



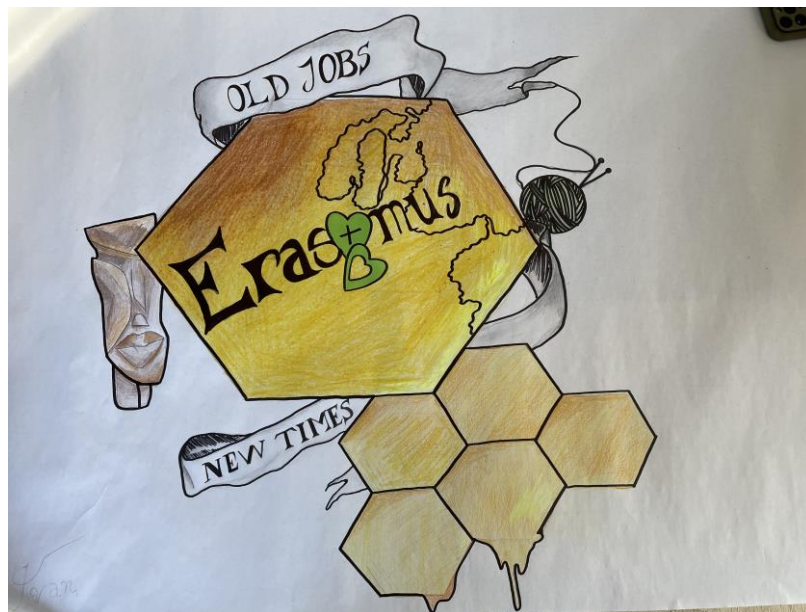
Funded by
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OLD JOBS, NEW TIMES

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→ **CONTEXT**

Based on an analyses carried out in the partner NGOs focusing on the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the young people who usually volunteers in our organizations, we identified that they are very skilled in the digital field being able to use a number of tools and produce innovative results (as regards social media, websites, STEM, STEAM, computer games, programming, even robotics and many more). However, being so focused on the new and the digital aspects of life, young people tend to forget about their traditions, lack interest in their origins which could even lead to a loss of identity. Moreover, the pandemic was a real threat to a genuine exposure of young people to traditions as it kept them indoors, in front of computers or digital devices and even though this helped them develop important digital skills, it also made them depart from the national and local values and become less and less aware of their roots and traditions.

→ **OBJECTIVES**

Taking into account the above mentioned situation, the partner organisations came with the idea of the project „**Old Jobs, New Times**”, a youth exchange that gathered a number of 20 young people from Romania, the Republic of North Macedonia, Italy and Bulgaria, its **objectives** being to:

1. To raise awareness among a number of 20 young people about the importance of keeping alive the old traditional jobs in order to be able to

- understand who we were, who we are today and preserve the country's national identity and heritage;
2. To develop digital skills of the 20 young people involved in order to increase their employability chances and prepare them for the today's world;
 3. To develop entrepreneurial skills and stimulate creativity of the young people involved by updating and/or promoting old traditional jobs with the help of technology;
 4. To promote cooperation between 20 young people coming from different cultures, social and economic backgrounds.



→ PARTNER ORGANISATIONS

Asociația Tineri pentru Comunitate Bistrița is a YOUTH NGO set up in March 2013 by a group of young people who wanted to carry out their own projects that aim at promoting the active citizenship of youth through personal

development and community projects and activities. Our usual activities include: recruiting and training young people aged between 13 and 30 who are interested in becoming volunteers, organising different volunteering activities in urban and rural schools or in the community whenever we identify a need. We also carry out theatre workshops, creative recycling, Arts and crafts workshops or reading aloud workshops in schools and kindergartens from Bistrița-Năsăud county. As a youth NGO we are interested in helping our volunteers develop personally and professionally by facilitating their participation in different local, national and international training courses, seminars or youth exchanges. Thus, we have developed a solid cooperation with local, national and European institutions or NGOs.



Associazione InCo- Molfetta APS, is a non-profit association, born in 2016, thanks to a group of members moving to Apulia region after several years of mobility experience abroad. The members decided to establish a new local

organization in Apulia in order to provide local youngsters the same opportunities as they had benefited. The aim of the association is to promote and support mobility abroad, contacts, exchanges and meetings at international level; to promote mutual tolerance and intercultural sensitivity among young people and adults; to support the nonformal process of European integration in our community. In addition InCo-Molfetta activities are addressed to create intercultural abilities and non-formal competences for all the participants. InCo-Molfetta believes in a world without prejudices, where every culture is valued, recognizing weak and strong points, without any discrimination. The association supports non-formal education in general such as: mobility abroad, courses regarding European projects, ICT and language workshops, entrepreneurship, group work on certain topics, seminars in public schools regarding the European mobility, the dual system of study/work at school, webradio/podcasts etc... In order to reach its objectives InCo-Molfetta creates opportunities of volunteering abroad, international exchanges, training courses in Italy and abroad, promotion and organization of mobility projects. The organization operates thanks to several programs, such as: ESC programme, Erasmus+, Europe for Citizens Programme.



Ecoworld Rhodopes was founded in 1997 by students of ecology and citizens concerned about the environment in order to promote specific initiatives and activities for strengthening civil society in solving environmental problems and environmental protection. The association expanded its objectives, as they are no longer limited to the environmental issues only, but also to support to the process of creating an informed public opinion; education of society in the spirit of democracy and acceleration of the democratic changes in the country; promotion and support of the education and the creative development of children, adolescents and young people on a personal level, in the fields of art, sports, culture; providing access to information; development of civil society in all aspects, etc. Their mission has grown into the development of human values in young people and civil society and work for active citizenship. Assessment of the achievements motivates us to continue upgrading and improving ourselves in the future. Since its inception, the association works with a wide range of beneficiaries especially in the field of the environment – in ecological shares - up to 250 participants - students and citizens.

They focused their efforts on the work with young people in the last years. Now the main priority in the work of the association is building the capacity of young people, NGOs and civil groups in the field of youth policies and strengthening the citizen participation for stronger local influence. For ten years they have been managing the Youth Information- Consulting Center in Smolyan. They advise young people with different social status, including youth at risk, from

the two major religions in the Rhodopes, support youth initiatives, etc. They train young people to acquire key competencies and they want sustainable partnerships for future collaboration.



LAG Agro Lider Krivogastani is an independent, nongovernmental, non-political and non-profit organization founded in 2014. The organization attempts to increase opportunities for people from rural areas in field of the socio-economic development, education, culture and sport. The Local Action Group Agro Lider acting as an association of CSO's in partnership with Local Government on Municipalities of Krivogashtani, Krushevo, Dolneni and Prilep. Since its founding in 2014, LAG AGRO LIDER is a bridge between local government, public institutions, business entities and civic sector, actively working to encourage all relevant actors to work together for benefit of the whole community. The core values of the organization are: Active participation, democracy, equal opportunities, transparency, solidarity, tolerance, understanding, mutual support and collaboration. The organization uses a holistic approach to undertake development initiatives to cater to the protection

of human rights, attainment of sustainable livelihoods and empowerment of the young peoples in rural areas.



→ **TARGET GROUPS**

The direct beneficiaries are 16 young people aged 16-22, residents in the partner countries, accompanied by 4 team leaders.

The **indirect beneficiaries** are the members of the local communities, mainly the communities where the activities took place, as well as other volunteers, young people and staff from the partner organisations

→ **PERIOD OF THE PROJECT**

1 AUGUST 2022 -31 JANUARY 2023

→ **MOBILITY**

30 SEPTEMBER – 5 OCTOBER 2022

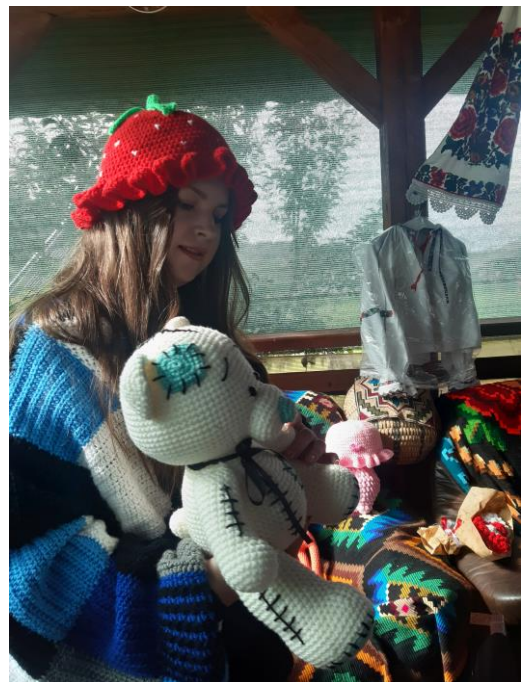
DAY 1

The first day of the youth exchange started with introduction and team building games and it continued with hopes and fears of the participants regarding the project, interaction with the other participants, public speaking...After the lunch break, the participants were guided by some educational counselors to focus on their emotions, find the best ways to express them and try to make solid connections with the other participants. Then, we had the first visits of local craftsmen in Căianu Mic and Dobric. Thus, young people from different European countries had the opportunity to discover and history and process of making artificial wax combs and how this can be a profitable business. Afterwards, we visited two families who produce leather belts and different accessories for horses and we were surprised to see that these are traditional family businesses and young people nowadays still practice them and bring their input and make leather belts produced in this part of Transylvania quite famous at national and even international level as they participate at different fairs and promote their businesses online. The participants had the opportunity to test these jobs and step into the shoes of the local craftsmen for some minutes. Day 1 ended with Romanian traditional food, presentation, music and dances.



DAY 2

The second day of the mobility started with a brainstorming about innovation and old jobs development throughout centuries. Then, we travelled to the neighbor county, Maramureș, the villages Suci de Sus and Suci de Jos. There we discovered the hard work behind sewing a traditional costume and how well preserved as some traditional machines in some households. The participants even had the opportunity to try traditional costumes worn by men and women on wedding days and special occasions. Moving from old to new...we discovered a pure talent there, Ioana, who makes jewelry and different accessories and who also knits toys. The participants were truly impressed by this girl and they recommended her to promote the business on Instagram for a high visibility and even profit. As Maramureș is known for its wood production, we couldn't have left the region without a visit to a wood sculpture where the participants admired some works of art and also a producer of wooden tiles shingles for traditional roofs. We served a delicious lunch while staying there and enjoyed the nice weather. Then, we ended the day with a nice atmosphere, too, during the Bulgarian evening when the young people and

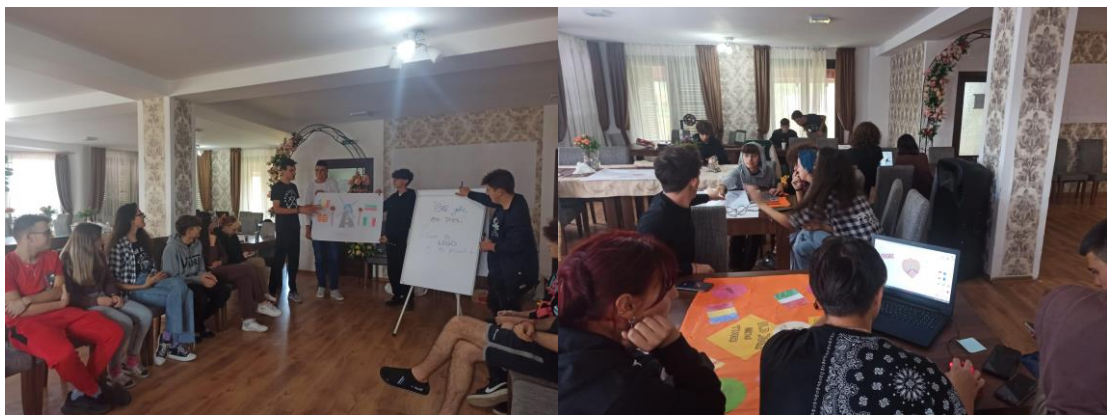


team leader prepared dances, great food, presentations and all of us had a good time.



DAY 3

This was the day when the participants worked in groups to create a logo for our project and then they voted the most representative one. During the next workshop the participants became familiar with the activity of „Bolts and Gears” robotics team represented in the project by two participants, Tiberiu and Cristian. They presented the activity of the club and what are the advantages of robotics for young people. After the lunch break, the Cristi and Tibi explained the usage of a 3D printer and the participants learnt how to make 3d prints and they even produced some promotion objects related to the theme of the project. The third day of the mobility ended with tasty Italian pasta, presentation and songs during the Italian evening.





DAY 4

The participants discovered Bistrita, the main town of Bistrita-Nasaud county and being guided by volunteers of Asociatia Tineri pentru Comunitate Bistrita visited old town where every Saturday local producers sell a variety of home made products. They also visited other tourist attractions of our town.

In the evening, they prepared some possible questions for the podcast, shared ideas and started taking interviews. Day 4 ended with delicious food, interesting presentations and great time during the Macedonian traditional evening.





DAY 5

On this day, the participants discovered the main steps of making a robot and they discussed about different possibilities of making robots in order to offer support to different craftsmen. Then, they developed creativity and entrepreneurial skills by working in groups and proposing different ideas of business that combine tradition with modern technology. Day 5 also included a workshop that focused on intercultural dialogue and personal development through nonformal methods. The day ended with a focus on the competences developed and the YOUTH PASS ceremony.



DAY 6

On this day, the participants had the opportunity to explore the lifestyle of a beautiful Romanian city, Cluj Napoca, and identify elements of old and new from different points of view: jobs, architecture, food. On this final day, the participants worked in group and started the production of video, leaflet and updated the facebook pages of the partner organisations with photos from the project. The participants and leaders discussed about dissemination activities and the completed the questionnaires as the final evaluation feedback. It was a great and relaxing way to end the mobility.





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Beneficiary organisation: Asociația Tineri pentru Comunitate Bistrița

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