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Learning-Teaching-Training Activities Evaluation Report

Learning session Heraklion/Greece

27.09.2015 / 03.10.2015

Preface

This relation is a summary of the Italian team's evaluation of the Learning/Teaching/Training Activity that took place in Heraklion (Crete), Greece, from the 27th of September to the 03rd of October 2015. We based our reflections about the mobility on a questionnaire given to the participants nearly 3 days after their return. We asked our student about the experience in Heraklion and we wrote their thoughts, observations, feelings as follows.

Italian students' ages are between 16 and 18. All the students are female. They live in a rural area in the surroundings of Castelnovo ne' Monti (5,000 – 50,000 inhabitants) in the natural area of Appennino Reggiano. The 3 teachers are between 35 and 60 years old. The teachers are: an English language teacher, a teacher for pupils with Special Needs and a Law and Economics subjects teacher. All the three teachers had been involved in a European project before (Comenius, Erasmus+ mobilities) while the students had never been involved in European mobilities before.

Three students attend a vocational Institute (two of them in the sector of "Agricultural and rural development" section, one of them in the sector of "Catering and hotel reception services"), the other two students attend a Technical Institute for Tourism. They were fascinated by the idea of travelling to a foreign Country, whose people, language, system of education, food, lifestyle they did not know and by the idea of making new friends and facing new challenges. They were also curious about the cultural Heritage they were about to know.

This experience allowed the students to improve their English, to meet many friends and to improve their knowledge about a foreign Country so rich in history. All the proposed activities were useful for the learning needs of students and beyond their expectations. Sometimes workshops have been too long for students and this led to a certain weariness for some of them. They really appreciated the workshop about "Traditional Dance and Weaving". They had fun both with the other students and their teachers.

The boat trip was also very charming and students really appreciated the important information told by the guide about Greek history, and they were surprised to learn that Italian and Greek people had contact in ancient times.

Very impressive for them was also the visit to the ruin of the old Minoan civilization and the idea that there is still a lot of things to study and to discover on this subject.

RATES IN DETAIL

PART 1- QUALITY OF THE EVENT

		1.Poor	2.Good	3.Very Good	4. Excellent
Input into the event by the project beneficiaries	extent to which each participant contributed to the event			4	4
	evidence of participants sharing roles and responsibilities during the event or as part of the overall project		1	4	3
Link between the aims of the event and the main aims of the project.	mutual understanding amongst participants about project and event rationale and the short-term/long-term objectives of the event and the project		2	4	2
	clear evidence in the event programme of relevance with the main project		3	4	1
Development of positive attitudes towards European cultural identity.	opportunities for the development of positive attitudes towards Europe and cultural diversity			5	3
	extent and quality of the intercultural dimension of the shared activities			5	3
	extent of the opportunity for participants to share relevant information about their own countries	6	2		

- Quality of the event section

The results are in general very good both for students and teachers. The main aims of the project were clear even if students could not share relevant information about their own Country.

PART 2- STRUCTURE, CONTENT AND DELIVERY OF THE EVENT

Results in detail, according to the structure of the questionnaire:

		1.Poor	2.Good	3.Very Good	4.Excellent
Organization of the event	evidence of clear planning			4	4
	realistic timescales		4	2	2
	appropriate selection of delegates			6	2
	Completion of activities		2	4	2
Effectiveness of content and appropriate range	appropriate content, clearly related to the aims/objectives of the event			3	5

and balance of activities					
	relevant mixture of activities: e.g. icebreaking activities, information-giving sessions, active participation in workshops by participants etc.			3	5
	appropriateness of social program		2	3	3
Effectiveness of the delivery by trainers/workshop leaders etc.	trainers/leaders have the appropriate subject competence and knowledge			3	5
	trainers/leaders are good communicators, with the necessary language skills			3	5
	Evidence that trainers/leaders have the appropriate didactic experience for delivering training sessions			4	4
Effectiveness of shared ownership of the event	evidence that the needs and expectations of participants have been taken into account		1	4	3
	evidence that participants have the opportunity to contribute their own expertise		4	3	1
Effectiveness of the process of monitoring and evaluation of the activities	quality of the mechanism for monitoring, evaluation, feedback including post event follow-up, if appropriate		2	4	2
	evidence of on-going assistance to participants.		2	2	4
Certificates	Participation certificate for every participant. Mobility Document from Europass Portfolio for every participants			4	4

- Structure, content and delivery of the event section

The trainers of the learning session (in particular the guide) were effective communicators with excellent subject knowledge, competence and didactic experience. There was good evidence that our needs were taken into account and successfully met. Also the host families were very welcoming with our students and they wrote wonderful letters of friendship to some of the students involved in the project.

PART 3 - MATERIALS, RESOURCES, EQUIPMENTS

Results in detail, according to the structure of the questionnaire:

Provision and suitability of materials, resources and equipment		1.Poor	2.Good	3.Very Good	4.Excellent
	evidence of appropriate prior		1	5	2

	information being issued to participants				
	relevance and quality of materials issued during the event		1	3	4
	sufficiency, range and suitability of other resources, including, where appropriate, ICT		2	4	2
	provision of support and assistance for technology users		5	3	
	extent to which technology and other resources are used effectively and innovatively		6	2	

- Materials, resources, equipment section

During the event, the materials and resources at our disposal were serviceable and plenty.

PART 4- QUALITY OF DOMESTIC ARRANGEMENTS

Quality and appropriateness of the domestic arrangements and the comfort factor		1.Poor	2.Good	3.Very Good	4.Excellent
	attention to practical details and catering arrangements		1	1	6
	suitability of working venue			5	3
	quality of accommodation		1	3	4
	evidence of any special requirements of participants being taken account of.	1		4	3

Results in detail, according to the structure of the questionnaire.

- Quality of Domestic Arrangements section

The quality of our accommodations overall was excellent, both for students and teachers. The catering arrangements were good and various. Only a student had some little problems with the hosting girl.

PART 5- AIM OF THE Educational ACTIVITIES.

	Aim was reached :	1.Not at all	2.To little extent	3.To some extent	4.To a good extent	5.To a great extent
To get acquainted to each other as a group or team in order to prepare further communication and cooperation.					4	4
To increase knowledge and respect for world heritages.					5	3
To exchange experiences and disseminate good practices in heritage preservation.				1	4	3

To provide the students with a sense of belonging to a European community with strong cultural identity through the knowledge of the Unesco World Heritage.					3	5
To increase self esteem and boost independent lifelong learning acquisition.				1	2	5
To provide the conditions for multicultural experiences that promote respect for social, linguistic and cultural diversity.				1	3	4
To consolidate a sense of European citizenship through cultural and linguistic exchange.					4	4
To develop communication skills through cooperative historical research.				1	3	4
To develop ICT skills through cooperative historical research.				3	4	1
To develop foreign language skills through cooperative historical research.				2	4	2
To develop data processing and linguistic skills by giving students hands-on experience on planning and organizing a common project.					3	5
To establish a positive attitude towards school education.				1	3	4
To develop Entrepreneurial competences (ex. initiative, systematic planning, critical thinking, creativity, problem solving, information management etc.)				1	4	3

- Aim of the educational activities section

The educational activities were plenty and various. They provided the opportunities for members of the group to develop, to improve European key competences, to socialize with others and to achieve the objectives of the project Erasmus + Unesco Heritage.

PART 6 - Utility of learning session

The learning/teaching activities organized for the Greek mobility were evaluated at very good level. All the activities (workshops, visits, trips) were well planned and rich in cultural aims. The hosting families were very nice and the students were highly satisfied with them. Also teachers appreciated the great sense of hospitality of all the members of Greek team and remembered the Greek experience as a good time spent with friend.

The most useful learning activities were: the visit to the archeological site of Knossos, the boat trip, the workshop about Greek dance. All these activities opened intercultural exchanges, improved the knowledge of national elements and English language.

Suggestions for improving next learning activities, at next meetings:

- Less activities during the same day

Overall evaluation

Strong points:

- good communication with people from different countries and cultures;
- careful choice of host families;
- good planning;
- effective organization, with many and different kind of learning activities.

Weak points:

Too much activities in the same day.