

## Support Mobility & Involvement: Leadership & Empowerment

### Erasmus+ KA2: Call For Partners

The project “SMILE: Support Mobility & Involvement: Leadership & Empowerment” aims to provide youth leaders/mentors with a tool that will assist them to strengthen youth’s participation, knowledge and engagement in civic life of their communities and raise awareness about possibilities for their mobility and competence development. The project therefore will allow creation of a concept that will be easy to disseminate and reproduce, as well as to update and scale based on the needs of multiplier.

This Key Action 2 project will be submitted by HUJ to the Executive Agency (EACEA) for 24 January deadline.

### Rationale

The project is created to provide multipliers with tools to support development of young people and support their capacity building through various programmes of European Union. As such this role of youth leaders is seen as mentorship within the scope of talent development and preparation of youth for entering the labour market. The relevance of pro-bono and exchange activities as part of this task is further reinforced by a Suisse research on the potential of volunteering has found that for young people (16-25 years old) the projects’ main outcome on participants is viewed as a preparation for employment and capacity building, so to say a transition period into adulthood and independence (cf. Cortessis et al. 2017).

In 2018 a similar initiative has been pioneered by Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society (MUCF) in cooperation with Borås Stad and Aprendi and their outcome was a digital calendar of EU opportunities, including various areas of Erasmus+ and other programmes of European Union (see [oneyear.eu](http://oneyear.eu)). Due to a positive outcome of this initiative and ongoing challenge of retention and engagement of volunteers in European NGOs, this project aims to use the outcomes of this initiative as a starting point for scaling it to participating EU and EECA countries.

### Vision and objectives

- ✓ On **international level**, we want to collect and analyse the success stories and practices on engaging young people on local and national level in the countries of project partners, see the keys to success to raise civic participation and mobility among the youth.
- ✓ On **local and national levels**, we want to mobilise young people of all backgrounds to participate more in civic life of their community, as well as be more aware of their learning goals and various opportunities to achieve them.

We believe that by initiating this dialogue we can achieve a bigger impact and multiply the values and transversal skills included in this project far beyond its completion by reinforcing the connections between our organisations and involving new (cross-sector) partners in the common goal. The aims of the project are therefore:

- Train youth leaders to promote inclusion of youth in civic life and international projects
- Understand the role of NGOs and civic society organisations and promote the benefits of participation in them
- Improve support and mentorship (in large sense) practices
- Raise awareness of competence development and provide tools for documenting and recognition

## Plan of action

There will be 3 meetings for the participants and they will be working independently in between:

### **A01: Youth Workers Kick-off Meeting**

*Type: International Meeting (Capacity Building Activity)*

*Host: Borås Stad (as an organisation involved in OneYear.EU initiative of MUCF)*

*Venue: Borås, Sweden*

*Indicative dates: 01/10 - 06/10/2019 (4 working days)*

The first activity of the project will aim at analysing the state of the art in participating countries and developing a concept blueprint. During this meeting participants will be able to brainstorm the key priorities for the concept and the opportunities they would like to promote to the youth. A desired outcome of this meeting is to have an understanding of national needs of the youth, mentorship/guidance mechanisms each organisation has in place and the format for dissemination and exploitation of the tool to be created.

### **Preparation of the tool**

*Type: Working in groups (online)*

*Indicative dates: 07/10/2019 - 11/01/2020*

This stage of the project will include taskforce's active work on creation of the tool according to the blueprint from A01. The people working on the tool will gather several times online to discuss the peculiarities of the concept and its format. The tool will then be translated (if necessary and decided by the partners) into national languages of participating countries.

### **A02: Training for multipliers & Launch of the tool**

*Type: Training course (Youth Workers Mobility)*

*Host: HUU*

*Venue: Yerevan, Armenia*

*Indicative dates: 21/01 - 27/01/2020 (5 working days)*

The second activity will act as an official launch of the tool and training the multipliers (TfM). Aim of this activity is to prepare multipliers for their youth work using the tool, as well as to tackle such areas as civic participation and awareness and NGO role. The participants will be able to acquire knowledge on advocacy and inclusion, as well as will share their success stories connected with youth leadership. Simultaneously, the trainers' team will share various methods and tools for documenting and recognition of learning and their relevance for guidance and support of youth.

### **Local Initiatives Phase**

*Type: Local initiatives (capacity building)*

*Host: each partner organisation prepares their own activity*

*Dates: Winter-Spring 2020 (1-2 working days)*

During the local initiatives phase the participants will work independently in their organisations. This will allow them to apply the knowledge they gathered within the programme of TfM and have a pilot phase of the developed tool for their beneficiaries. Each partner is encouraged to think about the type and format of this activity on their own (including timetable and required budget). Please keep in mind the target group should be youth, preferably with fewer opportunities.

### **A03: Evaluation Meeting**

*Type: Evaluation Meeting (Youth Workers Mobility)*

*Host: HUU*

*Venue: Yerevan, Armenia*

*Dates: 14/09 - 18/09/2020 (3 working days)*

This final event will serve as evaluation meeting for the partners, where we plan to share the success stories/planned initiatives and outcomes of the pilot phase of the developed tool. This meeting will allow to mobilise efforts for follow up and further work on this subject.

### **Profile of participants**

The participants are desired to be youth workers/leaders, coordinators or active members of of the sending organisations that are interested in the topic and have/would like to develop leadership and mentorship skills and participate in development of methodology for improvement of youth work. They should be willing to multiply and disseminate the outcomes of each activity and actively participate through the duration of the project, as well as committed to bring their good practices and expertise to share with the group.

The participants will be selected by the national organizations. Final confirmation will be done by HUU. We expect to have 2-3 participants from each organisation.

## Application procedure

All interested partners need to register their interest by sending the PIF file you received together with this call. The filled out applications need to reach us by **18 January** at [smile@huj.am](mailto:smile@huj.am).

Should you have questions, need further information or have any other comments on the content of the project, please do not hesitate to contact Philipp Melikyan at [philipp@huj.am](mailto:philipp@huj.am).