

2013

*ANNUAL
REPORT*





MISSION, VISION AND KEY VALUES

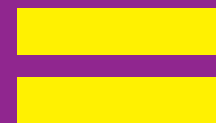
LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY STRUGA IS A CITIZENS' ORGANIZATION THAT AIMS TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR RESIDENTS OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF STRUGA AND THE REGION THROUGH STRENGTHENING THE INTER-ETHNIC DIALOGUE AND COLLABORATION BETWEEN DIFFERENT ETHNIC COMMUNITIES, SUPPORTING LOCAL CIVIC INITIATIVES, ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SUSTAINABLE FORMS OF TOURISM, ORGANIZING CULTURAL EVENTS, STIMULATING LOCAL BUSINESSES AND PROMOTING THE VOLUNTEERISM.

THROUGH COOPERATION WITH VARIOUS ACTORS FROM MACEDONIA AND NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, LDA WILL CONTRIBUTE TO CREATING SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS FOR THE OVERALL DEVELOPMENT OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF STRUGA AND THE REGION. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY STRUGA RECOGNIZES UNIVERSAL PRINCIPLES OF SUSTAINABLE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, SOCIAL INCLUSION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS, GENDER EQUALITY, INTERETHNIC DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.



LONG-TERM GOALS

- SUPPORTING OF INTERCULTURAL COOPERATION AND INTERETHNICAL DIALOGUE
- ACHIEVING OF THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS THROUGH PROVIDING BETTER AND EQUAL TREATMENT OF THE SOCIALLY MARGINALIZED GROUPS
- REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH NETWORKING WITH DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS FROM THE REGION AND CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION.
- DECREASING OF THE DEVELOPMENT DIFFERENCES BETWEEN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS IN OUR REGION.
- INCREASING OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE INHABITANTS IN THE SOUTH-WESTERN REGION OF MACEDONIA
- PROMOTING OF THE VALUES AND PRINCIPLES, IMPLEMENTING THE PRIORITIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE (UNESCO), AND AS A LOCAL CLUB IT WILL WORK ON THE REALIZATION OF THE PROGRAM ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS AND PROGRAMS.
- PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE FORMS OF TOURISM

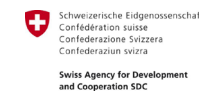


PROGRAM FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND SOCIAL INCLUSION OF VULNERABLE GROUPS

The program provides a better and equal access to socially marginalized groups (women, elderly, youth and unemployed persons) to non-formal and lifelong education, reducing poverty and unemployment. Through the social integration of these groups the program helps achieving the Millennium Development Goals.



**PHILANTHROPY -
LOVE OF HUMAN-
ITY**



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The aim of this project is to promote philanthropy in the Southwest region of Macedonia, by encouraging businesses and individuals to come together and donate their knowledge, time and / or resources in the local community in a strategic and focused way in order to achieve a long-term positive impact in all spheres of society.

TIMEFRAME

April 2013 - September 2013

ACTIVITIES

- Educational campaign for philanthropy to promote the idea of philanthropy and meeting with locals
- Analysis of the situation on the ground and the needs of citizens, choice of priorities in different areas of work that will be submitted to local philanthropists and analysis of current giving practices in Struga and Ohrid
- Organizing promotional meetings with representatives of the business sector, chambers of commerce and trade associations
- Organizing an event for fundraising and selection philanthropist, Awarding the best philanthropist and presentation of project results

RESULTS

- Enhanced awareness of the private sector and citizens about the importance of philanthropy and social responsibility to the communities in which they operate by implementing an educational campaign
- Prepared analysis of the needs of citizens, defined areas and selected priority activities that could be supported through philanthropy in two municipalities of Southwest
- Increased interest of the private sector actively involved in supporting local development and cooperate with civil society organizations and local authorities by organizing meetings with local businessmen and focus groups with business clubs, Chamber of Commerce and guild associations
- Increased level of resources available for the implementation of interventions related to improving the quality of life of residents in Southwest Macedonia
- Organized special event fundraising
- Creating a positive climate and trust between the different actors in the community in terms of taking joint local initiatives benefit all residents



PROGRAM FOR SUSTAINABLE HUMAN AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The main goal of this program is to reduce the difference in development between urban and rural areas in the region and to improve the quality of life by strengthening the capacities of the population, promotion of participatory models for planning, collaboration and exchange of knowledge between different institutions and organizations from rural and urban communities and enhance cooperation between public, private and civil sector.



THE PROJECT IS
FUNDED BY THE
EUROPEAN
UNION

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Local Development Agency (LDA) from Struga, Macedonia in cooperation with the partners CSO "EuroPartners Development" from Tirana, Albania are implementing project "BLUE and GREEN vs. BLACK and GRAY" from IPA Cross Border Programme Macedonia-Albania. The overall objective of the project is to facilitate effective and responsible use of the natural resources in the cross-border region around the Ohrid Lake, thus enhancing the sustainable development in the area. This cross-border initiative aims at enhancing the effective and responsible use of the natural resources through collaboration of the CSO and relevant stakeholders in the cross border area of Ohrid Lake region, thus enhancing the sustainable development in the area. The project aims at raising awareness and knowledge of the local stakeholders to contribute towards reducing problems which endanger the Ohrid Lake due to unsustainable use and management of natural resources.

TIMEFRAME

September 2013 – May 2015

PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS

- CSO "Ecologists' Movement of Macedonia" (DEM), Skopje
- Municipality of Ohrid – Department for Urbanism and Protection of the Environment
- CSO "Treefor", Skopje
- Agricultural Development Support Agency of the Republic of Macedonia, Department in Ohrid
- CSO "Eco Partners for Sustainable Development", Albania

RESULTS

- Establishing an "Eco-incubator" and organizing educational events for youth;
- Desk and field research on current forest, water and agricultural management in the trans boundary area;
- Producing 3 short movies about the following topics: consequences of illegal tree cutting, applying the sustainable agriculture practices, sustainable use of water and forest management adapted to the children age;
- Production of promotional materials on best practices in natural resources management;
- Organizing thematic trainings in the fields of sustainable use of the natural resources;
- Establishing Local Advisory Groups on Environment;
- Organizing study tours in Macedonia and Albania.



YOUTH PROGRAMME

We provide opportunities for international experiences and volunteerism. Every year, local young people have many possibilities to host or participate on exchanges and trainings within Europe. They develop new friendships, learn about cultures and customs in other EU countries through the Youth in Action Programme. Through our Cross – Border Programme with Albania we help young people for the Balkan to meet each other and work together for developing good neighbor relationships and joint projects.

We bring youngsters together in a multicultural and democratic society. By organizing capacity building camps for young people we provide opportunities that inspire and support leadership in young people aged between 12 - 30. On our camps, young people can increase their self-esteem, develop critical thinking, sharpen the ability to solve problems and learn about participatory democracy. We give them the chance to enhance their life and professional skills, to learn how to cooperate with different ethnicities and become active citizens that are able to develop and participate in community service projects.

We encourage their creativity and originality. We organize and support events related to music and visual arts. By organizing film festivals, photo exhibitions and music concerts, we encourage young people to develop their self expression, build their self-esteem, enhance their communication skills and provide them positive learning experiences in a safe and supportive environment.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

“Green is in” is European youth exchange that was implemented from 10th – 20th of June 2013 in Ohrid, Macedonia. Main themes of the project are European Awareness and Environment. This youth exchange main goal was to familiarise youth with the European values and to empower youth to impact environmental challenges by developing a sense of common responsibility for the environmental well-being of the communities where they come from as well as for Europe as one community. This project was built upon 4 major pillars: European Awareness, Get Green Skills, Take Green Action and Spread the Green across Europe. Main activities were workshops, eco-actions, study tours. Seven countries were involved (Macedonia, Italy, Hungary, Estonia, Romania, Bulgaria and Portugal).

TIMEFRAME

10-20 June 2013

PARTNERS

- Nacionalno dvijenie Bulgarsko Nasledstvo -Bulgaria
- Seiklejate Vennaskond - Estonia
- Legambiente Toscana ONLUS - Italy
- Pro Atlântico - Associação Juvenil - Portugal
- Asociatia Educatio - Romania
- MOSTart International Cultural Non-profit Association-Hungary

RESULTS

- Organized 7 workshops on various environmental topics
- Organized 2 workshops on European Awareness and European Values
- 35 young people from 7 countries had opportunity to network, exchange ideas and work together
- Organized 4 mini eco actions for raising awareness among local public in Struga
- Organized 7 national evenings and presented 7 European countries to the participants





ADOPT A PARK



ABOUT THE PROJECT

This project aims to raise awareness among young people about the environmental challenges of Macedonia; increase the level of personal responsibility on the part of local businesses and young people; and, improve the urban areas with concrete eco actions. The project will be implemented in 3 stages: organizing Green Academy – trainings for environmental protection, creating 5 urban parks in the Municipality of Struga, organizing promotional event “Green Fair”.

TIMEFRAME

August 2012 – August 2013

PARTNERS

U.S. State Alumni from Macedonia, local high schools from Municipality of Struga

ACTIVITIES

Organizing a 3 month “Green Academy” of 5 high schools. From each school we will select a group of 10-20 students that will act as a team in the activities. Through the Green Academy each school will receive a comprehensive overview of Environmental topics such as: environmental protection; climate changes; permaculture; gardening; soil, air and water pollution; the impacts of deforestation; waste management and the role of the citizens; and energy efficiency. The workshops will be done by experts in relevant fields and alumni members. Two study tours will be organized in which students will be able to see in reality some innovations being done in environmental sphere and environmental challenges in Macedonia.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

The problem at municipal level politics is that transparent decision making, citizens’ participation, and the monitoring of implementation are all considered to be threats to the authorities instead of as an asset necessary for good governance. This project is a step towards creating a political environment wherein the process of decision-making is transparent, accountable and done with integrity. If politicians and citizens are involved as partners in the democratic process responsible for joint decisions and held jointly accountable for the consequences; involved in strategic planning for community development; and, aware of the municipal budgeting process, then they will become actively involved in resolving local challenges; the setting of strategic priorities; and, the implementation of political decisions.

TIMEFRAME

July 2012 – July 2013

ACTIVITIES

- Created task force of young people from various ethnic groups for monitoring the municipality, understanding the municipal system, monitoring and evaluating the city council meetings and monitoring local government investments
- Raised awareness among youth about citizen participation
- Increased knowledge and personal development skills of the youth participants about governmental transparency
- Increased public participation in opening city council meetings



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD (CRC) IN MACEDONIA

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The project includes monitoring and assessment of the children's rights convention in Macedonia on the field of children and young people's involvement in decision making on a local and national level. The monitoring and assessment process will produce periodical and annual reports. With this project protection of children's rights in elementary and high schools will be directly affected through establishing a child-ombudsman, and improvement in the functioning of school organizations and the processes of president election in schools will be made.

TIMEFRAME

May 2011 – December 2013

ORGANIZED BY

Coalition of youth organizations "NOW" from Prilep

PARTNERS

CSO "Local Development Agency" from Struga (Local coordinator)

RESULTS

- Established and adopted manual for selection of president of the class / grade in a democratic way in one primary and one secondary school in Struga
- Monitored the implementation of the convention on the rights of the child in one primary and one secondary school in struga, included 40 students and 10 members of the professors, representatives from the ministry of education, local institutions and journalists
- Established a model of child ombudsman in one secondary and one primary school
- Established school communities in one secondary and one primary school
- Implemented 34 workshops for youth participation, the convention on the rights of the child, the ombudsman child's specific role, advocacy and lobbying and project cycle management, included over 400 students



STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITIES OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE BORDER REGION OF MACEDONIA AND ALBANIA

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The goal of this project is to speed up the democratic processes in the cross border region round lake ohrid and strengthening of the relationships among young people from both countries. Students from high schools in pogradec, struga and ohrid get acquainted and establish concrete cooperation on joint activities and projects. The project is implemented through many project activities using different methodologies. The main focus is on the strengthening the capacities of young people through organizing training for professional development, cultural events and democratic education.

TIMEFRAME

January 2011 – Ongoing

PARTNERS

High school "Dr. Ibrahim Temo" from Struga
High school "Muharem Colaku" from Pogradec

RESULTS

- Cycle of 6 workshops for 30 students on the topic "democratic laboratory"- phase one
- Established cooperation with the high school "Muharem Colaku" from Pogradec





ABOUT THE PROJECT

The mission of GLOW, or Girls Leading Our World, is to develop the inherent potential found in the young women of Macedonia by providing them with the skills and knowledge necessary to become active leaders in their communities. This is done through experiential education that celebrates diversity, builds academic and social competencies, and promotes English language literacy, leadership, teamwork, problem solving, and creative expression. GLOW is facilitated by Peace Corps Volunteers along with Camp GLOW alumnae and supporters from Macedonia.

TIMEFRAME

Јуни 2013

PARTNERS

GLOW is supported by volunteers from the Peace Corps, Camp GLOW alumnae and supporters from Macedonia. LDA Struga is a partner and supporter of Camp GLOW 2013.

RESULTS

The participants come from all over Macedonia, accurately representing the ethnic and cultural diversity of the country. At GLOW, campers develop skills in teamwork and leadership that they will carry with them into adulthood. As a result, these young women are becoming prepared to lead Macedonia in a positive direction in the future.



LOCAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
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STRUGA | MACEDONIA

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