

Let's make poverty history through art!

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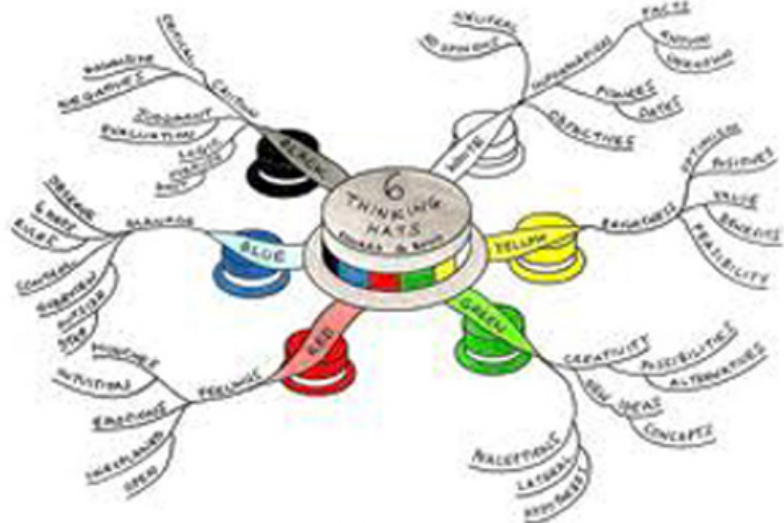
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1. ANDTHIS IS HOW THE IDEA OF THIS PROJECT CAME OUT :D

The summer of 2009 was a fruitful year for Năsăud town, as it has been established a life long lasting relation with a town from Poland. It was the consolidation of the twinning partnership with the town of Mława from Poland and also the year of implementation of a project of youth exchange. The project "Slow Life" within Youth in Action Programme, Action 1- youth exchange, turned out to be a real success. The main task of the Slow Life project was to promote choices that are healthy and are based on important values. The project was also focused on: realizing the meaning of art (it sources, origin, cultural, social, historical consequences), presenting the constructive, alternative methods of spending the spare time (expressing our emotions and feelings in creative ways and by artistic activities), intercultural education by art and cultural heritage, European citizenship in context of common history and tradition and nature as source of artistic inspiration giving us motivation.



The twinning partnership between these two towns with different culture and different traditions meant for Năsăud an exchange of experience in areas of common interest and the participation of Năsăud in international programs. Our institution and our town have been internationally promoted. This partnership strengthened the connections and the dialogue between the citizens. The intercultural dialogue fostered the exchange of ideas, developed the concept of European citizenship and citizen participation. The time spent together with the Poles in their town made us understand that we have a lot of things in common. We have discovered there, wonderful and warm people opened for future collaboration. After the project ended we decided to make a follow up of it and to make a new project with the same promoters and the same actors but on a different stage. During the project we realized that we are a great team with a perfect collaboration. Through a good cooperation and a wonderful team work we had great results. We were really a team, a very serious one, which has treated with responsibility all the tasks during the project. We worked together for ten days in a multicultural atmosphere developing the sense of good European Citizens. At the end of the activities of the project, during the final meeting, we established to continue that project and the follow up of the project to take place in Năsăud, Romania, while the next future meetings would be in Spain, Lithuania and Italy. We have great ideas to change the bad things in our communities; this is why we are planning to fight against poverty, social exclusion and to fight for environmental protection, a good European citizenship, to raise the awareness of cultural level of the youngsters and to work together for a better future for us and for the next generations.

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After discussions with the representatives of the Town Hall from Mława (Poland), Moscufo (Italy), Colindres (Spain) and from the Raseiniai Business and Tourism Information Center (Lithuania) we decided to develop together the second common youth project based mainly on a theme of great interest through all over the world: the fight against poverty. Other themes would be environment protection, culture and art and also exchange of experience in the social and economic field. The Town hall of Năsăud will be the host organization of the project. All of the towns are interested in promoting as discussion topics for the workshops during the activities of the project the following themes: ways of combating poverty and social exclusion, inclusion of young people with fewer possibilities, fight against discrimination, volunteering, European citizenship, participation of young people, cultural diversity, young people from migrant backgrounds or ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities, youth unemployment and active participation in society. We are planning to actively involve more and more youngsters to fight against poverty, to help the people in need. According to the saying "Unity is power", we want to enlarge this family of fighters and to also bring in this project youngsters from other countries. We plan to become a big family and to fight against the poverty, social exclusion and discrimination. We want to be like an octopus which will extend its tentacles in the whole Europe. We want to work in a volunteer way to act against the poverty and its effects all the time, not only during the activities of the project. The activities of the project will represent in fact the presentation of the results of activities during a year time of fight against poverty, fight for environment as well as the establishment of a new battle plan for the next year. The exchange of experience would be benefic for all the parts, in order to find together possible solutions for the above mentioned problems.



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2. I BET THAT YOU ARE CURIOUS TO KNOW WHO WERE THE FIVE EUROPEAN PROMOTERS OF THE PROJECT 😊



„Let's make poverty history through art!” was a multilateral project which involved youngsters from five countries: Poland, Italy, Lithuania, Spain and Romania. The project will have as main themes the fighting against poverty and social exclusion, garbage art and environmental protection.

MUNICIPALITY OF NĂSĂUD - ROMANIA

We represent the municipality of Năsăud, a town in the north of Romania, situated in a very beautiful region. The region is famous all over the world because of the legend of Count Dracula. Another interesting tourist attraction would be the Rodna Mountains National Park, which is one of the two National Natural Reservations from Romania. We consider that the region has far more interesting things to promote than a legend and we want to make people from other countries to discover these things, and also to encourage our youngsters to promote the true values and traditions of the place, in the whole world.



The Town Hall of Năsăud is more and more concerned of involving youngsters in projects and activities that can contribute to their own development and to the development of our region. This is why we consider that Youth in Action is the proper opportunity to make them realize the importance of active involvement in community's life and also in European life in general.

The local administrative authorities are: The Local Council of Năsăud and The Town Hall of Năsăud. The mayor is the head of the local public administration, representing the town's relations with other public authorities, Romanian or foreign citizens or legal persons, being also the legal representative of the municipality.

As far as it concerns the Local Council of Năsăud, we can mention that we have 17 councilors who adopt the Local Council decisions. Within the town hall we have a department that deals with European projects and youth activities. As a public institution, we have developed a lot of European projects of main interest for our town, and we are very interested in promoting youth projects, because the youngsters of our town represent the future and they have to develop themselves, and such to be able to develop the region.

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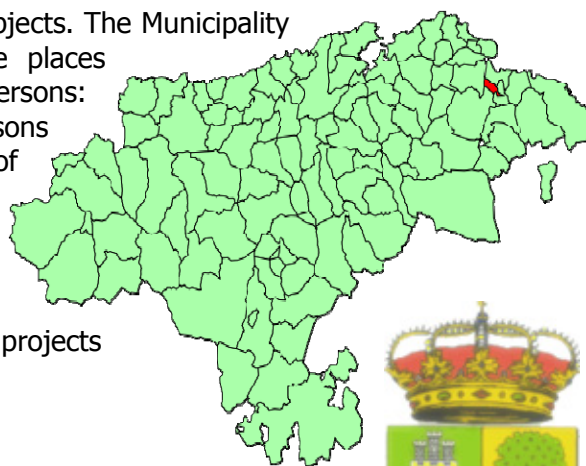
MUNICIPALITY OF COLINDRES – SPAIN

The municipality of Colindres is a public enterprise that works with a lot of different social subjects. The Municipality has a lot of different social places and in these places municipality works with a very wide range of persons: young people, old people, immigrants and other persons with inclusion problems. They have problems of inclusion in new technologies and also adaptation problems in a new country. This municipality works with more than 600 persons from other countries and with a total of 8000 citizens.

Every year that passes, the budget for social projects is growing very much for:

- Young people projects (cultural and sport)
- Education / Scholarship
- Projects for old people

Colindres is a town in the northern Spanish province and autonomous community of Cantabria. Located between the cities of Santander and Bilbao, Colindres has a population of approximately 8000. In Colindres, the Asón River



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flows into the Cantabrian Sea forming, the Santoña estuary which is the most important spa in the north of Spain, which is also known as the Santoña, Victoria and Joyel Marshes Natural Park, which Colindres is a part of. The town has the second fishing port in the region.

Its festivities during the summer are very popular in the region, and perhaps the most popular and the one which attracts the most people is the folk music festival SAUGA. Colindres' neighboring city, Laredo, has a long beach, La Salvé, with more than 5 km.



MUNICIPALITY OF MOSCUFO – ITALY

We represent the Municipality of Moscufo, a town in the center of Italy, in a wonderful region. Our region, Abruzzo, is the green heart of Europe, with three National Parks and one regional park. Moscufo is a small town with 3200 people, with green hills, situated near the sea and near the mountains, too.

In the local council we have 17 councilors, most of them very young and due to this fact we pay a lot of attention to young people, youngsters' projects, cultural activities, educational and cultural growth.



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We consider that through building a future for our youngsters represents the building of the future of our country.



MUNICIPALITY OF MLAWA – POLAND

Municipality of Mława is a local government unit and it acts on basis of national law. That is why its activities are also focused on development of young generations. The Center of Culture, one of the units of the municipality is the local center animator and through its activities there are a lot of possibilities to develop talents and interests of young people (dance, music, painting, theatre). The other unit of municipality is Center of Sport and Recreation which offers to youngsters the possibility of development of sport interests of young people.

All the time we are involved in support for youngsters with fewer opportunities. We try to involve this group also to our international projects implemented by town.



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During the last two years we implemented four projects in the frame of Youth in Action Programme (two projects in frame of action 1.1, one project in frame of action 1.3 and one project in frame of action 4.3)

Mława is a town in north-central Poland with 30,623 inhabitants (2004). It is the capital of Mława County. The town is situated in the Masovian Voivodeship (since 1999), but previously it was part of the Ciechanów Voivodeship (since 1975). Mława town is in twinning with Nasaud town since 2009.



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RASEINIU TOURISM AND INFORMATION CENTRE

This is an NGO which encourages development and promotion of the strategy for implementing the European programs, facilitates the launch and business development, and promotes entrepreneurship and small business from Raseiniu area and beyond.

We encourage start-ups through business advice and informing, the start of early-stage businesses, business development, and improvement of financial assistance schemes for small and medium enterprises.

There general objectives are:

- To attract domestic and foreign investment in the the local businesses.
- To provide tourist expeditions and informational services to individual entrepreneurs or companies according to their own needs.
- To promote the youth entrepreneurship education and to develop the youngsters' professional competences.

We are constantly in contact with the educational environment from our region in order to understand the youngsters' needs and to provide the best solution possible using also the help of European funds. Our traditional partner in the area is Ariogala Gymnasium and most of our projects include young people under the age of 29 years old. We encourage intercultural dialogue and the development of various educational skills, as well as the constant improvement of the English language knowledge.

Raseiniai is a city in Lithuania. It is located on the south eastern foothills of the Samogitians highland, 5 km north from the Kaunas–Klaipėda highway. Raseiniai is one of the oldest communities in Lithuania. During World War II, Raseiniai was virtually ruined – approximately 90% of the buildings were destroyed. One survivor of the war is the Church of the Ascension of the Holy Virgin Mary, which was built in 1782. The remains of the 17th–18th century monastery buildings also serve as a monument of Renaissance architecture.



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Tourists invariably pause at the "Samogitian" statue in the central town square. The sculpture serves as a symbol of the Samogitia ethnographical zone – a strong man resolutely stepping forward after having tamed a bear (an allusion to the 1831 Rebellion). On the sides of the base there are three bas-reliefs depicting the struggle with Tsarist oppression. The sculpture, which is the work of Vincas Grybas (1890–1941), was erected in Raseiniai in 1933–1934.



3. WHERE DID THE PROJECT TOOK PLACE? IN NĂSĂUD !!!

The activities of the project took place in Năsăud town and its surroundings for a total period of 10 days. **Năsăud** is a town in Bistrița-Năsăud County in Romania located in the historical region of Transylvania, a small town surrounded by hills.

The name Năsăud is possibly derived from the Slavic *nas voda*, meaning "near the water". Another etymology is from *Nußdorf* (*Nussdorf*, "walnut tree village"), the Transylvanian Saxon name of the town during the Middle Ages.

History - The town is a former Habsburg border town known for its border regiments with good schools. Năsăud still has a few late 18th and early 19th century buildings left standing. Most remarkable in this regard are the local Greek Catholic Church and the former military headquarters of the Habsburg era military regiment, now a museum and the townhall is its midst. Năsăud was built on the place of old



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settlements, attested by the historical vestiges discovered on its area. The archeological traces show the habitation of this area since the end of Neolithic. It had been under the Roman possession until 1245 when it was mentioned in documents under the name of Naszod. Starting with the XVIth century, Năsăud became a major center for the communes in Someș valley. Situated on the road that comes from Bistrița and Maramures, the locality began to develop. In the XVIIth century, it was founded here the second Romanian border regiment. The major accomplishments of the rangers were the schools, which led to the development of a significant cultural and educational center in town.

Within the town there are preserved old buildings: The palace of the Town Hall, The monumental Orthodox Church, The National College "George Cosbuc", The Border Museum and other beautiful churches and museums.

The schools of Năsăud (George Cosbuc College, a teaching college, The Forest College and The Economic College and many other schools) have continued the good tradition of the old schools, cultivating the patriotic spirit and the respect for the old and historical values. Năsăud is recognized for the great number of the academicians who were born or made their studies in its schools.

Among cultural institutions we can encounter: The Cultural Company Virtus Romana Rediviva, The library of Nasaud, The House of the writer Liviu Rebreanu, The Museum of Nasaud "Svarda", The "George Cosbuc" College of Nasaud, a beautiful building and it was built in 1888 with the financing of the Regiment of the borders soldiers;

True folk traditions animate inhabitants of this area: The International Festival of folklore "Ispas with Nasaud"; The Great Festival of May organised by pupils; The International Festival "Zamfira's Wedding" The Peasant's Day; The Days of the Town Festival;

Popular traditional costumes and dances: The town is known as one of the richest folk areas in Romania. The Song and Dance Ensemble "Somesana", founded in 1963, started as a dance ensemble, gaining a well-deserved prestige and name as a folk ensemble through its activity and participation at national and international festivals.

The popular traditional male costume of this area is characterized by the beauty from the hat (with one range of peacock feathers). This element distinguishes the male costume from other costumes, and we can say that this is specific only for this area.

Economy: Năsăud has a well developed economy represented by economic agents from various fields. Stellwag Electroprod is one of them, which produces auto electronic sub-ensembles for the automobile industry; other important company with a production exclusively meant for export is Intex SA, a company of jersey fabric and satiny cotton. Another major company is Exmitiani that deals with transport. The economic uptown of the mid 2000's has translated into a livelier city life and infrastructure improvements. Most notable in this regard are the renovated old military headquarters (now a museum), better roads and more bar/restaurant options.

Tourist attractions from the region - In Nasaud you can visit: the local museum where you can see the Romanian traditional folk costumes, the old people in the region can still be seen wearing them on special occasions such as religious holidays; a double distillery (the 19th century type) that produces the traditional alcoholic drink called "tuica"; the former headquarters of the Austrian border regiment from the 17th century, during Maria Teresa's reign. **In Bistrita, 25 km away from Nasaud:** the old Sachsen town; the Reformed church built in the 16th century; the historical arcades around the church. **In Sângeorz-Bai, a resort 25 km away from Nasaud:** the natural mineral water springs. Their water are successfully used in treating digestive diseases; Comparative Art Museum. **In Tihuța, 80 km away from Năsăud** - it is the place where Bram Stoker based the setting for his novel Dracula. One of the main characters in the novel, the lawyer Jonathan Harker, was a guest of a hotel here named the Golden Crown. Here you can enjoy a lunch and an opportunity to try its specialty drink: blood-red liquor, an exclusive beverage of the Restaurant. The tour of the county would not be complete without a chance to stay a night at Hotel Castel Dracula. The Hotel and it's

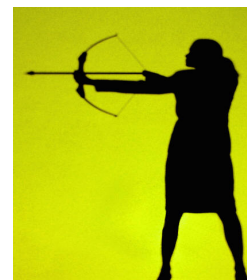
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inside court are impressive with their medieval architecture. Inside the hotel it contains an amusing Dracula Room. If you are traveling in a larger group we can arrange a Dracula Show with surprises, costume parade, photo session and visit of "Count Dracula" himself.

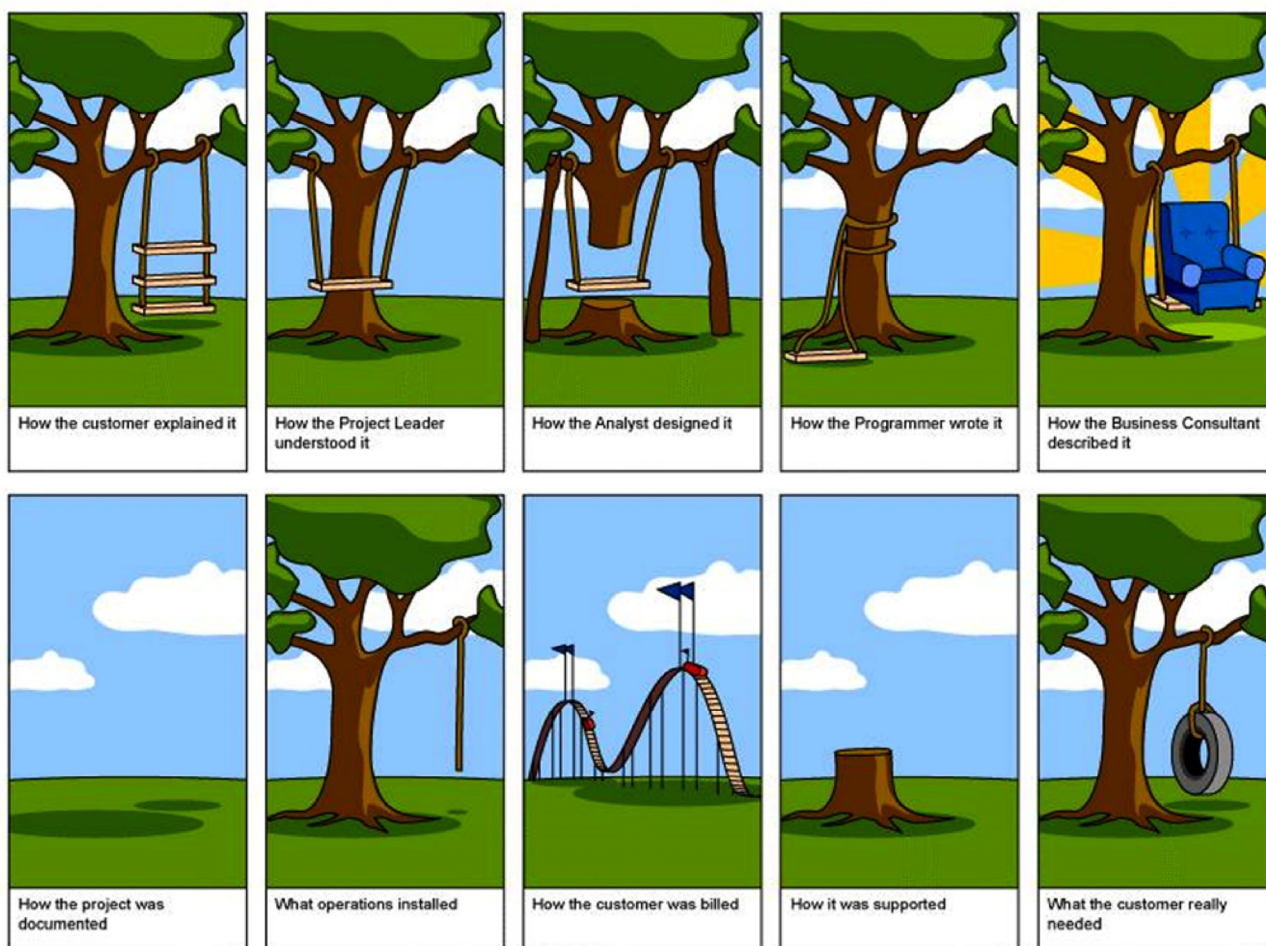


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***4. WE HAVE WELL DEFINED OBJECTIVES FOR THE PROJECT.
JUST LOOK!!! :D***



- Inclusion of youngsters with fewer opportunities.
- Promoting an active European citizenship among the youngsters;
- Sharing experiences, opinions, so that each participant can learn new information about the history, religion, traditions of the five promoters;
- Promoting cooperation in order to find solution for stopping social exclusion
- Involving the youngsters in indoor and outdoor activities, sport activities and ecological education;
- Learning through non formal and informal methods of education how fight against poverty.
- Promoting intercultural dialogue and European cooperation;
- Promoting the sense of voluntarism within youngsters;
- Developing solidarity and promoting tolerance among youngsters in order to consolidate social cohesion;



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5. AND... THESE WERE OUR ACTIVITIES TO FULFILL THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT:



In order to achieve the foreseen objectives of the project, the youngsters were involved in several activities:

- Workshops on various European themes: **"Let's know each other"**- knowing each other workshop, **"What means to be a good European citizen"**, **"Green day"** and **"Grow Green!"** – volunteer greening workshops, **"Garbage ain't rubbish!"**- transforming used objects in art objects workshop, **"Expose poverty's pain!"**- photo workshop, **"Sad but true!"** - story telling workshop, **"Sport up your life!"** , sport competitions in the middle of nature **"Let's make poverty history through art"**– art objects exposition workshop, etc
- Travelling with the bus of joy - visit of the main touristic attractions from Năsăud and around: Frontier Guard Museum from Nasaud, Turda Gorge, Turda's Salt Mine, Merry Cemetery of Sapanta, "Pain Memorial" Museum from Sighetu Marmatiei, etc
- Greening a part of the Somes river valley;
- Presenting the other participant towns through power-point presentations of the five promoters;
- Ice-breaking games, socializing games and energizers;
- Flash mob –"Let's make poverty history through art!"
- Composing the anthem of the project "For people, for life"
- Intercultural evenings: Italian, Polish, Romanian, Spanish and Lithuanian;
- Inclusion of poor youngsters in the activities of the project;
- Marching through the town to fight against poverty;
- Issuing **Youthpass Certificates** at the end of the activities of the project, certificates that validate non-formal and informal learning.

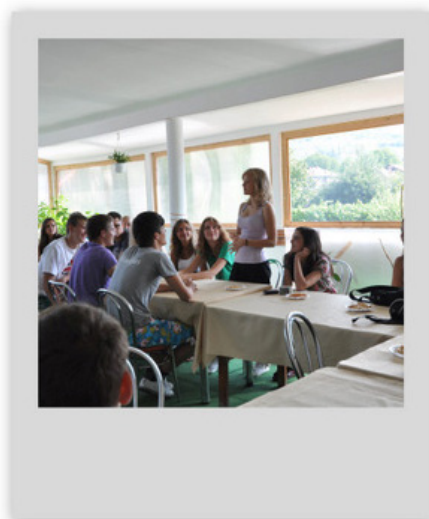
5.1 Workshops on various European themes:

"Let's know each other"

After the welcoming speech of the hosting organization, each participant had the opportunity to tell few words about themselves (name, age, occupation, hobbies and the motivation of taking part in the project).



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"What it means to be a good European citizen"

We encouraged youngsters to become responsible citizens. We explained them within a workshop "What it means to be a good European citizen?" what does this mean, which are their responsibilities, how can they help the communities in which they are living. After the theory on how to be good European citizens, we put the theory into practice. We encouraged them to be active and participative in each workshop of the project, to involve themselves in an active way in each activity, to treat with seriousness and responsibility each action.



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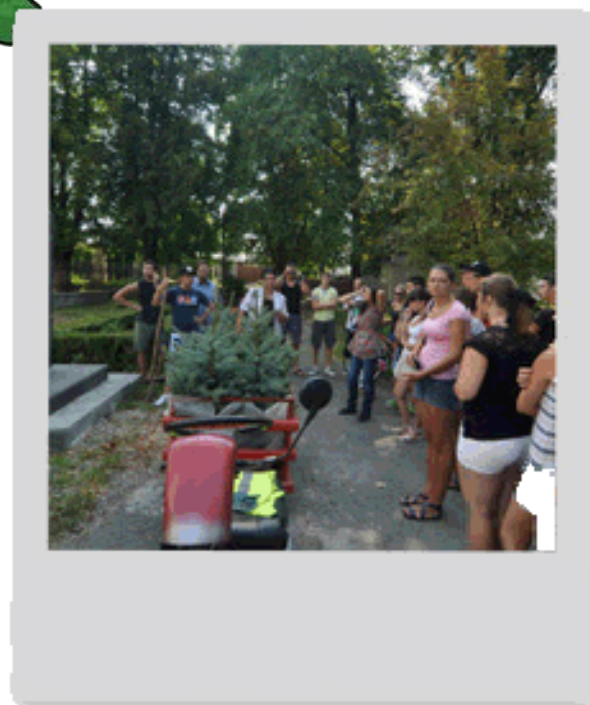
"Green day"

Within this workshop all the participants were involved in a volunteer activity of collecting the garbage from an area of the Somes river valley. All of them, equipped with gloves, garbage bags and a lot of energy, greened the area.



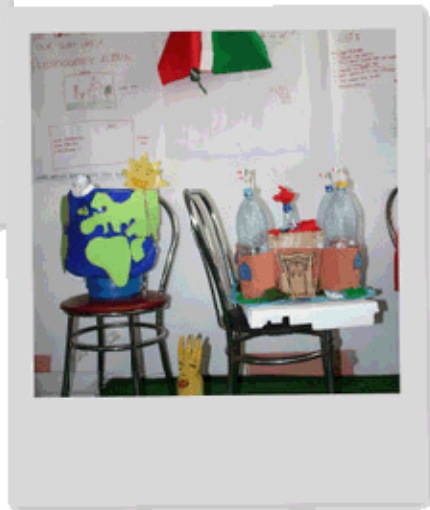
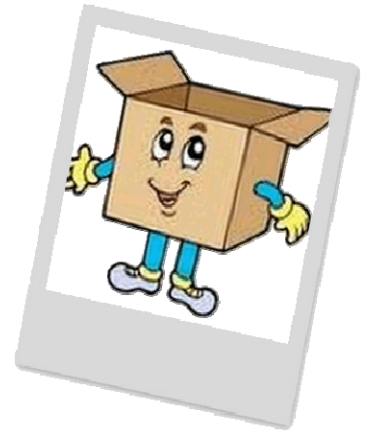
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"Grow Green" was another workshop of volunteering within the youngsters planted five trees of friendship in a park situated in the center of the town of Nasaud. Each promoter planted a tree as a symbol of friendship between the five promoters of this project.



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"Garbage ain't rubbish!"- Youngsters collected the garbage from the banks of the river which crosses our town. After collection they put apart a part of the garbage collected, things that they considered that it will be useful for making art object. They used their creativity and transformed the garbage into art objects and then they exposed them in the town's square to be seen by everyone. This way we cleaned the banks of the Someş River and we also used youngsters' creativity. We invited for the actions of this day also a few poor youngsters from the host town. They spent the day with the project team. This way they listened to their stories and found out what are their dreams and hopes.



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"Expose poverty's pain!" We made also a photo workshop. We visited the places where poor people of Nasaud are living in order to show all the Europe how some people can live. The aim of this activity was to sensibilise decisional factors to take attitude, not to remain ignorant in front of such images. We also visited the abandoned children house. We presented an exhibition with all the taken photos. We selected with the poor youngsters from the community the photos for exhibition. We worked together with them and involved them in some activities of the project. A lot of children are dying every day due to the consequences of poverty. In every part of world, many people are faced to violence and violation of human rights. That's why we wanted to emphasize the real face of poverty.



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Sad but true!"- We visited the abandoned children house. We listened to their stories, we were open, put aside our preconceptions, willing to listen, sincere and close (without being intrusive). We respected them and their situation (ensured that they do not feel used or controlled). They were able to express whatever they wish. We had discussions about poverty, about children as victims of abuse and maltreatment, and how are they seen as delinquents, sources of insecure.

Life stories – "Sad but true"

Anne's story

We have met a young girl with an impressive story. She will soon turn 15 years old and she has been staying at the Social Center since last September. Because her parents argued all the time her mother left to Italy, and found work near Rome. So, she decided it was better for her to stay in the center because her father didn't want her and her mother couldn't take her away because of the current laws and the judge's decision. Her father is a really violent man. This determined her sister to run away. Her opinion is that, compared to her native home, the center is a very peaceful place.

She is in her first year of highschool. When we have asked her what are her future plans, she said she would like to finish her studies and then go to Italy. Her opinion is that it is easier for her to adopt to the life there, because for her would be no language barrier. After she will finish her studies, she would like to go to her mother in Italy because by then, she will be legal age.

In the center she is like a big sister for two other younger brothers, a boy and a girl, who are in the center because their natural mother has some psychological problems and she abused them. The Social Center tries to make them feel like they were at home, in a real family.

John's story

The boy we have talked to is 17 years old. His mother died when he was 5 years old, so he can't even remember her. He has got three sisters and one more brother. All his siblings are all older than he is. Sometimes, his sister and brother who live in abroad (in England and Ireland) come in Nasaud and support him (mostly with money). This child lives in the Social Center. He doesn't know his father at all, so that's why he also doesn't have grandparents from his father's side. The child only knows his mother's parents. He visits some times his grandmother, who lives in a nearby village.

At the moment he's studying at high school, where he is a second year student. He is studying to become a tailor. Unfortunately, he doesn't want to choose the profession which he's studying for. He wants to become a cook. For this reason he is taking practice in preparatory school for cooks. He is practicing in a local restaurant. He likes cooking a lot and he would like to have a job in a very high class restaurant. His dream is to go to England, where his sister lives. She is working there with her godfather, who has got a restaurant. He would like to work there also. The boy earns some money from cooking. I have to emphasize that he has many friends, even if he spends a lot of time working in the kitchen. On his leisure time, he likes to have some fun or to go fishing.

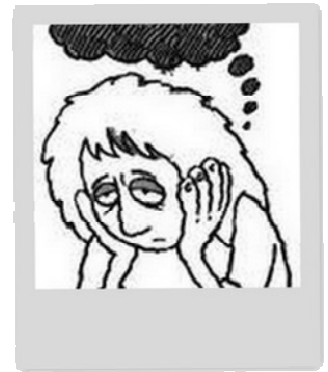
Mary's story

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We have met one of the girls that live there. She is 17 years old. She has got 3 brothers and one of them lives in the same center with her. She has been living in social centers ever since she was 4 years old. When she was 4 years old, her parents divorced. She lived with her mother during first month, but since her mother could not support her, she had to go to a social center. She changed the center four times and when she turns 19 years old, she will have to go away. She has a boyfriend. In the future she wants to have children and live a normal life. She does not know what she is going to do in the future but she wants study, in order to obtain a degree from the university. She goes to a normal high school; her classmates don't ignore her, because of her background. Her mother comes to visit her from time to time, they but she misses her old friends and the rest of her family. All of them live in another town, which is situated 400 km away.

Joanna's story

During our project activities, we were invited to visit a Social Center in Năsăud. This experience was very interesting from on side, but very sad from the other one. This Center gives care for children with fewer opportunities and children who lack the care of their parents. We had possibility to talk with a 9 years old girl who stays in this center, ever since she has remembered. She doesn't know her parents or any members of her family. Now she feels very lonely, because her brother, who stayed in the Center with her, as well as other of her friends, were adopted. However she keeps up her hope, so she tries to find new opportunities, hobbies and passions. She likes to dance and to cook. She also likes the English language and studies it very hard. This meeting was very important for us. It was a huge lesson how to keep up hope and be strong towards the difficult life experiences.



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"Sport up your life" - We have foreseen several days of outdoor activities on the banks of the river, on the hills, in the forests, one of them being also sport competitions. We tried as far as it is possible to make the workshops in the nature. We wanted to make participants to rediscover the nature. We had sport competitions as volleyball and sportive dances. There were discussions about how important is the sport for our health and youngsters were advised to give up a sedentary life, to give up the endless hours of staying in front of computers using facebook, messenger, msn, and playing virtual games. A healthy way of living was promoted, they were advised to make several walks in nature, to make several outdoor activities, and to make different kind of sports.



Let's make poverty history through art!

"Let's make poverty history through art" – it was a workshop in which youngsters presented their work of 9 days. They exposed their art objects made of garbage, exposed their photos about poverty, distributed to all the citizens who were present in the place of exposition the brochures with the true life stories, key chains and pens.



"Travelling with the bus of joy" – Another attractive activity was the sight seeing in the region of Transilvania. We named this activity ***"The travels with the bus of joy"***, an activity which supposed to visit the most attractive tourist places from the region, such as: Frontier Guard Museum from Nasaud, Turda Gorge, Turda's Salt Mine, Cluj Napoca city, Merry Cemetery of Sapanta, "Pain Memorial" Museum from Sighetu Marmatiei, Sighetu Marmatiei City, etc. Through these visits we raised the awareness about Romanian culture, art, traditions. We wanted to promote Romanian values, culture, wonderful sceneries and wonderful people. It was a project with a great number of people, so I think that it was a good opportunity to show all of them who we really are.



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Power-point presentations of the five promoters

- Youngsters found out this way a lot of interesting things about the countries, regions, towns of the five promoters. It was a method of non-formal education through which youngsters raised their awareness of other cultures and widened their horizon.



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Ice-breaking, socializing and energizing games - As the youngsters didn't know each other at the beginning of the activities of the project we considered that it is necessary to involve them in some ice-breaking games. In the moments of too much work they also enjoyed energizer and communication games. In the first days of the activities of the project youngsters were also involved in socializing games which aimed in sharing experience, intercultural communication, socializing each other. These games had a positive impact upon youngsters, they became close to each other, friendly and all the borders (language, culture and lifestyle) were crossed. As far as it concerns the energizing games we decided to use them as a way of passing from an activity to other activity in order not to get bored and also for refreshment.



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Flash mob –"Let's make poverty history through art!"

youngsters of the project together with poor youngsters from the town, gathered all together in the center of Nasaud town for a flash mob. On the melody of Michael Jackson - They don't really care about us! They all danced in the street for a few minutes for the surprising of all the citizens who were in that area. Their goal was reach as everybody who was in the area found aut what was their goal within the project.



Composing the anthem of the project "For people, for life"

youngsters of the project compound the melody and stanzas of the anthem of the project „For people for life“ They song this song during the parade through the town and also during the photo and art objects exhibition. It was another method through which their message passed to all the citizens of the town.



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For people , for life

**Complain and complain,
My life is so bad
Remember that my world
Is poorer than yours,
Start think in this way
And stop to complain**

**Give love to all those
Who need your support,
Give hand which can help
Those who are so bead
Make sun in the life
Of those so alone**

**Give love to all those
Who lost their hope
Think about others
Better than yourself
And think once again
For what you complain**



Intercultural evenings : Polish, Italian, Lithuanian, Spanish and Romanian-

Through these intercultural evenings youngsters were brought into contact with other cultures and other realities; they learned a lot of new things from each other, from other's experience of life. It is a way in which they discovered differences and similarities between the cultures involved. Each country has its own culture, history, tradition and legends. The project supposed to promote these characteristics of each country involved in the project. For increasing young people's positive awareness of other culture, we have put among the activities of the project the intercultural evenings. The promoters from each country involved in the project had the opportunity to present their town and their country. They prepared dances, songs, played musical instruments, displayed Power Point presentations (with information such as: geographical position, population, climate, history, traditions, cultural manifestations and so on), films (Why is or what for is my country well known).

These young people returned home from their experiences abroad with a keen understanding of other cultures and an awareness of how to find common ground across differences. We made them aware that experiencing different cultures, interacting with people from other countries, listening to different opinions is one of the joys of being alive.



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Marching through the town to fight against poverty –

another method of making their voice heard was the parade through the town of Nasaud. All the youngsters of the project, other youngsters, leaders paraded through the town. Each promoter carried the flag of their country and of their town. A part of participants were carrying the art object, others were carrying musical instruments. During the parade youngsters were singing the anthem of the project „ For people for life“.



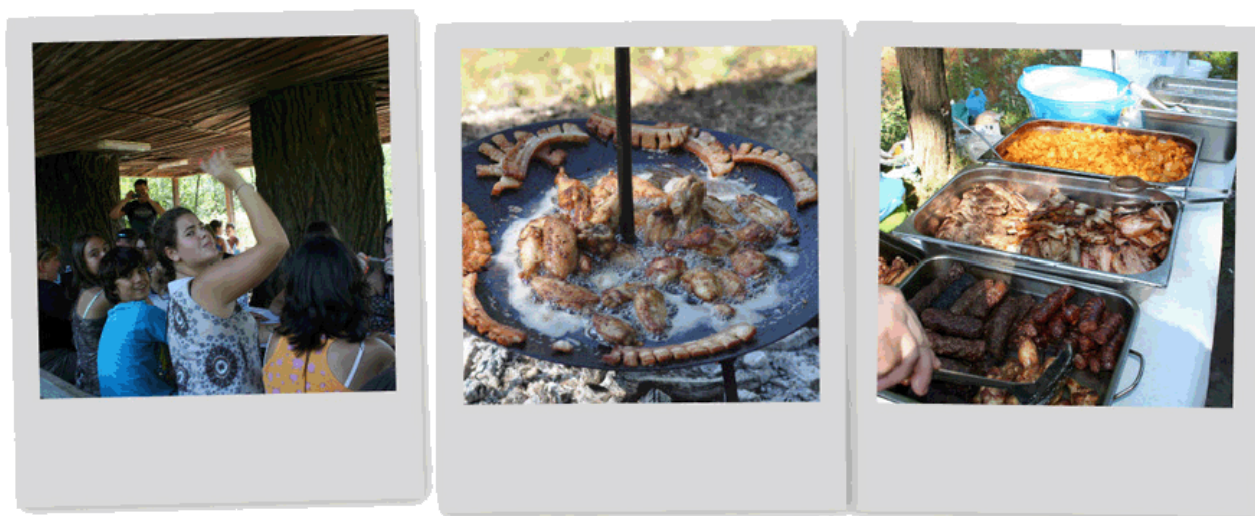
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Masked party evening – after so much work, youngsters had to party. One evening, youngsters wore funny costumes and had fun in one of the clubs of Nasaud. It was a very funny evening of singing and dancing.



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BARBEQUE IN NATURE – Through this project we wanted to promote as much as possible the outdoor activities. It was one of the objectives of our project, to determine youngsters to forget about technology, evolution. We wanted to take them back in time to a healthy way of life.



ISSUING YOUTHPASS CERTIFICATES AT THE END OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PROJECT.

At the end of the activities of the project, all the youngsters received Youth Pass Certificate after a short presentation of what a Youth Certificate means, what is it and what is not a Youth Pass.



"Youthpass is the instrument of validation and recognition for the Youth in Action Programme. Through the Youthpass Certificate, the European Commission ensures that the learning experience gained through the Youth in Action Programme is recognised as an educational experience and a period of non-formal learning".

Youth in Action Programme Guide

Youthpass is part of the European Commission's strategy to foster the recognition of non-formal learning. As a tool to visualize and to validate learning outcomes gained in "Youth in Action" projects, it puts policy into practice and practice into policy.

Creating their Youthpass Certificate together with a support person, participants of "Youth in Action" projects have the possibility to describe what they have done in their project and which competences

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they have acquired. Thus, Youthpass supports the reflection upon the personal non-formal learning process.

- ✚ Documenting the added value of a "Youth in Action" project, Youthpass visualizes and supports active European citizenship of young people and youth workers.
- ✚ Being a Europe-wide validation instrument for non-formal learning in the youth field, Youthpass contributes to strengthening the social recognition of youth work.
- ✚ Making visible and validating key competences through a certificate, Youthpass finally aims at supporting the employability of young people and youth workers

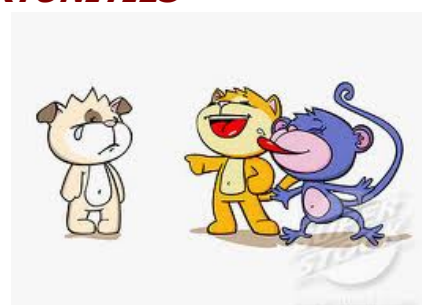
Source: <http://www.youthpass.eu/en/youthpass/guide/>



INCLUSION OF YOUNGSTERS WITH FEWER OPPORTUNITIES

The idea of this project was from the beginning one dedicated to the youngsters with fewer opportunities and to involve a lot of poor youngsters from the community of Năsăud. We have involved orphan youngsters, whose parents are both dead and they are living with some of their relatives, youngsters from families with only one parent or divorced families, where the financial situation is very bad. They are youngsters who fortunately have a shelter and the daily bread, but nothing more.

Because of the lack of money they can not afford to buy books, to travel, to have internet access, to be informed, to learn with the help of the new technology. As the year 2010 represented the European year of combating poverty we thought that it was a good opportunity to involve in our project such youngsters, to make their voice heard. We invited youngsters from the social complex of protecting



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children. They were invited to take part to some activities of the project. We tried to integrate them in the project team, to involve them in all the activities and even to stay for lunch with the rest of the group. They were able to meet a lot of new people, to learn, to achieve new competences and to improve the existing ones. They were all treated as equals and had the same rights in the project. As a total we have involved 18 youngsters with fewer opportunities: three from each group. Practically half of the youngsters were with fewer opportunities



DISEMINATION - For the dissemination and exploitation of the results of the project, we planned to make standard dissemination materials and additional dissemination materials. We created promotional materials such as T-shirts, caps, calendars, brochures, key chains, backbags all personalised with the project's marks. All the promotional materials contain the marks of the project: the logo of the programme "Youth in Action" and the title of our project: "Let's make poverty history through art". As it is well known, the promotion is the soul of being known. We promoted our project as many times as possible because we want to involve more and more people in the action of fighting against poverty .

For each visit received in the town hall by other organisations from foreign countries, or important people from our country we prepare for them a presentation map which usually contains informational materials, flyers about The Town Hall of Năsăud and about its projects. We attached in these maps also standard promotional materials, such as pens, flyers, calendars, brochures for the promotion of the program, of our institution and also of the results of our project. As a result of our dissemination all the people from the six towns involved in the project, interested in European projects and especially in youth in action projects will be able to find out how our project was created, how it has been implemented and which its results were. They will find out what does a youth exchange mean. All the promotional materials will be used in different kind of cultural activities and manifestations. Through these measures we will show to all the people who will read them how important is for the young generation to take part to international projects, to learn by non formal methods in a multicultural atmosphere. As additional dissemination materials we made a DVD which will contain recordings with the activities of the project, the site of the project, banner, commercial spot, photo exposition,

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RESULTS OF THE PROJECT:

As a result of our dissemination all the people from the two towns involved in the project, interested in European projects and especially in youth in action projects, were able to find out how our project was created, how it was implemented and its results. They found out what did a **youth exchange** mean. All the promotional materials were used in different kind of environmental activities and workshops. By this method we promoted our organizations (hosting and sending) and also promoted the Youth in Action Programme at local, regional, national and international level.



All the participants promoted as many time as it was possible the tangible and intangible results of our project. They made other people to understand how important is for the young generation to take part to international projects, to learn by non formal methods in a multicultural atmosphere.

As far as it concerns the results of the project we can say that the project had tangible and intangible results. **As tangible results** we can mention:

- Multimedia DVD with images of the activity;
- Good practice guide.
- A common web page [www. poverty - through - art. ro](http://www.poverty-through-art.ro) with a forum of the project;
- Commercial spot of the project;
- Photo exposition in each local community of the promoters;
- Good practice guides;
- Brochures;
- Calendars;
- Personalized T-shirts;
- Personalized pencils;
- Personalized caps;
- Personalized key-chains

All these informational materials were distributed first to the youngsters who participated in the project and then in schools, NGO-s, and other institutions from the towns. We had a good collaboration with mass-media, the best way of informing citizens from the two towns. We gave several press releases concerning the activities of the project and its results. People were informed and other youngsters were encouraged to participate in youth projects. Seeing the results of the project other institutions will be encouraged to make youth projects which have a great positive impact upon youngsters' cultural and ecological development.

As **intangible results** we can say that youngsters have greatly improved their English language skills, enlarged their horizon, raised their awareness of other cultures and learned how to become good European citizens. They shared each others experiences, made long lasting friendships and decided to make a follow-up of the project.

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FOLLOW-UP

There will be a follow up of this project, because at the end of the activities of the project all youngsters and leaders gathered together and had a final discussion. All of them were able to vote for the country who will host the next project, excepting Poland and Romania. The result of the voting was that the follow up of the project will be in Colindres, Spain. The promoter of Spain declared that he will write the next follow up of this project.



PROGRAMME "YOUTH IN ACTION" 22 -31 AUGUST 2011

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