

EWOCA³ – 3 PARTNERS_ 3 WORKCAMPs_ 3 COUNTRIES_ A FUNDING PROGRAMME FOR YOUTH WORK ORGANISATIONS¹ FROM NRW

ewoca³ is a programme by the International Association for Education and Exchange (IBB e.V.) Dortmund, and is funded by Stiftung Mercator and the Federal State of North Rhine-Westphalia.

ewoca³ funds trilateral partnerships between a youth work organisation from North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) and two youth work organisations from EU member states, Eastern Europe (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus), South-Eastern Europe (Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro) or Turkey for a duration of three years. The central activity of the ewoca³ partnerships are three trilateral workcamps² to support the sustainable development of the participating youth work organisations.

The target group in NRW consists specifically of youths not attending a grammar school, apprentices, unemployed youths, youths with migrant backgrounds, from difficult social / financial backgrounds, and / or from boroughs with "special redevelopment needs". In other European countries youths from difficult social / financial backgrounds, from boroughs with "special redevelopment needs" or from rural regions are focused on.

Additionally, ewoca³ supports the development of a network of youth work organisations in NRW, which want to strengthen international partnerships. In order to further develop the network, ewoca³ offers seminars and networking meetings to the participating youth work organisations from NRW, plus at the beginning and end of ewoca³ international congresses with all participating youth work organisations.

1. What is being funded?

ewoca³ funds already existing or new trilateral partnerships between youth work organisations for a duration of three years. The project partnerships are chosen once, and then apply for this yearly.

Within the framework of an ewoca³ partnership each participating youth work organisation realises one tri-national workcamp with a duration of 2 weeks each, in a total of three adjacent years. Each workcamp can be funded for a total of 15 000 Euro, and should support the sustainable development and modernisation of the participating youth work organisations.

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These include youth centres, youth groups, local youth meeting spaces, youth associations or youth leagues, sections and units of youth organisations, and youth welfare organisations. The youth work organisations should operate in a non-profit fashion and may be public, independent, church-based, municipal, social, etc. institutions.

² A „workcamp / camp“ within the framework of ewoca³ is a project-oriented youth encounter: Besides working together on a results-oriented project, educational units and recreational activities are focused upon.

The focus of the workcamps are practical projects by the youths themselves (for example modernisation activities), and a substantive dialogue with topics of Education for Sustainable Development, for example:

- Educational activities on the different dimensions of Education for Sustainable Development (e.g. climate change, biodiversity, fair trade, antidiscrimination and diversity)
- Public activities of the youths (theatre festival, exhibition, charity runs, etc.) in order to popularise the topics of Education for Sustainable Development. Topics of such public activities could, for example, be antidiscrimination, European understanding and European identity, mobility in Europe, supporting participation and inclusion, among others.
- Transformation of fallow land for use by the youth work organisation or the neighbourhood
- Implementation of energy conservation measures at the youth work facility or installation of alternative energy sources at the youth work facility

In the case of projects in foreign countries, formative measures for previously existing or developing structures of youth work may be funded, if appropriate reasons are given.

Six youths per partner travel to each workcamp, the hosting group may consist of 6-12 youths, so a total of about 20 youths are directly involved in each camp.

Besides the practical work in the projects, the youths take part in an educational programme regarding the background of the modernisation project and regarding topics of Education for Sustainable Development. It is advised to organise a preparatory meeting with two representatives from each partner at the hosting youth work organisation.

2. Who gets funded?

New or existing trilateral partnerships between a youth work organisation from North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) and two youth work organisations from EU member states, Eastern Europe (Russia, Ukraine, Belarus), South-Eastern Europe (Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro) or Turkey can apply for ewoca³.

In case this is needed, IBB will assist the applying youth work organisation from NRW in finding partners.

3. Co-Financing

Each workcamp can be funded with up to 15 000 Euro by ewoca³, in addition to this, the youth work organisations themselves provide funds of at least the same amount.

This self-provided part can consist of voluntary work and services (working hours, materials, accommodation, meals) for up to 40% (= 6 000 Euro). The remainder of the self-provided funds (= 30% of the total amount) can be provided by own funds, grants or donations from private or public sources from the countries of all three partners. Funds provided by the foreign partners will be taken into account in the same way.

At the latest with the call for funds, the partners will provide IBB e.V. with a trusted budget plan including the appropriate self-provided funds, and the final, detailed programme for the first workcamp in 2015.

4. Support programme and consultation by IBB

IBB provides a number of supporting measures in developing and implementing the partnerships. During the application phase, IBB offers individual consultations. These may be accessed via telephone or personally at IBB in Dortmund. IBB supports the partners in applying for co-financing, mediates in case of conflicts within the partnerships and provides general individual advice regarding problems of project implementation and accounting. If needed, IBB assists the applicants in their search for fitting partners.

Besides the individual consultation, a number of further educational activities and networking meetings will be offered to support the ewoca³ partnerships:

- The project planning congress
- Semi-annual one-day networking meetings: Here representatives of the youth work organisations from NRW can exchange their experiences and advise each other by way of peer counselling. Problems can be resolved and intermediate or final reports can be prepared.
- Training of international workcamp leaders: For implementing the workcamps, one team member per partner will be trained in the participatory leadership of a workcamp, in order for a common understanding of workcamps, workcamp leadership, intercultural learning and living together to emerge. For this purpose, five-day seminars in Germany will be offered early each year.

5. Important Dates

- Deadline for applications (postmark / electronic arrival) : 1st of September 2014
- Notification of grant approval: Mid-September 2014

6. Contact person

Further information, as well as the application documents can be found for download at www.ewoca.org

Please direct all your questions to:

IBB e.V.
Katharina Teiting
Bornstraße 66
44145 Dortmund
Email: ewoca@ibb-d.de
Tel: +49 231-952096 26
Fax: +49 231-521233