The project «Local Solidarity - Global Solidarity Network» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Five events have been carried out within the project:

Event 1

Topic: Integration within multicultural and multireligious local communities.
Participation: The event involved 111 citizens from 12 countries, including 3 participants from Bulgarian Centre for LLL (Bulgaria), 3 participants from Male Dvorniky (Slovakia), 3 participants from the Municipality of Alimos (Greece), 3 Sződliget (Hungary), 3 participants from Fattoria Pugliese Diffusa (Italy), 3 participants from the Daugavpils City Council (Latvia),3 participants from Mogila Municipality (Macedonia) and 3 from Municipality of Kavadarci (Macedonia), 4 participants from Gmina Dąbrowa (Poland), 2 participants from Cleantech Romania (Romania), 3 from EKOLOR Indjija (Serbia), 3 from Mancomunidad de la Ribera Alta (Spain), and 75 participants from the Center Culturel de Jette (Belgium) and other Belgian and foreign citizens.
Location/ Dates: The event took place in Brussels (Belgium) from 13/03/2018 to 15/03/2018
Short description: This was the first ever international meeting of the SOLID network, held by the Belgian project leader Centre Culturel de Jette ASBL. On the first day, we focused on the introduction to key themes and activities of the project, such as: solidarity, multiculturality, and intercultural dialogue. Each partner had a chance to present themselves, and the reality they represent. We also organised a public screening of an award-winning documentary "Demain" - a movie that acknowledges that the climate is changing, but iInstead of showing all the worst that can happen, it focuses on the people suggesting solutions and their actions. On the second day of the event, we were honoured to have Mr. Herman van Rompuy, Prime Minister of Belgium 2008-2009 and the first permanent President of the European Council from 2009-2014 as one of the keynote speakers. His speech on the state of Europe was followed by representatives of local initiatives that contribute to solidarity among people of all origins, ages and social backgrounds. In the second part of the day, we formed working groups to elaborate the Manual for Solidarity 2020. The groups were facilitated to reflect on solidarity, starting from a personal perspective. This way we were trying to set our minds onto reflecting on what is at the bottomline of the SOLID Network. As the final part of the meeting, we visited the headquarters of the European Commission for a better understanding of EU policy making, as well as Parlamentarium for a deepened reflection on the European history. This first international event made it possible for us to get to know each other better which is the key for any further transnational cooperation and communication.

Event 2

Topic: Solidarity: focus on the local perspective.
Participation: The event involved 130 citizens from 13 countries, including 4 participants from Bulgarian Centre for LLL (Bulgaria), 4 participants from Male Dvorniky (Slovakia), 3 participants from the Municipality of Alimos (Greece), 4 Sződliget (Hungary), 3 participants from the Daugavpils City Council (Latvia), 3 participants from Mogila Municipality (Macedonia) and 3 from Municipality of Kavadarci (Macedonia), 4 participants from Gmina Dąbrowa (Poland), 3 participants from Cleantech Romania (Romania), 4 from EKOLOR Indjija (Serbia), 4 from Mancomunidad de la Ribera Alta (Spain), 4

participants from Center Culturel de Jette (Belgium), and 91 participants from Fattoria Pugliese Diffusa (Italy) and other Italian and foreign citizens (EU migrants and extra-EU immigrants).
Location/ Dates: The event took place in Lecce (Italy), from 22/10/2018 to 25/10/2018
Short description: Fattoria Pugliese Diffusa Associazione Culturale (FPD) was the host of the second international event within the Local Solidarity - Global Solidarity Network. The event took place in Lecce in southern Italy, and it was attended by 38 international participants from 12 countries, as well as local citizens. As an introduction to the theme of the event: solidarity at local level, the activities started with the screening of the "Lampedusa in Winter" movie. In order to understand much better the concept of culture an interculturality, Dr. Malgorzata Wochowska held a training called "How to deal with diversity in a local community?". To continue with the migration topic, Mr. Andrea Pignataro, National Board Member of GUS, discussed about the refugee crisis from political and humanitarian point of view "Hospitality practices in Italy: the SPRAR Model". The meeting's participants were also acquainted with some good practices about solidarity and integration: the Community Welfare in Embu, Kenya - a project run by Amahoro Onlus, and financed by the Apulia Regional Government Third Countries Development Cooperation Programme; "The Long Way to Europe", an European Remembrance project financed by the Europe for Citizens Programme;"European Solidarity Corps" initiative, as an opportunity for young citizens to contribute to solidarity projects at local and European level. On the next day, Mr. Bastien Fillon presented us examples of good practices within the topic of social inclusion and integration of migrants, such as: "Diritti a Sud" and "Sfrutta Zero". In the afternoon, there was a study visit to the "Crocevia" Center, which collaborates with the GUS. Participants were introduced to Ms. Silvia Miglietta, Responsible for Active Labor Policies, Youth Policies, Equal Opportunities, Civil Rights and Volunteering in the Municipality of Lecce, who discussed about the activities Lecce is running together with Crocevia Center. The session ended with the "Street Debate" in the main square of Lecce, a way to interact with citizens not usually engaged in NGOs or Public bodies activities, ensuring a wider impact to local initiatives.

Event 3
Topic: Solidarity: focus on the European perspective.
Participation: The event involved 128 citizens from 12 countries, including 3 participants from Male Dvorniky (Slovakia), 3 participants from the Municipality of Alimos (Greece), 3 Sződliget (Hungary), 3 participants from the Daugavpils City Council (Latvia), 3 participants from Mogila Municipality (Macedonia) and 3 from Municipality of Kavadarci (Macedonia), 4 participants from Gmina Dąbrowa (Poland), 3 participants from Cleantech Romania (Romania), 4 from EKOLOR Indjija (Serbia), 4 participants from Center Culturel de Jette (Belgium), 4 participants Fattoria Pugliese Diffusa (Italy), 3 from Bulgarian Centre for LLL (Bulgaria) and 88 participants from Mancomunidad de la Ribera Alta (Spain) and other Spanish and European citizens.
Location/ Dates: The event took place in Valencia, Alzira and Benimodo (Spain), from 26/03/20119 to 28/03/2019
Short description: This third international event organised in the frame of SOLID Network was hosted by the Spanish partner - Mancomunidad de la Ribera Alta, both in the premises of the City Hall of Alzira, as well as in the House of Culture of Benimodo. The meeting aimed at deepening the subjects of solidarity, behaviours and education in a cultural diversity. The local citizens were welcome to join SOLID partners during the two-days of their event, and they could choose from the presentation: "Mediation Board: Letter for Social Rights" in the City Hall of Alzira in the Plenary Sessions Hall, and a discussion about social inclusion from different associations of Valencia. In addition, they were invited to take part in a game "Bugada" engaging equally policy makers and elementary school students by writing sentences about social inclusion and solidarity on T-shirts. The activities proposed during three working days were dealing with European Citizenship and EU values, social rights, education for solidarity and cooperation, and they were using new educational formats to facilitate the reflection on cultural diversity. The main interactive activities were driven by Pangea, which is the department of the Mancomunitat, encouraging local authorities and citizens to think about inclusion, in a wide sense, and to start practicing activities with vulnerable groups (including migrants). This is why we proposed games implemented by municipalities of La Ribera Alta, with the support of the City Halls, and inclusive for citizens.

Event 4

Topic: Solidarity: focus on the global perspective.

Participation: The event involved 130 citizens from 12 countries, including 4 participants Fattoria Pugliese Diffusa (Italy), 4 participants from Male Dvorniky (Slovakia), 3 participants from the Municipality of Alimos (Greece), 3 Sződliget (Hungary), 3 participants from the Daugavpils City Council (Latvia), 3 participants from Mogila Municipality (Macedonia) and 3 from Municipality of Kavadarci (Macedonia), 3 participants from Gmina Dąbrowa (Poland), 3 participants from Cleantech Romania (Romania), 3 from EKOLOR Indjija (Serbia), 4 from Mancomunidad de la Ribera Alta (Spain), 4 participants from Center Culturel de Jette (Belgium), and 90 participants from Bulgarian Centre for LLL (Bulgaria) and other Bulgarian citizens.

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Veliko Tarnovo (Bulgaria), from 11/06/2019 to 14/06/2019

Short description: In June 2019, the Bulgarian partner of the project – BCLL in cooperation with the Municipality of Veliko Tarnovo, was hosting the 4th SOLID international meeting which brought together towns, regions and civil society groups from 12 countries that already belong to the Network, as well as local citizens. The local citizens were welcome to join SOLID partners during two days of the Event – during the plenary session, as well as during afternoon workshops. After the official opening and a warm welcome from the Mayor of Veliko Tarnovo Mr. Daniel Panov, we had Ms. Mihaela Manolova, who is Europe for Citizens Contact Point Bulgaria (Ministry of Culture) as one of the keynote speakers. We continued with learning on how the university in Veliko Tarnovo is using EU programmes, such as Erasmus+, to facilitate the acquisition of intercultural competences of their students. As a part of a learning process for policy makers and activists gathered in the event, we made an interactive quiz on the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights, which was followed by a discussion. The highlight of the event was a 2-hour simulation of the European Parliament proceeding when the international partners could identify with real Members of European Parliament, gathering in political groups and committees. On the last day we visited a local social center that is a home for people of all ages, where we got engaged in their activities. From that very personal experience, we could draw more general conclusions on what impact can local communities have on larger politics and global movements.

Event 5

Topic: Closing event for the project, opening for next steps of the Network.

Participation: The event involved 127 citizens from 12 countries, including 3 participants Fattoria Pugliese Diffusa (Italy), 3 participants from Male Dvorniky (Slovakia), 2 participants from the Municipality of Alimos (Greece), 3 Sződliget (Hungary), 3 participants from the Daugavpils City Council (Latvia), 3 participants from Mogila Municipality (Macedonia), 3 from Municipality of Kavadarci (Macedonia), 4 participants from Gmina Dąbrowa (Poland), 3 participants from Cleantech Romania (Romania), 3 from EKOLOR Indjija (Serbia), 4 from Mancomunidad de la Ribera Alta (Spain), 4 participants from Bulgarian Centre for LLL (Bulgaria) and 90 participants from Center Culturel de Jette (Belgium) and other Belgian citizens and EU migrants and extra-EU immigrants.

Location/ Dates: The event took place in Brussels (Belgium), from 9/10/2019 to 11/10/2019

Short description: This event was the last one in the series of international SOLID meetings. The aim of the event was to evaluate and consider setting of the SOLID Network NGO. We also were presented a local citizen platform and several local associations. We were introduced to “La Zinne” local currency is a citizens’ currency circulating in Brussels, an alternative currency that supports local people, their creativity and business in a solidary way. We discussed hardships, good practices and recommendations for building solidarity beyond borders, as well as presented the Manual for Solidarity 2020, full of tools and good practices for policy makers and changemakers across Europe. We organised another simulation of an EU Parliamentary debate, this time taking into account the new Members of the European Parliament who were elected in May 2019. Benefiting from the fact of meeting in Brussels, we visited the European Parliament. We also defined followup steps for the Network.