

## Black Sea Initiative, Latvian Rural Forum, LV

Aris Adlers, Latvian Rural Forum, LV

- **Scale of activity:** International
- **Actor/s:** Latvian Rural forum, NECU (Ukraine), Procore (Moldova), Development principles (Armenia), Cida (Georgia), PREPARE Network
- **State of the activity:** started in 2016, ongoing
- **Keywords:** Civil Society, Networking, Rural Development



### Summary

The goal of the Black Sea initiative is to create a network of people from civil society and government in the eight Black Sea countries (Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, Bulgaria, Romania, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus)

### Description of activities

#### Background.

LRF works to bring in and to develop innovative ideas for rural development into the communities.

The main LRF activities are:

- Development of a NGO cooperation network;
- Explanatory and educational activities for activating local initiatives;
- Strengthening LRF position in the dialog between politicians and organizations.

As a PREPARE member organisation and member of the board LRF is responsible for the Black Sea Initiative. The representative and responsible for the implementation of the initiative is Āris Ādleris.

#### Activities. The Black Sea Initiative.

The initiative includes such activities as theme-based travelling workshops and seminars, Training and capacity-building events, the creation and activity of national civil-society networks, cross-border cooperation and transnational cooperation etc. The main actions during

2017: related to the creation of the Moldavian Rural forum, capacity building for Armenian partners, Raising awareness for CSO in Ukraine and involving Black Sea country representatives in the process of European Rural parliaments and European Rural Youth parliament.

### Outlook

**Challenges:** To create a network of people from civil society and government in the eight Black Sea countries, who have a similar interest in the well-being of rural communities and in the development of effective partnerships between civil society and government

**Next steps.** To reach a consensus within this network as to the activity which can usefully be pursued through a longer-term Initiative and to show potential funders of the long-term Initiative that this network has the capacity to generate practical ideas which will truly benefit rural people in the Black Sea countries.

### Source and contact

**Information gathered at:** the ERSG 2017 (European Rural Sustainability Gathering), Greece, Karditsa, 17-21 May 2017

#### Latvian Rural Forum

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