

Description of NGO Criuleni Debate Center

The Criuleni Debate Club was created in 1995 in the framework of Debate Program. Members of Criuleni Debate Club participated in different projects, implemented by National High School Debate League.

As Non Governmental Organization Criuleni Debate Center (CDC) was founded in 2005 by The National High-School Debate League. The organization was registered by the Regional Council (Registration certificate Nr.511 from 15.08.2005)

The organization's mission is to promote democratic values through organizing debates and other activities.

The main target group is the young people from the rural areas from Criuleni district.

The CDC' members have great experience in debate methodology: academic formats (Karl Popper format, British Parliamentary format) and non-formal debate (Open Forum Debate, Community Debate). They organized many training activities for youth with aim to improve their presentations and critical thinking skills. The debate methodology was adjusted to needs related to Youth Local Councils' activities. Base on this experience we elaborated the methodology of Public debates on community problems and created methodological film.

Also CDC has great experience in organizing of outdoor activities for youth leaders and community' members: team-buildings, expeditions, low-rope activities.

Recent project:

August 2013 - June 2014. "Youth Initiatives for the healthy and sustainable development". During the project period young people from five villages of the Criuleni district will identify the community environmental issues, will elaborate solutions through participatory methods and will implement five mini-projects. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/175329399335000/>

The project is supported by the Small Grants Project SECTOR (<http://sector.rec.org/>). The project budget is 8490 Euro.

Reference person: Victor Cotruță victor@rec.md (Small Grants Program Coordinator in Moldova)

Implemented projects:

January 2011 – January 2012. "Increasing citizens participation in decision-making process in Criuleni district ". During the project the Youth Local Councils members (about 80 persons) were instructed in methodology of public debates. There were organized 15 public debates on community problems in 15 villages from Criuleni region. Grant from USA Embassy (Democracy Commission Small Grant Program - \$13700). <http://cdc-criuleni.blogspot.com/>

December 2010 – July 2011. "The European partnership for promoting youth initiatives". In partnership with Regional Resource Center for Youth "UNIT" there were organized elections in Youth Local Councils in 17 localities from Criuleni region. Also as international partner were involved ASOCIATIA UN ZAMBET BACAU (Romania). Grant from East-European Foundation (\$10000).

March – July 2010. «Healthy Youth – Active Youth». In partnership with Regional Resource

Center for Youth "UNIT" there were organized activities for promoting healthy life style. More than 600 peoples (youth and adolescents) there were involved in these activities. Sponsor : USAID/IREX Civic Participation Program (\$5000)

May 2008 – February 2009. "Implicating Youth in Decision-making Processes through Participation in Youth Councils". In partnership with Regional Resource Center for Youth "UNIT" there were created 15 Youth Local Councils in 15 localities from Criuleni district. About 750 peoples (youth, teachers, representatives of local public authority) there were direct involved in project activities. Sponsors: USA Embassy (Democracy Commission Small Grant Program - \$10000) and Norway Embassy (€5000).

March 2007 - December 2007 "Youth for the Prevention of AIDS/HIV" The project was realized in collaboration with the Regional Resource Center for Youth "UNIT" Criuleni. 120 peer educators from all educational institutions in the Criuleni region were instructed. 392 activities with the theme "Ways of Transmission - Ways of Prevention of AIDS/HIV" were organized and implemented by the peer educators. Sponsor: UNICEF and UNFPA 7,103.00\$

June 2006 - March 2007 "One Moldova - One World" 150 youth from 3 regions (Dubasari/Transnistria: Criuleni/Central Moldova: Cedar-Lunga/Gagauzia) were involved in project activities. Summer school and study visits in each region were organized and implemented. Data about youth attitudes from the 3 regions was collected, analyzed, and published in 1000 editions of a brochure. Friendly relations were established between the actors from the 3 regions. Sponsor: Peace-building Framework Project/British Embassy 7,000.00\$.

Experience as a partner organization.

Members and volunteers from Criuleni Debate Center were involved in international projects in the framework of EU' program "Youth in Action":

- "Connecting Youth Workers" (2013) leader organization Asociatia UN ZÂMBET BACĂU, Romania.
- "Safe Youth" (2013) leader organization Outword Bound Romania
- "Voluntaryact" (2012) leader organization Asociatia UN ZÂMBET BACĂU, Romania.
- "Youth Upon Corruption" (2012) leader organization Asociatia UN ZÂMBET BACĂU, Romania.

During 2008-2012 Criuleni Debate Center was involved as a partner in the projects, elaborated by NGO „Integration” (Gagauzia), NGO „Медики за экологию” („Doctros for Evironment”) (Transnistria), NGO „ДЖИП” (Friends of Animals and Nature).