



Capacity Building Local activities

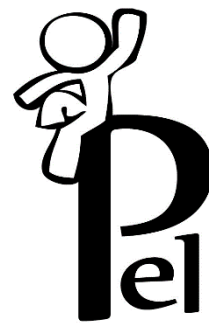


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COORDINATOR



Partners:



Local Capacity building questionnaire

PEL North Macedonia

Question 1: describe the role of youth work (and of youth workers) inside your community.

Youth work and youth workers play an important role in our community especially because young people do not have many opportunities outside of formal education. They provide tools for self improvement and professional growth to young people which are highly requested on the labor market nowadays and that unfortunately, our formal education system cannot offer them.

Additionally, many young people cannot afford courses that will help them develop their skills and competencies, or even an university degree due to their financial or social background, so they often find themselves in difficult situation even further on in life. So, youth work and youth workers in general provide opportunities for all young people, especially to those that are socially excluded or belong to marginalized groups to educate themselves on different topics and with that gain new skills and competencies that can be helpful for them in the future.

Youth work and workers enable youngsters broaden their horizons, meet new people, get in touch with different cultures, take them out of their comfort zone and provide them an opportunity to share views, knowledge and experiences. Through all of this young people have the possibility to see how other people deal with everyday issues and by doing so they get encouraged and inspired to become advocates in their local community for matters that are important to them. This also leads to improving the community and bettering people's life.

Especially in the last few years youth work had become crucial for young people's development and it has also encouraged many youngsters to make their voice heard and fight for better future for all of us, which is extremely important for the development of our society.

Moreover, the opportunities the youth work and workers offer have shown that being successful and educating yourself has nothing to do with your university degree, but with the skills and competencies a person has gained and developed through the experiences he/she had.

Question 2: explain, according with your experience, which are the best tools and practices for promoting involvement of young people.

Before talking about how the involvement of young people can be promoted it is very important to mention that even though in the past few years there has been an increase in the percentage of the young people involved in the communities, there are still so many youngsters that are not aware of their possibilities and what they can gain from what it is offered to them.

Moreover, many young people are not aware of the power the non-formal education has and how it can change them by providing them opportunities for constant improvement. As a society we still tend to believe that the formal education diploma is still the most important thing a person can gain in their life. So, in order to improve this whole situation there is a need for reaching to as many young people and as early in their life as possible. According to our own experience, young people unfortunately learn about the ways they can get involved in their community when they are at university, some of them even later. Which means that there are lower chances of their involvement as they tend to focus themselves on building a career, looking for a job etc.. This is why, for us, it is crucial to get in touch with youth since they are in high school and even primary school. So, in order to achieve this, there is a need for cooperation with schools. Unfortunately, not many schools are willing to cooperate with youth workers since they are not aware nor know about the benefits the involvement of young people in the society and different kind of non-formal activities can have on themselves and the community. However, by trying to reach schools in multiple occasions can have a positive outcome and once they agree to get in touch with you they realize how good it brings to the young people.

Another important tool for promoting involvement of young people is the online presence. Young people in our country spend a lot of time using the social media platforms, so another thing we implement is being constantly present online. Showing how we implement the activities, share the opportunities, spread information all around social media has helped us get in touch with a lot of new volunteers willing to take part in different types of activities. Also, collaborating with other organizations such as for example sports clubs has brought positive feedback as well. Networking and additionally being in step with the trends of communication young people follow are maybe the most important things to do if willing to reach as many young people as possible.

Local Capacity building questionnaire

AJA Spain

Question 1: describe the role of youth work (and of youth workers) inside your community.

In my community, we can make a difference between:

- Public YOUTH workers: They are usually working for municipalities and they are in charge of making real the policies of the city hall and ~~being~~ bringing to ~~poli~~ decision makers the needs of youngsters.

- NGO workers: We are there where the public bodies don't reach and where they do we wide the i-pact of their actions.

Question 2: explain, according with your experience, which are the best tools and practices for promoting involvement of young people.

Nowadays we need to work in social media. It is basic if we want to reach the most of the youngsters.

We can't forget about the field work.

It is important to evaluate your work frequently and make sure you are attending youth's needs and your objectives.

Inclusion and having into account geographical barriers is needed in order to don't let youngsters behind and being able to have an actual portrait of their reality.

Local Capacity building questionnaire

OSDA-Ghana

Question 1: describe the role of youth work (and of youth workers) inside your community.

1. Be able to mentor young people find their own way.
2. Be a driver of change (change agent) in the community through inspiration.
3. Assist with young people's projection of a positive self-image and inspire them to explore the world.
4. Be able to offer Non-formal education as well as leisure time activities by encouraging young people to do interesting things in their free time.
5. Offer space for self-development and creativity among the youth.
6. Assist the young people rediscover themselves and pursue in order to be aware of their identity and find their place in local society
7. Be a coach for young people and give them an active role in the community in order to make them responsible youth
8. Get involved in the young people's 'way of life', in order to design projects according to their own desires and needs
9. Youth Worker should seek to enhance young people's personal and social development by:
 - a. Enabling them make informed decisions and pursue their choices;
 - b. Supporting their participation and active involvement in society;
 - c. Helping them to become independent and move on when the time is right.

Question 2: explain, according with your experience, which are the best tools and practices for promoting involvement of young people.

1. **Meetings, seminars and conferences**- The usual tool/ methods or platforms used to discuss, brainstorm or impact knowledge/ ideas
2. **Mobile phones** are the single most important means of communication too use to engage the youth.
3. **Festivals**- A platform/tools for youth to raise issues at national level.
4. **Media, including press releases, press conferences and interviews** can be employed to engage the youth in an advocacy project.
5. **Newsletters** help to ensure that everybody receives the same information.
6. **Photos** require a minimum knowledge on how to compose them and handle a camera, and are employ to engage youth- What is important here is how to develop concept photoes.
7. **Radio** are also useful tools for engaging the youth.
8. **Songs/ music** are great entertainment and a good way of passing on a message.
9. **Storytelling**, cases and examples are all ways of illustrating what we mean and are use to engage the youth
10. **Video and documentary** production is a whole lot of fun when employed to engage youth.

Local Capacity building questionnaire

SOS EUROPA Italy

Question 1: describe the role of youth work (and of youth workers) inside your community.

The role of youth work inside our community is extremely important.

First of all is important in general inside NGOs and non-profit organisations, because youth workers (that we can identify as a flexible resource, that works in different topics, areas or contexts related to the youth field) are strong resources for organising, managing, and implementing activities with young people.

Through the action of youth workers, the organisations have the opportunity to realise their programme and activities with young people and, in consequence, developing beneficial impacts on their communities.

In this way, the role of youth worker can explore many areas of action and contexts:

- 1) Youth workers can act on different direct target groups: e.g. young people in general, migrants, young people with disabilities, disadvantaged people, young communities from difficult neighbourhoods, etc,
- 2) Youth workers can act through different fields or type of actions: culture, sports, games, arts, educational paths, etc.

Moreover, with specific regard to EU programmes and Erasmus Plus, youth works open opportunities to young people to participate in European projects, supporting the opportunity to travel and to encounter people from other countries and learn, acquiring knowledge and skills, in many fields of interest.

That opportunities obviously have great impact on the communities:

- Young people can improve themselves,
- Youth worker and youth organisations can improve the quality of their actions.

Question 2: explain, according with your experience, which are the best tools and practices for promoting involvement of young people.

1. Making young people protagonists of activities

When young people have the opportunity to express themselves and their opinion and ideas, without pressure and judgement, the stimulation to participate and be involved is stronger.

In this way, is important to create activities in which youth workers are leaders and guides, but they facilitate the activation of the young participants, not substituting themselves.

2. To address topics and themes with “practical” activities

It is important that participants in the activities can experiment a direct approach with the prosed themes, through activities that consent to be protagonists, like simulation, exchange of ideas, intellectual games that stimulate the expression of opinions and confrontations.

3. To aim to create tangible results

It is important that the work of young people produce concrete results (e.g. documents, proposals, platforms, etc.). In this way participants will feel to be part of something concrete and they also can give, visibility to other people after the activity, of their involvement in something they will feel big and important.

Local Capacity building questionnaire

ATIC Romania

Question 1: describe the role of youth work (and of youth workers) inside your community.

One of our main objectives is the inclusion of local disadvantaged youth through different methods, such as sport, music, theatre, dance and painting.

In order to realize our objectives, we cooperate with families, local authorities, primary schools, high schools and universities and we develop projects with them. In order to realize our objectives, we cooperate with families, local authorities, primary schools, high schools and universities and we develop projects with them.

We work with many talented youngsters that are passionate about music, sport, theater, dance and so on, but because of the obstacles they face (economical, geographical and social), they are not able to practice what they love the most, also they can't afford a teacher. This is where our youth workers step in, helping them achieving their dreams.

Moreover, due to the benefits of erasmus+ program, we were able to give the chance to the young people with fewer opportunities to travel abroad, meet other young people from other countries, taste other cultures, exchange ideas and so on.

Question 2: explain, according with your experience, which are the best tools and practices for promoting involvement of young people.

According to our experience, the approach to the young people is very important. So, we are trying to work as much as possible with teachers or experienced youth workers. For the newcomers, we provide the trainings, also involve them in trainings financed by Erasmus+ program. Moreover, after their participation in such courses, under the supervision of an experienced Youth worker, newcomers will get to practice the skills and abilities they gained during the courses.