



Youth in Action Programme



Action 4 - Youth Support System
4.3 – Training Course

BEHIND THE BORDERS

Youth Work for a Melting Citizenship

Training Course, Action 4.3

15th – 21st October 2013

(14th October: arrival day; 22nd October: departure day)

Ex monastery of Frati Minori Cappuccini in Melilli (SR), Sicily, ITALY

DATES: 15th – 21st of October 2013 (7 working days)

PLACE: the training course will take place in the Ex monastery of Frati Minori Cappuccini in Melilli (SR), Sicily, ITALY. The hosting place, located in province of Siracusa, is provided by all the services to guarantee the YiA standards, for food, lodgement and workshop rooms.

Augusta is a city with around 12000 inhabitants, located on the eastern coast of Sicily.

In the last years the local association Il Muro worked to sensitise the local community and to recover the local history and traditions. For more information: <http://www.areateatro.it/>. Below you will find their description.

PARTNERSHIP: 9 EU organisations

LUNARIA	Italy
IL MURO	Italy
CONCORDIA	France
UNIVERSITUR ASSOCIATION	Romania
ANTIGONE - Information and Documentation centre on Racism	Greece
JAVVA - Jeunes Actifs dans le Volontariat et les Voyages Alternat ASBL	Belgium
INEX Slovakia	Slovakia
ÚTILAPU NEMZETKÖZI ÉPÍTŐTÁBOR HÁLÓZAT	Hungary
COCAT - Coordinadora d'Organitzadors de camps de Treball de Catalunya	Spain

PARTICIPANTS: 3 for each organization

AGE: 18 +

TARGET GROUP: youth workers, social workers, representatives of youth centres active at local and international level with past experiences in the work with heterogeneous groups, composed by migrant and local youth. Particularly welcome to the training will be the participants belonging to migrant families and/or who works or is active in less privileged backgrounds such as the outskirts of big EU cities.

Participants have to be interested in experimenting innovative methodologies, based on the combination of non formal education and theatre, conceived to facilitate and to enhance the interaction of local young people with youth coming from migrant families and with migratory backgrounds.

THEMES:

- Promotion of active citizenship and anti-discrimination;
- Art and culture.

AIM OF THE PROJECT: to raise awareness on the daily growth of discriminations, xenophobia and racism among and towards young people, to enable them to recognize the phenomenon and to take actions to protect the victims and to promote intercultural approaches. In order to meet the above mentioned aim it's needed to work on the education of these young people. For this reason it's fundamental to provide the social and youth workers who are in touch with them of new information on these topics and of new effective tools to contrast ignorance and prejudices and to facilitate the interaction of youth coming from different backgrounds and life' experiences.

In this perspective, the project goal is to provide the participants, who daily work with young people at risk of marginalisation in disadvantage areas, such as the outskirts of many EU cities, of innovative working methods, based on the combination of non formal education and theatre, to promote participation, active citizenship and social inclusion.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- To explore *cultural differences and ICL - Intercultural Learning processes*: the scope is to analyse the differences and the similarities between the different countries, with a specific focus on the situation of the young people coming from migrant families and migratory backgrounds;
- To set a detailed *needs analysis* of the different, local backgrounds: what are the *problematic* faced by the young people, specifically in EU suburban dimensions, that might lead to social exclusion events. How the youth and the social workers approach these targets to stimulate participation and positive synergies;
- To develop the personal knowledge on *discrimination, xenophobia and racism*: this work will facilitate the better understanding of the dynamics behind the discriminative behaviours (how to identify the stages of violence, the causes behind, the actors involved ...);
- To debate the topic of *active citizenship*: what "active citizenship" is for young people (locals and migrants) and how this issue has to be considered as a melting and dynamic concept that is fundamental to share and develop with young people;
- To analyse the measures undertaken in the different countries to facilitate the active participation in society of the different youth target groups and to present the *good practices* adopted and the *working methods* used;
- To work in depth on *conflicts and on conflict management* through methodologies coming from the combination of theatre and non formal education, in order to promote the participation of young people at high risk of social exclusion;
- To share and to develop *new interactive tools to ease the active participation* of local youth and of youngsters with immigrant origins (or that belong to cultural minorities): these tools can be afterwards used to promote deep-rooted activities in the different local backgrounds and to promote the respect for cultural diversity, the social cohesion and to develop concrete projects planned by the youngsters themselves;
- To empower and to develop the *quality of the support systems* for youth activities: participants will experiment how to use non formal education techniques and theatrical methodologies and how to export them to the local backgrounds where they are active. These working methods will be used to stimulate deep-rooted participation and to make the young people approaching the topic of active citizenship from a more interactive, dynamic and practical way.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

- To produce a concrete and well defined *analysis of the reasons* that might led to the social exclusion and discrimination of specific target groups (like young people coming from suburban dimension and youngsters with immigrant origins or that belong to cultural minorities). The inquiry work aims at deepening the causes and the consequences that in some cases, transform the outskirts and the urban backgrounds, in a sort of "ghetto dimension" and in the stage of racist events;
- To further develop the participants' personal knowledge on *discrimination, xenophobia and racism*: this work is propaedeutic to facilitate the better understanding of the dynamics behind the discriminative behaviours (how to identify the stages of violence, the causes behind, the actors involved ..) and to find coherent and appropriate ways to intervene;
- To find new approaches to the topic of *European active citizenship*: it's a fact that often youth (and even more, young people with fewer opportunities) perceive themselves disconnected from the concept of "citizenship". In most of the cases it is considered just a definition, an empty box lacking of any meaning. For

this reason is fundamental to find new tools to make young people approaching this topic from another perspective more dynamic and stimulating. It will make them experiment, though the “learning by doing” what it is and it will afterwards make them in condition to implement new concrete actions to promote intercultural learning and anti-racism. In this perspective theatre and non formal education are both powerful tools to stimulate this “learning by doing”;

- To develop *new working methods*, coming from the combination of the non formal education techniques and the theatre methodologies, that they can afterwards use in the daily activities run with heterogeneous groups composed by local youth and youth with migrant origins. These methods can be also used to manage the potential conflicts that might raise in the different backgrounds and in the group dynamics and to find creative and participative solutions;
- To make participants in condition to practically *use the tools learned and to transmit them*: it's expected that on their way back, participants will organize workshops and laboratories tailor made on the needs of their local backgrounds. The aim is to share and to “pass” the knowledge and the skills gained to the young people they work with. This action will move the local youth from the status of “direct beneficiaries” to the one of “active promoters” and will give them the opportunity to start a process to begin peer educators.

SUBJECTS OF THE TRAINING:

- *Cultural differences and ICL*: analysis of common prejudices and stereotypes toward the other cultures, how to “use” them to stimulate a different, open minded approach and to promote intercultural learning in backgrounds at risk of exclusion and marginalisation;
- *Needs analysis*: differences and similarities among the different suburban dimensions of the EU countries involved. What are the causes that lead to discrimination and social exclusion, how racism and xenophobia events take place and what are the consequences for young people;
- *Personal experiences*: investigation of the different shapes of the discriminative events the youth and social workers experimented in their daily activities. The second part of this session will be about the good practices adopted in the different countries to “face” and overcome discrimination and racism. The session will be also about the working methods used to facilitate the interaction of local youth and of young people coming from migrant families and to defend youngsters from the discrimination linked to and caused by racism;
- *Conflict management*: often the suburban dimensions of the European capitals, even if distinguished by specific peculiarities, are marked by common problems, like the lack of green spaces, the scarcity of services and of public transports, the unauthorized building and the sky keepers with no common spaces to activate the socialization. All these aspects can contribute to transform these places in a sort of “ghetto” and can make the local inhabitants feeling excluded and separated by the rest of the city. This is a quite problematic and risky situation since to believe to live in an “unprotected” and abandoned environment, makes people resigned and not interested in doing something to improve concretely these places. Furthermore in the suburbs it's often possible to find different migrant communities, with different cultures, languages and backgrounds. This fact doesn't necessarily transform suburbs in intercultural places but, on the contrary, could make them become the stage of discrimination, xenophobia and racist events. For this reason for the youth and the social workers acting there it's fundamental to gain new tools, based on the combination of non formal education and theatre, to recognize conflicts and afterwards to find creative ways to manage them in a non violent way.
- *European Active Citizenship*: as above mentioned it's a fact that often young people perceive the concept of “citizenship” as a mere definition and an empty box, lacking of any meaning. Even more, in some EU countries, the youngsters coming from migrant families (born in the new country or arrived there when they were children), face several difficulties to obtain the citizenship. In both the cases, even if with different perspectives, the “citizenship” is still a vague concept. For this reason it's fundamental to find new tools to make young people approaching, in a more dynamic and stimulating way, this topic. To experiment that the active citizenship is something concrete, based on the moral duties and rights we have toward the society, that many concrete actions can be developed in this direction, it's a powerful contribution in the youth learning development.

METHODOLOGIES: the training course has to be considered the suitable stage where knowledge and skills can be exchanged in a peer to peer approach. For this reason the relation among trainers, facilitators and trainees has to be based on the idea that they are mutually learning from each others and that the active participation is the “key” work in the entire process.

The interactive methodologies that will be proposed during the training come from the non formal education and the theatre. They both foresee the active involvement of participants in each stage of the process and promote the horizontal exchange of competences. In this perspective ice breakers, team building activities, energisers, role play games, simulations, debates and theatre workshops are interactive tools to stimulate the active involvement of participants.

During the project the swap of technical knowledge and tools will be encouraged and the different approaches in learning will be constantly stimulated and evaluated through specific sessions on learning assessment. A specific attention will be dedicated to the different learning processes, to the individual ways of learning and to the valorisation of the individual skills.

The decision to combine non formal education and theatrical techniques to approach the topic of anti-racism and active EU citizenship, due to their expressive power and to their capability to touch, as a direct channel, different target groups, coming from different backgrounds. These methods can be also used to pass positive messages and to create new forms of participation in society, where also the “excluded” can get a new voice and can gain the power to contribute to the decision making processes of their community.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS:

70% travel cost (anticipated by participants and then refunded upon the presentation of the travel documents);
100% food and lodgement covered by the project.

NOTE: we will refund all the partners after the end of the project, as soon as we receive all the tickets and air boarding passes A/R in original and as soon as we receive the second instalment from the Executive Agency.

Normally the refund process can take, approximately, 4 – 6 months.

All the tickets cannot be bought before the 1st of August 2013 that is the official starting date of the project: all the expenses done before this date are not eligible and cannot be refunded. Please before booking write us an e-mail and wait for our confirmation.

GENERAL REMARKS: we kindly remind that the project dates are 15th – 21st of October 2013.

The arrival day is scheduled for the 14th of October and the departure day for the 22nd of October 2013

If participants want to spend a couple of more days in Italy, we remind them that they can do it before the beginning or at the end of the training. We kindly remind everybody that during the project won't be accepted exceptions like late arrivals (not in the scheduled arrival day) or early departures (before than the scheduled departure day) and that the training is composed by 7 intensive, stimulating and participative working days.

***** BE SURE THAT YOU AGREE WITH ALL THIS BEFORE COMING *****

TO DO LIST:

We kindly ask to the sending organizations to follow the steps listed below:

1. to ask the three participants that you identified to fill the application form and to send them back to the e-mail: mandozzi@lunaria.org and gellida@lunaria.org within the 20th of August 2013 (if you have the applications before that date, please send them);
2. to wait for our confirmation about the application forms;
3. as soon as you will receive our official confirmation, all the participants can immediately start to find the most suitable solution for their travel;
4. after booking all the participants have to send their e-tickets to the e-mail: mandozzi@lunaria.org.

TRAVEL COST FOR EVERY COUNTRY:

the price below includes the tickets return (flight + train + bus) second class travels. The taxi cannot be refunded and the amount specified in the “travel cost for every country” is the 100% and it will be refunded of the at the 70%

ASSOCIATION	AMOUNT 100%	AMOUNT REFUNDABLE 70%
LUNARIA	130,00 € (each participant)	91,00 € (each participant)
CONCORDIA	320,00 € (each participant)	224,00 € (each participant)
UNIVERSITUR ASSOCIATION	280,00 € (each participant)	196,00 € (each participant)
ANTIGONE	450,00€ (each participant)	315,00 € (each participant)
JAVVA	330,00 € (each participant)	231,00 € (each participant)
INEX Slovakia	330,00 € (each participant)	231,00 € (each participant)
ÚTILAPU	340,00 € (each participant)	238,00 € (each participant)
COCAT	310,00 € (each participant)	217,00 € (each participant)



IL MURO cultural association

IL MURO cultural association, created in Augusta between '96 and '97, arises from the need to spread culture in a place that lives under cultural and environmental distresses. IL MURO lives in an area which has suffered deep transformations in less than 50 years; it has passed from a little fishermen and peasants community to an industrial city. This has broken the link with old generations, causing the obliteration of their own history and origins. This is the reason why the association works on rescuing traditions and history in a way to reflect them to the future through the present time thanks to poetry, cinema, art and above all theatre. This kind of work involves young people, from Augusta and from the province, in the development of artistic, urban and naturalistic heritage in one of the most polluted area in Italy.

In 2004 the association involves more than 30 young people in a cultural project of the *Youth Program action 3* "Raccontare Augusta". It was an European theatre project ended with a final show in which they put up the story of the city. In these years the association has cooperated with: *Sert* and ASL Siracusa in the development of some projects aimed to prevent drug abuse; *Teatro del Corvo* of Milano, making some workshops; *Libera Torino*, taking part of the "National Day against Mafia" acting during the event; *Medici Senza Frontiere*, entertaining the visitors of the refugee camp which was set up in Piazza Duomo in Syracuse; *Terra del fuoco* association, entertaining 800 students (coming from every Italian region) travelling in the *Memorial Train* in order to visit the death camp of Krakow. IL MURO also cooperated with a lot of different social co-operatives and humanitarian associations which work in the whole territory, an example is given by the first *Clown Heart* international tour held in 2008. It was organized by ourselves and the civil protection of Syracuse A.V.C.S., in cooperation with La Farandula association (Bari) and Officina del Circo (Avigliano).

The meaning of Wall (il Muro) has different interpretations, accordingly to the way we act and work in this particular contexts. So WALL doesn't mean only defence, but also union and continuous renewal. As a matter of fact, every time a new brick gets in, the old wall is crushed in order to built it again and stronger than before!