ISTARSKA ŽUPANIJA | REGIONE ISTRIANA

Education and Culture DG
'Europe for Citizens' Programme

ALL.4.EU: Citizens for Europe!

1st Steering Committee

Pula, 18 March 2009

MALTA | CITIZENS NETWORK | vejle KOMMUNE | BALKAN ASSIST | CKO CENTRUM KOMUNITNÉHO ORGANIZOVANIA | CONSVIPO Consorzio per lo Sviluppo del Polesine | Association of the Local Democracy Agencies

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ALL.4.EU:
CITIZENS FOR EUROPE!

PROGRAMME
EUROPE FOR CITIZENS' 2007-2013

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PROGRAMME

- Project ALL.4.EU: EUROPE FOR CITIZENS is cofinanced by the European Union through the programme “Europe for citizens”:

  Action 1. Active Citizens for Europe

Measure 2.1. Citizens’ projects

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OBJECTIVES

- to encourage the participation of European citizens in the construction of Europe and in the debate about the further integration of Europe
- to enhance the relation between European citizens and EU institutions
- to promote a "two-way process" (information and feedback) between EU Institutions and citizens
- to encourage a bottom up approach to allow citizens to express their views
- to develop innovative methods to enhance participation

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SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

- to create and support "citizens' panels" to promote active European Citizenship at the local level
- to collect the opinion of citizens on some key European challenges for the future, focusing mainly on active European Citizenship
- to consolidate and improve the method of ALDA for stimulating active interaction and discussion between citizens on their participation at the European level
- to create mechanisms that enable European citizens to develop civic competences
- to encourage the dialogue between European citizens and the institutions of the EU, empowering citizens as regards EU policies and their impact

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PARTNERSHIP

- **Croatia:** Region of Istria + Foundation for partnership and civil society development
- **Denmark:** Municipality of Vejle/Videnscenter for Integration
- **France:** Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA)
- **Spain:** Aragonese Association of local Authorities (ASAEL)
- **Italy:** Consorzio per lo sviluppo del Polesine (Consvipo)
- **Malta:** Local councils association
- **Bulgaria:** Balkan Assist Association
- **Slovakia:** Center for Community Organizing + Central and Eastern European Citizens Network

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TARGET GROUPS

- Citizens, especially those who would not have spontaneously participated in projects of a European nature, paying attention to involve people of different demographic, social and professional background
- Specific target groups: young people
- Local authorities
- Civil Society

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ACTIVITIES *1*

1. SWOT ANALYSIS AT LOCAL LEVEL ON CITIZENS' PARTICIPATION
   - SWOT analyses at the local level to assess the situation of citizens participation in each community involved
2. TRAINING FOR CITIZENS' PANELS ACTIVATORS
   - The international training for citizens panels activators will be promoted to train reliable, credible and capable activators who are able to set-up citizens panels
3. INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP: "BEST PRACTICES FOR CITIZENS PARTICIPATION"
   - An International workshop is foreseen in order to present and exchange the different models and the best practices (i.e. citizens panels, civic forums, civic committees, etc.) in the field of citizens participation.
4. SET UP OF LOCAL CITIZENS' PANELS
   - Each partner will promote a 1-day event, focusing on the selected theme, with the aims to present the project and its methodology in order to select the participants of the new citizens' panels to be established

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ACTIVITIES 2

7. RESEARCH ACTIVITY AT LOCAL LEVEL

- The content off the research may be linked to the Lisbon Treaty, the European elections foreseen in 2009, possibilities offered to European citizens to get involved in the decision making process…The research will be realized directly by the citizens panels

8. INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF CITIZENS PANELS

- This phase mainly aim at promoting an international meeting through a real bottom-up approach, where citizens and their knowledge represent the main relevant "resources" for the meeting itself.

9. INFO DAYS AT LOCAL LEVEL

- At the local level, each citizens' panels will promote a 3-days workshop presenting the results of the local research, production and drafting of recommendations on the topic addressed to be submitted to decision makers at the European level; open public event, addressed to the whole community, fostering the participation of local authorities and civil society representatives to communicate the results to local and regional decision makers

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ACTIVITIES *3*

10. INTERNATIONAL FINAL WORKSHOP

- At the end of the project, an international final workshop will be organised in order to: submit a set of recommendations on the topic addressed by the project, drafted by citizens' panels, to the European Commission; present the final results of the project and promote its outcomes

11. FINAL PUBLICATION

- The final publication, realised at the European level by all the partners with the direct involvement of citizens' panels, will aim at: increasing the visibility of the action; raising awareness about the role of European citizens; disseminating information about the activities of citizens' panels; demonstrating how the democratic and participatory nature of European construction can be enhanced by engaging citizens; promoting the method of "citizens' panels".

12. EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

- An evaluation meeting will be organised in order to evaluate the whole proposal and to draft the follow-up of the action.

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