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Submission information

Form: [Call for Proposals - 8th UNESCO Youth Forum](#)

Submitted by Anonymous (not verified)

Monday, 12 August 2013 - 7:16pm

78.83.48.17

I. Identification

N.B: Any incorrect information will automatically disqualify the project proposal.

Organization submitting the project proposal OMEGA

Organization status

Status of the organization Regional youth-led or youth-focused NGO

Statutes

Statutes document [articles_OMEGA.docx](#)

Year of creation of the organization 2012

Examples of implemented projects

Local youth information campaigns and meetings on the region of Kardjali, Bulgaria and the remote areas of Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria.

Youth meetings, trainings and exchanges.

Participation in two international EU-financed youth projects.

Main Resource Person

(please indicate the person who would be responsible for the project – projects can only be submitted by young women or young men)

Main resource person name Mr/Ms Atanas Mihnev

Main resource person title youth leader

Age 21

Deputy Resource Person

(please indicate the person who would be responsible for the project in addition to and notably in the absence of the main resource person)

Deputy resource person name Elitsa Kostova

Deputy resource person title educator and career coach

Mailing Address of the organization

Adress Office 2, 47 Bulgaria blvd.

Postal code 6600

City Kardjali

Country Bulgaria

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Fax number(s) of the organization

Website of the organization

II. Project Proposal

Title of the project Mobile School for Global Citizenship

Executive summary

Southeastern Europe is a region of social contrasts and cultural heritage that holds messages of social justice and improvement which in the turbulent history of the region have been lost or underestimated. While Bulgaria, Greece and Romania are members of the EU there are regions so remote that there are no phone lines. One can look at the map of the Balkans and see high mountains and small scattered villages. Young people live there too- they have preserved the distinct culture of their region and deserve no less equal right to information, education and recognition of their culture. On paper they do have those rights. However, how can one apply to a university program of which they have not heard of

because of the lack of internet connection? Or how can one aspire to a career with no access to proper orientation, information or skill set? We take for granted all young people have the tools to create their resume and pursue a job that fits their talents yet this is clearly not the case in these remote areas. Our project is designed to enhance those young people's education and understanding of their own environment and the world. We aim to establish career prospective for them and support them in preserving and sharing their culture. The twofold mission of the project is preserving the past (tradition and culture) and investing in the present for a sustainable future.

Our idea is to create a "Mobile School for Global Citizenship", which is to travel some 6700 kilometers across the Balkan Peninsula and meet with over 6000 young people from small towns and villages in rural and mountain areas over the course of 9 months. In our mind "global citizenship" begins at individual and local level. This means that each individual has an opportunity to fulfill their potential, to contribute and solve problems at local and global level. While we acknowledge this is a matter of long term efforts, we believe our project will spark the light and provide the tools for further development.

The school would engage people in educational interaction regarding technology, employment opportunities, job seeking and career development, social theory, principles of active citizenship and civic participation in decision-making. During the stay of the school at each location, young people will have access to all the equipment it provides (computers, book, etc). They will receive educational materials designed for their needs

- career orientation materials including profile tests and games, guides to resume, cover letter creation explanation of terms and some job – how tips and advice
- educational materials - information regarding educational opportunities and how to access them, almanacs of universities, advice for educational planning and attainment
- global citizenship awareness materials – the basics of human and civil rights, basic concepts as nation states, global world and its interconnections; means to participation in local and global decision-making, opportunities at local level.

The materials will be designed taken into consideration the specific needs of the young people, their educational level, cultural context and age in partnership with experienced pedagogues and educators in the field of global citizenship, career coaching and cross-cultural education.

Young people from the region will also take part in innovative meeting sessions which aim at bringing to life and seeking their opinion on all the information they have received. After the workshops the team will be available for further discussion and assistance. In addition the team will make a small movie showcasing the culture of the ethno-historical regions it visits featuring interviews and with the participation of the young people there. The videos' will be filmed during the stay of the school in various villages and edited and broadcasted in the last stage of the project.

The specialists that the travelling school will deploy will be young professionals selected after an interview and trained for the needs of the project (the organization has experiences of training experts

for its projects). Their volunteering experience at the travelling school (all costs of living will be covered by the budget) will help them in their professional growth. Previous to their participation in the project specialist will be part of workshops to enhance the skills and competences necessary for the project and prepare them for its challenges. At the end of the project they will be awarded a certificate for their work, feedback and recommendation from the leading team will be provided. The educational benefits will be for both sides as the staff of the school will deepen their understanding of their professional field, the social reality in the region beyond the big cities – the challenges and opportunity it provides. Furthermore they will sharpen their skills, acquire new competences and test their theories and professional views in a challenging environment.

The experts involved will include:

- An active youth worker
- A career adviser
- A specialist on higher education and educational planning
- A sociologist or political scientist
- A anthropologist expert on Balkan cultures
- A web journalist/blogger
- A photographer/ camera person
- A social entrepreneur

We intend to actively involve local youth workers as the participation in our activities will be mutually beneficial. The preparation phase of the project (as described below) involves networking and establishing partnerships with local communities and local leaders in the fields of the project. We will also seek assistance from local governments and make the project popular in local and national media.

A tangible long-term outcome of the project will be the entire blog coverage of the journey, the creation of a video-blog and its establishment in large social networks. The videos taken in each region will be edited and broadcasted in the blog, local and global media. What is more, a paper-version report will be published alongside with some statistical data, best practices for inclusion of young people and policy suggestions for future integration of youth from remote areas.

The report will be presented to involved international organizations, NGOs, youth workers and policy-makers in the region and around the world.

Main type of intervention Capacity development

Main theme Social Inclusion

Objective(s) of the project

First and foremost the project “Mobile School for Global Citizenship” is to establish a global perspective and define new opportunities for life, mobility and career, appreciating and preserving the cultural

habitat for its immediate beneficiaries – the young people in remote and rural areas in Southeastern Europe. The project will promote the culture of the regions in the perspective of the messages it holds for humanity.

Another emphasis is placed on raising awareness regarding the topic 'equal opportunities for youth from rural areas' through partnership with media and local government.

A third objective is the development of policy suggestions in that specific policy area based on firsthand experience and practices.

Last but not least, via IT methods such as video-blogging and social media, we hope to turn this debate into a global such. An important long-term objective is to develop a report to help developing similar projects around the world and to promote best practices in the field.

As a result, the project will reach both decision-makers and civic society in a manner that will initiate real improvement in the life of young people in rural and remote areas around the world.

Implementation strategy

The project can achieve its goals within 15 months with the following strategy for implementation:

First stage: partner-finding and logistics (1 month):

Based on the experience and good institutional relationships of our organization, we believe we will have no problem to obtain partnerships from local governments of the rural and remote areas of Bulgaria and the region. With the help of a national television, we will launch the campaign with a national press conference and issue the call for experts.

We will get in touch with a telecom to provide us with the necessary technology and internet connection.

We will also purchase a trailer and other necessary vehicles. We will obtain travel documents to begin the trip.

Second stage (3 months): call for expert applications and subsequent interviews to select the team of Mobile School for Global Citizenship.

In this stage specialists will be selected and introduced to the project and its mission. They will take part in developing the workshops and will have time to prepare the trip.

Third stage: (4 months parallel to the first and second stage) creation of educational materials

This stage involves elaborating the educational materials, the workshops and discussion of format and

content; logistic planning of the trip, contacting and establishing partnerships with local institutions and youth NGOs. The blog of the project will be elaborated as well. We believe sustainable development is based on using and refining what already exists. The educational materials will be based on proven practices of the selected team of experts. The main task will be making the content context-appropriate.

Forth stage (9 months):

The trip of the Mobile School will go on a pre-marked route (subject to change from this initial proposal). The route will be of 6700 km through the countries: Bulgaria, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Hungary, Romania, Serbia and Kosovo. The capacity is to schedule 240 visits and reach out to at least 6000 young people directly. The tour will finish with a grand closing in the capital of one of the states mentioned above or at the spot where it started. It is possible that the Grand Closing is made in Paris at the UNESCO Headquarters.

Fifth Stage (2 months):

Media recognition, conclusion, evaluation and popularization: this is the stage where the results of the project are not merely recapped, but also made available. The report of the project is to reach both international organizations and NGOs. It is to get to every one of the 240 towns and villages we will visit. This is the time, through active international advocacy, to get to decision-makers with primary results (over 6000 young people reached) and put the topic 'youth in rural and remote areas' on the international agenda.

In this stage the cultural videos – the ones capturing the projects' essence will be edited, broadcasted and made available to a large audience through the project's blog and other medias.

Of course, the project would not finish after its 4 active stages. The participants will continue as ambassadors of the idea and will remain at disposal as consultants on the topic of work with youth in remote areas. We strongly believe similar projects will be developed around the world and we will remain committed to the cause.

The blog created will be still functioning as a platform for the idea, as a place for the young people who were involved in the project to find advice and information and will expand and evolve as the regions' youth empowerment tool.

Beneficiaries Vulnerable and marginalized youth

Implementing organization(s)

Institutional partners

We have one pre-selected partner -- the largest national youth and children organization of Bulgaria:

Bulgarian Children and Youth Parliament

<http://abdmp.org/>
Building 210A Mladost 2 District
Sofia

All institutional partners are yet to be approached. Our ideas are to involve:

The Bulgarian National TV.

A large telecom that operates in the region (we have entered some talks with one such operator)

The Organization of Bulgarian Municipalities etc.

We have chosen the above due to our working relationship with them. We will initiate concrete talks soon.

We will also, as we travel the trip, get in touch with::

Local governments in the regions we will visit.

Any active youth organization in the region.

Project duration (months) 15

Timeframe

Stage 1 (Planning and partner-finding) – DEC. 2013

Stage 2 (Call for Experts, preparation of the travel) – JAN – MARCH 2014. The official call will be issued at the first day of 2014, alongside with a major press conference

Stage 3 (creation of educational materials) – DEC 2013 – MARCH 2014 (parallel to stages 1 and 2)

Stage 4 (Trip across 240 locations and meetings with 5000 young people) – APRIL – DEC. 2014 (The travel will end on DEC. 31, 2014)

Stage 5 (recognition, conclusion, evaluation and popularization) – January – March 2015

Overall budget (US\$) 50,000

Budget Breakdown

(please indicate roughly the budget envisaged for the main lines of expenditure needed for the project's implementation)

Conferences, meetings \$ 400

Training seminars, courses \$ 1000

Fellowships, study grants \$ 0

Consultants \$ 0

Supplies and equipment \$ 31000

Publications, translations, reproduction \$ 5000

Miscellaneous (please specify) \$ 12 600 (fuel for the trailer)

Monitoring, reporting and evaluation

There are several quantitative and qualitative variables that make the project “Mobile School for Global Citizenship” sound and easy to monitor and evaluate.

The first main quantitative measure of success is the number of young people the school reaches out to. Our minimum projection is 6000 immediate beneficiaries.

We will take feedback from all stakeholders which we will use both during the project as means of monitoring and improvement and after its final as a qualitative evaluation tool. We intend to keep in touch with all of them, the developments of the personal lives of every one will be another qualitative measure.

We intend to keep track of how many places we have visited, how many youth local NGOs we have met and helped with know-how. What is more, the number of followers of the video blog of our journey will be indicative.

Some subsidiary means of evaluation and monitoring include: the number of applications for expert staff received, the number of media articles about the topic, the involvement of partners (private, public and media).

A key long-term determinant of our success will be with how many local governments we have met to propose policy-making measures in the field of youth policies: employment, civic participation, leisure, education etc. We are determined to show that social change, especially in rural and remote areas, is best to start from the bottom up. The number of international conferences and forums where the idea will be presented is another variable to watch. Our goal is for the project to be implemented in other parts of the world.

Reporting will be done both online and on paper, both during the course of the project and afterwards. The main tool of online reporting will be the video-blog, which will also include articles and will be shared on all of the famous social networking platforms. The final reporting piece will be the comprehensive summary of the project which will include not only an opus of the travel, but also policy-making suggestions, best practices, interviews with experts, participants and partners, and coordinates of all stakeholders. The overall goal of the report will be to show the practical results of the trip and how

they can stem into newer practices and policies to improve the situation of youth not only regionally but globally.

Supporting documents (3)

Supporting documents

Supporting documents (2)
