

2023

REPORT ANNUALE

Incoming

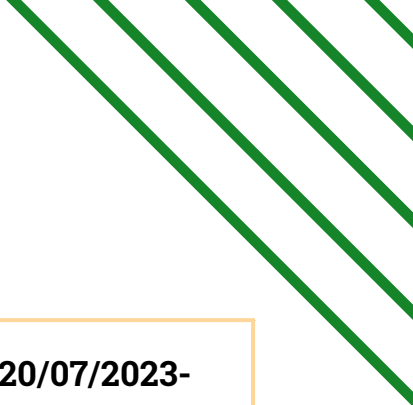


PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Summary: In the 2023 season, we successfully coordinated 25 workcamps, which accommodated 201 volunteers and 19 coordinators. This achievement is a significant milestone for Lunaria and reflects the fruits of our labor. The collective effort of Lunaria and its partners to promote and revitalize international volunteering in Italy has resulted in positive outcomes.

LUNAR01	Cleaning the coast of Giglio (Tuscany)	05/05/2023- 19/05/2023
LUNAR02	Carignano Summer Camp I (Turin)	11/06/2023- 25/06/2023
LUNAR03	Carignano Summer Camp II (Turin)	25/06/2023- 09/07/2023
LUNAR04	Local Trail Care (Cevo)	26/06/2023- 09/07/2023
LUNAR ESC 05	Teatri Riflessi Festival (Zafferana Etnea)	03/07/2023- 03/07/2023
LUNAR06	Frades/Friends and Community (Serramanna)	04/07/2023- 18/07/2023
LUNAR07	To BEE Volunteer (Turin)	09/07/2023- 23/07/2023
LUNAR TEEN 08	Together in the forest I (Lecco)	10/07/2023- 20/07/2023
LUNAR ESC 09	Lion Project (Monteleone Sabino)	16/07/2023- 31/07/2023

LUNAR ESC 10	Policaffè (Dolce, Valdadige)	17/07/2023- 01/08/2023
LUNAR TEEN 11	Together in the forest II (Lecco)	20/07/2023- 30/07/2023
LUNAR ESC 12	Cilento Fable Park (Stella Cilento)	26/07/2023- 10/08/2023
LUNAR13	ValpoWorkCamp (Fumane)	29/07/2023- 13/08/2023
LUNAR14	On the path of mills (Sessa Cilento)	04/08/2023- 19/08/2023
LUNAR TEEN 15	Rural Youth Revolution (Casperia)	21/08/2023- 01/09/2023
LUNAR ESC 16	Inclusive Summer (Civita Castellana)	25/08/2023- 09/09/2023
LUNAR ESC 17	East Side Urban Regeneration (Napoli)	27/08/2023- 11/09/2023
LUNAR18	AGAPE 1 (Prali)	08/06/2023- 22/06/2023
LUNAR19	AGAPE 2 (Prali)	22/06/2023- 06/07/2023
LUNAR20	AGAPE 3 (Prali)	06/07/2023- 20/07/2023



LUNAR21	AGAPE 4 (Prali)	20/07/2023- 03/08/2023
LUNAR22	AGAPE 5 (Prali)	03/08/2023- 17/08/2023
LUNAR23	AGAPE 6 (Prali)	17/08/2023- 31/08/2023
LUNAR24	AGAPE 7 (Prali)	31/08/2023- 14/09/2023
LUNAR ESC 25	RENO SPLASH Festival (Marzabotto)	05/07/2023- 20/07/2023

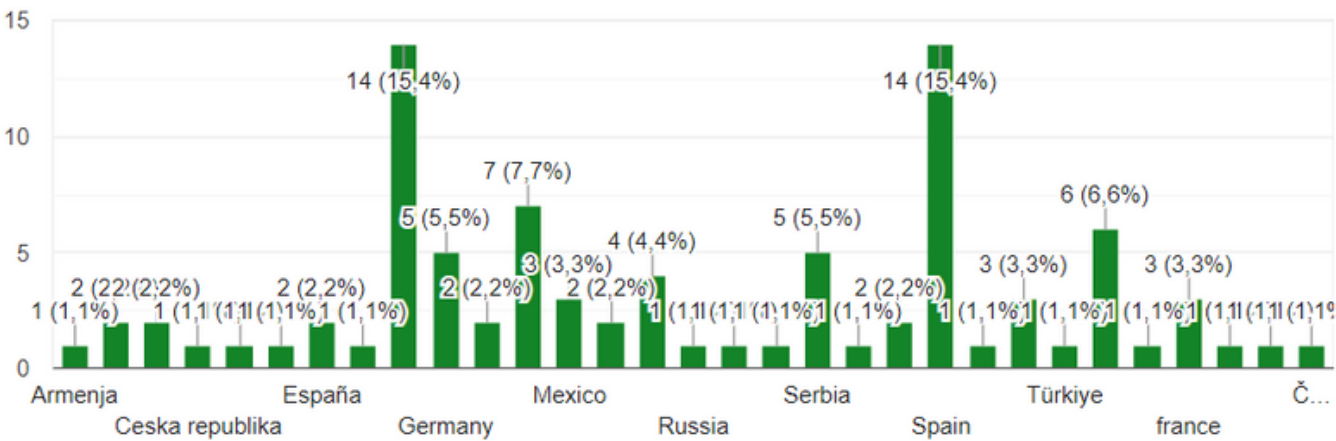
WORKCAMPS ORGANIZATION AND VOLUNTEERS FEEDBACKS

Workcamps Composition Analysis:

Countries, Age, General Statistics (Adults and Teen workcamps)



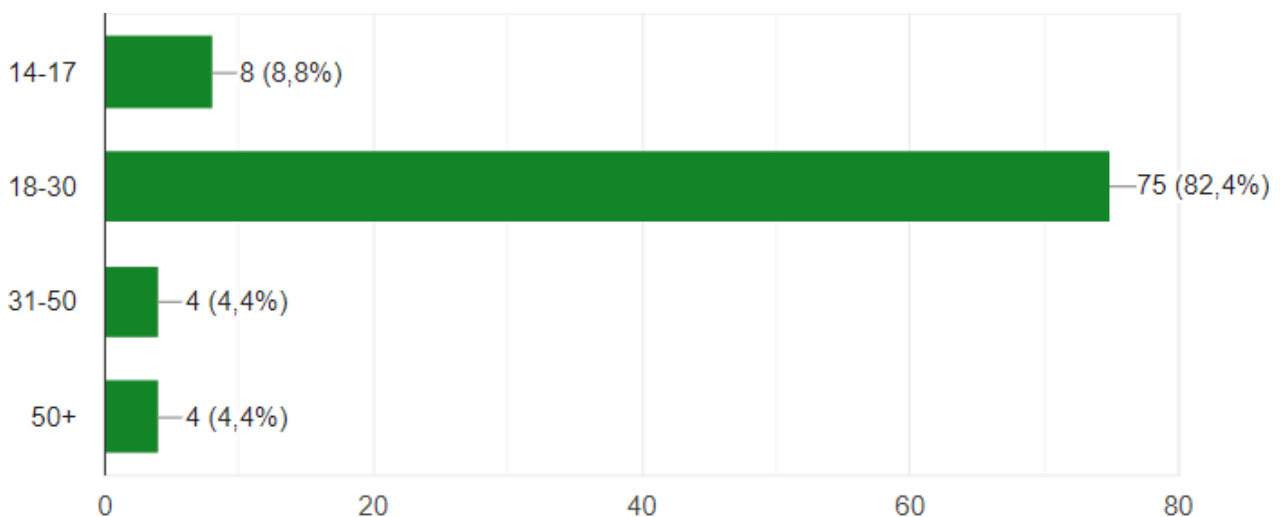
The majority of volunteers who participated in the Italian workcamps were European Union nationals, accounting for 71.4% of the total volunteers. The primary countries represented were Germany, France, and Spain. In addition to EU countries, volunteers from non-EU countries such as Mexico (5.5%), Serbia (5.5%), Turkey (4.4%), Azerbaijan (2.2%), and Japan (1.1%) were also present.



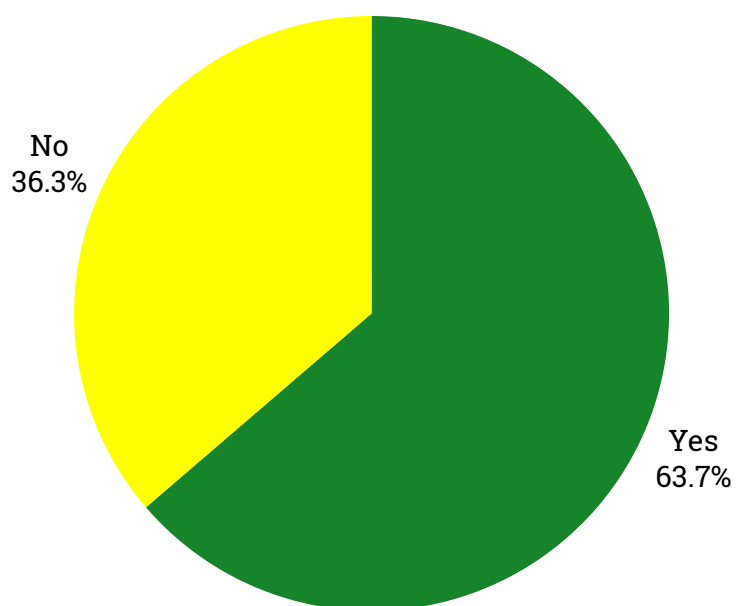
YOUR AGE



As illustrated in the graph below, the majority of volunteers who participated in these projects fall within the age range of 18-30, accounting for 82.4% of all volunteers. Since 2022, there has been a decrease in the number of volunteers, with 92% of volunteers falling within this age range. Additionally, 8.8% of volunteers were minors, while only a small percentage (4.4%) of volunteers were aged 31-50, and 4 volunteers (4.4%) were aged 50 and above. Notably, it is imperative to conduct informational events targeted towards these age groups to increase participation. The decline in the percentage of the 18-30 age group can be attributed to the broader range of groups participating in the workcamps.

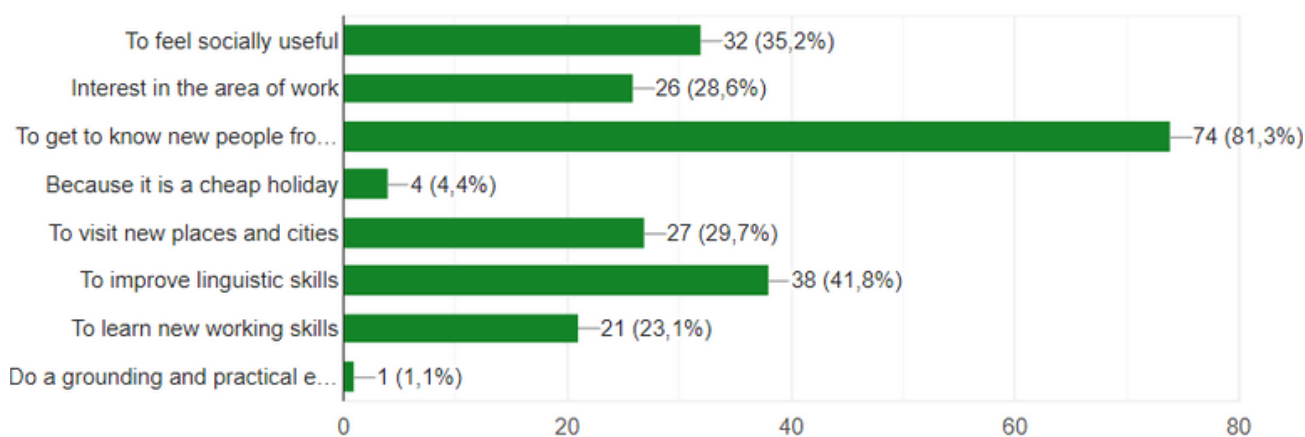


WAS IT YOUR FIRST WORKCAMP?



A significant percentage of volunteers reported participating in an international work camp for the first time. Specifically, 63.7% of volunteers confirmed that it was their inaugural experience, which is a marginal increase from the previous year's 63.4%.

There had been several reasons for which the volunteers decided to take part in an international volunteering camp; among the main ones we can find the following.



The majority of volunteers opted to participate in these activities with the primary objective of meeting individuals from diverse nations (81.3% in 2023, 75.9% in 2022), contributing to society (35.2% in 2023, 51.7% in 2022), and enhancing their language proficiency (41.8% in 2023, 39.1% in 2022).

VOLUNTEERS FEEDBACK

Like every year, we've sent out evaluation forms to every volunteer who participated in one of our workcamps. We want to gather feedback on various topics including the quality of information provided prior to the workcamp, accommodation, food, work, camp leaders, and the group dynamics.

This year, we hosted 201 international volunteers and organized 25 workcamps.. We've also gathered some statistics from the evaluation forms sent to our local partners who organized workcamps with us. Eighteen local partners responded, covering 25 workcamps, with some organizing more than one workcamp this year.

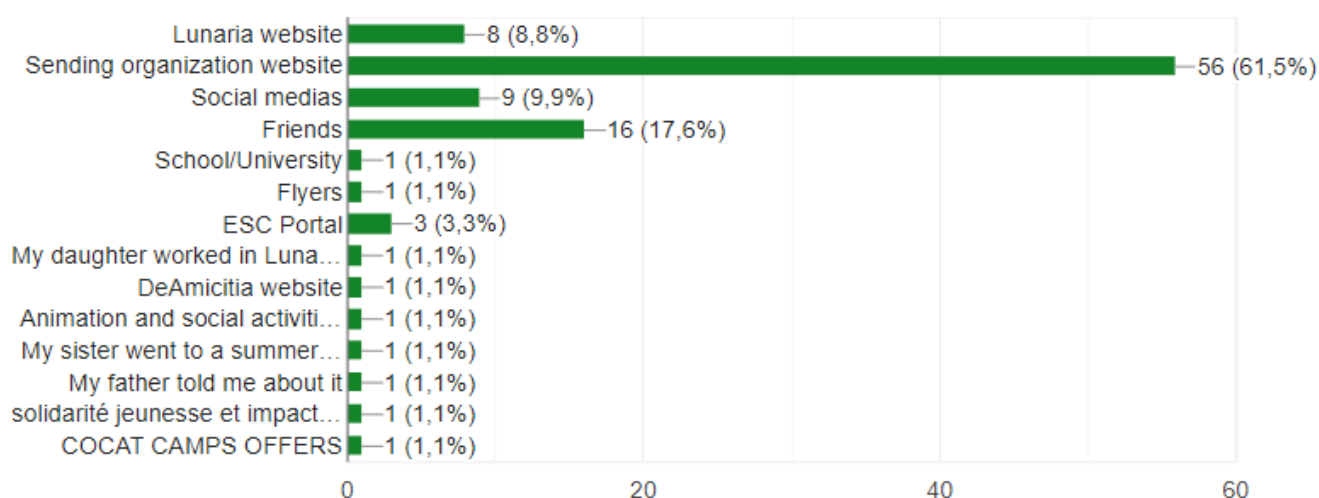
Furthermore, we've gathered some impactful testimonies from our camp leaders. These were collected through the report they filled out after their experience coordinating the workcamp.



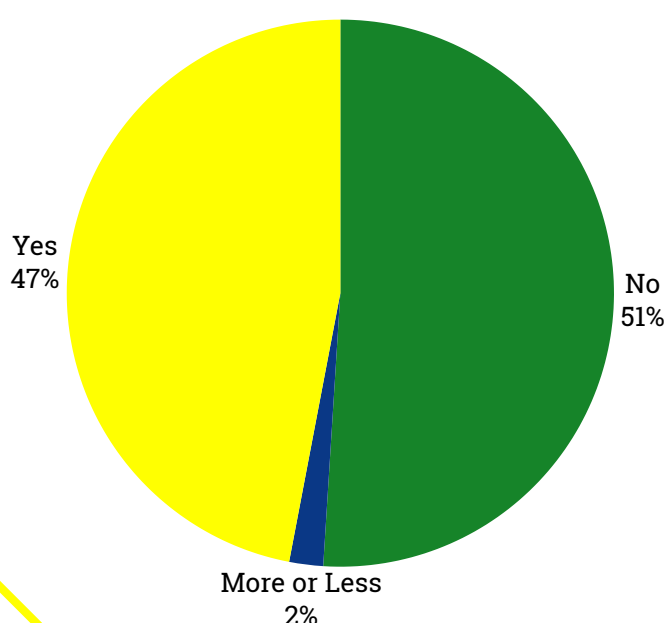
BEFORE DEPARTURE

Upon analyzing the results of the evaluation questionnaire for Workcamps 2023, we discovered that a majority of volunteers learned about our activities by visiting the sending organization's website (61.5%). From friends (17.6%, higher than last year's 11.5%), social media (9.9%, higher than last year's 6.9%) and our website (8.8%) were other ways that volunteers discovered Lunaria.

HOW DID YOU FIND THIS SPECIFIC PROJECT?

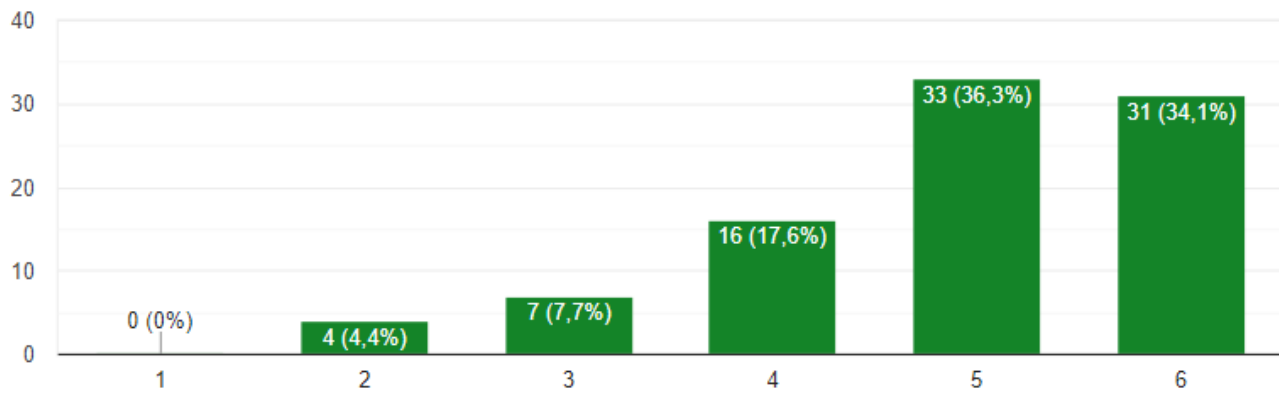


IF YOU TOOK PART IN A SIMPLE WORKCAMP, SKIP THIS QUESTION. WHEN YOU CHOSE YOUR PROJECT DID YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A WORKCAMP AND AN ESC PROJECT?



Lunaria offers two types of projects: normal workcamps and ESC workcamps. The European Union promotes and provides funding for the ESC (European Solidarity Corps) projects. Interestingly, 51% of volunteers who participated in these projects were unaware of the differences between normal workcamps and ESC workcamps. Only about 2% of volunteers had a somewhat clear understanding of the distinction.

HOW DO YOU EVALUATE THE INFORMATION RECEIVED BEFORE THE WORKCAMP (INFOSHEET & CO, COVID RULES TO ENTER IN THE COUNTRY)?



The infosheet is a crucial document for volunteers, particularly those who have never participated in a workcamp before because it provides an overview of the project and its organization. As most volunteers, especially teenagers (and their parents), can be anxious before departing, this document is essential to allay their concerns. To ensure the clearest and most up-to-date information about the work, accommodation, and travel to the workcamp, we work closely with our local partners to create the most comprehensive infosheets possible.

In 2023 we noticed a slight decrease in satisfaction rate this year compared to last year's evaluation, dropping from 92% to 88%. While this is a minor reduction, we will continue to strive for excellence in all aspects of the workcamp experience.

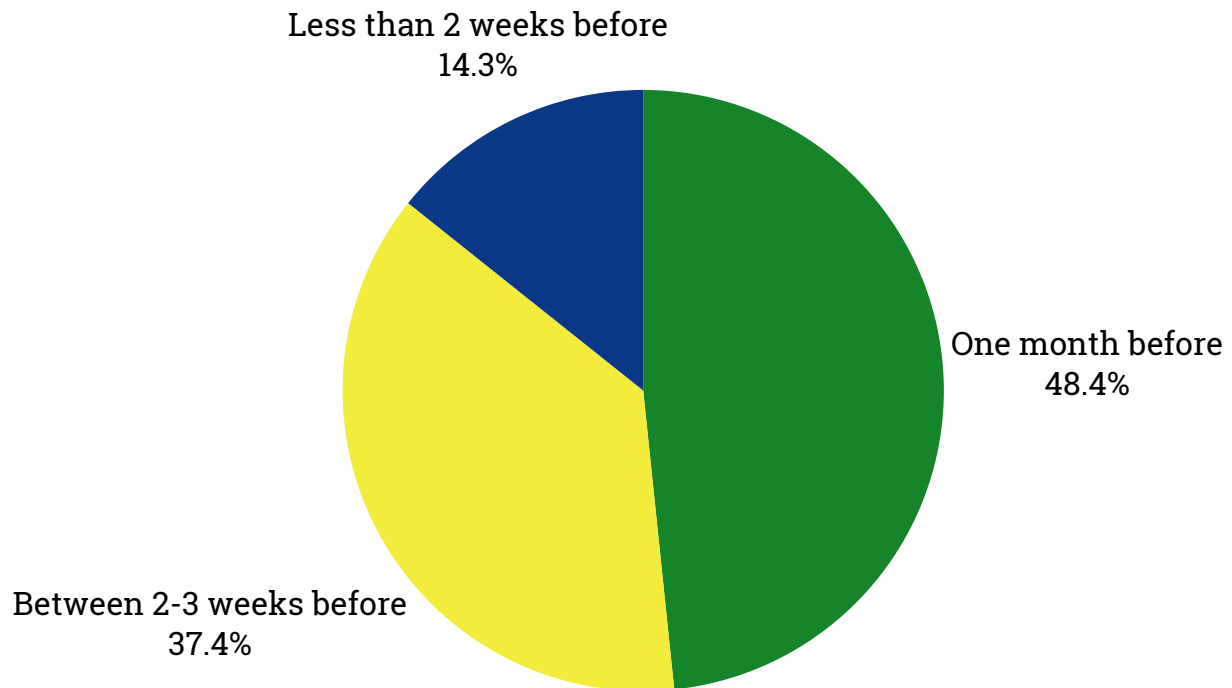
Comments:

"Excellent"

"Everything was well described except the work"

"The received information was proper and complete"

WHEN DID YOU (APPROXIMATELY) RECEIVE THE INFOSHEET BEFORE THE WORKCAMP?

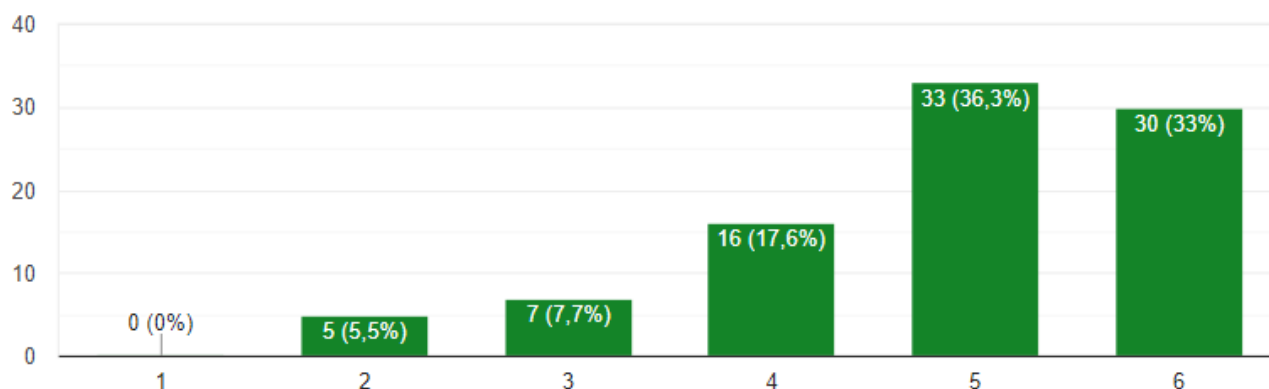


Sending the infosheet one month in advance of the workcamp is crucial for both volunteers and organizers. It helps volunteers plan their trip, especially in terms of purchasing airfare. Additionally, it streamlines the process for both the sending and hosting organizations, as it reduces the amount of basic questions that volunteers may have. These questions, such as those regarding accommodation, airports, and transportation, can easily be found in the infosheet.

This year, our efforts to improve our work can be seen by the positive results. Although we had more volunteers than last year, the number of volunteers who received the infosheet "One month before" has increased significantly, as well as those who received it "Between 2-3 weeks before," although to a lesser extent.

DURING THE WORKCAMP

WERE THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE INFOSHEET CONSISTENT TO THE REALITY OF THE WORKCAMP?

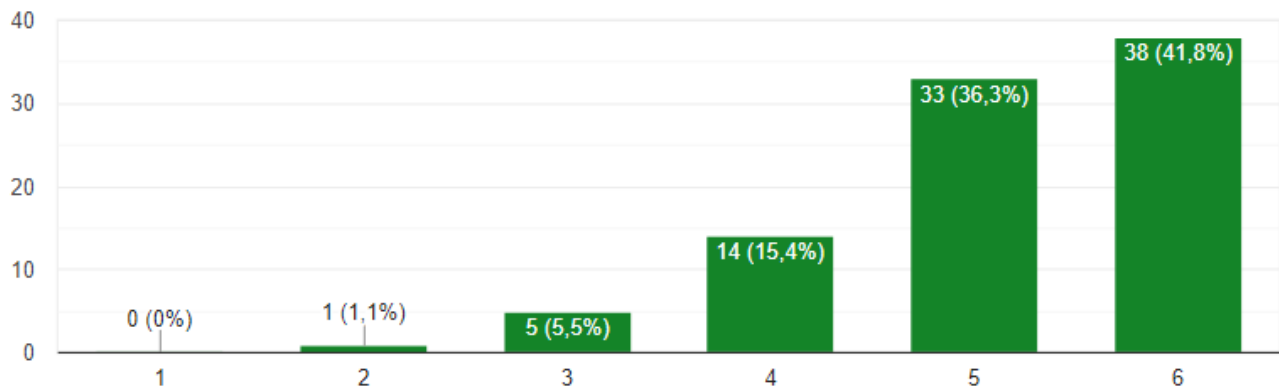


We are pleased to report that most volunteers found the infosheet to be an accurate representation of the work to be done during the workcamp. This is a positive development for us.

In addition, we have made significant improvements in the accuracy of work descriptions in comparison to the previous year. While all figures have decreased, the number of extremely satisfied volunteers (6 out of 6) has quite increased (33% compared to last year's 26.4%).

However, there is still room for improvement in this area. This is a broader issue that relates to the organization of the work itself and requires a better understanding of the work to be done in collaboration with our local partners.

HOW DO YOU EVALUATE THE ACCOMMODATION?



Although accommodation is not the primary focus of workcamps, it still plays a vital role in ensuring a comfortable experience for volunteers. According to our survey, 93.5% of volunteers expressed satisfaction with their lodging during the workcamp. While this figure is slightly lower than last year's 95.4%, we are committed to maintaining high standards to prevent any negative trends.

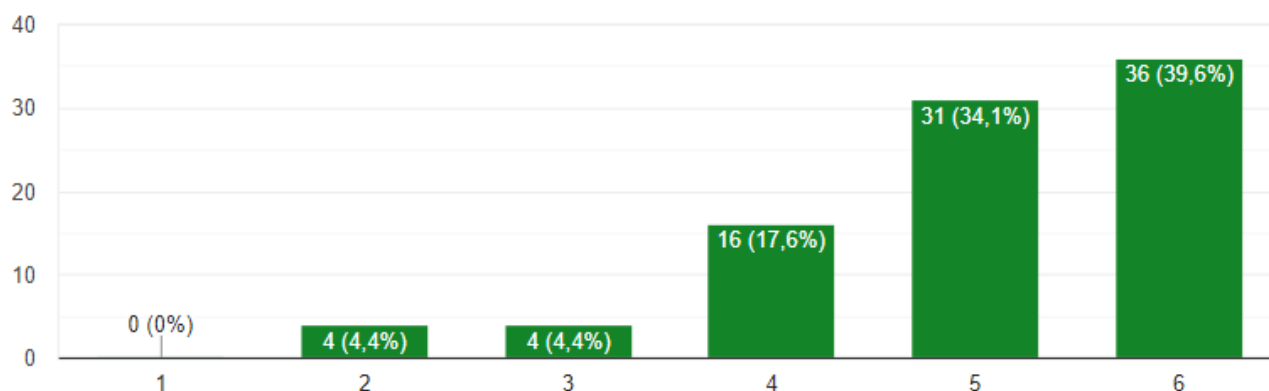
Comments:

"We had a great group! And were very well received"

"Except the fact that the Netflix series staff took our kitchen, everything was super!"

"The bed and all facilities were fine in our room. There was lack of place for common communication, especially where some members of the camp could have free time late in the evening without disturbing those who want to sleep"

HOW DO YOU EVALUATE THE FOOD?



The intercultural aspect of international workcamps is one of the most crucial elements. This is best exemplified during meal times, where volunteers have the chance to showcase their nationalities through food. Moreover, Lunaria and host partners strive to provide nutritious and well-balanced meals. In 2023, volunteers had an overwhelmingly positive experience, with 91.3% expressing satisfaction.

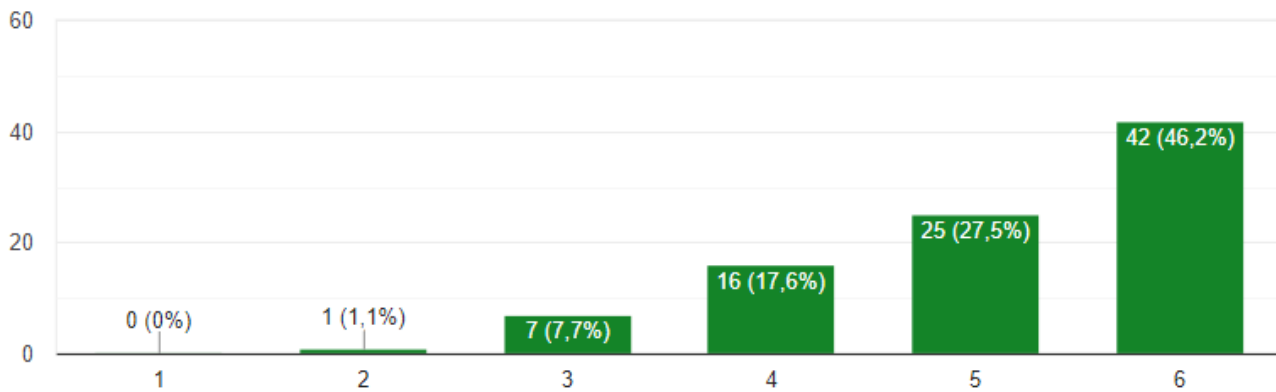
Comments:

"Vegetarian options, a lot of pasta, enough for everyone most of the time"

"We could really get anything we wanted to prepare meals. It was quite luxury ;)"

"Locals were extremely generous and shared their food with us and had the opportunity to get to know them better"

HOW DO YOU EVALUATE THE HYGIENIC CONDITION?



At Lunaria, we take the well-being of our volunteers seriously, and that includes providing clean and comfortable living conditions. Overall, our hygiene standards have received positive feedback from volunteers. In fact, 91.3% of them reported satisfaction with the conditions during their workcamp stay. Though slightly lower than the previous year's 94.2%, the difference is minor. It's worth noting that only one volunteer (same as last year) reported discomfort with the hygiene conditions.

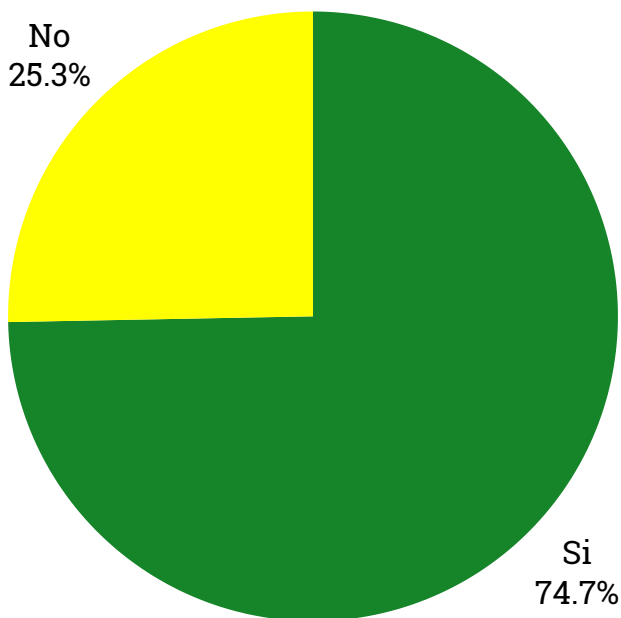
Comments:

"As in the case of food, the hygienic condition depended on the participants themselves, and the organizers provided everything necessary"

"Almost everything was in a really good cleaning condition"

"I really appreciated all the efforts put to offer good accommodation conditions"

DO YOU THINK THE WORK WAS WELL ORGANIZED?



At Lunaria, and for our local hosts, nothing is more crucial than making work enjoyable. This is why our local hosts go above and beyond to ensure everything is well-organized and runs smoothly. Our efforts are paying off, as evidenced by the 74.7% of volunteers who believe the work is well-organized – a significant increase from last year's 66.7%.

Comments:

"Although it was more than manageable, it still was very chaotic"

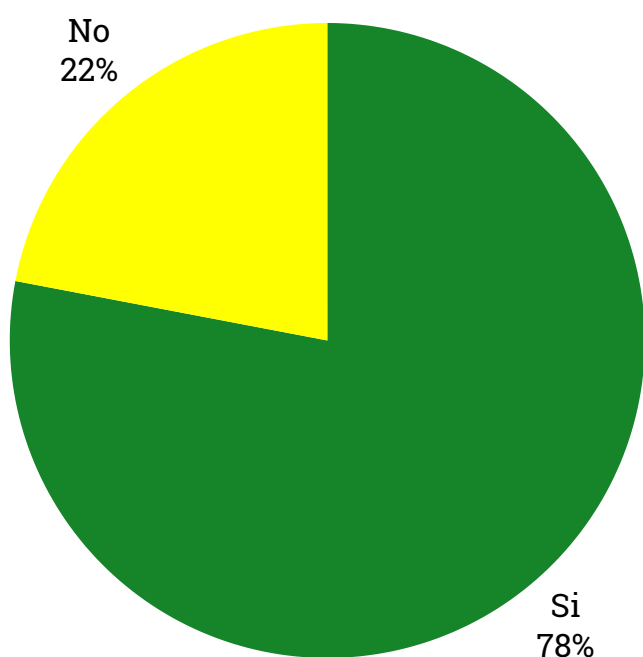
"Yes, it was but sometimes it lacked a bit, because we ordered paint and it got there too late so we got our free day a day before it was planned"

"We didn't have to do many things as there were others volunteers from Carignano that were in charge of the camp"

It is very important for us to know also the critical aspects, in order to always improve our local hosts network and job. These aspects need to be taken into account in order to really upgrade our activities.

WERE YOUR TASKS THE SAME AS THE ONES DESCRIBED IN THE INFOSHEET?

The works during the camp may be vary, depending on the needs of the local communities and the organization of the local hosts: some of the volunteers spent their time on the workcamps cleaning the local area and picking up the trash; other took part in a more artistic project, and they had tasks such us scratching the wall, painting and making murals. Lunaria, and the local hosts always try to organize different kind of projects in order to reach the interests of many volunteers as possible.



According to our findings, there has been a significant improvement in task completion during workcamps. Specifically, 78% of volunteers surveyed noted that the tasks they performed aligned with those listed in the information sheet. However, the remaining 22% felt that there were discrepancies between the tasks described before departure and those they actually performed.

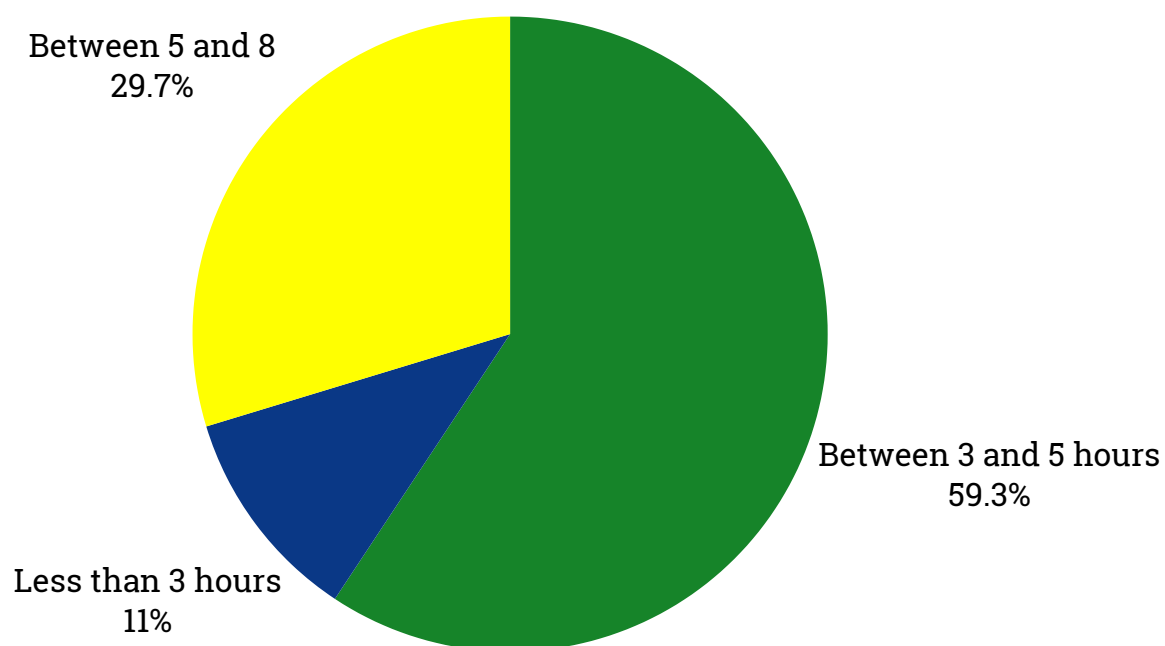
Comments:

"We did all the work described in the infosheet but some additional things as well"

"Reality corresponded to preliminary information"

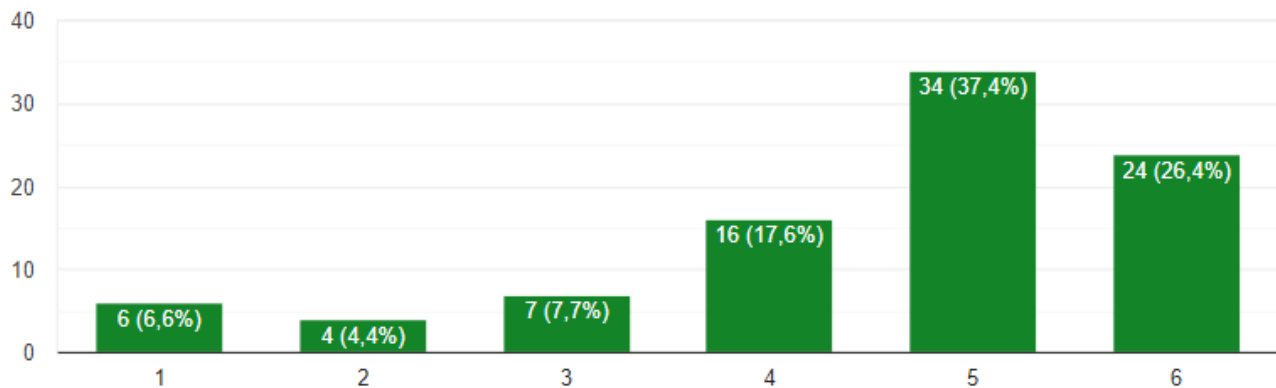
HOW MANY AVERAGE HOURS DID YOU WORK PER DAY ?

The workcamp is a mix between work and leisure time; first of all, we will analyse how much time was spent for the work activities. Further to this point, we can highlight many homogeneous answers by the volunteers.



The amount of work-time in workcamps varies according to the activities scheduled. Some require more hours, while others require less. This year, the number of participants who work between 3 and 5 hours has significantly increased, which has led to a reduction in those who answered "Between 5 and 8" from 32.2% to 29.7%. and those who answered "Less than 3 hours, from 32.2% to 11%.

DO YOU FEEL THE WORK WAS USEFUL?



Of great importance is the usefulness of the work done, which we are proud to announce that this year, 81.4% of volunteers (compared to last year's 77%) expressed their satisfaction with the work they accomplished during the workcamps.

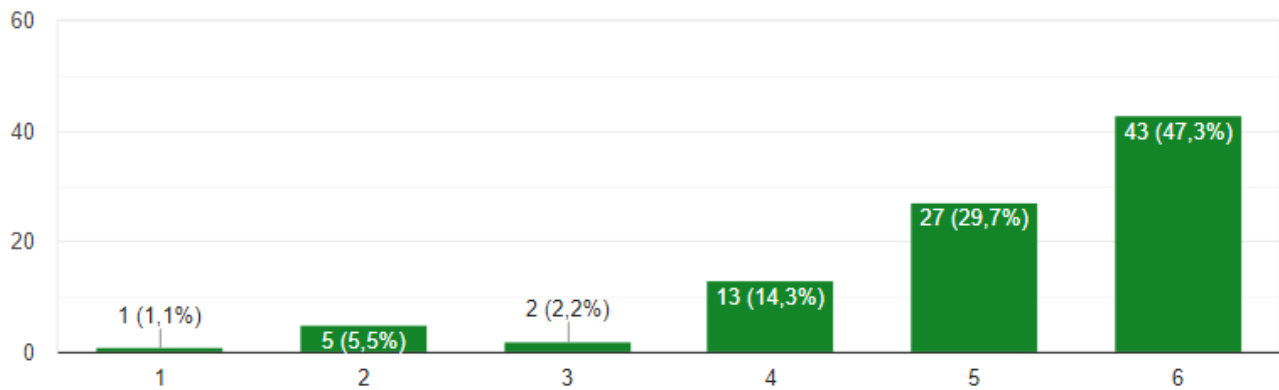
Comments:

"We've put out a lot of plastic from the beaches, communicated with the locals"

"We helped to many people there and we participated in maintaining the place, we were necessary so organization could work properly"

"This work can be continuous, but prevention would be obviously the key. We get the feeling we're doing something which is really the surface of a great great issue, but let's be positive"

DID YOU ENJOY THE WORK?



Not only the volunteers found their work was useful for the community that were hosting them, but also greatly enjoyed their work. Proof of this can be shown by looking at the above graph with the 91.3% h

Comments:

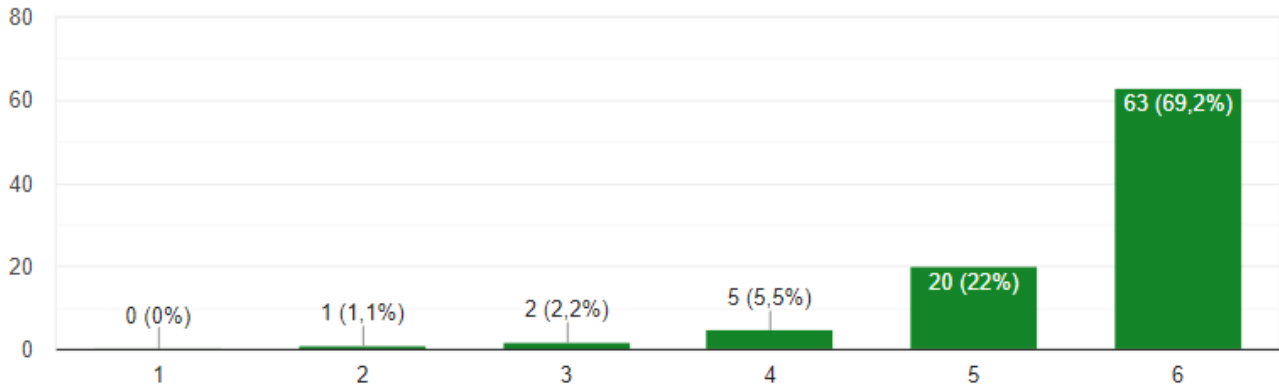
"I liked everything we had to do"

"It was a satisfaction that you are doing a very necessary job"

"I tried to learn italian. And the local people were really nice with me. So i enjoyed a lot"

"We obtained(acquired) new skills, we worked with people, we did different tasks, so it was very nice, all in all"

DID YOU FEEL WELL IN THE WORKCAMP VOLUNTEERS GROUP?



An overwhelming majority (97.3%) of the volunteers reported feeling very comfortable with their group. For more insight, please find their comments regarding their experience below.

Comments:

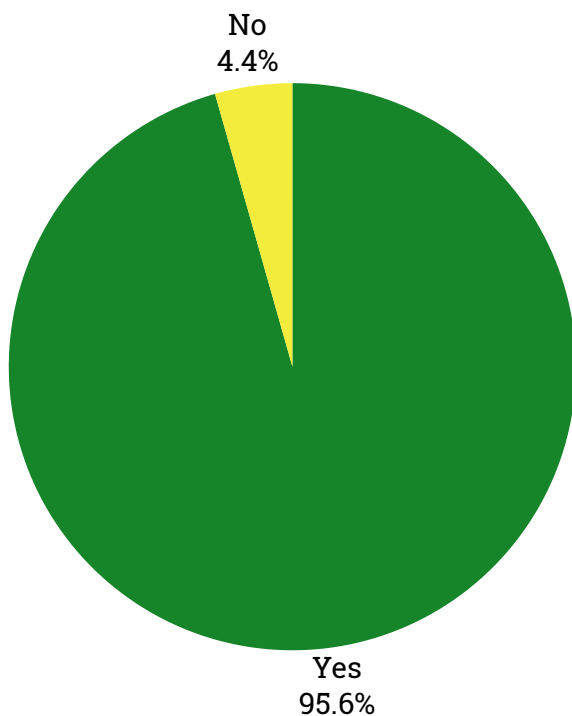
"People were super nice there. Everyone was communicating freely and no one was left behind. The atmosphere was so warm and friendly all the time"

"Volunteers were amazing specially one of our camp leader (Daniel)"

"It was group of very nice persons, so in situation like that, there can't be many problems!"

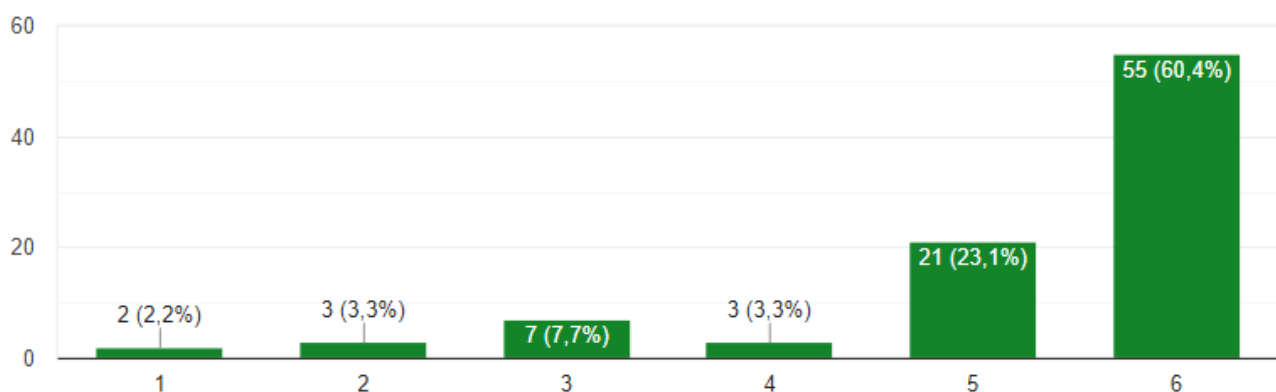
"Everyone was amazing"

DID YOU HAVE A CAMP LEADER?



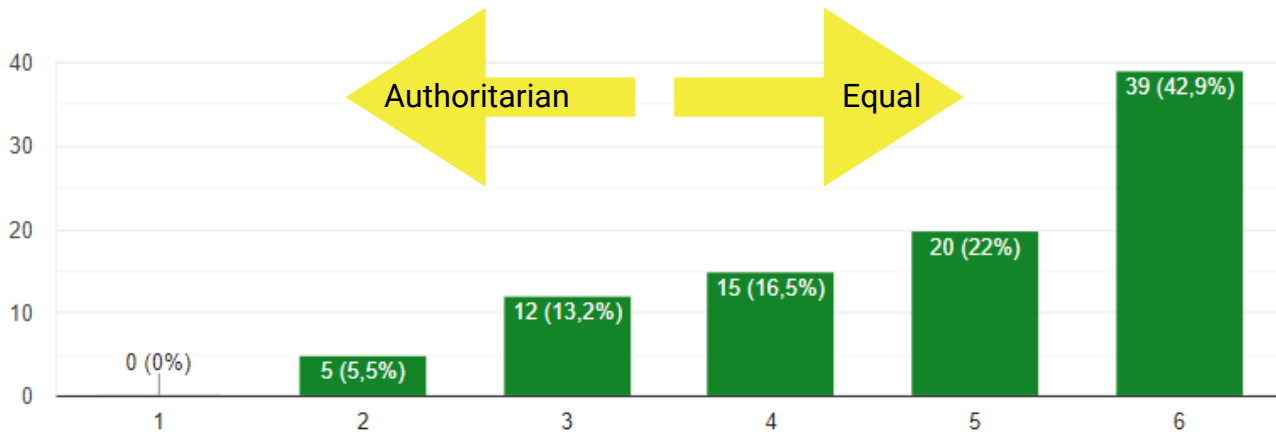
It's worth noting that almost all camps (95.6%) had camp leaders. Below there are some reviews submitted by the volunteers regarding their experiences.

IF YES, DID YOU FIND HER/HIS ROLE USEFUL?



The role of camp leaders has once again been proven to be critical for a positive camp experience. According to the above graph, 86.8% of volunteers found their leadership role to be very useful for the successful completion of the camp. However, 13.2% of participants did not find the role to be helpful, with 2.2% of that group considering the camp leader to be useless.

DID YOU CONSIDER THEM AS LEADERS (AUTHORITARIAN) OR EQUALS (VOLUNTEERS AS YOU)?



Volunteers around the world believe that group leaders play a more equitable role (81.9%) compared to themselves. While group leaders are responsible for organizing, they also need to establish peer-to-peer relationships with volunteers. This is a significant aspect to consider.

Comments:

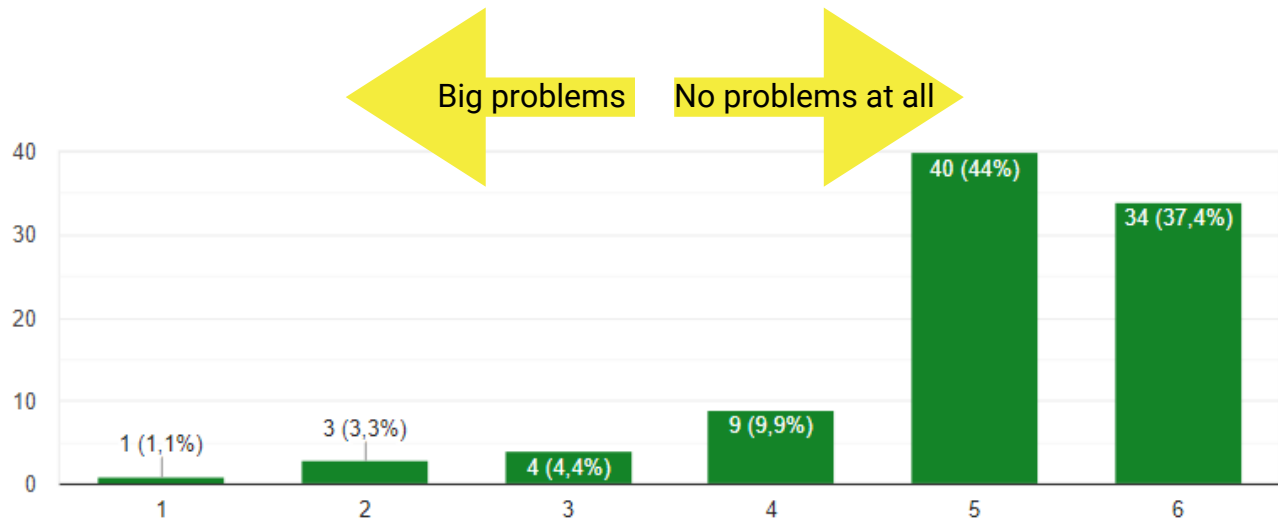
"They translated a lot and prepared a lot but at the same time we were all equal and I enjoyed it"

"Lorenzo was the one of the best people I have met in my entire life. Big thanks to my camp leader"

"Stefano was a great camp leader, he knew his tasks, was helpful and had many great ideas for our free time"

"Our coordinators were amazing. Leaders when needed, friends the rest of the time"

WERE THERE ANY COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS IN YOUR CAMP?



According to the above statistics, 91.3% of volunteers did not encounter any communication issues during their workcamp experience, with only a few exceptions. Clear communication is crucial for the successful execution of a workcamp, and it also ensures that every volunteer has an enjoyable time.

Comments:

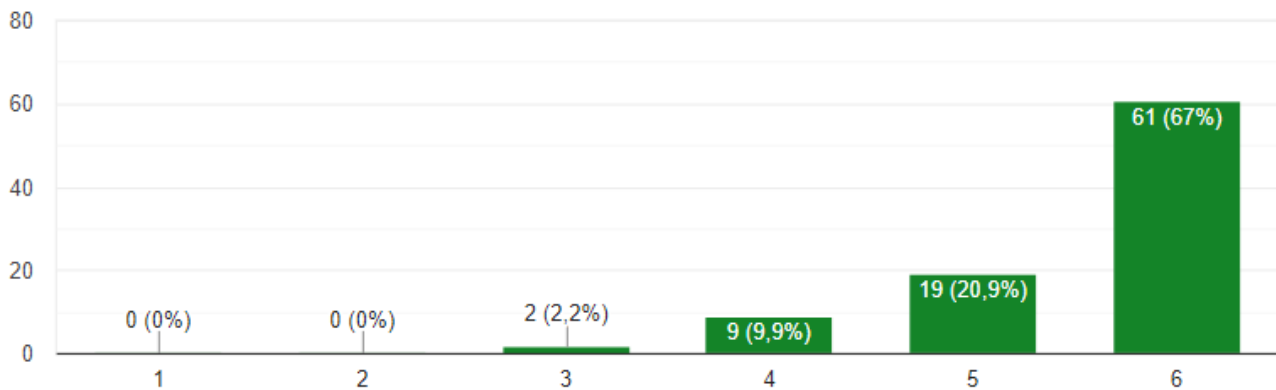
"Sometimes we spent lots of time to get ready go to work"

"Everything was arranged with agreements"

"I rated 5 because almost nobody understood my silly jokes i guess whats funny on one side of the world is not funny on the other"

"Only one volunteer had problems, he didn't speak English though he knew the language..."

DID YOU HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LOCAL ORGANIZERS?



It's important to note that 97.8% of our volunteers have a good relationship with the local community. This is a significant factor as it demonstrates that the community values the efforts of volunteers involved in these projects.

Comments:

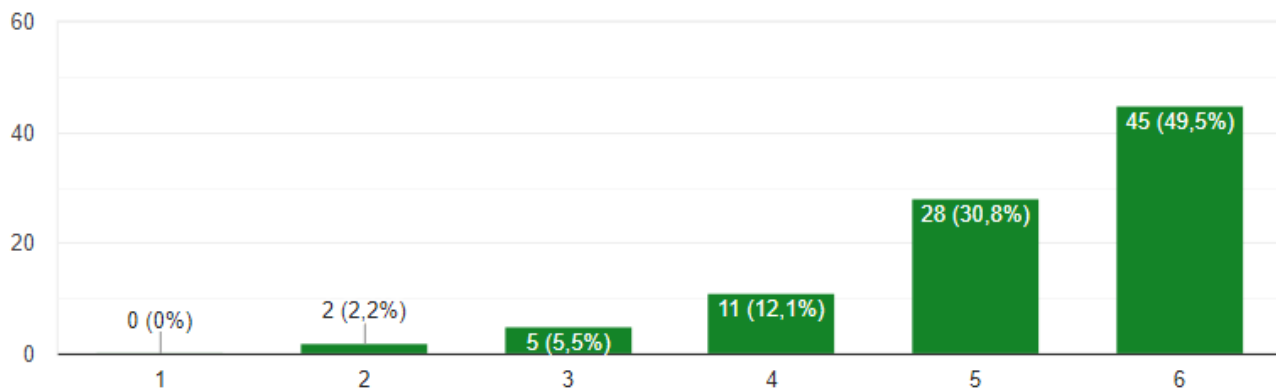
"Local organizers were very nice people, I cannot say anything wrong about them. They took care of us and organized some activities"

"They're very lovely and welcoming"

"The working activities were well organized, and also some evening events"

"They were the ones that made me feel the most welcome in the camp. Very nice people!"

WERE THEY ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING TO THE LIFE OF THE WORKCAMP?



Volunteers had a positive experience this year, with 92.4% reporting a great experience and locals providing assistance when needed. Some comments left by the volunteers are included.

Comments:

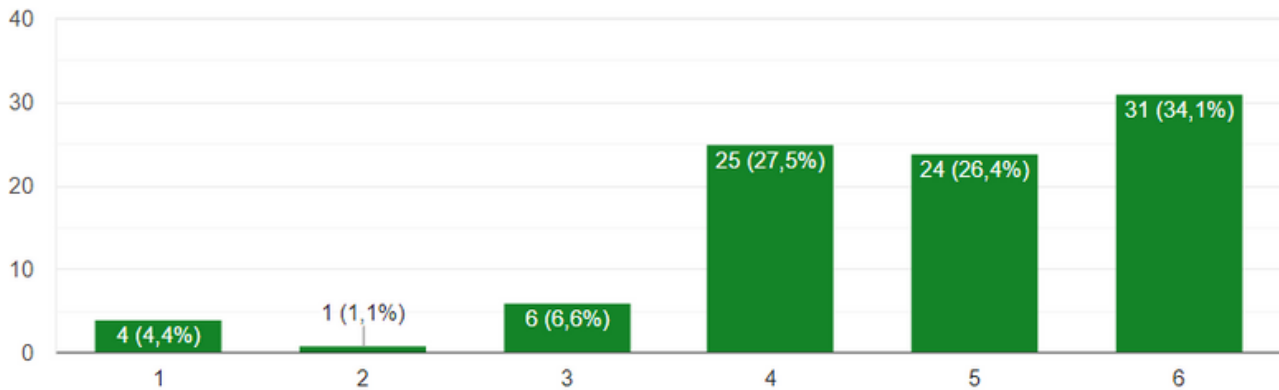
"Yes, they were actively collecting the trash with us"

"Yes they were amazing. They showed us so many things and very grateful to them"

"The local organisers were super kind and available, they wanted to organise activities and visits for us and they were very interesting and fun"

"Very much yes. They were there to help us for whatever we needed"

DID YOU HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?



It's worth noting that a significant majority of our volunteers (88%) have connections within the local community. This speaks volumes about how much the community values the efforts of our volunteers on these projects. Furthermore, the graph above, also illustrates a noticeable improvement from last year's engagement rates, which stood at 85%.

Comments:

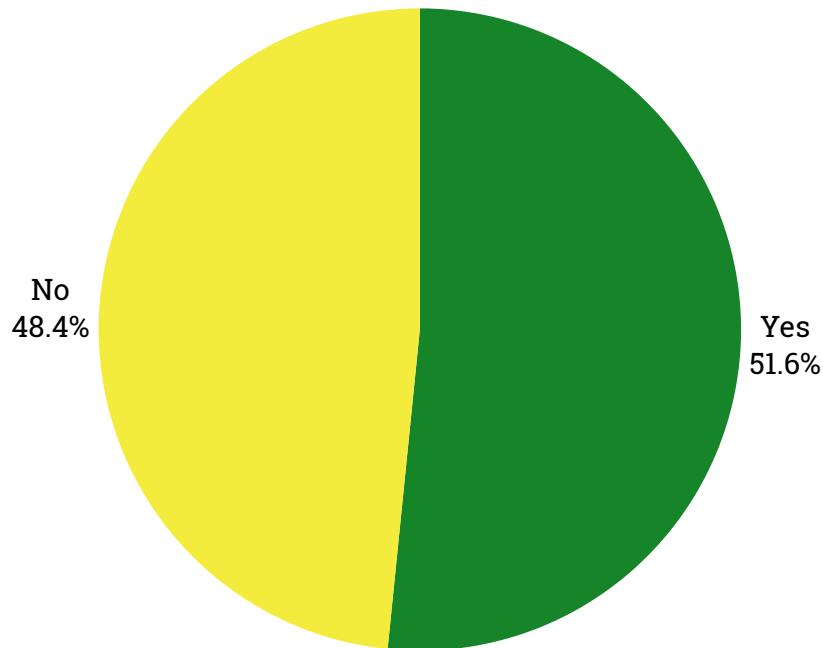
"We were invited for a lot of dinners from different parts of the city communities and were lucky to meet a lot of people"

"There were very interesting contacts with individuals from the local community"

"I'm so thankful for the opportunity to get to know people of Monteleone. I felt welcomed and enjoyed being with them. I hope I'll come back soon"

"We had been invited to a local party and festival, we were having dinner with families in Carignano."

DID YOU JOIN ANY WORKSHOP, EVENT, TALK ABOUT IMPORTANT TOPICS, BESIDE THE WORKCAMP ONES? (HUMAN RIGHTS, SUSTAINABILITY, PEACE...)



At Lunaria, we are always thrilled when individuals take part in events that align with our values. This year, we are proud to report that 51.6% of volunteers joined activities that were either scheduled or invited by the hosting organization.

Comments:

"There was a meeting with representatives of the local environmental community"

"One random/last minutes/pop up presentation about marine life-environment was held by professionals. They happened to eat in the local host's restaurant and the host asked them to tell us and show us the core of their work"

LOCAL HOSTS FEEDBACK AND EVALUTATION

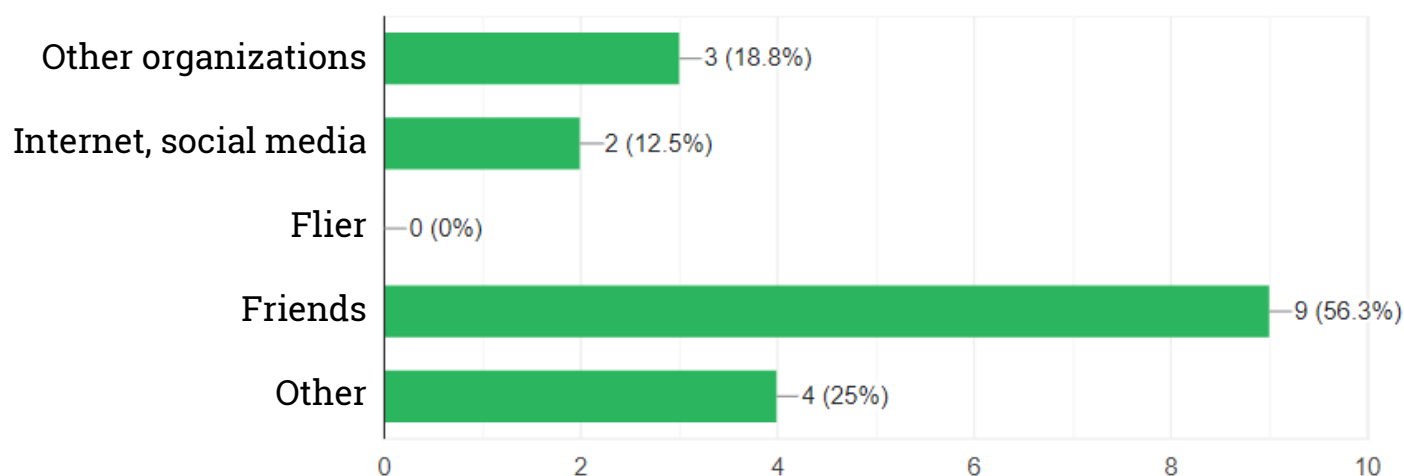
In the second part of this report, we will conduct an analysis of the feedback received from our local hosts.

Throughout the year, we collaborated with sixteen local hosts on twenty-five workcamps throughout Italy, seven of which received support from the ESC program, and three for Teens. Among the organizations we partnered with are Movesi, Comune di Serramanna, Cilento Youth, Giglio, Hermete, Giovani Insieme, Liberi Sogni, Agape, Cooperativa Sociale Il Pungiglione, Brianza Hills, and Arzibanda.

Our organization has cultivated a strong relationship with these partners over the years, with the exception of Pi.uma in Monteleone Sabino, with whom we hope to collaborate with in the near future.

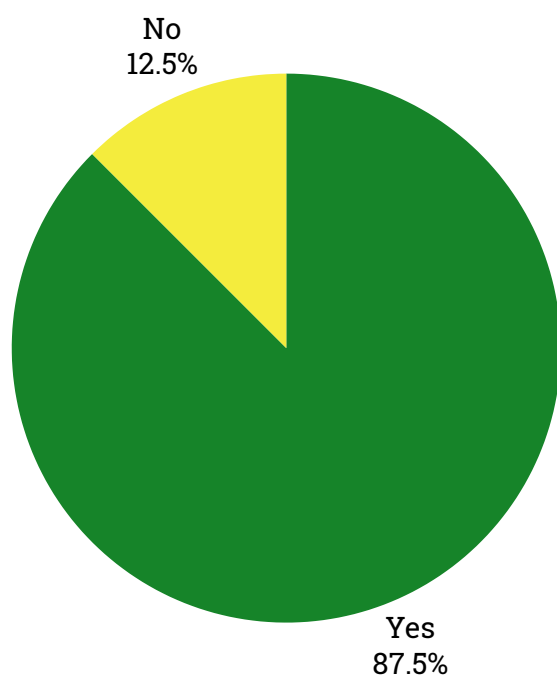


THROUGH WHAT MEDIA DID YOU BECOME AWARE OF THE POSSIBILITY TO ORGANIZE INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMPS WITH LUNARIA?



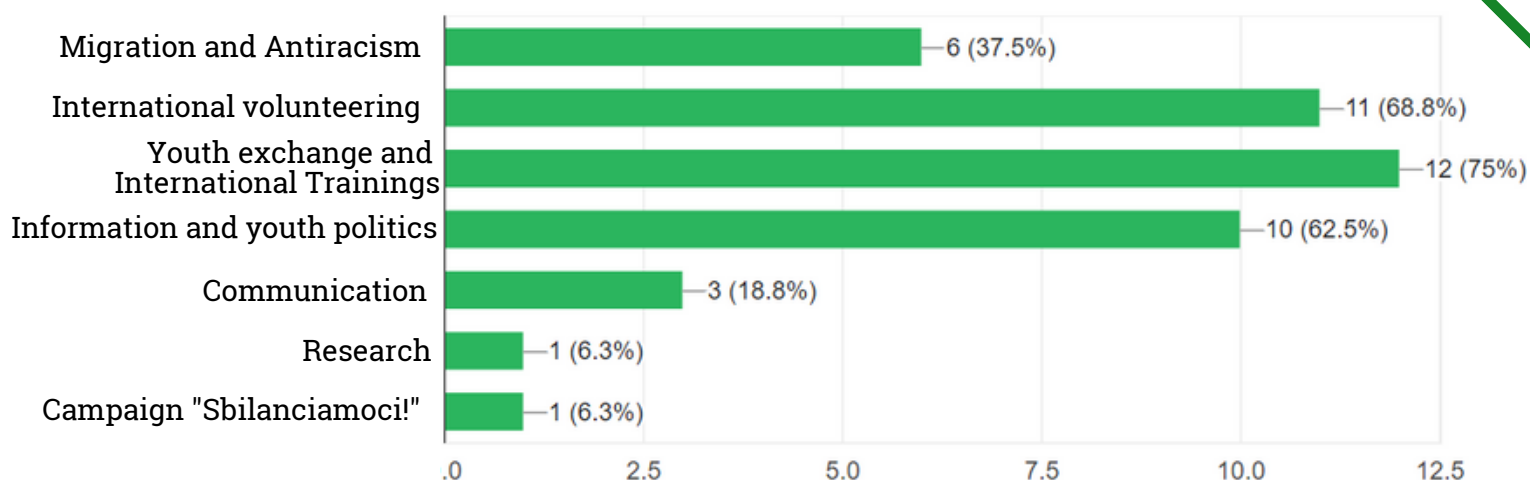
When it comes to discovering opportunities to organize a workcamp with Lunaria, local hosts around Italy typically gain knowledge through various channels. According to recent data, the most common sources of information are friends (56.3%), other organizations (18.8%), and other means (37.5% for other and via internet).

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LUNARIA'S OTHER ACTIVITIES?



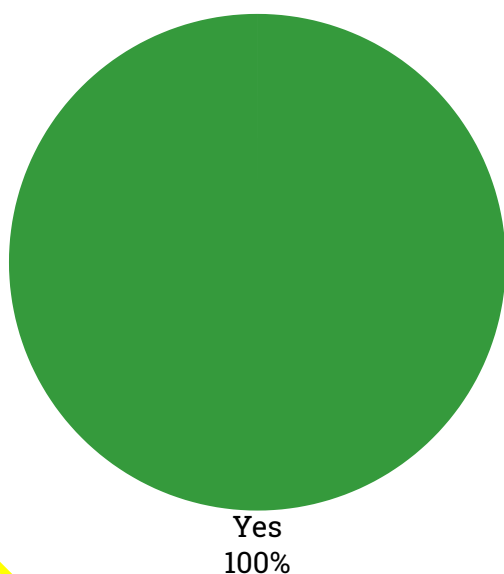
This year, it appears that nearly all host associations were informed about Lunaria's other activities, with 87.5% acknowledging awareness in the evaluation.

3. IF YES, IN WHICH SECTOR ARE YOU MOST INTERESTED IN?



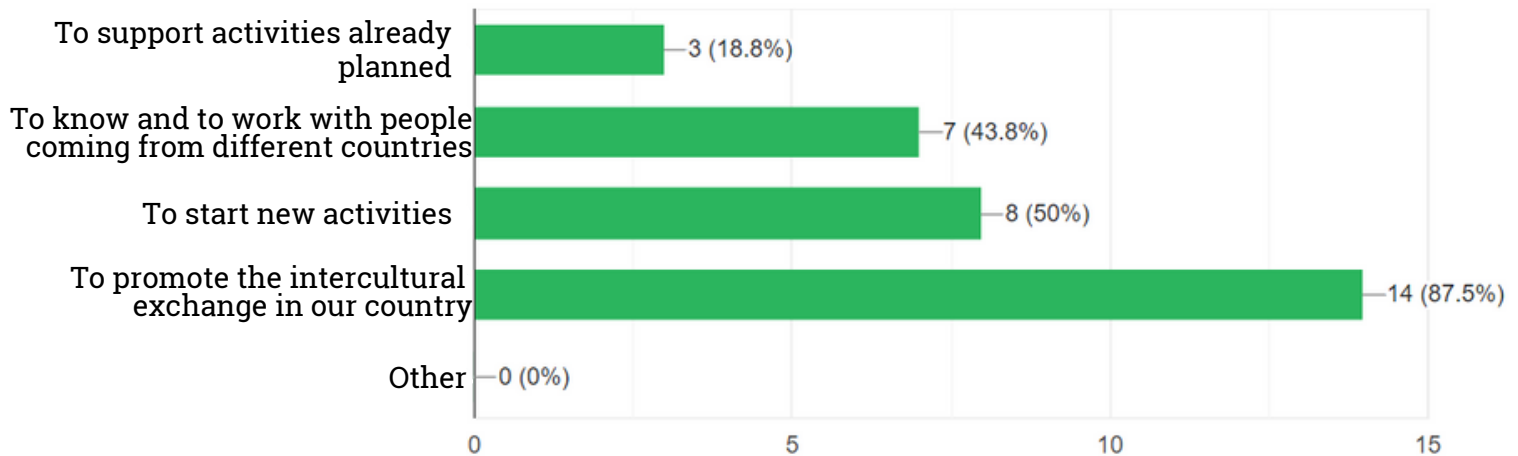
Familiarity with Lunaria's operations and its international and local activities is widespread among the organizations we partner with. According to the data we have gathered, 75% of local hosts expressed particular interest in youth exchanges and international trainings, followed by international volunteering at 68.8%. Additionally, information and youth politics garnered a 62.5% response rate, while anti-racism and migration initiatives saw a 37.5% return. Also Communication, Research and Sbilanciamoci has gained some interest instead of last year 0% for all three.

4. WHEN YOU CONTACTED LUNARIA ABOUT ORGANIZING THE CAMP, DID YOU RECEIVE SATISFACTORY INFORMATION?



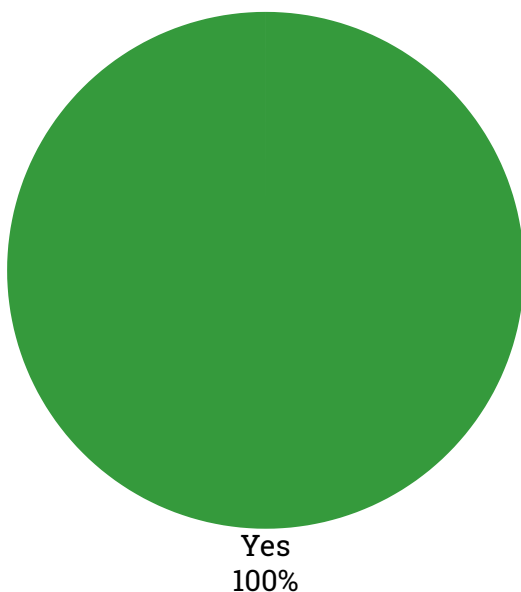
We are proud to announce that this year's workcamps registration process was a complete success. Our local hosts were pleased with the clear and comprehensive information provided to them as soon as they contacted us. Additionally, the volunteers' information, such as their arrival and departure dates and other specific details, was found to be excellent. We look forward to repeating this achievement again next year.

5. WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO ORGANIZE AN INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMP?



There are numerous reasons why local hosts may choose to organize an international workcamp. According to the evaluation, the primary reasons included promoting international networking and intercultural exchanges (87.5%), starting new activities (50%), working with people from various countries (43.8%), and offering support for planned events (18.8%).

6. DID THE PLACEMENT ORGANIZATION AND INFORMATION ABOUT INCOMING VOLUNTEERS SATISFY YOU ?



We are again proud to announce that our local hosts were pleased with the clear and comprehensive information provided to them as soon as they contacted us about the incoming volunteers. We look forward to repeating this achievement again next year.

7. WHAT WERE THE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT DURING THE WORK CAMP ?

Here are some comments of the local hosts on the activities that have been carried out during the workcamps:

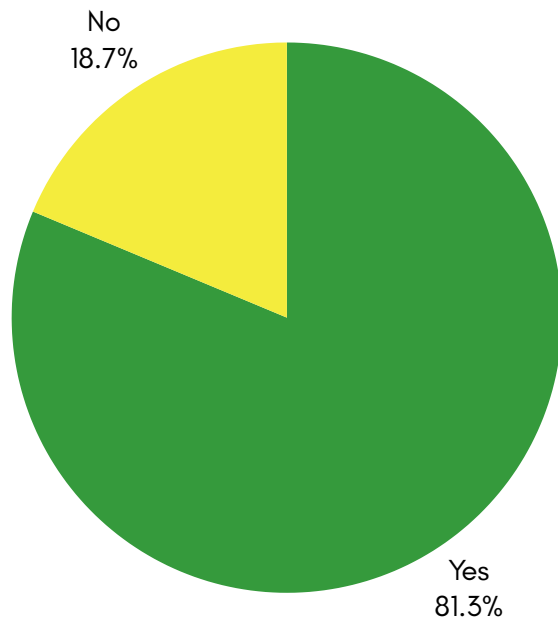
"Realization of set-ups of enriched and collateral activities at the festival. Implementation of flash mobs and community engagement activities at the festival. Space management and reception. Accompanying stage and backstage activities"

"There were many activities implemented. Below is a list of them:

- Arranging indoor and outdoor spaces hostel Adamello Park House.***
- Moving and Rearrangement of Yoonik's Temperature exhibition at the Park House.***
- Cornfield cleaning and hay preparation at Agriturismo Ca Noa in Saviore dell'Adamello.***
- Cleaning and re-marking CAI trail 687 (Ring from Fabrezza locality to Passo Blisie via Lago di Bos) with CAI Cedegolo.***
- Cleaning of part of the road and communal forest path that leads from Località Mae to the old Calchera with Az. Agr. Shanty Mae.***
- Cleaning of a water drainage channel at Pla Lonc locality with Malga Corti.***
- Maintenance of outdoor spaces and construction of a canopy for the chicken coop at DaMa Horse stables [...]"***

"Redevelopment of public areas, multi-ethnic dinners, guided tours, educational games, murals, and peace awareness among peoples"

8. DID THE CAMP SEEM BALANCED TO YOU IN TERMS OF AGE, GENDER AND NATIONALITY ?



Most of the local hosts considered the workcamps balanced by gender, age and nationality (81.3%). Only a lesser extent (18.7%) considered the workcamps less balanced

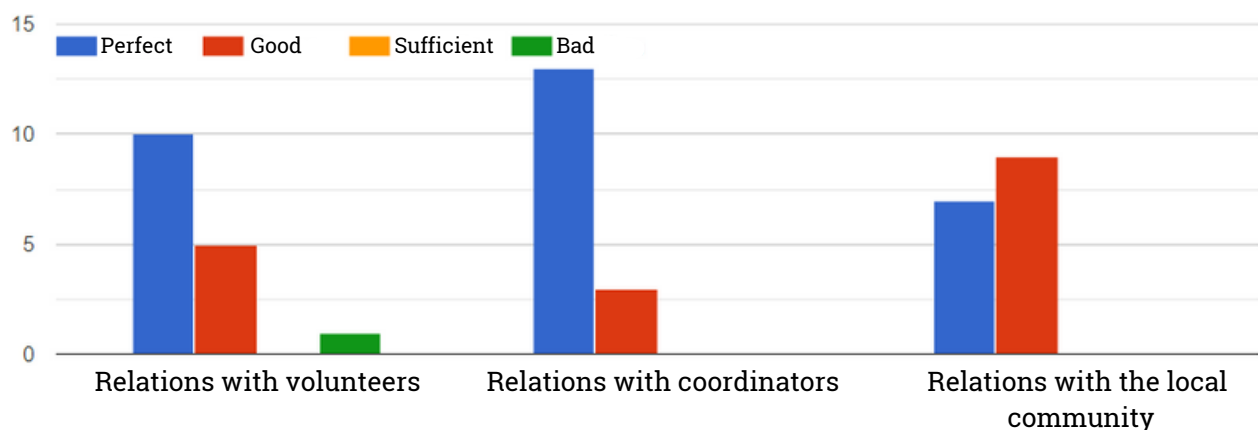
Comments:

"More girls than boys but we know it doesn't depend on Lunaria"

"Too many people in the same household"

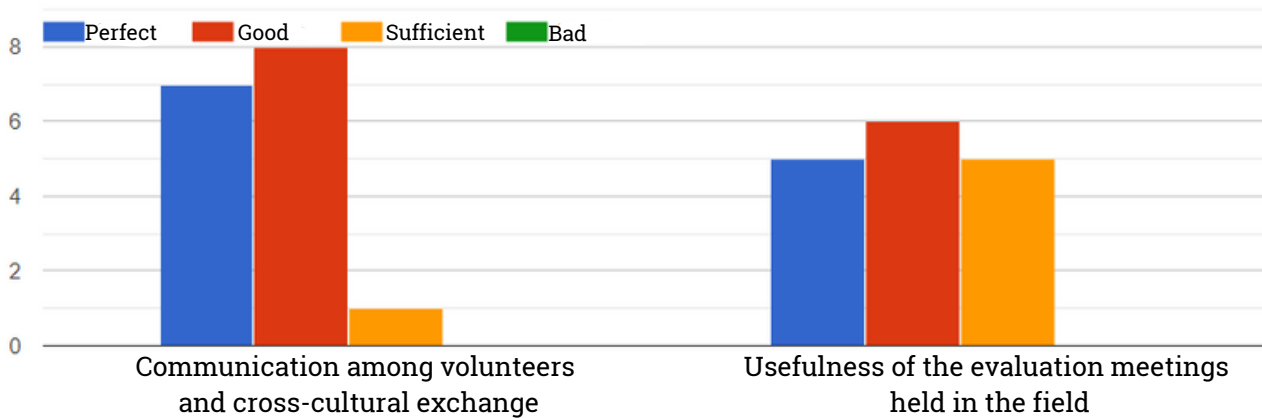
9. HOW DO YOU CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING ASPECTS ?

A) INTERPERSONAL ASPECTS



In terms of relationships, the local hosts developed a strong bond with the volunteers (with the exception of one case) and the coordinators. However, there was a slight disconnect in terms of their relationship with the local community.

B) CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ASPECTS

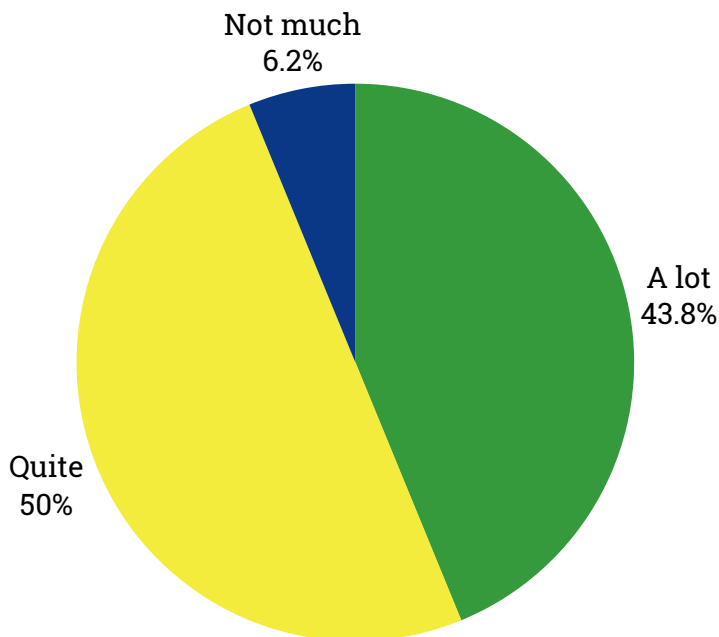


We can register a very similar trend also for the cultural and leisure aspects (communication with volunteers, intercultural exchange, evaluation meetings): most of the local hosts stated that these aspects have been optimal. There is just one case that affirmed that some of these aspects have not been accomplished:

"We did not understand the meaning of the last questions, i.e., what does "Communication among volunteers and cross-cultural exchange" mean. But the relationship with volunteers and our educators has been fostered and they seem to have created a good group . However, we know that we need to improve relationships with the local community, although we have tried to create moments of sharing, we believe they are not enough. Since it is a work environment for us um and a particularly busy time of year, our workers don't always have the strength to hang out with the kids after work. But we know that they still went around the country and, by getting to know the children through the Summer Center, were able to have contact with them outside of work"

All of our local hosts affirmed straight away that they are satisfied with the achievements reached with the volunteers.

10. HOW MUCH IMPORTANCE DID YOU PLACE ON THE ABILITY OF VOLUNTEERS TO ACCOMPLISH THE PLANNED WORK IN THE SCHEDULED TIME AND MANNER ?



The local host associations have answered that it is imperative for volunteers to adhere not only to the set schedule and working standards but also to be able to complete the assigned tasks. Only a marginal 6.2% of the local host associations deemed accomplishing the planned goal as unimportant, while ensuring that volunteers comply with the schedule and conduct themselves respectfully.

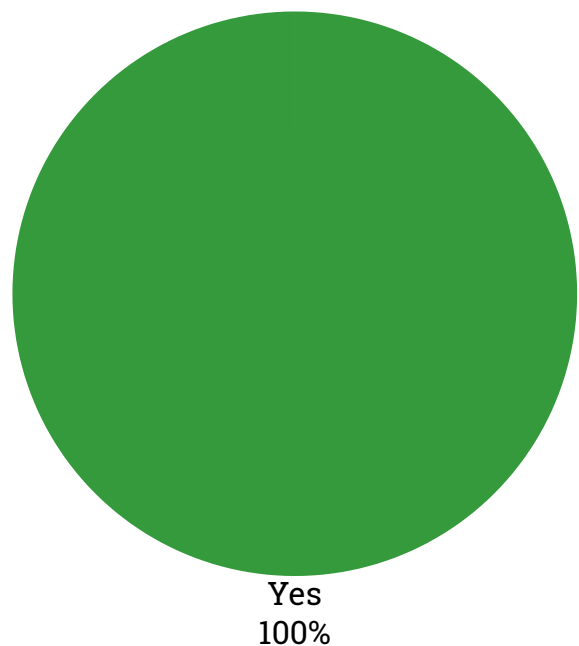
11. WERE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE WORK DONE BY THE VOLUNTEERS?

We're thrilled to announce that the local host associations have expressed complete satisfaction with the work delivered, which makes us immensely proud of our volunteers, coordinators, and ourselves for reaching each project's accomplishments.

Comments:

"They were great, they gave more than what was asked of them"

"One was able to rediscover abandoned places in our community, experienced moments of great cooperation, and demonstrated the possibility of growth of a community if one seeks meeting points"



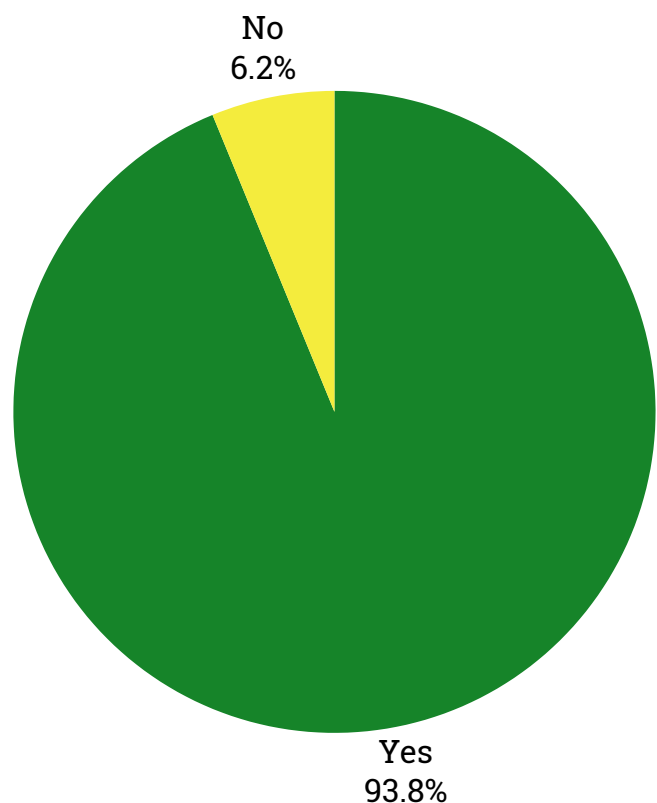
12. WERE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE WORK DONE BY THE COORDINATOR?

This year's coordinators have demonstrated their competence not only in making sure the camp went smoothly but also in handling unforeseen challenges during projects. Only 6.2% of those surveyed expressed dissatisfaction with the coordinators' performance, a significant improvement from last year's 28.6%.

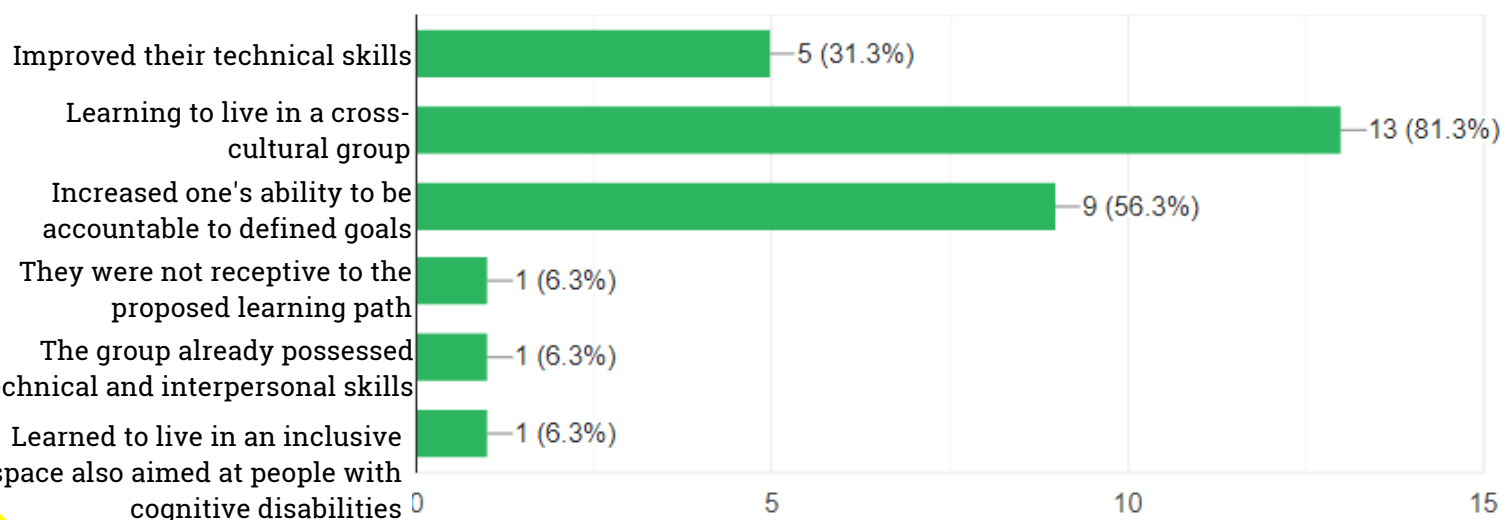
Comments:

"They have shown themselves to be responsible and able to coordinate and manage the group in various situations"

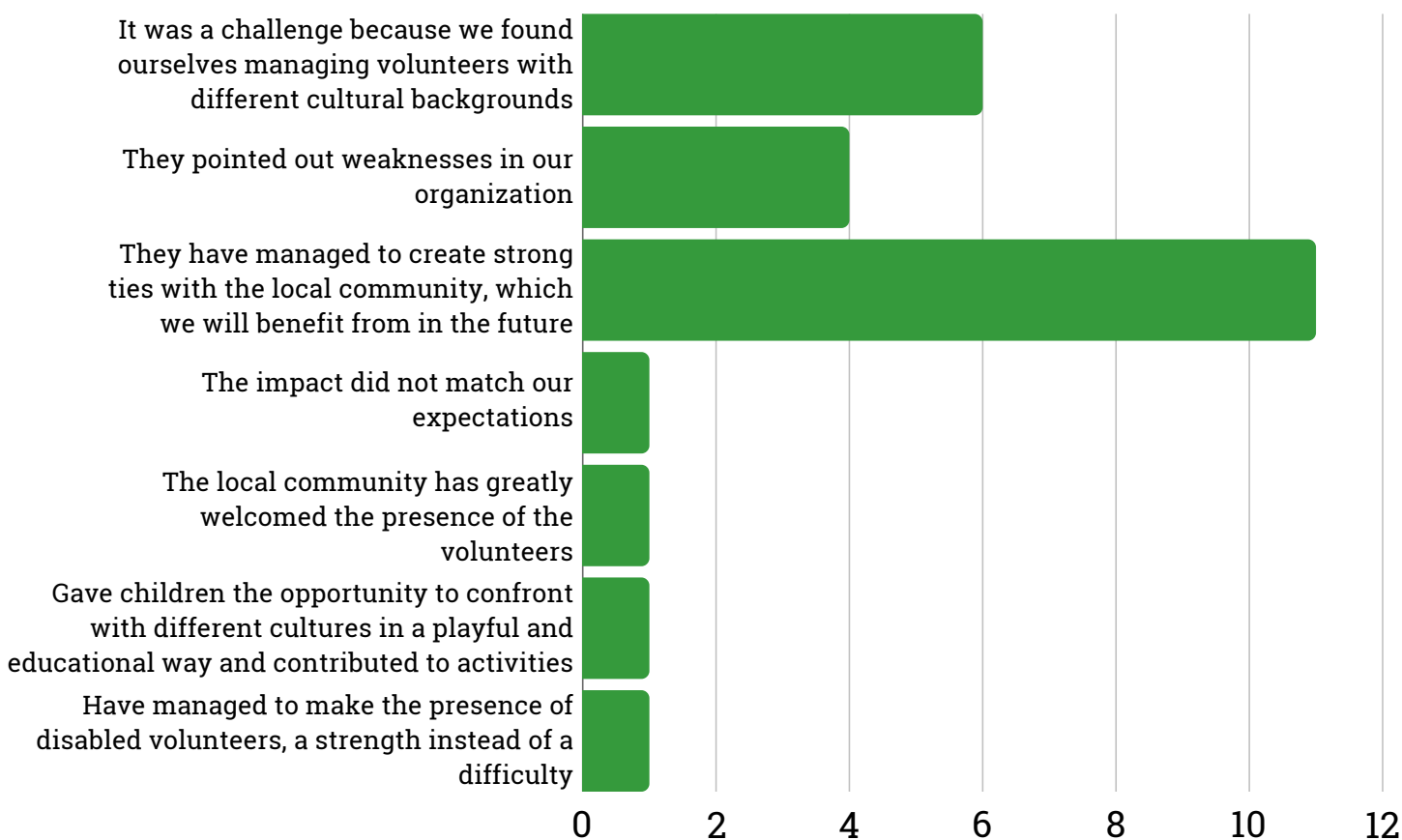
"Stefano, camp coordinator on Villa Bona, was able to handle the many difficulties that arose each day to the best of his ability without ever losing control and patience"



13. DO YOU THINK THE CAMP PARTICIPANTS HAVE...



14. WHAT IMPACT HAS THE PRESENCE OF INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS HAD ON YOUR REALITY?



Comments:

"The strength of the camp was undoubtedly that each day offered different activities from the previous one, in different places and with different local realities. The main weakness, on the other hand, was the dependence on weather conditions, as most of the activities were to be done outdoors"

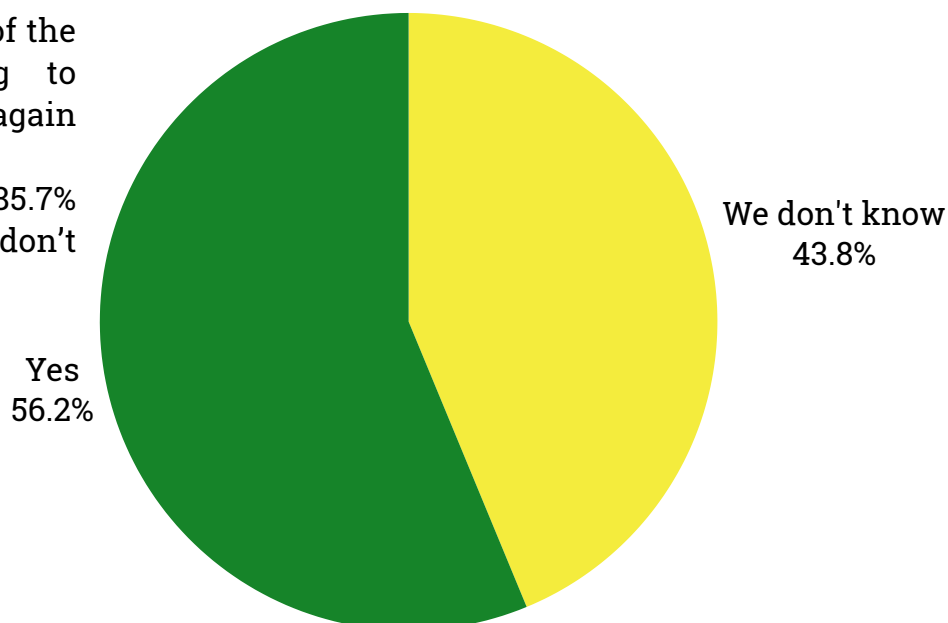
"The strength has been the compactness of the group. The weakness has been that some members have shifted responsibility or work onto others"

"The strength was the work done with associations and the local community, which functioned as a sounding board and expanded possibilities for future social inclusion. The weakness was the management of shifts with respect to the activities of maintaining and sharing the accommodation (cleaning, waste collection, schedules)"

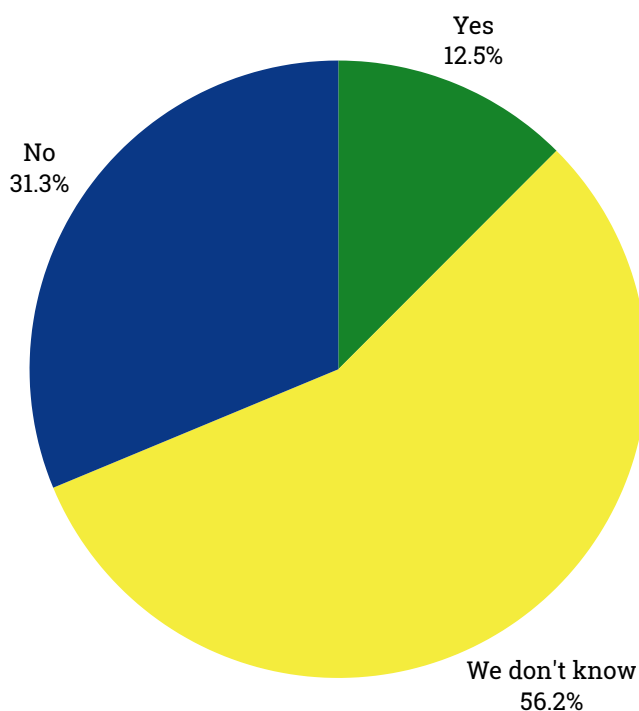
16. DO YOU PLAN TO ORGANIZE A WORK CAMP AGAIN NEXT YEAR ?

This year we see a growth of the uncertainty for planning to organize a work camp again next year.

In 2022 the results were: 85.7% for "Yes" and 14,3% for "I don't know"



IF YES, DO YOU PLAN TO REPEAT THE SAME ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT ?



If you have a new idea, would you share it with us?

Comments:

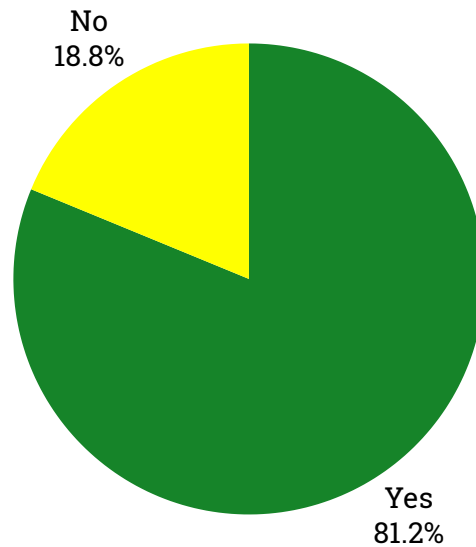
"The building is becoming more and more furnished and functional, we could begin to extend our reach"

"Scaling back moments related to meal sharing, which currently predominate, to increase inclusive entertainment activities, integrated sports activities, and social agriculture activities"

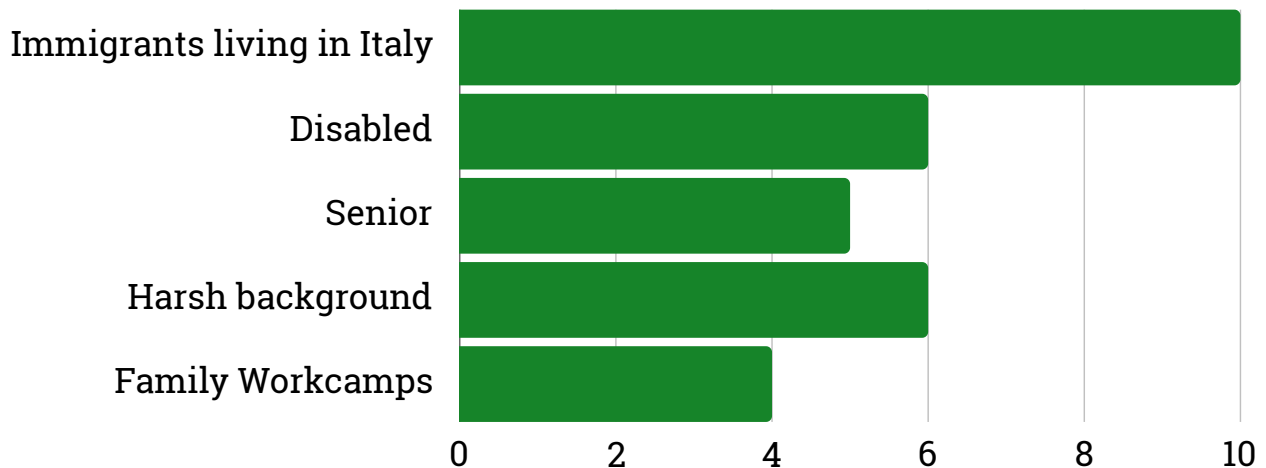
"We would like to propose 3 types of camps, different in the type of activity and the specific goal of each"

17. WOULD YOU AGREE TO HOST VOLUNTEERS WITH FEWER OPPORTUNITIES?

One important aspect is that all our local hosts agreed and they would be willing to host volunteers with minor opportunities, such as just like last year's report. Below we can have a more specific look into this matter.



IF YES, WHICH GROUPS?



Comments:

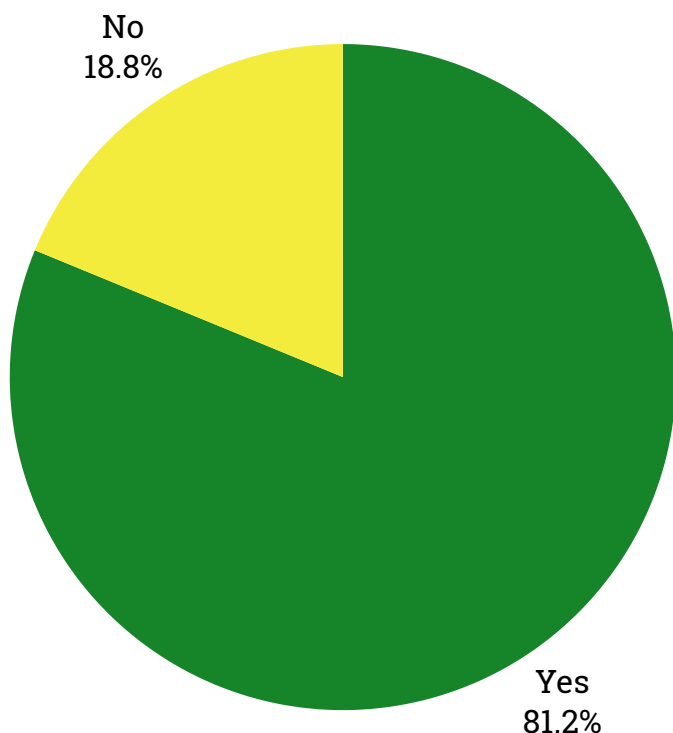
"Is an idea best talked about directly to understand various and possible issues and difficulties that there might be"

"In our projects we also work with this target audience, it might be possible to think of a field where our users can also play a role"

"Thanks to the skills of volunteers who possess specific training in the field of disabilities"

"Definitely planning with the coordinator to put more activities on integration, cooperation, interculturalism, racism, inclusion alongside the crafts"

18. HAVE YOU IMPLEMENTED A CROSS-CULTURAL DINNER IN YOUR CAMP?



One of the crucial objectives of workcamps is to promote cultural exchange and foster a deeper understanding between the local community and the participants, who come from diverse backgrounds and traditions. Based on the comments and the pie chart on the left, it's evident that the majority of partner associations have embraced this vision.

IF YES, WHY?

Comments:

"It was a wonderful experience, where the whole community came together with the kids to taste different foods from other cultures"

"Excellent overall with the total participation of the entire community"

"went very well, several villagers made characteristic dishes, and all the volunteers divided into 4 different teams made dishes and drinks typical of their home areas."

"It was a very important moment of cross-cultural exchange in which the minds and taste buds of all participants were enriched"

"For the cross-cultural dinner, some groups took turns preparing a typical dish chosen by them (Armenia, France, Germany). The rest, for reasons of organization in the kitchen, shared appetizers, snacks or desserts on the table along with the rest of the dishes. Hungary, which had decided to prepare a typical dish a few days later, showed us and had us dance a typical Hungarian folk dance after dinner"

IF NO, WHY?

Comments:

"Because having a kitchen open to the public every day, unfortunately due to issues of space and hygiene in the same we could not leave the kitchen in self-management for volunteers to organize the intercultural dinner. For the next occasion we will consider organizing the workcamp during the periods when we are only open on weekends, so that we can provide more autonomy in this aspect"

"We participated in a partly intercultural dinner where we were sent to join other foreign people visiting the village festival. We also had a closing work dinner with the educators who worked together with the volunteers. We were supposed to have a party with the whole cooperative, where we would give space for interculturality but for reasons of a lute it was skipped at the last minute . ."

19.DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING OUR WORK?

Comments:

" Thinking about a training time for the contact persons of the host institutions as well as the mentors"

"Carry out in online meeting with volunteers before their choice. None of the volunteers had read the information (infosheet)"

"No, we had a very good time with Lunaria and the whole organization"

"I think we have done a very good job"

CAMP LEADER TESTIMONIES

The group leader plays a vital role in the formation of international volunteer groups. In the final section of the 2023 report, we will delve into the coordinators' feedback on their interactions with local hosts, the volunteer group, the nature of their work and activities, along with other valuable insights. These insights will help us understand how group leaders enhance cohesion in the volunteering group and overcome obstacles.

RELATIONS WITH THE LOCAL HOSTS

All the coordinators have reported that their interactions with the local hosts have been extremely positive and productive. The local hosts were consistently welcoming and supportive throughout the workcamps and associated activities.

Comments:

"The strength of international volunteer camps is in the collaboration between the various associations, which obviously have a common work and who interface with great humanity and friendliness. In the LUNAR13 MiniValpo project, we found with the guys from Hermete a lot of complicity, especially with the contact person for international projects, who has taken care of numerous extra-work activities for us to allow us to get to know better the territory of Valpolicella"

"The local host, It's Pi.Uma Association, was very organized with the work and had many activities for the volunteers and the local host group. The association was very hospitable with also the collaboration of the whole town that gave us plenty of food during the weeks"

"All the members of the association and the locals were super nice, available and helpful. The hosts were there also off-work to hang out with the group, which helped the dynamics as well"

RELATIONS WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES

We could highlight also a similar pattern for the relations with the local communities; many group leaders affirmed that they found the local communities very helpful and present during their workcamps.

Comments:

"The local community was very welcoming and committed in helping through all the workcamp. During the two weeks we have met with local teenagers and also with elders people of the village that came and help us during the work and with logistics problems. Furthermore, the meeting with the local people of our age was very and made the experience of the workcamp more meaningful"

"People from Zafferana were friendly and kind with the volunteers and the spaces were comfortable"

"The local community was very welcoming and some volunteered to a part of the work that needed more hands that the volunteers could give. The food was amazing and the whole vibe was homely"

"We had a chance to communicate with locals: people were very friendly, one of them invited us for a dinner at local winery, and it was a marvelous and memorable evening. Interaction with local community left a very positive impact on the group"

"They (locals) were all so enthusiastic, that everyone wanted our help, so sometimes when they asked us to do something I had to get used to double check, before say yes or an answer, in order to respect the priorities of our work [...]"

ACTIVITIES DURING THE WORKCAMP

Our Workcamp leaders curated a variety of engaging activities, including name games, icebreakers, and team building exercises. Additionally, participants had the opportunity to reflect on the experience as a group, exchange cultural knowledge, and stroll along the waterfront with newfound friends.

Comments:

"During the informal time, I organized several teambuilding activities. Also some of games and activities were proposed by participants.

Events were also organized by local host. On the one hand, it was great, on the other hand it was difficult for me from logistical point of view: the proposals were spontaneous and since on the island very limited public transport, we were dependant on organizer to take us back to the house. However, it was hard for me to communicate the timing; some participants felt tired but could not leave. The other time I felt helpless worrying if nobody will take us back. Overall it ended well, but for me was hard as sometimes the logistics was chaotic and spontaneous"

"During the first days the group took part in team building activities to get to know each other and create chemistry in the group. The volunteers divided themselves in groups for the duties, such as cooking, cleaning, and trash. They also had lessons with dancers to learn choreography followed by a flashmob in Zafferana's square to promote the festival"

"Trips to the lake, city tour, team building games, trip to Rome, hanging out in the main square, trip to Terminillo"

"Other than what mentioned above we used to spend our free time visiting Carignano, Torino and near places like Racconigi where we visited an artificial natural oasis and Carmagnola town where there was a busking festival."

FINAL THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS FROM THE CAMP LEADERS

We would like to close this report with some overall comments from the camp leaders about their experience:

Comments:

"Being my first experience was a little bit hardcore but I totally enjoyed it. I had a lot of fun working with all the volunteers and pushed myself through my boundaries. For me it was a 360 educational and growth experience. I'm sure the same was for the others considering also the presence of the AU.DI.DO guys who were really adding more value to the whole project. Keep it going!"

"Participating in a camp related to a festival can be challenging because there are a lot of different situations and different jobs to be done and sometimes it is up to the elastic mentality of the participants to understand these different situations"

"The workcamp went very well. There were no major problems or conflict and thanks to the great group and the marvelous volunteers we created a peaceful, creative and welcoming environment, in which everyone felt comfort. The group was very collaborative and helped during the work time but also in the organization and in the cleaning of the house. Moreover, during the mid-term evaluation arise some needs of the volunteer for a space only for them and we manage to create a chill room for the group"

"The group was wonderful. The age difference stimulated everybody to be more flexible and to adapt more to needs of others. However, it was a good synergy; people exchanged their experience, energy and vibes. There were a few tricky moments but overall the chemistry worked out well and everybody found something valuable in the project"

"Everyone was happy, enthusiastic, open, respected each other's "me-times". Some challenging situations went very smoothly also, we overall had good vibes and nice group dynamics"