

YOUTH IN ACTION Programme 2007-2013

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Overview

Period: 2007-2013

Objectives

- Promoting young people's active citizenship in general and their European citizenship in particular
- Developing solidarity and promoting tolerance among young people
- Fostering mutual understanding between young people in different countries
- Helping to develop the quality of support systems for youth activities and the capabilities of civil society organisations in the youth field
- Promoting European cooperation in the youth field.

Priorities

- European Citizenship
- Participation of young people
- Cultural Diversity
- Inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities.

Structure

- Action 1 – Youth for Europe
- Action 2 – European Voluntary Service
- Action 3 – Youth in the World
- Action 4 – Youth Support Systems
- Action 5 – Support for European cooperation in the youth field

Participation

- **Programme Countries (under all Actions of the programme)**

27 EU Member States

EFTA countries members of the EEA: Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway

Candidate country for accession to the EU: Turkey

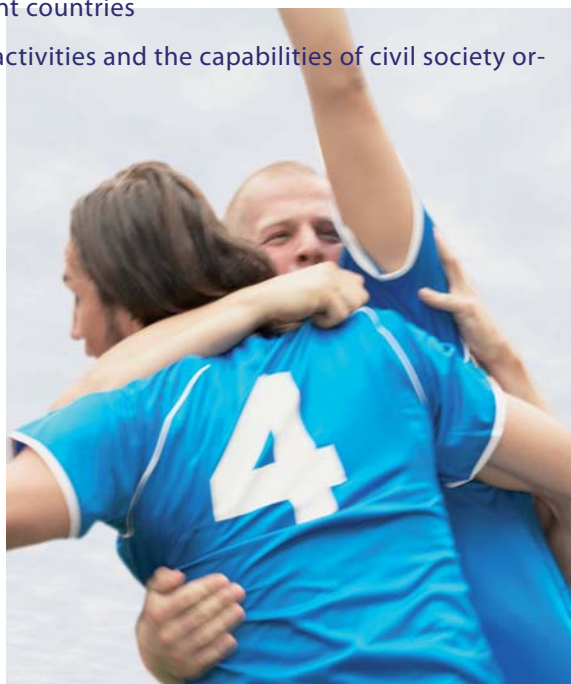
- **Neighbouring Partner Countries (under Actions 2 and 3.1)**

South-East Europe: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia.

Eastern Europe and Caucasus: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine.

Mediterranean Partner Countries: Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Syria, Tunisia.

- **Other Partner Countries in the World (under Actions 2 and 3.2)**



Youth

Through each action...

The actions described only concern those which are implemented at centralised level by the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency. To see what actions are implemented by the European Commission and by the National Agencies, please consult the Programme Guide.

ACTION 1 — YOUTH FOR EUROPE

Action 1 aims to increase the mobility of young people by supporting Youth Exchanges and to develop their citizenship and mutual understanding by supporting Youth initiatives, projects and activities concerning their participation in democratic life. Action 1 supports the following measures: Youth Exchanges, Youth Initiatives and Youth Democracy Projects. At centralised level, you can apply for the following actions:

Action 1.1 — Youth Exchanges

A Youth Exchange allows one or more groups of young people to host or to be hosted by a group from another country and to participate together in a joint programme of activities. Youth Exchanges are aimed at groups of young people aged between 13 and 25.

Participation:

Partners: from at least 2 different Programme countries, of which at least one is an EU Member State

Participants: between 16 and 60 young people

Duration:

Exchange duration: between 6 and 21 days

Project duration: up to 15 months

Action 1.3 — Youth Democracy Projects

A Youth Democracy Project aims to increase the active participation of young people in the life of their local, regional or national community or at international level by supporting their participation in the mechanisms of representative democracy. Action 1.3 is open to young people aged between 13 and 30.

Participation:

Partners: from at least 2 different Programme countries, with at least 2 different partners in each country

Participants: a minimum of 16 young people

Duration:

Project duration: between 3 and 18 months

Multi-measure financial agreement

A beneficiary organising several Action 1 projects over a period of 18 months can present a single project proposal combining between 2 and 5 activities under similar or different sub-actions.

Action 1.4 — Pilot projects on thematic networking: call for proposals

The call for proposals for thematic networking of Action 1 projects will allow projects to be linked thematically in order to give them a structure, to pool experience in a specific thematic field, to increase the links between the sub-actions and to disseminate the project results. This call is implemented at centralised level only.

ACTION 2 — EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE

European Voluntary Service (EVS) supports transnational voluntary service of young people, both within and outside the European Union. The activity takes place in a country other than a volunteer's country of residence. It is unpaid, non-profit-making and full-time for a given period. It benefits the community. EVS is open to all young people between the ages of 18 and 30, regardless of their background or whether they are legally resident in a Programme Country or in a Partner Country.

Participation:

Partners: one or more volunteers; one or more sending organisations; one or more host organisations; one coordinating and applicant organisation (which can be one of the sending/host organisations but has to be legally established in a Programme country or in a country of South-East Europe). At least one Member State must be involved.

Participants: between 1 and 100 volunteers

Duration:

EVS duration: between 2 and 12 months (Inclusion and group EVS activities: a minimum of 2 weeks is allowed if justified)

Project duration: up to 24 months

- Any organisation in a Programme country or in South-East Europe wishing to send or host EVS volunteers or coordinate an EVS project must be accredited. See the Programme Guide for further information.
- Young people with fewer opportunities are allowed to do a shorter EVS, with a minimum duration of two weeks. If a competent accompaniment is provided, they can be aged between 16 and 30. Reinforced mentorship and exceptional costs are provided for by the funding rules for "Inclusion" activities.

ACTION 3 — YOUTH IN THE WORLD

Youth in the World's main aim is to promote exchanges and cooperation in the field of youth and non-formal education with other regions of the world. It supports projects involving young people and organisations from "Partner Countries".

Action 3.1 — Cooperation with Neighbouring Countries of the European Union (see the list on page 1)

This sub-action supports projects with Partner Countries that are considered neighbouring countries under the provisions of the European Neighbourhood Policy. Two types of activity can be supported under this action at centralised level:

- ✓ Youth Exchanges, based on the same pattern as the Youth Exchanges provided for under Action 1.1;
- ✓ Training and Networking projects, based on the same pattern as projects provided for under Action 4.3.

Action 3.2 — Cooperation with other Partner Countries in the world: annual call for proposals

This sub-action supports projects which promote cooperation between Programme Countries and all other countries in the world not neighbouring the European Union. Priority is given to projects involving countries in Latin America, Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific, and Asia. This call is implemented at centralised level only.

ACTION 4 — YOUTH SUPPORT SYSTEMS

Action 4 helps to develop the quality of support structures, to support the role of those active in youth work and youth organisations, to improve the quality of the Programme and to promote civil participation of young people at European level by supporting bodies active at European level in the field of youth.

Action 4.1 — Support for bodies active at European level in the field of youth: annual call for proposals

This sub-action offers financial support to cover operating costs. Eligible organisations are those which pursue a goal of general European interest. Their activities must contribute to young people's participation in public life and society, and help to develop and implement European cooperation activities in the field of youth in general. They should be based in one of the Programme Countries and have member branches in at least eight Programme Countries. This call is implemented at centralised level only.

Action 4.3 — Training and networking of those active in youth work and youth organisations

Cooperation and partnerships, training measures and exchange of good practice are the key terms for the development of youth organisations, civil society and those involved in youth work. The objective of Action 4.3 is twofold: promoting exchanges, cooperation and training in European youth work; and supporting the development of projects under the Youth in Action Programme. Various types of activity are supported: job shadowing, feasibility visits, evaluation meetings, study visits, partnership-building activities, seminars, training courses and networking.

Participation: depends on the type of activity (see details in the Programme Guide)

Duration: depends on the type of activity (see details in the Programme Guide)

Multi-measure financial agreement

A beneficiary organising several Action 4.3 projects over a period of 18 months can present a single project proposal combining between 2 and 5 activities under similar or different sub-actions.

Action 4.4 — Projects encouraging innovation and quality: call for proposals

This call is designed to encourage the introduction, implementation and promotion of innovative and qualitative features in non-formal education and youth work. Innovative aspects may relate to the content, the objectives or the methodology applied, bringing new ideas and approaches to the field of non-formal education and youth. This call is implemented at centralised level only.

Action 4.5 – Information activities for young people and those active in youth work and youth organisations: call for proposals

This sub-action supports information and communication, targeting young people by improving their access to relevant information and communication services in order to increase their participation in public life and facilitate the realisation of their potential as active, responsible citizens.

Action 4.6 – Partnerships: call for proposals

This sub-action is for the funding of partnerships with regional or local public bodies, in order to develop, over the long-term, projects which combine various measures of the Programme.

ACTION 5 — SUPPORT FOR EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN THE YOUTH FIELD

The aim of Action 5 is to promote European cooperation in the youth field by encouraging the exchange of good practices, cooperation and structured dialogue between administrations, policy-makers and young people at all levels. Specific sub-actions will improve the knowledge and understanding of youth and encourage cooperation with international organisations active in the field of youth.

Action 5.1 — Meeting of young people and those responsible for youth policy

This sub-action supports cooperation, seminars and structured dialogue between young people, youth workers and youth organisations and those responsible for youth policy. In particular, Youth seminars held at transnational level will include an exchange of ideas and good practices and debates organised by young people, youth workers and youth organisations. Youth seminars will reflect on important topics in the field of European youth policy and priority themes of the Youth in Action Programme. Young people participating in a Youth Seminar must be aged between 15 and 30. At centralised level, you can apply for the following type of activity: Transnational Youth Seminars.

Participation:

Partners: at least 5 Programme Countries

Participants: a minimum of 60 participants

Duration:

Seminar duration: between 1 and 6 days

Project duration: between 3 and 9 months

Don't forget to take a look at the general selection procedures and financial rules, the help available and other important features of the Youth in Action Programme in the Programme Guide.



Practical terms

The Programme Guide online

The Programme Guide has to be the first port of call for anyone interested in drawing up a project in this field. It helps everyone concerned with projects for young people in different countries to understand the Programme's objectives, and to identify what kind of projects can be recommended for funding. The Guide also sets out the steps for submitting applications, and lays down the criteria and funding rules for each kind of project. Reading the Guide is thus the first essential step before submitting requests for funding. Following that, project promoters should contact the Executive Agency (or their National Agency for projects selected at national level) in order to resolve any further issues.

You can find the Programme Guide on the Internet website:

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm

Who can apply to the Executive Agency?

Read the chapter *How to apply?* in each section dedicated to specific sub-actions.

General rules:

- European non-governmental organisations (ENGOS), which are based in one of the Programme Countries and have member branches in at least eight Programme Countries, must apply directly to the Executive Agency.
- Organisations legally established in South-East Europe are able to apply directly to the Executive Agency under Actions 2 (coordinating the activity) and 3.1 (hosting the activity).
- As far as calls for proposals 1.4, 3.2, 4.1, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6 are concerned, all eligible applicants must apply directly to the Executive Agency.

Specific rules under Action 2:

Applications must be sent to EACEA if:

1. the coordinating organisation is an accredited European Non-Governmental Organisation (ENGO), which is legally established in one of the Programme countries and has members/branches in at least eight Programme countries;
2. the coordinating organisation is an accredited organisation legally established in a SEE country;
3. the coordinating organisation is an intergovernmental organisation or a profit-making organising body of an event;
4. the project involves organisations or volunteers from "other Partner Countries of the world";
5. the project is linked to large-scale European or international events (for example: European Capital of Culture, European football Championship, World Cup, Olympic Games, a major natural or man-made disaster).

When to apply to the Executive Agency?

- Actions 1.1, 1.3, 2, 3.1, 4.3 and 5.1

Projects starting between	Application deadline
1 August and 31 December	1 February
1 December and 30 April	1 June
1 March and 31 July	1 September

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- Calls for proposals under Actions 1.4, 3.2, 4.1, 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6: to be published on EACEA's website.

Action 4.1: Support for bodies active at European level in the field of youth;

Action 1.4: Thematic networks;

Action 3.2: Cooperation with Other Partner Countries of the World;

Action 4.4: Projects encouraging innovation and quality;

Action 4.5: Information activities for young people and those active in youth work and youth organisations;

Action 4.6: Partnerships.

Where to find the application forms?

See the webpage: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/forms/index_en.htm

Funding rules?

Read the chapter *Overview of funding rules* in each section dedicated to specific sub-actions.

Useful links:

European Commission: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.html

National Agencies: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/contact_en.pdf

Your contacts:

Political aspects and global implementation of the Programme: European Commission

Directorate-General Education and Culture – Unit D.2 Youth

MADO 19/68

B- 1049 Brussels

Website: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.html

E-mail: EAC-youthinaction@ec.europa.eu

Tel.: +32 (0)2 292.14.23

Fax: +32 (0)2 295.76.33

Technical and operational aspects of the Programme (centralised projects): EACEA - YOUTH

Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency – Youth Unit

Postal address:

Avenue du Bourget, 1

BOUR 01/13

B- 1140 Brussels

Website: http://eacea.cec.eu.int/youth/index_en.htm

E-mail: youth@ec.europa.eu

Tel.: +32 (0)2 299.78.24

Fax: +32 (0)2 292.13.30

Decentralised implementation of the Programme: National Agencies:

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/contact_en.pdf

