

WORKSHOP

“INTERREG IPA PROGRAMMES: WHAT’S IN THERE FOR YOUTH?”

09.45hrs - 12.00hrs, 23 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 workshop 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 and the National Youth Council of North Macedonia. The workshop will bring together youth, youth stakeholders, local and national organizations dealing with youth policies, INTERREG IPA project beneficiaries with the aim to raise awareness about INTERREG IPA programmes and to build their capacities to establish partnerships and to successfully apply to call for proposals in the upcoming programming period.

AGENDA

09.45-10.15	Registration and welcoming / Media Statements
10.15-10.30	<p>Opening remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Krisela HACKAJ, Executive Director Cooperation and Development Institute - Nadine LAKHAL, Programme Manager - Interreg Balkan-Med & Interreg IPA Romania-Serbia, Coordination Team-EU Strategy for the Adriatic-Ionian Region, DG REGIO, European Commission <i>-online</i> - Zoran DIMITROVSKI, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Local Self Government North Macedonia
10.30-11.45	<p><i>Session I –INTERREG IPA: youth empowerment through opportunities for social innovation, skills and digital education development</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Goce TOLESKI, Head of the Joint Technical Secretariat - Struga from IPA CBC Programme North Macedonia - Albania - Adnan EMINI, Antenna Officer in the Joint Secretariat in Bitola from IPA CBC Programme Greece - North Macedonia - Oliver ANDREEVSKI, Governing Board Member of National Youth Council of North Macedonia - Zlatko TALEVSKI, Executive Director, Youth Cultural Center – Bitola - Cinzia DELLAGIACOMA, Project Manager, Interreg Volunteer Youth-<i>online</i> <p>Moderation by Filip KULAKOV, Program Manager, National Youth Council of Macedonia</p> <p>Q&A session</p> <p><i>Session II- Establishing partnerships and preparing for the next call for proposals</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Martin RISTOV, Head of Unit for Strategic Partnerships in the Field of Vocational and School Education, National Agency for European Educational Programmes and Mobility - Vladimir LAZOV, Youth Officer of the Municipality of Valandovo - Anelija MITROVA, Operations Coordinator at Youth Alliance Krusevo <p>Moderation by Sara RISTESKA, Program Assistant, National Youth Council of Macedonia</p> <p>Q&A session</p>
11.45-12.00	Event wrap up / Media Statements

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