



Žilina Self-Governing Region
Erika Jurinová
President

Žilina 10th March 2022
No.: 05379/2022/KP-1

Government Letter of Support: Call for new members to OGP Local 2022

The Žilina Self-Governing Region is pleased to submit an application to join OGP Local as part of our continued commitment to advance the principles of access to information, public participation and public accountability in the way the government carries out its mandate.

By joining OGP Local, we endorse the Open Government Declaration and commit to uphold the principles within it.

The Žilina Self-Governing Region wants to develop into a strong and prosperous region that will provide a better living environment for its inhabitants and will better meet their needs. We are aware that a key prerequisite for achieving this goal is high quality cooperation promoted across the entire society. Our government commits to facilitate networking of academic, non-profit and business sectors as well as to communicate the intentions and goals in setting and directing regional policies. At the same time, we support all opportunities to involve and include citizens in the activities and public affairs in the region. We want to hear the voice of citizens in making important decisions, because they have given us their mandate, for the results of which we are responsible. We firmly believe that our eventual membership in OGP Local will be the next step in a shift of thinking and introducing innovative governance practices based on the values of transparency, openness and accountability.

We are convinced that each region or municipality has a specific cultural and historical experience and a special expertise that can become a source of great knowledge for the entire world community in support of open government. We are prepared to be actively involved in the events so that our membership benefits members of OGP Local and with our active approach, we want to expand our portfolio of practices and experiences. At the same time, we are aware of the opportunity to become a communication channel for regional capacities in fulfilling our goals.

The Žilina Self-Governing Region recognizes that the shift towards a strong civil society is, by its importance, an invaluable investment in the future, which needs sufficient material and human resources for its implementation. For this reason, the region has set up a Participatory Policy Unit at his Office with three coordinators for participation who will coordinate and monitor our tasks arising from membership in OGP Local. At the same time, this Unit will be involved in the creation of commitments of our action plan and its implementation and will be provided with the necessary material and technical support from the regional government.

Erika Jurinová
President of Žilina Self-Governing Region



Žilina, 11th March 2022

Non-governmental Letter of Support: Call for new members to OGP Local 2022

Rescue Station and Eco Center Zázrivá (Záchranná stanica a Ekocentrum Zázrivá), further just Eco Center Zázrivá, is pleased to support the application of Žilina Self-Governing Region (ŽSGR) to join OGP Local.

By joining OGP Local, we support the endorsement of the Open Government Declaration and its principles in order to promote transparency and innovation, fight corruption, empower citizens, support local communities, initiate public participation and emphasize information technologies to make government more effective, accountable, and open.

It is our pleasure to join ŽSGR in this initiative and become a partner to supervise this institution in changes towards better governance and activation of citizens in area of environmental policies and environmental education. We commit to work together as partners with government and Department of participatory policies that accents the principles of good governance and public participation. We dedicate ourselves to cooperate in implementation of these principles throughout the process of OGP Local and further.

We consider the values of open government as crucial pillar of democracy and we acknowledge their importance in the areas of our work as an organization with focus on Nature Protection and Environmental Education. Our organization was established in 2001. In 2009, we opened an Eco Centrum as an educational facility designed to present nature conservation, animal rescue and involve public in nature protection. At the same time, it provides information concerning nature protection, species protection and the activities of the station to the professional audience and wide public. The aim of the Eco Centre is to engage public into wider activities of nature protection and to cooperate with institutions and organizations in our region to promote ecological behavior and principles and emphasize environmental policies.

We are eager to join OGP Local Global Community to learn from each other and support each other in our efforts to a more participatory and open world that endorses values of good governance, environmental care and welfare. We aim to be an active member of this global community and support other members with peer exchanges and engaging at the local, national and international level to promote the values of open government.

If successful in our efforts to join OGP Local in the 2022 call, I, signed below as Metod Macek, director of the Rescue Station and Eco Center Zázrivá, n.o., will be responsible for our part in OGP Local process. In addition, we commit to participate in the co-creation, implementation and learning from ambitious commitments within the action plan.

Metod Macek

Director of the Rescue Station and Eco Center Zázrivá, n.o