

WORKSHOP

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

28 April 2023 | Tirana European Youth Capital 2022 [Venue](#), Tirana

This is a hybrid event – [ZOOM Link](#)

The announcement of the European Year of Youth made 2022 a very dynamic period when it comes to youth. 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. The accession dynamics open the way for more involvement of local actors, increased direct impact of EU-supported policies, and many more opportunities for the citizens of the WB6.

Social inclusion in education and skills development is taking center stage in 2023, with the European Year of Skills running the agenda for the entire 2023.

Through targeted new calls the new programming of INTERREG IPA and IPA CBC 2021-2027 will provide new opportunities for young people in Albania to engage and benefit from their support. Last call of IPA CBC Programme Montenegro – Albania 2014-2020 is open until June 15, while the first Call of ADRION Programme will remain open until June 30.

While innovation, skills development, employment, and other policy instruments are keywords in almost every programme priority or thematic area, youth in the region remain distant from those opportunities. Tangible youth support helps youth groups and overall Balkan countries in their cohesion and convergence efforts with the EU.

Echoed in the “[Manifesto for Young People by Young People to Shape the European Cooperation Policy](#)”, European youth have expressed the need for more interaction with policymakers. They’ve explicitly underlined the necessity of a more enabling environment to be created in the Interreg IPA programmes.

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.

This workshop is organized by the Cooperation and Development Institute in Albania in partnership with the European Commission and in cooperation with the National Youth Congress of Albania.

Agenda

10:00–10:30	Registration & welcoming Media statements
10.30-10:50	<p>Welcoming remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Krisela HACKAJ, Executive Director Cooperation and Development Institute • Gilles KITTEL, Team Manager – IPA, Enlargement Negotiations and EUSAIR, DG REGIO, European Commission - <i>online</i> <p>Keynote address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ilir BEQAJ, Head of State Agency for Strategic Programming & Aid Coordination, SASPAC
10:50–12:30	<p>Panel discussion “Building partnerships with youth in the next INTERREG IPA call for proposals”</p> <p><i>Regional cooperation as a driver in establishing youth partnerships and boosting young people participation to policy-making.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marija BULAT, Acting Director of Programs, RYCO <p><i>Transnational & Interregional Programmes 2021-2027 level of alignment with the Youth Manifesto recommendations: i) state of art & challenges; ii) currently open calls</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kjara ADHAMI, National IPA Coordinator Support Office <p><i>Crossborder Programmes 2021-2027 level of alignment with the Youth Manifesto recommendations: i) state of art & challenges; ii) currently open calls</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lira DHERI, Antenna Project Officer, Interreg IPA Greece-Albania • Nersada MANDIJA, Antenna Project Officer, IPA CBC Albania-Montenegro • Jona LEQEJZA, Antenna Project Officer IPA CBC Albania-Kosovo <p><i>Building on best co-designed, co-governed and co-managed Youth-led local actions</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dafina PEÇI, Executive Director National Youth Congress of Albania / Tirana European Youth Capital 2022 <p><i>Role of Local Government Units in involving youth in ETC: EUSAIR 4 Youth</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Floreta KËRTUSHA, European Integration, Foreign Affairs and Diaspora Unit, Durrës Municipality <p>Q & A Moderation by Irena TOPALLI, National Youth Congress of Albania</p>
12:30	Event wrap up

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