




# YOUTH WORK IN PROGRESS

## ERASMUS+ PROJECT

# “YOUTH WORK IN PROGRESS”



This project aims to raise quality and sustainability of youth programs, through competence development of youth workers and leaders to provide innovative, modern and quality youth work service which effectively respond on current socio-economic needs of young people in EU and Western Balkan.

NOVEMBER 2017 - AUGUST 2019

PARTNER ORGANIZATION	COUNTRY
Beyond Barriers	Albania
SEEYN	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Youth Resource Centre Tuzla	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Vojvodina Environmental Movement	Serbia
Educational Centre Krusevac	Serbia
Ideas Factory	Bulgaria
Local Democracy Agency	Croatia
Association of Active Youths of Florina	Greece
Association NUR	Italy
NGO Creativitas	Lithuania
Youth Cultural Centre Bitola	Macedonia
Association for Democratic Prosperity - ZID	Montenegro
Youth Centre BIT - Social Entrepreneurship	Slovenia
Sakarya University Life-Long Learning Centre	Turkey



## SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Raising quality and innovation in non-formal education through capacity building in online learning management systems, methods, tools and media literacy of youth workers;

Raising quality and modernizing youth work methods and approaches through capacity building in developing and running youth work activities using digital media tools;

Contributing to raise quality of youth leadership, efficient management and internationalization in youth organizations through capacity building of the youth workers in organizational management and leadership competences;

Improve sustainability and quality of long-term work on professional and personal development of young people through capacity building of youth workers in field of youth mentorship;

Empower and provide youth workers with space, support and practical skills to apply their competences on relevant issues in youth work field through education, awareness raising, cooperation, active youth participation, community development;

Contribute to creation of establishment of the knowledge foundation on topics of mentorship in youth work, online learning, digital tools to support youth work delivering, providing training, of working methods, tools and materials;

Raise capacities of youth organizations and develop efficient, sustainable youth work and life-long learning program;

Contribute to personal development of youth workers towards professionalization of youth work;

Foster mutual understanding of certain topics among youth from different cultures, promoting intercultural learning on European level and enable sharing of different experience, good practice examples, tools and methods;

Provide space for networking and developing mutual projects and strategic cooperation between youth organizations from Western Balkans and Programme Countries;

Promote Erasmus Plus programme as tool for mobility, education and cooperation.



## PROJECT ACTIVITIES

The project "Youth Work in Progress" has 6 different activities and number of sub-activities within them. The partners have active role in each of the activities, as it is described below:

### KICK OFF MEETING OF PARTNERS AND EXPERTS

**DATES:** 28/01/2018 - 31/01/2018 (traveling days included)

**VENUE:** Sremski Karlovci, Serbia

The first activity is 2 days meeting of project partner representatives and experts who will be working on all project elements. In the meeting, participants will discuss and fine tune proposed activities and time frame, reflect on present situation in the region and needs of youth workers and specifically the issues of inclusion in youth work, discuss educational approach and values the project will promote and look for synergies with other similar initiatives and strategies.

Representatives of organization will further discuss implementation and coordination of the project while experts will form groups around activities. Each group will provide recommendations and guidelines for high quality implementation of each segment. The meeting will end with common presentations and reflection.

### ONLINE PLATFORM

**DATES:** from January 2018 to August 2019 (for the needs of this project)

**VENUE:** online

Online learning platform ([SEEYN Learning House](#)) is space created in order to support educational activities implemented by SEEYN and its members. It is mostly used for preparation of participants before training courses, their support afterwards, mentorship during follow up activities, as well as for sharing information and educational resources with participants.

In the frame of this project it will be used as a tool for preparation of participants for each of mobility activities, their evaluation and coordination of follow up activities after each training course. It will be used by trainers to facilitate introductory sessions before residential courses, as well as by mentors and SEEYN staff to support follow up activities. In addition, participants of training courses, especially the ones from course on online learning, will have the space on the platform to create their own courses or training modules open for other participants and youth workers, leaders, volunteers and young people in their organisations.

## MOBILITY ACTIVITIES

Through this project we will implement 4 different training courses:

**1. TRAINING SEMINAR ON NON-FORMAL LEARNING IN ONLINE SPACE “LOGGING IN”:** This training-seminar aims to raise capacities of youth workers in developing and creating relevant online learning content and learning recognition tools through different platforms, addressing the needs of the young people they are working with and needs of society.

**DATES AND VENUE:** Ulcinj, Montenegro, 18/03/2018 - 24/03/2018

**PARTICIPANTS:** 1-2 per partner organization (14 partners)

**2. TRAINING COURSE ON SUSTAINABLE LONG-TERM WORK ON YOUTH DEVELOPMENT “YOUTH PATHWAYS”:** This training course aims to raise capacities of youth workers in core mentoring competences to work efficiently with young people online and offline in long-term systematic and sustainable manner and ensure their personal and professional development, wellbeing, life-long learning, empowerment and active participation.

**DATES AND VENUE:** Vlasenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 25/05/2018 - 02/06/2018

**PARTICIPANTS:** 1-2 per partner organization (14 partners)

**3. TRAINING COURSE ON LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT OF YOUTH INITIATIVES “LEADERS’ JOURNEY”:** This training course aims to provide learning opportunity and competence development for youth workers to be able to successfully initiate, lead and manage local and international youth activities, events and programs from idea to reality.

**DATES AND VENUE:** Vlasenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 15/09/2018 - 23/09/2018

**PARTICIPANTS:** 1-2 per partner organization (14 partners)

**4. TRAINING COURSE ON EMPLOYING DIGITAL MEDIA TOOLS IN YOUTH WORK “DIGI-YOU-TH”:** This training aims to improve Information and Communication Technology (ICT) competences of youth workers needed for successful initiation, implementation and promotion of activities/projects outreaching and involving young people using digital tools and media.

**DATES AND VENUE:** Crnomelj, Slovenia 10/11/2018 - 17/11/2018

**PARTICIPANTS:** 2 per partner organization (13 partners)

## PRACTICAL FOLLOW UP ACTIVITIES

Aim of the practical follow up activities is to raise capacity of the youth workers in larger scale, in cost effective manner and in their own working environment in the topics of new media literacy (ICT), online learning, leadership, volunteering, international cooperation, active youth participation, inclusion and fight against discrimination, cultural awareness, intercultural learning, non-formal education, management of organization resources and youth projects/activities and European programs for youth.

Each participants who went through specific educational activity (training course) will have the opportunity to create and implement the activity either online or in their own community with and for young people according to the relevant need. Depending on the competences acquired of participants, this activity will be either workshop on different topics, online learning module (for following 3 groups of participants), digital campaign, street action, developed mentorship program (for following 2 groups of participants), developed methods and tools, digital support for offline activities, volunteer activity or whatever fits in the idea of practicing the gained competences for the benefit of community and young people. The system will be organized as cascading support system, where each group will support the other with their own newly gained competences. The special focus will be on topics of inclusiveness, outreaching to young people with fewer possibilities and awareness raising.

## EDUCATIONAL HANDBOOKS

Within this project, we are planning the development of 2 educational handbook:

**1. MENTORSHIP IN YOUTH WORK:** This handbook will provide support and empowerment for youth workers to take on the role of mentors of the young people they work with. In reader friendly manner, it will contain step by step guide through mentorship, supervision and long-term support of young people with lots of methods and tools, inspiring examples, tips and tricks and practical approach. It would be primary focused on long-term, systematic process of working with young people on their learning enhancement, personal and professional development, active participation and competence recognition. It will contain elements of reinforced mentorship specifically focused on inclusiveness in this process. This version will be published digitally and in printed form.

**2. ONLINE LEARNING AND DIGITAL TOOLS IN YOUTH WORK:** This handbook will be interactive, digital tool which aims to support youth workers and youth trainers/educators to develop and implement various learning content based on non-formal education methodology, as well as support youth workers with different tools and methods of employing different digital media tools in their work. It will give the guidelines through technical character of the online learning on one hand, and educational structure of online learning on the other hand. Through open source it will provide methods, tools, mechanisms and aspects of e-learning and digital media in the field of youth work. It will also provide knowledge and reflection on different digital online and offline tools to be used in youth work with aim of supporting cooperation, outreaching, awareness raising, campaigning, youth activism and other aspects of youth work. Specific character of this handbook is that it will be constantly open for contributions, expansion and innovation by readers and users. It will be subjected to reflections and changes according to new needs and trends, as it concerns topic which is rapidly developing, especially in youth work field.

## METHODOLOGY DEVELOPMENT HUB

Youth work support system development will result in the final product (new youth work curricula) to be used in long-term youth work at online and offline level. This methodology framework will help youth workers and young people to organize and follow their own progress, learning and life-changing experience in different learning processes or initiatives, consolidate and recognize the competences gained, take ownership of their own development, in fun and creative way. This process will be documented and the final product shared internationally with youth organizations, youth workers and institutions in youth field.

This methodological system will also aim to empower youth engagement and contribute to the recognition and documentation of youth participation and non-formal and informal learning. Method will be developed by experts, youth workers from partner organizations and external experts in the in-person meeting and through online cooperation. The whole process will last from the beginning of the project and will harvest results and outcomes of each activity to finally be shaped in a set of tools and methods which aim to raise quality of work of youth workers on personal and professional development of young people. It will give clear, but flexible system that will help youth workers to practically support their youngsters to go through different learning and experiential process while engaging in different activities, educations or experiences. It will follow learning cycle approach and connect it to “Hero’s journey” methodology.

For more information about the project and its consortium, please contact [training@seeyn.org](mailto:training@seeyn.org) and follow our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/seeyn/>