

CEV Autumn Volunteering Congress 2024

19-20 November 2024
Brussels, Belgium



Volunteering Equality
Rights Action
VERA 2024



Co-funded by
the European Union



EUROPEAN QUALITY STANDARDS IN VALUATION
OF LEARNING FROM VOLUNTEERING

POWERED BY **V**



Project Number: 101140501
(Revealing European Values in Volunteering in Europe - REVIVE Project No. 101051131)

AGENDA

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

18TH - 20TH NOV 2024

CEV AUTUMN VOLUNTEERING CONGRESS 2024

Page 1



18TH NOV

SLIPstream: "Service-learning in fostering youth civic engagement, diversity, and social inclusion in the CEE region", Ambassadors Training (invitation only) (Erasmus+)



09:00 - 10:00 CEV General Assembly at "Mundo Madou" (members only) Registration with breakfast from 8:30

10:00 - 10:30 Break

Part I #REACT campaign & BEV2030 Seminar "The Future of Volunteer Centres and their role in Unlocking the Potential of Volunteers in Europe" Registration from 10:00

10:30 - 12:00 Panel Discussion

Moderator: Amy Woods (CEV)

The role of volunteer centres: Creating a healthy volunteer resources ecosystem - Lucas Meijs (Erasmus University Rotterdam)

Case Study from Czech Republic - Nataša Diatková (Government of the Czech Republic)

A Guide to Sustainable and Responsible Volunteering - Marjo Salmela (Citizen Forum Finland)

Strengthening Communities: How Volunteer Centres Drive Resilience and Response - Sharon Meaney (Clare Volunteer Centre, Ireland)

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch at "Atelier 29"

14:00 - 17:30 V-CALC - Volunteering Impact Measurement Training in Europe, Exploring the impact of volunteers - How to measure it?, Final Conference (Erasmus+)

Keynote Speakers:

"Global Volunteering Trends" - Nichole Cirillo (International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE))

"Volunteering: An investment not a cost" - Fritz Schiltz (Belgian Red Cross-Flanders)



19TH NOV

Presentations with Q&A:

European Volunteering Impact Report - Lejla Šehić Relić (CEV/CVDC-DKolektiv)

Volunteering Impact Measurement Methodology - Jurgen Grotz (Institute for Volunteering Research (IVR) at University of East Anglia (UEA))

Impact Measurement Platform - Cristina Perez (Fundación Hazloposible)

Volunteering Impact Measurement Training - Jelena Kamenko Mayer (DKolektiv) and Rafaela Mborja (Beyond Barriers Albania (BBA))

Advocating for unified volunteering impact measurement in Europe - Enrique Martos (Out of the Box International (OTB))

17:30 - 20:30 eQval - European Quality Standards in Validation of Learning from Volunteering - "Showcasing Quality in Validation of Learning Outcomes through Volunteering & eQval Award Ceremony" (Erasmus+)

Welcome and introduction - Gabriella Civico (CEV)

European Year of Skills - what's the legacy? - Andrea Lapegna (Lifelong Learning Platform)

eQval Award & Project Presentation - Maida Pieper (Plataforma del Voluntariado de España)

Winner's announcement and award ceremony

Dinner & Networking reception



AGENDA

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
18TH - 20TH NOV 2024

CEV AUTUMN VOLUNTEERING CONGRESS 2024

Page 2



8:30 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 10:30 **Part II #REACT campaign & BEV2030 Seminar "The Future of Volunteer Centres and their role in Unlocking the Potential of Volunteers in Europe" with & Networking breakfast at "Atelier 29"**

SLSV - Stop Loneliness, Start Volunteering, Multiplier Event (Erasmus+)

10:30 - 13:00 Loneliness and social isolation - What solutions can volunteering offer?

Welcome and introduction - Lejla Šehić Relić (CEV/CVDC-DKolektiv)

Presentations

Project Aims and Objectives - Eva Klobčar (Slovenska Filantropija)

Guidelines for volunteer centres and networks - Dannie Larse (Volunteer Centre and Self-help Denmark)

Handbook for volunteer organisations - Sabrina Lever (Slovenska Filantropija)

Policy recommendations - Miriah Conte (CEV)

"World Cafe" discussions and conclusions.

13:00 - 14:00 Lunch

Powered by V - Engaged Volunteering for the Future of EU Values, Dissemination Event (Erasmus+)

14:00 - 16:30 Exploring Volunteering and European Values - What is the role of volunteering in the future of Europe?

Welcome and introduction - Gabriella Civico (CEV) & Yulia Styran (CEV)

Keynote speaker: MEP Vladimir Prebilič (Greens/EFA)

Presentation of the Powered by V project, Jelena Kamenka Mayer (DKolektiv) and Katarina Rotar (Slovenska filantropija)

MEP Lena Schilling (Greens/EFA), video message

Panel discussion

Stuart Fox (University of Exeter)

Vesna Strlič (Slovenska filantropija)

Stuart Garland (Volunteer Ireland)

Lejla Šehić Relić (CEV/CVDC-DKolektiv)

Exploring the project - interactive session, aperitif & networking

SLIPS "Service Learning in Primary Schools". Community of practice Event (Erasmus+)

16:30 - 18:00 Fostering civic engagement at a young age - introducing service-learning in primary schools (SLIPS CoP aperitif & networking session)

20TH NOV



CONNECT AND INTERACT WITH US



#CENTFOREUROPEANVOLUNTEERING
#CEVCONGRESS2024
#VOLUNTEERING
#VERA2024



Coffee break (10:00 - 10:30)



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Rights Action
VERA 2024

Project Number: 101140501

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Part I #REACT campaign & BEV2030 Seminar “The Future of Volunteer Centres and their role in Unlocking the Potential of Volunteers in Europe”



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The role of volunteer centres: Creating a healthy volunteer resources ecosystem

Lucas Meijs (Erasmus University Rotterdam)



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Case Study from Czech Republic

Nataša Diatková (Government of the Czech Republic)



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MINISTERSTVO VNITRA
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

Ministry of Interior Czech Republic



internet: www.mvcr.cz



MINISTERSTVO VNITRA
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

198/2002 Coll.

ACT

Of April 24, 2002

on Volunteer Service and on Amendment of
Selected Laws

(Act on Volunteer Service)



- only a small segment of the volunteering in the Czech Republic, the conditions under which the state supports voluntary service, legislative terminology, fundamental rights and obligations of volunteers, sending and receiving organizations.



- effective from 1 January 2003,
- currently about 150 organizations accredited for about 250 projects/programs, accredited project – 4 years,
- 600 000 Euro/year



MINISTERSTVO VNITRA
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

Concept for the Development of Volunteering in the Czech Republic till 2030

deadline for submission to the Government
of the Czech Republic by 31.12.2024.



- the first systematic document for the development of volunteering in the Czech Republic,
sets general objectives to support the development of volunteering,
creates a new body: Council for Volunteering (at the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic) – an advisory body



- sets infrastructure of volunteering in the CZ:
regional volunteer centres – 300 000 Euro/year

It will be implemented by action plans in which there will already be specific measures with specific deadlines. (2025-2027, 2028-2033,)



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Regional Volunteer Centres





RDC's activities are carried out in the following areas:

1. information and networking - to create a website and social networks with up-to-date information about volunteering, to create a database of volunteer organizations and those interested in volunteering, and to actively participate in volunteering in the region;
2. promotional and communication - promotion of volunteering in the public and in the media, organization of Volunteer Days in the region, open days and operation of a contact point for the public;
3. educational - implementation of free training of volunteer coordinators in sending organizations or contact persons in receiving organizations and education of volunteers themselves;
4. conceptual and methodological - they are a partner for the region and local governments, jointly creating a concept and strategy for the development and support of volunteering in the region;
5. advisory and consulting - to provide professional advice for volunteer centres and volunteer organizations in the region for local governments, volunteers in



MINISTERSTVO VNITRA
ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

Thank you!

Nataša Diatková
Ministry of Interior
Crime Prevention Department

natasa.diatkova@mvcz.cz

www.mvcz.cz, dobrovolnictvi.net

Guide to Sustainable and Responsible Volunteering

Templates Sustainability Volunteering Guide

Marjo Salmela (Citizen Forum Finland)



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Strengthening Communities: How Volunteer Centres Drive Resilience and Response

Sharon Meaney (Clare Volunteer Centre, Ireland)



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BUILDING
RESILIENCE:
Capturing a
Community
Response



LISDOONVARNA
COUNTY CLARE

BUILDING RESILIENCE: Capturing a Community Response

ENABLING
FACTORS



BUILDING RESILIENCE: Capturing a Community Response

RESEARCH FINDINGS



Summary of Research Findings

- LEADERSHIP enables EMPOWERED COMMUNITIES
- CAPACITY BUILDING enables LEARNING AND INNOVATION
- STEWARDSHIP enables PRIDE AND A STRONG SENSE OF COMMUNITY
- RESPONSIVENESS enables RESILIENT COMMUNITIES
- ENGAGEMENT enables ACTIVE PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSION/INVOLVEMENT
- COMMUNICATION enables COMMUNITIES TO BE INFORMED AND VOICES HEARD
- COLLABORATION enables STRONG AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES
- RESOURCES enable SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

RESOURCEFUL

RESILIENT

RELEVANT

RESPONSIVE

ROBUST

RECEPTIVE

REPEAT

Lunch at “Atelier 29” (12:30 - 14:00)



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V-CALC - Volunteering Impact Measurement Training in Europe, Exploring the impact of volunteers - How to measure it?, Final Conference



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**Institute for
Volunteering
Research** **UEA**
University of East Angles

VOLUNTEERING IMPACT MEASUREMENT TRAINING IN EUROPE

Brussels, Belgium
19 November 2024



QUIZ



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“Global Volunteering Trends”

Nichole Cirillo, International Association for Volunteer Effort (IAVE)



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The logo for the Centre for European Volunteering features a stylized orange and yellow sunburst or spiral design to the left of the text.

Centre for
European
Volunteering

kolektiv

The logo for Out Of The Box features a stylized number '9' with a green dot above it, positioned to the left of the text.

Out Of The Box

The logo for the Institute for Volunteering Research at the University of East Anglia features a stylized blue and white graphic to the left of the text.

Institute for
Volunteering
Research
UEA
University of East Anglia

AGENDA for the FUTURE

*Trendspotting across the
global volunteer landscape*





A constellation of crises

Major take-aways for
global research

What is relevant to your
work?

GLOBAL TREND 1: Broader recognition of who volunteers are

During Crises Volunteer Leaders...

89%

Confronted conventional ideas about who can volunteer

- ▶ Activists/Voice (**AIA Philippines**)
- ▶ DIY (episodic, micro, reflexive, etc.)
- ▶ Family/Retirees – the Big Tent (**Dell, Grupo Terra, Grupo Modelo**)
- ▶ Hackathons
- ▶ Informal/community members

Leadership Pointer:

Examine your typography of volunteering and be open to new definitions that encompass the ways people are volunteering today.

GLOBAL TREND 2: Volunteering for systems change

Disaffected Generation? From **Civic Duty** volunteering to **Civic Dissent** volunteering

Companies to make **public commitments** to address ESG alongside their volunteering
(Discovery)

Employee-led resource groups (ERGs) formed to help employees learn about issues/take action

Growth in employee volunteering **focused on SDGs/National Development Goals (PIMCO)**

From Climate Mitigation to **Climate justice (Linklaters)**

Leadership Pointer:

Don't be shy about connecting your work to the larger social issue, talking about impact, and mapping ways for deeper engagement, **even if it means beyond your doors**

GLOBAL TREND 3: Networks for shared action and learning

- ▶ Learning and knowledge exchange
- ▶ Speaking with a global voice
- ▶ A web of support (**State Street**)
- ▶ Collective action (**Microsoft**)
- ▶ External Partnerships: NGOs, governments and private companies working together (**GCVC**)

Leadership Pointer:

Shape networks
around a **common
denominator** (enabling
environment) allow for
flexibility in how
members get there

GLOBAL TREND 4:

From WE to ME: center impact on the volunteer
(not just the beneficiary)

Through volunteering:

- ▶ Greater wellbeing/empathy
- ▶ Stronger voice/activism
- ▶ Increased employability skills
- ▶ Greater value as an employee – recruitment, retention and promotion

Leadership Pointer:

Switch it up: Recognize the ways in which volunteerism enables the volunteer to shape and own their own development.

Thank

you!



Download all of our research at
www.iave.org/knowledge-creation/

Email us

nichole@iave.org

Become a member

www.iave.org/join-now

Donate

www.iave.org/donate



@iave



@iaveofficial



[linkedin.com/company/iave](https://www.linkedin.com/company/iave)



[facebook.com/iaveofficial](https://www.facebook.com/iaveofficial)

“Volunteering: An investment not a cost” Fritz Schiltz (Belgian Red Cross-Flanders)



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Volunteering: an investment, not a cost

November 2024

Sport Culture Lifestyle

The Guardian Est. 1821

Australia Middle East Africa Inequality Global development

This article is more than 2 years old

Volunteers praised for huge role in giving UK public Covid jobs

More than 100,000 people donated their time in 2021 as part of largest ever British vaccination campaign

- Coronavirus - latest updates
- See all our coronavirus coverage



NEWS
PANDEMIC

Tens of thousands of vaccine volunteers have been praised for giving up about two million hours of their time to help with the rollout of Covid jobs throughout 2021.

- Most viewed
- Bluesky adds 700,000 new members as users flee X after the US election
 - Man who 'discarded' wife after tricking her into leaving: Australia jailed for exit trafficking
 - Trump set to appoint China critic Mike Waltz as US national security adviser
 - Why on earth do the rich keep bankrolling Prince Andrew? *Gailly Hines*
 - Israeli football fans and the violence in Amsterdam: what we know

Greece calls for volunteer doctors to help state hospitals with Covid-19



Newsroom 17.03.2021 - 22:25

[f](#) [t](#) [in](#)

Greece on Wednesday urged doctors to volunteer their services to the state health system as it struggles to rein in fast-spreading Covid-19 infections.

UNV



Local volunteers in Tunisia recognized for promoting inclusive COVID-19 pandemic response

05 January 2022

PATH



How volunteers are accelerating vaccination in Vietnam

November 30, 2021 by Kimberly Green and Zoe Humeau

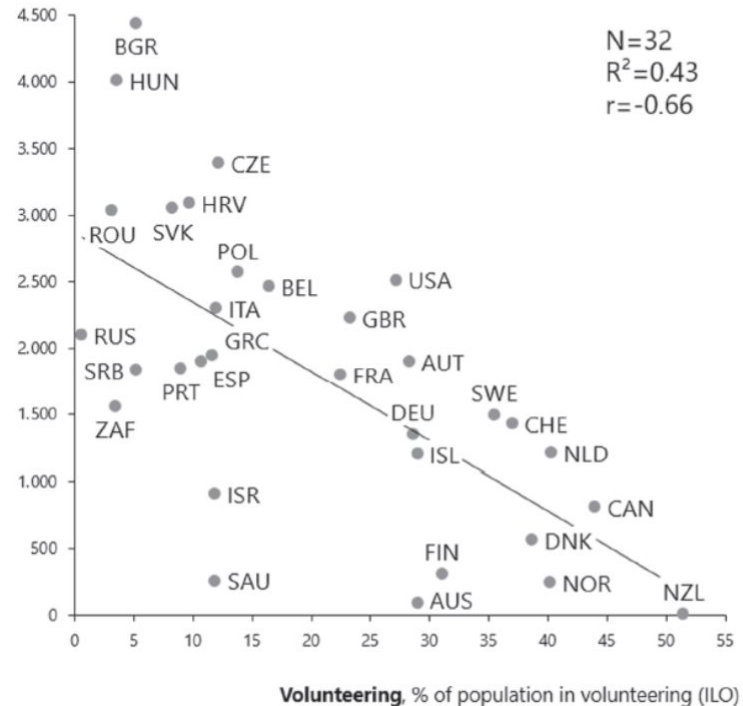
Share: [f](#) [t](#) [in](#)

Volunteering and COVID-19 mortality

Published in BMJ Open in 2023

- Not only **cost savings**, but also more **lives saved** in countries with **more volunteers**, even when accounting for differences in:
 - Demographics (% above 65)
 - Income differences
 - Healthcare investments
 - Vaccination rates
 - ...
- Volunteering is **most important predictor** of COVID-19 mortality, more important than 'usual suspects' (e.g. obesity rate)

COVID-19 mortality, #deaths per million inhabitants



If the 'return' on volunteering is so clear, perhaps it's an **investment and not a cost?**



If the 'return' on volunteering is so clear, perhaps it's an **investment and not a cost?**

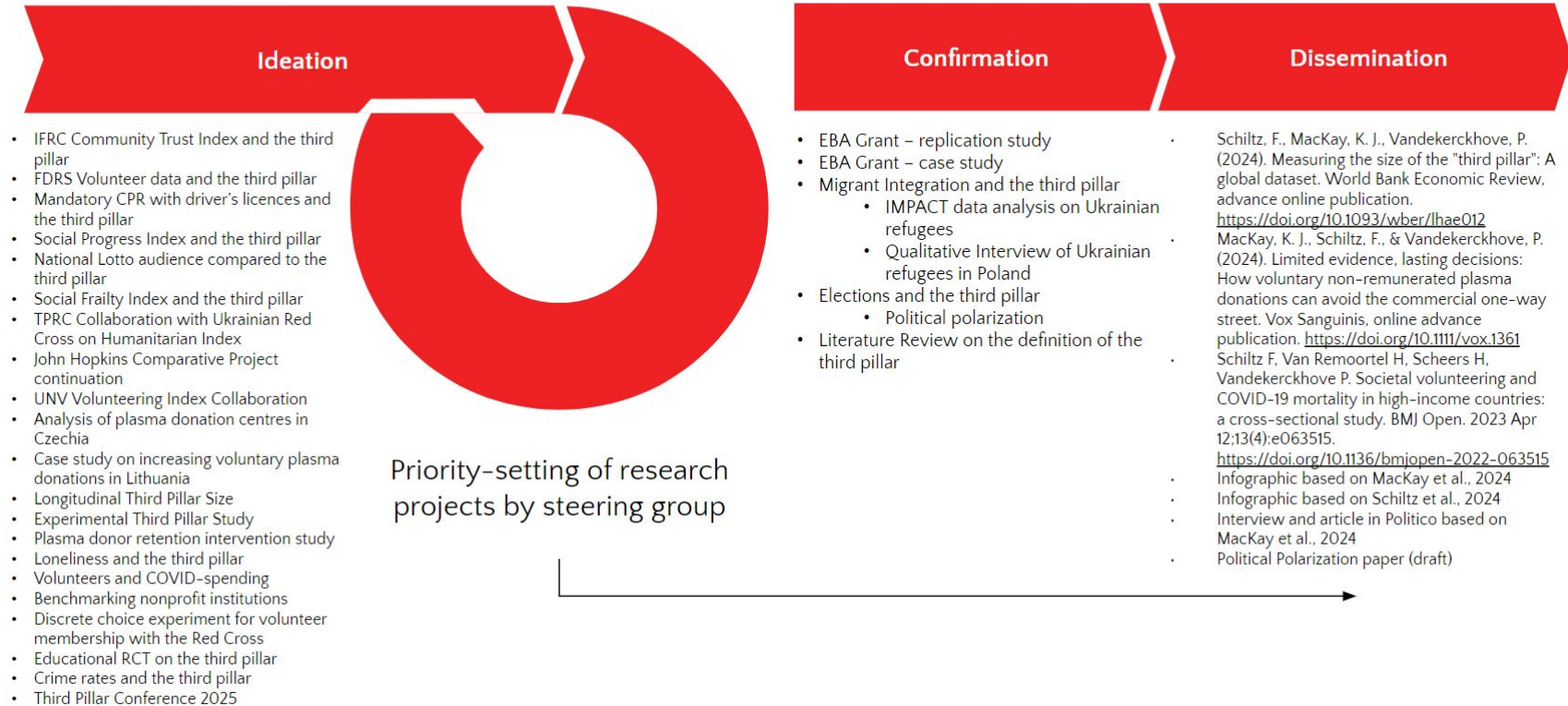


Belgian
Red Cross
Flanders

Our research focuses on **empirical evidence** to support the 'added value' of **volunteering**



Project pipeline: volunteering and societal outcomes



Two examples

First aid training

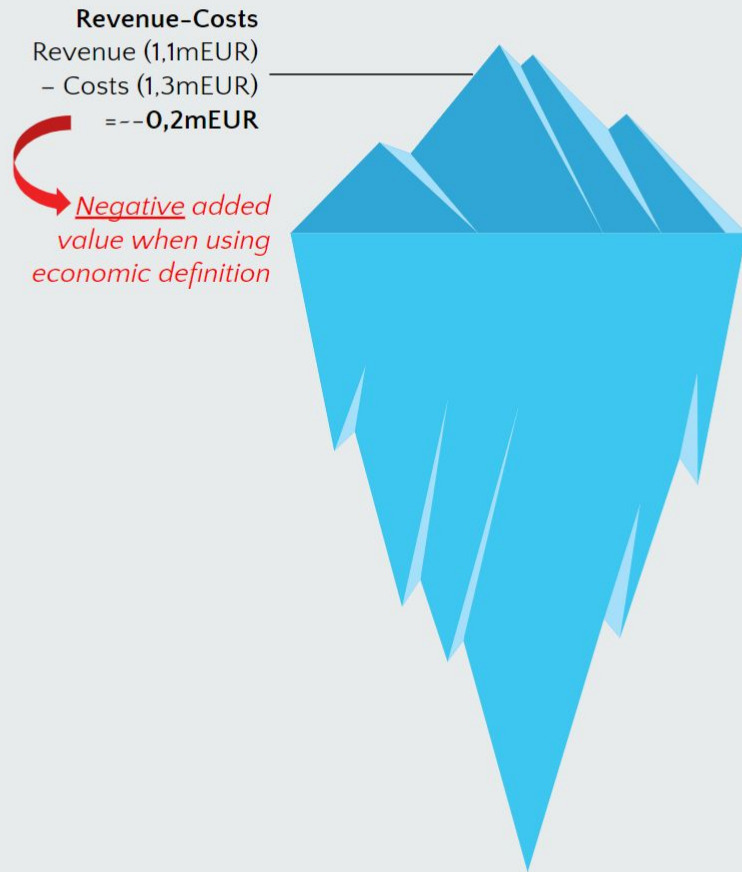


Voluntary plasma donations



Cost or
investment?

First aid training



Cost or
investment?

First aid training



Revenue-Costs
Revenue (1,1mEUR)
- Costs (1,3mEUR)
== -0,2mEUR



Avoided costs for society

-17,000 trainees at teacher
cost of -€190 per trainee
(12 hours)

== -3,2mEUR

Societal impact

-4,000 preventable deaths from injuries,
and 0,1% adoption of first aid training

== -41,2mEUR

Cost or
investment?

Voluntary plasma
donations



Revenue-Costs
Cost of plasma
collection is higher
than the price set by
the government

*Negative added
value when using
economic definition*



Cost or
investment?

Voluntary plasma
donations



Revenue-Costs
Cost of plasma
collection is higher
than the price set by
the government

*Negative added
value when using
economic definition*



Avoided costs for society

Increase in prices of
plasma-derived medicinal
products is dampened by
supply of voluntary
donations

== -60mEUR

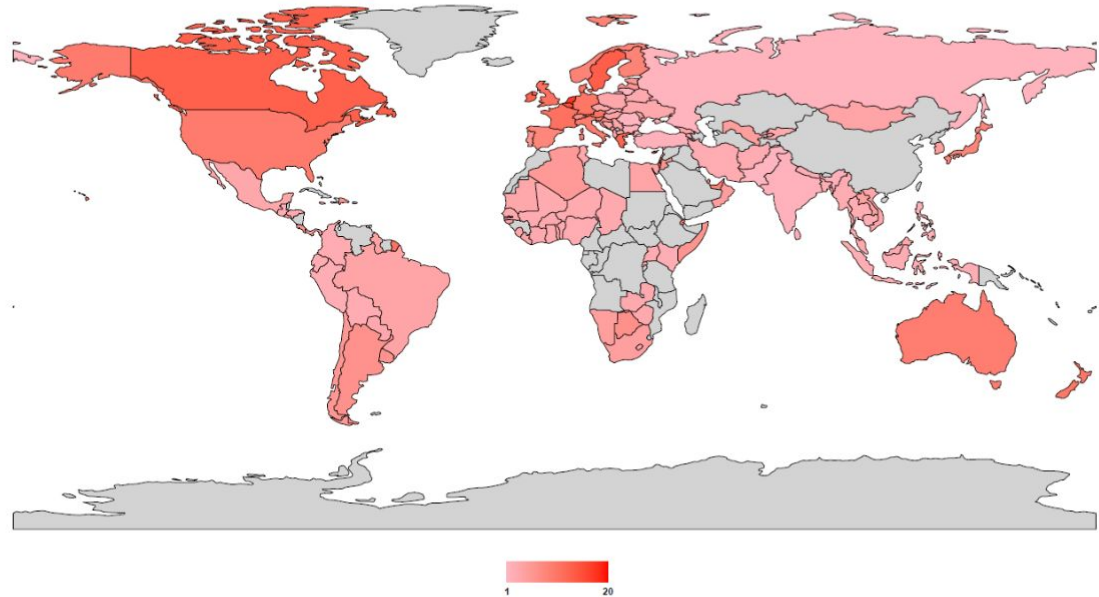
Other advantages

- Safety of patients
- Safety of donors
- More resilient plasma supply

The size of the 'third sector': A global dataset

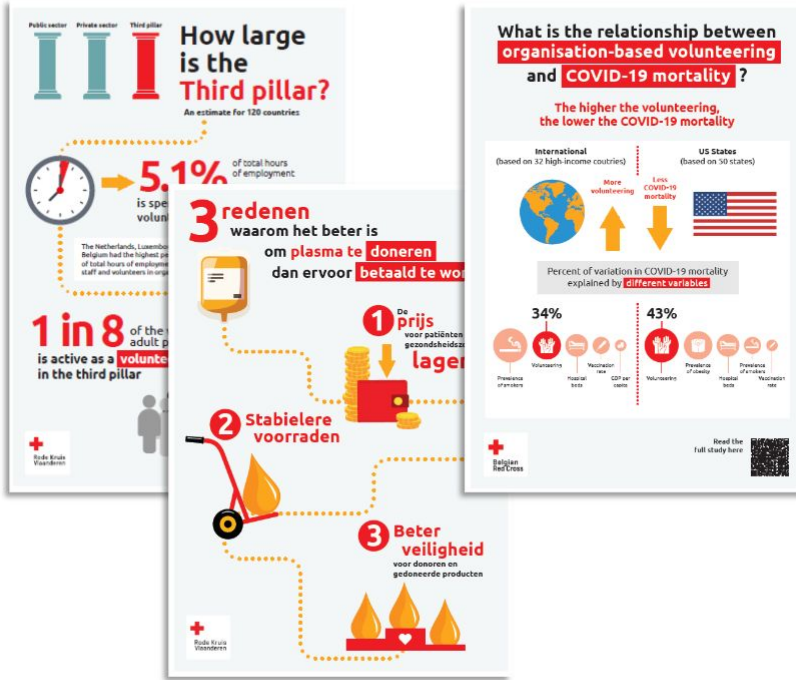
Published in World Bank Economic Review (2024)

- A model to estimate the size of the third sector globally
- 51 countries were used to generate a predictive model
- The predictive model was used on 120 countries to create a global dataset
- Third sector size was **5.1% of total employment** (global agriculture sector is 9.7% of total employment)
- More than **1 in 8 of the world's population** is active as a volunteer in the third sector

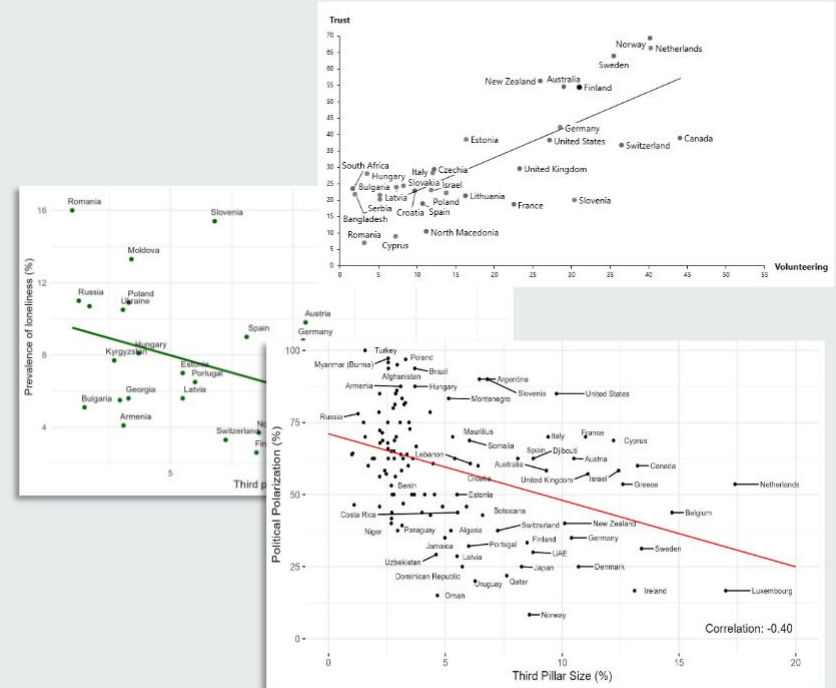


Building the case for more volunteering in society

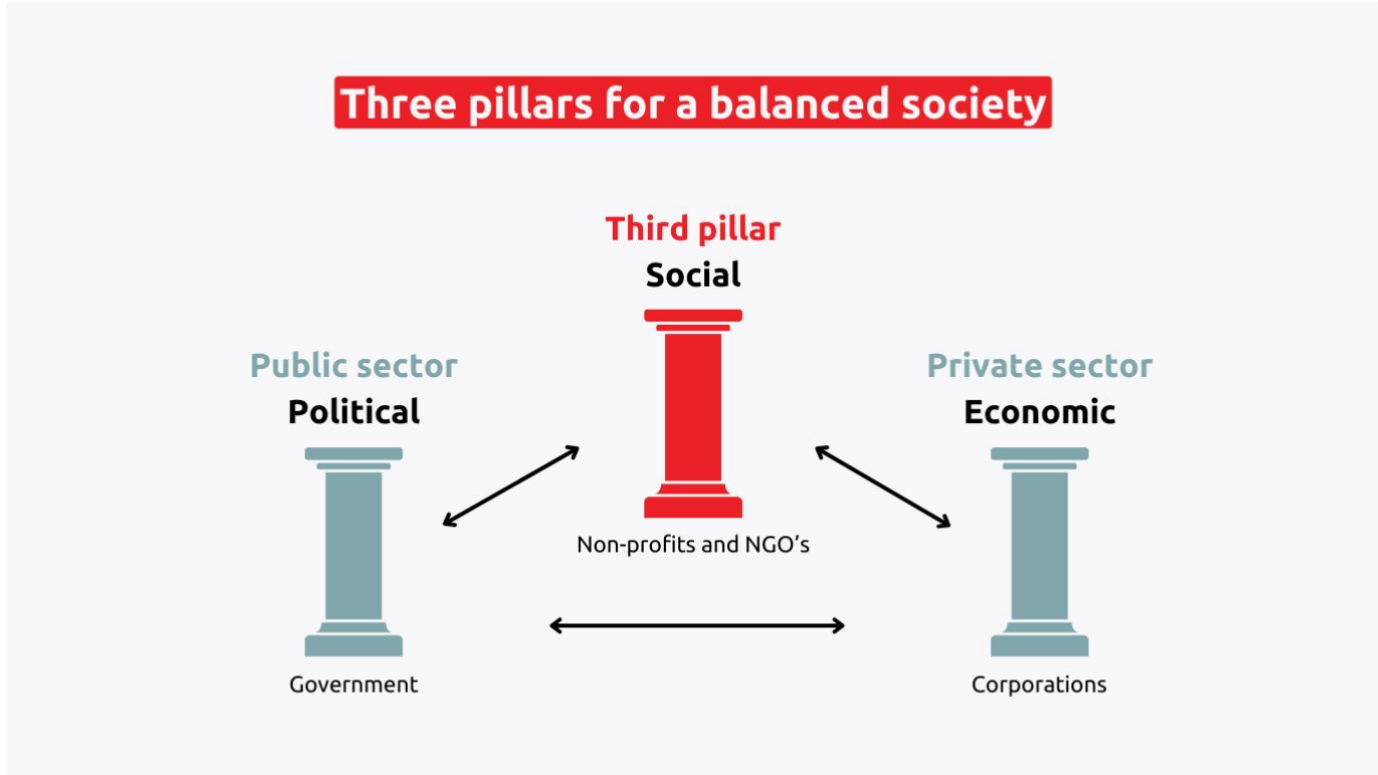
Research by Belgian Red Cross-Flanders



Open datasets to enable further research



Volunteering is essential to balance society



Source: Mintzberg (2015); Rajan (2021)

If the 'return' on volunteering is so clear, perhaps it's an **investment and not a cost!**



Our research focuses on **empirical evidence** to support the 'business case' of **volunteering**

1. Volunteering is essential to **balance society**
2. Volunteering requires **investment**
3. **Short-term cost savings** can generate **long-term costs**

If the 'return' on volunteering is so clear, perhaps it's an **investment and not a cost!**



Our research focuses on **empirical evidence** to support the '**business case**' of **volunteering**

What can you do?



Collect data on the third sector to enable more empirical research

Redefine value-added:



- Counting third sector 'value'
- Discounting externalities from 'market value'



Advocate for recognition of the importance of the 'third sector':
Minister / *Commissioner for the Third Sector*

Want to learn more about our research?





European Volunteering Impact Report

Lejla Šehić Relić (CEV President/CVDC-DKolektiv)



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Volunteering Landscape in Europe



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Building a Foundation for Strategic Volunteer Engagement



Our objective is to build a comparable and comprehensive understanding of volunteering across the continent, serving as a valuable resource for policymakers, researchers, organizations, and individuals. This initiative aims to foster and facilitate effective participation in volunteer activities and enhance the support systems for volunteering across Europe.



Importance of Evidence-Based Policy Making

Mapping the volunteering landscape is crucial for developing evidence-based policies. By collecting detailed data on volunteer activities, demographic trends, and impacts, we provide policymakers with the necessary insights to create informed, effective, and tailored support measures. This strategic approach ensures that volunteering policies not only reflect the current volunteering landscape but also anticipate future needs and challenges.



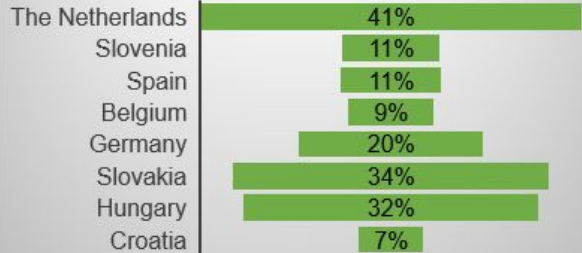
The Volunteering Landscape in Europe

9 countries provided data thus far (The Netherlands, Slovenia, Spain, Malta, Belgium, Germany, Slovakia, Hungary and Croatia).

8 countries have a Law on Volunteering

- The Netherlands
- Slovenia
- Spain
- Belgium
- Hungary
- Slovakia
- Croatia
- Malta

The percentage of population engaged in volunteering



Most popular types of volunteer activities

Social volunteering

- Slovenia
- Spain
- Hungary

Sports

- The Netherlands
- Malta
- Germany
- Croatia

Culture

- Belgium

Environment

- Slovakia

TRENDS IN VOLUNTEERING

- Gradual decline in volunteer numbers and hours
- Shift towards temporary and flexible commitment
- Changing volunteer demographics and motivations
- Increasing recognition and respect of the voluntary sector
- Challenges and barriers to volunteer engagement

5 countries measure the impact of volunteering

- Spain
- Belgium
- Slovakia
- Hungary
- Croatia

5 countries have a national volunteering database

- The Netherlands
- Slovenia
- Belgium
- Hungary
- Croatia
- Slovakia – under development

FACT SHEET ON VOLUNTEERING IN THE NETHERLANDS

May 2024

General Information

KEY INFORMATION ABOUT THE NETHERLANDS
Capital: Amsterdam
Official Language: Dutch
Population: 17 million
Calling Code: +31

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS
GDP per capita in 2022: 51,000
Real GDP growth in 2022: 1.5%
Unemployment rate in February 2024: 5.70%

DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEERING**

Work performed in any organized context, unpaid and unpaid, for the benefit of others or society

SOCIAL CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF VOLUNTEERING
 Volunteers in active citizens contribute to civic cohesion in neighborhoods, districts, villages and cities. When people volunteer for others and for society, social innovation and entrepreneurship emerge. Volunteers are rightly called "the cement" of society. If they all suddenly stopped doing so, the Netherlands would become a desert landscape. In the Netherlands, 43% of all residents aged 15 years and older are voluntarily active in one form or another.

Statistics and Demographics***

Volunteer experience at least once in a lifetime (percentage of the total population)

41% (2022)

On average, volunteers spend 4.4 hours per week in 2022.

The Netherlands, a person who has been involved in volunteering at least once in their life, is equally likely to be male or female, of middle age (45-54 years) and with high, middle or degree (54.2%).

Types of Volunteer Activities***

Sports club	11.4
Service	7.4
Non-profit association	7.1
Church or faith org.	4.8
Philosophical organization	4.4
Mayor or city council	4.2
Children association	4.2
Such as university student work	4.0
Social assistance	3.5
Research, nature or animal protection	3.4
Religious work, human rights	2.7
Of 20 percent the motivation for is in a multiple of the way. 31 percent the motivation is for a number of reasons. Learning new things is indicated by 28 percent as a motive, and a limited percent see volunteering as a stepping stone to a profession. 23 percent indicate some other reason.	1.8
Other	1.8

FACT SHEET ON VOLUNTEERING IN GERMANY

May 2024

General Information

KEY INFORMATION ABOUT GERMANY
Official Language: German
Population: 83 million
Calling Code: +49

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS
GDP per capita in 2022: 48,700 euros
Real GDP growth in September 2023: 1.70%

DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEERING**

Volunteering is a term that encompasses activities typically carried out for the benefit of others and for society. It includes both formal and informal volunteering. Informal volunteering includes social work, foster care, social coaching, and family care. Formal volunteering includes work for non-profit organizations, NGOs, and social enterprises. Informal volunteering is also referred to as "civic engagement," "social engagement," etc., which is related within its own context.

SOCIAL CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF VOLUNTEERING
 Volunteering is vital for Germany for numerous reasons. It acts as the backbone of the welfare state and promotes social cohesion. Through volunteering, individuals enhance societal well-being, foster social cohesion, and engage in meaningful activities. Volunteering also plays a crucial role in addressing societal challenges, such as demographic change, environmental protection, and social integration. It promotes democratic values like collaboration, negotiation, and fair play, thus contributing to a more inclusive and resilient society. Approximately 28.8 million people engage in voluntary activities. Moreover, volunteering holds a central place in the government's agenda, reflecting its commitment to enhancing civic engagement and supporting volunteering.

Statistics and Demographics***

Total number of volunteers: 28.8 million per year

62% are male and 38% are female. 44% have a high school diploma or less, 44% have a middle school diploma, and 12% have a university degree.

20% are aged 18-24, 42% are aged 25-34, 26% are aged 35-44, 12% are aged 45-54, and 10% are aged 55 and older.

60% of volunteers are dedicated to 2 hours per week, 13% are dedicated to 1 hour or more per week.

The most engaged age group is the 18-24 age group, with 42.4%. While the proportion of volunteers among 18-24 year olds has declined from 42.0% in 2019 to 39.0% in 2023, the proportion of volunteers aged 60 and above, in this group, the engagement rate has risen from 10.9% in 2019 to 12.9% in 2023.

Types of Volunteer Activities***

The majority of people engage in sports and physical activities, accounting for 52.9%. This is followed by 14.4 percent in cultural and music, 8.8% in education, 8.3% in culture and kindergarten activities, and 6.2% in additional. 6% of volunteers in 2023 reported no volunteering activities related to their commitment to enhancing civic engagement and supporting volunteering.

ΠΑΡΕΣΙΣ ΣΤΗΝ ΕΥΡΩΣΤΡΑΤΗΓΙΑ ΤΟΥ ΤΕΛΕΟΣ ΤΟΥ ΑΙΩΝΟΣ (2024)

General Information

KEY INFORMATION ABOUT GERMANY
Official Language: German
Population: 83 million
Calling Code: +49

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS
GDP per capita in 2022: 48,700 euros
Real GDP growth in September 2023: 1.70%

DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEERING**

Volunteering is a term that encompasses activities typically carried out for the benefit of others and for society. It includes both formal and informal volunteering. Informal volunteering includes social work, foster care, social coaching, and family care. Formal volunteering includes work for non-profit organizations, NGOs, and social enterprises. Informal volunteering is also referred to as "civic engagement," "social engagement," etc., which is related within its own context.

SOCIAL CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF VOLUNTEERING
 Volunteering is vital for Germany for numerous reasons. It acts as the backbone of the welfare state and promotes social cohesion. Through volunteering, individuals enhance societal well-being, foster social cohesion, and engage in meaningful activities. Volunteering also plays a crucial role in addressing societal challenges, such as demographic change, environmental protection, and social integration. It promotes democratic values like collaboration, negotiation, and fair play, thus contributing to a more inclusive and resilient society. Approximately 28.8 million people engage in voluntary activities. Moreover, volunteering holds a central place in the government's agenda, reflecting its commitment to enhancing civic engagement and supporting volunteering.

Statistics and Demographics***

Total number of volunteers: 28.8 million per year

62% are male and 38% are female. 44% have a high school diploma or less, 44% have a middle school diploma, and 12% have a university degree.

20% are aged 18-24, 42% are aged 25-34, 26% are aged 35-44, 12% are aged 45-54, and 10% are aged 55 and older.

60% of volunteers are dedicated to 2 hours per week, 13% are dedicated to 1 hour or more per week.

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FACT SHEET ON VOLUNTEERING IN CROATIA

May 2024

General Information

KEY INFORMATION ABOUT THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
Capital: Zagreb
Official Language: Croatian
Population: 3,871,833 (as of 2022)
Calling Code: +385

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS
GDP per capita: US\$ 18,413.2 (as of 2022)**
Real GDP growth in 2022: 7%***
Unemployment rate in September 2023: 5.8%***

DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEERING

Volunteering is the voluntary investment of personal time, effort, knowledge, and skills to perform services or activities for the benefit of another person or community. These services are carried out without the expectation of monetary reward or the pursuit of any other material benefit for the volunteering performer. (Law on Volunteering)

SOCIAL CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF VOLUNTEERING
 Volunteering in Croatia has a long tradition that can be linked to the concepts of humanism, community, and solidarity. The general population of Croatia views volunteering positively, with over 80% of citizens agreeing that volunteering promotes a sense of care for others, solidarity, connectedness, quality of the community life, and practical experience.*** However, the public perception of volunteering in Croatia often tends to be limited to humanitarian work, overlooking the broader context that encompasses active citizen participation, contribution to democratization, social empowerment, and contribution to sustainable development.

Statistics and Demographics***

The average volunteer in Croatia, a person who has been involved in volunteering at least once in their life, is equally likely to be male or female, of middle age (35 to 64 years, 28%), with secondary education (52%), and not a member of any civil society organization (66%).

Volunteer experience at least once in a lifetime (percentage of the total population)

25% (2022)

On average, volunteers spend 2.5 hours per week in 2022.

The average volunteer who has volunteered in the last three years is predominantly male (60%), of middle age (35-64 years, 53%), with secondary education (54%), employed (59%), and a member of a civil society organization (56%).

Types of Volunteer Activities***

In the period from 2020 to 2022, considering the three-year crisis context, just over a quarter of the citizens of Croatia participated in the research (28% volunteered in the field of crisis response (earthquakes, floods, pandemics), as well as in humanitarian activities (27%). Similarly, 19% volunteered in the educational sector and in sports. The lowest number of volunteers were involved in the fields of arts, media, culture, and animal rights protection (8%), activities promoting the development of democratic culture (9%), and only 2% in advocacy activities.

In June 2023, the majority of citizens who participated in the research volunteered in sports activities (24%), followed by organizing humanitarian activities (21%), and crisis volunteering (earthquakes, floods, pandemics) with 20%.

FACT SHEET ON VOLUNTEERING IN BELGIUM

May 2024

General Information

KEY INFORMATION ABOUT BELGIUM
Capital: Brussels
Official Language: Dutch/French/German
Population: 11,715,774
Currency: Euro (EUR)
Calling Code: +32

KEY ECONOMIC INDICATORS
GDP per capita: 48,224 USD
Real GDP growth in 2022: 1.7%
Unemployment rate in September 2023: 7.1%

DEFINITION OF VOLUNTEERING**

The Belgian Volunteer Law defines it as follows: volunteers freely and unpaid give a piece of their free time to a non-profit or public organisation.

SOCIAL CONTEXT AND SIGNIFICANCE OF VOLUNTEERING
 Volunteers identify unmet needs in society and try to do something about them. They are essential cogs in our democracy and need not worry about profitability in the process. Volunteering is not only good for society, it is also good for the volunteers themselves. They feel useful, they share what they know and can do and develop social and other skills.

Statistics and Demographics***

Volunteer experience at least once in a lifetime (percentage of the total population) in Belgium

9.2% (2022)

The average hours volunteer 199.3 annually**

The average volunteer in Belgium, a person who has been involved in volunteering at least once in their life, is equally likely to be male or female, of aged age (40 years, 27.4%), and with higher non-university education (bachelor) (28.3%).

Types of Volunteer Activities***

A report carried out by the King Baudouin Foundation on volunteering in Belgium shows that 23% of them are culture-related, in socio-cultural or nature-themed associations (Male 24.7%, Female 21.5%), 13.4% youth-related (M/F 9.5%, 15.3%), 20.8% sports-related (M/F 25.7%, F 8.7%), 14.1% education, training institutions and research (M/F 21.7%, F 11.4%), 5.6% health care (M/F 7.6%, F 6.0%), 16.0% social services (M/F 17% F 14.4%), 6.5% religious (M/F 7.4%, F 5.6%).

Types of volunteers associated with in Belgium.

- 6.5% religious
- 16.0% social services
- 11.1% rights and interests (M 11.2%, F 11.0%)
- 2.9% other (M 2.5%, F 3.0%)
- 11.1% sports-related
- 13.4% youth-related
- 14.1% education, training institutions and research
- 17.0% F 14.4%
- 20.8% sports-related
- 21.5% F 21.5%
- 24.7% M 24.7%
- 27.4% M 27.4%
- 28.3% bachelor
- 40 years
- 5.6% health care
- 6.5% religious
- 7.1% unemployment rate
- 7.4% M 7.4%
- 7.6% M 7.6%
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- 35-64 years
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- 54% M 54%
- 56% M 56%
- 59% M 59%
- 60% M 60%
- 66% M 66%
- 68% M 68%
- 7% M 7%
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- 8.7% F 8.7%
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** Source: Charities Review of Statistics (2023) <https://www.charitiesreview.org.uk/2023/charitiesreview-statistics-2023/>
 *** Source: World Bank (2023) <https://data.worldbank.org/locations/locations?locations=GB>
 ** Source: Charities Review of Statistics (2023) <https://www.charitiesreview.org.uk/2023/charitiesreview-statistics-2023/>
 *** Source: Charities Review of Statistics (2023)

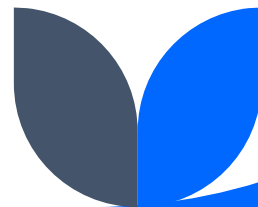
Trends in V- Ecosystem



From the collected facts, so far, we have identified several key trends impacting the volunteering sector: a gradual decline in volunteer numbers and hours, a shift towards temporary and flexible commitments, and changing volunteer demographics and motivations. Understanding these trends helps organizations adapt and evolve to meet the new expectations and realities of volunteering, ensuring continued engagement and effectiveness."



Uniting our data to map the volunteering landscape contributes to creating a foundation for evidence-based policies and programs that truly reflect the spirit and diversity of our communities, uncovering our common strengths. In this synergy, we illuminate the path forward, enriching lives and empowering action across Europe."



Supporting Research and Development

The collected data not only aids policymakers but also serves as a fundamental resource for academic and practical research. This research advances our understanding of the volunteering sector, leading to innovative solutions and strategies that enhance the efficiency and impact of volunteer activities across Europe.



Demonstrating Impact and Value of Volunteering

Volunteering significantly impacts social, economic, and personal levels. By presenting comprehensive statistics and real-world impacts, we highlight the invaluable role of volunteers in society. This recognition supports further advocacy for volunteer support and underscores the profound contribution of volunteers to societal well-being



Addressing Barriers to Volunteer Engagement

Identifying barriers to engagement is as crucial as celebrating successes. Common challenges include lack of time, awareness, or resources. By mapping these barriers, we can develop targeted strategies to overcome them, such as flexible volunteering opportunities, awareness campaigns, and enhanced support for volunteer organizations



In conclusion



Mapping the volunteering landscape is more than just collecting data; it's about creating a foundation for a robust, responsive, and supportive volunteering environment in Europe. We invite all stakeholders to join this collaborative effort, contributing to a comprehensive map that enriches lives and empowers action across our communities.

Thank you for your commitment to promoting volunteering and supporting our collaborative effort to map the volunteering landscape in Europe.

We Need Your Engagement !

Join our initiative

"Mapping the Volunteering Landscape in Europe,, shedding light on the diverse volunteering landscapes.





Coffee break (15:45 - 16:00)



Volunteering Equality
Rights Action
VERA 2024

Project Number: 101140501

[Revealing European Values in Volunteering in Europe - REVIVE Project No. 101051131]



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VOLUNTEERING IMPACT MEASUREMENT TRAINING IN EUROPE

Brussels, Belgium
19 November 2024



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Fundación
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Volunteering
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University of East Angles

INTRODUCTION TO PROJECT:



Erasmus+
ERASMUS-EDU-2022-PCOO
P-ENGO

March 2023 - February
2025 (2 years)

6 partners | 5 countries



Institute for
Volunteering
Research at the
University of East
Anglia, United
Kingdom



DKolektiv,
Croatia

Fundación
Hazlopossible,
Spain



Beyond Barriers
Albania, Albania



Centre for
European
Volunteering,
Belgium



Out of The Box
International,
Belgium



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AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The V-CALC project has addressed the lack of available methods used to measure the impact of volunteering. In doing so, it enables 800 volunteer managers and coordinators of all ages & diversity to measure and understand the impact of their volunteers.

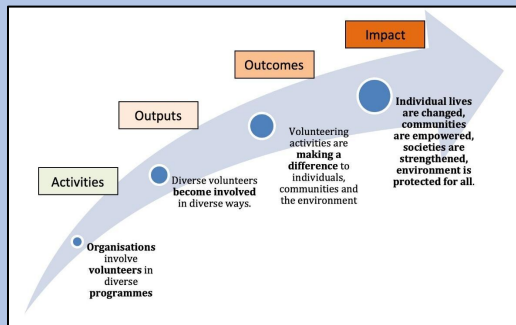
The project objectives have been to:

- Develop a **suitable methodology for gathering data** about the numbers and profiles of volunteers, their motivation and impact on society and individual volunteer learning;
- Create and put in place the user-friendly **online platform** to gather the information from primary and secondary sources;
- Train and develop the **capacity of volunteer managers and coordinators** to gather and provide information about the impact of the volunteers that they engage with and in their countries more widely;
- Ensure the **sustainability of project results** by developing the community of practitioners from across Europe in order to promote the use of the V-Calculator and the importance of measuring volunteering for the development of better evidence based policies.

PROJECT OUTPUTS

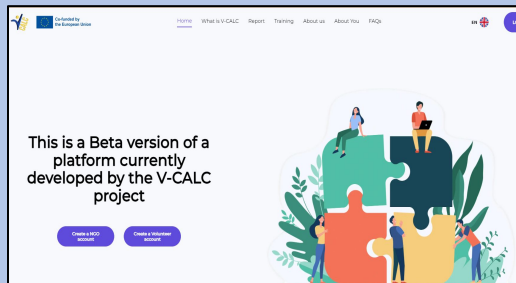


Volunteering Impact Measurement Methodology



Impact Measurement Europe Platform

Impact Measurement Training



Advocacy and policy work around Volunteering Impact Measurement in Europe

OUTPUT PRESENTATION



1. Volunteering Impact Measurement Methodology, **Jurgen Grotz (Institute for Volunteering Research, IVR) at University of East Anglia (UEA)**
2. Impact Measurement Platform, **Cristina Perez (Fundación Hazloposible)**
3. Volunteering Impact Measurement Training, **Jelena Kamenko Mayer (DKolektiv) and Rafaela Mborja (Beyond Barriers Albania, BBA)**
4. Advocating for unified volunteering impact measurement in Europe, **Gabriella Civico (Centre for European Volunteering, CEV)**

Volunteering Impact Measurement Methodology

Jurgen Grotz

Institute for Volunteering
Research (IVR) at University
of East Anglia (UEA)



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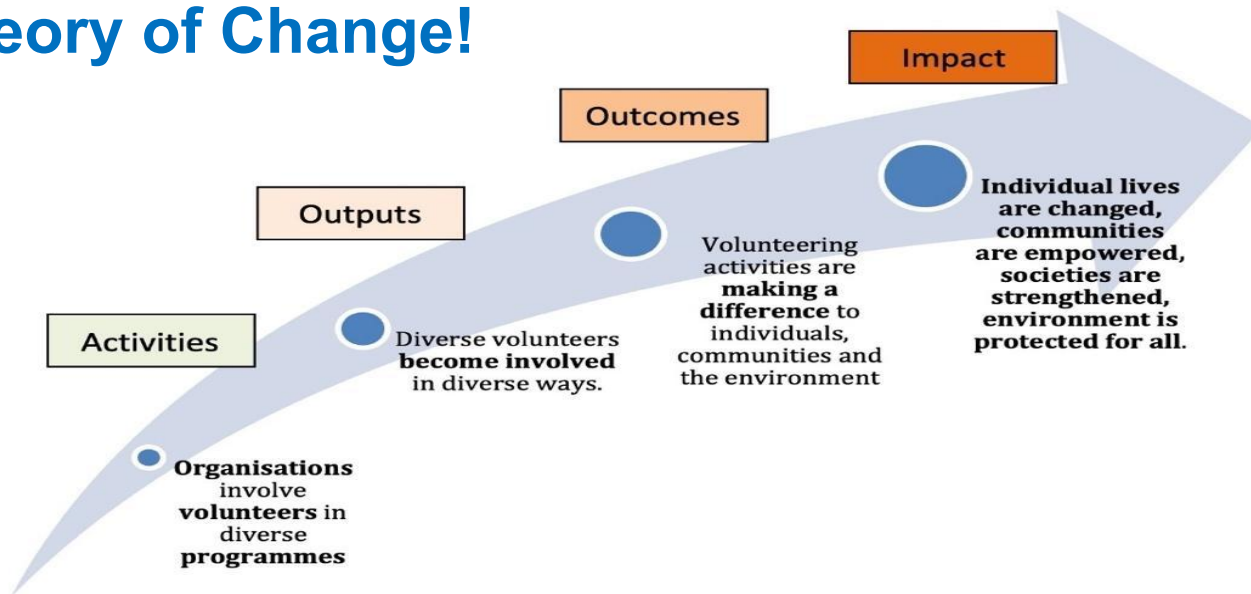
Development of an evidence-based methodology

Dr Jurgen Grotz

What are we taking about?

*“When it comes to volunteering, **each country has different notions, definitions and traditions.** Volunteering is defined as all forms of voluntary activity, whether formal or informal. Volunteers act under their own free will, according to their own choices and motivations and do not seek financial gain. Volunteering is a journey of solidarity and a way for individuals and associations to identify and address human, social or environmental needs and concerns. Volunteering is often carried out in support of a non-profit organisation or community-based initiative.” (European Commission, 2011)*

What we want to change? Theory of Change!



What we need to know!

- Volunteer involvement with a positive experience is beneficial for the individual volunteer with potential to change their lives.
- Communities benefit from getting to know each other.
- Civil society is stronger when its parts such as education, health and businesses are connected.
- Volunteer involvement projects can specifically aim to protect the environment.

Thank you!



j.grotz@uea.ac.uk

<https://www.uea.ac.uk/groups-and-centres/institute-for-volunteering-research>

Impact Measurement Platform

Cristina Pérez

Fundación Hazloposible



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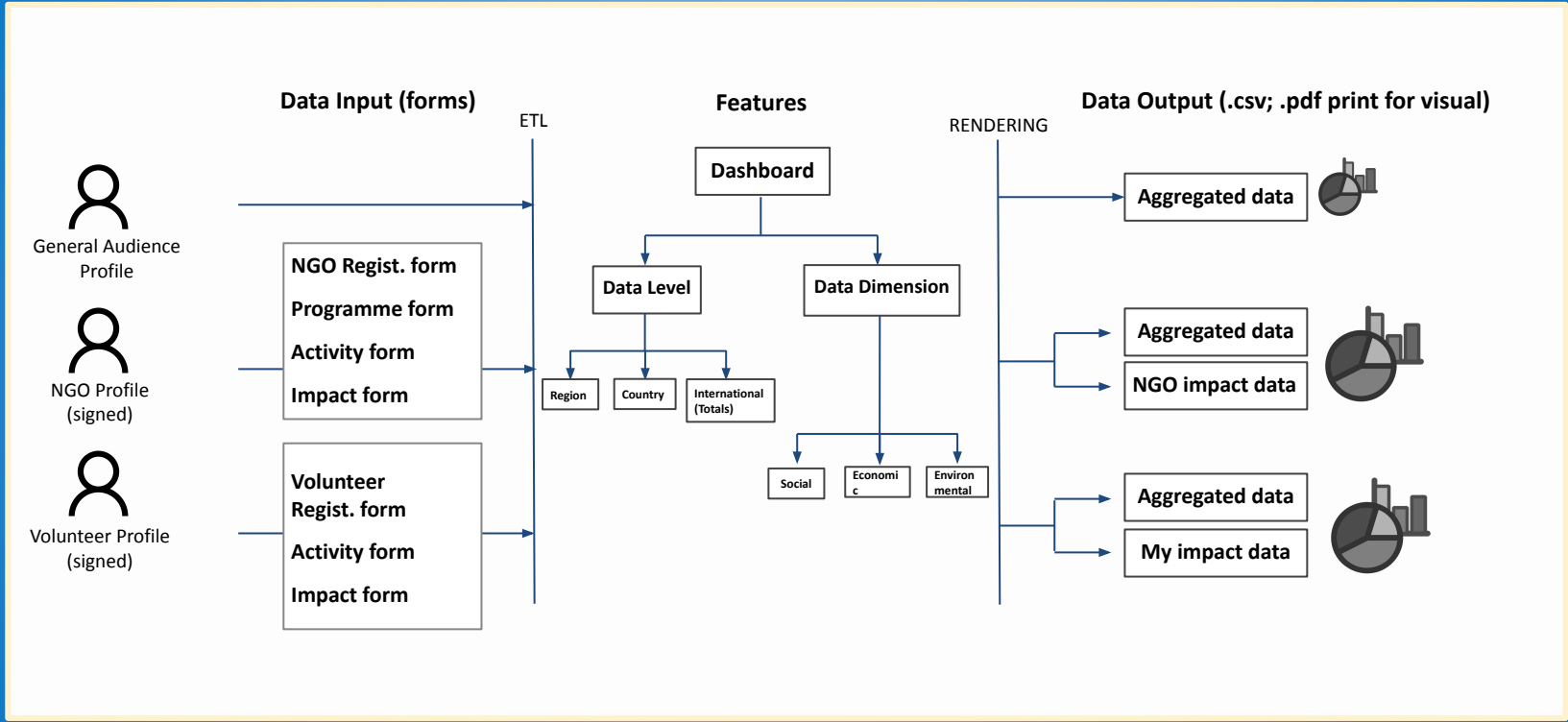
Dkolektiv

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V-CALC is the leading platform to measure the impact of volunteering

Create a NGO account

Create a Volunteer account





What is V-CALC

Project Description

Definition of Volunteering

Project Description

The Volunteering Impact Measurement Training in Europe (V- CALC) project is a two-year partnership between six organisations from five European countries: UK, Belgium, Spain, Albania and Croatia.

The V-CALC project was developed to address the issue that there is currently no methodology which measures the impact of volunteer involvement across nations. The V-CALC project will develop a user-friendly online platform, which will gather data about volunteer involvement and volunteers. Volunteer managers and coordinators will be trained during the V-CALC project, on how to use the online platform.

The V-CALC project aims to develop a robust and reliable methodology to gather data about the impact of volunteering, types of volunteering and the demographic and motivations of volunteers. The V-CALC platform also aims to measure the impact of volunteering on building social and human capital and on promoting common European values.

The data gathered from the V-CALC online platform will be used to inform policy nationally and cross-nationally and aims to make the contribution of volunteer involvement to civic society more visible across Europe.





What is V-CALC

Project Description

Definition of Volunteering

Definition of Volunteering

Each project partner country had their own definition of volunteering, in their native language. The European Council and Parliament has a definition of volunteering, with Spain, Croatia and Albania all having legal definitions of volunteering. It was fundamental therefore to agree on an approach and on a definition that all could share, which was to be initially in English. From all these realities, project partners collaboratively agreed the V-CALC platform will underpin volunteering by 3 principles:

- free will, by choice, without obligation
- unpaid, not predominantly for financial gain
- making a difference to individuals, communities, society and the environment

“When it comes to volunteering, each country has different notions, definitions and traditions. Volunteering is defined as all forms of voluntary activity, whether formal or informal. Volunteers act under their own free will, according to their own choices and motivations and do not seek financial gain. Volunteering is a journey of solidarity and a way for individuals and associations to identify and address human, social or environmental needs and concerns. Volunteering is often carried out in support of a non-profit organisation or community-based initiative.” - European Commission, 2011





Individual improvement impact report

- New volunteers become involved
- Young people become involved as volunteers
- Volunteers continue activity with same organisation
- Volunteers continue activity with different organisation
- Volunteers take part in different types of volunteering
- Volunteers take part in different activities/sectors
- Volunteers report positive volunteering experience

Community empowerment impact report

- More diverse volunteers become involved
- More diverse volunteering opportunities are offered
- More diverse beneficiaries are reached
- Beneficiaries from communities previously underserved are reached
- Diverse volunteers are connected
- Diverse beneficiaries are connected

Societal strengthening impact report

- Volunteer involving organisation measure impact
- Volunteer involving organisation secure funding
- Volunteer involvement offers net economic gain
- Health services involve volunteers
- Health services have employer supported volunteering programmes
- Educational institutions involve volunteers
- Educational institutions have employer supported volunteering programmes
- Social businesses involve volunteers
- Employers have employer supported volunteer programmes

Environmental protection impact report

- Projects for environmental protection strengthen environmental work
- Volunteers become involved in projects for environmental protection
- Volunteers gain skills for environmental protection
- Volunteers travel
- Venues
- Organisation footprint
- Carbon captured
- Carbon output reduced

* Select Period
Quarter 3 2024

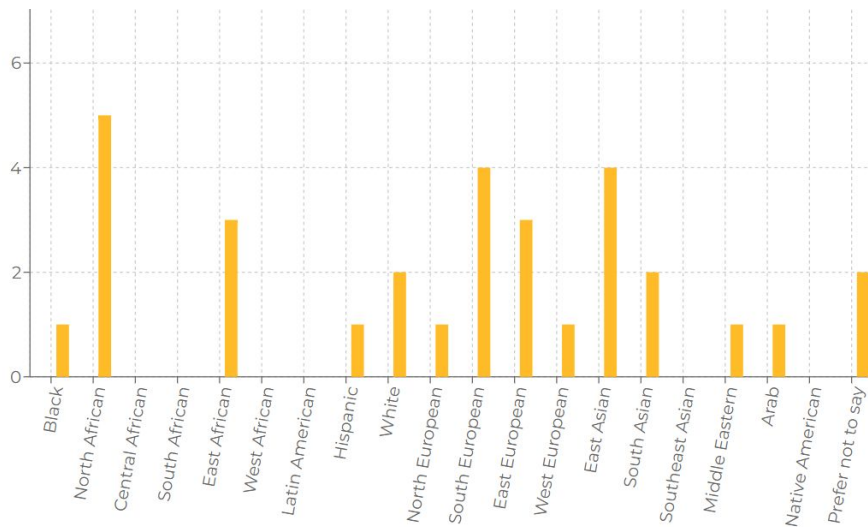
* Your Email
hello@hazloposible.org

Accept terms and conditions

Download Report

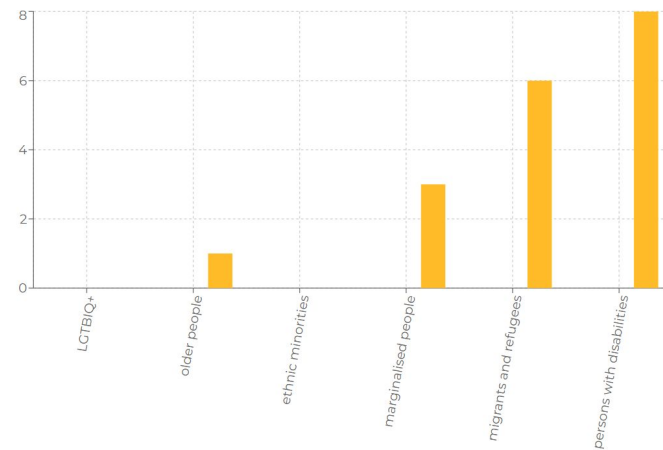


#8 More diverse volunteers become involved by Race



#10 More diverse beneficiaries are reached

Vulnerability Profile	First Month	Second Month	Third Month
LGBTIQ+	0	0	0
older people	0	0	1
ethnic minorities	0	0	0
marginalised people	0	0	3
migrants and refugees	0	0	6
persons with disabilities	0	0	8





#27 Organisation footprint

Activity	First Month	Second Month	Third Month	accumulated
Materials money expense	0	0	0	0
Recycling and reusing equipment	26	0	0	26
Recycling and reusing consumables	0	0	0	0

#27 Organisation footprint

Activity	First Month	Second Month	Third Month	accumulated
Materials money expense	0	0	0	0
Recycling and reusing equipment	0	0	4	4
Recycling and reusing consumables	0	0	0	0

#29 Carbon output reduced

First Month	Second Month	Third Month	accumulated
0	0	302	302





Training



Training Manual



Video tutorial



Other resources

[See more training resources](#)



About You



Natalia
@natalia

A place where we can share our experience with other associations and with our fellow volunteers.



Matias
@matias

The site where we can really expose all our actions in the world of volunteering.



Florencia
@florencia

All NGOs on a website, where we can give our opinion and report how we help others.



German
@german

I am very happy to always help and serve our community and now to be able to share it.



Virginia
@virginia

I feel very fortunate to share my data so we can grow our association.



Alan
@alan

They recommended it to me a few days ago and in a while I was able to share years of volunteering.



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Volunteering Impact Measurement Training

Jelena Kamenko Mayer
DKolektiv

Rafaela Mborja
Beyond Barriers Albania



Volunteer Impact Measurement training in Europe

The V-Calc Methodology for Volunteer Impact
Measurement

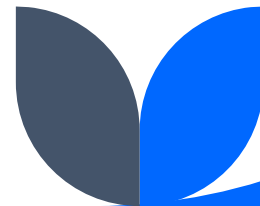


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Why volunteering impact measurement matters?

- **Europe's volunteers:** approximately 100 million volunteers across Europe contribute to community well-being.
- **Current challenge:** impact data on volunteering is poor and scattered and volunteering is not regularly and/or comparatively tracked in official statistics. There is also limited visibility and policy influence.
- **V-CALC's response:** create a standardised approach for reliable, comparable data on volunteering impacts, supporting stronger civic policies and initiatives.



V-CALC's unique approach

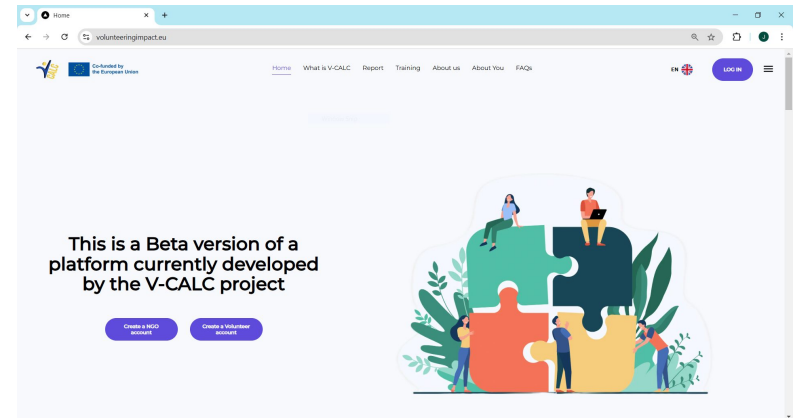
- **Theory of change model:** aligns project objectives with measurable outcomes, enabling a clear framework for impact assessment.

- **Key impact areas:**

1. changed lives;
2. Strengthened societies;
3. Empowered communities;
4. Protected environments.

Outcome framework: includes agreed measures and indicators, data collection points and reporting schedules.

<https://volunteeringimpact.eu/>



Training Highlights

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, there are video thumbnails for participants: faela BBA, Silvia D., Kristijan Gjorgji..., Hanna Virtanen, Lorenzo Ferralis, and Roel Rapi. Below the thumbnails, a presentation slide is displayed with two tables.

My Programmes

Programmes	Start Date	End Date	Country	Region	Edit
Green Education	2023-02-01	2024-02-12	Albania	Tirana District	
Social Animation	2022-01-02	2025-02-23	Albania	Tirana District	
Green Education 1	2024-01-08	2024-02-10	Albania	Tirana District	

My Activities

Activity	Programme	Start Date	End Date	Activity Hours	Country	Region	Edit
Green House 2	Green Education	2023-02-01	2024-02-12	200	Albania	Tirana District	
Planting Vegetables	Green Education	2023-02-01	2024-02-12	6	Albania	Tirana District	
Social Animation	Social Animation	2022-01-02	2025-02-23	5	Albania	Tirana District	

The screenshot shows a Zoom meeting interface. At the top, there are video thumbnails for participants: Martina Šoljarić, Katarina Koska, Lucija Malenica..., Anja Pejinović..., Ivana Tomarad..., Marjana Hinek..., Maja Kodjan..., Vukovanski Isgrt..., Simon Premkovi..., Antonija Čačija, Iva Horvat Malk..., Ilijana Grčić, Ana Dujlović (U..., and Marija Stanišić.

The main presentation slide is titled "Teorija promjene prema V-Calc-u". It features a diagram with a central blue arrow pointing from left to right, labeled "V-Calc-u". Above the arrow are three boxes: "1. Identifikacija", "2. Planiranje", and "3. Implementacija". Below the arrow are three boxes: "4. Evaluacija", "5. Reflekcija", and "6. Zaključak". The diagram is set against a background of a blue sky and a white cloud.

- **Training design:** 2-hour interactive, online & onsite sessions based on non-formal education principles, focusing on practical skills for impact measurement. National and international sessions.
- **Timeframe:** March – December (10 months)
- **Training outreach goal:** 800 volunteer managers trained through online and onsite sessions (400 BBA and 400 Dkolektiv)
- **Training outreach so far:** around 600

Campaign Highlights

- **Campaign strategy:** An ongoing online campaign that ensures diverse participation, providing inclusive and accessible sessions for all.
- **Testimonials:** Posting video testimonials of past participants in our trainings (volunteer managers and volunteers themselves), created during or after the sessions, giving them the opportunity to express feedback on the platform and the foreseen benefits of using it.
- **Dissemination & Communication channels:** Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, websites of partners and other networks
- **Invitations:** The social media posts as well as website mentions have been useful + inviting networks and partner organizations around Europe to spread our invitation and/or join our trainings.

CEV - Centre for European Volunteering
30. listopada u 15:01 - 3

Did you miss the previous Volunteering Impact Measurement Training in Europe? Register now!

The #V-CALC Erasmus+ funded project partners are hosting 2 international training sessions tailor-made for volunteer managers from EU and non-EU countries looking to enhance impact measurement practices on:
6th November 14:00-16:00
12th November 10:00-12:00.

Register here:
https://www.europeanvolunteercentre.org/_files/ugd/3ec99c_19e39461ba6e42bab851297bdcd43d36.pdf

More about the project here: <https://www.europeanvolunteercentre.org/vcalc>

#VolunteeringImpactEU #EU
#volunteering

University of East Anglia (UEA) DKolektiv - organizacija za društveni razvoj Out of the Box
International Beyond Barriers - Pertej Barrierave Fundación Hazloposible

Co-funded by the European Union

“ **Testimonial** ”

It is a nice experience to share everything

Melih Gümüş
ESC VOLUNTEER, Bridge of Culture Training and Youth Association

Logos at the bottom include: hazloposible, Bridge of Culture, Erasmus+, Kolektiv, UEA, and Co-funded by the European Union.

Feedback and participant insights

- **Over 600 trained volunteer managers**



“I like the methodology used. I liked the theory of change used for this project. The first part of training, especially discussing the impact and getting to know more about the project itself, because it brought a new perspective on volunteering service and work. I enjoyed the practice work and am looking forward to using this platform in my work.”



“Working for so many years in the field of volunteering it is the first time I encountered the topic of impact which is why I believe it's important to have this tool and to understand what volunteering brings to the communities.”



https://web.facebook.com/dkolektiv/videos/1507517329855245?locale=hr_HR



Join us to navigate together through the volunteer impact measurement and to contribute to promoting common European values through your volunteering efforts on one of our next sessions:

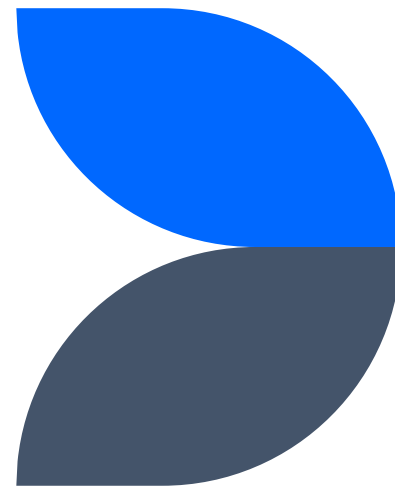
27th November 14:00 – 16:00

6th December 14:00 – 16:00

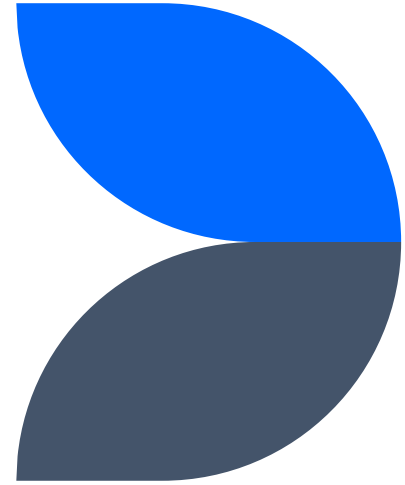
10th December 10:00 – 12:00

11th December 10:00 – 12:00

We look forward to welcoming you to this enriching training session! 😊



Scan here for VCALC Training
Invitation and Dates:



Advocating for unified volunteering impact measurement in Europe

Gabriella Civico

Centre for European
Volunteering



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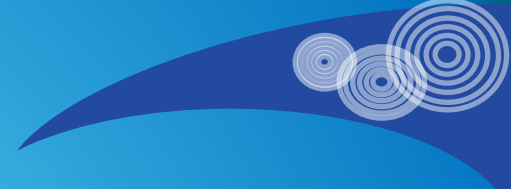
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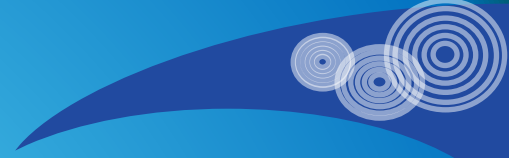


PROJECT OUTPUTS

WP5: Dissemination and Policy Development for Sustainability

- **Community of Practice (CoP)**
 - **Policy Document**





Community of Practice (CoP)



What did we achieve with our Community of Practice?



- The consortium created a Community of Practice that highlight the use of project outputs and the multiplication of the results even after the project ends.
- The Community of Practice consisted of **seven (7) online sessions** in a period of seven (7) months. The first one held on the 21st of November 2023 by CEV, and the most recent one carried out on the 29th of May 2024 by OTB.

What did we achieve with our Community of Practice?

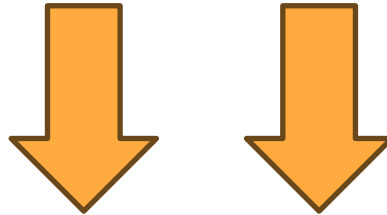


- The total number of participants reached is **228 participants (59 male, 154 female and 15 preferred not reporting their gender)**.
- The repeated attendance and exchange by a significant number of participants, underscored **the consolidation of a core group, an essential element of the community-building aspect of the CoP.**

What did we achieve with our Community of Practice?



Overview of the Community of Practice Sessions:

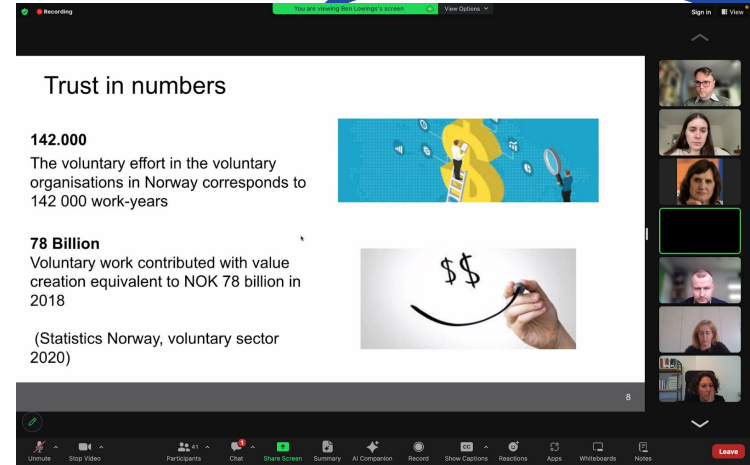


1. Talking with European Volunteering Capitals – How do they measure volunteering impact? Hosted by CEV on 21st November 2023, 2:00-3:00 pm CET.

The first V-CALC CoP session kicked off the Community of Practice activities. The session explored how European Volunteering Capitals measure volunteer impact in their own cities, challenges and outcomes for policy and practice.

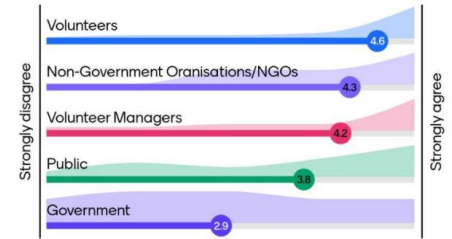
2. What does it feel like to be asked? Exploring experiences of the V-CALC collaboration. Hosted by IVR-UEA on 29th February 2024, 12:00-1:00 pm CET.

The second CoP session informed participants of the developed methodology to evaluate volunteering across Europe. Furthermore, it wanted to enable a discussion about the experiences with the V-CALC platform and how could it be strengthened.



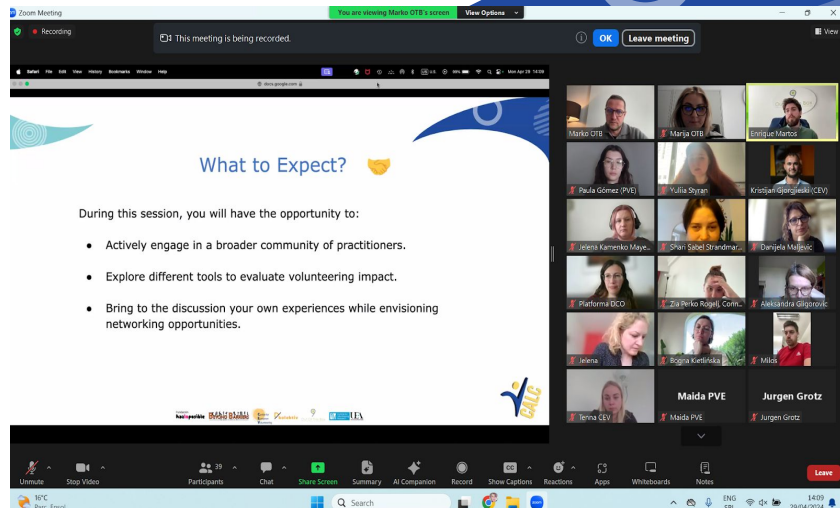
SLIDE LEFT TO DISAGREE OR SLIDE RIGHT TO AGREE

To evaluate volunteering impact, we should collect data from:



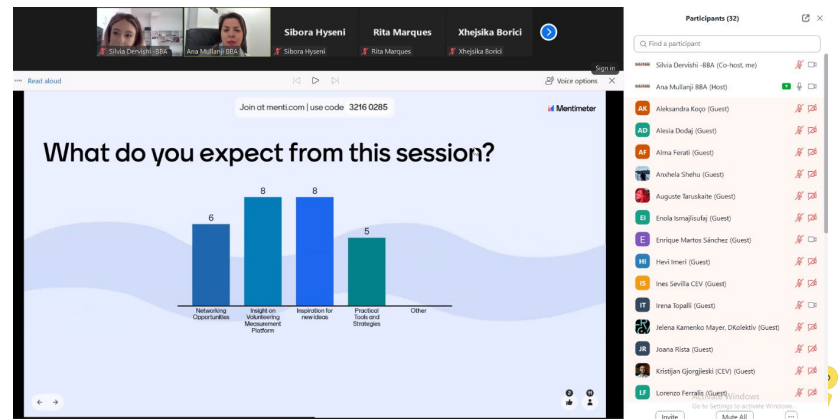
3. V-CALC Fair – Measuring Volunteering Impact. Hosted by OTB on 29th April 2024, 2:00-3:00 pm CET.

The third session aimed at showcasing different platforms used to measure volunteering contributions across Europe. A cross-sectoral approach was fostered, bringing to the discussion profit and non-profit organisations.



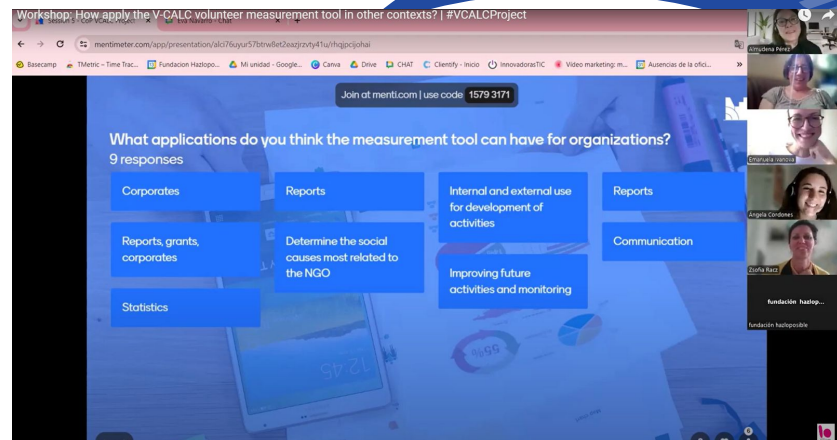
4. Why empowering volunteer managers and Policymakers is important and necessary? Hosted by BBA on 7th May 2024 11:00-12:00 pm CET.

The CoP session aimed at advancing our collective understanding of volunteer impact measurement and its implications for policy and practice.



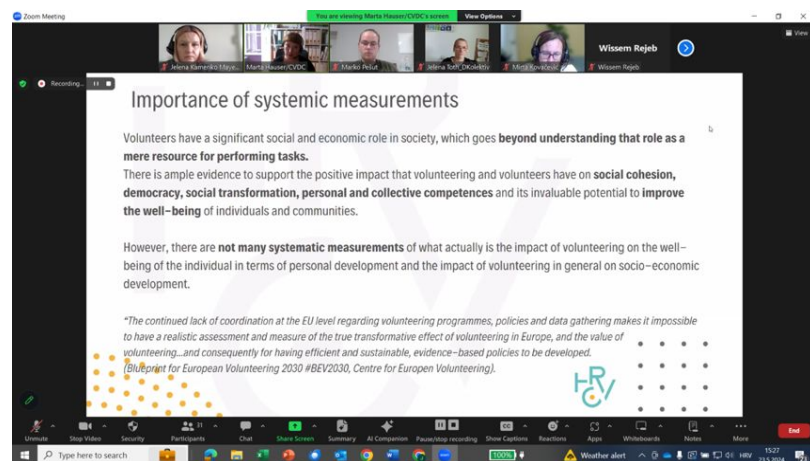
5. How to apply the V-CALC volunteer measurement tool in other contexts? Hosted by HLP on 13th May 2024, 4:00-5:00 pm CET.

This session aimed to explore systems available to evaluate volunteering impact in other EU realities and bring to the discussion practitioners' own experiences for potential synergies.



6. Empowering Volunteer Managers and Policymakers – From Data to Impact! Hosted by Dkolektiv on 23rd May 2024, 3:00 – 4:00 pm CET.

This CoP session was designed to highlight the importance of empowering volunteer managers and policymakers in measuring volunteering impact to bring together a true transformative effect on volunteering.



7. New Policy Trends on Volunteering.

Hosted by OTB on 29th May 2024, 2:00-3:00 pm CET.

The seventh and final CoP session aimed at showcasing new volunteering dynamics and policy trends in Europe.

Video COP Session nº 7.mp4

VVV Campaign

Campaign created for volunteer involving organisations to discover and develop the European Parliament's Candidates opinions on Volunteering for the 2024 European Parliament elections.

VOTE **LUNTEER** **VISION**

18:31 / 1:00:38

Video COP Session nº 7.mp4

Join at menti.com | use code 5339 4717

6. There is a shift from regular long-term volunteering to short-term, often travel-based, volunteer activities.

Response	Count
Agree	5
Disagree	1
Not Sure	3

47:18 / 1:00:38

What did we achieve with our Community of Practice?



- The **overall goal** of V-CALC CoP sessions was **to engage and create an active community**, gathering volunteers, volunteer managers, community practitioners, researchers and policymakers.
- Those with interest and knowledge in the field of volunteering impact measurement and policy development had the **space for mutual collaboration, exchange of “know-how” and best practices.**
- Sessions were built up around as ice-breakers, multimedia, expert input and discussions with practitioners. All sessions were held online through the Zoom platform following a consistent structure for approximately one (1) hour each.



POLICY DOCUMENT



What did we achieve with our Policy Document?



- **This policy document builds on the findings of a series of six (6) key reports**, which highlighted critical challenges in the volunteering sector in: Belgium; Spain; Croatia; United Kingdom; Albania & the European level.
- **It proposes pragmatic policy recommendations** for National and European level, tailored to overcome the identified challenges.
- The relevance of the policy document is achieved by an **inclusive consultation process involving key stakeholders** from partners' respective national volunteer organisations, as well as from the European level.

QUESTION FOR PARTICIPANTS



1. There is lack of European common methodology to measure the impact of volunteering.

Agree or Disagree?



V-CALC EUROPEAN POLICY RECOMMENDATION



1. Standardised European framework for volunteering measurement!

The European Institutions should adopt a standardised framework to measure the impact of volunteering, using the V-CALC model as the starting point.

QUESTION FOR PARTICIPANTS



2. European Institutions provide reports on volunteering ensuring accurate data collection.

Agree or Disagree?



V-CALC EUROPEAN POLICY RECOMMENDATION



2. European data on volunteering! Eurostat should kick-off a biannual report covering the impact of volunteering in Europe to ensure accurate data collection in order to facilitate evidence-based policy decisions at the European context.

QUESTION FOR PARTICIPANTS



3. There is a need for initiatives that connect volunteering policies with European values and frameworks.

Agree or Disagree?



V-CALC EUROPEAN POLICY RECOMMENDATION



3. Intergroup on volunteering in the EP! The European Parliament should establish an intergroup on volunteering in the new EP mandate. This establishment would be tremendously beneficial to facilitate cross-sectoral collaboration and provide a dedicated forum for discussion, innovation and promotion of volunteering.

QUESTION FOR PARTICIPANTS



4. There should be more funding programmes available for volunteering impact measurement projects.

Agree or Disagree?



V-CALC EUROPEAN POLICY RECOMMENDATION



4. More funding for common European actions in volunteering!

Erasmus +, CERV, European Social Fund (ESF+) and other similar funds should increase funding for volunteering impact measurement programs and projects.

QUESTION FOR PARTICIPANTS



5. There should be available more capacity building activities on volunteering impact measurement.

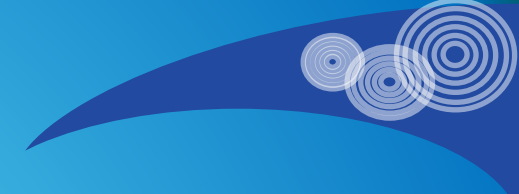
Agree or Disagree?



V-CALC EUROPEAN POLICY RECOMMENDATION



5. Capacity Building on V-CALC model! The European Volunteer Organisations should organise further capacity building events beyond the life of the project to promote the V-CALC model to their members and volunteer managers.



CONCLUSIONS



CONCLUSIONS



- With these efforts we acknowledge **volunteering as a main agent of true social transformation**, contributing to social cohesion, active citizenship and significant well-being of people and the economy.
- However, we are aware that different cultural and legal contexts trigger conflicts in recognition, measurement and understanding of volunteering impact in Europe.
- Finally, **we call for collective action** and conclude that until issues such as agreed common ground for comparable data are sufficiently addressed and harmonised at the EU level, it will be impossible to have a realistic assessment of the true transformative effect of volunteering in Europe.

Thank You



This work has been performed within the project "Volunteering Impact Measurement Training in Europe - V-CALC", (101090539). This project is funded with support of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union. All here provided information and documentation reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



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UEA
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**WE VALUE
YOUR
FEEDBACK!**



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eQval - European Quality Standards in Validation of Learning from Volunteering - “Showcasing Quality in Validation of Learning Outcomes through Volunteering & eQval Award Ceremony”



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European Year of Skills - what's the legacy?

Andrea Lapegna (Lifelong Learning Platform)



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Andrea Lapegna

Deputy Director, Lifelong Learning Platform

Showcasing Quality in Validation of Learning Outcomes through Volunteering,
Brussels, 19 November 2024



meet the

LIFELONG
LEARNING
PLATFORM

EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION



our network is **43 EU NGOs** strong

- founded in **2005**
- **60.000+** education and training institutions
- **3 millions** individuals

the voice of education in Europe

we promote a holistic vision to **lifelong learning**, from cradle to grave, by facilitating European cross-sector cooperation among civil society organisations in education and training and voicing citizens' concerns

our objectives

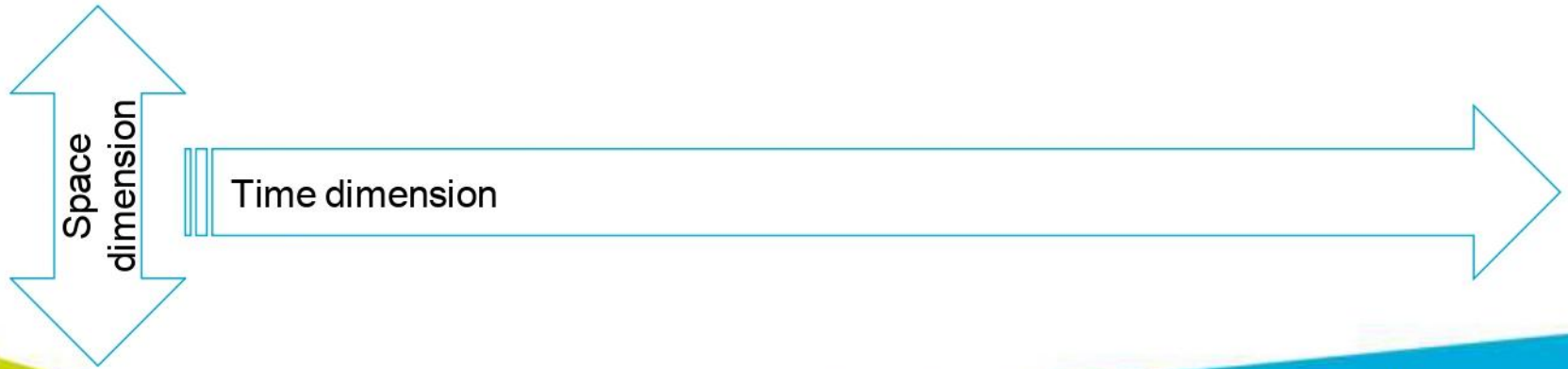
build **inclusive and democratic** education systems

widen **access to quality education** for all citizens

increase the **relevance of education** to modern societies

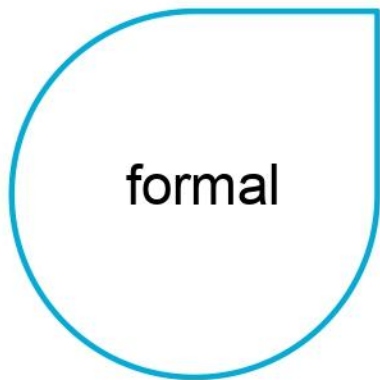
lifelong learning?

by "lifelong learning" we mean an attitude that values learning in all moments of our life, from birth to death. It includes non-formal and informal learning.



learn

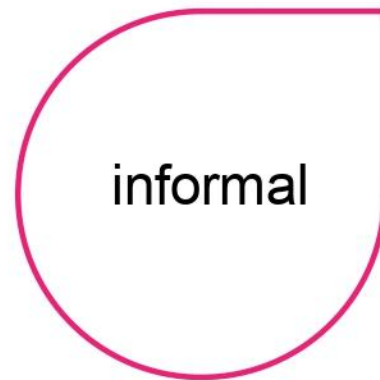
lifelong learning?



formal

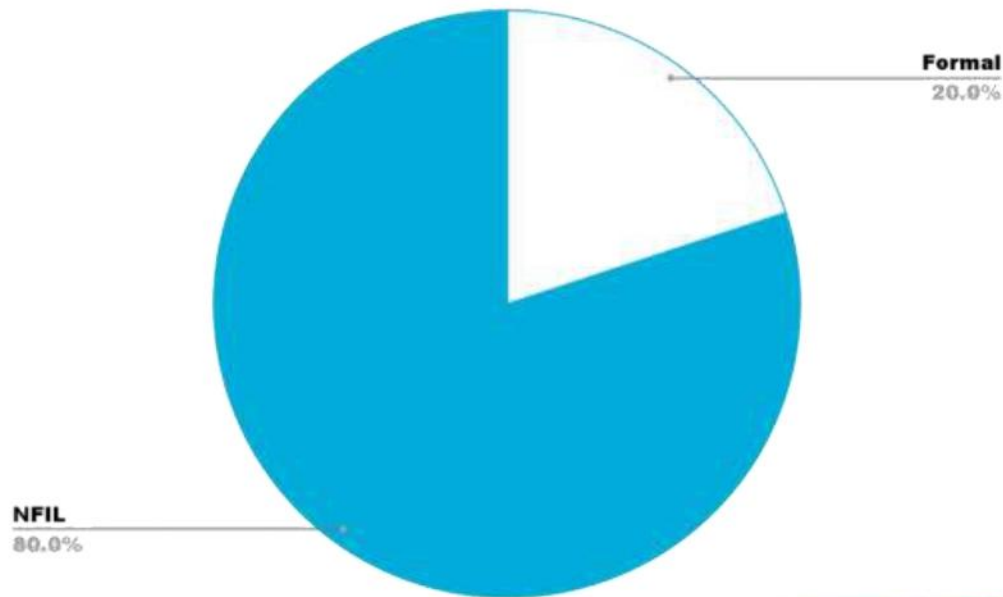


non-formal



informal

the III perspective



learn

transversal competences

- transversal skills and competences set the foundation for personal development, resilience, the ability to communicate and work constructively with others, problem-solving skills, and the ability to manage one's learning and career

validation: a paradox?

- great emphasis on transversal skills from employers
- transversal skills are only an implicit part of the validation and guidance processes



validation: a paradox?

- portability vs loose understanding
- diffuse vs invisible
- unregulated vs plethora of tools (guidance)

policy coherence

- 2012 Council Recommendation on the validation of informal and non-formal learning (VNFIL)
- 2018 Key Competences for LLL
- EntreComp, DigComp, GreenComp, LifeComp, and Research comp

policy coherence

- “46% of the adult population in Europe needs upskilling and reskilling (that's some 128 million people)” (Cedefop, 2020)
- european guidelines for validating non-formal and informal learning



EU year of skills perspective

- skills? what skills?
- a missed opportunity to put (transversal) competences back on the radar
- legacy?
 - union of skills

a lifelong learning perspective

- education for education's sake
- ripple effect
 - employment opportunities
 - social inclusion
 - personal development
 - societal advancement
- equal value to diverse learning environments



THE ROLE OF EDUCATION IN
ENABLING THE
SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Stephen J. Simpson, Bill Steiner, and
Rosa Stancule

With Sarah Wilson, Editor and Foreword by Wolfgang Ivers



thank you!

Andrea Lapegna

andrea.lapegna@lllplatform.eu



eQval Award & Project Presentation

Maida Pieper (Plataforma del Voluntariado de España, PVE)



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eQval

EUROPEAN QUALITY STANDARDS IN VALIDATION
OF LEARNING FROM VOLUNTEERING



eQval



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Project partners



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CONSULT**

 **Centre for
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Introduction

Background

- Around **92 million adults** involved in volunteering in the EU. (*GHK 2010*)
- Many **validation tools** in the EU around **53 different tools** according to PVE study.
- In 2011, in the policy agenda for volunteering in Europe:
"3.3.3. To **Standardize the outcomes** of recognition tools."
- 2019, the European Association for the Education of Adults.
"To **standardize the structure of certificates and adopt clear and transparent quality standards.**"
- The validation process must **generate trust**, notably by demonstrating that requirements of reliability, validity and quality assurance have been met. (*cedefop 2016*)



eQval

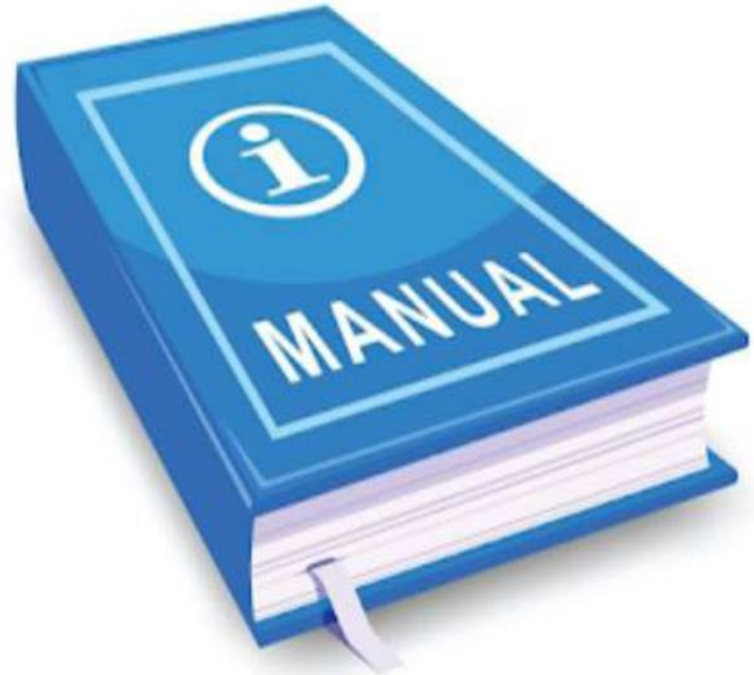


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Introduction

Our starting objectives

- **Define and disseminate across the EU** the first "European Quality Standards in Validation of Learning from Volunteering"
- Produced a manual in six languages, **to facilitate the adoption** of the European Quality Standards in Validation of Learning from Volunteering.
- to organize the European Award in Validation of learning from volunteering **to promote the adoption** of the european quality standards in validation of learning from volunteering.
- Offer effective tools and guidance to organizations involved in validation of learning outcomes.



eQval



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Timeline

- February 2023

PREVIOUS PHASE: Review of regulations, guidelines and good practices

- March 2023

FIRST PHASE: Proposed quality standards

Discussion and agreement between project partners

21 quality standards

- September 2023

SECOND PHASE: Public consultation

Translation into 6 languages

684 participants

- October 2023

THIRD PHASE: Review of public consultation contributions

Discussion between the project partners

23 quality standards

- April 2024

FINAL PHASE: 23 Quality standards in validation of learning from volunteering.

- June - November 2024

eQval contest and award



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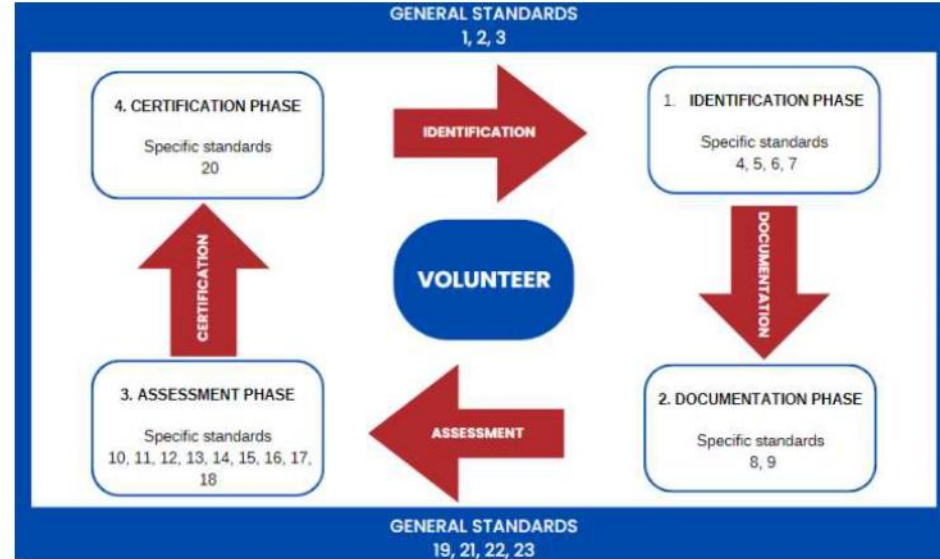
The Quality Standards

Divided in:

- **General:** *volunteer at the centre of the process*
- **Specific:** *The 4 phases of validation process.*
 - (1) Identification
 - (2) Documentation
 - (3) Assessment
 - (4) Certification

In the manual each Standard is defined in the following order:

- The definition of the Quality Standard
- Description
- Suggested Evidence
- Examples of good practices and or tools applying the quality standard



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General information of the award

Objective: To recognize good practices in the validation of learning outcomes in volunteering.

22 candidates


Sectors that applied:

- Universities
- Voluntary organizations
- Companies

Maximum standards applied: 19 standards



Actions of dissemination in Europe

 CSVnet - Associazione Centri di servizio per il volontari... + Seguir ...
2.725 seguidores
1 semana • 🌐

I partner del progetto Erasmus+ #EQval, tra cui anche CSVnet, si sono incontrati il 30 ottobre per esaminare le candidature dei finalisti del "Premio Europeo di Qualità per la Validazione dei Risultati di Apprendimento dal Volontariato" ... más

Mostrar traducción



 **Apply now for the European Quality Award in Validation of Learning Outcomes from Volunteering 2024**

 Co-funded by the European Union

volunteeringcev • Seguir ...

volunteeringcev 📌 Do you have an exemplary/best practice in the validation of non-formal and informal learning acquired through volunteering?

- 🔴 Apply now for the European Quality Award in Validation of Learning Outcomes from Volunteering 2024!
- 👉 Organisations from Erasmus+ Programme Countries involved in the validation of learning outcomes from volunteering, including universities, vocational schools, enterprises, public administrations, and voluntary organisations can participate. Deadline: 9 October 2024.

🔗 Link to register here:
[Link to register here](#)

👍 8 Me gusta
2 de septiembre

Actions of dissemination in Europe

MTU Extended Campus • 3er+
Connecting Industry with MTU at Munster Technological University
4 meses • Editado •

📢 Calling all volunteer organisations and volunteers!

Do you have exemplary practices in validating learning from volunteering? Apply for the eQval Quality Standards Award and get recognised for your efforts in promoting high-quality volunteer experiences. Learn more and apply at www.en.eqval.eu
#VolunteerRecognition #QualityStandards #eQval #ErasmusPlus #MTU Volunteer Ireland Cork Volunteer Centre | Volunteer Volunteer World Deirdre Goggin

Mostrar traducción



Apply now for the European Quality Award in Validation of Learning Outcomes from Volunteering 2024



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Plataforma del Voluntariado de España
988 seguidores
2 semanas •

El premio Europeo a la Calidad en la Validación de los Resultados del Aprendizaje del Voluntariado 2024 ya tiene primer premio 🏆.

Así lo ha decidido El proyecto Erasmus+ eQval en su reunión de revisión de las candidaturas finalistas.

La revelación tendrá lugar en la entrega de premios en Bruselas el 19 de noviembre de 2024.

#eQval #ErasmusPlus



EQUVAL
REUNIÓN
EQUVAL



PLATAFORMA DEL VOLUNTARIADO DE ESPAÑA



Estamos evaluando actualmente las solicitudes recibidas para el Premio Europeo a la Calidad en la Validación de Resultados de Aprendizaje del Voluntariado 2024.

La candidatura ganadora se anunciará en la ceremonia de entrega de premios en Bruselas, Bélgica, el 19 de noviembre de 2024.

¡Muchas gracias a todas las candidaturas!

With this award, we want to recognize those organizations that with a lot of effort, apply good practices in validation of learning outcomes from volunteering, putting the volunteer in the center and promoting life long learning



eQval



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Thank you!



eQval



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Winner's Announcement and Award Ceremony

Koen Nomden (DG EMPL, EU Commission)



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IFELONG
EARNING
WEEK 2024

Dinner & Networking Reception



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Part II #REACT campaign & BEV2030 Seminar "The Future of Volunteer Centres and their role in Unlocking the Potential of Volunteers in Europe"



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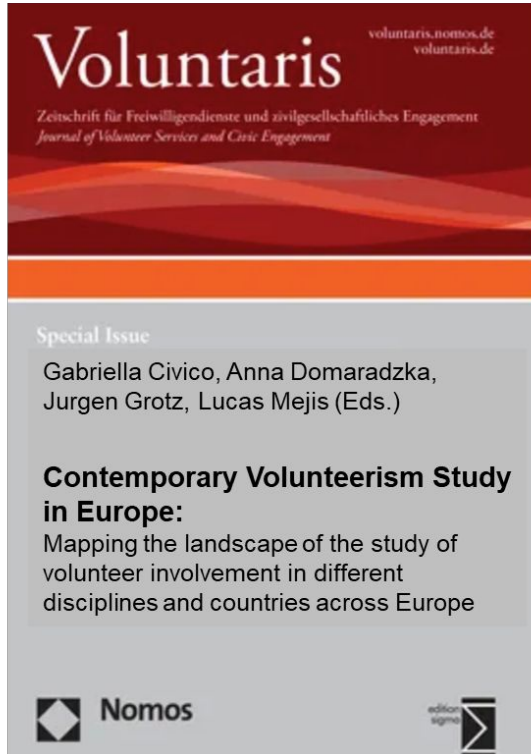
Volunteering Equality
Rights Action
VERA 2024



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Project Number: 101140501

[Revealing European Values in Volunteering in Europe - REVVE Project No. 101051131]

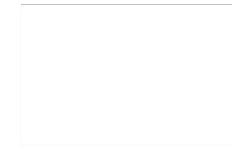


Calling co-authors!

This special edition is a collaborative endeavour convened by the Centre for European Volunteering (CEV).

The main aim of the publication is to map practice and where current studies are located.

This open access publication will provide a much-needed resource for practitioners and policy makers.



- Volunteer involvement and the law
- The politics of volunteer involvement
- Measuring the difference volunteer involvement makes
- Why Volunteer? The Role of Individual Motivations of Volunteers
- Why support? The role of volunteer involvement infrastructure
- Why Organise? The Role of Volunteer-Involving Organisations

What we are looking for

Each chapter will have six co-authors, 3 academics and 3 from practice offering insights from different geographies and contexts. We are looking for co-authors who have insights into the specific topics presented and can share local knowledges. The co-authors will be guided by a lead author and the section editor.

Timetable 2025

Feb	Complete full drafts
April	Revision
July	Submission
Sept	Copyediting
Oct	Proof
Nov	Publication

Get in touch!

j.grotz@uea.ac.uk

Gabriella.civico@cev.be





Coffee break (10:30 - 11:15)



Volunteering Equality
Rights Action
VERA 2024

Project Number: 101140501

[Revealing European Values in Volunteering in Europe - REVIVE Project No. 101051131]



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EUROPEAN QUALITY STANDARDS IN VALIDATION
OF LEARNING FROM VOLUNTEERING

POWERED BY 



SLSV - Stop Loneliness, Start Volunteering, Multiplier Event

Loneliness and social Isolation - What solutions can volunteering offer?



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Lejla Šehić Relić (CEV President/CVDC-DKolektiv)



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Project Aims and Objectives

Eva Klobčar (Slovenska Filantropija)



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Stop
Loneliness Start
Volunteering

STOP LONELINESS, START VOLUNTEERING

PROJECT PRESENTATION, BRUSSELS 2024
EVA KLOBČAR, SLOVENE PHILANTHROPY

The project was developed with the aim of **supporting youth experiencing loneliness and isolation**. Based on research and our own observation, **volunteering** offers at least a partial solution to the problem.

Stop Loneliness Start Volunteering

is a cooperation of the following organisations around Europe:



SLOVENTROPIJA
FILANTROPIJA



D/
kolektiv



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01

Raising awareness of the **importance of volunteering in preventing isolation** of youth and empowering youth/volunteer involving organizations

02

Identify, collect, select and transfer innovative and effective **practices**

03

Identification and awareness of the needs of young people in their involvement in volunteering activities. Development of a methodology to prepare innovative volunteering programs and cooperation approaches, development of quality standards in the coordination and mentoring of young volunteers

04

Enhanced role and empowered **national and regional volunteering centers / networks**

OBJECTIVES

06

Better understanding of the role of **volunteering as an opportunity** for personal growth, development, gaining competencies, professional development and maintaining and expanding the social network among young people

07

Advocacy of youth volunteering and volunteering support for young people at a local, national and European level.

05

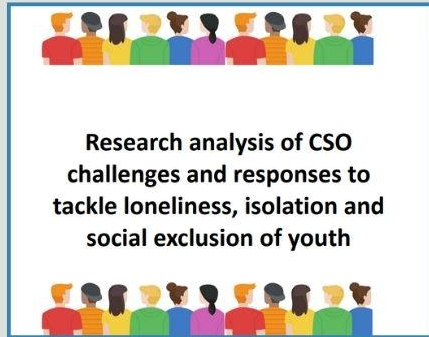
Raising awareness to adopt **policies** that would attract the **infrastructure** and strengthen the field of volunteering.

IMPLEMENTED ACTIVITIES

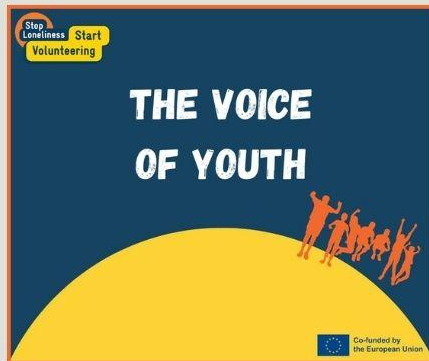
- Research work (existing practices, challenges and needs in combatting loneliness and youth volunteering, the role of volunteer centres and networks)
- Conducting interviews with volunteers, beneficiaries and representatives of volunteer organizations
- Video-making featuring personal stories of volunteers
- World café method
- On-line campaign, promotion
- Creating theoretical frameworks, tools and documents in different languages
- 6 partner meetings and 4 multiplier events



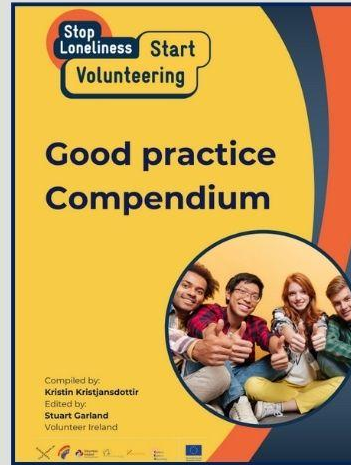
1. Research and analysis



4. Online campaign titled 'The Voice of Youth'



2. Compendium of best practices



5. Guidelines for volunteering centers and networks

6. European framework for combatting loneliness, isolation and exclusion of the youth – policy paper

7. A handbook for volunteering organizations

UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING LONELINESS AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

Handbook for Volunteer Involving Organisations and volunteer mentors

3. Video "Best practices" with personal stories and experiences of volunteers, users, mentors



Results

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION**



Guidelines for volunteer centres and networks

Dannie Larse (Volunteer Centre and Self-help Denmark)



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Building bridges to volunteer communities

Guideline for
volunteer centres
and networks

Missing

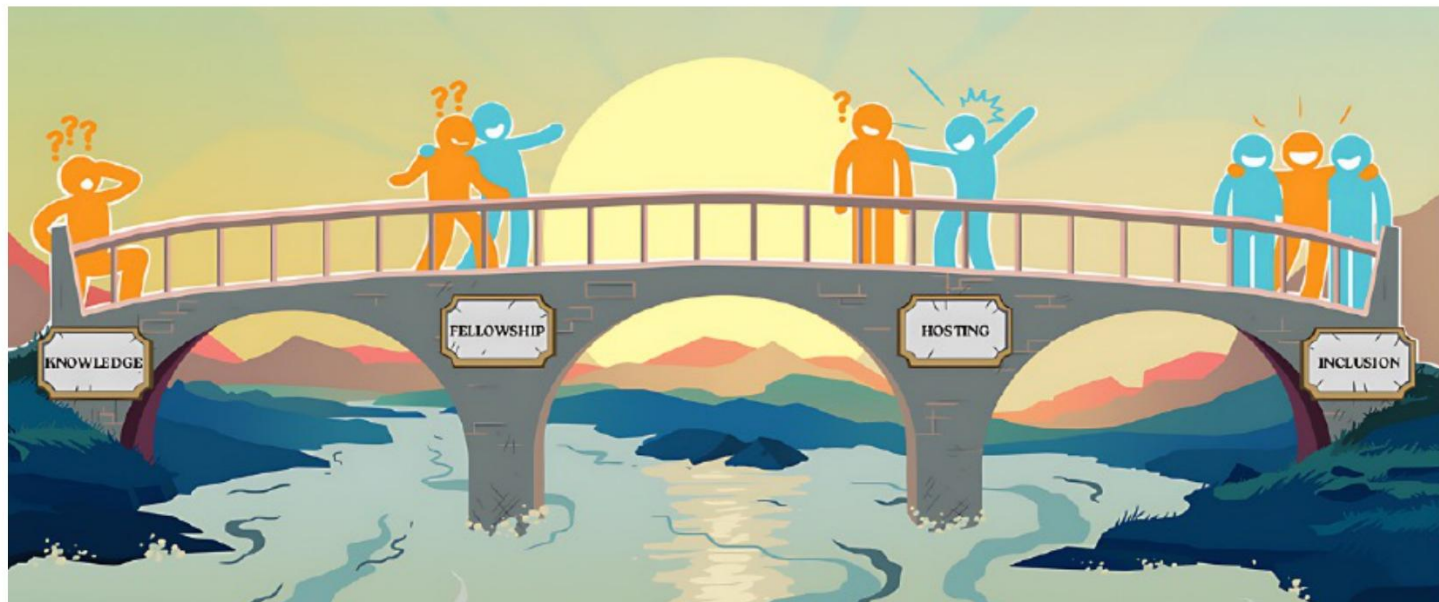
- I miss somebody to be with, somebody to do stuff with, to talk with
- I miss confidants or someone to share my innermost thoughts, feelings and experiences with
- I miss mutual and close relationships and understanding from others
- I miss someone that I can count on
- I feel alone with my problems
- I feel let down by others
- I feel invisible, unwanted, misunderstood and of no value to others
- I feel emptiness, pain, sadness, shame, loss and grief
- I have lost the sense of meaning and value in life

- And a lot of other feelings...

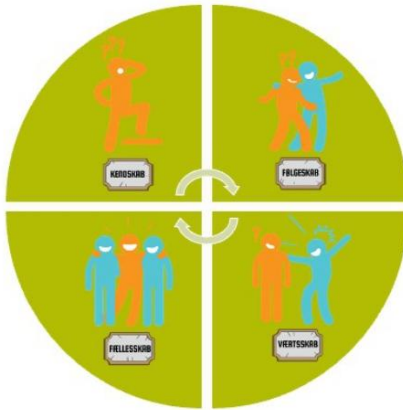
Purpose

- Supporting people to participate in activities with others or be a volunteer and having positive relationships with others.
- Reducing barriers that prevent people from participating.
- Increase their well-being and quality of life – less lonely.
- Promote inclusive organisations.
- Promote cooperation between the public sector and volunteer organisations – we need to work together.

Building bridges to volunteer communities



At guide with four key elements



Knowledge: Online overview of volunteer organisations and communities so it's easier to find something matching the participants wishes, needs and resources.

Fellowship: Clarifying and motivating conversation(s) to match with a relevant community and support the road from “home” to community.

Hosting: Create a warm welcome and a safe environment.

Inclusion: Making sure that new participants feel they belong to the community and being able to create social relationships with others.

Different roles in bridge-building

1. **Mediator:** Person(s) who create an overview of associations and communities.
2. **Referrers:** People with contact to the target group, who can refer or guide to the volunteer center or directly to a community: municipal employees, health professionals, doctors, educations etc.
3. **Guides:** Person(s) who have clarifying conversation(s) with participants to support motivation to participate and match with a relevant community.
4. **Companionship:** Person(s) who accompany the participant to the community, if necessary.
5. **Advisor:** Person(s) who can guide associations and communities about hosting and inclusion.
6. **Hosts:** Person(s) in associations who are responsible for welcoming new participants and ensuring that they feel like a valuable part of the community.

Different needs for participation

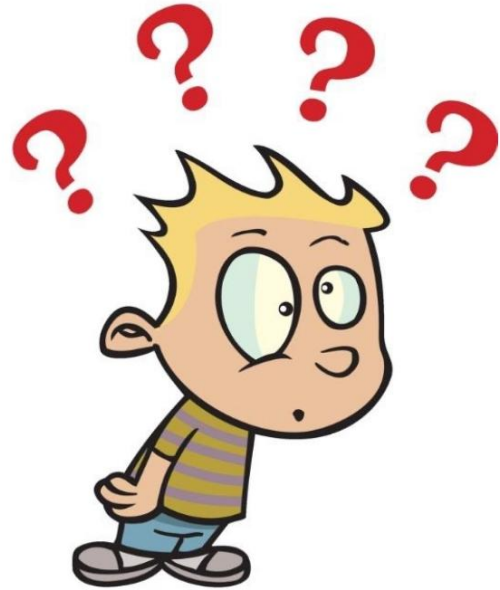
Different needs have an impact on how a person is best supported and which community is relevant:

- **Social participation:** You miss someone to be with or do something with, e.g. to participate in activities with others or to share your interests and passions with.
- **Emotional participation:** You miss someone to share your innermost thoughts, feelings and experiences with and miss close relationships – about quality of the relationships and the cohesion with others.
- **Existential participation:** You miss being able to contribute to your surroundings, to be something for others or to feel valuable - e.g. as a volunteer.

Important to be aware of these different needs and how to meet them – for many the need is more than "superficial" relationships or just to participate in joint activities.

A warm welcome – otherwise they won't come back, and they get a new defeat in their life.





Handbook for volunteer organisations

Sabrina Lever (Slovenska Filantropija)



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UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING LONELINESS AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

HANDBOOK FOR VOLUNTEER INVOLVING
ORGANISATIONS AND VOLUNTEER MENTORS

SABRINA LEVER, SLOVENE PHILANTHROPY

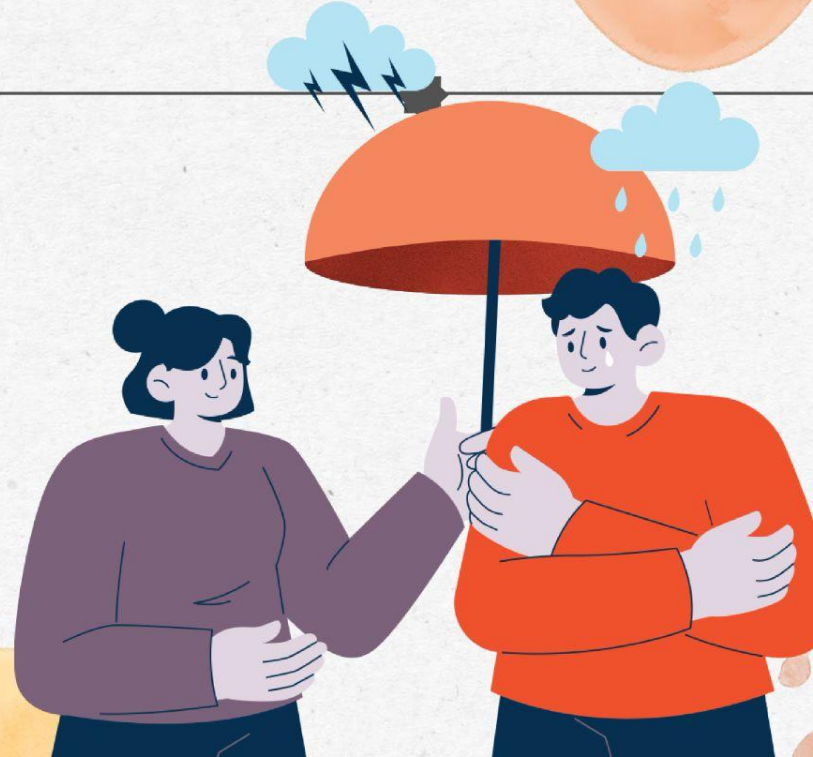


THE IMPORTANCE OF ADDRESSING LONELINESS AMONG YOUTH

- MENTAL HEALTH
- BUILDING RESILIENCE
- COMMUNITY BUILDING
- DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
- SKILLS DEVELOPMENT
- LONG-TERM VOLUNTEER INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION
- INCREASED IMPACT
- AWARENESS RAISING AND ADVOCACY

FACTORS CONTRIBUTING TO LONELINESS AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

- SOCIAL NETWORKS AND TECHNOLOGY
- ACADEMIC PRESSURE
- FAMILY DYNAMICS
- PEER RELATIONSHIPS
- DEMOGRAPHIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC FACTORS
- PSYCHOLOGICAL FACTORS AND MENTAL HEALTH PROBLEMS
- SOCIAL CONTEXT AND VALUES



THE IMPACT OF LONELINESS ON MENTAL HEALTH

- INCREASING THE RISK OF DEVELOPING ANXIETY DISORDERS
- DEPRESSION AND NEGATIVE EMOTIONS
- LOWERING OF SELF-ESTEEM AND SELF-CONFIDENCE
- INCREASED VULNERABILITY TO SUICIDAL THOUGHTS
- INCREASED RISK OF ADDICTIONS AND RISKY BEHAVIOUR
- SOCIAL ISOLATION AND DIFFICULTIES FORMING RELATIONSHIPS
- LONG-TERM IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH IN ADULTHOOD



RECOGNISING SIGNS OF LONELINESS



CHANGES IN
BEHAVIOUR

EMOTIONAL
SIGNS

CHANGES IN
PHYSICAL
HEALTH

PROBLEMS AT
SCHOOL OR WITH
HOBBIES

LACK OF CONTACT
WITH FRIENDS

MOOD
SWINGS

EXPRESSING
NEGATIVE
FEELINGS

WITHDRAW
AL FROM
THE FAMILY

THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEERING ORGANISATIONS IN COMBATING LONELINESS AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE

CREATING INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENTS

- Promoting equal opportunities for all
- Opening safe spaces for expression
- Reducing stigma

PROMOTING POSITIVE LINKS WITHIN VOLUNTEER PAIRS

- Creating friendship networks
- Organising social activities
- Group work projects
- Emotional support
- Developing social and communication skills
- Promoting independence and responsibility

PEER-TO-PEER NETWORKING

BUILDING COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- Strengthening group identity
- Involvement in local projects
- Building social connections

VOLUNTEERING AS A METHOD OF EMPOWERMENT





WHAT TO INCLUDE IN A VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMME TO MAKE IT SENSITIVE TO YOUNG PEOPLE

01

WORKSHOPS AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS

PEER MENTORING PROGRAMME AND OTHER FORMS OF MENTORING

SUPPORT GROUPS

ONLINE SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY

02

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

EMPOWERMENT

VOLUNTEER TRAINING.

03

VOLUNTEERING PROJECTS FOR THE COMMON GOOD

PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATION

PROMOTING THE PROGRAMME

IDEAS FOR TALKING ABOUT LONELINESS

Examples of questions that:

- address loneliness.
- address volunteering as a possible solution to reduce loneliness.
- address young people's needs and aspirations for social connections.
- addressing the long-term impacts of volunteering.
- addressing community impact.



EXAMPLE OF AN EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE FOR YOUTH ADDRESSING LONELINESS

Feelings of Loneliness

I feel like I have no one to talk to when I'm in distress.

1 - Never 2 - Rarely 3 - Sometimes 4 - Often 5 - Very often

I feel like the people around me don't understand me.

1 2 3 4 5

I often feel a sense of emptiness in my life.

1 2 3 4 5

Social Connections

I easily make new friends.

I feel like I am part of a community.



Psychological well-being

I have a greater sense of meaning and purpose in life.

My social relationships have improved since I started volunteering.

Volunteering has helped me improve my social skills.

Opinion on Volunteering

Participating in volunteering has encouraged me to have better social relationships outside of volunteering.

1 - Strongly disagree 2 - Disagree 3 - Neither agree nor disagree 4 - Agree 5 - Strongly agree

Volunteering gives me a sense of being part of something bigger.

Open-ended Questions

Which aspects of volunteering would you highlight as the most beneficial for reducing loneliness?

Policy recommendations Miriah Conte (CEV)



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A large yellow circle and a smaller orange circle are positioned to the left of the main title text.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

BRUSSELS 2024
MIRIAH CONTE, CEV

MAIN PURPOSES



Offering **comprehensive and convincing arguments** supporting the **recognition** of the **potential of volunteering in tackling loneliness and isolation in youth.**



Direct to policy makers and organisations at the European, national and local level working in the field of youth, youth volunteering, loneliness and social exclusion.



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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICY MAKERS

01

PROMOTING VOLUNTEERING AS A MEANS TO TACKLE LONELINESS IN YOUTH

02

BUILDING MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEMS

03

RESEARCH AND DATA COLLECTION

04

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

05

COOPERATION AMONG STAKEHOLDERS



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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICY MAKERS

- 06 STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES OF CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS
- 07 STRENGTHENING EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS PROGRAMME (ESC)
- 08 PUBLIC FUNDING
- 09 RECOGNISE AND AWARD BEST PRACTICES OF IMPLEMENTING QUALITY VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMMES



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RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ORGANISATIONS

01 ADVOCATING FOR BETTER POLICIES AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

02 CAPACITY BUILDING

03 FOSTERING COLLABORATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING

04 IMPLEMENTING MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEMS



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WORLD CAFÉ



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WORLD CAFÉ

- 01 European Solidarity Corps Programme & tackling loneliness in youth projects
- 02 Digital volunteering: a useful tool to tackle loneliness in youth
- 03 Types of volunteering projects that can support young people facing loneliness
- 04 The voice of youth in designing volunteering projects
- 05 Governments' roles in tackling loneliness in youth
- 06 Volunteering organisations and youth workers' roles in tackling loneliness in youth
- 07 Attracting young people to volunteer
- 08 EU's role tackling loneliness in youth



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"World Cafe" conclusions



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Lunch (13:00 - 14:00)



Volunteering Equality
Rights Action
VERA 2024

Project Number: 101140501

[Revealing European Values in Volunteering in Europe - REVIVE Project No. 101051131]

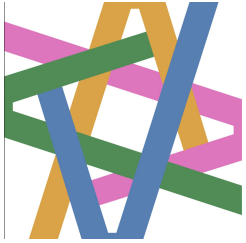


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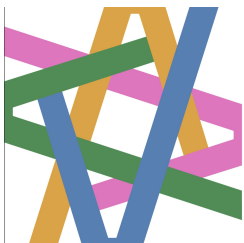




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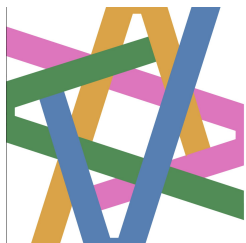
**Powered by V -
Engaged Volunteering for the Future of EU Values,
Dissemination Event
Exploring Volunteering and European Values - What is
the role of volunteering in the future of Europe?**



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MEP Vladimir Prebilič (Greens/EFA)



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Presentation of the Powered by V project **Jelena Kamenko Mayer (DKolektiv)**



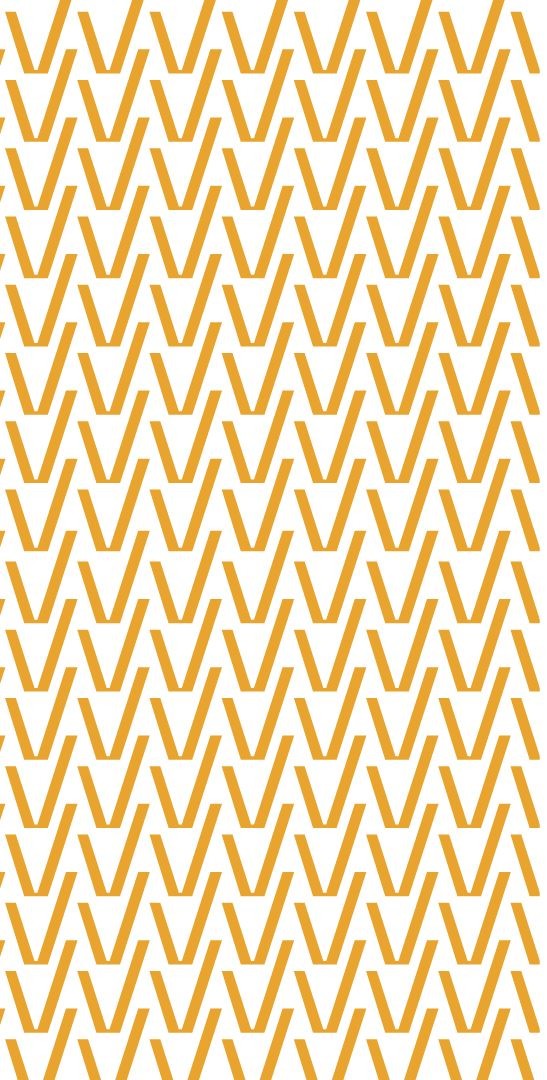
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Engaged Volunteering for the Future of EU Values

Jelena Kamenko Mayer, Dkolektiv

Brussels, 20th November 2024





Introduction – project idea premise

Unlike the traditional view of volunteering as a charity act, the modern and innovative approach recognises volunteering as a form of youth activism that strengthens young people's sense of initiative, particularly for the acts of solidarity, significantly increases young people's capacity to be proactive in the community on the democratic principles of inclusiveness, intercultural dialogue and mutual trust.



Project goals:

- 1) Encourage better understanding of cultural, social, political context of relations between youth engagement through volunteering and EU values;
- 2) Support youth volunteering as a transformative force in strengthening EU values and resilience & sustainable communities;
- 3) Strengthen youth organisational capacities for more impactful youth volunteer engagement underpinning EU values
- 4) Unlock the potentials of national, transnational and EU cooperation on the issue.



Methodology

- Deliberative dialogues creating a space to seek a shared understanding of issues and challenges and searching for common ground and action.
- Transnational capacity building to stimulate and support youth as well as practitioners, researchers and policy makers by opening a wider dialogue space, bringing more data and knowledge, sharing best practices, new skills and recommendations that will make us more able to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Project results and activities:

10 focus groups

30 interviews

9 conversation saloons

5 training sessions

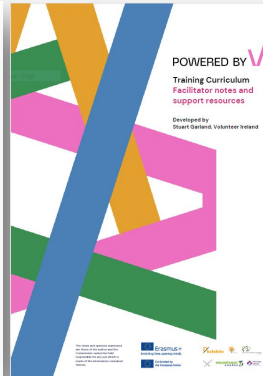
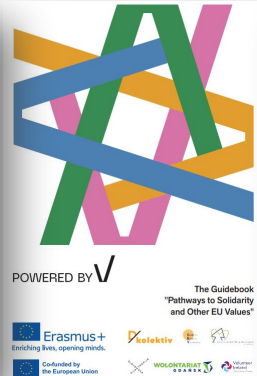
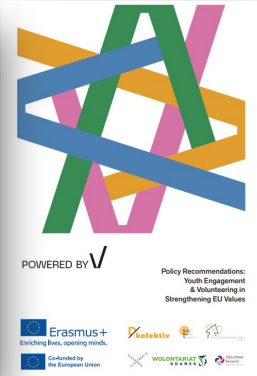
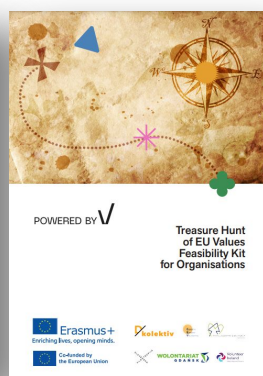
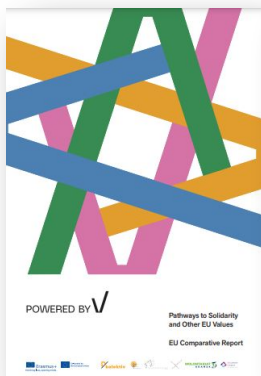
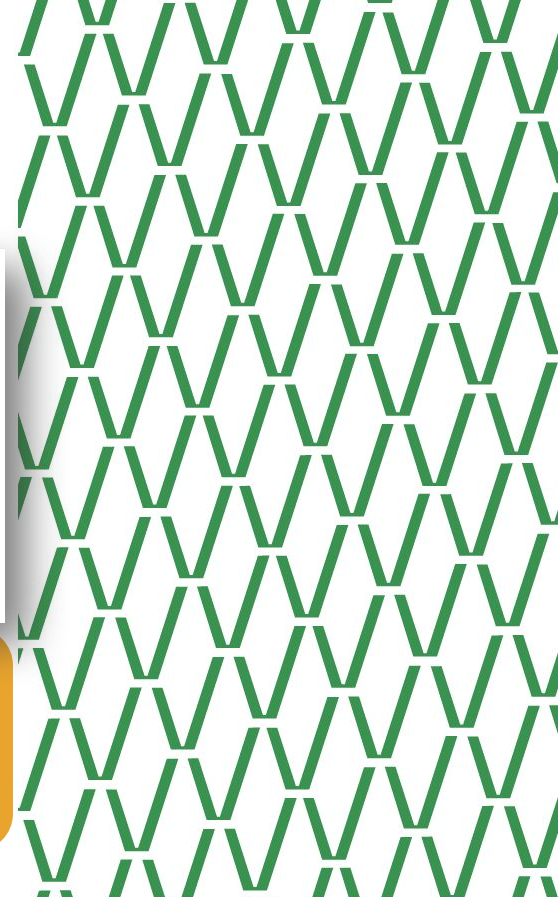
5 dissemination events

over 400 participants

2 promotional videos

promotional materials

Key outputs



EU Comparative Research Report „Solidarity in Focus and Other EU Values“

Feasibility Kit „Treasure Hunt of EU Values“

Policy Recommendations „Youth Engagement and Volunteering in Strengthening the EU Values“

Guidebook „Pathways to Solidarity and Other EU Values“

Training Curriculum „Engaging Young Volunteers: Practical Skills for Active Citizenship“

Project highlights:

- Focus groups and other events across countries have raised awareness and fostered dialogues on EU values, strengthening youth and community engagement.
- Project activities have effectively bridged gaps in EU value awareness, fostering critical discussions and aligning youth engagement with organisational goals.



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**Engaged Volunteering for the
Future of EU Values**

 **Erasmus+**
Enriching lives, opening minds.

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Presentation of the Powered by V project **Katarina Rotar (Slovenska filantropija)**





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Pathways to Solidarity and Other EU Values





Key notions:

Volunteering



Civic engagement Active citizenship

Benefits of volunteering

- connects young people to their communities
- development of **skills**, gaining **insight** into social issues
- see your **impact** on your community, increased community **resilience**
- opportunity to express **solidarity**, support social inclusion
- underpins **active citizenship** and **civic engagement**

From volunteering to civic engagement

- Volunteering is often the first step towards civic participation
- Organised volunteering common starting point → upscaling and expanding possibilities
- Key understanding: even the simplest tasks are an expression of solidarity that are slowly changing the world for the better
- Youth organisations: help youth understand the ramifications of their volunteering engagement

Points in common

Shared goals

Active participation

Community impact

Encouraging the transition VOLUNTEERING → CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- Raise awareness on the power of volunteering
- Listen to young people: initiatives, ideas, proposals
 - Provide support and resources
- Highlight the importance of civic engagement
- Encourage peer networks and connections

How can CSOs support youth civic engagement?

- **Asses the needs** of the community
- **Built partnerships**: with schools, youth organisations, public authorities
- **Engage young volunteers**: recognise their motivation, potential ...
- Develop **meaningful programmes and tasks** for youth
- Provide **training, skills development**
- Ensure **inclusivity and accessibility**
- Create **supportive environment**
- Encourage **peer-to-peer engagements**
- Ensure **sustainability**
- ...

What is needed in the community to apply civic competences of youth?

- **Supportive environment:** infrastructure (both digital and physical)
- **Relevant programmes,** initiatives, activities
- **Legal and policy framework**
- **Strong community connections**
- **Institutional support**

Guidelines for young volunteers

Before a new project: identify the issue, assess resources and support, set-up and networking, communication, advocacy, plan your resources

During implementation: management (time, resources, management), peer engagement, promotion, dissemination, awareness raising, civic engagement

After the project completion: reflection and evaluation, share your experience, expected and unexpected outcomes

Key recommendations

- **Listen** to youth
- Recognise their **potential**
- Create **supportive environment**
- **Co-determine** needs and goals
- Constant **interaction** with the community



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Thank you!



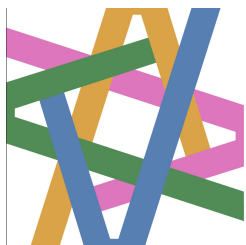
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MEP Lena Schilling (Greens/EFA)



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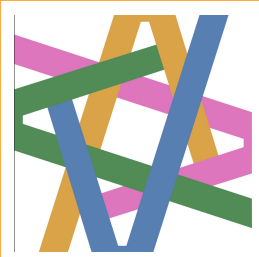
Panel discussion

Stuart Fox (University of Exeter)

Vesna Strlič (Slovenska filantropija)

Stuart Garland (Volunteer Ireland)

Lejla Šehić Relić (CEV President/CVDC-DKolektiv)



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QUIZ

**SLIPS “Service Learning in Primary Schools”,
Community of practice Event,
Fostering civic engagement at a young age -
introducing service-learning in primary schools (SLIPS
CoP aperitif & networking session)**



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Service Learning In Primary Schools

20 November 2024
Brussels, Belgium



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Project Partners



www.proni.ba

AIMs and Objectives



SLIPS aims to upscale a Service Learning programme for primary school pupils. Through its training programme, it will enable 600 primary school teachers, 150 schools' principals & governors, 75 schools and 90 policy makers to build capacity in SL.

- Develop an upscaled methodology for delivering service learning programmes in primary schools
- Create a user-friendly online platform to train the primary school teachers;
- Train and develop the capacity of primary school teachers to deliver quality service learning in primary schools
- Develop links between schools and civil society in order to better meet community needs
- Ensure the sustainability of project results by developing the community of practitioners to promote the use of the methodology and the importance of service learning for social inclusion, civic engagement, resilience, prosperity and sustainability



Target Groups



PRIMARY SCHOOL
STUDENTS



POLICYMAKERS

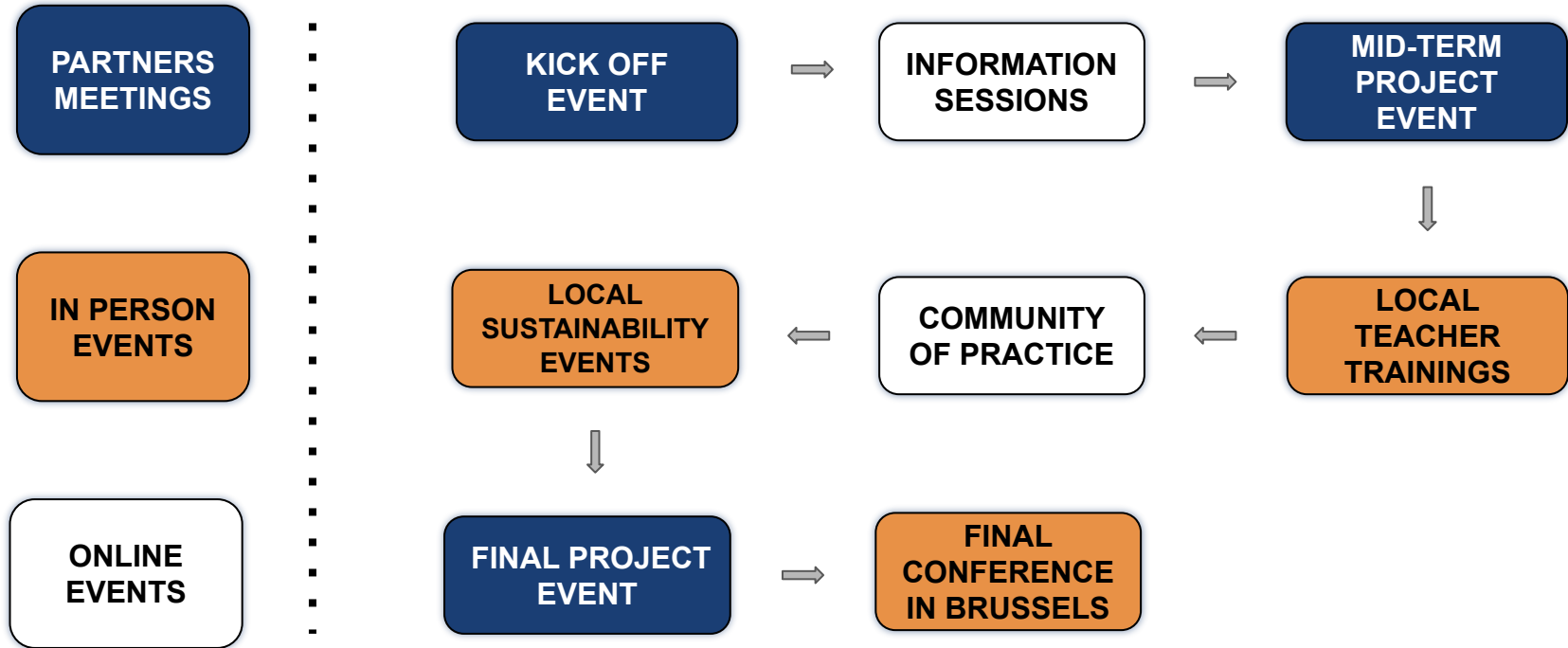


PRIMARY SCHOOL
TEACHERS

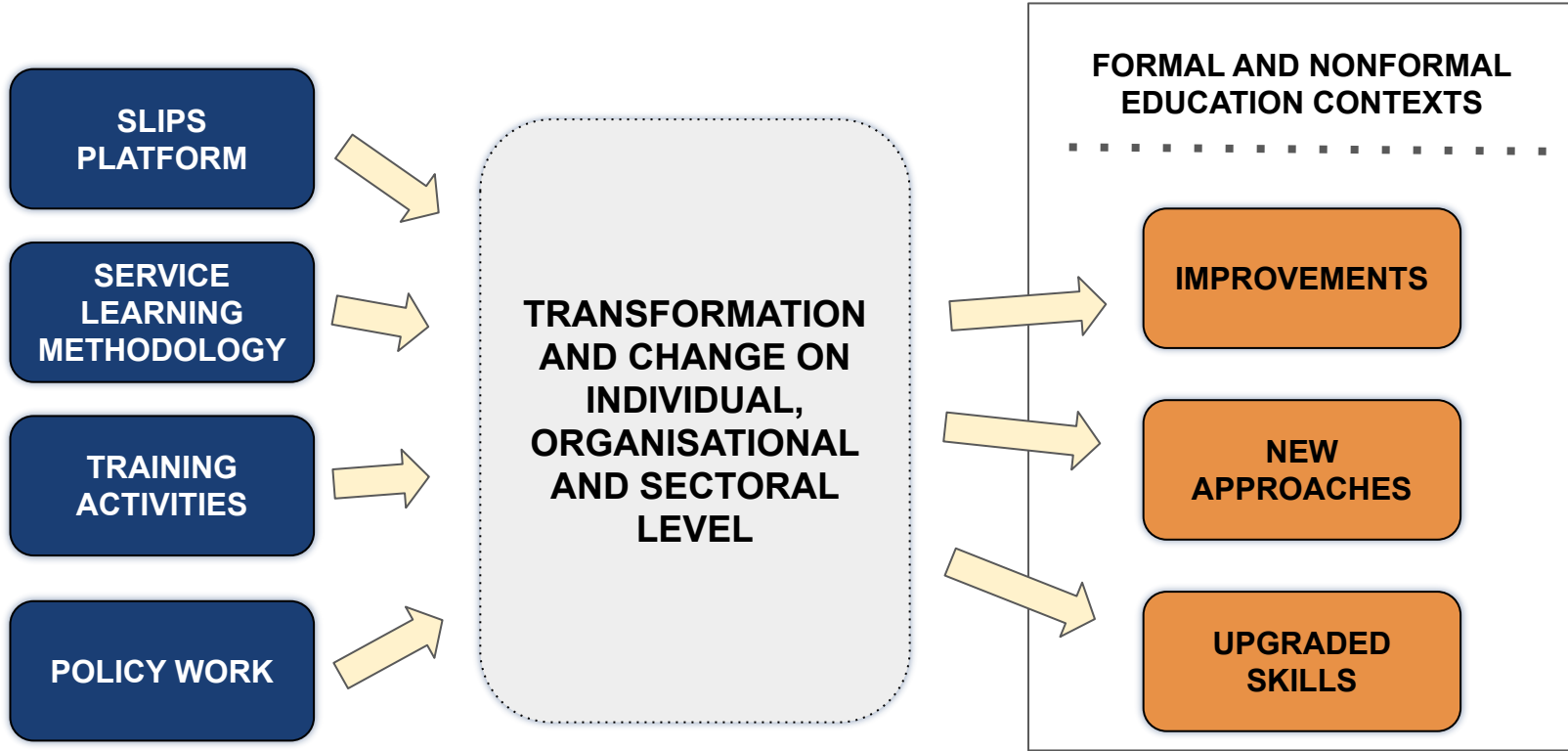


GRASSROOT
ORGANISATIONS
(CSOs)

Events And Meetings



Outcomes and Results



SERVICE-LEARNING ACROSS EUROPE

Examples and best practices



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WHY SERVICE-LEARNING IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS?

Discussion



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