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Municipality of Tata
2012

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„Európa a polgárokért” program



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2011-2012





Inter-Active Generations

In 2008 in its “Child Friendly City” programme the Municipality of Tata, in co-operation with its twin-town municipalities, launched a series of international conferences on children and young people. From 2008 to 2010 the conferences in Tata yearly discussed some different aspects of children's and young people's lives, such as the concept of child friendly cities, drug-prevention and school bullies.

Our project called “Inter-Active Generations”, implemented in 2011-2012 and supported by the “Europe for Citizens” programme of the European Union, has opened a new chapter in co-operating with our twin-towns.

With this project we wished to focus on young people's social relationships. We were trying to find out how to strengthen and maintain the so-called intergenerational relationship in local communities. That is, how young and elderly people can meet and find a way to one another during common, mutually attractive and mutually beneficial activities.

Providing comprehensive professional information at the project events as well as creating opportunities to exchange local experience related to intergenerational cooperation, we do hope that we managed to help the participating towns launch new intergenerational projects beneficial for the local communities.

József Michl

Mayor of Tata

Member of the Hungarian
National Assembly

A successful project

In the “Inter-active Generations” project we organized two conferences and a workshop. In the project implementation seven local institutions, five civil and two commercial organizations cooperated with the Municipality of Tata. To compile the professional material for the conferences we were helped by representatives of the Hungarian National Assembly, two ministries, a university and several civil organizations.

In each conference more than a hundred people participated, while in the workshop fifty people took part. Eight twin- and partner towns with more than a hundred active participants contributed to the project implementation. Among the Hungarian participants not only local residents but also visitors from other settlements in Tata's region and Komárom-Esztergom County were welcomed.

We consider it as an important outcome of our project that we could open a youth club in Tata with financial and professional help from Alkmaar's Kern8 non-profit organization.

Still, the most important benefit for us is that with our programmes we could draw public attention to the need to strengthen and tighten the relationship between different generations.

Zsuzsanna Robozné Schönfeld
Deputy Mayor of Tata



I. “For and with Young People” a conference on youth work (14-15 October 2011)

In the morning of the first conference day renowned Hungarian specialists and politicians gave lectures on the youth strategies of the European Union and Hungary, the effects of and the background to the intergeneration projects, the results of the European Year of Volunteering and the coherence between volunteering and intergenerational relationships. The morning programme was closed with a review of Tata's “Child Friendly City” programme objectives and results.

The afternoon of the first conference day was devoted to the twin-towns. The representatives of Alkmaar's Kern8 organization presented their own work for youth, their youth clubs and also the so called “Huiskamer” (living room) project. The leader of “Bürger-Treff” from Gerlingen reported on a successful intergenerational project, in which children teach elderly people how to use the computer and the internet. A municipal officer from Dammarie-lès-Lys presented the intergenerational projects of the local government. On behalf of Arenzano a volunteer talked about the local volunteers' work for the town biggest sports event “Mare e monti”. The colourful youth work in the village of Svodín was introduced by a local television editor. A contributor from Alba Iulia's Caritas organization gave a report on the social work related to the young and elderly people living in Sovata. A local teacher from Pińczów delivered a speech on the volunteer and charity work done by Pińczów's secondary school pupils. The deputy mayor of Bystřice presented their youth house.



On the second conference day many different activities for children and youngsters aged 12 to 18 years were organized – mainly by the twin-town participants – at two venues. In Vaszary sports hall the members of the Gerlingen delegation organized a table-tennis tournament for young people. Dance instructors from Bystřice taught majorette and flamenco dancing. Rope-jumping and acrobatic feats were presented by Tata's Talentum School. The activities in the sports hall were finished with a “hockey tournament” led by the delegates from Alkmaar.

In the meanwhile at Magyary Zoltán Culture Centre an art therapist from Pinczów taught Tata children how to make paper flowers. The handicrafts activity led by the Svodín participants was really successful not only among the local young people but also among the foreign guests. Threading beads organized by Tata volunteers was also popular. The delegates from Sovata played personality and team building games with young participants. In the course of the afternoon cheerful “chatting parties” were going on in German, in French and in Italian languages moderated by the participants from Gerlingen, Dammarie-lès-Lys and Arenzano.



II. “Age cannot be a Barrier” a conference on active ageing and intergenerational relations (4-5 May 2012)

In the morning of the first conference day again well-known specialists and politicians were given the opportunity to present the initiatives of the European Union on active ageing, the objectives of the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations, as well as Hungary's national strategy on the well being of old people. Furthermore, they talked about elderly people's social and medical conditions in Hungary, analyzed the facts influencing elderly people's mood and zest for life and drew attention to the importance of well organized volunteer programmes helping elderly people. As a supplement to the professional presentations old and young people from Tata shared their ideas about the special features of ageing and the opportunities for co-operation between generations.

In the afternoon of the first conference day the participating twin-towns presented what they do for elderly people on local level. Alkmaar's Kern8 non-profit organization regularly organizes programmes to help elderly and young people meet, offering them appealing programmes to spend their spare time together. The various choice of the programmes offered by Gerlingen's “Bürger-Treff” is based on elderly people's active lifestyle and their demand for a busy life. Alba Iulia's Caritas organization has formed senior-citizen-groups in seven settlements of Mureş county and carried out various programmes in these circles. In Bystrice the senior citizens play key-roles in preserving the local traditions.



On the second day of the conference on active ageing elderly and young people jointly took part in several free time activities at Vaszary János Primary School and also outdoors on the shore of Cseke Lake. In the school sports hall folk dancers from Bystrice, the Gerlingen “Bürger-Treff” delegates and members of Tata's Pötörke Folk Dance Group invited elderly and young people to dance. In the breaks the Tata Senior Citizen Club's singers and dancers entertained the public. Boy scouts from Szőgyén showed their scout customs and traditions. An elderly volunteer from Poland talked to local young people about their everyday life matters. In the schoolyard bike races and handicrafts shows took place. The old and the young participants of the day were encouraged to get into conversation with one another with the help of funny games organized by the delegates from Sovata and under the excuse of studying the flora and fauna of the park around Cseke Lake together with the Dutch delegates.



III. “Our Club” an intergenerational workshop (12-15 October 2012)

The objective of the project closing workshop was that the participants coming from the twin and partner towns work out – in international teams – complex plans for the establishment and functioning of an intergenerational club in the so-called Farkasházi Fischer house in the neighbourhood of the town-hall as a possible venue.

The so called intergenerational club gives place for both young and old people to organize programmes matching their interests and the particularities of their own age group and, at the same time, offers opportunities for the two generations to meet.

The participants – old and young people representing very different areas of life as to their professional backgrounds – devoted the first morning of the meeting to getting to know Tata and the everyday activities and customs of the young and old people living in the town. The planning work, which took place at Fazekas street primary school, lasted a whole day.

The team work achievements, the ideas, the plans and the outlines were introduced to the public in the concert hall at Menner Bernát Music School. All the five workgroups found it essential that both young and old ones could find suitable rooms for their common activities as well as for their own separate programmes in that particular building. From that point of view the kitchen as a communal room got a special attention in the plans. Building a multifunctional yard as well as a shopping mall to support young entrepreneurs came up as issues worth further consideration.





The way they saw it...



Réka Orsolya Móga, a psychologist from Sovata:

"All the three events of the project were absolutely beneficial, they thoroughly followed all the aspects of intergenerational relationship. The project itself served for me as a guide in practical questions. It helped me to think over how many kinds of aspects should be considered before finding the right solutions. It was useful that we searched for concrete solutions to some social problems. I also enjoyed being part of such a colourful international company."



Stefan Fritzsche, a civil servant from Gerlingen:

"I was glad to see that both theoretical presentations and practical activities were part of the programme. Elderly people and youngsters both took part in the events. The young people in Tata were really actively involved. We made good relations with other participants from abroad, too. We gladly shared our experience with the other foreign participants and in return we got new impulse from them. I really enjoyed myself in all the three events. Many thanks to the town Tata for the organization and hospitality!"

The professional lecturers of the conferences were:

Mrs. Erika Asztalosné Zupcsán, deputy state secretary of the State Secretariat for Social, Family and Youth Affairs of the Ministry of National Resources

Péter Ágh, member of the Hungarian National Assembly, Deputy Chairperson of the Hungarian National Assembly's Committee on Youth, Social and Family Affairs and Housing

Mr. Károly Arisztid Ditzendy, director of Communal Society Development Centre "HROD"

Mrs. Zsuzsanna Hulák, chief of the Department for Old People and Pension Insurance of the Ministry of National Resources

Prof. Dr. László Iván, chairman of the Subcommittee on Pensions and Old People of the Hungarian National Assembly's Committee on Youth, Social, Family, and Housing affairs

Prof. Dr. János Kállai, director of the Department of Behavioural Sciences of the Medical School of University of Pécs

Reverend Father Imre Kozma, president of the Hungarian Maltese Charity Service

Ms. Kata Smudla, leader of Komárom-Esztergom County Volunteer Centre

Dr. Csaba Latorcai, deputy state secretary of the Ministry of Public Administration and Justice in charge of Church, Civil Society and Nationality Affairs

Ms. Csilla Szabó, programme coordinator of the Youth in Action Programme Office of Hungary's National Youth Service "Mobilitás"

Municipalities and organizations taking part in the project implementation:

Alkmaars Uitwisselings Comité (NL)
Stichting Welzijnsbevordering Kern8

Stadt Gerlingen (DE)
Bürger-Treff Gerlingen e.V.

Ville de Dammarie-lès-Lys (FR)

Comune di Arenzano (IT)

Obec Svodín (SK)
Country cottage, No 32 St Michael Scout Troop

Orasul Sovata (RO)
Caritas Alba Iulia, Domokos Kázmér school group

Miasta i Gminy Pińczów (PL)
Urząd Marszałkowski Województwa Świętokrzyskiego, Gimnazjum nr 2 w Pińczowie

Obec Bystřice (CZ)
Dům dětí a mládeže Bystřice

Municipality of Tata (HU)

Tata Municipal Court, Basic Social Care Institute, Bláthy Ottó Secondary Vocational School, Jávorka Sándor Agricultural and Food Industrial Secondary Vocational School, Kőkúti Primary School - Fazekas street sub institute, Menner Bernát Music School, Calvinist Secondary Grammar School Tata, Talentum School, Vaszary János Primary School, Tata Town Senior Citizens' Club, Pupils' Self-government of Tata, Pötörke Folk Dance Group, Handicrafts Association of Tata and its Region, Tata Shakespeare Theatre, Tatai Városkapu Közhasznú Zrt., Török Car-Motorbike Private School.