



**Jaunpils municipality from Latvia is looking for project partners in  
Action 1 Active Citizens for Europe  
Measure 1 – Town Twinning  
Measure 1.1. Town twinning citizens` meetings**

**Project title: Working together for active, democratic and tolerant rural society in Europe**

**Aim of the Project:** The aim of the project will be to bring together people from different European rural areas to discuss and learn the ways how to promote active, democratic and tolerant civil society.

**Main activities:**

- conferences, discussions and practical workshops about NGO`s, civic initiatives and their role for active civil society in rural areas, intercultural dialogue, dialogue between generations and active ageing, promoting awareness of common culture and democratic values in European rural areas.
- participants will have the possibility to get acquainted with Latvian traditions, handicraft techniques, guided tours and diverse activities in Jaunpils and its surroundings
- activities organized by NGO`s (open air activities, sports activities, exhibitions and presentation)



We have already a partner municipality from Italy and we are looking for two more project partners.

**Planned application date:**  
15.02.2012

**Contact information:**

Zane Vanaga  
Project Manager  
Jaunpils Local Council  
Phone: +371 26440254  
E-mail:  
[zane.jaupils@inbox.lv](mailto:zane.jaupils@inbox.lv)





### **Jaunpils municipality**

"Ergelnieki", Jaunpils  
LV-3145, Latvia  
Tel: +371 63107069  
Fax: +371 63107068  
Home page: [www.jaunpils.lv](http://www.jaunpils.lv)  
E-mail: [pasvaldiba@jaunpils.lv](mailto:pasvaldiba@jaunpils.lv)  
Population: 2 767 inhabitants  
Area: 209 km<sup>2</sup>



### **About the municipality**

Jaunpils municipality was established in 2009, amalgamating former Jaunpils and Viesati rural municipalities. The symbol of Jaunpils municipality is the medieval castle from the 14th century, which is the property of the municipality. The Castle not only performs the functions of culture house and library, but also hosts numerous thematic and professional events being a great tourism attraction. The castle together with Jaunpils Lutheran church from 1592, Watermill (built in 1802) and the Swedish Wall (built in 1618 – 1648) forms the cultural historical centre of Jaunpils.



There is one secondary school, children's day care centre, two culture houses, two libraries, museum and a sports centre.



Local amateur groups, artists, sports teams and active local society groups can be proud of several successful projects and activities, as well as close cooperation with local policy makers. Sport is one of the main free time activities for all generations in Jaunpils– starting with basketball, football and volleyball, ending with floor ball and orienteering, chess and street gymnastics. Jaunpils has five folk dance groups, two choirs and a senior line-dancing group.

The municipality tries to ensure the necessary health care in its territory. The economics is based on agriculture and food production, but there are also other successful small and medium-sized enterprises.

### **Partner towns**

- Dusheti town (დუშეთი), Georgia
- Perano, Italy



### **NGOs in Jaunpils municipality:**

- Youth Association "Levestes spicie" (all municipality area, international and local activities, projects for youth social inclusion, foster family support network, various free time activities, intergenerational work etc.)
- Youth Association "Ūdensroze" (based in Viesatas parish for local youth empowerment)



Photos from <http://www.jaunpils.lv/>

- Association "Jaunpils regional development centre "Rats""
- Association "Dzīpars" (weavers)
- Association "Jaunpils Sports Club"
- Hunters' Association "Jaunpils"
- Tukums Gardening Association Jaunpils division
- Union of pensioners „Jaunpils”
- Association „Rural Partnership "Upe-8""(Jaunpils is the headquarters of the 7 municipalities united in this partnership. Themes are various with the main idea of rural development)
- Association „Kamenes” (local civic society activism, local history research, traditional Latvian culture activities, local women empowerment)
- Jaunpils Evangelic Lutheran Congregation
- Association of seniors „Jaunpils”



### Jaunpils castle

Jaunpils castle was built in 1301 as a water stronghold for the Livonian Order - encircled from three sides by the mill pond. The history of Jaunpils castle is very interesting and mirrors many pages from famous Courland history. In 1559 the castle was given as a present to Thiess von der Rekke for his great contribution to the Order. The castle stayed in the von der Rekke family until 1922.

The castle was build with an inner yard and a cloister; the most notable renovations were made in 1647 and in 1906-1907 after the castle was burned down. Jaunpils is one of the rare Livonian order castles in Latvia that has been very well preserved and has not significantly changed its appearance over the course of time.

