





## **ERASMUS+ PARTNER IDENTIFICATION**

PARTNER ORGANISATION				
PIC	905622168			
OID	E10024324			
Full legal name	BITISI			
Full Address	D. Guramishvili ave. #15a			
Country	Georgia			
City	Tbilisi			
Post Code	0192			
Website	https://bitisi.org/			
Email	Bitis.ge@gmail.com			
Telephone	+995 577 607 242			
PROFILE				
Type of Organisation	Non-Governmental Organisation			
Is the partner organisation a public body?	No			
Is the partner organisation a nonprofit?	Yes			
Main sector of activity	Offering participation in youth-led events and youth participation activities			
Please specify the main sector	Youth Empowerment			
ACCREDITATION				
Has the organisation received any type of accreditation before submitting this application?	Quality Label • Hosting & Supporting Role • Valid until 12/2027			

# Would you like to make any comments or add any information to the summary of your organisation's past participation?

BITISI got involved in Erasmus + in 2019. Since then the organization has been involved in more than 100 Youth Mobility Projects (KA1). BITISI has sent over 400 Georgian participants to programme and partner countries. The organization has been accredited as a Hosting & Sending organization for European Solidarity Corps projects since 2020 and has sent more than 120 participants on short-term and long-term volunteering services. In 2022 BITISI hosted 3 KA152 projects in Georgia.

# **Briefly About BITISI**

BITISI is a non-profit organization working for youth and communities in need on local and international level.

BITISI cooperates with international organizations, universities and local entities and offers exchanges, workshops, training courses, conferences to promote social inclusion, sense of entrepreneurship, healthy lifestyle, non-formal education, EU values.

## BITISI team cooperates to enrich the following goals:

- Improve the skills and competencies of young people, particularly, through non-formal and informal learning experiences;
- To enhance the importance of diverse values as importance for maintaining pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality;
- To promote social inclusion and help young people with fewer opportunities (refugees, social/ economical obstacled people) integrate to the society;
- To promote phisical activities and show the added value of being healthy;
- To empower young people to find their own way in life.

The abbreviation of BITISI itself stands for "Because I Take It Seriously" — in this respect, BITISI team concentrates on understanding essential needs of target groups and giving them a needed value to improve their competencies. Organizational way of working is based on non-formal educational methods. BITISI uses game-based learning methods to promote expressing emotions, proactiveness of attendees, and to foster the social inclusion. Organizers/ facilitators during our projects are mainly volunteers. BITISI provides motivated youngsters with opportunities to learn, bring personal ideas and get needed support.

# **Activities and Experience**

BITISI is focused on the following topics: non-formal education, gamification, youth entrepreneurship, social inclusion, healthy lifestyle, environment, digitalization. In order to ensure the right engagement of target groups and stakeholders BITISI builds partnerships with local associations, municipalities, youth groups and provide them with a significant visibility of their activities by creating social media articles, press releases, promotional materials.

## Youth Entrepreneurship | Unemployment | Career Orientation

Enforced by the connections with local universities BITISI organizes public lectures in order to motivate attendees to find which career paths they would better take, what are their strengths and weaknesses and how to get pleasure by doing the things they like. Under this campaign with universities, BITISI organized workshops for the local youth with the following titles: "What does an EGO want?", "Bring your imagination to your life", "Body Language Masterclass", "Kick-start your Social Enterprise". These projects had the following results: youth groups had time for networking; they improved their skills and competencies related to youth entrepreneurship and drafted new entrepreneurial ideas by finding right partners among each other. Also, BITISI members have participated in Erasmus + key actions related to the topic: "Be Your Own Boss", "EntrepreneurACT +", "Create Your Own World", "Equal Chance for Success", "Social Entrepreneurship +". This experience gave BITISI more confidence and competences in order to generate a better value for the local youth of Tbilisi. Regarding accomplishments, BITISI members often participate in start-up competitions. In 2019 their idea was nominated as "Best Product Oriented Idea" and got funds. BITISI has a "Career Development Club" in Georgia that hosts 20+ young people regularly. By participating in non-formal learning experiences, the members develop basic employment competences, that include CV-making; writing Motivation Letters; defining career paths, etc. BITISI hosted a Youth Exchange project "Career Choices Made Right" in 2022 in Georgia.

#### Non-formal Learning | Gamification

The philosophy of BITISI is based on non-formal education. Since the creation of the NGO, it has been organizing workshops for high-schools in Tbilisi in order to raise the awareness of non-formal and informal learning. One of the successful initiatives is "One Day Out of School" – a 2-week-workshop during which students from different local schools got to know non-formal education methodology and improved their

skills regarding the topic. This methodology is included in every initiative organization takes. The very first Erasmus + project which was organized by BITISI's great contribution was youth exchange "Aiming By Gaming" in Bulgaria. From there on BITISI is exploring creative ways to improve the engagement of participants during sessions/ workshops. Recently, BITISI raised their competencies in game-based learning and gamification. From that point on new projects involve simulations, learning by doing elements, informal learning, art, music etc. in order to guarantee participants' engagement. Gamification concept was brought to the NGO by its Director – Levan Niparishvili. He is a Master student of Information Technologies and explores how technologies can promote participation and foster the engagement. In this respect, BITISI provides experience in creating challenging, interesting environment for participants and making them get the best out of the project provided.

#### Digitalization

BITISI is always creating digital outputs as visibility materials of a project. We have worked on Digital Toolkits, Summarizing Videos, TikTok/ Reels Messages, Posters. Our partnerships on the topic have been through Erasmus + projects: "Changemaking Stories", "Promo Videos for NGOs", "Participatory photography for Youth". BITISI members are skilled in digital project management tools like Trello, Jira, Gantt Chart; editing tools: Canva, Adobe Photoshop/ Illustrator/ Premier Pro; tools for online communication: Slack, Discord, Zoom; content management: Worpress, Wix, custom websites.

## **Social Inclusion**

Since BITISI is located in the capital of Georgia, its target groups are represented from various backgrounds. Some of the youth groups have economical/ educational difficulties; some groups come from refugee families. In order to respect the equality BITISI organizes activities with the purpose of inducing the sense for tolerance among young people. BITISI co-organized the following projects under the Erasmus + programme: "Social Entrepreneurship for Disadvantaged Youth Social Integration", "Aiming for Equ(ALL)ity", "Social Inclusion for Better Future". These projects were disseminated for the local youth in Tbilisi. As a result, there were local workshops inducing tolerance among local youth associations and their target groups.

## **Healthy Lifestyle**

Members of BITISI have previous experiences due to being professional athletes. This fact influenced on the whole organization in a positive way. BITISI members are active members of gyms and modern sport classes. They organize various activities to raise the awareness of importance of being healthy. It starts with social promotions, meetings, engagements in sports, organizing competitions. BITISI has strong connections with sport organizations and ministry of sport and youth. Under the cooperation they organize events, join famous campaigns as volunteers like "Wings for Life", "Marathoni" etc. Social media plays a big role when it comes to healthy lifestyle. BITISI uses tools like website, Facebook, Instagram, forums in order to promote healthy lifestyle. Regarding the topic members of BITISI have participated in the writing and organizing process of Erasmus + Sport Small Collaborative Partnerships.

# Skills and Expertise of Key Staff Involved

Based on the work of 5 full members and 15 part-time volunteers whose main effort is given to provide people aged 15-30 with a non-formal space for self-development.

Levan Niparishvili – The Executive Director of BITISI – during the last 5 years Levan has been working in different NGOs on national and international level. He is taking a lead for all our local projects in respect of managing, negotiating and building partnerships. Levan is taking the responsibility for coordinating Erasmus + partnerships which includes KA1 and ESC Voluntary Service on a broader level. He has experience in the facilitation of youth exchanges (implemented 35+ mobilities). His journey started from the participation in short-term and long-term EVS at Turkish and Bulgarian organizations where he developed Erasmus + KA1 and Sport projects: "Aiming by Gaming", "Aiming By Gaming Vol.2", "Inclusion for healthy generations", "Social inclusion for better future", "Equal chance for success". Levan provides knowledge in project writing, management, implementation. He has a Bachelor degree in Business Administration and Masters in Information Technologies. Levan is keen on gamification and explores creative ways for inclusion and engagement of participants during youth projects.

Ana Putkaradze - ESC Project Coordinator – she has professional experience centers around her role as an ESC Project Manager at BITISI. Ana is responsible for building partnerships among organizations working on European Solidarity Corps projects. She has strong organizational skills and strategic thinking. She is building partnerships with other organizations throughout the EU and beyond; Promotes ESC volunteering projects; selects and prepares volunteers (task-oriented, visa, insurance, logistic, practical preparation and supports their service while being abroad to maintaining the visibility of projects... Ana has a degree in Marketing and holds over 2 years of experience in the field. Her skills vary from social media management, content creation, business relationship management to facilitation and training.

**Teona Tepnadze** is an Erasmus + Project Coordinator at BITISI, holding the position since 2021. Her role primarily involves managing Erasmus+ Training & Youth Exchanges. She carries out planning and execution to ensure successful educational programs. Teona conducts interviews with Georgian candidates for these projects, evaluating their qualifications and alignment with program goals. She manages pre-departure training including task-oriented, intercultural and reinforced training. She provides project-planning experience and is involved in the following cases – writing, researching, brainstorming.

**Mamuka Lezhava** – Project coordinator and a founder of BITISI – He has 5 years of experience in this sector; Coordinating projects on the local level. Mamuka is qualified with Master's Degree in business administration and accounting. He is maintaining accountanting and finances of the organization. Thanks to his qualifications he is a trainer organizing sessions in Entrepreneurship, Business. He is an invited lecturer at the Caucasus University where he teaches finances.

# **Target Groups**

Our target group consists of **15-28 YO young people** living in the capital city of Georgia – Tbilisi. We work with young people, volunteers, students, active citizens. Our projects are built on permanent need analysis that we carry out for and with our target groups. BITISI's philosophy is about developing young people, satisfying their needs and giving them necessary competencies. In this respect, we motivate every youth to think about ideas, come with us and work on it. We try to have more impact on society by integrating youth in the initiation of ideas.

Regarding people with fewer opportunities, we work with **Economic obstacles** and **Refugees**. Since Georgia is not a well-developed country, we have young people with a low standard of living, low income, dependence on social welfare system. And our refugees live near Tbilisi. They were evicted from occupied territories and now they continue living in a new district. Our goal is their integration. Involving them in Erasmus + activities, makes them better citizens and motivates them to push their potential for good causes.

# **Selection Process**

Our selection process has 2 stages:

- 1) We publish open calls on our website, Facebook and Instagram pages. Information is spread via social media as well as verbally during our local projects. Participants fill in application forms where they prove their motivation, interest in the topic and a level of English language.
- 2) Short-listed candidates are called for an interview. Interview is held face-to-face with candidates. The most motivated ones are chosen to be participants and they are provided with pre-departure training.

### Dissemination

At the end of Erasmus + mobilities we organize the following activities depending on projects needs and objectives:

**Forum of youth organizations -** sharing gained experience with local NGOs.

**Public Event** – Participants organize a meeting with local youth and share their experience + promote Erasmus + in general.

**Website Report** - Summary of a project on our <u>website</u>.

Youtube Video - Sharing fragments of a project. Our participants are responsible for designing it.

**Participants' Stories –** On our website we publish articles about participants experiences.

**Project Toolkit on Salto Youth Portal** – We group activities and make a digital version to share with other organizations. It includes activities, their description, use, etc.

	LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE	CONTACT PERSON		
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Gender	Male	Male		
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EU Programme	Year	Project ID/ Contract Number	Applicant Name	Project Name
Erasmus +	2023	2023-2-NL02-KA154-YOU-000168634	BETA Netherlands	Model European Union Netherlands 2023
Erasmus +	2023	2021-1-FR02-KA152-YOU-000011708	Youth ID	Lost in Ordinariness, Found in Gamification
Erasmus +	2023	2021-2-NO02-KA152-YOU-000038440	ТТВ	Get-up-and-go Generation
Erasmus +	2022	2021-2-CY02-KA152-YOU-000039318	OPEI	Act for Good
Erasmus +	2022	2021-2-SK02-KA152-YOU-000038437	ADEL Slovakia	Careerification
Erasmus +	2022	2021-2-PT02-KA152-YOU-000038500	No Gordio	We Choose to Game-If-I
Erasmus +	2022	2021-1-HU01-KA152-YOU-000004429	Be Best Hungary	Stepping Forward
Erasmus +	2021	2021-1-CY02-KA153-YOU-000003570	ACPELIA	RE-Connect with Nature
Erasmus +	2021	2021-1-NL02-KA153-YOU-000011387	STICHTING LEARNING BY OUTDOOR AND EXPERIENCE	Wilderness Ventures
Erasmus +	2021	2020-3-IT03-KA105-020089	Torre dei Giovani - TdG	Giocando s'impara!
Erasmus +	2021	2020-3-IT03-KA105-019825	L'Arca del Blues	Walk on the new Path
Erasmus +	2021	2020-3-HU01-KA105-093750	Közhasznú Alapítvány Balatonalmádi Ifjúságáért	Heath Enriches And Lightens THinking
Erasmus +	2021	2020-3-FR02-KA105-018307	MOSTCAMP	Let's break the fake news
Erasmus +	2020	2020-2-RO01-KA105-080792	Asociatia pentru Tineri Streets	Healthy Smile
Erasmus +	2020	2020-2-CY02-KA105-001833	ACPELIA	OUT OF THE BOX
Erasmus +	2020	2020-1-IT03-KA105-018289	Eurobox	United In Diversity
Erasmus +	2020	2020-1-LT02-KA105-006773	VšĮ Enterprising Partners	InfoWars - Young Citizens Strike Back
Erasmus +	2020	2019-3-PT02-KA105-006457	Reencontro	Aiming for Equ(ALL)ity
Erasmus +	2020	2019-3-TR01-KA105-079816	Adana Engelsiz Yarınlar Platformu	The Kite in My Dream
Erasmus +	2019	2019-2-BG01-KA105-062809	Active Bulgarian Society	Social Inclusion For Better Future
Erasmus +	2019	2019-1-BG01-KA105-062147	Active Bulgarian Society	Aiming By Gaming