open to young people between 12 and 18 years of age. Free discussions led by a facilitator in a friendly atmosphere are organized in LDA's room, allowing a participatory exchange around citizen commitments. Some topics covered during open discussions include: volunteering, associative engagement, "success stories" they have experienced themselves or experienced by people who have succeeded in changing and developing their cities, and environment through civic actions and associative engagement.

**13 and 14 September 2018**, a delegation composed by some ALDA staff and representatives of different LDAs – including the delegate of the LDA Tunisia, Mrs. Afaf Zaddem – joined a training at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, held by the Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform. The training was about the 12 principles of Good Governance, developed by the Centre of Expertise these last 10 years to assess the performance of the Local Governments in the CoE Member States. Principles range from responsiveness to rule of law, ethical conduct, sound financial management, Fair Conduct of Elections, Representation and Participation. Under the Centre of Expertise rules, if a local Government scores good enough, it gets the label EloGE - European Label of Governance Excellence.



**October 2018** recruiting of a LDA assistant Mrs Sirine Rejab joined the LDA in order to support the delegate in all the projects the LDA was involved in this year, and for the years to come

**20 October 2018** In the context of the twinning of Strasbourg and Kairouan municipalities, Strasbourg Mayor Roland Ries and his deputies visited the twin city of Kairouan on. This meeting was the occasion for the LDA to support the organization of the event, and also to present its project related to local cultural heritage. The project aims to retain traditional crafts and build the capacity of young art students, craftswomen and artisans in the region through trainings and participatory learning. The LDA was asked to support this project in its civic dimension, to allow these artistic ateliers to open to the community and share the values of citizenship. "Dar Bouras", one of the oldest residences in the heart of the medina, aims to acknowledge the preservation of Kairouan's heritage, and meet with the LDA's project partner.

**7 November 2018**, the municipality of Tétouan hosted the first meeting on the opening of the first LDA of Morocco, with local and international partners of the project. The meeting was marked by a great participation and allowed partners of the LDA to meet and exchange about the future development of the LDA.

The LDA delegate Ms Afaf Zaddem was part of this meeting and introduced the LDA Tunisia to the representatives of the municipalities of Tetouan, Larache, and Chefchaouen, the delegates of the Fons Mallorqui, the Moroccan Local and Regional Council and other Moroccan civil society organizations. Besides this presentation, Ms Zaddem addressed the creation of the LDA and shared the challenges related to its opening in terms of procedures, as well as its experience with local authorities in Tunisia and the decentralized method used by the LDA. This presentation was really significant in the context of the opening the LDA in Morocco, since all the participants realized which kind of challenges they could probably face and made them think on how to avoid these issues.



**25 to 27 November 2018** The 18th International Conference of the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (OIDP) was held from 25 to 27 November 2018 in Barcelona. Three intense days were devoted to debate, reflection and experiences sharing on direct democracy, citizen initiative, and inclusive democracy ecosystems from the perspective of local governments.

The delegate of the LDA Mrs. Afaf Zaddem took the stand at this conference, where she presented the actions of the LDA Tunisia and its international partners. Participants appreciated the typical decentralized approach of the LDA activities, as well as the fact that these initiatives are carried out in an inland region of the country. The LDA Tunisia raised a lot of interest concerning its role as a platform for cooperation between local authorities and civil society to promote citizen participation and local democracy, good governance and local development, giving a really good example of how an entity with an association statute can participate in the improvement of good local governance.

**7 December 2018**, the LDA was invited by the European Union Delegation in Tunisia to take part in the tripartite consultation co-organized with the Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Human Rights, Rule of Law, and Democracy.

This meeting was co-chaired by Ms Hanène Tajouri, Director Europe/EU, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and Ms Florence Liou, Deputy Head of Division, Maghreb Division, European External Action Service of the EU, and was based on the operational conclusions of the meeting of the Subcommittee on Human Rights and Democracy held in Brussels in 2017. The LDA has the opportunity to discuss with other stakeholders present, the rule of law and democratic transition issues in Tunisia.

**22 and 23 December 2018** In the framework of the “International Solidarity Week” hosted in Kairouan, the LDA launched an event entitled “Festival of Solidarity” which included the “Kairouan City Bike” gathering. This festival took place on two days, with one day on the values of sharing and cultural exchange, and the other day promoting the use of bikes towards sustainable human development. The event was organized in cooperation with the Municipality of Kairouan, the Junior Economic Chamber of Kairouan (JCI-junior), and the Super Bike Kairouan group, taking advantage of their experience and know-how in managing public events about biking. During the day dedicated to cultural exchange, young people from Strasbourg, Burkina Faso, and Kairouan presented dance and theatre performances, photo projections and testimonial videos about their civic engagement. On the second day, the “Kairouan City Bike” took place where citizens were called to cycle through the city in order to promote youth engagement for



urban and sustainable development. The Mayor of Kairouan Radouène Bouden took part in the activity.



The outcome of 2018 is very positive for the LDA Tunisia. Indeed, after a first intensive year, the LDA grew up at an incredible speed, thanks to the great work and involvement of its members, as well as the mutual support with ALDA. Its reputation and network increased significantly, since all the activities the LDA was involved in allowed to meet with a wide diversity of actors and to establish several partnerships with national and international stakeholders. This year, the LDA forged itself a place in Kairouan by collaborating closely and constantly with the municipality and its officers, but also got to work with the municipality of Mahdia, and became step by step an obvious contact point in the region. The synergies the LDA developed, especially between the civil society and elected officials at the local level, make it a trusted partner in the field. The LDA participated in all the activities carried by ALDA in Tunisia, providing broad support to ALDA-Med in terms of work, coordination, and knowledge, but also allowing the development of confidence in the beneficiaries of the projects. Individually, 2018 was marked by the LDA emancipation and empowerment, at it has built up projects, submitted proposals and responded calls by its own, but also proposed its expertise in several other projects, which would not have probably worked out without its very precise knowledge in the field.

To conclude, the results of the LDA's activities have been really positive and we strongly believe 2019 will be an exciting and productive year.

# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES ACTIVITY REPORT

2018





## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY ZAVIDOVICI

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**Delegate:** Slađan Ilić

**Established:** 1997

**Priorities:**

- Strengthening its activities in the key sectors: Youth policies, Social Welfare, and Sustainable Economic Development
- Increasing the net of local actors involved, promoting their role, animating and supporting them through the LDA's partner network
- Enlarging the relationship with local and international NGOs, institutions and authorities
- Supporting local NGOs, active in the social and educative field to become more sustainable

**Key partners:**

- Associazione per l'Ambasciata della Democrazia Locale a Zavidovici Onlus – Impresa Sociale (Lead partner)
- Municipality of Zavidovici (Host city)
- Comune di Alba - Ufficio Pace, Comune di Roncadelle
- Coordinamento enti locali per la pace Provincia di Cremona
- Associazione "Strani Vari" Alba, UISP Brescia/Cremona



## Projects and activities implemented during 2018

### **Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue**

Multiannual project, since January 2015

*Partners:*

ALDA - European Association for Local Democracy, LDA Montenegro, LDA Mostar, LDA Zavidovici, LDA Prijedor, LDA Central Serbia, LDA Subotica, LDA Kosovo, ALDA Skopje

*Donors:*

European Commission, Civil Society Facility, Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations  
- Support to regional thematic associations

*Purpose:*

From January 2015, ALDA and the Balkan LDAs started the implementation of the Operational grant – Balkan regional platform for youth participation and dialogue, a platform through which the Balkan network for local democracy was established. It is composed by organisations and local governments that will contribute in structuring regional thematic cooperation and coordination between civil society and public authorities from the targeted countries. The aim is to improve environment for youth activism and participation, in particular of young people with fewer opportunities.

*Activities:*

Through the project's progression, a series of conferences, trainings, exchanges, workshops and meetings were held in five targeted countries from the region, through the following main activity components:

- Network coordination and management of activities
- Network capacity-building
- Awareness-raising and visibility actions
- Exchange of good practice among the region countries
- Research and analysis





## Regional Youth Compact for Europe

Multiannual project, since April 2018

### *Partners:*

Center for Democracy Foundation Belgrade, ALDA Skopje, LDA Montenegro, LDA Mostar, LDA Zavidovici, LDA Prijedor, LDA Central Serbia, LDA Subotica, LDA Kosovo, LDA Albania, Crta Belgrade, Youth Act Albania, Sodem Turkey



*Donors:* European Commission, IPA Civil Society Facility and Media Program

### *Purpose:*

Regional Youth Compact for Europe is a cooperation initiative launched by 14 CSOs from the EU, Western Balkans, and Turkey with the aim of enhancing the effective participation of civil society and youth organisations in the EU integration and accession negotiation process through capacity building, awareness-raising, and advocacy actions organised at local, national, and regional level.

### *Activities:*

The project comprises 6 work packages representing its structure:

1. Project Management
- Encompassing an established efficient and engaged project team and Regional Thematic Network Forum for content enrichment on the topics of education and employment of youth, rule of law, public administration reform, structured dialogue, and advocacy at the regional and local level.



## 2. Capacity Building

- Trainings and study visits which aim to provide the exchange of knowledge and experience, strengthening the capacity of CSOs to advocate within their local community and at the national level.
- Workshops that aim to empower and motivate young people to get engaged, focusing on key issues of the rule of law and fundamental rights, employment and social cohesion, and public administration reform.
- Western Balkans Politeia Summer School, which aims to increase the knowledge and skills of young people in the area of EU accession process and youth participation in this process.

## 3. Monitoring and Advocacy

- Comparative study “Civil Society involvement in monitoring EU accession and EU Integration Processes in the Western Balkans – from initial projects to structured dialogue” on Chapters 19, 23, 24 and public administration reforms.
- “Youth Transformational Potential in EU Integration Processes” desk analysis on existing forms of participation, new IT technology approaches and tools which boost youth motivation.
- My City - Youth City, open Local Assemblies initiative – youth participation in the decision making processes at the local level.

## 4. Regional Networking and Exchange programme

- Establishment and engagement in the community's multi stakeholders platforms for dialogue among CSOs and youth organisations with local government, public and private sector at the local level.
- The Local Youth Workshops “Regional Youth Compact for Europe – We are Europeans” will be organized locally in 11 communities where co-applicants work.
- Regional Forum: the Youth Regional Compact for Europe Network will gather youth organisations in the Western Balkans focused on rule of law, good governance, employment and social cohesion and those involved in policy making, advocacy, reform monitoring.
- Annual Conferences on thematic issues with the aim to multiply effects of the accomplished outcomes and outputs.
- The Internship Youth Program aims to provide new experiences, intercultural exchange among diverse youth groups in the region, and to learn about the functioning of CSOs, assisting in innovative, youth friendly, forms and content of communication, leading to increased youth participation.

## 5. Sub-granting Programme fund for Local Youth initiatives



- The main objective of sub-granting is improvement and development of participatory youth policies and local democracy in communities of the Western Balkans through support to youth initiatives fostering active citizenship and participation of young people at the local level.

## 6. Public Campaign

- Through promotional activities and direct actions with citizens, it aims to raise awareness about the benefits of CSOs and youth involvement in the EU integration processes and ensure continued motivation and willingness of young people for activism and participation.

### **Sigurno Mjesto: Services and Activities for Women**

Multiannual project, since 2011

*Partners:* LDA Zavidovici, Association “Sigurno mjesto” Zavidovici

*Donors:* Municipality of Alba (Italy)

#### *Purpose:*

For many years, the activities of the Association have been supported by the Local Democracy Agency Zavidovići and the Municipality of Alba. The association organizes educational and interactive workshops on violence with pupils of elementary and secondary schools, parents of pre-school children, marginalized groups of women and educational workshops for pregnant women with expert associates, gynecologist and midwives. It also provides its contribution to the development and the strengthening of a healthy family, the organization of creative workshops with the goal of a quality use of free time for women. Furthermore it organizes and participate in meetings, round tables, public debates, seminars and events which involve women and which mostly discuss about improving the position of women in society, promoting laws which protect women's rights, and the fight against prejudices and stereotypes based on gender and sex.

#### *Activities:*

- Workshops for pregnant women;
- Workshops on domestic violence with high school students;
- Workshops on domestic violence with women in rural areas;
- Public debates on domestic violence;
- Meeting and support groups for the economic empowering of women;
- Support desk, reception and tutoring;



- Promotional activities and marking of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women



## **Strani Vari – summer centres for children**

Multiannual, since 2003

*Partners:* LDA Zavidovici, Associazione Strani Vari (Italy), elementary schools from Zavidovici

*Donors:* Associazione Strani Vari (Italy)

*Purpose:*

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To support the creative expression and imagination of children; Awareness-raising of children on different themes; Indirect involvement of family and citizens; To support the joint efforts of Bosnian and Italian animators; Expanding the form of participation of civil society organizations, strengthening joint activities of social significance; Promotion of the Association and voluntarism, and creating useful relations between the actors involved.

## *Activities:*

This year's edition of Strani Vari Project was carried out from July 23rd to August 3rd 2018 in the Municipality of Zavidovici. In the summer activities, educative workshops and leisure time for children, some 300 kids participated from two primary schools (first and second elementary school Zavidovici) and five schools in rural areas (Poljice, Hajderovići, Kovači, Brezik). Around 30 Bosnian youth from Zavidovici and 20 young Italians from Alba were included as animators.



## **Ludobus - Activities for children in rural areas**

Continuous, since 2006

*Partners:* LDA Zavidovici, Association Ceker, schools from Zavidovici area

*Donors:* Ass. ADL Zavidovici, Associazione Mimi

*Purpose:*

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"Ludobus" is a service that offers recreational, cultural, educational sport and creative activities for children in parks, schools, streets, and green areas of the city and villages. Activities are implemented by young people with the assistance of teachers. "Ludobus" is a mobile playroom that has a great ability to gather, attract, and animate children through games as a basis to socialize and acquire new experiences. "Ludobus", thanks to its simplicity, can be involved in various programs (school and extracurricular) and events in the city and beyond. LDA Zavidovici is actively involved in the development of non-formal education and creativity for children through fun and educational workshops with "Ludobus". In the previous period, "Ludobus" visited almost all schools in rural Zavidovici and the activities involved a large number of children.

## *Activities:*

The Activities involved some 350 children from schools in rural areas, by giving them an opportunity to play and learn with educators. Our volunteers also realized some

workshops during the cultural and entertainment events in the city such as during the manifestations "Summer in the City" and "Festival of Children's Theatre".



## **Welfare Youth Development**

2017-2018

### *Partners:*

Comune di Monfalcone, LDA Zavidovici, LDA Montenegro, Municipality of Subotica, Comunità Nazionale Italiana del Montenegro, Opera don Orione Elbasan

*Donors:* FVG



The project aims to intervene in the field of social and educational inclusion of young people in the area of the Balkans in order to build up a network of experiences that can represent a reference to be disseminated in the entire area involved in the ongoing reform processes from both a legislative and an organizational point of view. LDA Zavidovici is part of several activities regarding development and access to aggregation services for children residing in peripheral, rural areas and living in a situation of marginalization and lack of resources through enhancement of aggregation services and development of the "Ludobus" initiative for children and teenagers residing in rural areas.



## **Twining Zavidovici - Roncadelle**

Multiannual, since 2008

*Partners:* LDA Zavidovici, Municipality of Zavidovici, Female volleyball club Zavidovići, Municipality of Roncadelle, Centro sportive commune di Roncadelle

*Donors:* Comune di Roncadelle

*Purpose:* To improve cooperation between Italian and BiH subjects, in the frame of the twinning agreement between the municipalities of Zavidovici and Roncadelle (Italy)

### *Activities:*

LDA Zavidovici organised and supported the participation of Women's the Volleyball Club "Zavidovici" in a volleyball tournament "Memorial Alessandra Navoni " in Roncadelle in December 2018. The delegation from Zavidovici met with local authorities of Roncadelle and Cremona in order to confirm the long term friendship established between our towns.



## Vivicittá – sport events for peace and solidarity

Multiannual, since 1998

*Partners:* LDA Zavidovici, UISP Cremona, Municipality of Zavidovici, Association of Zavidovici sport teachers, Basketball Club “Krivaja”, Female Volleyball Club from Zavidovici, I.I.S. “Torriani” Cremona, Association Sigurno Mjesto

*Donors:* UISP, LDA Zavidovici



*Purpose:* The international sport event, whose general sponsor is the UISP - Unione Italiana Sport per tutti, takes place in many cities around the world, and also in Zavidovići since 1998. The aim is to promote peace, solidarity and friendship.

*Activities:* Vivicitta 2018 was held in Zavidovici on April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017. The sports event was organized by the Association of Zavidovici sport teachers, in collaboration with the Municipality of Zavidovići and UISP Brescia and Cremona. Hundreds of athletes from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Italy participated in the race. As a part of this sports event, there were also, traditionally, a female volleyball tournament and a male basketball tournament.



## Development of family gardens in the Municipality of Zavidovići in Bosnia Herzegovina

2018

*Partners:* LDA Zavidovici, Association Sigurno mjesto

*Donors:* Enti per la pace della Provincia di Cremona, BUDD Camp



*Purpose:* Assistance to women engaged in agriculture on a small scale in order to increase production and product quality covering own needs for food.

*Activities:*

Training – educational lectures with agronomist:

a) meetings on specific themes organized in four sessions:

- Cultivation and conservation of red fruits;
- Fruit tree cultivation;
- Cultivation of seasonal vegetables;
- Cultivation of wheat and corn for self-consumption

b) visits of the participant's gardens for a shared "fieldwork"

- Creation of information material related to the work of the gardens to be undertaken during the year.
- Purchase of seeds, small tools, and fertilizers according to the specific needs of each participant.



## **“Culture of Peace” - Coalition of associations in Zavidovici**

*Partners:* Coalition “Kultura mira”, Several local associations

*Donors:* OSCE

*Purposes:* Prevention of incidents motivated by prejudices

*Activities:*



LDA Zavidovici is a member of the Coalition for prevention of incidents motivated by prejudices “KULTURA MIRA – CULTURE OF PEACE”, that was formed at the beginning of 2014 in Zavidovici. The local Coalition is part of a wider national network SuperCitizens with participation of representatives of civil society, local communities, and individuals working on the prevention of incidents and crimes of hate and contributing to the process of reconciliation. SuperCitizens comes together in a coalition to combat hate, basing its unique work on the premise that real change begins at the local level.

In 2018 we organized:

- February 27<sup>th</sup> - Round table on the assessment of the implementation of the Action Plan for social cohesion of the Zavidovici Municipality.
- April 8<sup>th</sup> - Marking International Roma Day
- September 14<sup>th</sup> – Coalition visit of youth from Zavidovići to the site of the monumental mediaeval tombstones “stećci” in the vicinity of the village Beše.
- November 13<sup>th</sup> - meeting with members of the Association of civilian victims of the war.
- November 15<sup>th</sup> - The Coalitions against hate from Gornji Vakuf-Uskoplje, Jajce, Vitez, Zavidovici and Zenica, with the support of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, marked the International Day for Tolerance in Jajce.





## **Balkan Kaleidoscope**

2017-2018

*Partners:* LDA Subotica, LDA Subotica, Serbia - Leading partner; ALDA – European Association for Local Democracy, France; LDA Knjazevac, Serbia; LDA Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina; LDA Zavidovici, Bosnia and Herzegovina; LDA Prijedor, Bosnia and Herzegovina; KulturLife, Germany; Institute for National History of Macedonia, Macedonia; Centre for Peace, Nonviolence and Human Rights, Croatia; Municipality of Ravenna, Italy; SPES – Centro di Servizio per il Volontariato del Lazio, Italy; Sombor Education Centre, Serbia; Znanstvenoraziskovalni Center Slovenske Akademije Znanosti in Umetnosti, Slovenia

*Donors:* Europe for Citizens Programme, European Remembrance strand

**PURPOSES:** The project brings attention to the importance and value of oral history and multiperspectivity in historic narrative. The project aims at promoting, among young people, a deeper understanding of Europe's shared history, common values and at developing respect, tolerance, and appreciation of European diversity on the background of remembrance of the Yugoslav Wars and their consequences for contemporary Europe and its society, as well as its importance as a milestone in the European integration efforts.

In Zavidovići, students learned about the concept of multiperspectivity in history teaching, and the importance of personal stories and narratives seen from different perspectives through the workshops. The first workshop was held on the topic "What the young people know about the Yugoslav wars". In the workshop, using the methods of multiperspectivity, students presented their views on the concepts and events related to the life in Yugoslavia and the events during its breakup. The second workshop was held on the topic "Victory Day - Day of Europe" where students had the task of observing the role of European integration from a multiperspective point of view.



## Youth's Advocate 2018

### *Partners:*

LDA Montenegro, Local Democracy Agencies from Mostar, Zavidovici and Prijedor (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Subotica, Knjazevac (Serbia), Kosovo, Brtonigla (Croatia), then ALDA Skopje, Open Doors from Albania, System and Generation from Turkey and the Association of Young Ecologists from Niksic

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*Donors:* Erasmus +

### *Purpose:*

Local Democracy Agency Montenegro organized training for 35 youth workers from 8 countries (Western Balkan countries, Croatia and Turkey), in the period of 25 – 30 September 2018, in Niksic, Montenegro. The training started with reception of participants in the Municipal house in Niksic, where participants had the opportunity to be

present at the event „Power and strength of written word,, as part of the manifestation program Days of European cultural heritage.



The training program tended to help strengthening capacities for participation in policy making process of youth workers from the targeted countries, and that young people can learn more about the possibilities and ways of participation and involvement in the creation of local policies and actions. With this, participants would develop skills to create their own advocacy campaigns, with an acquisition of many tools, skills, and knowledge in this field.



## **Wim Laboratories Iuvenis**

2018-2020

### *Partners:*

Procédé Zèbre, Association Procédé Zèbre (France), Lycée Bundesgymnasium und Realgymnasium de Perchtoldsdorf (Austria), Lycée i.i.s. des ambrois d'Oulx (Italy), Lycée Titu Maiorescu d'Aiud (Romania), Lycée LIVIU REBREANU d'Hida (Romania), Lycée BLAISE DE VIGENERE de St-Pourcain-sur-sioule (France), Lycée Hohenzollern-Gymnasium de Sigmaringen (Germany), Association Almateatro de Turin (Italy), LDA Zavidovici (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

*Donors:* Erasmus +

### *Purpose:*

The goal of the WIM Laboratories Iuvenis project will be to adopt innovative strategies in terms of linguistic, cultural, and artistic transmission. Young high school students will



confront the theater professionals according to a principle of "richness of the mixture". Writing workshops (collecting testimonies, reports), theatrical practice and performances will help to acquire skills, but also autonomy and self-confidence. These seem to us essential elements to solve the many problems that affect our contemporary societies, to move towards equality between women and men, the inclusion of migrants, and more broadly to contribute to the creation of a sense of belonging to Europe. The shared commitment of teachers, students, amateur and professional actors will make possible new cooperation strategies, bringing together the fields of education, training and youth. The theater will develop skills, autonomy, and self-confidence by creating flexible learning pathways that meet the needs and goals of youth. Multilingualism and cultural diversity will have a driving role among the competences that allow European youth to be better prepared for the international labor market, and to develop a look and a critical spirit. This project will develop cultural tourism, and highlight a heritage of European interest in the different countries participating in the project.

### *Activities:*

Young people from Zavidovici participated in the mobility action within the project "WIM laboratories juvenis" in Oulx (Italy) from October 21-25 2018. During five days in Oulx theater and performance laboratories for young people from Vichy (France), Oulx (Italy) and Zavidovici (Bosnia and Herzegovina) were organized and



lead by Fabrice Dubusset and Arnaldo Ragni, artists of the Procédé Zèbre from Vichy, and Vesna Šćepanović from Alma Teatro Torino.

### **Scout camp**

2018

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*Partners:* LDA Zavidovici, Gruppo scout Sant Antonino

*Donors:* Gruppo scout Sant Antonino

*Purposes:*

In the period from the 14th to the 22nd of August 2018, the scout group from Sant Antonino near Turin stayed in Zavidovici. The scouts had various volunteer activities during their stay, with the aim of helping the local community and to experience new cultures and traditions.





## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY ALBANIA

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Lead partner: Metropolitan City of Bari, Italy

The Local Democracy Agency Albania was established in 2008 in Shkodra, and its work ended in 2014

The LDA intends to be a cornerstone to strengthen the local democracy and to accelerate Albania's path towards the European Union.

The LDA's thematic priorities are:

- Strengthening cross-border and regional cooperation
- Supporting capacity building for local authorities and civil society associations
- Supporting citizens' participation
- Supporting European Union integration.

*The LDA was suspended in 2017, and despite has already got back to activity, work is in progress to make it fully operational.*

## OPERATIONAL PARTNER OSIJEK

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**Delegate:** Miljenko Turniski

**Established:** 1993

**Main objectives:**

- Democratic governance and active European citizenship
- Social inclusion and intercultural dialogue
- Local Sustainable Development

**Key partners:**

- City of Lausanne, Switzerland (Lead partner)
- City of Osijek, Croatia (Host city)

## Projects and activities implemented during 2018

### **Dignity World #1**

May 2017 – June 2018

*Primary donors:* EC, Erasmus + Programme, Strategic Partnership

*Objectives:*

- to develop and mainstream new ways in human rights education and education for democratic citizenship
- to create an online portal with games, videos, charts, and lesson plans
- to open young people's minds about social issues, to raise their awareness on global problems and active citizenship, and to promote inclusive attitudes (social and civic competences)

*Activities:*

- partners meeting. Lorca, Spain – 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018
- development of educational games
- translation of website contents
- organization and implementation of dissemination events in Croatia (June 2018)
- evaluation
- reporting
- preparation of follow-up activities

*Achievements:*

- Exchange of experience and networking with partners and European level

### **Dignity World #2**

May– December 2018

*Primary donors:* EC, Erasmus + Programme, KA1

*Objectives:*

- correct exploitation of social networks and web resources, in order to take advantage of these tools for personal development and empowerment

*Activities:*

- animation and selection of local youth for participation in the international youth exchange project,
- organisation of travel
- evaluation and reporting

*Achievements:*

- 5 Croatian participants gained a new intercultural experience and developed their skills and awareness in the use of social networks

## **Into the Wald – DE**

January – October 2018

*The role of the LDA Osijek:*

- animation and selection of local youth for participation in the international youth exchange project,
- organization of travel,
- implementation of the international youth exchange project in France and Croatia
- evaluation
- reporting

*Other partners:*

- Jugendbildungszentrum Blossin, e.V., Germany – beneficiary
- Association Gwennili, Quimper, France – partner

*Primary donors:* French–German Youth Office

*Objectives:*

- to sensitize young people to other European cultures, enabling them to live and understand those cultures
- to enable young people to learn to cooperate
- to foster linguistic learning
- to enable young people to develop their confidence and competencies needed for survival in the nature

*Activities:*

- consultations with project partners and youth exchange leaders
- publishing of calls for participation for young people from Croatia
- selection of participants
- preparation of the meeting of youth exchange leaders, Blossin, Germany, 21<sup>st</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> May 2018

- organisation of the interpreting services for the Croatian language
- preparation of linguistic animations
- travel arrangements
- international youth exchange, Blossin, Germany, 28<sup>th</sup> July -4<sup>th</sup> August 2018
- evaluation and reporting

*Achievements:*

- 8 young persons from Croatia spent 8 days in the Bossin youth education center and developed their intercultural skills and experiences.

## **Peacebuilding School Award Program**

November 2017 – October 2018

*The role of the LDA Osijek:*

- partner
- Applicant: Centre for Peace, Nonviolence and Human Rights

*Primary donors:*

- Ministry for Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy, Croatia
- City of Osijek, Croatia

*Objectives:*

- To recognize and support schools that contribute to the society through non-violent methods by progressing towards a solid, fair, peaceful, and peacebuilding community

*Activities:*

- selection process of school nominees and election of awarded schools
- peacebuilding school award (as a part of the Krunoslav Sukić award ceremony for peacebuilding, nonviolence, and human rights)
- preparation, organization and implementation of a study-visit programme of the awarded school to Osijek and to the Vukovar region, including visits to war memorial sights in the region
- evaluation and reporting

*Achievements:*

- Peace education promoted in schools in Croatia

## Other activities implemented in 2018

### Local Products for Local People

During 2018, the Local Democracy Agency cooperated with Osijek Market Ltd. and was subcontracted to assist with the services of public relations and organisation of press conferences and conferences that took place within the project.

The main objective of this project, which was implemented in the frame of the Interreg Cross Border Programme Croatia-Hungary, was to promote domestic food and reduce food waste at markets in Osijek (Croatia) and Pecs (Hungary). The project's objective was in line with the EU research which has shown that at least 50 percent of discarded food is still healthy and edible. The project consisted of many promotional activities at both markets, including open-space cooking events and four seasons festivities, as well as the establishment of a Croatian corner at the market in Pecs and a Hungarian one at the market in Osijek. The project resulted in the creation of a web-based application for food donation.



## **Balkan Kaleidoscope – Conference: Teachers and students for multi-perspectivity in history and remembrance teaching**

During 2018 representatives of the Local Democracy Agency participated in the international conference for the project, Balkan Kaleidoscope, that took place in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina between October 4th and October 7th. This international event, titled "Teachers and students for multi-perspectivity in history and remembrance teaching", brought together representatives of project partners from 7 EU countries and the Western Balkans to present activities carried out in their local communities. The Local Democracy Agency was represented at the conference by Mr. Branislav Miličić, president of the association and historian by profession, and a volunteer, Luka Rešetar. The main objectives of this project were to:

- bring attention to the importance and value of oral history and multiperspectivity in historic narrative.
- develop teachers' capacities of using multiperspective methodology, personal narratives and oral history, participative and interactive methods, starting from the Western Balkans' most recent history.
- promote among young people a deeper understanding of Europe's shared history and common values, develop respect, tolerance and appreciation of European diversity on the background of remembrance of Yugoslav Wars and efforts for European integration. Help them to better understand the complex and sensitive issues of intercultural and interethnic dialogue.
- reflect on the importance of peace in Europe and of furthering the EU integration.



## Hosting of American Social Work Students

Also, this year the Local Democracy Agency has cooperated with the PRONI Center for Social Education in hosting students for social work in Osijek. A long-term



cooperation of PRONI with the University of Indiana from the United States and its Faculty of Social Work, has resulted in a form of a regular subject - Intercultural Learning Service - practice in Croatia. In the frame of this international practice, many American students visit Croatian associations and get to see firsthand their work. This year the Local Democracy Agency had the opportunity to host two American students from Indiana University, Maddie and Coley. They have prepared a video about studying in the United States which can be found at the following link.

## **MOTUS – platform of civil society organisations in Osijek-Baranja County**

The platform brings together civil society organizations from the area of the Osijek Baranja County, which carry out positive activities and advocate for the values of modern democratic societies. During 2018, the Local Democracy Agency actively participated in its work.

## **HANGOUT – new youth initiative established**

The Youth Initiative “Hangout” was created by two young people, Matija and Emilija-Antonija, and was supported by the Osijek associations: PRONI Center for Social Teaching, Local Democracy Agency Osijek and ISKRA Waldorf Initiative. Through the projects of the Info-Centers for Youth and youth work and volunteering, they saw the need for continuous informal social gatherings which they thought were missing in Osijek.

The goals of the Hangout meetings are networking, learning something new, continuous personal development, and encouraging young people to leave their comfort zone. During 2018, young people interested in meeting face to face, organized more than 20 meetings on different topics according to their personal needs and preferences. Topics varied from learning about IT tools and applications, playing music together, learning about EU possibilities for hanging out together, learning about youth or simply together.



## OPERATIONAL PARTNER SISAK

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**Delegate:** Paula Raužan

**Established:** 1996

### **Partners:**

Association of the Local Democracy Agencies – France (acting as lead partner), the cities of Sisak, Hrvatska Kostajnica, Petrinja, Kutina, Dvor (Croatia); NGO “Going to Europe” (Italy); NGO “International School for Peace Studies” (Northern Ireland)

### **Member of the following councils and organisations:**

Association of the Local Democracy Agencies – Operational partner  
South East European Youth Network  
Croatian Centre for Development of Volunteering  
Sisak-Moslavina County Local Partnership for Employment

### **Vision**

Society in which citizens actively, equally and responsibly develop their communities.

### **Mission**

LDA Sisak contributes to social capital strengthening by developing capacities of individuals, government and wider community.

### **Programmes:**

1. Local democracy
2. Volunteer Centre Sisak



**LDA Sisak is beneficiary of the Croatian National Foundation for Civil Society Development Institutional support for period 2016-2018**



## 1. Volunteer Centre Sisak

Lead partner: LDA Sisak

Donor: City of Sisak, own resources

Timing: 1 January- 31 December 2018

Volunteers' Centre Sisak (VCS) is a local volunteer' centar operating within the LDA Sisak, intended for volunteers' programmes in Sisak area. VCS is working on community developing throughout volunteering, connecting people want to volunteer with institutions and organisations that need volunteers.

Moreover VCS:

- In cooperation with public institutions and non-governmental organisations creates and implements quality local programmes based on identify needs of the local community and potential programmes' users.
- Recruits volunteers and keeping data in the database, provides their preparation if needed, organise education, supervision, monitoring, programme implementation evaluation, and secure legal volunteers' engagement.
- Raise capacities of public institutions and non-governmental organisations in order to set up unique quality and effective volunteers' management.
- Promotes and develops volunteering as such, in cooperation with public institutions and non-governmental organisations and works on local volunteer' policy development and monitoring together with local authorities.

**Dedicated web page** of the Volunteer' Centre Sisak offering all information regarding local volunteering, recruiting volunteers, legal framework and tools for efficient volunteer' management.

LDA Sisak coordinates the **Town of Sisak Committee for Development of Volunteering** that has following tasks:

- foster volunteering in Sisak area by monitoring the local volunteering policy and recommending its changes
- prepares annual report on voluntary programs' implementation to Town of Sisak
- specially dedicated to promotion of voluntarism and improvement of conditions for its acknowledgment and rewarding by recommending concrete measures to organisers of volunteering and the Town of Sisak
- conducts process of the Annual volunteer' prize awards
- In charge for the Town of Sisak Strategy for volunteering development and the Action Plan and for monitoring its implementation and recommends its further changes and addendums.





## 2. Sisak Volunteer' Network

Lead partner: LDA Sisak

Other partners: City of Sisak, Elementary school "Braća Ribar" Sisak, Elementary school "Budaševo-Topolovac-Gušće" Sisak

Donor: Croatian Ministry for demography, family, youth and social policy, City of Sisak

Timing: 1 August 2018 – 31 July 2019

The project purpose is to contribute increased the number of citizens, especially youth, involved in different types of volunteering program in town of Sisak that contribute to the development of the local community and their personal development by strengthening the resources of potential and existing volunteer organisations and promoting positive influence of volunteering.

It will increase the number of volunteer organisers using the Volunteer Centre Sisak services and develop volunteering programs, the number of citizens informed and recruited to volunteering and the number of youth involved in volunteering activities.

The results will be accomplished through the following group activities: 1. Development and capacity building of existing and potential volunteer organisers in Sisak for the development of new volunteering programs and increasing opportunities for inclusion of as many citizens in volunteering through education, networking and exchange of information on volunteer offers and work, 2. Contribute to the promotion of positive influence of volunteering on personal development of citizens through the getting familiar of volunteers, volunteer organizers and employers with the Certificate of competences gained through volunteering, and 3. Contribution to the promotion of volunteering among citizens and inclusion of children and young people in long-term volunteering through development of school volunteering as a new form of volunteering in Sisak.

The activities are in synergy with the Volunteer Centre Sisak.





### 3. Life Experience – My Youth for an Active Ageing

Lead partner: Centre for Civic Initiatives

Partners: LDA Sisak, Fair Society Alliance

Donor: European Social Fund (Office for NGOs of the Republic of Croatia and National Foundation for Civil Society Development)

Timing: 1 June 2017 - 31 May 2019



The project partners will contribute to the social and democratic reform in Croatia implementing innovative forms of youth volunteering and inter-generation solidarity in local communities by volunteering in health and social public institutions. We are planning to increase number of the volunteer' activity organisers - civil society organisations and educational facilities (6), children and youth, high school pupils in three Croatian towns and number of volunteers in project local communities (total 120 volunteers) which will gather 600 final beneficiaries in health and social public institutions. Training of the project leader, partners and public institutions' employees on voluntary management is part of the project, which will ensure multiplying the project results, considering that 12 employees will continue to develop voluntary programs in the future as well.

### 4. Q25 – Strengthening Volunteering' System in Rural Communities of the Central Croatia



Lead partner: Local Action Group (LAG) Vallis Colapis

Partners: LDA Sisak, Association Carpe Diem, Red Cross Duga Resa, Home for elderly and dependence people "Sveti Antun"

Donor: European Social Fund (Office for NGOs of the Republic of Croatia and National Foundation for Civil Society Development)

Timing: 1 June 2017 - 31 May 2018

Contributing to socio-economic and democratic development in Karlovac, Zagreb and Sisak-Moslavina county area by improving social services volunteering system.



## Specific objectives:

Improving health and social services in Karlovac, Zagreb and Sisak-Moslavina county by CSOs and public institutions capacity building in efficient voluntary management.

Increasing number of quality and sustainable voluntary programs by developing voluntary support system in the field of health and social services in Karlovac, Zagreb and Sisak-Moslavina county.

The project will impact target groups in the long-term developing and/or improving existing volunteer' management systems at organisational level but at community level as well. Each involved CSOs/institution will build its own capacity considering that at least 20 of them will have trained staff for managing and coordinating volunteers. Overall, it contributes to local community social capacity fostering in two ways; increasing knowledge of the whole community members on values of volunteering for socio-economic local development and building the target groups' organisational capacities for volunteer' management by intensive mentorship support of the involved local volunteer' centres. Target groups' organisations will increase number of volunteers, while some of them will develop the whole volunteering internal system from the scratch. This will influence on number of people directly involved in their own local community development by volunteering in CSOs and health and social public institutions. It is very important for health and social public institutions that do not have system of including volunteers in their work, which this project is aiming to change.

## 5. Volunteer' School

Lead partner: Association Carpe Diem

Partners: LDA Sisak, LAG Vallis Colapis, Slobodna škola-association for promoting democratic education, Primary school Grabrik, Gymnasium Karlovac

Donor: European Social Fund (Office for NGOs of the Republic of Croatia and National Foundation for Civil Society Development)

Timing: 1 June 2017 - 31 May 2019



**Overall project objective:** contribute to increasing social and economic growth and democratic development in Karlovac and Sisak-Moslavina County by strengthening partnership of civil society organisations and educational facilities in the field of volunteering.



**Specific project objective:** Include quality volunteer' programs in school curriculum and stimulating volunteer education development in the area of Karlovac and Sisak-Moslavina County.

**Project summary:**

Four civil society organisations will be educated for designing and implementing school volunteering programs and transfer new knowledge to representatives of nine schools within the project. Upon the training, schoolteachers will be mentored by the civil society organisations and develop volunteer' programs which will be integrated in the school' curriculums. Volunteer club will be organised in the each of the nine schools, a manual on school volunteering produced and system of volunteers' validation developed. Moreover, several public events will be organised, such as dedication of the International Volunteer' Day, Festival of Volunteering and voluntary actions within the national manifestation "Volunteer Croatia".

## **6. On volunteering waves – an infrastructure for strong and connected communities**

Lead partner: Volunteer Centre Zagreb

Partners: LDA Sisak, Association IKS, ACT Group, Network of organisations Zagor, Home for elderly people "Centre" and the Croatian centre for volunteering development

Donor: European Social Fund (Office for NGOs of the Republic of Croatia and National Foundation for Civil Society Development)

Timing: 1 September 2017 – 30 November 2018

**Overall objective:** contribute to building society in which volunteerism is a moving strength of an active, responsible and human communities and that strongly contributes to social and economic development.

**Specific objectives:**

- 1) Ensure quality and sustainable support system to the volunteering organisers and to volunteers by strengthening volunteer centres in central Croatia region.
- 2) Increase number of public institutions and civil society organisations implementing quality-volunteering programs aiming to improve services in the area of healthcare, welfare and other common interests' area.
- 3) Contribute strengthening public awareness on benefits and values which volunteering gives to each individual, community and society in whole.

**Project summary:**



Volunteer centres in Zagreb, Petrinja, Sisak, Zabok and Čakovec jointly ensure quality and sustainable support system to the volunteering organisers and volunteers in the central Croatia. The project improves capacities of public institutions and civil society organisations for quality-volunteering programs aiming to improve services in common interests' area.



## 7. Youth Work in Progress

Lead partner: South East European Youth Network

Partners: LDA Sisak, Beyond Barriers (Albania), Youth Resource Centre Tuzla (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Vojvodina Environmental Movement (Serbia), Educational Centre Krusevac (Serbia), Ideas Factory (Bulgaria), Association of Active Youths of Florina (Greece), Association NUR (Italy), NGO Creativitas (Lithuania), Youth Cultural Centre Bitola (Macedonia), Association for Democratic Prosperity - ZID (Montenegro), Youth Centre BIT – Social Entrepreneurship (Slovenia), Sakarya University Life-Long Learning Centre (Turkey)

Donor: European Union, under Erasmus+ programme, key action 2.

Timing: 1 November 2017 - 1 August 2019



The main aim of the project is to raise quality and sustainability of youth programs, through competence development of youth workers and leaders to provide innovative, modern



and quality youth work service which effectively respond on current socio-economic needs of young people in EU and Western Balkan.

Project activities:

- Online platform for online learning;
- Training course on non-formal learning in online space;
- Training course on sustainable youth work on youth development;
- Training course on leadership and management of the youth initiatives;
- Training course in employing digital tools in youth work;
- Follow up activities for each training;
- 2 educational handbooks (online and offline) on mentorship and digital non-formal education.



## 8. What's the issue?2

Lead partner: Sisak-Moslavina County

Partners: LDA Sisak, PRONI Centre for social education, Croatian Employment Office-Regional office Sisak

Donor: Croatian Ministry for demography, family, youth and social policy

Timing: 1 December 2018 – 30 November 2019



The project contributes to improvement of the young people position, active participation in democratic life and to development of youth policies in the Sisak-Moslavina county through dialogue between young people and decision makers. Target groups are youngster age 15-29, civil society organisations' staff and volunteers, local and regional government, public institutions and informal citizens' initiatives.



The main activities:

1. Work group establishment
2. Work group meetings and preparation for Sisak-Moslavina county Youth program process development
3. Sisak-Moslavina county Youth program development
4. Online consultations with young people and decision makers
5. Dissemination of the Sisak-Moslavina county Youth program to wide range of stakeholders



## OPERATIONAL PARTNER VERTENEGLIO

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**Delegate:** Umberto Ademollo

**Established:** 1996

**PROJECTS AS APPLICANT:**

Project T.E.N. in Europe – Team for European Networking

Project Y.I.E.L.D. in Europe - Youth Ideas Empower Local Democracy in Europe

**PROJECTS AS PARTNER:**

EVS „Bridge Over the Borders“

EVS “Viseu Jovem”

EVS “VOICE3”

Europe For Citizens „New Forms of European Citizenship in Migration Era“

Europe For Citizens „FROM M.E. TO E.U FROM Migrants’ Engagement TO Europe Upgrade“

KA2 project: Yout’s Advocate

KA 2 Project: European Training in agriculture sector

Youth exchange: FIG Financial Improvement: the Game