

For Office Use
Application Number: <u>3</u>
Date Received: _____

Grant Application
Small Grants Program
Tirana Country Office, WORLD BANK

Executive Summary (Please type using no more than one page)

1. **Date:** 20.04.2006
2. **Name of organization:** Environmental Protection and Tourism Promotion Association, Gjirokastra.
3. **Contact person and title:** Marieta Kola, Presidente
4. **Address:** Lagjia 18 Shtatori Gjirokaster
5. **City, Country, Postal Code:** Gjirokaster, Albania
6. **Telephone:** 0692270788 Fax: 08465412
- Email:** mjedisijugor@hotmail.com **Website** (if available):-

7. Mission statement of the applicant organization:

Engaging the community and increasing their alertness about the protection of the environment, driving the tourism to higher expectations and standards etc.

8. Purpose of funding request and how this activity relates to civic engagement and social accountability:

This project intends to create and maintain several forums made up of Gjirokastra's citizens, the creation of a citizen's board, and publishing a poster as well as distributing fliers containing information about the project. Another incentive that will take place in this project will be the new television show called "Transparence."

9. Target population and number benefiting from the proposed activity:

Throughout this project we hope to target the citizens of Gjirokaster, the owners of the tourist's houses, architects and constructors, the local authorities, donators and various sponsors and other international organizations which are actually involved in various projects in Gjirokaster.

10. Expected outcomes from the activity:

Our goals are on three main outcomes which are as followed:

- Increasing and improving the engagement of the citizens of Gjirokaster in managing the ancient historic zone
- Securing a transparency in decision making in local or central affairs regarding these issues

- Increasing the participation and the attendance of the citizens of Gjirokaster in decision making for the above problems

11. Plans for learning and knowledge sharing:

Our organization will pass on the experience to other organizations such as PNUD, AMIV.PACARD, etc.

12. Period this funding request will cover:

10 months

13. Amount of request (Details under Activity Income): \$ 3110

14. If your organization has received previous support from the World Bank, please list the year, amount, and describe for what purpose: No, we have never received any support from the World Bank.

15. Authorizing signature of the applicant organization's executive director or board chair:

Signature:

Name (print):Marieta kola

Title: Presidente

Purpose of the Grant

16. Describe briefly the need or issue you will address. Include a description of the constituency served (including number participating) and how they will participate/benefit?

Gjirokaster is one of the rarest antique cities that still preserve the original architecture of the houses built hundreds of years ago. Many of these antique houses are at risk of destruction and falling apart. About 220 illegal constructions have taken place in the last ten years in our city. These constructions which are not based on any previous studies, are endangering the foundations of the antique houses in our city. A bit of good news is that our city was accepted in the International Organization of the Monuments Unesco in the year of 2005 and we hope that this incentive will improve the unfortunate situation that our city is encountering.

A major problem that our city faces regarding protections and perseverance of our historical inheritance is the lack of the citizen's engagement. We lack tremendously the support of the citizens on these major issues which makes the protection of our antique inheritance very hard. The Albanian government passed the law for the Historical Inheritance in 2003, but this law serves little or no importance in protecting and preserving the city's inheritance. One of the reasons that make this law almost worthless is the lack of enforcement, especially in our city. Local authorities have never discussed

this new law. The local authorities follow mainly the guidelines created in 1974 by a different political system, which are almost obsolete. Several investments financed by our government last year failed due to the negligence of the citizens, especially the owners of the historic houses and troubles to reach a consensus between the municipality and the Institute of the Monuments. There is little information that the public has about these projects (successful or failure) mainly because everything is kept far away from the public.

17. How will the proposed activity promote civic engagement and social accountability?

Through this project we intend to escape this problematic situation by acting in the following directions:

- Organizing different forums which will guarantee the participation of the citizens of Gjirokaster in which we will discuss the importance of the historic inheritance and engage the citizens in working toward the resolutions of these problems.
- Arranging several television shows in the local media which will provide a transparency between the local authorities and the government institutions regarding the decision making process about our city and its inheritance. The show will be called “Transparency” and will have live local phone calls to aid in discussions.
- Engaging citizens of our city to think and increase their awareness about these inheritance issues through a campaign (we will distribute posters and fliers). Our organization will be involved in the board of Gjirokastra Historike (Historic Gjirokaster) where we have our representatives. This participation will secure tight connections among the municipality in Gjirokaster, PACARD Foundation, The Institute of the Monuments, etc.

18. List the activity goal(s) and measurable objective(s).

Our goals are on three main outcomes which are as followed:

- Increasing and improving the engagement of the citizens of Gjirokaster in managing the ancient historic zone
- Securing a transparency in decision making in local or central affairs regarding these issues
- Increasing the participation and the attendance of the citizens of Gjirokaster in decision making for the above problems

19. Is the activity new or ongoing on the part of the applicant organization? If the activity is ongoing, how will your organization support this activity in the future?

We have had several commitments in this aspect; worth to mention, a project for improving family tourism and an open table regarding the future problems that our city will face (sponsored by Soros). The project will continue with a series of publications which target the tourism and its development in our city.

20 Provide a brief timetable for implementation of activity.

A)

Citizens Forums

There will be three forums which will secure the participation of a minimum of 80 persons for each forum. Participants will range from local entrepreneurs, owners of the antique houses, representative from the local authorities, etc. In each forum we will touch three main concerns and will discuss them. We will also have live phone calls and live participation from the audience. These forums will be on the local media and their conclusions will be passed on and recommended to the local authorities.

First forum – will concern the law and its enforcement to the citizens. We will arrange this forum during the first two months of the project. The forum will also discuss the necessary steps that need to be taken to improve the City Code of the city and the Historic Inheritance Law.

Second forum – will concern the transparency among the local authorities, international organizations currently participating in our city, and our society. All these three areas will be incorporated together and we will study the ways that all of these affect the decision making for our city and the project activities that take place in our city. We intend to arrange this forum during the fourth month of the project's implementation.

Third forum – will engage the media, citizens and the community in increasing the awareness of Gjirokaster's citizens in protecting and preserving the historical inheritance. This forum will be arranged during the sixth month of the project implementation.

B)

Television Shows: "Open Transparency for the Citizens of Gjirokaster"

This show will secure the participation of eight intellectual people which will range from leaders of different institutions that are involved in the management of the historic perseverance and protection, owners of the antique houses, different local authorities, etc. The shows will be monthly lasting for approximately 90 minutes.

Theme of the shows:

- 1- Management of the Gjirokaster's antique market
- 2- How to make the museums in Gjirokaster more frequented by the public
- 3- Together for the Historical Gjirokater (will participate guests from the municipality, the institute of the monuments, different social groups, etc)
- 4- Urban problems that occur in our city and the relations between the owners and the institutions
- 5- The position of the local and national media concerning the historic city of Gjirokaster

- 6- The role of the civil society in the transparency regarding the decisions that are taken about preserving and protecting our historical inheritance.

C)

The campaign with posters and fliers to increase the awareness of the citizens

This campaign will continue throughout the implementation of this project. We will prepare 500 posters which will be distributed in different areas of our city. Posters will have the A-3 format. We will prepare 1000 fliers in the format A-4 which will contain the messages about the current situation of the historic city, the steps that are taken to improve it, the request for the citizens of Gjiroakster to cooperate and increase their awareness about these issues. The fliers will also contain the information about the activities that we are taking during the implementation of the project and the transparency.

21. What other organizations, if any, will be participating in the activity? Describe their roles.

Regional Association “Gazetaret Profesioniste” (Professional Journalists) – will be involved in television shows

The association based in CBO community founded by PNUD – active participation in the forums

The association of constructors - participation in the television shows and forums

The commerce association – participating in television shows and forums

The local branch of the Institute of the Monuments – participating in television shows and forums

Foundation PACARD involved in television shows ,forums and in preparation brochures

22. List the names and qualifications of key staff/volunteers responsible for activity implementation.

Marjeta Kola, Coordinator

The President of the Organization. Holds a bachelors of arts in Albanian and Literature and is currently completing her bachelors of science in Accounting. Marjeta Kola is a member of the board of GEF/SGP – Tirane. She is currently employed by the Municipality of Gjirokaster working as the director of the development and donators.

Alketa Qamo, Moderator

Holds a bachelor of science in Economics. Currently employed by the PACARD Foundations in the position of specialist.

Entela Shehaj, Moderator

Holds a bachelors in economics and Ph.D. in Economics. Dr. Shehaj is an associate professor at the University of Egerem Cabej in Gjirokaster.

Thanas Dino, Journalist / Reporter

Has an experience of over 25 years working as a journalist for the local and the national media.

Evaluation

23 . Please list the specific outcomes of your activity. What assessment methods/strategies will you use to track and measure outcomes? (e.g. interviews, surveys, focus groups, community feedback, etc.)

All our activities will be live to the public and the majority of these activities will be played live on the local television. We will go to the public and conduct surveys to measure the levels and the results of our activities

24. Describe briefly what will be different at the end of the grant period.

After we implement the project we will see a significant change in the citizen's response regarding the perseverance and protection of our cultural and historical inheritance
After we conclude the implementation of the project we will have three reports which will be a product of the forums. We will send the reports to the local authorities so they are aware of the current problems and they will take immediate actions to resolve these problems.

We will secure a better transparency among the local authorities and the government institutions

Through many debates, we will have a better idea and understanding on how to face and manage the problems that arise with the historic city of Gjirokaster

We will break the grounds for concrete investments which will benefit our purpose to implementing this project. The municipality has confirmed its help in this matter. We are currently negotiating with the Regional Environment Center to contribute in this matter as well.

25 . How will the activity's results be used and/or disseminated?

Our organization will put all the activities on the Regional Environment Center's bulletin. Activities will be reflected on the media; in fact, most of these activities will be conducted in the local media which will give the chance to public to be informed with all of our ideas, strategies and results.

Activity Income

26. Total applicant contribution.

In kind (describe):-

27. Funding leveraged by applicant from other donors: (List all sources and give estimated amounts)

<u>Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Fondazioni PACARD	US\$ 300
	Total: US\$ 300

28. Total requested from the World Bank: **US\$ 3110**

29. Total activity income from all sources: **US\$ 3410**

Budget for the Proposed Activity

Please (1) provide the necessary information for each budget item, and (2) indicate the funding source(s) that will cover the expense. Use as much space as necessary. All items must be related to the activity.

Item	Contribution from Applicant	Contribution from Other Donors Foundation Pacard/office in Gjirokaster	Contribution from the World Bank	Total
Professional Fees (list consultants and fees)				
Coordinator 4monthx\$100			\$400	\$400
Moderator 6monthsx\$150			\$900	\$900
Lecturer 3x\$100		\$100	\$200	\$300
Travel (specify) 2x\$50			\$100	\$100
Equipment (specify)			World Bank Funding not allowed for equipment	
Translation 1x\$50			\$50	\$50
Materials			\$100	\$100
telephon			\$100	\$100
invitations			\$60	\$60
Evaluation (specify)				
Miscellaneous (water / coffee)			\$300	\$300
brochures		\$100	\$250	\$350
posters		\$100	\$250	\$350
Monitoring- Evaluation			\$100	\$100
Television Time			\$300	\$300
Total Expenses:		300usd	\$3110	\$3410