

## ***About the project***

This Erasmus+ **“Time to act”** project consists of one stage Youth Exchange aiming to raise awareness of environmental issues such as global warming, climate change, plastic pollution and spur people to action through art particularly theatre, dance. The youth exchange will take place in Baku, Azerbaijan **02-14 July**, in 2020, involving **40** participants (4 +1 team leader per country) from 8 different countries. The aim of the project is to share ideas, experiences, and insights and raise awareness and publicity on various environmental issues through art.

### **Key objectives:**

- to raise public awareness on global environmental problems
- to inspire the young generation to take initiatives and challenges
- to discuss and share different solutions and methods of well- developed and least-developed countries
- to present EU environment policy
- to stimulate non-formal learning and theatrical skills
- to give information about Erasmus+ and motivate future cooperation among participant organizations
- to promote cultural awareness, solidarity and tolerance between countries

In general, the project will bring together 4 programme and 4 partner countries to discuss local situation of environmental issues in their own country, learn from each-others' experience, to be more engaged with the solution and increasing awareness of the problem in their community.

## ***Participants profile***

Participants are required to have art, theatrical and dance skills, to be eco-friendly and to be interested in the project's topic. Additionally, their motivation and plans for follow-up activity will be considered.

### **The general profile for the participants is:**

- 18-30 years old young people
- Directly influenced by global environmental problems
- young people with fewer opportunities (by socio-economic barriers, educational, urban or rural areas, linguistic, geographical, refugee, migrant)
- future leaders
- art, theatre and dance skills

### **Directly influenced by global environmental issues:**

These groups of people daily come across environmental issues in their countries which have become irresistible for living and they would like to act in order to show the visibility of problem and raise awareness. In some countries, this problem is not that high, however. they can offer the ideas which their country implement. As this is a global issue, it becomes everyone's responsibility in order to prevent.

### **Future Leaders:**

These can be youth-workers, facilitators, representatives of NGO sector, actors, dancers and artists who are looking for opportunities to improve their knowledge about environmental issues and art and as well as to explore advantage of non-formal education, in general, to have the ability to communicate effectively in English and potential to absorb and utilize new competencies effectively.

### **Art, theatre and dance skills:**

As we require participants with a background in art, acting and dance, we would like them to contribute in stage and in the promotion of the project. We are not looking for professionalism but we would appreciate if they possess required skills as it plays an important role to arise successful project and acting. They could be students of art university or highly motivated people to experience their skills or get these skills.

### **Participants with fewer opportunities:**

We plan to include at least 1 participant per country with fewer opportunities based on **cultural differences, geographical obstacles, social obstacles & economical obstacles**. The aim to bring these categories of participants together is that by working together, youth in developing countries who suffers mostly consequences of environmental issues will introduce main problems of country and society as well as lack of policy, meanwhile the participants with significant leadership skills who are more engaged in protecting the environment will try to analyze and focus on the roots of problems and the tools, methods which will be fruitful to stick together and to share ideas in order to take initiatives and challenges towards better environment.

It is significant to take into consideration that partnership is responsible to accept participants who are actively engaged in defending the environment and the ones who don't have any information about how to prevent these issues or are not aware because of socio-economic, educational barriers.

### **Gender balance**

Partners should try to keep the gender balance and gender stratification rate inside each group will be 50-50%. The project is willing to assist to strengthen the females in the society by keeping the balance.

## ***Project Summary***

**TIME TO ACT** – is 11 days' youth exchange aims to bring together 40 young people (4+1 team leader) from 8 different countries those suffering from environmental issues to explore environmental issues, exchange their ideas, share significant experiences, present successful practices, engage in problem-solving, and take action to improve the environment through art. The special countries chosen for the collaboration in environmental awareness are Portugal, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Ukraine, Egypt, Belgium, Latvia, Romania. Although these countries have taken many measures to solve this problem, they still suffer from the impacts of climate change, global warming, including the severe forms of air, land and water pollution. Time to Act will focus on the art and non-formal education in raising environmental awareness. The non-formal education part will allow participants to gain the knowledge, values, attitudes, commitment, and skills needed to protect and improve the environment within the different workshops on global warming, climate change and EU environmental policy. This part will also encourage the participants to work together towards a more sustainable future through raising awareness and using art about how the natural environment functions, and how humans can manage their behavior to be more environment-friendly. Art part will enable participants to develop confidence and communication skills through theatre, art and dance for conveying the message of protecting the Earth to the audience. Furthermore, participants will get practical information on the implementation of the Erasmus + projects and be able to realize follow up activities.