

WORKSHOP

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

4 May 2023 | Venue: [Opens Youth Center](#), Bulevar Despota Stefana 5, Novi Sad, Serbia

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. During the previous year and as a contribution to this date, Republic of Serbia took an active role in marking the importance of youth activism in the EU integration process. Serbia also participated in the EU Commission’s platform “Conference of Europe” resulted by the official handing over the printed document with conclusions and suggestion of Serbian citizens for better European dialogue and citizens involvement and participation in the EU decision making process to EU officials, especially focusing on raising of the voice of young population in creating a better European future. The EU integration process in the Western Balkans region 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 new calls the new programming of INTERREG IPA and IPA CBC 2021-2027 will provide opportunities for young people to engage and benefit from their support.

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. 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. Tangible youth support helps youth groups and overall Balkan countries in their cohesion and convergence efforts with the EU.

With the aim of raising awareness about INTERREG IPA programmes, building the capacities of youth organizations to apply to INTERREG IPA Programmes and establishing cross-border, transnational and/or interregional partnerships, this workshop will bring together local and national organizations dealing with youth policies.

The event is organized by the Cooperation and Development Institute in Albania in partnership with the European Commission, Serbian Ministry of European Integration and in cooperation with the National Youth Council of Serbia.

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> • Sanda ŠIMIĆ, Assistant Minister, Ministry for European Integration, Republic of Serbia
10:50 – 12:15	<p><i>Panel discussion “Building partnerships with youth in the next INTERREG IPA call for proposals”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darko CVEJIĆ, Joint Secretariat Branch Office in Serbia, INTERREG IPA Croatia – Serbia • Rejla BURZAN, Head of the JS Antenna, INTERREG IPA Hungary – Serbia • Darko ČUKURANOVIĆ, CBC Programme Expert • Vukašin GROZDANOVIĆ, OPENS Novi Sad • Dušan DAKIĆ and Maša ŠALINAČKI, “e-Support services for career and vocational counseling of youth entering to the labor market”, Interreg IPA CBC Program Romania – Serbia • Prof. Mladen RADIŠIĆ / Vladimir NIKIĆ, University of Novi Sad, DA-SPACE, “Open Innovation to Raise Entrepreneurship Skills and Public Private Partnership in Danube Region” <p>Q & A</p> <p>Moderation by Anja JOKIĆ, National Youth Council of Serbia</p>
12:15	Event wrap up

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