

Network Building Project

"More Networking. More Exchanges. More Europe"

Call for Partners

Applicant and coordinator of the project: [Solidarus e.V.](#), Berlin, Germany.

Project leader: Mikhail Zhukov, a coordinator of international youth projects of Solidarus e.V.

The Project Idea is to bring together representatives of organisations, working in the field of non-formal citizenship education in different European and neighbouring countries, who are open for new partnerships to work on new Erasmus+ projects (in the field of Youth) and to provide them opportunities to get to know each other's work and to design new project ideas.

The project aims at building partnership(s) of such organisations to widen their networks, to increase their capacity to organise international projects, to share ideas and practices, to learn and reflect approaches and methodology and to strengthen sustainability and promote recognition of the partners' activity.

We would like to ensure success and sustainability of new partnerships and the network, that's why we suggest not to limit ourselves with short contact making seminar, but meet three times, slowly learn each other's work, approaches, methodologies, priorities etc. from different perspectives and by using variety of methods as well as take time to go through the core points of project management in order to design ideas for new exchanges well.

As a result we expect to get some new partnership with concrete ideas for new Erasmus+ projects as well as established network between all the partners, that can be used for further cooperation and projects. SOLIDARUS (the applicant organisation) **is ready to support** this network and – if needed – the certain partnerships (including consultations on all stages of project design and implementation and being an applicant organisation for German NA for that project ideas).

Structure and Content + timetable

We suggest to have 3 meetings in the second part of 2021 (countries for the meetings will be named during the application process), focused on the following aspects

1. Contact Making Seminar, 6 working + 2 travel days, July 2021

- Getting to know each other at personal level
- Presentations of organisations, their work and the most important topics
- Work-shop on "Good partnerships and its phases"
- Sharing perspectives on what is non-formal education
- Discussing experience, values and challenges of international youth work
- Exploring different dimensions and perspectives of dealing with diversity in frames of youth exchanges
- Reflecting on the partners' needs and expertise

2. Methodological Workshop, 7 working + 2 travel days, September 2021

- Every partner has a half a day (around 3 working hours) to organise a session/workshop by using the most representative method from their work and to have group reflection on it on a professional level
- Additionally the team of organisers provides other sessions/methods to reflect on methodology of non-formal education in context of international youth exchanges

3. Project Lab, 6 working + 2 travel days, beginning of December 2021

- Creating groups of partners based on ideas of projects they would like to implement together
- Presentation of different type of projects and opportunities for funding
- Workshop on approaches to project design
- Good practices for dissemination and promoting recognition
- Working on project ideas going through the following phases:
 - Needs of partners and their target groups
 - Objectives and planned outcomes of the project
 - Issues to be addressed by the project, its content and logic
 - Methodology of the projects
 - Ways of the project results dissemination

Profile of Partners

Often, we face misunderstanding and difficulties in working with partners too late – when it comes to implementation of the project. It might cause conflicts or compromises made in limited time and circumstances, that decries the quality of the project. We believe it is possible to minimize such risks and find "right" partners as well as find solutions for inevitable disagreements through longer, deeper and detailed communication with each other within frames of training setting. This project is designed to provide such opportunity.

We invite partners and their representatives who:

- see values of taking time to go through all these steps,
- are open to reflect and share their perspectives,
- ready to listen others and try to understand similarities and differences,
- see importance to take in consideration the things named above to build reliable partnership
- able to benefit from having deeper discussions and working on details.

In other words, if you feel that you know everything about this project issues, you are able to build partnership in one day, you don't need to talk in details about project objectives, methodology and other issues and prefer to design a programme during half a day, then probably our offer cannot be valuable for you.

Please think twice if such offer is what you need and if you are ready to actively participate in programme designed as it is written above. If so, then **we will be happy to work together and benefit from contribution of every partner and participant in the joint process of learning and partnership building!**

Participants profile: for every activity we will invite 2-3 participants from each partner, who are:

- youth workers and educators, strongly connected with the partner organisation (it is not important if they are employees, working on project basis from project to project or volunteers, but it is important they are involved in the partner organisation activity, can represent it and have capacity to work for this organisation on new international projects in field of Youth)
- at least 18 years old, but preferably more experienced ones
- ready to work in English
- ready to actively take part in all parts of the programme

Preferably at least one of representative of each partner participates in all three meetings/activities. And it should be a person, who will be responsible and practically involved in further partnership(s) and exchanges, that supposed to be the main results of this project.

Other participants from the partners may vary from meeting to meeting. For example, probably it has more sense if leaders or members of the board participate in the first meeting; educators or youth workers, who are the most aware ones of the methodology used by their organisation – come to the second meeting; and people who will be involved in teams of further exchanges participate in the third one. But it can depends on situation and role distribution in partner organisations.

Working language: English

The teams of the meetings/activity will be defined by project coordinator, include a representative of hosting organisation and possible one more invited trainer. In case if the partners have expertise in some of the training-course's topics, and ready to join the team, their representatives may join the team.

Methodology

Role of the team is to create a space where participants can exchange their ideas, get new experience, reflect their work and approaches, get to know each other, and work on building reliable partnerships and project ideas.

The project will be implemented with methods of non-formal education that promote interaction and reflection. Participant are invited to take part in discussions, simulation games, meetings and visits, opinion sharing and other interactive methods. We encourage them to share their personal opinions as well as gain new perspectives on the project issues and their experience by working individually, in different small groups and in plenary. Being open and active involvement in suggested methods and debriefings is a core requirements that help both – individual learning of the participants as well as a group process and achieving the projects objectives.

Dissemination of the Project Results

The partners should share the information of the project and it's results through their web sites, pages in social networks and presentations in their communities and on forums where they take part. Moreover, on the stage of application the partners are expected to suggest other activates they can carry out to contribute in dissemination process. The partners will have to report by the end of the project of their activities of dissemination, providing relevant links, photos etc.

Financial issues:

All participants of all events will get travel reimbursement, accommodation and meals will be provided. It can be different ways how to buy tickets / make reimbursement – to be agreed between every partner and the coordinator.

The partners are responsible for all participants of all events to have travel health insurances valid in countries of the project meetings for whole time of the event.

Participants will be asked to pay a participation fee, which can vary from country to country (approximately between 25 and 60 Euro per participants per meeting). For this project we would like to implement the rule of participation fee because, on the one hand, a participant fee supplements the project's budget; on the other hand, by paying a small fee, participants become more conscious about and more committed to their decision to take part in the project. Participation fee for the participants with difficult financial conditions may be reduced or cancelled by agreement with the sending organization and the coordinator.

Steps to Join the Project

1. Express your interest to take part in the project as a partner. For that please provide at least the following information (*Please, be specific! Please no more than 1 page. The earlier the better, but not later than 23th of September*):
 - a. Name, type and location of your organisation
 - b. What are target groups you work with and what type of activities you do for/with them (topics and format of activities). It is OK if you write only about activities, relevant to this project idea.
 - c. Why this project idea is relevant for your organisation, how it meets your needs, principles and approaches.
 - d. What are your capacities and interests concerning new projects (how many new projects you would like to have in the following years, what type (youth exchanges, mobilities for youth workers, youth dialogue etc.), what topics you are interested in). Please, be realistic: if you need just one international project, it is absolutely fine!
 - e. Mention you are agreed with the terms of project, provided in the Call for Partners (this document).
2. Provide **PIF, relevant to this project idea**. When we see, your organisation match our project idea, we will send you a PIF form. It will contain specific questions and they have to be filled in not just by "copy paste" from your "standard" information, but provide answers relevant to this application. Only partners, who provide such answers will be accepted (it makes us sure you are ready to contribute in the project as well as make our application stronger). *By 25th of September*.
3. Fill in an online document with your ideas for activities you can add for dissemination process. *By 25th of September*.
4. Send signed mandate. *By 28th of September*.

All documents and questions should be sent to Mikhail Zhukov
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