

LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCY KOSOVO



Delegate:

- Mr Elbert Krasniqi

Established:

- 2011

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

Priorities:

- 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

Projects in 2017:



- **“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. The regional activities of the project entailed the following activities:

- **Network coordination and management of activities**

LDA Kosovo has achieved with good results some activities 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 included these activities:

1.1 Steering Group Meetings - LDA Kosovo participated in this meeting during the Regional Coordination Network Meeting in Prijedor during the dates 22-25 February also in the Regional Youth Forum that was organized from LDA Kosovo during the dates: 18-21 October 2017.

1.2 Regional Youth Working Group meeting that was held during the Regional Coordination Network Meeting in Prijedor during the dates 22-25 February also Regional Youth Forum in Kosovo 18-21 October 2017.

As foreseen by the project and by the activity itself, at least four Skype meetings and two usual meetings (seizing the opportunity of the Regional Network Coordination Meeting, Regional Youth Forum for Local Democracy and thematic training) should have been needed per year to plan and evaluate the network strategy and activities on regional and local level.

1.3 Skype Panels and Online Trainings

LDA Kosovo participated on (6) RYWG meetings held and organised, 2 meetings which seizing the opportunity of Regional Network Coordination Meeting and Regional Youth Forum for Local Democracy, and 4 Skype meetings.

1.4. Teams of Youth Engagement Workers

At the LDA Kosovo – Youth Info Point Peja, Linda Çavdarbasha, Dorentina Berisha, are members of the Regional Youth Working Group and YEW - Youth Engagement Workers that continued to provide support to Local Youth Advisory Groups and other young people involved in planned regional and local activities. These teams have participated in selection processes; provide local trainings, mentorship, evaluations and logistics and run Info points. LDA Kosovo's YEWs were and still are in charge to maintain the activities with youth on local level, involved in planning and implementation of the actions regarding the youth, visibility actions and contribution to the local and regional web update.



- **Network capacity building** which includes the following activities:

2.1 Info points regular activities, strengthened with teams of youth correspondents;

2.2 Trainings;

2.3 Continuation of Local Funds for Youth Initiatives supported by Local authorities co-funding 30%, that has been already implemented by LDA Kosovo.

LDA Kosovo has been very active in terms of supporting and sharing each information or/and communication from the other Info Points and by supporting also the **program for further strengthening and upgrading of Info points**:

Creation of common communication strategy for the network of Info points, the Creation of teams of Youth Correspondents - with 2 youngsters active in our Regional/ Local Youth Correspondent Network.

- **Trainings**

This part consisted in capacity building component where YEWs and YCs were trained on topic Internet awareness raising campaign and advocacy. Three online trainings were organized for YEWs and YCs within the Regional coordination meeting of the Network with the aim to further develop their communication skills and intercultural competencies, use of Internet and social media to express their main concerns and common interests. These gained knowledge was used from YEWs and YCs to produce a video campaign on cultural participation and International Youth Day Celebration.

- **The Local Fund of Youth Initiative**

The local fund foreseen from the project “Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue” has been realized on time.

The evaluation committee selected and contributed to two local initiatives:

-**Anibar**: The organization aims at encouraging young people and especially young artists to experiment and work with computer arts (especially animation), in order to express their ideas and worldview through them, discussing important social subject pertinent to youth in Kosovo.

-**Into the Park**- is a non-governmental organization based in Peja, which is specialized in social inclusion through art made for the environment, with a main focus on inter-ethnic dialogue between the communities in Kosovo and the region.

Anibar with the project proposal called “**Breaking civic apathy through cultural youth initiatives**” aimed to:

- Introduce animation with young audiences, a form of art and entertainment;
- Through animation and other activities, the organization aimed to bring youth to be activated in the public sphere, therefore making their voices heard, through animation and other cultural activities in the festival and all around the year.

-Within the festival aims to give an opportunity to children and youth to network and learn from their peers from outside Kosovo, as well as a host of artists and animation professionals who are visitors to the animation festival.

- Held festival workshops and presentation tended to teach youth animation skills, which then will equip them with strong and diverse skills in graphic design, 3D design, storytelling, which will drastically improve their chances of successful artistic and professional life later on.



Anibar- Workshops (Animation Film Festival 2017)

Into The Park in the framework of their project proposal “Panel for Culture” aimed to raise awareness and to bring attention of the political scene in Peja by gathering representatives from Municipality of Peja that were also candidates for the local elections. With the support of Local Democracy Agency of Kosovo, they organized the Panel for Culture in order to engage local authorities to sign and support a draft strategy created from local non organizations for the development of culture.

The whole idea of the project proposal was to advocate regarding culture as a very important tool for the human development.



"Panel For Culture" / City Theater "Istref Begolli/ 13.10.2017

- **Awareness raising and visibility actions** included following activities:

-**Regional Internet Awareness Campaign:** the campaign included preparatory trainings for young people in communication skills and intercultural competencies; use of Internet and social media skills development; development of awareness raising campaign and advocacy actions on issues relevant for youth groups; coaching mentoring by the LDA team members and youth correspondents; effective use of the Internet to speak-up about their issues.

Outputs: LDA Kosovo participated on 3 Online Trainings organized for YEWs, YC and other youth people interested and produced a video of awareness raising campaign foreseen based on the description of the framework.

-**Youth Taking Over Day :** this activity was considered as a channel between young people and local authorities as one of the most efficient local tools/mechanisms for youth participation. LDA Kosovo has realized successfully two events foreseen:

- The first activity was realized on the topic "Active Youth Participation in culture" which has tackling one of the most important topic, such as "cultural participation" of the youngsters of Peja and Kosovo in general. Two guest speakers were invited: Professor Hysen Nimani, representing the Faculty of Arts of the Univeristy of Peja "Haxhi Zeka" and the director of Anibar, Mr. Vullnet Sanaja, representing Anibar and the Cinema "Isuf Gërvalla", and the youngsters who were actively participating during the discussion.



1st Youth Taking Over Day "Active Youth Participation in Culture"/ City Theater "Istref Begolli" / 29th of April 2017

LDA Kosovo has realized also the second activity Youth Taking Over Day on "Youth participation in effective environmental protection".

This activity has been realized in Bogë/Rugovë with High School's students regarding environmental education, where these youngsters were able through good practises to create a new relationship with the environment and nature.

The purpose of this activity was to educate the young generation to the environmental awareness, because nature is considered a cultural value and this determines the type of society.



2nd Youth Taking Over Day on "Youth participation in effective environmental protection"/ Bogë (Rugovë) / 30th of May 2017

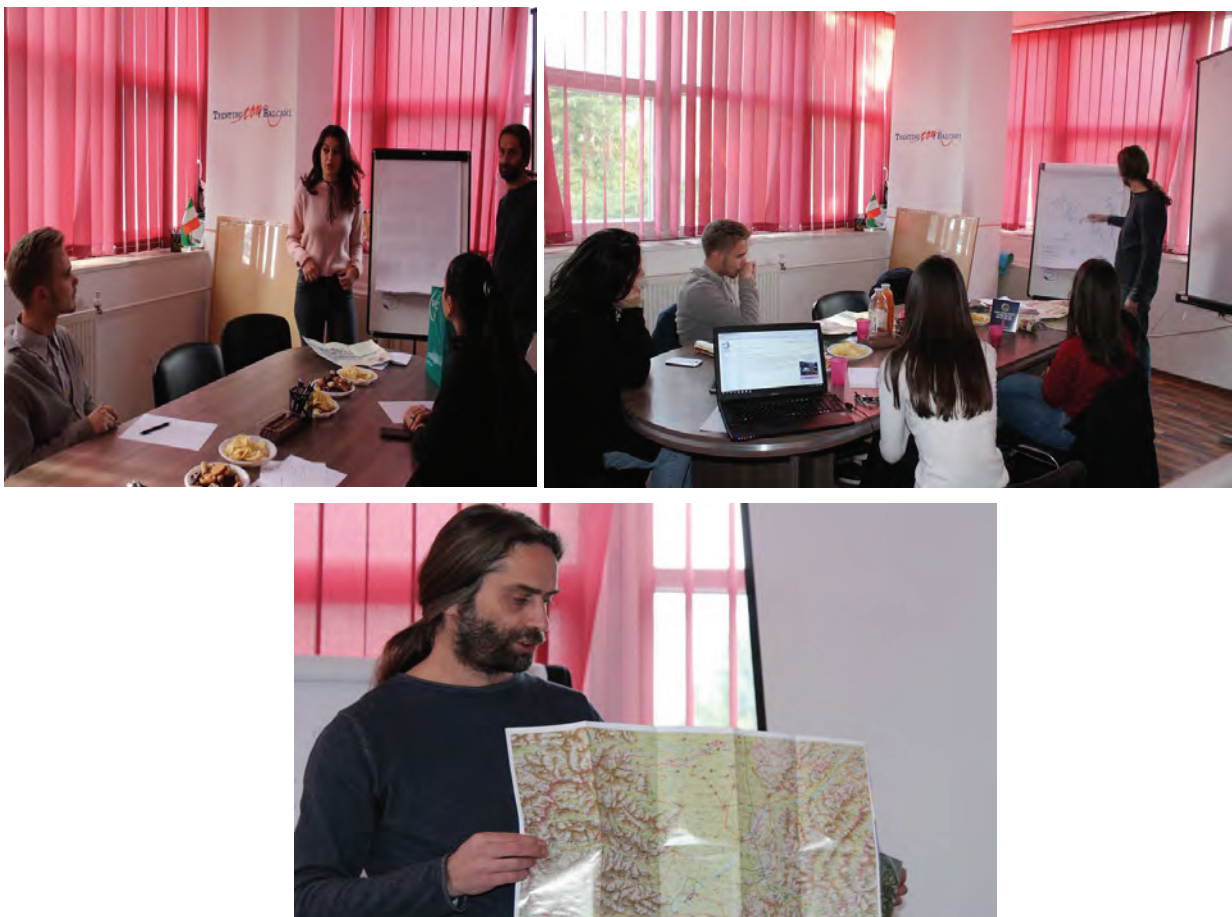
-My City- Intercultural City: this activity foresees a research by a group of 10 youngsters in each participating community about the elements of other cultures presented in their community (from names of streets entitled to prominent historical and cultural persons of different nationalities belonging to the culture of other WB countries to cultural monuments and historical sites connected to other cultures). On 29th and 30th November 2017, LDA Kosovo has realized two

days workshop with an expert of culture and tourism promotion, Virtyt Morina, and gathered 10 youngsters who participated in contribution of the identification of the streets and monuments with cultural content. The second phase of workshop consisted in taking photos in the cultural places of the city of Peja.

Outputs: *Creation and the publication of Cultural Trail Map Peja* <http://www.alda-balkan-youth.eu/Portals/0/InterCultural%20Map%20for%20web.compressed.pdf?ver=2017-12-22-110627-283>

The cultural trail map “Peja- Inter Cultural City” describes streets, cultural monuments, useful information and things to do in Peja that characterized this beautiful city and help you to experience unforgettable memories.

LDA Kosovo achieved the objective of the activity by raising cultural awareness in the local communities and improving the general perception about cultural practices among youngsters in the region.



Workshop “My City-Intercultural City” in the LDA premises, 29th of November 2017

In addition to the "My City-Intercultural City" workshop, LDA Kosovo sponsored the initiative of the Youth Sector and the Youth Center Peja for the realization of educational mural near the Youth Center Peja, realized by high school students of Arts "Odhise Paskali".

Through similar initiatives like "Street Art", the young artists of the city of Peja will be promoted and the city will preserve the cultural identity as well



Street Art in Peja, students of High School of Arts "Odhise Paskali"



Youth Exchange, Knjazevac 8-12 of July.

- **Video campaign on cultural participation/ Exchange of Youth Correspondents:** During the dates 8- 12 of July the team of youth correspondents of Peja Granit Karagjyzi and Endrit Temaj have visited Knjazevac regarding Youth Exchange. The purpose of this activity was to make interviews, explore attitudes, cultural values patterns of cultural behaviour and opinions among young people in other local communities in different countries of Western Balkan about the relevance of cultural participation and access to culture of young people in order to improve the knowledge of youngsters about the topic.

Outputs- A video reportage and an article was created and published.

- A video awareness on cultural participation produced and published on the Balkan Regional Platform website.

- **Youth Exchange in Kosovo-** LDA Kosovo hosted the team of youth correspondent from Niksic (Montenegro) from 15th to 17th of August in the city of Peja. They had the opportunity to visit many cultural places and institutions, also to interview some of the representatives for the culture development in Peja: Mrs Jeta Nushi, the Director of Sector of Youth in Peja, Mr. Vullnet Gusia, the Cordinator of Inovation Center of Youth in Peja and Mr.Vullnet Sanaja, Director of Anibar.



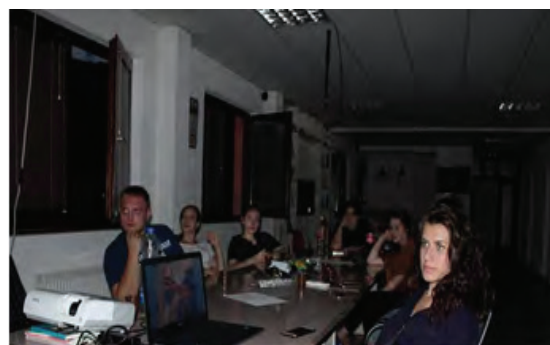
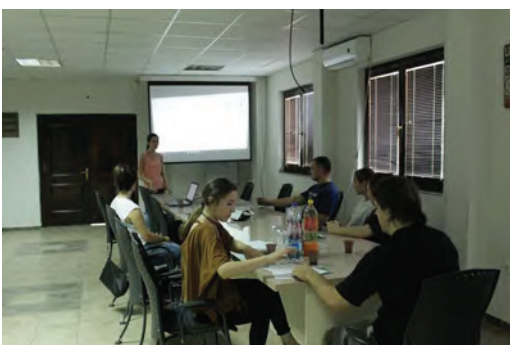
Youth Exchange Niksic/Peja, August

- **International Youth Day celebration.** LDA Kosovo within the framework of the project Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue, in cooperation with the Directorate of Culture, Youth and Sports, Local Youth Action Council (LYAC) and Youth Center of Peja, have realized several daily activities in the honor of the International Youth Day.

On 11th August, a discussion with the youngster was held on the situation of Youth in Peja, the future projects related to youth participation and some recreational activities were organized in the Park of Adventures in the city of Peja.

LDA Kosovo participated in a Skype panel on the topic "Culture of Cinematography", where youngsters contributed actively in the discussion on the aforementioned topic. In the movie night, two short feature films produced by two Balkan countries were promoted.

Results: youth people had the opportunity to gain knowledge from the culture of cinematography of the regional countries.



International Youth Day Celebration

- **Exchange of good practice among the region countries** included the following activities:
 - **Regional Youth Forum for Local Democracy Agency**, held on 18-21 October 2017 in Kosovo, organized by LDA Kosovo. The first gathering took place at the Municipality Hall, where around 70 participants participated from different Balkan Countries: Kosovo, Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. Representatives of the

Municipality welcomed the young participants and delegates from 7 LDAs in the Balkans and ALDA Skopje. In the official opening, the discussion was on youth participation with a special focus on youth activism in culture.

In the same day, at the Cinema "Jusuf Gërvalla" in Peja, the first public discussion has been organized, among the group, NGOs representatives and Faik Zekaj, representative from local authority Directorate of Culture, Youth and Sports. The two NGOs as guest speakers have been youth organizations in Peja: Vullnet Sanaja, Director of Anibar (an animated film festival) and Granit Gashi, Director of Into the Park (Music Festival and sustainability promoters). It was a peer-to-peer exchange dialogue, focused on cultural participation of youth. At the end of the productive day, at the cinema, the participants had the chance to watch some of the winner animated movies from the film festival of 2017.

The second day of the forum started at the Youth Centre of Peja. An interesting workshop entitled "Cultural participation in my local community" was organized for the participants of the Forum, for which the Youth Engagement Workers of each LDA took the role of facilitators and they discussed for the problems that preoccupy regarding youth participation in culture. Part of the workshop has been a field visit at cultural sites in Peja such as The Patriarchate of Peja, mill of Haxhi Zeka, Old Pazar in Peja.

The day ended in Pristina, at Termokiss with an interactive debate for cultural participation and activism. The guest speakers of the panel were representatives of Termokiss (Njomza Dragusha) and Lulzim Hoti from organization 7 Arte, Sadri Shehu, a representative from Kosovar Youth Council, and Pavle Pavlovic researcher of the project, presented the key findings of the research study about cultural activism and participation from youngsters in the Balkans.

This year, the Forum was organized in a different way, because part of the Forum had been also EUROMED Training TOOL Fair. The Tool Fair, a well-known training concept among the youth in the Balkans, was for the first time organized in Pristina. In this Tool Fair the 12 youth workers from 7 LDAs, presented workshops with different topics in a parallel session.

On 20th October, the 3rd Balkan Youth Forum ended and this event considered as a better way to understand and respect cultural diversity.



Photos from the 3rd Balkan Youth Forum in Kosovo

Other projects and activities implemented during 2017:

Name: “Balcanimazione”

Funded by: Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus

Implemented by: Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus in cooperation with Trentino con il Kossovo and Nisma për Paqe dhe unitet.

Duration: Two weeks

During 2017, from 24th July, the summer camp Balcanimazioni started, organized by Associazione Trentino con i Balcani onlus in cooperation with Trentino con il Kossovo and Nisma për Paqe dhe Unitet. Summer Camp Balcanimazioni took place in the school of “Xhemajl Kada”, which in continuity collect many enthusiastic children from different ages and communities.

This summer camp lasted for two weeks and had a lot of activities organized with the help of the animators from Italy and Peja. During these two weeks in the school many educational activities and entertainment were held, in which the children were very actively involved. Every year Balcanimazioni gives to the kids a chance to practice their talents and spend wonderful time with other children of their age.

It was a special year for Balcanimazioni, because it celebrated its 10th anniversary by giving to the animators certificates of their good and voluntary work during the summer camp. All children, volunteers and organizers during these wonderful days of Balcanimazioni experienced a place designed to create happy memories.



Name: “Tales to be together”

Funded by: Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus

Implemented by: Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus, Trentino con il Kossovo, Association Docenti Senza Frontiere in cooperation with Municipality of Peja and “Xhemajl Kada” school.

Duration: 3 years

This project was realized during the 3 years of cooperation between Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus, Trentino con il Kossovo, Association Docenti Senza Frontiere, Municipality of Peja and “Xhemajl Kada” school. During this three years in the school were organized a lot of activities with children and teachers and on 20th November during the Universal Children’s Day, at “Xhemajl Kada” school the booklet “Tales to be together” was presented, which is a collection of 4 tales from 4 different cultures in 4 different languages, but all linked by a common central idea. The tales were written and illustrated with drawings from the children of the school. The tales are wrote in 4 languages: Albanian, Bosnian, Egyptian and Italian language.



Name: *International Youth Day Celebration*

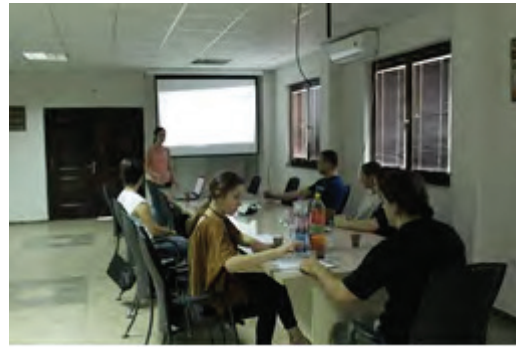
Funded by: *LDAK and Directorate of Culture, Youth and Sport*

Implemented by: *LDAK, Directorate of Culture, Youth and Sports, Local Youth Action Council (LYAC) and Youth Center of Peja.*

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Name: “Educative campaign for cancer and tumors”

Funded by: Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus

Implemented by: Associazione Trentino con il Balcani onlus, LKLT- Kosovan League Against Tumors, Trentino con il Kosovo in cooperation with Ministry of Health of Kosovo, Clinic of Oncology and the Office for Good Governance.

Duration:

The aim of this project was to improve the services of the oncological sector within the Kosovo health system. Also to assist the opening and activation of services of the first League against cancer of Kosovo. This project is still continuing and in this year it will have many trainings like: cancer in adults and children; the psychological aspects of the disease; prevention and healthy life style; the way how to communicate with partners and how to communicate prevention. All these lectures will be held by LILT- Sezione Provinciale di Trento and other medical experts from Trento Health Authority. Besides this an awareness-raising campaign will be held in Peja and Prishtina. Creation of some info materials targeted for schools (elementary and high schools) and meeting with students to raise awareness on cancer prevention.

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

