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...for Entrepreneurial Youth NGOs
...for Millennials Changers

NEWSLETTER

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This online newsletter has the purpose of informing on the developments, activities and events within the ERASMUS+ Project: *"YES for Entrepreneurial Youth NGOs, YES for Millennials Changers"*. It is released in January and June 2016.

[Project brochure_EN.pdf](#)

1. First transnational meeting of the project

The first transnational meeting (M1) was organized in 08-09 October 2015 on Bucharest. The main topics of discussions were the following: Financial aspects of project/Reporting; M&E activities (Quality Control Framework); Dissemination Plan and Erasmus+ requirements in terms of Dissemination and Exploitation; Planning of activities and Communication/cooperation within partnership.

At the transnational meeting have participated 4 experts:

- 2 from ACE-ES Romania: Lavinia Magdalena Constantin and Viorica Ghinea;
- 1 from Cesur: Amalia Romero Moreno;
- 1 from bbwgGmbH: Julia Csomor.



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Each participant has received a Certificate of Attendance. The next transnational meeting (M2) will be organized in Malaga, Spain in April 2016.

2. NGOs and youth within the project

During the November 2015 different youth NGOs/NGOs with focus on youth; experts/youth workers and also youth from Romania, Spain and Germany have been integrated into the project to support each other to change their capabilities and paradigm of action in terms of gaining autonomy and sustainability on long term through social entrepreneurship. Welcome all into the project!

The list of NGOs and experts is here:

Country	NGOs and experts
ROMANIA	<i>BEST - Board of European Students of Technology:</i> 2 experts
	<i>Group of the European Youth for Change (GEYC):</i> 1 expert
	<i>Maia Association:</i> 2 experts
	<i>JUNII Association:</i> 2 experts
	<i>D.G.T. Corbeanca Association:</i> 2 experts
	<i>The Social Incubator Association:</i> 2 experts
	<i>Pro Craiova Association:</i> 2 experts
	<i>Euroeduas Association:</i> 2 experts
	<i>AGGR Association:</i> 2 experts
Country	Youth
ROMANIA	6 participants
Country	NGOs and experts
SPAIN	<i>PRODIVERSA:</i> 2 experts



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	<i>NAIM Association:</i> 2 experts
	<i>COREMSA Foundation:</i> 3 experts
	<i>EO EO Association:</i> 2 experts
	<i>ARRABAL Association:</i> 3 experts
Country	Youth
SPAIN	5 participants
Country	NGOs and experts
GERMANY	<i>JOBSTEPS:</i> 1 representative
	<i>bfzg GmbH:</i> 3 representatives
	<i>bbwg GmbH:</i> 3 representatives
	<i>it akademie Bayern:</i> 2 representatives
Country	Youth
GERMANY	5 participants

Welcome also to other organizations/experts from Romania that express their intention to be part of the project as guests:

- Counselling and Career Guidance Centre of Politehnica Bucharest University: 1 expert;
- Union of Raiffeisen Bank – Organization of Youth: 1 expert.

For a better communication and cooperation among all participants from Romania, Spain and Germany during the whole project and for a rapid sharing of views, opinions and information it will be created a collaborative online group to the end of January 2016.

**3. Workshop: "Is your youth NGO prepared
for social entrepreneurship?
Could become your organization an entrepreneurial one?"**

In each country has been organized 3 workshops (WSs) focused on this topic. The first WS of the project took place the 9th of December on the premises of the

bbwgGmbH in Augsburg, Germany. The workshop was organized as a breakfast and was spent in a very good mood. The special guests of the workshop were 2 representatives of the successful social project, Integreat, a mobile app for refugees and asylum seekers. The project was presented with a special focus on the questions that interested the participants: how did the original idea emerge, how did they find supporters for it, how did their team get bigger, how did they get financial support, how do they organize their workdays in practice. They also spoke about the timeline of the project, about the business model they are trying to develop right now and about their short-middle-and long-term goals.



The second WS of the project took place the 15th of December on Bucharest, Romania, at Parliament Hotel. All debates were focused on the main issues of the workshop, participants shared their fears, their opinions regarding the generous idea of social business as a main source of income for a sustainable NGO. Two special guests have inspired the participants with their very daring stories. One of them, Oana Turcan, an young social entrepreneur&manager of CARE Cafe spoke about this social enterprise, about the courage, the obstacles, the beauty of such challenging way of supporting vulnerable youth through a social business. See the CARE Cafe Facebook! www.facebook.com/carecafebucuresti.

The other speaker, Matei Dumitrescu ("Investprenor" - investor at Techangels Romania; co-founder of Connect Hub; Romanian Representative of Investment Ready Academy Vienna) took the contacts from some of the NGOs in order to develop business idea for a further support of Invest Ready Academy Viena which is an social investing fund – www.investment-ready.org.

Some comments of participants:



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- It is needed a shift of the mindset within the NGOs – from gathering donations to making social ventures and having own long term incomes for the projects and beneficiaries;
- The concrete examples and cases were wellcomed as inspirational stories;
- A balance must be created between the youth work and the social entrepreneurship.

They evaluated the WS as being very interesting and useful and the most desired next step was named being developing partnership and joint projects among the participants from Romania, Spain and Germany.



The last WS of the project took place also on 15th of December in CESUR facilities in the Technological Park of Andalusia (PTA), Málaga, Spain.

One of the most exciting part of the WS was the presentations of the projects and the initiatives on social entrepreneurship that are performed by some of the participants. For instance, Prodiversa has developed „El Colmaito”, a social franchise whose activity it is to cook homemade food for takeaway. It has the support of La Caixa, a private bank, which has funded the social business with 25.000€ (a microcredit, with advantageous financing conditions). This project enables vulnerable women including young women to be a part of the job placement program of Prodiversa, to implement the cooking business, to attend and to manage as if it is their own business, under the supervision and control of Prodiversa, and with the responsibility to repay the microcredit granted.

New possible topics for discussion have been proposed, such as:

- How to obtain diversified funding?



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- How to involve young people in projects?
- Social entrepreneurship in Europe.
- Corporate social sustainability.

The participants have shown interest in working together with their counterparts from Germany and Romania in very diverse projects: focused on youth unemployment, children at risk of social exclusion, dual training, networking, immigration and social integration.



4. Resources

This section of newsletter contains few useful resources related by Social entrepreneurship, funding opportunities and other interesting topics.

I. Books to Inspire Self-Reflection and Empathy – the basis of the desire of doing good through social business. Within the project, we believe we should never stop growing as change-makers, as *Millennials Changers*. For this goal we have chosen some books hoping that they will inspire you too giving more perspective and insights:

Strangers Drowning: Grappling With Impossible Idealism, Drastic Choices, and the Overpowering Urge to Help by **Larissa MacFarquer.**



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A staff writer for the New Yorker, MacFarquer profiles extreme “do-gooders” or people who have taken drastic measures to care for others. She reveals the underlying skepticism that our society holds for people who commit their lives to raising over 20 adopted children, caring for a colony of lepers in India, or giving away almost all of their money to the [effective altruism movement](#). In between these riveting portraits, she narrates the history and complicated legacy of doing good, leaving you with a deep appreciation for the complicated self-sacrifice that accompanies lives of extreme generosity.

Infinite Vision: How Aravind Became the World’s Greatest Business Case for Compassion by Pavirthra Mehta.

In 1976, Dr. Venkataswamy, one of the fathers of the social enterprise movement, founded [Aravind Eye Care Hospital](#) with the ambitious goal of ending curable blindness. Today, Aravind is the largest provider of eye care on the planet, with a unique business model that allows anyone to pay whatever price they are able for quality care. This book, written by Dr. V’s niece, is a story not only of the terrific medical accomplishments the hospital has achieved, but also the unique culture the organization has cultivated. Aravind remains a powerful model of a [successful social enterprise](#) that continues to elicit the best in human nature.

II. Be a Part of Next Generation Women Leaders Workshop in Paris!

McKinsey & Company is inviting female students and experienced professional across Europe, the Middle East and North Africa for Next Generation Women Leaders three days workshop in Paris from 12th-14th May, 2016. It is an unrivalled opportunity to explore the importance of women in leadership and the impact women leaders are having on the economy, to shape women’s own leadership styles by playing to her strengths and to understand how McKinsey can help women grow her potential.

Interested applicants can apply online via given website till 8 March 2016:

<http://next-generation-women.mckinsey.com/>

III. EPIC Foundation and the Philanthropy is evolving. Epic answers the need for new bridges to connect donors with high-impact organizations. The sector is calling for advanced tools to link philanthropic capital and expertise with NGOs and Social Enterprises. Epic is responding with tools



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that meet these demands and offer compelling evidence of impact. More information here: <http://epic.foundation/en>

The EPIC Foundation 2016 Selection Process is now open: <http://epic.foundation/en/apply>

IV. 2016-17 MCW International Youth Leadership Program: Empowering Youth to Create Positive Change!

Miracle Corners of the World (MCW) is inviting young people from around the world for its 19th Annual International Youth Leadership Retreat from 27th July, 2016- 4th August, 2016. The week-long International Youth Leadership Retreat brings together youth, between the ages of 16 to 21, from around the world to prepare personal “vision plans,” highlighting their community’s challenges and identifying creative solutions to address them. Deadline: 29 February 2016.

Interested applicants can apply via link given on the website:

[MCW International Youth Leadership Retreat](#)



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