Initiative – Education and Culture

TEAM

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2. Zviad Eliziani, Georgia - International Business Development and Investment Promotion Center (IBDIPC)

3. Valentina Lazer, Romania - "Active For the Future"

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1. **Goal for the regional initiative**

* To increase the understanding of crucial importance of culture and education for future development among public and government and to make it as one the highest priority

* To promote active collaboration and networking in field of value-based education (focus non-formal, life-long learning, self-development) and culture

* To facilitate implementation of progressive and creative approaches in this fields

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2. Key action steps

* Establish network/platform of organizations from Black Sea Region – dealing with Education/Culture with 2 sub-groups

* To implement special programs to facilitate strong linkage between education/culture and business sector

* To increase capacity of stakeholders (skills etc.)

* Influence on policy making, strategy formulation/implementation

* Monitoring and control on implementation of Bologna process principles, evaluation of quality of education programs

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3. Leadership team

* **Working group under Black Sea NGO Forum –** with 2 sub-group (Education and Culture). On constant base the group will discuss ongoing processes in region and provide some recommendations.

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1. **Key barriers**

* Low level of the development formal and non-formal institutions in the sector
* Lack of political will (at different level in each country)
* Lack of understanding of modern approaches and ways of development of in cultural sector
* Stereotypes, traditional values etc..
* Academician freedom, old-fashioned way of management of education institutions
* Lack of modern, up-to date and visionary approaches in the sphere of Culture and Education
* Low attending and financing for education and cultural sector

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1. **Key opportunities**

* Networking and cooperation within (Black Sea) and outside of region (Europe etc.) can facilitate the development process.

* Cooperation with other networks (ex: Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum, Balkan civil Society development Network, FOND, CPDE, specific cultural networks in Europe/World.)

* Regional cross-border cooperation initiatives in cultural sector (for ex: Georgia-Armenia, Moldova-Ukraine etc.) - cultural exchanges, joint performances, festivals etc.

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1. **Funding potentials**

* European Commission
* Creative Europe
* Black Sea CBC program
* Black Sea Trust
* European Endowment funds
* Local governments
* Various Funds ….

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2. Follow up

* To create communication platform (for ex: Facebook group / Google group) – to involve related organizations

* Create working group – based on discussions and consultations with organizations, can be created working group, at first operating on internet platform

* Working group can identify – major issues and objectives for future in regional level and based on this strategy for future actions

* Working meeting with sub-groups (Black Sea Education and Cultural network) – to have meeting in physical space, involving major stakeholders from the region in these fields and donors

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3. Proposals

* After formulating the strategy (objectives, key directions, action steps) - working group can arrange call for projects, evaluate and select them and propose for funding to donors (Ex: Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum has similar format)

* Or Working group's organizations also can make some joint projects

4. Fundraising leadership and team

* There is need of some structure which will be coordinating/managing body (legal entity) which will lead the process on constant basis

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1. **How the Forum can help**

* Creating platform and network for cooperation and synergy
* Joint actions and initiatives (regional level) to influence the policy making
* Provide expertise

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2. Support needed

* Finances – to support the initiatives

* Organizational Capacity support

* Support the process of Advocacy and Lobbying – communicating different parts of stakeholders

* Information sharing – about new opportunities (grants, events, initiatives), success stories of partner organizations from different networks