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You(th) App

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2023

You(th)App research findings for Croatia, Slovenia and Romania :

- 2022 was declared the European Year of Youth, and 2023 the European Year of Skills - therefore, it is considered that youth work is high on the EU agenda.
- The profession of youth worker is partially recognized and operational.
- The youth worker is still not seen as a network hub that can facilitate young people's access to activities and services of their interest (education and orientation, professional counselling, employment, housing, etc.).
- Most of the local communities do not have a strategy for youth or the strategy is only a chapter within other strategies, despite the ambition at the level of the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the European Union - to create a dedicated strategy for youth.
- Although youth workers encourage young people to participate in local, regional and central government processes, they have little capacity and openness to listen, respond to their inquiries, and involve them in decision-making and implementation activities.
- Cooperation between public institutions and the youth volunteer sector is necessary in order to identify real problems and ways to solve them in a high-quality manner. Funding and monitoring how resources become measurable results is critical to performance and sustainability over time.
- Low capacities of public authorities to apply innovative methods of consultation and involving young people in creating and implementing decisions, due to lack of good practices and employment of youth workers.

YOU(th) App seeks to exploit the research results for long-term innovative policy proposals for youth work and approaches for coordinated practices at all levels.

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- While public bodies have little confidence in the ability of youth workers to create a positive impact on young people's lives, youth workers have little confidence in the authorities because the allocation of public resources for youth work is not transparent enough.
- In this context of lack of mutual trust, young people are in the most unfavourable situation. Next to them, the youth workers specifically are disadvantaged as they cannot carry out their activities, cannot support themselves financially and cannot achieve the desired effect at the national level due to the lack of standardization in their field of work.



Research into practices and trends intended to encourage and structure more effective youth work served as a starting point for the development of an ambitious offline mobile application and associated training model.

The extraction of conclusions from the national reports took place from the end of July to September 2023, when Asociația Pro Democratia finalized the report and Moral Diplomat reviewed it and shared the conclusions in a suitable format and an engaging narrative with stakeholders through communication channels.

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In anticipation of the You(th)App application, Nefiks have started planning training on the use of the application for engaged young workers in Europe. In October 2023, partners agreed on the robust content of the YOU(th)App.



In November 2023, Inkubator Sreće created the first design proposal for the mobile application, and other partner organizations contributed with constructive suggestions and agreement on the final YOU(th)App version.

In December 2023, Inkubator Sreće continued working on the development of the application, so that the app can be used during the SALTO training model in early 2024 and experienced youth workers have the opportunity to test it and share insights into the usefulness and functionality of its final version.

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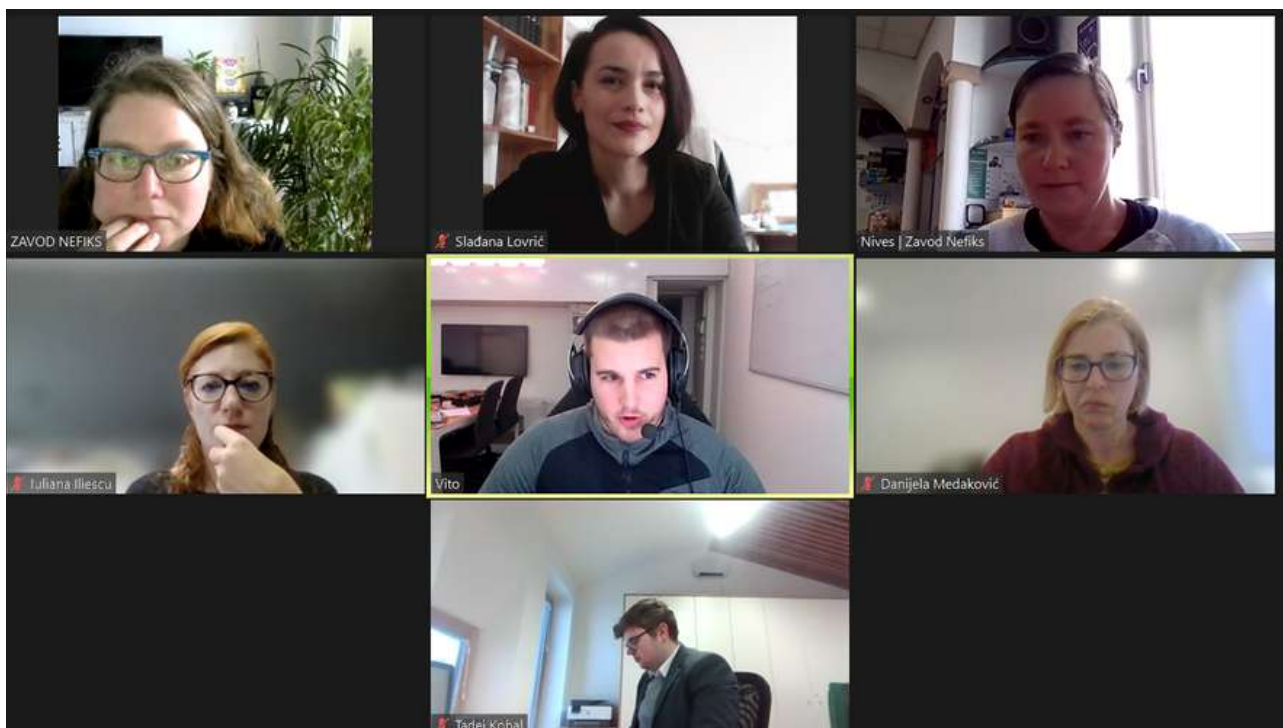


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The YOU(th)App core team agreed on the format of the meetings and schedule of the training model upon reviewing the prepared proposals submitted by Nefiks for the implementation of SALTO training in Maribor, Slovenia.

The decision was made to organize a training for participants from all over Europe, from March 20 to 23, 2024, with the main motto “Sharing experiences & innovative methods for youth work on local, national and international level.”.



YOU(th)App partners will use this opportunity to hold a partner meetings and loock back into the already achieved project results. This occasion will serve as a continuation of the review of the results and processes of the project, which were consolidated and sent in the form of an interim report to the Slovenian National Agency in November 2023. #youthapp 99

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