



Youthpass



Original language:
English

Country:
Slovene

Source:
MOVIT

Link: <https://www.youthpass.eu/>

(access date: 22/02/2017)

Target group
 Teacher / trainer
 Counsellor
 Social worker
 Youth worker
 future employer
 other:

Type of best practice
x tool
 initiative/campaign
 project
 website only
 programme
 model
 training
 learning material
 other:

Experiences
x available for more than 5 years
 available for less than 5 years
 pilot phase / testing
 in development
 unknown

Summary:

Youthpass is a recognition tool for non-formal and informal learning. It is a tripartite certificates and can be issued in several languages. It is available for projects funded by Erasmus+: Youth in Action (2014-2020) and Youth in Action (2007-2013) programmes. It is a part of the European Commission's strategy to foster the recognition of non-formal learning. Youthpass supports the reflection upon the individual non-formal learning process and outcomes and also aims at supporting the employability of young people and of youth workers by raising their awareness of and helping to describe their competences, and by documenting their acquisition of key competences on a certificate.

European Commission
Ministry of Culture and Youth
Youth in Action Programme

Youthpass

for **European Voluntary Service**

Mátyás Dina
born on 14/11/1986 in Budapest, Hungary

participated as a volunteer in the project
Climate Change on UN-i.org
in the host organisation **Deutsche Gesellschaft für die Vereinten Nationen.**

The activity took place from 01/09/2010 to 31/08/2011 in Berlin, Germany.

European Voluntary Service

Within the European Youth in Action Programme, European Voluntary Service offers young people an opportunity of taking part in a non-profit-making, unpaid activity for the benefit of the general public in a country other than their country of residence. Through European Voluntary Service, young people contribute to social cohesion and solidarity and considerably enhance their personal, professional, and intercultural skills and competences. Essential elements of European Voluntary Service are preparation and follow-up activities in the country of residence as well as ongoing pedagogical, personal, and task-related support like training activities in the host country. European Voluntary Service is carried out in partnership between a young volunteer, an organisation in the country of residence, and an organisation in the host country. It lasts up to 12 months. Offering the added value of a European dimension, European Voluntary Service is quality-checked regarding content criteria and implementation.

Beata Węgrner
Representative of the organisation

The ID of the certificate is: V4U-18622-6174-0334. If you want to verify the ID, please go to the web site of Youthpass: <http://www.youthpass.eu/qualitycontrol/>

Youthpass is a Europe-wide validation system for non-formal learning within the EU Youth in Action Programme. For further information, please have a look at <http://www.youthpass.eu>.

European Commission
Youth in Action Programme

such as professional telescopes and other tracking equipment. This experience helped Petra to learn more about scientific methods and researches as well as technologies used by astronomers.

Digital competence

Petra developed her computer skills by working with Microsoft Office programs (Word, Excel, PowerPoint) and by using Internet on a daily basis for communication, information exchange and finding relevant data. In order to promote the project and present her work, Petra often used digital photo camera, projector and printer.

Learning to learn

Throughout the project implementation, Petra was confronted with new challenges: communicating in English, using advanced functions of computer programmes, creating a publications for a wider public, presenting of project to local community, putting in action each of the project activities, planning, dealing with budgets, communication with the media, writing press releases to the media. These were tasks for which she had to discover new knowledge - also on her own, so with the help of her team. Petra also gained a lot of new knowledge within the main topic of the project - importance of informal education and importance and responsibility of involving youth in community life.

Social and civic competences

Petra experienced how to work best in team, she participated in decision making and she learned how to deal with conflicts. Through interaction with other young people she experienced how to develop, fellowship and tolerance. During the project implementation she also learned to identify community problems and propose the solutions. This experience has helped her to increase self-confidence and to participate more actively in the life of her community.

Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship

Taking part in implementation of all project activities, particularly in following: creating a project slogan, project logo, leaflets and brochures allowed Petra to boost her creativity and innovativeness. Petra also gained basic knowledge and developed practical skills in Project Cycle Management which gives her ability to develop project ideas in future and turn them into action.

Cultural awareness and expression

By taking part in a 3-day educational workshop in the observatory "Star village Masov", Petra had opportunity to interact with young people from other parts of Croatia, and also to meet people from other countries.

Description:

Youthpass has originally been developed in the context of the EU Youth in Action programme (2006-2013). In December 2013, Erasmus+ was established as the Union's programme for education, training, youth and sport, for the years 2014-2020. The political context of Youthpass includes the following documents:

- In 2012 the Council recommendation on the validation of non-formal and informal learning suggests that the Union transparency tools (such as Youthpass) *should be promoted in the process of establishing national systems for validation of non-formal and informal learning outcomes*;
- in 2015, the Council conclusions on enhancing cross-sectorial policy cooperation to effectively address socio-economic challenges facing young people *invite the EU Member States and the European Commission to explore the possibilities of mainstreaming the Youthpass certificate outside the Erasmus+ programme and using it as a national tool for recognition*.

The Youthpass certificate structure is divided into three sections:

1. The first page confirms the participation in a given project and lists the main facts about the project. It also provides background information about the general context and value of the activity. It has to be signed by a legal representative of the organisation.
2. The second section informs about the project in more detail. The organisations in charge are mentioned, the aims, activities, and results of the project described. This part of the certificate has to be signed by the person responsible for the project.
3. In the third section participants reflect upon their learning and the outcomes. They are encouraged to describe what they have learnt in the course of the project, adhering to the eight key competences for lifelong learning¹. If applicable, a dialogue partner is also invited to sign the third section. There is neither a limitation to how much the participants are allowed to write nor do they have to include every single competence.

There exist four of Youthpass certificates for different activity types:

- Youth Exchanges
- European Voluntary Service
- Mobility of Youth Worker
- Youth in Policy Dialogue (Structured Dialogue meetings)

As a Europe-wide recognition instrument for non-formal learning in the youth field, Youthpass strengthens the **social recognition of youth work**. Youthpass supports also **active European citizenship** of young people and of youth workers by describing the added value of their project.

Contributing partner: INTEGRA