



Erasmus+

ERASMUS+ PROGRAMME

Key action 1 - Learning Mobility of Individuals -
Mobility Projects for Young People and Youth Workers

THE SOUND OF LIGHT

Exchanging tools and abilities for an innovative and inclusive youth strategy

DATES OF THE PROJECT: 1st of January 2016 – 28th February 2017

DURATION: 14 months

THEME: Disability and active participation

GENERAL BACKGROUND:

Lunaria launched in 2013 a medium term strategy to be implemented in 2014-2015 and 2016, which aims to tackle in the most detailed way, from the perspective of young people, of youth-social workers and NGOs, the topic of DISABILITY.

In the entire strategy and in all the projects we believe that the key element it's the active participation. By practically experiment what disability is, doing that from different perspectives and exchanging life' experiences, it can be possible to implement a concrete strategy aimed to explore disability in an omni-comprehensive manner. In this process, the main idea it's not to "integrate" people with disability, but to find the most suitable way to give value to the different skills and abilities in order to activate new forms of participation and understanding.

This strategy aims to create an informal network of organizations willing to deepen the topic of disability, their "know how" and to export the experience in their own local realities. For this reason we like to consider The Sound of Light as an open format that can be used and adapted according to the local background needs, by each partner organization interested. In this perspective, since we believe in an horizontal cooperation, all those organizations willing to participate, will have the space to actively contribute to the project implementation, by sharing the experiences they had in the field of disability and the working methods they used and are using.

As above mentioned, the core point of this strategy is disability and all the important questions that surround this word and that sometimes may appear in our mind How do we define disability and why? Are prejudices or preconceived ideas influencing or affecting our way of act, when we meet people with disabilities? How do we use words and definitions? Do we use labels and what are the consequences, direct or indirect? How do we picture, in our perception, the life of people with disabilities? How to overcome our "pre-established mental pictures" in order to create a real interaction and exchange? How to make the young people in condition to approach this topic from a wider and equal perspective? Do we think we can concretely intervene to create together, new learning opportunities, where heterogeneous groups, can mutually learn and cooperate? How to provide the youth-social workers and the peer educators, that work with young people with and without disabilities, with new tools to approach disability and to facilitate the equal, active participation of these young people, in their activities?

In order to tackle all these questions we implemented in April 2014 "THE PERFECT MATCH Sharing Skills to face Boundaries", an Action 1.1 – youth exchange, under the Youth in Action programme. The project aimed to gather young people from different countries and, through the use of non formal education and artistic methodologies (dance and music), to make them interact and exchange life' experiences,

perspectives and point of views. The initiative, in common agreement with all the partner promoters and being a pilot project, addressed one specific type of disability, that is blindness, total or partial.

Furthermore, two more actions were implemented, under the "The Perfect Match" idea: a training course and a training for trainers, under the Erasmus+ program. The first one, which took place in October 2014, aimed to deepen the youth work about disability targeting the project to the youth and the social workers that daily realized activities with people with disabilities; to explore the non formal education methodologies that could be used to better implement the work with people with disabilities; to exchange the good practices and virtuous experiences on this field and to develop new working methods to facilitate the active participation, to projects and initiatives at local and international level, of heterogeneous groups composed by young people with and without disabilities. The second training, targeted to youngsters with and without disabilities, took the outcomes from the youth exchange and the first training course; participants shared good practices and working methods and learnt new methodologies to realize new inclusive projects targeted to heterogeneous groups, composed by young people with and without disabilities.

"The sound of light" project, born in this framework, aims to further develop the quality of youth work in the field of disability –focusing on hearing impairment-, by providing participants, youth and social workers, as well as young people with and without disability, with new working methods to run new inclusive initiatives and projects.

It will include different activities:

- *Training course for youth workers*: aimed at gathering the representatives/youth workers/active volunteers of the organizations that will be involved in the entire process.
- *European Voluntary Service short term project – short term EVS*: to give the opportunity to young people with disability to make a voluntary service experience abroad, to gain new knowledge and competences and bring their contribution within the project.
- *Advanced Planned visit*: targeting the group leaders of the partner organizations, in order to facilitate the subsequent implementation of the Youth Exchange.
- *Youth exchange*: it will be a second step in the involvement of young people with and without disability, specifically deaf and hard of hearing young people.

PARTNERSHIP: Abile Mente onlus (Italy), Leo Lagrange Sud Ouest (France), Association des Compagnons Bâisseurs (Belgium), Asociación para la Mediación Social EQUA (Spain), Grenzenlos - interkultureller Austausch (Austria), ELIX - Conservation Volunteers Greece (Greece), INEX - Sdruzeni dobrovolnych aktivít (Czech Republic), ASOCIATIA UNIVERSITUR (Romania).

TRAINING COURSE	
ASSOCIATION	COUNTRY
Lunaria	Italy
Abile Mente onlus	Italy
Leo Lagrange Sud Ouest	France
Association des Compagnons Bâisseurs	Belgium
Asociación para la Mediación Social EQUA	Spain
Grenzenlos - interkultureller Austausch	Austria
ELIX	Greece
INEX SDA	Czech Republic
ASOCIATIA UNIVERSITUR	Romania

EVS	
ASSOCIATION	COUNTRY
Lunaria	Italy
Grenzenlos - interkultureller Austausch	Austria
Association des Compagnons Bâisseurs	Belgium

YOUTH EXCHANGE	
ASSOCIATION	COUNTRY
Lunaria / Abile Mente Onlus	Italy
Association des Compagnons Bâisseurs	Belgium
Asociación para la Mediación Social EQUA	Spain
ELIX	Greece

COMMON WORKING METHODS

Trainings and youth exchanges should be conceived as the proper stage where knowledge and skills can be exchanged in a peer perspective. For this reason the relation among trainers, facilitators and trainees has to be based on the idea that they are mutually learning from each other and that the active participation is the “key” word in the entire process.

The interactive methodologies that will be proposed during the training come from the combination of non formal education, artistic and outdoor activities. All of them 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 workshops are interactive tools to stimulate the active participation of trainees.

During the project the swap of technical knowledge and tools will be encouraged and the different learning approaches 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 learning styles and to the specificity of the individual skills.

During the project non-formal education methods will be proposed, which promote the horizontal exchange of knowledge, active participation, the creation of learning paths -at individual and group level-, and the learn by doing approach. During the youth exchange, a combination of non-formal education, theatre and outdoor activities will be offered.

The Sound of Light is a pilot project in the field of hearing impairment. For this reason, an active contribution from all the organizations of the partnership in every phase of the activities will be required, with the aim to facilitate and ensure a smooth cooperation.

More specifically, it will be requested a shared responsibility to make a permanent monitoring and evaluation with the participants after each mobility, and to share the results that will be used both to implement the follow-up phases as to use it for the next event of the program; a cooperation will be also required to define the adequate activities and methodology which can respond to the needs of the participants from each organization.

The decision to use non formal education, outdoors activities and artistic channels to approach disability, due to their expressive power and to their capability to touch different target groups, coming from different backgrounds and life experiences. These methods will to be also used in the follow up phase, where the participants will spend the skills developed and the methodologies acquired to train, on one hand, other colleagues working in the field of disability and, on the other hand, to organize and lead short term local and international projects targeted to heterogeneous groups.

The project will be also based on didactic methods and learning tools for deaf people and people with hearing impairment, which will contribute to plan activities and methodologies that will stimulate reflection and discussion on hearing impairment and on the interaction between deaf and hearing people.

THE SOUND OF LIGHT
Youth Exchange
Mobility project for young people and youth workers
Learning Mobility of Individuals, Key Action 1

6th - 13th October 2016
(5th October 2016: arrival day; 14th October 2016: departure day)

TENUTA SANT'ANTONIO, Via Formello 4, Poggio Mirteto Scalo (RT), ITALY

DATES: 6th - 13th October 2016 (8 working days)

ARRIVAL DAY: 5th October 2016

DEPARTURE DAY: 14th October 2016

PLACE: TENUTA SANT'ANTONIO, Via Formello 4, Poggio Mirteto Scalo (RT), ITALY.
For more information you can have a look of their web site: <http://www.tenuta-santantonio.it/sabina/>

ACCOMMODATION: participants will sleep in dormitories and shared rooms with bunk beds (4 to 8 beds), with shared bathroom. They will be asked to support and to give their contribution in the shift for cooking and preparing meals. **Participants will be asked to collaborate in the daily maintenance tasks, such as cleaning the common spaces and giving a hand in the kitchen (cleaning dishes, set the table, etc.). We kindly remind everybody to inform about any specific needs concerning food or allergies and to do it in the application form or via e-mail!**

PARTNERSHIP AND PARTICIPANTS: 4 EU organisations

Organization	Country	Participants	Group Leader	Accompanying person	Total
Lunaria + Abile Mente onlus	Italy	6 (3 with hearing impairment)	1	1	8
Association des Compagnons Bâtisseurs - CBB	Belgium	6 (3 with hearing impairment)	1	1	8
Asociación para la Mediación Social EQUA	Spain	6 (3 with hearing impairment)	1	1	8
ELIX - Conservation Volunteers Greece	Greece	6 (3 with hearing impairment)	1	1	8

PARTICIPANTS: 6 young people (3 of them deaf or with hearing impairment) for each organization + 1 group leader + 1 accompanying person (youth/social worker experienced in this field).

We expect to host young people with and without disability. Participants have to be very motivated, interested in the youth exchange' topics and they have to be ready for 8 intensive and stimulating working days.

Our proposal is to have heterogeneous group since we believe that is an enriching value in the project to have young people with different life' experiences. It can provide a wider perspective of the way to live with and without disabilities and it may creates positive synergies to implement new activities.

We warmly recommend the involved partners to get in touch with local associations and partners working with this specific disability and to send young people facing this situation.

AIM: the aim of the youth exchange is to tackle, from the perspective of young people with and without disability, the topic of disability and to find interactive ways to activate new forms of participation and active citizenship. Furthermore, the youth exchange is conceived to develop alternative ways of communication to ease the exchange among mixed abilities groups.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES:

- to make young people interact and exchange life' experiences and perspectives;
- to reflect about the different learning styles and skills;
- to provide the young people of new communicative channels to further enhance their skills and to experiment new creative ways of expression;
- to gather young people from different countries to approach the YE topic from a wider and intercultural perspective;
- to debate in depth the topic of disability from different perspectives and backgrounds;
- to approach in depth the active citizenship topic and to set proposals to implement initiatives and local projects that can be implemented on the participants way back home, within their own, local communities;
- to explore the non formal education methodologies that can be used to better implement the work with heterogeneous groups;

FINACIAL CONDITIONS:

For travel distances between:

- 100 – 499 Km: 80€ per participant
- 500 – 1.999 Km: 170€ per participant

+ 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 National Agency.

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

All the tickets cannot be bought before the 1st of January 2016 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 6th – 13th October 2016.

The arrival day is scheduled for the 5th October 2016 and the departure day for the 14th October 2016.

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 youth exchange. 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 youth exchange is composed by 8 intensive, stimulating and participative working days.

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