

Grow, Latvia!

EVŠ booklet



Līdzfinansē
Eiropas Savienības programma
“Erasmus+”



Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport. It runs for seven years, from 2014 to 2020, with organisations invited to apply for funding each year to undertake creative and worthwhile activities. Erasmus+ aims to modernise education, training and youth work across Europe. It is open to education, training, youth and sport organisations across all sectors of lifelong learning, including school education, further and higher education, adult education and the youth sector. Its budget of €14.7 billion will provide exciting opportunities for over 4 million Europeans to study, train, gain experience, and volunteer abroad.



Jaunatnes starptautisko
programmu aģentūra

Agency for International Programs for Youth is subordinated to the Minister of Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Latvia. The objective of the Agency is to promote youth voluntary service, activities and mobility (e.g. with EU, Eastern Partnership, MEDA countries, etc.).

The Agency implements non-formal learning and information programmes and projects targeted at youth and those working with youth, and supports the link between non-formal learning and lifelong education.

The Agency works according to State Administration Structure Law and Regulations issued by the Cabinet of Ministers of Latvia (year 2012, 11th of December, Nr. 863) The Agency gives possibility for youth to write projects, spreads interesting and useful information for youth about their possibilities in Europe, supports exchange of experience and ensures consultations about project writing.

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About Project

YOUTH is a key word for success our our country. And to reach their attention we must think like them. We believe we found the way and want to transfer what we have together with our EVS volunteers to Public.

By knowing information, our aim was to deliver instruments on how to deliver, to develop and improve skills of youth in area of active outside and inside actions in the cities/towns/villages, social media and digital technologies (social marketing, story telling through photo & video).

This was done through non-formal education methods and a lot of practice with our EVS volunteers. What is important, one of the main drivers of positive social changes in the country are non-profitable organizations. But, unfortunately, this days they have one of the most difficult epochs in their history - due to the economic crisis, foreign policy issues and different other factors. One of the biggest problem for NGOs is the lack is the institutional sustainability: with shortage of the governmental budget - and consequently - opportunity for local initiatives and depending on unstable grant support from international institutions it is very hard for NGOs to plan long-run projects and strategic development - and thus have any systematic positive effect on the reformation of the society.

The project "Grow, Latvia!" envisaged a cooperation between Latvian LJAC (hosting) and Ukrainian STELLA (sending) whose volunteers worked on the development of entrepreneurial competencies among youth, youth (un)employment, cultural diversity, mobility for the organizations and the local community. Thus both helping the organizations to develop and learning entrepreneurship and active European citizenship on the way. We expected them to achieve large scale, systemic and sustainable social change through a new invention, a different approach, a more rigorous application of known technologies or strategies, or a combination of these.



EVS Volunteers



Kyrylo Berezhnov:

"My EVS project was interesting and usefull. I got help from sending and receiving organisation. Now i have more knowledge about my project to use this skills and competencies in my career and life. I believe that Latvijas jauniešu attīstības centrs will create a real positive change in Latvian society since i experienced that they do a great work! This twelve months were really special for me. Thank you!"

Daria Prybyl:

"My EVS project was brilliant! Both sending and receiving organizations provided full support for my service. I learned really a lot about all aspects of the project and now can use all gained knowledge, skills and competenses in my personal and professional life. Aleksandrs Posts, the president of Latvian organization, together with team and my mentor gave me strong motivation and willingness to develop myself and feel as a part of Latvijas jauniešu attīstības centrs and Latvian community. Thank you very much!"

Some of the "Grow, Latvia!" events in photos



And in the end...

... in the end we would like to thank all contributors and stakeholders to help us in implementation of this project:

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"GROW, LATVIA!" HAD IMPACT NOT ONLY IN LATVIA AND UKRAINE, BUT ALSO IN OTHER COUNTRIES.

PROJECT RESULTS WERE SHARED BY US AND OUR PARTNERS AROUND THE EUROPE WITH COVERAGE OF MANY THOUSAND OF FOLLOWERS, NAMELY IN:

Latvia

Lithuania

Spain

Ukraine

Romania

Bulgaria

Bulgaria

Italy

Estonia

Poland

Armenia

Moldova

France

Georgia

Netherlands