



“How to reload our Network of towns?”
Municipality of Aksakovo

VI International meeting, “Europe in our dreams”
13th -15th of November 2019, Victoria, Romania



How do we reload our municipality?

Our leading approach:
International cooperation

Focus on:

- ❖ Capacity building of public servants
- ❖ Initiatives for community enhancement
- ❖ Cultural exchange
- ❖ Senior people
- ❖ Ethnic minorities
- ❖ Youth



What we have done in the period 2009-2019?



Projects for
exchange of
experience

3

Twinning/Network
of towns



3

Three core values of the projects: Partnership, youth participation,
friendship

Projects for exchange of experience

1. **“Transparent and accessible municipal administration”**, financed by ESF through Operational programme «Developing administrative capacities» - 1.02.2009-30.01.2010
2. **“Creating partnerships for improvement of the effectiveness of the public administration of Aksakovo municipality”**, financed by ESF, through Operational programme «Developing administrative capacities» - 20.04.2012-20.10.13
3. **“Creating partnerships for equal opportunities”**, financed by ESF through Operational programme «Human Resources Development» 1.11.14-31.01.15

Projects for exchange of experience

Exchange of experience in the fields of:

Results:

Ecology, energy efficiency;
Public-private partnership;
Civil participation in the local decision making process;

Joint initiatives:

8 working visits to partner municipalities from Germany, Portugal, Spain, Romania, Italy, Denmark;
4 international conferences in Bulgaria;
Issued 3 Good Practices Handbooks;

Increased capacity of:

More than 120 people working in the field of local self-government

Twinning/Network of towns

1. **“Europe in the Future- Multifaceted and Unified”**, financed by «Europe for citizens» European Programme 2015-2017;
2. **“Future of Europe-Reload”**, financed by «Europe for citizens» European Programme 2018-2020;
3. **“European Future is our future”**, financed by «Europe for citizens» European Programme 2019-2021;



Twinning/Network of towns

Results:

Meetings:

10 international meetings, 4 of which in the municipality of Aksakovo

Carried out:

5 round tables with representatives
of the local authorities, politicians and citizens

A programme has been developed:

“Programme of the Network of towns” with Action plan for future activities



Projects for exchange of experience/Network of Towns



Collaboration with the German-Bulgarian Chamber of Industry and Commerce



- Experts from the Municipality of Aksakovo have been part of the Bulgarian delegations in the following initiatives funded by Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi- Germany):
 - German Energy Solutions Initiative
 - Renewable Energy Initiative
 - Energy Efficiency Export Initiative
- Useful knowledge in the field of energy efficiency in Public Buildings
- More Information:

<https://www.bmwi.de/Redaktion/EN/Artikel/Foreign-Trade/german-energy->



Initiatives for community enhancement & Cultural exchange

1. Local Initiative Group:

- Working visits in Slovenia, Hungary and Italy
- Focus on: rural tourism, eco-agriculture, development of SME and cultural exchange

2. Local music and dance ensembles:

- Participation in international festivals: Hungary and Ukraine (2018-2019)
- Special emphasis on the collaboration with the Bulgarian diaspora in Serbia, Ukraine and North Macedonia



Project for senior people: Olympics4all (Erasmus+)

IN COMMON SPORTS
2018-2020

- Project "In common sports- intergenerational competition as motivation for sport and healthy lifestyle of senior citizens" (2018- 2020)
- Beneficent: Vila Nova de Cerveira, Portugal
- Partners: Municipality of Cesena (Italy), Polytechnic Institute of Viano de Castelo (Portugal), Municipality of Aksakovo (Bulgaria), University of Vigo (Spain), Zoldpont (Hungary)
- Participants: 60+
- Goals: Promotion of active and healthy lifestyle among senior people; Gathering of information for the European Strategy for enhancement of sport activity
- Outcomes: training classes for senior people; 2 competitions in 5 disciplines; research information
- More information: <http://www.olympics4all.eu/>





Co-funded by the ERASMUS+ Programme of the European Union



OLYMPICS HALL
IN COMMON SPORTS
2018-2020

Олимпийски игри за всички



Youth and Ethnic minorities: Erasmus+

- Summer Youth Academy for ethnic minorities in Bratislava (19-27 of August 2017)
- 60 young people from Slovenia, Latvia, Hungary, Norway and Bulgaria
- Cultural exchange between the 5 countries
- Special focus on the Roma Culture: customs, traditions and beliefs



Municipality of Aksakovo as a partner- since 2019

European Youth Parliament

(Parlamento Jovem Europeo-PJE)

- Project initiator and coordinating city: Municipality of Guimarães (Portugal)
- Part of a strategy for the development and deepening of European multilateral relations
- Concept: European Intermunicipal Association (6 member cities + 2 partner cities) that is enhancing the promotion of a structured reflection on the themes included in the European political agenda and / or relevant issues in the national / local spectrum, fostering the bonds of friendship and fraternization among the participating youths / municipalities
- National round + international round (the host city is selected on rotation principle)



Bulgarian delegation in Igualada

- Aksakovo was invited to participate in the competition by the host city of EYP 2019- Municipality of Igualada (twin city)
- Themes: Youth, sport, physical activity and healthy habits



Results:

- Course in Civic Education was included in the academic calendar of the Center for support of the personal development- Aksakovo
- Establishment of Youth Council with representatives from all schools on the territory of the municipality
- Aksakovo is the next host city of 12th edition of EYP

**European Youth Parliament Aksakovo 2020
is approaching!!!**

Thank you for your attention!



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