

Daugavpils District partnership

Latvia

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Coordinator



Daugavpils District

- It is situated in the Southeastern part of Latvia.
- Territory is **2525,5 km²**.
- The territory of the District is divided into 23 administrative units - 21 municipality; one city and one region.
- Population - **39 851** people
- Unemployment rate in the territory – 9.1%
- Loss of inhabitants – about 2% per year (Ireland, UK, Germany)



Daugavpils District Partnership

Established at 2003

The aim of Daugavpils District Partnership is to diminish poverty and social exclusion by means of promoting sustainable rural development.

The main tasks of Daugavpils District Partnership are:

- Promote initiatives of local communities targeted at solving rural problems;
- Develop and implement strategies for sustainable rural development based on public involvement and participation;
- Develop capacity of the communities in Daugavpils District;
- Create work groups and coalitions for dealing with rural development issues on local, regional, national and international level;
- Coordinate and attract financial, material, intellectual and other resources for achieving the aim of the Partnership;
- Develop cooperation with national and international municipalities, non-governmental organisations, and enterprises to promote rural development in Daugavpils District.

Daugavpils District Partnership's Council:

Creates Partnership what is able with its activity and resources to help inhabitants of Daugavpils district to improve level of living standard;

Recognizes and supports active people in Daugavpils district and stimulates active people in Daugavpils district for development of different skills what are necessary nowadays;

Promotes community development and facilitates inclusion of different social groups;

Expands partnership involving in it various local institutions (schools, libraries, interest clubs, businessmen etc.)

Daugavpils District Partnership priorities



- To raise an image of the voluntary work;
- To expand cooperation network;
- To participate in local policy making;
- To popularize information and experience exchange.

The horizontal aims of the organization which characterize all work of the Daugavpils District partnership are as follows:

- Individual approach and involving of local people;
- Our work is based on values of people.

“If my neighbor lives well then I will live well!”

Effective usage and attraction of resources

- Training for board members and staff:
 - Trainings in Latvia
 - Conferences in Belarus, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Brussels
 - Study visits to Northern Ireland, Germany, Estonia, Lithuania
- Exchange of experience:
 - Work groups by Ministry of Agriculture
 - Steering committee by Ministry of Integration
 - Participation at Latvian Rural Forum
- Attraction of resources:
 - Cooperation with District council and local authorities
 - Cooperation with SEB Unibanka
 - Cooperation with Ministry for Children and Family Affairs
 - Cooperation with KNHM (Netherlands)
 - European Social Foundation
 - Netherlands Embassy

Daugavpils District partnership development documents:



- *Strategic plan for diminishing poverty and social exclusion (2002– 2003)* was elaborated in Rural Partnership program. Funding of 30 000 GBP was attracted for implementation of the plan which was increased by attracting local resources.
- *Action plan for community support (2004)*. Funding of 2 800 EUR was attracted from local resources.
- *Community support program (2005 - 2006)*. Local resources and funding of 12 400 EUR from the Netherlands Community Initiative Fund KNHM were attracted.
- *Daugavpils District Partnership development strategy (2006– 2008)*. Funding form European Agricultural Guarantee Fund and Latvia's State budget of 94 116,74 EUR was attracted.



Achievements:

- Community Forum and the Best project of the year
- Community coordinators network
- Nontraditional community games
- Support for new community

Main Challenges:

- Village development plans;
- Community audit;
- Long term support to the community coordinators;
- Development of community fund and/or support programs;
- Cross-country cooperation outside Daugavpils district – networking;
- Development of partnership board's capacity;
- Skills development.

Daugavpils District Partnership

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