

Appendix D



Administration Report of Malta UNESCO Youth Association

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Introduction

Another busy year for MUYA has passed, during which several significant projects have been implemented and completed on the local and many new collaborations built on the international level.

Throughout the years 2015/2016 MUYA focused more on strengthening the inner dynamics of the team opting for smaller projects that could be implemented on the local level whilst also participating in a multitude of different international projects.

On the local level, the most significant project was 'Through the Lens' photo exhibition and multi cultural event which culminated in November 2015. After the launch of the permanent exhibition of photographs by MUYA participant at the Qawra LEAP centre, a multicultural event with the participation of a good number of locals and foreigners, a small cultural event was held. Other activities which the community benefitted from was the organisation of free First Aider courses following funds received by Aġenzija Żgħażaġh for small scale projects.

During the past year MUYA was a partner organisation in various Erasmus+ projects implemented, sending its members to eight different events (including youth exchanges, training courses and seminars).

1. National projects and local activities

1.1 – Annual General Meeting

25th May 2015

Our annual AGM was held at the Kunsill Nazzjonali taz-Zghazagh offices in Floriana. During the AGM the Secretary General Dorianne Formosa gave an overview of the activities and projects which Malta UNESCO Youth Association participated throughout the year 2014 to the date of the AGM. Daniel Mifsud Bason gave an overview about the financial aspect of the association. Members who attended the AGM had to vote for 4 vacant posts within the committee. Following this election Daniela Frendo was elected as Secretary General, Fabio Scicluna was elected as Vice-president, Bernard Bonello was elected as Treasurer, Mariano Galea was re-elected as Committee Member and Rodianne Cassar and Simona Ricci were elected as Committee Members.

1.2 – ‘Through the Lens’ Workshop

3rd October 2015

‘Through the Lens’ Workshop was organised on Saturday 3rd October, inviting local and foreigner aspiring photographers and photojournalists to participate in a photo exhibition with the aim to explore cultural diversity and current human rights issues in Malta. For this project participants could work individually or in groups of maximum 3 participants to produce a series of photos on the theme of Cultural Diversity or Human Rights. To get participants into the theme of the project the ‘Through the Lens’ Workshop was organised inviting two speakers, Joanna Demarco freelance photojournalist working with Times of Malta, who gave a background about being a photojournalist and capturing the theme of cultural diversity and human rights and the second speaker, Kevin Cahsa, photographer by profession, who gave an insight about the various techniques of photography. By the end of this workshop, participants were given the necessary tools and direction to be able to take the photographs for Through the Lens.

1.3 – ‘Through the Lens’ Photo exhibition and Multicultural Event

14th November 2015

‘Through the Lens’ event culminated on Saturday 14th November 2015 with the best photographs submitted by participants presented in a permanent exhibition at Qawra LEAP Centre. The photographs were presented to the the general public and also to the Mayor of San Pawl il-Bahar, Graziella Galea and Parliamentary Secretariat for Research, Innovation, Youth and Sport Chris Agius during a multicultural event at Qawra LEAP Centre. Various nationalities and ethnic groups joined us for this event and set up a colourful display of music and food from their country. Participating nationalities included Colombia, Morocco, Ukraine, Russia and The Philippines. This project was made possible through the collaboration with Qawra LEAP Centre and through the application of funds of the BE ACTIVE Scheme by Aġenzija Żgħażaġh.

1.4 – Become a first aider with MUYA!

12th December 2015 and 19th December 2015

In October 2015, the Malta Council for the Voluntary Sector gave the opportunity for enrolled voluntary organisations to organise free First Aid Training under the initiative ‘Be Safe!’. MUYA was granted funds for this initiative and with the help of the Emergency Response and Rescue Corpse (ERRC Malta) by December 2015, 10 new first aiders were granted the basic first aid warrant. The training was split over two full day sessions and were organised in the University of Malta Common Room. Mr. Daniel Said a first aider from ERRC Malta, and also an old MUYA member actively delivered the training with the inclusion of practical examples such as mouth to mouth resuscitation, child rescue and also demonstrated how to apply head and arm bandages. Even though this was a small scale project for MUYA, it was one of the most successful ones in terms of involvement of MUYA members for this term.

1.5 – Christmas Get Together with MUYA

28th December 2015

For the Christmas festivities MUYA decided to set up a special private event for its closest members. On December 28th 2015 a reception was organised at il-Kastell Wine Bar in Tarxien and guests were invited from some food and drinks. During this event MUYA took the opportunity to launch its new website. Designed by Committee Member Mariano Galea the website is more easy to use, is simple to navigate and has updated information. Guests spent the evening mingling and talking about future projects. At the end of the event, guests were presented with a simple Christmas decoration as a souvenir in order to commemorate the event.

1.6 – MUYA 9th Birthday Drinks

15th February 2016

To celebrate MUYA’s 9th Birthday, a birthday party was organised at Ta’ Bajri Wine Bar for MUYA’s committee and closest and most active members. Invitees were invited for a relaxed night over some home-made wine to celebrate the birth of Malta UNESCO Youth Association.

1.7 – MUYA Picnic

28th February 2016

As a last activity before the Annual General Meeting, MUYA organised a Picnic in Ta' Qali. This Picnic was an entertaining and enjoyable social activity where members meet in an informal environment whilst having some snacks together, playing games and having some drinks. This has always been an important social event in the organisations annual event calendar.

2. Participation in the international projects abroad

2.1 – E+ Training Course: Theatre as a tool for social development

Organised by Centre for Capacity Building & Empowerment

Malmö, Sweden, 12th July – 21st July 2015

Maltese participants: Jessica Micallef, Kristine Zakska and Jamie Andres V. Alvarado

The project "Theatre as a tool for social development" was a 10 day training course that grouped 30 youth workers and youth leaders from 10 EU countries. This training course aimed to provide youth workers with competencies on how to use theatre and drama techniques in their everyday work as a means for youth inclusion. Throughout their participation in this training course Jessica, Kristine and Jamie learned that theatre and drama both have significant implications in inclusion and learning and explored ways of application to the educational system. Through the main themes of this project, the Maltese team learnt to cooperate with each other, approach knowledge via experiential learning, solve problems, take decisions, acquire empathy, and to recognize the needs of others.

2.2 – E+ Training Course: D.E.A.L. - Develop, Empower, Achieve, Learn

Organised by My Dreams Come True Association

Worcester, United Kingdom, 12th July – 19th July 2015

Maltese participants: Joanna Buttigieg and Yvanka Fiorini

Between the 12th – 19th July, Joanna and Yvanka participated in a 7 day training course that grouped 34 youth workers and youth leaders from 14 EU countries. Inspired by the "Study on the impact of Non-Formal Education in youth organizations on young people's employability" launched by the European Youth Forum in October 2012 (whilst also bearing in mind the increase in unemployment in Europe, recorded at 5.52 million unemployed youth in 2012) the project offered methods, tools and practices, that people involved in youth employability - as in the case of our Maltese delegation - can use so as to provide support in pursuing diverse career prospects. An encouraging attitude was put forward by organizers to drive participants to build on the experiences gained from the project and adapt them according to the demanded standards back in their countries. This project will be consolidated with a final seminar between the 11th – 17th July 2016!

2.3 – E+ Youth Exchange: MovieT

Organised by P.O.D ASSOCIATION

Puerto de la Cruz, Tenerife, 19th – 1st August 2015

Maltese participants: Thelma Bonello, Megan Saliba, Lynden Ellul, Steve Cini, Denis Muscat, Lara Grech, Karina Movsesyan

8 Maltese participants had the opportunity to participate in the Erasmus+ youth exchange project MovieT. 54 young people from Spain, Romania, Bulgaria, Malta, Greece, Italy, and Portugal met in Puerto de la Cruz for a total of 14 days. The project aimed at successfully involving this large group of people in sessions using non-formal educational techniques that have two main dimensions: sports and movie making. The activities enriched and developed the potentials of developing the participants' social abilities and competences, leading to the mitigation of the social disadvantage. This project offered the framework for the exchange of ideas, experiences and team work through outdoor activities, sports and the creation short movies about the use of sports as a method of social inclusion. Ms. Karina Movsesyan, one of the participants with Russian origins shared her experience in Tenerife on the July issue of the magazine for Russian community My Malta: "the program was full of sporty mini games, representation of countries through role play and culture nights. Most importantly we were told, and the basics of filmmaking from script writing, to planning, to shooting! The final task was to make a film that was pro sports for social inclusion in just 3-4 minutes. I was the operator and editor. It's a hard thing as it turned out to be a serious movie shoot! 9 of our teams shot 9 short films. They even put forward the "Oscar" (I received the "Award" as the best operator!). And although our film did not win, he stood out from the others with a serious promise, and I'm glad." She continued explaining about her adventures in Tenerife "I visited the tallest tree in Tenerife, the Teide volcano, hiked through a gorge and made new other friends – all in all I fell in love with this mountainous wooded island. And most importantly, gain invaluable experience in creating a movie, get acquainted with other cultures, listened to a foreign languages and practiced English.

2.4 – E+ Youth Exchange: European Fashion – Multicultural Exchange for Common Development

Organised by Jagiellonian Club Silesia

Ustrori, Poland, 10th August – 18th August 2015

Maltese participants: Glen Slattery, Sonia Alves, Natasha Zarb, Alicia Schembri, Marina Plotnikova, Ana Guerrero Alvarado

The project "European Fashion - Multicultural Exchange for Common Development" was a 9 day youth exchange that grouped 7 EU countries - Poland, Turkey, Bulgaria, Portugal, Hungary, Malta, Romania. The main aim of this youth exchange was to develop the creativity and entrepreneurship of young people through the mutual learning of cultures and exchange of experiences. In this project this was done through the investigation of the diversity and richness of history (including folk customs, architecture, fashion and social conventions) of the different countries in order to seek to answer contemporary challenges such as unemployment and lack of opportunities especially for young people. The Maltese delegation prepared traditional folk dances before the project commencement which were showcased during the development of the project. The project was hosted in two locations - Ustrori (6 days) and Katowice (3 days). Activities included long-term social actions, local campaigns on social networks, outdoor activities and the creation of a website related to culture and youth entrepreneurship. In this way, the project managed to create ways to promote youth activity, all in line with the Europe 2020 strategy.

2.5 – E+ Youth Exchange: Creativity UK 3 - 'Equality Through Creativity'

Organised by Love Live Generation

Essex, United Kingdom 10th August – 20th August 2015

Maltese participants: Chris Micallef, Sarah Buttigieg, Emily Vassallo Medici, Maria Galea, Martina Zammit, Jodie Attard

Throughout the years 2015 / 2016 this project was a special project because it was aimed at a younger age bracket than usual. Sarah, Emily, Maria, Martina and Jodie were aged 15 – 17 through the actualisation of this project. Led by Chris Micallef this project was full of meaning for the young Maltese participants. The project *per se* was the third edition of Creativity youth exchange funded by the British Council and Erasmus+ Programme. The project application was successful and bid an invite to 8 EU countries, grouping a total of 63 young people from all over Europe. The theme of this year's exchange was EQUALITY and this theme was examined by participants through various workshops in music, video & photography, fashion, dance, drama, and arts & crafts together with a variety of outdoor activities. The Maltese youngsters chose their area of interest and participated in the workshops organised by Mr. David Biggelstone and the rest of his team. Everyday during this youth exchange, some young people and leaders sat down together as a part of the 'Creativity News Team' to work on the daily journal used to keep a daily record of the youth exchange activities.

2.6 – E+ Youth Exchange: Creativity - TOGETHER

Organised by Kids in Action

Tsaf Tsouf, Greece, 10th – 28th August 2015

Maltese participants: Chantelle Said, Emma Mercieca, Brittany Busuttill, Francesca Piscopo, Chelsi Cefai, Nicolette Bajada, Emmanuel Scerri

The Youth Exchange "TOGETHER" was an 11 day project happening in the heart of Greece in the summer camp at Tsaf Tsouf. Its main scope was targeting the coexistence and interaction of people with or without disabilities, by actively participating in an organized educational, recreational and cultural programs. The project was intended at young people with or without disabilities to meet, exchange ideas, explore diversity and also to increase the empathy of the situation experienced by young people with disabilities and to share experiences and best practices on structures dealing with disability in EU countries. The program was a large scale project bringing together more than 100 young people from 10 different countries in Europe open call participants and also participants from "Beyond Borders" - a project implemented by Summer Camp Tsaf Tsouf, which accommodates people with disabilities and takes place every year in this summer camp. The Maltese delegation consisting of 6 participants had the unique opportunity to coexist and participate in joint activities with people with disabilities, gaining experience and developing skills not only related to empathy, awareness of disability issues, but also social, communicative and artistic skills.

2.7 – E+ Training Course: Gamification - Innovative Solutions for Social Issues

Organised by CET Platform PL

Krzyzowa, Poland, 13th – 20th October 2015

Maltese participants: Chris Micallef, Roderick Azzopardi Custo, Sebastian Garcia

In October 2015, Chris, Roderick and Sebastian participated in the Erasmus+ Training course „Gamification – Innovative Solutions for Social Issues”. This project, spread over 8 days, grouped 27 youth workers and youth leaders, designed to develop operational capacities of engaged organisations by learning innovative methods of youth social activation. The project explored gamification as a method of youth work, designed to engage youth in solving problems of their local communities. Social engagement of youth is expected to leverage youth position in their local communities, and thus prevent social and economic exclusion. Youth workers and youth leaders discussed ways of engaging youth for taking actions for their communities, exchange good practices and discuss possible boundaries of engaging young people in social actions. Participants were thought principles of gamification – social engagement using elements of game mechanics and also developed methods of using the knowledge and skills in youth work. During the project, Mr. Chris Micallef, one of the

participants gave his feedback about his experience saying that “the organisation is brilliant and the project is really enjoying it as we learnt loads of new stuff” and Mr. Sebastian Garcia commented that “the people are incredibly lovely and the organisation was really good”. The final result of this training course was the creation of the “Gamification Tool-box” which is a toolbox having the necessary tools to be able to support each community whilst serving as a multiplier of good practices in different social contexts in Europe.

2.8 – E+ Training Course: SPORT for Dialogue II

Organised by Foundation for Freedom

Warsaw, Poland, 19th – 24th October 2015

Maltese participants: Jodie Bonnici, Ayrton Bonnici, Karl Xuereb

“SPORT for Dialogue” was a 6-day training course involving the participation of 3 Maltese participants and 7 EU programme countries, Finland, Italy, Macedonia, Malta, Poland, Spain, Ukraine. It aimed at raising awareness on good practice in the field of social inclusion and intercultural dialogue through sport. Topics discussed during the seminar were connected with different aspects of human rights, diversity, inclusion, youth work, fair play etc. in local communities, especially in a school setting. To deepen the context and broaden publicity, the training course was be organized purposely in Football People Action Weeks 2015 period. The training was split into three overlapping parts: the first and the shortest part were led by trainers with the scope of creating a safe environment and a common ground of mutual understanding of the main topics of this project through the use of active methods and discussions of local challenges. In the next part of the training participants share their “best methods practice” and participated in study visits (in smaller groups) in local organisations involved in the topic of youth, intercultural dialogue, inclusion and fair play sport. This part also included working on specific case studies reflecting various youth social environments. In the last part participants will be invited to create new innovative methods to be used with their target groups. At the end, this provide participants with possibility to elaborate a concrete way of running youth work activities using the competences gained during the first two parts of the training and their own experience. At the end of this TC the “SPORT FOR DIALOGUE” booklet containing articles, interviews and project ideas created by all 21 participants was published. Malta UNESCO Youth Association will be distributing copies locally to interested organisation and affected local communities.

3. Other Meetings & Collaborations

3.1 – MUYA Team building Coaching Session

9th July 2015

The first focus of the year for the new committee was to build strong relationships between the committee itself. The training, led by Mr. Kristine Zaska focused on everybody knowing their own personal roles and also become familiar with everybody else's roles. Ms. Zaska also focussed on activity creation practical sessions in order to facilitate idea development. Inter-committee communication was also a main topic. Committee members were asked to share their most successful achievement to date, describe what they felt and what meaning it had for them. We were also asked to create MUYA's ideal logo. By the end of the day long coaching session, the committee was able to have a clear idea about what should be the main focus of the year to come – the result of which was to focus on the development of smaller but successful projects.

3.2 – Maltese lesson for International Students

3rd February 2016

Towards the end of this term, Malta UNESCO Youth Association teamed up with AEGEE-Valletta in the organisation of a Maltese lesson for international students and foreigners which were at the time residing in Malta. The lesson focused on giving a brief overview about simple but useful everyday Maltese phrases, to give an insight on Maltese culture and also to get to know each other. At the end of the event the participants were invited to have some typical Maltese food and drinks.