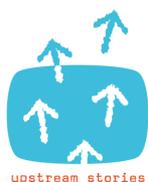


PICTURE THE CHANGE:
PARTICIPATORY
PHOTOGRAPHY FOR
YOUTH WORKERS

ERASMUS + KA1
INFOPACK FOR PARTICIPANTS



altera_lab.

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ABOUT THE PROJECT



Picture the Change is a three-stage project that aims at exploring the potential of participatory photography as a method for supporting young people at risk of exclusion. Our goal is to create a network of youth workers who are enthusiastic about creative methodologies and ready to discover how digital means of expression and modern technologies can be used for giving voice to young people who are often excluded, demotivated, and deprived of the right to express themselves freely.

During this project you will learn what participatory photography is, analyze it from a methodological perspective, and with the support of the facilitators' team you will be able to plan and implement local workshops in your own community.

ABOUT THE METHOD

Participatory media methods cover a range of different ways to actively include voices that are not present in or have no or limited access to traditional mainstream media. It invites people to create, connect and share experiences with each other.

Participatory media methods are based on the belief in the fundamental right of all individuals to have access to tools and skills through which they can express their own needs and views. We use these methods to give people an opportunity to share their lived experiences and present the world as they see it. It enables self-expression through creative media and encourages those who are traditionally the subjects of media to become its creator.

Often people believe that their experiences are not interesting enough to tell a story about, that they are not creative enough, or they don't want to bother others with their worries and cares.

Participatory photography, which is the method we are going to focus on during this project, can be seen as a tool for informal and non-formal education, empowerment, dialogue and social change for marginalized groups and individuals.

It is a visual method based on the understanding that people are the experts in their own lives. It encourages self-expression through photography and enables those who are traditionally the subjects of photography to become its creators.

All participatory photography projects focus on a specific issue and aim to train people in photography and bring lasting change to participants, empowering them to inform others and to be actively involved in their communities. Participatory photography projects are supposed to enable participants to document their own lives from the inside and to represent themselves to the outside world.



WHY PHOTOGRAPHY?

- Photography is a powerful means of communication, it can shed light on and raise awareness of important social and global issues
- Photography is fun
- Photography enables self-exploration and self-representation
- Photography can bridge linguistic barriers and cultural differences
- Photography can bring personal perspectives closer to a public
- Pictures are almost always open to multiple interpretations

APPLICATION:



After being selected by the partner organization each candidate should follow the next steps:

1. Fill out the online for: <https://forms.gle/CPN9rfmxmgVsqrNk6> - deadline 16th of October
2. Participate in an online meeting with the team of Upstream Stories
3. If selected, wait for further information to buy their tickets

The coordinating organization, Upstream Stories, reserves the right to make the final selection of participants after an individual meeting with each candidate.

The deadline to present participants will be the 16th of October, if the partner organizations doesn't manage to find candidates the coordinating organization will make a selection from the open call created on SALTO-YOUTH.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES:



Picture the Change consists of three stages:

1. Intro training course in Denmark: November 2023 (27th of November to 5th of December 2023)
2. Local workshops back in your home country: December 2023- February 2024
3. Sum-up training in Armenia: March 2024 (dates to be announced soon)



Stage 1: Intro training in Denmark

(27th November to 5th of December 2023)

During the first part of the project, each of you will go through a process of creating your pictures. This will help you to understand the method of participatory photography really well, so that you will be able to implement your own workshops back in your home community. To prepare you for the challenges that might happen while working with youngsters, the intro training course will also contain several sessions during which we will analyze participatory photography on a meta-level and will help you adjust it the method itself to the specific needs of your target group.

During the months between the intro training in Denmark and the sum-up meeting in Armenia, each of the country groups needs to implement minimum one local workshop. This is really important - you will have a chance to test your skills in practice, see how comfortable you feel as a facilitator and make a list of things that are still challenging for you so that we can address them during the sum-up meeting in March.

Your tasks during the local field work stage:

- organize a participatory photography workshop for minimum 6 youngsters at risk of exclusion
- send us a small narrative report from the workshop
- make a social media post/website entry documenting what you did

We will help you prepare and plan for the local workshops while you're in Denmark, so don't be too worried about how to do it. It is important though, that you already before coming to Denmark, consider and talk to your organization about when the local workshop might take place, where, and who your target group will be. Please remember that the activities in this stage are obligatory and fulfilling your tasks is a necessary condition for receiving travel reimbursement.



Stage 2: Local workshops in your home country

(December 2023 – February 2024)



Stage 3: Sum-up training in Armenia

(dates to be announced)

During the last part of the project all of us will meet in Armenia to sum up the experiences we had during the local workshops. The aim of this training is to reflect on us as facilitators and to address the most common challenges we had while conducting our local activities for youngsters.

As a result of this meeting, we will together create a tool kit on participatory photography that can help spread the information about the method and encourage other youth workers to explore the potential of digital methods for preventing exclusion of young people at risk.

For the last stage of the project, soon you will receive a separate document with all the details concerning the venue and the travel.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS AND REIMBURSEMENT



As all of the planned activities are equally important, it is crucial that you take part in each of them. We see this project not simply as a sum of its three parts, but as a continuous process during which we work together and support each other in becoming more conscious participatory photography facilitators.

All the costs related to your stay both in Denmark and in Armenia (such as accommodation and food) will be covered by the project. This project has no participation fee.

As for the costs of your travel, it will be covered up to the maximum amount per person as follows:

FOR THE TRAINING COURSE IN DENMARK:

Spain: 275 EUR
Portugal: 360 EUR
Poland: 275 EUR
Latvia: 275 EUR
Italy: 275 EUR
Ukraine: 275 EUR
Georgia: 360 EUR
Moldova: 275 EUR
Armenia: 530 EUR

FOR THE SUM-UP MEETING IN ARMENIA:

Spain: 820 EUR
Portugal: 820 EUR
Poland: 360 EUR
Latvia: 360 EUR
Italy: 360 EUR
Ukraine: 275 EUR
Georgia: 210 EUR
Moldova: 275 EUR
Denmark: 530 EUR

REIMBURSEMENT

As you already know, this project consists of three separate activities (intro training in Denmark, local activities, sum-up training in Armenia) and your participation in all of them is obligatory. Your full involvement in every stage is a necessary condition for you to get reimbursed.

THE PROCEDURE IS THE FOLLOWING:

After the first training course you will receive 80% of the maximum reimbursement of your travel costs to Denmark . The missing 20% will be sent to you later only if:

1. You complete all the tasks foreseen in the local field work stage (minimum 1 well documented local workshop from which we receive a report and a collection of pictures taken by participants)
2. You come to Armenia and actively participate in the sum up training course

If you fulfill both of those tasks, you will receive the missing 20% of your travel costs to Denmark along with the full reimbursement (within the maximum limit) of your travel costs to Armenia.

TRAVELS TO DENMARK



You will be able to travel to any of the main Airports in Denmark, Billund airport, Aalborg airport, Copenhagen airport/Kastrup airport or Aarhus Airport. Further information on how to get to the venue will be provided after the selection of participants.

TRAVELS TO ARMENIA



You will be able to travel to the Airports of Yerevan or to the Airport of Tbilisi (Georgia), we recommend you to check both options as sometimes it is cheaper to travel to Georgia and make the rest of the trip by mini-bus. Please remember you need a **passport** to enter Armenia even if you travel via Georgia (that doesn't require passport). Further information with details about the travel will be provided during the preparations for the Sum-up meeting .

ACCOMODATION IN DENMARK



We will be staying at the Pindstrup Centret (<https://www.pindstrupcentret.dk>) in Pindstrup Ryomgaard, where we will have our sessions and all meals. Participants will be staying in a double room with private bathroom that will be shared with someone from the same gender.



ACCOMODATION IN ARMENIA



We will be staying in the village of Aparan. Participants will be sharing a bedroom with someone from the same gender identity. Further information with details about the venue will be provided during the preparations for the Sum-up meeting .

WEATHER IN DENMARK



The weather in Pindstrup in November/December is wet. The climate is rather more than very fresh in this location so plan to cover you well! The thermometer averaged maximum of 5°C. The minimum is 4°C. So be prepared with a lot of layers and comfortable clothes to be inside and outside as the temperature will vary a lot.

WEATHER IN ARMENIA



The weather in Aparan in March is cold. The maximum temperature is 2°C and minimum temperature is -5°C. The climate is quite cold in this location in March. Plan a sweater! Rain and snow may occur during our meeting. But this is reasonable and it will not be continuous.

OUR TEAM

DORTHE BÆKBY OLESEN

Upstream Stories

Holding an MA in Visual Anthropology, Dorte is passionate about visual storytelling and drawn to all kinds of visuals. How they tell stories and how we in the process of image making can develop and explore a shared language for the invisible. She is especially curious about analogue photography and she finds other people's dusty family photos to be pure gold!

In order to continue to grow as a facilitator of participatory methods, Dorte has received professional training by Photovoice (UK) on participatory photography. Furthermore, she has refined her sensory and poetic language while attending the documentary film school of Dox:World (DK).



ANA FARELO

Upstream Stories

Ana has been a youth worker since 2015. After doing her 12 months EVS in Armenia she started working in her hosting organization as a project coordinator and trainer and has organized and participated in several projects ever since. With a background in Cinema and Video she started applying the visual arts in her trainings as a form of personal reflection and development through Digital Storytelling and Photography. Currently she is working as a trainer as well as studying at university to become a teacher.



KASIA KOWALSKA

Upstream Stories

Kasia is a political scientist specializing in theory and practice of civil society development in post-communist countries. Both on a professional and personal level, she is deeply fascinated with history and culture of Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. Throughout her career she lived and worked in Romania, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, and Georgia. Wherever she goes, she collects personal stories and explores how the power of sharing can help people build a meaningful dialogue across cultural difference



LAURA POGHOSYAN

altera lab

Laura is a founder of "altera lab" youth center in Armenia. She is holding an academic degree of Master's in Psychology and has been involved in the non-formal education field for 10 years. She is an experienced youth worker, trainer and project manager on local and international levels with the main focus on personal development, social inclusion, artistic expression, non-violent communication, healthy lifestyle, mindfulness, intercultural learning and dialogue with the use of experiential learning methodology.



THE ORGANIZERS:



Upstream Stories is a Denmark based NGO specializing in participatory media and digital methods for promoting social inclusion. This includes mostly digital storytelling and participatory photography projects (PhotoVoice). All of our activities aim at giving voice to young people who are otherwise unheard since they are members of groups at risk of social exclusion (such as especially migrants, refugees, and youngsters living in deprived urban areas with limited access to education).



"altera lab" educational youth NGO is a non-profit organization established in Aparan, Armenia, that promotes non-formal education, personal development, artistic expression, healthy lifestyle, mindfulness, inner potential disclosure and application, active citizenship and participation in community development.

CONTACTS:

For any additional information or clarification please contact

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or

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