

**ERASMUS PLUS
PARTNER IDENTIFICATION
(PIF)**

COLONY OF CREATORS	
PIC	882745688
OID	E10330383
Full legal name (National Language)	Colony Of Creators
Full legal name (Latin characters)	Colony Of Creators
Address (Street and number)	Azinhaga da Torre, 6
Country	Portugal
Region	Região Autónoma da Madeira R.A.M
Post code	9200-129
City	Machico, Madeira
Email	official@colonyofcreators.com
Telephone	+351964710045

PROFILE	
Type of Organisation	Non Governmental Organisation - NGO
Is the partner organisation a public body	No
Is the partner organisation a non-profit?	Yes

LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE	
Title	Miss
Gender	Female
First Name	Andreia
Family Name	Teixeira
Department	Management
Position	President
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CONTACT PERSON	
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Title	Miss
Gender	Female
First Name	Veronica
Family Name	Teixeira
Department	Management
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BACKGROUND AND EXPERIENCE

Please provide a short presentation of your organisation (key activities, affiliations, size of the organisation, etc.) relating to the area covered by the project.

Established as an official NGO in 2023, Colony of Creators began its journey as a group of dedicated young individuals in 2017. Through persistence and perseverance, our mission is to expand and offer more opportunities to the youth.

Colony of Creators is a non-profit, non-governmental organization that advances knowledge, entrepreneurship, civic society development, non-formal education, and innovative learning techniques, primarily targeting the youth (15 to 35). We uphold values of tolerance, democracy, diversity, voluntariness, and openness.

Our institutional capacity is also proven through our registration with the European Commission, and we are deeply aligned with core European values, including human rights, gender equality, ecological awareness, equal digital tool access and solidarity.

Our objective is to stimulate local community development via collaborations across private, public, and civil society sectors. We advocate for inclusivity in non-formal education and foster a spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship.

We are driven by the determination to create a meaningful impact and provide an expanded array of opportunities for young people, particularly prioritizing support for youth facing challenges due to geography, socioeconomic status, mental health challenges or personal circumstances. (social anxiety, social isolation etc)

Our key goals are safeguarding the environment, fostering youth engagement at a global scale, and creating a conducive work environment.

We undertake initiatives such as conducting research on gamified activities, disseminating information, collaborating with international associations, and encouraging collaborations for environmental protection.

Our focus areas include:

- **Youth Empowerment:** Prioritizing equal opportunities, supporting potential realization, and including youth issues in policies.

- **Education and Training:** Providing locally and international quality, and skill-oriented education with guidance in soft skills, emotional intelligence and discrimination-violence prevention.

We specialize in enhancing the professional development of educators (teachers, adult learners, and youth workers) through courses on innovative teaching approaches, diversity and inclusion, sustainability, and digital and AI transformations.

- **Youth and Non-Formal Education:** Pioneering the integration of digital tools and Artificial Intelligence (AI) to enhance learning in youth mobilities. This involves improving information access, combating fake news through advanced media literacy training, and supporting the development of a strong media sector workforce.

Fostering essential soft skills such as creativity, collaboration, communication, and critical thinking, through advanced problem solving and team building activities.

We use cutting-edge NFE methodologies, including digital storytelling and AI integration, to actively work with marginalized groups and promote gender equality and social inclusion by identifying and dismantling integration barriers (language, social, accessibility).

- **Youth Employment:** Promoting youth employment, aiming for a more informed approach to youth unemployment and their professional development, facilitating youth engagement in economic growth sectors.
- **Mental Health:** Promoting responsible sexual behavior, promoting mental health, supporting youth in increasing emotional intelligence, raising awareness of gender disparities and raising awareness about healthy lifestyles and reproductive health.
- **Environment:** Encouraging youth engagement in environmental protection, infusing nature-based activities in our mobilities, innovation in environmental management, and eco-friendly behavior.
- **Arts and Culture:** Promoting and protecting local arts and culture and supporting various forms of artistic expression. Providing individuals a safe space where their voice is heard and respected equally across all platforms. Preserving local and cultural heritage by helping in local events and promoting our heritage across all international mobilities through dance showcases, culinary workshops and hands-on craft making.
- **Sport and Recreation:** Ensuring access to sports facilities, promoting sports as a tool for social responsibility, and using sports for inclusion and education.

Our organization also advocates for democracy, European standards, tolerance, social solidarity, environmental safety, gender equality, human rights, and socially responsible entrepreneurship.

We cooperate with local, regional and international organizations and facilitate sustainable economic development projects.

We have successfully helped over **2000 educators/Adult learners** and have a verified **94% success rate** in guiding applicants through the Erasmus+ funding application process, demonstrating our administrative expertise in EU-aligned project management.

	Our vision is to be the leading organization in Madeira and Portugal by fostering young leadership, supporting young athletes, and connecting professionals for knowledge transfer and business opportunities. Our mission includes gathering young people for social benefit, upholding principles like discipline, commitment, teamwork, integrity, diversity, and transparency, and providing opportunities for youth engagement. We have made steady and promising progress, thanks to our dedicated partners and ongoing local and international projects. Our work includes awareness campaigns, research, project development, training programs, and language courses, reaching almost 2000 followers on social media. Our teams operate based on our values, educational experience, hands-on experience, offering personal and professional growth opportunities and reliable networks for successful project implementation, partnerships and corporations.
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What are the activities and experience of the organization in youth work? Please provide information on your organization's / group's regular youth work activities.	Formed by a group of friends that met through local Madeira events, through national Portugal events and combined forces and skills. We conduct various activities like local workshops, team-building sessions, and training, centered around themes like urbanization, emotional intelligence, critical thinking, AI in life and digital tools, literacy, and environmental challenges, while advocating for democratic participation at all levels. Our experienced team has over a decade of involvement in international mobilization projects and also participation in the Erasmus Plus program across various countries, all these add to our team's competency. Our approach emphasizes peacebuilding, inclusion, and tolerance, tackling issues like minority rights, LGBTIQ+ concerns, and mental health support. We value the power of non-formal (NFE) and informal education and strive to provide individuals and the community access to such resources, tools and strategies. Our NFE methodology is advanced, utilizing <i>Experiential Learning Cycles</i>, <i>Collaborative Problem-Solving</i>, and <i>Toolkit Development</i> (creating adaptable activities like gamified lessons). We currently organize, support and collaborate in strategic Youth Mobilities that address key European priorities and have extensive experience in topics such as: • Environmental Protection & Climate Action • Civic Engagement & Democracy • Health and Well-being • Digital, Media & Entrepreneurship • Social Inclusion & Anti-Discrimination • Leveraging Digital tools with AI Integration in Storytelling
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Local and Regional Youth Work in Madeira

Our local work is highly focused on community needs across Madeira Island, implemented through specific partnerships and thematic actions:

- **Elderly and Digital Inclusion:** We collaborate with the **Universidade Sénior de Machico** (Senior University), where we deploy non-formal education methods to teach elderly participants **digital tools and AI fundamentals**. This work focuses on developing soft skills, including communication and critical thinking, to bridge the intergenerational digital divide.
- **Youth Soft Skills Development:** We coordinate and implement non-formal games and activities during the **Férias Ativas de Machico** (Active Holidays of Machico) summer camps. Our team focuses on developing essential soft skills in youth, specifically: communication, teamwork, empathy building, and emotional intelligence.
- **Youth and Artistic Approach:** We conduct local activities with the orphanage, in the **Centro do Aconchego** in Machico, applying **artistic approaches**, communication, and team-building games to support the children's personal and social growth.
- **Community and Institutional Partnerships:** We maintain active local collaborations, including with the **Casa do Povo de Machico** (People's House of Machico), **SocioHabita Funchal NGO**, and actions with the **Pousada da Juventude** (Youth Center in Funchal).
- **Environmental Action:** In all our local and international environmental activities, our team, particularly Veronica Teixeira, emphasizes practical ways to take '**Green steps**' and improve actions for environmental preservation and care, leveraging her background in Environmental and Occupational Health.

Comprising dynamic members spread across Portugal from the mainland to the islands, our organization celebrates diversity in ideas and experiences.

Our robust engagement with nearly 2000 social media followers, over 60 national and international partners, along with multiple schools, organizations, and sports clubs, highlights our expansive and experienced network.

Recognized for our innovative solutions and result-oriented approach, we remain dedicated to making a positive impact on as many individuals and communities as possible.

Skills and expertise of key staff involved in the project, Name of staff member and summary of relevant skills and experience, including where relevant a list of recent publications related to the domain of the project.

ANDREIA TEIXEIRA (President, Trainer & Senior Project Manager)

Andreia since birth has been turned for adventure, born in Madeira Island, raised until 9 in Australia and then returning to Madeira, she was all about being involved in community events, finding herself, her purpose and what is her contribution to the world.

Background studies were based on self-education approaches and informal learning, she is proud self-taught in community engagement, soft and social skills digital and AI integration (certified by Google) and or fun studied 3 years marketing and digital

storytelling. She is the member that we call obsessed with lifelong learning.

Her “work” began before that, from 18 to 21, she actively volunteered in several cultural events in Madeira and in her city Machico, demonstrating an early commitment to social service and local development.

Andreia volunteered and was part of 2 artistic groups, one “The Mad Space Invaders” a group of international artists that did installations of mixed-art across the island, and another **eco-recycling** initiative of turning waste into daily use items.

This included participation in **theatrical plays** through the senior university (Universidade senior de Machico). Taking part in the organization and artistic promotion of the **regional Carnival parades**, and the conceptualization, building, and performance on stages at the **Medieval Market** (mercado Quinhentista) for 4 years.

She was also fully involved for two years in the highly respected local tradition of **Fachos**, a tradition held for over 100 years in Machico, **preserving local heritage and culture**. During this period, she also dedicated time to working with summer camps in her city.

Andreia also was a part of several **sports federations**, being the ADRAP basketball and local Caniçal football team participating in several sports events and competitions. She was also a practitioner of the martial arts of Capoeira for 5 years, where she participated and did shows/demonstrations in Portugal, Romania, Hungary and Turkey.

Following the belief of continuing to **paying it forward**, she embarked on an international experience initiating her journey in youth projects under the Erasmus plus program or at that time Youth In Action back in 2013.

In 2014, Andreia participated in an EVS focusing on assisting disadvantaged children and minority communities, employing non-formal education methods with a particular emphasis on theater and art inclusion.

Post this engagement, she continued to participate and contribute to various projects, both as a participant and a trainer in the Erasmus plus program.

Professionally, Andreia has a keen interest in creative projects, AI, human rights, gender equality, storytelling and inclusion.

She is an expert in the field of non-formal education, who has successfully managed **more than 100 mobility projects**, and has trained in **over 25 countries**.

She currently represents Colony of Creators in several actions and international events, including giving talks in consortiums and expert visits to schools (Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria, Turkey, Portugal, Italy)

Presently, as the **President** of Colony of Creators NGO, Andreia spearheads international projects and collaborations while managing international volunteers and training across several countries.

Since 2022, she has been delivering training directly to schools, teachers, adult learners and has personally coordinated **40 (KA1)** training courses for educators/youth workers.

She has also been a part of KA2 mobilities under the Erasmus plus program as coordinator and partner.

She supports institutions/NGOs/youth groups in the implementation of their mobilities, documentations with sharing her experience and best-practices.
She is a great project manager and an expert in the non-formal education field.

Additionally, she is **Google certified in digital tools and artificial intelligence**, which empowers her to teach and share these advanced tools to diverse audiences, including teachers, adult learners, institutions, NGOs, and staff from social community centers.

She also organizes local trainings in Madeira, with local school teachers joining.

VERONICA TEIXEIRA (Vice-President and Environmental Expert)

Veronica Teixeira, our representative, holds a Degree in **Environmental Health** and a Master's degree in **Occupational Health** and actively works within this field.

She participated in the Erasmus Plus program, undertaking mobility in 2017 and 2023 and completing an internship in Osijek, Croatia, in 2020.

Armed with deep knowledge and robust soft skills, Veronica is an invaluable asset to our organization as she has also taken part in 8 Erasmus plus KA1 mobilities. With that her skill set includes adept organization and execution of event and participant management.

She is deeply committed to creating fresh opportunities for the youth in our community. Leveraging her expertise in Environmental and Occupational Health, she is key to mobility and local activities, focusing on explaining practical 'Green steps' and improving actions for environmental preservation.

In addition, Veronica seamlessly merges sustainable and social perspectives to address diverse problems. Her exceptional communication and leadership skills coupled with her knack for finding optimal solutions contribute to our organization's success.

Her knowledge extends to financial and budgeting matters, providing practical insights both nationally and internationally. As a Project Manager at our organization, Veronica ensures the quality of our projects.

She oversees the implementation activities and coordinates a team of Project Coordinators.

Her primary focus encompasses Sustainability, Green Skills, Mental Health, and Gender Equality.

JOANA AZEITEIRO (Project Coordinator)

Joana holds a degree in European Studies and a Master's in International Economics and European Studies. Since her initial involvement in 2018, she has actively participated in **more than 15** international mobility opportunities under the Erasmus+ program, encompassing Youth Exchanges and Training Courses.

Joana transitioned from her role at the university in Lisbon and undertook an **internship within the Brussels Committee**, specifically working under the Erasmus+ program for universities in the Key Action 2 (KA2) action.

She currently works with an NGO based in Brussels that continues to focus on higher education and actively promotes the implementation of KA2 and KA3 actions, demonstrating substantial knowledge of the policy and the program itself.

As part of her responsibilities, Joana primarily oversees the operations of the

Assembly.

This involves scheduling regular meetings, preparing necessary materials, and proposing meeting agendas.

She chairs the Assembly's meetings, signs official documents, and ensures the execution of the Assembly's decisions and conclusions.

Moreover, Joana liaises between the Assembly and other departments and collaborates with Project Coordinators on both local and international projects. Her main focus is on the administrative aspects of these projects.

LARA MENDES (Psychologist and Trainer)

Lara is a practicing psychologist and a certified trainer in our NGO.

As an expert in **trauma-informed practices**, she provides specialized training to youth workers on crucial subjects such as mental health, emotional intelligence, and dealing with overwhelm and anxiety.

Under the Erasmus+ Key Action 1 (KA1) program, she delivers both School (SCH) and Adult Education (ADU) courses on these same topics, providing specific tools and strategies for teachers to use in their classrooms and for adult learners/youth workers to implement in their local and international work.

NELIA CASTRO (Psychologist and Trainer)

Nelia Castro brings deep expertise as a psychologist and cyclone analyst. For **15 years**, she has worked directly with the local community at the **Centro do Aconchego** orphanage in Machico.

Leveraging this extensive practical experience, she transitioned into providing training over the past year.

She is certified in **Teen Coaching** and has been involved with Colony of Creators for over a year, focusing on Key Actions and local youth work in the Madeira/Machico area.

MEDIA TEAM (Professional Photographers & Videographers)

Our dedicated media team consists of professional photographers and videographers. Their expertise provides an invaluable asset to our partnerships and cooperations, ensuring that every activity we undertake whether local, regional, or international is captured, documented, and transformed into a compelling stories that we can share across our social media channels and NGO website.

INTERNATIONAL/EUROPEAN PARTNERSHIPS

1. No.2019-3-PT02-KA105-00628 - Youth mobility - "Stay Alive - Think and Drive"
2. No.KA122-ADU-414CAE3B - Short-term projects for mobility of learners "Building Bridges, Not Barriers: Support Disadvantaged Adults in Overcoming Emotional and Mental Obstacles to Lifelong Learning"

Code	Project Name	Applicant/Beneficiary Name	Topic
2024-1-NL02 -KA153-YOU -000239128	Don't judge a book by its cover! Diving into Living Library Methodology with Youth Workers	Jongeren voor Uitwisseling en Begrip - NL	Quality and innovation of youth work ; Human rights and rule of law; European identity and values
2024-1-CY01	Youth Leaders for	Dione Youth Organization -	Bridging intercultural, intergenerational and

-KA153-YOU-000233855	Cultural Inclusion	CY	social divide ; Preventing racism and discrimination
2023-3-DE04- -KA152-YOU-000172305	Vote for you!	AMARO FORO - TRANSKULTURELLE JUGENDSELBSTORGANISATION VON ROMA UND NICHT-ROMA- E.V.- DE	Awareness about the European Union ; Democracy and inclusive democratic participation ; European identity and values
2023-3-IT03- KA152-YOU-000185014	Startup Spark: Igniting Entrepreneurial Success	Change for the Future -IT	Digital skills and competences ; Entrepreneurial learning - entrepreneurship education ; Bridging intercultural, intergenerational and social divide
2023-3-ES02- -KA153-YOU-000179486	Don't Get Caught in The Cycle of Addiction!	Generaciones Saludables España - SP	Digital safety ; New learning and teaching methods and approaches ; Quality and innovation of youth work
2023-3-IT03- KA152-YOU-000184278	Guardians of the Green	Young Dreamers - IT	Environment and climate change ; Youth policy development
2023-3-HU01- -KA152-YOU-000175050	Transition of Traditional Brown Economy to Green Economy	Megújulásért Környezetvédelmi Egyesület - HU	Environment and climate change ; Quality and innovation of youth work ; Employability
2023-3-IT03- KA152-YOU-000178826	Time is the only thing we can't recycle	Community of Natural Life - IT	Environment and climate change ; Disaster prevention, preparedness and recovery ; Quality and innovation of youth work
2023-2-SK02- -KA152-YOU-000168584	Mindful Media	Trailblazers - SK	Media literacy and tackling disinformation ; Digital skills and competences ; Digital safety
2023-1-DE04- -KA152-YOU-000115032	Personal Targets	Informal Group YouthFinder - DE	European identity and values ; Key competences development ; Physical and mental health, well-being
2022-1-HU01- -KA152-YOU-000062302	Change Yourself, not the Nature!	Fiatalok Egységben Egyesület - HU	Green skills ; Green transport and mobility ; Environment and climate change
2022-2-NO02- -KA152-YOU-000090624	Head Above Water	Youth Energeia - NO	Key competences development ; Physical and mental health, well-being
2022-1-CZ01- -KA152-YOU-000064783	Young Ecologists in Active Havirov	Youthist Off Havirov - CZ	Creativity, arts and culture ; Environment and climate change ; Green skills
2022-1-SI02- KA152-YOU-000064290	Give a Voice for the Climate	Environment and Ecology Community - SI	Creativity, arts and culture ; Environment and climate change
2022-3-HU01- -KA152-YOU	EcoYouth+Me	A Zöld Ragyogása Fiatalság Egyesület -HU	Creativity, arts and culture ; Environment and climate change

-000098301			
2022-2-TR01 -KA153-YOU -000091211	İklim Bekçileri	Yedi İklim Kultur Sanat Eğitim Bilim ve Yardımlaşma Derneği - TR	Environment and climate change ; European identity and values ; Green skills
2022-3-TR01 -KA152-YOU -000098824	Tüketim Toplumu	Bilinçli Tüketiciler Topluluğu - TR	Awareness about the European Union ; Green skills
2021-1-IT03- KA152-YOU- 000007867	Ecological Literacy Education	- Limitless Youth Voice - IT	Green skills ; Environment and climate change ; Promoting gender equality
2021-1-TR01 -KA152-YOU -000003544	Hayatı, Zamanı, Dünyayı Tüketme	İsrafla Mücadele Platformu- TR	Inclusion of marginalised young people ; Awareness about the European Union ; Physical and mental health, well-being
2021-1-CZ01 -KA152-YOU -000007159	Toys For Life	Youthist Off Havirov - CZ	Bridging intercultural, intergenerational and social divide ; Equal access and transition to labour market ; New learning and teaching methods and approaches
2021-1-CZ01 -KA152-YOU -000003785	Less Plastic is Fantastic	Green Europe Environment Protection Club - CZ	Digital skills and competences ; Environment and climate change ;Research and innovation
2021-1-RO01 -KA152-YOU -000003633	Make Earth Great Again	Asociația Universul Adolescenților - RO	Creativity, arts and culture ; Environment and climate change ; Green skills
2021-1-LT02- KA152-YOU- 000021212	Don't Stress, Do Your Best	With YOUth Stronger - LT	Physical and mental health, well-being ; International relations and development cooperation ; Youth policy development
2021-1-SE02 -KA152-YOU -000021078	Dangers of Media: Discrimination	Integration för Bättre Framtid - SE	Recognition, transparency, certification ; Promoting gender equality ; Inclusion of marginalised young people
2021-1-CZ01 -KA152-YOU -000007400	Global Consumption Culture	Objektivní Evropa - CZ	Community development ; Bridging intercultural, intergenerational and social divide; Youth policy development
2020-1-BG01 -KA105-0787 90	Storytelling for Social Justice, Dialogue and Inclusion	Foundation "Solidarity Works" - BG	EU Citizenship, EU awareness and Democracy ; Civic engagement / responsible citizenship ; Social dialogue
2020-1-TR01 -KA105-0854 18	Ignored Danger: Global Warming	Karadeniz Çevre Topluluğu-TR	Environment and climate change ;Energy and resources ; Natural sciences
2020-3-HU01 -KA105-0937 91	Young Makers in Action	Fiatalok Egységben Egyesület - HU	Creativity and culture ; Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy) ; Key Competence (incl. mathematics and literacy) - basic skills
2020-1-CZ01	Say Stop to Bullying	Youthist Off Havirov -CZ	Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth

-KA105-0775 40			Policy) ; Access for disadvantaged ; Gender equality / equal opportunities
2020-2-TR01 -KA105-0949 17	Therapy and Creativity with Art	Sanat ve Oyun Terapi Atolyesi - TR	Creativity and culture ; Health and wellbeing; Social dialogue
2019-2-LV02- KA105-0026 35	Anti-DEATHressant	OVER Latvia - LV	Health and wellbeing ; Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy) ; Creativity and culture
2019-3-RO01 -KA105-0777 61	Childhood Obesity Facts	Asociatia YouthIS - RO	International cooperation, international relations, development cooperation ; Health and wellbeing Youth (Participation, Youth Work, Youth Policy)