



FINAL REPORT: Crossborders ROMA TC

26-30 May 2015 | Rakican, Slovenia

Implemented by: Henk Persyn and Zsuzsa Juhasz, trainers

Background

Youth Chapter within Erasmus+ programme is a main tool at European Union level to support youth which provides opportunities for non-formal learning for young people through mobility and intercultural dialogue. In the frame of the Erasmus+ programme an Inclusion and Diversity Strategy has been designed to ensure the access of young people with fewer opportunities in the Programme and to stimulate the use of the Erasmus+ programme as a tool to enhance the social inclusion, active citizenship and employability and to contribute to social cohesion at large. Young people from Roma communities can see themselves represented in several of these areas, and as such often suffer from multiple discrimination and lack of opportunities.

Aim

The aim of the training course was to offer an opportunity for Roma (youth) organizations to meet potential future partners from other countries in order to become more involved in the Erasmus+ programme, to present opportunities for international projects and share good practices.

It brought together 16 participants from Slovenia, Hungary, Albania, Macedonia and Serbia. Also 1 representative from the Slovenian National Agency were present – Elizabeta Lakosil. The facilitators were Henk Persyn from Belgium/Slovenia and Zsuzsa Juhasz from Hungary and Mojca Galun as assistant (doing a job shadow activity) from Slovenia.

Objectives of the TC were:

- to present the opportunities for international projects within the Erasmus+ programme
- to share good practice examples of working with Roma youth and on Roma youth projects
- to offer space for sharing local practice as well as possible international experience
- to get inspired to carry out future youth projects in their organisations through study visits in the field and by visiting actual activities
- to give basic training in international project management (planning, implementation and evaluation) in particular within the frame of the Erasmus+ (youth chapter) Programme
- to encourage partnership-building between the participating organizations
- to identify the added value for international projects with Roma youth

The training course brought together 15 participants, 12 of which were Roma from Roma organizations, and 3 were from organization working with Roma people. There were two translators present to help participants follow and participate in the programme. Participants were coming from organizations with motivation and plans for cooperation with other Roma organizations on international level. They were active members of Roma organizations or organizations working with Roma and had experience in working with Roma young people (13+).

Implemented programme

	Tuesday 26 May	Wednesday 27 May	Thursday 28 May	Friday 29 May	Saturday 30 May
		breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
9.30h	ARRIVAL	Teambuilding 1	Intro to the guests	Potential (s)?	Next steps
		Break	Break	Break	Break
11h30		Teambuilding 2	Guest speaker(1)	Project management tips	Evaluation
13h	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
15h	Intro and aims	Erasmus + intro	Guest speaker (2)	ACTION !!!	DEPARTURE
	Break	Break	Break	Break	
17h	Getting to know each other	Important aspect of Erasmus +	Review to the speakers	ACTION!!! +counselling	
18.30h		Reflection	+ Some free time	reflection	
19h	Dinner	Dinner		Dinner	
20.30h	Organizations evening	International evening	Dinner out	"Euro song party	

List of participants:

Country	Name	Organization
Hungary	Norbert Csemer	Self-Government of the local Roma people
Hungary	Norbi Orsós	UCCU Foundation
Hungary	Sándor Kőszegi	translator
Hungary	Dávid János Tóth	translator
Hungary	Gabriella Vivien Ziegler	
Hungary	Dudás	Kapocs Ifjúsági Önségítő Szolgálat
Hungary	Anna Orsós	Amrita OBK Association
Macedonia	Magdalena Veljkovska	Maestro Folk Fest
Macedonia	Ermina Redjepova	Roma cultural and education centre Ternipe MK Delcevo
Macedonia	Remzi Medik	Center for development of Roma community Bairska Svetlina
Macedonia	Aleksandar Gjorgjievski	Maestro Folk Fest
Serbia	Nebojsa Djeric	Equal Rights Centre
Albania	Adela Kula	Tirana Legal Aid Society (TLAS)
		Integrated Vision
Slovenia	Noun Ali Sharif	
		Romsko kulturno in turistično društvo Ternipe - Mladost - Pušča
Slovenia	Santana Horvat	
		Romsko kulturno in turistično društvo Ternipe - Mladost - Pušča
Slovenia	Misa Kokas	
Slovenia	Sandi Horvat	Roma academic Klub
Slovenia	Tina Friedreich	Roma academic Klub

The detailed description of the programme:

DAY 1 - Tuesday 26th May 2015 – GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

The training course started in the afternoon. The first day was dedicated to getting to know each other and creating a group atmosphere, as one of the objectives of the TC was to work on new project ideas.

After the official opening by NA representative, the team was introduced, and goals and objectives of the TC were presented. Participant's first task was „**Mission Impossible**” - participants had a list of tasks, and had limited time to do them together, tasks were full of creativity and focused on getting to know each other in a very natural and fast way.

Next, **schedule of the day** and practicalities were presented. Some time was dedicated to getting to know each other more personally. By using luftballons (finding a person whose name is on the balloon you picked up) and through series of questions participants drew each other on the balloons. The activity continued with their motivation to participate in this TC.

Their next task, which also served as a group building activity, was **Giant Swing**, related to a problem solving task in a group environment. It was an experiential learning process through "learning by doing" and introduction of creative learning solutions. Colb-cycle was presented. (A cycle that represents the "learning by doing" process - theory)



After dinner each organization had the opportunity to introduce their work as base for future partnership – participants could rotate and ask questions in country pairs.

DAY 2 - Wednesday 27th May 2015 – Team Building and ERASMUS+ Programme

Day 2 was dedicated to team building exercises, through which participants learned how to be creative, how to relax and use everyday tool for unusual tasks, and how to approach solving problems.

Morning started by stretching our bodies to the sound of music and continued with a sound workshop: participants worked in pairs, and their task was to introduce new sounds to each other by using everyday tools. Next, pairs joined in groups of 6 and had 30 minutes rehearsal to perform in front of the whole group.

Morning continued outside where their next challenge was horizontal Spider Web, which they had to cross by not breaking certain rules. The exercise was linked to decision making process, problem solving, creativity, reality of (not) following the rules in order to have the task done.



Next challenge was pendulum – each participant had to cross a certain area by swinging on a rope and not stepping to the ground. The exercise was linked to individual responsibility of each team member, the importance of helping, encouraging and supporting each other, to the effort each team member brings to the task and how to communicate individual needs. We created a transfer to the future application writing in an international environment.

In the afternoon Erasmus+ Programme was presented with the focus on Youth Exchanges, European Voluntary Service, Mobility of Youth workers and Transnational Youth Initiatives. Participants then split into small groups according to their most relevant experience: to the above mentioned groups a group Beginners was added.

Through a framed „Poker Game” of the different key actions and activities participants could learn about the basic rules of Erasmus plus in a joyful way. The aim was to reflect on the possibilities of each activity for the personal target group and to share experiences.

International night:

Each country had the opportunity to share the most important facts about their country, present some typical food and drinks.



DAY 3 - Thursday 28th may 2015

Guest speakers:

Roma organization 'Ne daj se Madara' from Coatia about youth exchanges

They presented their way of daily work, how it led to a Youth Exchange and which problems they encountered. It was very useful in terms of possible traps a new organization can face when organizing their first youth exchange.

ÖDE from Hungary József Bogdán about EVS

Jozsef spoke about his personal experience as being Roma and going on an EVS, how he "lived" through it, how it changed his life and how it helped him find a job and how he is still active in sending and hosting EVS volunteers in Europe and also from Roma background.



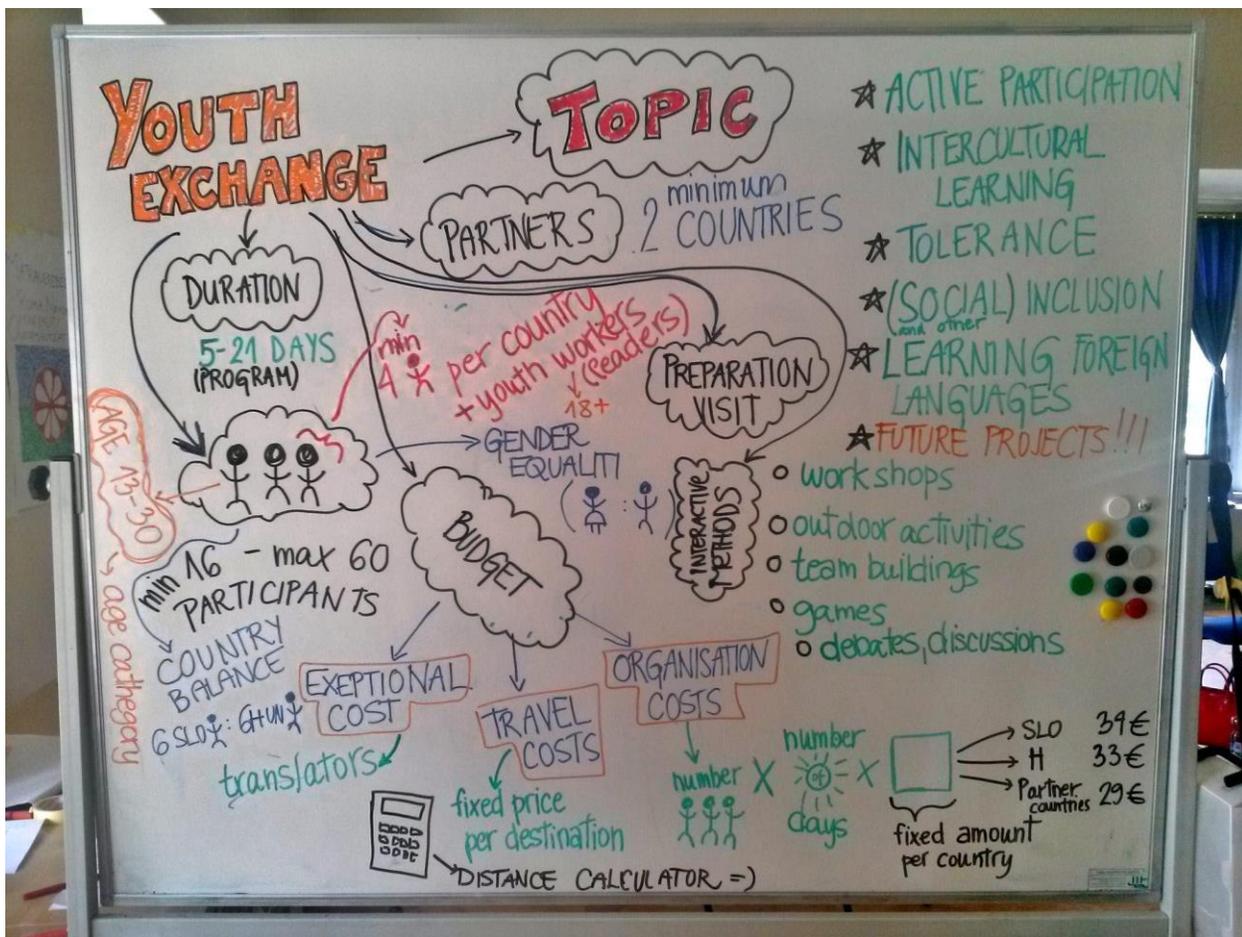
In the afternoon participants went to visit Roma museum in Murska Sobota, had some free time and dinner out in the town.

DAY 4 – Friday 29th May 2015

Interactive cartoon (Shaun the Sheep) was linked to project management in short simple steps. On flipchart, participants brainstormed on the 6W's, key words such as „needs“, „target group“, „aims“ etc. connected to the cartoon. They discussed in couples and wrote on post-its what the steps of a project are and then shared their findings to others.

Participants put themselves in groups according to what kind of project they would like to start working on. There was coaching and support from the whole team with the aim to start developing 1 project idea to be submitted till the next deadline.

Group 1: EVS Group 2: Youth Exchange Group 3: Training Course



The day ended with an eurosong party, which was held at the venue at the opening of a new bar. Participants had a free evening to enjoy the concert of Slovenian performers on that years' Eurosong contest.

DAY 5 – Saturday 30th May 2015

Participants had 3 minute presentations of their project plans – they had to be visual and answer the W's questions (Where? When? With whom? What? Whom for? Who?) + if they were looking for a partner.

The training course ended with short symbolical representation of the week, last reflection round and positive feedback to each other.



Dissemination – TC was recorded by Slovenian National TV station and a short clip was made in a Roma TC Show.

at 09:40

<http://4d.rtv slo.si/arhiv/romska-oddaja/174340687>