



Kolbudy, 15th of April 2021

WHO Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities

The process of population ageing and its socioeconomic consequences, will become in next decades the key challenge for both – the state and local governments in Poland. The increase of the number and share of older adults among the citizens is connected, inter alia, to quantitative and qualitative changes of the labor market, increased demand for social services (mainly healthcare and home care for seniors), increase in public expenses, the necessity of changes in the public space organization and public services – adjusted to the needs of local communities demographically old.

The authorities of Kolbudy commune are aware of demographic transition and its consequences. Therefore, the principles of sustainable development and intergenerational responsibility have been followed in the economic development policy for last few years. Creation an age-friendly community, as well as supporting the inhabitants' needs (regarding specificity of different age groups), are among the strategic priorities of local development policy.

Since 2017, Kolbudy commune has undertaken many actions of strategic importance and collaborative manner within local senior policy. The main goal of this policy is "to support seniors of Kolbudy commune and design the environment for healthy and active ageing, conducive to satisfying life in the local community". The priorities of the local senior policy are as follow: creating conditions for active ageing, providing care services, including home care and companionship for seniors, as well as create and promote positive image of older adults in the local community and building/strengthening intergenerational relationships.

The premise for making efforts to join the Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities of World Health Organization (WHO GNACC) represents the experiences in implementation of measures under the local senior policy, as well as the willingness of development and improvement in this area.

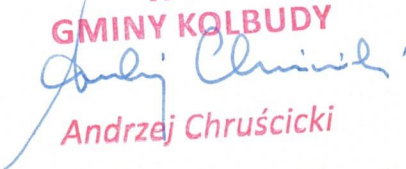
The declaration of the Kolbudy commune's accession to the WHO GNACC was expressed by the Kolbudy Commune Council adopting the appropriate resolution on 2nd of March 2021¹.

¹ Resolution No. XXX/245/21 of the Kolbudy Commune Council 2nd March 2021. on the declaration of accession of the Kolbudy Commune to the Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities at the World Health Organization.

As the Mayor of Kolbudy commune, I confirm the willingness to join the World Health Organization's Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities. I'm convinced that commune's age-friendliness confirms the level of its development.

I express my deepest hope that being a part of WHO GNACC will allow for the exchange of valuable experiences and practices in an international perspective, thanks to which it will be possible to adapt the space and society of our commune to the socio-economic consequences of population ageing.

Having regard to the above, please accept this letter requesting membership to the World Health Organization's Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

WÓJT
GMINY KOLBUDY

Andrzej Chruścicki