

Information on implementation of the project *Adequate answers: needs of the population in undeveloped regions in time of pandemic*

On May 25 2020 an agreement on implementation of the project *Adequate answers: needs of the population in undeveloped regions in time of pandemic* has been signed between *Documenta* – Center for Dealing With the Past and Community Foundation Slagalica, co-financed by the financial mechanisms of Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway within the European Economic Area (EEA) framework and Norway grants. Project is being implemented through the Active Citizens Fund in Croatia with funds amounting to 4970 EUR.

This project seeks to contribute to reducing the effects of exclusion on people living in war-affected, returnee and assisted areas in the context of the state-wide lock-down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As the state has so far failed to improve the conditions in these areas, the new crisis will affect the local populations more severely than those in larger urban areas. The aim is to examine how these populations cope with subjective and objective difficulties during the pandemic, and use the findings to produce a report with recommendations, essays, and a series of podcasts to raise awareness about these issues and to develop sustainable modes of solidarity, economic sustainability and restoring critical infrastructure.

The goal of the project is to contribute to reducing the negative economic, social and psychological effects of the pandemic in assisted areas in the RC.

Interviews with the target groups should provide fresh data on how the population is tackling the living conditions in undeveloped areas in the context of the pandemic. Evaluation of policies relevant to these areas, combined with the data, will help guide various stakeholders in designing their policies. Additionally, products such as articles and podcasts should contribute to raising awareness of these issues in the public sphere.

The project is aimed at three target groups. The first group are the inhabitants of the undeveloped areas, including persons who gave statements on wartime sufferings. The policy proposal should help improve their living conditions in the long run, as well as help give them a voice. The second group consists of CSOs, local and regional self-government, which would thus gain an overview of the state of affairs on the ground and recommendations for further action. The third group is the general public.

The applicant shall conduct the interviews, policy analysis, write reports, research articles, and create the podcasts. The partner will perform the editorial and mentoring work on these products, issue essays and help to disseminate them.

Project partner is Association for Independent Media Culture, with the media portal H-Alter.

Projekt *Adekvatni odgovori: potrebe stanovništva na područjima posebne državne skrbi u vrijeme pandemije* je podržan sa € 4970 financijske podrške Islanda, Lihtenštajna i Norveške u okviru EGP i Norveških grantova.

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