

# REPORT ANNUALE

INCOMING

- 2024 -



# PROJECT SUMMARY

In the 2024 season, we successfully organized 30 workcamps, hosting 295 volunteers, including 22 coordinators. This achievement marks a significant milestone for Lunaria and reflects the results of our dedicated efforts. The joint actions of Lunaria and its partners in supporting and revitalizing international volunteering in Italy have led to positive outcomes.

<b>LUNARESC 01</b>	<b>Refuge Renovation in Trio (Poggio Catino)</b>	<b>30/04/2024 - 15/05/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 02</b>	<b>The School in the Woods (Anzio)</b>	<b>04/05/2024- 18/05/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 03</b>	<b>Cleaning the coast of Giglio (Isola del Giglio)</b>	<b>13/05/2024 - 26/05/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 04</b>	<b>Inclusive Educational Community in Trio (Poggio Catino)</b>	<b>28/05/2024 - 12/06/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 05</b>	<b>Agape 1 (Prati)</b>	<b>06/06/2024 - 20/06/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 06</b>	<b>Summer Camp (Carignano)</b>	<b>09/06/2024 - 23/06/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 07</b>	<b>Crack Fest (Roma)</b>	<b>15/06/2024 - 26/06/2024</b>

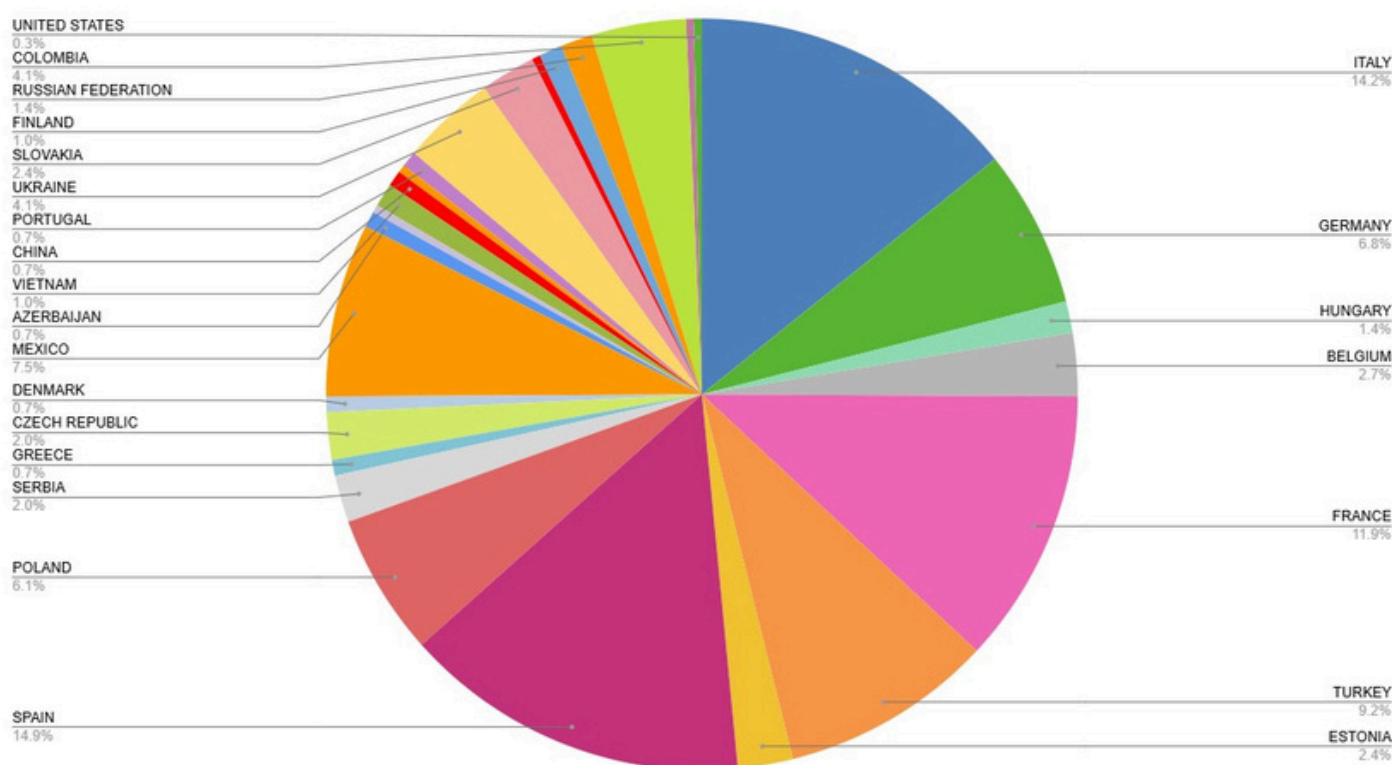
<b>LUNAR 08</b>	<b>Sew and Cycle (Savona)</b>	<b>17/06/2024 - 30/06/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 09</b>	<b>Agape 2 (Prali)</b>	<b>20/06/2024 - 04/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 10</b>	<b>Policaffè (Dolcè)</b>	<b>20/06/2024 - 05/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 11</b>	<b>Summer Camp (Carignano)</b>	<b>23/06/2024 - 07/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 12</b>	<b>The Old Ways - Local Place and Path Care (Cevo)</b>	<b>27/06/2024 - 06/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 13</b>	<b>Reno Splash Festival (Marzabotto)</b>	<b>02/07/2024 - 17/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 14</b>	<b>Agape 3 (Prali)</b>	<b>04/07/2024 - 18/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 15</b>	<b>Bees For Trees (Carignano)</b>	<b>07/07/2024 - 21/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 16</b>	<b>Teatri Riflessi Festival (Zafferana Etnea)</b>	<b>07/07/2024 - 22/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 17</b>	<b>Together in the forest I (Lecco)</b>	<b>08/07/2024 - 18/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 18</b>	<b>Lion Project 2.0 (Ginestra Sabina)</b>	<b>13/07/2024 - 28/07/2024</b>

<b>LUNAR 19</b>	<b>Agape 4 (Prali)</b>	<b>18/07/2024 - 01/08/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 20</b>	<b>Together in the forest II (Lecco)</b>	<b>18/07/2024 - 28/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 21</b>	<b>Cincia Fest 24 (Rocca Sinibalda)</b>	<b>22/07/2024 - 31/07/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 23</b>	<b>Not me BUT we (Ciciliano)</b>	<b>23/07/2024 - 03/08/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 24</b>	<b>Cilento Fable Park (Stella Cilento)</b>	<b>23/07/2024 - 04/08/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 25</b>	<b>On the path of mills (Sessa Cilento)</b>	<b>27/07/2024 - 11/08/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 26</b>	<b>Marsi Camp 2024 (Carsoli)</b>	<b>12/08/2024 - 27/08/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 27</b>	<b>Valpo Workcamp (Fumane)</b>	<b>18/08/2024 - 01/09/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 28</b>	<b>Wild adventure in Sabina's mountain (Casperia)</b>	<b>20/08/2024 - 31/08/2024</b>
<b>LUNARESC 29</b>	<b>Inclusive Summer (Civita Castellana)</b>	<b>23/08/2024 - 07/09/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 30</b>	<b>Arbizzano Folkfest (Arbizzano)</b>	<b>26/08/2024 - 05/09/2024</b>
<b>LUNAR 31</b>	<b>Agape 5 (Prali)</b>	<b>28/08/2024 - 08/09/2024</b>

# Workcamps organization and volunteers feedbacks

Workcamps Composition Analysis:  
Countries, Age, General Statistics (Adults and Teen workcamps)

## YOUR COUNTRY OF RESIDENCE

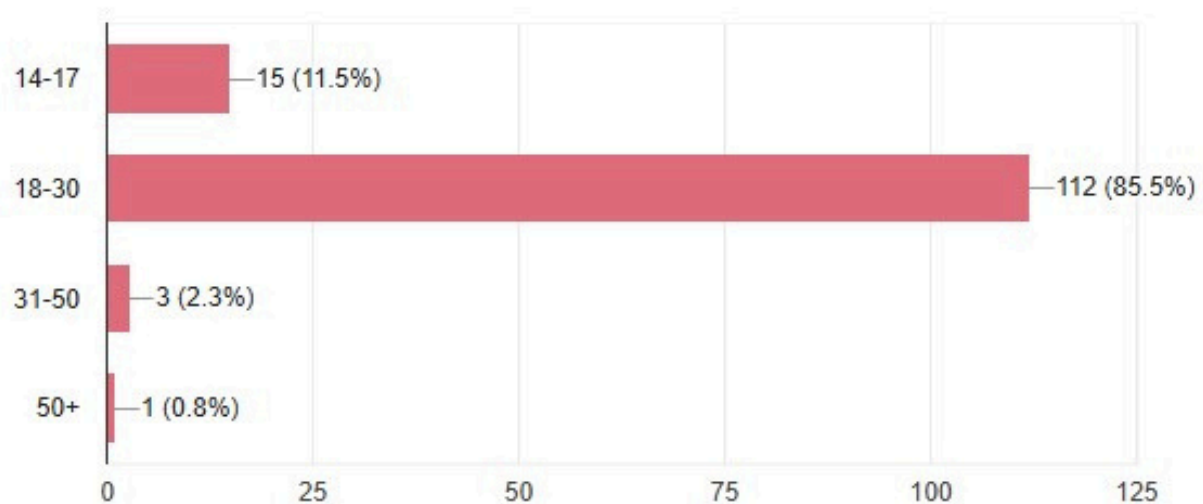


The majority of volunteers who participated in the Italian workcamps were European Union nationals, accounting for 67,9% of the total volunteers. The primary countries represented were Spain, France, and Italy. In addition to EU countries, volunteers from non-EU countries such as Turkey (9.2%), Mexico (7.5%), Colombia (4.1%), Serbia (2%), and Vietnam (1%) were also present.

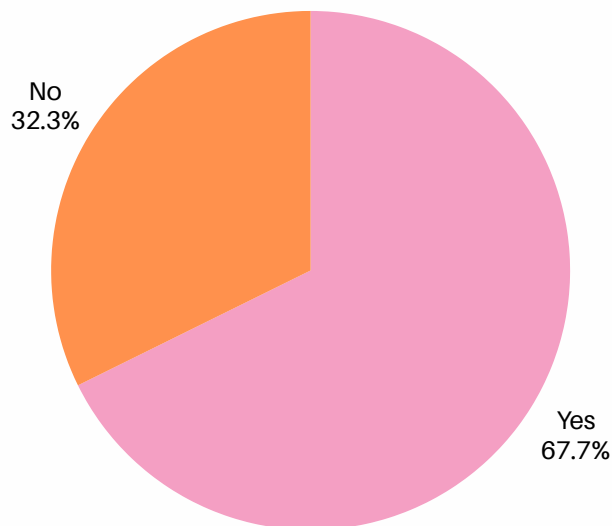
# YOUR AGE



As shown in the graph below, most volunteers participating in these projects are aged between 18 and 30, making up 85.5% of all volunteers. Since 2023, the number of volunteers has decreased, with 92% falling within this age range. Additionally, 11.5% of volunteers were minors, while a small portion (2.3%) were aged 31-50, and one volunteer (0.8%) was over 50. It is important to organize informational events specifically targeting these age groups to boost participation. The decline in the percentage of volunteers aged 18-30 can be attributed to the increased diversity of age groups now participating in the workcamps.

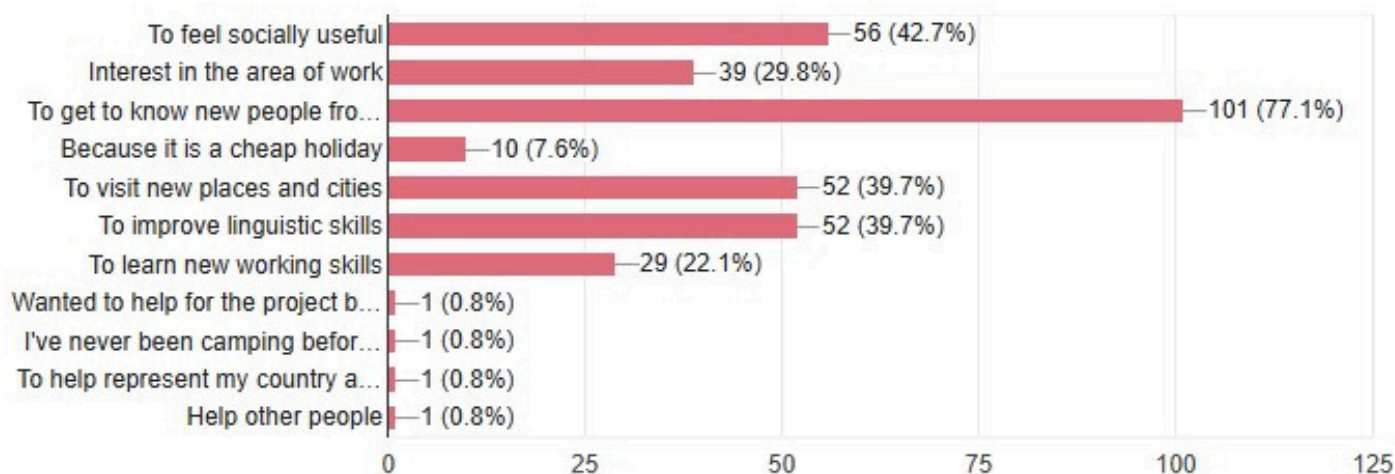


# WAS IT YOUR FIRST WORKCAMP?



A significant percentage of volunteers reported participating in an international workcamp for the first time. Specifically, 67.7% of volunteers confirmed that it was their inaugural experience, which is a marginal increase from the previous year's 63.7%.

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

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Like every year, we've sent out evaluation forms to every volunteer participating in one of our workcamps. In the following report, we have collected the responses of **131 volunteers**. We wanted to gather feedback on various topics including the quality of information provided before the workcamp, accommodation, food, work, camp leaders, and group dynamics.

This year, we hosted **295 international volunteers** and organized **30 workcamps**. We've also collected some statistics from the evaluation forms sent to our local partners who organized workcamps with us. **21 local partners** responded, covering 30 workcamps, with some of them 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.

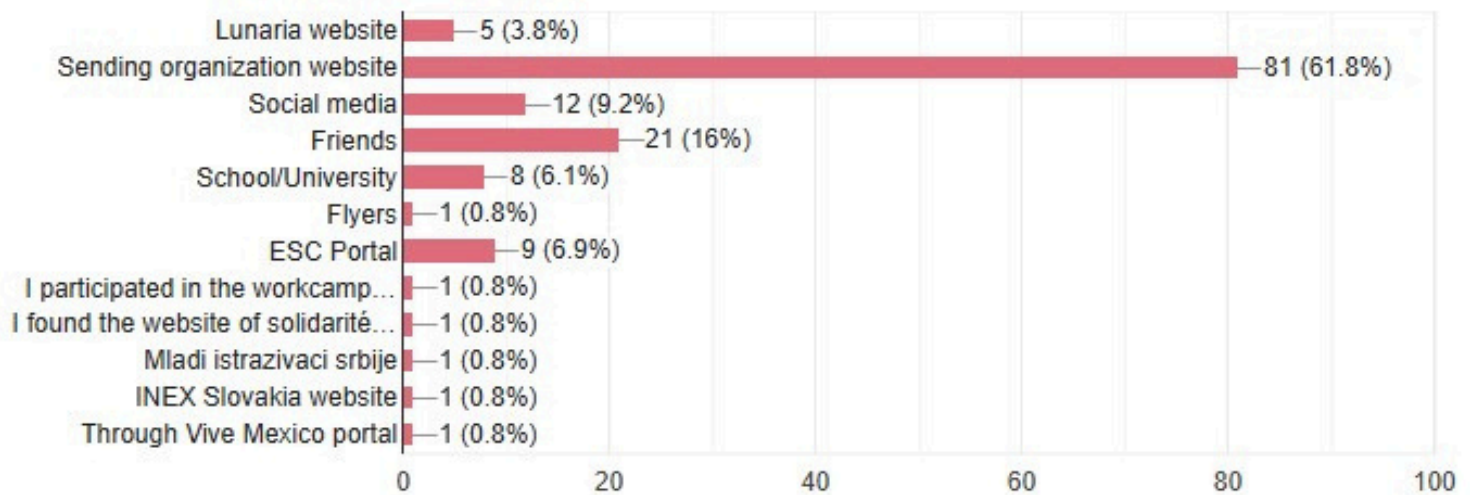




# BEFORE DEPARTURE

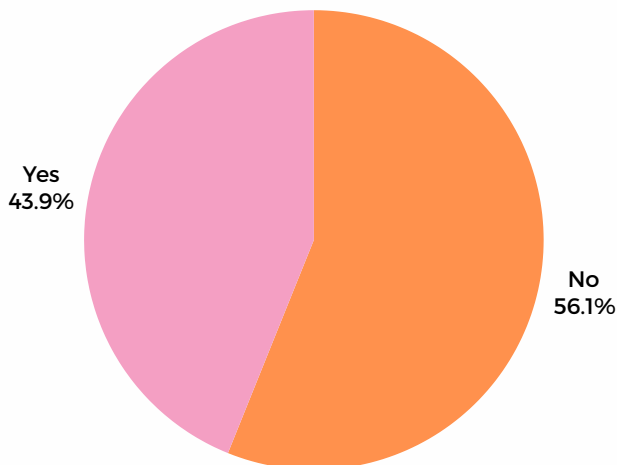
Upon analyzing the results of the 2024 Workcamps evaluation questionnaire, we found that most volunteers learned about our activities through the sending organization's website (61.8%). Other sources of information included friends (16%, an increase from last year's 11.5%), social media (9.2%, up from 6.9% last year), and the ESC Portal (6.9%).

## HOW DID YOU FIND THIS SPECIFIC PROJECT?



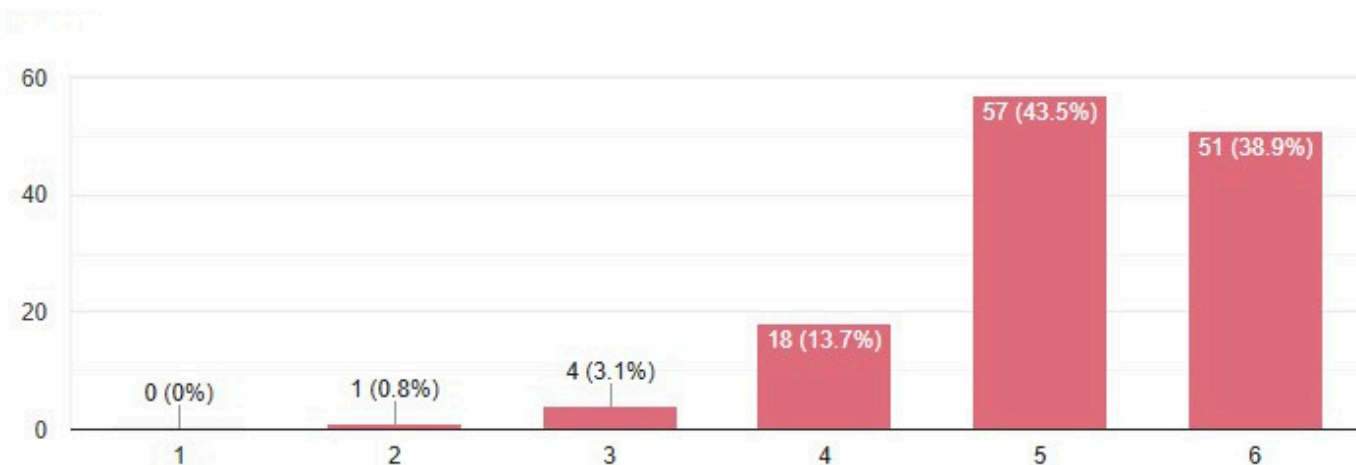
**If you took part in a simple workcamp, skip this question.**

**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, 56,1% of volunteers who participated in these projects were unaware of the differences between normal workcamps and ESC workcamps.

## How do you evaluate the information received before the workcamp (infosheet & co, travel info)?



The infosheet is an essential document for volunteers, especially those participating in a workcamp for the first time, as it provides a comprehensive overview of the project and its organization. Since many volunteers, particularly teenagers (and their parents), may feel anxious before departure, this document plays a vital role in alleviating their concerns. To ensure that the information about the work, accommodation, and travel to the workcamp is clear and up-to-date, we collaborate closely with our local partners to create the most thorough infosheets possible.

In 2024, we observed a slight decrease in the satisfaction rate compared to last year's evaluation, dropping from 92% to 88%. While this reduction is minor, we remain committed to improving and maintaining excellence in all aspects of the workcamp experience.

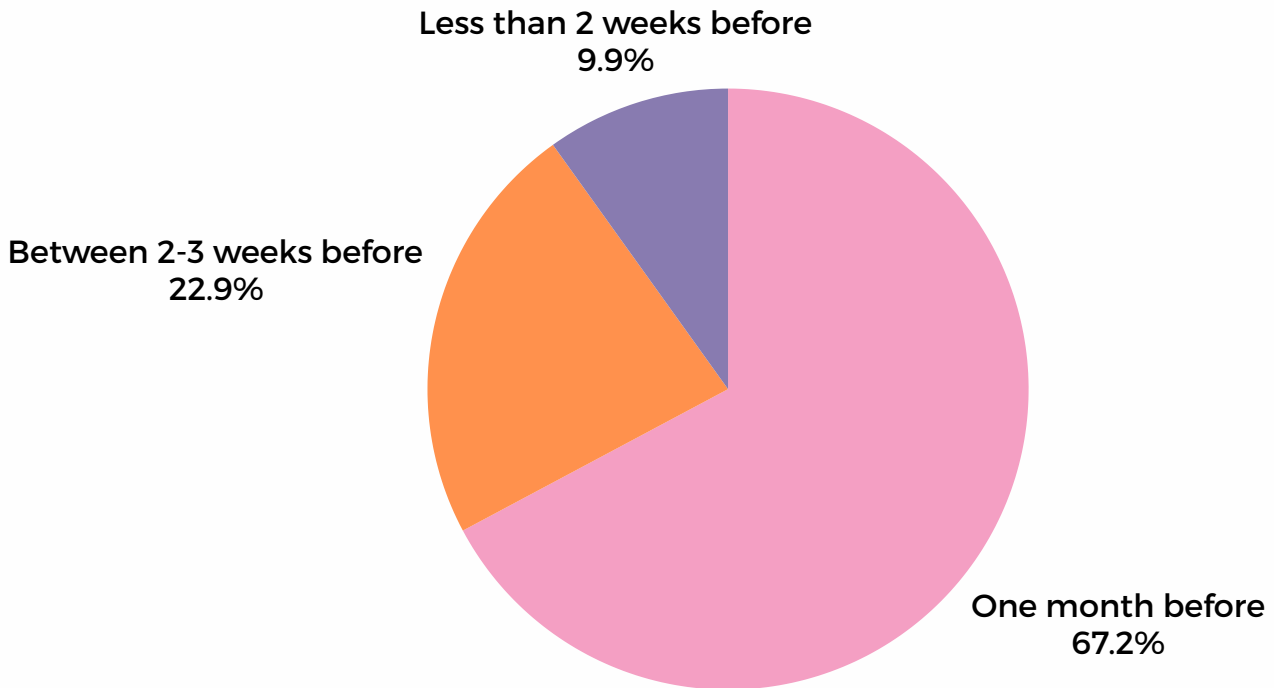
### Comments:

"Everything was clear in the infosheet, all the important information was there, and it matches the experience."

"I liked the information provided on the infosheet and thought that it was useful, also the general information about the accommodation and foods was pretty accurate, as well as "things to bring." That's why I rated it as excellent."

"Everything was well explained with the needed information."

## When did you (approximately) receive the infosheet before the workcamp?

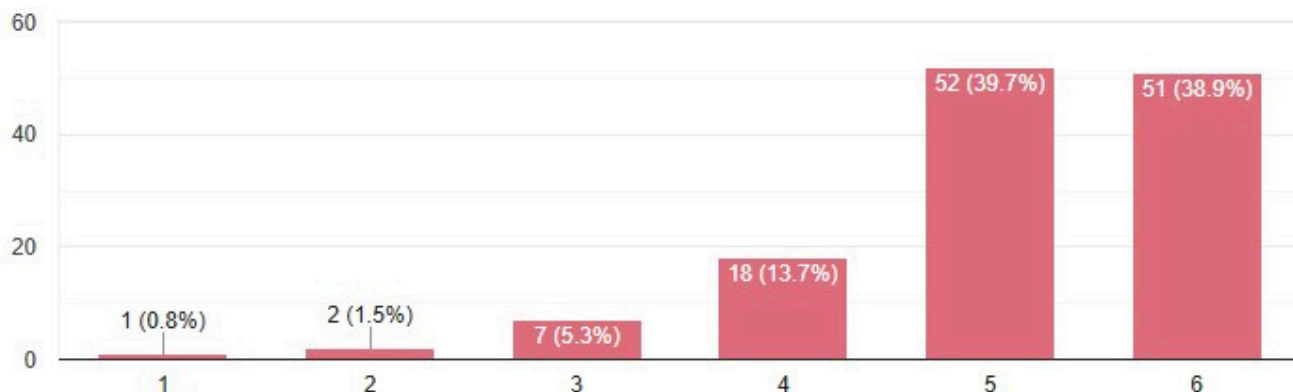


Sending the infosheet one month before the workcamp is essential for both volunteers and organizers. It allows volunteers to plan their trip, particularly in terms of booking flights. Additionally, it simplifies the process for both the sending and hosting organizations by reducing the number of basic questions volunteers may have. Information on topics like accommodation, airports, and transportation is clearly provided in the infosheet, helping volunteers find answers quickly and efficiently.

**Our efforts to improve our work are reflected in the positive results. Although we had more volunteers than last year, the percentage of volunteers who received the infosheet "one month before" has significantly increased, rising from 48.4% last year to 67.2% this year.**

# DURING THE WORKCAMP

Was 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.

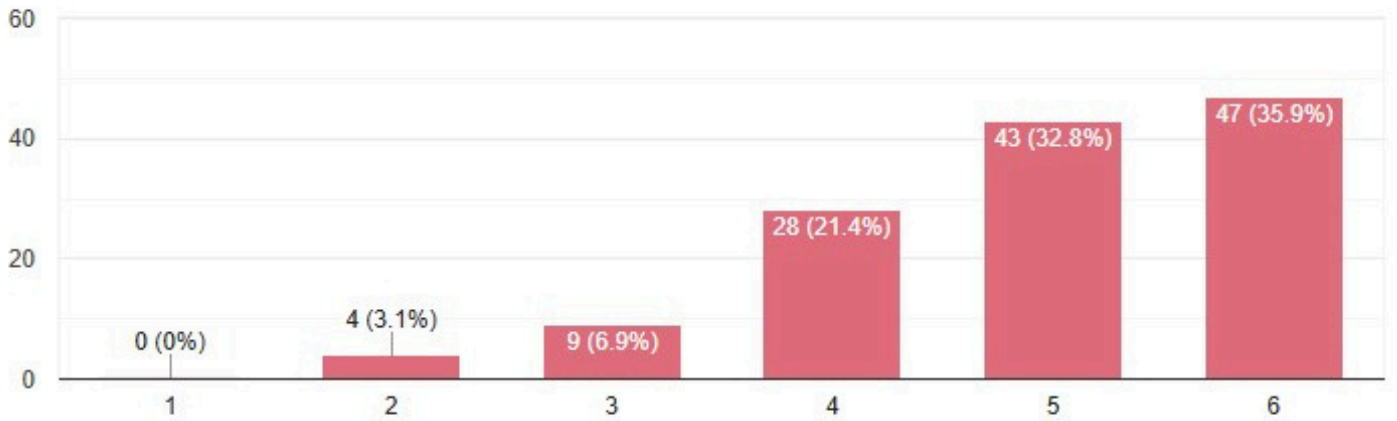


In addition, we have made significant improvements in the accuracy of work descriptions in comparison to the previous year. While all figures have decreased, the number of extremely satisfied volunteers (6 out of 6) has quite increased (38.9% compared to last year's 33%).

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 main focus of workcamps, it remains a crucial aspect of 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 dedicated to maintaining high standards to prevent any negative trends.

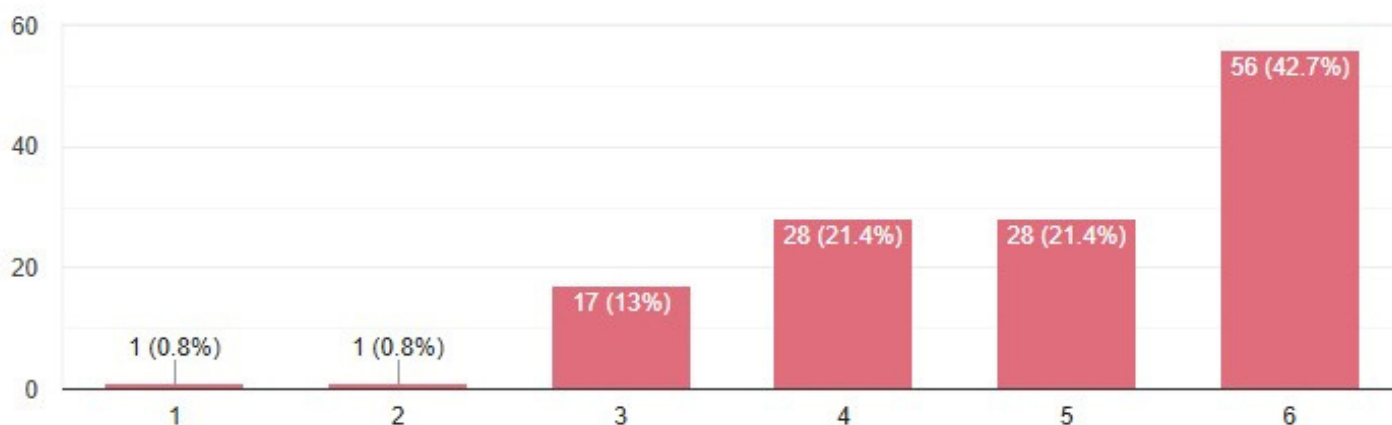
### Comments:

"We had comfortable beds, a functioning kitchen, a space to hang out, and working showers, that's all I could ask for."

"The accommodation was in a cabin in the mountain and we slept in tents. It was a very simple life with no luxury and I really liked the experience."

"We stayed in a place like a big church. I really liked the rooftop and we have a lot of facilities such as washing machines, a big cooker, a deep freezer, etc."

## How do you evaluate the food?



The intercultural aspect of international workcamps is one of the most important elements, particularly evident during meal times, where volunteers have the opportunity to share their national cuisines. Additionally, Lunaria and its host partners make a concerted effort to provide nutritious and well-balanced meals. In 2024, volunteers had an overwhelmingly positive experience, with 85.5% expressing satisfaction.

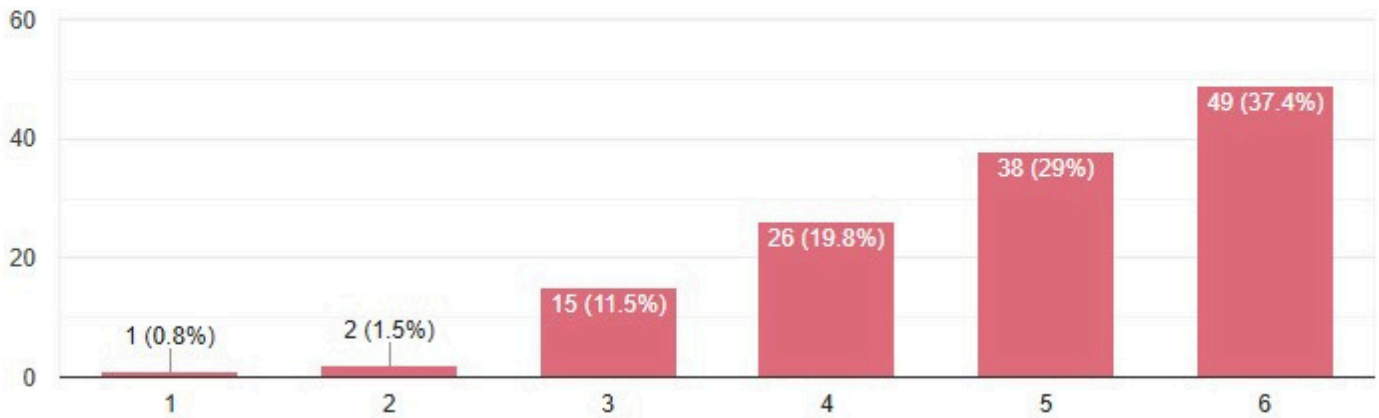
### Comments:

"I'm very grateful for the food it was provided, always fresh and yummy, we considered ideas and recipes together. I liked that we could cook together."

"The food was excellent. We were supposed to cook every day, but the locals brought us food very often and it was delicious!"

"Food was delicious and there was a lot of it. I never felt hungry, but in the end of workcamp days I wanted to eat something different, because almost always we ate pasta, but it was good."

## How do you evaluate the hygienic condition?



At Lunaria, we prioritize the well-being of our volunteers, including providing clean and comfortable living conditions. Overall, our hygiene standards have received positive feedback, with 86.2% of volunteers expressing satisfaction with the conditions during their workcamp stay. While this is slightly lower than the previous year's 91.3%, we remain committed to maintaining high standards.

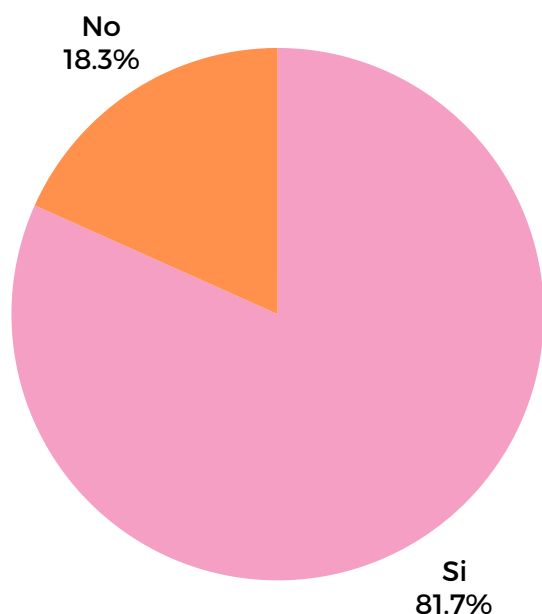
### Comments:

**“there were not a lot of facilities but I would say that the place was more or less clean. We also cleaned it very much. There were some spiders but is normal”**

**“Almost everything was in a really good cleaning condition”**

**“The hygienic conditions weren't the best, but it was our fault because we, the volunteers, had to clean and sometimes we skipped cleaning”**

## Do you think the work was well organized?



At Lunaria, along with our local hosts, we place the utmost importance on making the work experience enjoyable.

This commitment drives our local hosts to go above and beyond to ensure that everything is carefully organized and runs seamlessly.

The positive impact of these efforts is evident, with 81.7% of volunteers reporting that the work was well-organized, showing a notable increase from last year's 74.7%.

### Comments:

"They never gave us enough instructions. Nothing was planned by them everything was quite spontaneous."

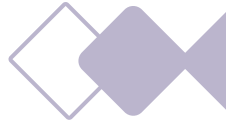
"We needed more organized and well-explained tasks."

"You never knew what exactly you were going to do, for how long, and how far. This was mainly the problem when we were working on the bridge."

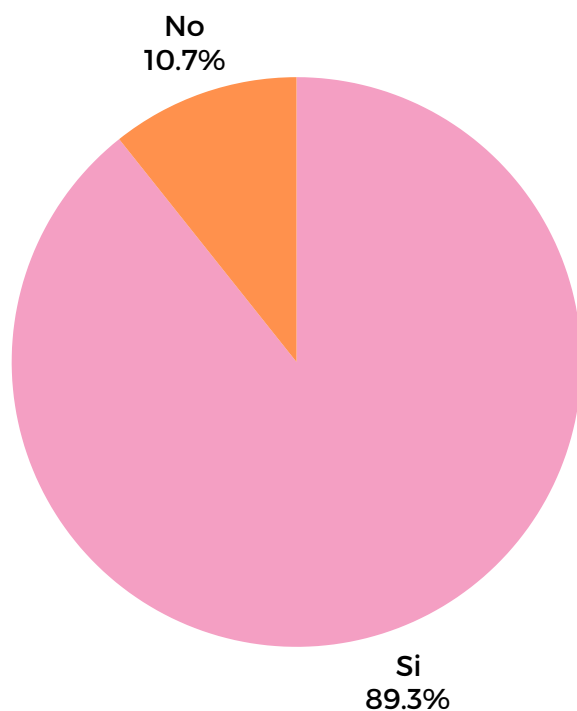
**It is equally important for us to identify the critical aspects in order to continuously improve our network of local hosts and our work. These areas must be carefully considered to genuinely enhance our activities.**



## Were your tasks the same as the ones described in the infosheet?



The works during the camp may 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 as 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, task completion during workcamps has been a significant improvement. Specifically, 89.3% of volunteers surveyed - compared to the 78% from last year- noted that the tasks they performed were aligned with those listed in the information sheet.

However, the remaining 10.7% felt that there were discrepancies between the tasks described before departure and those they performed.

### Comments:

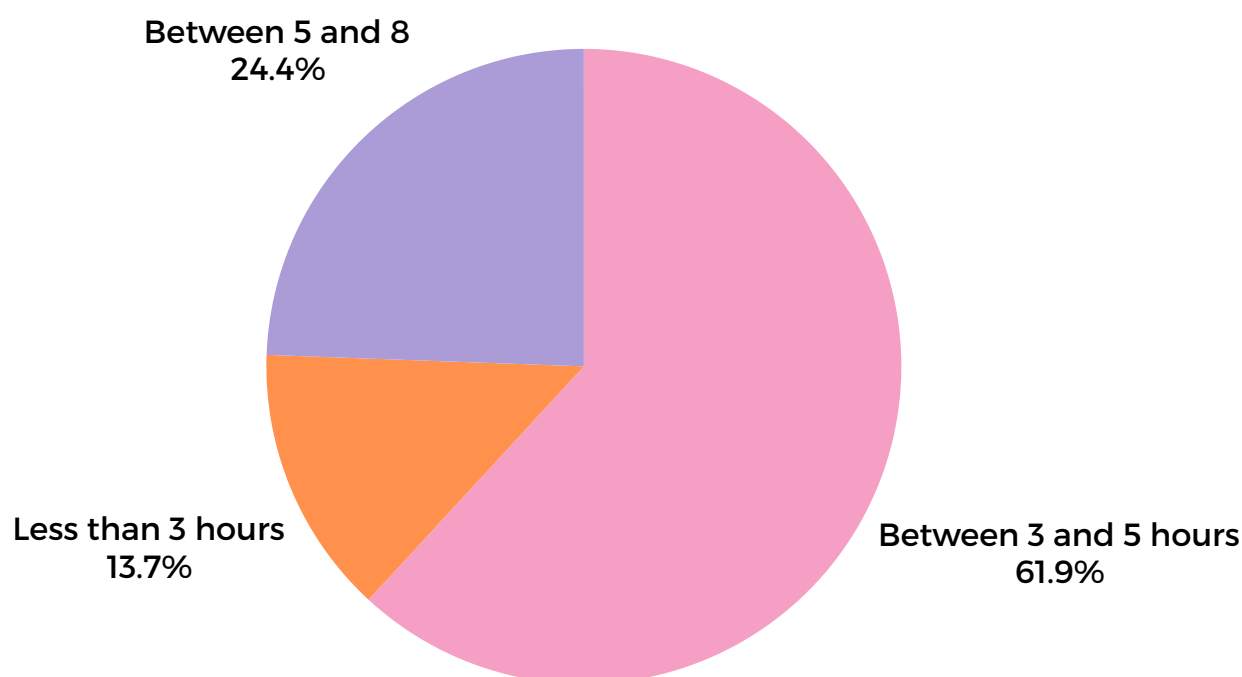
**"In the infosheet, there was nothing about gathering garbage from the streets. But cleaning streets was our main job for 10 days."**

**"The tasks on the infosheet were very broad and not very clear, but the work we did was the same as what was described."**



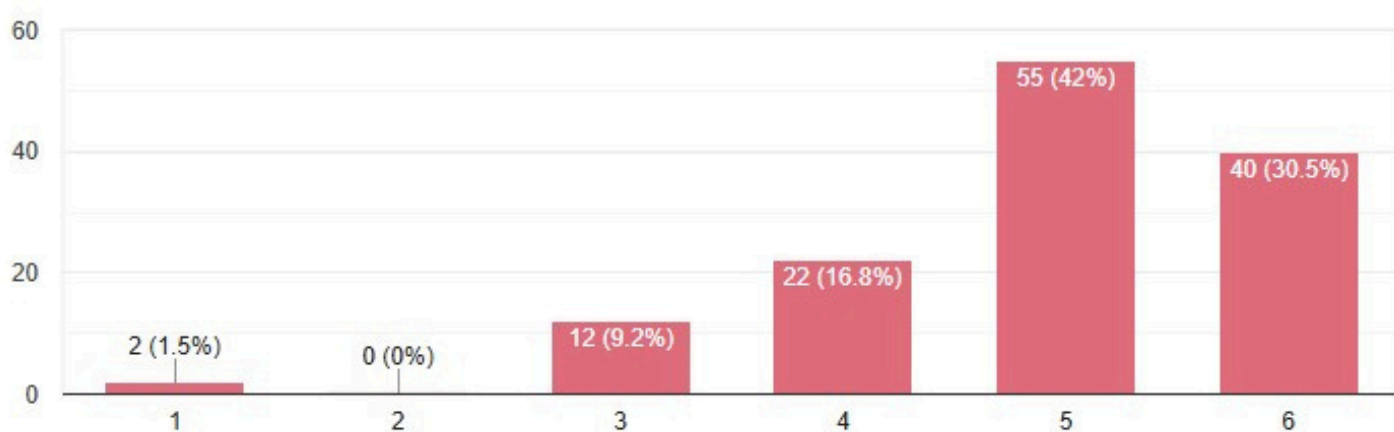
## HOW MANY AVERAGE HOURS DID YOU WORK PER DAY ?

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 from 59.3% to 61.9%, which has led to a reduction in those who answered “Between 5 and 8” from 29.7% to 24.4% but a lower increment on those who answered “Less than 3 hours”, from 11% to 13.7%.

## DO YOU FEEL THE WORK WAS USEFUL?



The usefulness of the work done is of great importance, and we are proud to share that this year, 89.3% of volunteers (compared to last year's 81.4%) expressed satisfaction with the tasks they completed during the workcamps.

### Comments:

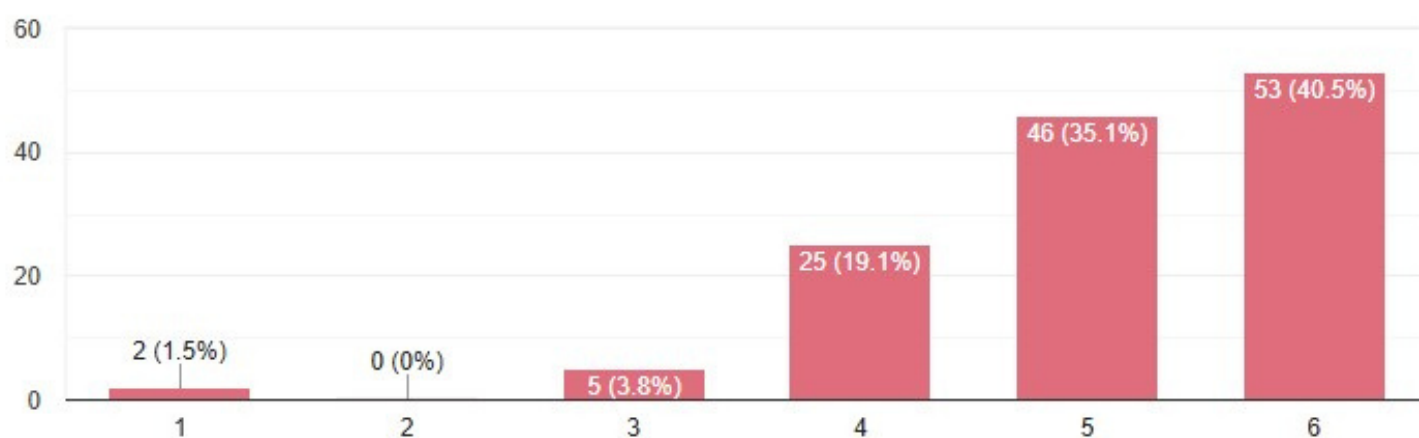
"Yes, we had a lot of interaction with the children and the environment and I think the workcamp was an enriching experience for them and us."

"We did a great job together, I'm pretty sure that our work helped to make the Festival more colorful, safe, and organized."

"I felt satisfied with what we did on the farms and thought we were useful to them."

## Did you enjoy the work?

Not only the volunteers found their work was useful for the community that was hosting them, but also greatly enjoyed their work. Proof of this can be shown by looking at the graph below with the 94.7% of volunteers who enjoyed the work carried out during the project.



### Comments:

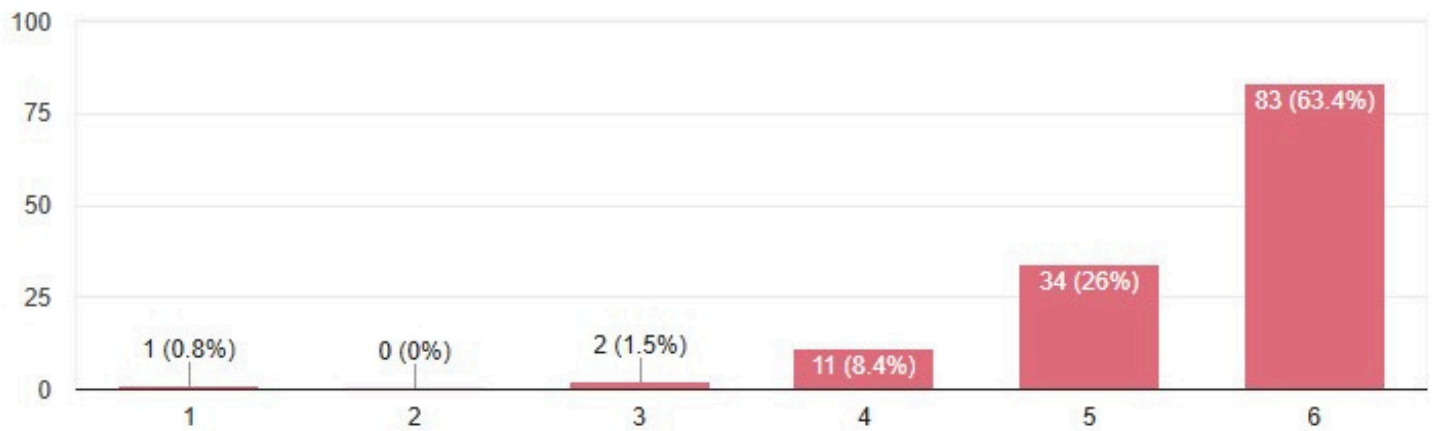
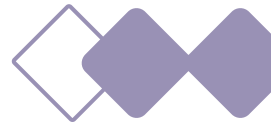
**“It was nice, stable, and easy-going, I enjoyed the work especially because of the people I was working with.”**

**“I had fun every day working with my team, I think a lot of that was down to the energy and vibe brought by our team coordinator. It was nice working with our hands and being outside.”**

**“All things considered, I did a lot of things for the first time, gained new practical skills, and successfully faced my own challenges.”**

**“Yes, I especially enjoyed working with children and learned a lot about the culture and the place. I felt very integrated and loved by everyone. It was a very rewarding experience.”**

## Did you feel well in the workcamp volunteers group?



**An overwhelming majority (97.8%) of the volunteers reported feeling very comfortable within their group. For more insight, please find their comments regarding their experience below.**

### Comments:

“Everyone was nice and happy to have a conversation with you, there was multiple languages within the group but everyone would try to understand each other even when struggling with the language barrier.”

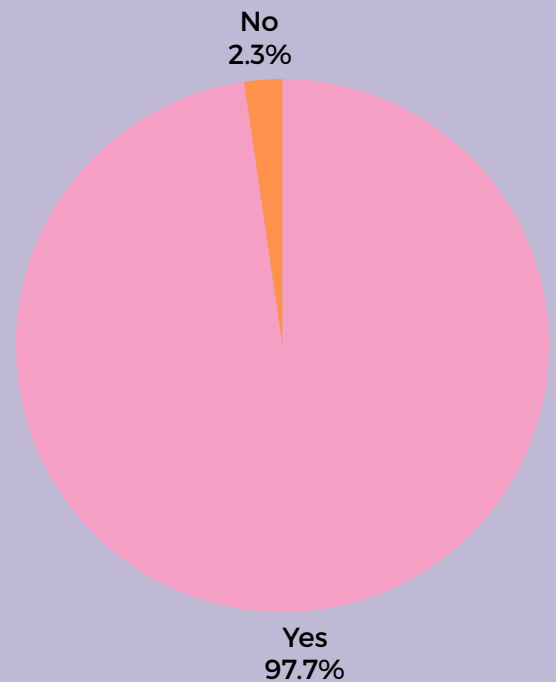
“I felt very good, i think we worked as a team, there was a lot of respect and spirit of help and fun moments.”

“We created a really strong precious bond inside the group I enjoyed the coworking process as well as doing different activities or playing games during our spare time.”

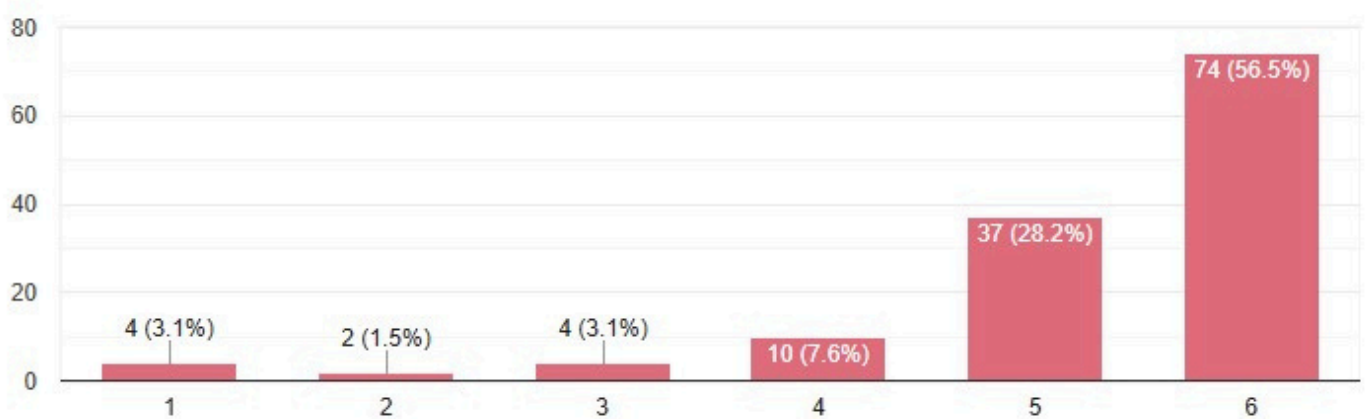
“Connected well to most of the people and going to see some of them soon!”

# DID YOU HAVE A CAMP LEADER?

It's worth noting that almost all camps (97.7%) had camp leaders. Below there are some reviews submitted by the volunteers regarding their experiences.

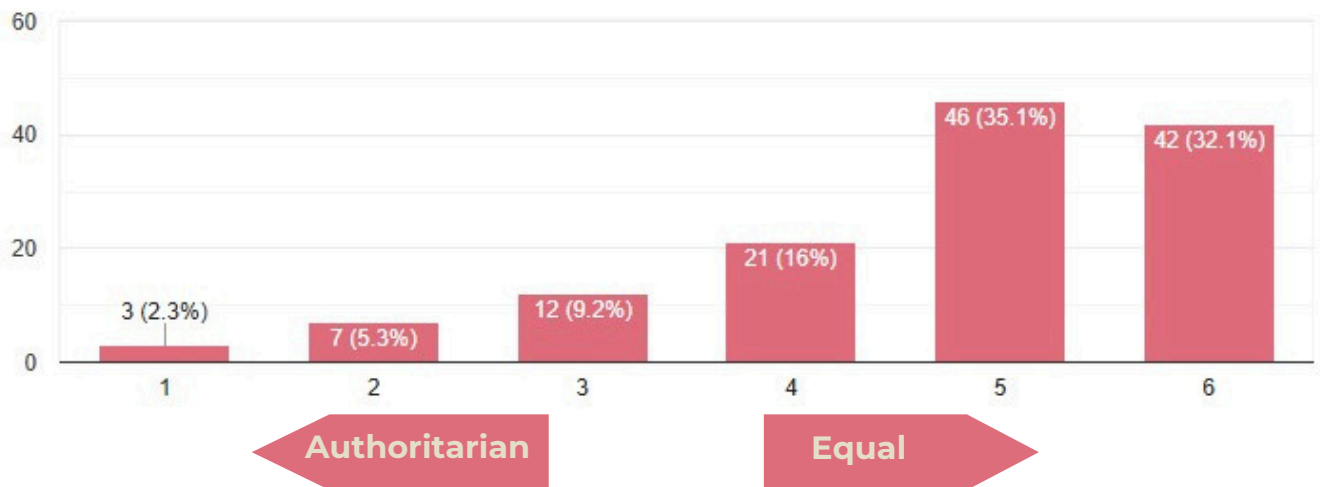


## If yes, did you find her/his role useful?



The role of camp leaders has once again been proven to be critical for a positive camp experience. According to the above graph, 92.3% of volunteers found their leadership role to be very useful for the successful completion of the camp. However, 7.7% of participants did not find the role to be helpful, with 3.1% 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 (83.2%) 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:

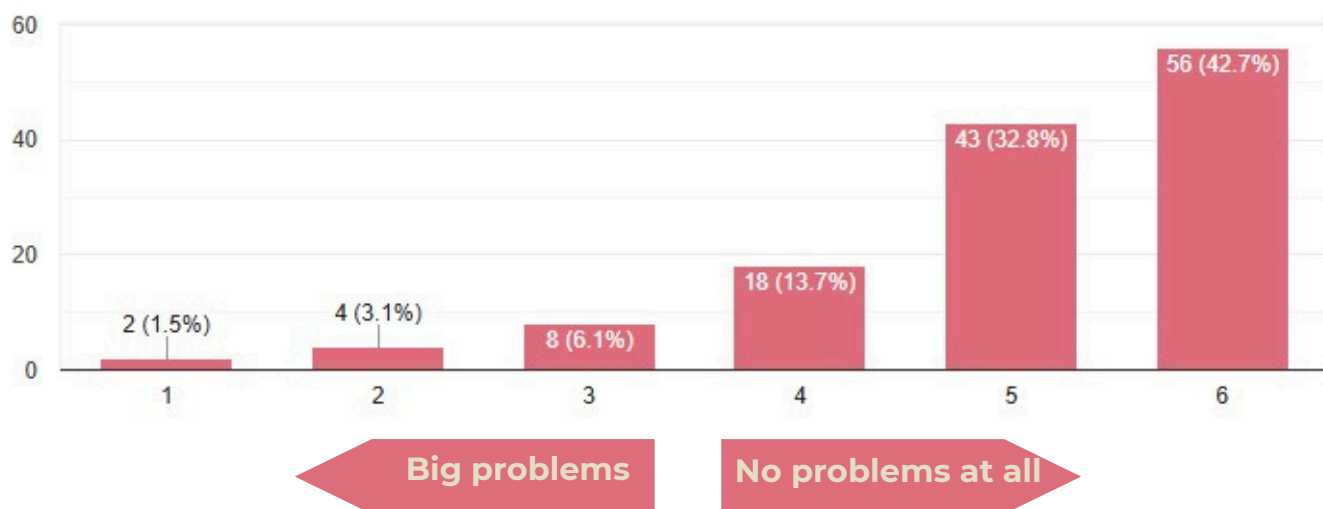
"Our camp leader was amazing and I really had a great time with him, he planned many activities for us to have a great time there and to learn the culture of Italy."

"I loved them. Very useful and kind with everyone. They mentally helped me a lot."

"I couldn't be more happier with the person we were given to be our leader. I thought she created a atmosphere that made everything feel open and comfortable and would treat everyone equally."

"Our leaders felt like our friends while also being great leaders."

## WERE THERE ANY COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS IN YOUR CAMP?



According to the above statistics, 89.2% 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:

"Some didn't speak English very well, but that wasn't a problem."

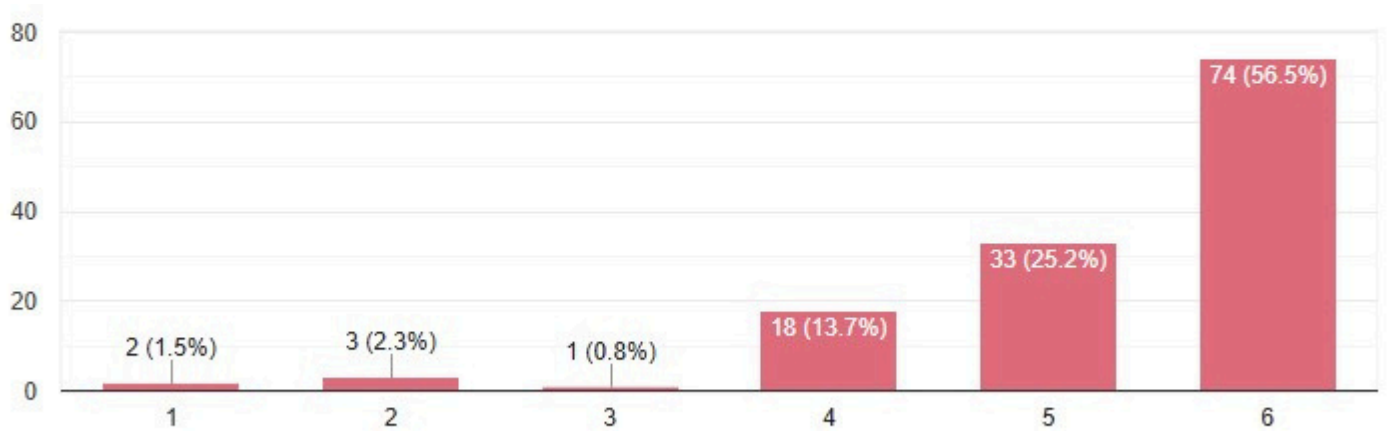
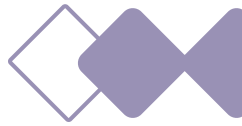
"It was a bit difficult to communicate with all the local italians, because many of them did not speak English or just very basic words."

"Not from our work camp, just the accommodation people not relaying information to us at times which would sometimes leave us hanging around waiting for them"

"No big problems, just a little disorganization on the part of those responsible for the project."



## DID YOU HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LOCAL ORGANIZERS?



It's important to note that 95.4% of our volunteers had 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:

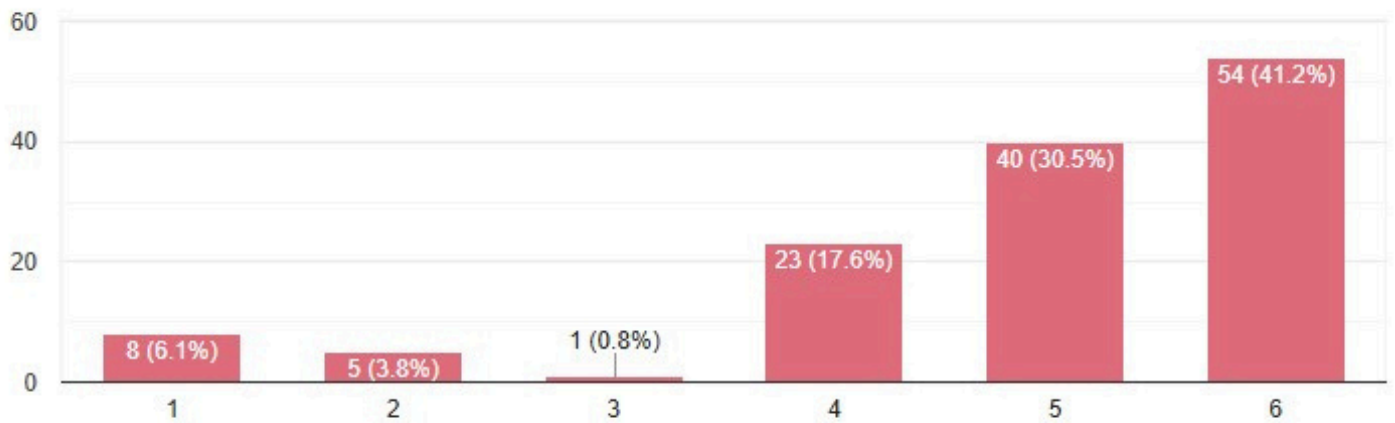
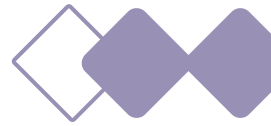
"They were super nice to us. I am really grateful to have a chance to meet them in person."

"The local organizers were charming and made us feel like home."

"So energetic, so kind, so funny, so good vibe. I have nothing to say except « thank u » to them."

"Despite the disorganization the local organizers were very close, familiar and were very resolute at all times."

## WERE THEY ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING TO THE LIFE OF THE WORKCAMP?



Volunteers had a positive experience this year, with 89.3% reporting a great experience and locals assisting when needed. Some comments left by the volunteers are included.

### Comments:

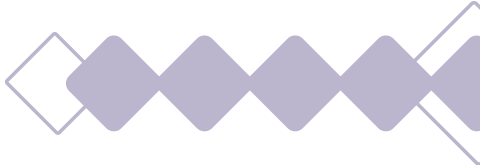
“The locals organizers were there from first day helping us with all work.”

“We even organize groups for lunch and meals for everyone.”

“I could really see the life of the workcamp, it was fascinated for me to know it!”

“We spent more time with our team leader than with the organizers. But they were always available to help us with anything we needed.”

# DID YOU HAVE ANY CONTACT WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITY?



It is worth noting that a significant majority of our volunteers (80.2%) have contacts in the local community. This speaks volumes about how much the community values the efforts of our volunteers in these projects. In addition, the graph below illustrates a slight decline from last year's participation rates of 88%.



Comments:

“Locals were very welcoming and always open to greet us and talk.”

“We had a certain language barrier with the locals, since none of them spoke English. But this did not prevent establishing contact with some of them.”

“Visited some of the locals in their homes and spent some time with them outside of work hours.”

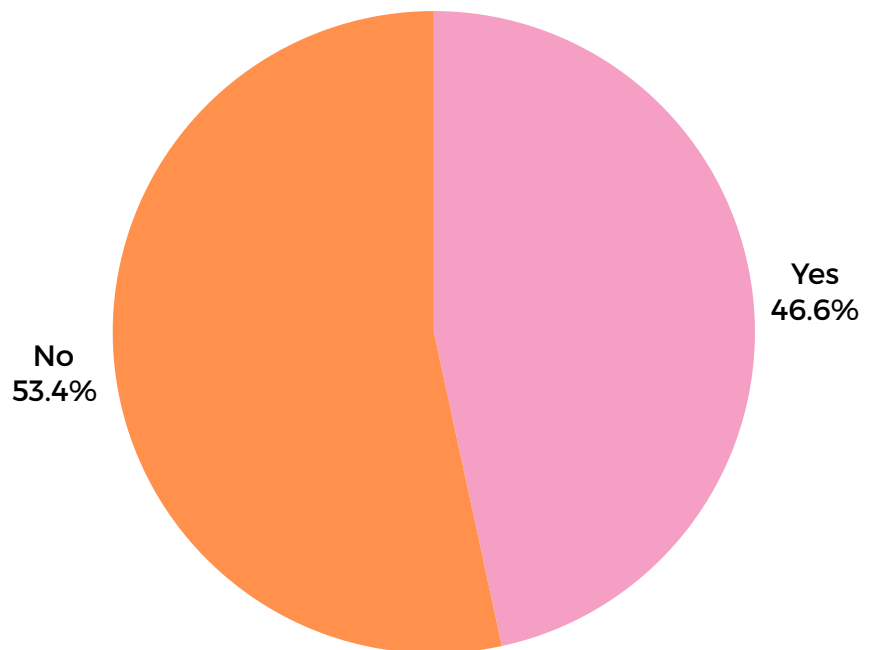
“The community was so nice, I was so happy to be part of it in this project, will miss them.”



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

At Lunaria, we are always excited when people participate in events that align with our values.

This year, there has been a slight decrease in volunteer participation in activities planned or invited by the host organisation, down 46.9% from last year's 51.6%.



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### Comments:

"We had a workshop with Erin B. Mee (the american theatre prof.) it was good opportunity to act and share our thoughts with others."

"We did two different workshops. In fact, very interesting. In the first came a man who gave us a speech about bonds, peace and interculturality. The second was a book presentation also about travel, cultural diversity, bonds..."

"One day we visited a bunker from World War II which allowed us to delve deeply into the important topic of peace."

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# LOCAL HOST FEEDBACK AND EVALUATION

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

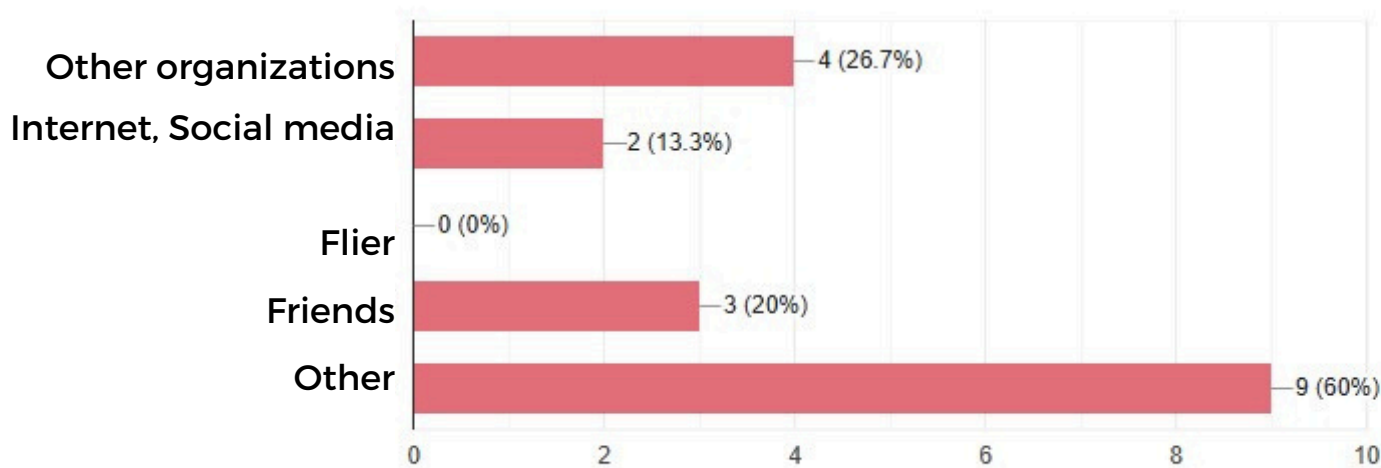
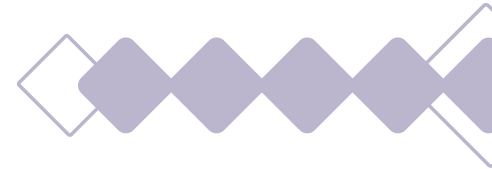
Throughout the year, we collaborated with **21 hosts** on **30 workcamps** throughout Italy, **10 of which received support from the ESC program**, and **3 for teenagers**.

Among the organizations we partnered with are **Pro loco isola del Giglio, CSOA Forte Prenestino, Fondazione Diocesana Comunità Servizi Onlus, Comune Ciciliano, Biblioteca verde ets, IterCulture, Cooperativa Sociale Liberi Sogni, Eclettica, Cilento Youth Union APS, Casa del Parco Adamello, Associazione ALA aps, Cooperativa IL PUNGIGLIONE, Il mondo in una stanza, Comune di Negrar di Valpolicella and Agape Centro Ecumenico.**

Our organization has cultivated a strong relationship with these partners over the years, others we look forward to collaborating with in the future.

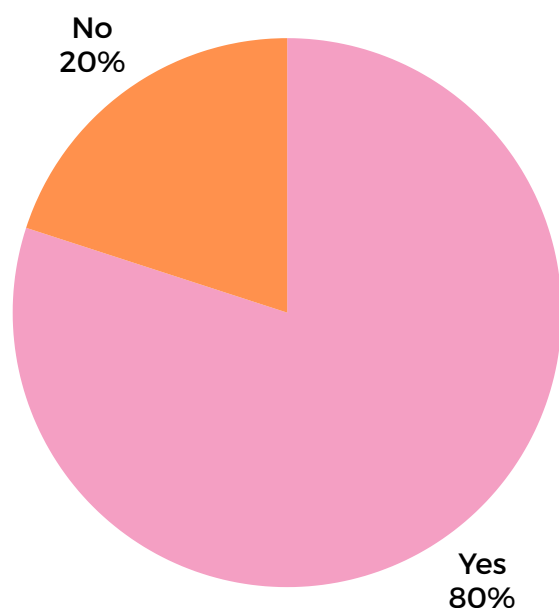


## THROUGH WHAT MEDIA DID YOU BECOME AWARE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF ORGANIZING INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMPS WITH LUNARIA?



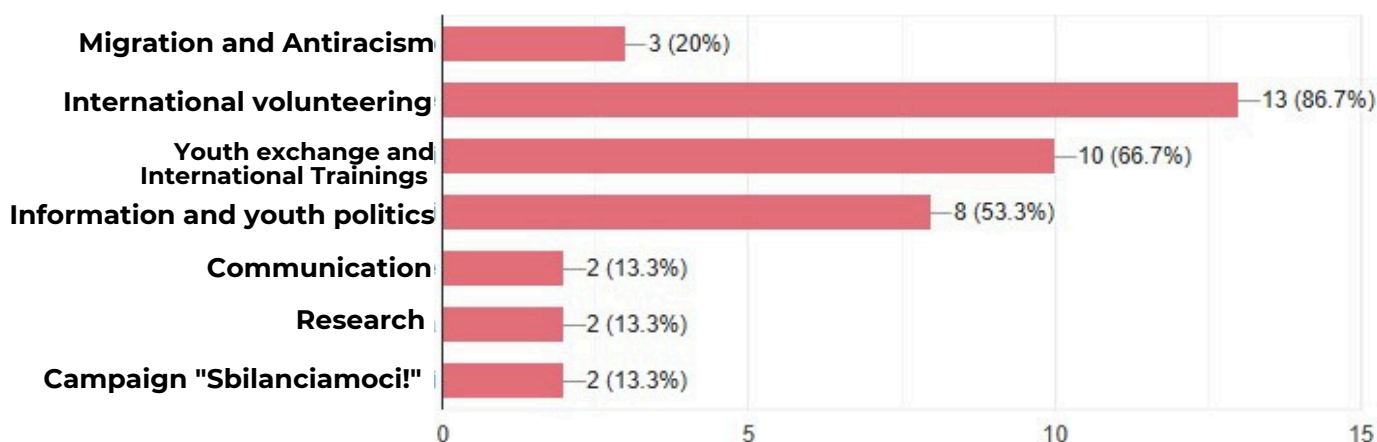
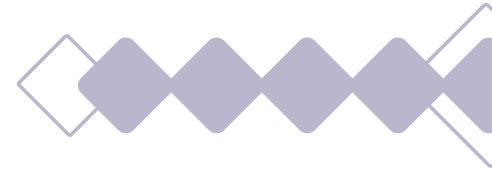
When it comes to discovering opportunities to organize a workcamp with Lunaria, local hosts around Italy typically gain knowledge through various channels. According to recent data, the most common sources of information are other means (60%), other organizations (26.7%), friends (20%) and via internet (13.3%).

## DO YOU KNOW ABOUT LUNARIA'S OTHER ACTIVITIES?



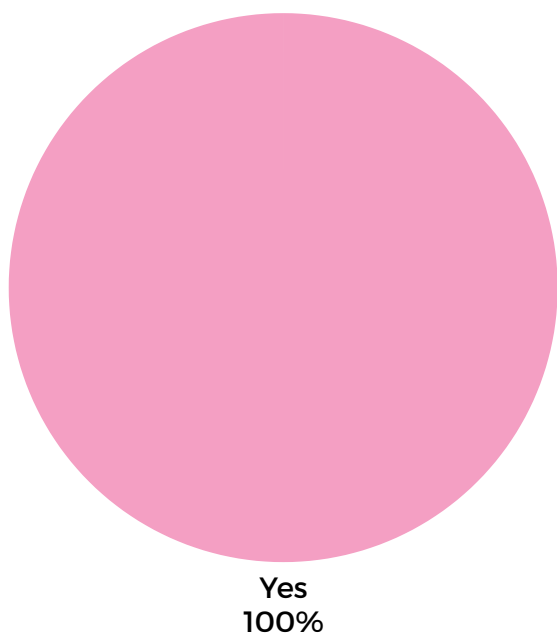
This year, it appears that nearly all host associations were informed about Lunaria's other activities, with 80% acknowledging awareness in the evaluation.

## IF SO, IN WHICH SECTOR ARE YOU MOST INTERESTED?



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, 86.7% of local hosts expressed particular interest in International Volunteering, followed by Youth Exchanges and International Trainings at 66.7%. Additionally, Information and Youth Politics garnered a 53.3% response rate, while Anti-racism and Migration initiatives saw a 20%. Also Communication, Research and Sbilanciamoci has gained some more interest, 13.3% for all three.

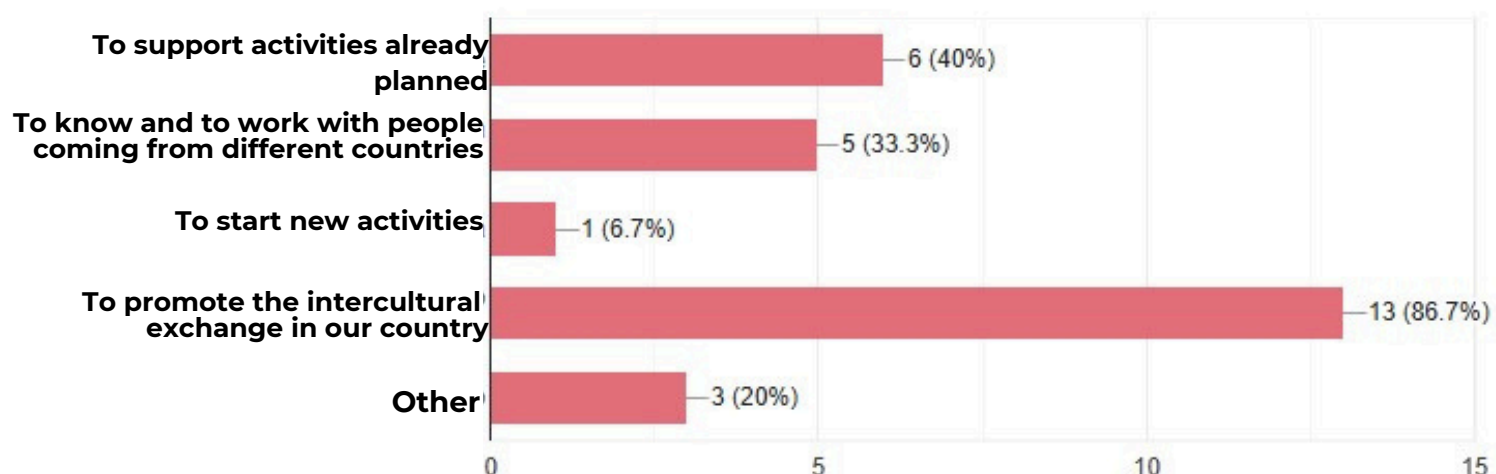
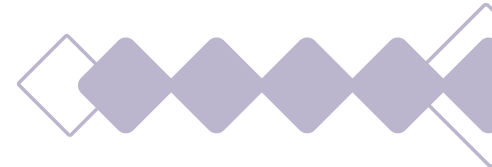
## WHEN YOU CONTACTED LUNARIA ABOUT ORGANIZING THE CAMP, DID YOU RECEIVE SATISFACTORY INFORMATION?



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.

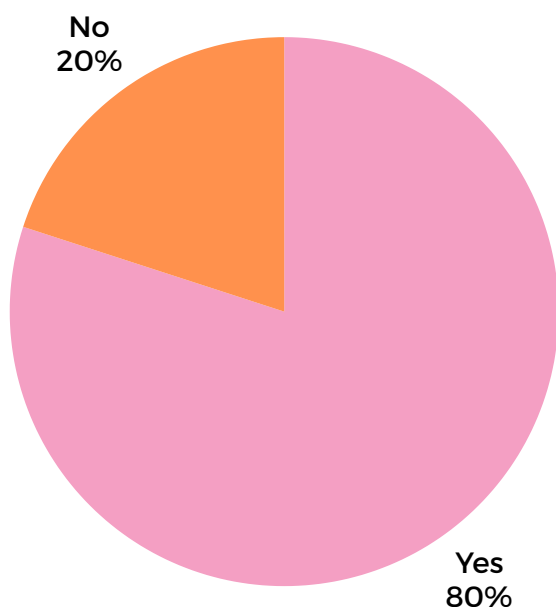
Additionally, the volunteers' information, such as their arrival and departure dates and other specific details, was found to be excellent. We look forward to repeating this achievement next year.

## 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 (86.7%), support for activities already planned (40%), working with people from various countries (33.3%), and other activities (20%).

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

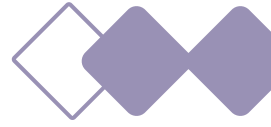


Once again, we are proud to announce that our local hosts were satisfied with the clear and complete information provided to them as soon as they contacted us about the incoming volunteers, although there has been a slight drop from 80% satisfaction. We hope to repeat the high satisfaction rates of previous years.





## WHAT WERE THE ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT DURING THE WORKCAMP?



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

“Works related to the rural and forest environment such as maintenance of paths, care of crops, construction of rural structures. Creation of land art works in forest areas. Activities of self-discovery, outdoors and relationships.”

“During the work camp, seven cardboard shelves were made and placed in public places for the free exchange of books. This is part of the activities of the library set up by our association, which has promoted the realisation of a widespread local library.”

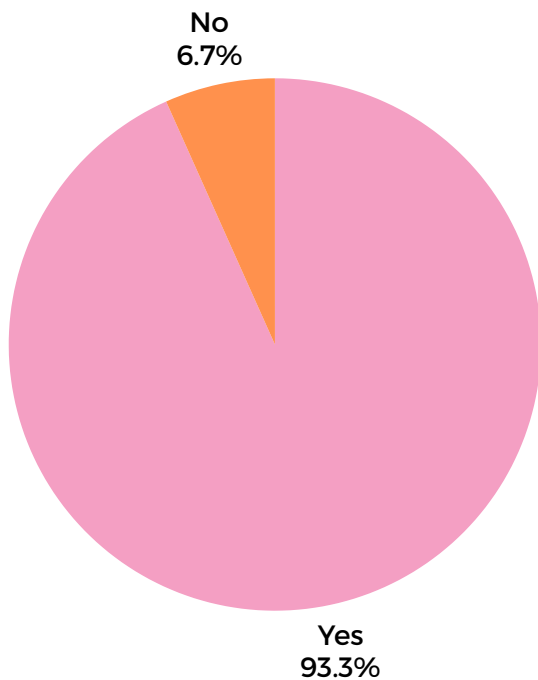
“Volunteers help us in all daily tasks from cooking to cleaning to the bar and participate in training sessions on Agape and its mission.”

“The activities carried out were as follows:

- Social farming
- Sports activities Manual workshops
- Theatre
- Outings in the area
- Theme evenings
- Leisure activities

In all activities there was integration with people from the local area.”

## Did the camp seem balanced to you in terms of age, gender and nationality ?

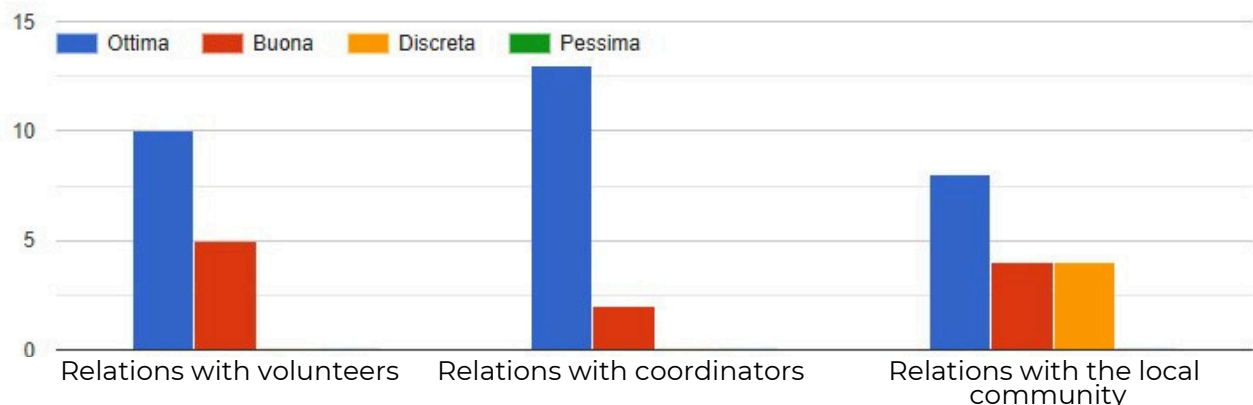


Most of the local hosts considered the workcamps balanced by gender, age and nationality (93.3%).

Only a lesser extent (6.7%) considered the workcamps less balanced.

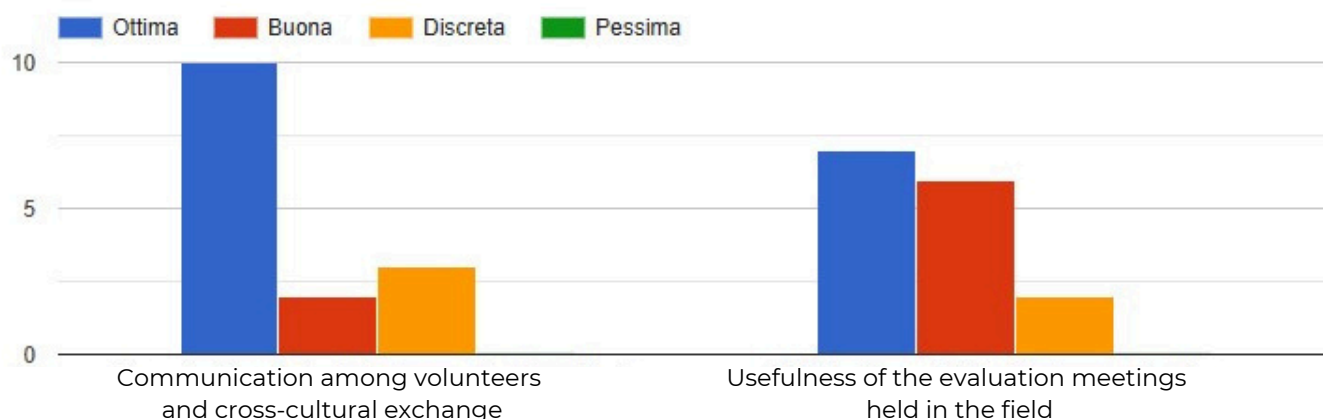
## How do you consider the following aspects?

### A) INTERPERSONAL ASPECTS



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

## B) CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL ASPECTS



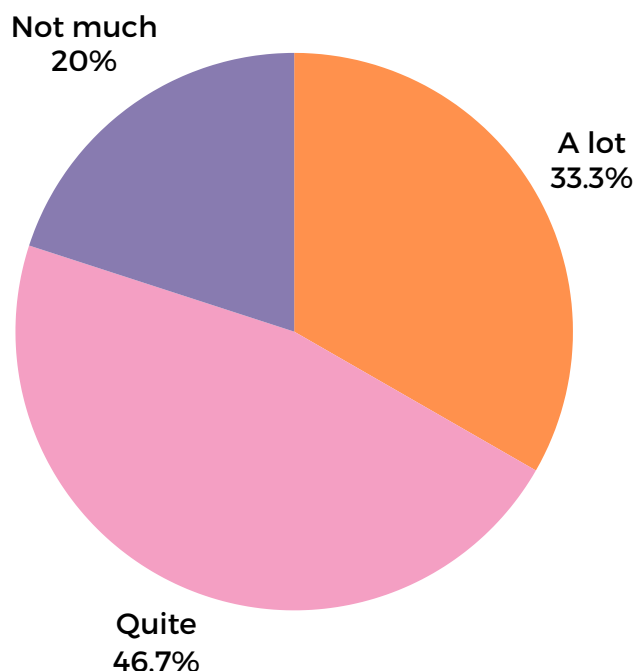
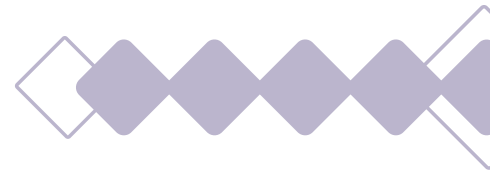
We can register a very similar trend also for the cultural and leisure aspects (communication with volunteers, intercultural exchange, evaluation meetings): most of the local hosts stated that these aspects have been optimal.

“Volunteers met with different local realities on several occasions. During the children's festival, they were able to collaborate in running activities. One afternoon, a social football match was organised with guests from a local psychotherapeutic community. The latter also took part in an intercultural dinner organised by the volunteers, which was also attended by a group of young people who are undergoing training with ARCI solidarity of L'Aquila and the Rindertimi association of Avezzano. Finally, the volunteers held an art workshop with the Villa D'Este association of Tivoli.”

“The success of the camp was due to the skill of the coordinators, good organisation and a sufficiently zealous group, welcomed by an intrinsically hospitable community that is now accustomed to the initiative.”

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

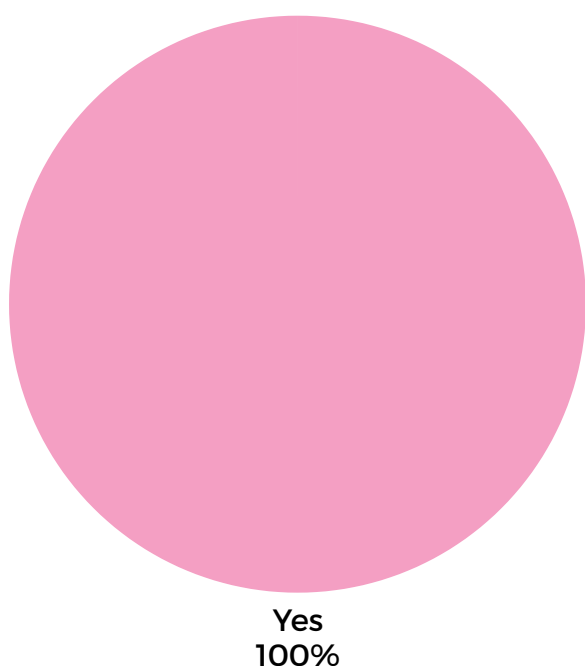
## HOW MUCH IMPORTANCE DID YOU PLACE ON THE ABILITY OF VOLUNTEERS TO ACCOMPLISH THE PLANNED WORK IN THE SCHEDULED TIME AND MANNER?



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 20% of the local host associations deemed accomplishing the planned goal as unimportant, while ensuring that volunteers comply with the schedule and conduct themselves respectfully.

## 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.

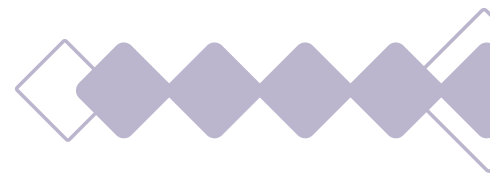
Comments:

"The volunteers showed maturity in performing the proposed activities flawlessly."

"The climate was good and the objectives were achieved."



## WERE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE WORK DONE BY THE COORDINATOR?



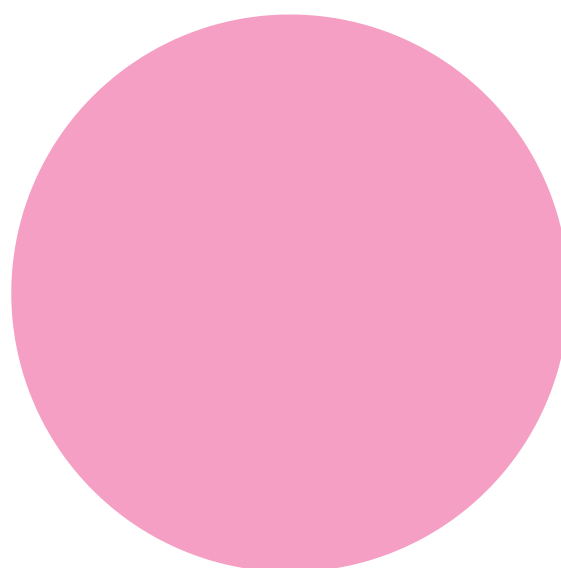
This year's coordinators have demonstrated their competence not only in making sure the camp went smoothly but also in handling unforeseen challenges during projects.

It can be seen in the graph reporting the evaluation of the local host, complete satisfaction with the work delivered by the coordinators.

Comments:

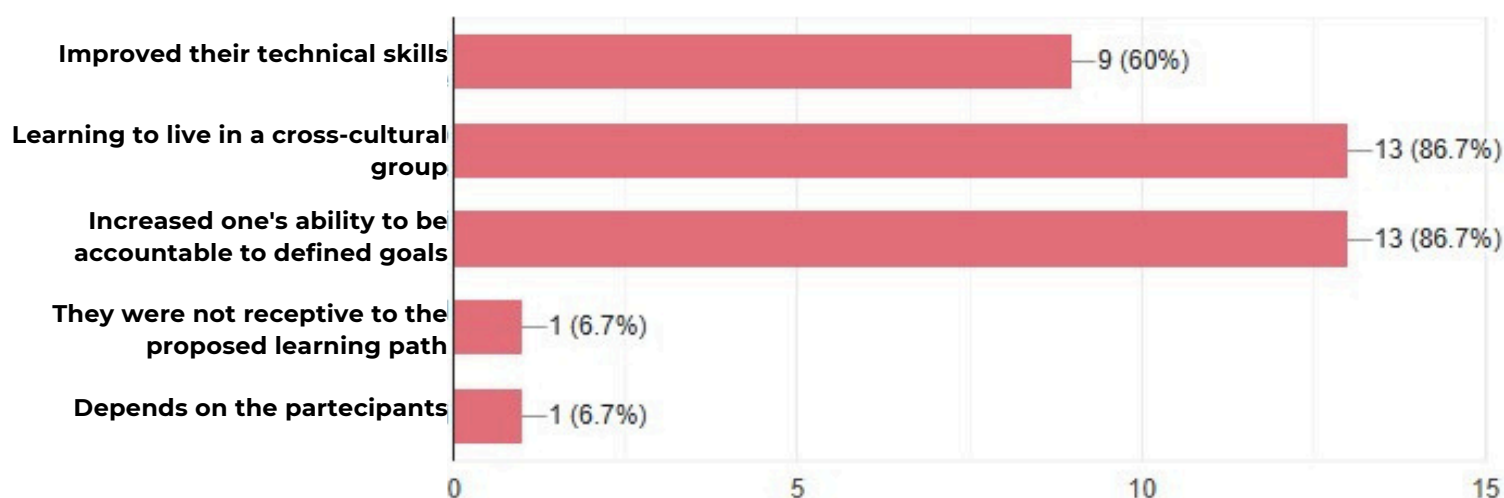
"They were able to best coordinate the group and ensure the smooth running of the entire workcamp."

"Our coordinator was present, empathetic, precise and good at motivating the group."

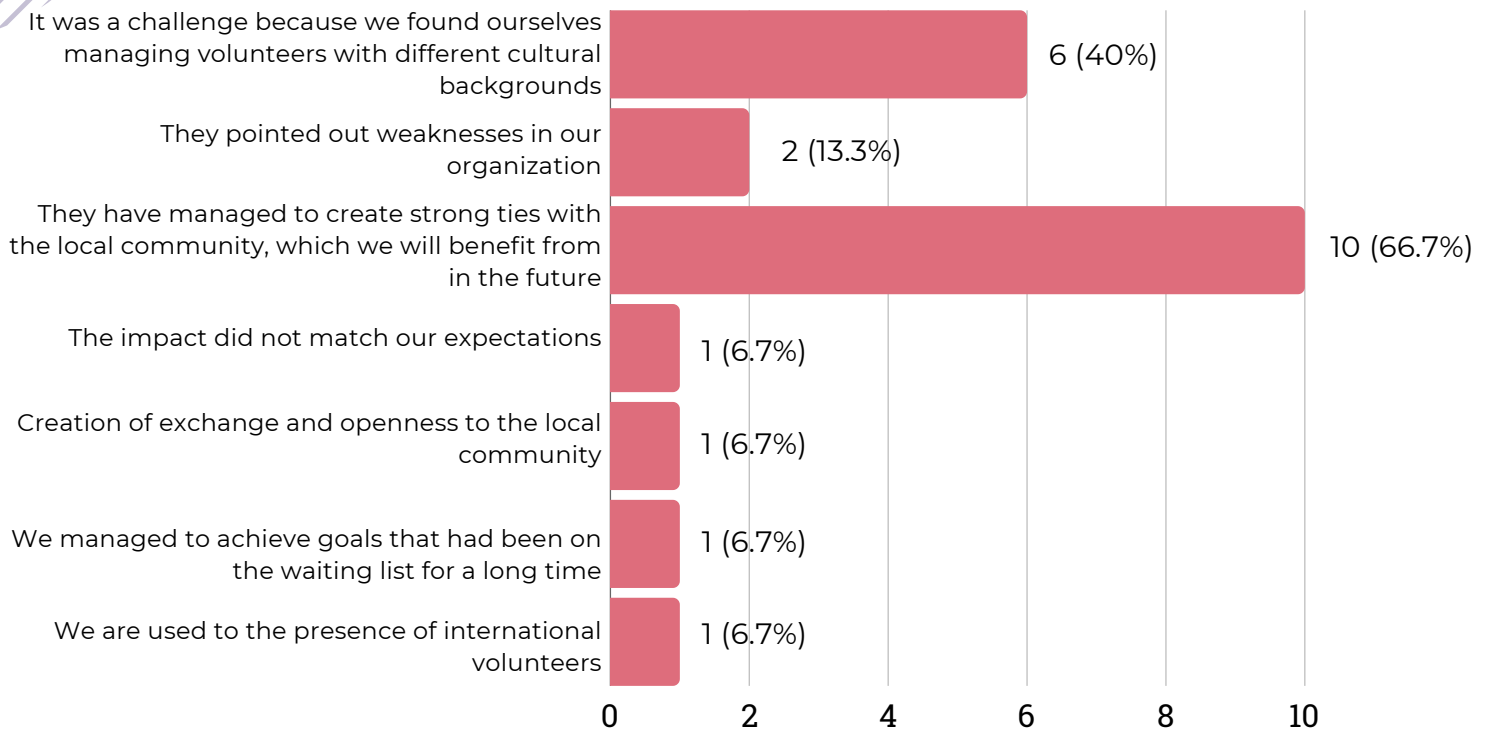


Yes  
100%

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



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



### Comments:

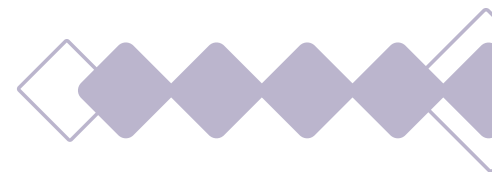
"The strength: freedom during working hours was a strength, giving motivation to the group.

Weakness: sleeping in tents can be challenging in prolonged bad weather situations."

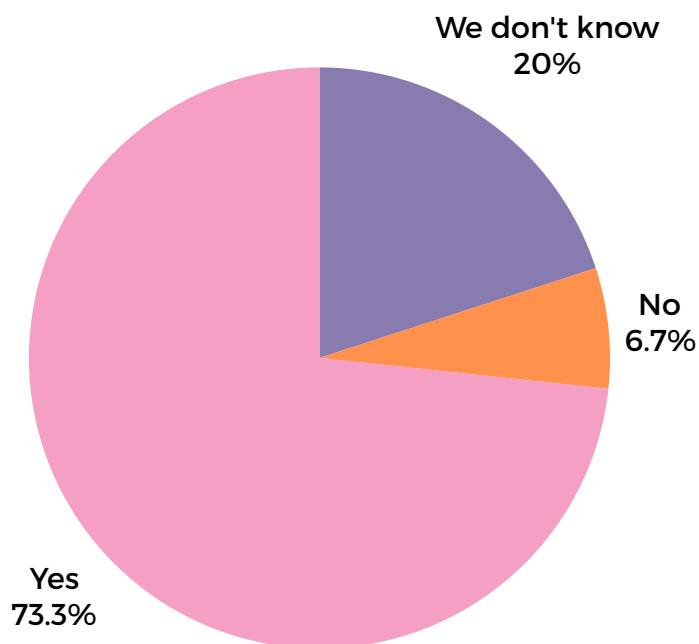
"We feel that overall there was a good balance between the work objectives that were met and the management of free time. A weak point might be that we did not succeed effectively in conveying the importance of this project to all volunteers."

"The strength the resilience and the presence of a very attentive camp leader. the weakness the age differences between the participants and the fact that they were not made aware of the type of audience they would be working with nor of the nature and social mission of the host organisation."

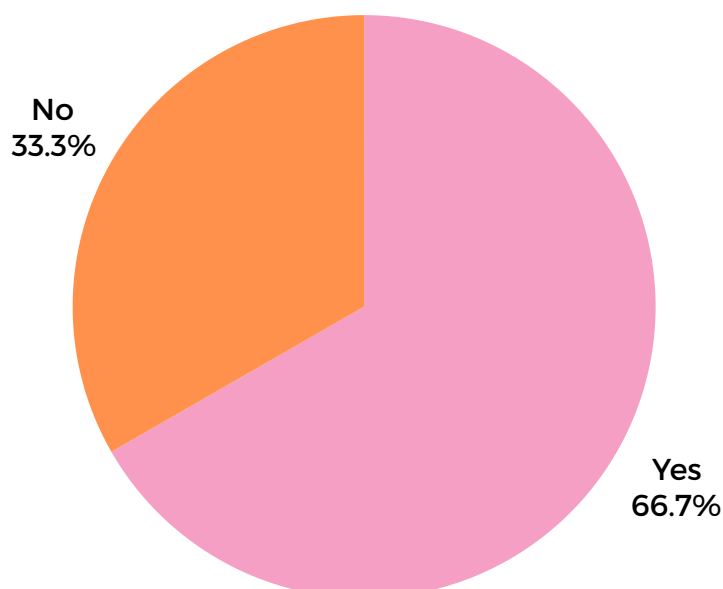
## DO YOU PLAN TO ORGANIZE A WORKCAMP AGAIN NEXT YEAR?



This year there is an increase in the willingness to plan to organise a work camp again next year. In 2023 the results were: 56.2% for "Yes" and 43.8% for "I don't know"



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



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

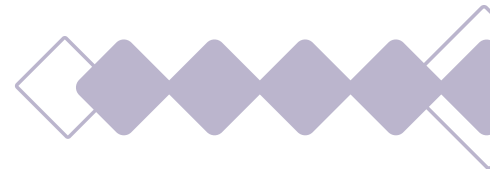
Comments:

"I don't have a concrete idea but definitely always projects related to culture."

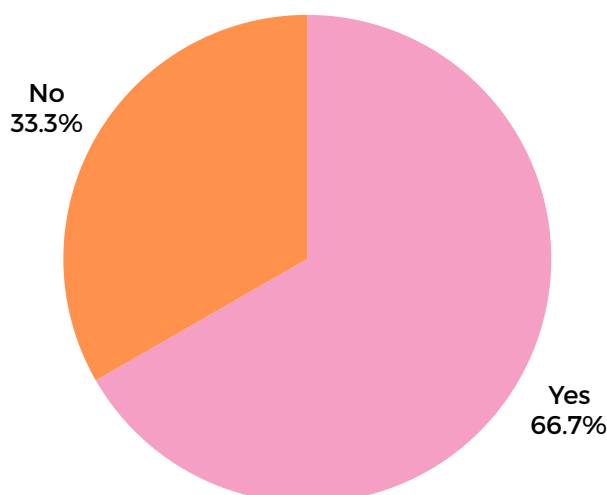
"Our format that we will propose will be more or less the same, but we will certainly propose new activities and new experiences, which at the moment remain only ideas, we need to understand the feasibility, which is why we are not rushing to communicate them."



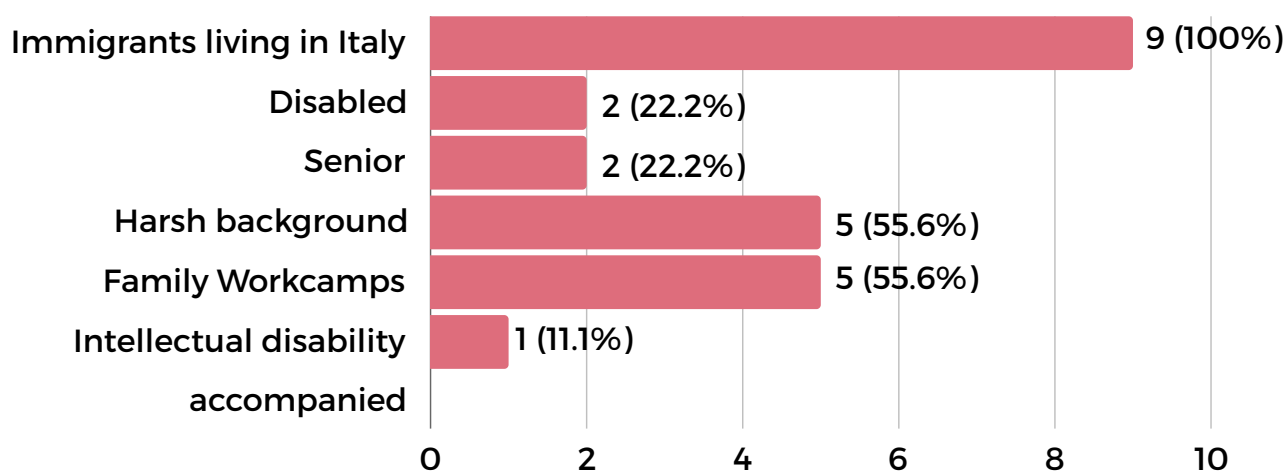
## WOULD YOU AGREE TO HOST VOLUNTEERS WITH FEWER OPPORTUNITIES?



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:

"Adopting the same reception scheme and reinforcing it with the provision of structured educational activities, prepared in advance as the work plan."

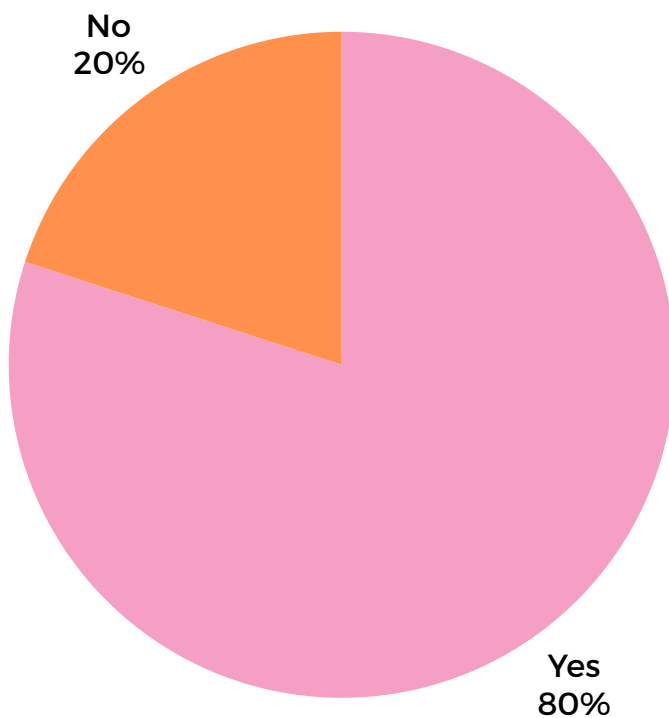
"Il Pungiglione constantly has to interact with diversity so this is not a problem, we will try to understand what the needs are and structure appropriate activities."

"Through involvement and co-planning with associations in the field."





## 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:

"The dinner went very well, almost fifty people attended and the volunteers' cooking was much appreciated. In addition, there was great interaction"

"The community responded very well by cooking typical dishes, about 200 people were present"

"It was a street event in occasion of the Refugee Day. In a city square we set up a DJ set and food prepared by our migrant beneficiaries from the reception centres. then whoever wanted to contributed brought something else."

## IF NO, WHY?

Comments:

"The group tutors chose to have a whole meal of a different nationality cooked each evening."

"They were also actively involved in the festival in the evening."

## DO YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVING OUR WORK?

Comments:

"The idea of organising a meeting with the network of local partners is a useful and interesting idea: it encourages analysis, comparison and evolution."

"We do not have any at the moment. One thought: some of the volunteers already knew each other and this allowed for greater integration of all participants."

"We are satisfied with the work done."

"As I said before, organise a guide for the day of arrival. Also if volunteers get in touch with Lunaria to ask for information about the day of arrival to pass the communication on to us, to avoid giving wrong information, as doing camps in mountain huts the logistics are complicated and only we can manage it best. It takes a great burden off you and we have the pleasure of doing this."

# CAMP LEADER TESTIMONIES

The group leader plays a vital role in the formation of international volunteer groups. In the final section of the 2024 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.



## Relation with the local hosts

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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 local host was warm and welcoming. We had a clear communication and we felt included and supported in the activities and daily life.”

“Giovani Insieme Onlus, they are a very active organisation within the town of Carignano. They are very welcoming and supportive people, so much that on the first week of volunteering I had another boy called Lorenzo helping me with the Audido’s men. The local people are involved and are always up to help out if needed, one of the association’s members called Leonardo came to check on us everyday and supported the group in every way he could.”

“The local hosts were very welcoming and kind, with a real desire to do the right thing. They took the time to talk and get to know the group of volunteers. I was working with Dario, Valerio, Oracio and also a big group of Young workers volunteers from Sicily which were local volunteers.”

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## RELATION 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:

“Great people. Daniela has a lot of experience; she organised the entire workcamp accommodating the volunteers needs. Leonardo organised local dinners with three local host to take a couple of volunteers so that they could try the local food and they were very successful.”

“We interacted a lot with the people staying at Poggiolo, both the staff and the volunteers working there. It was very cool to spend the two weeks with them, we felt included, welcomed and part of the community. During the festival days, we had the chance to interact with the guests, they were all very nice and talkative, we made good friendships with them and we had such a great time meeting all the people.”

“The people from Sessa Cilento and San Mango were extremely nice and welcoming. When we were working in the streets and picking up the trash, they would come and talk to us, ask questions, share. A lot of people were always asking us if we wanted to drink something. One local lady baked us a cake. The people were lovely and even with the difficulties of the language between them and volunteers, they were always trying their best and being really positive.”

“We felt always surrounded by and included in the local community, at least this was my perception and what I got from the feedbacks of the volunteers. We had some evenings and other moments (other than the festival days) where we took part in their activities and we had a cultural exchange, especially with the younger member of the community.”

“Perfect, everybody was really really sweet with us.”

## 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:

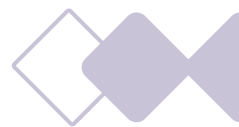
“In the first few days we had time for our activities to explore the area and to get to know each other, but then we worked every day for the organization of the festival and we did not have time to run our activities. Anyway, we were able to go on a trip to Bologna all together and to spend a nice afternoon at the river.”

“During our free time we did different things in the area. We visited the city of Verona all together, we had walks in the nearby of Dolcè, we did team building games and activities, we took time together to do some points about the plan, the organization and to evaluate the project, especially halfway and at the end. Furthermore, we had personal free time to have the possibility to take a break and to take care of ourselves as well. During the festival we also participated at the evenings organized by Eclettica for the Tacaband, such as a concert and the “poetry-slam” evening.”

“The volunteers had the opportunity to visit Verona, Venice and Lake Garda; explore Valpolicella through a treasure hunt; interact with the local community during village festivals; meet another group of volunteers from a different workcamp during the Arbizzano festival; participate in a wine tasting; cook for an intercultural dinner; and invite people they met during the two weeks.”

“So many creative activities for most of the time, during the day off we went to Taormina. We enjoy eating a lot of ice cream and sicilian food during the two weeks.”

## 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:

“During the festival days, we were organized in shifts. When a person was not working, they could live the festival as if they were guests and everybody loved it a lot. The location was perfect and we were able to disconnect from our lives for two weeks. The local partners were always nice and available to help us on any occasion, often checking on us. Everybody had lots of fun and we all enjoyed it so much, the people were amazing and nobody wanted to go home.”

“The group of volunteers was really cool, really motivated and always ready to help. Also I really appreciate all of the efforts made by the local host. In my opinion, they really made sure to integrate the volunteers into the whole festival process and make them feel important in the whole organization. And always with kindness and humor.”

“The work was balanced, we had enough free and personal time. The organization and the communication with the local host was good and there were no big issues we weren't able to solve quickly, everything went smoothly.”

“Strong sense of teamwork among volunteers, which encouraged collaboration and support; positive feedback from local host organizations regarding the volunteers' dedication and contributions; enhanced awareness and understanding among volunteers about the challenges faced by people with intellectual disabilities.”

“It is impossible not to be overwhelmed by the warmth of Stella Cilento we were all welcomed with love and happiness. The whole Association made us part of it both before and during the Festival. The children were delighted with the activities in the Artists' House, and never lost their will to help.”