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# **IMPACT ASSESSMENT OF THE YOUTH PROGRAMME IN ESTONIA 2000–2006**

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>SUMMARY</b> .....	3
<b>I. INTRODUCTION</b> .....	5
<b>II. METHODOLOGY</b> .....	6
<b>III. DESCRIPTION OF INPUTS AND OUTPUTS</b> .....	7
<b>III.1. INPUTS</b> .....	7
<b>III.2. OUTPUTS</b> .....	7
<b>IV. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE PROGRAMME</b> .....	9
<b>IV.1. IMPACT ON YOUNG PEOPLE</b> .....	9
<b>IV.2. IMPACT ON YOUTH WORKERS, YOUTH LEADERS,         ORGANISATIONS AND LOCAL COMMUNITIES</b> .....	11
<b>IV.3. IMPACT ON POLICY, LEGISLATION AND INSTITUTIONS</b> .....	12
<b>V. ASSESSMENT OF THE ACCESSIBILITY</b> .....	14
<b>VI. ASSESSMENT OF THE COMPLEMENTARITY</b> .....	16
<b>VII. ASSESSMENT OF THE UTILITY</b> .....	17
<b>VIII. ASSESSMENT OF THE SUSTAINABILITY</b> .....	18
<b>IX. ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFICIENCY OF MANAGEMENT     PROCEDURES, PROGRAMME STRUCTURES AND FINANCIAL     MANAGEMENT</b> .....	19
<b>X. RECOMMENDATIONS</b> .....	21
<b>ANNEXES</b> .....	23
ANNEX 1. INDICATORS.....	23
ANNEX 2. LIST OF EVALUATION QUESTIONS.....	43
ANNEX 3. USED SOURCES.....	44
ANNEX 4. QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE CONTACT PERSONS INVOLVED WITH THE PROJECTS OF THE YOUTH PROGRAMME.....	46
ANNEX 5. THE FUTURE CAPITAL PROJECTS OF THE YOUTH PROGRAMME: FORMAT OF THE FOCUS GROUP.....	63
ANNEX 6. SELECTED GRAPHICAL ILLUSTRATIONS OF STUDY RESULTS.....	64

## SUMMARY

The YOUTH programme, the EU's educational programme offering opportunities for young people between 15 and 25 to prove themselves, continue their self-development and take an active role in the society, was initiated in 2000.

In 2006, the YOUTH programme was completed and the final impact assessment was announced. In Estonia, the programme assessment was carried out by the researchers of the Department of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Tartu. The assessment included a secondary analysis of materials relating to the programme, questionnaire-based Internet surveys, focus group interviews with the contact persons and the participants in the programme, and discussions with co-workers of the National Agency for the YOUTH programme.

In total, the projects of the YOUTH programme have been funded in the amount of 6,373,966 euros in 2000–2006 in Estonia. In seven years, 1,628 applications have been submitted and 1,104 projects supported. In total more than 12,500 young people were involved in the programme.

The feedback from the participants was largely positive. Various studies related to the programme revealed that participation in the projects has promoted young people's self-confidence and strengthened their courage and their belief in themselves. Young people have become more independent and eager to take up something similar in the future. Youth exchange and voluntary service have fostered intercultural learning between young people. A number of practical skills (for example, communication and language skills) have been developed in the course of the programme.

The impact of the YOUTH programme is particularly important for young people with fewer opportunities, as many of them have limited possibilities to participate in instructive activities and acquire intercultural experience. For a number young people with fewer opportunities youth exchange has been the first trip abroad.

Participation in the projects has also contributed to better understanding of European affairs, and led to a more effective use of possibilities offered by EU institutions.

From the organisational point of view, the projects have helped to promote cooperation with youth workers in other countries. On the basis of experience and contacts gained, numerous new projects have been implemented.

Participation in the programme has added an international aspect to organisations, enriching them through a variety of experience and new knowledge, strengthening their solidarity and generally contributing to the creation of a common Europe. It is thus important to include more organisations in the future and increase their motivation and skills.

Local communities were most strongly influenced by youth initiatives. A number of projects included the initiative to establish a youth centre providing a specific location for youth work.

The National Agency for the YOUTH programme plays an important role in shaping the landscape of youth work at a national level. A national conference exploring the issues of non-formal learning was held in 2003. In 2005, a summer school of non-formal learning was organised.

Promoting voluntary work is equally important, as voluntary service has been a comparatively new phenomenon in Estonia.

Youth projects have helped to draw the attention of the public and local authorities to the problems which need immediate action.

A number of study results emphasised the need to increase the number of participants and promote participation across all counties. As the problem was defined at an earlier stage, the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme has already introduced a number of measures to widen the target group and advance the application procedure. Special training courses have been provided within the framework of the programme to involve different groups of young people with fewer opportunities. To promote the inclusion of Russian-speaking youths, all information materials and the website of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme were made available in a bilingual format.

In general, the impact of the programme corresponded quite well with the needs and problems to be addressed. Increased mobility and non-formal learning opportunities have extended the participants' knowledge about other countries, different cultures, and themselves. The participants have stated that the newly acquired communication skills and the ability to defend their position can be useful at the labour market. In spite of all efforts, improving the chances of

young persons on the labour market is clearly an issue which should receive much more attention in the future.

The work of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme has received increasingly positive response from the participants. Consulting and training activities provided by the agency have generated excellent feedback from those involved. The agency's homepage has been applauded for its good organisation and intelligibility.

In conclusion – the YOUTH programme, which had a particular importance for Estonia as a new member state, was successful in the fulfilment of the goals defined by the programme and in line both with general and local priorities. Recommendations concerning the further development are mostly connected with expanding the scope of applicants, placing a stronger emphasis on the issues of employment, involving more organisations in European Voluntary Service and re-organising the application procedure (including its flexibility and post-project feedback).

# I. INTRODUCTION

Providing opportunities to promote the self-fulfilment and versatility of young people is a vital prerequisite for the development of a growing and well functioning society. Formal education is primarily designed to offer theoretical knowledge. The development of skills and experience required for successful participation in labour market and social, political and personal life are often regarded as of secondary importance. In addition to developing the skills and abilities of younger generation it is also important to find ways to promote their social inclusion. Several EU programmes have been introduced since 1988 to develop this particular field of activity. Estonia has participated since 1998. The year 2000 witnessed the launch of the YOUTH programme, a main educational programme offering opportunities for young people between 15 and 25 to prove themselves continue their self-development and take an active role in the society, was initiated. In 2006, the YOUTH programme was completed, and the programme “Youth in Action” initiated. To mark the end of the first programme, the final impact assessment of the YOUTH programme was announced according to the “Guidelines to Programme Countries with regard to the 2007 national report on the implementation and impact of the YOUTH Community action programme”. The evaluation questions provided in the above-mentioned document are included in *Annex 2*.

The assessment of the YOUTH programme was carried out on the contractual basis by the youth researchers of the Department of Sociology and Social Policy at the University of Tartu. The research group consisted of eight members and the assessment was conducted in February–May 2007.

The present document provides a brief overview of the main evaluation results. In addition to the guidelines established by the European Commission, national priorities have been taken into account. Therefore, under Action 1, Action 3 and Action 5, the priority is given to the following projects:

- projects including young people with special needs (with reference to social, economic, health-related, national and geographic disparities);
- projects of youth groups or youth organisations who apply for the first time and who have very few opportunities to get funding from other sources;
- projects from the regions with relatively fewer resources;
- projects involving countries which have had no prior contacts with Estonia within the framework of youth exchange;
- projects with innovative topics;
- Projects involving more than one partner countries.

Within the framework of Action 2 the priority is given to the projects including young people with fewer opportunities. Particular emphasis is placed on one-to-one relationships of hosting and receiving organisations, and a more equitable distribution of the geographical location of partner countries, the regional and gender-related variation of participants and the number of sending and hosting projects is being developed for the future.

## II METHODOLOGY

The assessment process included:

1. A secondary analysis of materials relating to the YOUTH programme (prior impact assessments, yearbooks, informative and statistical materials associated with the programme, etc.). A numbered list of used materials is provided in *Annex 3*. The primary data sources are referred to by number throughout the report (e.g. *Source 1*, etc.).
2. A questionnaire-based survey involving the contact persons of the YOUTH programme projects (referred to as *Survey 1* in the present assessment). The survey was conducted by the Internet. The questions had mostly a multiple choice form; in some cases the respondents were allowed to supplement the answers. The questionnaire is provided in *Annex 4*.
3. Specifying Internet questionnaires across actions
  - with volunteers who had participated in European Voluntary Service (*Survey 2*);
  - with the contact persons of youth exchanges (*Survey 3*);
  - with the contact persons of support projects (*Survey 4*);
  - with the contact persons of youth initiatives and training and networking projects (*Survey 5*);
  - with the representatives of hosting organisations of European Voluntary Service;
  - with persons responsible for the implementation of Future Capital projects.

Due to the small number of respondents the results of the last two surveys are used as additional material for focus group interviews.

4. Focus groups interviews:
  - with the participants in the Future Capital project (the format of the interview is provided in *Annex 5* (referred to as *Focus 1*);
  - with persons responsible for the implementation of projects involving young people with fewer opportunities (*Focus 2*);
  - with the representatives of hosting and sending organisations of European Voluntary Service (*Focus 3*).
5. Unstandardised interviews and discussions with co-workers of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme.

Regarding the recommended length of the report, only the main results of the impact assessment and the related proposals to improve the quality of the programme have been included. The assessment results are provided with references to the related evaluation questions (evaluation questions Q1-Q10, see *Annex 3*). A more detailed version of research results will be made available in a booklet scheduled to be published in the autumn of 2007. A selection of graphical illustrations of study results is presented in *Appendix 6*.

## III. DESCRIPTION OF INPUTS AND OUTPUTS

### III.1. Inputs

The main input that enables the implementation of projects is funding by the European Commission. In 2000, it was possible to fund projects in the amount of 317,467 euros in Estonia. The amounts have gradually increased and the projects received 2,118,032 euros in 2006. In total, the YOUTH programme projects have been funded in the amount of approximately 6,373,966 euros in 2000-2006. The programme budget has increased sharply twice: in 2004 when Estonia joined the European Union, and in 2006. The largest share of the programme budget has been allocated to youth exchange (Action 1.1). European Voluntary Service (Action 2.1) is the second biggest item of expenditure (*Source 24*). Further information regarding the actions is presented in *Annex 1*.

The National Agency for the Youth for Europe programme was founded in 1997 by the Ministry of Education and Research as a department of the Archimedes Foundation. In 2000, the same body was given the responsibilities of the National Agency for the YOUTH programme in Estonia. Initially the agency consisted of three members – the head of the agency and two programme assistants. The agency also employed a part-time accountant. It was initially located at the office of Archimedes Foundation, in two technologically well-equipped rooms with access to the conference rooms and common facilities. By the end of 2006, the team of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme (with the same juridical status) consisted of 12 people working under an employment contract (four of them part-time) – the head of the agency, three coordinators responsible for horizontal themes, five programme consultants, two accountants and a secretary–assistant. The agency is located in the building of the Archimedes Foundation Tallinn office. The agency has seven workrooms and access to various conference rooms on different floors. Nearly all the offices are suitable for holding consultations, but rooms for longer information and training sessions are booked elsewhere. The employees of the agency have up-to-date technical equipment at their disposal.

At the end of 2006 the Archimedes Foundation achieved the accreditation of the Quality Management System ISO 9001:2001.

### III.2. Outputs

In seven years, 1,628 applications have been submitted and 1,104 **projects** have been supported (*Source 24*). The numerical data across years and actions are presented in *Annex 1*.

In 2000–2006, more than 12,500 young people in total **participated** in the YOUTH programme (no final data was available for 2006, as some of the projects were still running at the time of the impact assessment). Further information regarding the number of participants and projects is presented in *Annex 1*. The participation was the lowest in 2001 (632 young people), but since then it has increased year by year, reaching three and a half thousand over the recent years. Youth exchanges involve the greatest number of participants, making up more than half of all participants. There are also many trainees within the framework of Action 5. European Voluntary Service started in 2000 with 23 participants and there were 116 participants in 2006. In 2000, youth initiatives were conducted by 145 young people. After an interim decrease, the number of participants in youth initiative groups has been ca 200 over the past two years (*Source 24*).

Since 2005, the volunteers are given certificates and organisations suitable to host volunteers get accreditations. In 2005, 21 organisations were accredited, and 22 were accredited in 2006. Certificates have also been given to all participants in European Voluntary Service (*Sources 4, 5*).

**By age, the division of participants is** rather even – both secondary school students and 19–25 year olds actively participate. The core groups of youth initiatives are mostly younger, the majority being 15–18 years old and, compared to others, this age group is also slightly more active in youth exchanges. The average age of participants in Voluntary Service has decreased. In the first years, the average age was 22–23 years, while in recent years it is 21. The largest age group in Voluntary Service is 19 year olds. This may be linked to the desire to spend time abroad

and engage in some other activity a year before starting university or going to work (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

**By gender**, females have to a greater or lesser extent outnumbered males across all projects. In youth exchange, there have been slightly over 50% of females, but not more than 60%. In European Voluntary Service, the share of males has been greater in sending projects over the initial years of the programme – in the first five years, they constituted a quarter to a third of participants. In 2005, there were only 6% of males, compared with 20% in 2006. A reverse trend may be observed in case of host projects. In the initial years of the programme, the share of males was about 20% on average but since 2004, this has varied between 33–40% (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

**Regionally**, the most active participants in the programme are young people in Tartu county and Harju county, who submit the majority of projects across all actions. Other regions (where the number of residents is also smaller) are significantly less represented (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

The **topics** dominant in youth exchange have been related to the cultural sphere: cultural differences, topics related to art, local culture, etc. Another popular theme is nature and environment. Across all the years, a number of social topics have been selected, dealing, among others, with unemployment, crime, AIDS, health, disabled people etc. Several projects have also been conducted in the area of democracy and youth participation.

In youth initiatives, the main project topics in the first years were related to the recreational activities of young people, establishing meeting places and informing the youth. Since 2002, the priority was given to projects dealing with current social problems of young people, such as the rights and obligations of young people, violence, youth suicide, addictive substances, human traffic, and employment. An effort has been made to look for solutions and inform the public in the course of the projects (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

According to the number of partners, the **youth exchanges** are divided into **bi- and multi-lateral (including trilateral) ones**. In the first two years, bilateral projects slightly outnumbered multilateral projects. Since 2002, the majority of the projects supported have been multilateral, but their share has not exceeded 75%. In 2006, more than twice as many multilateral projects were conducted compared to bilateral projects (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

**The most popular partner countries** for Estonia in voluntary service are Germany and France, which dominate to a great extent. Significantly less voluntary service is performed in other Western and Central European countries (the most popular being Spain, Italy, Great Britain). Although Germany and France are the most significant of hosting projects, their dominance is not that prevalent. Among new cooperation countries, the preferred region with Estonian volunteers was Latin America, while only one volunteer came to Estonia from this region. There has been little cooperation with East or Southeast European countries.

On the other hand, there has been very close cooperation in youth exchange with Finland, Italy and Germany and there is a great number exchange projects with Great Britain, France and Spain. A number of youth exchanges have also been conducted in cooperation with our closest neighbours (Latvia, Sweden, Poland and Lithuania). Additional cooperation countries have been included in many projects (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).



## IV. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF THE PROGRAMME

### IV.1. Impact on young people (Q1, Q2)

Various studies related to the programme revealed that participation in the projects of the YOUTH programme has increased young people's self-confidence, courage and their belief in them. 97% of *Survey 1* respondents felt that the projects helped to increase their self-confidence (76% of the latter said that it was definitely so).

Participating in a project or conducting a project makes them see that they are able to accomplish something which expands their outlook and is meaningful for the society. 87% of those who participated in *Survey 1* claimed that the projects helped to promote their social inclusion.

Young people have become more independent and eager to take up something similar in the future. A number of young people have initiated new projects within the framework of the YOUTH programme, and active participation in society has increased in general. The programme presents a good opportunity and a relatively safe way to test oneself or stay abroad for an extended period, as there are people you can turn to when problems or questions arise. Therefore, the positive feedback received from the participants is hardly surprising: 98% of the volunteers (*Survey 2*) were satisfied with volunteer service (74% of the latter said that they were completely satisfied). Almost all respondents who had participated in Action 1 (98%) were content with their last project from the participant's point of view. The projects of Action 5 received favourable feedback, as well (*Survey 4*). The same applied to projects related to youth initiatives (*Survey 5*).

Youth exchange and voluntary service have fostered intercultural learning between young people. 93% of those who participated in *Survey 1* felt that the projects contributed to their ability to understand people with a different cultural background (77% of the latter said that it was definitely so). The participants in Action 5 equally emphasised the value of intercultural experience (*Survey 4*). The participants in focus group (*Focus 1*) typically found that voluntary service has enhanced their interest in the life and culture of hosting country and provided excellent opportunities for intercultural communication. They agreed that voluntary service made them more open and receptive to other cultures. Sharing experience with co-volunteers was also important. Some ex-volunteers from foreign countries have managed youth exchange projects in hosting countries after the completion of their service. The representatives of sending and hosting organisations who participated in focus group (*Focus 2*) pointed out that the process of sending and receiving volunteers – e.g. meeting people with different cultural backgrounds, organising activities introducing other cultures, etc. – has increased their awareness of different cultures both in Europe and all over the world

Young people participating in the YOUTH programme get acquainted with the similarities and differences, which lead to better understanding and tolerance towards other cultures and different people. The studies have shown that all young people have similar problems irrespective of the country, nationality, religion etc., and it is possible to discuss serious topics in order to find solutions together. Intercultural learning is more successful in the course of practical activity, where the goal may be the same but the approaches of different nationalities are different. Cultural experience broadens the outlook of young people and increases the motivation to learn about the history, culture and language of other countries (*Source 13*).

Intercultural learning does not only occur between the countries. It can also work at a national level, involving groups of young people with different backgrounds and interests. Some youth exchanges and youth initiatives involve both Estonians and the representatives of other nationalities, thereby promoting the establishment of contacts and more positive attitudes towards one another. A number of youth initiatives are related to sub-cultures in order to communicate their principles and promote contacts with other people. Contacts with different sub-cultures provide a point of reflection in respect of one's own identity: how I am different, where these differences come from and what do they entail (*Source 13*).

The YOUTH programme provides opportunities to engage in one's hobbies and hold discussions with others on interesting topics, which will help to find meaningful ways for young people to spend their leisure time. It is particularly important in case of young people with fewer

opportunities who often lack the financial resources to engage in their interests. Young people have been inventive in creatively combining artistic means of expression with current social issues. The examples include youth problems in cinematography, environmental education for children through puppet theatre and raising awareness of dangers related to addictive substances through a dance performance (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*). 95% of those who participated in *Survey 1* felt that the projects helped to enhance their creativity (62% of the latter said that it was definitely so).

A number of practical skills have been developed in the course of the YOUTH programme, communication skills being most highly valued among young people. Firstly, the courage to openly communicate and make oneself understandable to Estonians as well as to foreigners, and secondly, the formulation of one's viewpoints and argumentation, the skills of holding negotiations and solving conflicts (*Source 13*).

The majority (96%) of the respondents involved in Action 3 agreed that participation in youth exchange improved their communication skills (*Survey 3*). 92% of the respondents participating in youth initiatives felt that the projects helped to develop the communication skills of the members of core groups (*Survey 5*).

Communication skills are closely related to the development of language skills, which are promoted by talking to young people of a different nationality and living in a foreign family during the exchange period. 89% of those who participated in *Survey 1* felt that participation helped to improve their foreign language skills (74% said that it was definitely so). 66% of the volunteers thought that participation in European Volunteer Service improved first of all their language skills (*Survey 2*). The majority (90%) of those who participated in youth exchange projects agreed that projects offered excellent opportunities to practice foreign languages (*Survey 3*). The improvement of language skills was also emphasised by the participants in focus group (*Focus 1*).

Youth exchange being a short-term project, the positive effect is associated with the increased motivation to learn foreign languages, discovering that those with better language skills hold an advantage. Some young people were so eager to learn each other's mother tongues that they started to take language classes to learn a new language back home. It was important for young people to learn that language skills and the courage to speak can be developed in the course of communication – conversations became more fluent day by day (*Source 13*). As a result of the programme, young people have also acquired the skills of writing and project implementation. All volunteers who answered the relevant question in *Survey 2* found that they have acquired the skills to prepare projects for submission to international foundations and manage such projects.

In regard to *Survey 1*, special attention should be drawn on acquiring new skills and knowledge on the project topics. The majority of the respondents (98%) agreed that they were offered excellent opportunities to do so in the course of the projects (*Survey 3*).

This impact is most often indicated by the core groups of youth initiative. Knowledge and practical experience have been acquired in regard of the preparation of projects, doing accounts and motivating oneself and others. The conclusion of contracts and agreements was also learned. Of the experiences acquired in the course of the project, young people considered the abilities to assess the situation, plan activities and activate initiative the most important. The projects have spread the skills of teamwork, consideration towards others and the development of conscientiousness (*Source 22*). Almost all the respondents participating in the youth exchange survey felt that the projects helped the members of core groups to acquire the skills for project management and enhance their experience in teamwork (*Survey 5*).

90% of those who participated in *Survey 2* found that participation in European Voluntary Service involved the acquisition of new skills and knowledge, including the skills to plan and assess activities.

The impact of the YOUTH programme is particularly important for young people with special needs as many of them have fewer opportunities for instructive activities and acquiring intercultural experience. Those who participated in *Survey 3* emphasised the need to provide better opportunities to young people with fewer opportunities in relation of youth exchange. For a number of young people with fewer opportunities, youth exchange was the first trip abroad (*Source 13*).

Young people with fewer opportunities often have problems with self-confidence, as they have been repeatedly told that they cannot do anything right. In the YOUTH programme, the attitude towards them is unprejudiced and a number of young persons have experienced that they

can cope with doing volunteer work abroad, or managing a project. At best, participation in the programme has brought about an increased interest to in attending school and abandoning anomalous behaviour (*Source 13*). One of the positive effects was the realisation that they are neither useless nor unnecessary, but fully capable of doing something to help others and contribute to the development of society (*Source 6*). Young people with special needs who participated in focus groups pointed out that their volunteer experience has encouraged other people like them to meet similar challenges, prove themselves and cope on their own. Another significant development concerned the increasingly positive attitudes towards young people with special needs travelling around and discovering the world (*Focus 1, 3*).

In view of the above, special attention should be drawn to the fact that 67% of those who participated in *Survey 1* felt that the projects helped to decrease the risk behaviour of young people.

Participation also contributed to better understanding of European affairs and a more effective use of possibilities offered by EU institutions. 82% of those who participated in *Survey 1* felt that the projects helped to increase their understanding of European affairs. 77% said that the projects helped them to use the cooperation opportunities offered by pan-European institutions. 55% of the respondents claimed that the projects did not contribute to better understanding of the working principles of EU institutions, whereas 45% were of contrary opinion. The majority (98%) of those who participated in youth exchange projects agreed that the projects encouraged them to get involved in further international projects (*Survey 3*).

#### **IV.2. Impact on youth workers, youth leaders, organisations and local communities (Q3)**

76% of those who participated in *Survey 1* found that the projects helped to promote cooperation with youth workers in other counties.

The youth workers find that their competence has increased as a result of their participation in the trainings, seminars and study visits within the framework of Action 5 (*Source 8*). In professional individual development, the acquisition of new methods through the programme, international exchange of experience, the establishment of new contacts, the generation of new ideas and the motivation to implement these ideas were considered most important (*Survey 4*). The same survey showed that the projects helped the participating institutions and organisations to find partners for future projects.

Knowledge regarding the YOUTH programme, international project management and the organisation of youth work in different countries has also increased. On the basis of experience and contacts gained under Action 5, numerous new projects have been implemented, the majority of which deal with youth exchange and voluntary service (*Source 8*).

Joint implementation of a project helps to unite the members of an organisation or a group. Setting up teams, starting the work, dividing tasks and solving problems together creates a strong bond among the members of the group. In the course of implementing projects, people have acquired in-depth knowledge of their organisation and its members, as a result of which future work and activities become more efficient (*Source 13*).

Participation in the YOUTH programme has added an international aspect to organisations, enriching them through a variety of experience and new knowledge, strengthening the solidarity and generally contributing to the creation of a common Europe. A volunteer from abroad may inject new energy into entire organisation with their initiative and bring a fresh bystander perspective to the activity of an organisation (*Source 13*).

A number of ex-volunteers have managed additional projects after the completion of their service in cooperation with organisations they are involved with. Solving different volunteer-related problems can provide useful lessons to relevant organisations. The target groups of youth work organisations, including young people with social problems and young people with learning disabilities have also benefited from voluntary experience. The representatives of organisations believe that both the organisations themselves and the people involved with them (including local inhabitants) have significantly broadened their outlook through contacts with volunteers in spite of the fact that the impact is extremely difficult to measure (*Focus 2*).

Compared to the initial years of the programme, interest of organisations in hosting and sending volunteers has increased significantly and their number has grown (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*). However, the volunteer is still in most cases the initiator and the chief organiser of the project. It is important to include more organisations and increase their motivation and skills in being a sending or hosting organisation.

Local communities were most strongly influenced by youth initiatives. A number of projects include the initiative to establish a youth centre (particularly in the initial years of the programme), which, representing a major change, provided a basis for a specific location for future youth work. Projects conducted by young people remind local residents and the local government that there are young people out there, willing to take action and ready for cooperation. Young people are also likely to have innovative ideas for the development of local life, which may, for instance, originate from what they have seen and experienced in the course of youth exchange (*Source 13*). Youth initiatives have often proved to be extremely useful for drawing attention to potential problems, offering guidelines for the local government to look at further measures to deal with the problem. For example, a group of young people from Haapsalu prepared an overview of the opportunities offered to the young people of the town within the framework of youth work, which gained the attention and support of the city government (*Source 20*). 92% of those who participated in the youth initiative survey thought that the projects promoted young people's inclusion in local life, and 88% felt that the projects contributed to the development of local youth work (*Survey 5*).

Cooperation at a local level is often hindered by a lack of interest from organisations and institutions. Local governments have offered help with premises, but very little interest is shown in closer cooperation or providing financial aid (*Source 13*). For smoother running of youth initiatives, the awareness and motivation of local governments to cooperate with the groups of young people should be increased. At best, funding by local governments could become the basis for the continuation of projects when funding by the YOUTH programme has come to an end, but the participants want to go on with the project.

Implementation of successful projects has also served as a good example of active participation in the community life, promoting the inclusion of other local youths. Participating in the YOUTH programme can prove that exciting and useful activities can also take place in rural areas, which young people tend to leave due to boredom (*Source 13*).

Youth initiative projects have promoted the development of tolerance and understanding between people from different communities, schools, national groups and sub-cultures, drawing them together for joint activities. Communication helps to abolish prejudices and in some cases even hostility, e.g. between Estonian and Russian youths. The youth initiatives have also promoted cooperation and understanding between generations (*Source 13*).

The impact of the activities of Estonian volunteers in a target country is another topic worth mentioning. 53% of the respondents thought that their service influenced the hosting organisation at a wider level, for example, at a community level (*Survey 2*). In terms of wider impact, public appearances (including those introducing Estonia) and organising events for wider public were mentioned.

### **IV.3. Impact on policy, legislation and institutions (Q4)**

National Agency for the YOUTH Programme plays an important role in shaping the landscape of youth work at a national level. In cooperation with the Ministry of Education and Research, the principles of the White Paper on European youth policy were introduced to Estonian youth workers.

A national conference exploring the issues of non-formal learning was held in 2003. In 2005, a summer school of non-formal learning was organised to encourage the adoption of values, principles and methods of non-formal learning in future youth work practice, which was attended by a wide range of different youth work specialists. The next step was taken by developing a website of non-formal learning, which would provide an easy access to the essential information on non-formal learning (*Source 4*). Both the summer school and the website were supported by the Ministry of Education and Research.

Equally important at a national level is the volunteer work performed within the framework of the YOUTH programme, since voluntary service has been a comparatively new phenomenon in Estonia and not as widely spread and highly valued as in several other member states. Receiving foreign volunteers was the first volunteer experience for a number of participating organisations, providing further motivation to involve local volunteers in their activities (*Source 13*). An important step towards the development of Estonian voluntary service took place in 2004 with the establishment of the non-profit association *Maailmakodanik* representing those who had attended European Voluntary Service. In addition to programme-specific objectives to develop and disseminate information regarding European Voluntary Service, the organisation also supports wider objectives. These include promoting citizen movement among the Estonian youth and developing cooperation with organisations representing similar target groups. Other aims include contributing to the integration of Estonian youth into the European Union and introducing Estonia in other member states (*Source 17*). However, the assessment results indicated that the association and its activities are relatively unknown to the wider public (*Focus 1*).

Youth projects have helped to draw the attention of the public and local authorities to the problems which need immediate action. For example, an international training project for youth organisations of sexual minorities was supported within the framework of Action 5 in 2005. The youth exchange project of the support association of the disabled people of Jõgeva county attracted considerable public interest, revealing that Estonian insurers refuse to insure mentally disabled persons. Following the practice of foreign countries and the principles of equal treatment, the project managers asked the press and the relevant institutions to look into the problem (*Source 4*). Equally important is the programme's impact on the social position of minorities. Those involved in focus group stressed the significance of an initiative which would set a good example to the society – or at least attract the attention of other people (*Focus 3*).

The YOUTH programme has greatly contributed to the international cooperation in youth work. The expected outputs included fostering the cooperation in youth policy, which, however, produced much weaker impact than youth work.

The YOUTH programme also tries to bring together the policy-makers and those whom the policies are likely to affect (young persons, youth organisations). The above-mentioned summer school of non-formal learning, which brought together state officials, youth leaders and youth workers from different organisations is a good example of mutual cooperation (*Source 4*). It is thus very important to try to establish and maintain a dialogue between the employees of local government and youth work organisations which still tend to be rather weak.

## V. ASSESSMENT OF THE ACCESSIBILITY (Q5)

Several sources used to compile the present report emphasise the need to increase the number of participants (in *Survey 1*, which was conducted within the framework of final assessment each participant was involved in an average of 3 projects and some respondents took part in several dozens of projects) and increase participation across all counties.

As the problem has already been defined at an earlier stage (*Source 13*), the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme has already introduced a number of different measures to widen the target group and advance the application procedure.

The participants claim that the advice and help offered by the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme to acquire information and perform the application procedures has been excellent. The participants emphasised the high competence and friendliness of agency's employees. In addition to the regular consulting sessions at the office, the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme has organised information days each year to recruit potential applicants. The agency organises trainings and interim assessments for successful applicants, which has improved the quality of the projects. The action-related preparatory trainings are expected to offer more practical advice and comparisons, and so do the positive and negative examples from other countries and organisations who have already participated in the programme. One of the main goals of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme in 2006 was to increase the pool of trainers and improve their competence (*Source 5*). Special emphasis was laid on the participation in international training and other forms of self-education, since one of the agency's main objectives is to promote trainer competence and competitiveness in accordance with the standards of international youth work training to ensure the high quality of training provided within the framework of the programme (*Source 8*).

In order to include as many young people as possible in the YOUTH programme, certain groups of young people are prioritised in granting funding. In Estonia, this applies to the young people with fewer opportunities (due to the social, economic, regional and national disparities and mental or physical disabilities), the first-time applicants and non-formal youth groups, who have very few opportunities to get funding from other sources (*Source 18*).

Very few young persons with special needs participated in the programme over the initial years. Henceforth, the average share of young people with fewer opportunities has been about 30% in international youth exchange, 35% in youth initiative projects and 25% in support measures (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*). The participants in focus group thought that one of the positive effects making a real difference for young people with fewer opportunities was the opportunity to develop their communication skills, self-confidence and language skills; another positive effect concerned their grades and behaviour (*Focus 3*).

Special training courses have been provided within the framework of the YOUTH programme or on the initiative of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme to involve different groups of young people with fewer opportunities. For example, "Call for Participation", an international training course for young persons with physical disabilities and youth workers assisting them was supported by the 2004 budget. "Social inclusion" – a handbook by the European Commission and the Council of Europe, translated into Estonian with the help of the Ministry of Education and Research – and the related seminar are expected to further promote the inclusion of young people with special needs. It should be noted that several projects were initiated and implemented by physically disabled young people. Other means of improving the accessibility include international exchange of young people with reduced mobility and a youth initiative of visually impaired young persons (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

To promote the inclusion of Russian-speaking youths, all the information materials and the website of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme were made available in bilingual format. Special information days and seminars have been held to promote the involvement of the Russian-speaking target group. As a sequel of information days, the agency organised two bilingual project management trainings on youth exchange in the following year (*Source 5*).

In 2005–2006, a long-term training for young prisoners was organised by the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme. As a result, nine youth initiative projects and one voluntary service project were received by the time of drafting the 2006 report. In 2006, Estonia began cooperation with SALTO, a resource centre for inclusion in Belgium, which led to the first all-

European “No offence” training course for specialists working with young ex-offenders held within the framework of the YOUTH programme (*Sources 4, 5*).

In order to include a new target group, an information project was carried out in the children's homes (*Source 5*).

The share of first-time applicants within the youth initiative framework was about 65% over the reporting period, about the same as the share of first-time projects which were granted funding. The National Agency for the YOUTH Programme has organised information and training sessions to continuously include young people and encourage them to apply for projects. The quality of the projects submitted by the first-time applicants has improved across the years (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

The share of informal youth groups in youth initiatives was about 40% in the first years of the programme, indicating that unregistered youth groups have had excellent opportunities to participate in the programme and that their projects have been supported. Their share dropped to 20% in 2004, which, however, does not necessarily mean a change in funding priorities. It rather indicates that a growing number of active young people wishing to participate in youth initiatives find their way to youth centres or relevant organisations to implement the project together with and in the name of some institution (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

Gender-wise, females have outnumbered males both in youth exchange and voluntary service. The share of female participants was just slightly higher in Action 1, ranging between 51–60%. At the same time, males made up only 25% of those participating in voluntary service. The share of male participants was somewhat higher in the initial years of the programme, making up about 30% of all participants, but over the past years their share has dropped to 20%. It is by no means a question of discrimination; rather it is about the lesser interest of males in voluntary service. The issues of promoting the interest and participation of young men need serious consideration (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

## VI. ASSESSMENT OF THE COMPLEMENTARITY (Q6)

The YOUTH programme has greatly contributed to the increasing cooperation between the youth workers of different countries. Sharing experience, good practice and working methods and techniques has demonstrated the importance of international cooperation in youth work, and more effort has been devoted to looking for effective ways to develop cooperation. The participants in youth worker and youth leader training have emphasised the impact of internationality as a means of breaking away from the ordinary pattern of everyday life and looking at the situations and solutions from a different perspective (*Source 8*).

The activities of the YOUTH programme are closely into line with the key documents of youth policy. The priorities listed in the European White paper on youth policy “A New Impetus for European Youth” are participation, voluntary activities, information and better knowledge of youth (*Source 9*).

To promote the participation of young people the YOUTH programme offers a number of opportunities to encourage active citizenship. The implementation of youth initiatives will give a fresh perspective to the existing youth organisations. Young persons will join non-profit organisations or create new ones in order to initiate a project. Many volunteers sent abroad continue working for the sending organisation on completion of their voluntary service. The YOUTH programme has enhanced the attractiveness of non-profit organisations among the young people, broadened their membership and increased the participation. New opportunities have been offered for social participation (*Source 13*). The impact on promoting the political involvement of young people has been somewhat weaker.

The National Agency for the YOUTH Programme is the main source of information regarding the opportunities and the application and implementation processes (writing a project, making a budget, team work management, etc.) of the YOUTH programme. The young people are also involved in preparing and sharing the information, especially in youth exchange projects. It is equally important that the target groups of youth initiatives should learn something new.

The YOUTH programme has offered new opportunities for international volunteer work, strengthening the solidarity with other cultures. Another key issue is promoting the idea of voluntary service among Estonians.

To learn more about the young people and improve the awareness of their concerns, the YOUTH programme proposes to foster international cooperation and networking, which enables to share knowledge and experience, and develop joint solutions.

Another important document relating to European youth policy is “European Youth Pact” (2005), which aims to improve the educational level, mobility, employment opportunities and social involvement of young persons, helping to balance the work commitments with family life (*Source 1*). The impact of the YOUTH programme has been particularly strong in the areas of mobility and social involvement, making a significant contribution to achieving the objectives. The programme should pay more attention on the issues of youth employment.

In order to promote the principles of non-formal learning, the programme proposes to enhance young persons’ motivation. Many participants in the YOUTH programme showed a keen interest in studying foreign languages. Various new skills, e.g. the skills for self-expression and team-work were acquired in the course of the projects (*Source 13*).

Eurodesk activities, coordinated by the non-profit organisation European Movement Estonia are closely related to the YOUTH programme. Eurodesk provides, among other things, information about the projects of the YOUTH programme. However, their work could be more effective – for example, there are no study results showing that the first contact with the YOUTH programme was made through Eurodesk. A positive example is the Euro<26 mailing list, which provides information concerning the trainings, youth days and other events organised within the framework of the YOUTH programme to all interested parties. A number of project management trainings have been organised. The non-profit organisation *Eesti Euroopa Liikumine* (European Movement Estonia) has greatly contributed to the activities of the YOUTH programme in Estonia, but their work could definitely be further improved.



## VII. ASSESSMENT OF THE UTILITY (Q7, Q8)

The impact of the programme corresponded quite well with the needs and problems to be addressed. Increased mobility and excellent non-formal learning opportunities have extended the participants' knowledge about other countries, different cultures, and – last, but not least – about themselves. The young people have also acquired knowledge concerning the topics of relevant projects.

87% of those who participated in *Survey 1* agreed that the projects enhanced their social inclusion. The YOUTH programme has helped to realise various ideas at a public level, which could not have been done without the funding granted by the programme. The results of the interim assessment indicated that about four-fifth of the respondents would not have been able to implement their project without the funding of the YOUTH programme (*Source 11*). Direct participation in the projects does not only increase the active citizenship of young people, but also sets a positive example for others (*Source 13*).

Particular attention should be drawn on the impact of European Voluntary Service (*Survey 2*): 71% of the respondents thought that voluntary service had rather fostered their active citizenship and involvement in addressing salient problems at the community level.

The YOUTH programme has encouraged the social inclusion of young persons. This is particularly important for the young people with fewer opportunities, who may feel cut off from public and social life for various reasons. The most common obstacle is the lack of funding. The work with young prisoners was an excellent example of promoting social inclusion. Participation in the projects of the YOUTH programme was one of the very few opportunities for them to be involved in social life.

One of the programme's objectives was to improve the chances of young persons on the labour market. This area is seen as problematic in earlier documents related to the YOUTH programme. However, 78% of those who participated in *Survey 1* found that the projects boosted their competitiveness on the labour market.

The participants have recognised that the newly acquired communication skills and the ability to defend their position can be useful at job interviews. The participants in European Voluntary Service felt that their voluntary work experience has boosted their self-confidence to compete on the labour market. 88% of the respondents felt that participation in European Voluntary Service has changed their working life (*Survey 2*). All ex-volunteers can obtain a certificate of their international voluntary work experience. However, the certificate is of little value on Estonian labour market. In some cases the participants have supplied a letter of recommendation from the hosting organisation at a job interview. Implementing their volunteer experience on the labour market was not the participants' primary concern; they rather valued the opportunity to test their adaptation skills, broaden their outlook and prove themselves in a foreign environment (*Source 13*). The participants in focus groups thought that experience acquired through voluntary service have promoted the professional career of the participants, as the volunteer work has offered them opportunities find out what they are really interested in and how to summon their courage to go for it (*Focus 1*).

In spite of all that has been done, improving the chances of young persons on the labour market is clearly an issue which should receive much more attention in future.

## VIII. ASSESSMENT OF THE SUSTAINABILITY (Q9)

The sustainability of the YOUTH programme relies on the positive effect on the participants. The programme has developed their skills, knowledge, and attitudes. The results of the interim assessment indicated that 77% of the participants were completely satisfied with their project experience, 22% were more or less satisfied and only 1% claimed to be rather dissatisfied (*Source 13*).

In regard of concrete impact, particular attention should be drawn on the results of *Survey 2* regarding the participants of European Voluntary Service. 97% of the respondents felt that European Voluntary Service had changed their personal code of values and their world view (62% of the latter thought that the change was fundamental). 88% of the respondents found that participation in European Voluntary Service had changed their working life.

90% of the respondents said that they had acquired new skills performing concrete tasks in the course of European Voluntary Service, including the skills of planning and assessing activities. 62% of the respondents found that they had primarily acquired knowledge about the daily life and social practices of the hosting country. 59% of the respondents said that they had, first of all, improved their intercultural communication skills. 68% of the respondents had acquired the skills to manage volunteer projects in their organisation and 95% of the respondents emphasised the knowledge acquired about the basic principles of voluntary service.

Another important aspect contributing to sustainability is sharing project experience with other young persons and youth organisations. The interim project assessment revealed that 63% of the participants had passed on their project experience, and the majority of them had done so three or more times. Most respondents had given advice, if asked to do so, and used their knowledge in the organisations they were involved with. The majority of the participants are eager to share their experience, but they have very few opportunities to do so, and their audience is usually limited to their friends and the organisation they work with (*Source 13*).

Young persons who have applied more than once also play an essential role in the sustainability of the programme. A great number of participants get involved in subsequent projects or apply for a new project within the framework of the same or some other action (*Source 22*).

Sustainable contacts and networks are created within the framework of the programme. Many youth exchange projects follow the principle that young people who have already worked together continue their cooperation at some later stage, and the roles of sending and hosting organisations will be reversed in the course of the next project. The contacts made at international training sessions and seminars have resulted in partnerships and the development of joint projects. A number of volunteers, who have completed their service in Europe, get involved with sending or hosting organisations. In some cases, a local network of different youth organisations and institutions has been established (*Source 13*).

The participants in focus group (projects related to young people with fewer opportunities) agreed that the programme has produced a snowball effect, as the young people who have participated in a programme once, get “infected” with new ideas, and want to implement them (*Focus 3*).

Media coverage is a great way to spread information related to the programme, evoke public interest and facilitate wider access to various target groups. The YOUTH programme has received wide media coverage over the years, including the articles in local and national newspapers, various radio broadcasts and popular TV shows. The national newspaper AKEN, financed by the Ministry of Education and Research and issued by *Eesti Noorteühenduste Liit* (the Estonian National Youth Council) is one of the information distribution tools for the YOUTH programme (*Sources 5, 6*).

Programme assessment is regularly carried out on the basis of final reports of the projects. It would perhaps be a good idea if the rejected projects received more detailed feedback. To ensure a more objective assessment and avoid relying solely on the opinions of project managers, it might be advisable to carry out more audit visits to the running projects (*Source 11*). In addition to the final report, a survey was conducted on the training activities and project-related procedures provided by the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme. In 2005, an Experience Cafe was organised for the participants in the 2003–2005 projects to evaluate the impact of the YOUTH programme both on the participants and on the society, and offer advice on the further development of the programme and additional support of the future participants (*Source 22*).

## IX. ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFICIENCY OF MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES, PROGRAMME STRUCTURES AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (Q10)

The work of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme has received increasingly positive response from the participants.

The results of the *Survey 1* indicated that 95% of the respondents were satisfied with the application review procedure (59% of the latter were completely satisfied). 64% of the respondents were *completely* satisfied with help provided by the National Agency during the application process. 74% of the respondents found that the assistance offered by the agency was more efficient than that of other funding organisations (answers “unable to compare” excluded). 62% were completely satisfied with the assistance provided by the National Agency during the implementation of projects. 58% thought that the assistance offered by the agency was more effective compared to other funders (answers “unable to compare” excluded). 65% of the respondents were satisfied with the help of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme regarding reporting, whereas 18% of the respondents claimed that they did not need help. 55% thought that the assistance provided by the agency was more efficient than that of other funders (answers “unable to compare” excluded). The participants in focus groups emphasised the fact that the answers issued by the National Agency were provided with recommendations to improve the project (*Focus 1*); another positive aspect concerned the helpfulness of agency’s employees in solving problems (*Focus 2*). However, it was pointed out that the process of getting feedback on final reports could be less time-consuming. The participants in focus group 3 were also satisfied with the work of the agency. The only suggestion was that more young people could be included in the preparation of the Estonian version of final report (*Focus 3*).

98% of the respondents were satisfied both with the employees of the National Agency, as well as with their cooperation partners (63% were completely satisfied).

Their efforts have greatly contributed to the successful launch of the YOUTH programme, which has become an essential component of the landscape of Estonian youth work. Consulting and training activities provided by the agency have generated an excellent feedback, and information dissemination activities have added greatly to young people’s and youth workers’ awareness of the programme. The main source of information was the agency’s homepage, which has been applauded for its organisation and intelligibility (*Source 11*).

In general, the budget of the programme has been sufficient to support the majority of functional projects. In some years, however, the funding remained inadequate, such as in 2002 and 2003, when only 55% and 58% of projects were granted funding respectively. Over the last two years, 70% of projects have been approved. Up to 2002, the project teams had to face a delay in receiving support payments; since then, the resources have been available in time (*Sources 18, 19, 20, 17, 21, and 6*).

The results of the interim assessment indicated that 40% of the respondents found the application procedure too complicated. The most common reasons were the protracted nature of applications, misunderstandings amongst project partners, and short application periods. The help and friendliness of the employees of the National Agency for the YOUTH Programme were seen as the most positive aspects of the application procedure, whereas the problems associated with funding generally produced the most negative responses – the applicants felt that the principles of funding remained unclear and it was extremely difficult to raise co-financing; there were also some cases when the funds had been delayed (*Source 11*).

The interim assessment indicated that about 66% of applicants were satisfied with the terms of application. The rest of the respondents thought that additional deadlines should be introduced. Some participants found that the period between the submission of application and the funding decision is too long. The project preparation would have been considerably less complicated if the project money had been made available sooner. 42% of the respondents reported having difficulties with completing the application form, but most of them agree that the National Agency has always been willing to give assistance, if necessary (*Source 11*).

95% of the respondents were satisfied with the application review procedure (efficiency, reasons for decisions, etc); whereas 59% of the latter agreed that they were completely satisfied (*Survey 1*).

The interim assessment revealed that the applicants who were refused funding felt that their projects had not been treated fairly. More feedback is expected on the reasons for unsuccessful applications. Should the programme council have any questions, further interviews are to be conducted with project managers, giving them an opportunity to express their views and making sure that the project content is fully understood by all parties. More feedback is needed on the projects which have already been implemented, to find out which aspects need more attention in the future (*Source 11*).

60% of those who participated in *Survey 1* claimed that the participants' personal expenses connected with the implementation of projects remained within the planned budgets. 30% of the respondents said that their expenses exceeded the budget.

About a quarter of participants interviewed during the interim assessment thought that the principle of fixed funding is unacceptable, as projects vary considerably in many respects, such as the number of participants, the nature of activities, duration, geographical location, etc. The programme should also provide opportunities to apply for additional funding, if necessary, which implies having a very clear idea about what the money is needed for. Another issue which deserves further attention is the self-financing of the young people with fewer opportunities, as most of them cannot afford to pay the 30% of the travel costs, and finding sponsors is extremely difficult (*Source 11*).

76% of the respondents thought that the scope of required reporting was quite sufficient (*Survey 1*).

## X. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following paragraph includes some recommendations for the future organisation of youth work, based on the research results presented above.

1. It would perhaps be a good idea to expand the scope of applicants both individually and geographically. For this purpose, information days could be organised in regions with low application rates. It may also be advisable to send a promotional bus introducing the programme around Estonia (performances with an additional programme, which is attractive to young people and could be delivered e.g. in schools and youth institutions). Furthermore, Internet ads may be displayed on portals visited by young people.
2. Another possibility concerns including more organisations in the European Voluntary Service and increasing their motivation and skills in being either a sending or a hosting organisation. Sharing the related experience and introducing the benefits of involvement in Voluntary Service to other organisations during the training sessions may also be useful. The network of former volunteers can be used to recruit organisations, if possible.
3. Furthermore, it may be advisable to increase the participation of young men in European Voluntary Service. The interest of possible participants is likely to be boosted by young men who have already completed their voluntary service sharing their experience at the events introducing EVS.
4. Still another possibility is raising the awareness of local governments and their interest in cooperation with young people in youth initiative projects. Materials introducing different projects could be sent to local governments, and informative events organised for their employees.
5. It may also be a good idea to promote the development of more sustainable cooperation between local governments, local youth organisations and the third sector agencies of youth work. The first step could perhaps be the communication of organisation-related information to local governments (e.g. with the help of the Ministry of Education and Research).
6. Placing further emphasis at action trainings on the practical experience acquired by organisations and young people who have participated in the programme earlier may also be useful.
7. It would perhaps be a good idea to consider the possibilities of introducing more application deadlines.
8. Another option includes conducting additional interviews with applicants in the course of project evaluation, if any funding-related issues arise.
9. Still another option is to outline in more detail the reasons for rejecting projects and, if necessary, employ individual consultations to determine the possibilities for re-application.
10. It may also be advisable to increase the flexibility of grant amounts. For example, a mechanism for justified additional funding could be introduced. Young people with fewer opportunities should have a possibility to apply for additional funding to reduce their own funding share and avoid their withdrawal from a project due to financial reasons.
11. Providing more detailed post-project feedback may also be useful.
12. Another possibility includes further promotion of the political activity of young people with the help of the programme, e.g. organising international discussions on political topics.
13. Placing a stronger emphasis on the promotion of the employment of young people might be a good idea. If possible, more discussions and seminars could be held regarding this topic, where the representatives of potential employers should also be included. In addition to the participants in voluntary service, certificates may be given to young people managing projects in other actions.
14. Still another option is providing young people with more opportunities to share their project experience, as the studies have shown that there is a strong motivation, but very few possibilities to do so.
15. The former organisation of Future Capital projects needs to be reintroduced. The new approach, which requires the inclusion of post-project activities in the original project, is not necessarily effective, requiring long-term planning and prior certainty of the success of the service.
16. It would be advisable to establish a network of organisations interested in projects, who would jointly express their needs and expectations concerning the projects.

17. To introduce the opportunities of voluntary service to a wider public, cooperation should be encouraged between the former, present and future volunteers. It may be advisable to provide more information on the non-profit organisation *Maailmakodanik* in order to enhance its role in uniting ex-volunteers. Another proposal involves the establishment of an official organisation of ex-volunteers.
18. Providing an opportunity to share their experience, post-service meetings of volunteers could be organised more regularly, for example, by the sending organisation may also be a good idea.
19. It might be useful to concentrate the activities related to the projects involving young people with fewer opportunities and the communication with relevant project managers into the hands of one employee responsible for all projects involving young people with fewer opportunities, irrespective of specific actions.
20. It may be necessary to introduce trainings promoting the skills for communicating information concerning programme inputs (e.g. media relations).

# ANNEXES

## Annex 1: Indicators

### A. Input indicators (financial indicators to be expressed in €):

1	Financial envelope of AGN operating agreements over 7 years	2000–2006 Overview of the total final grants: 1) 2000 61,291 € 2) 2001–2002 103,577 € 3) 2003–2004 212,074 € 4) 2005–2006 339,318 € TOTAL 716,260 €
2	Total financial volume of ADEC agreements over 7 years.	2000–2006 Overview of the decentralised actions budgets: 1) ADEC2000 317,467 € 2) ADEC2001 292,741 € 3) ADEC2002 335,690 € CBC2002 46,800 € 4) ADEC2003 485,360 € CBC2003 75,600 € 5) ADEC2004 1,086,225 € CBC2004 75,600 € 6) ADEC2005 1,464,851 € CBC2005 75,600 € 7) ADEC2006 2,042,432 € CBC2006 75,600 € TOTAL 6,373,966 €
3	Funds committed per Action per budget year	2000–2006 Overview of the total sums per Actions during the last 7 years: 1) 2000 A1.1 176,000 € 2001 A1.1 152,489 € 2002 A1.1 136,572 € 2003 A1.1 171,367 € 2004 A1.1 470,380 € 2005 A1.1 531,590 € 2006 A1.1 619,700 € TOTAL A1.1 2,258,098 € 2) 2000 A2.1 43,590 € 2001 A2.1 71,732 € 2002 A2.1 78,683 € 2003 A2.1 73,500 € 2004 A2.1 232,000 € 2005 A2.1 260,000 € 2006 A2.1 389,063 € TOTAL A2.1 1,148,568 € 3) 2000 A3.1 41,820 € 2001 A3.1 17,500 € 2002 A3.1 30,530 € 2003 A3.1 42,500 € 2004 A3.1 76,400 € 2005 A3.1 99,000 € 2006 A3.1 146,000 € TOTAL A3.1 453,750 € 4) 2000 A3.2 0 € 2001 A3.2 5,000 € 2002 A3.2 12,414 € 2003 A3.2 12,700 € 2004 A3.2 10,000 € 2005 A3.2 16,451 € 2006 A3.2 61,000 € TOTAL A3.2 117,565 €

		5) 2000 A5.1.1 17,931 € 2001 A5.1.1 8,100 € 2002 A5.1.1 42,229 € 2003 A5.1.1 77,800 € 2004 A5.1.1 90,000 € 2005 A5.1.1 112,000 € 2006 A5.1.1 210,000 € TOTAL A5.1.1 558,060 €  6) 2000 A5.1.3 (TCP) 38,126 € 2001 A5.1.3 (TCP) 37,920 € 2002 A5.1.3 (TCP) 35,262 € 2003 A5.1.3 (TCP) 39,493 € 2004 A5.1.3 (TCP) 78,555 € 2005 A5.1.3 (TCP) 91,810 € 2006 A5.1.3 (TCP) 119,064 € TOTAL A5.1.3 (TCP) 440,230 €  7) 2003 A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2 68,000 € 2004 A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2 128,890 € 2005 A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2 354,000 € 2006 A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2 497,605 € TOTAL A2.1, A1.2, A5.1.2 1,048,495 €  8) 2002 CBC 46,800 € 2003 CBC 75,600 € 2004 CBC 75,600 € 2005 CBC 75,600 € 2006 CBC 75,600 € TOTAL CBC 349,200 €
4	Percentage of funds committed per Action in relation with the total decentralised Actions budget.	1) A1.1 35.43 % 2) A2.1 18.02 % 3) A3.1 A1.2 (2007) 7.12 % 4) A3.2 1.84 % 5) A5.1.1 8.76 % 6) A5.1.3 (TCP) 6.91 % 7) A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2 16.45 % 8) CBC 5.47 % TOTAL 100 %
5	Financial envelope of Eurodesk operating agreements over 7 years (where applicable)	– insufficient information
6	Financial envelope of SALTO operating agreements over 7 years (where applicable)	– no SALTO offices in Estonia
7	Number of full-time equivalent staff employed in the a) NA, b) SALTO Resource Centre and c) national Eurodesk respectively over 7 years.	a) NA, over 7 years. 2000 – 3 2001 – 4 2002 – 6 2003 – 6 2004 – 9 2005 – 9 2006 – 10
8	Number of staff in regional offices of the NA involved in a) the management of the programme and/or b) assuming information and advisory tasks.	No regional offices in Estonia
9	a) Total direct national contribution to the NA operating costs over 7 years and b) percentage that this represents in relation to the Community contribution to the operating costs.	1) 2000 61,291 €all realised/8.56 % 2) 2001–2002 103,577 €realised 103,380.23 €14.46 % 3) 2003–2004 212,074 €realised 208,583.75 €29.61 % 4) 2005–2006 339,318 €realised 333,957.70 €47.37 % TOTAL 716,260 €100 %



B. Output indicators

Please fill in this table

10	Number of participants per Action a) per budget year and b) in total		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
		A1.1	639	531	445	730	1429	1637	1487	6898
		A1.2				7	111	237	414	769
		CBC			162	138	179	165	171	815
		A2.1	23	40	39	35	89	95	116	437
		A2.2					6	10	23	39
		CBC			2	1				3
		A3.1(initiative)	145	53	73	138	148	191	237	985
		A3.1(network)					39	24	51	114
		CBC					17	6		23
		A3.2		1	3	4	2	4	10	24
		A5.1	26	7	83	170	705	272	723	1986
		A5.2				88	131	151	216	586
		CBC			45		56		4	105
11	Total number of a) projects and b) participants under the Training and Cooperation Plan	a) 391 b) 4835								
12	Number of submitted projects a) per Action and budget year and b) in total (please list Cross-Border Cooperation and Training and Cooperation Plan projects separately)		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
		A1.1	43	40	57	67	112	100	79	498
		A1.2				1	3	8	19	31
		CBC			6	8	15	9	10	48
		A2.1	26	55	49	46	113	116	138	543
		A2.2					6	11	26	43
		CBC			2	1				3
		A3.1(initiative)	29	19	28	37	47	39	52	251
		A3.1(network)				1	3	3	4	11
		CBC					2	1		3
		A3.2		1	4	5	4	5	19	38
		A5.1	7	6	5	11	17	30	27	103
		A5.2				4	7	15	16	42
		CBC			3	6	3		2	14

13	Number of approved projects a) per Action and budget year and b) in total (please list CBC and TCP projects separately)	10-Total number of granted projects : 2000: 1) A1.1 31 2) A2.1 23 3) A3.1 13 4) A3.2 0 5) A5.1.1 7 6) A5.1.3 (TCP) 22 2001: 1) A1.1 26 2) A2.1 40 3) A3.1 7 4) A3.2 1 5) A5.1.1 6 6) A5.1.3 (TCP) 28 2002: 1) A1.1 20 2) A2.1 39 3) A3.1 9 4) A3.2 3 5) A5.1.1 4 6) A5.1.3 (TCP) 33 CBC 1) A1.1 5 2) A2.1 2 3) A5.1.1 3 4) TCP 5 2003: 1) A1.1 28 2) A2.1 35 3) A3.1 17 4) A3.2 4 5) A5.1.1 10 6) A5.1.3 (TCP) 48 7) A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2 4 CBC 1) A1.1 6 2) A2.1 1 3) A5.1.1 6 4) TCP 3
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2004:	
1) A1.1	54
2) A2.1	89
3) A3.1	26
4) A3.2	2
5) A5.1.1	11
6) A5.1.3 (TCP)	46
7) A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2	16
CBC	
1) A1.1	9
2) A3.1	2
3) A5.1.1	2
4) TCP	11
2005:	
1) A1.1	63
2) A2.1	95
3) A3.1	31
4) A3.2	4
5) A5.1.1	13
6) A5.1.3 (TCP)	73
7) A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2	25
CBC	
1) A1.1	6
2) A3.1	1
3) TCP	4
2006:	
1) A1.1	56
2) A2.1	116
3) A3.1	43
4) A3.2	15
5) A5.1.1	21
6) A5.1.3 (TCP)	91
7) A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2	45
CBC	
1) A1.1	8
2) A5.1.1	1
3) TCP	8

14	“Success rate” of approved projects in relation with submitted projects (please list CBC projects separately);	<p style="text-align: center;">Success rate CBC</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">2000</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">70,5</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">2001</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">66,1</td> <td style="padding: 2px;"></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">2002</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">55,2</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">90,9</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">2003</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">59,4</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">86,7</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">2004</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">63,6</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">65</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">2005</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">70,6</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">70</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">2006</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">77,9</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">80</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Total</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">66,2</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">78,5</td> </tr> </table>		2000	70,5		2001	66,1		2002	55,2	90,9	2003	59,4	86,7	2004	63,6	65	2005	70,6	70	2006	77,9	80	Total	66,2	78,5
2000	70,5																										
2001	66,1																										
2002	55,2	90,9																									
2003	59,4	86,7																									
2004	63,6	65																									
2005	70,6	70																									
2006	77,9	80																									
Total	66,2	78,5																									
15	a) Number and b) percentage of control/audit visits to granted projects	<p>As the percentage of audit visits makes up 10% of the total number of granted projects (TCP excluded and CBC included), the number varies from year to year.</p> <p>2000 74 granted projects 7 audit visits  2001 80 granted projects 8 audit visits  2002 90 granted projects 9 audit visits  2003 114 granted projects 11 audit visits  2004 222 granted projects 22 audit visits  2005 242 granted projects 24 audit visits  2006 313 granted projects 31 audit visits</p>																									
16	a) Number and b) percentage of on-site monitoring visits to granted projects	10%																									
17	Main age groups of participants in all Actions (apart from Action 5).	<p>Action 1 18–25 year olds  average age 21–22 years, the  largest group 18–19 year olds</p> <p>Action 2  Action 3 18–25 year olds</p>																									
18	a) Average activity duration in European Voluntary Service per budget year and b) share of short-term projects per budget year.	<p>a) Average activity duration of <b>long-term</b> EVS projects per budget year:  2000 – 8.6 months  2001 – 8.8 months  2002 – 9.5 months  2003 – 9.8 months  2004 – 9.9 months  2005 – 9.9 months  2006 – 9.7 months</p> <p>b) Average activity duration of <b>short-term</b> EVS projects per budget year:  2002 – 1.5 months  2003 – 0.8 months  2004 – 1.3 months  2005 – 1.2 months  2006 – 0.9 months  (for share of short-term projects – see point 23)</p>																									

19	Average grant per participant per project for each Action	<p>2000</p> <p>A1.1 31 projects 639 participants 176,000 € 5,677 €per one project 275 €per one participant</p> <p>A2.1 23 projects 23 participants 43,590 € 1,895 €per one project 1,895 €per one participant</p> <p>A3.1 13 projects 145 participants 41,820 € 3,217 €per one project 288 €per one participant</p> <p>A5.1 7 projects 26 participants 17,931 € 2,562 €per one project 690 €per one participant</p> <p>2001</p> <p>A1.1 26 projects 531 participants 152,489 € 5,865 €per one project 287 €per one participant</p> <p>A2.1 40 projects 40 participants 71,732 € 1,793 €per one project 1,793 €per one participant</p> <p>A3.1 7 projects 83 participants 17,500 € 2 500 per one project 211 €per one participant</p>
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A3.2  
1 project  
1 participant  
5,000 €  
5,000 per one project  
5,000 €per one participant

A5.1.1  
6 projects  
7 participants  
8,100 €  
1,350 per one project  
1,157 €per one participant

2002  
A1.1  
20 projects  
445 participants  
136,572 €  
6,829 per one project  
307 €per one participant

A2.1  
39 projects  
39 participants  
78,683 €  
2,018 €per one project  
2,018 €per one participant

A3.1  
9 projects  
73 participants  
30,530 €  
3,392 €per one project  
418 €per one participant

A3.2  
3 projects  
3 participants  
12,414 €  
4,138 €per one project  
4,138 €per one participant

A5.1.1  
4 projects  
83 participants  
42,229 €  
10,557 €per one project  
509 €per one participant

CBC  
A1.1  
5 projects  
162 participants  
A2.1  
2 projects  
2 participants  
A5.1.1  
3 projects  
45 participants  
Budget 46,800 €

2003  
A1.1  
28 projects  
690 participants  
171,367 €  
6,120 €per one project  
248 €per one participant

A2.1  
35 projects  
35 participants  
73,500 €  
2,100 €per one project  
2,100 €per one participant

A3.1  
17 projects  
175 participants  
42,500 €  
2,500 €per one project  
243 €per one participant

A3.2  
4 projects  
4 participants  
12,700 €  
3,175 €per one project  
3,175 €per one participant

A5.1.1  
10 projects  
157 participants  
77,800 €  
7,780 €per one project  
496 €per one participant

CBC  
A1.1  
6 projects  
124 participants  
A2.1  
1 project  
1 participant  
A5.1.1  
6 projects  
156 participants  
Budget 75,600 €

2004  
A1.1  
54 projects  
1,429 participants  
470,380 €  
8,711 €per one project  
329 €per one participant

A2.1  
89 projects  
89 participants  
232,000 €  
2,607 €per one project  
2,607 €per one participant

A3.1  
26 projects  
187 participants  
76,400 €  
2,938 €per one project  
409 €per one participant

A3.2  
2 projects  
2 participants  
10,000 €  
5,000 €per one project  
5,000 €per one participant

A5.1.1  
11 projects  
705 participants  
90,000 €  
8,182 €per one project  
128 €per one participant

A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2  
16 projects  
248 participants



128 890 €  
8,056 €per one project  
520 €per one participant

CBC  
A1.1  
9 projects  
179 participants  
A3.1  
2 projects  
17 participants  
A5.1.1  
2 projects  
56 participants  
Budget 75,600 €

2005  
A1.1  
63 projects  
1 637 participants  
531,590 €  
8,438 €per one project  
325 €per one participant

A2.1  
95 projects  
95 participants  
260,000 €  
2,737 €per one project  
2,737 €per one participant

A3.1  
31 projects  
215 participants  
99,000 €  
3 194 €per one project  
460 €per one participant

A3.2  
4 projects  
4 participants  
16,451 €  
4,113 €per one project  
4,113 €per one participant

A5.1.1  
13 projects  
272 participants  
112,000 €

8,615 €per one project  
412 €per one participant

A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2  
25 projects  
398 participants  
354,000 €  
14,160 €per one project  
889 €per one participant

CBC  
A1.1  
6 projects  
165 participants  
A3.1  
1 project  
6 participants  
Budget 75,600 €

2006  
A1.1  
56 projects  
1,487 participants  
619 700 €  
11,066 €per one project  
417 €per one participant

A2.1  
116 projects  
116 participants  
389,063 €  
3,354 €per one project  
3,354 €per one participant

A3.1  
43 projects  
288 participants  
146,000 €  
3,395 €per one project  
507 €per one participant

A3.2  
15 projects  
15 participants  
61,000 €  
4,067 €per one project  
4,067 €per one participant

A5.1.1  
21 projects  
723 participants  
210,000 €

		<p>10,000 €per one project  290 €per one participant  A1.2, A2.2, A5.1.2  45 projects  653 participants  497,605 €  11,058 €per one project  762 €per one participant</p> <p>CBC  A1.1  8 projects  171 participants  A5.1.1  1 project  4 participants  Budget 75,600 €</p>
20	Distribution of project themes (if insufficient data available: estimation)	<p>Estimated distribution between proposed themes.</p> <p>Action 1:  arts and culture – 30 %;  environment – 20;  European awareness – 10;  tolerance – 20;  health – 10  youth participation – 10</p> <p>Action 2:  youth work – 25%  European awareness – 25%  inclusion and social work – 30  cultural and natural heritage – 20</p> <p>Action 3.1:  health – 20  youth information 20  arts and culture – 30  environment 20  rural development 10</p> <p>Action 3.2:  inclusion of disadvantaged youth 40 %  youth policy – 20  environment – 30  rural development – 10</p> <p>Action 5:  diversity 30  European awareness 40  Inclusion – 30</p>

21	Distribution of project target groups (if insufficient data available: estimation)					
		Action	Year	Governmental organisation	Informal group	Non-governmental organisation
		Action 1	2000	29	17	54
		Action 1	2001	30	10	60
		Action 1	2002	28	12	60
		Action 1	2003	23	0	77
		Action 1	2004	25	5	69
		Action 1	2005	23	7	70
		Action 1	2006	13	4	83
		Action 2	2000	20	0	80
		Action 2	2001	6	0	94
		Action 2	2002	7	0	93
		Action 2	2003	14	0	86
		Action 2	2004	10	0	90
		Action 2	2005	7	0	93
		Action 2	2006	5	0	95
		Action 3	2000	8	17	75
		Action 3	2001	0	75	25
		Action 3	2003	7	27	67
		Action 3	2004	17	4	78
		Action 3	2005	26	13	61
		Action 3	2006	24	21	55
		Action 5	2000	0	0	100
		Action 5	2001	80	0	20
		Action 5	2002	25	0	75
		Action 5	2003	29	0	71
		Action 5	2004	24	0	76
		Action 5	2005	3	0	97
		Action 5	2006	16	3	81
		* All figures represent percentages				

22	Share of a) bilateral and b) multilateral Action 1 projects.	a) 47% b) 27%																																																																																																												
23	a) Number and b) percentage of EVS short-term projects in relation to all granted EVS projects per budget year.	a) 2002 – 6 2003 – 3 2004 – 6 2005 – 5 2006 – 11  b) 2002 – 14.6 % 2003 – 8.3 % 2004 – 6.3 % 2005 – 4.8 % 2006 – 8 %																																																																																																												
24	Nationally approved Host Expressions of Interest (HEI) since 1 January 2005.	47																																																																																																												
25	Number of external HEI accreditors working for the NA since 2005.	7																																																																																																												
26	Number of one-sided funding exceptions for Actions 1.1 and 2.1 since 2004	<b>2004</b> 1 <b>2005</b> 4 <b>2006</b> 1																																																																																																												
27	a) Number and b) geographic destinations of participants resident in your country having been sent abroad to other Programme Countries and c) top 5 Programme countries or country groups that welcome the most important number of participants from your country and d) that welcome the least important number of participants from your country (per Action).	NB! Based on the current data by Youthlink, further corrections possible. <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">A1</th> <th colspan="2">A2</th> <th colspan="2">A5</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Country</th> <th>Participants</th> <th>Country</th> <th>Participants</th> <th>Country</th> <th>Participants</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><i>FI</i></td> <td>201</td> <td><i>DE</i></td> <td>82</td> <td><i>RU</i></td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>DE</i></td> <td>187</td> <td><i>FR</i></td> <td>82</td> <td><i>NL</i></td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>DK</i></td> <td>150</td> <td><i>IT</i></td> <td>48</td> <td><i>FI</i></td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>SE</i></td> <td>143</td> <td><i>GB</i></td> <td>39</td> <td><i>UA</i></td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>IT</i></td> <td>105</td> <td><i>GR</i></td> <td>36</td> <td><i>PT</i></td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>GB</i></td> <td>102</td> <td><i>ES</i></td> <td>35</td> <td><i>AZ</i></td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>ES</i></td> <td>82</td> <td><i>AT</i></td> <td>24</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>PL</i></td> <td>82</td> <td><i>LU</i></td> <td>20</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>NO</i></td> <td>76</td> <td><i>PT</i></td> <td>14</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>FR</i></td> <td>70</td> <td><i>BE</i></td> <td>12</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>PT</i></td> <td>70</td> <td><i>FI</i></td> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>NL</i></td> <td>46</td> <td><i>NL</i></td> <td>7</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>BG</i></td> <td>37</td> <td><i>DK</i></td> <td>6</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>BE</i></td> <td>35</td> <td><i>PL</i></td> <td>6</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>TR</i></td> <td>28</td> <td><i>RO</i></td> <td>6</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><i>CZ</i></td> <td>18</td> <td><i>SE</i></td> <td>6</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	A1		A2		A5		Country	Participants	Country	Participants	Country	Participants	<i>FI</i>	201	<i>DE</i>	82	<i>RU</i>	13	<i>DE</i>	187	<i>FR</i>	82	<i>NL</i>	10	<i>DK</i>	150	<i>IT</i>	48	<i>FI</i>	4	<i>SE</i>	143	<i>GB</i>	39	<i>UA</i>	4	<i>IT</i>	105	<i>GR</i>	36	<i>PT</i>	2	<i>GB</i>	102	<i>ES</i>	35	<i>AZ</i>	2	<i>ES</i>	82	<i>AT</i>	24			<i>PL</i>	82	<i>LU</i>	20			<i>NO</i>	76	<i>PT</i>	14			<i>FR</i>	70	<i>BE</i>	12			<i>PT</i>	70	<i>FI</i>	7			<i>NL</i>	46	<i>NL</i>	7			<i>BG</i>	37	<i>DK</i>	6			<i>BE</i>	35	<i>PL</i>	6			<i>TR</i>	28	<i>RO</i>	6			<i>CZ</i>	18	<i>SE</i>	6		
A1		A2		A5																																																																																																										
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<i>CZ</i>	18	<i>SE</i>	6																																																																																																											

		LV	18	MT	4		
		SI	18	SI	4		
		UA	14	CZ	2		
		RO	14	HU	2		
		AT	12	IE	2		
		IE	10	LV	2		
		MT	10	SK	2		
		MK	9	TR	2		
		CS	8				
		HU	8				
		RU	7				
		BA	6				
		AM	5				
		GE	4				

28 a) Number and b) geographic origin of participants visiting your country from other Programme Countries (per Action).

NB! Based on the current data of Youthlink, further corrections possible.

A1		A2		A5	
Country	No. of young persons	Country	Quota	Country	No. of participants
<i>FI</i>	454	<i>DE</i>	141	<i>FI</i>	194
<i>DE</i>	362	<i>FR</i>	92	<i>LV</i>	144
<i>IT</i>	319	<i>ES</i>	17	<i>LT</i>	124
<i>LV</i>	277	<i>IT</i>	13	<i>IT</i>	119
<i>ES</i>	247	<i>BE</i>	12	<i>ES</i>	83
<i>SE</i>	242	<i>HU</i>	12	<i>PL</i>	81
<i>GB</i>	215	<i>CZ</i>	11	<i>RU</i>	79
<i>LT</i>	179	<i>PL</i>	11	<i>DE</i>	74
<i>PL</i>	172	<i>PT</i>	10	<i>SE</i>	73
<i>FR</i>	169	<i>DK</i>	9	<i>FR</i>	57
<i>PT</i>	157	<i>GR</i>	9	<i>PT</i>	54
<i>NL</i>	126	<i>MX</i>	9	<i>RO</i>	48
<i>GR</i>	118	<i>GB</i>	8	<i>GB</i>	44
<i>SI</i>	115	<i>BR</i>	7	<i>HU</i>	42
<i>NO</i>	106	<i>GE</i>	7	<i>CZ</i>	40
<i>BE</i>	92	<i>NL</i>	7	<i>TR</i>	37
<i>BG</i>	83	<i>UA</i>	6	<i>BY</i>	32
<i>RU</i>	82	<i>LU</i>	5	<i>GR</i>	31
<i>DK</i>	79	<i>SE</i>	5	<i>SK</i>	29

HU	79	SI	5	MT	28
AT	79	AT	4	SI	26
CZ	73	BA	4	AT	25
RO	69	CO	4	NO	24
TR	45	FI	4	BE	22
SK	45	PE	4	NL	22
MT	34	CR	3	CY	22
IE	29	RU	3	BG	21
IS	29	AR	2	IL	18
CY	23	BG	2	UA	17
LU	23	CS	2	DK	17
JO	21	GT	2	MD	12
LB	19	HR	2	LB	10
BY	17	LV	2	MA	10
PS	16	MK	2	AM	8
IL	15	TR	2	JO	8
CH	15			GE	8
EG	13			IS	8
UA	13			EG	7
MD	11			IE	6
LI	10			LU	6
AM	8			AL	5
AZ	8			BA	5
DZ	4			PS	5
GE	3			AU	5
TN	3			TN	4
				AR	4
				CS	3
				MK	3
				MX	3
				PE	3
				UY	3
				SY	2
				HR	2
				DZ	1

29	Distribution of a) outgoing and b) incoming participants in international cooperation projects according to country groups (Eastern Europe and Caucasus, South East Europe, Mediterranean Partner Countries, Latin America). (Per Action).	Sufficient data not available																																																																																																																																																																																																																
30	Share of female and male participants per Action and budget year (gender balance) for Actions 1, 2 and 3.	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1072 256 1256 284">Male/female</th> <th data-bbox="1263 256 1447 284"></th> <th data-bbox="1453 256 1637 284"></th> <th data-bbox="1644 256 1827 284"></th> <th data-bbox="1834 256 2018 284"></th> <th data-bbox="2024 256 2208 284"></th> <th data-bbox="2215 256 2240 284"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1072 292 1256 319">2000</td> <td data-bbox="1263 292 1447 319">A1</td> <td data-bbox="1453 292 1637 319">%</td> <td data-bbox="1644 292 1827 319">A2</td> <td data-bbox="1834 292 2018 319">%</td> <td data-bbox="2024 292 2208 319">A3</td> <td data-bbox="2215 292 2240 319">%</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1072 327 1256 354">Total</td> <td data-bbox="1263 327 1447 354">639</td> <td data-bbox="1453 327 1637 354"></td> <td data-bbox="1644 327 1827 354">23</td> <td data-bbox="1834 327 2018 354"></td> <td data-bbox="2024 327 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31	Share of granted projects involving young people with fewer opportunities (and for Action 5 with the theme of the activity related to the inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities).	20 %	
32	Share of participants with fewer opportunities (incl. people with disabilities) a) per Action per budget year and b) in total	Unable to provide, since up to now there has been neither the need nor the basis for the NA to gather such data (e.g. the application forms did not include questions providing such detailed background information about each participant).	
33	Share of participants with disabilities a) per Action per budget year and b) in total	Unable to provide, since up to now there has been neither the need nor the basis for the NA to gather such data (e.g. the application forms did not include questions providing such detailed background information about each participant).	
34	Share of activities under the Training and Cooperation Plan related to the priorities of the programme: active citizenship, inclusion and cultural diversity.	70%. It is still important to keep in mind that the format in which the priorities (either one or more) in TCP activities are reflected can differ to a great extent: they can either be the main topic including participants from respective target groups, or used as a respectively supportive method.	
35	Total number of participants in a) SALTO training courses and other SALTO activities (where applicable) and b) Eurodesk activities (where applicable); c) total number of SALTO activities and d) total number of Eurodesk activities (excluding virtual online activities).	a) 79 c) 33	
36	a) Total budget of volunteer trainings and b) share of volunteers actually participating in these trainings	a) 2001 expenses realised in EVS actions 1,683.03 € 2002 7,441.03 €- 1,274.32 €(CBC) 2003 8,084.15 € As the final date for submitting the final report for ADEC2004 is November 30 <sup>th</sup> 2007, the latest data has not been published yet. b) 96%	
37	Total number of a) YOUTH information events and b) YOUTH publications of the National Agency, the SALTO Resource Centre and Eurodesk (where applicable).		2005–2006
		Production of information materials and tools (the number of pieces)	238,565 (including T-Kits, yearbooks, badges, leaflets, posters, stickers, DVDs and CDs, coaching guides, postcards, T-shirts, pencils, balloons, etc.) )
			57 (During 2005/2006 a great number of information activities of different kind and scope were organised by the NA, and the target groups of the YOUTH and YiA programme's have been provided with relevant information. Large-scale information seminars and information sessions were organised in various Estonian schools. For example, the Estonian NA has participated in educational and youth fairs, organising information sessions at schools, organising information campaigns etc. They were mostly targeted at the young people at the age of 15 and 25. In the given years, the NA has reached approximately 8,500 young people directly and more than 40,000 young people were indirectly informed about the possibilities in the YOUTH programme over the two year period. Further information concerning the above mentioned activities can be found from the WP 2005–2006 narrative report (chapters on information and PR).)
		Seminars, conferences, fairs, ...	

			2003–2004
		Production of information materials and tools (no. of items)	37,230
		Seminars, conferences, fairs, ...	130 (54,000 participants)
			2001–2002
		Production of information materials and tools (no. of items)	8,950
		Seminars, conferences, fairs, ...	27 (46,150 participants)
			2000
		Production of information materials and tools (no. of items)	
		Seminars, conferences, fairs, ...	50
38	a) Number of EVS certificates disseminated since 2005 and b) percentage of volunteers sent abroad who actually received an EVS certificate since 2005.	a) 50 b) 39%	
39	a) Number of publications aiming to disseminate best practice and results of YOUTH projects and b) target population reached.	No data available	
40	a) Number of events that served the dissemination of best practice and results of YOUTH projects and b) target population reached.	No data available	
41	Rate of implementation of annual NA activities in accordance with proposals of the reference work programme (%)	95–100%	

## **Annex 2. List of evaluation questions**

### **Impact on young people**

*Q1: With regard to the general and specific objectives of the Youth programme, to what extent have the actions of the programme generated the expected impact on young people?*

*Q2: To what extent has the programme generated an unexpected (positive or negative) impact on young people?*

### **Impact on youth workers, youth leaders, organisations and local communities**

*Q3: With regard to the general and specific objectives of the Youth programme, to what extent have the actions of the programme generated the expected impact on youth workers, youth leaders, organisations and local communities?*

### **Impact on policy, legislation and institutions**

*Q4: to which extent has the programme produced an impact on policy, legislation and institutions dealing with youth policies?*

### **Accessibility**

*Q5: To which extent has the programme been inclusive, accessible and non-discriminatory in the sense of articles 4(2) and 4(3) of the legal basis?*

### **Complementarity**

*Q6: What type of complementarity has been developed in relation to other relevant national and European policies and programmes?*

### **Utility**

*Q7: to which extent did effects correspond with the needs, problems and issues to be addressed?*

*Q8: To which extent have the programme in general and European Voluntary Service in particular contributed to the EU Lisbon agenda to enhance growth and jobs by developing human capital and enhancing employability of young people?*

### **Sustainability**

*Q9: To which extent are positive effects are likely to last after the end of the programme*

### **Efficiency of the management and structures at national level**

*Q10: To what extent are the budget of the programme and the human resources deployed for its implementation, the financial management as well as the set-up and functioning of National Agencies, SALTO Resource Centres and Eurodesk commensurate with the intended outputs and impacts in your country?*

### Annex 3. Used sources (referred by source numbers)

1. Communication from the Commission to the Council on European policies concerning youth. Addressing the concerns of young people in Europe - implementing the European Youth. Pact and promoting active citizenship. (2005). EurLex, the official portal of EU law. [http://eurlex.europa.eu/smartapi/cgi/sga\\_doc?smartapi!celexplus!prod!DocNumber&lg=en&type\\_doc=C OMfinal&an\\_doc=2005&nu\\_doc=206](http://eurlex.europa.eu/smartapi/cgi/sga_doc?smartapi!celexplus!prod!DocNumber&lg=en&type_doc=C OMfinal&an_doc=2005&nu_doc=206)
2. *Eesti noorsootöö arengukava 2001–2004* [Estonian Development Plan for Youth Work 2001–2004]. (2001). *Eesti Noorsootöö Keskuse koduleht* [The homepage of the Estonian Youth Work Centre]. <http://www.entk.ee/failid/ENAK2004.doc>
3. *Eesti noorsootöö kontseptsioon* [Estonian Youth Work Concept]. (2001). <http://vana.hm.ee/uus/hm/client/download.php?id=161>
4. *EL haridusprogrammi Euroopa Noored Eesti büroo tegevused ja tulemused 2005. aastal* [The 2005 activities and results of the Estonian National Agency for the YOUTH Programme.]. *Euroopa Noored Eesti büroo dokument* [A document issued by the Estonian National Agency for the YOUTH Programme].
5. *EL haridusprogrammi Euroopa Noored Eesti büroo tegevused ja tulemused 2006. aastal* [The 2006 activities and results of the European National Agency for the YOUTH Programme.], *Euroopa Noored Eesti büroo dokument* [A document issued by the Estonian National Agency for the YOUTH Programme].
6. *Euroopa Noored* [European Youth]. *Aastaraamat '06* [The 2006 Yearbook]. (2007). *Programmi Euroopa Noored koduleht* [The homepage of the YOUTH programme]. <http://euroopa.noored.ee/orb.aw/class=file/action=preview/id=8975/2006aastaraamat.pdf>
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## **ANNEX 4. Questionnaire for the contact persons involved with the projects of the YOUTH programme**

**Dear respondent,**

The youth researchers at the University of Tartu are summing up the activity of the European Union YOUTH programme in 2000–2006. The study focuses on the application of funding through the National Agency for the YOUTH programme and the experience related to the realisation of projects.

You have been approached as a contact person for the projects funded by the programme in order to acquire information necessary for the above-mentioned purpose. We kindly ask you to answer the following questions. For each question, choose the most suitable reply or write an open-ended reply in the corresponding text field.

Replying is anonymous. The replies are processed and generalised by the members of the study group at the University of Tartu. For further information concerning the study please contact Andu Rämmer at the University of Tartu (andu.rammerut.ee, phone 7 375931).

### **FIRST, ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCEDURE.**

**1. As funds have often been applied for repeatedly from the programme, please specify how many applications across the Actions you have been involved in over the period of 2000-2006 and how many of these applications were funded?**

#### **A. Youth for Europe (Action 1)**

**projects applied for**

**projects funded**

#### **B. European Voluntary Service (Action 2)**

**applied**

**funded**

#### **C. Youth initiatives (Action 3)**

**projects applied for**

**projects funded**

**D. Networking actions (Action 3)**

**applied**

**funded**

**E. Future Capital (Action 3.2)**

**applied**

**funded**

**F. Support measures (Action 5)**

**projects applied for**

**projects funded**

**2. In your opinion was the information needed for project applications (goals, application terms, application forms etc.) ...**

- completely understandable
- more or less understandable, required some clarification
- required thorough clarification

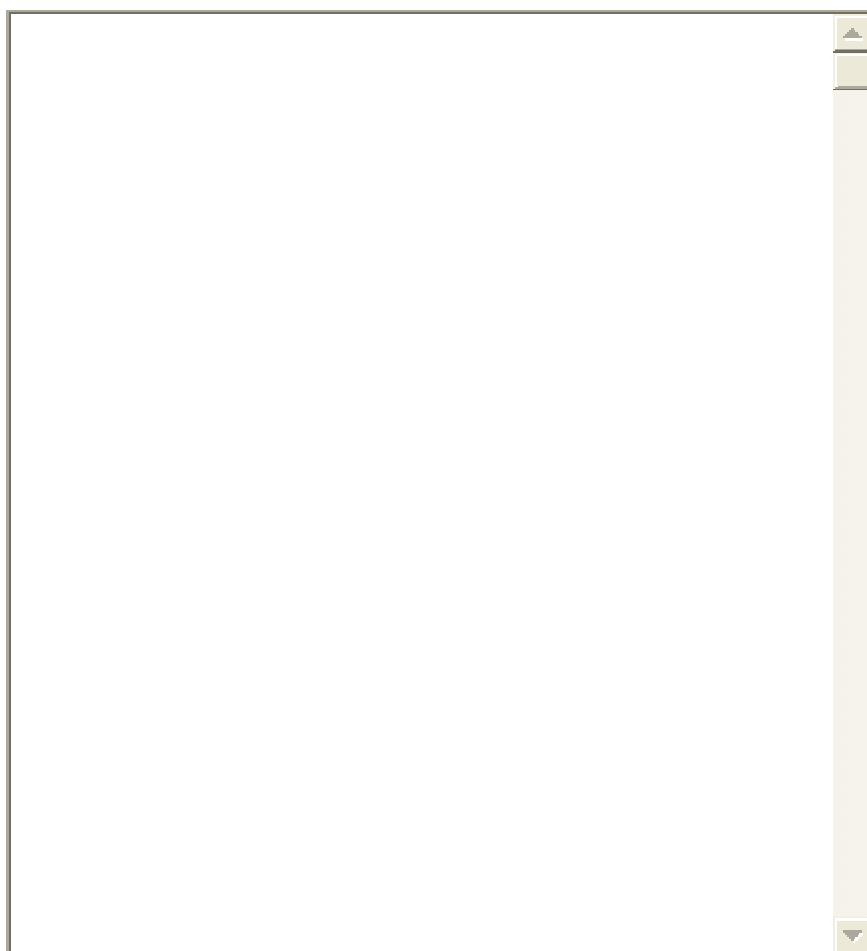
**3. To what degree were you satisfied with the help of the National Agency for the YOUTH programme in the preparation of applications?**

- completely
- more or less
- rather not
- dissatisfied
- I did not need help in applying

**4. To what extent were you satisfied with the application review procedure (operational aspects, reasons for decisions etc.)?**

- completely
- more or less
- rather not
- dissatisfied

**5. You are welcome to provide reasons for your replies concerning the application procedure here.**



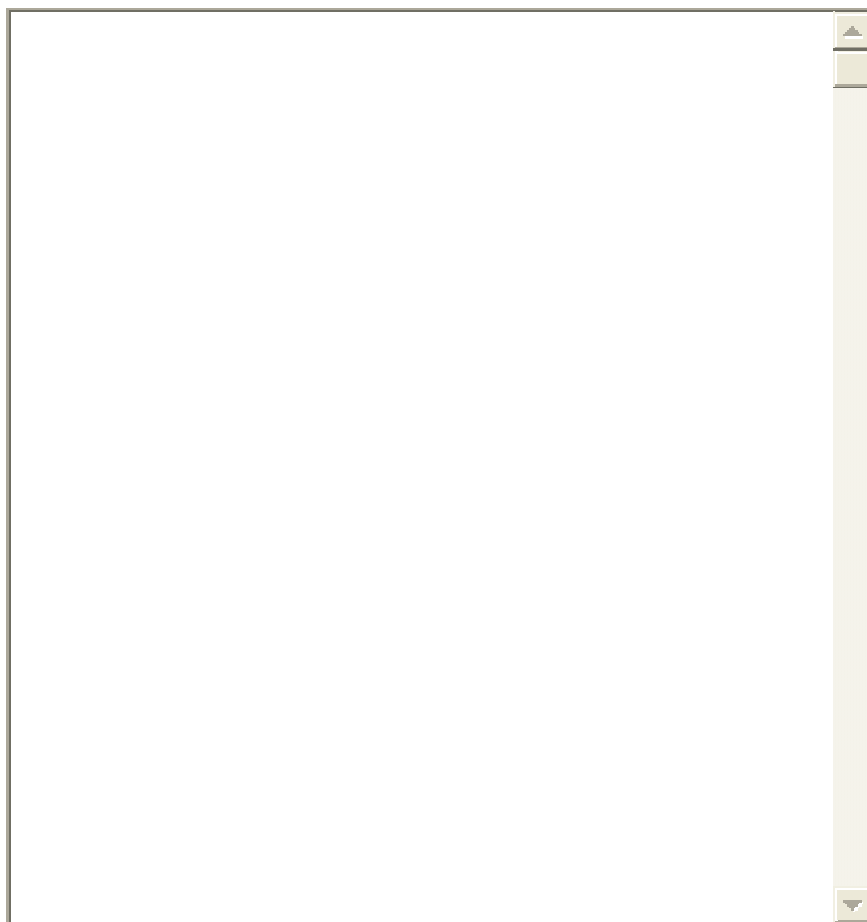
**NEXT, SOME QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROJECTS.**

**6. In implementing the project(s) ...**

- no problems occurred
- some problems occurred
- serious problems occurred



**7. If problems occurred in the implementation of projects, please provide a description.**



**8. Was the initially planned self-funding by the persons conducting the projects in the implementation of projects ...**

- rather less than planned
- in accordance with the plan
- rather more than planned

**9. To what extent were you satisfied with the help of the National Agency for the YOUTH programme in the implementation of projects?**

- completely
- more or less
- rather not
- dissatisfied
- I did not need any help

**10. Did you participate in the trainings (preparatory training , interim analysis training etc.) organised by the National Agency for the YOUTH programme?**

- I did not attend
- I attended one
- I attended several

**11. How would you assess these trainings?**

**The trainings were ...**

- very useful
- rather useful
- not particularly useful
- not at all useful
- unable to assess

**12. Did you attend the Experience Café that took place in Viru Conference Centre in December 2005?**

- yes
- no

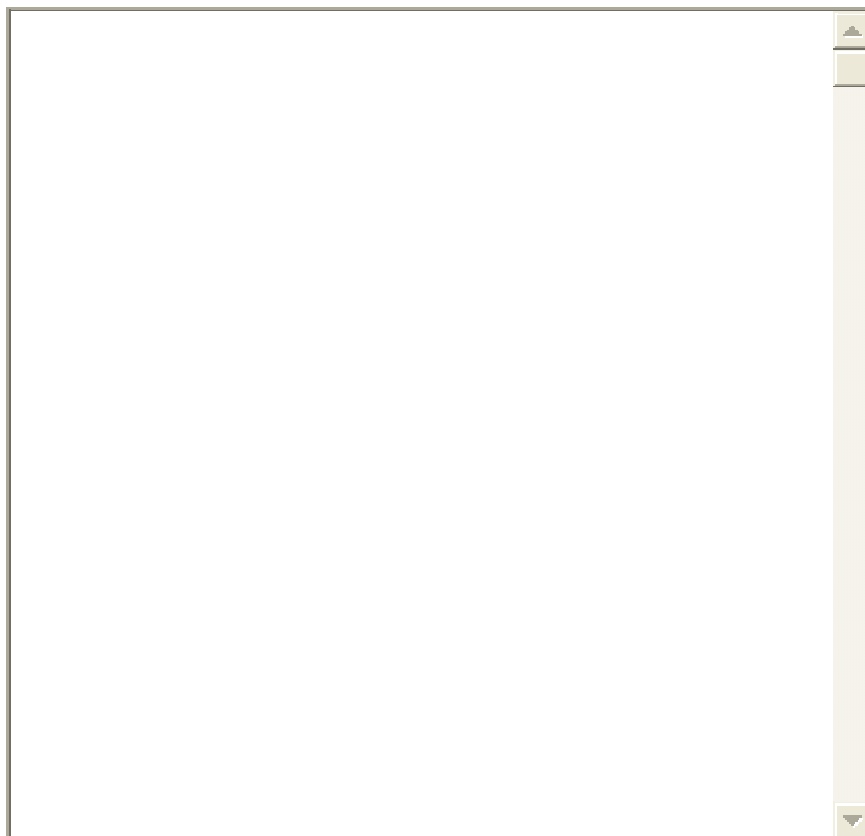
**13. In your opinion, was the Experience Cafe as a form of analysis from the point of view of the implementation of the programme ...**

- very useful
- rather useful
- not particularly useful
- not at all useful
- unable to assess

**14. How important do you consider the contacts acquired in the course of the programme with other participants in the same Action projects from the point of view of future youth-related activity?**

- very important
- rather important
- not particularly important
- not at all important
- I made no contacts

**15. You are welcome to give reasons for your replies concerning the implementation of the projects here!**



**ABOUT THE FINAL RESULTS OF THE PROJECTS AND THE PREPARATION OF REPORTS.**

**16. Regarding the final results of the project(s) you were involved in, you are ...**

- completely satisfied
- rather satisfied
- not particularly satisfied
- not at all satisfied

**17. In your opinion, did the projects help the participants ...**

**A. ... to increase competitiveness in the labour market?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**B. ... to better understand people with a different cultural background?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**C. ... to develop self-initiative and enterprising spirit?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**D. ... to develop creativity?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

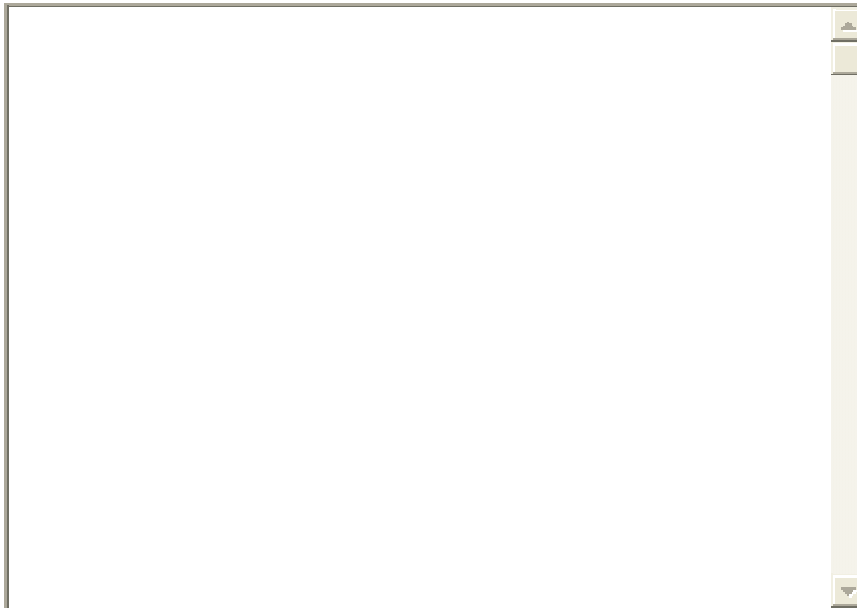
**E. ... to boost self-confidence?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**F. ... to improve coping skills?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**F2. Which coping skills improved in the course of the projects?**



**In your opinion, did the projects help the participants ...**

**G. ... to increase active participation in the society?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**H. ... to decrease discrimination and equalise the opportunities of different groups of people?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**I. ... to better understand European affairs?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**J. ... to better understand the working principles of pan-European institutions?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**K. ... to better implement the cooperation possibilities offered by pan-European structures?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

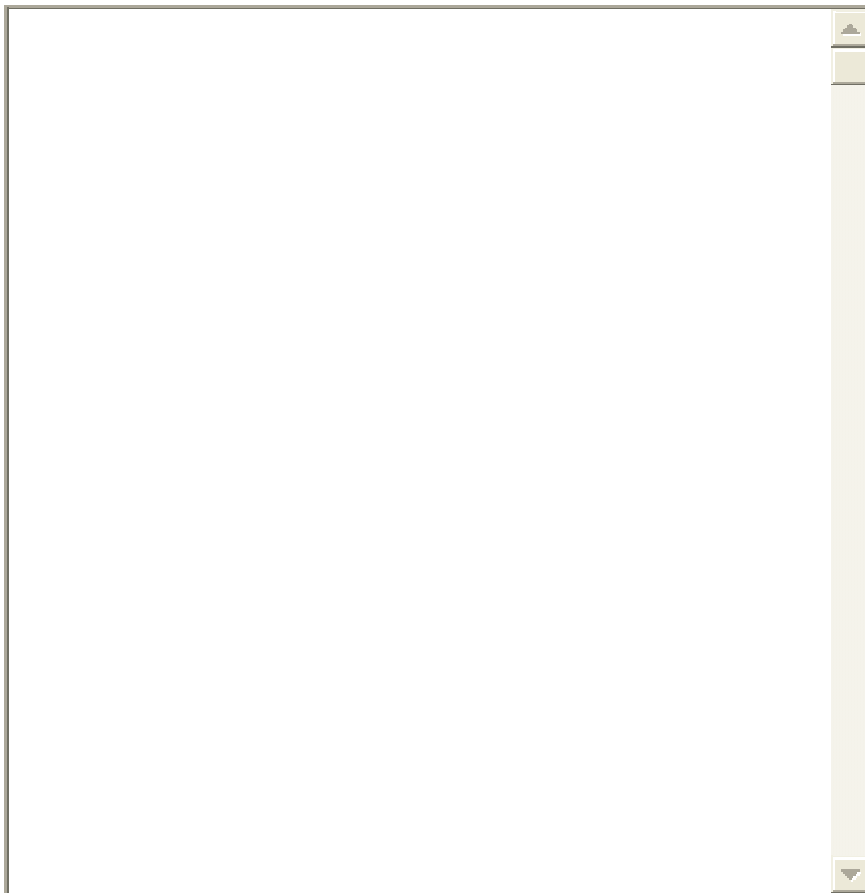
**L. ... to develop cooperation with youth workers in other countries?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**M. ... to decrease youth risk behaviour?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**M2. If necessary, please specify the ways in which participation in the projects decreased youth risk behaviour.**



**In your opinion, did the projects help the participants ...**

**N. ... to improve their language skills?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

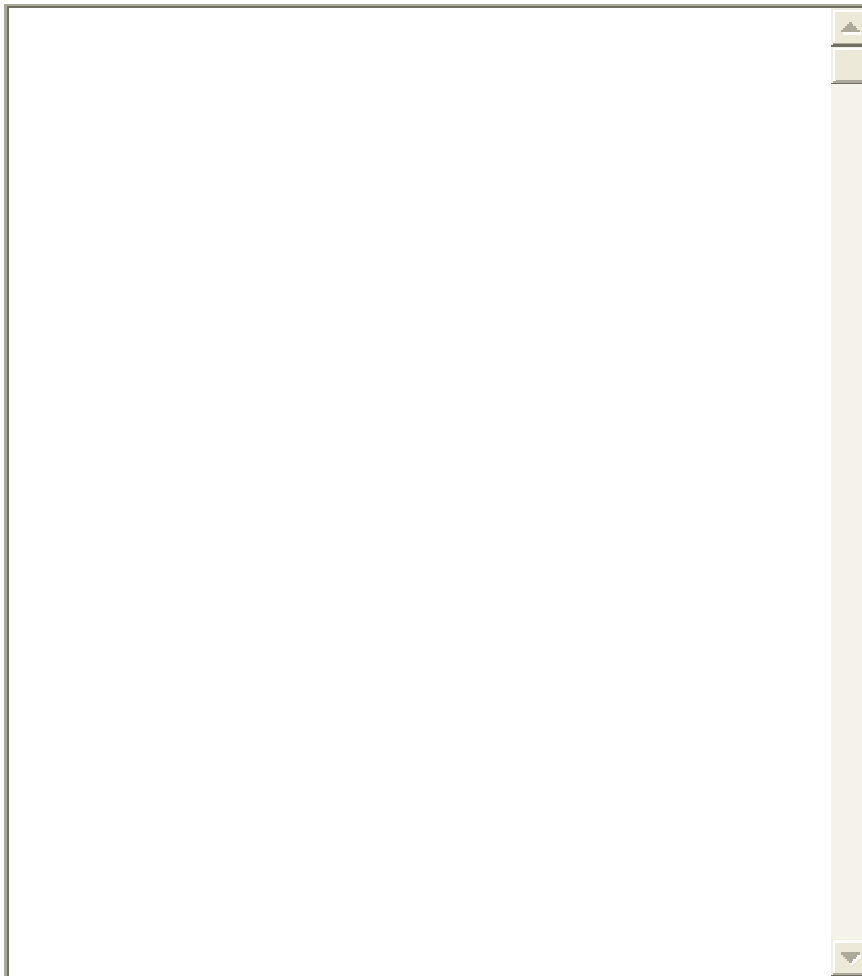
**O. ... to develop their skills of preparing future projects related to youth work?**

- definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- definitely not
- unable to assess

**18. Did the projects you were involved in create preconditions for the continuation of activities related to the project topics in the future?**

- yes, definitely
- rather yes
- rather not
- no

**19. Please specify what these preconditions consist in!**

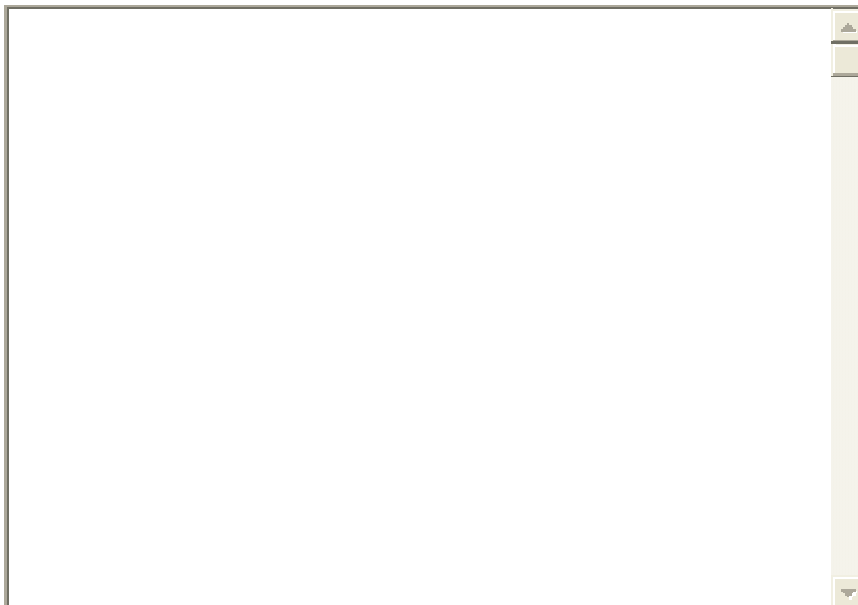


**20. In your opinion, the scope of reporting concerning the project is ...**

- too little
- sufficient
- too big



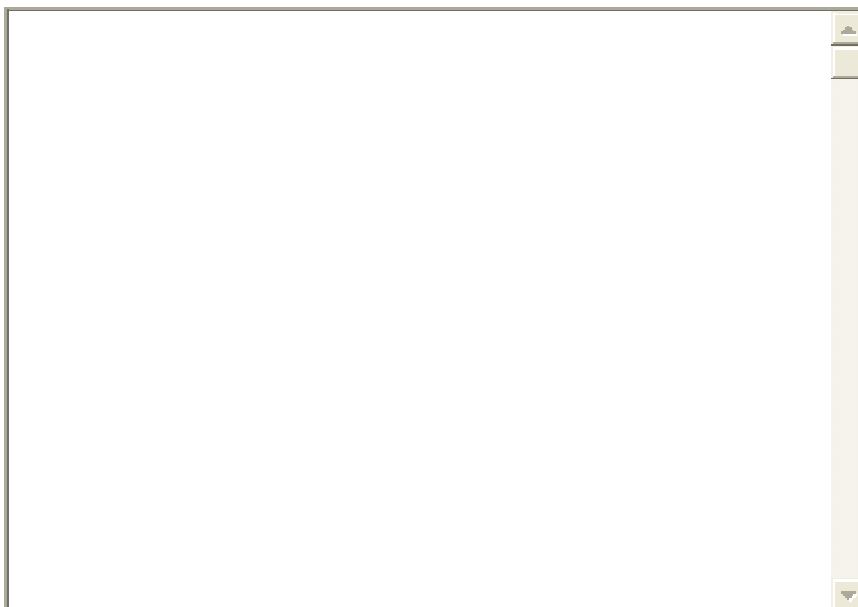
**21. If necessary, please describe what seemed excessive or unnecessary to you in reporting?**



**22. The preparation of reports concerning the project(s) was ...**

- very difficult
- rather difficult
- rather simple
- very simple
- unable to assess

**23. If necessary, please specify what caused difficulties in the preparation of reports.**



**24. To what extent were you satisfied with the help of the YOUTH programme in the preparation of reporting?**

- completely
- rather satisfied
- rather dissatisfied
- not at all satisfied
- unable to assess
- I did not need help in the preparation of reporting

**GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAMME AND THE NATIONAL AGENCY FOR THE YOUTH PROGRAMME**

**25. To what extent were you satisfied with the co-workers of the National Agency for the YOUTH programme as cooperation partners?**

- completely satisfied
- rather satisfied
- not particularly satisfied
- not at all satisfied

**26. You are welcome to give reasons concerning your previous reply here.**



**27. Have you participated in applying for funding for youth-related projects from other sources in addition to the YOUTH programme?**

- yes
- no

**28. How would you assess the activity of the YOUTH programme compared to other funders...**

**A. ... in spreading information regarding application?**

- rather better
- equivalent
- rather worse
- unable to compare

**B. ... regarding help in the preparation of the project?**

- rather better
- equivalent
- rather worse
- unable to compare

**C. ... regarding help in the implementation of the project?**

- rather better
- equivalent
- rather worse
- unable to compare

**D. ... regarding help in the preparation of project reporting?**

- rather better
- equivalent
- rather worse
- unable to compare

**29. What is your general assessment of the Youth for Europe programme from the point of view of a participant? I am ...**

- completely satisfied
- rather satisfied
- not particularly satisfied
- not at all satisfied

**FINALLY, SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT YOURSELF.**

**NB! THIS DATA WILL ONLY BE USED IN GENERALISED FORM FOR THE PURPOSES OF DRAWING CONCLUSIONS.**

**30. You are ...**

- male
- female

**31. Your age ...**

**32. You live in ...**

**A. County**

**B. Town or rural municipality**

**33. Your educational level ...**

- basic education
- secondary education
- higher education

**34. Your principal area of activity**

- pupil
- student
- salaried worker
- enterpriser, self-employed person
- other

**35. Your home language**

- Estonian
- Russian
- Estonian and Russian
- other

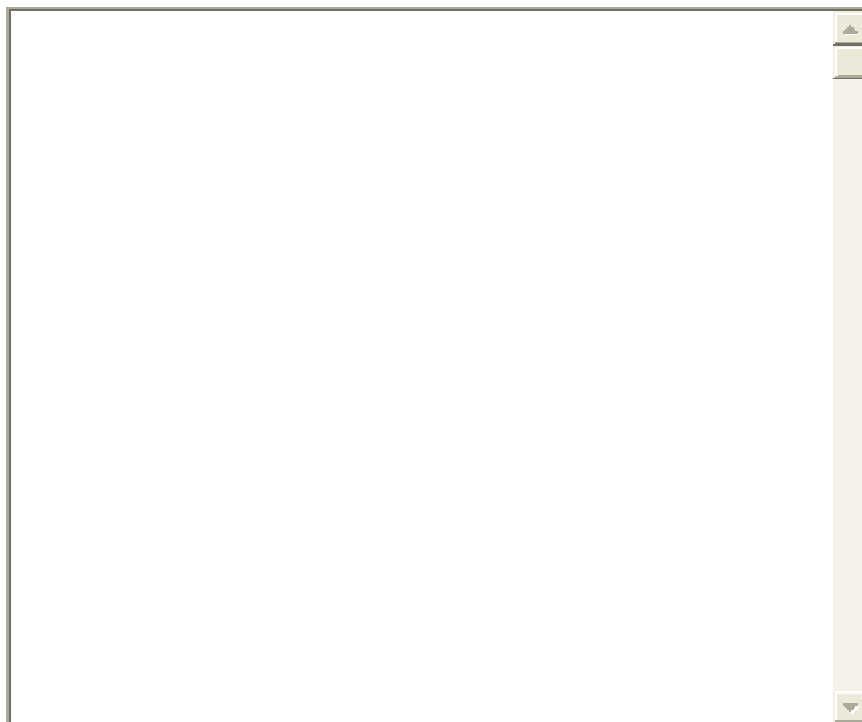
**36. The home language of the young people in projects you were involved in ...**

- only Estonian
- mainly Estonian
- Estonian and Russian equally
- mainly Russian
- only Russian
- other

**37. Did you participate in the application and implementation of the YOUTH programme mainly as ...**

- a private person
- a representative of a non-formal association
- a representative of a legal person (e.g. a non-profit association)

**38. Is there something more you would like to say that you think would be important to know for the people drawing conclusions about the work of the YOUTH programme and the people planning future work in this area? Please write here.**



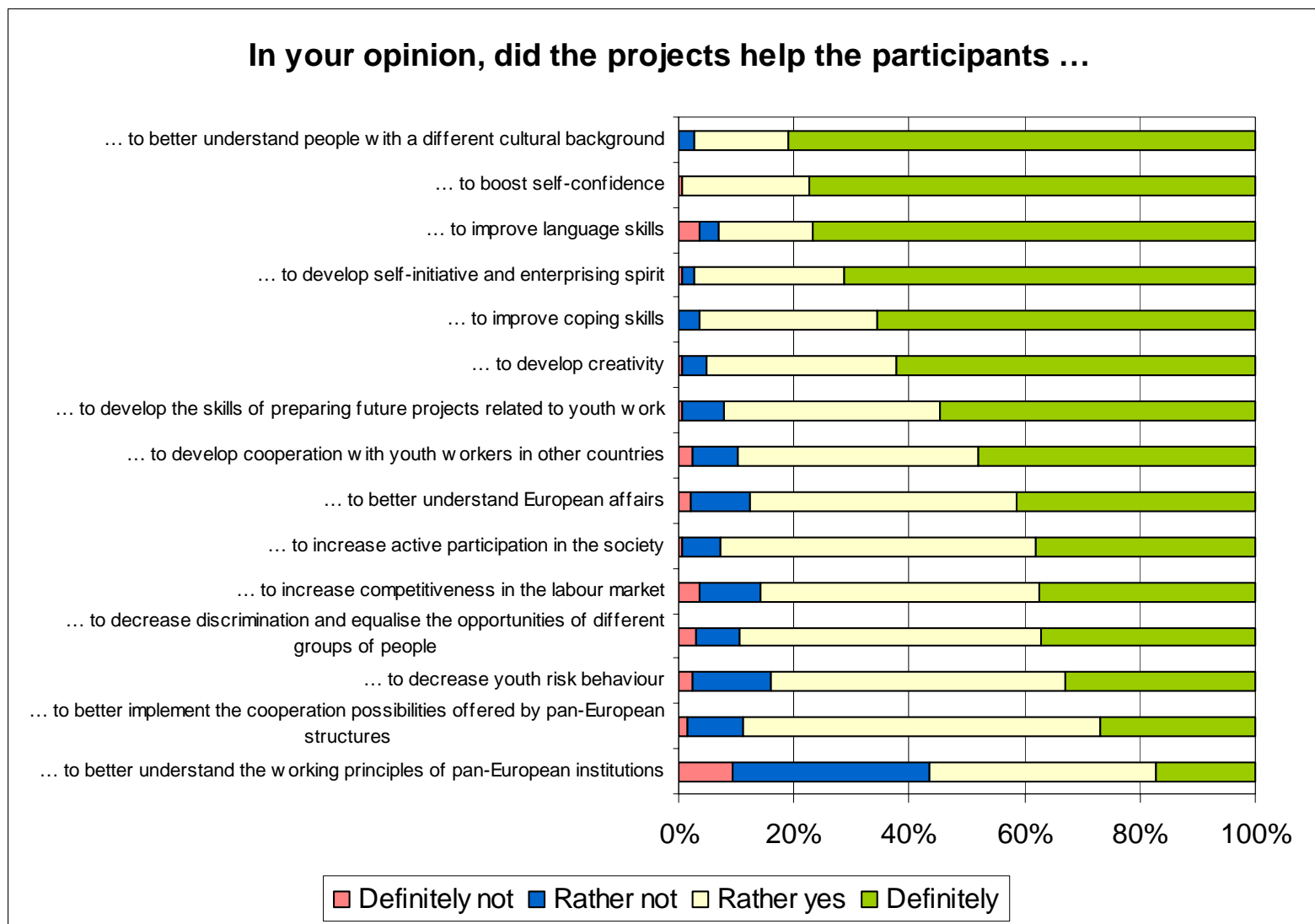
**Thank you very much for replying!**

## **Annex 5. The Future Capital projects of the YOUTH programme: format of the focus group**

1. The introduction by the moderators: the topic, first names, personal details (Tartu University + participation in the YOUTH programme projects), the confidentiality of the interview, asking permission for recording the session.
2. The self-presentation of participants: first names, where and how long they have participated in EVS programmes, which Future Capital project they are involved in, whether they participate in other projects.
3. Topic 1. The impact of experience acquired through the participation in the programme with regard to the volunteers themselves/their organisation/community (society). The willingness and opportunities to utilise this experience.
4. Topic 2. The reasons for applying for a Future Capital project (a mission or a necessity, a wish to develop the newly created opportunities at a personal level, passing information, etc. to others; whether the initiative came from an organisation, from a target group, or from the volunteer; the general objective of the project )
5. Topic 3. Learning about the possibilities of applying for Future Capital projects. How did they learn about Future Capital projects and whether they experienced difficulties in obtaining relevant information?
6. Topic 4. Application procedure: the simplicity/complexity of the application process, associated problems, the possible assistance from the National Agency for the YOUTH programme.
7. Topic 5. The implementation of projects: the strongest impressions, the main problems, the possible assistance of the National Agency for the YOUTH programme in the implementation process.
8. Topic 6. Project results. How did the projects contribute to the aims of the applicants/possible target groups/local communities/general public, whether they added anything new, what kind of opportunities did they create? How did the projects relate to EUROPE (better understanding, values, language, etc.)?
9. Topic 7. Post-project effectiveness and sustainability. Will there be any changes after the project has ended (with regard to the applicant, the focus group, and the organisation the applicant is involved in). Are there any post-project materials or other resources suitable for further use? Further possible activities offered through the projects (including applying for fresh projects).
10. Topic 8. Project reports: the simplicity/complexity of the report drafting process, associated problems, the possible assistance from the National Agency for the YOUTH programme.
11. Topic 9. How to enhance the opportunities for volunteers to disseminate their experience on a broader scale and promote the individual application of their knowledge and skills using the resources of the YOUTH programme. Is there anything to be done on a broader scale, beyond the framework of YOUTH programme?
12. Concluding the session, thanking the participants for their time and effort.

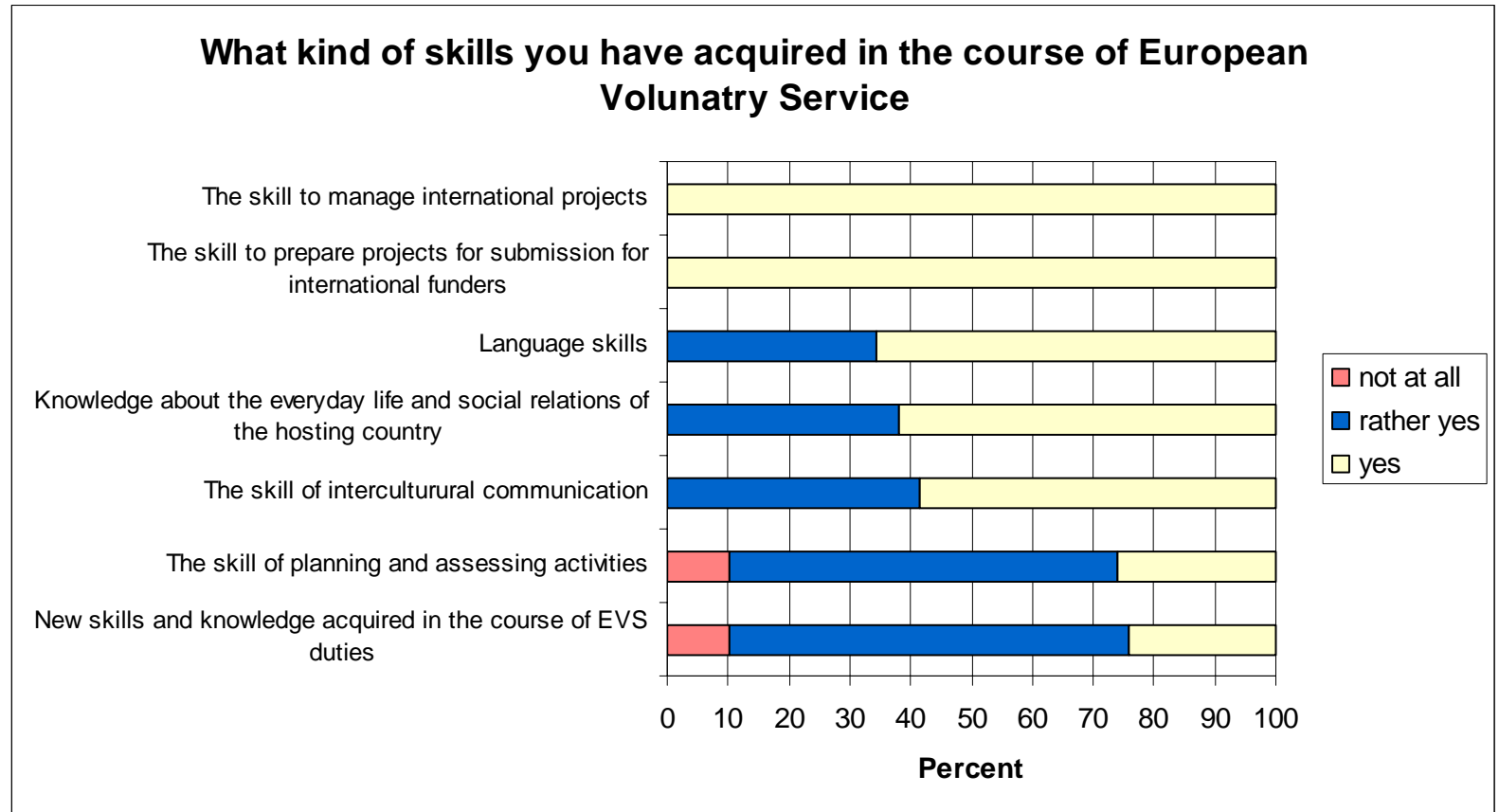
## Annex 6. Selected graphical illustrations of study results

### A. Survey 1 (contact persons involved with the projects of the YOUTH programme)





B. Survey 2 (EVS volunteers)



C. Survey 3 (contact persons of youth exchanges)

