

Newsletter of the SALTO Eastern Europe & Caucasus RC 02/2007

Dear Readers,

Welcome to the 2nd/2007 issue of the Newsletter published by the SALTO Resource Centre for Eastern Europe and Caucasus.

In this Newsletter you will find information about activities aimed at the development of non-formal education and youth cooperation between Programme and Eastern European and Caucasian countries, within the framework of the European Union YOUTH in ACTION programme.

Your SALTO EECA RC Team

1. OUTLOOK on SALTO EECA activities

- 1.1 Study Visit for participants from Programme Countries "Youth work reality in Caucasus countries", Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, 23 June - 1 July 2007
- 1.2 Training Course on project management within Action 3.1 "Eastern Express", Lviv - Ukraine, 9-15 July 2007
- 1.3 Training of EVS trainers in EECA Region, Ukraine or Moldova, 15-23 September 2007
- 1.4 EECA Manual now in .pdf printable format
- 1.5 SALTO EECA Virtual Library

2. Invitations to UPCOMING events

- 2.1 Youthpass - Recognition of Non-formal Learning in Youth in Action, Plymouth - United Kingdom, 16-21 July 2007
- 2.2 Seminar "Cultural Understanding as a Conflict Resolution", Chisinau - Moldova, 22-29 July 2007
- 2.3 1 Seminar + 2 Trainings "First Step on the Road to Co-operation", Kraków - Poland, 8 September 2007 - 17 March 2008

3. Info desk

- 3.1 Call for Volunteers for a Group EVS in Romania
- 3.2 Looking for host organizations in EECA countries

4. INFORMATION on SALTO EECA RC

1. Latest developments in the SALTO EECA activities

Forthcoming SALTO EECA events

1.1 Study Visit for participants from Programme Countries "Youth work reality in Caucasus countries", Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, 23 June - 1 July 2007

Deadline for applications: 20 April!

The Study Visit "Youth work reality in Caucasus countries" is the fifth event from the series of the presentation of the youth work in Eastern Europe and Caucasian countries. This study visit is the first one heading to the Caucasus Region (Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia).

The SV focuses especially on aspects of the non-formal education development, cultural diversity and wants to encourage potential partners to set up projects and future cooperation. During the Study Visit, participants will visit youth organisations with different background and meet with local authorities responsible for youth policies.

Objectives:

- To get to know with wide range of Caucasian organisations working with young people on different levels,
- To introduce working methods of organisations with different background,
- To present cultural diversity of the region,
- To get to know organisations from different parts of Europe and Caucasus,
- To build new partnerships between Programme countries and Caucasian partners,
- To create atmosphere of common understanding between people representing different cultures, working styles, etc.
- To present profiles and experience of participating organisations
- To promote Eastern Europe and Caucasus Region among partners from Programme countries.

Working language: English

Participants: youth workers from Youth in Action Programme countries and NAs' officers.

Age limit: none

Cost: SALTO EECA provides accommodation, lodging and local transportation, return travel to Tbilisi is paid by each National Agency on the basis of their own rules.

Deadline: 20th of April

More info and on-line application form here: www.salto-youth.net/svcaucasus2007

1.2 Training Course on project management within Action 3.1 "Eastern Express", Lviv - Ukraine, 9-15 July 2007

Deadline for applications: 30 April!

EASTERN EXPRESS is a Training Course for potential **partners of Youth Exchanges and Training & Networking activities** in the frame of the Youth in Action Programme: **Action 3.1 - Cooperation with the neighbouring countries of the European Union**. EASTERN EXPRESS focuses on development of cooperation between Programme countries and **Eastern Europe and Caucasus countries**.

The EASTERN EXPRESS TC aims to enhance and to support the cooperation between organisations from both regions and in addition wants to stimulate the creation of new projects ideas and development of activities' quality.

Objectives:

- To provide information about the Youth in Action Programme and especially Action 3.1.
- To get to know with possibilities of cooperation between Programme and EECA countries within the Youth in Action Programme.
- To train in youth exchange project management.
- To explore the possibilities of support for youth exchanges' organizers (Training and Networking activities)
- To develop the necessary knowledge, skills and attitude to organise a successful youth exchange
- To bring together people working with young people in order to create new project ideas within Action 3.1 of the Youth in Action Programme.

Working language: English

Participants: youth workers from Youth in Action Programme countries and EECA region

Age limit: none

Cost: SALTO EECA provides accommodation, lodging and local transportation, travel tickets of EECA participants are also covered by SALTO EECA on the basis of tickets and invoices; travel of Programme Countries participants is covered by each National Agency on the basis of their own rules.

Deadline: 30th of April

More info and on-line application forms here www.salto-youth.net/eetc2007

1.3 Training of EVS trainers in EECA Region, Ukraine or Moldova, 15-23 September 2007

Between 15 and 23 of September 2007 we plan to organize a specific training for experienced EVS trainers representing organizations active in the EVS hosting projects in EECA region. This training aims at increasing the quality and organizational potential of EVS trainings for volunteers in Eastern Europe and Caucasus Region.

Soon we will open calls for both participants and trainers!

More information and application forms available soon here: www.salto-youth.net/evstc2007

1.4 EECA Manual now in .pdf printable format

Since the beginning of SALTO EECA work, we have collected and published on our websites the necessary internet resources about 7 Eastern European and Caucasian Countries in 4 fields:

- Main facts about the country
- Youth policy in the country
- Education system related links
- Travelling and other practical information

www.salto-youth.net/eecamanual

In 2007 we have decided to make this information wider and more practical and therefore we created leaflets containing information about each of the EECA country as well as the general information about the Eastern Europe and Caucasus region. Those materials are based on the on-line EECA Manual and mainly sourced on the free Wikipedia and Word Fact Book.

Despite the fact that those materials might be used in different context, their aim is to support youth workers and trainers during Youth in Action activities through providing current and brief information about each of the EECA country. This can be useful for event's participants from Programme Countries going to EECA region as well as hosting EECA partners.

Each colourful leaflet is divided into general information about the country (some historical facts as well as current cultural and political situation, etc.), basic information (population, area coverage, languages, etc.) and Internet resources. All leaflets also include photos, they are .PDF format, A4 each.

Download them from here: www.salto-youth.net/eecainfo

1.5 SALTO EECA Virtual Library

Looking for materials concerning youth work in general and cooperation between Programme and EECA organizations in detail?

SALTO EECA has created a Virtual Library where you may find interesting publications on-line. We will constantly develop the library and put new materials over there, anyway it will exist only if you actively use it and upload the files, so feel welcome to cooperate: <https://salto.org.pl/forum/viewforum.php?f=19&sid=71afe8b74aacf45d4e7646f922ae8ed5>

2. Invitations to UPCOMING events

2.1 Youthpass - Recognition of Non-formal Learning in Youth in Action, Plymouth - United Kingdom, 16-21 July 2007

The recognition of non-formal learning has become more and more important in the years 2005-7 all over Europe. Youthpass was planned and started in April 2005 as the strategy on validation and recognition of non-formal learning within the context of the YOUTH and Youth in Action Programmes.

The aim of the Training Course is to prepare people and organisations for the implementation of Youthpass.

Objectives of the Training Course:

- To explore the concepts and practice of recognition and validation of non-formal learning in the Youth in Action Programme.
- To compare viewpoints and opinions about the introduction of Youthpass in the different countries.
- To use the multiplying resources of the Training Course for the further implementation of Youthpass.
- To use the Training Course as a concrete example for implementing Youthpass in Action 4.3.

We are looking for participants who are:

- Interested people from organisations using the Youth in Action Programme and willing to work on recognition (maybe afterwards in co-operation with the NAs)
- Coming from Programme countries as well as coming from Partner countries (max. five participants)
- Able to communicate in English

Organizer: United Kingdom National Agency of Youth in Action and SALTO Training and Co-operation RC

Working language: English

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: none

Deadline: 18 May 2007

More details and Application form here: <http://www.salto-youth.net/find-a-training/1027.html>

2.2 Seminar “Cultural Understanding as a Conflict Resolution”, Chisinau - Moldova, 22 – 29 July 2007

Youth Generation NGO with the support of European Youth Foundation is inviting you to participate in the International Seminar “Cultural Understanding as a Conflict Resolution” in the frame of the 'All Different - All Equal' Campaign to be held between 22 and 29 July 2007 in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova.

The project is aimed at exploring cultural understanding as a conflict resolution, also the concepts and issues related to Europe culture and diversity from the perspective of young people and its relevance for the 'All Different - All Equal' European youth campaign for

Diversity, Human Rights, and Participation. Participants will have the possibility to attend workshops on conflict resolution, culture diversity, and art of theatre. By the end of the project participants will create a theatre performance and will play it to the local audience.

Organizer: Youth Generation (www.youth-generation.org)

Working language: English

Age limit: 18-25

Participant's cost: The host organisation will be responsible for the accommodation, meal, and loading. There will be a small reimbursement of international travel cost on a state budget for priority countries. There is no participation fee.

Deadline: 31 May 2007

More details and Application form here: <http://www.salto-youth.net/find-a-training/1002.html>

2.3 1 Seminar + 2 Trainings “First Step on the Road to Co-operation”, Kraków – Poland, 8 September 2007 – 17 March 2008

The project consists of 3 meetings, which are designed for all people working with youth, who have already worked with disabled youth or haven't. For all, who want to broaden their knowledge and skills, which can be used in working with disabled youth.

1st stage “You and Me First Time in Action” – seminar, participants will be able to exchange good practice, specify the problems that they face in working with disabled youth, and discuss the ways of solving them.

2nd stage “Open Yourself to Integration” – training course, the main aim of this training course is to prepare participants for working on youth projects within the frame of integration, introduce to ways and methods of working with disabled youth, and to gain skills and experience of adapting known methods to the needs of disabled people regardless of the dysfunction.

3rd stage “Sports Activity as a Tool to Encourage Youth to Take Action” - training course, the aim of this training course is to work out methods of encouraging disabled youth through sports, recreation, and tourism to be active in their societies and to demonstrate the importance of sports in the process of equalising chances, rehabilitation, and lives of disabled youth.

Organizer: Polish Association of Disabled People

Working language: English and Polish

Age limit: none

Participant's cost: 70% of travel costs (after submitting tickets), 100% visa costs;

Deadline: 22 April 2007

More details and Application form here: <http://www.salto-youth.net/find-a-training/1031.html>

3. Info desk

3.1 Call for Volunteers for a Group EVS in Romania

Youngsters without Borders Association Romania, a Non governmental organization with over 5 years experience in bi, tri and multilateral EVS projects, is launching **Call for Volunteers for a Group EVS project** that shall be submitted with 1st of JUNE 2007.

Title: Networking for European Citizenship

HEI ref: 2005 – RO - 2

Project Type: Group EVS

Hosting Period: September 2007 – May 2008: 9 months

Hosting Placement – Small urban and rural communities from Gorj County. Romania

Coordinating organization: Youngsters without Borders. Romania

Free places: 20 volunteers (2 volunteers/ partner country)

Sending Partners: Organizations from Programme Countries (EU member states, EFTA and EEA) and Neighbouring Partner Countries (South East Europe and Eastern Europe and Caucasus)

Organizer: Youngsters without Borders Association (www.tff.ro)

Deadline: 1 June 2007

More information and application form:

<https://salto.org.pl/forum/viewtopic.php?t=55&sid=8d7b97de4e94686eddf7cef9526ee4bb>

Contacts: Tel. (004-0253) 272663, office@tff.ro

3.2 Looking for host organizations in EECA countries

Polish Robert Schuman Foundation (www.schuman.org.pl) in Warsaw is looking for partner organizations in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine that would be interested to host volunteers from Poland in their organizations within the European Voluntary Service Program.

Our Foundation is interested to cooperate with you by helping to develop such projects, submitting project application to obtain funds, choosing volunteers, helping to prepare for hosting the volunteers, monitoring and evaluating the project and being responsible for the formalities linked to the “Youth in Action” Programme.

The Polish Robert Schuman Foundation has been participating in European Voluntary Service Programme for more than five years. We are regularly sending Polish volunteers abroad, hosting foreign volunteers in Poland as well as helping different organizations to involve in EVS by developing new projects together.

Lately we are also cooperating with Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia and Russian Federation within EVS Programme by sending and hosting volunteers.

If you are interested to cooperate with us and gain some more information about EVS, please feel free to contact the project coordinator Ms. Ieva Grundsteine: i.grundsteine@schuman.org.pl or +48 22 621 21 61.

4. INFORMATION on SALTO EECA RC

SALTO Resource Centre for Eastern Europe and Caucasus (EECA) was established in Poland on October 1st, 2003. The aims of the RC are to raise visibility and awareness of the **YOUTH in ACTION Programme** opportunities in Eastern Europe and Caucasus, to promote cooperation with EECA neighbouring countries (**Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine**) and to give support to NAs and youth organizations in the development of contacts, partnerships and expertise in cooperation with EECA region.

You can find this SALTO EECA Newsletter as well as previous issues in PDF version in here: <https://www.salto.org.pl/forum/dload.php?action=category&id=7>

Note:

We CANNOT take responsibility for the information and activities published in this Newsletter by parties other than SALTO EECA RC!

Please, forward this NEWSLETTER to anyone who might be interested!

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