

## Local Partnership and LOCAL DEVELOPMENT IN GENERAL

- Lithuania

Starting from the acknowledgement that community entrepreneurship is still a developing concept in Lithuania, the Business Information Centre of Anykščiai District Municipality, together with two participants of the Young Professionals Programme (YPP) "Create for Lithuania", came up with the idea to create a Local Community Enterprise Support Network, hoping to stimulate the creation of self-sustainable communities as well as a platform to improve local entrepreneurship, in order to solve local social problems and earn additional incomes.

The Network's main aim is to connect local communities with local businessmen, artists and social entrepreneurs who are ready to help them with their community enterprise ideas and offer partnership opportunities. Anykščiai Business Information Centre will coordinate the Network and facilitate conversations between stakeholders. Any local community considering to start a community enterprise, namely in rural areas, can now contact Anykščiai Business Information Centre with their request and get professional advice or find a business partner to collaborate with.

Local Community Enterprise Support Network received a special mention for the [REVES Excellence Award 2015](#).

- United Kingdom

### Community Planning Partnerships/Race Equality Schemes

Community planning partnerships in the UK could probably be considered as being very similar to the partnerships and processes launched with the "Piani di Zona" in Italy. They involve public authorities, but also (social) private structures, voluntary organisations etc. In the city of Aberdeen, for instance, different forums on diverse aspects of life have been created in order to discuss and identify needs, priorities and joint actions.

Also activities related to the fight against any form of discrimination and the promotion of intercultural dialogue have been included in the community plan. Moreover, they were taken up by the Aberdeen Race Equality Scheme. Both documents, the race equality scheme and the community plan, have, amongst others, the objective to:

1. promote equal opportunities and prevent discrimination
2. contribute to raising the awareness of race equality
3. promote consultation with different (migrant) communities
4. foster interaction and cooperation between persons of different racial groups
5. enhance participation in the economic and social life of the city
6. create and/or provide venues for participation and exchange, including venues for the expression of minorities.

Actions identified through the community plan, however, are realised by different public and private structures and groups.