

KA151 Erasmus Training course 'Exploring Outdoor Education in youth work'

30/06/2025 – 09/07/2025

Norway, Volda

Coordinated by JOETZ vzw

Key words

- ⇒ Youth work
- ⇒ Outdoor education
- ⇒ Skill development
- ⇒ Exploration
- ⇒ Inclusive youth work

What are the objectives?

- ⇒ To introduce youth workers to **practical outdoor skills and methods**.
- ⇒ To demonstrate how outdoor education fosters inclusivity, **resilience and personal development among youth**.
- ⇒ To empower organizations with little or no prior experience in outdoor education to **integrate these methods into their youth work activities**.

This training is based on the belief that engaging in outdoor education with children and young people **significantly contributes to their overall health and well-being**. Outdoor activities provide opportunities to connect with nature, develop physical resilience, and improve mental clarity. By fostering teamwork, problem-solving, and a sense of adventure, **outdoor education promotes a healthy body and a balanced mind, empowering young people to thrive in their daily lives**.

What's in it for the youth workers participating, and/or for your organization?

Direct impact of the project on the participant:

- ⇒ Participants gain **practical skills in planning and leading outdoor activities** for children and young people.
- ⇒ Participants learn how to **incorporate outdoor education into their existing youth work practices**.
- ⇒ They **gain confidence** in organizing outdoor activities, even if they have limited prior experience in outdoor settings.
- ⇒ Participants become aware of the possibilities and benefits of outdoor education and its **impact on health and well-being**.

For the partner organization in this project:

- ⇒ Participants are **empowered to inspire others** within and outside their organization to embrace outdoor education.
- ⇒ The participant will have the opportunity to **share the acquired knowledge** through workshops or training sessions within their organization, passing on skills and insights to fellow youth workers and volunteers.
- ⇒ The participant can **integrate outdoor education methodologies into the organization's youth work**, enriching the leisure activities offered to children and young people.

Indirect impact of the project on the target audience of the participants:

- ⇒ By introducing outdoor activities, participants **create opportunities for children and young people** to connect with nature, fostering a sense of calm, resilience, and emotional well-being.
- ⇒ Participants encourage young people to step outside their **comfort zones, building confidence, problem-solving skills and teamwork**.
- ⇒ Through outdoor education, children and young people develop a **healthy mind in a healthy body**, exploring their potential while learning to collaborate and support one another in natural settings.
- ⇒ Participants help young people develop practical skills and a **deeper appreciation for the environment**, contributing to their personal growth and sustainable thinking.

Which partner organizations and participants are we looking for?

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

We are seeking organizations that organize **leisure activities for children and young people**. Ideally, these organizations offer at least **local and/or regional activities** and are maybe open to exploring European/international opportunities. Additionally, we welcome organizations that support others in providing leisure activities for children and youth.

We are particularly interested in organizations with **limited experience in outdoor education but with a strong motivation to explore its potential and implement it in their work**. These partners should also be committed to ensuring the knowledge gained reaches their teams and target groups effectively.

PARTICIPANTS

The primary target group for this project are youth workers **aged 21 and older**. We prefer youth workers **who engage with children and young people in their free time**, whether as **professionals** (paid youth workers) or as **volunteers** (unpaid youth workers or those receiving a volunteer allowance).

We are targeting youth workers who:

- ⇒ Have some **experience in youth work**;
- ⇒ Take an active role in their organization (either as professionals or volunteers);
- ⇒ Can pass on the learned competencies to their fellow youth workers within or outside the organization;
- ⇒ Have **little to no experience with outdoor education** but are motivated to explore and immerse themselves in this field;
- ⇒ Are open-minded, curious, and eager to learn and share their experiences with others;
- ⇒ Maintain an **open attitude** toward all participants and recognize the value and qualities of everyone present;
- ⇒ Are prepared for a **unique outdoor experience**, including sleeping in tents, being active outdoors 90% of the time, and adapting to the long summer days in Norway where light persists for most of the day;
- ⇒ Understand and are ready to face unpredictable weather conditions, as it is possible to experience summer, autumn, and even winter-like weather all in one day.

What do we expect from an organization that joins as a partner in this project?

Expectations:

- ⇒ Willing to **put into practice** what has been learned, incorporating knowledge, skills, and methodologies to enhance the quality of their (inter)national activities.
- ⇒ Participating in an online **meeting** with the organizers and all partners prior to the project and an online meeting as follow-up after the training.
- ⇒ **Dissemination** of the learning outcomes to increase the **impact** and scope of the project.
- ⇒ Send required documents on time.

Regarding the selection of the participants, we ask to the partner organization to:

- ⇒ spread the project in the context of selecting the participants using provided communication materials by JOETZ;
- ⇒ conduct the pre-selection of the participants based on the provided criteria. The final selection will be made by JOETZ and the trainers;
- ⇒ To keep the conditions of Erasmus+ program fundings all the partners must guarantee to complete the group of a certain number participants (TBD; most probably till the end of February) and the participation of them in the whole training course.

Regarding the preparation of the participants, we ask the partner organization to:

- ⇒ inform the participants about Erasmus+;
- ⇒ assist the participants in making travel plans and organizing transportation;
- ⇒ after the training schedule a meeting with the participants of your organization to collectively examine what the training course meant for them and your organization.

We encourage organizations that have little or no experience with Erasmus+ to be a partner. JOETZ offers extra support in this case.

Who organizes this project?

Grant receiving and coordinating organization: JOETZ

JOETZ is a **recognized national youth association** by the Flemish government. JOETZ's mission is to be a **health promoter for children and young people** (3-30 years old) in Flanders and Brussels.

JOETZ wants to achieve this mission through various health projects (healthy workshops, online and offline health content, health campaigns), activities (children's and youth holidays, playground activities, children's events) & training (animator/youth leader trainings, training courses, peer to peer education) and does this for, by and with children and young people. This happens locally, supra-locally and internationally.

As a health promoter, JOETZ wants to have an impact on children and young people, always starting from its youth work DNA: **in a fun and playful non-formal way**.

JOETZ's specific core tasks are: [health projects](#), [activities & holidays](#), [trainings for our unpaid youth workers](#), [international youth work](#) and giving a voice to young people.

Role:

- Supporting and ensuring a high quality of the content of the training together with the trainers.
- Creating support for a safe project atmosphere together with the trainers and facilitators.
- Financial and administrative handling of the project (e.g. reimbursements).
- Youth passes
- Creating support for the implementation of the project in the broader youth work in Flanders and beyond.

Contact:

- Liselotte Bekaert, coordinator international youth work JOETZ
- www.internationaaljeugdwerk.be
- [Instagram](#)

Practical

- Location: Norway, Volda at a farm Rysta Gård. Location is a picturesque farm in Volda, nestled in the stunning Sunnmøre Alps of Norway. These fjord-side mountains soar over 1,800 meters, offering the perfect backdrop for outdoor learning and exploration.
- Duration: 8 days (excl. 2 travel days)
- Dates: 1/7/2025- 8/7/2025, excluding arrival day (30/6) en departure day (9/7)
- Accommodation, food and travel expenses during the training course dates are 100% covered by the Erasmus+ grant (based on planned budgets cfr. program guide).
- There is a **participation fee of 55 euros**.

How to become a partner in this Erasmus+ project?

1. Please carefully read this call for partners.
2. Answer the questions in digital forms here: <https://forms.gle/9xVdi2m5uZxUNexXA>
3. Deadline 10/02/2025

More questions? internationaal@joetz.be