

## **REPORT**

### **Pre-departure training for EVS volunteers from Ukraine 22-23 August 2009, Slavske**



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The aim of the pre-departure training was to prepare the volunteers for the realization of EVS, stay abroad, adaptation and to provide the support with the projects.

**Objectives of the pre-departure training:**

- to prepare EVS volunteers for the project and departure
- to give the volunteers information about Youth in Action Programme and EVS
- to make the volunteers aware of the specific demands and needs within host project, role in the hosting project, rights and responsibilities,
- to learn who are the relevant actors in the hosting project - who should be contacted in which situation,
- to provide the necessary tools to face the integration into the new hosting country and organisation in order to better understand new way of working

**Topic covered during pre-departure training:**

- “My EVS” - expectations and fears, motivation, personal objectives and expectations
- EVS philosophy, partnership between SO (sending organisation) - HO (host organisation) - volunteer, roles, rights and responsibilities of different actors
- Youth in Action Programme presentation
- Intercultural issues-preparing volunteers for some difficulties, challenges, questions, feelings that they might experience during their stay: EVS process, communication and language, dealing with conflicts, integration into the local community, identity
- Group building and networking among volunteers / creation of a support structure for the EVS volunteers from Ukraine
- Motivating and encouraging the volunteers for start of the projects
- Providing individual support for volunteers

The venue of the training - cozy small hotel “Alpijskij dwir” in Slavske, the Carpathians mountains.

**Program of the training:**

	<i>Saturday, 22 August</i>	<i>Sunday, 23 August</i>
11.00 -12.00	Getting to know each other Expectations about training, expectations about EVS	My EVS aims and objectives. Steps of cultural adaptation.
12.0 - 13.00	My EVS project: structure, opportunities and challenges	Competences factory
13.00 - 14.00	Lunch	Lunch
14.00 - 15.00	Cultural program – sightseeing and visit to museum	Questions and answers Evaluation
15.00 – 17.00	EVS Rights and Responsibilities. EVS support system. AXA.	Free time Departure
19.00 - 21.00	Dinner Integration evening, Video about EVS	

## Participants:

	EVS volunteer	Sending organization	Hosting organization
1	<b>Chrystyna Paprotska</b> christine_p_a@yahoo.com	Academy of Ukrainian Youth, Lviv	Fundacja Kultury Duchowej Pogranicza
2	<b>Natalya Mazurkevych</b> natalya.mazurkevych@gmail.com		Akzente Salzburg
3	<b>Oksana Petrechko</b> zeleni_ochi88@mail.ru		ELEOS
4	<b>Natalya Rastryzenkova</b> tusik222@ukr.net	Smart, Sarny	Sepmer Avanti
5	<b>Natalya Dushko</b> natali_dushko@yahoo.co.uk	Union Forum, Lviv	Polska Fundacja im. Roberta Schumana
6	<b>Sofia Papirnyk</b> papirnyksofiya@gmail.com	CARITAS of Sambir-Drohobych	Centrum Wspolpracy Młodzieży
7	<b>Veronika Locunjak</b> veronika16.04@mail.ru		
8	<b>Mykola Monastyrsky</b> kolya.m@interia.eu		Stowarzyszenia "Jeden Świat"
9	<b>Mychailo Karavajcev</b> myshko.k@gmail.com		

**Participants:** Group consisted of 9 volunteers from Ukraine going for EVS, 8 volunteers going to Poland and 1 volunteer going to Austria. 4 volunteers were from Drohobycz, 1 volunteer from Sarny and 4 volunteers from Lviv. All of volunteers were going for long-term EVS. Some of volunteers knew each other before, as they were from one sending organizations.

**Nataliya from Sarny** going to Wroclaw from 1.09.2009, is volunteer in youth organisation SMART, is open-minded, kind, interested in photography, music, cinema.

**Mykola from Drohobycz** going to Poznan from 15.09.2009, is volunteer in Caritas, interested in photography, video, music, internet, volunteering and beer. Has experience in participation in different projects, exchanges, cultural programs, was mentor to Polish EVS volunteer in Ukraine.

**Sophia from Drohobycz** going to Gdynia from 1.09.2009, is the person, who likes to meet new interesting people, study social pedagogy in Ukrainian Catholic University, is volunteer in Caritas, likes photography and collecting socks

**Oksana from Boryslav** going to Bialystok for 9 month: has been studying social work in Lviv Politechnika, likes traveling, reading books, making photos and volunteering

**Veronika from Drohobycz** going to Gdynia from 1.09 for 9 month: likes traveling, talking with people, listen to music, has international experience in participating in youth exchanges and volunteer programs

**Chrystya from Lviv** going to Lublin for 9 month: is volunteer in Academy of Ukrainian Youth, was mentor and Ukrainian language teacher for EVS volunteers in Ukraine and was hosting EVS volunteer from Austria at home.

**Nataliya from Lviv** going to Warszawa for 9 month.

**Nataliya from Lviv** going to Salzburg: study languages in Lviv University, was mentor and Ukrainian language teacher for EVS volunteer in Ukraine, is motivated to realize her EVS in Austria.

## Program:

- Getting to know each other (method: flower drawing, integration games)
- Expectations about training (method: post it and sharing)
- Expectations about EVS projects (methods: post it, sharing, discussion)
- EVS philosophy, rights and responsibilities of actors (hand-outs, discussion, quizzes)
- Film about EVS with discussion about intercultural learning during EVS
- Learning aims of my EVS (sharing of learning aims of volunteers: what I want to learn and achieve in personal, professional, intercultural level within the project)
- Practical skills development: how to present Ukraine, how to present EVS and how to work with children during EVS (method: exercises, roles-play)
- Questions and answers (open space)



After getting to know each other, participants have shared their **expectations about the pre-departure training**:

- *New contacts,*
- *To meet with new people, find new friends*
- *To find out about motivation and expectations of others about EVS*
- *To get practical information about EVS*
- *To get information about my rights and responsibilities as EVS volunteer*
- *How is about free days and holidays?*
- *How AXA work? (what to do, if something happens)*
- *To spend nice time together*
- *To exchange experience, knowledge about EVS*
- *To get information about opportunities, which volunteer has during the project*
- *What are the rights and responsibilities of hosting organization*

Then, the program of training was presented, and some modifications were done according to the group needs. Volunteers have presented their projects: where they go for EVS, what is their project about, why they have decided to go for EVS and what are the expectations and fears concerning the projects.

## Participants expectations about their EVS projects

- *to meet with new interesting people*
- *to develop language skills*
- *getting to know with culture, traditions*
- *to find new friends, new meetings*
- *to get new experience*
- *to become more selfconfident*

## Fears, “what I do not want to be during the project”:

- *difficulties in integration in hosting organization*
- *problems with adaptation*
- *not interesting tasks or too much work*
- *language problems*



During the training the role of the hosting, sending organization were analyzed. The examples of different EVS projects were given. We tried to clarify the roles and responsibilities of volunteers, supervisors and mentors. The difference between the Supervisor and the Mentor roles was underlined. The volunteers received handouts with all needed practical information about EVS in Ukrainian language.

Then the training session about Intercultural learning was done. Its objective was to raise awareness of own cultural baggage ("cultural glasses"), to reflect on the intercultural learning processes during the EVS and to think about the competences needed to cope with these processes. Volunteers learned about the steps of intercultural learning, EVS as a possibility for intercultural learning.

Participants were spread in three thematic groups ("presentation of Ukraine", "presentation of EVS" and "work with children") and were asked to prepare the activity in the way they decide. It could be the small exercise, game, presentation etc. Each group had 45 minutes for discussion and preparation and had to be ready to organize the activity for 5-15 minutes for all group. The first group made the example of 15 minutes presentation of Ukraine by providing the quiz about geography, famous Ukrainians, history of Ukraine. Additional methods of "how is possible to present the country when you are on EVS and asked to prepare the presentation" were discussed in plenary.

Here are the results of brainstorming: **"How is possible to present Ukraine?"**

- *show video or photo presentation,*
- *prepare quizzes about country, culture, interesting facts,*
- *integration, traditional games*
- *organize Ukrainian disco*
- *teach how to sing Ukrainian song (ex. Ty z mene pidmanula)*
- *workshops (pysanky, varenyky, writing name in kyrlycja)*
- *teach traditional dance*
- *organize thematic evenings (Ukrainian literature, Ukrainian films etc..)*

The second group presented the poster with the list of methods, games, which can be used in work with children (Attachment 2). After short explanations of what is the idea of games, the games with movements and singing were played. The third group has prepared the short presentation of EVS.

On the second day of the training we intended to reflect on EVS as a learning process. Participants got handouts of key competences that ensure life long learning. We discussed each competence and clarified them. After that trainer asked volunteers to formulate their learning objectives for EVS projects: What I want to achieve in personal development? What I want to achieve in professional development? What intercultural competences I want to gain? What can help in it, and what obstacles can be?



During the training we also have visited one of the local museums, had a short walk in mountains and had made the photo session trying to create the EVS within our bodies ☺.

At the end of the training it was time to get answers for the practical questions connected with preparation to the EVS project and its implementation. The list of things which should be taken was prepared. Besides, the psychological support for the departure to other country was done. Participants have received the contact list of other EVS volunteers from Ukraine, who are doing the EVS at the moment and were informed about networking opportunities within EVS. The list of usefull weblinks and practical handouts about EVS were given to each participant.

First part of evaluation of the pre-departure training was verbal. Participants have shared in the circle their impressions about training and about main learning points. Participants found the most usefull all practical information about EVS and examples of EVS project situations, as well as the practical information about hosting countries.

**Main learning outcomes of the pre-departure training:**

- the awareness of the EVS was increased,
- understanding of EVS as a learning process and intercultural learning had deepened,
- the learning objectives for the EVS were clarified,
- the roles and responsibilities of a volunteer, supervisor and mentor were clarified,
- the level of the volunteers cultural (self-) awareness had increased,
- the volunteers knowledge of intercultural learning processes had improved,
- an important contact and a support between the volunteer and trainer was created,
- the volunteers knowledge of SALTO EEEA RC and the Youth in Action Programme had increased

**Results of evaluation forms**

<b>Questions</b>	<b>Points (from 10 to 100 %)</b>
<i>How much did this training fulfill your expectations?</i>	100% , 100%, 100%, 100%, 80%, 100%, 100%, 80%, 80%
<i>How much were the objectives of the training accomplished?</i>	100%, 95%. 90%, 100%, 90%, 95%, 90%, 90%, 90%
<i>How much did you, or not, like the methods used?</i>	100%., 90%, 80%, 90%, 90%, 50%, 100%, 100%, 100%
<i>How much has this training been a learning process for you?</i>	90%, 80%, 90%, 90%, 95%, 70%, 100%, 99%, 80%
<i>How much did you enjoy the informal time?</i>	95%, 90%, 90%, 100%, 90%, 60%, 99,9%, 99%, 90%
<i>In what way have you been, or not, satisfied with the facilities (accommodation. food)?</i>	100% , 100%, 90%, 100%, 100%, 100%, 100%, 100%, 100%

**Comments from the group:**

- It would be great to meet again in this group on Final Evaluation meeting next year
- Some participants knew some information about EVS already before
- Most of the group appreciated the venue and positive atmosphere

## **Attachment 1**

### **EVS VOCABLUARY**

**Task of the small groups is to write what is the meaning of the acronyms below.**

**EVS**

**S.O.**

**H.O.**

**AXA**

**Mentor**

**Salto EECA**

**NA**

**A.2**

**A.3.1**

**YiA**

**Euro 26**

**18-30**

**Youth Pass**

**C.O.**

**28-30**

**EI**

**AA**

**Non-formal education**

**Tutor**

**2007-2013**

**EVS Charter**

**Visibility**

**Valorisation**

**Network of multipliers**



## Attachment 2

“What is possible to do with children?”

- Інтелектуальні ігри (“2 правди, 1 брехня”, “Що влізе в трьох літрову банку”; “Поле Чудес”);
- Рухливі («Землетрус», «Акваріум», «Фруктовий салат», «Статуя кохання»);
- На розвиток пам’яті: «Перший - перший»; «Я-я-я, я-я-хот-дог»;
- Співаючі ігри: «трикутний капелюшок»; «Ковчег»; «спільнота»
- Малювання: намалюй малюнок; намалюй друга;
- На мислення: шаради; асоціації; мафія;
- Без слів: Онсе-мадонсе; Body art;
- Екібана; Орігамі; Аплікації;
- Вироби з бісеру;
- Вироби з пластиліну;
- Вироби з ниток;
- Спільне складання казок по 1 реченню;
- Вікторини;
- Конкурси;
- Цікаві розповіді