

Deep Roots, New Paths

Promoting the role of youth in rural and inner areas

The Teatro Povero di Monticchiello is delighted to announce to its partners that the project *Deep Roots, New Paths* (2026-1-IT03-KA153-YOU-000397849) has been approved and is therefore sending this document containing general information to the partners who supported the proposal, thereby marking the start of the project's organisational phase.

Project

"Deep Roots, New Paths" aims to **strengthen the quality and impact of youth work in rural and inner areas**, where young people more often experience reduced access to services and opportunities, limited mobility, social isolation, discontinuous educational/cultural provision, and a higher risk of disengagement from participation. **In these territories, effective youth work cannot simply replicate urban models:** it requires proximity-based and place-based approaches, trust-building over time, work with both formal and informal networks, and a careful reading of community dynamics (intergenerational, cultural, and socio-economic).

Overall objective: to enhance youth workers' competences, tools, and partnerships in order to increase young people's participation, leadership, and agency in rural/inner territories, turning local resources (culture, history, heritage, community relationships) into educational levers for empowerment, cohesion, and active citizenship.

The mobility takes the form of a study visit and residential seminar lasting 7 days, and involves approximately 18 participants from 9 European organisations active in youth work and community development in rural or peripheral areas. The activities are structured around sessions of non-formal learning, the exchange of best practices, reflective work and co-design, supplemented by study visits to the activities of the Cooperativa del Teatro Povero in Monticchiello and other organisations in the Val d'Orcia, as exemplary cases of community engagement in rural areas.

Expected Results

- **A map of youth work in rural and peripheral areas:** this is an output developed during the various sessions of the mobility, with new elements added to a shared map as new topics are introduced and discussed. Consideration may be given to digitising the map at a later stage to facilitate its dissemination.
- **A Manifesto on youth work in rural or isolated areas:** this document summarises the challenges, common objectives and concerns of organisations working with young people in inland or peripheral areas.
- **A shared Roadmap** of local initiatives and projects (national or transnational) to be developed amongst the organisations involved in the mobility programme.

Participants' Profile

This is an Erasmus+ training programme for youth workers and educators. Participants should either be working in some capacity with young people in your home country, or to be

very interested in learning how to use culture to increase young people's participation, leadership, and agency in rural/inner territories.

There is no upper age limit for participants, but **they should be at least 18 years old**.

Here a summary of the participants expected by each partner, as in the questionnaire you filled in the designing phase.

Partner Organization	Number and type of participant	particular conditions
Teatro Povero di Monticchiello (IT)	1 Trainer + 1 Facilitator + 2 youth workers	1 of the participants with fewer opportunities*
Eudaimonia (BG)	2 youth workers	1 of the participants with fewer opportunities*
Nuoriso- ja luontomatkailukeskus Oivanki (FI)	2 youth workers	
YOU IN EUROPE (GR)	2 youth workers	1 of the participants with fewer opportunities*
Pollino DigiLab (IT)	2 youth workers	
Jauniešu organizācija Ligzda (LV)	2 youth workers	1 of the participants with fewer opportunities*
Juventude de Vila Fonche (PT)	1 youth worker	
INOVTERRA (PT)	1 youth worker	
Hârşova 3D (RO)	2 youth workers	1 of the participants with fewer opportunities*
ASOCIACION POTEN100MOS (ES)	2 youth workers	1 of the participants with fewer opportunities*

**With the "fewer opportunities", in this project we refer to participants who are facing economic barriers, geographic barriers or barriers linked to discrimination*

We realise that this may make selection difficult, and if so, please email us to discuss about it before you select.

We are very conscious to try to maintain gender balance. Please do your best to bring equal (or very close to equal) genders to the activity.

Mobility

- Dates

The mobility will happen between Monday November 2nd and Tuesday November 10th, 2026 (activity days: November 3-9)

It is possible to arrive 1 day before and leave 1 day after the arrival and departure days: however, the costs faced in these days won't be covered.

- Venue

All the mobility activities will take place in the village of Monticchiello, in Tuscany.



Specifically in the spaces of the Cooperativa Teatro Povero: the Conference Hall, the Teatrino and the Museum for training sessions, and the Restaurant for meals.



- Accommodation

Accommodation will be in Monticchiello: in the cooperative's guest accommodation and in the private homes of members, who will make these available according to the needs of the selected participants. Each participant staying in private accommodation will be provided

with a bedroom (single or double, depending on requirements) and a bathroom for their exclusive use.

- Safeguarding

The hosts will be selected and briefed on safeguarding rules, to ensure the safety of the hosted participants.

Travel

There are no airports near Monticchiello, so every journey will involve a combination of plane, train and car.

The ideal arrangement is for all participants to arrive at **Chiusi-Chianciano Terme railway station**, where staff from the Cooperativa will be on hand with cars and/or minibuses to collect participants and take them directly to their accommodation. This station is well connected and can be reached from various Italian cities. The best options are listed below:

Roma Fiumicino (FCO) is definitely the best option for international flights, and it has a convenient rail link

- Leonardo Express → Roma Termini
- a direct train or one with just one change to Chiusi-Chianciano Terme

Firenze (FLR) is the nearest airport; it seems to be the best option for those arriving from Spain, Romania and Greece, but it is a small airport and therefore has few flight options. There are also many direct trains to Chiusi-Chianciano Terme from Florence's Santa Maria Novella station.

Bologna (BLQ) could prove to be a convenient option, as there are many low-cost airlines, a wide choice of international flights, and the rail link is straightforward here too:

- Marconi Express → Bologna Centrale
- a direct train or one with just one change to Chiusi-Chianciano Terme

Pisa (PSA) is the last option we can recommend; it's a good choice for those travelling with Ryanair and offers good connections to Portugal, Spain, Romania and Bulgaria, but it involves a complicated series of train journeys to get there (e.g. Pisa Airport → Pisa Centrale → Florence → Chiusi)

Travel Budget

The travel budget has been determined using the Erasmus+ rules regarding distance-bands.

Travel costs will be anticipated by the sending organisations/participants and will be reimbursed by Teatro Povero di Monticchiello after the mobility, as soon as receiving all the requested documentation. The maximum reimbursement amounts granted to each participant is calculated as follows

Partner Organisation	Traditional travel budget (per person)	Green Travel budget (per person)
Eudaimonia (BG)	309€	N/A
Nuoriso- ja luontomatkailukeskus Oivanki (FI)	680€ (exceptional costs for expensive travels)	N/A
YOU IN EUROPE (GR)	309€	N/A
Pollino DigiLab (IT)	309€	417€ (<i>recommended</i>)
Jauniešu organizācija Ligzda (LV)	309€	N/A
Juventude de Vila Fonche (PT)	309€	N/A
INOVTERRA (PT)	309€	N/A
Hârşova 3D (RO)	309€	N/A
ASOCIACION POTEN100MOS (ES)	309€	N/A

Please send any questions to:

Roberto Giani, contact person and facilitator of the mobility: bob_giani@hotmail.it

Giuseppe Florio, project manager (reachable for any technical/financial issues): peppeflorio1@gmail.com