

**PARTNERSHIP IDENTIFICATION FORM**  
 “Youth for Development” Foundation  
 Yerevan, Armenia

Organization	
ERASMUS+ PIC (UNIQUE ID CODE)	899156924
Promoter's legal name (national language)	«Երիտասարդները հանուն զարգացման» հիմնադրամ
Promoter's legal name (latin characters – if applicable)	“Youth for Development” Foundation
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Profile of the Promoter	
Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Public
Type of organization	Foundation
Activity level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European <input type="checkbox"/> International

### **Background**

The Youth for Development Foundation was established in 2015 on the basis of a group of young people who organized various volunteer initiatives. Over the past 8 years, the Foundation has educated more than 13000 young people in Armenia, giving them skills on child rights, safe internet, leadership, time management, self-employability, decision making, social entrepreneurship, active citizenship, ecological thinking, communication skills, etc. The Foundation cooperated with the European Union, UNDP in Armenia, US embassy in Armenia, GEF Small Grants Programme, World Vision Organization, SOS Children's Villages, Microsoft Armenia, Save the Children, COAF and other organizations. A number of training modules have been developed by the Foundation's members to teach young people through non-formal education.

### **Vision statement**

Progressive youth in developing Armenia.

### **Mission statement**

Developing, consolidating and altering the environment through innovative approaches to youth for the sake of society's progress.

## Our goals

- Promote the increase of youth employment.
- Promote youth participation in decision-making processes.
- Promoting innovative approaches in the socio-economic area.
- Promote the rights and interests of youth / children.
- To support reforms in the education sector, promoting young people's social protection, professional orientation and quality education.
- To contribute to the development of democracy and civil society, emphasizing youth participation and involvement.
- Promote eco-education and education of sustainable development goals, preserve environment.

## Target group:

Our youth members are people with different level of education and background. We have more than 100 volunteers with different professions and set of skills. We work mostly with people 6+ years old and adults up to 35 years old. We are also in close collaboration with teachers who are 35+ years old.

## Activities and Experience

### **1. Being Active Join the Change /LAMP/ platform**

LAMP is a platform created in 2016 by the “Youth for Development” Foundation in support with World Vision Armenia International organization. LAMP platform enables the youth to speak up about their problems, make their voice heard and share their interesting and creative ideas, stories.



## Why is this platform the best?

- Team principle (2-5 participants per team). Youngsters can support each other, be more confident on stage.
- Audience Participation (Expression of Opinion by Colored Papers and Emotions for EverySpeech). After each speech audience can choose one of the options presented by organizers thus, expressing their opinions about the speech.
- Variety of speech formats (ordinary speech, song, dance, performance, debate). Participants are free to choose their way of presentation/performance.

## The aim of this project

- To let the youth voices heard contributing to the raising youth concerning problems and issues
- To contribute to the raising the level of integration among immigrants and the native youth
- To contribute to the change of society's stereotypical thinking.

## Overall

- We have organized **12** LAMP events
- **361** speakers
- **111** speeches
- More than **2500** audience

## 2. “Mind Shaker” box of games and exercises to support non-formal education



We have created the **first Armenian manual** for diverse games and exercises which would be used by trainers and teachers. The idea was simple-we wanted to invent a manual which would contain 70 acquaintance games, energizers and team building activities. Secondly, we aimed to gather all the necessary items for those games in one place.

The Ministry of Education and Science of Armenia guaranteed it as an educational training material. The English and Russian versions of the games are also available.

### Having this manual, you;

- 1) Get 18 acquaintance games, 18 energizers and 34 team building exercises
- 2) You'll have all the necessary materials to play the games
- 3) The good mood and fun time are guaranteed

Overall, 400 schools, organizations and youth clubs have “Mind Shaker” box and more than 3500 teachers and youth workers have been trained how to use this manual.

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3432240370131749>

### 3. “Fostering Eco-Thinking” in schools project

The “Youth for Development” Foundation has launched and localized the International Eco-School Model Program for the first time in Armenia. “Fostering Eco-Thinking in Schools” project was funded by the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Program. The main goal of the project was to promote the development of eco-thinking and lifestyle in public schools. The project was implemented in 5 urban and rural schools of Armenia as a pilot project.

### During the project;

- The 5 schools have greenhouses installed in the schoolyards
- The area around the schools is surrounded by trees and other plants
- The teachers, schoolchildren and their parents participated in training and learned more about “Eco education”, “Climate change” and other environmental issues.
- The schools were distributed sorting bins and now they recycle the garbage; plastic bottles, paper



#### 4. Digital Youth Training/Erasmus + project

“Digital Youth” project was organized by Czech organization “TOM Dumánci projects” and it was implemented in Yerevan, Armenia due to the cooperation with us. Around 30 participants from Armenia, Czech Republic, Italy, Poland, and Ukraine participated in the training. They learned about the basics of making photos, shooting videos, editing the materials, using animation and different professional equipment. The participants filmed their own movies during the project, which later on were uploaded on YouTube.

Here is the link to the videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rwgh36cg2Eo&list=PL9NO2-1xXluGiWhsHwOAK4dpZ85ONWo45>



#### 5. “Technological Literacy 4.0: the way towards inclusion”/ Erasmus + project

The Youth for Development Foundation has successfully cooperated with YouthProAktiv organization and as a result of this partnership a successful training course was implemented by our partner in Brussels, Belgium, from the 21st to 26th of November 2021 called “**Technological Literacy 4.0: the way towards inclusion**”. The project provided 37 youth workers from Armenia, Belgium, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Moldova, France, Turkey, Lithuania, The Republic of North Macedonia, and Serbia with a crucial training for their development and the development of disadvantaged groups they work with. Throughout the five training days, the participants had the opportunity to strengthen their skills and knowledge in some of the most emerging topics of the era regarding technological literacy, by some of the people who are shaping the future of technology, lecturing these topics. But also, they had the opportunity to get their hands on in different technologies they could use with their target groups and also think, reflect and design projects they can take home and implement with their target groups.

<https://youthproaktiv.org/technological-literacy-4-0-the-way-towards-inclusion/#more-10436>

## 6. Positive Leadership & Communication for the Empowerment of green & inclusive Youth Work



In cooperation with YouthProAktiv organization the representatives of the “Youth for Development” Foundation have successfully participated in a training course implemented by our partner in Brussels, Belgium, from the 3-8 of July 2022, called “Positive Leadership & Communication for the Empowerment of Green & Inclusive Youth Work”.

Throughout the five training days, the training gathered in Brussels 32 youth workers from different countries such as Belgium, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Turkey, Lithuania, France, North Macedonia, Armenia, and Romania. During the training, the participants had the opportunity to strengthen their skills and knowledge in different types of leadership, personality types, and communication styles. They exchanged best practices from their organizations, used creative methods for understanding how to communicate with different personality types, and used active listening to learn more about leadership and conflict management. The program also included different hands-on activities, in-depth presentations, an exchange of best practices, self-reflection, and community-building activities for peer learning.

<https://youthproaktiv.org/positive-leadership-communication-for-the-empowerment-of-green-inclusive-youth-work/>

## 7. No Hate Speech

Due to close Collaboration with “Youth Association DRONI”, on October 18-25, members of the Volunteering School of the "Youth for Development" Foundation participated in the Erasmus+ youth program on "No Hate Speech" in the cities of Telavi and Tbilisi, Georgia.

22 young people from Armenia, Georgia, Spain, and France participated in the program.

"We visited the National Assembly of the Republic of Georgia, had a discussion with one of the members of the government, and visited local museums, universities, and other organizations that work in the direction of valuing human rights and reducing hate speech. Also, every day we organized cultural evenings, during which we got to know the culture and national cuisine of other countries," says Gayane Manukyan, a participant in the program.



## 8. Increasing Employability Rates of Disadvantaged Young People: A Peer Learning Approach

In cooperation with YouthProAktiv organization the representatives of the “Youth for Development” Foundation have successfully participated in a training course implemented by our partner in Brussels, Belgium from 28 January to 2 February 2023. The project worked towards the following objectives:

- Improving the capacity of youth work and youth workers to successfully reach, train and help disadvantaged youngsters to get into the labor market in the post-Covid recovery period.
- Helping increase disadvantaged youngster’s employability rates through non-formal education initiatives fostering their inclusion into the labor market.

<http://youthproaktiv.org/increasing-employability-rates-of-disadvantaged-young-people-a-peer-learning-approach/>



## 9. SKYE Entrepreneurship Club

Implementation of the project SKYE (The Skills and Knowledge for Youth Economic Empowerment) started in September 2016. The aim of the project is to support disadvantaged youth develop the skills, behaviours, and attitudes necessary to obtain sustainable livelihoods and participate constructively in their communities. Within the project, youth develop critical thinking, leadership and employability skills. They become acquainted with the opportunities, which enable them to contribute to their community development. The program raises awareness on local market and its dynamics and transfers the knowledge, skills, experience and networks, which are necessary for them to find and sustain employment or start their own business. During the lessons participants learn what is social entrepreneurship, how to develop business plan, etc. Overall 60 youngsters have participated in club works and 4 business projects have been organized. One of this is *ԹւիթՕֆֆ* (see 11<sup>th</sup> point).

In July 2021, SKYE club returned with new leaders and formed a new group of 20 young people and 3 youth leaders, who collaborated together for 18 months and implemented 3 community-based projects.



## 10. “Career Orientation” Project

“Career Orientation” project was implemented in cooperation with World Vision Armenia Organization and funded by the US government. It was designed for locals, refugees and asylum-seekers aged 14-18. It meant to develop their capacity and skills, provide them with practical knowledge of how to choose a profession, apply for a job, create CV and Resume, develop soft skills such as time management, decision making, networking etc.

During the project the participants took part in 12 different trainings, met with successful people of different professional backgrounds, asked questions and got satisfying answers.



### 11. Volunteering School

In Yerevan we have established School for Volunteering. Now we have more than 60 volunteers in schools, where they have roles and activities. They are involved our youth projects, have been trained and sent the other organizations which connected to our network.

### 12. Capacity Development Schools for Children and Youth

“Youth for Development” Foundation organizes capacity development schools for children (6-14 years old) and youngsters (16-23 years old). They aim at teaching children and youngsters all the necessary things that are not taught at schools, promote the evolvment of their soft skills such as time management, leadership, communication, presenting and negotiation skills, volunteering, etc. Overall 200 children and youngsters have participated in capacity building schools.



Volunteering School



Capacity Development Schools for Children and Youth

### 13. “12 stories” Exhibition

The “12 Stories” exhibition of select works by contemporary young Armenian artists, depicting the suffering and survival of 12 Syrian-Armenian girls and women, opened in Yerevan in December, 2017. “12 Stories” aimed to raise awareness of the psychological trauma Syrian-Armenian women and girls have suffered due to the ongoing violence in Syria. By giving them a voice, the exhibition helped them overcome the hardships they had faced in their native Syria. The exhibition was initiated and organized by the Youth for Development Foundation, with support from the U.S. Embassy in Armenia, World Vision Armenia, and Mission Armenia charity NGO.



### 14. Թափoff Eco Project



Թափոն (tapon) is an Armenian word for waste. If you look attentively you can notice that tapON has also the part of turning something ON, so in order to express the meaning that we do not want to waste we decided to make it OFF. As a result, the word ԹափOFF (tapoff) was created.

The project is divided into 4 parts. The first goal is to raise awareness among the society and add up to their knowledge about eco environment. To reach this we created special training modules concerning eco environment for children and the youth. Due to the trainings we have trained more than 1000 children in

Armenia. As a result, they have learnt about urgent environmental issues and can take some steps for solving these issues.

As a social entrepreneurship product, we have developed the idea of eco bags. Its goal is to reduce the usage of plastic and polyethylene bags. Our bags are made from clothes and they can be used for a long time. My aim is to make these bags widespread due to PR. I want people to understand the importance of using these bags. As a next step I want the supermarkets and markets to sell or provide people with these bags for everyday use.

### **15. Developing the Capacities of Student Councils**

Within the framework of the "EU for Youth. Empowered and Active Youth for a more Democratic Armenia Today and Tomorrow" project 20 schools in Armenia have developed the model of a Student Council. The councils were formed following all the necessary and relevant procedures, 3300 students, as well as their teachers have taken part in various training courses. Afterwards the students elected a president for their council.

Due to the cooperation with the Municipality of Yerevan, 306 students from 153 schools have taken part in a 6-day training course about the formation and evolution of SCs.



### **Skills of the staff**

Skills of the people who are working in the organization include managerial skills, cognitive and problem-solving skills, social and communication advanced competences, commuter literacy, etc. The executive staff who will (help) implement the activities in practice is well trained in different topics such as: leadership empowerment, personal development, human rights education, conflict management, organizational management, social inclusion, tolerance and migration issues. The key skills of the staff include also the knowledge of non-formal educational tools and exercises. The staff is young, enthusiastic and keen on learning by doing. The key skills of the staff include also the knowledge of non-formal educational tools and exercises. The staff is young, enthusiastic and keen on learning by doing.

### Board of Trustees

Marina Hovhannisyan	Head of the Board of Trustees	Academy of Creative Explorers Executive Director
Anna Avetisyan	Secretary of the Board of Trustees	Organizational Development <i>Responsible for organizational</i>
Gevorg Poghosyan	Board member	Head of Impact Hub
Vahe Darbinyan	Board member	Head of ABCD Innovation
Gohar Hayrapetyan	Board member	PR specialist, journalist

### Staff Members

Khachik Abajyan	Executive Director, Co-Founder
Diana Margaryan	Project Manager and person incharge of Erasmus+ projects/cooperation, Co-Founder
Margarita Achikyan	Head of Marketing Department Coordinator of Eco projects, Co-Founder
Arpine Harutyunyan	Project Coordinator, Co-Founder
Armine Balayan	Project Coordinator, former volunteer
Hasmik Chaloyan	Project Coordinator, former volunteer
Greta Khachatryan	Recruiter, Content Writer
Mariam Khachatryan	PR manager, Co-Founder
Arman Militonyan	Head of Monitoring and Evaluation Department, Co-Founder
Hasmik Sargsyan	Head of Financial Management Department
David Akelyan	Graphic Designer, former volunteer

## Volunteers

In our organization there are more than 60 volunteers that have different experience in the field of non-formal learning. They are keen on learning and sharing their experiences with others. Our volunteers are experienced in local and international projects being group/team leaders or/and facilitators. Usually we are sending to a project one participant that is actively involved in our inside organization in order to disseminate results on behalf of our Foundation. Later on, this person shares the results inside of the organization, helps to organize a follow up events and continues the relation. Our participants are experienced in social communication, communication with community using social networks and other tools of dissemination, etc. which helps us to select always the right person for your project.