



YOUTH: THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Information for LDAs

SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

The present proposal aims at enhancing the promotion and visibility of the Youth programme in South Eastern Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia) and Caucasus (Georgia).a

The overall objective is to allow young people to acquire knowledge, skills and competencies, focusing on training of multipliers and on the development of networks and partnerships.

The proposal combines co-operation, training and information aspects, through the implementation of different actions: information seminars, setting-up of specialized info-points, web-site and newsletters, youth ambassadors groups, trainings of peer educators (multipliers), job shadowing, trainings on EVS, itinerant crossing youth fair and the setting-up of 4 different networks of stakeholders working in the field of youth in SEE and in Georgia.

OBJECTIVES

The present proposal aims at strengthening and fostering the involvement of the Local Democracy Agencies in the field of youth; the overall objective is to allow young people to acquire knowledge, skills and competencies through the promotion of the Youth Programme in South Eastern Europe and Caucasus, focusing on training of multipliers and on the development of networks and partnerships.

Its specific objectives are the following:

- To promote the Youth Programme (especially the forthcoming Youth in Action) in South Eastern Europe (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro) and Caucasus (Georgia) as a tool to enhance youth participation at all levels and to develop European citizenship
- To provide capacity building to young people and youth workers through trainings of multipliers
- To develop and consolidate networks and partnerships, in order to create a long-lasting "platform" in South Eastern Europe and Caucasus in the field of youth
- To exchange best practices in the field of youth among partners
- To promote and to develop new and innovative methods and approaches concerning information, training and cooperation

ACTIVITIES

The present proposal combines co-operation, training and information aspects.

1. Information

Information seminars: "Youth in Action in SEE and Georgia"

The programme includes 3 information seminars which aim at enhancing the promotion and the visibility of the new Youth programme ("Youth in action", 2007-2013) in South Eastern Europe and Caucasus, allowing young people to acquire knowledge, skills and competences.

The seminars will last 3 days each and will be held in 3 different countries, in order to facilitate the participation of young people and youth workers from all the countries involved in the project.

Locations proposed:

- Sisak (Croatia)
- Nis (Serbia)
- Thessaloniki (Greece)

Number of participants per seminar: 30 people.

Specialized youth information points

The proposal aims at setting-up 11 specialized youth information points in 11 different Local Democracy Agencies which are partners of the project. The main objective is to provide information on the various European programs and opportunities offered to young people by the European Union and the Council of Europe.

The Municipality of Monfalcone (Italy) will coordinate the whole network of info-points during the project period, in cooperation with the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies.

The specialized info-points will be set-up in:

- Croatia (3): Brtonigla/Verteneglio, Sisak, Osijek;
- Bosnia and Herzegovina (3): Zavidovici, Prijedor, Mostar;
- Serbia (2): Nis, Subotica;
- Montenegro (1): Niksic;
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (1): Ohrid;
- Georgia (1): Kutaisi.

Youth Ambassadors

The programme aims at creating in each partners' community a group of young people and youth workers committed with the promotion of the Youth programme, acting at the local level to involve young people and youth organizations in youth initiatives and projects. The promotion of a transnational network of "Youth Ambassadors" grants an added value to the proposal.

The methodology of Youth Ambassadors is mainly based on the peer education.

Youth Ambassadors groups will be established in the partners' communities: therefore, 19 groups of about 15 people each are foreseen.

Information campaign

The present proposal aims at developing, in co-operation with the respective Youth National Agencies, Youth contact points and SALTO Resource centres (especially SALTO SEE) an information campaign concerning the forthcoming "Youth in action". An important aspect of the campaign is the strict connection and cooperation with the Youth National Agencies, the Youth contact points and SALTO Resource centres (especially SALTO SEE).

Web-site

The present proposal includes the implementation of ALDA's and partners' websites.

The ALDA website will be implemented in order to create a virtual meeting place where partners, young people and youth workers can meet to exchange ideas and good practices and to develop common activities and projects. An Intranet will be set-up.

Newsletter

A periodical newsletter is foreseen. During the project period 9 newsletters will be published (3 per year). The newsletter aims at promoting the Youth Programme and the project actions to young people and youth workers of the communities involved in the project.

2. Training

ToP: Trainings of Peer-educators (multipliers)

- The proposal includes 3 "trainings of peer educators" (multipliers) which aim at training reliable, credible and capable young people and youth workers who can support the work of National Agencies, Contact points and SALTO resource centres in order to improve the national implementation of the YOUTH Programme. The trainings aim at providing participants the opportunity to develop their knowledge, skills and competencies.

ToPs will create the basis for setting-up local groups of "youth ambassadors" (see above) who will be the main actors to disseminate the Youth Programme in the field and to establish transnational cooperation (adopting a peer to peer methodology).

The trainings will last 4 days each and will be held in 3 different countries, in order to facilitate the participation of young people and youth workers from all the countries involved in the project.

Locations proposed:

- Shkodra (Albania)
- Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Kutaisi (Georgia)

Number of participants per training: 30 people.

Job shadowing

This activity allows youth workers to acquire the skills for organising youth projects and initiatives by working for a limited period of time in a foreign organization which experienced high quality projects. An exchange between EU member partners and SEE and Caucasus (Georgia) will be promoted. By offering a learning experience in an organization running high quality projects, job shadowing should contribute to youth workers' ability to organise projects allowing the exchange of experience and good practice.

The Job shadowing experience is addressed to 12 youth workers of 12 different partner organizations. All the countries and partners will be involved in the Job shadowing, either hosting or sending youth workers.

EVS Trainings

A training on EVS will be promoted to develop EVS projects and to set-up a network of EVS organisations acting in South Eastern Europe and Caucasus which may grant multiplying effects, high quality projects, exchange of best practices, long-lasting commitment and cooperation...

The training supports young people as well as youth workers dealing with EVS issues, having little or no experience in long-term volunteering. This training will go deeper into subjects that are closely linked to EVS.

The training will last 4 days; the location proposed is Niksic, Montenegro.

Number of participants: 40 people.

3. Cooperation

International crossing youth fair

An international-crossing youth fair is foreseen in the second year of the project: it consists in an itinerant travel through the whole SEE region, from Croatia to Albania, crossing Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, in order to deepen the mutual knowledge of the different youth contexts and to promote cooperation in the field of youth.

The youth fair will last 10 days; it will start in Brtonigla/Verteneglio (Croatia) and will finish in Shkodra (Albania).

Number of participants: 28 people, paying attention to balance provenience, gender and age of participants.

Networks

The main outcomes of this project proposal are the creation of the basis of 4 long-lasting networks in the field of youth in South Eastern Europe and Caucasus (Georgia).

Network of specialized info-points for youth (outcome of the information trainings)

Network of Youth Ambassadors (outcome of the information trainings)

Network of Peer Educators (outcome of the Trainings of peer educators-multipliers)

Network of EVS organisations (outcome of the EVS training)

The four networks foreseen in the present proposal aim at involving a high number of stakeholders in the field of youth in the communities involved, namely in the whole South Eastern Europe region and in Georgia.

Cooperation with Youth National Agencies, Contact Points for the YOUTH programme in SEE and SALTO Resource centres
Special attention will be paid to establish a real partnership with the Youth National Agencies, Contact Points for the YOUTH programme in SEE and SALTO Resource centres.