

Report of Gagauzian Youth Leadership Program (GYLP)

Workshop: Project Writing

May 16 - 21, 2019

On May 18-19, I participated in the GYLP workshop as a trainer, along with a colleague from Slovakia Tomash Findra. We taught the skill of creating, writing in the implementation of the project. The main goal of our training is to teach systemically to think, which is expressed in the ability to analyze problems, determine effective strategies for solving them and the ability to form ideas into projects to receive funding for the implementation of selected strategies. Our desire is that as many young people as possible develop an active citizenship and are equipped with the necessary tools for implementing projects aimed at solving specific problems in society.

In general, the training went very well. Young people were very interested in the material. Almost every participant came with a ready-made project idea, which could be used as a material for training. Among the students' ideas were: the opening of youth centers, the promotion of bicycle transport - as measures of caring for the environment, teaching English to increase the mobility of citizens of Moldova and Gagauzia, making films aimed at popularizing the culture of Moldova and Gagauzia and some others. Some students have already had experience writing projects, some have already applied and even expected a response from the donor. Therefore, taking into account all these factors, it was very pleasant to work with the group.

For our part, together with Tomasz, we presented a logical-structural approach to the creation and writing of projects and highlighted its analytical part. We wanted young people to learn how to understand problems, analyze them, identify really significant problems, and then analyze solutions and offer sustainable ideas for solving problems. It is safe to say that the goal has been achieved. Young people showed not only interest, but also readiness to change and work on mistakes. We are confident that now they have a much deeper understanding of problems in society and have the tools to solve them. At the next meeting, we will work on filling out specific applications and will motivate young people to draw up their projects and receive funding.

As for the minuses, I can note a somewhat inconvenient time of the training. Some participants had this time of sessions and exams, which prevented them from fully devoting themselves to learning. Also, the fact that participants were not gathered in one place also made their own adjustments. On the one hand, it allowed young people to do more, and even if they had to go to the exam, they could do it, and then come to the rest of the training and catch up, which would be difficult if all participants had gone far away from Comrat. In this case, because of the exams, some would not even get to the training. On the other hand, participants had to come every morning from their villages and towns, some had to travel from 30 to 60 km per day, and the schedule of their buses did not allow them to be on time at the seminar. Therefore, it was necessary to be flexible. But in spite of all these features, the training took place. And the organizers tried to do the maximum to create favorable conditions for learning in the current situation.

Veniamin Sazonov

So far, I have conducted two trainings in Gagauzia, which consisted of different parts - discussion, lecture, interactive project management classes. In the first part - in March 2019 - we reviewed the basics, discussed a lot of things that interested the participants in the project, we clarified the main context and with the help of measures we modeled the planning and implementation of the project. The group had 15 participants whose participation and involvement were very good. It was clear that they were interested in developing and implementing changes in their region through projects.

During the second part of the training, we worked on six topics, 5 of which we dragged into framework projects in the form of a logical framework. Topics were as follows:

- Youth work and activation of youth in society.
- Installation of ecological walls inside offices
- The use of alternative modes of transport
- Teaching English to children from socially disadvantaged groups
- Promotion of the presentation of the cultural heritage of the Gagauz
- Training young people IT

Tomas Findra