



swiss cultural programme
in the western balkans

Culture From-For All

Cultural progress in the local communities
of Macedonia and Kosovo

Country / region or city:

Kosovo and Macedonia

Name of Cooperation project:

Culture From-For All

Partner organizations:

ODA (Prishtina)

PAC Multimedia (Skopje)

Duration of project:

July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010

Two partner organizations from the region, ODA from Prishtina (Kosovo) and PAC Multimedia from Skopje (Macedonia), developed a project based on the presumption that culture is the essential component for social cohesion which can improve the quality of citizens' lives regardless of their ethnic, religious, educational, social, and gender background.

If culture is about identities, lifestyles, conduct, ethnics, and governance, this should not be too difficult to countenance. If one wants to have cultural policies, or to link culture with development, then one should follow the logic of planning. Planning is not just thinking about the capacities of the existing infrastructure or its improvement, but also about the creative infrastructure: people and their needs, visions and potentials.

This project will build strong partnerships between the civil society organizations and the local governmental organizations, as well as build cultural and artistic networks with focus on promoting arts and culture. By doing so, the project will ensure systematic interaction and mutual confidence, joint and coordinated activities at all levels.

www.teatrida.com
www.multimedia.org.mk

Swiss Cultural Programme
in the Western Balkans
Ulica Hadzi-idrizova 10/1
71000 Sarajevo
Bosnia and Herzegovina
mail@scp-ba.net
www.scp-ba.net

Link:
www.deza.admin.ch
(Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC)

The main goals of the project *Culture From-For All – Cultural progress in the local communities in Macedonia and Kosovo* are:

- To increase and encourage the citizens' participation in policy making and decision-making activities on local level
- To identify and develop an efficient system of mechanisms in the area of culture that would lead to a systematic cultural development of the municipalities involved
- To improve the influence of artists over policy creation process on local and national level in both countries, and to encourage their critical approach toward society processes
- To improve the regional cooperation among the municipalities in the countries involved in the project

The project requires active involvement of representatives from the local municipalities and the government, as well as representatives from the public cultural institutions and non-governmental sector.

The activities of the project are mainly focused on training meetings for cultural policy issues, and creative workshops and artistic productions. The partners in the project are also interested in making comparative analyses and researches as well as on creating and writing participatory cultural policies and strategies for cultural development. A web platform will be created in order to continually provide information on the policy strategies and activities of the project. For additional capacity building and sharing of knowledge, two conferences, one regional and one international, will take place during the realization.

The Swiss Cultural Programme in the Western Balkans (SCP) is run by Pro Helvetia, the Swiss Arts Council, upon mandate of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs. The SCP encompasses Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Macedonia, Serbia and Kosovo.

It supports local partners, which emphasize the variety, independence and performance of cultural life. The SCP regional cooperation projects focus on the capacity building and institutional development processes of cultural organizations with a regional orientation. ■