

Identification of the promoter

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| Organisation | |
| Organization ID (OID) | E10314834 |
| ERASMUS+ PIC (UNIQUE ID CODE) | 920294576 |
| Promoter's legal name (national language) | Gənclərin Sosial İnkişafına Dəstək İctimai Birliyi |
| Promoter's legal name (Latin characters) | Support for Youth Social Development |
| Acronym, if applicable | SYSD |
| National ID number, if applicable | 1113-Q48-3239 |
| Legal address | Mashkhan village |
| Postal code | AZ0716 |
| City | Astara |
| Country | Azerbaijan |
| Region | South Caucasus |
| Web site | www.bit.ly/gsid_az |
| Email | international.gsid@gmail.com |
| Telephone | +994508919858 |
| Person authorised to legally commit the promoter (legal representative) | |
| Title | Mr. |
| Family name | Ahmedov |
| First name | Ilham |
| Position | Chairperson |
| Email | ilhamiahmedov@gmail.com |
| Telephone | +994556099551 |
| Person responsible for the implementation of the action (contact person) | |
| Title | Mr. |
| Family name | Guluyev |
| First name | Gudrat |
| Position | International relations coordinator |
| Email | international.gsid@gmail.com |
| Telephone | +994708089858 |
| Profile of the Promoter | |
| Status | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Public |
| Type | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-profit / Non-governmental organization (NFP-NGO) |
| Activity level | <input type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> National <input type="checkbox"/> European <input type="checkbox"/> International |

Background and Experience

Please briefly present the partner organization (e.g., its type, size, the scope of work, areas of specific expertise and specific social context)

“Support for Youth Social Development” Public Union is a non-political, non-profit, non-governmental organization and was founded in 2013 to help social development of young people with fewer opportunities in the remote southern region of Azerbaijan, however, expanded its coverage area through the years. With 10 years of experience, the *“Support for Youth Social Development”* Public Union (SYSD) has focused on youth development and capacity building *through non-formal education, concentrating on youth work, voluntarism, peace-building, social economy, active citizenship, and participation.*

The main aims of our organization are:

- *to help expand the opportunities for young people to use modern technologies;*
- *to support local youth in their self-development process;*
- *to raise youth awareness of civic responsibility and active citizenship;*
- *to encourage a healthy lifestyle and demonstrate the negative repercussions of bad habits;*
- *to increase environmental awareness and the importance of environmental protection among young people;*
- *to spread the idea of social entrepreneurship;*
- *to convey the significance of non-formal education in the process of lifelong learning.*

The main target group of the organization is young people coming from different backgrounds. In accordance with the inclusion strategy and priorities of the organization, we are especially focused on young people with fewer opportunities. However, all people from different age categories are welcome to participate in and benefit from our activities.

Although the organization’s main activities are focused on local projects, it cooperates with different NGOs in Europe and is involved in the Erasmus+ program as a promoter/partner and hosts projects in Azerbaijan.

What are the activities and experience of the organisation in the areas relevant for this application?

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Social entrepreneurship and support for the personal development of youth in regions are integral parts of SYSD activities, and we are working to improve the entrepreneurship competencies of young people through group learning, informational and inspirational seminars, campaigns, and various courses or camps.

We organize the "Youth career guides of the future" project annually for 30-40 career advisors from 5 districts and provide key competencies to develop as career guides in their regions and help young people to build their future.

Projects under the umbrella of “Promotion of entrepreneurial activities among young people living in villages” aim to stimulate entrepreneurial activity among young people living in the rural areas of the Astara region and implement educational activities. One of our other crucial projects is called “Career Academy.” “Career Academy” is a winter camp, and the main goal of the project is to develop career opportunities and professional skills for young people living in the southern regions.

SYSD also provides trainings for increasing the level of professionalism of pedagogical personnel working in preschool educational institutions and management courses for young personnel managing secondary education.

TECHNOLOGICAL COMPETENCIES AND DIGITALIZATION

SYSD is also working on the development of the key ICT competencies of economically disadvantaged active young community members of the southern regions of Azerbaijan. Thus, the "Increasing ICT skills among the youth of the region and promoting the effective use of social networks" project aims to teach the correct use of ICT tools and social media and make young people aware of the role of ICT in their future career opportunities.

Within the framework of the government decree on the approval of the "2016-2018 National Action Plan on Promotion of Open Government", we implemented the project "Promotion of Open Government Principles and Organization of Measures to Prevent Corruption" in the southern region. During the project, we organized seminars, round tables, and discussions on the prevention of corruption for young civil servants working in various state institutions of Astara, Lankaran, Lerik, Masalli, and Jalilabad regions of Azerbaijan, published social media and booklets and distributed them among the public to inform more people.

SOCIAL INCLUSION

All of the activities of SYSD aim to create an inclusive mindset of young people in society. The home and main activity area of SYSD are the southern regions of Azerbaijan, which are known for their rich multicultural society. Therefore, the promotion of multiculturalism values among young people is one of the important activity areas of our organization.

Gender issues, specifically early and forced marriages, are a tremendous problem for our region in Azerbaijan, so we are also focused on this problem. We work especially to strengthen awareness against early marriages, which leads to an increase in the dropout rate of teenagers and young adults and excludes them from society.

ERASMUS+ YOUTH AND EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS

We consider Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps opportunities crucial for young people, especially those who experience various forms of disadvantages. Thus, we conduct info sessions and awareness campaigns about Erasmus+/ESC and their benefits for youth.

SYSD also operates as a sending organization in youth mobility projects. The scope of this activity covers the whole country, while the organization puts the focus on youth from remote regions to ensure diversity and inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities who do not enjoy the same advantages as a result of not living in the capital or big cities, their gender, ethnic or religious identities.

MEDIA LITERACY

SYSD recognizes the importance of media literacy in the digital age and strives to equip young people with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively understand, analyze, and produce media content. As part of this effort, we organize workshops and training sessions that focus on critical thinking and media literacy, enabling young people to effectively engage with the media and evaluate the information they consume.

We also run campaigns aimed at promoting media literacy and the responsible use of social media. These campaigns raise awareness about the dangers of fake news, online harassment, and cyberbullying and provide young people with practical tools and strategies for staying safe and informed online.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS SYSD

As an organization we understand urgent need to protect the environment and is dedicated to raising awareness and promoting sustainable practices among young people in the southern regions of Azerbaijan. To this end, we organize various environmental awareness campaigns, events, and workshops aimed at educating young people about the importance of environmental protection and sustainability.

We also implement environmental protection projects in collaboration with local communities, schools, and other stakeholders. These projects involve cleaning up beaches, parks, and other public spaces, as well as planting trees and creating sustainable community gardens. Additionally, we also provide training and educational resources on environmentally friendly practices, such as composting and recycling, to encourage young people to adopt a more sustainable lifestyle.

What are the skills and expertise of key staff/persons involved in this application?

International Relations and Projects Department is the responsible body for the Erasmus+ and ESC projects. The department consists of seven members, including four senior coordinators.

Gudrat Guluyev - with five years of experience in youth work, education, and project management, is specialized in digitalization, media literacy, gender, and peace-building projects. He is responsible for the coordination of the team and managing the partner's network, as well as a person in charge of selecting participants.

Zulfiyya Mehdiyeva - is a coordinator of the International Relations and Projects Department, mainly for economics, social entrepreneurship, social development, and sustainable development. She is also the founder of Easy-peasy economics - a network of young economics, organizer of the Baku Economic Forum 2022, and local representative of several international NGOs and networks.

Rasul Alizada - is the Deputy Chair and a senior coordinator of the Department. He has a long experience in the implementation of social projects, intellectual games, and simulations. Currently, Rasul is one of the responsible persons for local and international projects on the digitalization of youth work, gamification, and sustainable development.

Roya Malikzada - is a project manager and activist. She is a coordinator of several local projects, conducts pro bono legal aid to vulnerable strata of the population, drafts policy papers, and reports on pivotal human rights topics. Roya is experienced in law, human rights, ecology, and environmental justice however skilled in writing and conducting social projects on many other topics.

Each member of the department is highly skilled in the different phases of project management, specialized in a specific area, and responsible for definite tasks. Even if English is accepted as the main working language, the multilingual competencies of the members let the department communicate in Russian, Turkish, and Azerbaijani alongside English.

Other community funding

Erasmus+

Please give information about any type of Community grant your organization/group has received/applied for in the last financial year

[illegible]