

REPORT of the Final Evaluation and Dissemination Event

Brussels – Belgium
 31 August – 6 September 2013
 hosted by **JAVVA**

I. Participants and organisations

II. Venue

III. Programme, results and follow-up plan of action

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I. PARTICIPANTS AND ORGANISATIONS

	Organisation	Country	Representative	Role
1	ACI	Costa Rica	Flora Marchini	Administrator
2	CEDRU	Nicaragua	Rafael Silva	Administrator
3	Citizens in Action	Greece	Fotis Anastasiadis	Volunteer
4	Cocat	Catalunya Spain	Valentina Campomori	Project manager
5	Concordia	France	Nunzio Soricaro	Volunteer
6	Concordia UK	UK	Francesco Bonini	Project manager
7	BVBP	Peru	Jose Chang	Director
8	Chiriboga	Ecuador	Virginia Mueses	
9	Estyes	Estonia	Inga Malva	Project manager
10	JAVVA	Belgium	Yao Emmanouel	Volunteer
11	Red Tinku	Bolivia	Ramiro Saravia	General coordinator
12	SES Foundation	Argentina	Sabrina Wernicke	Project manager
13	Vive Mexico	Mexico	Alberto Garcia	Director
14	Vive Mexico	Mexico	Obeth Hernandez	Volunteer
15	YAP Italy	Italy	Liza Zaytseva	Project manager
16	YAP Italy	Italy	Stefano Varlese	General secretary
17	SJ	France	Kristine Roke	Workcamp coordinator
18	JAVVA - Alliance	EU	Roberta Stebel	Assistant
19	Alliance	EU	Giovanna Pignatti	Secretary

--> Organisations that could not attend the meeting: FEVI (Ecuador), Sonqoykipi (Peru), VIMEX (Mexico)

II. VENUE

The event took place in the center of Brussels and was hosted by JAVVA. Between 2 and 6 September, another event related to Alliance life took place in the same venue, the Joint meeting of all Working Groups and Committees of the network. Around 30 active volunteers of the Alliance, members of the Management Committee and the other Working Groups, had the opportunity to meet directly the Latin American organisations partner in Learning Bridges and to receive information about the project, also by taking part in the Dissemination event on 4th September.

III. PROGRAMME, RESULTS and FOLLOW-UP PLAN OF ACTION

SUNDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

Presentation of participants, introduction to the programme of the event, expectations of the participants.

Jelena welcomed the representative of the organisations on behalf of the Alliance. To present each other, everyone said his/her name, organisation, his/her participation in the project and the strongest impression or learning aspect achieved personally during Learning Bridges. The results of this activity are collected in a Prezi presentation shown on the 4th September during the public dissemination event.

(see the presentation at <http://prezi.com/wjmpfuqmrcqx/learning-bridges/>)

Expectations of the participants about the event and what should be built in these days:

- To continue with the aims of Learning Bridges – making bilateral cooperation
- Learning Bridges must continue as an initiative to promote common activities
- What to do after the project?
- To construct an Alliance to give alternative education to youngsters
- Give visibility and promote good practices
- Learning network!
- Develop new, creative ways to make a differentiation with other concepts of volunteering present around the world, to preserve the spirit of volunteering.
- Share with all partners experiences about the Job Shadowing and the Local Events
- To develop new ideas for new projects
- Exchange of impact and effects of Learning Bridges project in each country
- To have an overview about the evolution of Learning Bridges from the beginning up to now.

This Final Event aimed to evaluate the process during Learning Bridges, evaluate the results obtained, start the dissemination of the results, plan the follow-up and future cooperation. The programme of the event was flexible so to adapt to the needs of the group. The Open Dissemination Event of 4th September, where partners could briefly present the project to the Alliance Working Groups and Committees and to the external guests invited, was introduced to the group.

Timeline of the project and presentation of key aspects of each event by the participants themselves.

With the support of a Prezi presentation partners had an overview on the activities implemented since the beginning until the final event. Each partner explained briefly what was done in each activity and what were the most important results.

(see http://prezi.com/ayv-hg0qn1fu/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy)

SWOT analysis on the personal and organisational level about the process and outcomes of Learning Bridges project

Individually, partners reflected on the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT Analysis), answering to the question "How you developed personally and as an organisation in a way that takes best advantage of your talents, abilities, opportunities gained through Learning Bridges?". The results of this exercise were not shared but were kept by each participant as food for thought for the discussions and group work of the following day.

This is the template that was followed:

		WHAT WAS HELPFUL TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES	WHAT WAS HARMFUL TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVES	
INTERNAL ORIGIN - RELATED TO THE ORGANISATION/YOU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>What advantages does your organization have?</i> - <i>What do you do better than anyone else?</i> - <i>What is unique in what you do?</i> - <i>What personal resources can you access? What do other people see as your strengths?</i> - <i>Which of your achievements are you most proud of?</i> 	<p>STRENGTHS</p> <p>you came into with you gained</p>	<p>WEAKNESSES</p> <p>you came into with you lost/gained</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>What could you improve?</i> - <i>What should you avoid?</i> - <i>What others see as your/your org weaknesses?</i> - <i>Are others doing any better than you?</i>
EXTERNAL ORIGIN - RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>What good opportunities can you spot?</i> - <i>What interesting trends are you aware of?</i> - <i>What new tools can help you?</i> 	<p>OPPORTUNITIES</p> <p>taken opened up for you missed</p>	<p>THREATS</p> <p>known before overcome realized</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>What threats do you face?</i> - <i>What are others doing about them?</i> - <i>Was there anything negative affecting your participation in LB?</i>

MONDAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER

Sharing outcomes of the organisational SWOT analysis in small group.
 Plenary discussion to identify interesting aspects to give visibility and follow-up to.

Based on the individual reflection of the previous day, partners gather in small groups to share results, ideas and proposals related to the general objectives and expected initial results of Learning Bridges project.

The objectives were:

1. Promote international and local volunteering as an effective tool to empower young people and encourage their participation.
2. Improve the quality and reach of partners' work, by enabling the exchange, training and empowerment of active volunteers, youth workers and staff of the partners
3. Exchange and develop innovative practices in the field of International Voluntary Service (IVS) between Latin America and Europe, which contribute to the fight against crisis, poverty and unemployment.
4. Build sustainable and wider partnerships among Latin American and European civil society organisations dedicated to youth and volunteering
5. Develop a solid network of voluntary organisations at international and regional level

The expected results were:

- Creation of a booklet to collect good practices about the main themes of the project
- Creation of an informal network of trainers in the fields of volunteering and youth empowerment
- Increase the participation of young people in local and international voluntary projects that will take place in 2013.
- Preparation of new IVS projects between EU and LA organisations
- Creation of direct networking and mutual support links at regional and interregional level

The discussion in the groups followed the structure of SWOT analysis:

- GAINED STRENGTHS (skills, knowledge, competences)
- OVERCOME WEAKNESSES AND THREATS
- TAKEN OPPORTUNITIES

The sharing and discussion in plenary brought to the identification of interesting topics and ideas to continue the cooperation after the end of the project, according to the priorities set by the partners themselves.

Detailed presentation of the key activities of the project with emphasis on: lessons learnt, practices that should be given special visibility, specific ideas for follow-up

This is a summary of the main aspects underlined by each partner concerning the activities they were involved

Org	Activity	Results
ACI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising awareness event • Job Shadowing with SJ and CEDRU 	<p>ACI hasn't implemented workcamps so far but now, specially after the job shadowings, they want to learn about it and start implementing them. Multiplying effect of the Job shadowing: after visiting SJ, ACI could share their learning with CEDRU.</p> <p>Something new for ACI: at SJ workcamps, volunteers are more independent and manage their daily life and tasks. This is a new way of seeing IVS projects for ACI, because so far they were placing volunteers in families. Independence VS paternalism.</p>
BVBP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multipliers' training • Raising awareness events 	<p>The participant in the training became very active in BVBP and motivated after that experience. He organized a workcamp in Ayacucho, for local youth to participate in a voluntary activity without the need of spending money for the travel.</p> <p>BVBP organized three events: a national meeting of BVBP emerging leaders; a meeting with the leaders of a local community in La Selva where, also thanks to this meeting, they will organize on Autumn 2013 the first national workcamp as a kind of trial; a meeting with young people in the poor area of Puno (South of Peru). In this last meeting the remarkable aspect is that it was unusual for local youngsters to express their hopes but also frustrations openly. The event brought a renovated commitment for the social workers and BVBP.</p>
CEDRU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multipliers' training • Three raising awareness events • Job shadowing with ACI 	<p>The aim of the events was to share information on local and international volunteering with young people.</p> <p>The participant from CEDRU in the training had an important role because she shared her learning and experience with the young people.</p> <p>In 2013, CEDRU could form ecological brigades with young volunteers.</p> <p>The 3 events allowed CEDRU to get a more global vision on IVS. They discovered the potential that young people have to participate with enthusiasm, their energy and interest. They also discovered the limitations existing (financial problems, language barriers, technological barriers etc.)</p> <p>The job shadowing with ACI is taking place at the moment. It will be very important to strengthen cooperation with more organisations in Latin America, like also with Chiriboga, Vimex and Vive Mexico.</p> <p>CEDRU works a lot with local volunteers but "only" hosts about 7 international volunteers per year and sends 2 to Europe. They see possibilities now to widen these options for international volunteering and find new ways, through IVS, to reach the goals of the organisation.</p>
Chiriboga	Two raising awareness events	<p>The two workcamps organized by Chiriboga in the region of Jipijapa were the occasion to promote topics present in Learning Bridges: volunteering and social engagement for environmental awareness and the development of the community. The first workcamp/phase was to allow volunteers get in contact with nature; the second one was to impulse contact with the local community.</p> <p>The local word <i>minga</i> means community work, but it is something different from volunteering. IVS is not present in the culture of Ecuador, so much that in some villages people look at the volunteers while they are working. Part of Chiriboga's intents was to make people understand what volunteering is and why it is important. In 2013, thanks to the support of Learning Bridges, they managed to get support also from the local municipality and to involve them in organizing the workcamp. The local authorities felt that they "had to" contribute too, by providing resources, and this was a first time achievement in the region. The had meetings with the communities were they tried to explain what is volunteering and what foreign volunteers are doing there, and went house by house to raise people's awareness about ecology and IVS.</p>
Cocat	Job shadowing	<p>Cocat sent a representative to SES.</p> <p>A relevant aspect of their exchange was how to involve local volunteers as tutors of</p>

	with SES	<p>Long term volunteers. Cocat finds it difficult to keep young people involved locally on the long run, and SES has high levels of local participation. From the sharing, Cocat learnt the importance of paying attention to the balance between quantity and quality (which might imply sending and hosting less volunteers), so to focus more on local youth participation. They also learnt the importance of giving more responsibility to local volunteers as a way to empower and involve them.</p> <p>Another relevant aspect they exchanged was about the pre-departure training for outgoing volunteers. It is important to share information on what kind of preparation should be provided, as a better coordination between host and sending can improve the quality of IVS. SES gave some ideas for the training: to stress more on the value of flexibility when talking about conflict management; or to have a workshop about facts and information on the hosting country, as a starting point to discuss about stereotypes and sources of information.</p> <p>As a result, in 2014 Cocat is going to increase the training to 2 days in order to include more activities suggested by SES.</p>
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ACI pointed out that the preparation of their outgoing volunteers lasts one year! YAP proposed that Learning Bridges partners should develop a common manual on how to prepare outgoing volunteers between Europe and LA, in English and Spanish, like it was done in a previous project with CCIVS in the African region.

Concordia FR	Job shadowing with VIMEX	<p>While visiting VIMEX, the staff of Concordia participated in the planning and implementation of the training for camp leaders. Together they added some extra activities in the training on interculturality and interactive games. The two orgs exchanged tools and practices for the training and organized it together in a participatory way. As a result, the idea of organizing job shadowings for trainers of camp leaders, came out.</p> <p>Innovative practices of VIMEX: when hosting a long term volunteer, they launch a call for tutor among young people. This tutor introduces the volunteer to the local life and this allows both volunteer and tutor to get a deeper intercultural learning. Another result/idea for follow-up is to implement trainings in Latin America about lobbying for funding and project design. European organisations are more used to this because of the many funds available, but also in LA the staff should be trained in order to be ready when funds will become available regionally, like in the case of Mexico.</p>
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This topic brought to a discussion among participants about the role of fundings in the implementation of IVS projects. From the diversity of situations, it came out that often the lack of funding (many cases in LA but also in CiA) forces people to find alternative and creative solutions to support their projects. These solutions also bring about new local partnerships that wouldn't have been explored if there were funds available. Such innovative practices should be shared in the European field.

Concordia UK	Job shadowing with Vive Mexico	<p>They hosted a staff of Vive Mexico. Two main fields of sharing and discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VOLUNTOURISM <p>In the past few years Concordia UK had to invest more in promotion and marketing in order to reach out potential volunteers, while it was not needed few years ago. It started in 2005 because of growing voluntourism in UK. They did a survey to collect details of people that approach Concordia for volunteering and to understand why only 1/10 of young people, after approaching them, does participate in a project, while many others choose other providers. They wanted to understand the profile of these people and get concrete information to be able to make informed decisions on how to proceed. They discovered, for example, that many people are students and it would be good to increase the reach to universities, go to events and fairs. In terms of marketing, to use more online marketing to promote student based volunteering. The results were translated into improvement of Concordia's communication tools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PERCEPTION OF VOLUNTEERING <p>From the discussion with VIVE, it emerged that there is a difference in the way that potential volunteers see volunteering depending on the country. For example, in UK there is long history of volunteering and charities, lot of orgs and volunteering integrated in the life of people.</p> <p>In Mexico it is not so wide spread. This changes the way we communicate about volunteering: in UK we promote it as a way of help and solidarity, while in Mexico they talk about Becas interculturales (intercultural scholarship), to improve young people's education and preparation. They encourage young people to move to another continent, which is a big step for them and a life changing experience,</p>
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		<p>this is why it is presented as a scholarship, with meaning of "opportunity". As a result, it is important to share and AGREE on the QUALITY of the exchange process, which implies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Selection of volunteers - Pre-departure trainings - Choose carefully your sending/hosting partner! - How to differentiate us from commercial forms of IVS and promote our understanding of quality volunteering
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A rich discussion was born in the group about the current threats to the volunteering and workcamp movement and to the values that partners believe in. As summarized further on, the threats lie in the extremist understanding of volunteering, the idealist and the pragmatic.

Estyes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job shadowings with Vimex and Vive Mexico • Raising awareness event 	<p>As a result of the job shadowing, they planned the implementation of short term EVS with the Mexican partners. The event was organized for a big international group of young people and it matched the agendas of internet addiction and volunteering. Volunteering was presented, with the contribution of Vidal, as an alternative and better way to meet new people and do something interesting and useful in life, other than being online. It was interesting that young people during all the event did not have mobiles or internet, which allowed them to see how life can be rich even without internet, like it happens in a workcamp.</p>
JAVVA	Two raising awareness events	<p>They did a survey on what people think about IVS applied in different contexts: people in the street, volunteers before and after their workcamp. Answers were different in public and in time. They also visited a refugee center, had intercultural learning activities whose main aim was to fight against prejudice rising among the young refugees themselves living in the same place.</p>
Red Tinku	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job shadowings with YAP and SJ • Raising awareness event 	<p>Anne Chlotilde from SJ took part in a national meeting in Bolivia. She met the ambassador of Uruguay and governmental representatives during a formal meeting between them and Red Tinku to let the government know about what happens in the world with IVS. The national meeting gathered organisations from La Cruz, Cochabamba and La Paz active in local volunteering. Red Tinku could pass their experience in IVS to these orgs and there was a big interest in IVS. They are meeting again in October 2013 to organize a national camp leaders training. As a result, Red Tinku discovered the potential they have in community work, by building links with local orgs and social workers (like the participant they sent to the Multipliers' training). They see the possibility now of organizing workcamps also outside Cochabamba and to build a network of community workers that can support each other even without funds.</p>
SES	Job shadowing with Cocat	<p>Marta from Cocat visited SES. They tried to build together with Marta the plan of the visit. SES found a volunteer who was a mentor accompanying Marta during her stay. This was an interesting learning point for Cocat. Within the follow-up of the project, SES is going to host an activity whose planning started at the Multipliers' training, the Latinoamericarte project. The aim is to promote the exchange among young people within LA starting from art as a fundamental culture production and exchange tool. The main topics are It is an international cooperation meeting that will take place in Buenos Aires on December 2013 with the participation of 20 youth from Europe and LA and 60 youth from Argentina.</p>

See a detailed description of the project "[SES LatinoamericArte con esquema de trabajo](#)" on the [Google drive](#).

At the time of writing this report, partners agreed to postpone the event to February 2014 because it will be holiday time in LA and easier for young people in the region to participate.

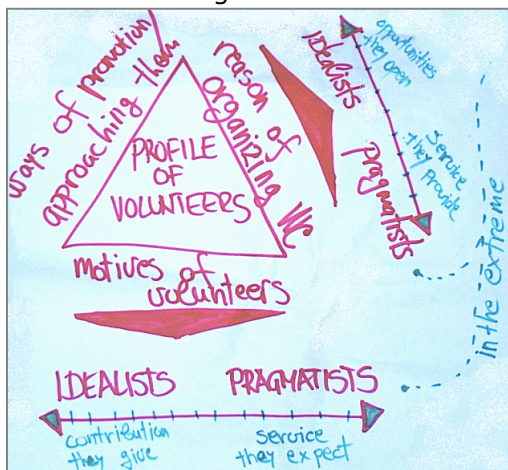
Vive Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multipliers' Training • Raising awareness event • Job shadowings with 	<p>The training was a good opportunity to: exchange knowledge and history of IVS in the two regions; get to know about the different realities and working methodologies; share good practices and examples of successful cooperation. The local events saw the involvement of the local government who supported the trainings and workshops organized. The job shadowing of Aleksandr from Estyes at Vive was very positive. The guest is a decision maker in his organization with good experience also in the Alliance, and this facilitated the development of bilateral cooperation but also</p>
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	ConcordiaUK and Estyes	<p>cooperation with local important stakeholders. He met decision making actors in Mexico at political and academic level.</p> <p>The most important result is that after sharing goals and methodologies the two orgs agreed that they CAN and WANT to work together trustfully. The first concrete action will be a seminar to work towards the quality of IVS, in Mexico funded by the Mexican government. It will be on February, coordinated by VIVE with the participation of local and EU orgs. All themes are related with Quality of IVS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how can we create a culture of quality - how can we certify this quality <p>The aim will be to develop a line of action to give finally a certification for orgs implementing IVS with quality. In this way, we can make a differentiation among us and those that do not share the basic values of IVS.</p>
YAP Italy	Job shadowing with Red Tinku	<p>The two most important results where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informal cultural exchange among the many countries present (Russia, Bolivia, Slovakia, Italy). - Transmit knowledge about Bolivian cultural to volunteers of YAP during the camp leaders training. This was an important moment because YAP could share with Alex from Bolivia how and why they structure the agenda for the training, why they use Non formal education. They also shared the practice of the Italian platform (3 Alliance members organizing the leaders training together), as a positive example of national cooperation that can be implemented also in LA. <p>YAP also shared the Alliance quality charter and agreed to keep contact with Red Tinku for future support.</p>

The results of these rich and fruitful discussions were gathered in three flipcharts according to the topics: Ideas for the Booklet, Toolbox, Suggestions for follow-up. The outcomes described here, were then enriched with inputs coming from different activities and moments of common sharing during all the day. Here is the final result:

a) Important contents for the Booklet

- Personal stronger impressions about Learning Bridges
- 4 examples of the most innovative ways of alternative funding of a workcamp
- Article about the necessity of pre-departure and on-arrival trainings for outgoing volunteers, and of mentoring for hosted volunteers.
- Take inspiring sentences from the videos produced during several activities:
 - “Volunteering is stronger in times of crisis as people turn to each other for solidarity”
 - “Do I only help or do I also learn?”
 - “Aside many differences, we are united in the same thing: we help people in need”
- Examples of the reach of Learning Bridges in remote and isolated places (example from BVBP in Peru)
- Results from the discussion that took place at the final event, on the different understandings of volunteering existing nowadays in the world, and how some of these understandings can constitute a threat to the Alliance’ and partnership’s values and promotion of volunteering:



➔ ... in the extreme positions of idealism and pragmatism, we identified the threats to understanding volunteering! From the perspective of volunteers, volunteering is not only “to give help” nor “to receive a service”, but a mix of both; from the perspective of workcamp organisations, volunteering is not only “to open new opportunities for organisational development and non formal education of volunteers” nor “to provide a service to the local community in need”, but a mix of both.

Related to this, is the issue of the participation fee: it is not for the service that the volunteer gets, but it is a contribution to the work of the local organisation and to

the sustainability of the workcamp movement.

b) Common toolbox

This list can serve as reference to plan the booklet and follow-up actions

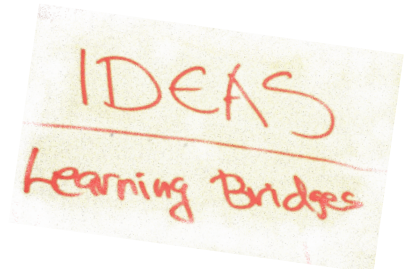
- VIDEOS
- TOOLS USED IN TRAININGS OF CAMP LEADERS
- DAY-BY-DAY METHODOLOGY OF TRAININGS FOR CAMP LEADERS
- SURVEY ABOUT WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE THINK ABOUT VOLUNTEERING
- QUALITY CHARTER, STANDARDS OF EXCHANGES AND OTHER MATERIAL OF ALLIANCE (BUDDY SYSTEM)
- PRE-DEPARTURE AND ON ARRIVAL TRAININGS – TOOLS, METHODOLOGY, TIPS
- VIVE MEXICO PRESENTATION ON INTEGRAL EDUCATION (FORMAL, NON FORMAL, INFORMAL)
- REPORTS FROM ALL EVENTS OF LEARNING BRIDGES
- AVAILABLE RESEARCH PAPERS ABOUT VOLUNTEERING (IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIVERSITIES)

c) Suggestions for follow-up

- Job shadowings between EU and LA for trainers of camp leaders
- Trainings on searching/applying/managing/reporting about projects, lobbying, alternative funding and using local resources
- Find mechanisms for continuing sharing tools and methodologies within LA and between LA and EU
- Trainings on how to promote our projects better and reach out to more volunteers (social media, peer-to-peer support, focus groups)
- Find spaces to talk more about the preparation of volunteers
- Latinoamericarte project in Argentina
- Each workcamp should have a session for the volunteers on the meaning of volunteering
- Common trainings for camp leaders

Shaping the follow-up plan in groups

Based on the ideas that came up in the previous activities, participants gathered in three groups to start shaping the Follow-up Plan of Action following the scheme: WHAT – HOW – WHO. These are the results:



- COOPERATIVE TRAININGS FOR camp leaders' TRAINERS
Stakeholders we need: open call to Alliance members on who needs training and who can give training.
How: exchanging trainers among partners, through bilaterally agreed job shadowings.
- ORGANIZE AN EVENT TO GO DEEPER IN COMMON ASPECTS THAT WERE FOUND THROUGH LB.
Stakeholders we need: open call to Alliance members.
- IMPROVE THE PROCESS TO PREPARE THE VOLUNTEERS
Share important information between partners. This can have a strong impact on quality of projects. There is a lack of knowledge on how to prepare outgoing volunteers for the specific region/continent they are going to. If we coordinate, we can provide to each other complete and updated information to the sending organisation in the other continent.
Stakeholders we need: open call to Alliance members.
- IMPROVE THE PREPARATION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES TO WORK WITH INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS
Stakeholders: representatives of local orgs and communities working everyday with vols, to invite them to meet together, discuss difficulties they faced, solutions they found etc.
- FIND ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF FUNDING PROJECTS
Stakeholders: invite Alliance members who have found alternative ways of funding to present their strategic alliances.
How: create a list of funding opportunities and practices.

- An example: If you have an ex or current volunteer inside another decision-making structure, the volunteer will feel belonging towards the IVS movement and may advocate/intermediate for support to IVS projects.
- **SOLIDARITY FUND TO FACILITATE STAFF EXCHANGE**
Stakeholders: all Alliance organisations and working groups.
How: dedicate part of the volunteers fees paid to the sending organization, for this fund.
 - **TRANSLATE TOOLS/TOOLKITS/QUALITY CHARTER/ STANDARDS OF EXCHANGE/ HANDBOOKS/ TRAINING MATERIALS**
Stakeholders we need: Spanish/English speaking staff and volunteers in our organisations.
How: We can involve volunteers in this translation process. Translation should not be considered volunteering because it is a real job, but it can be a contribution from the volunteers that want to go to a camp but cannot pay the fee, as a sort of exchange of services between volunteer and sending organisation.
 - **BUDDY SYSTEM BETWEEN EU/LA - LA/LA - EU/EU**
Stakeholders: Alliance members and the Staff Development Working Group. For example, LA Alliance members can support new LA organisations wishing to participate in the next Technical Meeting.
How: create a list of contacts of orgs and respective skills/competences
 - **APPROACH ORGS THAT WORK WITH LA/EU IMMIGRANT COMMUNITIES IN EACH RESPECTIVE COUNTRY.**
Stakeholders: local associations and groups who work with communities of immigrants, to involve them in IVS. For example, YAP Italy met the Bolivian community in Rome during the Job shadowing of Red Tinku.
How: Organizing Info days, Meetings, system of rewarding for young immigrants in order to participate in projects in EU or LA
 - **DEVELOP/MAINTAIN LEARNING BRIDGES WEB PAGE**
How: by relying on IT experts within Alliance and organisations' volunteers, involving them in this process. It can be useful as a platform to keep exchanging tools or translated important documents (like quality charter etc.).
 - **ESTABLISHING QUOTAS BETWEEN ORGANIZATIONS FOR FREE PARTICIPATION IN WORKCAMPS IN LA**
How: A max number of volunteers, fixed each year by each organisation, would not pay the participation fee, in order to give this opportunity to vols that have low financial possibilities. Their participation in IVS could be as a reward for helping in other activities (translation, website maintenance etc.). This can also help to promote coop WITHIN LA. It can be done through Exchange Agreements among LB partners.
 - **SHARE GOOD PRACTICES AND RESOURCES ON: mentoring of long term volunteers, communication tools, management of projects and exchange of volunteers, training of volunteers, training of leaders and their trainers, alternative ways of funding etc.**
How: Gather materials about these different topics; sort relevant information from the materials received; translate it in both languages; include it in a booklet.
Who: one org from LA and one from EU. To be done within December 2013.
 - **FUTURE COMMON PROJECTS**
Develop parallel activities in different countries focusing on the same topic.

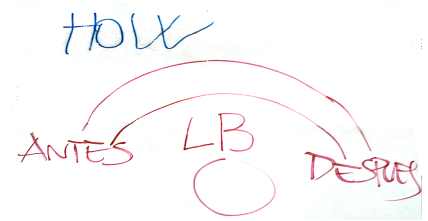
TUESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER

Defining better the Follow-up plan

With the concrete ideas developed in the previous day, partners are invited to choose the most relevant or important actions, specify the process that should be followed, the division of tasks and deadlines to achieve the final aim.

From this activity, more concrete ideas came out on how the partnership, with the help of Alliance and its structure (Working Groups, Committees and Secretariat), can implement the planned activities.

Preparation of Learning Bridges presentation at the Open Day of Wednesday 4th.



WED 4th SEPTEMBER

Open event – Final presentation of Learning Bridges with invited guests from the European Youth Forum, EACEA, CCIVS, SCI, AVSO, CEV and members of the Alliance Working Groups and Committees

The programme of the Open event, which lasted one morning, was the following:

- 11:00-11.15 Arrivals
- 11.15-11:30 Welcome by Alliance president Ms. Chrysafo Arvaniti and Javva coordinator Ms. Roberta Stebel
- 11:30-11:50 Presentation of the project "Learning bridges for Youth Empowerment, Creativity and Participation": actors, initiatives, results
- 11.50-12:10 "Youth Participation and European Elections 2014" – input by Mr. David Garrahy, European Youth Forum Policy and Advocacy Coordinator.
- 12:10-12:30 "Volunteering and educational innovation, linking formal with non-formal education" – presentation by Mr. Obeth Hernandez Mr. Alberto Garcia from Vive Mexico.
- 12:30-13:00 Comments and closing

The presentation of Learning Bridges project, prepared and realized by the representatives from partner organisations themselves, was structured in two phases:

1. Showing a short video summarizing the main activities of the project and the variety of actors involved in each activity. The video is available online: <http://youtu.be/-75Ghx8Stv8>
2. Interactive presentation of the project: following a visual timeline and a narration, each representative says few words about the main achievements for his/her organisation on the activity concerned. All the key words, chosen by each partner, form a bridge of experiences, cooperation and networking links created along the project.



All the presentations are available online at these links:

- Presentation of Learning Bridges main events, shown during the Open Day: http://prezi.com/qapqy-uxnh6/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy
- Presentation of ALL ACTIVITIES (or almost) of Learning Bridges project: http://prezi.com/ayv-hg0qn1fu/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy
- Presentation of main impressions from participants/organisations in the activities of Learning Bridges, shown during the Open Day: <http://prezi.com/wjpmfuqmrcqx/learning-bridges/>

Setting the ground to develop the content of the final Booklet

The results of the brainstorming on the booklet content, from the Kick-off meeting of December 2012, are presented to the partners. Keeping in mind the ideas for the content of the booklet,

collected through the activities of the previous days, participants choose three main topics in which they wish to contribute by shaping the final content. They gather in three groups to structure and prepare the work for the following months:

- Networking
- Alternative funding
- Training and preparation of volunteers

The results of this activity are available on [Google Drive in the folder Booklet_Collection of contents](#).

THU 5th SEPTEMBER

Visit to a local IVS project coordinated by JAVVA in the Centre Fedasil for non accompanied minors in Neder-over-Hembeek

Agreement on the final follow-up Plan of Action

Participants choose a specific topic from the previous draft plan of action, that they consider important to develop and gather in groups to structure concrete steps for its implementation, based on: Specific action/Next step – Who will implement/coordinate it – Until when.

The Plan of Action, that is also available on [Google Drive in the folder FINAL EVENT](#), is the following:

One of the activities to develop for the follow up of the project Learning Bridges agreed during the final event in Brussels is to take advantage of our best practices and information on topics of common interest, to **share knowledge and experiences**, improve quality of our projects and to strength our collaboration and networking, as in a good learning bridge!

- a) We identified 2 specific documents to translate, and some organizations proposed themselves responsible for this task:
 1. **Quality Charter Alliance** -> **Vive Mexico** will translate into Spanish and send the proposal to the group before 30th November (after the GA as the document is still under review) to receive feedback before mid-December.
 2. **Buddy System** -> **Concordias (UK and FR)** will translate the questionnaire and send it to the promoters, before the Alliance GA.
- b) We decided to share and translate other documents / information we have concerning different topics:

1. BEFORE 30th OCTOBER: Sharing documents

Everybody send/ upload in Learning Bridges google drive (Follow-up/TOOLS OF COOPERATION folder and respective sub -folders) relevants documents / manuals / description of good practices on these topics :

- **Preparation of volunteers (pre-departure / on arrival) ;**
- **Training for leaders ;**
- **Alternative fundraising;**
- **Training of trainers**

2. BEFORE 30th NOVEMBER : Sort and selection of documents

The " pairs / trios " of organizations check, sort and select the most relevant documents and make a proposal for those we need to translate (I propose to fill an excell in Google Drive : "List of translation_Lista de documentos para traducir.xls " (of course you are free to change the index of the columns if needed):

- Preparation of the volunteers (at the exit / on arrival) - > [SES + Cocat](#)
- Training for Project Leaders -> [Chiriboga + YAP IT](#)
- Alternative funding sources - > [Vive Mexico + Alliance + CiA](#)
- Training of Trainers - > [ACI + JAVVA + Concordia FR](#)

3. IN DECEMBER : Priorities and Schedule

We decide which documents we want to translate and set out a timetable according to our priorities.

4. FROM DECEMBER : Translation

We start a call for organizations/volunteers to translate the documents. In Brussels we mentioned the fact that translation should be not a voluntary activity but a paid one. In order to involve the volunteers but still offer them a compensation for their work, a proposal is to ease their access to voluntary projects by, for example, send them to a workcamp without asking for the participation fee.

Final evaluation of the event and closing

These are the results of the written evaluation.

1 = very bad 5 = very good		Average
Living conditions	Facilities	3,9
	Location	4,7
	Food	4,6
	Working spaces	4,2
The Work programme	Working methodology	4,3
	Time management	4,4
	Results achieved regarding the project	4,6
	Results for your org	4,5
	The contribution of the meeting to the follow-up of the project	4,5
Open event - presentation of the project	Logistics and organisation	4,8
	Impact for the project	4,8
The group	Cooperation within our group: the collective work	4,6
	Participation and inclusion of all in the process	4,4
	The intercultural exchange within and outside working sessions	4,7
Facilitators	Work of facilitators	4,9
	Their flexibility	4,8
	Their availability	4,8
Overall level of satisfaction		4,6

Some of the most positive aspects identified by participants were:

- The chance to meet again people and partners, develop initiatives together and reinforce the networking links
- The information retrieved about the activities implemented along the project and their results.

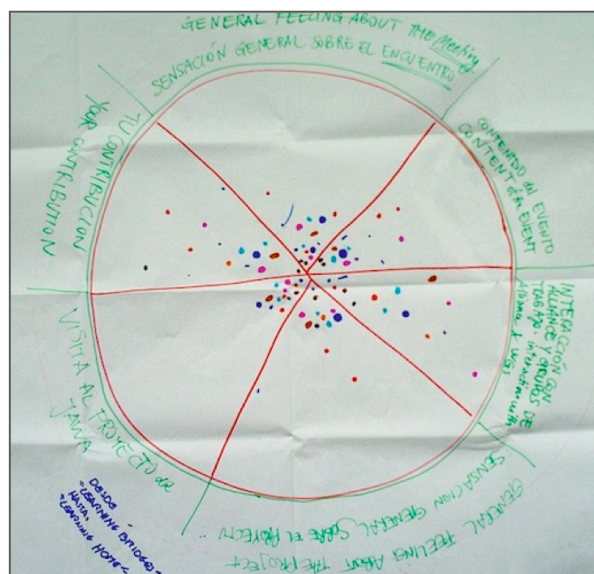
- The inspiration and ideas resulting from the joint work, during the meeting, on the follow-up plan of action and the agreements reached to ensure the sustainability of the project.
- The learning and enrichment gained at personal and professional level.
- The working tools and important documents shared that will help to increase quality standards.
- The participation of everybody, the translation and methodologies used that encouraged participation.
- The presence and contact with Alliance Executive Committee and Working Groups
- The presentation of the project during the Open Day event

The most negative aspects that could have been improved were:

- Time management: time lost in the translations, no time to talk about organisations and activities or to deepen into the topics and define details, different working rhythms, no time to interact and work with Alliance working groups.
- Methods: There could have been better visualization of the discussion and results in some plenaries, and the session on Job shadowings was too passive and hard to follow.
- It was difficult to get to concrete results and to take real decisions towards a more concrete plan of action.
- No space or time to share products from our countries and no welcome at the airport.
- Not all participants were involved 100% in the sessions.

Participants are also invited to place a dot on each of the aspects written on the flipchart: the closer the dot is to the center, the more positive the evaluation is. The sections, starting from the top clockwise, are:

- General feelings about the meeting;
- Content of the event;
- Interaction with Alliance representatives and Working Groups;
- General feeling about the project;
- Visit to JAVVA local project;
- Your contribution.



From "Learning Bridges" to "Learning Home"...

... see you in the Alliance!

