



**PARTICIPATORY LOCAL SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (PLSD)  
NO. J1704381 / ID. 1784505**



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# Kosova / コソボ

## Republika e Kosovës

Kosova is situated in Balkan peninsula in South-eastern part of Europe. It is an independent state since 2008 after It's secession from Yugoslavia in 1999.

The capital of Kosovo is Pristina and the predominant language is Albanian.

The gross area of Kosova is 10,908 km<sup>2</sup> and according to the last census the population is 1.8 mil

Currency is EURO





## Area

10,908 km<sup>2</sup>  
(4,212 sq mi)



## Population

1,859,203 hab



## Comunities

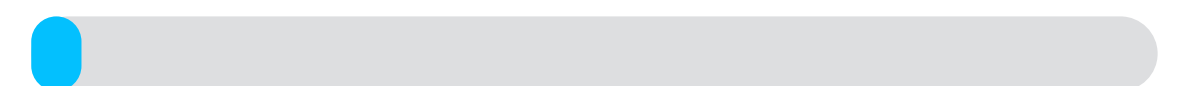
Albanian



Srbian



Turkish/Roma/ others





Arben Llapashtica photography



Kosovo has an increasing population dominated by younger group ages. Men and women younger than 25 years-old represent 49 per cent of population, whereas 19.1 per cent of the youth are between 15-24 years-old. It is estimated that about a half million Kosovars lived abroad, notably in Germany, Switzerland, Scandinavia, and North America according to [Britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com)

The climate is continental, with very warm summers and cold and snowy winters.

The interior terrain comprises of high plains and rolling hills Kosovo is more densely populated than its neighbors.

Half of population live in seven major Towns  
And half the population lives in rural areas, mainly in small villages in the central plains and on the lower slopes of the mountains.

However there was a considerable shift in settlement throughout Kosovo after the 1998–99 conflict.



# Mitrovica

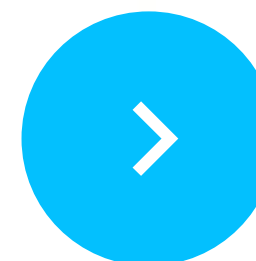


As a focus of the organization we are chiefly working in the region of Mitrovica:

A town with Approximately 150,000 inhabitants. 60,000 in Urban Area divided by two communities in terms of nationality 75% Albanian (Southern area) and 25% Serbian ( Northern Area), with total Area of 331 Km<sup>2</sup>.

Due to political division intercommunication between the two communities is more intricate and freedom of movement is more or less prohibited especially in the north of the city

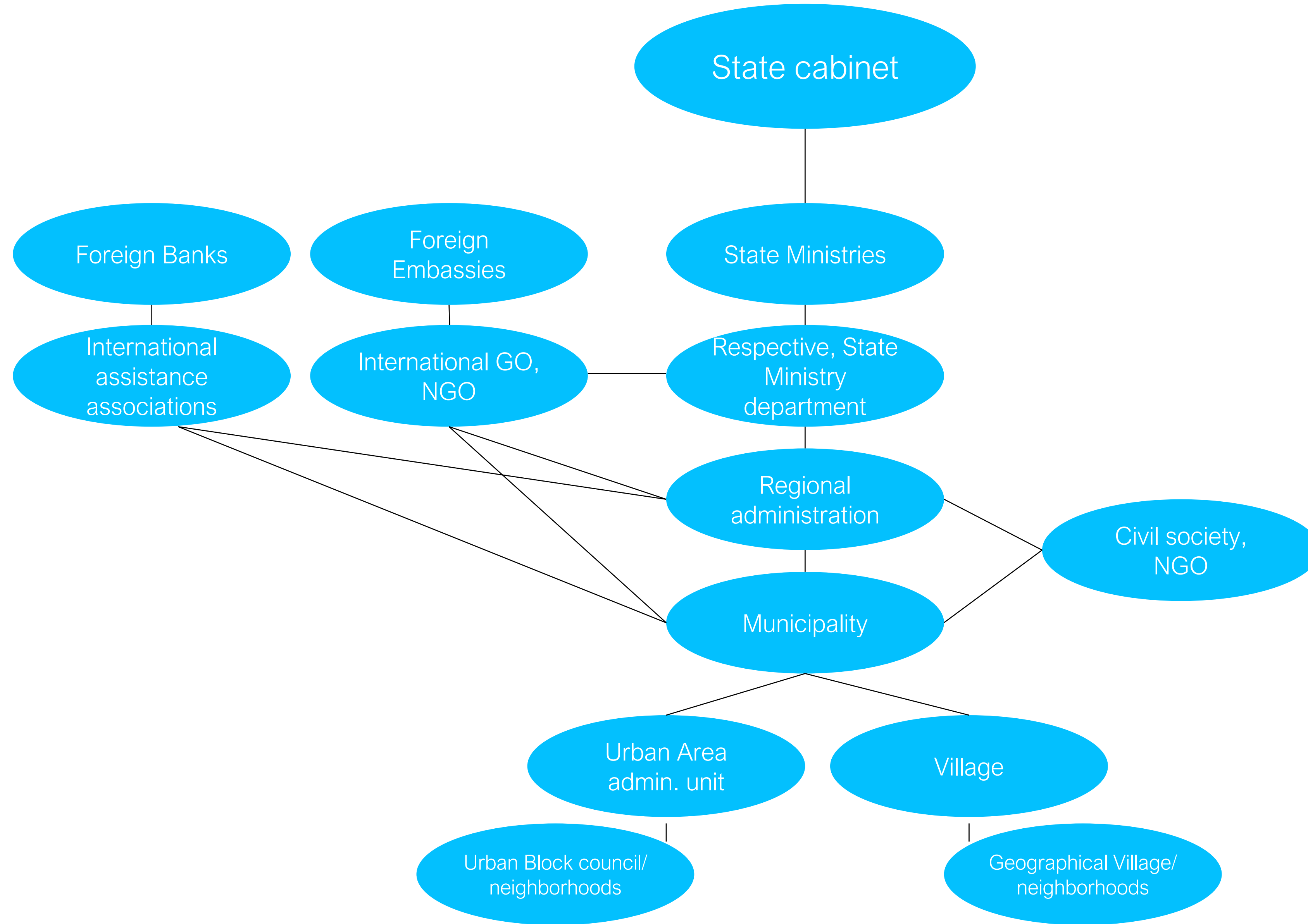
With up to 20,000 employees, Trepča was once one of the biggest regional companies and accounted for 70% of all Yugoslavia's mineral wealth. Until the end of 20 century Trepca was a conglomerate of 40 mines and factories. While the mines are currently still producing today the rest of Trepča complex is derelict and in a failing state partly due to its murky ownership structure and numerous creditor claims.



Until the matters of ownership, privatization or under more recent developments that lean toward nationalization of the Trepca mines, factories and other supportive facilities; Privatization Agency of Kosovo (KPA) who is now in the process of leasing for a specific amount of time some of the facilities which are derelict and abandoned. While the mines and some of the factories have the opportunity and potential to be revitalized for their intended purpose, some facilities due to modernization of technology can never be utilized for the same purpose.



# Kosova Administration hierarchy in respect of the proposed ongoing project



# Similar structure of social units within settlements and villages

## Cities:

- Town municipality - Komuna
- Local Neighborhood administration- Bashkësia lokale
- Neighborhood- Lagjja
- Urban block- Blloku urban
- Housing unit- Njësia banesore

## Villages:

- Central Village- Fshati Qendër
- Geographical Village- Fshat
- Neighborhood- Lagje e Fshatit
- Housing unit- Shtëpi



# Traditional collective actions and social organizations

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## Local people's traditional collective actions

While still suffering from the transition through political and social changes, most of the traditional collective actions have reverted toward only individual mutual support and individually based although there can be find still cases of asset management for common benefit as in case of joint stock corporation and cooperatives.

With the dismemberment of Yugoslavian federation in the end of last century the socio-political changes and formation of Kosovo republic as a new state resulted in privatization of formerly owned governmental assets or publicly owned corporations. Although in Recent developments there are



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## Social organizations

**KCSF, EUICC, (CBM) ,**

KCSF Kosova Civil society foundation, is mainly organized of Non-Governmental Organizations. The following are the NGO types: membership associations and foundations. Latest data from the Department for Registration and Liaison with NGOs show that there are over 7,000 NGOs registered in Kosovo, with the majority being membership associations.

EUICC EU Information and Cultural Centre provides information on European Union, its institutions and policies, various EU grants and projects for Kosovo, and Kosovo's road towards EU Integration.acts as the 'eyes and ears' for the EU presence in Kosovo, and it is the hub of EU-related activities..

CBM Community Building Mitrovica, a collective NGO operating in the field of peace and community building in the wider region of Mitrovica. it is part of CiviKos Platform an initiative of civil society organizations in Kosovo started in early 2007, aimed at creating an enabling environment for cooperation of formal civil society sector and the Government.



Worth mentioning is the Open air Cinema and Green festival as annual collective undertakings which initially were organized in 2007 on the public spaces that were previously confined by the military forces and local community were not free to use; the example being the Iber River bank that divided two communities of the city and in order to promote the spaces which were originally designated for communal purposes and were the most attractive parts of the city. Some of the collective actions are: ecological discussions, annual best garden competition, supplying of garbage separation cans, one day collective cleaning of public spaces activity, environmental documentary open air screenings and music festival for promotion of young local artists.

Target Community in scope that the project addresses is Mitrovica Youth in General and in particular Culture and Art Enthusiasts while we as Shtatë Arte NGO were originally formed from the local community itself.

Men and women younger than 25 years-old represent 49 per cent of Kosovo population and with high the unemployment rate as well as movement restrictions (Kosovo can only travel to 4 neighboring countries without Visa). Smaller chances and opportunities to present or expose their knowledge and social contribution.

The project is also quite relevant in environmental terms due to transforming an abandoned hazardous space in a alternative culture hub for the community.



## Shtatë arte NGO

As an NGO Shtate arte was incepted in Mitrovica on 2006 for the purpose of promoting and Empowering youth of Kosovo in expanding knowledge and developing skills through international networks as well as promoting local youth culture in Europe and further. The mission of the organization is in Promoting culture as the fourth pillar of the sustainable development, using artists and culture for environmental awareness.



Green Initiative  
Green music festival  
Revitalizing of abandoned urban Areas  
Cultural policies on focus of Mitrovica- strategic plan  
Open Air cinema  
Short Movie script European Contest

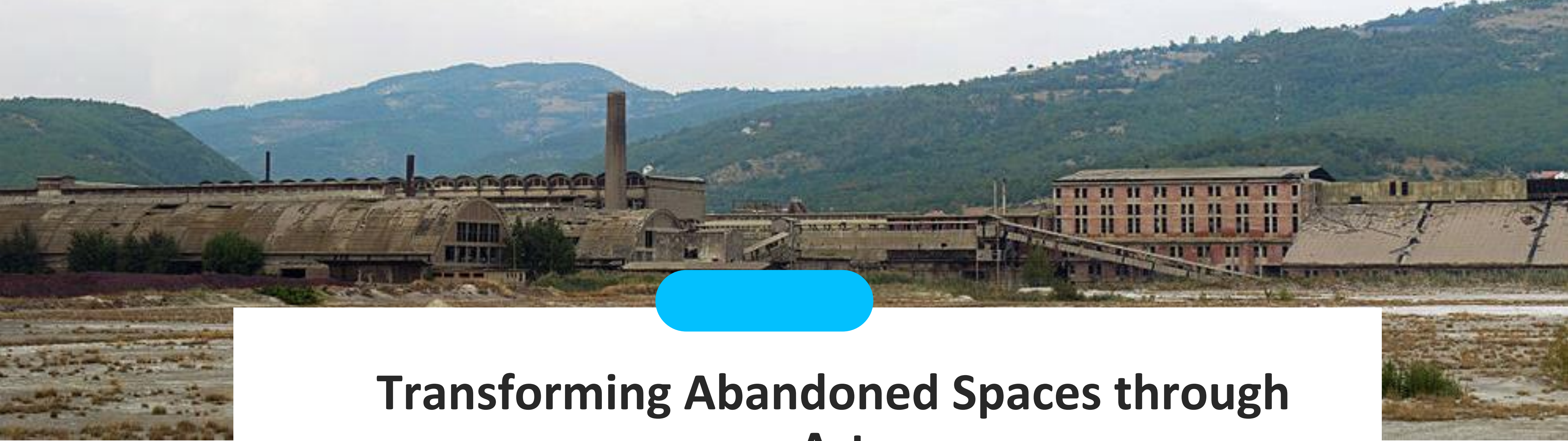


7-Arte as a part of a larger network of European NGO: NisiMasa; TEH, Hopebox etc. plays the role of a cultural alternative center by organizing multidisciplinary cultural activities such as: audio-visual workshops, music festivals, outdoor screening, street art, poetry nights, crafts fair, exchange programs and education programs, peace building and environmental actions.

Our experience goes back to 2009 when we started with smaller scale transformation of the abandoned unused spaces- e.g. the ex military barracks in Mitrovica where with the help of community artists and enthusiasts we transformed it into a Library / Offices space. The project was utilized till 2011 until the construct was demolished.

On 2011 we transformed the top floor offices of the "Bankos" Building- ex Yugoslavian bank and later OSCE offices into Creative corner and HQ offices of 7 arte which is in use to-date.





# Transforming Abandoned Spaces through Art

Revitalization of the part of administration facilities of industrial complex area of Trepca mines in Mitrovica - conversion initially to youth alternative cultural facilities

Objective :

Bringing life in the abandoned and highly polluted urban space in Mitrovica. and the same time removal of contamination materials stored in the area close to the residential blocks. Creating artistically creative and educational spaces for the youth in a city with a lot of political and economical problems.

As the most important aspect of **place making** is taking into account inputs of the people who will be using the public space most. That is, to say, the community for which the public space is intended. And that the members of the community are likely to have useful insights into how the space does - or should - function, as well as a historical perspective of the area, and an understanding of what does and does not matter to other members of the community.

# Objectives and goals



## Short term objectives

To address the Youth groups needs in terms of establishing a facility as a starting point for them to further develop new ideas and projects.

Employment or at least a working practice-internship that will enable the direct linkage between the Youth groups and Gov, Int. agencies and NGO-s.



## Immediate impact

Bringing life in the derelict polluted urban space in Mitrovica.

Removal of contamination materials close to the residential blocks.

Creating artistically creative and educational spaces for the youth in a city with a lot of political and economical problems.



## Long term objectives

Long term objective is establishing the basis for organizing and empowering the youth community through promotion of the common spirit based and group practices on the creative expressions and making them a partner on decision making rather than just a dependant beneficiary.



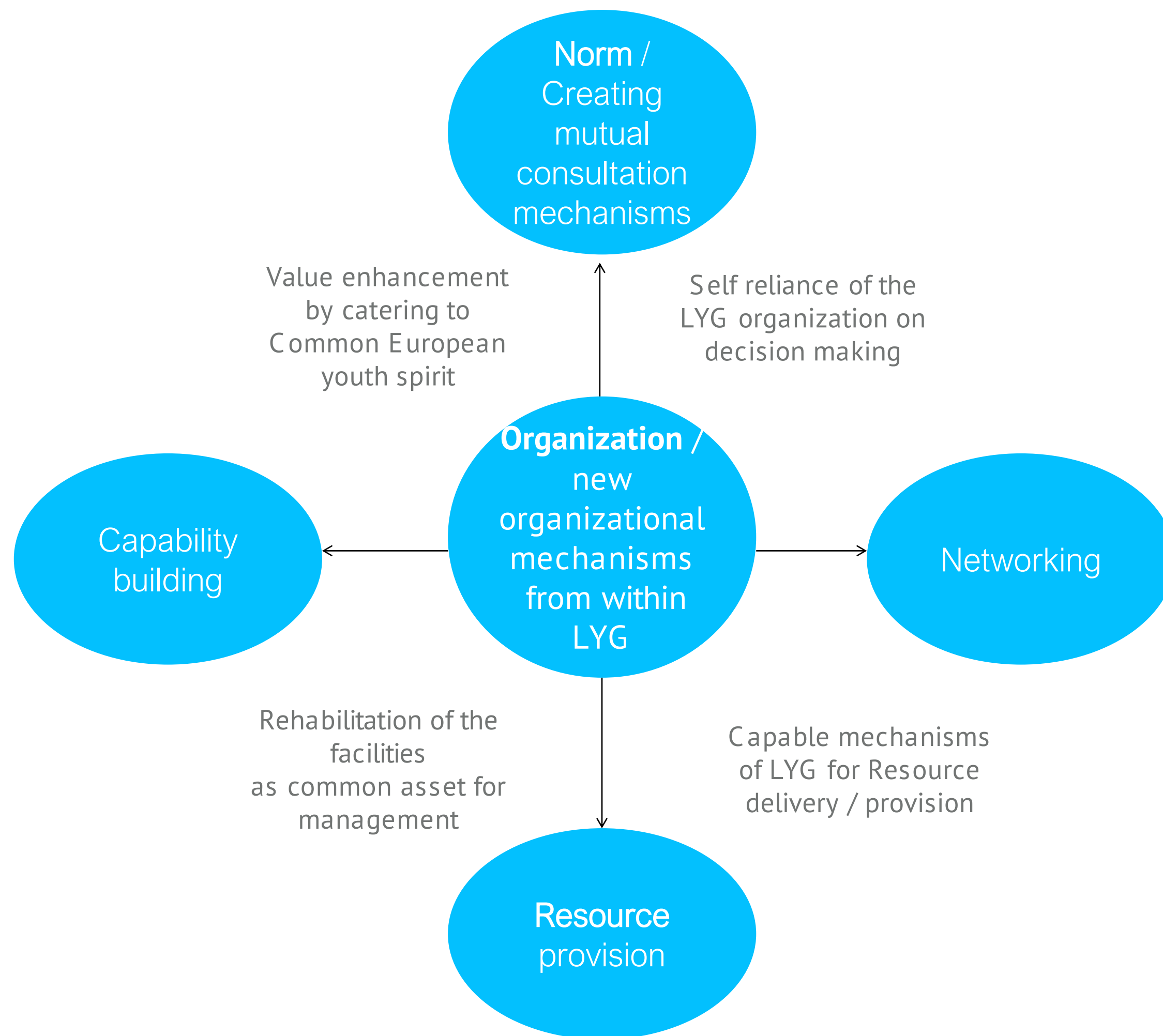
## Specific issues

From our experience while being involved with the youth groups on our numerous undertakings the most common felt needs or issues of the Youth community generalized are:

- Employment opportunity
- Scholarships
- Exposition of their products
- Opportunity for networking
- COMMON FACILITIES**
- RECREATION FACILITIES**
- ENVIRONMENTAL**

While in the most cases the indicated felt needs are for individual benefit, our initial approach was to tackle the Common facilities needs which could be facilitated as a starting point for organizing the L.Y.G in order for them to be self empowered so as they can find a better solution for the other needs.

Forming a framework for Involvement of the local youth in the detailing and execution and maintaining of the project.



## Initial approach adopted

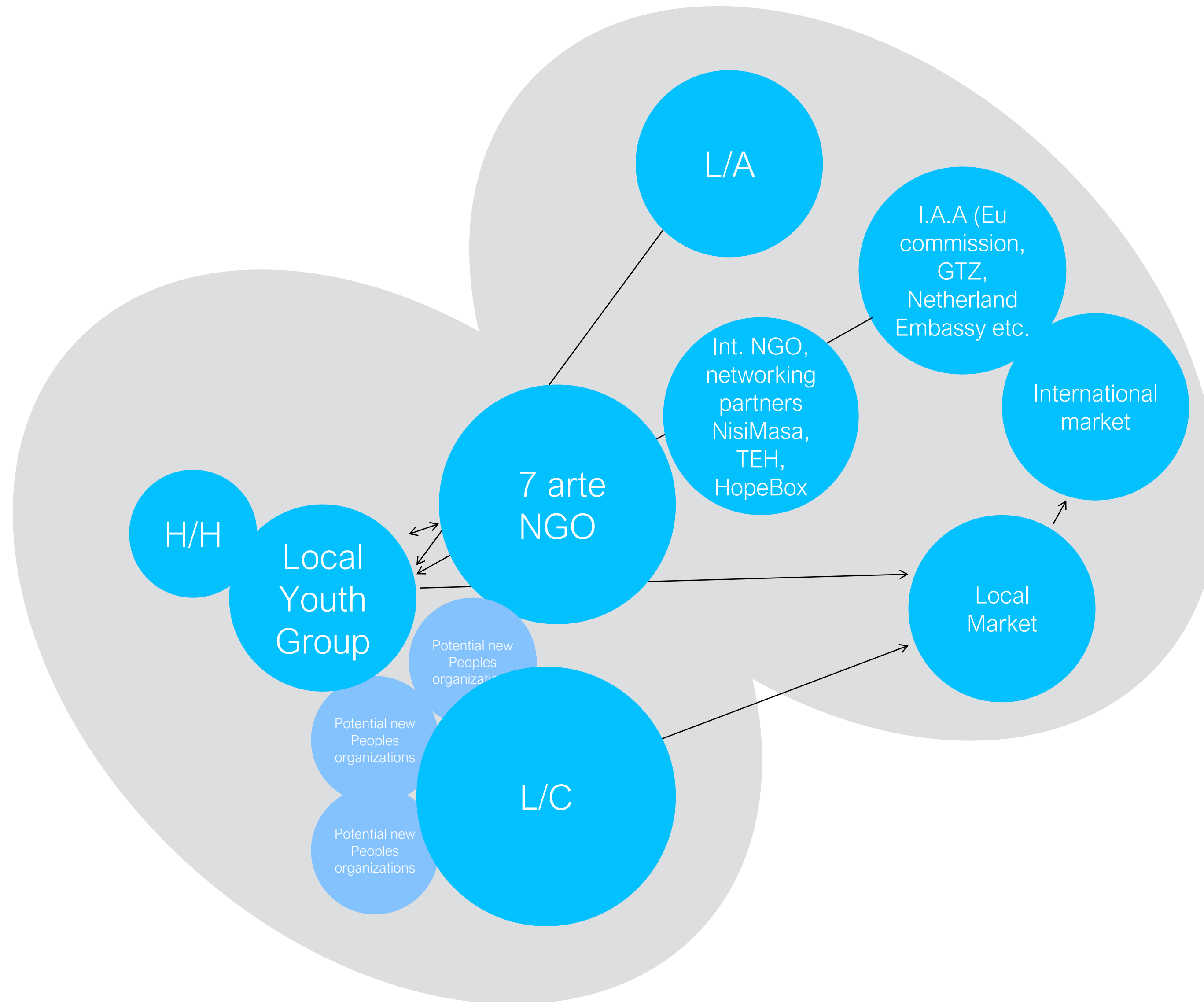
Value formation or rather value enhancement is our organizations very purpose, respectfully is in catering to the Youth groups of Mitrovica. By way of trying to promote a common European youth spirit which in one hand provide the best common practices while highlighting and enhancing local particularities of each. In most cases this is done by way of organizing several Activities e.g. Workshops and events that are incepted from within the Youth groups itself.

However not enough actions have been undertaken in conscentization of Local administration on the needs and benefits of organizing the L.Y.G. with the objective of empowering them to be more self reliant.

The largest portion of initial work however is still ongoing in creating new organizational mechanisms from within L.Y.G. in terms of creating a firm and sustainable basis for the sustainability of the development.

In terms of resource provision: We have already finished the initial proposal, draft design for rehabilitation and revitalization of the facilities, financial breakdown of the undertaking and searching for founding opportunities (local as well as from foreign embassies - organizations).

- Collaboration mechanism among supporting organizations / agencies for project implementation,



## Functional typology the target organization

Local Youth group while still not a fully fledged organization but a volunteer participation in this case of artistically prone youth with a will for social uplifting.

Due to modernization influence and socio-political changes largely the common assets that benefit the community are at most governmental owned facilities that are employed, maintained and influenced from the G.A.

Through the facilitation of 7 arte NGO and as initial stage of the project we want to reintroduce the concept of Common assets and supplying the support whether in capability building or networking to the LYG organization to manage and employ the facilities for further development.

With the support of 7arte through monitoring and consultation as well as on providing networking opportunities with int. Agencies ( NGO, NPO etc) the activities that will be organized by the LYG will generate income for maintenance and self-reliance of the organization itself; while on the same time reducing the dependancy on the resource provision from outer sources.

e.g.: Promotion of Art generated products, renting part of facilities to other organizations, ticket sales of movie screenings and music festival, handcrafted products etc.

## Socio Geographical Unit

By initially tackling the problems and needs of the attributive social age based group – local Youth community of Mitrovica Municipality. By raising the capabilities of the group with the foremost potential for integrating wide-spread area based organizational mechanisms of the local community.

## Measures and components

- Getting the input of the local youth groups ( done through a largest period of time)
- Approach and involve the groups in the inception of the idea
- Public discussions with the larger community and L.A. on the benefits of the undertaking
- Interviews and meeting with local youth community and civil community organizations
- Mapping and choosing the most suitable "abandoned" spaces
- Planning site-specific interventions
- Administrative tasks in obtaining the permits



## Approach adopted

Organizing Periodical Discussions with L.Y.G. and also conscentization of L.A. of the L.Y. needs and potential

Selecting the L.G. felt need to approach in terms of creating asset management and forming a basis for SG.

In more practical approach with the input from the L.G. we have adopted a proposal, design for rehabilitation and revitalization of the facilities, financial breakdown of the undertaking and are still searching for founding opportunities ( local as well as from foreign embassies - organizations).



## Organization arrangements

Identifying volunteering participants from the local community that show interest in participating for common benefit especially in the initial planning phase.

Facilitation on forming of work groups that will be involved during the execution.

Forming a sustainable organization for the maintenance and functionalizing the facilities.

Periodical meeting with the local administration ( Mitrovica municipality, Ministry of spatial planning and KPA) .

Currently we are at a stage where we have managed to get the support ( moral support) of the Government respectively the Ministry of spatial planning, the municipality of Mitrovica as well as local civil society groups.



## Relevance of project organization

The relevance in regards of this project is the avocation and promotion of the importance and value of non-formal cultural spaces initiated by citizens and artists as alternative open spaces for creation.

Transformative experiences that have the capacity to change communities, perceptions and societies.

## Project phasing with role delineation among GO, NGOs, People Organization (PO) and other external supporting groups,

Through our networking partners library access we have reviewed several cases in Europe since the 1970s where artists have reclaimed abandoned industrial buildings, more specific on the history of “cultural wastelands”; modalities of repurposing by cultural actors, as well as by architects, audiences and communities.

Local Community participation in this case artistically prone youngsters whether of 7 arte organization or civil, in participation of the design and reconstruction creation phase where the design would allow ; so that the space would be transformed esthetically with the creative input of L.Y.G.in according to the results from the training and workshops that will be organized with the cooperation of our network partners (qualified trainers and professionals).

The GO role in giving the permits for renting the facility for a certain time as well as giving the appropriate permit ions as well as funding if finding the possibility.

The resources for initial reconstruction with the help of I.A.A. , I NGO and local businesses through project grants and donations in kind .

PO contribution is through Labor, design ideas, maintenance and utilizing the facilities for further development self organizing and eventually social empowerment.

# Assessment/evaluation of the on-going Local Social Development project

## Issues/ problems

Consentization of the L.A. in the actual needs and potential of L.Y. Community.

Forming the organizing capabilities of the L.Y.G. for the purpose of self reliance

Terms of renting the facilities managed by Kosovo Property administration and Trepca administration,

Delays on the time schedule of the project

Political and Financial uncertainty

## Appropriateness /effectiveness of the approach

Strived effectiveness in this case is to create a self sufficient lasting concept that will mainly inspire the Government and local key players to invest more in creating safe, healthy alternative and artistically creative spaces

## Solutions

The appropriate solution that we are striving to achieve:

Establishing the basis for organizing and empowering the youth community through promotion of the common spirit based and group practices on the creative expressions and making them a partner on decision making rather than just a dependant beneficiary

Self sustainability of the facility by renting several transformed spaces

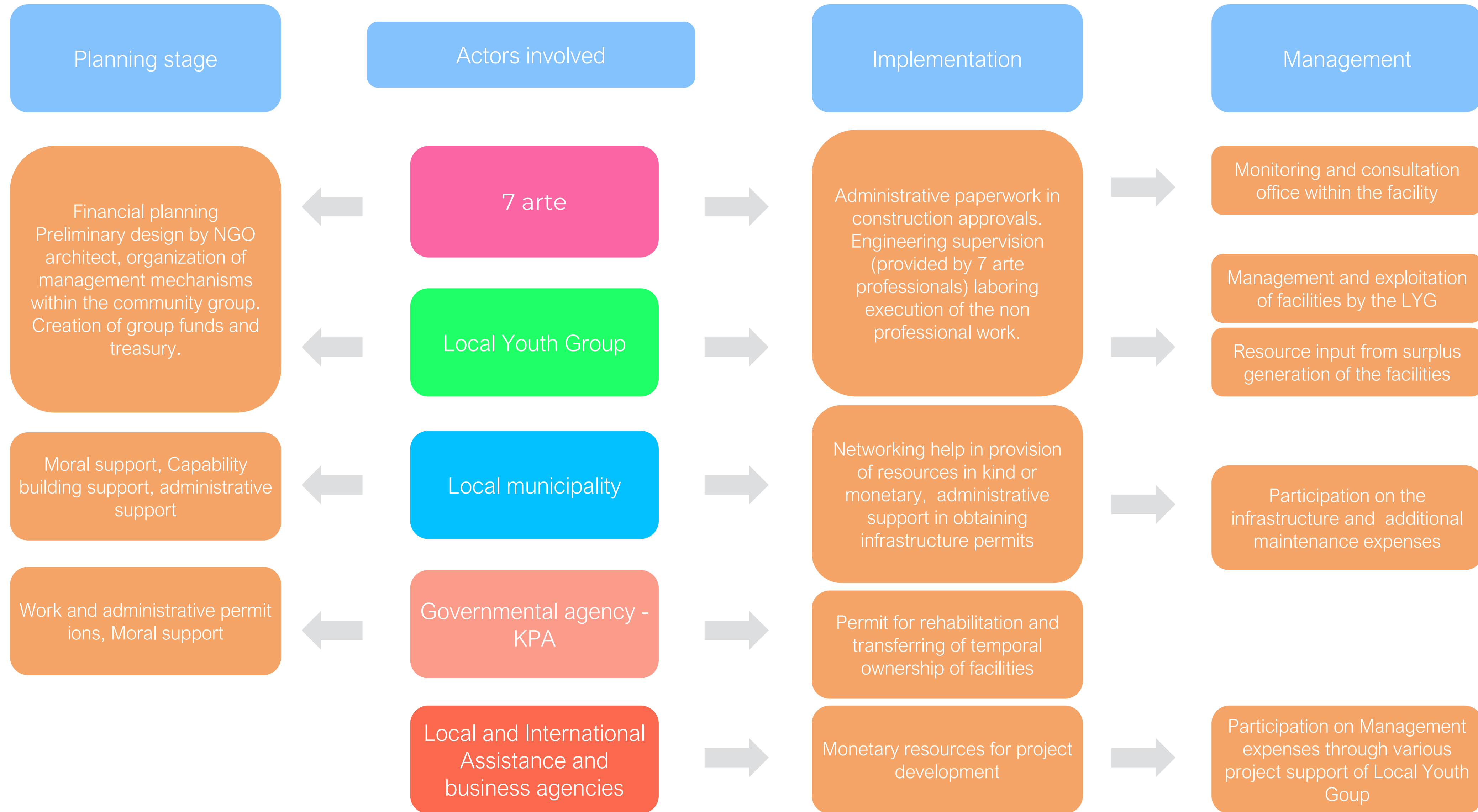
Productive Workshops and events that can help to financially sustain and employ the needed everyday staff



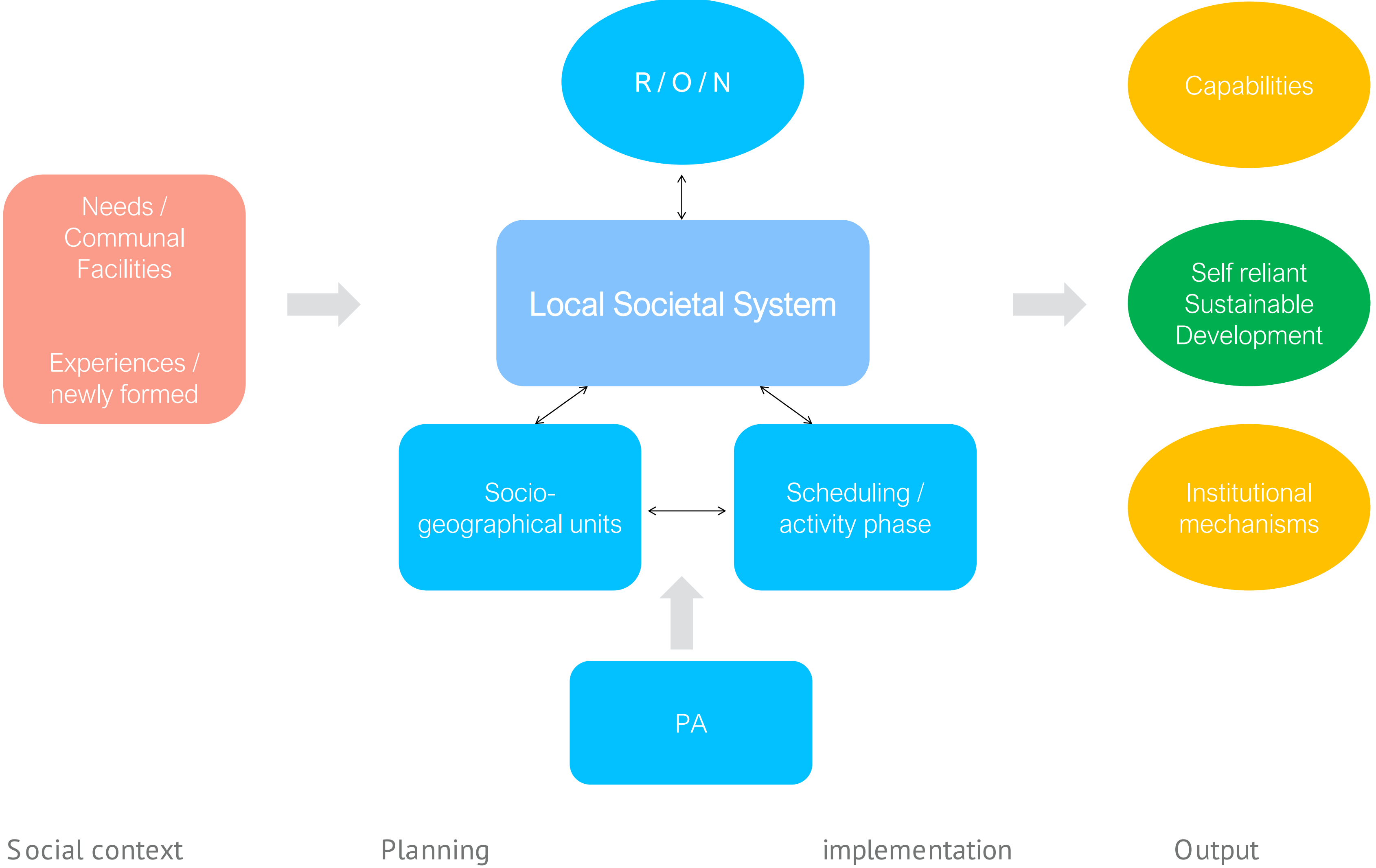
# Clarity of project purpose and goals:

A: Needs/ problems	B: Upper goals	C: Project purpose	D: Logical linkage between A to C	E: Degree of consideration and orientation towards capability building of TG and local society in B and C	F: Consideration and reflectedness of Unique features and Characteristics of the Local Society
<p>Facility space for the needs of youth local groups. Resource provision for the implementing youth based activities. Creating new networking opportunities for young local people. Creating new Employment opportunities.</p>	<p>Empowerment of Local youth community toward self reliance, as a foremost potential group for leading the further social development in wider Age, gender and Area based sense.</p>	<p>Creating new facilities by way of rehabilitation of the derelict ones as the means for introducing common assets to the local youth groups.</p>	<p>By tackling the felt need for facility spaces , introduction of common assets that can be constructed and maintained with the participation of the community a foundation can be laid toward the upper goal of crating capable organizational mechanisms from the community itself</p>	<p>By way of reconstructing of the new facilities, common asset can be shared and managed by the community itself, through organization of Youth participants capabilities for management and reintroduction of traditional values and norms and it will ultimately establish the foundation for forming self reliant and capable organizational mechanisms.</p>	<p>Due to modernization and global capitalistic influence individuality and introversion are most commonly found in Kosovo society especially in the youth. While traditional family norms and values are gradually being phased out.</p>

# Organization arrangements



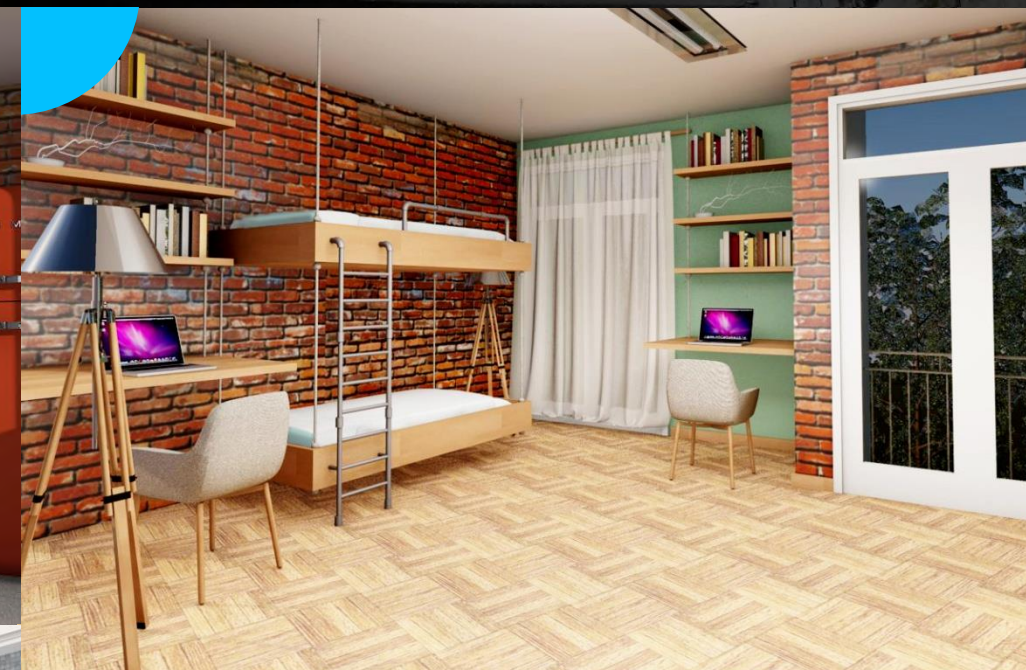
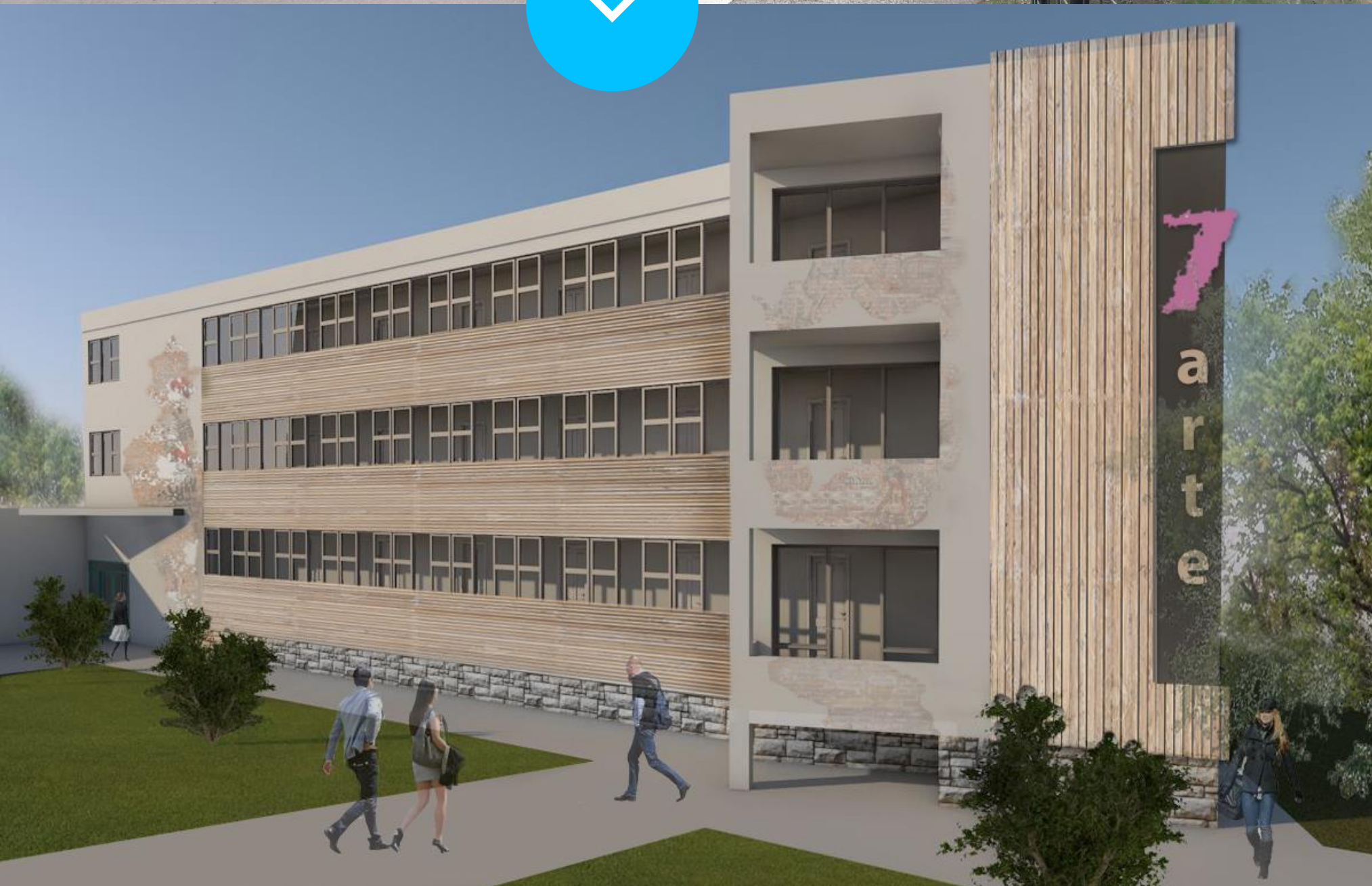
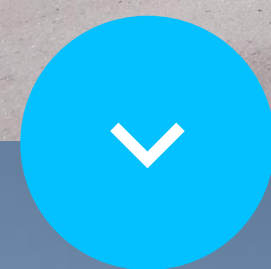
# Organization arrangements

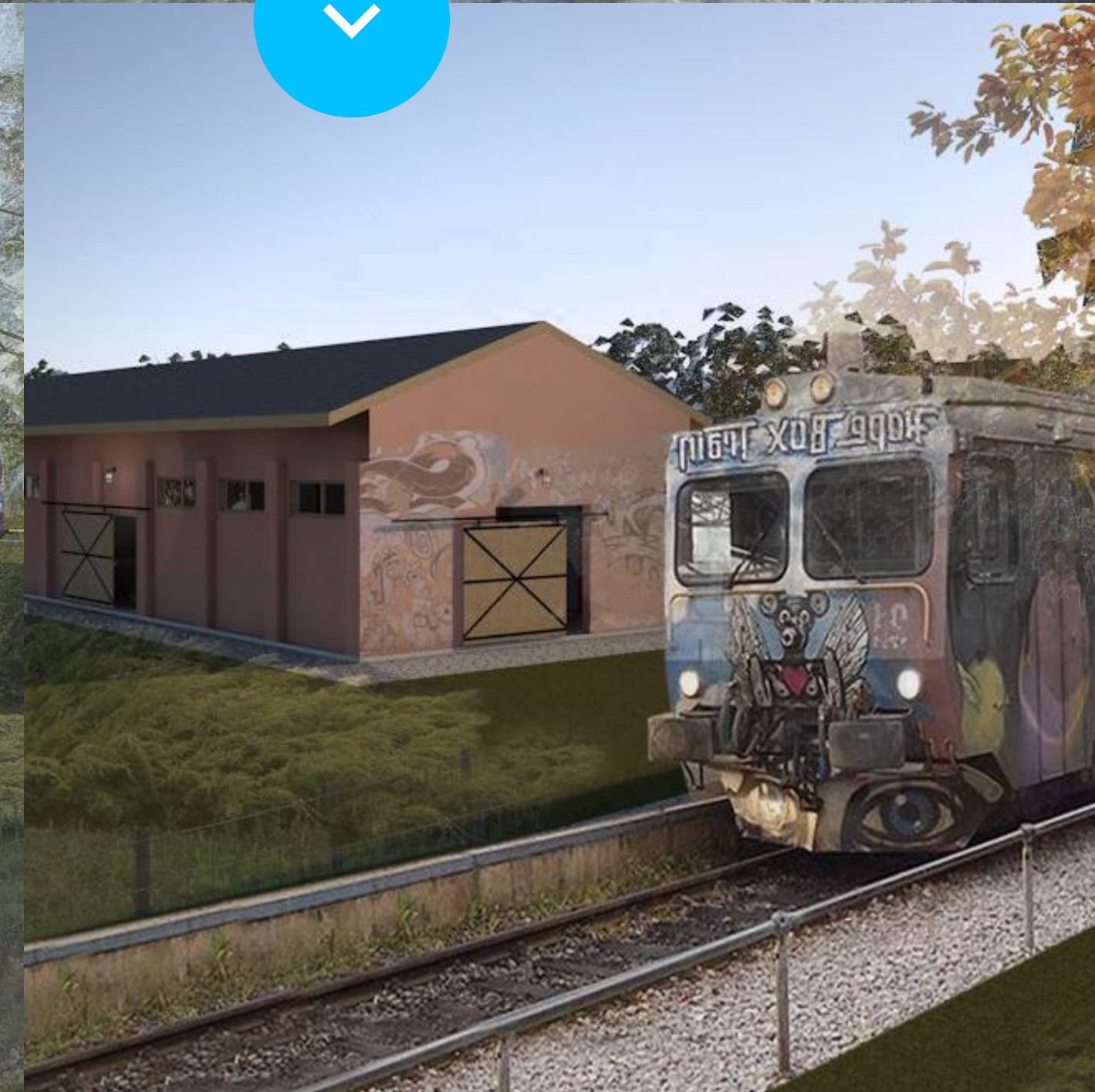
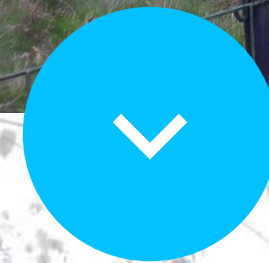


## Legacy

Forming organized Local Youth Group that through employment of the common creative spirit that comes from their fundamental values as the future agents for the development of the local society as a whole.

The concept is to promote the **place making** including the local community and furthering the trend of revitalizing the derelict structures in a place where the land is becoming a commodity each day.







Thank You!

