



Call for Participants For the Training Course

**“A step forward: Paths to enhance participation
and community impact of youth activities”**

**TRAINING COURSE FOR ORGANIZERS OF
INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGES**

Arrivals: 24th of June

Training Course: 25th to 30th of June

(not including travel days)

Departures: 1st of July

Place or venue: Stockholm, Sweden

PLEASE NOTE:

Deadline for applications must strictly be:

Sunday, 15th of May 2011



It's with great pleasure that we would like to invite you to apply to become a participant in one challenging training course that will help you not only to develop your personal skills to become a better organizer of international youth exchanges, but also to bring something new to your organization and the way we have explored the learning dimensions and the impacts that a youth exchange can have!!!

The African Empowerment Centre together with its partners have been granted the possibility to implement this training course under the Youth in Action Programme – Action 4.3.

The Training Course described here is aimed at present and future organizers of International Youth Exchanges specially focusing on using the experiential and intercultural learning on a personal and group level, but also to develop strategies and know-how to enhance the impact of international youth exchanges in the communities where these activities take place.

The course will take place at **Hellasgården**, in the surroundings of beautiful city of Stockholm

Venue info: <http://www.hellasgarden.se>

Stockholm info: www.Stockholm.se



We are very happy that you are motivated to apply for this course. Read carefully all document to make sure that your application is ready to send to us with the best quality!



What is the main aim of this course?

At the individual level, the main aim of the course is to train the future team members of International Youth Exchanges on the main educational issues in relation to designing, running, evaluating and following-up educational youth activities and Youth Exchanges, especially in what concerns intercultural learning and promotion of a greater impact of this activities at local level, in our local communities.

At the organizational level, this course will support the higher quality of the Youth Exchanges that contribute to the development of the organizations and our network.

What are the objectives of the course?

This training course will be held the amazing surroundings of Stockholm. In the offered setting, we will find an inspiring environment to work during 6 intensive days for the following objectives (on a personal and organizational level):

- to increase participants' knowledge and awareness about **values** underpinning **non-formal educational** youth activities;
- to familiarize participants' with the **values, mission, structure and ways of organizing youth exchanges**;
- to develop **essential skills for facilitators** in non-formal education with multicultural youth groups (e.g. programme design, leadership, team work, chairing and facilitating, communication, group dynamics, evaluation and follow-up) assuring quality criteria in all aspects of youth exchanges;
- to develop participants' **awareness and skills about organizing the follow up** (writing reports, support in organizing the follow up activities);
- to provide knowledge and exchange experiences to **increase the involvement of local communities** in the development of youth exchange in order to enhance the impact of this activities in our communities;
- to work on the **inclusion, promotion and dissemination of the results** of the exchanges within **local communities**;
- to increase the participants' **competences and motivation** to introduce into their work the **intercultural learning** and the engagement of young people in **participation** in decision making in our societies and democratic structures;
- to discuss and develop the **quality criteria for youth exchanges** and their **contribution** to youth **organization's needs, realities and it's impacts on our communities**;
- To encourage participants to **develop new methods and approaches in ICL** activities in a way that also enhances the impact of this activities in the local communities;
- To expose participants to an **intercultural process**.



Profile of participants in the training course

The course will be open for applicants who are:

- ⇒ volunteers or employees of youth organizations;
- ⇒ involved (or will be) in preparing and running a Youth Exchange in 2011 or in first semester of 2012;
- ⇒ in the position to act as an organizer after the course either as project coordinator or as a member of a team in charge of a youth exchange;
- ⇒ having at least one previous experience in participating in an international youth exchange;
- ⇒ well informed about their organization and ready to explain to other participants the activities in which they have been and will be involved;
- ⇒ committed to attend the full duration of the course and
- ⇒ supported by their sending (partner) organization;
- ⇒ able to work in English.

Participating countries and number of participants

We expect to involve **25 participants** coming from:

- ⇒ Sweden;
- ⇒ Lithuania;
- ⇒ Switzerland;
- ⇒ Poland;
- ⇒ Portugal;
- ⇒ Romania.

Methodology

The course will give participants the opportunity to experience, and reflect upon activities and concepts crucial in designing, running, evaluating and providing follow-up to international youth exchanges. The course will be designed as a mutual learning situation in which, using diverse methods, participants can compare their approaches to learning, coordination and leadership, non-formal education and international youth work.

Experts in training and non-formal education field will establish common reference points for learning and communication in this course.



Application procedure and technical information

- ⇒ In order to apply candidates must complete the attached application form,
- ⇒ The completed form should be e-mailed to:
africanempowermentctr@gmail.com **the latest by the 15th of May 2011.**
- ⇒ Note that the applications sent after the deadline will not be accepted.

Participants will be selected on the basis of their applications and ensuring a balance in terms of gender, organizational and participation background. Candidates will be informed by the 18th of May, as to whether they have been selected or not. Selected candidates will receive course information packs directly.

Travel expenses

Travel expenses will be reimbursed at 70% (upon presentation of the relevant receipts after the end of the training course) according to the rules of the procedure of the Youth in Action Programme. Only participants who attended more than 80% of the training will be reimbursed.

Take into consideration that the travelling costs will include:

- ⇒ The cost of the ticket to get to Stockholm, Sweden (except the Swedish participants) and
- ⇒ The cost of the local transports for you to get to the airports and to the training course venue.

Participants should not buy tickets before being informed on their selection and also receive confirmation from organizers of the total costs approved for their travel.

In the case of participants, who needs visa to enter Sweden have to inform the project coordinator straight after the selection will be done to proceed with the visa invitation.

Participation fee

There is no participation fee.

Language of the Training Course

The course will be held in **English**.



Accommodation

Board and lodging are provided and paid by the organizers.

The training venue will be held at Hellasgården.

Website: <http://www.hellasgarden.se>

Finally, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in contact with:

Katrin Rau, Email: rau.katrin@gmail.com or

Lilian Chinwekene, Email: chinwekene@hotmail.com

So if you and your organization got inspired to actively take part
and participate in the training course,

please **fill in the attached application form,**
sign, stamp and send it to
project coordinator through the email provided in the application form
africanempowermentctr@gmail.com

The deadline to receive applications is **May 15th, 2011.**



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