

Go for Change! - Creating knowledge-based strategies through participatory action research and follow-up

Modular Training for Stakeholders Involved in Developing Youth Work at Municipal Level

Call for participants

Ingress

This modular training is designed to support local youth work developers to improve the quality of local youth work by using participatory action-research tools and creating strong local strategies, in line with existing European practices and policies.

Date/place

- 1st training module: 4 - 7 April 2022 (Belgium, Kortrijk)
- Optional individual tasks and webinars (28 April, 18 May, 8 June, 10:00-13:00 CET) between April and June 2022
- 2nd training module: 13 - 16 June 2022 (Finland, Kouvola)

Context

Want to have the space to work on evidence based approaches for youth work in your municipality? And to see what Europe has to offer for local youth work?

In the European Charter on Local Youth Work it is stated that: *The quality development of local youth work needs clear procedures for continuous analysis of and reflection on outcomes in terms of how they relate to preconditions, work processes and activities, and the need for further development;*

In order to meet this demand, the "Go for change" training will lead participants to a reflection and analysis of their own local youth work realities through offering tools and approaches for planning and implementing participatory action research.

The concrete aims of this modular training will be:

- Deepening the knowledge of the participants on the content of the Charter and motivate them to take this knowledge home and spread it further within their organisation and to generate change when needed to improve the quality of youth work
- Introducing tools and good practices related to participatory action research and follow up, adaptable and inspirational for local realities.
- Offering a (peer-)learning opportunity within EGL about quality development in municipal level youth work
- Supporting the internationalization of local youth work via showing links to European initiatives and programmes as well as the European Youth Work Agenda and the Bonn process.

Themes and structure:

In the first module, participants from all around Europe will share and compare their ideas and realities in a peer-supported space, with loads of opportunities for dialogue, common understanding and

cooperation to build. Participatory Action Research tools & techniques will be presented and explored, enabling participants to adapt and apply them in their own contexts, during the next stage of the training process.

In between the two training modules, participants will be able to involve their communities in the open webinars focusing on various good practices, policy summaries and methodologies. It is foreseen that these webinars should also offer a space for dialogue for the participants' local networks and spark further discussions between the diverse youth work stakeholders in the local realities, aiming to also engage the wider local community in quality development.

The second training module will focus on what Europe can offer in terms of policies, tools, approaches, actions and activities. Along with the peer-support from other participants this will help participants to identify strategies for developing the quality of youth work in their local contexts. The module will focus especially on linking evidence to short and long-term strategies in local youth work and approaches for "taking the next steps" in each participants' own youth work community.

The residential modules will be hosted by municipalities and will share their practices as a way to enable community-based learning throughout the training course.

Participants will be expected to start transferring the knowledge they gain to their community already after the first module. This will be supported with an invitation to an interim task between the two modules.

The training process will focus on the themes of:

- Quality of local youth work and youth policy
- Competence development in relation to participatory action research and strategic thinking
- European dimension in local youth work

Methodology

This training will address the specific realities of the participants mainly through peer-learning. Besides this, the participants will discuss a variety of theories, tools and practices that potentially inspire them to analyse their specific realities and circumstances and to introduce change when needed.

The Changemakers Kit for the European Charter on Local Youth work will serve as a reference for the content of the training.

General Program

The program will be organised in two residential short training modules with individual tasks and three optional webinars in between the modules. The table below details the full program considering the residential parts, the online parts and the individual tasks.

Program Parts	Dates	Activities
1st training module Belgium, Kortrijk	4th of April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arrivals - Introductions
	5th of April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intro to Participatory Action Research - Reflecting on our own role as youth work supporters - Learning from Kortrijk practices
	6th of April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participatory Action Research tools & techniques: how to collect data in participatory ways
	7th of April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing the next steps and links with local youth work networks - Departures
Optional individual tasks and webinars between April and June 2022	Individual tasks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participants will be invited to apply one of the concrete tools presented in the 1st module, within their own community. This is an optional learning activity that incentives experiential learning and concrete action. Participants are also invited to take part in one online session to share the challenges and results they found along the way.
	28th April 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - These optional webinars will focus on the European policies and instruments that support local youth work and on good practices from other municipalities or local networks across Europe. They will be open to the general public and participants are encouraged to invite other local stakeholders from their own communities to take part as well as a means to internationalise their work and learn from inspiring practices. <p>The webinars' concrete thematics will be defined at a later stage.</p>
	18th May 2022	
8th June 2022		
2nd training module	13th June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Arrivals - Reconnecting with the group

Finland, Kouvola	14th June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sharing experiences on what tools were used and what have been the outcomes - From participatory action-research to strategic thinking - Internationalising local youth work: What Europe can offer to local strategies and local actors
	15th June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In's and out's of local Youth Work strategies - How can European instruments and opportunities support a local youth work strategy
	16th June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Final session on next steps towards creating change - Departures
Note: The program activities might still suffer minor changes		

Target group

- Youth officers, youth workers, and others players with an active role in youth work, working for municipalities or other governmental and non-governmental organisations, that are responsible for or in other ways influence the development of local youth work policy and/or practice. Preferably from municipalities that are not yet involved in European networks/projects.

To register for the training course

Please, fill this form:

<https://forms.gle/Np4Sd2nuaXA5oiYf9>

Deadline to register: 10 February 2022 (midnight, CET)

Selection and notification of participants

This activity is offered for participants resident in the countries where the Europe Goes Local project is implemented:

Austria, Belgium-Flanders, Croatia, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Sweden, Slovenia, Slovakia, Neighbouring partner countries in the EECA and SEE region.

Before applying, please, contact your Erasmus+ National Agency or the SALTO EECA and SEE Resource Centres from the neighbouring partner countries to discuss your application. National Agencies and SALTO Centres will decide whether they wish to send participants for this activity or not. Not all Europe Goes Local member countries will delegate participants for the training course.

Applications will be evaluated and the list of participants will be decided by the Erasmus+ National Agencies.

All applicants will be notified by the 28th of February.

Number of foreseen participants: 24 people

Practicalities for the training course:

All costs of this training course are covered by the Erasmus+ grant.

Participating at this training course does not imply a registration or participation fee unless the sending National Agency requests for a financial contribution. Please, contact your National Agency to find it out.

Full board and lodging will be provided by the organizing team.

Please, contact your National Agency regarding organising your travel. National Agencies might book tickets directly or reimburse travel fees to participants. Please, do not book any travel ticket before agreeing with your National Agency on the terms and conditions and before being notified about your participation, otherwise your costs will not be covered.

The organisers and participants will have to follow the official safety rules related to COVID-19. In case the rules would not allow organising the training course, the activity will cancelled/postponed to another date. Participants will be updated in case any change occurs.

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