



JUGEND für Europa
Deutsche Agentur
für das EU-Programm
JUGEND IN AKTION



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FINAL REPORT

TC Youthful Europe

Methodological training on the subject of Europe

Ohrid, Macedonia 23rd -27th October 2011

Background

This Training course took place for the first time 2004 in Germany. The aim was to create a training for potential applicants of the YOUTH IN ACTION programme, to give tools and methodological support for projects with a European dimension. An important aspect was also to provide youth workers tools by which they can motivate young people to get involved in projects with a focus on 'Europe' as an issue.

Jugend für Europa, the German National Agency for the programme YOUTH IN ACTION decided to run for the first time this training in the region South East Europe and asked SALTO South East Europe Resource Centre and Interkulturelles Zentrum, the Austrian National Agency, if they would like to cooperate. The training was a cooperation project between the three institutions.

Jugend für Europa was responsible for the coordinating of the training course and the final report, SALTO was responsible for the logistical support, the online application and the statistics of the TC; creACTIVE, a local Macedonian NGO provided the local support. Interkulturelles Zentrum organized the prep-meeting in Wien and supported financially the training course.

Behrooz Motamed-Afshari and Lorenzo Nava were the trainers of the TC.

Aims and objectives

This training aimed at providing youth workers with tools to work on the dimension of Europe with young people, through which they can encourage debate and confrontation of young people on the topics of Europe, citizenship, mobility, participation and enlargement. The training focused on:

- raising awareness about the topic and motivate youth workers to deal with it
- enhancing participants' feeling of ownership and belonging to Europe, and discuss what role young people can play in Europe
- let participants learn about different tools and methods, and adapt them to the needs of their target group
- empowering participants to use the achieved competences and methods in their daily work at home

The training course was delivered for the first time in South East Europe, it required therefore to be adapted to the participants and their geopolitical background, as well as to adapting this training course to a mixed background of youth workers from experienced to very beginners.

Programme

The following programme was implemented.

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
Introduction	Citizenship and Europe	Dilemmas and Challenges in Europe today
Team-Building	Participation	Youth in Action and European Youth Policy
From Local Identity to European Identity	City Game	Action Plan
Identity (values) according to treaties	Debriefing and Introduction to the ENP and Stability Pact	YouthPass and Evaluation

The flow of the first day was meant to raise awareness in the group about the programme, aims and objectives, and their expectations, challenges and contributions, to learn how to cooperate and work together. To then start tackling the topic of identity, by starting working on personal identity, local identity and national identity, according to values, both individuals and social values, to use the outcomes to reflect on a European Identity based on a set of common shared values and then conclude the day with a summary of identity defined by the European Treaties and the process that created from the European Economic Community to the European Union.

The next day in the morning the participants tackled the topic of citizenship, to discover about European Citizenship (incl. Intercultural Learning and Non Formal Education), how they participate as a citizen and what competences are needed to be developed in this framework. In the afternoon the group was asked to go to Ohrid to ask people if they feel European, and to witness what "is European" and what "is not European" to bring it back to plenary in form of fairy tales, and discuss why is there such a feeling and how is it in each other's' realities, to finally present the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.

On the final day the participants discussed some of the main challenges and dilemmas that young people in Europe are facing today, fostering discussion and confrontation. The second part of the morning included a presentation of European Youth Policies and its future, as well as the present youth instrument, the Youth in Action programme. Finally the group had some time to think individually or in group on how they can transfer the outcomes of this training course back home, and the day ended with the presentation of the steps towards recognition of non-formal education, the youth pass and the final evaluation of the programme.

Content and Methodology

The content had to be carefully selected in order to give an appropriate overview of Europe and the European Union, by starting to tackling the topic of European Identity and Citizenship, to make the



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course relevant for non EU participants by raising awareness about the European Neighborhood Policy and Stability Pact, to discover in the end what is in it for young people in Europe, and how their process of non-formal learning is being recognized. However the content was very little compared to the ambitious aims of this training course. Moreover, although it was indeed one of the key objectives of the training, often the evaluation of the single methods interrupted the flow of the programme, where single methods were being evaluated, rather than the reflections and outcomes of a complete flow cycle, as it is intended in a non-formal education setting.

Therefore the methodology was somewhat the outcome of a compromise between the trainers and the organisers as well as some discussion due to the, at times, lack of common understanding as well as the feeling that the organizers do not fully trust the trainers in what they do and plan. This probably was caused by the fact that both trainers were replacing others who were initially supposed to run the training and hence there was a need of stronger monitoring?

Moreover the short time in combination with high demands of the aims made the programme extremely intensive and somewhat tiring for the participants. The program was definitely overloaded and didn't give space and time for deeper discussions and exchange between the participants.

The Group

The group was very cooperative and participants were very open to each other; it was impressive how cooperative the group was during the teambuilding actions, and how realistic some of the action plans were. The group was very keen to learn, and very open, some elements had quite disruptive and destructive attitudes, but this didn't manage to negatively affect the group dynamics, which turned out to be quite strong and positive, despite the tiredness and intensity of the group. Seemed the group had the topic very much at heart, and often needed more formal time to discuss more, compare more opinions and debate about many issues. However the time was not there, and from the trainers team it was said that this training is only meant to light a sparkle, not to be combustion by itself.

Outcomes

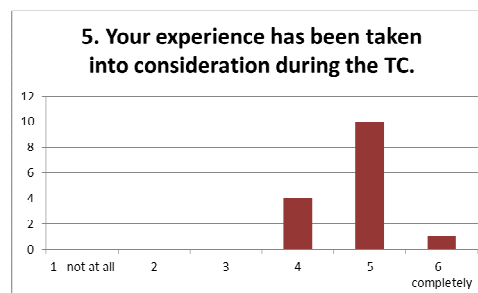
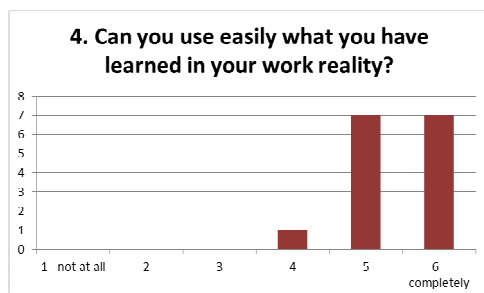
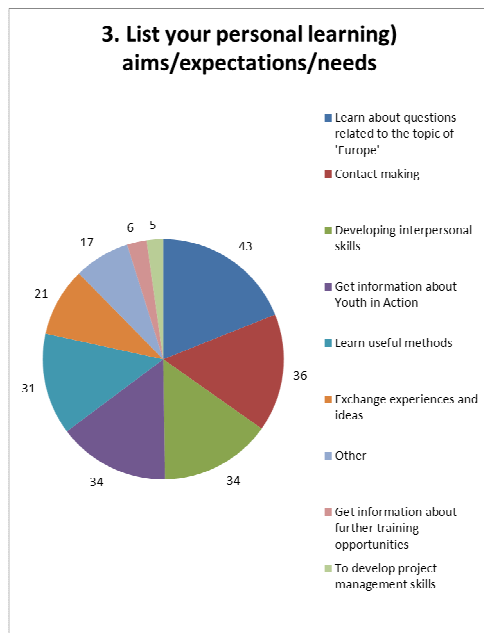
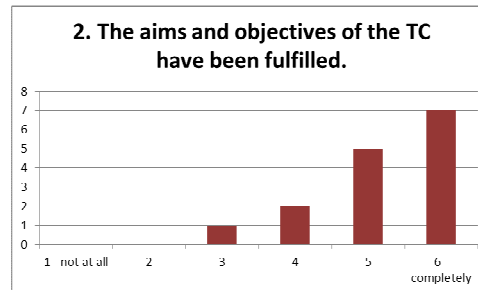
The outcomes were fairly good, as the training course managed to light the sparkle, as there were discussion to create e.g. a "Youthful Europe II" in order to tackle this topic deeply. According to the dart-evaluation as well as the statements related to the "LAUNDRY" evaluation, the general opinion about the TC was rather positive.

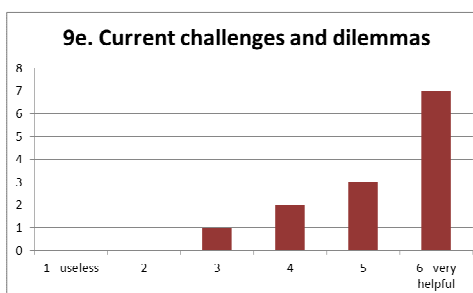
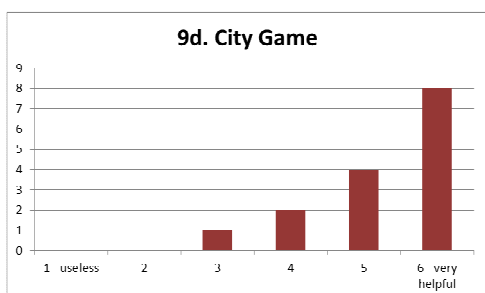
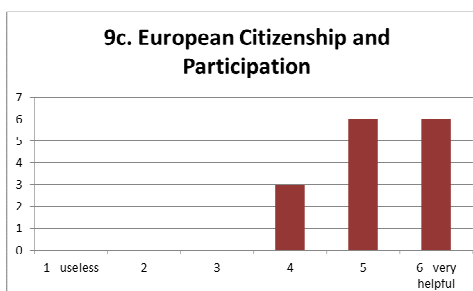
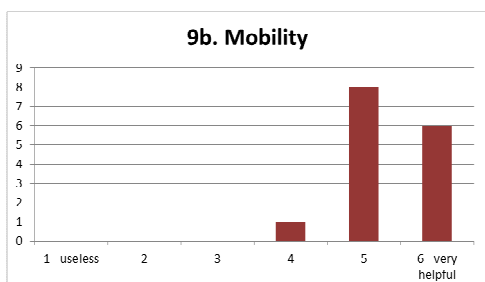
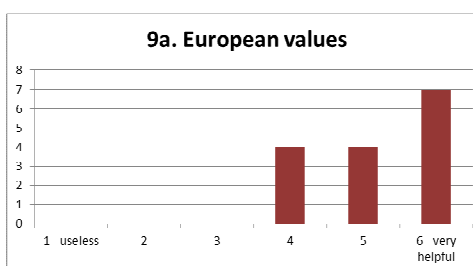
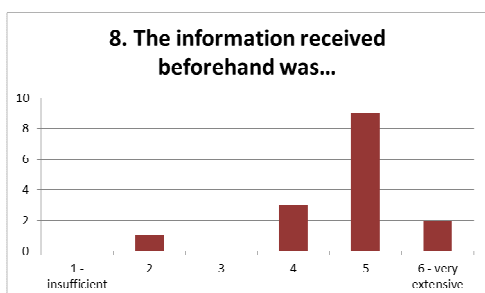
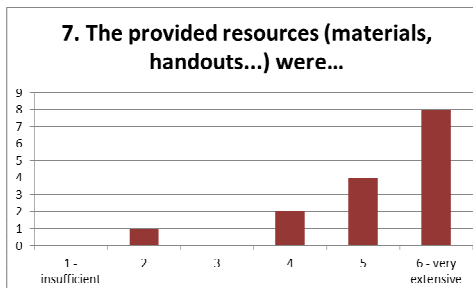
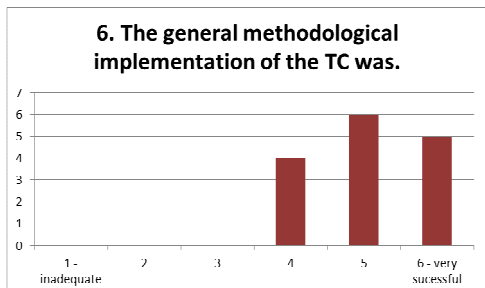


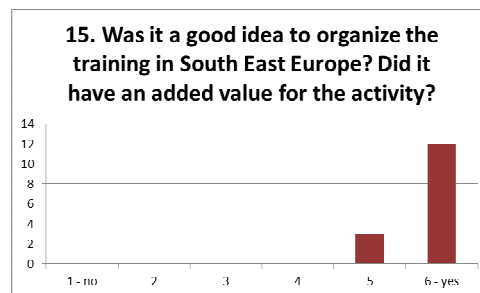
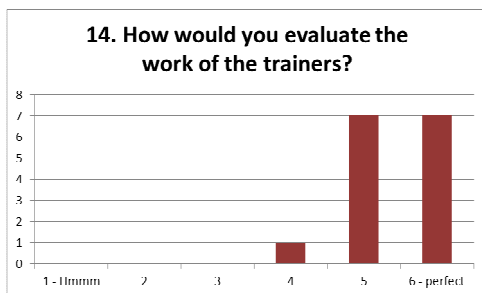
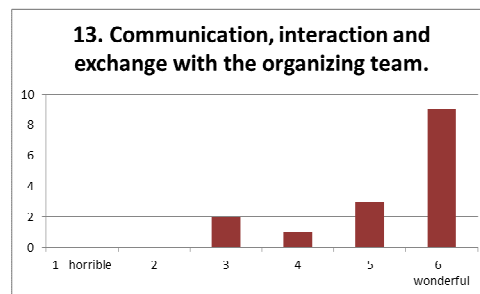
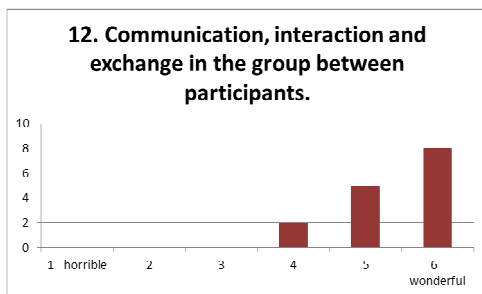
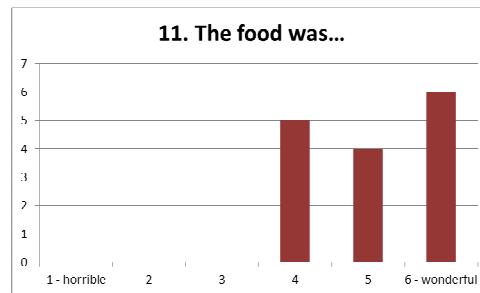
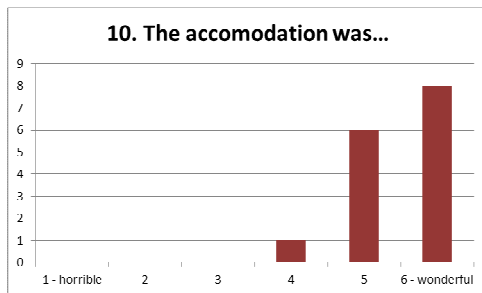
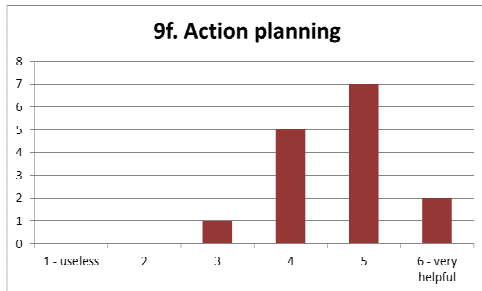
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Statistical report







15 participants answered the questionnaire.