



Smiltene

Culture and Resilience Action Plan summary

The town of Smiltene is excited to announce the launch of its Cultural Resilience Action Plan (CuReAP), aimed at strengthening community bonds and preserving local heritage amidst demographic and economic challenges. This ambitious initiative focuses on fostering a vibrant cultural landscape that engages residents of all ages and revitalizes the spirit of the community.

What We Aim to Achieve

CuReAP seeks to address the challenges of out-migration and declining community engagement by creating inclusive cultural opportunities that promote local identity, pride, and resilience. Our goal is to build a cohesive community where every resident feels connected and empowered.

Our Plan and the Role of Culture

At the heart of this initiative is a commitment to using culture as a platform for social change. By revitalizing Smiltene's open-air stage and organizing annual festivals, workshops, and youth-led events, we will foster intergenerational connections and celebrate our unique heritage. Cultural activities will serve as the foundation for community engagement, creativity, and collaboration.

Key Partners Involved

CuReAP is a collaborative effort involving key local institutions, including municipality institutions, such as Smiltene cultural center, museum, music school, art school, library and partner institutions - Smiltene residents council and Youth council and the NGO "Smiltenei un Latvijai." These organizations will play a pivotal role in planning and executing cultural programs that reflect the community's values and aspirations.

Expected Outcomes

In the short term, CuReAP will enhance community participation, revive cherished traditions, and create a vibrant cultural calendar. One of our priorities are renovating open-air stage in Janukalns, which is already in process as an outcome of project team set goal. In the medium term, we



anticipate increased local pride, improved social cohesion, and a strengthened sense of ownership among residents, leading to a more resilient Smiltene.

Why This Matters

This initiative is crucial for Smiltene as it seeks to combat the effects of demographic decline and economic challenges by fostering a strong, engaged community. By harnessing the power of culture, we aim to create a brighter future where every resident contributes to and benefits from the rich tapestry of our shared heritage.

Together, we celebrate Smiltene as a cultural pearl, linking pearl to pearl to create a beautiful necklace that showcases our cultural diversity. Join us in this exciting journey to strengthen our bonds and build a vibrant future for Smiltene!