

SALTO-YOUTH
PARTICIPATION
RESOURCE CENTRE



Education and Culture

G.I.N. - Get in Net

**European Training Course
On developing
Transnational Youth Initiatives
Projects**

**Info Pack
For
Participants**

Info Pack for National Agencies
on **G.I.N. Training courses for 2007**

G.I.N. (Get in Net) – European Training Courses

Co-ordinated and monitored by **SALTO-Participation**

Organised by the network of **National Agencies** of the Youth in Action Programme

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G.I.N.

EUROPEAN TRAINING COURSE

DEAR PARTICIPANT,

We are looking forward to meeting you at the G.I.N. European Training Course (TC)!

In this training course we will go (together with you😊) deeper into subjects that are closely linked to the: **Transnational Youth Initiatives**.

We hope that this training course will contribute to increase the quality of Transnational Youth Initiatives.

The course will be based on the principles and practice of **non-formal education** taking into account your needs, motivations and previous experiences as starting point of the programme. A **diversity of working methods** will be used for learning about Transnational Youth Initiative project management: thinking together, brainstorming, creating new ideas, discussions, debates, simulations, etc.

You will be supported actively to **work on concrete projects** and enabled to apply for Action 1.2 of the YOUTH IN ACTION programme. There will be space for regular **feedback and evaluations**.

The **programme** is designed to enable you to develop and realise your Transnational Youth Initiative projects to be implemented after the course, including the following:

- **YOUTH IN ACTION programme - Transnational Youth Initiatives**
You will get information about the YOUTH IN ACTION programme and particularly the criteria and concrete examples of Action 1.2 Transnational Youth Initiative projects.
- **Project management.** You will reflect on current needs in your local community. You will define concrete project ideas to answer those needs. You will set up the first steps development of your Transnational Youth Initiative projects.
- **Teamwork.** You will be given suggestions to help work in international teams: decision-making process, division of tasks, and cooperation between the partner groups.
- **Intercultural experience.** You will experience intercultural awareness: values, stereotypes, prejudices, relation between cultures, international project work.
- **Contact making.** You will get to know each other projects and/or organisations and will share previous experiences and good practices at local or European level.

This **Participant Info Pack** includes:

- A brief presentation of the G.I.N. European Training Course
- The Programme of your course (the programme is flexible and may change!)
- A brief presentation of the European Youth in Action Programme, with a focus on Action 1.2.
- Your National Agency (NA) will inform you about all logistic, practical and travel details regarding your G.I.N. Training Course.

WHAT TO BRING

We kindly ask you to bring:

- Clear information (in English, if possible and in a paper form!) about the main activities of your organisation, so that you can present it at the information gallery during the training course. Please be aware that your presentation will be very brief and unfortunately there is not a space in an official programme for a power point presentation!
- Map, posters, postcards about your country/region/town to be put on the "Gallery wall" during the G.I.N. International Evening.
- Some gastronomic specialities (food and/or drinks) for the G.I.N. International Evening. Please do not bring too much, and note that it may NOT be possible to cook or heat food at the training centre!
- This Participant Info Pack, with the information about the Youth in Action programme.

For more information, please contact your National Agency.

We wish you a pleasant journey and look forward to meeting you soon.

Best regards, Your G.I.N. trainers and National Agency team

G.I.N. EUROPEAN TRAINING COURSE

THE TRAINING COURSE

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE G.I.N. EUROPEAN TRAINING COURSE

1. WHAT IS THE G.I.N. TRAINING COURSE?

G.I.N. is a Network Training open for all 33 National Agencies of the Youth in Action Programme. G.I.N. is a Training Course developed in the framework of Youth Initiatives of the YOUTH in Action programme (Action 1.2.), targeting young people (18-30) involved in local projects. **G.I.N. TC aims at improving the international co-operation and consequently increasing the quality of Transnational Youth Initiatives.**

The international dimension of the G.I.N. TC is given by the different nationalities of participants and trainers team. So not only during the official programme you can enjoy together with other participants and the team the intercultural dimension of the course!

The course methodology is based on the concept of experiential learning and your active participation, in an atmosphere where participants can learn a lot from each other and have a lot of fun!

2. TARGET GROUP

The training course is designed for young people between **18-30**, involved in local projects related to the seminar topic and who want to develop their local projects into Transnational activities and who are residents in the YOUTH in Action programme countries (25 EU countries + Norway, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey).

For the quality of the Training course the group of participants shall not be bigger than 26 people.

The participants should be able to work and communicate in English (working language!).

3. AIM AND OBJECTIVES

The **overall aim** of the G.I.N. TC is:

- To increase the quality of Transnational Youth Initiatives in the framework of the Youth in Action programme and to explore their added value (European dimension) for the local community.

The **specific objectives** of the course are:

- To acquire project management and communication competencies for international activities
- To develop understanding about the principles of networking
- To learn about the Youth in Action Programme and about the "Quality criteria of Action 1.2."
- To share and transfer experiences of activities undertaken in the local community
- To create a space for contact making and finding potential partners for Transnational Youth Initiatives
- To develop an action plan to realise a Transnational Youth Initiative project

An additional benefit of the training course is the valorisation of Transnational Youth Initiatives through the exchange of best practices and experiences among participants.

In the training course participants have the opportunity to meet and to get to know other organisations or informal groups.

THE PROGRAMME

The programme is designed to support young people in developing and planning Transnational Youth Initiatives to be implemented after the course. These are the "Key topics" of the programme: information on the "YOUTH in Action" programme, Networking, Building partnerships, Project management, Teamwork, Intercultural experience.

Every G.I.N. Training course focuses on a **specific theme**, for example art and culture, youth information, new technologies, media and communication, social inclusion, environment, local heritage protection, development of rural or/and urban areas, and lots more.

Besides, the trainers' team will provide activities to improve the group dynamics and a final evaluation.

The Programme of the G.I.N.

<i>Time</i>	DAY 1	DAY 2 INFORMATION	DAY 3 QUALITY CRITERIA	DAY 4 PARTNERSHIP	DAY 5 ACTION PLAN & EVALUATION	DAY 6
8.30	Arrival of participants	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>
9.30		Context of the seminar GET IN NET. General frame of the YOUTH programme.	Basics in working in international and intercultural teams	Working in project teams Project development	Application process and budget	Departure
11.00		<i>Coffee Break</i>	Coffee Break	Coffee Break	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11.30		GTEO /organisations + projects market	Need analysis (local reality, your interest and other people’s needs) and ideas	Working in project teams Project development	Action Plan	
13.00		<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	
15.00		YIA programme and principles of Transnational Youth Initiatives	Transnational Youth Initiatives idea and partner finding	Projects presentation	Other resources and possibilities	
16.30		<i>Coffee break</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	
17.00		Introduction to quality criteria	Link of Transnational Youth Initiatives to local reality	Co-operation and communication in international teams	Final evaluation	
19.00		Daily Evaluation	Daily Evaluation	Daily Evaluation		
20.00		Dinner	<i>Dinner</i>	<i>Dinner</i>	<i>Dinner</i>	
21.00	Welcome evening	Intercultural Evening	<i>Discovering local reality</i>	<i>Free evening</i>	Farewell evening	

Annexes:

YOUTH IN ACTION PROGRAMME

Youth in Action Programme 2007-2013

(Focussed on the Action 1)

Basic Info

The **Youth in Action Programme** is a programme for all young people and those who work with them.

It encourages especially the involvement of young people with fewer opportunities and addresses young people aged between **13 and 30**.

This Programme is the result of a large consultation with the different stakeholders in the youth field and is the response to the development in the youth sector at European level. It aims to inspire a sense of European citizenship among the youth of Europe and to involve them in constructing the future of the European Community and the neighbouring countries.

Priorities of the Youth in Action Programme

1) European citizenship

Making young people aware that they are European citizens is a priority of the **Youth in Action** Programme. The objective is to encourage young people to reflect upon European topics including European citizenship and to involve them in the discussion on the construction and the future of the European Union.

On this basis, projects should have a strong European dimension and stimulate reflection on the emerging European society and its values.

2) Participation of young people

A main priority of the **Youth in Action** Programme is the participation of young people in democratic life. The overall objective for participation is to encourage young people to be active citizens. This objective has the three following dimensions, laid down in the Council resolution on the common objectives for participation by and information for young people:

- to increase the participation by young people in the civic life of their community;
- to increase participation by young people in the system of representative democracy;
- greater support for various forms of learning to participate.

Projects funded under the **Youth in Action** Programme should reflect these three dimensions by using participation as a pedagogical principle for project implementation.

3) Cultural Diversity

The respect for cultural diversity together with the fight against racism and xenophobia are priorities of the **Youth in Action** Programme. By facilitating joint activities of young people from different cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds, the Programme aims to develop the intercultural learning of young people.

As far as the development and implementation of projects are concerned, this means that young people participating in a project should become aware of its intercultural dimension. Intercultural working methods should be used to enable project participants to participate on an equal basis.

4) Inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities

An important priority for the European Commission is to give young people with fewer opportunities access to the **Youth in Action** Programme.

Youth groups and organisations should take appropriate measures to avoid exclusion of specific target groups. The **Youth in Action** Programme is a Programme for all, and efforts should be made to include young people with special needs.

In close cooperation with the National Agencies and the SALTO Resource Centres, the European Commission has established a strategy for the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in the **Youth in Action** Programme, targeting in particular young people from a less-privileged educational, socio-economic, cultural or geographical background, or with disabilities.

In addition, annual priorities may be fixed for the **Youth in Action** Programme and communicated on the Commission and National Agencies website.

In order to achieve its objectives, the **Youth in Action Programme** foresees 5 operational Actions:

- **Action 1** - Youth for Europe: supporting exchanges and youth initiatives and encouraging young people's participation in democratic life;
- **Action 2** - European Voluntary Service: encouraging young people to take part in a voluntary activity abroad that benefits the general public;
- **Action 3** - Youth in the World: encouraging cooperation with Partner Countries by building networks, promoting the exchange of information and assisting with cross-border activities;
- **Action 4** - Youth Support Systems: promoting the development of exchange, training and information schemes;
- **Action 5** - European Cooperation in the youth field contributing to the development of policy cooperation in the youth field.

Action 1 – Youth for Europe

Youth for Europe aims to reinforce the active civic participation of young people by supporting appropriate exchanges, mobility and initiatives for young people and their projects. More precisely, it aims to increase mobility of young people by supporting Youth Exchanges, and to develop young people's citizenship and mutual understanding by supporting Youth Initiatives, projects and activities concerning their participation in democratic life.

It is Action 1 of the five actions within the Youth in Action programme.

Youth for Europe supports the following measures.

1.1. YOUTH EXCHANGES

* **What:** an opportunity for one or more groups of young people to host or to be hosted by a group from another country in order to participate together in a joint programme of activities. The focus is on multilateral group mobility activities but bilateral Youth Exchanges are not excluded. Any exchange must involve at least two different Programme Countries of which at least one is an EU Member State.

The groups plan together their Youth Exchange around a theme of mutual interest, e.g. participation of young people in society, racism, xenophobia, local heritage, environment or drug abuse etc.

* **Duration:** the exchange activity must be between 6 and 21 days.

* **Participants:** groups of young people aged between 13 and 25 from a programme country (exceptions for some participants in group between 25 and 30 years old). A youth exchange must have a minimum of 16 and a maximum of 60 participants - group leaders not included.

* **Who can apply:** non-profit organisations or associations from one of the Programme Countries, or by informal groups of young people.

1.2. YOUTH INITIATIVES

* **What:** a project where young people participate actively and directly in activities of their own devising in which they play the key roles, in order to develop their initiative, enterprise and creativity. It is initiated, set up and carried out by young people themselves. This Action supports projects designed at local, regional or national level. It also supports networking of similar projects in different countries, in order to strengthen their European aspect and to enhance cooperation and exchanges of experiences between young people.

The theme or area chosen for the project is of interest and relevance to the group of young people themselves and also to the local community.

National Youth Initiatives: projects developed by a single group in their country of residence

Transnational Youth Initiatives: projects realised in common by two or more groups from different countries

* **Duration:** the initiatives must last between 3 and 18 months, including preparation, implementation, evaluation and follow-up.

* **Participants:** young people between **18 and 30** from a programme country. Young people from the age of 15 may be admitted if accompanied by a youth worker or coach.

* **Who can apply:** non-profit organisations, associations or groups of at least 4 young people from a programme country.

1.3. YOUTH DEMOCRACY PROJECTS

* **What:** A Youth Democracy Project is a project developed by a European partnership, allowing the pooling, at European level, of ideas, experiences and methodologies from projects or activities at local, regional, national or international level, in order to improve young people's participation.

The projects must have a thematic concept, i.e. clearly focusing on the general priorities of the Youth in Action Programme, active participation of young people, cultural diversity, European citizenship or social inclusion or on the topics of the future of Europe or the political priorities identified in the framework of European co-operation in the youth field.

* **Duration:** the project, including preparation, implementation, evaluation and follow-up, must be between 6 and 18 months,

* **Participation:** It is open to young people between 13 and 30. Any Youth Democracy Project must have a minimum of 16 participants

* **Who can apply:** non profit organisations or associations from one of the Programme Countries, local, regional, or national authorities or any informal group of young people.

1.4. PILOT PROJECTS FOR THEMATIC NETWORKS

A specific call will be published later.

Youthpass: Every participant in a Youth Exchange, a Youth Initiative or Youth Democracy Project is entitled to receive a Youthpass, which describes and validates the non-formal learning experience. Through the Youthpass the European Commission ensures that the experience with the Programme is recognised as an educational experience and a period of non-formal learning and informal learning.

Application deadlines:

*The vast majority of applications will be processed at national level by the National Agencies. Projects are selected by national selection panels, which are composed of people

familiar with the youth field and youth activities, for example members of National Youth Councils.

For projects that are selected at national level, there are five application deadlines a year:

1 February, 1 April, 1 June, 1 September, 1 November.

* Only a limited number of specific project types will be dealt with directly at the European level and will be mostly selected by the Executive Agency. These include, among others, applications for projects submitted by organisations from Partner countries in South East Europe and those submitted by European non-governmental organisations having member branches in at least 8 countries.

For all projects selected at European level (in 1.1, 1.3), there are three application deadlines a year: 1 February, 1 June, 1 September

The Programme Countries are: 29 EU Member States (including Romania and Bulgaria as of 1 January 2007), **the EEA** (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway) and **Turkey**.

Contact the National Youth Agency in YOUR country for all relevant details!

A list can be found on: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/program/natage_en.html#natagen

Key documents for more information:

- **Youth in Action (2007-2013)**
http://ec.europa.eu/youth/via/index_en.html
- **Youth In Action (2007-2013): Users' Guide.**
http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/youth/programme/index_en.htm#guide
- **Youth in Action: Action 1 - Youth for Europe**

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/via/index_en.html ?