PUTTING LOCAL PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF SUSTAINBLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT



Friendly meeting with community members of Prosek on discussing current situation in the village.



Meeting with vineyard owners of Bukmire

ALTER is implemented by a consortium of rural networks: Network for Rural Development of Serbia, Institute for Democracy and Mediation, on behalf of the Albanian Network for Rural Development (ANRD), Network for rural development BiH – Bosnia and Herzegovina, Network of Organizations for Rural Development of Kosovo, Rural Development Network of the Republic of North Macedonia, Network of Rural Development in Montenegro, Development Foundation of Turkey, Croatian Rural Development Network, Latvian Rural Forum.

For further information please contact: Center for Development and Integration (CDI) Rigerta Loku, Project Manager rigertaloku@gmail.com

In TENE (Malaj)!...

"There, where ancient grounds hold great history, as well as the vitality of its citizens, where the earth's clay is born of its soft marrow; and its autochthonous vineyards; and the quince and apples; walnuts, chestnuts, plums; peaches and nectarines; and even olives and exotic kiwis, etc.. It is enough to love and cultivate with fantasy the earth of your forefathers."



Introducing the best practices of the LEADER approach (Liaison entre actions de developpement de l'Economie rurale) and the Local Action Group (LAG) Gjeravica, in Kosovo.









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"Animation of rural development in local territories of Mirdita municipality"



Multi-Actor meeting on the Animation of Local Territories in the Municipality of Mirdita – starting point for sustainable development; humanitarian Marianne Graf



Project's closure event: "Mirdita Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow".





KICK-OFF EVENT

"Animation of rural development in local territories of Mirdita municipality", is supported by the European Commission through the ALTER project.

- A local initiative that started at the traditionally innovative premises of INFOKULLA, Rubik, May 22, 2018;
- With the main aim to animate the territory;
- To enable interaction among local actors local institutions, civil society, entrepreneurs and businesses, farmers, women, youths, etc;
- To involve the whole community in a process of building mutual trust;
- To enable establishment of Local Action Groups (LAGs) – local authorities – civil society-business.



Believing that Mirdita tomorrow can be a place that offers more for its residents! Trusting in God, why not, we are at the Land of Cathedrals...

"From what I heard, LEADER asks not for trust in God, but trust among each-other...." Monsignor Dom Gjergj Meta, at the project's launching event.

JOURNEY



"This was the mission of our project: to create in Mirdita a Local Action Group, the result of a long process of commitment and mutual trust. We have looked at and analyzed the courtyard of our common house from each-others windows for a better and realistic future, for a more prosperous garden and a stronger roof" — Rigerta Loku, project manager.

Continuous meetings with actors in local communities: in Prosek, with Bukmira wine-growers, in Tene, Dodaj farm.



"As rarely before, participant of this meeting was also Gjela Doda, 103 years old grandmother who contributed to the meetings' discussions." Mapo newspaper

Representatives of local authorities, local associations and entrepreneurships have attended workshops on analysis of stakeholders and the territory – to discuss and agree on the development potentials, challenges and priorities.

Local actors are familiar with the European policy instrument for rural development - the LEADER approach, thanks to the participation in the training "Increased Value of Cooperation and Local Partnerships - Leader / CLLD Approach".

Study visit to LAG Gjeravica, Commune of Deçan. Representatives of three sectors: public, non-public and business in the Mirdita area participated in the study visit. They were exposed to the good experience and positive model of LAG Gjeravica.

CONCLUDING EVENT

The initiative was successfully concluded with the festive event "Mirdita Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" at the Cultural Center "AbatDoçi" Rubik, January 25, 2019.

In a festive atmosphere were given positive testimonies from different generations about the potentials and opportunities Mirdita offers;





"We stand to a continuity: what we have today exists, because preserved with jealousy by those who had it before us. And we cannot close our eyes..." Tonin Nikolli, new enterpreneur, Baven-TovenNaturae.



"LAGs – are implementing instruments, the pillars of the LEADER program to support rural development and the re-vitalization of rural areas"- Rigerta Loku, project manager.

Future Steps:

- 1. Consolidating the LAG (Local Action Groups) core and expanding membership;
- 2. Legal registration of LAG Mirdita;
- 3. Animation of previous territories as a prerequisite for the regional development strategy.