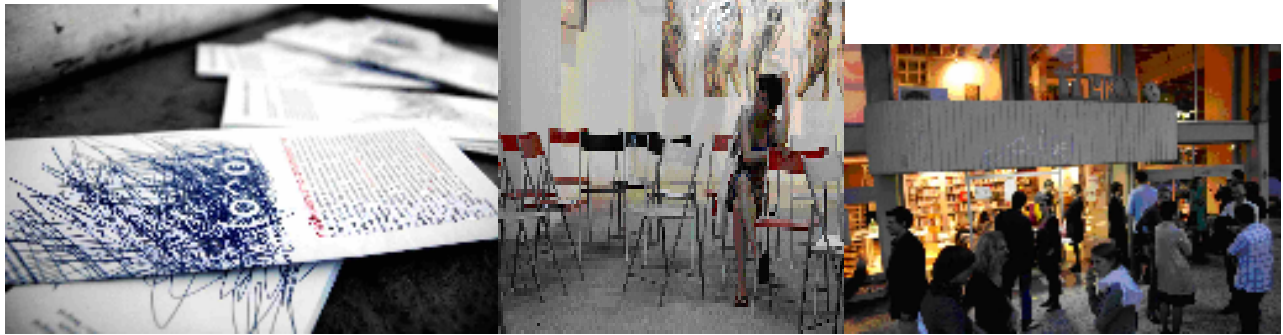


Deschooling Classroom



Country / region or city:

Macedonia and Serbia

Name of Cooperation Project:

**DESCHOOLING
CLASSROOM**

**Self-education in the arts
and culture**

Partner organizations:

Kontrapunkt (Skopje)

TkH (Belgrade)

Duration of project:

April 2009 – March 2012

Deschooling Classroom promotes open, innovative, collaborative, cross-cultural and cross-disciplinary formats of cultural production through critical reflection on the educational system in the region.

It aims to enable democratic models of knowledge production and distribution through advocating open collective educational structures of self-organised communities, horizontal productions and exchange.

Academic institutions in the region still implement outdated models of public education. The imposed division between experts and students or lecturing as a traditional method of conveying knowledge is rarely questioned. The importance of personal initiative collaboration between the students and colleagues, or the use of digital technologies as educational means, is not emphasized. Therefore the urgency of developing a new model of cultural knowledge production and distribution corresponds to the needs of our fast changing societies, wherein the new social and professional contexts require new abilities and skills.

Deschooling Classroom's objectives are to:

- raise the awareness of potentialities of self-education
- offer studying new and hybrid fields
- develop methodology for alternative education in contemporary art and culture
- initiate sharing the critical micro knowledge among cultural practitioners from the region
- enhance cultural productions based on independent collaboration
- create tools for sustainable regional educational initiatives in culture

www.tkh-generator.net
www.kontrapunkt-mk.org

www.deschoolingclassroom.tkh-generator.net

Swiss Cultural Programme
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www.scp-ba.net

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

In terms of activities the project organizes:

- **Inductions:** include articulating the basic principles of self-education and self-organization by the organizers
- **Open Weeks:** 3-day events, consisting of workshops, lectures and presentations, with aim to attract attention and raise awareness about self-education in our local contexts
- **Incubators:** long-term distant-learning collaborative workshops of working groups gathered around common themes
- **Summer Schools:** intense one-week educational events, created by and for the participants of all groups and for the other interested participants from the region
- **Timeshare Campuses:** accommodation/work structures (in Skopje and Belgrade) that facilitate collaboration between the participants during the time of *collective cultural productions*
- Production of **Toolbox:** includes the *Handbook* on self-education, written by participants, organizers and guests, and a *documentary film* that will present the project and its potential for application in other contexts.

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. ■