

# **Project Partner Search Form**

X I offer my expertise to participate as a Partner in a Horizon Europe Project

□ I am planning to coordinate a project and I am looking for Project Partners

#### **TOPICS OF INTEREST**

HORIZON-CL2-2025-01-HERITAGE-09 - Impacts of culture and the arts on health and well-being

PARTNER INFORMATION

#### Description of the Legal Entity

X Higher Education	Research Institution	Public Administration
□ Industry /SME □ N	NGO	□ Other

# **Description of the Research Team**

Dr. Ayala Cohen is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Social Work at Tel Hai College and a specialist in community social work and social policy. Her recent research focuses on the rehabilitation of displaced communities and community resilience. She serves as the Director of a **Regional Knowledge Center** that collects social data and maps services to support policymakers in making data-driven strategic decisions. Google Scholar profile: https://scholar.google.co.il/citations?user=cuDRMtUAAAAJ

Dr. Tal Feder is a lecturer at Sapir College in the department of Cultural Studies, Creativity and Production. He is an expert in cultural policy and quantitative methods. Previously, he worked at the University of Sheffield on the "Culture in Crisis" project, examining the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on artists and audiences. His current research studies access, equality, and justice in the arts. Google Scholar profile: https://scholar.google.co.il/citations?user=LghROroAAAAJ.

Shira Lapidot is Head of the M.A. Program in Cultural Studies at Sapir Academic College. Since October 7, 2023, she has led research mapping the cultural field in the Western Negev, developing trauma-informed, community-based strategies. She specializes in designing training programs that bridge theory and practice, drawing on extensive field experience in cultural leadership, strategic development, and inclusive, participatory arts.

Prof. Greenberg Zeevik Human and Social Geographer, Head of the Center of Rural Studies, Researcher and Lecturer in Tel-Hai College. My professional studies focus on rural development and community development. Development of rural areas. My last projects focused on personal and social displays of empowerment and recovery in both individual and community aspects. In the past five years, I was part of Erasmus Consortium 619453-EPP-1-2020-1-IL-xxPKA2-CBHE- and the Coordinator of Erasmus Consortium. Google Scholar profile: <u>https://scholar.google.co.il/citations?user=\_pHS-cwAAAAJ</u>

# **PROJECT IDEA / CONTRIBUTION TO THE CALL TOPIC**

Your potential role	
X Research	Technology Development
X Dissemination	x Training

#### Please insert your contribution to the future project here

We bring to the project our expertise and experience in using Culture and Arts to treat collective trauma and displaced populations in the periphery of Israel. We also bring the unique data from our data center, which we have collected over the past three years. The center contains information on different socioeconomic parameters and trends in the Eastern Galilee, through public participation and data collection from local authorities and government ministries.

We bring extensive expertise in mapping cultural and artistic assets, services, and interventions. We specialize in studying artistic creation and participation in culture among diverse populations from different religious, socioeconomic, age, gender, and local backgrounds, and we have experience in developing policy papers and drafting cultural policy recommendations. We bring a unique experience in using tools from culture and arts to help forcibly displaced populations and collective trauma.

Since the outbreak of the violent conflict on October 7, 2023, in Israel, we have been actively leading a range of **local and national initiatives** addressing the collective trauma resulting from the violent events in the Western Negev region, where Sapir Academic College is located. Since then, we have been engaged in shaping new cultural policies and driving top-down strategic change, in **collaboration with government bodies and grassroots cultural actors**. In parallel, we continue to lead projects focused on cultural interventions and mapping artistic engagement among **forcibly displaced populations** and other communities affected by prolonged trauma.

**Our interdisciplinary team** is based in Israel's northern and southern peripheries—**remote border regions** shaped by ongoing conflict—providing valuable insight into culture's role in addressing the **collective regional trauma**, supporting **resilience**, **well-being**, and **social inclusion**. We are witnessing firsthand the profound impact of long-term social sustainability in the immediate aftermath of traumatic events and throughout the recovery process in different genders and ages. We also bring to the table strong connections with diverse **local communities of different religious and socioeconomic backgrounds, arts organizations, and community-based art initiatives**, alongside partnerships with **philanthropic foundations** active in this field.

Already experience as a	Coordinator	□ YES	X NO	
	Partner	x YES		
	Expert Evaluator	□ YES		

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