



Eco centric learning factory

**TRAINING COURSE
SAMOBOR, CROATIA
21.02 - 01.03.2022**



TRAINING COURSE “ECO CENTRIC LEARNING FACTORY”

[21.02. – 01.03.2022., SAMOBOR, CROATIA]

ASSOCIATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT POZITIVA SAMOBOR
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TRAINING COURSE “ECO CENTRIC LERNING FACTORY“

This project aims to foster quality improvements in youth work, in particular through enhanced cooperation between organisations in the youth field and/or other stakeholders as well as enhance the international dimension of youth activities and enhance the capacity of youth workers and organisations in their support for young people.

The **Main aim** of this project is to repurpose outdoors as a learning space by equipping youth workers with a set of competences to learn how to work with the outdoor environment as a classroom and teaching media, based on the eco centric model of learning.

Main project objectives are:

- to increase the knowledge of participants about the theoretical basis of outdoor educational pedagogy, research and literature;
- to develop the knowledge of participants about the eco-centric model of learning as a set of methods to support development of both youth workers and young people;
- to experience outdoor methods and techniques and reflect on ways of incorporating them into daily youth work of participants, with a focus on young people with fewer opportunities, young people from marginalised background, radicalised youth or with refugees;
- to exchange practices, experiences, methods and techniques of outdoor and eco-centric education in order to increase the quality of youth work in participants' countries;
- to develop participants' competences in designing, planning, implementing and evaluating outdoor, experiential and eco centric learning activities;
- to develop personal (self-esteem, learning to learn) and social skills (communication, teamwork) of participants through outdoor activities and lessons;
- to promote Erasmus+ Programme and opportunities for education, training and mobility.

TRAINING COURSE OVERVIEW

Category	Data
Name of the project:	Eco centric learning factory
Type:	Erasmus+ KA1, Training course
Dates of main activity:	21.02. – 01.03.2022. (21 st and 1 st are travel days)
Project venue:	Samobor, Croatia
Number of participants:	2 participants per country (From 9 countries)
Age limit:	18+

TIMETABLE

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	
8.00 – 9.00	A R R I V A L S		BREAKFAST							
10.00 – 11.30		Introduction to project topic. Project rules.	Introduction to outdoor education.	Outdoor education in national context.	Outdoor expedition	Introduction to Ecocentric education	Eco-centric Learning Factory: Design session	The Project Factory	D E P A R T U R E S	
11.30 – 12.00		COFFEE BREAK								
12.00 – 13.30		Introduction of participants and organizations.	Outdoor classroom fundamentals.	The transition to outdoor learning (part I.)	Outdoor expedition	Mind Wind: A Nature Based Map of the Psyche	Eco-centric Learning Factory: Design session			
13.30 – 15.00		LUNCH								
15.00 – 16.30		Teambuilding	Outdoor classroom program, activities & curriculum.	The transition to outdoor learning (part II.)	Outdoor expedition	Eco-centric Learning Factory: Design session	Eco-centric Learning Factory: Design session	Learning diary & Youthpass		
16.30 – 17.00		COFFEE BREAK								
17.00 – 18.30		Erasmus+ Programme Youthpass	Qualities & skills of trainer/facilitator in outdoor education.	Sobel's 7 Design Principles	Outdoor expedition	Eco-centric Learning Factory: Design session	Shaping outcomes: The Handbook	Final evaluation		
18.30 – 19.00		REFLECTION and ASSESSMENT.								
19.00		DINNER								

21.00	Free time		Intercultural evening	Farewell dinner	
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IMPACT

Target groups of the project are expected to experience direct positive effects on the level of achievement of specific project goals:

The expected impact on the participants is reflected in the development of their personal and professional competencies as the most important intangible results of the project.

Participants will raise the level of self-confidence and motivation that can significantly improve their work, encouraging them to respond effectively to today's challenges and develop programs for young people that use nature as the most important resource.

A particularly important effect is expected for participants with fewer opportunities, who will participate in this project to increase their career chances (both within their sending organizations and in terms of further employment) and develop self-awareness, self-confidence and social skills.

The expected impact on partner organizations is to increase their capacity to design, plan, implement and evaluate outdoor education programs based on the values and principles of ecocentric learning.

Within this project, participants will acquire knowledge and skills that will improve their future youth. The knowledge and skills in the field of outdoor education and ecocentric learning will help participants to design and implement comprehensive educational programs that respond to

contemporary challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic upon their return to their communities.

The expected impact is the development of quality and comprehensive non-formal education programs based on outdoor and ecocentric principles that will effectively respond to the identified needs of target groups of organizations closely related to current challenges (especially those caused by the COVID-19 pandemic)..

APPLICATION FORM

Only the participants **selected** by partner organizations are required to fill in this form:

<https://rb.gy/sqvz1x>

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation and food within this project are funded by the EU. Participants will be provided with 3 meals per day and coffee breaks.

Participants will be accommodated in a **rural house** in a surrounding area of Samobor, in a 2-6 person bedrooms with shared bathrooms. House Rules will be delivered to the participants in preparatory phase and will be an integral part of Cooperative agreement between the organizer and each participant.

In the immediate vicinity of the house there is a playground, a large yard and a community house where theoretical workshops will be held.



IMPORTANT

Accommodation premises will be ready on your day of arrival at **17.00 h** (check in time). Please schedule your arrival accordingly.

TRAVEL

Travel expenses of the participants are covered in line with Erasmus+ Programme rules and European distance calculator. (https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/distance-calculator_en)

Please keep **originals of the travel tickets and boarding passes**, as without such documents we will not be able to make the reimbursement.

Reimbursement of travel expenses for the participants will be carried out through bank transfers (to the account of sending organization / group leader) after the main activity, upon collecting all relevant documentation.

The costs will be reimbursed ONLY if you take part in ALL of the activities foreseen within the project.

⚠ IMPORTANT ⚠

This project fully implements a practice of **GREEN TRAVEL**, in line with priorities set within Erasmus+ Programme guide for 2021. – 2021. Green travel is defined as **the travel that uses low-emissions means of transport for the main part of the travel**, such as bus, train or carpooling.

Therefore, it is preferred that participants travel by **BUS, TRAIN or CARPOOLING**. In such case, participants can obtain additional funding for their (accommodation and food) expenses on the way. Please consult the organizers for more information.

Reimbursement framework:

DISTANCE	STANDARD TRAVEL	GREEN TRAVEL
10 – 99 km	23 EUR	23 EUR
100 – 499 km	180 EUR	210 EUR
500 – 1999 km	275 EUR	320 EUR
2000 – 2999 km	360 EUR	410 EUR

Distance should be calculated by using **European Distance Calculator** (https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/distance-calculator_en) for each of the participants individually.

We kindly ask all of the participants to **calculate their travel distance in advance (prior to buying tickets)**, as in case if they fall within lower travel distance (e.g. between 100 and 499 km) their travel limit is lower.

Please consult us before buying any tickets!

⚠ IMPORTANT ⚠

It is important to obtain travel insurance for the full duration of the project, including travel days. The insurance **MUST** cover quarantine expenses (medical costs, accommodation & life costs) in case you are tested positive while in Croatia.

GENERAL TRAVEL TIPS

FROM ZAGREB MAIN TRAIN STATION TO SAMOBOR

If you arrive to main train station in Zagreb, first you have to reach the main bus station from where you can find a direct bus connection to Samobor. You can reach the main bus station either by tram or by walk.

You can find directions here: <https://goo.gl/maps/K34jT5ugwLut3pvu9>

FROM ZAGREB MAIN BUS STATION TO SAMOBOR

Local bus from the main bus station to Samobor departures approximately every half an hour. The trip can last between **30 and 50 minutes**, depending on whether it is a direct line.

Please note that you are supposed to buy tickets directly from the bus driver while entering the bus. Price for a one way ticket is **28 kuna (approximately 4 euros)**.

You can see departure times from Zagreb bus station to Samobor here (155 – Samobor – Sveta Nedjelja – Zagreb (Autobusni kolodvor): <https://www.samoborcek.hr/samobor-zagreb/>

FROM SAMOBOR TO PROJECT VENUE (VRHOVČAK)

When you arrive to Samobor, meeting point will be in the front (main door) of the main bus station. Our staff will be waiting for you to transport you by car to the project venue.

COVID-19 RELATED EXPENSES

Before making travel arrangements and departing to the project venue, please make sure to check the current COVID-19 related measures necessary to cross the border. If needed, each participant has to arrange individually their process of obtaining:

- certificate of vaccination, or
- certificate showing that you have recovered from COVID-19 and have received one dose of vaccine, or
- negative COVID-19 test to enter Croatia as well as to return back to their sending country.

Important information related to entrance to Croatia can be found here: <https://entercroatia.mup.hr/>

COVID-19 tests can be reimbursed **up to 200 EUR per participant** (maximum full amount, not per test >> if the participant needs to obtain 2 negative tests for the departure and return, the overall amount that can be reimbursed is 200 EUR) in accordance with the approved project budget.

IMPORTANT

If the participants are staying after the project (based on their own arrangement), the organizer **will not be able to arrange their departure COVID-19 test.**

SAFETY & RISK-PREVENTION

IMPORTANT

In order to protect themselves and others, it is necessary that participants pay attention to the prescribed safety measures:

- Everyone should wear a mask in public settings, especially when other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain;
- In closed spaces it is recommended to wear a mask and maintain physical distance;
- In open spaces it is necessary to maintain the required physical distance;
- It is necessary to cover mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing;
- It is necessary to wash hands often after being in a public place, or after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing.

The host will take all necessary preventive measures in accordance with the current epidemiological situation caused by the COVID-19 virus.

VENUE

SAMOBOR



Samobor is a city in Zagreb County, Croatia. It is part of the Zagreb metropolitan area. Samobor is located west of Zagreb, between the eastern slopes of the Samobor hills, the eastern part of Žumberak Mountain, in the Sava river valley. It is part of the historical region of Croatia proper.

You will fall in love with magnificent walks through the city, discovering culture and history, but also as you leave the city and head to the forests and mountains. Fresh air, untouched nature, sunny vineyards, family restaurants offering cozy atmosphere and local cuisine are perfect invitation for spending time in Samobor. During the year, there are plenty of events you can visit, especially the Samobor Carnival („Fašnik“) that takes place in February, Battle of Samobor in 1441 in March, Samobor Spring Fair and Salami Festival usually in March/April, Circus festival in April/May or Samobor Music festival in September/October.

Also, you should not leave Samobor without trying some of the specialties from exquisite local cuisine, „bermet“ (aperitif wine), „češnofke“ (sausage), „kotlovina“ (meat prepared in cauldron), „kremšnita“ (famous custard pastries), „ Rudarska greblica“ (miners pie) or some of the local wines that you can try along the Wine road. For all information about Samobor, please visit official web site of Samobor.

www.samobor.hr

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

DON'T FORGET TO BRING!

- Personal medication;
- Identification documents (ID, passport, visa, etc.);
- Health/travel insurance;
- Travel tickets and boarding passes (originals);
- Towel;
- Slippers, as it necessary to take off shoes when entering accommodation premises;
- Warm clothes; clothes for outdoor activities;
- Reusable cup.

It is necessary that every participant acquires health/travel insurance at their own expense for the whole duration of the exchange, as well as potential quarantine expenses in case you are tested positive while in Croatia.

Also, please get a valid EU healthcare insurance card (if applicable):

- if you're an EU citizen, you have the right on free health insurance that gives you access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare;
- **European Health Insurance Card** info - <http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=559>)

Official currency in Croatia is **Croatian kuna**.

1 euro = 7.29 kn

(InforEuro - http://ec.europa.eu/budget/contracts_grants/info_contracts/infoeuro/index_en.cfm)

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

All important contact numbers and information on safety procedures will be placed **in visible places at the project venue** and **introduced to participants at the beginning of the main project activity**. Some of the most important telephone numbers in Croatia are listed below.

Risk prevention measures shaped in the form of questions and recommendations are part of the Information Package, Application form and Partner Agreement and refer to health insurance, travelling, intercultural and linguistic preparation, special food and medical requirements, etc.

- (+385) 112 – emergency number
- (+385) 192 – police
- (+385) 193 – fire brigade
- (+385) 194 – ambulance
- (+385) 195 – search and rescue at the sea
- (+385) 1987 – road assistance
- (+385) 1 4640 800- HAK (Croatian automobile club)

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www.pozitivasamobor.hr | info@pozitivasamobor.hr
OIB 61385705389 | IBAN HR HR9524020061100985760

(+385) 11888 – telephone directory
(+385) 18166 – weather forecast
(+385) 18981 – general information
(+385) 11802 – international telephone directory

PREPARATION

TASK-RELATED PREPARATION

In preparatory phase of the project, participants will receive guidelines for preparatory tasks.

INTERCULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC PREPARATION

Croatia (kroʊˈeɪʃə/ kroh-ay-shə; Croatian: Hrvatska [xř̩ʋaːtskaː]), officially the Republic of Croatia (Croatian: Republika Hrvatska), is a sovereign state between Central Europe, Southeast Europe, and the Mediterranean.

Its capital city is Zagreb, which forms one of the country's primary subdivisions, along with its twenty counties. Croatia covers 56,594 square kilometres (21,851 square miles) and has diverse, mostly continental and Mediterranean climates. Croatia's Adriatic Sea coast contains more than a thousand islands.

The country's population is 4.28 million. The official language is Croatian.

Useful links containing useful Croatian phrases (some with audio)

<http://www.Learn-Croatian.com>

<http://www.visit-croatia.co.uk/croatianfortravellers/>

<http://www.hr/hrvatska/language/>

http://www.everything2.com/index.pl?node_id=1355876

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/other/quickfix/croatian.shtml>

http://www.linguanaut.com/english_croatian.htm

http://wikitravel.org/en/Croatian_phrasebook

Travel blog with useful information and fun random facts about Croatia

<https://www.chasingthedonkey.com>

YOUTHPASS

Youthpass is a tool to document and recognise learning outcomes from youth work activities. It is available for projects funded by Erasmus+: Youth in Action (2014-2020) and Youth in Action (2007-2013) programmes. It is a part of the European Commission's strategy that supports the reflection upon the personal non-formal learning process and outcomes.

While creating their Youthpass certificate together with a support person, project participants are given the possibility to describe what they have done in their project and which competences they have acquired. The certificate can be helpful in obtaining jobs and improving career progress since it can easily be attached to one's CV and serve as a proof of professional development.

8 Key competences for Lifelong Learning evaluated by Youthpass are:

- a. Communication in the mother tongue
- b. Communication in foreign languages
- c. Mathematical competence and basic competences in science and technology
- d. Digital competence
- e. Learning to learn
- f. Social and civic competences
- g. Sense of initiative and entrepreneurship and
- h. Cultural awareness and expression

The participants of this project have a right to obtain their Youthpass certificates at the end of the main activity.

ORGANIZER

POZITIVA SAMOBOR (CROATIA)

Pozitiva Samobor is an association, a non-governmental organization established in 2011. with the main aim to design programs for developing skills of young people, discover their talents as well as to teach them to take actions and responsibilities. We want to provide youth with adequate tools and motivation to activate their minds and bodies in order to become great leaders of 21st century.

www.pozitivasamobor.hr

info@pozitivasamobor.hr



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DISCLAIMER

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