



Research Internship Report

HT23 LP1 (2023/2024 LP1)

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Master's Programme in Work Integrated Political Studies

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Summary of the research Report

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 - 2) **Objectives**
 - 3) **Methods**
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 - 6) **Work Integrated Learning**
 - 7) **Conclusions**

RESEARCH QUESTION

***How does an Eu Erasmus+ project
impacts on local municipalities?***

Research study on “YAPP” Youth Active Participation Platform 2023: investigation and follow-up activities of an Erasmus+ project

Topic one

Investigation Report

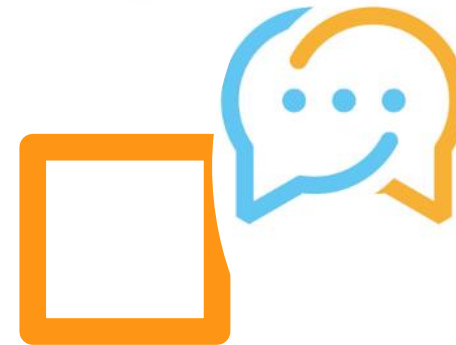
Youth Active Participation Platform (YAPP)
Eu Erasmus+ Project 2023

Values:

- 2022 is the European Year of Youth
- European Agenda 2030

Partners:

- Municipality of Vänersborg, Sweden
- Municipality of Cavriago, Italy



Introduction



Vänersborgs kommun



Sustainable Development Department

Vänersborg Municipality

Supervisors:

International Development manager
Anders Fridén & Francesca Di Febo



European Agenda 2030

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Vänersborg Sustainable Development Department

Global goals at local level:

- Ecologically sustainable municipality with reduced climate impact. (Green transition)
- Efforts for more children and young people achievements to complete their studies and better lifestyle. (Wellbeing)
- Good service and effective efficiency towards residents and companies. (Digitalization)
- Efforts for its employees expected to have better healthy and sustainable working life standards. (Sustainable economic and work growth)
- Efforts for equal conditions between inhabitants to influence their lives. (Culture and Leisure)



Vänersborgs
kommun

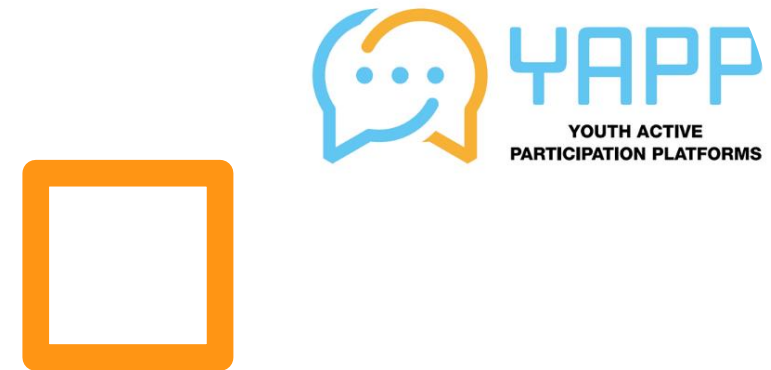
Eu Agenda 2030 Contents in Yapp

Purposes

- 1) **Goal n3** about *good health and wellbeing.*
- 2) **Goal n5** about *gender equalities.*
- 3) **Goal n10** about *reduce inequalities among countries.*
- 4) **Goal n4** about *quality education*
to prevent early school leaving & promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Objectives

- 1) Inclusive participation of young people and their active citizenship.
- 2) Increase opportunities for influencing local decision-making processes that promote physical and mental wellbeing through culture and leisure activities.
- 3) Transnational cooperation with local youth recreational centres and local culture clubs.
- 4) Map local realities/opportunities for youngsters
- 5) Identify & test effective methods for sustainable education



Project experience

Activities

- Kick-off meeting for the presentation of the project's partners and activities.
- Thematic meetings in Sweden and in Italy with local politicians.
- Best practices about participation of young people and local democracy, final exchange experiences and ideas.

Participants

Timjan Culture Centre, Vanersborg



*Multiplo Library,
Cavriago*



Dates

On April 17th to 21st 2023:

The Italian delegation (8 Italian young people and 2 leaders) visited different places together with Vänersborg youth.

On October 30th until November 3rd 2023:

The Swedish Timjan youth delegation has visited Cavriago, Italy.



Methods

- Interviews
- Focus groups
- Surveys, preliminary & evaluation ones
- Observation of the coordination group
- Meeting with participants & staff members
- Follow-up activities proposals



Qualitative techniques

- The primary data of this report has been sourced from the official website of Yapp, as the official documents for the Erasmus+ project
- <https://www.sern.eu/projects/yapp/>
- Other data is supported by the general directives and principles guidelines from the European Commission for the Erasmus+ projects.
- <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/sv/document/guide-for-experts-on-quality-assessment-2021>

Discussion

- In which way can we promote an inclusive lifestyle for youth citizens?
- How is the cooperation with the local libraries and cultural associations?
- What can we do in order to establish a closer cooperation with fruitful activities for youth?
- What can we do to persuade even more local participants to practice culture and take part in democratic activity?



Limits

- Economic resources from Eu
- Limited local budgeted & financial supports
- Limited local infrastructures
- Shortage of personnel
- Volunteering assistance and organisational staff
- Professional long-term monitoring for follow-up activities success
- Youth commitment and enthusiams that decreases
- Cooperations between municipality and citizens (shared obligations and trust)

Follow-up activities for project's diffusion

(Different forms of civic community engagement for young people) :

- Maintaining a community garden, local clean-ups.
- Contributing to requalification of local properties.
- Contributing to design places for hang out in the neighbourhood.
- Participating in a local blood drive.
- Helping set up a local farmer market.



Vänersborg Project proposals

These ideas for follow-up activities are the expression of a collective will to produce social value for the benefit of the whole community

- **“The Vänersborg youth chart”**

is a cooperation pact, (a collaboration agreement) thanks to which active citizens can identify activities to improve the urban local development.

- **“Artistic call” - “Manifesto for the future” -new perspective through art and culture.**

Through art (graphic, painting, sculptures, artistic creations) youngsters can express & shape their ideas of future in Vänersborg. it can be created an artistic occasion for youngsters as builders of their own knowledge.



Work Integrated Learning Perspective

- Work Integrated Learning (WIL), is “about learning through a lively exchange of ideas, reflection and active participation” (UniversityWest, 2022)
 - Knowledge is created in many parts of society not only within academia.
 - This exchanging-knowledge project is a positive Learning by doing experience where participants have experienced a constructive growth & chance to learn the significance of reflection and its impact on attitudes and skills. This way of education is useful model for future generation of knowledge.
 - It can support the development of educational methods positive for the entire community.

Conclusions & results

The project has produced:

- More awareness among participants.
- Creation of youth influencers that promote democratic and mental wellbeing through cultural activities.
- Increased understanding of democratic discussions.
- Increased international networking between cultural centres & libraries.
- Good practices of inclusion and wellbeing with new knowledge & reflection.

*A positive learning experiences
with new competences for
long-life learning*



RECIPE FOR GROWTH



EXPERIENCE



REFLECTING
ON EXPERIENCE

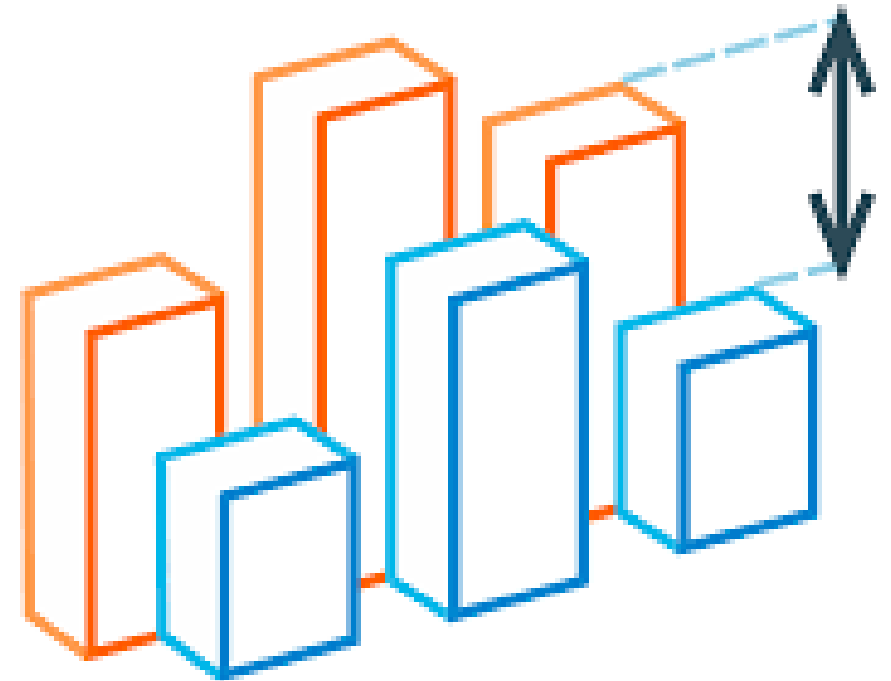
@SahilBloom
@WisdomMadeEasy

**We do not learn from
experience . . . we learn from
reflecting on experience.**

John Dewey

Future possible development of research questions

- Compare data, dissemination and results of the two local authorities (Sweden & Italy).
- Compare data of the follow-up activities.
- Compare the participants and staff members knowledge-transfer and learning process development.



Summary

This report is the result of my internship at Sustainable Development Department at Vänersborg Municipality

THANK YOU for this excellent learning experience and exciting opportunity!



Thank you!



Vänerns borgs
kommun

Giada Lombardini

Master's Programme in Work
Integrated Political Studies,
University West