

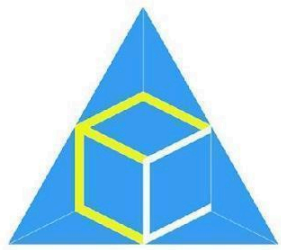
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PARTNERSHIP IDENTIFICATION FROM

Partner organisation	
Organization ID	E10014747
PIC	948224859
Full legal name (Latin characters)	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola
Full legal name (National Language)	ЕВРОПСКИ КУЛТУРЕН ЕПИЦЕНТАР Битола
Acronym	EKE Bitola
Website	www.eke.org.mk
Email	head.eke.macedonia@gmail.com
Telephone 1	+389 75 211 557

Profile	
Is the partner organization a public body?	No
Is the partner organization a non-profit?	Yes
Type of Organization	Non-governmental organization/association
Main sector of activity	Other
Please specify the main sector*	Education

Accreditation Type	ESC
Accreditation Reference:	2021-1-MK01-ESC50-094614



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Background and experience

Please briefly present the organisation (e.g. its type, scope of work, areas of activity and if applicable, approximate number of paid/unpaid staff, learners).

ABOUT

EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola (EKE Bitola), is a non-profit organization based in Bitola, North Macedonia, dedicated to promoting lifelong learning through non-formal education.

EKE Bitola provides comprehensive non-formal educational programs, including courses, training, and volunteering opportunities, designed to facilitate personal and professional development for individuals in North Macedonia, Europe, and beyond. In EKE Bitola we aim to complement formal education by providing opportunities for individuals of all generations, especially to adults, to develop the skills and attitudes.

Vision

An inclusive society with active citizens who are personally and professionally accomplished.

Mission

Life-long learning through non-formal education for everyone.

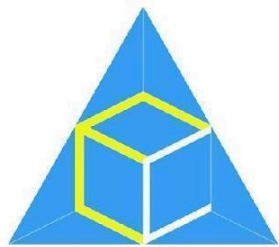
Aim

The main aim of the association is to provide high-quality non-formal educational programs for the citizens of Republic of North Macedonia, Europe and the world.

Objectives:

- Promotion of non-formal education and learning among citizens and educational institutions;
- Promotion of the personal and professional development of the citizens of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- Encouragement and promotion of voluntary work;
- Encouraging the mobility of citizens within and beyond the borders of the Republic of North Macedonia;
- Application of sustainable practices, promotion of sustainable development and increasing the contribution of citizens in solving local and global problems;
- Promotion of digital literacy, digital skills and digital transformation;
- Practicing and promoting a healthy lifestyle through physical activity, sports and sports activities;
- Education and emancipation of vulnerable and marginalized groups;
- Promotion of active citizenship, human rights, democracy, a market economy, entrepreneurship, equality and solidarity;
- Strengthening the role and capacities of organizations and institutions through mutual cooperation, support, indicating needs and possible reforms.

We currently have four staff members and four to six volunteers, depending on the scope of ongoing projects and activities. Additionally, we hire experts from different areas on an honorary basis, ensuring that we have specialized expertise in the field in which we work. Our office is located in the center of Bitola, where we have 200 m2 of premises to implement our activities and provide space for civic initiatives coming from the local community.



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What are the activities and experiences of the partner organization?

At EKE Bitola, we are convinced that non-formal education is a crucial complement to both formal and informal education. Our main focus is on non-formal education and Erasmus+ opportunities for non-formal education, as they are really significant parts of the educational process for all the individuals in the 21st century. Our organization offers a wide range of courses and workshops, both nationally and internationally, as well as mentorship programs in fields such as entrepreneurship, rural development, empowerment, digital competencies and advocacy campaigns.

The objectives of our association are achieved through a variety of activities such as educational workshops, youth exchanges, seminars, training courses, focus groups and more. We also provide information to citizens and professional assistance in the implementation of local activities, coordinate and cooperate with other organizations, schools and municipalities as well as with foreign and international organizations.

As a non-profit organization, we have gained experience in the management of short-term and long-term Erasmus+ projects, leveraging our expertise in non-formal education and building our capacity to develop diverse projects.

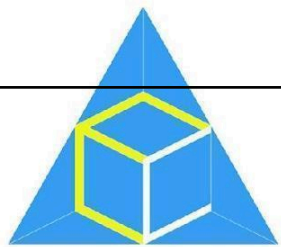
We sincerely encourage all individuals who are interested in our organization and activities to join EKE Bitola and become a part of our team. We firmly believe that by working together, we can achieve even more and make meaningful changes in society that will have a positive impact on people as a whole. As such, we feel well-equipped and ready to expand our work into new aspects of the program and collaborate with organizations from different countries, broaden our contacts, and work towards a better society.

What profiles and age groups of learners are concerned by the organisation's work?

Our target group includes young people and adults, with a particular emphasis on the inclusion of vulnerable and marginalized individuals, especially people with fewer opportunities, as well as people from rural areas or disadvantaged backgrounds.

Please give information on the key staff/persons involved in this application and on the competences and previous experience that they will bring to the project

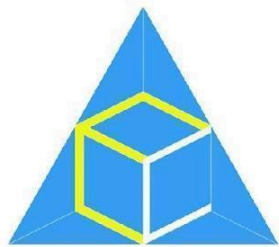
1. Vele Georgiev, president and legal representative, is experienced in project management, project development and coordination background. He has a bachelor's degree in Economics and nine years of professional experience in project management, project development and evaluation in various international organizations and NGOs. Starting as a local volunteer in NGO "TOGETHER" Macedonia, to EVS volunteer and later project manager in CGE Erfurt e.V. Germany, he has gathered a lot of experience and he has reached this position. Vele is working as a trainer on local and international level covering diverse topics with main focus in Entrepreneurship, Sports, Volunteering, Active Citizenship and Gender Equality. He is experienced in working in an international environment and in establishing intercultural contacts. In EKE Bitola he is responsible for international projects and local education.



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2. Ivana Baltovska, a Project Manager in the organization. Although she has finished master in criminal law, she has always wanted to work in non-governmental organizations, so first, she started working as a project coordinator in NGO „Justice Defenders“-Radovish, and after that, she started working as a project manager in EKE Bitola. She is also a translator and she translates from Spanish to English, and from English to Macedonian, so one of her tasks is to translate some of the documents of the organization. She helps with the process of writing projects applications, and organizing events. Additionally, Ivana works in a prison as an educator and lawyer, she provides prisoners with legal help and actively engages in the resocialization process. She has also participated in a lot of projects, training courses and youth exchanges that include human rights, vulnerable groups, communication skills and management.
3. Sofija Mickoska, is a Project Assistant, a vision-based and values-driven individual, with a degree in environmental engineering eager to contribute to projects that promote sustainability and efficiency. She is dedicated to making an impact in the community. Her passion and involvement are in community development, with experience in project management and program development in projects that include non-formal education for young people (international, national and local) mainly via leadership camps, exchanges and training. In addition, as pollution and climate changes in Macedonia has become an increasing public concern, during the last few years she has initiated civic initiative and volunteered her time to focus on sustainable transportation using bicycles as an urban way of transport. Her initiative was really useful and her intention was to support the community, reduce pollution, and encourage people to start using alternative transportation.
4. Dimitar Gogu, an accountant in the organization. He graduated from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki – Business Economics and he is certified accountant with 3+ years of experience in the field. He speaks three languages – Macedonian, English and Greek, he is results-oriented professional with proven experience, with great technical skills and impeccable organizational skills, fluent in accounting, spreadsheet and database software. He is also good at critical thinking, time management and organization, so he helps a lot about organization and management in the organization.
5. Hristina Gogu Georgieva, Designer, has a diploma in architecture and she is currently working as an educator using Yoga for youth and adults. Started as a volunteer at EKE Bitola over two years ago, Hristina consolidated her position as a person responsible for graphic design and communication. She is also responsible for all dissemination and communication activities for EKE Bitola. In addition, being a great team player and non-formal educator, Hristina has proved to be an irreplaceable part of our team. In addition, we believe that with our expertise in non-formal education can bring additional value to each project. Especially valuable is her experience in developing sport activities using non-formal learning methodologies for empowerment and inclusion.

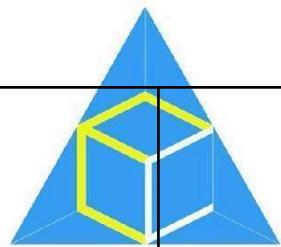
Newcomer organization:	No
Less experienced organization	Yes



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Legal Representative	
Position	President
Family name	Georgiev
First name	Vele
Telephone 1	+389 75 211 557
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Contact person	
Position	Project Manager
Family name	Baltovska
First name	Ivana
Telephone 1	+38974205505
Email	project.eke.macedonia@gmail.com

Programme or Initiative	Identification	Contracting promoter	Title of the project	Year
Erasmus+	2023-3-MK01-KA210-YOU-000171172	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	Pathways for Change: Recognising Erasmus+ as a Tool for Resocialisation in European Correctional Institutions under the Erasmus+ programme	2024
Erasmus+	2023-MK01-KA153-YOU-45FF7948	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	Artificial Intelligence in Youth Work: Harnessing the Power of Technology for Positive Impact	2023
ESC	2023-1-MK01-ESC-VTJ-0001129941	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	ESC	2023
Erasmus+	2022-2-IE01-KA220-YOU-000096690	Glencree Centre for Reconciliation	The Missing Piece	2022



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Erasmus+	2022-1-RO01-KA151-YOU-000064796	Asociatia GEYC	COMMbuildity, Sustainable Youth, workQUAholics	2022
Erasmus+	2022-1-RO01-KA153-YOU-000069382	Youth Cooperation Council of Odorhei Province	Youth work against hate speech	2022
Erasmus+	2022-1-IT03-KA152-YOU-000052597	PRO-RE-ACTIVE	Stay Human!	2022
Erasmus+	2022-1-ES02-KA152-YOU-000052209	Asociación LUG OPEN FACTORY	GREEN VOICES OF EUROPE	2022
Erasmus+	2022-1-IT02-KA210-ADU-000084315	New Horizons	"Disinformation of Seniors in Rural Areas"	2022
Erasmus+	2021-1-MK01-KA152-YOU-000012607	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	"Be the Change - Make Your Life Sustainable"	2021
ESC	2020-3-TR01-ESC11-096799	Istanbul Ariel University	"GO FOR VOLUNTEERING"	2020
ESC	2020-3-TR01-ESC11-097451	Antalya Metropolitan Municipality	"Z(G)ENERATION"	2020
Erasmus+	2020-1-PL01-KA105-079590	FUNDACJA MŁODZI DLA EUROPY	"To the roots"	2020
Erasmus+	2020-1-SI01-KA202-075891	Academia druzbazastoritiv doo	"DigiWomen"	2020
ESC	2019-3-TR01-ESC11-079219	Antalya Metropolitan Municipality	"Cultural Diplomacy Team"	2019
Erasmus+	2019-3-LT02-KA105-006636	Eduplus	"Into the Wild"	2019
Erasmus+	613693-EPP-1-2019-1-MK-SPOSSCP	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	"Sport@Street"	2019
Erasmus+	2019-2-MK01-KA105-060549	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	"Digi-YOUTH-alization"	2019
Erasmus+	2019-1-MK01-KA105-060264	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	"3D – Next Generation"	2019
Erasmus+	2019-2-MK01-KA105-060548	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	"Do-It-Together"	2019
Erasmus+	2018-2-MK01-KA105-047238	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	"Digital Youth Work – Past, Present, Future"	2018
Erasmus+	602695-EPP-1-2018-1-MK-EPPKA2-CBY-ACP ALA	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	Innovative Coaching makes the Difference	2018
Youth In Action	MK-4.3-69-2013-R2	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	"Sustainopreneurship – Think Global, Act Local"	2013



Youth In Action	MK- 1.1- 61 - 2013 - R2	EUROPEAN CULTURAL EPICENTER Bitola	"Time to Act! Form initiative and creativity to European YOUTH entrepreneurs"	2013
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