



Research-Intellectual Club "Dialogue of Generations"

Report 2020-2023

**"BE ACTIVE ALWAYS
AND EVERYWHERE"**

Introduction

Prepared by Lana Totadze, Secretary General of RICDOG

Assuming the role of Secretary General of the Research-Intellectual Club "Dialogue of Generations" (RICDOG) in 2020 was both a tremendous honor and a formidable challenge. My journey with RICDOG began in 2012 as a volunteer, evolving into membership in 2013, and subsequently holding various positions within the organization, including that of an ERASMUS+ coordinator and youth coordinator. In 2016, I was honored to be elected to the board, and from 2017 to 2020, I served as the Deputy General Secretary. Stepping into the role of General Secretary was a significant milestone, bringing with it the responsibility to fulfill the trust placed in me by those who supported my election. This challenge was compounded by the global pandemic, which required us to adapt to a new reality while maintaining our commitment to progress.

A significant milestone during my tenure was the acquisition of our own office space in 2021, made possible through a successful crowdfunding campaign supported by over 200 donors. This transition marked a new era for RICDOG, allowing us to not just survive, but thrive, especially in the challenging context of a global pandemic.

In the transformative period from 2020 to 2023, the Research-Intellectual Club "Dialogue of Generations" (RICDOG) has made significant strides in fulfilling its mission and expanding its impact. Under the dedicated leadership of Lana Totadze, Secretary General, the organization has navigated the challenges of a global pandemic, demonstrating resilience, innovation, and a commitment to community service. Key achievements include the successful acquisition of a new office through a crowdfunded campaign, a testament to widespread community support and a pivotal step towards enhancing organizational capacity.

RICDOG has seen remarkable growth in its program offerings, implementing a total of 54 diverse projects and programs that have significantly contributed to leadership development, volunteerism, and civic engagement among youth and community members.

The period also witnessed an expansion in media engagement and public relations efforts, with RICDOG enhancing its online presence, increasing its social media following, and leveraging local and national media to raise awareness of its initiatives. These efforts have not only elevated RICDOG's visibility but have also solidified its position as a leading organization dedicated to fostering dialogue and development across generations.

Report Overview

This report covers the years 2020 to 2023 and details RICDOG's achievements in the following areas:

- Introduction
- Organizational Institutional Development
- Financial Sustainability
- Program Development
- Media Engagement
- Summary

Organizational Institutional Development

Over the past three years, RICDOG has focused on structural development, financial stability, and enhancing member involvement and personnel policy. We've seen significant changes in our board composition, ensuring it consists of members deeply committed to our cause and fully cognizant of their responsibilities.

In 2023, the board was comprised of dedicated individuals including Irakli Tevzadze, Kristine Chikhladze, Diana Abuladze, and Tatia Potadze, all of whom have played pivotal roles in our organization's development.

Our engagement strategy, emphasizing mobility and flexibility, has proven successful, particularly in integrating volunteers, members, and freelancers into our activities. The volunteer program, in particular, has been a standout success, with 190 volunteers participating in various initiatives from 2020 to 2023. This increase in volunteer engagement has significantly enhanced our organizational capacity and community impact.

The Neuro Leadership Program (NLP) underwent substantial revisions to enhance its content and structure, contributing to leadership development within our community. The program's redesign, including changes in duration and content focus, has increased its effectiveness and popularity.

Membership engagement remains a core focus, with RICDOG members actively participating in governance and program execution. The establishment of a training program in 2022 aimed at retraining and enhancing the skills of our members has further strengthened our organizational capacity.

Freelance partnerships have also been expanded, with notable contributions from individuals such as Shalva Jincharadze, who has played a significant role in our projects and initiatives.

Financial Sustainability

RICDOG has undertaken numerous initiatives to ensure financial stability, successfully implementing over 54 projects and programs between 2020 and 2023. Noteworthy is our five-year program funded by USAID, which has provided us with a solid foundation for addressing our basic needs through 2026. Our strategic approach to fundraising and project management has enabled us to exceed our goals, demonstrating our financial resilience and sustainability

Program Development

Between 2020 and 2023, RICDOG has embarked on an ambitious journey to expand and diversify its program offerings. This period saw the implementation of 54 diverse programs and projects, ranging from small-scale initiatives to comprehensive, multi-faceted projects that cater to the varied interests and needs of our community. These programs have been instrumental in fostering leadership, volunteerism, and civic engagement among our members and volunteers.

Significant programs during this period included

- The NLP Program, which has been revamped to offer a more structured and comprehensive leadership development experience.
- The Volunteer Club, which has seen remarkable growth, reflecting an increased interest and engagement in our volunteer opportunities.
- Project Writing Group, which has been pivotal in enhancing our capacity to secure funding and implement meaningful projects.

Our commitment to program innovation is also evident in our adaptability and responsiveness to community needs. For instance, we introduced online programs to ensure continued engagement during the pandemic, demonstrating our capacity to integrate technology in our operations effectively.

Financial Sustainability

RICDOG's financial strategy over the past three years has focused on ensuring the long-term sustainability of our operations. This effort has been marked by a proactive approach to fundraising, grant writing, and financial management. Our success in securing a five-year funding program from USAID stands as a testament to our financial stability and the trust placed in us by international donors.

Our project team has been exceptionally active, writing and submitting around 40 project applications, a testament to our dedication to growth and development. The implementation of 15 programs/projects in 2021, 21 programs/projects in 2022, and 18 programs/projects in 2023 showcases not only our organizational capability but also our strategic approach to growth and sustainability.

Furthermore, RICDOG has explored various fundraising avenues, including grants, membership dues, software projects, and one-time events, diversifying our revenue streams and ensuring financial resilience. The establishment of a comprehensive accounting system and successful completion of audit checks affirm our commitment to financial transparency and accountability.

Media Engagement and Public Relations

Over the years, RICDOG has developed a robust media engagement strategy, leveraging local and national media to enhance our visibility and impact. Our cooperative efforts with local TV and radio stations, alongside digital platforms, have significantly increased public awareness of our programs and initiatives. The restructuring of our official website and active management of our social media presence, including a Facebook "Like Page" with over 11,000 followers, have been critical in this regard. Our engagement metrics on Facebook have shown a remarkable 35% increase, reflecting the growing interest and support from our community.

Our active use of Instagram and TikTok has also expanded our reach, especially among younger audiences, demonstrating our adaptability to changing digital landscapes. Additionally, the blog and various social media groups have served as platforms for sharing our achievements, insights, and the personal growth stories of our members and volunteers.

Conclusion

The period from 2020 to 2023 has been marked by significant achievements across all areas of our operations. From organizational development and financial sustainability to program innovation and media engagement, RICDOG has demonstrated resilience, adaptability, and a steadfast commitment to our mission. As we look to the future, we are confident in our ability to continue building on these successes, driving positive change in our community, and fostering a culture of active citizenship and leadership development.

As Secretary General, I am immensely proud of what we have accomplished together and am excited about the future that lies ahead for RICDOG. Our journey over the past three years has set a solid foundation for continued growth, innovation, and impact.

Lana Totadze
Secretary General
Research-Intellectual Club "Dialogue of Generations"
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