

Meet'In EuroMed



salto|youth

Support, Advanced Learning and Training Opportunities
within the European Youth in Action programme

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SALTO-YOUTH Resource Centres with you for 10 years !



2010 marks the 10th anniversary of the SALTO-YOUTH Resource Centres Network!

10 years of providing dynamic support for National Agencies and youth stakeholders, bringing expertise and quality to training courses and final projects in the Youth in Action programme and proposing educational tools and publications.

SALTO-YOUTH Resource Centres has planned a "firework" of activities to celebrate this special year with you!

Since 2000, when the first four SALTO-YOUTH Resource Centres were established by the European Commission to oversee the implementation of the Youth in Action programme, we have provided backup to National Agencies and other stakeholders such as beneficiaries and trainers via our advice, strategy, training activities, publications, etc.

Each SALTO Resource Centre focuses on a specific priority area of the Programme and aims at enhancing cooperation between the National Agencies, NGOs, youth workers and youth leaders and others by offering useful information, resources and tools (the Training calendar, the TOY database, the Tool Box and the TCP planning board) through their website www.salto-youth.net as well as Youthnet.

10 years worth celebrating!

The network of the 8 Resource Centres met, planned and jointly prepared many surprises to celebrate our 10th anniversary...

First, we want to celebrate our ten years of existence with a special event: **the SALTO-YOUTH Firework 2010.**

It has been organised jointly by all eight SALTO Resource Centres and their hosting National Agencies as well as the National Agency of Portugal. It will be hosted by the French National Agency in **Paris** from **25th to 28th May 2010**. The main aim is to provide a space to explore the potential of the Youth in Action Programme, in the light of the new **EU strategy for youth - Investing & Empowering¹** framework. For this event, the SALTO network has selected the topics Education and Training, Employment and Entrepreneurship as important challenges for the future of societies. The adaptation and translation of these topics to the Youth in Action Programme context is an important step to making the new policy framework operational.

While this event will be the occasion to celebrate our Anniversary, we are keeping mum on the surprises in store for you...! Other activities will also be stamped "10th anniversary of SALTO-YOUTH Network",

such as the annual Tool Fair to be hosted in Venice, Italy in November 2010 and the long-term training course "Let's train with our neighbours" organised by the 3 regional SALTO in cooperation with one thematic SALTO and their hosting National Agencies.

We announced a firework of activities... SALTO-YOUTH Network will illuminate 2010 and the effects will continue to be felt in the future. ■

- SALTO Cultural Diversity RC (UK)
- SALTO Inclusion RC (Belgium-FI)
- SALTO Participation RC (Belgium-Fr)
- SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus (Poland)
- SALTO EuroMed RC (France)
- SALTO South-East Europe RC (Slovenia)
- SALTO Training and Cooperation RC (Germany)
- SALTO Information RC (Sweden)



¹ A renewed open method of coordination to address youth challenges and v toportunities and the Council Resolution of the 27th November 2009 on a renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018)

Culture connect

Art and traditional sports, vectors for intercultural dialogue

Intercultural dialogue aims to promote exchanges between peoples, cultures and enhance mutual understanding. The history of different cultures results from a large number of codes, languages and media. Our interpretation of these different cultures is based on our perceptions and our patterns of representation. To build bridges of understanding and mutual recognition, we chose to use the themes of art and traditional sports as a common basis to allow people from different backgrounds to come together, to tell and share their cultural difference. Underlying this concept is found the appearance of identity whether individual or collective.

- The art because artistic and cultural activity can refer to different value systems and encourage creativity, discovery of the diversity of forms and language arts but also because it is a personal expression that does not obey to any rule.
- The sport, often born in rural and developed through a country's specific history is acknowledged as a powerful tool of communication and mutual understanding, where everyone brings their cultural background through the distinctions of practice and rules.

The following Articles are inspired by the videos made during these 2 trainings and try to tell the spirit of them.



Art as a tool for intercultural dialogue

Since Vilnius is the 2009 European Capital of Culture, it was only natural that it was suggested by the Lithuanian National Agency to Salto EuroMed as the place for future partners to meet, discuss the role of art in youth work and create together. The seminar also provided an opportunity to meet colleagues from European and Meda NGOs and to develop an educational approach to using art to encourage and enrich intercultural dialogue in projects for young people from both sides of the Mediterranean Sea.

The training seminar gathered 26 participants from 16 countries.

Participants first got to know each other through some original ice-breaking activities, using nature as their resource bank. They were asked to take something from their natural surroundings (a reed, a leaf, a clod of earth) to introduce themselves to the others. After that, each of them drew a self-portrait, which

other participants then used to interpret their hopes and fears. Once the introductions were finished, it was time for teamwork activities, which included helping partners slide through the "Poisonous Lithuanian Spider Web", an activity designed to encourage group synergy and communication – and even the drizzling rain could not dampen their enthusiasm!

Throughout the seminar, participants were encouraged to be creative in a wide variety of workshops, starting with the 3 Monkeys that could hear, see and speak no evil (just like the traditional Japanese story) but who also had to overcome their 'handicap' and find a way to 'throw' bananas a distance of 5 metres! They were asked to sing, to dance, to improvise, to discover the environment through photography, to perform on stage and to reflect on and produce their own street art. Improvisation played a large role in the seminar, with participants being asked to give their version of 'what came next' after watching the beginning of a short movie where two men met

in a forest at dawn, apparently to fight a duel.

The idea behind all the activities was to stimulate imaginations and encourage them to see how anything, from nature to tools to traditional songs and dances, can be used to make art and facilitate intercultural exchanges and dialogue.



The traditional Organisations Fair also took place, giving participants an opportunity to learn more about the activities and aims of different associations and to look for partners for future projects. Bernard Abrignani gave input on the European Neighbourhood Policy and reminded participants of the contribution made by

YIA, which gives processes a more human face through youth exchanges, EVS, training sessions and networking to foster people-to-people exchanges.

He also focused on the vital role played by the regional SALTO offices in facilitating all kinds of projects.

Salto EuroMed activities: Focus on 2009 ▼

To see how art is being used in a more concrete fashion, participants visited four different Lithuanian NGOs and heard about their activities. The first was the Babilonas Youth Centre, which has been working with 15-20 year olds since 1993. The second was a non-governmental kindergarten called "Nendre" (the Lithuanian word for "reed"), which looks after the children of single mothers living in one of the poorest areas in the capital. The Bernardinai Youth Centre was set up for young Christians who want to be socially active and promote Christian values. Last but not least, they visited the Vilnius Children and Youth Art School, which has been organising out-of-school activities and promoting the idea of personal development through art since 1991. After a festive evening spent together with Sirvintos Children and Parents Club and learning traditional Lithuanian folk dances with the group Shok-it, it was time for participants to focus on preparations for their final performance, scheduled to take place in the streets of Vilnius on Saturday night (20/06/2009) celebrating "Let there be night!" together with thousands of citizens and guests of Vilnius. This was their opportunity to use their personal and national art forms to promote intercultural dialogue and actually experience an artistic 'happening'. The final product reflected the wide variety of cultures represented in the seminar, since the performance included Greek dancing, traditional songs, street art, and belly dancing... Bemused passer-bys were encouraged to take an active part, which some of them did with great enthusiasm!

One of the aims of the seminar team was to show how art can be used in a wide variety of ways to help people see things from another perspective – a standpoint shared by EuroMed – and judging from the creative response, they certainly succeeded. ■



Sport and games as intercultural tools for learning

It all started in the Northern Basque country (Etcharry, to be more precise) in June 2009, chosen as the seminar location for 2 peer education workshops run by PAX because of its privileged sporting environment. Sports teach values such as solidarity and team work, while games illustrate diversity and cultural awareness and a comparison of traditional games can also highlight similarities between cultures.

Participants were first introduced to the most basic form of the Basque game Pelota, using only their bare hands to throw and catch the ball. They soon realised, thanks to their sore hands, why the equipment had evolved to include gloves, rackets and helmets! They learned about how the chistera (the wicker baskets used to catch the ball) is made, a modern continuation of a traditional method, and got to play themselves and watch real teams compete in both Pelota and rugby, another sport with a long history in the region. Oiane, a young Basque woman, summed up the pride she feels in her heritage by saying that even if she comes from a "country" that is not featured on official maps and although her passport says she is Spanish, she only feels at home in the Basque country. All too often, she says, we only value something when it's gone and she for one is determined not to let her region's traditions die out.

But it wasn't all just fun and games! Back in the training room, participants were quizzed on

their knowledge of games and their country of origin, followed by more detailed explanations of traditional games and sports from participants from Armenia, Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Lithuania and Serbia...to name but a few). They also had a chance to actually play some of the sports and games, from the more complex (human baby foot) to the most basic (leapfrog!). Other activities included a visit to 2 NGOs involved in YIA projects to hear how they were progressing. The hard work was punctuated by an afternoon of surfing in Biarritz followed by a convivial and well-earned dinner to cement new friendships.

The final activity was the Traditional Games Olympics, with teams competing in traditional sports and games ranging from spinning tops to chess as a concrete way of putting what they had learned into action.

The seminar can definitely be counted a success as the 7 day session bringing together 23 young people from 18 counties (SEE, EECA, Meda and EU) generated 11 projects to be hosted in 9 different countries! ■

Salto-Youth EuroMed Team

To come: the educational report on "Art as a tool for intercultural dialogue" in our collection "Bringing both sides together" Videos of the 2 trainings are available on line: <http://www.salto-youth.net/euromedvideos/>

The LTTC « Sports and Games as intercultural tools for learning » was the 1st phase of a long term training course, after the coaching phase, the participants will meet again in Etcharry, in September 2010 to evaluate their projects!

Project ideas:

- * "Traditional Olympic Games" or "les 10 travaux d'Hercule" in France, in cooperation Lebanon, Armenia, and Basque Country (Spain);
- * "Intercultural training for sport trainers and coach: ITSCT" in Serbia, in cooperation with Malta, Jordan, Romania, France;
- * "Play ...React ...Go" in Basque Country (Spain), in cooperation with Lebanon, France, Palestine and Albania;
- * "NISE: Network for international sport and education to encourage the creation and development of international projects" in France, in cooperation with Romania, Estonia, Lithuania, Hungaria, Belgium, France, Malta, Poland, Basque Country, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, Armenia, Moldova, Belarus, Ukraine
Macedonia, Albania
- * "Hosting short term group volunteers" - using traditional games as a intergenerational link in rural area, in France, in cooperation with Ukraine, Armenia, Lebanon, Jordan, Macedonia, Malta.

Participant's point of view

What happened to me for the first time at the seminar "Art as a tool for intercultural dialogue"

Ieva Kazlauskait

It was the first time I touched an Arab or talked with a Jew and a Palestinian about their attitude to Israel, the Palestinian state and their feelings towards each other. It was the first time I communicated with Africans and was kissed by them. For the first time in my life I discussed with a Turk about what his family means to him and why he could harm another person for the sake of his family. It was the first time I embraced an Israeli feeling that each of us were simply human beings.

Many more "for the first times" happened to me at the seminar "Art as a tool for intercultural dialogue" that took place in Kernav from 15-22 June 2009. Youth leaders from 16 countries of Mediterranean and European Union came together to create, learn, enjoy, cry, laugh, dance, sing, swim, chat, sit around the fire, argue, joke and try to understand the points of view of participants from many different cultural backgrounds.

I find it difficult to describe the seminar in any other way but this emotion-saturated language. Emotions were everywhere! Loads of strong emotions along with loads of other things. The programme was very intensive and covered getting to know each other, attending workshops run by participants, trying to retain information on the conditions required for the EU to sponsor international youth projects, working in smaller groups and creating the performance for the closing event entitled "Let there be night!" I realized during the performance that I could now feel the affinity of cultures and nations and a love for human beings. After that I felt the stereotypes living in my subconscious begin to crumble and I began resisting the those that linger in the Lithuanian collective subconscious, regarding, for instance, Jews or Romany travellers (the latter were not among

the participants of the seminar, but the tolerance I developed during the seminar has been carried over to other groups). I began discussing with friends who justify some of the most persistent norms and prejudices via the mistaken logic that "if several parts are true, the whole is true as well", which allows them to judge an entire nation based on one or two negative representatives.

The day after the final performance, participants and facilitators talked enthusiastically for a long time about why we chose to perform what we did (with Sirtakis, Lithuanian dances, etc.), rather than create something new. Why did we take the simplest way? The discussion upset some participants and made others angry but it was good that the facilitators allowed us to speak for a longer time than planned. We finally got to abandon schedules and feel that we were heading in the right direction! Artistic people do not need schedules.

During the seminar, there were plenty of timetables and the days were organized minute-by-minute.

As a result the participants felt there was a lack of time for communication, though the desire for it was indescribable. We therefore sacrificed our nights – to sing, celebrate the birthday of the Estonian participant Virko, soak in a hot tub, laugh, talk and open our hearts. We slept for a couple of hours, and the lack of sleep made us even more aware. What I got in return – it may sound banal but it is the truth – was a broadening of my outlook. I "travelled" to Egypt, Turkey, Israel and Jordan, visiting Holland, Rumania, Austria, Slovakia....

My sense of tolerance and my perception of other cultures and the right of other

viewpoints to exist continues to grow. The feeling that one cannot judge a person, even though he may have done something really horrible, has begun to take root. Everyone has his own reasons and a social-traditional-moral context in which he acts, which means that people should endeavour to understand each other.

Art as a tool for intercultural dialogue is definitely worth experiencing. Creative participants working in the field of art were able to produce results; they acted and performed, played and learned. Art can help build bridges between cultures, realize one's dreams and attain personal happiness.

After the seminar I wrote to many of the other participants. I cannot forget what we have experienced together. The group was so strong, it had an inner power, warmth and love. Currently I am reading about the Arab-Israeli conflict as I am eager to understand both sides. I started to wonder, for example, about Puerto Rico, whose status is unclear with regard to USA and whose people are divided because of that. I want to understand conflicts, whatever the origin – ethnic, national, political and religious. I want peace and understanding, no more no less.

Perhaps it is not too pompous to say that this seminar helped me feel more of the world, through different eyes and from different viewpoints. ■



IEVA KAZLAUSKAIT

Inter-regional cooperation: Coordinator's point of view

Let's meet, let's work and let's evaluate... let's coordinate it! .

By Davide Tonon.

How started my adventure in Let's? One day, it was the end of 2006, I was invited to coordinate a big event, totally new because of the format and first of all because of involving people from three neighbouring regions of the European Union, "Let's meet our Neighbours and the World". The idea was in line with the aim I was working for since many years with grass root organisations: to promote the meeting and cooperation between youth organisations of EU and of other countries in other regions around the world. This cooperation is fundamental if we don't want European Union to become an isolated fortress.

The new approach of the Youth in Action Programme in 2007 was the promotion of cross regional cooperation with neighbouring countries. As a response to this process, three regional SALTOs realized that without a support - starting with offering the chance of gathering and knowing each other - this possibility of cooperation could have remained just in the pages of the User's Guide of the Programme. Then, I was on board of this adventure. Unique adventure with many dimensions: grass root projects and partnerships building, geo-political contexts, personal challenge to coordinate an ambitious project with a big number of different actors involved.

Three steps: when we build the strategy step by step. When the 3 regional SALTOs planned the Seminar "Let's meet our Neighbours and the World" nobody knew that there would be a follow up. But the great results of Let's meet in 2007 were pushing towards a continuation, so we had in 2008 Let's work and in 2009 Let's evaluate.

Sometimes we have everything clear from the beginning, but this not always happens. More often we have a vision, we follow it and we build things accordingly. This was the case of Let's: there was a vision, even if not everything was defined from the beginning. And this vision allowed building a step by step process, with two main characteristics. First one, the event joined together SALTOs and National Agencies, with an increasing degree of sharing perspectives and aims.

Second one, it allowed practitioners and their organisations - that never had contact before - to meet and develop projects in between the Let's, to meet again and strengthen the links, exchange good practices and, at the end, to build a common ground for a sustainable cross regional cooperation.

I find the whole process of 3 years cooperation an outstanding experience, with a big impact on the development of the Action 3.1. We gained new partnerships and networks, a big number of quality projects, awareness of political dimension of the global cooperation, enthusiasm and commitment of participants, new competences of youth workers and young people involved.

This is shown by statistics, but even more evident looking the good practice projects and listening to participants during the "Let's evaluate with our Neighbours".

What I just would add to this strategy is a coaching approach along the process, which could be useful for orientation of practitioners and partners during the "dark nights" of the cooperation.

To put in a nutshell, I think all the outcomes mentioned are impossible to reach with isolated activities. The Let's process is in itself a good practice that might be an inspiration when we want to reach long-term goals, to go beyond.

For me it was an unbelievable learning process during three years, meeting special people: colleagues of the team, colleagues of the promoting institutions -Hosting NAs and the Regional Saltos, people from other National Agencies and EMYUs, logistic Mac Givers, and the last but not the least, participants from diverse organisations along the regions.

We shared, we experimented, we worked hard, we laughed, we sometimes lost the point but found all at the end.

Many thanks to all of you for that unique and unforgettable experience.

P.S. But this is not the end...the Let's cycle becomes a spiral. There is a next chapter of the regional cooperation strategy already foreseen: "Let's train". ■



DAVIDE TONON

Inter-regional Youth projects

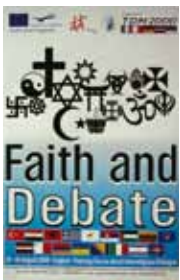
DEOR of the Inter-regional cooperation

Boostered by the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Youth in Action programme (2007-2013), regional SALTO Resource Centres began a long term cooperation strategy in 2007 with the production and dissemination of the brochure dedicated to their action 3.1 of the Youth in Action programme "Cooperation with neighbouring partner countries" and the "LET'S" training seminar adventure (2007-2009), in conjunction with the National Agencies for the Youth in Action programme hosting the 3 regional SALTO (France, Poland and Slovenia). This communication strategy will continue in 2010 (and until 2012) with the follow-up of the "Let's" project, a publication on 3 year-regional youth projects (2007-2009) to be published in 2010 and the Good Practice Project Database created by SALTO EECA to collect data on the best action 3.1 projects with neighbouring countries (youth exchanges and training and networking projects with neighbouring partner countries) and action 2 (European Voluntary Service). The database will highlight examples of successful projects and also support youth workers by promoting their projects in turn.

To whet your appetite, here are 2 examples of Youth Projects involving partners from the 3 regions. ■

FAITH AND DEBATE

Understanding cultural differences through religions... *By Angelica Perra, project manager - TDM 2000*



What?

Take 28 young people from the EU, the EuroMed Region, the South East Europe Region and the Eastern Europe and Caucasus Region and you will rapidly get an

idea of the mixture of ideas and experiences represented in our Project.

"Faith and Debate" is a Training Course that was implemented under the Youth in Action Programme and supported by the European Commission. It lasted 7 days and was designed for youth leaders and youth workers with the aim of promoting tolerance and mutual understanding among youth from different communities and religions.

Who?

Participants came from: Albania, Armenia, Malta, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Kosovo, Turkey, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Palestine and Ukraine.

They included students, experienced youth workers, volunteers, youth leaders with established families (mothers/fathers), believers, atheists... who all had one thing in common:

a strong desire to share and understand others better. The diversity of backgrounds added enormously to the variety of ideas and opinions and contributed to a better learning process.

When and where?

The project took place in Sardinia, Italy from 23rd to 30th August 2009.

It is very hot in Sardinia at that time of year, making it a location that was both suitable for the Course while also facilitating participation and keeping everyone's energy levels high. When working with people from such different backgrounds (educational, historical and social) and addressing topics such as "interfaith dialogue" and "religions", the working environment can make a significant difference, which is why we chose it with such care...

Background to the Project

TDM 2000 has been implementing projects to promote intercultural understanding and dialogue for the past 9 years. We have organised and taken part in hundreds of projects all over Europe: from Scandinavia to Israel, Portugal to Russia, Estonia to Greece, the UK to Azerbaijan. We have learned about situations we had no idea existed and had the

opportunity to discover very different cultures and give hundreds of people the opportunity to join us in this amazing and educational adventure...

Our projects have been documented and implemented so as to share these realities with other young people and open their minds towards a better understanding of the world and its peoples. After initially focusing on cultural understanding, we later realised we would have to include religious beliefs as well. During a project that took place in Slovenia in 2008, we came up with an idea for a project in conjunction with some of our partners.

Partnership...

The partners continued to work on the project idea after they left Slovenia and kept in contact. We wanted something special, a project that would attract media attention and also interest people in general. In a period when religions are often held responsible for the unresolved conflicts between countries and people, we felt the need to stress the importance of dialogue and mutual understanding to encourage peaceful cohabitation between people residing in a multi-cultural and consequently multi-religious community.

Salto EuroMed activities: Focus on 2009 ▼

We invited other reliable and interested partner NGOs to participate, particularly those from countries where there are still 'unresolved conflicts' and with different religions. Our aim was to bring them together to show that it is possible to maintain dialogue, to communicate and even to propose strategies for further cooperation between people who are supposed to hate each other for historical reasons.

How?

The activities implemented were based on non formal education. We designed simulations, debates and presentations. Participants worked in small groups. We invited various speakers representing civil society and churches to answer participant questions. The speakers also took part in a working group session.

Because we believe in young people...

The course gave participants the possibility to improve and increase their understanding and knowledge of the variety of existing religions and to develop some tools and actions that could be implemented at local level to highlight and prevent episodes of intolerance, racism or phobic reactions.

Impact

The project was very successful. It had a powerful impact on the local community and was mentioned on the news several times. We also received requests for information about these kinds of activities from other young people. We are convinced that the speakers who participated in the sessions learned a lot, especially in terms of personal growth. They got an opportunity to actually experience how non formal education works and what it can accomplish.

They could see the effects of this methodology on the learning process for participants.

What next?

We are ready to take on new challenges, to build new ties of cooperation between Europe and its neighbours, to open our frontiers to the rest of the world... ■



ANGELICA PERRA
Project Manager
TDM 2000



Pool of trainers: Gianluca Massimiliano Frongia (TDM 2000), Duncan Muscat (TDM 2000 Malta) and Angelica Perra (TDM 2000).

PROMOTING MINORITY YOUTH EMPOWERMENT IN EUROPE

Training and Networking

General information

A 6-days training course in Albania for 28 youth workers from 3 neighbouring regions (EECA, SEE, EuroMED) and EU countries. Project granted on centralised level by EAC Executive Agency.

Target group

The training course connected participants from Eastern Europe and Caucasus, South East Europe, Mediterranean countries as well as European Union. It had a good balance of participants in terms of their experience - some had extensive international work experience with migrants and minorities, others were new to the field.

Main activities

The training methodology was based on non formal education, encouraging participants to be active and contribute with their experience, expertise and creativity. The activities and discussions were built in a way that allowed the

less experienced participants to make a strong input in bringing out opinions to the table that people who work in the field often don't consider: their questions and comments were crucial for discussions. The extensive knowledge about the migration and immigration patterns and the minority experiences of 13 countries were discussed in the project allowing the participants to learn about the migration issues in different areas of Europe.

Outcomes and learning points

The training increased the awareness about the different implications of the phenomenon of minorities and migration and used different models for integration of minorities in society. As well, training aimed to empower youth workers to gain competences how to include young people from minorities in community life. Comparing different models of minority inclusion in European Union, South East Europe, Caucasus and Mediterranean countries was a challenging experience and young people



profited a lot. After the training our awareness about the different implications of the phenomenon of minorities and migration rose and we learnt different models for integration of minorities in societies.

Challenges and how to overcome them

The activities and discussions were built the way that they allowed less experience participants to make inputs in bringing out opinions to the table that experienced people who work in the field often don't consider. Their questions and comments were crucial for driving discussions.

Lead organisation

Walk Together, Albania ■

Partners

Albania, Armenia, Egypt, Germany, Israel, Italy, Lebanon, Lithuania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovenia, Turkey.

Participant's point of view



Hello!

My name is Gledis Kallogjeri and I am just an ordinary girl you could pass tomorrow in the street without a second glance. What you might not know is that by helping out my community as best I can, and belonging to a great NGO such as "Walk Together", I am trying to become a better person. I recently participated in several training courses, including "Promoting Minority Youth Empowerment in Europe". I found it very informative and creative as well as lots of fun. As a general rule, such activities offer a great experience.

I really enjoyed the training course as there were participants from all over the world - 14 different countries, which is quite a few. The interesting part was that there were just 2 of us from each country. We were all from different places, with different backgrounds and different perspectives, which made it all the more interesting. It was simply marvellous to find out how special each culture was.

We discussed a lot of different topics during the workshops. We spoke about minorities, and migration issues - something we experience everyday. As participants were from totally different backgrounds, I came to understand that migration is a complicated process that affects society in different ways. It can have both positive and negative effects.

We agreed that some of these effects are difficult to manage, but it is important to avoid social exclusion and to try to establish communication between the initial culture of the migrant and the culture in which he currently lives.

When speaking of cultures, we took part in activities that facilitated communication between participants. The training created a kind of cultural mix that made it really interesting to see how similar we all are and to realise that what we all ultimately want is to live in a peaceful and understanding environment.

My advice to you is to get rid of your prejudices, and see things from a new perspective, the European one!

My thanks to YOUTH IN ACTION, which is a great programme that accompanies us on the road to building a world of better understanding.

PS : A big hug to all my new friends and greetings to all their countries with their unique and colourful cultures: Macedonia, Armenia, Russia, Israel, Lebanon, Egypt, Germany, Italy, Romania, Slovenia, Malta, Turkey, Lithuania. Last but not least, hello to all the other countries and cultures I am looking forward to getting to know as soon as possible!



Sustainable Environment: participant's point of view

Protecting the Mediterranean Environment «Youth will make the difference!»

By Deniz Ölçek - denizolcek@gmail.com

Once again, sailing boats took to the Mediterranean Sea to protect the environment!!!

Participants from all around the Mediterranean Sea got together in the island of Serifos to make a real difference for the environment, to share their experiences and knowledge, to develop eco-friendly ideas and to establish concrete projects for a sustainable and peaceful world.

Last September, a long-term training course on the environment organised by the Salto-Youth EuroMed Resource Centre in cooperation with the National Agencies of Greece and Cyprus for the "Youth in Action" Programme was launched on the island of Serifos in Greece. Participants from 15 different Mediterranean countries took part in this unique experience.

In addition to the points in common with the "Protecting the Mediterranean Environment" training course from last year, the new version uses a different format called Long-Term Training Course. It covers three main steps, each of which will be implemented during the year and is expected to have a different kind of efficiency. The first phase was completed last September in Greece and the 2nd and 3rd phases should be completed by December 2010.

The 1st phase was very informative, energising, motivating and enjoyable for all of us, and I believe that Greece, with its atmosphere, music and delicious local tastes, was the perfect place for this kind of activity.

After spending our first night in Pireaus, we moved on by boat to Serifos, one of the islands in Northern Cyclades. Even the way we travelled was in keeping with the concept

of the training! The wind was our mobilising energy. The sea scented sweet breeze and the dance of our boat in the waves pulled us all into this magnificent journey and we began to realize we were in the middle of a unique experience.

After arriving on the island and having some introductory warm-up activities in the first few days, we started to go deeper and deeper into environmental issues and national



policies in EuroMed areas. Each participant presented brochures, posters, booklets etc. detailing their countries' current situation. We also discussed the main problems in both national and international legislations on the environment (and more especially regarding the Mediterranean region) and the NGOs, foundations, institutions, stakeholders who are already involved in the implementation of ecological ideas and practices. The more we learned, the more we realised the urgency of doing something about the main environmental issues such as water pollution, desertification, air pollution, deforestation, which in turn can generate larger-scale issues such as global warming or water depletion.

In addition to adding to our knowledge, we were also active participants who learnt by doing throughout the training course. We divided into three groups to gather environmental facts about Serifos Island. With each group focusing on one of three topics

(Garbage, Energy and Water Management), we started to see the island differently.

During the research phase, each group visited the facilities linked to their topic and had the opportunity to interview local people and officials from the municipality and schools. The water management group visited the island's water filtering station and waste management centre, while the garbage group visited the places where garbage was collected and treated. All the groups shared the information they had gathered via creative presentations and workshops. They also shared their suggestions for improving environment management on the Island. The session concluded with the setting up of projects and partnerships to enable participants to take some real action in their own regions.

Eight different projects covering issues such as permaculture, organic farming, eco-fashion, biological diversity, environmental ethics and sustainable development were introduced. Boosted by the strong motivation, technical information and incredible memories we acquired in the beautiful island of Serifos, we have all been working hard since we returned home.

It's now time for action! We are currently in the middle of the 2nd phase (the Coaching phase), in which we get technical support from our trainers while advancing our project proposals.

All of us are highly motivated and looking forward to successfully implementing our projects, prior to the final evaluation phase to be held next December in Greece.

Till then, it's back to work for all of us! ■



DENİZ ÖLÇEK

Group sessions

Energy group research

Aim of the research:

Study the status of the energy in the Island. Discovering realities, foot print & provide recommendations.

Objectives:

Understands The current status of electricity the Island
Understands the new proposal of installing the Aeolic Park
Have the local community views
Have the Government view
Draw the team own vision on the project
Combined the outcomes
Propose a recommendations

Followed methodology:

Brain storming on the action plan i.e. time frame
Interviews
Meetings
Site" field visits"
Filming "Documenting"
Engaging the whole group so as to get aquatinted in due course.
Open discussion
Reporting.

Serifos Footprint

Each resident of this island produces 20,5 kg of CO2 every day and if we should translate this to money it would be 0,36 euros per day.
So the carbon footprint of Serifos is 8,1 ,a small number if we compare it with whole Greece's carbon footprint which is 13,7.

Water Management group research

Aim of the research:

Research is there a problem with water in the island of Serifos, and the possible solutions.

Objectives:

discover and show the footprint and the reality of the island of Serifos
Recommendations workshop

Followed methodology:

Morning session of the group: Questions on environmental policy; type of sources; resources; population, amount of water, saving, purpose of use; pollution; purification (water treatment), awareness and involvement of citizens; education; places to visit;
Meetings and interviews (Socrates, principal of a school in Livadi; Adonakis, municipality advisor, Paskalis, Hotel manager; Waiter; Pharmacist and people in the street)
Visited places (Dam, Station for water treatment, Tanks)

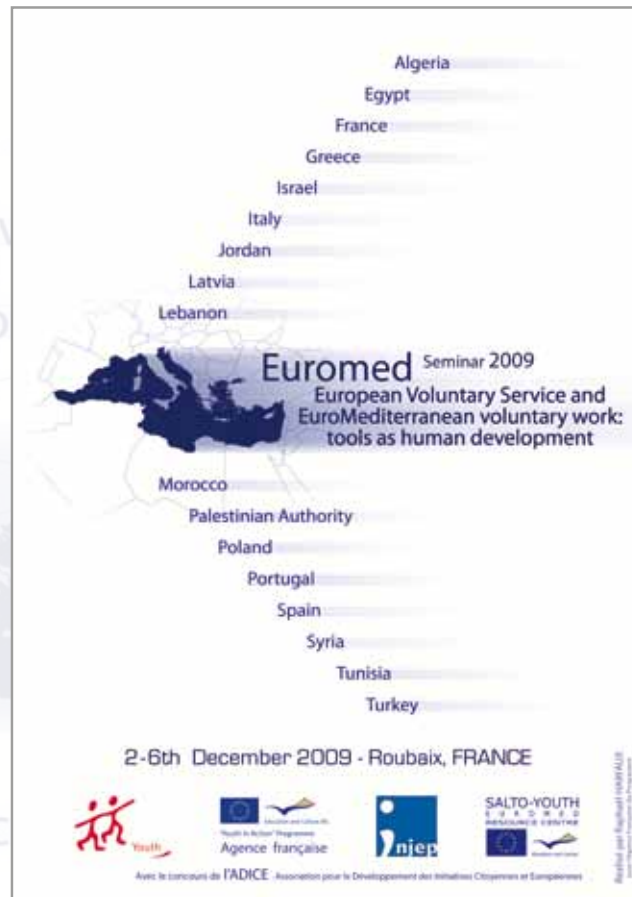
Major Answers

"There is not problem with water"
"There is no problem with pollution"
"Rules for using the water
- there are not yet"



Salto EuroMed activities: Focus on 2009 ▼

Conference EuroMed and European Voluntary Service Tools for human development



COORDINATOR'S POINT OF VIEW

Introduction by Sylvain Abrial

This event can be seen as a mixture of conference/seminar with some training elements. The programme was conceived according to the following logic:

Day 1 "Voluntary work in the EuroMediterranean framework" was about creating the conditions of a good exchange of practices among the group. The aim was to enter the topic by a first exploration and confrontation of visions of voluntary work in EuroMediterranean area, including first conclusions about EVS impact and contribution of voluntary work to various societal issues.

Day 2 "Political and strategic dimensions" aimed at exploring the role and place of volunteering in the development of youth policies in Mediterranean partner countries, or European policies in EU. After the input of researchers, the presentation of a concrete experimentation demonstrated the possible combination of different programmes for a strategic development of voluntary service within a sustainable North-South cooperation network. After that and based on an exchange of good practices, participants had the tools to estimate the impact of Voluntary service at different levels.

On day 3 "cooperative and educational dimensions", it was time to put all exchanges and outcomes into perspectives, with a strong emphasis on cooperation and on educational process of voluntary service. Conditions were provided to create partnerships, to develop strategies of cooperation, to approach if on a global way.

In other words, it was time to think about voluntary service as a real tool for human development! ■



SYLVAIN ABRIAL

PARTICIPANTS' POINT OF VIEW

Testimony from Sally Salem, Free lance Youth trainer

(Egypt) - salem.sally@gmail.com



SALLY SALEM

"EuroMediterranean Voluntary work specifically EuroMediterranean Voluntary Service between both sides of the Mediterranean is a long and tiring process but the outcomes are sure worth the trial".

This is a phrase I said 3 years ago as a trainer (but also as an EVS myself) in one of the Salto Training courses on EVS called Education and Civilization. I still believe this phrase is true, the number of projects done within this framework shows that many other youth workers/leaders believe strongly in the first part of this phrase "EVS between.... process" that they never try to reach or "arrive" to its second part " but the outcomes are sure worth the trial".

But why is it the case? And what are young people missing and youth leaders missing on their young people by not exploring further this interesting framework?

Make no mistake about it, the answer is A LOT!

Why?
Because EVS is a tool for Human Development.

Using this title, Salto EuroMed conducted a 3 day seminar in Roubaix, France- December 2009. During the seminar many aspects of European Voluntary Service were explored, namely the different connotations/definitions of volunteering and the connections done between active participation of young people of both gender in society and EVS, the socio cultural political dimension that is related to this framework of cooperation as well as the limitations and triggers that meet the implementation of EVS from the initiation period all the way through the implementations.

There is incredible and great work that has been done. With enthusiasm and all the technologies that we have today ranging from mobiles, emails, to skype, facebook, and twitter. We are definitely in a good "position" to cooperate successfully. We were shown the good work done by our hosting organization ADICE together with some other Mediterranean organizations in North Africa. Yet we should not confuse "positioning" from "arrival", and here I am going to quote the

black American activist Al Sharpton when he said "When I left the US and began my flight to London, I got on the plane and we got over some turbulence midway in the ocean, it was shaky and scary then we were in a better position and things got better and I could see the skyline of London, I didn't get off the plane because we were in a better "position" and I could see the skyline of London. I didn't get off the plane until the plane landed or "arrived" to our designated destination". So until we arrive to our designated destination, until youth workers/leaders arrive to the second part of the above phrase "but the outcomes ...", there is a lot of work that needs to be done.

Such was the message delivered to us the participants during the seminar; we need to look at what we have to work with, which is a lot! And we need to work on our own doubts to arrive to our designated destination, to the second part of the phrase. ■

Testimony from Stefanos Stefanidis, Youth worker, E.U. programs coordinator

(Greece)
Hellenic Association of Informatics (HAI)
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STEFANOS STEFANIDIS

Volunteerism!
It's impressive but my experience with the volunteerism (I began in 1998) continues to offering new experiences.

Attendance in seminars related with this subject all the time looks as repetition of already known topics. Rules of Youth in Action program, technical topics of management etc. However, the magical think is that each time I learn something new. A dimension that I had not thought, experiences that other youth workers deposit, challenges concerning the reality of today and the needs of our societies. Each time something new brings freshness in already known thoughts and as travels invite us in a new world.

This is a similar adventure that we lived, us, the 27 youth workers in last December (2-6) in the seminar "EuroMediterranean Voluntary work as tool for the human development", organised by the French National Agency for the Youth in Action programme in cooperation with the SALTO-YOUTH EuroMed Resource Centre with the logistical support of ADICE, local organisation in Roubaix (France).

Participants from Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Portugal, Turkey, Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia with

representatives from the France and Greek N.A. and SALTO Unit staff and trainers try to define with fresh eye what is the meaning of Volunteer work today.

Even if the duration of the seminar has limited the dynamics of the team, it gave the possibility in all of us to examining a lot of subjects, in theoretical base with lectures and also concerning the experiences and good practices of our work with debates and workshops.

If we examine the breadth of knowledge that are required for all that we dealt in the youth work we will realise that the world today has more challenges and requires a good level of theoretical background particularly in sectors that are related with the intercultural dialogue and the preparation of volunteers to cross over the North or South of Mediterranean sea.

With this in mind the topics analyzed, dealing with "EVS and EuroMediterranean cooperation" (lecture Asuman Goksel), "Political dimension of EuroMediterranean voluntary work" (Lectures: Jean-Claude Richez and Lahcen Haddad), "Strategic dimension of EuroMediterranean voluntary work" (Presentation of experience: Djamel Benia, ADICE) and "International Volunteering and non formal education" (Presentation from Gilles Baccala) focused to cover our needs and update our knowledge about the situation in the Mediterranean partner countries and also the conditions and the youth policies in this area.

However, very important it was also the participant's debates and discussions in workshops, covered a line of topics as "Exploring Voluntary work, Limits and triggers of EuroMed cooperation in voluntary work", "Political impact of EuroMediterranean Voluntary Work" and "Good practises of EuroMediterranean voluntary work". Main point from these debates is the agreement that the basic aim of voluntary work is the human development at social and personal level and the most important, local needs can be dealt with by the local community. External factors can contribute but it's not the solution related to the volunteer work. Particularly the last ascertainment is important because a lot of NGO's work in the Mediterranean area. Depending on the Pyramid of needs at local level, the cooperation among the Programme and Mediterranean partner countries can (might) be an answer to some of these. Beyond all the challenge of our work as youth workers is our daily contact with the society and the young persons. No one say that is easy to keep alive the flame of volunteerism. However, as said sometimes ago the wise Chinese Lao Tzu: Do the difficult things while they are easy and do the great things while they are small. A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step. ■

Salto EuroMed activities: Focus on 2009 ▼

Study on European Voluntary Service (EVS) in Euro-Med Region

SALTO-YOUTH EuroMed Resource Centre plans a new collection of publications in 2010 « STUDIES » and the first one will deal with voluntary work and EVS. The author, Asuman Göksel, used the SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis tool and conducted a survey among ex-volunteers to analyse the situation of EVS in EuroMed region.

Based on the outcomes of the SWOT analysis, it appears that the EuroMed EVS action has both positive aspects and other to be improved.

Indeed, most of limits and threats come from political issues, as well as getting visa and political instability but also the lack of flexibility and adaptability of EuroMed Youth Programme, an inefficiency of visibility of EVS action, and a real need of preparation of hosting and sending organisations

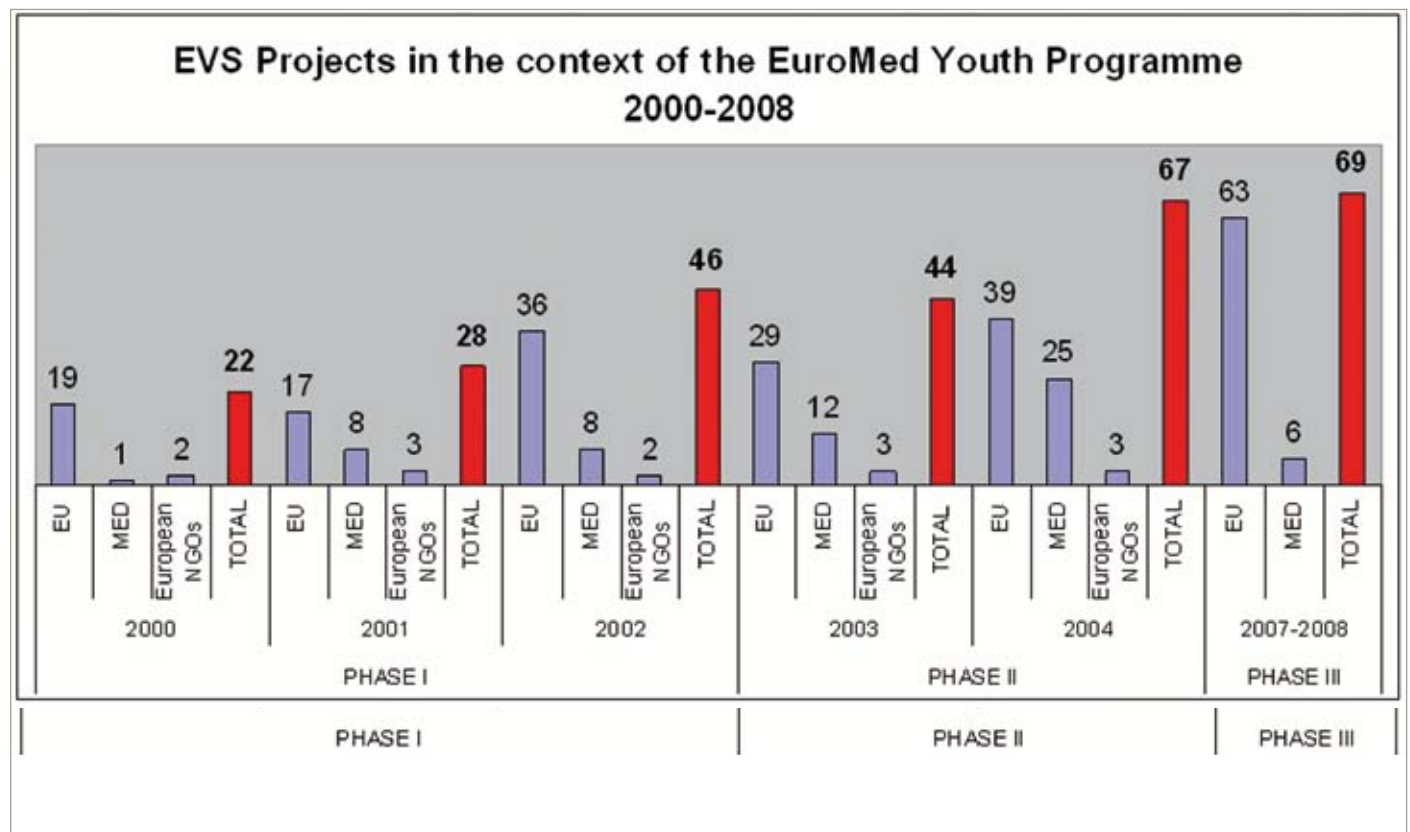
particularly about socio-cultural and economics issues of Mediterranean region. However, it is clear that EuroMed EVS activity contributes to intercultural learning, the personal development of young people, and it brings new ways of working to hosting organisations, improves their local impact and enhances networking. Moreover, many opportunities are designed for the future both on political and technical levels (European recognition, Mediterranean hosting country) and also cultural, cooperation and networking opportunities will still be there!

EuroMed EVS in Numbers!

A closer look at the data referring to the number of EVS projects and participants of those EVS projects gives valuable insights for further development of EVS in the context of the EuroMed Youth Programme. EuroMed Youth Programme throughout

Phase III shows that EVS has been the least favourable action for youth organisations, compared to Youth Exchange and Support Measures projects. This data also points out the clear need to promote EVS action among all its stakeholders sending and Host Organisations, as well as young people as the volunteers, in both European and Mediterranean partner countries.

It is a positive development that the number of EVS projects has constantly been increasing every year. However, a striking point is that it is more the European NGOs which apply for the projects. This provides a valuable input for the development of the EVS action in the future: There is a clear need to encourage and equip Mediterranean NGOs in order to increase the number and quality of the EVS projects to be submitted by the Mediterranean partners.

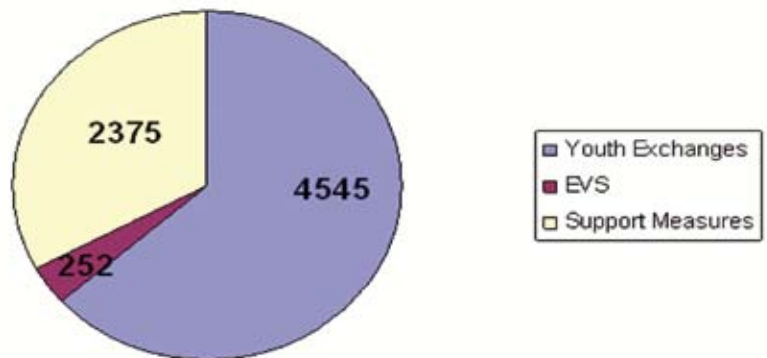


■ Salto EuroMed activities: Focus on 2009 ▼

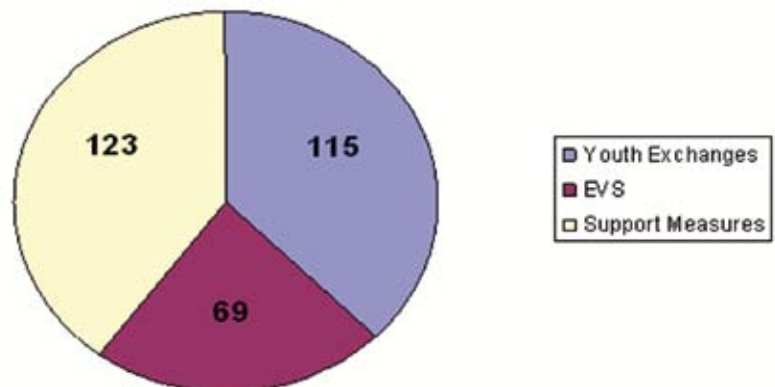
However, the proportion of EVS and EVS participants among all three actions of the EuroMed Youth Programme throughout Phase III shows that EVS has been the least favourable action for youth organisations, compared to Youth Exchange and Support Measures projects. This data also points out the clear need to promote EVS action among all its stakeholders sending and Host Organisations, as well as young people as the volunteers, in both European and Mediterranean partner countries. ■

The video of the seminar is available in our Video gallery <http://www.salto-youth.net/euromedvideos/>

**Number of Participants in EuroMed Youth III
2007-2008**



**Number of Projects in EuroMed Youth III
2007-2008**



Quotes from volunteers

"It helps breaking stereotypes within European cultures."

"It provides great learning opportunities for all learning partners mainly about different cultural perspectives, working style, living style, time perception, family relations."

"Euro-Med EVS may help the young people to build her/his personality during her/his stay in the host country. Not to mention, its role in entrenching the self-reliance spirit in the youth."

"Lack of socio-cultural sensitivity; limited adjustment to cultural and socio-economics differences."

"It does not really offer opportunity to all kind of youth to travel."

"Lack of flexibility and adaptability."

"The idea of discovering the richness of cultural and educational differences."

Cooperation and networking

Participant's testimony

How SALTO-YOUTH has made a difference... in Plunge?! *By Lina Vosyliūtė*

It is white and cold winter evening here in the small Lithuanian town of Plunge. The SALTO-YOUTH network report on activities implemented in 2008 is in front of me on the table. It brings back a lot of warm memories, especially as there is a picture of the participants from the training course entitled "Education and Civilizations", which was held in Malta from 3 to 11 May 2008, on the cover. A long time ago, I hear you say?! Maybe, but those dates remain special for me.

When a friend brought me the report, I was really surprised to see our faces on the front cover. We wondered if it was some kind

of an exceptional training course for the SALTO-YOUTH Resource Center or whether the editors just chose the picture for purely design reasons? I don't know for sure, but I do have my personal take on the question.

It was one of the most valuable and inspiring training courses I have ever attended (and I have attended a lot, sometimes I think even too many). This course was designed to realize and concretize the links between education and civilization and test whether they are a driving force or a brake to the qualitative development of the Euro-Mediterranean voluntary service.

We tested out the idea this summer in

Plunge – "we" being the cultural association "Saulute", the childcare agency "Cyrulis" and NGO "Krantas". Our idea came into being when three different initiatives came together into one project. Lina, the project coordinator from the childcare agency "Cyrulis", wanted to organize a group European Voluntary Service (EVS) project, from which the local community of Plunge would benefit practically.

Members of the cultural association "Saulute" wanted to build a clay or straw house to hold their meetings. And me, another Lina from the NGO "Krantas", suggested not confining ourselves to the



■ Salto EuroMed activities: Focus on 2009 ▼

European dimension and instead invite participants from Mediterranean countries, which would enrich the project in the terms of cultural diversity. Three different ideas became one project, which was approved.

On 1st July 2009, a project called "Contact with different cultures through getting to know heritage" was launched. This group EVS project hosted 11 volunteers from 6 different countries - France, Jordan, Israel (but the participant would prefer us to say Palestine, so we respect his decision), Italy, Spain and the UK. Algeria was supposed to be on this list, but unfortunately the volunteer from Algeria had visa problems, so he was not able to join us.

The group EVS project wanted to focus on the environment and culture. The environmental theme was covered by practical work on an eco-farm – picking and cutting herbs, learning how to make various healing teas. Alternative building was another central activity of this project. Our volunteers, led by experienced architects, built a straw house, which, because of the changeable and rainy Lithuanian weather, wasn't covered with clay. Volunteers not only had ecological workshops, they also tried out a "green" lifestyle as well – using bikes, sorting rubbish and living in tents.

Vilnius was the European capital of culture this year and Plunge was nominated as the culture capital of Lithuania. Our project's cultural events also had the honour of being included in the official programme of "Plunge – culture capital of Lithuania". The cultural theme, which was crucial for this

project, was developed in the opening and final events for the local community. Our volunteers took part in a «Living Library» event, where locals were given and used an opportunity to break the stereotypes about Arabs, Muslims, black people, and other groups that are often discriminated against. Furthermore, volunteers enjoyed the variety of events held in Plunge (exhibitions, modern art performance, national anthem singing event, etc.) and became a part of its cultural life.

All in all, this project had a huge added value for volunteers personally and for the community of Plunge as a whole. For the majority of volunteers, this project was first an intercultural experience, which has contributed to their personal development, communication skills, knowledge of environmental issues, alternative building and other civilizations. In the local community, there was raised awareness of Euro-Med context cultures and more particularly focus was put on combating prejudices about the Muslim religion and women's role in the Arabic world. Furthermore, local people were encouraged to choose products from eco-farms and alternative building was shown to be not only possible, but also cheap and sustainable.

We also planned the promotion of the results and were glad to have done so, because there were so many things we wanted to share and we also wanted to encourage others to take advantage of an EVS opportunity, to make Euro-Med projects, to build alternatively and to cooperate with

different organizations. So our outcome, in the form of a photography exhibition called "One month of volunteering in Plunge: from the idea to the result" was shown in Plunge and continues to tour neighbouring towns.

The project didn't end there either, since the closing conference of "Plunge – cultural capital of Lithuania" took place today (17th December), where volunteers from the Euro-Mediterranean region and their contribution was mentioned and evaluated once again by our local government.

Our test in Plunge to see if civilization is a driving force or a brake to the qualitative development of Euro-Mediterranean voluntary service has helped us find an answer. Different civilizations – Arabic world, Western and Eastern Europe - were a driving force in terms of public attention, the enthusiasm of organizers and the knowledge acquired by volunteers themselves. It was a brake, in the sense of the red tape it creates.

Instead of a conclusion, I would like to paraphrase what B. Abridani said in Malta: "If you cannot do a Euro-Med project, then don't!" I would prefer to say "Choose more ambitious ways and you'll come up with better qualitative results". ■



Trainers, participants and partners... Don't hesitate to follow the example of Lina and send us your testimony on what Salto EuroMed and the Youth in Action or EuroMed Youth programmes brought in your professional and personal life!

You can send your contribution by mail to euomed@salto-youth.net or register your project into the regional SALTO database http://www.salto-youth.net/NPC_good_practice_projects/



Hosting National Agency point of view

TOOL FAIR : the key to feel in the heart of the movement of Youth in Action

By the Portuguese National Agency



In a time that the Portuguese National Agency is starting the evaluation of the Youth in Action Programme's implementation in Portugal, we are receiving very good signs that the Portuguese Youth is really involved in building a new Europe for all, through this important instrument at their disposal.

One of the greatest signs occurred during the Tool Fair – IV Edition. We are proud that we could involve the entire local community and a big part of stakeholders in the youth field at national level during the preparation and implementation of the activity. In fact the local youngsters involved as volunteers (about sixty from a professional school) in whole event constituted an added value for the activity, not only in terms of all the help they provided, but for the great pedagogical experience to these youngsters through the contact with people from so many countries.

The Portuguese Youth Organizations have had its own space too. Beyond the participation in the event of its representatives they could exhibit the projects in a fair organized during the event. This occasion together with the traditional "open market" of the Tool Fair permitted one interesting space of exchange. There was a great atmosphere: in a building that used to be a Kings' palace, the participants could count with large and beautiful rooms.

Also important was the "umbrella" and support of our government, through the presence of the Secretary of State for Youth and Sports. The presence of the politicians in this kind of events, that gather people

who lead in the field directly with the youngsters and its problems, can positively influence the youth policies.

Relevant was also the commitment of the local entities that supported Tool Fair since the very beginning. The Mayors of Évora and Reguengos, the Regional Direction of the Portuguese Youth Institute, the local media, the professional school Epral and so many others entities that were fantastic on the enthusiasm they put to receive this activity.

When the Portuguese National Agency agreed to receive the Tool Fair we knew it was a great challenge due the dimension of such event and the success it was in the last years. Now is time to evaluate and we are sure that we have "won the bet". We gathered so many experienced people in such a beautiful place, as is Évora (UNESCO Heritage Centre), with good results in terms of presentation and innovation of the tools in the framework of the Youth in Action programme, with good conditions to the participants, a great involvement of the local community and spaces to allow participants to exchange good practices, and have some fun too.

Furthermore we were successful in introducing some new components in the Tool Fair. It is the case of the Youth in Action Photo Contest. With a great participation, more than 120 contestants, and with big quality of the almost 300 sent photos, this inedited competition is an experience that Tool Fair can keep in the future. This component can even become an important part of the fair.

Considering that the image is always present in youth projects, playing important roles, as a mean of communication, dissemination and exploitation of the results, objects of art

and creativity, between others, the image is also a tool that can be present with all its techniques. That is why that the audiovisual materials, broadly speaking (photos, videos, multimedia materials), through a contest or any other way, may be a new and important part of future Tool Fairs.

Also inedited was the possibility that we had to transmit alive via internet all the event, thanks the commitment of a volunteer group of youngsters in a learning process. This experience permitted to record in video all the presentations and the images will still available in the official site created to the Tool Fair IV (www.toolfair4.org).



In sum we can say that the expectations were surmounted. The Tool Fair IV was a big step on the learning process of the National Agency

Staff. During the last two years we organized important events, with relevance to the International Training Courses on Non Formal Learning, Youth in Action as a Tool to lead with unemployment among youth, the inclusion of youngsters with fewer opportunities and others activities in partnership with the SALTO network. However the Tool Fair IV was the activity that most tested our capacity to be in the centre of this great movement that is Youth in Action.

That is why Tool Fair will never leave Portugal. We keep the smile of the participants, thousands of images, some tiredness to recover, the record of very interesting tools, the testimony of a very good Team from Salto, and the remembrance of a dynamic atmosphere where we could really see Youth in Action! ■



The French National Agency for the Youth in Action programme plans a **National Tool Fair** in 2010... follow the news in our Newsletter EuroMed Info. <http://www.salto-youth.net/NLEuromedinfo/>



The TOOL FAIR V will be hosted by the Italian National Agency for the Youth in Action programme, in Venice from 17 to 20 November 2010. To get more information on previous editions and the next one, visit our website <http://www.salto-youth.net/saltotoolfair/>



Salto Youth EuroMed strategy 2010



Strategy in 3 words: EuroMed, Cooperation and Tools!

Salto EuroMed prepares its yearly workplan based on the needs and objectives clearly expressed by National Agencies for the Youth in Action programme, European Commission guidelines, trainers and former trainees through our external evaluation.

Our strategy in 2010 will be developed on 3 main axes:

1 - The EuroMed region, where we will try to adhere to the biannual rhythm of the new « EuroMed Youth IV » programme;

2 - Inter-regional cooperation: the 3 regional SALTO-YOUTH resource centres want to continue their cooperation initiated in 2007 with the launch of the "Let's... with our neighbours" story;

3 - Educational tools: via the TOOLBOX and the TOOLFAIR, we will continue to grow our strategy on the development and dissemination of tools and the highlighting of good practices.

It will focus on and highlight the following main characteristics:

1 prioritized thematic: sustainable development. This topical issue concerns many European and Mediterranean countries. The environment and sustainable development are also priorities of the Union for Mediterranean and a cross-disciplinary priority for many governments;

1 prioritized action: EuroMediterranean Voluntary Service (EVS). In the continuation of the strategy developed in 2006 and the EVS Odyssey, EVS is still a priority and we do believe in the positive impact of this action on volunteers, NGOs and intercultural sharing;

1 specific methodology: the Long-Term Training Course (LTTC) project oriented. Developed in 3 phases, the LTTC has been tried and tested and we have confidence in its efficiency.

The first phase is dedicated to the thematic and networking, the second phase is the coaching phase where participants develop their project with the support of the trainers and the final phase is the evaluation phase of projects even if they are not approved by a National Agency. The aim is to understand what works and what doesn't.

Moreover, the long-term training course requires long-term cooperation with the hosting National Agencies involved, thus improving the relationship and the supportive role of SALTO.

2 new collections of publications: Studies and research, where the first deals with "volunteering in EuroMed" and the second focuses on "Sustainable development"; and Practical guides, to accompany the strategy with tools. One will be on "EVS" to complete the Study and research on

"Volunteering in EuroMed" and the second will be on "Coaching " (2011) based on the Long-term training course format. Moreover, we plan to launch a newsletter dedicated to Educational tools to support this strategy. In addition, our collection of educational reports « Bringing both sides together » will be enriched by a new educational report on « Art as a tool for intercultural dialogue ». Previous reports are still available online and some are available in hard copy.

Our aim is to improve project quality by providing the highest quality tools and coaching possible.

Hereafter is the overview of our 2010 activities. A description of each is available on our website www.salto-youth.net/euromed. Look carefully at the aim and the objectives of these activities and if your profile fits one or several of them, don't hesitate to apply online.

Looking forward to meeting you soon!

Salto-youth EuroMed Team ■



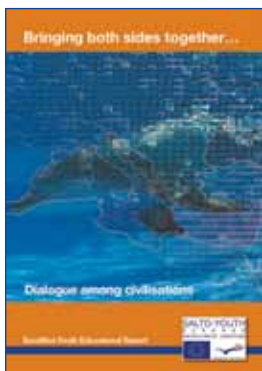
SALTO-YOUTH EuroMed activities for 2010

SALTO-YOUTH EURO MED RESOURCE CENTRE	EuroMed	Inter-regional cooperation (EECA, EuroMed, SEE)	tools
Long Term Training Courses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * EVS as a tool for active citizenship (Spain). * Hand in hand for a sustainable future (Portugal). * Traditional Sports and Games (France). * Sustainable environment (Greece) 	* Let's train with our neighbours (France)	
Trainings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * EuroMed essentials: Challenge of EuroMed Cooperation and Geopolitical issues (Greece) * EuroMed Training essentials for beginners (2011) 	* Empowering women (France)	* Training essentials (Turkey)
Events	* Our White Sea II (Malta)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * TOOL FAIR V (Italy) * National Tool Fair (France)
Educational Reports and Practical Guides <i>New</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Art as an intercultural tool in EuroMed * EVS Odyssey * Practical guide on EVS 	* Publication "Let's... with our neighbours"	
Studies and Research	<p><i>New collection:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Voluntary work in EuroMed * Coaching 	* Booklet on "Let's" cooperation	* Sustainable Development
Periodicals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Magazine "Meet'In EuroMed" * Newsletter "EuroMed Info" 		<p><i>New</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Newsletter "Tools"

Publications

Salto-Youth EuroMed Library

2 New reports in the Collection "Bringing both sides together"



Dialogue among civilisations

New SALTO EuroMed publication from our collection «Bringing both sides together».

It describes the long term training course developed in 3 steps and organised in cooperation with the Hellenic and Cypriot National Agencies for the Youth in Action programme, and tries to ensure that within EuroMed area the

question of dialogue as a tool for developing networking and partnership strategy of non formal education between the two sides of the Mediterranean is a crucial and challenging issue. In other words, to make dialogue among civilisations become a reality.



Democracy within EuroMed context: Illusion or reality?

The new Salto EuroMed publication from our collection «Bringing both sides together», written by Marco Boaria and co-written by Federica Demicheli. Following up the training seminar held in Italy in 2008, where participants experienced different forms of Democracy, this reports aims to give an overview of the

different meanings and forms of Democracy through European and Mediterranean partner countries.

You can read these reports on line or download them from Salto-Youth EuroMed Library <http://salto-youth.net/youth.net/reportscollection/>

SALTO-YOUTH
EURO MED
RESOURCE CENTRE



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