

There was a Contact Making Seminar "Factory of Cultural Managers" on 4-8-th of November, 2008, Baku, Azerbaijan.

The participants from Lithuania, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Ukraine, Hungary, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, France, Spain, Turkey and Russia took part in this Contact Making Seminar.

The main aim of the project was to create a space for sharing concepts, ideas and strategies on how to involve youth in the process of making events in local organizations successfully.

Another important aspect of the project was to establish new contacts between participants in order to set up future partnerships and create a network of partners.

Local Democracy Agency Georgia (LDA Georgia) was one of the participants of the Contact Making Seminar "Factory of Cultural Managers".

LDA Georgia sent 3 young participants to Baku: 2 young boys who are students Zurab Nemsitsveridze and Ivane Zhorzholiani and 1 team leader whose name is Maka Tsertsvadze and who works as a Youth Project Coordinator for LDA Georgia.

This Contact Making Seminar was a very successful for the LDA Georgia. During the project the Georgian participants had a chance to meet the representatives of different Non-Governmental Organizations and to learn more about the objectives and general aims of their organizations.

During the meeting all the participants had a possibility to get in touch with people of different cultures, traditions and the way of thinking. The representatives of LDA Georgia like other Non-Governmental Organizations introduced their country, its culture and traditions perfectly. Then, on the special meeting of the NGOs, the Georgian participants presented LDA Georgia and spoke about the organization's mission, about its partners' network and mandate. Several questions were asked about the implemented and ongoing projects of LDA Georgia. Then there was a serious discussion about the common interests which existed among presented Non-Governmental Organizations. On the base of this discussion, the participants of the Contact Making Seminar started to speak on implementation of new projects and to find partners for them.

As a result of the seminar the preparation process of the following projects were started:

1. "Discrimination and Minorities" _ It will be a Contact Making Seminar where the following countries will participate: France, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Georgia, Lithuania, Estonia. The applicant for this project is French organization "Association A.M.S.E.D."
2. "Wedding Traditions " _ It will be a Youth Exchange where the following countries will participate: Estonia, Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia, Lithuania, Poland. The applicant for this project is Estonia. Georgia is the host country.
3. "Don't burn the bridges" _ It will be a Youth Exchange where the following countries will participate: France, Moldova, Russia, Georgia, Ukraine, Poland, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Lithuania. Georgia is the host country. All the participants are looking for the applicant country for this project.

All the projects will be applied for 1 February.

In conclusion, it should be mentioned that this Contact Making Seminar was very fruitful for the LDA Georgia, as it was possible to find partners for future projects and to introduce LDA Georgia to the different foreign Non-Governmental Organizations.