WORKSHOP

"A meaningful youth participation in INTERREG IPA: How to enable young people to take action?"

TQ Plaza, Budva, Montenegro | 2 March 2023

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 further with the New Enlargement Methodology, 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, on 3 November 2022 the European Commission approved the Interreg IPA programme Croatia – Bosnia and Herzegovina – Montenegro, to be implemented in the financial period 2021 – 2027. The main goal of the new Programme is to encourage smart, green, and inclusive development of the cross-border region.

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: actions to support youth and unemployed people, aiming at gaining skills and professional qualifications through research and innovation, cultural tourism, supporting employment mechanisms and joint efforts in the Cross border areas towards the goal of creating new jobs in the field of tourism, circular economy, climate, etc.

This workshop is organized by the Cooperation and Development Institute in Albania in partnership with the European Commission, and in cooperation with the Ministry of European Affairs of Montenegro, the High School Students Union in Montenegro and the Youth Network of Montenegro. The workshop will bring together *INTERREG IPA beneficiaries* with the aim to promote Youth Manifesto priorities and recommendations and their embedment in the new Programmin period.

The event will address specific objectives: i) increase awareness and promote Interreg IPA programmes in Montenegro ii) in line with Recommendation 6 of the Youth Manifesto increase the knowledge of Interreg IPA programmes in schools, universities and local communities of programme areas, iii) increase awareness about and promoting the Youth Manifesto to Programme authorities for a wider inclusion of youth needs and dedicated actions in their programming document and future call for proposals, iv) promote the Youth Manifesto priorities and recommendations as a reference for the project development.

DRAFT Agenda

10.45-11.15	**Registration and welcoming / Media Statements**
11.15-11.30	**Opening remarks** ➢ Krisela HACKAJ, Executive Director Cooperation and Development Institute ➢ Gilles KITTEL, Team Manager – IPA, Enlargement Negotiations and EUSAIR, DG REGIO, European Commission - *online* ➢ Irena BOŠKOVIĆ, Head of Division for Interregional Cooperation and Macroregional Strategies, Ministry of European Affairs of Montenegro
11.30-12.45	**How can young people get involved in INTERREG IPA programmes?** ➢ Besiana NINKA, INTERACT - "Interreg IPA programmes: an opportunity for youth engagement" – *online* ➢ Dragan ĐURIŠIĆ, Joint Secretariat Branch Office in Montenegro, INTERREG IPA CBC Croatia-Bosnia and Herzegovina-Montenegro ➢ Igor MILOSEVIC, Programme Developer, Democracy Prosperity – ZID representative, Project Partner of Creative@cbc Project ➢ Luka MIHAILOVIC, Municipality of Budva, Partner of DynaMob 2.0 project Moderation by Vladimir Perazić, Board Member, Youth Network Montenegro
12.45-13.00	**Event wrap up / Media Statements**

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