



Association of European Border Regions
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Application form “AEBR-Cross Border Award” 2014
Deadline: 31.07.2014

Please, fill in the grey gaps and return this form by e-mail!

INNOVATION AND RESEARCH – CROSS-BORDER REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

1. General information

1.1 Applicant border / cross-border region:

Azerbaijan

Title of the cross-border measure* [project(s), programme(s) /strategy(ies)]:

“Eurocaucasus” Transboundary Cooperation Program.

1.3 Period:

01/10/14

30/08/15

1.4 Lead Partner:

Contact:

Rasim Zeynalov-Project Director of "Yukselish" Public Union (NGO)Azerbaijan

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1.5 Partners:

Contact:

Liza Sopromadze-GIPA-Georgia

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Nazim Tural-NF-Turkey

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David Chichinadze-SEGSTAR-Georgia

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1.6. Financing of the cross-border measure (e.g. INTERREG):

Remark: It should be explicated how the financing of the strategy(ies) / concept(s) / project idea(s) has been or is realised.

With support of the German Technical Cooperation Fund (GTZ) and Self-Government Association of the three countries and within the frames of the ‘Eurocaucasus’ Transboundary Cooperation Program, based on preliminary consultations and negotiations, students and administration of the School of Public Administration and selected Azerbaijan municipalities will visit selected municipalities in participating countries.

1.7 Links to other projects, measures and/or programmes (only if applicable):

local self government developmet-www.localdemocracy.az

2. Contents

Project Goal: To study activities of local self-governments in the Caucasus region and establish sustainable regional cooperation and network, support activities of municipalities; build cooperation among educational institutions in Public Administration field.

2.1 Objectives of the cross-border measure:

Project Objectives:

1. Establish links between municipalities in Caucasus;
2. Establish cooperation between institutes of public administration in the region, with active cooperation between students and the faculties;
3. Study and identify common municipal needs in the region;
4. Arrange exchange visits (study tours) to study specifics of local self-governments in each country;
5. Evaluate methodology of teaching public administration as an academic subject in the above-listed institutes, exchange 'best practices', elaborate common teaching courses and implement common research projects;
6. Make a research on economic and social issues at the central and local levels and develop common projects for drafting a regional policy for addressing identified needs.

After conducting the above listed activities, a summarizing conference will be arranged for representatives of the public and municipal sector as well as academic institutions.

2.2 Organisational structure and activities to implement the objectives (e.g. joint secretariat, contract, etc.):

During the implementation of the program objectives will be organized by the Joint secretariat(R.Zeynalov,Liza Sopromadze,David & Nazim)on contractual basic.

2.3 How far has the measure been implemented?

Implementation Process:

Stage I

For a period of 10-12 days, students of the Georgian School of Public Administration will study the specifics of local self-governments country-wide and investigate their problems and needs. Meetings will be held with self-governments and executive bodies as well as with the local population. Projects and documentation of self-governments will be studied, enabling the students to identify today's municipal needs in Georgia.

Stage II

With support of the German Technical Cooperation Fund (GTZ) and Self-Government Association of the two countries and within the frames of the 'Eurocaucasus' Transboundary Cooperation Program, based on preliminary consultations and negotiations, students and administration of the School of Public Administration and selected Georgian municipalities will visit selected municipalities in participating countries.

2.4 Special framework conditions (a. geographical, political, etc. / b. only rural area (no regional metropolis))

n/a

3. Contribution of the measure (added value) to the development of the border/cross-border region:

(not more than half a page)

The following outcomes are expected from the project implementation:

1. A sustainable network of educational institutions will be established which will continue activities after termination of the project;
2. Strong linkage between municipalities and educational institutes will be created, promoting democratic governance on local level and ensuring public participation in decision-making processes;
3. The network will assist to strengthen research and academic components of the educational institutes, which, as neutral, independent and non-political agencies will identify actual needs of the municipalities and suggest possible solutions of current problems.
4. Information on similar implemented project in all three countries will be gathered, proceeded and an informational database created, which will be a good start for any new initiative for the future cooperation of the partner countries, as well as establish strong links between municipal agencies and civil society in each country.
5. By the support of a western educational partner institute the quality of academic process and in the institutes of all three countries will increase significantly and the updated curricula will be introduced.
6. A Students Union will be established, which, in the future will become a strong basis for the sustainable and long-lasting cooperation among the partner countries;
7. Needs assessments will be carried out in participating countries and common interests identified;

11. Preparing teaching materials and informational booklets for the municipalities in particular and population in general, in order to promote public participation in political processes on local level.

28/05/14

Rasim Zeynalov- 7. M.A.Rasulzadeh str., Barda, Azerbaijan

Date

Signature +994 55 7900190

(if submitted by e-mail please also insert your name and contact details!)

* A cross-border measure is given, when partners from both sides of the border participate as regards contents, organisation, staff and finances.