

**Erasmus+ Youth in Action****Avaintoimi 1 - Liikkuvuus: Nuorisotyöntekijöiden liikkuvuus****Hankenumero: 2018-2-FI01-KA105-047345****Hankkeen nimi: From Rural to Learning Activity****HANKKEEN KUVAUS**

Hyvärilä international youth work provides young people opportunities for quality learning mobility across Europe.

The first reason for this project is that we have a mutual challenge of mobility among young people in remote rural areas in Europe. In this project, we find it very important to produce and develop knowledge about how youth work can support young people living in remote rural areas. Young people have very little possibilities to study and work in their home area. They have to move to bigger cities and for many of them moving from home to a big city can be difficult. It is a challenge for youth work actors working here to make young people feel more secure and safe in bigger cities and increase in them readiness for mobility. People somehow face difficulties in transportation and connection to the rest of the world. Youth workers try to involve young people in different activities even if it's not easy for lack of places/venues to be used and also difficulty in moving around. Young people leave because they don't find attractive jobs and because they miss infrastructure appropriate for their age. Young people in rural area don't have so many possibilities for work and some kind of development, they have to travel to bigger cities if they want to participate in some activities, workshops for development.

The second reason is that in Hyvärilä we are having two projects, the first one for coordinating regional youth work in remote rural areas and the second one for integrating regional and international youth work. We have many regional youth work actors interested in international youth work and we want to invite them into international youth work with help of this project. This project would give an excellent chance for European youth workers in partnering countries to start making international cooperation. The steps to international activities may often be too big for Finnish individuals working with young people, this is why we want to bring the opportunity for them to start building the international cooperation in Nurmes.

The third reason is that we all European partners want to expand our networks for international cooperation. We want to tackle the increasing challenges our rural environment and the young people living in it face nowadays. At the same time, we want to allow space for reflection and evaluation, looking at the good examples and successes set up so far in Erasmus+.

Partnership Building Activity in Hyvärilä Youth Centre will bring together partners from our networks around Europe with regional youth work actors to create new contacts and cooperation and develop knowledge of how youth work can support young people in remote rural areas in future.

The specific objectives of the PBA seminar:

- produce and develop knowledge of how youth work can support the youth in remote rural areas and encourage young people to mobility

- bring organisations together to discuss the links of rural and international youth work
- distribute the new knowledge to all youth work actors in partnering areas
- promote and initiate a long-term cooperation between organisations
- learn about Erasmus+, discover its approaches in relation to our own ones
- create a sustainable learning network of youth work organisations operating in remote rural areas in Europe

The main activity of the project, the "From Rural to Learning Mobility" partnership building seminar will bring together 18 people from 5 European countries (Italy, Austria, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland) for 6 days to Hyvärilä Youth Centre in Nurmes, Finland, on 22-27 October 2018. The aim of the PBA seminar is to bring together actors and organisations in youth work from remote rural settings in order to create a longterm cooperation for supporting young people's learning and empowerment through international mobilities. We will use non-formal methodology activities like peer and small group discussions, introductions and presentations, workshops, individual and group reflection, feedback and learning by doing, brainstorming etc. The participants themselves are experts in youth work but quite new in international settings so their involvement is being active sharing their knowledge and developing new ways in supporting the youth.

One of the big results we intend to have in the end of this project is wider cooperation, that in turn will play also a big part of the dissemination strategy for the partnership. The project will gather together a lot of actors from rural and international youth work fields, that will also create a strategy to further the outcomes and the message as a part of the seminar program. The long-time results of the PBA seminar will be seen in proposals by partners and PBA participants for the Erasmus+ funding in following years (2019-2020)