



“Revitalization of social and cultural life of young people and citizens in Skrapar and the establishment of a Daily Centre for Health Services and Food in Bulqizë”

Together with Vodafone Foundation in the attempt to revitalize social and cultural life of Bulqizë and Çorovoda areas, two of the most critical areas of the country

Current Problem

The project is addressed to young people and the wider community of the cities of Bulqizë and Çorovoda. Located respectively in the northeast and southeast of Albania, those realities have a similar environmental, social and economic background: low economic level of the population, high unemployment and low levels of public investments.

Recent economic crisis in destination countries, like Greece and Italy, and the progressive reduction in remittances, has deprived many local families of their only source of livelihood. Unemployment rate, only in Bulqizë reach 46% of the total population. Among youngest, unemployment reaches a dramatic 80%. Professionals and young people have progressively left the municipality area, emigrating abroad or choosing an internal destination, Tirana surroundings at first.

A Daily Center in Bulqizë

Our project aims to reconstruct a two floor, semi abandoned building of state property, once a kindergarten, and transforming it in a simple but effective Daily Center, where people in need in the municipality could receive a decent meal at lunch, and small medical consultations.

The Center facilities could also be used, away from the lunch period, as a relaxing meeting point for some of the locals, and some small recreational activities could be organized.



The reconstruction of the Cultural Center in Çorovoda

In Çorovodë (the main city of Skrapar area) the project aims to revive the deteriorated Youth's Cultural Center through several interventions.

The reconstruction of the roof it is seen as an emergency and will represent the first phase, transforming the Center into a community catalyst, which will enable young people to develop their skills and help in the implementation of a range of social extra-curricular, cultural and economic programs or trainings for all residents of Skrapar.

Bringing attention to responsibilities

The overall objective of the project is:

- The revitalization of the social and cultural life of the two cities through a close and enduring cooperation between civil society;
- To bring to the attention of state institutions of their responsibility in the development of social and economic life in these areas so far isolated the country, and to emphasize the

role of civil society in the same direction.

MAIN FACTS

DONORS:

- ✓ Vodafone Foundation

DURATION:

- ✓ March 2015 – March 2016

BENEFICIARIES:

- ✓ People in need in Bulqizë and local community
- ✓ Young people in Çorovoda and Skrapar area
- ✓ Local institutions

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About URI

Since 1999 the Urban Research Institute (URI) has been delivering big results for development projects and programmers carried out throughout Albania. Our core business focuses on community development, local government strengthening, environmental protection, decentralisation, and public services. We conduct studies, lobby the government, train local government units, increase public access to information, and connect development partners. URI has worked with donors such as USAID, Swiss Cooperation, the Netherlands Embassy, UNDP, World Bank, EU, SIDA, Open Society/Soros Foundation, etc.