

IntergenerACTION

'A training course to develop intergenerational actions involving young people'

- **Methodology:** A **creative** and **interactive** 5-day residential training approach to explore and develop new community-based intergenerational activities.
- **Countries involved:** Ireland, Belgium, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Holland, Turkey, Lithuania, Bulgaria & Spain.
- **Target Participants:** **YOUTH WORKERS** (working with young people with fewer opportunities) who are interested in developing action **projects** on **intergenerational work**.
- **Language of the training:** **English** (all participants are required to be able to communicate in English)
- **No of participants:** 26 **Date and venue:** 14-19/11/11, Valais, **Switzerland**
- **Trainers team:** Marc Weiss (Switzerland), Noemie Cheval (Belgium), Barbora Blahova (Czech Republic), Viv Sadd (Ireland)
- **For more info:** please contact us at marc.b.weiss@gmail.com



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Context:

2012 has been designated as priority year across Europe for **intergenerational work** by the EU. This training course has been developed to explore the ways in which youth workers can be involved in intergenerational work for 2012 with the **Youth in Action program**.

In today's society and in local communities, **young** people have limited interaction with **"OLDER PEOPLE"** (i.e. above retirement age). Many fixed stereotypes are held regarding "older people" and "young people". This can result in discrimination and isolation.

Intergenerational work provides an opportunity for young people to engage with older people and for older people to engage with young people for the mutual exchange of knowledge, skills and support.

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Intergenerational work:

- Bring older and younger people together in purposeful, mutually beneficial activities
- Breaks down barriers that exist between younger and older people in disadvantaged communities
- Build respectful and cohesive communities which reduce social exclusion.
- Through intergenerational youth work, younger people can experience lifelong learning concept and will become more active and inclusive citizens in their community.

Objectives:

- To explore ageism and identify and challenge the prejudices and stereotypes about age.
- To raise awareness and understanding about the nature of 'intergenerational work' and how it fits together with the concept of lifelong learning
- To generate some new ideas of how and what youth workers in community contexts can do at local and European levels to develop current intergenerational practice
- To provide foundations to enable participants to: network, share intergenerational work "best practice" and promote and implement intergenerational work in their own communities within the context of the Youth in Action program