

Project title: Democratic participation in rural areas

Project shortened title (abbreviation): DERRUT

ID number of the project: 569834-CITIZ-1-2015-2-HU-CITIZ-TT

Project summary (short):

Our goal is to strengthen devotion towards democratic participation in two rural areas, and to strengthen democratic values along with motivating mostly young locals to be actively involved in social responsibilities and roles. Also, our goal is to improve social skills required for cooperation and involvement. This is in accordance with the Lisbon Treaty and its amendment, the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, since the project's goal fits in with the charter's frame in regard to solidarity and basic human rights, and it is also in accordance with the European Spatial Development Perspective (1999) along with the Europe 2020's sustainability strategy and inclusive principles.

In our workshops carried out during our projects we discuss the topics of democratic values, democratic roles and social responsibilities, while focusing on the region's specifics as well. Through this we intend to strengthen local ties and the qualitative and quantitative growth of empowerment (assertion of interests). This is in accordance with the EU principles aiming at political participation, democratic values and inclusive social developments.

The project's participants are different in many ways and this enables us to include a wide range of perspectives among the project's professional achievements, but also enables us to introduce the project's values and the 'Europe for citizens' program's goals to a wider audience. During the project we specifically focus on the special advantages and needs of the rural areas in order to gain the attention of the „stakeholders“, and to transfer the project's message in an effective way.

The project's expected achievements:

Qualitative achievements:

- Cities in partnerships can become familiar with each other's good practices
- Local, transnational, rural and junior relations would strengthen
- Friendships will be born among the participants, while organization representatives can start cooperations which may bring along new international cooperative projects.
- Outsourcing may start among partner organizations at individual, structural and regional levels, advancing and strengthening the promotion of European values

Quantitative results:

-The growth of the 350 people's qualification in topics such as social reception, European values, equal opportunities and voluntary who were participants of the project's events

Direct target group

As the effect of the project, representatives of civil society organizations, decision-makers, institutional representatives, young people and the elderly participating in project events gain first-hand knowledge about the European institutional system, democratic participation and European values. By understanding these methods the target group's commitment to Europe is expected to increase, resulting active European citizens enriched by the learned knowledge and perspective.

Indirect target group

The family members and friends of the participants are also going to benefit the results of the program, since it affects them by the included ones. Several people had their curiosity woken up to try voluntary, resulting more people becoming active European citizens. The local adaptation of different practices collected by partner cities results the development of all partner cities.

Wide audience

Thanks to the system of dissemination and promotion designed during the project, the model programs and practice presented can reach large sections of society in every partner country. Participants will act as personal examples not only for their immediate environment, but also for a wide community connected to European cases and commitment of active European citizenship.

Further cooperations

Programs and good practices introduced during the course of the project will inspire participating organizations and partners to further cooperations, to plan and carry out mutual pilot programs. A common ground on these topics may create new long-term cooperations among the participants and among new potential partners involved along the way.