

Desk Research Publication - Project Output 1

"Youth work, Volunteering, Recognition and Employability: what competences and what tools?"

November 2014-January 2015

Publication deadline: April 2015

Desk Research (DR) on the state of art of recognition and validation of competences in volunteering at European level as well as in the different states involved. First of all, the partners will identify the definition of the main competences of volunteers, and then they will look for best practices as well as recommendations and points to improve in this area, and identifying the main stakeholders involved.

The findings from this research will be published, and the main conclusions will be used to guide the following research, that is, the Field Research (FR), as well as to identify the main aspects of the recognition system that will be developed.

The Finnish Youth Research Society will lead the research, due to their experience in the field of youth research and in coordination of research projects, both at the national and international level. They will guide the research work of the other partners involved in this phase, elaborating the guidelines and compiling the results. Each partner involved will collaborate in the research at their local, regional and national level, while the Finnish Youth Research Society and ISIS will conduct the research at a European level, as well as on their own countries and other regions that are considered relevant for the study. The organizations from partner countries participating in this activity will provide the experience and knowledge due to their collaborations with universities that are already involved in research studies regarding volunteering and employability.

The period of implementation of the Desk Research deviates from the original one in order to logically structure the two researches: the Field Research will be partly based on the findings of the DR. So we anticipated the start of the DR to November 2014 to have it as its draft version ready for the Steering Committee meeting (mid-January 2015).

Draft Table of Contents

1. Introduction - Aims and method of the Research
2. Stocktakings - Findings and results of previous researches/projects
3. The stakeholders - who are the actors
4. The competences - Which are ours?
5. The tools - What implemented so far?
6. Recommendations for the next steps

The idea is to have very straight publication: we know the theme is still clouded and there's no common understanding of concepts, but we cannot be that ambitious to try to change this.

The researches will support the trainers/educators who will work on the tools, so it should be easy-to-read, synthetic and focused on the project expectations.

Partners tasks

- **Output Coordinator (25 days of work):** Finnish Youth Research Society will guide the Desk Research and will monitor the other partners involved in this output. FYRS will conduct the research in the European level as well as in Finland and other regions that are considered relevant for the study. FYRS will prepare the specific program with guidelines for facilitating the tasks to the other partners and make the research activities coherent.
- **ISIS (10 days of work):** ISIS, as the other research partner, will conduct the research in the European level together with FYRS, as well as in Germany and other regions that are considered relevant for the study.
- **Lunaria (14 days of work):** Lunaria will support the research partners at the beginning of the Desk Research and will do the follow up with the output responsible as the project coordinator. It will conduct the research at Italian level as well as study the Spanish case.
- **Alliance (10 days of work):** the Alliance will conduct the Desk Research at European level supporting both research institutes, offering its experience in the voluntary sector as well as covering other European countries where there is no partner.
- **CSV (10 days of work):** CSV will conduct the research at European level with a focus on domestic voluntary service as well as study the
- **CBB (10 days of work):** CBB will conduct the research in Belgium as well as study the French case.
- **Vive Mexico and IWO (South Korea)** will contribute with relevant findings on their own countries.

These tasks will be confirmed and coordinated by the Finnish Youth Research Society, who will be responsible for the Desk Research and who will monitor and support the partners working in this output.

The Desk Research could count on the participation of the other partners of the project, that can be consulted and be given small tasks during this phase. The other partners have no budget for this specific tasks, but they can contribute with spotted activities identified by the output coordinator.