

# Youth in Action

## 2007-2013

# Cooperation with Neighbouring Partner Countries

# Context & Aims



- In November 2006, the European Parliament and the Council adopted [Decision No 1719/2006 /EC](#), which establishes the Youth in Action programme for the period 2007 to 2013. This document is the legal basis of the Programme.
- Youth in Action is the EU Programme for young people. It aims to inspire a sense of active citizenship, solidarity and tolerance among young Europeans and to involve them in shaping the Union's future.
- **Youth in Action is a programme for all!** It promotes mobility within and beyond the EU borders, non-formal learning and intercultural dialogue, and encourages the inclusion of all young people, regardless of their educational, social and cultural background.
- Youth in Action is the successor of the [YOUTH Programme](#) (2000-2006). The Programme supports a large variety of activities for young people and youth workers through five [Actions](#).



# Youth in Action...



- Promotes European integration, solidarity, citizenship through intercultural experience, people to people contacts
- Stimulates active participation of young people
- Promotes youth mobility
- Offers a complement to formal education at European level
- Contributes to personal development and employability of young people and recognition of non-formal education
- Contributes to capacity building & developing a sense of initiative, increased self-knowledge and self-confidence
- Instrument of validation of learning “Youthpass”



# Youth in Action in figures



- **Duration:** 2007-2013
- **Budget:** 885 million euros for seven years
- **Geographic reach:**
  - Programme countries: EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Turkey,
  - Neighbouring Partner Countries: Eastern Europe and Caucasus, the Mediterranean region, South-East Europe
  - Other partner countries in the world
- **Age brackets:** 15-28 (in some cases 13-30)



# Neighbouring Partner Countries



South East Europe	Eastern Europe and Caucasus	EuroMed countries
Albania	Armenia	Algeria
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Azerbaijan	Egypt
Montenegro	Belarus	Israel
Serbia	Georgia	Jordan
Kosovo	Moldova	Lebanon
Croatia (*)	Russian Federation	Morocco
former Yugoslav	Ukraine	Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and Gaza Strip
Republic of Macedonia (*)		Syria
(*) full membership in Programme expected for 2011.		Tunisia



# Types of activities open for Neighbouring Partner Countries & Target group

- **Target group:** young people and those working with young people
- **Activities**
- Youth Exchanges
- Training and Networking activities  
(training courses, seminar, partner-finding activities, networking activities, study visits, feasibility visits, job shadowing, evaluation meetings)
- European Voluntary Service



# Who implements the Programme?



- **European Commission**
- **National Authorities**
- **National Agencies in Programme countries:**  
project grants, support activities, project monitoring  
(*decentralised funding*)
- **Executive Agency (EACEA):** project grants  
(European projects + applications from SEE) (*centralised funding*)
- **8 SALTO-YOUTH Resource Centres:** support in  
priority areas of the Programme
- **Eurodesk Network:** youth information (in  
Programme countries)



# Milestones for cooperation with SEE



- 2000 – Opening of possibility for cooperation with South East Europe (under YOUTH programme)
- 2002 – Creation of SALTO SEE Resource Centre
- 2003, Thessaloniki – Western Balkans Summit of heads of government and state of EU and SEE countries: opened perspective of EU accession and accession to EU programmes for countries of Western Balkans





- 2005 – Nomination of Contact Points for YOUTH in SEE countries by SALTO SEE
- 2005 – Direct applications from organisations in SEE possible to centralised level
- 2007 – Youth in Action Programme: “Youth Western Balkans Window” makes 4.5 Million Euros available for granting Youth in Action projects at the centralised level (EACEA) 2007 – 2009 (covering additional 100 -130 projects per year)
- 2008 – Establishment of National Agencies for YiA in Croatia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia



# Role of SALTO SEE



- SALTO-YOUTH network of 8 Resource Centres = support structure of YiA programme for National Agencies and project organisers
- SALTO SEE:
  - promotes and facilitates cooperation with SEE
  - Runs support activities
  - Resources and information
  - Takes up some support functions covered by National Agencies in Programme countries (EVS)



# Impact in cooperation with SEE



- Full use of available budget
- In 2007 - 2008, 773 projects were organised involving partners from SEE  
*(268 EVS, 254 Youth Exchanges, 251 Training and Networking activities)*
- 2007: participation of 1231 people from SEE
- Main themes: European awareness; civil society, citizenship and democracy
- Countries of SEE active in YiA to different degrees
- Many examples of good practice, but budget for SEE limited – how to increase impact, multiplier effect, visibility?



# Contact and information



European Youth Portal:  
<http://europa.eu.int/youth/>

Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency :  
<http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/index.htm>

SALTO-YOUTH South East Europe Resource Centre:  
<http://www.salto-youth.net/see/>

