

“In Land We Trust”

training course on youth employability

Gyulagarak, Armenia

December 1-9th, 2017

Practical Information

WELCOME

It is our pleasure to host you in Gyulagarak, Armenia for this great event. Let us share some more important information with you now regarding this meeting. We will do our best to make your stay as comfortable as possible.

To make this event a very successful and enjoyable experience for all of you and for us as well, we have compiled this information guide. Here you can find all important information needed for your preparation.

PROJECT SUMMARY

European Ways NGO (Germany) and Youth and Community Action Club NGO (Armenia) together with its partners initiates *“In Land We Trust” training course* which addresses the Long-term unemployment in rural areas which is one of the main concerns of policymakers. Apart from its financial and social effects on personal life, it negatively affects social cohesion and, ultimately, may hinder economic growth. Clearly, the lack of availability of jobs in Europe is part of the problem, but it is far from the whole story. Stepping into the labor market young people are discouraged by the high rate of competition, and they are disadvantaged by their lack of proven working experience. Yet, despite this availability of labor, employers are dissatisfied with applicants’ skills, and often the vacancies stay open as employers cannot find the needed profile. So why is it that young people are not getting the skills that employers need? One reason is the failure of employers, education providers, and young people to understand one another needs.

Through the activities we will follow the Kolb cycle, i.e. experiencing – observing and reflecting – giving theoretical background – linking with reality and develop participants’ skills, attitudes, and knowledge in different areas, connected to the rural development. The workshops will be tailored to meet participants’ learning needs and will combine theoretical input with interactive exercises and tools for youth empowerment.

“In land we trust” is designed and structured in a way that gives participants the freedom to express themselves, to share their experience and skills, to learn as much as possible in terms of the main topics and to acquire new skills beneficial for their youth work. The whole project is mainly practice oriented and is a platform for generating and developing new ideas for rural development. On

the one hand, the course workshops will equip participants with some practical skills, for example, the workshop on best practices and failures.

"In land we trust" will be based on non-formal education methodology and techniques. To our main methods belong: open space, experiential learning, practical workshops, working in small groups and in plenary, open discussions, debates, simulations, role plays, etc. Particular attention will be paid to such elements as interaction, cooperation rather than competition, holistic approach, intercultural learning, using participants' experiences and taking in account the group dynamics and group needs.

OBJECTIVES

- To find out the possible solutions of unemployment problem at personal, organisational and community levels by monitoring the real situations in different countries
- To improve abilities of youth workers, activists and young people from rural areas to increase their chances to get employed or make their own projects
- To give the tools and techniques on how to reach a low unemployment rates in rural areas
- To challenge young people to face unemployment reasons and related problems for understanding the lack of knowledge or experience and start to develop them
- To empower young people with the means of non-formal education
- To identify the real needs of youth workers working with rural youth and to assess their capacities.
- To understand the real needs of the rural job market and to discover the way to meet those needs
- To motivate youth workers to take part in social changes aiming at increasing youth employability by exploring their leadership potential
- To create new projects designed to lower the unemployment rates and keep youth to develop their rural homeland.
- To write a handbook with best practices and failures about rural developments.

PARTICIPANTS PROFILE

The target group consists of 30 youth workers and youth leaders. We do not have upper age limits, though primarily we would like to try to have group of - 18-30 y.o, in order to share and to promote peer-to-peer approach. To make the project targeted and to provide territorial representativeness, 9 countries has been selected: Germany, Armenia, Ukraine, Jordan, Slovakia, Greece, Poland, Hungary and Russia.

The activity is open both for experienced participants and newcomers in the topic. Please, fill this short application out.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSctHQ9Nn3aUjodUWftWAX52VDFDcUwIbAXPtc5FhJNcJufw/viewform>

Partner country	Partner organization	Number of Participants
Germany (applicant)	European Ways e.V	4 participants
Armenia (host)	Youth and Community Action Club NGO	5 participants

Ukraine	Non-governmental organization "Kharkiv association for active youth "Stella"	3 participants
Jordan	JORDAN Youth Innovation Forum	3 participants
Greece	Open Youth Corner - Anoikti Gonia Neon	3 participants
Hungary	EMINA Pályorientációs Alapítvány	3 participants
Russia	AEGEE-Moskva	3 participants
Poland	Stowarzyszenie Sztukater	3 participants
Slovakia	A.D.E.L. - ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND LABOUR	3 participants

PREPERATION OF PARTICIPANTS

*Bring success stories from their experiences. It can be a successful project related to the rural youth and/or personal accomplishments which will be motivational for the others.

*Bring warmer clothes as far as we are going to be in the mountains

*Don't expect to find pubs, restaurants, clubs and shopping malls in the activity venue. We will mainly be in a rural community and have fun there. ☺

*Be ready to present your organisations during the NGO Fair.

*All participants should be ready to present their countries during the intercultural evenings.

Feel free to bring traditional music, dances, food and drink.

IMPORTANT! We encourage not to use video/photo & PowerPoint presentation

Please, join the FB group of the participants with this link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/498913967133693/>

CONDITIONS

Training course (TC) will be implemented in the frame of the ERASMUS+ Programme. Accommodation, living, working materials & other project (TC) related expenses will be funded 100% by the European Commission, except the travel costs (see below).

NOTICE!!! Health and travel insurance need to be covered by the participants

TRAVEL COST LIMITS BY COUNTRY

Travel (flights, other means of transport) expenses are compensated (up to 100%), based on the distance from location of organisation to the location of the project. These distances must be calculated using the distance calculator supported by the European Commission.

20€

Per Participant from ARMENIA

275€

Per Participant from UKRAINE, GREECE, JORDAN, SLOVAKIA, RUSSIA

360€

Per Participant from GERMANY, POLAND, HUNGARY

TRAVEL REIMBURSEMENT

Participants are requested to have all tickets for round trip!

We will need few important documents for your travel reimbursement:

1. Boarding pass (Plane)
2. E-ticket (Plane)
3. Any other kind of tickets, bills & payment proof, which you will receive during the travel.
4. Payment proof (from card history) for the PLANE ticket & for every ticket purchased online.

a) If you pay by CASH - we will need ORIGINAL INVOICE from company with STAMP & SIGNATURE.

b) If you pay by CARD - we will need PRINT FROM CARD HISTORY (From i-Banking).

Travel reimbursement for ALL COUNTRIES will be done by BANK transfer approximately in 1 month after the activity, based on full travel documents from all the Groups and participants.

ACCOMMODATION & FOOD

Activity will be held in Gyulagarak which is a rural community 10km away from the nearest big town Stepanavan. The venue perfectly fits with the topic of the activity, the air is really fresh and the mountainous view is really breathtaking. The participants will be accommodated in the comfortable rooms of the Grig Eco House Resort (<https://www.booking.com/hotel/am/grig-house-eco-resort.en-gb.html>). There will be 2-3 participants in one room with same Gender and different nationalities. The organizers will provide participants with 3 times meal per day & two Coffee breaks.

We strongly recommend you to inform the organisers about any special needs of participants such as special diet (i.e. vegetarian, gluten free etc.) or other.

WEATHER AND TIME

The weather in Armenia in December is cooler. As far as we are going to be in the mountainous area it is going to be a bit colder than in Yerevan or Ararat valley. Check the weather forecast out (<https://www.accuweather.com/en/am/gyulagarak/12303/month/12303?monyr=12/01/2017>) in Gyulagarak before you come. It is going to be 4°C during the day and in some days we will have up to -7°C at night. Please, bring warmer clothes with you. ☺ BTW, Armenia is in UTC + 4 hours time zone.

CURRENCY

The currency of Armenia is Armenian dram (AMD). There are a lot of exchanges in big cities, but it will be difficult to exchange money in Gyulagarak. So, we encourage you to exchange your money in a bigger city before you arrive to the activity venue. You should bring with you either EURO, USD or RUR. You can check the rate in <http://www.rate.am/>.

TRANSPORT DETAILS

Participants have several possibilities to arrive in Armenia. You can fly to Yerevan Zvartnots Airport or Tbilisi airport (this is cheaper) and take a minibus to Stepanavan or taxi to Gyulagarak. Gyulagarak is 166km away from Tbilisi and 130km from Yerevan. The ticket of the minibus from Tbilisi to Stepanavan almost will be the same price as the taxi so we recommend you to take a shared taxi. If you have any trouble finding good taxis we can help you out with that, but we cannot organize your pick up from Tbilisi airport. Instead, we can pick you up from Stepanavan and take to Gyulagarak.

The minibuses from Yerevan (Kilikia Bus Station) to Stepanavan cost 1500AMD, but they only work during the day. You can take a shared taxi which will cost approximately 10EURO per person. Make sure you bargain about the price and take the bills in order to get reimbursed. It is very hard to find a taxi which provides receipts, but contact us and we will recommend you good taxi services.

If we can get the whole group arrive in Yerevan during the day we will organize your transportation from Yerevan to Gyulagarak.

From Zvartnots airport to Yerevan city center you can get by bus which costs 300AMD or by taxi which will cost 2000-2500AMD (don't pay more than this).

If you need any assistance, please contact us beforehand and we will try to find solutions.

We kindly ask everyone to go to this link and fill it out when you already have your tickets.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Afr6l0wtZHBct_2K6t8lQnJ1LlIs4Je6Q7GkwtaFus/edit?usp=sharing

! Please note that if some participants will stay longer for holiday reasons, organisers will not provide them with transportation to/from the airport.

VISA ARRANGEMENTS

Participants with passport of EU states, Ukraine, Russia and Jordan do not need VISA to enter the territory of Armenia. You will need to have only a **Valid for next 6 month & not Damaged international Passport.**

IMPORTANT: check the validity of your passports before the departure.

If you have any question don't hesitate to contact us!

Karen Ayvazyan +37493988133 (whatsapp, viber), ayvazyan.karen@gmail.com, Marat Oganessian, marat_oganyesyan@yahoo.com.