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**EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE
(CDDG)**

**INFORMATION ON
THE EUROPEAN LABEL OF GOVERNANCE EXCELLENCE
(ELoGE)**

PROGRESS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ELoGE IN 2022

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity
Democratic Governance Division

Introduction

The **European Label of Governance Excellence (ELoGE)** is awarded to municipalities which have achieved a high level of good governance measured against a Council of Europe benchmark.

For implementation, ELoGE relies on a partnership between the Council of Europe and an existing reputable regional, national, or transnational entity or an ad hoc platform with a substantive know-how, expertise, or experience in the field of good governance, especially at the local level.

The ELoGE Accreditation Platform met in Strasbourg on 25 March 2022 and approved a request for renewal for the implementation of ELoGE from France and a further 4 accreditation requests from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Latvia, Romania, and Turkey. In 2022, ELoGE was implemented in 15 member States and Kosovo*.

The appendix to this document contains a short summary of recent developments in member States. More details and reports are available on the [ELoGE](#) and [news](#) websites of the Good Governance Division.

Following over 10 years of implementation across Europe, feedback from accredited platforms, ELoGE-awarded municipalities, and implementing partners, indicates that it is now time to review and update the overall process. The Centre of Expertise for Good Governance (CEGG) has recently disseminated a questionnaire to accredited bodies aimed at gathering their feedback on the ELoGE process. A series of exchanges with relevant experts and stakeholders will be organised in the coming months to help feed into the revision process. A revised benchmark and ELoGE regulations will be presented to the CDDG at its next meeting in April 2023.

A dedicated section of the revised [E-DEN platform](#) has been created to serve as a repository for ELoGE reports and as a networking opportunity for accredited entities and awarded municipalities.

Action required

Members of the CDDG are invited to take note of the information provided below, and to promote implementation of ELoGE in their respective states.

* All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations' Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

APPENDIX

ELOGE: Current status and accreditation requests

Member State	Status
<p>1. Bosnia and Herzegovina</p>	<p>Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities were organised in 2021. The ELoGE Accreditation Platform granted Accreditation to the Mostar Local Democracy Agency to deliver ELoGE in the context of the Link4Cooperation project funded by the EU and supported by the Centre of Expertise for Good Governance (CEGG).</p> <p>A series of workshops and capacity-building activities based on the ELoGE Benchmark and the Leadership Academy Programme were organised in June-October 2022 with the 12 participating municipalities. An award ceremony is planned for Spring 2023.</p>
<p>2. Bulgaria</p>	<p>The sixth round of ELoGE was implemented in 2022 and an award ceremony was organised in Velingrad on 23-25 November 2022 in the context of the Forum "Bulgarian Municipalities – Achievement of European Quality Standards for Local Governance."</p> <p>22 Bulgarian municipalities were awarded the Label.</p>
<p>3. Croatia</p>	<p>Accreditation was granted to European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA). Following a launch event in October 2021, 18 municipalities embarked on the process and 3 completed the process and were awarded the label at an award ceremony in Skopje, North Macedonia on 22 November 2022.</p>
<p>4. France</p>	<p>Mayors and elected officials from local authorities in France, as well as senior officials from INET, CNFPT, the SNDGCT, AFCCRE, and Intercommunalités de France met on 30 May 2022 to launch the 2nd cycle ELoGE in France.</p> <p>A podcast for local elected officials and municipal staff was published on the webpage of the CNFPT. A flyer indicating the 6 advantages of the ELoGE label and a user guide for "candidate councils" have also been prepared as a means of encouraging more local authorities to apply to the ELoGE process.</p> <p>The deadline for applications is set at 30 November 2022.</p>

5. Hungary	Following the first award ceremony for ELoGE in Hungary on 10 November 2021, a 2 nd cycle will be prepared and launched in 2023 under the new CEGG project.
6. Italy	Following piloting of ELoGE in Friuli-Venezia-Giulia, a nationwide cycle was launched in 2022 by the accredited body AICCRE (L'Associazione italiana per il Consiglio dei Comuni e delle Regioni d'Europa). An award ceremony will be held in Venice on 2 December 2022 where 39 municipalities will be awarded the Label.
7. Greece	The Award Ceremony for the 2nd cycle of ELoGE in Greece took place in summer 2021. A third cycle will be implemented before the end of the current accreditation period in 2024.
8. Kosovo*	ALDA was granted accreditation to implement ELoGE in Kosovo*. ELoGE was launched at a ceremony in Pristina in April 2022, in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior. A capacity-building and awareness-raising workshop was organised for the 13 participating municipalities in June 2022. 6 municipalities having demonstrated their respect for the 12 Principles of Good Democratic Governance were recognised at an award ceremony in Skopje, North Macedonia on 22 November 2022.
9. Latvia	ELoGE was launched in April 2022 by the accredited Latvian institution, Providus. The award ceremony is planned for May 2023 in the context of the Latvian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.
10. Lithuania	A first cycle of ELoGE was implemented in 2020. Subject to available financing, the Ministry hopes to launch a second cycle in 2022. The Lithuanian Prime Minister Opens the ELoGE Award Ceremony

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11. Malta	The second cycle of ELoGE in Malta was launched with a workshop for representatives of Maltese local councils in June with the participation of Ms Hon. Alison ZERAFA CIVELLI, Parliamentary Secretary responsible for Local Government. A follow-up workshop for the 3 participating municipalities is planned for in December 2022 with a view to awarding the label in the context of the ELoGE ceremony at the Congress session in Strasbourg in March 2023.
12. North Macedonia	Following launch of the ELoGE project in Skopje in November 2021 by ALDA, a workshop was organised for the ELoGE coordinators from the 14 participating municipalities in March 2022. An award ceremony for Municipalities awarded the label in North Macedonia, Croatia, and Kosovo* was organised in Skopje on 22 November 2022. 9 municipalities from North Macedonia were awarded ELoGE.
13. Norway	The last ELoGE round was held in 2014. Improving local democracy through ELoGE: Time's good governance journey in Norway
14. Poland	The Polish Foundation for Local Democracy currently has accreditation to deliver ELoGE until 2024. The second ELoGE Award ceremony took place on 28 September 2021. A third round was launched in autumn 2022.
15. Portugal	Following the successful launch of ELoGE in Portugal in cooperation with UDiTE – the European Federation of Local Government Chief Executives, and ATAM – the Portuguese Association of employees of local administrations in 2020, a second cycle was initiated in July 2022. A workshop was organised in Alenquer, Portugal, on 19 September 2022 with 10 participating municipalities. The award ceremony is foreseen in the context of an ELoGE ceremony at the Congress session in Strasbourg in March 2023.

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<p>16. Romania</p>	<p>Accreditation was granted to the General Secretariat of the Romanian Government. A launch event was organised in May 2022 and a further awareness-raising conference in September 2022.</p> <p>Capacity-building workshops for local experts will be organised in December 2022 and the award ceremony is planned for Spring 2023.</p>
<p>17. Slovak Republic</p>	<p>A second cycle of ELoGE was implemented in the Slovak Republic in 2022. 7 Municipalities were awarded the Label at a ceremony on 28 June 2022.</p>
<p>18. Spain – Basque region</p>	<p>Third cycle of ELoGE in the Basque Country, Spain was conducted in 2020. In 2022, the 4th cycle started with XY municipalities.</p> <p>An award ceremony for the Fourth cycle of ELoGE in the Basque region is planned for early 2023.</p>
<p>19. Spain – Murcia region</p>	<p>Accreditation granted to the Chair for Good Government and Public Integrity, University of Murcia, and the first round was launched in March 2022</p> <p>An award ceremony took place on 23 November 2022.</p>
<p>20. Türkiye</p>	<p>The Arguden Governance Academy and Marmara Municipalities Union received accreditation to deliver ELoGE in Türkiye on a pilot basis as a part of the MATRA-Dutch-funded project. The 12-month project is called “Integrated Municipal Good Governance Model” sought to operationalise the 12 principles at every stage of municipal governing processes.</p> <p>The municipalities of Şişli and Sultanbeyli were awarded the Label at a ceremony in Istanbul on 2 November 2022.</p>