

Erasmus+ YE | Now Is Time

A Youth Exchange project with the name “Now Is Time” took place in Spain from September 1- 13. The project was financially supported by Erasmus+ and it fully covered participants’ accommodation, food and travelling costs. The participants stayed at “Student Residence Ave Maria Casa Madre” in Granada. During the project 60 participants exchanged, learned and improved their skills in social entrepreneurship, leadership, team work and project management through different tasks.

The project partners were BITISI (Georgia), The Federation Of Youth Clubs Of Armenia/FYCA (Armenia) Innoved Lietuva (Lithuania) and Asociación malagueña de educación y formación europea/A.M.E.F.E. (Spain), Agifodent (Spain).

The project had two phases: Advanced Planning Visit/APV and Youth Exchange/YE. During the APV the leaders from the partner organizations planned the activities, made schedules and got acquainted with each other. The APV lasted for 2 days, after which all the other participants arrived. The Youth Exchange began on 4th of September and lasted until the 13th.

During the first days of YE the participants got to know each other through interactive team - building activities, ice- breakers and various games. Afterwards, they were introduced to the world of social entrepreneurship and given some tasks to deepen their knowledge and understanding of the topic at hand. Each day, the participants had four sessions, during which they were divided into different teams to present social entrepreneurship ideas and to offer solutions to some of the existing problems. The teams learned a multitude of skills, including how to analyse difficult situations, how to come up with business strategies and how to implement them.

Besides social entrepreneurship the participants also had the chance to share their cultures through unique cultural evenings that took place after the sessions. During the cultural evenings the participants presented the traditions, history, games, music and cuisine of their countries. The participants also visited Alhambra and attended a traditional flamenco evening to learn more about the local culture.

In conclusion, the time spent in Granada not only equipped the youth with proper tools to delve into the world of social entrepreneurship, but it also gave them an opportunity to meet open- minded people, broaden their worldview and be more accepting of each other, planting the seeds of mutual respect for the days to come.

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