



European Outdoor Education **Call for Partners**

Call for proposal:

Erasmus+ Programme

Key Action 1 Mobility project for youth workers – Training Course

Deadline: February 23, 2022 h.12.00

Since 2006, the Italian **Cooperative Liberi Sogni ONLUS** (which means “Free dreams”) has been working on education in nature in terms of personal and community regeneration and at the same time of eco-systemic care of the environment that surrounds us: taking care of a place means in some way taking care of ourselves.

Over time we have developed various proposals addressed at different age groups, creating residential camps, summer centers, ecological days, shared gardens, immersive days in nature for children, youth people, families, outdoor training courses for adults.

Our activities are mainly carried out in the province of Lecco and Bergamo, near the Lombard Prealps, where nature takes the form of forests, meadows, lakes, streams, mountains in a continuous dialogue with the city, between rural and urban, tradition and modernity.

Our activities

- [Ongoing projects](#)
- [Community maps](#)

Videos

- [Explorations](#) (with public schools)
- [Summer Camps](#)
- [Libera Università del Bosco](#) (Free University of the Wood)
- [As green as possible](#) (Youth in Action)

The necessary digital transformation of work methods, lifestyles and all areas of life of the younger generations also requires a return to nature, a relationship with the non-human (which we call eco-tuning) as a source of connection to self, others and environment.

In fact, we firmly believe that experiential activities in nature have a significant impact on the well-being, growth and personal and collective development of young people, who can learn to relate to various and complex challenges, to create and strengthen deep bonds and to take responsibility and engage towards the social and natural environment that surrounds them.

As underlined by the Resolution of the EU Council on the Framework for establishing a European Youth Work Agenda, the experiences that young people live on a daily basis require innovative ways of responding jointly to the enormous challenges they face (from the pandemic crisis to the changes in our societies, from the emergency of climate change to the growing socio-economic exclusion).

In recent years we have chosen to commit to the professional training of socio-educational animators, offering specialization courses in nature education through a mixed model that integrates different psycho-pedagogical approaches.

In fact, one of the needs most expressed by the youth workers is to be able to dedicate time to their training and personal growth: knowing to contribute to a quality socio-educational animation will also allow them to increase their motivation and satisfaction in daily work.

Abstract

The project is a non-formal learning opportunity aimed at the educational and professional development of youth workers: we would like to organize a 10-day youth workers exchange in November 2022 in the Italian Prealps, where participants will live together and share experiences, professionalisms and sensitivities from the different European countries involved.

We want to create a safe and open space where the participants can reflect on their role as youth workers and take time to share experiences and activities on their social work in nature; they'll be able to develop new skills, share tools and quality educational practices that are truly generative and can support the activities carried out in their respective countries.

It's important to propose to young people what we first experienced firsthand.

The daily sharing, the involvement of experienced trainers and the experiential learning will allow to create a high quality training proposal and will concretely contribute to the building of a community of youth workers.

In addition, being able to bring back into their daily work the experiences and knowledge acquired during the exchange will be a real opportunity of career development for each participant and it will actively contribute to the improvement of the sending organizations.

In the 10 days of community life, participants will live together immersed in nature, in a dimension of self-management, combining cooperation in daily life (e.g. gathering wood for warmth, cooking together, etc.) with the training course, with moments of contact and collaboration with the local community and local institutions involved in formal education of young people.

Taking care of the group, the participants will experience cohabitation, cooperation and conflict management and they'll become familiar with innovative educational approaches, tools and activities: that is, they will be able to experience firsthand the experiential approach and education in nature that they will propose in their daily work. The sensitivity and professional expertise of each of the participants will be the added value of this experience.

An interdisciplinary team of trainers will accompany the participants in the activities: experienced trainers in environmental education, eco-psychology, art, science and community development.

Once back home, the participants will be able to experiment in their work contexts the tools and practices they learned; then in February 2023 they will be asked to share experiences and opinions in a final online phase of the project, so as to strengthen and even more enrich the newly created community of animators.

From the rich panorama of European organizations, we are therefore selecting partners willing to participate in this course, interested in getting involved and developing the ability to share and act at a European level, to learn about Liberi Sogni's approach to outdoor education and to bring their own experience in socio-educational animation in nature.

Applicant: Cooperativa Liberi Sogni ONLUS

Call for Proposals: Erasmus+ Programme KA 1

Project: Mobility project for youth workers – Training Course

Key words: Education in nature, sustainable lifestyles, quality learning, non-formal education, experiential learning, inclusion and diversity.

Target: youth educators, youth workers, teachers and people involved in youngsters' formal and/or non-formal education from rural areas or with fewer opportunities.

Possible partners: cooperatives, associations, organizations involved in youngsters' education, formal and non-formal schools with experience and desire to develop skills in outdoor education in nature.

Duration of the project: 9 months (starting from July 2022 until March 2023)

Activities:

Preparatory visit: 2 days in Italy in September 2022

Exchange: 10 days in Italy in November 2022

Online meeting: end of February 2023

If your organization is interested in taking part in this project, please send a brief motivational letter with links to your own projects and experiences to europa@liberisogni.org by **January 10, 2022**.