



Joint

YOUTH EXCHANGE

# SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN RURAL AREAS

LIGONCHIO, ITALY  
NOVEMBER 7-15, 2023

INFOPACK



Associazione Joint got awarded with a 3-year Erasmus+ accreditation for a strategy focused on the inclusion and the empowerment of young people with severe social and economical fewer opportunities and highly vulnerable young people\* in European mobility projects (from shelters, youth centers, communities, supported by social services etc.)

We plan to implement a strategy of empowerment of disadvantaged young people, creating a structure able to fully involve them.

We want to address 3 challenges:

- Recruiting young people with severe fewer opportunities, also creating local networks of entities directly working with them;
- Train youth workers active in the field of international mobilities to work with young people with fewer opportunities, and train educators to work in international mobility projects;
- Creating preparation and follow up standard activities to address the needs of this target.

\*as defined during the Annual Meeting of Associazione Joint International Network, highly vulnerable young people are "young people that are living in extreme situations of vulnerability, facing overlapping exclusion factors, of which at least one is a long-term or permanent condition". We refer, for example, to: young people living in shelters or in alternative care, young people with a migration background facing educational or unemployment risks, young girls facing high sexism risks in their communities, lgbtqi+ young people facing high risks of homophobic attitudes in their communities, young people facing mental health risks affecting their social and economic integration, young people from conflict or post-conflict areas (refugees or internally displaced) suffering from post-traumatic mental issues and/or facing problems in integrating in the educational and professional environment in the new context they are living in.



In 2022, with the project "RuReality" we started working on the topic of depopulation in rural areas, while searching for strategies to foster youth participation, youth initiatives and youth-led social enterprises in those areas.

Building on that experience, we want to implement a new project on the same topic, using different methodologies. In particular, we will test the non-formal education methodologies and the board-game that are being developed in the Cooperation Partnership project "Entrepreneur+".

During the youth exchange participants will learn more about entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship, sustainability and will have the opportunity to develop a group idea for a social enterprise to be developed in a rural area facing depopulation risk.

The activities, as well as the specific objectives of the Youth Exchange will be defined by the group leaders, during 2 online APV calls that will take place in October.

In this way, we will have the opportunity to shape the Youth Exchange according to the needs of the young people that each partner will involve.

For sure, there will be outdoor activities and activities with donkeys!

The Youth Exchange will be managed through non-formal education methods, role-games and simulations.





Each partner organisation will involve 5 participants (18–25) and 1 group leader (18+), with experience as group leaders or, even better, who got involved in the Training Course of March 2023, in the framework of this accreditation.

In line with the goals of our Erasmus+ accreditation, we aim at involving at least 50% participants with fewer opportunities and/or highly vulnerable young people (as defined at page 2).

Considering the topic, it would be ideal to involve a high number of young people from rural areas, risking depopulation, in order to have a particular impact in those areas.

Participants should be motivated and interested in the topic of the project and willing to get involved in pre-departure and follow-up activities.





The Youth Exchange will be hosted in Ligonchio, at "Ostello dei Balocchi", a sustainable enterprise working in a rural area, that works in particular with donkeys.

The structure is in a mountain area, surrounded by nature, 4 hours far from Milan. The accommodation has shared bedrooms, a room for the indoor activities and a yard for the outdoor activities.





Travel costs will be covered in the framework of Erasmus+ travel bands. It is possible to use the option of "Green Travels", communicating it before.

- Italy: from 23€ to 180€ (traditional travel) | 210€ (green travel)
- Bulgaria, France, Spain: 275€ (traditional travel) | 320€ (green travel)

Since it is not possible to reach the accommodation with public transport, we will need to organise a private transport from Milan. This cost will be covered with a deduction of 50€ on the travel budget.

E.G.: if your travel budget is 275€, please consider it as 225€.

To reach Galbiate, the best option is to fly to Milan or to Bergamo.

Please,

- for the ARRIVAL search for flights landing by 4PM on March 7th
- for the RETURN search for flights taking off from 2PM on March 14th.



## TO REACH LIGONCHIO, YOU CAN FLY TO MILAN OR TO BOLOGNA

ARRIVAL (NOVEMBER 7th).

### MILAN

- We will arrange a bus from Milan Central Train Station. We ask you to be there by 5PM on April 12.
- From Milan (all airports), take the bus to the Central Station (Milano Centrale):
  - from Malpensa to Central Station is about 1 hour (10 euro);
  - from Bergamo Orio al Serio is 45 minutes (10 euro);
  - from Linate is 30 minutes (1.50 euro).
- There are buses every 15 minutes.

### BOLOGNA

- If you arrive at Bologna Airport, you can reach the Central Station in 7 minutes (8.70 euro): <https://www.marconiexpress.it/en/>
- From Bologna, take a train to REGGIO EMILIA. The train takes about 40 minutes (6 euros). Please, check the schedule here: <https://www.trenitalia.com/en.html>
- The bus, coming from Milan, will pick you up at 7PM





DEPARTURE (NOVEMBER 15th)

**MILAN**

DO NOT book flights taking off before 2:30 PM. Reaching Milan and then the airport will take about 5 hours.

**BOLOGNA**

DO NOT book flights leaving before 1 PM. The bus will stop you in Reggio Emilia and then you will need to reach Bologna by train. Mind the train schedule (we will help you with this issue).

BEFORE BUYING THE TICKETS, PLEASE WRITE TO  
[exchanges@associazionejoint.org](mailto:exchanges@associazionejoint.org) AND WAIT FOR OUR AUTHORIZATION.



**If you have any question, please do not hesitate  
to contact us!**

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