



Erasmus+

KA1 - Learning Mobility of Individuals

Association "Terra di Mezzo" – Italy

Project: **"Welcome back to Mother Nature"**

Practical Information

Project Legal Name: **"Welcome back to Mother Nature"**
Hosting Organization: **"Terra di Mezzo" (ITALY)**
Project Start Date: **1 February 2018**
Project Total Duration: **8 Months**
Project End Date: **30 September 2018**
Dates of the preliminary visit (APV):
25th – 26th March 2018 ITALY (Maierato, Filogaso – Calabria) (excluding travel days)
Dates of the meeting: **14th – 20th May 2018 ITALY** (Maierato, Filogaso – Calabria) (excluding travel days)
Countries: **All Programme Countries & 5 young people from each organization**

Each partner will organize **a group of 5 young people aged between 18 and 30** (and 1 leader) and the group must be done by ensuring as far as possible the gender balance.

Action: **Erasmus+ KA1**
Budget: **Accommodation, food, activity costs 100% will be covered within the program.**
Most importantly: **There will be a contribution to travel expenses based on the distance in kilometers as shown in the Erasmus program.**
Venue: **Maierato, Filogaso / Italy (Calabria)**
Contact : **If you are interested, please send us the attached form filled out partnership in every part to our email address terradimezzoaps@gmail.com or info@terradimezzoaps.eu**

PROJECT SUMMARY

Nowadays in many European countries there is a gradual abandonment of rural areas and of the related activities, which results in the change of the past respectful man-nature relationship. The project aims to develop in the young participants both general skills, such as active participation in local life and creativity, and specific competences in the field of cultivation techniques and production of primary goods, respecting natural cycles and resources. This could be the opportunity for sharing good practice at international level, for promoting trade and business relations, and tourism exchanges focused on quality agricultural production.

The project **"Welcome back to Mother Nature"** aims to inform the participants through workshops and reflection activities about the permaculture as the basis of ethical principles of design cultivation techniques. Through the composting, the wheat path and the spiral of the herbs workshops, young people will be made sensitive to the



Erasmus+

culture of sustainability. With experts and professionals, they will carry out simulation activities of fossil excavation, composting organic-waste, production of energy from renewable sources, re-use/recycling of damaged materials.

Meeting and confrontation among young people from different countries may result in a significant driving force to concrete actions of sustainable development and cultural change for both the young participants and the communities that would be involved in the activities through dissemination activities.

The basic idea is to make the physical space of the " **Welcome back to Mother Nature** " the place of design and testing of productive ecosystems that focus on the diversity, stability and flexibility of natural ecosystems in a conscious and efficient interaction between man and environment. The experience will be a synthesis of ecology, geography, anthropology, sociology and design.

Through the project we intend to develop young people's skills, in order to increase their autonomy, employment opportunities, their being active and aware in the search for a sustainable and rewarding life. The organization aims to develop and enhance the ecological and environmental sustainability awareness through the participation of different groups, such as young people, workers and development agents.

The cultural exchange will offer young people the opportunity to think, feel, invent and design integration in the world; to draw their own way of life, their home, the surrounding territory, with particular reference to sustainable agricultural production and sustainable tourism.

After the meeting young people will propose design and sustainable and integrated management of human and productive settlements in the territory.

The youth exchange will take place in MAIERATO in Calabria (Italy) and will be for 10 days (excluding travel days). It will involve young people aged 18-30 years.

During their staying, participants will have the opportunity:

1. to present their local and national culture;
2. to learn the local and national culture of the partner countries and of the host country through the presentation of sustainable experiences, especially concerning agriculture and tourism for the development of local production;
3. to co-operate among peers for the construction of an intercultural project;
4. to experience cooperative learning, peer education to practice, to be teachers and students;
5. to gain practical skills and improve communication skills.

The main objectives of the project are as follows:

- Developing skills to do an independent research project;
- Promoting knowledge of the different cultural expressions;
- Promoting the comparison among young people, in order to find contact points and to enrich the cross-cultural training;
- Encouraging the development of a European consciousness, stimulating reflection on the differences in cultures and values.

The different activities will use informal procedures and appropriate methodologies: team-building, peer-education, cooperative learning, role-play, debates, outdoor activities, learning by doing and workshops.

The association "Terra di Mezzo", together with the other project promoters, will organize the learning program to improve and upgrade the skills in the field of cultural promotion, exchange of knowledge, using innovative methods and best practices already tested.

The objective of the project is to promote creative thinking, knowledge of the cultural heritage of the partner countries and supporting the socialization experiences, comparing the results with similar initiatives at European level.