



Youth Exchange

Young Researchers for Science

environmental awareness through science

22nd September (arrival day)
30th September (departure day)

APV dates:
5th - 8th July

TARTU/ ESTONIA

INFORMATION PACK
2018

INTRODUCTION

MTÜ Noored Maaailma and AHHA Science Centre have always intended to have a bigger impact on young people using science as a tool. We recognized that in the framework of Researchers' Night Festival in Tartu is the perfect opportunity to make this a reality. Therefore we are glad to host a Youth Exchange project called "*Young Researchers for Science*" involving 31 participants from following countries: Portugal, Hungary, Italy, Czech Republic and of course Estonia.

The project will focus on environmental education among young people using hands-on approach established on easy accessible science based activities and to encourage learning through the joy of discovery. We believe that the participants will benefit from the project in diverse ways and also share their experience with others after the project enriching the experience even further.

Active methods based on experimental learning in combination with practical theory will be used. This means that the participants will be involved in workshops and exchange their experiences that they have on a daily basis and also work on concrete future action plans. The project will be intense for the participants nevertheless we intend that the upcoming 7 days at "*Young Researchers for Science*" will be spent vividly gaining useful intercultural experience.

This Information Pack will answer some questions there might be and help you with the background of the project, arranging your travel and what to bring. Read the guide carefully and keep it with you on your travels so you can check the information whenever you need.

We are looking forward to meeting you all in Estonia!

YOUR EXCHANGE TEAM:

MARCO

SARAH

TRIFON

THE CONTENT AND ACTIVITIES

Without science we wouldn't have the daily objects and services that we now take for granted. Scientific methods and knowledge can be applied and utilised. Knowledge of science is power because it allows us to understand the basis of nature and to take steps in analyzing it. With our project we want to empower youngsters to apply critical thinking based on science and to raise the level of awareness about environment elaborating the topic by bringing attention to and learning in scientific way more about subjects such as air, water, recycling and pollution.

We are aiming to develop science literacy among young people, meaning that a person can ask, find, or determine answers to questions derived from curiosity about everyday experiences. It means that a person has the ability to describe, explain, and predict natural phenomena. Critical thinking and knowledge is essential otherwise ignorance can be exploited. We want the youngsters to have a critical mind in today's confusing world and ask questions about the natural world and raising issues in their own communities.

Among ourselves we will find answer to questions what you have been wondering about: What is this strange substance that you breathe in every day? Is it the same thing that you breathe out? Can you make air visible? Where did water come from? Why is it important to recycle?

Participants will be discovering about science during intercultural workshops and science experiments. Under supervision the young people will learn and share how to implement experiments. In teams they will have a chance to develop unique workshops themselves and to present them to the visitors of the centre during Researchers' Night Festival 2018. In intercultural teams environmental issues will be tackled and intercultural cooperation will be developed. As well sharing different competences among participants; leaders and youth NGOs.

OBJECTIVES:

- To raise youth awareness about environment and to learn about natural science topics through the joy of discovery;
- To give a chance to young people to experiment and discover independently using a hands-on approach;
- To develop science literacy, expanding young people critical thinking and encourage them to analyze as well ask questions;
- To build a friendly relationship with science and to encourage young people to feel more comfortable with experiments and share their knowledge;
- To gain and improve competencies of young people through creative workshops made by themselves and share with other groups;
- To devise local small “science and environmental fairs” among the partner countries run by young people therefore developing sense of initiative and contributing to popularizing science

INTERCULTURAL EVENING

During the course of the exchange there will be an InterCultural Evenings where each country team will have a chance to present their own culture: national, regional that you feel you most belong to. There will be two evenings allocated for the presentations.

Culture may be presented in a creative, fun, audience including way incorporating a song, a story, a poem, a dance, a quiz, some traditional drinks or food, etc. You are more than welcome to include interesting science and environment related elements to your presentations. You may bring pictures, music, videos or anything which you consider to be most appropriate to present your culture.

We will not have a kitchen available to be used for preparing the meals for the intercultural evening therefore we suggest you to take that into consideration and adapt your food and drinks to that circumstance (we can arrange a refrigerator, if necessary).

LANGUAGE

Despite the fact that there will be different languages heard and spoken throughout the time period the official language of the exchange will be only English.

PREPARING FOR THE CONTENT

In this section you can find web-links which will help to broaden your understanding of the Erasmus+ programme, non-civic and intercultural education in the European context. These links will be useful for you before the exchange (in terms of introduction) and after the event (in terms of future project implementations as well as training opportunities).

General information on European Youth Program

- http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm
Information on the European Youth in Action Program. User's guide is available.

Non-formal education and intercultural learning

- <http://www.infed.org/biblio/b-nonfor.htm>
Formal/Non-Formal/informal Education background.
- http://www.youth-partnership.net/youth-partnership/publications/T-kits/T_kits
T-kit publications connected with european youth work.

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

“*Young Researchers for Science*” will gather 31 participants from 5 different countries. There will be no age limit for the leaders although the participants should be between **18 - 25 years old**. All exceptions have to be requested prior from the organisers.

Regarding the APV in July we insist on having for the visit in Estonia two participants one of them a group leader who both will be taking part of the Youth Exchange project in September as well.

Organisations	Country	Number of Participants
Oriel Association	Italy	1 Leader + 5 participants
ROTA JOVEM	Portugal	1 Leader + 5 participants
EYCB	Czech Republic	1 Leader + 5 participants
MeOut Association	Hungary	1 Leader + 5 participants
MTÜ Noored Maaailma	Estonia	2 Leaders + 5 participants

PARTICIPANTS INFORMATION

Each country will select their own participants.

We will need the following information about each one:

- Full Name
- Gender
- Birthdate / Age
- Passport Number or ID number with issue and expiration date
- Phone number and e-mail
- Special Needs (Allergy, Food restriction, Health restrictions)

Please find the Application Form attached to the letter!

DEADLINE: All partners have to give information about their participants and the travel details before 12th August 2018!

Failing to accomplish this deadline will give us the right to replace the partnership in accordance of the Programme rules.

COSTS

There is a participation fee of **20 euros for each participant** which will be deducted from the reimbursement of the travel costs on the exchange. Lodging, food and programme costs will be provided and paid 100% by grant from the Estonian Erasmus+ National Agency. But it is recommended to have pocket money for drinks, small shoppings, etc.

We have a budget for travelling for the participants. According to the restrictions of the Erasmus+ Programme we can refund travel costs up to a preset sum and only if the following points are fulfilled:

- Your travel route is from your home town to the venue in Estonia (Tartu) and back (if you are not travelling from your hometown, contact us previously). We suggest Tallinn International Airport for your arrival.
- You have chosen reasonable and economic means of transportation (e.g. student fares for flight tickets, cheap airlines, 2nd class trains).

- Your travel dates are according to the programme (plus/minus 1 day plus is alright if you can prove that this transfer is cheaper, in other cases please contact us previously.
- You have a receipt or invoices for the cost of your plane ticket and the boarding passes or the train/bus tickets. (If you book an e-ticket please send us a copy by email to sarah.lill@ahhaa.ee)

If you have booked your tickets, please, send us the following details **as soon as possible**:

- Name of the Traveller (Participant)
- Date and Time of the Arrival and Departure
- Price of the ticket(s)

TRAVEL BUDGET

According the rules of Erasmus + Programme and the budget that was financed by the Estonian National Agency, here is the maximum amount that each participant can use for the travel to Estonia and back:

Organisations	Country	Maximum budget per participant to travel
Oriel Association	Italy	275 €
ROTA JOVEM	Portugal	530 €
EYCB	Czech Republic	275 €
MeOut Association	Hungary	275 €

We intend to make the reimbursement by cash to all participants who bring the necessary documents already mentioned before. We will provide you with the bank details that you need to fill.

We will NOT reimburse the amounts that get over the maximum budget for each participants. So please book your tickets as soon as possible.

If you would like to stay longer in Estonia, you can book flights up to 2 days before/after arrival/departure of the dates of the exchange. Tickets with the dates longer than 2 days after/berfore the dates of the exchange, and not previousully agreed, will NOT be reimbursed.

TRAVELLING

The project will take place in Tartu. There are 2 options to get there.

You can choose between:

- 1) Landing to Tallinn (the capital of Estonia) airport and take a bus or train from there to Tartu. Bus/train ride takes around 2 hours. The buses are going quite often; you can check the timetable <http://www.tpilet.ee/soiduplaan/tallinn/tartu>
Trains are going few times in a day, you can check the timetable <https://pilet.elron.ee/Schedule/Index?from=Tallinn&to=Tartu&date=17.07.2015>
- 2) It is also possible to land to Riga (the capital of Latvia) airport and take a bus from there to Tartu. Bus ride takes around 3-4 hours. You can check the buses timetable <https://luxexpress.eu/et/marsruti/riga-tartu>
<https://ecolines.net/international/en>

We will organize the transport from Tartu to the venue. As soon as we receive your travel details we will contact each participant and define how case by case.

Note: Organisers will not provide any accommodation for additional stay in Estonia. If participants plan to arrive a few days earlier or depart a few days later they are kindly requested to inform us and we will be glad to offer assistance with booking a hotel/hostel.

WHAT TO BRING

- Clothes: we don't have any dressing code at our exchange. So feel free to take whatever clothes make you feel comfortable in but remember that Estonia is a cold country and we advice you to check the weather forecast before. Evenings might be colder and raincoats are advisable to take just in case.
- Ideas, music, snacks, drinks etc to present your country and culture in the InterCultural Evening!

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact via e-mail:

sarah.lill@ahhaa.ee

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AHHAA
experience

