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PROJECT SUMMARY

The COVID-19 global health emergency and its economic and social impacts have disrupted nearly all aspects of life for all groups in society. People of different ages, however, are experiencing its effects in different ways. For young people, and especially for vulnerable youth, COVID-19 crisis the poses considerable risks in the fields of employment, education. mental health and disposable income. New normal has qot it's place everywhere. Today's communities has to deal with social challenges more than ever. Council of Europe ΕU Commission defining and Covid's serious negative effects on youth sector and holding ongoing studies and it shown that various social problems such as violence, conflicts, alcohol and drug usage, depression obesity, anxiety and attempting suicide slightly increasing among young people in this regard.





SHORT VIDEOS EMPOWERING RESILLIENCE

Participants have created short videos during the training course and shared it across social media.



"Building Resilience In Post-Covid Youth Work" is a training course aims to equipe youth workers with resilience, to explore and practice new tools in stress management through meditation, connecting with nature, mindfulness, analyzing stress factors and realizing the effects of them in their bodies and minds, enhancing their creativity, empathy and decision making skills; so they better understand and practice this tools for increasing the quality of their youth work after Coronavirus impact. The project fills a gap of common needs of partner organisations to equip their youth workers with modern resilience techniques as an alternative and powerful educational solution in post-covid youth work for recovery. During the mobility, participants have designed a Toolbox and digital outcomes responding the need of youth workers to be mindful, stronger towards Pandemi and crises.

We held indoor body movement workshop with our participants during the "Building Resilience In Post Covid Youth Work" Erasmus+ training mobility event. Thanks to our trainer Paul Vrenken, yoga specialist, our participants explored stress management, resilience, meditation, mindfulness, self compassion and emotional intelligence.

The local activities have been analyzed as good practice: <u>https://www.facebook.com/kinderyogabordspel</u>





INSTA PAGE TO RAISE AWARENESS TO MENTAL ILLNESSES

- PSYCHO-EDUCATION
- ONLINE
 WORKSHOPS
- BOOKS
- WORKBOOKS









Poperinge: Neighbours come together every evening at 20:00 during a whole year to clap for the healthcare workers

It created a 'family' bond between them over time!







Identification of the problem

>In-person communication

Impact for the community

- > One of the basic needs of human is to create engagement.
- Addressing all the social, economic, sychological, linguistic etc needs that occurred during the pandemic and even further.
- The community have been caught to the pandemic and quarantines unprepared, which led lack of physical activation, anxiety, depression, obesity.

Short action plan for sustainability

Mobile app: Meeting-19

3 meaning:1) Covid-19 2) Always at 19:00 after work 3) 19 persons for each meeting.

Categorizes: a. Movies b. Music c. Language d. Cuisine e. Sport f. Craft h. Workshops: children etc.



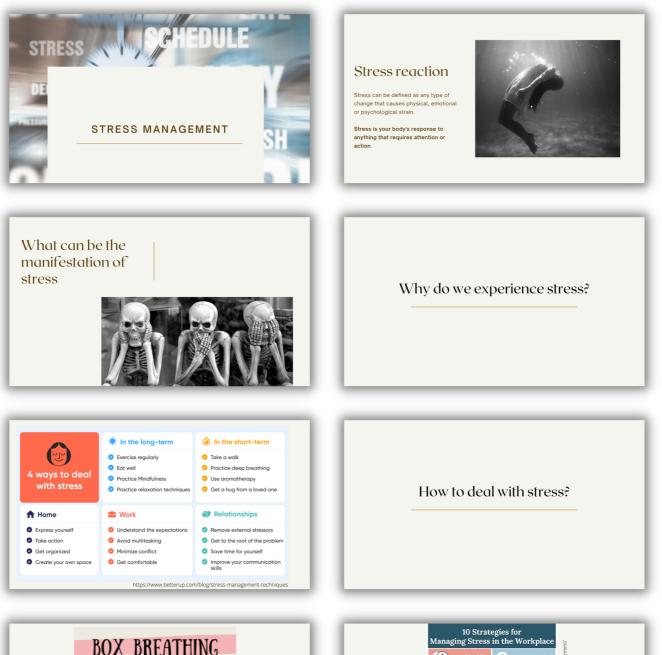
"Youth Eurasia campus" is social initiative, designed by "Eurasia Youth Development Association" to provide L2L experience for members in the beginning of lockdown in pandemic.

https://youtheurasia.org/campus

More than 25 online activity (training, language session, workshop, instrument learning etc) took place by volunteer trainers and experts.

459 people have involved into online activities.









STRESS MANAGEMENT

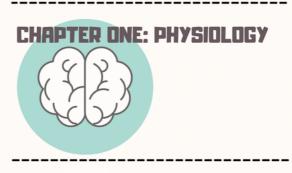


FOR STUDENTS

DON'T STRESS, BE STRASS

> Csenge Domán Roza Sara Somlai Katka Motyčková Daryna Shamrai

Doroteja Blagus





Stress is an inevitable part of our life. We all experience it but our reactions are different. When something stressful happens our nervous system has the ability to balance us out.

Not every body works the same and there are individual differences. Some systems need more time, more support and connection with others, and some systems need something to shake them up, to increase energy, to make a move, to stand up for themselves

It's hard to manage stress. Good news is that we can learn to understand our primary stress response, learn to recognize it and change it to a more functional response.

SO WHAT'S ACTUALLY HAPPENING IN OUR BODIES WHEN WE'RE EXPERIENCING STRESS?



The autonomic nervous system has two modes that it runs on. It is like driving where there are two modes: a gas pedal and a brake pedal. Both are important for getting where you want to go! However, if the driver does not use them in the correct way, at the correct times, things can go really badly.

The gas pedal would be the sympathetic nervous system, which is the instinctual response to fight or run in response to danger. It is a super-charged up form of energy that courses through the body's nerves to the muscles in order to kick somebody away, to yell for help, or to run as fast as possible.



The brake would be the parasympathetic nervous system, which are the instincts to relax, settle in, connect, eat, and sleep



When the gas pedal is activated people might go into an active defense, mobilizing their energies for fight or flight, their breathing gets fast, they might break into a sweat, their muscles tense, and they are revved up. This would be the temper tantrum, the rage, the violence, the property destruction, and the extreme emotions with anxiety and hypervigilance.

Going under the lower threshold into the brake area would look like someone shutting down emotionally and physically. They disconnect with themselves, their body and others, communication becomes minimal, and their bodies may become limp. They may even seem to go to another place in their mind. This is where depression, apathy, fatigue, pain, poor digestion, and many addictions may come from.

Light sensitivity to the eyes is another sensation mediated by the nervous system. Pay attention to which lights you have on, and how they feel on your eyes. For many people, they are not aware that the lights they use are actually bothering their eyes! This will drain your nervous system energy over time, having to manage this subconsciously while you work on your computer!

Are there places in your body that feel tense? Is there a place in your body where you feel more relaxed? Is there a place within your body that feels more dense, spacious, or expansive?

Environmental cues are another thing that is mediated by the nervous system. As you look around the room, what is something that catches your eye? As it catches your eye, is it calming or does it not feel right?



Proprioception is another sensation mediated by the nervous system. Proprioception is just the word for feeling the weight of something pressing into your body. If you push your fingers into your arm, you will feel the weight of that pressure. As you sit or stand, you can start to focus on where you feel the pressure. Is it in your hips as you sit in your chair? Do you feel more weight in your legs and feet as they rest on the floor?



Then, **notice your breath and your heartbeat.** Take a deep breath in and see if you feel like you can breathe deeply or if it feels heavy or restricted. Is your heart beating fast, does it feel revved up, or is it calm and relaxed?

All these sensations are ones that are mediated by the nervous system and can be used to measure and track the nervous system in the moment. From moment to moment, these sensations actually change, but we usually have our focus on other things, and only notice it if it begins to affect what we are doing.

How can we recognize Our response?

Think about your first impulse when you find yourself in a situation that's upsetting you. Is your impulse to fight (scream, have extreme emotions, do something, show rage), flight (get away from the situation, disconnect), freeze (can't have any kind of reaction, feeling stuck), fit in (try to make yourself blend with others, do or say what others are expecting of you) or fawn (make yourself invisible, stay low so other don't even notice you)?

Keep track of your nervous system!

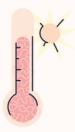
Sometimes you can feel your impulse very strongly, but sometimes this impulse is very subtle. But you can learn how to recognize it anytime.

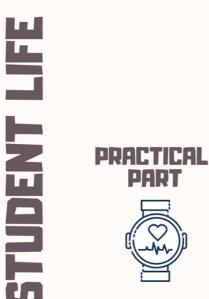




At the moment, **tracking the nervous system involves paying close attention to the sensations** and movements with which the nervous system prompts our body. Let's identify which sensations you are looking for that are mediated by the nervous system, because all of these will be direct ways to measure and track the nervous system.

Temperature is one sensation mediated by the nervous system. Although tracking one's temperature is vital in this exercise, it is more important to try to focus on your body and see if there is one place that feels warmer and another place that feels cooler?







It is hard to make time for everything. Nowadays we have endless options to kill our time with. It doesn't feel like it, but we have 100% control over our time.



Write a list of your daily activities. Which activities are the ones that energize you and which ones take energy from you? Are they in balance? What can you do to improve the ratio?





Tip: Take advantage of the new opportunities but be intentional with your time and energy. If there is something you used to like, but it doesn't serve you anymore, be honest to yourself and let it go.

CHAPTER TWO: WHAT ARE THE STRESSORS AND HOW TO DEAL WITH THEM?

Starting your studies comes with a lot of new challenges. You strive to get good grades, you want to find a new friend group and you might even get a part time job. Suddenly you need to prove yourself in all these new areas!



EXTERNAL EXPECTATIONS

why is it a stressor? Ah sweet student life! Time to figure out what you want with your life, learn to take care of yourself, and you keep getting asked about your dating life at Sunday family lunch. You have so many external expectations that can get into your head. Take a break from the grind and reflect on your motivations!





Now to deal with external expectations? No matter what the most important motivation is for you, keep it in mind when making decisions Know what your values are and let them guid

myself professionally

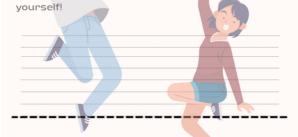




Making new friends can be hard especially when moving to a new city or finding yourself in a completely new environment. University is a great place to make long lasting connections and memories.

What will you do to step out of your comfort zone and get new friends? Make a list! Try to challenge

ACTIVITY



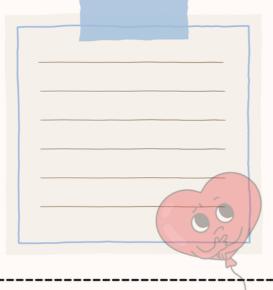
- 1. **Introduce yourself and pay attery on to names** - you'll be surprised how many people appreciate it when you remember their name right away!
- 2. Ask questions prepare a set of questions beforehand for the moments when nothing else comes to your mind.
- Listen actively don't only ask the questions but pay attention to what others have to say.
- 4. Compliment find something that you like about the other person and compliment them, but be honest about it.
- 5. Offer your help or ask for help when you need it.
- 6. **Check your body language** try to have a natural position that you feel confident in.
- 7. First impressions are not everything things didn't go well? Don't worry, you'll have Reptor other options to impress someone.



why is it a stressor? Traumatic events like natural disasters, human-made disasters, and accidents are out of our control but still affect us. You open your phone and all you see is what's wrong in the world? You just wish you didn't know because it stresses you out? You are not alone!



Think about a stressful situation that you experienced. What was the situation? How did it make you feel? What were you able to control during this situation? What were you unable to control?



Tip: Talk to your family and friends about what bothers you. Focus on what you can control in your life. If the flow of information gets too much, take a digital detox.



WHY IS IT A STRESSOR?

Moving out from the family house is bittersweet. No doubt, it means more freedom, but it also means giving up comfort. It's time to take care of ourselves, and living alone or in a dorm can make us feel lonely and isolated. Moving stress can make you want to avoid people and feel easily overwhelmed.

Tip: The primary task of early adulthood is to establish identity and intimacy. Personal relationships are just as important as purpose - they are both pillars of our mental well-being. Don't neglect your personal relationships and spend quality time with your friends and family.

ACTIVITY

Try to keep a positive mindset!

What are the advantages of moving out?
 Brainstorm ideas to foster your relationships.





Adjusting to a new situation - like starting your studies is challenging. The rules and requirements are different and you don't even know where to start. We've all been there.



Make a list of all your classes and their requirements. Keep track of it all throughout the semester. You can find samples for this online but over time you'll find the tool that fits you the most.





Tip: Find someone who has experience. Talk to others, and don't be afraid to ask for help. Be present. Practice self-care, having a routine (morning or evening) can help you make sense of the mess. Pick up a new sport and stick to it.

Good Luck and Enjoy the Ride!

Resources:

https://www.traumahealingaccelerated.com/pete r-levine-and-healing-trauma-with-somaticexperiencing/

Walking the tiger: Healing trauma, Peter Levine, 1997

Polyvagal Safety: Attachment, Communication, Self-Regulation, Stephen W. Porges, 2011







Dear Youth Workers,

Here you can find many tips that can help you in your daily professional life when working with people, especially now that they got severely affected by the whole covid situation. It is important to tackle stress-related issues of young people and prevent them from developing serious mental problems. This can be done by providing the necessary physical and mental activities which will create selfawareness and a strong bond between each other.

Background: Within 9 days, 25 people of 6 different countries worked together to learn about resilience and this toolkit is one of the outcomes. Enjoy it!

What is resilience?

Resilience is what gives people the emotional strength to cope with trauma, adversity, and hardship. Resilient people utilize their resources, strengths, and skills to overcome challenges and work through setbacks.

People who lack resilience are more likely to feel overwhelmed or helpless and rely on unhealthy coping strategies (such as avoidance, isolation, and self-medication).

People with resilience, coping capabilities, and emotional intelligence are more likely to have better overall well-being than those with lower resilience, and better life satisfaction.

Community resilience refers to the ability of groups of people to respond to and recover from adverse situations, such as natural disasters, acts of violence, economic hardship, and other challenges to the group as a whole.

Developing resilience is both complex and personal. It involves a combination of inner strengths and outer resources, and there isn't a universal formula for becoming more resilient.

Outcomes

Resilience can help protect you from various mental health conditions, such as depression and anxiety. Resilience can also help offset factors that increase the risk of mental health conditions, such as being bullied or previous trauma. If you have an existing mental health condition, being resilient can improve your coping ability.

Coping with stress in a positive way is known as resilience, and it has many health benefits. It's associated with longevity, lower rates of depression, and greater satisfaction with life. "There's a sense of control, and it helps people feel more positive in general," Malloy says.

INTRODUCTION MOVEMENT



Problem definition

During the lockdowns, people were forced to remain at home, which resulted in fewer space to move and express themselves and, in many cases, a lack of physical activity and healthy connection with the natural environment. Also, generally, office and home lifestyles result in little movement and cause health problems to young people on the short and long term, such as obesity, diabetes, boredom and depression. Also, the social aspect is widely affected by the constant use of electronic devices.

Solution



It is generally known and scientifically accepted that exercise and sports are important for the body and mind. Healthy people are needed to create impact in our societies. Sports also contribute to more strongly bonded and inclusive communities, as various people come together with a common personal and group goal.

The basics about exercise:

It Helps You Get Fit Physically

It Improves Your Mood

It Improves Your Sleeping Habits It Improves Concentration

It Reduces Stress and Depression It Boosts Self Confidence

Application in youth work



By working with young people, you can actually help our societies overcome the negative impacts of lockdowns and insufficient body movement.

Tips:

Do Erasmus+ projects that include sports and/or outdoor training. On the official EU sites you can find guidelines how to write a proper project. Nature is a stimulating factor to keep the group dynamic high.

Make sure there are sufficient energizers during the day, both indoors and outdoors. Otherwise the general mood will remain low after some time.

As mentioned in other sections, do also yoga with the participants. It helps the body and spirit for balance.

Underline the importance of also disseminating the knowledge in the personal and professional circle of the youth workers after the mobilities. Keep spreading the message!

INTRODUCTION STRESS MANAGEMENT

Raise up and challenge yourself

To grow and develop to a resilient person, you need strategies to cope with in-the-moment pressure and long-term pressure.

These strategies can be different from person to person. So it is important to be self-aware.



Sometimes you have to recognize, when pressure is causing a problem to not only address the issue, but to apply your coping strategies in time.

For the personal growth it is important to have confidence in your abilities.

A resilient person makes connections to other people and takes a positive outlook on things.

Minimizing Stress by Body Awareness



It is important to be aware of your body, pain points, breathing, heart rate etc.

Meditation is a tool to become more aware of your body. Being aware of the 7 chakras, controlled breathing, heart rate (especially in stressful situations) and your posture can give you self confidence and create an inner balance in your body.



Focus on your breathing

Breathing techniques can calm you down, relax your body, and help you to be more mindful. It is a powerful tool to ease stress and make you feel less anxious.

Some simple breathing exercises can make a big difference if you make them part of your regular routine, so here is an example:

Stress management in youth work



Erasmus+ offers a wide range of opportunities for developing projects with young people that can tackle the issues mentioned above. Yoga, mindfulness, breath techniques, relaxation, peace of mind, meditation and connection with nature can easily be implemented as daily activities in youth exchanges and training courses. Even if the overall topic of the project is different, these techniques can be used in parallel.

Relationship Spectrum

Building and sustaining relationships are at the heart of organizing communities. The strength of community lies in the strength of the connections that we have with each other. With strong connections, people have the power to make real change. Building these connections takes time, but it is worth it.

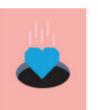
Relationships are often the source of our greatest joys and greatest challenges. Understanding relationships is no simple task. People are so unique and complex that there is no easy formula.

Central to almost every culture is the idea that we should treat our neighbors the way we would like to be treated. If you keep that in mind, you will most likely succeed in building relationships that you can depend on.

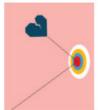


Betraval

When someone is disloyal or acts in an intentionally dishonest way.

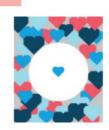


Sabotage When someone purposely ruins your reputation, achievements, or success.



Deflecting Responsibility

When someone repeatedly makes excuses for their unhealthy behavior.



Isolation

When someone keeps you away from friends, family, or other people.



Volatility

When someone has a really strong, unpredictable reaction that makes you feel scared, confused or intimidated.



When someone makes you feel responsible for their actions or makes you feel like it's your job to keep them happy.



Belittling

When someone does and says things to make you feel bad about yourself.



Manipulation When someone tries to control your decisions, actions or emotions.



Possessiveness When someone is jealous to a point where they try to control who you spend time with and what you do.



Intensity When someone expresses very extreme feelings and over-the top behavior that feels overwhelming.

10 Signs of Unhealthy Relationship

While everyone does unhealthy things sometimes, we can all learn to love better by recognizing unhealthy signs and shifting to healthy behaviors. If you are seeing unhealthy signs in your relationship, it's important to not ignore them and understand they can escalate to abuse. If you think you are in a dangerous situation, trust your gut and get help.



Fun You enjoy spending time together and bring out the best in each other.



Healthy Conflict

Openly and respectfully discussing issues and confronting disagreements non-judgmentally.



Taking Responsibility Owning your own actions and words.



Kindness You are caring and empathetic to one another, and provide comfort and support.



Equality The relationship feels balanced and everyone puts

the same effort into the

success of the relationship.



Respect You value one another's beliefs and opinions, and love one another for who you are as a person.



Independence You have space to be yourself outside of the relationship.



Honesty You can be truthful and candid without fearing how the other person will respond.



Trust Confidence that your partner won't do anything to hurt you or ruin the relationship.



Comfortable Pace The relationship moves at a speed that feels enjoyable for each person.

10 Signs of Unhealthy Relationship



Check in with people when you need to. This may take only a few minutes a week, but those few minutes can make the difference in helping your students or co-worker remember the importance of the work you are doing together.



People need to communicate. It's a good idea to set aside some time just to talk about the way things are going. When people don't have a chance to talk about important issues, misunderstandings can occur and tensions often build up. Communication is a discipline that has to be practiced regularly



Everyone needs to be appreciated in order to keep relationships going. If you notice that someone did a stellar job of collecting the necessary data for the committee, say so. If you enjoy working with someone, let them know. We are all human beings and appreciation helps us thrive.



We all need a buddy to help us stretch ourselves beyond what we think we can do. We can also build stronger relationships by challenging our work partners to take on bigger challenges.



Go a little out of your way, at least once in a while. If your coworker needs to spend some extra time with their children, you might tell them to go home early and you'll finish up the Erasmus+ grant proposal.



Loyalty is essential to keeping relationships healthy. We may not agree with a co-worker or friend, but we can stand by him or her when they are in a jam.

How to deal with relationship conflicts?





This is not always easy. Each person should take time some time to listen without interrupting, while the other person talks.



Hang in there when things get hard

You take can some breathing room, but try not to give up on the relationship altogether. When things the are toughest, there are important lessons to be learned. It's best keep to а relationship that invested you've your time and caring into?



Put yourself in the other person's shoes

Everyone in а conflict has distinctly different views of а situation. In the thick of a fight, people are usually convinced thev are absolutely right. Try to see the other why person sees things the way they do.



Don't give up your principles

Don't sacrifice what you believe in just to make a relationship work. If you give up on your principles, you won't be effective and the relationship won't work anyway.



Look at what is true about what the other person is saying

See if you can correct the situation. If you need to apologize, go ahead. It may feel horrible, but an apology can often help а relationship get back on the right track.



Continue to appreciate and respect each other

Even though it may be difficult, focus on the positive aspects of the relationship. If you model appreciation, the other person will often follow.



Speak from your heart

As you try to unravel the difficulty, keep focused on what you and the other person care about most: the goals of the project, each other, the community, etc.



You can act independently to improve any relationship

Even if the other person or group of people is acting rotten, you can act in a way that is positive, respectful, constructive, and thoughtful. This may surprise people, and they may follow your

lead.



Non-Formal Activities

Through participation in youth work, young people develop their ability to make friends and understand what healthy positive relationships look like with adults and their peers. This core skill applies to digital, online relationships as well as offline relationships.

Youth work gives young people the space and opportunity to meet other young people outwith their usual social circle, helping them improve their ability to build and maintain relationships.

Young people are able to develop meaningful and supportive relationships with their youth workers. These relationships are based on trust and respect and model what healthy, consent-based relationships look like in practice.



Method / Workshop 1

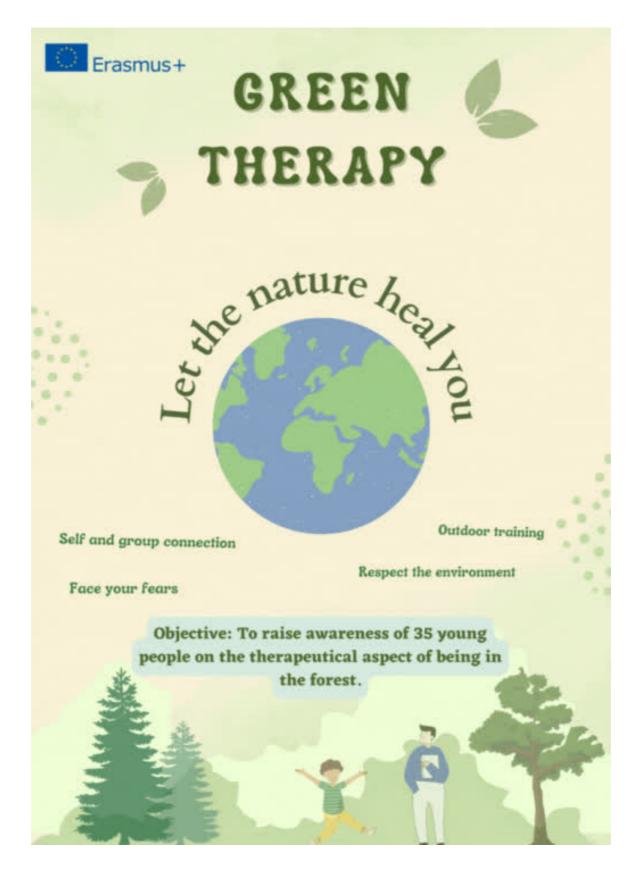
- Theme
- Overview
- Objectives



Method / Workshop 2

- Diffucutly level
- Group size
- Time needed
- Material
- Preparation
- Instructions
- Debriefing / Evaluation questions
- Tips for the Youth Workers
- Variations
- Follow up / Ideas for actions

FUTURE WORKSHOP



FUTURE Workshop















ABOUT YOUTHPASS

WHAT IS YOUTHPASS?

 European recognition instrument for identifying and documenting learning outcomes that are acquired in projects under the Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps programmes

- certificate
- non formal education

 Youthpass certificates are issued by the organisation that has signed the contract for the Erasmus+ grant

GOALS

promoting individual reflection and awareness about learning

 helping to make learning outcomes visible for the participants themselves as well for others

reinforcing reflective practices in youth work and solidarity activities

WHO CAN USE YOUTHPASS?

• Youthpass is connected with all kind of projects and activities within the Erasmus+: Youth in Action and European Solidarity Corps programmes, participants must meet the conditions needed for these kind of projects

STATISTICS

• Approximately 80% of participants agreed that Youthpass helps to communicate the importance of non-formal learning and increases the usefulness of the project for participants.

• Between 70% and 80% of participants planned to use Youthpass when applying for a job. More than 40% of respondents saw the potential of using Youthpass when applying for higher education or setting up a business.







