



## IIIrd PROGRAM

# THE PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

# ABOUT 7ARTE

7Arte was established in May 2006 by a group of local artists in Mitrovica, Kosovo. With 16 years of experience, 7Arte plays the role of a cultural alternative center by organizing multidisciplinary cultural activities such as audio-visual workshops, music festivals, outdoor screenings, street art, poetry nights, exchange programs and education programs, and environmental actions.

7Arte is located in the industrial city of Mitrovica, where a rich ethnic and cultural diversity is intertwined. Being an area rich in minerals and with a special geo-strategic position where the mountains of Kopaonik end, meet three rivers, have made this city desired over the centuries, by different civilizations. 7Arte is located in a city that has a rich cultural diversity and unfortunately is divided into two municipalities based on ethnic differences.

The main office of 7Arte is located in the city center, in a building that has a brutal architectural style, which was made for the bank known as Bankos during the modernization of Mitrovica city in the middle of the XX century. Since 2011, 7Arte has been running the last floor of this building, which has a 120-meter square terrace with a special view of the city center where most of the cultural activities are organized.





7Arte's main goal is: To support Kosovar artists; promoting and developing a common European culture. By applying arts and culture as a force toward creating an inclusive, peaceful, and sustainable region.

Our strategic goals focus on three programs:

- 1. Development of an alternative cultural-artistic scene**
- 2. Empowering youth and nonformal education; and**
- 3. Promoting the Sustainable development of the region via culture and arts;**

7Arte involves and encourages women to be active in different initiatives and programs with a focus on the creative industry, and cultural heritage; an organisation that includes environmental components, strives to revitalize abandoned places and to advocate toward inclusive local cultural politics.



## Community development and networking

- About 50 volunteers involved during the year
- Marginalized groups part of the program activities
- Engagement of youth as volunteers during Green Fest activities and more
- Delegation of youth in educational programs outside of Kosovo
- Establishment of partnerships and involvement in networks of environmental organizations within and outside of Kosovo



## Research and publications

**"Environmental Situation in Mitrovica"** - Gresa Ferri and Damir Gashi, 2023

**"The State of Waters in Mitrovica"** - Egzona Shala, 2023

**"Urban Gardens and Green Spaces in Mitrovica"** - Fjollë Caka, 2024

**Environmental Protection Toolkit** - Gresa Ferri, 2023

**How to Create a Successful Digital Campaign; Digital Activism Handbook** - Compiled by YEE; Translated by 7Arte, 2022



## Environmental actions

- Planting of 1007 trees in the year 2023.
- Implementation of an urban garden, according to architectural workshop
- Eco-camps and interventions in public spaces.
- Support for local initiatives such as "Volunteers for a Clean Homeland" and "Environmentalists of Mitrovica."

## Educational programs

- Empowerment of 12 green groups in elementary schools;
- Workshops on environmental themes;
- 7Arte Academy - through artistic and environmental education.



## Advocacy Campaigns

- Consciousness-raising campaign with Youth and Environment Europe (YEE).
- Creation of advocacy videos about the state of rivers.
- Promotion of successful events by young environmentalists.
- Meetings with institutions and civil society.



## Lifestyle and well-being

- Hiking, environmental actions, yoga, pilates, cycling, boccia, etc.
- Awarding 12 prizes in private and institutional categories for the best gardens.

## Green Fest

- Screening of over 50 environmental films in public spaces;
- Organizing poetic nights in nature;
- Green Talks;
- Educational program "Green Kids" to raise environmental awareness among youth;
- Music nights;
- Exhibitions with environmental themes;
- Murals.





### **Environmental Aspect:**

7Arte has been actively involved in direct environmental conservation activities, such as organizing cleaning actions and tree planting campaigns, which directly contribute to improving the local ecosystem.

Through educational programs and workshops focused on environmental issues, 7Arte raises awareness about climate change and sustainable practices, fostering a more environmentally conscious community.

The Mitrovica Green Festival and other events organized by 7Arte promote eco-friendly practices, emphasizing the importance of environmental stewardship.

### **Social Aspect:**

7Arte engages diverse community groups, fostering inclusiveness and ensuring that environmental initiatives are accessible to all sections of society.

By integrating lifestyle and sports activities into their programs, 7Arte encourages a healthy, active lifestyle, which has social benefits.

Through study visits and collaborative events, 7Arte strengthens community bonds and encourages collective action on social and environmental issues.

### **Governance Aspect:**

7Arte's advocacy efforts aim to influence local policy, particularly in areas related to environmental governance.

By empowering green clubs within schools and providing educational resources, 7Arte contributes to building a knowledgeable base for future governance.

Through the publication of researches and toolkits, 7Arte promotes transparency and informs the public and policymakers about environmental issues.

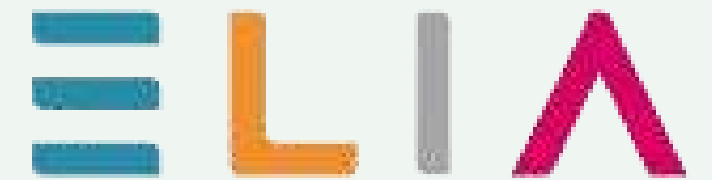




Recently, we launched our newest project "**Empowering Environmental Civil Society Organizations in Kosovo (EECSOK)**." The main goal of the project is to strengthen partner organizations by enhancing their capacities to address challenges in relevant environmental fields, aiming to influence positive and sustainable changes in the environment. Meanwhile, 7Arte will focus on raising awareness, advocacy, and addressing issues related to water/rivers in Mitrovica and its surroundings. At the same time, through this project, the Mitrovica Green Fest will be strengthened, which during 2024 will address the theme "Life in Water" according to SDG 14. Additionally, workshops and educational programs will be developed as part of the 7Arte Academy.

The project is supported by the **Embassy of Sweden in Prishtina.**

# NETWORKING



**EFFE** - EUROPE FOR FESTIVALS FESTIVALS FOR EUROPE

**YEE** - YOUTH ENVIRONMENT EUROPE

**LOCAF** - LOCAL CLIMATE ACTION FORUM IN KOSOVO

**TEH** - TRANS EUROPE HALLES

**ELIA** - EUROPEAN LEAGUE OF INSTITUTES OF THE ARTS

**THANK YOU!**

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**FACEBOOK: GREENFEST**

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