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International youth work in Hyvärilä

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SUMMARY



Trade Knowledge
strategic partnership
Erasmus+



Green school
development project
Karelia CBC



CultuRe:imagined
strategic partnership
Erasmus+



Art Escape
strategic partnership
Erasmus+



Youth Powerhouse
cooperation project
US Department of State

Discover-U
international volunteering
European Solidarity Corps



Embrace the darkness
team volunteering
European Solidarity Corps



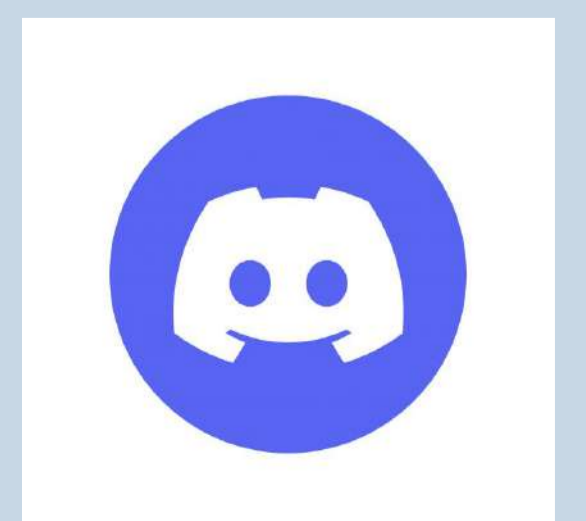
EcoYouth
Youth exchange online
Erasmus+



Back to the roots
training for youth workers
Erasmus+



Discord channel
Open International
Youth House





Exchange of good practices within this project was implemented by partners from Finland: Hyvärilä youth centre and Ikola museum, Slovenia: Zavod Dobra Pot, and Cyprus: Plan it Be it.

Main project results are:

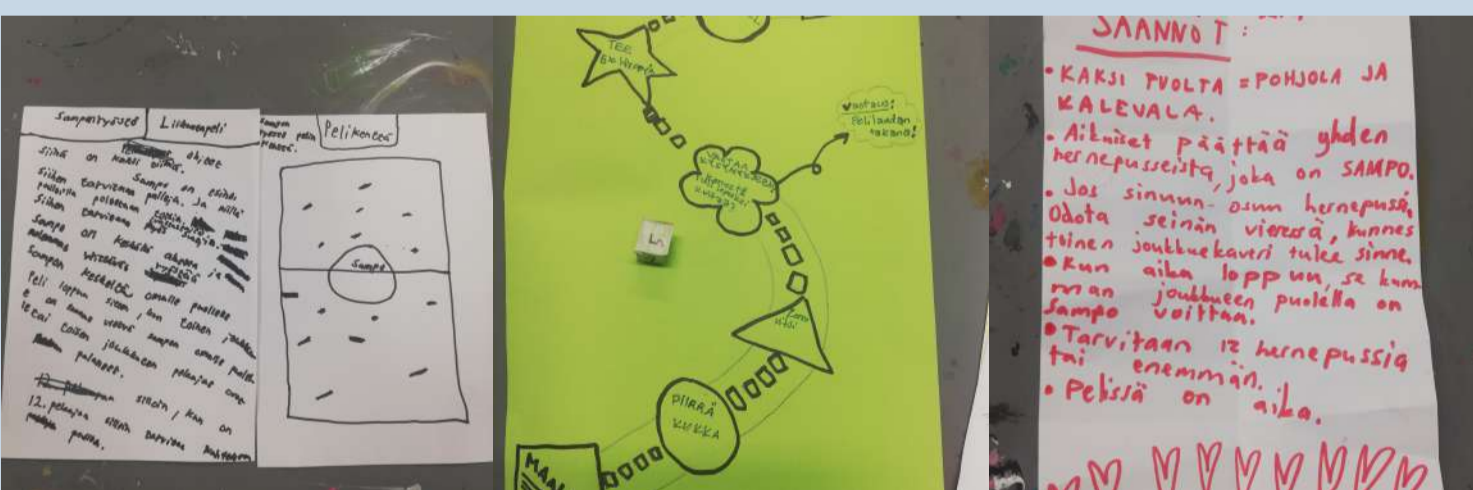
- new programs in partner organizations to promote local culture;
- more contacts and networking between youth and culture organizations in pilot areas.

RESULTS OVERVIEW



1 NEW WORKSHOPS

Partner organizations inspired each other to introduce more interactive methods involving culture: a game-making workshop, scavenger hunts, music interpretation workshop, historic artefact search workshops.



2 POSITIVE FEEDBACK FROM YOUTH

New programs and workshops were tested with pilot groups. Participants reported that new programs were fun and engaging, and that they learned through them. New programs were integrated in partners' work.



3 MORE CROSS-SECTORAL COOPERATION

All project partners developed cooperation with local culture and youth organizations, and launched new projects in the field of culture+youth

PROJECT CONTINUES IN 2021

**1**

GREEN WEEK IN PILOT SCHOOLS

In total 30 schools organized Green Week activities to promote sustainable living. That includes the school of Eastern Finland in Joensuu, Valtimo school, Laanila School, and partner schools in Russia, including Lyceum 40 from Petrozavodsk, schools of Lahdenpohja, Medvezhiegorsk and other municipalities

2

STUDENTS RUNNING HOME RESEARCH

Groups of students from pilot schools carried on research with EcoCase at home, measuring water and energy use, level of noise and light, level of CO2 and other parameters which affect comfort of living and sustainability at home.

3

ACTION TOWARDS BIODIVERSITY IN HYVÄRILÄ

As a part of Green Week activity, Hyvärilä youth centre piloted an insect building workshop, which will become an annual program for youth groups. To further the topic of biodiversity, a wildflower meadow was established on the Pielinen lakeside in Hyvärilä.

One of the results: in February 2021 the project team of Lyceum 40 in Petrozavodsk checked the previously installed doors and windows using the thermal imager from the Ecocase. They noticed great changes: in the year 2019 in winter time the temperature in the entrance zone was near 8 degrees, but now the temperature is up to 20 degrees.



This strategic partnership project under Erasmus+ is aimed at increased participation of youth from Finland, Spain and Lithuania. The project is implemented in cooperation with Nouseva Rannikoseutu, Liminka Municipality (Finland), Jarron Club (Spain) and Alytus youth centre (Lithuania)



1 SET UP TEAMS OF YOUTH- CREATIVE LEADERS

We'll touch base twice a week about the project through video conferencing. The remainder of the time, we can communicate via Slack.

2 CREATIVE LEADERS ONLINE TRAINING

Unless you have other platforms you prefer working on, the project will be conducted on Google Docs and Trello.

3 TRAINING FOR CREATIVE LEADERS IN SPAIN

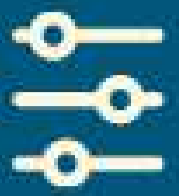
Include another blurb on what the client needs to know when working with you.

4 CREATIVE LEADERS RUN OWN PROJECTS

Include another blurb on what the client needs to know when working with you.



artescapeEU



PROJECT OVERVIEW

WORK PACKAGE 1

Collection of good practices

- Collection of educational outdoors escape rooms from Europe
- Guidelines for youth workers on designing outdoors escape rooms based on culture and myths

WORK PACKAGE 2

Outdoors escape room design

- Partner organizations from Finland, Greece, Cyprus and Belgium create outdoor escape rooms based on local culture and myths

WORK PACKAGE 3

Trainings for professionals

- Peer trainings are organized in 2022 for partner organizations to develop and improve outdoor escape rooms

WORK PACKAGE 4

Online course for youth workers

- Experience and practical tips will be summarized in an online course on HOP Salto platform
- The course will launch in autumn 2022

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING



"I'm not the same person that I was one year ago and I'm really thankful for this incredible learning process full of adventures, discoveries, kindness, love and nature"

Laura from



"We started volunteering experience with the camp schools and every day there were new activities with new people"

Yasir from



"When I think about what I wish I knew beforehand there is one thought that pops up in to my mind: it's going to be okay! You are going to be fine!!"

Lies from



"I got to test myself under pressure in various conditions, spend time with preteens and get to understand them a little better, make friends and set new goals for myself for the future"

Zofia from



"This experience in Cyprus gave me time and the possibility to think about what should I do next in my life, what is the next step to take and what kind of life I would like to live in the future"

Siiri from



YOUTH POWERHOUSE



PARTNERSHIP

Study visit within step 1 of Youth Powerhouse project took place in November 2021. Two teaching performers from Bond Street Theater (BST), New-York, USA, came to Nurmes to meet local youth work professionals and youngsters.

RESULTS

BST representatives shared drama workshops from their outreach program for youth with youth work professionals, and organized a workshop in Valtimo school. Within consultations with local professionals, further steps towards Youth Powerhouse action were developed.

WHAT IS NEXT?

In 2022 BST and Hyvärilä youth centre, in cooperation with Riveria school in Nurmes, will organize drama workshop series for Nurmes students to promote integration and intercultural dialogue between Finnish and international students.

“ Proud of these 9th grade boys, who played theater games, in English, against their will, and didn't even totally hate it (and proud of us for that outcome too)

-Ilanna Saltzman,
Bond Street Theater
on the results of the first drama
workshop in Valtimo school





BACKGROUND

The project is implemented in cooperation with Allianssi Youth Exchanges. For the first time in Nurmes we celebrated harvest festival Kekri with an international team of young people, involving the local community and organizations.

OVERVIEW

22 participants representing 14 countries, came to Nurmes in October 2021 for a 3-week ESC team volunteering project. Participants explored North Karelian culture and sustainability issues through Kekri tradition. With the help of local organizations they learned how to make traditional food, how history and tradition shaped the lifestyle in North Karelia, and connected with nature on hikes and forest walks.

ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED

- Visit to Ystävän Pysäkki elderly centre,
- Crafts workshops for children in Nurmes and Valtimo,
- Cooking with youngsters in the Nurmes Youth House,
- Children workshops and games on Kekri Festival in Ikola museum,
- Nature path for children in Hyvärilä youth centre area,
- Scavenger hunt for families with children within scavenger hunt month run by Nurmes organizations,
- Filmed a horror movie capturing the spirit of Kekri time,
- Implemented social media visibility activities.

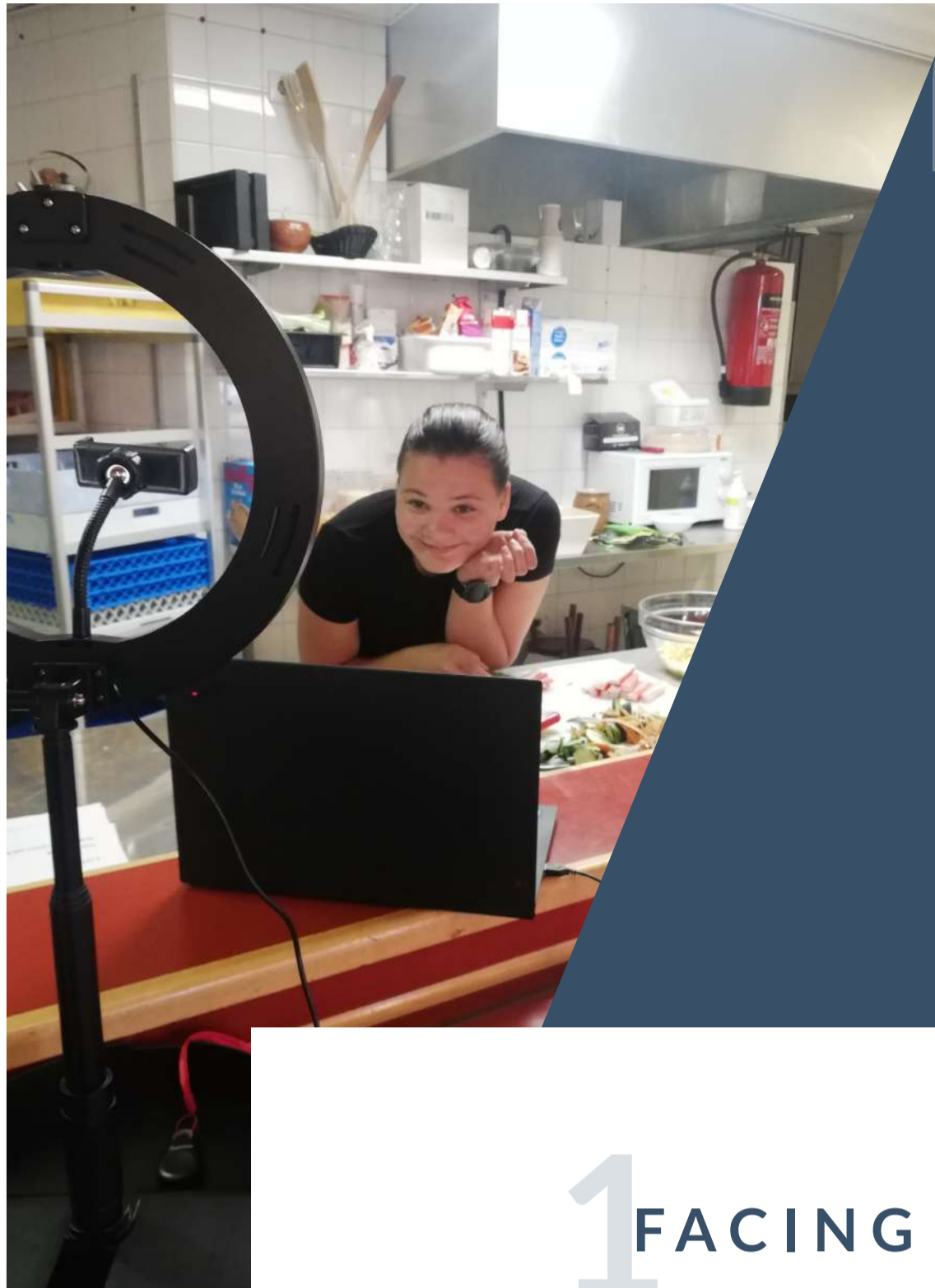
RESULTS

The project allowed to spread the awareness of international and local community about Kekri tradition and history. Cooperation with local organizations and international youth work strengthened.

Kekri team volunteering will become annual.

Our experience is nothing short of amazing. Every day we are given the chance to acquire different sets of knowledge. From the foods we eat to the places we see and the conversations we share, our daily lives here in Hyvärilä have been filled with new encounters- the perfect environment for self-discovery and self-improvement.

-Participant feedback



I learned that my water footprint was bigger than I thought, and I should be more careful about waste in general

-participant feedback



1 FACING CHALLENGES

The project was designed by participants after their successful youth exchange in Hyvärilä youth centre in 2019. Due to COVID-19 pandemic the youth exchange was postponed twice. Finally, the date was set to travel in July 2021, but new outbreak lead to cancellation of travel to Cyprus.

2 ADAPTING TO CHANGES

The project team decided to organize the international youth exchange online. Participants from Finland, Egypt, Portugal and Cyprus met online for 4 days to work on the topics of environmental action and concrete actions to minimize personal negative impact on environment.

3 LEARNING

During 4 days of exchange participants tracked their own behavioral patterns and analyzed how they affect the environment. They counted own water footprint, exchanged useful sources of information about sustainable living, exchanged food recipes, had a virtual visit to a recycling centre, and worked together on concrete actions.

4 CONTRIBUTING TO CHANGE

Coordinating their actions online, participants went out to local towns to examine sustainability problems, organized cleaning up of streets and parks, learned how to upcycle old clothes, and planned social media campaigns on sustainable fashion, and conscious shopping.



1 INTRODUCTION TO NATURE EDUCATION

This 8-day training for youth workers was implemented as a response to the growing demand for outdoors programs for youth. Together with instructors from Hyvärilä youth centre, environmental education experts and national park workers, we explored nature education opportunities.

2 LEARNING CONCRETE PRACTICES BY DOING

20 Participants from Ukraine, Finland, Cyprus, Italy and Poland learned rules for safe and sustainable programs outdoors, including programs in the forest, programs on water, ways to include upcycling and biodiversity themes in their programs.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL AUDIT OF ORGANIZATIONS

Being a Green Key certified organization, Hyvärilä youth centre shared best practices from food sourcing, to energy saving, involving all departments in a world cafe for participants. Training participants learned how to do an environmental audit in their organizations and find greener solutions.

4 GREENER YOUTH WORK. TOGETHER.

It takes a village to raise a child - this training involved representatives of local organizations and local community member who share our values of providing more sustainable youth services.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a teal-colored mug. The person is wearing a light-colored, possibly white, sweater. The background is dark and out of focus.

**FINNISH YOUTH
CENTRES INVITE
YOU TO
INTERNATIONAL
YOUTH HOUSE ON
DISCORD**

**CONTACT US TO RECEIVE AN
INVITATION LINK TO THE
DISCORD CHANNEL:**



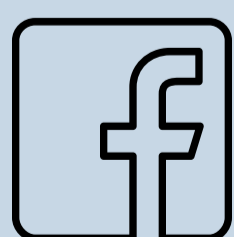
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T H A N K Y O U A N D S E E Y O U N E X T Y E A R !