



APPLICATION TO JOIN THE WHO GLOBAL NETWORK FOR AGE-FRIENDLY CITIES AND COMMUNITIES

The Suchy Dąb Commune is an attractive place to live, located in the geographical neighbourhood of the Gdańsk agglomeration. It is the commune full of charm, rustic and idyllic character of the landscape.

The commune was reactivated on April 2nd, 1991. It still requires renewing relations between the inhabitants of individual villages and consolidating local identity.

The Suchy Dąb Commune is one of the smallest in terms of the number of inhabitants in the Pomeranian Voivodeship. Older adults constitute almost 19.5% of 4,240 inhabitants of the commune. Within last eight years, the share of this group has increased by over 5 p.p. (from 607 up to 823 persons).

Demographic transition determines lots of challenges for the authorities. They focus mainly on creating offers ensuring active ageing of older adults and development of care services in the senior's place of residence. For many reasons, but primarily due to the commune's agricultural character, the type of dominant buildings (single houses located far from each other) and the low quality of social capital, the task is particularly demanding.

For five years, the Suchy Dąb Commune has been taking small steps to integrate and activate older adults inhabitants, intergenerational dialogue, cooperation with organizations supporting seniors, and reaching out to seniors who require support in their place of residence. The investment involving the construction of a municipal facility where the first seniors' club will be located is nearing completion.

The premise for making efforts to join by the Suchy Dąb Commune the Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities of World Health Organization (WHO GNACC) represents the awareness of the challenges that commune authorities will have to face in the coming years due to demographic transition and the desire to draw on the experience of communes, which have already implemented certain solutions.

There is unanimity of the Suchy Dąb Commune authorities' on it. The Suchy Dąb Commune Council expressed a positive opinion on this matter, adopting on August 17th, 2023. an appropriate resolution.

As the Mayor of the Suchy Dąb Commune, I confirm the willingness to join the World Health Organization's Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities. I also declare my commitment to continuous improvement within the network.

Please accept this letter requesting membership to the World Health Organization's Global Network for Age-friendly Cities and Communities.

Henryka Król

The Mayor of the Suchy Dąb Commune