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FOR THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF

FOR THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA

The National Youth Council of Macedonia NYCM is part of a union of associations, which, on a voluntary basis, includes associations and foundations from the Republic of Macedonia. NYCM was founded on 29 June 2013 by 55 organizations. NYCM is the representative body of youth organizations in Macedonia.

The membership of NYCM is diverse, uniting organizations working at national and regional level, rural and urban areas, student organizations, branches of international organizations, and other types of associations. In the process of achieving its goals, NYCM represents the interests of young people in the Republic of Macedonia, regardless of their socio-economic position, gender, race, ethnic and cultural origin, political and religious beliefs, sexual orientations, gender identity, or any other form of difference. Since November 29, 2015, the National Youth Council of Macedonia has been part of the European family of youth organizations, the European Youth Forum (EYF).

Currently, the Council is made up of 50 political party organizations, institutions, and youth forums. The council's member organizations work in a variety of youth-related fields, ranging from unemployment and intercultural dialogue to corruption, health issues, and non-formal education. They are united in their interest in representing youth needs and problems, advocating for systemic solutions that will allow young people to be actively involved in decision-making processes at all levels, despite differences in organizational structure and size.

VISION

Macedonia's youth are represented by an independent, autonomous, and inclusive youth sector.

MISSION

The mission of the NYCM is to represent the interests and needs of young people as a link to all stakeholders and to ensure the involvement and active participation of young people in the decision-making process at every levels.

NYCM OBJECTIVES

- Strengthening the NYCM's role as a representative body for young people and youth organizations;
- Encourage processes to create appropriate policies that
 - enable social and personal development of young people;
- Advocating and acting on behalf of the interests of young people and youth organizations by
 presenting their interests to the institutions; Uniting and developing the capacities of the youth sector
- through strengthening and promoting the role of youth organizations;
- Promotion of non-formal education and encouraging the creation of systems to support youth at local and national levels;
- Promoting the position of young people in society through: promotion and action towards strengthening youth participation in decision-making processes, – Promotions of youth activism, youth information and active citizenship among young people;
- Promotion of equality, treatment of young people, tolerance, and democracy among young people.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1:

Youth Organizing Support and Strengthening, Capacity Development, and Youth Organizing Positioning

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2:

Increased youth participation in policy-making and decision-making processes at national and Local level

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3:

Strengthening the social position of young people and improving the youth standard and youth rights

INTRODUCTION

In 2022, the NYCM united a total of 53 member organizations, including 1 SSO, 17 youth organizations, 20 youth organizations, 8 youth organizations, and 7 associate members. During this time, NYCM focused on active representation of young people in policy-making processes at the local and national levels, capacity building of member organizations, and program implementation that provides direct support to young people. NYCM placed particular focus on providing financial and logistical support to member organizations, supporting youth for employment and mental health, and also providing funds for further support. The capacities of the NYCM were also dedicated to regional and European cooperation by participating in and organizing regional events and events in cooperation with other EU NYCs.

IN 2022, NYCM HAD:

MORE THAN 1000 YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN THE ACTIVITIES;

MORE THAN 5000 YOUTH WHO PARTICIPATED IN ACTIVITIES ORGANIZED IN MLADIHAB OFFICES IN SHTIP, BITOLA AND SKOPJE);

MORE THAN 30 YOUTH TRAININGS;

FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR 14 ORGANIZATIONS;

10 for promiting or promoting social enterprises that employ young people.

5 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE RECEIVED FINANCIAL SUPPORT;

5 YOUTH POLICY INITIATIVES LAUNCHED;

Youth standard, Youth Guarantees, Protection in case of Unemployment, LYPYP, Mentally healthy Youth,

MONITORING OF MORE THAN 10 YOUTH PROGRAMMES AND POLICIES;

400 EVENTS IN THE YOUTH HUB IN SKOPJE, BITOLA AND STIP ORGANIZED BY MORE 4 YOUTH ORGANIZATION;

STRATEGIC PLAN OF THE NYCM 2022-2026

The NYCM also drafted the organizations' new strategic plan in 2022. And, despite the new strategic plan, the organizations' essence and goals remained unchanged. The new strategic priorities are:

Strategic Priority 1: Support and empowerment for youth organizing, capacity development and positioning of youth forms of organizing

Strategic objective: 1 (1.1) Increased participation of NYCM member organizations in the working bodies and processes of NYCM;

Strategic objective 2 (1.2) Positioning NYCM as an active partner of all forms

of youth organizations in the creation and implementation of youth policies; **Strategic objective 3 (1.3):** Supporting and Strengthening the capabilities of member organizations and other forms of youth organizations;

In 2022, although differently structured in this document, NYCM worked on Strengthening youth organization, by creating mechanisms for active involvement of member organizations, providing logistical and financial support to

organizations, but also strengthening cooperation with national and local institutions, as well as other relevant partners from the business sector and the Western Balkans region.

Strategic Priority 2: Increased youth participation in the processes of policy making and decision making at national and local level

Strategic objective 1 (2.1) Support and monitoring of the implementation of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies;

Strategic objective 2 (2.2): Piloting and promoting inclusive and participatory models of youth participation:

Strategic goal 3 (2.3): Positioning NYCM and member organizations as relevant stakeholders to represent and advocate for young people's needs.

In order to achieve these objectives, the NYCM conducted three study visits to other NYCs in 2022. from the region and the EU in order to collect good practices for participation, worked on monitoring and creating recommendations for the promotion of LYPYP, but also got involved in three other initiatives for youth policies.

Strategic priority no. 3: Strengthening the social standing of young people AND promotion of youth standard and youth rights

Strategic objective 1 (3.1.) Support and creation of opportunities for personal and professional development of young people;

Strategic objective 2 (3.2.) Facilitated access of young people to information about their active participation in society's processes;

Strategic objective 3 (3.3) Support and protect young people in exercising and promoting their rights;

Within this strategic objective, in 2022, the NYCM provided direct support to

development of over two hundred youth, carried out a range of activities for over one thousand youth, and vigorously pushed for youth employment policies. Additionally, in 2022, the NYCM concentrated on promoting communication platforms more vigorously as a means of educating youth about opportunities as well as rights and responsibilities in order to raise the standard for youth.

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A WORK PLAN IN 2022

Strategic Priority 1:
Strengthening
, professionalizing, and
monitoring the capacity
development of the
NYCM's working bodies
and members

Strategic Priority 1:

Strengthening, professionalizing, and monitoring the capacity development of the NYCM's working bodies and members

Within this strategic priority, the National Youth Council of Macedonia focuses on Strengthening the internal capacities of member organizations as well as other forms of youth organizations.

As activities carried out under the first strategic priority in 2022

A greater focus is placed on positioning NYCM as a relevant partner for institutions, organizations, and representatives of the business sector. In this regard, in 2023, the NYCM cooperated with 4 institutions (Cabinet of the President, AYS, MLSP, and ESA) in the implementation of program and project activities, such as the awarding of the Youth Participation Award and the promotion of the Youth Guarantee Program.

During 2022, the NYCM also worked diligently to establish closer cooperation with the member organizations. In this regard, several activities were carried out to support the work of the member organizations, such as the joint writing of three project applications, conducting trainings on project implementation, and building the capacity of the member organizations. In order to strengthen the capacities of the members in 2022, four project grants were also awarded to four member organizations in the amount of 62,000 euros.

To continue this practice in 2022, two project applications for regranting for member organizations were prepared. The grants provided through these applications will be aimed at supporting local Youth initiatives are implemented by member organizations, but a fund is also provided for smaller ad hoc activities of smaller member organizations.

In 2022, NYCM received three Public Reactions on youth-related issues, was awarded the Youth Participation Award for the first time in collaboration with the AYS, and was also involved in the preparation of the Law on Youth/Student Standard as well as the National Youth Strategies.

Three NYCM position papers were also adopted at the autumn General Assembly; advocacy for these documents was incorporated into the NYCM's work for 2022 but continued in 2023.

As part of the activities, the NYCM in 2022 opened MladiHub offices in Stip and Bitola, where more than 100 events were held and attended by more than 1500 young people from these regions. This year, the NYCM also elected Regional Offices that, during 2023, will be supported for the implementation of Council activities and promotions at the local level.

In terms of regional and European cooperation, the NYCM applied in 2022.

of two project applications with youth councils from the EU and the region. Also, three study visits of the National Youth Councils from Europe were conducted, where it was discussed about the best practices for youth participation in order to be applied in the work of the NYCM.

Strategic objective: 1 (1.1) Strengthening the organizational capacity and sustainability of the NYCM, member organizations and other forms of local, regional and national youth association

Planned activities



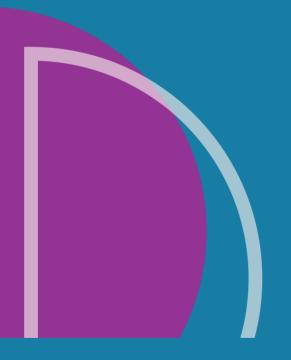
Implemented activities

- 1.1.1. Trainings for personal and professional development of employees and members of working bodies and organizations that are members of NYCM;
- 1.1.2 Organizing activities to strengthen the NYCM team and membership in order to build an organizational culture;
- 1.1.3 Organizing study visits to youth councils in other countries;
- 1.1.4 Promoting NYCM at the local level;

- 1.1.1. Three trainings were held as part of the Connecting Youth Capacity Building Program (three representatives from member organizations and one employee from the secretariats participated).
- 1.1.2. A business meeting has been scheduled with member organizations for a new statute and a new Strategic Plan of NYCM Krusevo, February 2022
- 1.1.2.Conducted 6 consultative meetings with member organizations on the new Statute of NYCM, December 2022;
- 1.1.2. Conducted consultative meetings for NCM;
- 1.1.2 Two preparatory meetings were held for new delegates;
- 1.1.2 Prepared three project applications in partnership with 12 member organizations;
- 1.1.3. Organized study visit to Serbia, Slovakia, and Latvia for representatives of the Management Board and

The Secretariat of the NYCM

- 1.1.3. Two project applications were prepared for collaboration with NYC Bulgaria, NYC Cyprus, NYC Serbia, NYC Bosnia and Herzegovina, and NYC Montenegro;
- 1.1.4 Conducted six events in MladiHub Offices in Stip and Bitola for promotions of NYCM at the local level.



Strategic objective: 2 (1.2) Strengthening the capacities of member organizations, as well as all other types of youth organizations, for civil sector activities

Planned activities



Implemented activities

- 1.2.1 Support for member organizations;
- 1.2.2 Supporting youth initiatives and providing logistics for organizing events;
- 1.2.3 Continuous periodic visits to organizations that are members of NYCM;
- 1.2.4 Conducting trainings and providing support for capacity building of accompanying members:

- 1.2.1. Activities carried out with five member organizations within the projects (YILC and MladiHub)
- 1.2.1 Awarded 4 grants to member organizations (62,000 EUR);
- 1.2.2. Four policy papers were developed and adopted by the Assembly.
- 1.2.2. Prepared and published 3 Public reactions (Student Meal, AYS reorganizations, and Social Cultural Space Tetovo)
- 1.2.3 Secure space and logistical support for the implementation of 329 activities of over 40 youth organizations;
- 1.2.4. Training on the implementation of one associate member's EU project;

Strategic objective 3 (1.3): Strengthening cooperation among member organizations and increasing their participation in NYCM's work.

Planned activities



- 1.3.1 Preparation of documents on Public Policies of interest to young people at the local level by member organizations;
- 1.3.2 Mentoring of member organizations for writing and applying projects, as well as in the process of their implementation;
- 1.3.3 Networking with organizations that are potential partners or members by participating in joint activities;

Implemented activities

- 1.1.3.1 1 policy document drafted by member organizations and 2 documents drafted in collaboration with 2 member organizations.
- 1.3.2 Training on the implementation of one associate member's EU project;
- 1.3.3 Cooperation with three civil society organizations, four partners from the business sector, and continuous cooperation with Europe House, RYCO, the Office of the President, EARM, UNDP, MLSP, MES, and AYS

Strategic objective 4 (1.4): Establishment of a fund for raising funds for sustainability and continuous operation of the NYCM

Planned activities



Implemented activities

1.4.1 Developing a plan for fundraising for a Member Fund

1.4.1 Provided regranting funds in the amount of EUR 157,000 to member organizations for 2023 (grants for local youth initiatives and small grants for member events)

Establishment of a system for the support and monitoring of the capacities available to the NYCM in order to establish appropriate program and project support for the NYCM's bodies

Planned activities



Implemented activities

1.5.1 Implementation of capacity and expertise questionnaire of member organizations

1.5.1 Conducted questionnaire for needs and expertise of members

Based on the questionnaire, 11 member organizations were engaged for various training, research or implementation of activities.

2022

2022

15 MEMBER

ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED IN ACTIVITIES OF THE NYCM

2022

157,000 EUR

PROVIDED FOR GRANTS TO MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

10

COLLABORATION ACHIEVED WITH OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Strategic Priority 2
:Integrationandstrengthening
youth representation in sociopolitical
processes

Strategic Priority 2: Integrationand strengthening youthrepresentation in social and political processes

The second strategic priority is to strengthen the role of the National Youth Council of Macedonia as a representative body of young people in the country. The activities planned to achieve this priority include assisting member organizations in their advocacy processes, preparing normative and advocacy documents, and monitoring the implementation of youth policies, as well as collecting good practices for youth participation at the regional level and replicating good practices from our country in the countries of the region. On the other hand, as a contribution to this strategic priority, activities are also envisaged to strengthen cooperation with national and local institutions in order to advance youth policies by participating in working groups, meetings with institutions, and implementing advocacy campaigns and activities in order to implement them consistently.

To achieve its objectives in 2022, NYCM focused on active participation in policy-making processes by organizing trainings for youth organizations on advocacy, lobbying, policy-making, and decision-making. On the other hand, in order to effectively create policies, the NYCM's capacities included regular monitoring of youth policies and their implementation, as well as participation in a number of regional events where various approaches to youth representation were discussed.

In 2022, as the main areas of work, NYCM actively participated in policy making and policy monitoring for employment, youth standards, mental health, and youth participation.

As a result of this work in 2022, NYCM has achieved the following results:

Inclusion of 13 recommendations in the development framework for RNMMKD2030;

Blunting and inclusion of more than 20 recommendations in the Youth Guarantees program and the MLSP's operational employment plan;

Conducted five trainings on caching and monitoring public policies for 110 representatives of youth organizations and local youth councils;

Prepared four policy documents to improve existing youth policies;

Strategic objective 1 (2.1): Strengthen youth participation and promote inclusive and participatory models for the inclusion of all youth in the processes of dialogue with institutions and decision-making at national and local level

Planned activities

- 2.1.1 Support to member organizations in cooperation, advocacy and lobbying on topics that correspond to the values and missions of NYCM:
- 2.1.2 Trainings for youth and youth organizations to participate actively in the creation and decision-making processes at the national and local levels;





Implemented activities

2.1.1. Advocacy initiatives for amendment of the Law on Employment and Unemployment Insurance (Realized meetings with the MLSP EARM,

Assembly, Government, Amendment of the law incorporated in the action plan of The Club for Youth Affairs and Policies in the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia);

- 2.1.1. Participation in a working group for programming of youth guarantees (Consultative meetings with field workers, 3 meetings with MLSP and EARM, cooperation with the project for Technical supporting education reform).
- 2.1.1. Participation in the planning of an Operational Plan (MLSP);
- 2.1.1 Prepared and implemented recommendations for youth in the MKD2030 framework;
- 2.1.2. Four policy-making trainings were held (with approximately 100 youth organizations and local youth councils participating);
- 2.1.2 Conducted one training for monitoring of Public policies (which included 10 participants from forms of youth organizations)

Strategic objective 2 (2.2): Strengthen youth participation and promote inclusive and participatory models for the inclusion of all youth in the processes of dialogue with institutions and decision-making at national and local level

Planned activities

- 22.2.1 Participation in working groups at the national level
- 2.2.2 Preparation of analyses and normative-representative documents
- 2.2.3 Active participation and organizations in regional and international events for youth and youth policies;
- 2.2.4 Strengthening cooperation with regional networks and organizations;

2.2.5 Cooperation units;





Implemented activities

- 2.2.1. Participation in four working groups (employment, mental health, standard law for youth, and national youth strategy);
- 2.2.2. Analysis of youth policies and renewing the chapters of the YouthWiki platform);
- 2.2.2. Monitoring the implementation of Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies)
- 2.2.2. Prepared policy document for implementations of the Youth Guarantee at the Western Balkans level;
- 2.2.2. Prepared policy document employment of young people;
- 2.2.2. Analysis of youth standard practices in Europe;
- 2.2.2. Prepared document with recommendations to promote Guarantees for Youth field work;
- 2.2.2. Analysis of the legal framework for youth entrepreneurship and creating a proposed legal form for a youth company;
- 2.2.2. Transformations Manual of student company in youth;
- 2.2.3. Participation in 11 regional events (BY leap regional conferences; EYF Assembly; 2 study visits to Brussels (BY leap, CY); Roma Study Session; RCC Conference; NDI; Tirana Connectivity Forum; SYC Meeting Cyprus; RYCO Berlin Process Youth Summit; CY/Yei Kick Off Meeting
- 2.2.4. Participation in four regional networks: Connecting Youth; Youth Alert, and the Regional Anti-Corruption Network
 RAI);

Strategic Priority 3:
Onboarding, positioning
AND monitoring
the implementation of the law on
youth participation and
youth policies

Strategic Priority 3: Inclusion, Positioning and Monitoring of Law Enforcement on Youth Participation and Youth Policies

Within the third strategic priority, the NYCM worked on the consistent implementation of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies. The continuation of the verification of the enrollment of youth forms of organizations in the Register of Youth Umbrella Organizations, Youth Organizations, and Youth Organizations was one of the activities envisaged in the handles of this priority. This year, NYCM continued its good cooperation with the Agency for Youth and Sports, made regular inspections of the registration of organizations in the Register, and gave its recommendations for improving the procedures.

On the other hand, NYCM was available to assist member organizations with the registration itself, but in order to improve that situation, a process of creating a new Statute of Organizations that would be in full compliance with the Law and the Rulebook

The NYCM also held a series of trainings for local youth representatives organizers as potential members of the Local Youth Councils and already elected members of them in order to strengthen their capacities. Local funds were also provided for the renovation and equipping of two youth centers in Stip and Bitola; a memorandum of cooperation with the municipalities was signed for them, but only the Bitola center has been designated as a formal youth center.

- In 2022, the NYCM issued the first monitoring report on the implementation of the LMMP and also started monitoring the implementation for 2022. The main achievements within this
- strategic priority are:
- Opening of two youth centers in Stip and Bitola; Monitoring
- report for LYPYP for 2021;

Strategic objective 1 (3.1): Strengthening the readiness of the NYCM, youth organizations and other forms of youth organizations to represent the provisions of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies

Planned activities

- 3.1.1 Implementation of strategies for positioning the NYCM within the National Youth Assembly;
- 3.1.2 Regular verifications of the register of youth forms of organization;
 3.1.3 Support for member organization for the formation of LMS;



Implemented activities

- 3.1.1 Adjustment of the Statute of the NYCM in order to harmonize the conditions for membership with the provisions of the LMMP;
- 3.1.2 Current verifications of submitted requests for registrations in the NYCM register;
- 3.1.3 Conducted monitoring trainings per 100 local youth organization representatives;

Strategic objective 2 (3.2): Cooperation and stimulation of competent institutions in order to implement the provisions of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies in a timely and quality manner.

Planned activities

- 3.2.1 Opening of youth centers;
- 3.2.2 Monitoring of the law on youth participation and youth policies' implementation;
- 3.2.3 Signing memoranda for cooperation with ELS;



Implemented activities

- 3.2.1 Equipping premises for a youth center in Stip and Bitola (adopted and supported by the municipality of Bitola)
- 3.2.2. Issued monitoring report on the implementation of the LMMP for 2021;
- 3.2.2 Monitoring for the implementation of the LMMP for 2022 has started;
- 3.2.3 Two memoranda signed for collaboration with the municipalities of Stip and Bitola

Strategic goal 3 (3.3): Raise public awareness of the importance of the law and the provisions that result from it.

Planned activities

33.3.1 Conducting a campaign for promotions of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth

Policies;3.3.2 Active participation and organizations at regional and international events on youth and youth policies;

3.3.3 Capacity building of representatives of local youth councils;



Implemented activities

- 3.3.1Conducted campaign and one press conference on LYPYP
- 3.3.1 Organized two consultative events with youth organizations for the implementation of the LYPYP:
- 3.3.2. Organized three study visits to topic: youth participation (in Serbia, Slovakia and Brussels);
- 3.3.3 Organized three trainings with 300 representatives of local youth organizations (60 representatives of LMS) on the topics of anti-discrimination, policy making, policy monitoring, and social justice.

Strategic priority 4: Support and protect young people in exercising and promoting their rights

Strategic priority 4: Support and protect young people in exercising and promoting their rights

Within the fourth strategic priority, the NYCM aims to promote the rights of young people and their increased access to services and support. Although the formal recognition of youth rights in the Republic of North Macedonia is a topic that is not widely covered nor has much support from stakeholders, the NYCM advocates for increased access for young people to health services (especially mental health), employment, and education as rights enjoyed by every young person. During 2022, NYCM worked on promotions and support of youth entrepreneurship, financial support of youth organizations that advocate for the employment of youth from vulnerable categories, training for youth from minority communities, and the creation of manuals to support youth mental health.

NYCM in 2022 also cooperated with the university students.

assembly of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in advocating for free transportation for students and pupils; additionally, NYCM supported students in advocating for the student meal.

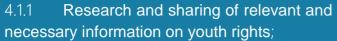
In 2022, NYCM:

- Supported young people's mental health (3 manuals, 2 groups, events to mark May as Mental Health Month, 30 young people after 6 sessions with a psychotherapist);
- 10 youth social enterprises supported;
- 2,500 young people informed about the Youth Guarantee program;



Strategic objective 1 (4.1): Improving young people's access to information on their rights and responsibility

Planned activities



4.1.2 Youth Support initiatives :

4.1.3 Conducted trainings on anti-discrimination, social justice;



4.1.1. Conducted three campaigns for LYPYP, the YouthWiki platform, and youth participation at the local level.

4.1.2. Assigned and implemented 2 grants for the promotion of youth entrepreneurship;

4.1.3. Two trainings have been organized for anti-discrimination and social justice with 200 participants;

Strategic objective 2 (4.2): Promoting the access of special groups of young people to their guaranteed human rights

Planned activities

- 4.2.1 Trainings for youth from socially vulnerable groups are carried out;
- 4.2.2 Support for young people from socially vulnerable categories;
- 4.2.3 Supporting the initiatives of

member organizations for the promotion of the rights of special groups of youth at the local level:





Implemented activities

- 4.2.1 Conducted 5 trainings for the mental health of young people;
- 4.2.2 Supported 30 young people with access to mental health;
- 4.2.2 Awarded 10 grants for youth social enterprises;
- 4.2.2 Supported 30 young people for career counseling;
- 4.2.2 Created three manuals for mentally healthy youth (Anxiety, depression and stress);
- 4.2.2 Program Promotions youth guarantees through field work with over 2500 young people.
- 4.2.2 Conducted a study session for participation of young Roma in policy-making and decision-making processes;
- 4.2.2 Support programme implemented of ideas for youth businesses.



Strategic objective 3 (4.3): Formal recognition of youth rights

Planned activities



Implemented activities

- 4.3.1 Conduct a campaign to promote the concept of youth rights.
- 4.3.2 Cooperation wit Institutions for

recognition of concept of

youth rights; ccess of special groups of young people to their guaranteed human rights

Planned activities

- 4.4.1 Inclusion of University Student Assemblies in NYCM
- 4.42 Conducting joint initiatives with USC



Implemented activities

- 4.4.1. Meetings with all USC;
- 4.4.1 Participation in Public Debates on High School Organizing;
- 4.4.2 Prepared reaction for female students meal in cooperation with USC and High School Union;
- 4.4.2 Prepared reactions for transportation of students and high school students in cooperation with USC and the High School Union;





PROJECT S

2022

YOUTH-INCLUSIVE LOCAL COMMUNITIES - INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES FOR YOUTH

The main objective of the project is to engage youth civil society organizations to provide support to their local communities and to use existing mechanisms for participation in local policies and decision-making processes that relate to their needs and the needs of their constituents.

The main activities of the project include: Strengthening the capacities of youth organizations and local youth councils through a series of workshops, monitoring the implementation of the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies, evaluating the inclusiveness of youth in local self-governments in North Macedonia, preparing policy recommendations, and supporting youth initiatives and advocacy initiatives that increase youth participation in Public

Project partners:

Policy.

Local Community Development Foundations – Stip

SFERA International Bitola

Youth Empowerment Platform JEP—Gostivar

Implementation period: March 2022 - September 2024

Donor: European Commission

YOUTHHUB: OVERCOMING INEQUALITY AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE; MLADIHAB: OVERCOMING YOUTH INEQUALITY

The main goal of the project "YouthHub: Overcoming Youth Inequality" is to support and encourage girls and young women aged 15 to 29 in North Macedonia to become more active in society and create more equal access to opportunities in public life on earth, in the private sector, and thus in the decision-making process at local and national levels. The project will develop and create communication products aimed at closing the gender inequality gap for the general public, educating the public to be aware of gender-biased roles, norms, and attitudes.

The main activities of the project are: detailed analysis of the socioeconomic behavior of young girls and women, online and offline campaign for gender equality, capacity building of girls and young women through trainings for creating local and national policies, advocacy and inclusion of gender perspective, holding 20 Public events in different cities on different topics tailored to the needs of young girls and women, a workshop on gender in the media with top 10 media houses, 10 local youth initiatives led by young girls, creating local youth strategies for inclusion of young women and girls at local level in 4 municipalities, career guidance and counseling for at least 200 young women, an internship program and volunteering for at least 200 young women, creating mobile applications for internship at national and regional level.

Project partners: Stela Network

Implementation period: December 2022 - March 2025

Donor: British Embassy

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

The main objective of the project is to encourage the economic strengthening and development of social enterprises led by young people. Through various activities, the project will provide capacity-building opportunities for unemployed young people while at the same time guiding them through a process of self-development and growth in the field of social entrepreneurship as a modern way of self-employment.

The project strives to establish a favorable environment for youth social entrepreneurship that would reduce youth unemployment, strengthen the competencies and capacities of vulnerable youth, promote youth-led social entrepreneurship, involve youth in social enterprises, and provide space for fundraising for the implementation of new ideas for social enterprises.

The main activities of the project are: a detailed analysis of social entrepreneurship; capacity building through soft skills training; entrepreneurship, fundraising, and inclusion in the community; financial support for social enterprises; a web platform for fundraising that will also serve as a national resource center for social entrepreneurship; and the creation of a National Action Plan for Youth Employment 2022-2025.

Implementation period: December 2021 – December 2023

Donor: European Commission

REINFORCEMENT OF SUPPORT STRUCTURES FOR NETS IN THE ENTREPRENEURIAL FIELD - THE STRENGTHENING OF NEET YOUTH STRUCTURES IN THE ENTREPRENEURIAL FIELD

The project "E4NEETs—Strengthening support structures for NEET youth in the entrepreneurial field" aims to increase access to entrepreneurship for young people who are in the NEET group (who are neither employed nor involved in education or training). The project will additionally offer an opportunity for professionals working with NEETs without specific expertise in social entrepreneurship. The basic and planned activities of the project will build the necessary conditions for strengthening the skills of professionals working with NEET youth by informing them about entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship and training them to better lead and support youth towards entrepreneurship. The expected results of the project are: acquiring new skills for entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship for professionals working with NEET youth; increasing the awareness of NEET youth for entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship; increasing the awareness of policy makers and company managers about the benefits of involving NEET youth; and transnational dissemination of these innovative methods across Europe and the Mediterranean area.

Implementation period: November 2021 – November 2023

Donor: European Commission

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT INCUBATOR (YEI)

(YEI)

The main objective of the project is to increase youth participation and their representation at the national and European levels. The project aims to strengthen the capacities of youth representative bodies, create a common platform for the exchange of good practices and support of the development and advocacy of youth policies, and design a comprehensive review of positive practices in the creation and advocacy of youth policies. The review will contain various tools, mechanisms, and resources used in order to successfully advocate for greater and more effective youth participation. All this will result in the repetition of positive experiences at the national level.

The main activities of the project include: six study visits to North Macedonia, Estonia, Latvia, Serbia, Slovakia, and Belgium; first-hand presentations of good practices based on evidence related to the EU Youth Dialogue and European Youth Goals; the development of policy briefs; the creation of advocacy campaigns for policy changes; national conferences on the importance of the EU Youth Dialogue; and lessons learned within the project.

Project partners:

National Youth Council of Estonia; National Youth Council of Latvia; National Youth Council of

Serbia; Youth Council of Slovakia

Implementation period: April 2022 - March 2024

Donor: European Commission

BALKAN YOUTH: Connecting Education, Capabilities, and Partner Potentials in Regional Employment Practices (BY LEAP)

The main objective of the project is to contribute to youth entrepreneurial opportunities and strengthen the employment perspectives of young people from the Western Balkans. The main activities of the project are: national conferences on entrepreneurship; capacity-building trainings; webinars; mentoring of civil society organizations; promotion of the participation of student companies in the educational systems of the Western Balkans; regional documents on Public policies; job shadowing for civil society organizations; study visits. Through this project, there is also an opportunity to mentor and subgrant

of civil society organizations and student companies. The target groups of the project are student companies, young people and students, civil society organizations, teachers, high schools, parliaments, chambers of commerce, and decision makers. The project aims to strengthen the participation of basic civil society organizations and youth initiatives

in the regional network and ensure the sustainability of young entrepreneurs (students or young) companies through demonstration activities and training and mentoring. Efforts will focus on improving the policy environment and supporting human and institutional capacity and workforce development initiatives that respond to the needs of civil society organizations and local and primary users. During 2021, through this project, three small grants were awarded to member organizations, and training was organized for writing documents on Public policies. A total of 20 youth organizations participated.

Implementation period: March 2020–April 2023

VIRTUAL INTERNSHIPS FOR INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES (VI4IS)

The main objective of the project is to improve the access of young people, especially those with fewer opportunities, to the internship programs implemented within formal and non-formal education in Europe. The project contributes to providing equal opportunities for all young people to develop the necessary skills and gain practical experience in order to facilitate transitions from education to the labor market and to ensure that all young people have access to adequately funded non-formal education at all levels. The main activities of the project are: a broad consultation process at the state level; assessment of virtual internships; exchange of knowledge and good practices within the country but also transnationally (at the national and EU level, between EU countries and non-EU countries); and piloting new and improving existing virtual internship programs across Europe.

Project partners:

Serbia: Belgrade Open School (**coordinator**), Junior Achievement Serbia **Spain**: Xano Channel, Association for Community Development; Italy: Pixel, International Education and Training Institution

Belgium: Junior Achievement Europe

Implementation period: December 2022 - December 2024

Donor: European Commission

MLADIHAB – BUILDING SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT, COMPETENCES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH NETWORKING

The main objective of the project was to contribute to the professional development and economic independence of young people through a sustainable system for building skills and competencies tailored to the needs of the labor market. This objective will be achieved by the project through three components:

- 1. Building practical skills with young people that will help them find a suitable job;
- 2. Creating opportunities to connect youth with employers and
- 3. Providing support to young people for inclusion in the labor market and opportunities for their personal and professional development.

The project will offer several types of support for young people, tailored to their needs and interests: connecting with employers and covering remuneration for conducting internships; tutoring in project work; mentoring to facilitate inclusion in the labor market; and starting their own business. Three new hubs will also be opened, which, along with the Skopje Hub, will offer a wide range of opportunities for young people. These hubs will be opened in Stip, Bitola, and Tetovo.

Implementation period: June 2021 – March 2022

Donor: British Embassy in Skopje

Civic Engagement Project (CEP)

Civic Engagement Project (CEP): The Civic Engagement Project was a five-year initiative to support the Macedonian civil sector and youth organizations involving citizens, the private sector, government institutions, and other stakeholders on issues of public interest. Within the framework of the project, NYCM organized a one-year LEAD (Linking, Engagement, Advocacy, and Development) program that enabled motivated young people to acquire skills to work within their communities. LEAD also enabled young people to participate in public life and the decision-making process on issues that affect their lives, communities, and Macedonian society in general. The Civic Participation Project is implemented by the East West Management Institute (EWMI) in partnership with four civil society organizations: the Foundation for Internet and Society (FID), the Association for Democratic Initiatives (ADI), the Foundation for Open Society Macedonia (FOSM), and the National Youth Council of Macedonia (NYCM).

Implementation period: September 2016 – January 2021 Implementation period: September 2016 – January 2022 Donor: USAID

SUPPORT FOR ELECTORAL REFORMS IN THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

"Support to Electoral Reforms in the Republic of North Macedonia" is a project of the Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency (SDC) and aims to support democratic and credible electoral processes that facilitate political participation

And social integration by allowing voters to elect their representatives and hold them to account. Activities are mainly aimed at three different target groups, namely: election administrations, political parties, and the civil sector. The project is implemented by the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES) in partnership with the National Youth Council of Macedonia.

Implementation period: August 2019 - March 2022

Donor: Swiss Development and Cooperation Agencies (SDC)

NYCM ON SOCIAL MEDIA

NYCM ON SOCIAL MEDIA IN 2022

NYCM ON SOCIAL MEDIA

NYCM ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

	2022	2022		
	HMCM			
	Facebook	Instagram	%	%
Number of posts	249	113	/	/
Page Reach	542576	104857	+135,3%	+208,4%
Page Visits	13429	4996	+85,6%	+173,8%
Page Likes/Followers	14397	1277	+87.3%*	/**

MLADIHUB ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

	MladiHub			
	Facebook	Instagram	%	%
Number of posts	143	89	/	/
Page Reach	452861	117575	+28,4%	+80,9%
Page Visits	8802	8201	-16,6%	+51,4%
Page Likes/Followers	6996	2249	-	/**
			26.9%*	

SP ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

	Social entrepreneurship for youth employment				
		Facebook	Instagram	%	%
Number of posts		65	/	/	/
Page Reach		457800	/	/	/
Page Visits		4798	/	/	/
Page Likes/Follower	S	1345	/	/	/

MLADI.MK ON FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM

	Mladi.mk			
	Facebook	Instagram	%***	%
Number of posts	189	/	-50%	/
Page Reach	121071	/	+875%	/
Page Visits	2867	/	+30,7%	/
Page Likes/Followers	6238	/	+33.3%*	/

OTHER ONLINE MEDIA

		NYCM We	ebsite		
Number of posts				29	-11
		Posts in othe	r media		
Number of posts				35	+2
	, _	Mladi.mk	Website		
Number of posts				238	-142
Number of registered of	organizatio	ns ***		49	-6

THE NYCM TEAM IN 2022

SECRETARIAT OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA

- 1. Mariana Angelova Secretary General (since 20 January 2021)
- 2. Jana Josifovska Financial and Administrative Manager
- 3. Aleksandra Filipova Program Manager (Strategic Development Program)
- 4. Filip Kulakov, Program Manager (Good Governance Program)
- 5. Mihail Vasilevski Communications Manager
- 6. Jordan Nikolovski Communications Coordinator
- 7. Albina Safadini, Program Coordinator (Strategic Development Program)
- 8. Anne Matevska Program Coordinator (Good Governance Program)
- 9. Sara Risteska Program Assistant (Good Governance Program)
- 10. Ardit Shehi Program Assistant (Strategic Development Program)
- 11. Angela Atanasovska Financial and Admin Assistant
- 12. Marija Basheska Program Assistant (Strategic Development Program) (November 2022)

MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA

- 1. Marija Krstevska Taseva President
- 2. Angela Angelovska Vice President
- 3. Oliver Andreevski Member of the Management Board
- 4. Darko Toshiki Member of the Management Board
- 5. Nikola Ivanovski Member of the Management Board
- 6. AndreJ Stojkoski Member of the Management Board
- 7. Guxim Nuhiu, Member of the Management Board

MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF MACEDONIA

- 1. Pande Eftimov President of the NGO
- Ana Klesova Member of the NGO
- 3. Mila JOVANOVSKA Member of the NGO
- 4. Teodora Stefanovska Member of NGO
- 5. Stefan Petrovski Member of the NGO

