

THIRD PARTY PROJECT OVERVIEW – IMPACT4VALUES

CALL 1 – SMALL AND MEDIUM PROJECTS

SMALL PROJECTS

11. ECOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION “EKO-KARAŠICA”: I4V – THE ECO-VOICE

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The citizens of Belišće and Valpovo have been struggling with increased noise and river pollution for many years as well as unbearable stench, all of which are the result of environmental pollution. Pollution is caused by increased truck traffic through the center of both cities, by piling up sludge (waste from paper production) and improper disposal of municipal waste from various parts of Croatia. Greater resistance from citizens has never been initiated, despite the fact that the quality of life is decreasing and that there is a serious danger to the health of citizens. The reason for this is the blockage information, spread of false information and citizens' fear of authorities and factory owners.

The goal of the project and campaign ECO-VOICE is to empower the Eco-Karašica association to assume the "watchdog" role in the field of environmental protection and to introduce citizens to the importance of active involvement in the fight for legal rights to a quality life. What is a "watchdog" organization? Watchdog organizations are organizations that ensure that companies, local authorities, governments, etc. are not doing anything illegal or wrong. In our case, Eko-Karašica will monitor and warn about environmental pollution and conservation of our constitutional right to a healthy life and a healthy environment.

Expected project results:

- **Strengthened capacity of Eko Karašica for the implementation of environmental campaigns**
At least 10 members/volunteers of Eko Karašica will successfully complete the training program on preparation and implementing environmental campaigns and will apply the acquired knowledge in practice during the project. Additionally, we expect the involvement of at least 5 new members/volunteers of the association by the end of the project as an effect of all project activities aimed at mobilizing citizens.
- **Raised level of local community awareness about ecology, sustainable development and EU and CRO environmental policies**
At least 100 people will participate in different public lectures on ecology/sustainability development/environmental policies of the EU and CRO. Parts of the lectures will be recorded

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and shared through social networks, with which we hope to reach additional members of the local community. Lectures will at the same time be an opportunity to additionally motivate and inform fellow citizens who want to volunteer to include in the activities of the association.

- **Citizens aware of their rights to actively participate in policy changes that directly affect the quality of life**
At least 4 public events (performances, festivals, protest walks, etc.) will give citizens a chance for inclusion and reaction to inappropriate environmental policies in the local community. We expect at least 150 participants with at least 10 announcements in the local media.