PARTNER IDENTIFICATION FORM

Mongibello Plus · Sicily, Italy

OID	E10417012
Legal name	Mongibello Plus
Legal name (Latin characters)	Mongibello Plus
Acronym	MONGIBELLO+
Country	Italy
Region	Sicily
City	Nizza di Sicilia (98026, ME)
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Website / Social Media	instagram.com/mongibello_plus

Profile

Type of Organisation	Group of young people (informal group)
Is the organisation a public body?	No
Is the organisation non-profit?	Yes

Background and Experience

Please briefly present your organisation/the group.

Mongibello Plus is a youth informal group based in Nizza di Sicilia, on the Ionian coast at the foot of Mount Etna. We work at the meeting point between local community development and European cooperation, accompanying young people who live far from the main mobility circuits and who often face geographical, economic and infrastructural barriers.

The name comes from Mongibello, the affectionate Sicilian name for Mount Etna — the highest and most active volcano in Europe. For Sicilians the mountain has a double face: environmental risk (eruptions, ash, drought, seismic activity) and extraordinary richness (fertile soils, biodiversity, identity, tourism). That duality is, for us, the symbol of Sicily itself: opportunity and obstacle, potential and isolation. The “Plus” is a direct reference to Erasmus+: the will to build a bridge with Europe so that young Sicilians are not spectators of European citizenship, but co-authors of it.

The informal group was established in 2026 to channel into one structure the experience already accumulated by its founding members as participants, group leaders and partners in Erasmus+ activities. Our mission is to empower young people in Southern Italy — especially in the Etna area, the Ionian coast and the Sicilian hinterland — by connecting them with European opportunities, strengthening their competences through non-formal education, and supporting their participation in democratic and community life.

Our fields of work follow both the reality of the territory and the horizontal priorities of Erasmus+: reducing the geographical isolation of Sicilian young communities; intercultural dialogue; climate action and stewardship of volcanic and coastal landscapes; digitalisation of rural areas; participation in democratic life and EU values; mental health and safe learning environments; inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities; solidarity and community care

(including the culture of blood donation through AVIS); employability and recognition of non-formal learning; outdoor education and community well-being.

What are the activities and experience of the organisation in youth work? Please provide information on your organisation's / group's regular youth work activities.

Although Mongibello Plus is a new entity, its founding members have collectively taken part in at least 50+ Erasmus+ mobilities — Youth Exchanges (KA152), Mobility of Youth Workers / Training Courses (KA153) and KA2 cooperation partnerships. This experience covers the full project cycle: partner communication, preparation, group leadership, participation in non-formal activities, documentation, dissemination and follow-up.

Regular local youth work will include:

- Info-meetings to present Erasmus+ opportunities to young people from the Etna area, the Ionian coast and nearby inland municipalities.
- Small-scale community events on active citizenship and European values.
- Outreach at local education fairs, including the Salone dello Studente of the University of Catania (UniCt).
- Workshops on digital and media literacy and the ethical use of AI.
- Environmental actions: coastal clean-ups, eco-trekking on Mount Etna, upcycling and circular-economy labs.
- Language cafés, intercultural evenings and inclusion workshops for first-timers and youth with fewer opportunities.
- Community solidarity actions linked to the provincial AVIS youth group (blood donation and volunteering).
- Mentoring of participants before, during and after international mobility.

We plan volunteering projects to support disadvantaged inland areas of Sicily, where youth communities are thinning. The organisation maintains working contact with about 28 partner organisations across Europe (Spain, Portugal, Greece, Germany, Türkiye, Hungary, Finland, Poland, Malta, France, Romania, Czechia and others).

Our primary target group is young people aged 16–30 from Sicily — students, NEETs, first-timers, and youth facing geographical or economic obstacles. Secondary groups include youth workers, teachers, families and local associations. Selection is open and accompanied: we do not only choose the most fluent English speakers. Operationally we can act as sending, hosting or supporting partner in KA1, with timely documentation, safeguarding standards, Youthpass support and local dissemination targeting a few hundred direct beneficiaries per project cycle.

Please give information on the key staff/persons involved in this application and on the competences and previous experience that they will bring to the project.

Antonio Scuto — President, Legal Representative and Project Manager. An active youth worker with a strong interest in geography, languages and intercultural exchange. He is also an educator: a certified English teacher (TEFL Academy Level 5). Through numerous Training Courses he has developed competence in non-formal education, group dynamics, leadership and project-cycle management. He oversees partnership communication, participant preparation and the quality of the learning process.

Carmelo Trischitta and Lorenzo Bertini — Social Media Managers and Communication Managers. Outgoing communicators skilled in social media, public relations and public speaking. They design dissemination and visibility (Instagram storytelling, visual documentation, local media) and facilitate workshops on digital skills and responsible online participation.

Pierluigi Sciacca — Local Events Manager. He holds a wide network of contacts with associations and public institutions and coordinates the provincial youth group of AVIS (Italian Association of Blood Donors). He anchors the organisation in schools, municipal spaces and community centres, and leads local outreach and solidarity actions.

Together the team brings to a partnership: a grounded island and Mediterranean perspective on peripherality, climate risk and intercultural dialogue; first-hand knowledge of Erasmus+ from the participant's and the group leader's side; local anchoring (schools, UniCt student fair, AVIS, municipal contacts); communication capacity; and a clear commitment to first-timers and young people with fewer opportunities. We look for reliable long-term partners, methodological exchange, and high-quality mobility for our local youth.

Legal Representative + Primary contact person

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