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BLOSSOM

**SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN THEIR LEARNING
PROCESS AND SOCIO-PROFESSIONAL JOURNEY**



DOMAINE DE MATENS 81 600 GAILLAC - OCCITANIE, FRANCE

MARCH, THE 13TH TO THE 20TH 2019

SUMMARY and REALIZED PROGRAM of the seminar

A Via Brachy's initiative in cooperation with



Association VIA BRACHY : Voyages Interculturels Solidarité Autoformation
3, Place des Avions - 31 400 Toulouse – France - www.viabrachy.org

SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

“The stone has no hope of being anything else than a stone, but when collaborating, it assembles and becomes a temple”.

Antoine de St Exupéry

Amids the tense economic and social context in Europe, notably revealed by high unemployment rates and job insecurity, it is becoming more and more important for (young) people to **learn how to learn** and to develop their **ability to take action within complex situations**.

Many academic studies demonstrate the high potential learning mobility projects have for people – and above all young people – to get empowered. They offer an opportunity for professional training, personal development and socialization. Those experiences enable a person to secure a wide set of skills, thus increasing their ability to **thrive in complex and changing environments** and to **get involved in society**.

In order to turn this potential into actual results, the people and organizations responsible for such educational projects (especially youth and social workers) **need to build up their skills in designing and implementing educational frameworks that matches the needs of their target groups**.

Thus, the “BLOSSOM” seminar offered to gather **30 youth workers, mentors and educators** from **7 EU countries** (France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Hungary and Slovakia) so they can share their experiences and exchange approaches, methods and tools to better **support young and vulnerable groups in the trainings and/or learning mobility projects** their organization sets up.

The seminar took place in **Gaillac**, South-West France, from **the 13th to the 20th March 2019** (included).

Participants first **discussed their specific situations** and **defined the key concepts** they addressed all along the seminar.

They got then an **introduction to three major tools and methods to efficiently support the beneficiaries of their action** - mobility and non-formal education projects - in their learning path and socio-professional journey. At this point, they received inputs and advices from professional trainers specialized in supporting people with non-formal educational methods.

The last chapter of the seminar consisted in a **practical workshop**: participants **worked in teams to design a methodology** to support Young People with fewer opportunities, as well as NEETS, migrants, disabled people or people from ethnic minorities.

They got immersed in a **supportive learning environment** all day long for a week, thus helping the acquisition of knowledge and soft skills. They **met each other and bonded with organizations** with whom they could cooperate in the future.

They took initiatives all along the week and took part in **spreading the results** of the seminar after its completion (applying what they had learnt in their organization, sharing their experience with other youth and social workers through online resources or further inter-professional meetings, training courses or seminars).

You will find on this platform a presentation of the most significant tools the participants were introduced to during the seminar.

Wish you a nice browsing!

Via Brachy's team



Wednesday, March 13th

Opening session: Set up a frame, Get to know each other

PM: Departure from Toulouse' train station. Reaching the venue (*Domaine de Matens* - Gaillac).

Presentation of the venue, the facilitation team and the frame of the seminar (content, program, facilitation method).

Get to know each other activities.

Diner - Self-managed evening at the *Domaine de Matens*

Thursday, March 14th

Supporting people in their learning process,
Adapting one's support to young people with fewer opportunities

AM: Energizer & Today's menu.

Getting into the topic:

1/ **Presentation of the partners' organizations** (main objectives, activities, target groups...).

2/ **Exploring what "Supporting" means.**

Lunch break

PM: Energizer.

Highlighting the main issues we encounter when supporting young people with fewer opportunities and vulnerable groups (group work) + **Presentation of an inspiring experience from a participant** (testimony).

Meta review - Assessment of the day.

Diner & "8 o'clock News" - Self-managed evening at the *Domaine de Matens*.

Friday, March 15th

Analyzing a personal path,
Identifying continuities and breaks, strengths and weaknesses

AM: Energizer & Today's menu.

Exploring "Experiential learning".

Experimenting the "River of Life", a tool to analyze one's personal path and experiences.

Lunch break

PM: Energizer.

Experimenting the "Explicitation interview" (by P. Vermeesch) (a tool to share with others what we have accomplished and extract the competences we have acquired through it).

Critical analysis of the method, reflecting on how to include it into our action.

Meta Review - Assessment of the day.

Diner & "8 o'clock News" - Self-managed evening at the *Domaine de Matens*.

Saturday, March 16th

Clarifying one's learning objectives and defining a relevant strategy with the "Hero's Journey"

AM: Energizer & Today's menu.

Exploring the "Hero's Journey" (by J. Campbell): **concepts it relies on, steps, potential applications in the youth field and in social work.**

Lunch break

PM: **Sharing circle / Mid-term evaluation**

Free time: taking a breath, sharing knowledge, getting to know each other better.

Diner & "8 o'clock News" - Self-managed evening at the *Domaine de Matens*.

Sunday, March 17th

Addressing our wishes, fears and contradictions,
Setting up a strategy to get closer to our learning objectives

AM: Energizer & Today's menu.

Discovering and experimenting "The dreamer, the realistic and the critic" (by Robert B. Dilts).

Lunch break

PM: Energizer.

Presentation of an inspiring experience from *Land of Harmony Foundation* (Slovakia) regarding supporting people with mix-abilities in their learning journey and fostering inclusion.

Experience sharing between participants.

Meta-Review - Assessment of the day.

Diner & "8 o'clock News" - Self-managed evening at the *Domaine de Matens*.

Monday, March 18th

Designing a methodology to support young people and vulnerable groups
in their learning and socio-professional journey

AM: Energizer & Today's menu.

Designing a methodology (educational framework) to efficiently support one's specific target group in its learning and socio-professional journey (Design exercise by team - Part 1)

Lunch break

PM: Energizer

Designing a methodology (educational framework) to efficiently support one's specific target group in its learning and socio-professional journey (Design exercise by team - Part 2)

Diner & "8 o'clock News" - Self-managed evening at the *Domaine de Matens*.

Tuesday, March 19th

Sharing what we designed,
Evaluating the overall experience

AM: Energizer & Today's menu.

Sharing our findings (each team presents the educational framework it has designed the previous day to the others), highlighting their assets, strengths and weaknesses.

Lunch break

PM: Energizer

Evaluating the seminar, defining next steps (dissemination activities, next meetings and potential cooperation).

Closing night party at the *Domaine de Matens*.

Wednesday, March 20th

Tidying up the venue, going back home

AM: Tidying up the venue - Departure to Toulouse

Friendly evening at a local brewery of Toulouse with the remaining participants.

