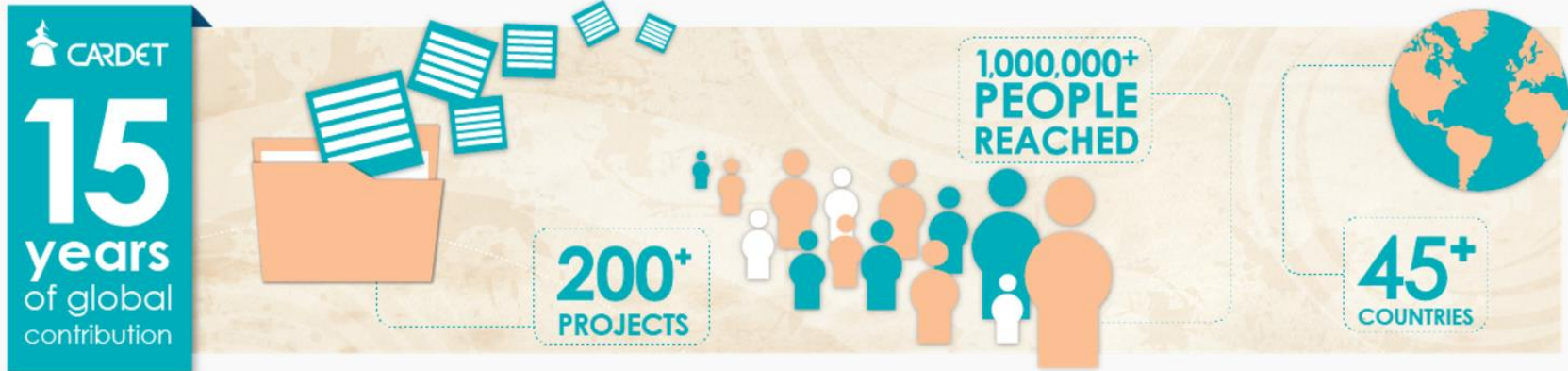




**Civil Society's action towards achieving
the SDGs in Cyprus:
Government's – CSOs' Synergies and Progresses**

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CARDET
15
years
of global
contribution

200+
PROJECTS

1,000,000+
PEOPLE
REACHED

45+
COUNTRIES




Kick off meeting for the Mediterranean Migration Network

The Mediterranean Migration Network kick off meeting took place in the University of Nicosia, 10-11 March 2014 in Nicosia, Cyprus. The meeting was organized by CARDET with the cooperation of INNOVADE.




Project launch: Social Electricity Online Platform (SEOP)

CARDET participates with partners from Austria, Slovakia, Slovenia, Malta, and Lithuania in the Lifelong Learning Program Social Electricity Platform (SEOP), which is led by the University of Cyprus.




Partner meeting in Romania for SciFiEd and interview on Prima TV

With the occasion of 3rd meeting of the SciFiEd project held in Pitești, on 17th and 18th of March 2014, a dissemination event was organized by the host institution (University of Pitești – UPIT).




CARDET participates in the launch of the European project "BADGE"

CARDET participated in the kick-off meeting of the European project in "Business Advice and Guidance training for women Entrepreneurs (BADGE)"




Olympism for Humanity: Building Bridges Across Continents, Sectors and Disciplines




Presentation Overview

- Civil Society Ecosystem of Cyprus
- Government – CSOs synergies
- SDGs through the Civil Society
- SDGs related programs, initiatives and campaigns
- Looking ahead – Challenges, prospects, suggestions



Civil Society Ecosystem of Cyprus

- Progress capacity to address SDGs initiatives related to awareness, **education and social justice**
- Extensive **European Networks** for programs implementation
- **CSOs are young** and inexperienced in global campaigns (progress only after EU accession)
- Grass roots activities and **direct access to local citizens**
- Improved **participation in decision making** process
- **Programs** oriented/funded



Government – CSOs synergies

- **European Year for Development 2015**, a milestone of collaboration
- MFA led the **build up of synergies** with the Ministry of Education and Culture and NGOs platform
- **Public Dialogue** on SDGs (use of surveys)
- **Inclusive Decision Making** on new SDGs Initiatives
- **Agenda 2030** was introduced to the Parliament
- **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** is a medium for the private sector to be engaged in SDGs (motives provided by the Cyprus Government)



SDGs through the Civil Society

- **Ministry of Foreign Affairs support and collaboration**
- **EU Funded programs**
 - *Upcoming: “Developing capacities together. European CSO-university networks for global learning on migration, security and sustainable development in an interdependent world (Inter-Cap)” (to be leaded by the Cypriot NGO, CARDET)*
- **Raise awareness vertically and horizontally** towards other CSOs and stakeholders and local citizens
- Cover a wide range of SDGs via training and education activities, **targeting mainly “agents of change”**



SDGs related programs, initiatives and campaigns

- Social and Solidarity Economy as an alternative approach to Development (SUSY - Sustainable and Solidary Economy) -EuropeAid
- Schools for Future Youth (SFYouth) (Erasmus+)
- GlobalLab project – 6 Steps to Global Citizenship
- Global Learning for Change in EYD2015 and Beyond: European Youth Engagement from School Gardens to Sustainable Food Systems
- Advocacy and policy activities to promote global citizenship education



Looking ahead – Challenges and Opportunities

- Challenges
 - **Institutionalization** of CSOs. Both governmental departments and CSOs need to deepen their collaboration and mutual support.
 - Establishment of a **dedicated Government Authority** for Sustainable Development.
 - **Expansion of capabilities:** CSOs need to continually invest in new capabilities to be able achieve a social shift.



Looking ahead – Challenges and Opportunities for SDGs

- Opportunities:

- Creating awareness and **informed global citizens** that become agents of change and create a robust counter-weight to the self-narrow interest of specific stakeholders
- **Developing tools and Educational resources** through innovative teaching methodologies
- Encouraging and supporting **alternative methods of economic organizations** like cooperatives or Social and Solidarity economy initiatives (SSE)





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