

Key Action: Learning Mobility of Individuals
Action Type: Youth mobility

Project Title

YEAY: Youth workers Engage All Youngsters

Good practice example

Project Coordinator

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Project Information

Identifier 2015-1-CY02-KA105-000448
Start Date Aug 10, 2015
End Date Dec 9, 2015
EC Contribution 24,485 EUR
Partners Stowarzyszenie Inicjatyw Niemożliwych "Motyka" (PL) , ASK Yourself (RO) , Belen Halk Egitim Merkezi (TR) , Groep INTRO vzw (BE) , Escola de Cinema RIU RAU (ES) , U.th (CZ)
Topics Recognition (non-formal and informal learning/credits) ; Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy)

Project Summary

The project "YEAY: Youth workers Engage All Youngsters" was a 9 day Training Course implemented in Larnaca (Cyprus) from 3rd to 11th of October 2015. The project started from the need to better prepare youth workers in order to help young people get involved in Erasmus+ projects. The Training Course involved 31 youth workers and facilitators who were determined to work together aiming at addressing the above scope. The project was coordinated by IEEN (CY) and 6 more partners were involved: Halk Egitim Merkezi (Tur), Stowarzyszenie Inicjatyw Niemozliwych "Motyka" (Pl), Escola de Cinema RIU RAU (Sp), Groep INTRO vzw (Bel), ASK Yourself (Ro) and U.th (Cz).

The main aims of the Training Course were:

- To enhance the knowledge of the participants with regards to the needs and desires of young people (13-30) and how they could be motivated and attracted to participate in more voluntary activities.
- To develop skills how to build attractive messages for young people, how to use the Internet to attract young people, how to use methods based on non-formal education in order to attract young people in their activities, how to make a needs research and how to better communicate with young people and use the assertive communication.
- To understand better the needs of young people, their way of thinking and their desires in such a way to give the opportunity to the participants to be more emphatic regarding young people and willing to focus their work on encouraging young people to be more actively involved in the society, and to have fewer prejudices and stereotypes about young people way of acting and thinking.

All the participants were youth workers over 18 with less or much experience but with determination, motivation and enthusiasm to share their knowledge with others and young people. 14 participants out of the total were facing some kind of economic, geographical, cultural or social obstacles and through the TC they got the opportunity to gain more confidence and develop their personal skills in order to become more valuable youth workers.

The main activities of the TC were formed accordingly in order to meet the 3 objectives of the project. An important role in the TC had the visit at two high schools where the youth workers interacted with young people and implementing activities derived from non-formal education and found out the needs and desires of young students. Throughout the TC, there was a combination of methods and activities of formal education, such as team-work presentations and statistics, and non-formal education, such as team-building activities and role-playing. Most emphasis was given to activities derived from non-formal education. The implementation of these activities gave the participants the opportunity to gain knowledge about the topic of the TC in a more enjoyable and pleasant way and at the same time to interact with each other and get closer and work in teams. Thus, the participants got the opportunity to discover each other's cultures and uniqueness.

The TC had direct and noticeable impact on the participants and the target groups. In particular, the participants shaped a better idea of the needs of young people and developed and improved their skills and abilities about approaching and communicating with youth. Also, young people, as the main target group of the TC, gained valuable knowledge about Erasmus+ opportunities giving them the opportunity to become volunteers and active citizens. Aiming at strengthening the visibility of the TC, the partners created professional photos and videos which were posted and distributed online through the official Facebook accounts of the Organizations and the blog of the TC. Through photos and videos, we aimed at sending the message that Erasmus+ projects can be the best place to get training and meet new people from Europe.

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