

JANUARY with YIC



Dear YIC members, we are happy to present the monthly newsletter, which will tell you about our organization activities done in January.

Open Youth Work Recognition in Armenia



Օրագիրը ֆինանսավորվում է
Եվրոպական միության կողմից



The beginning of 2019 was full of new projects, one of which is "Open Youth Work Recognition in Armenia" project.

The overall objective of the "Open Youth Work Recognition in Armenia" project is to assist to the institutional development of the open youth work in Armenia through the advocacy of local and international experience and the improvement of public policies.

The project "Open Youth Work Recognition in Armenia" is implemented by Gyumri "Youth Initiative Centre" NGO within the framework of the subgrant of the project "Commitment to Constructive Dialogue" implemented by the consortium led by "Armenian Lawyers' Association". The project "Commitment to Constructive Dialogue" is supported by the European Union.

“UPSHIFT Armenia” adolescent development and empowerment project



The next new project is “UPSHIFT Armenia” adolescent development and empowerment project.

On January 30 Gyumri “Youth Initiative Centre” NGO president Artur Najaryan, “Child protection” Programme Officer Artak Shaqaryan and “Health and Nutrition” programme associate Hasmik Aleksanyan from UNICEF Armenia had a meeting with Shirak Region Deputy Governor Vardan Grigoryan aiming at presentation of “UPSHIFT Armenia” adolescent development and empowerment project, which is implemented by YIC in partnership with UNICEF Armenia.

“UPSHIFT Armenia” adolescent development and empowerment project aim at empowering 12-18 years old adolescents in Armenia to be more proactive in practicing civic engagement and in advocating for their rights and positive changes at local and national levels, therefore investing in a more successful future for themselves their and their communities.

During the meeting the main information about the project was presented highlighting the initiatives and civil activism enhancement.

The deputy governor of Shirak Region greeted the initiators of the project highlighting the investment of “UPSHIFT Armenia” adolescent development and empowerment project in Shirak Region.

The project UPSHIFT Armenia contains elements of adolescents’ development, social innovations and leading approaches of entrepreneurship, aiming at the development of social innovation and entrepreneurial skills.

As a result of the meeting the parties agreed on signing a Memorandum of Understanding that will give more opportunities of successful cooperation.

“Get a bike, get a life” Social Entrepreneurship



Among the new 2019 programs are the "Get a Bike, get a life" social entrepreneurship project.

The aim of the social entrepreneurship project “Get a bike, get a life” is to create and develop bike renting system in the second city of RA - Gyumri, as well as to provide different touristic services.

Our aim is to promote biking in Gyumri and its surroundings through providing affordable services to the locals and tourists.

On one hand the project, contributes to the improved quality of life of its direct beneficiaries - in particular young people. as well as the environmental. On the other hand, the income generated from the project will be directed towards the operations of the YIC “Youth House” centre, the beneficiaries of which are hundreds of teenagers and young people.

This sub-grant is funded by the European Union in Armenia and is implemented in cooperation with AGBU Armenia and Eurasia Partnership Foundation-Armenia in the frames of Bridge for CSOs programme.

Erasmus+ Youth. Info Centre



On January 27, “Erasmus+ Youth. Info Centre in Armenia” in the frames of “Civil Youth Centers - 2019” programme held an info meeting in “Journalists’ Asparez Club”. Youngsters, youth institutions and Civil Youth Centers representatives from different regions of Armenia were present.

We are glad to inform you that according to the results of tender announced by SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus Resource Centre for the coordination of activities of Erasmus+ Youth. Info Centres, Gyumri “Youth Initiative Centre” NGO has been announced to be the coordinator of Erasmus+ Youth. Info Centre in Armenia for the 3rd time.

European Voluntary Activities



We are glad to inform you that we have a new long-term EVS opportunity in Poland. The deadline for the applications has already passed on January 20. There is also European Solidarity Corps opportunity one in Hungary. The interested people can apply until February 7.



YIC is supplemented by one more EVS volunteer :)

Pia Kai Sild came from Estonia and is going to do his European Voluntary Service in YIC for a year.

Mobility with YIC



An Erasmus+ study visit to Czech Republic and Poland took place which aimed to establish partnerships and foster cooperation between civic and state institutions ensuring youth-centred policies and active youth participation in the community life.

The participants from Armenia were Artur Najaryan, YIC President, Martina Horníčková, YIC international volunteer, Nune Arevshatyan, journalist at “Aravot Daily”, Armen Martirosyan, project manager at “Armenian Caritas” benevolent NGO and Asya Harutyunyan, International relations specialist at Shirak State University.

Turkey-Armenia "Beyond Borders" programme

We are presenting an article and video which highlights the visit of Public Health specialists from Turkey to Armenia in the frames of Turkey-Armenia Dialogue programmes.



Selma Kara from Kayseri who was supported by the Turkey-Armenia Travel Grant to visit Armenia, is sharing her impressions in a video interview. She has also published an article about her project in Armenia in a Turkish media outlet.

Former fellows of Turkey-Armenia Fellowship Scheme Irena Grigoryan and Meri Khachatryan gave an interview to Chai Khana about their findings in Istanbul about Armenian migrants.

January in Youth House



Since January 8th "Youth House" has restarted its work.

Four interns continue their internship of youth work during which they implement different workshops and educational games with youngsters.

Youth workers' interns continue participating in capacity building trainings. This month they participated in trainings on the topic of "Electronic literacy" and "Non-formal education".

Youth workers visited different schools and institutions to present the centre and its services.

Thematic weeks continue in "Youth House". During the "Creative Week" the young people performed creative ideas.

Different thematic weeks are organized in the centre. "Creative week" and "Wikipedia Week" have been organized.

We have started a new club on "Self-recognition".

The last week was devoted to friendship and friends.

The day at the centre is full of games, movies and workshops. Everyday life of the youngsters was full of football championship and watching movie.