



'Youth in Action' Programme





"APPETISER"

An introduction to international youth work

Training seminar



♥ For the participants ♠





Dear participant of "Appetiser",

First of all we would like to congratulate you for being selected to take part in this *unique* seminar

"Appetiser"

An introduction to international youth work

We hope that you are motivated and looking forward to meet with the others that will join this seminar.

We would like to provide you with some information that will guide you in your preparation for the seminar. In this document you will find:

- ✓ some background information about "Appetiser"
- √ daily programme of "Appetiser"
- ✓ information about the "Youth in Action" programme
- ✓ list of things to bring with you

May this information assist you in understanding what "**Appetiser**" is all about! Still, in case you have any questions, please contact the organisers of this seminar.

For now we say:



Yours,

The "Appetiser" trainers' team



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BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT "APPETISER"

Why "Appetiser"?

At first you might have a thought that it is a culinary seminar we are inviting you to!

No, it is not! But you might feel hungry after our "**Appetiser**"! Hungry for new activities, new possibilities; hungry for more!

The name of this seminar represents the entire idea – to motivate ("appetite") people to expand their activities internationally! The idea for "Appetiser" was born in **2004**, where the need for new beneficiaries in the "Youth" programme (now, "Youth in Action") was expressed. We thought that there are many youth leaders and youth workers around Europe, who organise activities for young people in their town or in their country, but they do not spread their ideas in European level. Thus "Appetiser"

Be hungry and eat your trainers with questions! They are there for you!

Inga, Lithuania

is nothing more than a space for these people to *meet*, *share* their experiences, gain *knowledge* and *confidence* to organise *international* projects.

Specific aims and objectives were set for "Appetiser":

- To *give a strong positive* first experience of international youth work and motivate you to use the "**Youth in Action**" Programme.
 - To taste non-formal and intercultural learning
 - To enjoy the first intercultural youth project experience
 - To exchange local youth activities in the international context
- To explore *possibilities* of support available for international youth activities such as the "**Youth in Action**" Programme.
- To analyse the *examples* of quality youth projects supported by the Youth / "**Youth in Action**" programme
- To see how to *benefit* from international context in participants local work practice.

First "Appetiser" was held in *Malta*, in **2004**. That was a successful event as many participants after the seminar were motivated to make international projects. Later on, in **2005** three more "Appetisers" were organised: in Poland, Greece and The Netherlands. During **2006**, Austria, Cyprus and Greece hosted "Appetiser". UK and Lithuania did it in **2007**. Bulgaria, the Netherlands & Greece played host in **2008**, and UK & Slovakia in **2009**. The success of the previous "Appetisers" shaped the reality of this year, part of which is the present edition of our training seminar.

What is Appetiser?

As you might have understood already, "**Appetiser**" is a training seminar, where we will provide you with an opportunity to learn what to consider when organizing an international youth project.

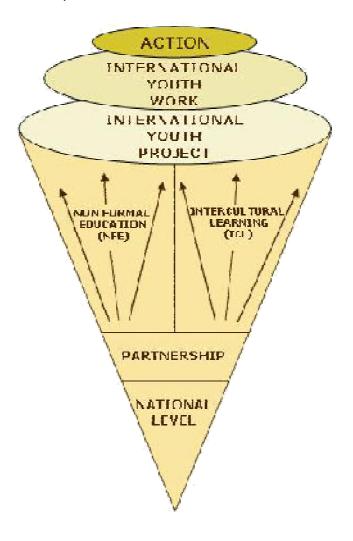
Each "Appetiser" within the last 5 years has been developed further based on the feedback received by the participants, but the main idea remains the same. Below you can see an ice cream-type scheme, which, actually, is the model we will be following during the seminar. Probably

Take the maximum out of it! It's a lifetime experience you'll never forget it!

Nada, **Romania**

you will not find a restaurant where ice cream is included into the menu of *appetisers*, but we think that this dish is very motivating!

Shortly, topics written in the "ice cream" are the ones we are going to work on during our seminar. As you can see, we will very much focus on *non - formal education/learning* and *intercultural learning*. They are two big pillars of international youth work. You might be questioning yourself, what exactly do they mean, but this is exactly the reason you are coming to "**Appetiser**"! There are more interesting things to say about this "ice cream", but we will reveal the whole secret in our meeting!



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PROGRAMME OF "APPETISER"

	Arrival day	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Departure day
09.15 - 11.00	participants	Group Building	Intercultural Learning "Theory & Practice"	"Youth in Action"	Departure
11.30 - 13.00		Introduction of the seminar Small tasting of "Youth in Action"		Good practices	
13.00	of the	Lunch			e 01
15.00 - 16.30	Arrivals of	Organizations' bazaar	Non-formal education/learning	The value of international youth work	of the participants
17.00 - 18.30		Sharing of experiences	"Hot topics"	Youthpass & Evaluation of the seminar	
18.30 - 19.00	Ice breaking	"Dessert" time	"Dessert" time	"Dessert" time	
19.30	Dinner				
21.30	Getting to know each other	Intercultural Evening	Dinner out	Farewell party	

Above is the *day to day* programme of our meeting. As you can see, it will be quite intensive: **3** full working days with not so much free time. But we will do our best to make it interesting and motivating for you. During the programme we will not just provide you with information; we will invite you to get substantially involved through interactive exercises, simulation games, visual presentations etc.

Make sure that you are able to actively participate during all 3 days.

As the programme will be intensive we will not provide you with possibility to visit famous places. If you want to see more, please arrange your travel so you can have extra days to see the country. Board and lodging will not be provided for your extra "tourist" days, you will have to take care of it yourself.

All "Appetiser" participants are entitled to receive a **Youthpass** certificate (for more, visit: http://www.salto-youth.net/youthpass/ or www.youthpass.eu) for which they will be supported by the trainers in going through a process of self-assessment on their learning outcomes according to the framework of 8 Key Competences (see "**Useful links"** at the end of this document or find more information also in the web sites mentioned above) during the "Appetiser" seminar itself. Each day, you will have some time, space, tools and support to reflect on your learning, assess it and make it relevant to your personal, social and professional context.

We would like to draw your attention to the intercultural evening, which might be your first experience. Please see the "**List of things to bring**" further in this info pack.

INFORMATION ABOUT "Youth in Action" PROGRAMME

Future "Appetisers", this seminar will "open your appetite" and you will scream for more(!!) "ice cream"!! ;-)

Matina, Greece

You have probably noticed that until now we have used the name of "Youth in Action" programme quite often and/or maybe you have heard about it from your colleagues or friends. You might be wondering, what it is?

It is a European Union Programme for the promotion of non-formal education/learning and it is a great chance for young people,

youth organisations or youth workers to participate in and organise international youth activities.

"Youth in Action" consists of 5 Actions as follows:

- ❖ **Action 1** *Youth for Europe*: supporting exchanges and youth initiatives and encouraging young people's participation in democratic life;
- ❖ Action 2 European Voluntary Service: encouraging young people to take part in a voluntary activity abroad that benefits the general public;
- * **Action 3** *Youth in the World*: encouraging cooperation with Partner Countries by building networks, promoting the exchange of information and assisting with cross-border activities;
- ❖ Action 4 Youth Support Systems: promoting the development of exchange, training and information schemes;
- ❖ **Action 5** *European Cooperation in the youth field* contributing to the development of policy cooperation in the youth field.

"Appetiser"

The programme is administrated by the so-called National Agencies in each (see "Useful links" at the end of this document for the <u>List of National Agencies</u>) programme country. You have been sent to this seminar by the National Agency that is coordinating the "**Youth in Action**" programme in your country.

Not the whole story of "**Youth in Action**" programme is told in detail in our seminar. You will have the chance to contact your National Agency and they will provide you with information in your own language. In "**Appetiser**" you will have the possibility to come across examples of successful "**Youth in Action**" programme projects.

If you can't wait and are already hungry for information, please visit the official site of "Youth in Action" programme, http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm

where you will be able to read more. Or you can visit the web site of your National Agency, where all the relevant information will be presented in your language.

LIST OF THINGS TO BRING!

Here is a list of things that you will need during our seminar:

- <1> Clear information (in English, if possible) about the main activities of your organisation, so that you can present it to other participants.
- <2> Map, posters, postcards about your country/region/town to be introduced during intercultural evening.
- <3> Some typical gastronomic specialities (snacks and/or drinks. Please contact other participants from your country to decide on what to bing. Make sure you just bring something to "appetite" the others, not to make them explode; think that others will do the same and it is always a pitty to have food thrown away
- <4> Comfortable clothes (you can even bring your slippers!), because we will do many active exercises.
- <5> Information about "<u>Youth in Action</u>" programme in your own language, so it might be easier for you to follow our presentations.

Please make sure that organisers are aware of your special needs (*dietary, mobility, accessibility of information etc.*) if you have them.

"Appetiser"

For more information please consult your National Agency or the organisers of "**Appetiser**".

See you soon!

"Appetiser" trainers.

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Athanasios (Sakis) Krezios

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USEFUL LINKS

Youth in Action Programme, European Commission http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm?

Youth in Action Programme, The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Agency Executive Agency (EACEA)

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/index en.php

Youthpass

www.youthpass.eu or http://www.salto-youth.net/youthpass/

Key Competences, User-friendly brochure

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education_culture/publ/pdf/II-learning/keycomp_en.pdf

List of National Agencies

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth/contacts_en.htm

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