



CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

COB BUILDING - A Path towards Volunteering, Environmental Sustainability and a Healthy Lifestyle

7 – 16th of June 2013, Sasca Montana - Romania

ABOUT THE GRUNDTVIG WORKSHOPS

Grundtvig Workshops are one of the actions in the Grundtvig Programme, which have been launched in 2009. **The objective of this action is to enable adult learners to participate in Workshops** (learning events and seminars) taking place in another European country participating in the Lifelong Learning Programme. This is a form of individual mobility offered to adult learners in the Lifelong Learning Programme. The Grundtvig Workshops bring together individuals or small groups of learners from several countries for a multinational learning experience relevant for their personal development and learning needs. The Workshop Organiser is responsible for organising the Workshop, its advertisement, the recruitment of learners, their travel and appropriate board and lodging.

The Workshops are **open to any adult citizen**; however, **particular attention is given to including people from vulnerable social groups and in marginal contexts, in particular older people and those who have left education without basic qualifications**, in order to give these disadvantaged social groups alternative opportunities to access adult education.

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

1. The action is open to any adult person who is **a national of or permanently residing (or registered as refugee or asylum-seeker)** in one of the **Programme countries, namely: the 27 Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland (EFTA-EEA countries), Croatia and Turkey (candidate countries)**.
2. Participants must come from at least three different participating countries, in addition to the host country, and no more than 1/3 of the participants should originate from the same country.
3. Nationals of the country where the Workshop takes place are eligible to participate in the Workshop but cannot be funded through Grundtvig.

ABOUT OUR COB BUILDING WORKSHOP

Dates: 7 – 16th of June 2013 (full activity days: 8 – 15th of June)

Venue: Sasca Montana, Romania

Number of participants: 10 participants (one or two Romanian participants might join the group, but they are not the subject of this call for participants)

Organisers:

- Centrul de Voluntariat Reșita (www.voluntariat-resita.ro)
- Casa Verde (www.casa-verde.ro)

Objectives of the workshop:

- a) Offering an international context in which young adults and adults would share and debate experience on burning issues concerning the society: environmental sustainability, volunteering as a form of civic responsibility and sustainable lifestyle.
- b) Giving the participants a new perspective regarding environmental sustainability, volunteering and sustainable lifestyle.
- b) The development for the 10 participants of competences on the cob building philosophy, and basic practical skills for its implementation in a safe and secure learning environment
- c) The facilitation of the development by the 10 participants of competences related to volunteering as a form of personal development and of civic responsibility and involvement
- d) Giving an insight to the participants regarding the use of the cob building as an adult educational methodology for tackling the issues of environmental sustainability, volunteering and healthy lifestyle.

Target group(s): The workshop's target group is made of adults that are interested in volunteering and ecological lifestyle either on the personal or professional level. We will value and welcome any kind of experience in these fields, or in adult education, but this will not be a compulsory criterion in the moment of the selection of the participants. A strong motivation and interest in the topics and the willingness to invert energy into one's development and growth will be key points in forming the group of learners. The profile of the learners includes the ability to communicate in English (at least basic level), and the willingness to get engaged in physical work during the cob building activities. There is no age limit set for the participants as we consider that age diversity will bring an added value to the workshop and the learning process.

The workshop will use the **cob building methodology** and a **holistic approach** to tackle issues related to environmental sustainability and healthy lifestyle and to develop competences in the field of volunteering. During the 8 days of activities, we will use **experiential learning** and a variety of methods from theoretical inputs, practical workshops, debates, simulations, self-awareness and personal development methods, fostering a safe learning space for the participants and empowering them for the involvement in volunteering activities using the competences acquired.

Expected outputs

The participants will develop basic competences regarding the cob building philosophy and basic skills in cob construction through hands on experience of this natural construction approach. They will also share experience on burning issues such as environmental sustainability, civic responsibility and healthy lifestyles, developing competences regarding volunteering (understanding the concept of volunteering and its importance for the community but also for their personal development, being a volunteer) and skills that they can later use in volunteering activities. The learners will experience an innovative approach in adult education, which they can use in their personal or professional life after the finishing of the workshop.

ECONOMICAL AND LOGISTICS ISSUES

- Accommodation, food and activity costs are covered by the project. You will most likely share the room with other participant(s) and please prepare for an outdoor toilet (for the time when we are working on the cob construction site).
- We will reimburse 100% travel costs (in cash during the last days of the workshop) after presenting and handing us the following documents (in original): the plane ticket, invoice and boarding passes; train or bus tickets. Only economical transportation is reimbursed and we will provide more information about this issue to the selected participants.
- Insurance for the duration of the workshop is the responsibility of the participants

SELECTION PROCEDURE

We guarantee for all applicants a selection procedure that insures the equal opportunity for participation regardless of gender, cultural background, religion, sexual orientation, political view, etc. Our intention is to provide a transparent selection procedure, thus you can see below our criteria of selection.

We will only use the personal data provided by applicants for the selection procedure for this workshop and will not give this information to third parties.

All participants will be informed about the selection results (so you will receive an e-mail from us saying that you were selected, put on the reserve list or rejected). If you will be selected, you will have 1 week to confirm your participation, or your place will be given to a person on the reserve list.

Calendar:

- Until the 15th of March 2013: receiving the application forms
- 15th of March – 10th of April 2013: evaluation of the application forms (if possible, we will communicate the results earlier than the 10th of April)
- 10 – 30th of April 2013: communicating the results of the selection process and finalizing the list of participants

SELECTION CRITERIA:

A. Exclusion criteria:

1. A national of or permanently residing (or registered as refugee or asylum-seeker) in one of the Programme countries, namely: the 27 Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland (EFTA-EEA countries), Croatia and Turkey (candidate countries).
2. Participants must come from at least three different participating countries, in addition to the host country, and no more than 1/3 of the participants should originate from the same country
3. Basic skills of communication in English
4. All the sections of the application form should be filled in

B. Qualitative criteria

1. Access of participants with fewer opportunities (1 point if the case and proof is brought)

2. Sustainability: the possibility of using this experience and the competences developed in the future, either on the personal or on the professional and also in the benefit of your local community (maximum 14 points)

3. Motivation and genuine interest in one of the workshop's thematic areas: Volunteering, Environmental Sustainability and a Healthy Lifestyle (maximum 14 points)

C. Additional criteria

1. The diversity of participants in terms of occupation, age, cultural background (may become a differential criterion for participants with the same score).

So, if you want to take part in our workshop, please send us your application form (attached) by the 15th of March 2013. All the sections of the application forms must be filled in. Please make the subject of your e-mail "Application COB BUILDING".

IMPORTANT!

- If you are selected you will be requested to send us the proof that you are part of one of these eligible categories of participants: a national of or permanently residing (or registered as refugee or asylum-seeker) in one of the Programme countries, namely: the 27 Member States of the European Union, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland (EFTA-EEA countries), Croatia and Turkey (candidate countries)
- If you are selected, we will ask for your confirmation regarding your participation (within 7 days). Not confirming leads to losing the place within the workshop in favor of a person on the reserve list.



We are waiting for your applications until the 15th of March on voluntariat.resita@yahoo.com. Please make the subject of your e-mail "Application COB BUILDING". For more information, do not hesitate to contact us.

This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.
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