

PRACTICES AND EXPERIENCES
Compendium updated as of September 6th 2010

1)

Organization/s: ILKYAR (Education Foundation for Elementary Schools)
A foundation that covers education of elementary school students & Middle East Technical University

Aims

To to create opportunities for elementary students in rural and underdeveloped areas to commit themselves to their education and enhance motivation for continuing their education.

Target group

Elementary school students especially in boarding schools from rural and underdeveloped areas.

Description of the experience

ILKYAR organises projects to visit boarding schools in various parts of Turkey once a month with approximately 40 people involving university students, professors or assistant professors. They implement interesting experiments for students both in classes and outside about science, chemistry or physics. They also provide different activities concerning literacy, music, environment, origami, astronomy, etc., in addition to some sport activities such as playing basketball, volleyball, football and dancing during the music entertainment at nights.

Results

Better understanding of the value of education in areas where access to cultural opportunities is extremely limited.
Creation of positive role models and aspirations through direct warm interaction.

Value (why is relevant)

The volunteers who deal with the activities mentioned above improve their knowledge about these issues by means of practicing.
Making the activities in front of the classes improve the self-confidence of the volunteers.

HIGH Learning process
HIGH Build social capital
HIGH Inclusion
HIGH Competences

For more information

www.ilkyar.org.tr

2)

Organization/s: Community Service Course & Universities in Turkey

Aims

To provide students an opportunity to involve in non governmental organisations serving for community and make them attend the activities as a volunteer.

Target group

3rd grade university students in education faculties of all of the Universities in Turkey.

Description of the experience

The students who attend this course participate to the activities of a non governmental organisation that serves the community as a volunteer. The students are expected to work 28 hours in an NGO during one semester.

Results

Every university student has an easily accessible opportunity to get in touch with a civil society organisation.

Value (why is relevant)

This course improves the awareness of the students about being volunteer in a NGO. Responsibility of the students increases which is also beneficial for society. Students improve competences and self-confidence for civil society participation.

- MEDIUM** Learning process
- HIGH** Build social capital
- HIGH** Inclusion
- HIGH** Competences

3)

Organization/s: Community Volunteers Foundation (CVF)

A Foundation that covers several types of activities that are mainly related with educational issues.

Aims

To enhance the youth to become socially aware and self-esteem, to transform their energy toward social benefit, and to improve various social service projects.

Target group

Youth in various regions of Turkey.

Description of the experience

Community Volunteers Foundation organizes several kinds of projects (e.g. "My Library Project" that aims to improve 50 public libraries in terms of source materials) in different regions of Turkey. This foundation has several subgroups in various regions of Turkey which organise several projects. The youth who wants to be volunteer in CVF are supported by means of 5 stage "key courses" to describe the goals and principles of CVF, improve knowledge about the volunteering and NGOs in Turkey and the world, and to have more affective projects. Thus, this courses provides the volunteers the chance of meeting with the volunteers from different areas and share their ideas in addition to improve their knowledge concerning civil society, projects and being volunteer.

Results

Large numbers of young people engaged.

Value (why is relevant)

Improves active citizenship by directing the youth to attend the volunteering activities.
Developed knowledge of the volunteers about civil society, projects and being a volunteer.
Competences and self-confidence of the youth is improved for civil society participation.
Responsibility of the students towards the society gets enhanced.

- HIGH** Learning process
- HIGH** Build social capital
- HIGH** Inclusion
- HIGH** Competences

For more information

<http://www.tog.org.tr/index.asp>

4)

Organization/s: FACEPA (Federació d'Associacions Culturals educatives i persones adultes) Umbrella body that covers education and culture for adult people.

Aims

To strengthen democratic participation by sharing cultural experiences and providing education to adults who did not have access to formal education.

Target group

Adults who did not finish primary school or that do not have a certificate or a officially recognized certificate of their formal studies. Mostly are women aged over 50 and immigrants.

Description of the experience

FACEPA organizes different activities (training, debates, etc) in Barcelona, Spain. This experience focuses on debates about literature done by adult people.

There are two main actors in the debates: participants and volunteer-participants.

Participants are the people who do not have any academic recognized title. A volunteer-participant is a person that as a volunteer is involved in organizing the whole activity (design, organization of the debate, reading proposals, etc) and also participate on the discussions. There is peer learning among the participants on the debates.

Results

Participation increases the self confidence in participating in public debates and in being involved on them.

Successful experiences attract to other people and also rises the possibility of having new activities.

Value (why is relevant)

People acquire the capacity to discuss, reflect and advance proposals about public affairs. People improve competences and develop self confidence for civil society participation.

It rises the awareness that you can participate and become an actor in cultural and educational issues even if you do not have any formal education.

The experience provides an opportunity for people that were not involved in volunteering before to do something with others and for other people. It leads to continue with a major civic engagement.

HIGH Learning process

HIGH Build social capital

HIGH Inclusion

HIGH Competences

For more information

www.facepa.org

5)

Organization/s: CSV NAPOLI project SOV - Orientation Facility for Volunteers

Aims

Promote volunteering inside university institutes.
Promote all opportunities of mobility inside EU.
Create awareness about possibilities for active citizenship and benefits it produces.

Target group

University students; Voluntary organizations.

Description of the experience:

Students after relative preparation from CSV Napoli are ready to become youth operators offering orientation to volunteering field-topic, volunteering infrastructure and they are ready to create awareness and mobility to other students to all expression of solidarity. Otherwise Sov - Orientation Facility for Volunteering are expression of specific areas of interest for young students and they are helping them to find ways of meeting challenges, like EVS that they could face and their aspirations.
Students are trying to encourage other students to find out how they can contribute to social cohesion and they encourage new forms of youth participation.
Student co-organise and promotes seminars with the collaboration of volunteering organizations giving information about specific areas of activity.

Results

Even though **Orientation Facility for Volunteers** started only in 2010 a lot of students are asking about our courses and they are already involved in the field of volunteering activities like participants (for example in our summer educational courses).
Peer-to-peer method of orientation has proven an excellent approach.

Value (why is relevant)

It's relevant because it mobilizes students in their institutional everyday environment. It develops solidarity in a larger community and creates new bonding ties within the student community. It helps students to find out new competences .
It is the first ever services of this kind in South Italy: it's something new and exciting because no one can understand better than another student how to communicate the volunteering opportunities and their value.

HIGH	Learning process
HIGH	Build social capital
MEDIUM	Inclusion
MEDIUM	Competences

For more information

www.csvnapoli.it

6)

Organization/s: Fundació Privada Ateneu Sant Roc
Private Foundation in "Sant Roc", a neighborhood in Badalona (Barcelona)

Aims

To promote ideas and actions that invigorate the cultural and social life of the neighborhood of Sant Roc in Badalona, addressed to the collectives in situation of high risk of social exclusion.

Target group

Adult women from the neighborhood of diverse cultural origins and ages.

Cultural origins: different places of Spain, Catalan gypsy ethnic group and from Morocco, Pakistan and other places around the world that have come recently to the neighbourhood.

Ages: from 16 to over 65 years old

Description of the experience

Sant Roc Foundation organizes workshops with several women implicated in the entity. In these workshops they use a textile technique originated in an ancient folkloric tradition of Isla Negra, Chile called "arpillera" (sackcloth). This technique consists of using remnants of fabric to create and reproduce images that afterwards are sewn over the sackcloth. The participants decide the subject that they will represent and the each woman carries out her own design sharing the process of creation as well as the result with the rest of the group. The first project of "Arpilleras", carried out in 2008, concluded with an exhibition called "Women sewing stories", in which 56 daily stories of this group of women were explained.

Results

The development of activities that incorporate creativity and cultural expression offer a positive and dis-stigmatized image towards territories and collectives especially disfavored and help people to get involved on the social affairs of their community.

The joint work between people of different ages and cultural origins constitutes a source of mutual learning and fosters communal life.

Value (why is relevant)

The experience promotes values like communal life, solidarity and social cohesion.

Women acquire the capacity to work in team and they improve their social competences and abilities.

It raises the awareness that women socially excluded have also the capacity to create and make something artistically value.

The project brings the reality of the neighbourhood closer to the neighbours as well as to the broad society by working on the sensitisation of the citizenship toward marginalized areas.

MEDIUM	Learning process
HIGH	Build social capital
HIGH	Inclusion
HIGH	Competences

For more information

www.fundacioateneusantroc.org

7)

Organization/s: Fundació Gresol - Projecte Home
Foundation that works in the treatment and prevention of drug addiction.

Aims

To promote the autonomy and dignity of people, working for the treatment and the prevention of drug addiction and other addictive behaviors.

Target group

Treatment: Drug users (men and women over 18)

Prevention: Mostly youngsters, teenagers and their families.

Description of the experience

The entity centers its intervention on two pillars: the treatment and the prevention. Regarding the area of drug addiction treatments, several programs of rehabilitation are carried out. In the area of prevention, there are programs that promote health, social skills and the reduction of the behaviors of risk among the collectives of youngsters, teenagers and their families. In this frame, the figure of the voluntary workers is crucial to carry out the activities as well as for the necessary transmission of the values of the organization. Being voluntary in this entity implies assuming a commitment to face the problems derived from drug addiction

Results

The transmission of the mission of the entity to the voluntary workers helps them to get engaged to the aim of the entity and to the social values that they transmit.

In order to extract the maximum benefit from the contribution of the voluntary workers in the entity, it is important that the organization takes into account the competences and skills of the different profiles available when organizing the tasks that need to be carried out.

Voluntary workers add value to the several activities that are carried out from the entity. The non lucrative entities have to create mechanisms to make possible that the voluntary workers intervene in the different phases of realization of the activity.

Value (why is relevant)

The presence of the voluntary action in all the areas and activities of the organization betters the transmission of the organizational values to the society and contributes to social inclusion of disfavored people.

The key role of the voluntary and their high participation in an organization which works with social excluded people contributes to they get a major civic engagement.

MEDIUM	Learning process
MEDIUM	Build social capital
HIGH	Inclusion
HIGH	Competences

For more information

www.projectehome.org

8)

Organization: Novi Sad Humanitarian Center (NSHC) is a non-profitable, charitable organization from Serbia, which contributes to creating a humane society by providing support for the vulnerable and marginalized groups and encouraging civil activism, volunteerism, research and education. In partnership with governmental and non-governmental sector, NSHC contributes to the development of non-formal education, health promotion, improvement of social policy and employment policy in Serbia. NSHC's projects are financed by donations coming from international non-governmental organizations and from the provincial and republic government.

Aims

- Development of non-formal education
- Promotion of volunteerism
- Health promotion
- Improvement of social policy and employment policy in Serbia

Target group

Youth; refugees; Roma people; elderly people; unemployed.

Description of experience

NSHCs volunteers are mostly engaged on a project Roma Children's Centre.

NSHC volunteers involved in the project participate in:

- a) **Educational workshops** for children who go to school - help with the school curriculum, help in writing homework, preparing for the tests, regular monitoring of progress of children in school.
- b) **Creative workshops** - entertaining activities important for developing social skills and confidence.
- c) **Other activities** - trips, visits to the cinema, theater, socializing with other children and so on.
- d) **Home visits to children's families** to encourage parents' active support to education of their children. Volunteers talk to parents about problems in the education of their children, work to increase motivation for education and advise parents on how to solve problems they encounter.
- e) **Visits to schools** children are attending or are to enroll. Volunteers work together with teachers in solving some of the problems that Roma children face in education.

Results

Roma children improved their grades.

Roma children improved their social skills.

Roma children included more in to society.

Value (why this practice is relevant to learning citizenship through volunteering)

Volunteers improve their self-esteem

Volunteers improve their classroom management skills

Volunteers are being active citizens

HIGH Learning process

HIGH Build social capital

HIGH Inclusion

HIGH Competences

For more information

http://www.nshc.org.rs/eng_nshc/eng_index.htm