

CURE

Curricular Reform For Democratic Principles and Civic Education in Teacher-Training Programs in Israel and in Georgia

Project number: 573322-EPP-1-2016-IL-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Ili State University (ISU) Students Activities

Community Place Making

Leaders of Work team:

Ekuna Gogoberishvili

&

Ketevan Bochorishvili

Fellows of CURE program from Ilia State Univesrsity (ISU), in partnership with youth NGO" Compass" have organized Community festival in small village of Udabno. Udabno in Georgian means desert . The festival was part of the capacity building project" Youth work- Community building in Rural Areas".

The main purpose of the cultural and educational festival was to bring an attention of wide public to the cultural specifics of the community also to their problems and issues.

Community building in rural areas was encouraged by organizing the Udabno Community Festival, young women from the village together with ISU students were part of the preparation process of the festival, trying to create positive image of the village and use the recourses of the community and promote its potential.

During the festival – social enterprises were invited, international NGOs working in rural development field were presented. Natives were making the workshops of traditional food. There were few workshops of different national sports, dances and music. Beside the Georgian Folklore, Danish and Armenian folk dances were performed.

Festival organizers believe in positive influence of international feedbacks in rural areas..

All sorts of ages and nationalities were the guests of the festival, tourist's agencies officials from municipalities and embassies.

Festival was a great example of grass root civic initiative and cooperation between University, NGO, Local Government and Community.

Organizers and participants of the festival has prepared the document for municipality in the letter they requested the small amount for the future activities. In current year, it had been founded by international donor with a few contribution from the municipality level.

Young ladies from the village and students from ISU who are trained in frame of Cure program would like to make the festival sustainable and organize it every year.

Alongside of the project, Fellows of Cure and Young Ladies from the village are working on another project, which has been also discussed with Israeli students In Chakvi, Batumi, during the 4th consortium meeting.

They agree on the idea that youth activism and participation is really hard, if there is no physical place for it. Based on the beliefs, they have started the campaign to build the Library and Educational center in former Kinder garden building. So, young people from the village will have possibility to have alternative educational space after school hours. The place will serve as a resource and space for non-formal education activities. It will be based on volunteering. Volunteers from Iliuni (ISU) and from different NGOs will be invited to make a language class, self-development class, intercultural learning and other educational activities, which are not provided by school.

Building of the Library is still in the process; So far following has been done:

- renovation of the rooms
- New windows - (the finances was 100% fundraised by different means of fundraising, crowd funding, flea markets, individual donation)
- Furniture (just got supported by ORBELIANI fund)
- Books – (individuals has donated the books and the library from BRNO)

Human recourses – there are few volunteers from Italy, Poland and US who are working with the initiative group and organizing the calendar of the activities.

In order to fully complete the library – there is a need of the hitting, More Books and educational materials and more volunteers to substain the activities.

Municipality has given the rooms to the initiators to manage it .

