

Step into the future

Finding employment is a process that can be very stressful, and if it is too last, it can be demotivating to young people, they start to doubt themselves and their competencies.

Young people who do not have a great work experience often find themselves in a disadvantageous situation in front of their employer, and for some reason or for some other reason the employees can not present themselves in the best light and ultimately be rejected or applied for workplaces with templates, motivational letters and biographies which does not stand out in any way from other candidates.

Bearing in mind the strengths that are gained by young participants in exchange programs, the Erasmus + program has become an excellent response to the problems young people face when applying for a job. So I implemented the 'Step into the Future' project, a project of youth exchange whose main goal is to learn how to write resume and motivational scripts through work simulations, group presentations, and training at the Career Information and Counseling Center (CISOK).

From April 24 to May 2, 2017, 27 young people from Croatia, Spain, Italy and Slovakia had the opportunity to exchange experiences, get acquainted with each other, practice writing a resume and motivational script, and have fun with it. Participants were given the opportunity to become acquainted with the labor market, high quality writing of CVs and motivational letters, and ways to prepare for an interview when looking for a job. Participants during the period of youth exchange participated in various educational workshops where they were supposed to write a resume, motivation letter, simulate a job interview, make a plan for



self-employment and others. But our participants did not just work, but also had the opportunity to get acquainted with the cultural heritage of the city of Šibenik and they could relax with the taste of Europe during the International Evening.

PROJECT DURATION:

04/10/2016 - 31/07/2017

VENUE AND PERIOD OF MOBILITY:

24/04/2017- 02/05/2017

ŠIBENIK, CROATIA

PROJECT VALUE:

12.825 €

About project

The project was carried out in three phases: phase of preparation, phase of main activities and phase of evaluation, reporting and dissemination of results. The preparatory phase have been implemented in the period from 01.02.2017. until 24.04.2017, the main activity phase of 24.04.2017. until 02.05.2017. and the phase of evaluation, reporting and dissemination of results in the period from 03.05.2017. until 31.07.2017. Participants were given the opportunity to take part in various workshops such as the "Methods of

Making CV" Methods of writing ML, Simulation of Job Interview during which they strengthened the skills required in the labor market. In the second part of mobility, participants had to build their own self-employment plans, which generated interesting ideas regarding the start-up of their own start-up companies while checking the knowledge gained during the mobility period through an interactive quiz. Participants were also created videos with which they promote volunteering as a way to strengthen one's own skills through contribution to the local community.

During the last phase, a conference was organized by participants on which the results of the project were presented, as well as dissemination and dissemination of good practice, a newsletter will be available in Croatian and English.



Slika 1 How to prepare for job interview

Aims of project:

There were multiple benefits from proposed project for stakeholders to be covered. The participants were to use the English language communication during the whole project (in the preparatory phase when participating in the development of the material for the main activities, active participation in the main activities and in communication with other partners and participants to carry out the project's dissemination activities) and thus improve their knowledge and skills. Through



Slika 2 Simulation of job interview in CISOK center
communication with other participants and group presentations, they enhanced their confidence and gained the habit of interacting in multicultural group.

The main purpose of this project is to provide insight to young and unemployed people in the job search process and to teach them how to make a good resume, to properly set up and leave a better impression on the job, to encourage them to self-employment through social / learn how to make a job search plan that will be able to apply practically when they returning to their countries.



Slika 3 Workshop "How to present volunteer experience in CV and ML"



Slika 4 Ice-breaker

Main activities of the project:

1. **Making CV** – Discussing how a quality biography should look like, examples of well-written CVs and writing and presenting a CV.
2. **Methods of writing ML** – Discussion on how to write a motivation letter, how to properly describe your own competences and knowledge when writing a motivational letter and writing and presenting motivational letters.
3. **Methods of job searching** – How to prepare an open and closed job application, differences in access to the labor market in the different EU Member States.
4. **Job vacancies and employment agencies** – Similarities and differences in labor markets among partner countries. Comparison of programs targeted at young and unemployed people present in partner countries.
5. **The role of volunteering in employment** – Discussion on how to strengthen self-employment through volunteer work. Which skills necessary to find the job have the volunteers. How to use volunteering experience in job interviewing, motivational writing and biography.
6. **Methods of self-employment through green and social entrepreneurship** – After the introductory part where participants were introduced to the concept of green and social entrepreneurship, the participants were divided into groups to create their own self-employment plan.
7. **The role of nonverbal communication** - Participants from Slovakia have prepared a presentation about how non-verbal communication affects job opportunities during job interviews. As part of this activity, a simulation of the job interview was organized, in which the participants were divided into groups of three persons, one of whom was in the role of the employer, the other in the role of the employee, while the third followed the course of the



Slika 5 Radionica "Methods of writin ML"
interview.



Slika 6 Radionica "Writing and presentation of CV"

Free time

After workshops, roundtables and lectures, there is plenty of time for cultural and entertaining facilities where participants can relax and learn more. So on the first day of the activity, the participants had a chance to see Sibenik and its sights such as St. Jakov, take a walk through the old Kalelarga and see the panorama from the fortress of St. Mihovil and Baron. (As during every youth exchange, during which we organized an international evening, the evening when Europe is the same as it is when it is possible to see identical and sometimes typical dishes at the tables of different member countries, but at the same time each with its story and tradition).



Slika 7 International dinner

Closing conference and dissemination

Apart from social and web materials, all materials are available for insights and inquiries at organization "Youth in the EU". We also worked on the creation of two newsletters, the first of which was made before the start of activities with project details, description of accommodation and expectations of the project, while another Newsletter have been prepared for dissemination after the completion of project activities contains information on dissemination, activities carried out and achieved the objectives of the project (Newsletters are written in Croatian and English). These same Newsletters are forwarded to project partners and are responsible for forwarding the Newsletter to



Slika 8 Visiting Barone fortress

other associations in their home country. For the completion of the project, a final conference is planned where everyone interested will be familiar with the details of the firsthand project. The final conference was also conceived as an event during which civil society associations and informal groups from Sibenik and surrounding areas will be able to be more fully informed about the entire process of preparation, reporting, implementation and dissemination of the project.

Partner organization:



ADEFIS JUVENTUD INTERNACIONAL

The non-profit organization ADEFIS Youth International (AJI) was established with the aim of promoting integration and equality among young people, encouraging development programs and projects aimed at preventing any form of discrimination (birth, religion, gender, race). It is devoted to promoting common development and development cooperation in low income countries per capita and a high rate of extreme poverty. The organization carries out programs and projects in the field of sustainable development, ecology, culture, promoting civic activism and volunteering in Spain, European and third countries.

Specialized in personal and professional development through socio-educational methods based on informal education at regional and European levels and has extensive experience in IT skills and a high level of expertise in social work.



ATTIVA-MENTE

The Attiva-Mente organization aims to foster cooperation between citizens and organizations, promote local development, promote interaction and exchange between different cultures. The organization comes from the city of Modica (province of Ragusa), Sicily. It is committed to implementing youth policy activities - developing intercultural awareness and education for the purpose of contributing to economic growth and employment. The organization promotes local development in all its contents and forms, with an emphasis on active citizenship and civil society, young people, interculturalism, the availability of equal opportunities and social inclusion, and training and education. Their activities are aimed at young and young adults, primarily those between the ages of 16 and 35,

due to economic / geographical reasons in a disadvantageous and disadvantaged position.



A.D.E.L. - ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND LABOUR

Organization A.D.E.L. (Association for Development, Education and Labor) comes from Slovakia, headquartered in Stropkov. It is an organization that deals with creating opportunities for young people who want to be active, want to learn new things and adopt new experiences and knowledge to develop on a personal and professional level. With her work and activities, she wants to raise the quality of the social and cultural life of young people in Slovakia, especially young people with fewer opportunities coming from eastern Slovakia. With its work and activities, the organization wants to focus primarily on youth participation, intercultural understanding, active citizenship, entrepreneurship in all its forms, sport, healthy lifestyle and the promotion of arts and culture.



UDRUGA MLADIH "MLADI U EUROPSKO UNIJI"

Youth Association "Youth in the EU" is a non-profit, non-profit youth organization founded on October 19, 2008 in Šibenik. The main goal of the Association is to raise the quality of life of young people to the European level, with the active promotion of volunteering and volunteering initiatives. The association is engaged in promoting the values of the European Union and active youth activities, launching projects that are important for young people and community development, encouraging the development and promotion of social / social entrepreneurship, combating all kinds of addictions, facilitating legal counseling and youth information, promoting nature protection and the environment.

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Project coordinator:



YOUTH ASSOCIATION "YOUTH IN THE EU" (HR)

Partner organisation:



ADEFIS JUVENTUD INTERNACIONA (ES)



A.D.E.L. - ASSOCIATION FOR DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND LABOUR (SK)



ASSOCIAZIONE ATTIVA-MENTE (IT)



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