

SEMINAR

“GETTING INVOLVED IN EUSAIR & INTERREG IPA PROGRAMMES”

14.15hrs – 16.30hrs, 24 January 2023 - [Europe House](#), Skopje

The announcement of the European Year of Youth made 2022 a very dynamic period when it comes to youth. Many developments within the WB6 region made youth a buzzword in the political tables. The EU integration process progressed with the start of the accession talks with Albania and North-Macedonia, whereas through the Berlin Process significant success was achieved when it comes to youth mobility and youth engagement in education programs around the region. In addition, in December 2022, the Commission approved the Interreg IPA Greece-North Macedonia for the period 2021-2027. The programme brings together the following policy areas: transition to a low carbon economy, support and upgrade of health and social services, and improving governance for cooperation.

However, as emphasized through the [“Manifesto for Young People by Young People to Shape the European Cooperation Policy”](#) there is a need to further inform youth and local communities on the available opportunities and calls deriving from such projects. Interreg IPA and EUSAIR offer young people to be part of the decision-making process on various matters and to develop projects that can make a change. In particular, the upcoming funding periods of the new Interreg IPA Programmes can provide several opportunities especially for young people, among others: i) actions to support youth and unemployed people, aiming at gaining skills and professional qualifications in the tourism sector and more specifically in the growing ‘cultural tourism’ segment, or ii) networking initiatives supporting employment mechanisms and joint efforts in the Cross border areas towards the goal of creating new jobs in the field of tourism, etc.

This seminar is organized by the Cooperation and Development Institute in Albania in partnership with the European Commission and in cooperation with the Secretariat for European Affairs of North Macedonia, the Ministry Local Self-Government, the National Youth Council of North Macedonia and the [AI-NURECC Initiative](#). The seminar will bring together youth, youth stakeholders including schools and universities, Institutional representatives involved in EUSAIR and INTERREG IPA, and INTERREG IPA programme representatives, to meet its objective in informing potential beneficiaries on the strategy for the region and concrete involvement opportunities.

AGENDA

14.15-14.40	Registration and welcoming / Media Statements
14.40-15.00	<p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Krisela HACKAJ, Executive Director Cooperation and Development Institute - Gilles KITTEL, Team Manager – Instrument for Pre-Accession, Enlargement Negotiations and EUSAIR, DG REGIO, European Commission - Zoran DIMITROVSKI, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Local Self Government North Macedonia - Zuica ZMEJKOVSKA, EUSAIR National Contact Point North Macedonia
15.00-16.20	<p>INTERREG IPA Programmes and EUSAIR: enabling better preparation for EU accession</p> <p><i>Panel session “Lessons learned from the previous funding period & Upcoming funding period 2021-2027: novelties, challenges, opportunities”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Berat LIMANI, Project Officer at Joint Technical Secretariat - Antenna Office Skopje from IPA II CBC Programme Kosovo - North Macedonia 2014-2020; - Tanja TASHEVA PALIFROVA / Irena BABAMOVA STOJCHEVA, Project experts at Joint Technical Secretariat - Antenna Office in Strumica, IPA CBC Programme Bulgaria - North Macedonia - Nami ISAKI, Executive Director of the Center for Intercultural Dialogue (CID) in Kumanovo - Dr. Radmil POLENAKOVIKJ / Dr. Trajche VELKOVSKI - Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" - Skopje & National Center for Development of Innovation and Entrepreneurial Learning - Milcho DULI, President, SFERA Organization <p>Q&A session</p>
16.20-16.30	Event wrap up / Media Statements

The working language is English. Refreshments will be available during the event duration.