

EVS Project Youth Olympic Games 1.12.2010 – 31.1.2011 Innsbruck, Austria

Host Organization:	Youth Olympic Games
Coordinating Organisation:	CUBIC-Cultur und Bildung im Context
Applicant organisation:	Infoeck-Youth Information Centre Tyrol
Sending Organisations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pistes Solidaires, France- CEMEA, Italy- Centre for Cooperation and Mobility, Poland,- Pro Atlantico, Portugal- Team for Youth Asociacion, Romania- JOETZ, Belgium- SOS "Hermann Gmeiner", Bosnia-Herzegovina- ETL Don Bosco, Spain- Fekete Sereg, Hungary- Continuous Action, Estonia- LINK, Italy- Genctur, Turkey- Youth Department Lapua Town, Finland- SFERA, Russian Federation- AFS Interkultur, Denmark
Number of volunteers:	30
Duration of the Project:	2 months
Activity dates:	1.12.2011 – 31.01.2012
Preparation period:	1.10.2011 – 30.11.2011

About the project

The Youth Winter Olympic Games is the one of the biggest sport events in the world. 1058 young athletes aged between 14 and 18 from over 60 different nations will compete in all olympic disciplines. The venues of the the games are Innsbruck, Seefeld and Kühtai.

This international widely acknowledged and important sport event is attracting a lot of people, both behind the scenes on the professional level and right on the spot, where people want to celebrate the sport, their team, their passion for winter sport. As tickets, accommodation and close access will become more and more difficult at such a popular event, the hosting of EVS volunteers at this events give young people the unique possibility to get a bit of both. They will be integrated in the organising activities of this event (Youth media lab, Youth world mile, Youth sustainability project, Youth arts project, youth competence project, Youth festival 2012) and be able to learn from behind the scenes and contribute with their motivation and interests, but will also be very close up to the games themselves – as guests in their freetime and as volunteers right on the spot.

All in all, this is an international event – that will transport olympic and european values like fairplay, intercultural understanding, tolerance, anti-racism, human rights, inclusion, gender equality and many more. The volunteers

will be encouraged to learn about these through the volunteering, but also be ambassadors for these values, as they represent Europe at this event.

This group EVS will offer activities for 30 volunteers on the mentioned cultural and educational projects in the city of Innsbruck. They will be sent by 15 sending organisations from programme and neighbouring countries and hosted for the period of 2 months. There is one overall coordinator – Infoeck-Jugendinfo Tirol which has long term experience in sending/hosting/coordinating EVS. This project will be conducted in cooperation with the Culture and Education department of the organizing committee as host organization, Infoeck as coordinator, local government and different youth organizations are supporting this project in organizing accommodation, free time of the volunteers and mentoring of volunteers, especially those with fewer opportunities.

The volunteers will be supported in their personal development and learning through trainings, mentoring, peer learning and professional staff. All training will be professionally planned and evaluated, methods of non formal learning learning being the main approach in this project will be non formal. All learning and outcomes for the volunteers will be supported by recorded in individual Youth Passes, which will be used as learning tool and will be handed over as a certificate of achievement.

Profile of the Volunteers

We are looking for young volunteers, who have enthusiasm for sports, and the motivation and will of being part of such a big intercultural event and contributing to it in various ways. Volunteers should be open minded, have interest to learn about new cultures, be comfortable to work with people, to communicate.

The more specific profiles will vary a bit according to the specific activity, they have to be of age (18+), basic english or/and german skills would be great but not a selection criterion (especially for the volunteers with less opportunities, they will get additional linguistic, professional and personal support anyway), the volunteer should enjoy communication with (young) people, be open minded, and bring interest in sports (winter sports in particular) and teamspirit.

Also, we are aiming to achieve a 50/50 gender balance. As the EVS volunteering is much more done by young women we will try to encourage also young men to take part in it. Within this group EVS, we want to balance both sides – and will actively work on achieving this goal together with our partner Sending organisations.

Proposed Activities for the Volunteers

Beside the normal sport program we decided to offer a truly innovative concept including EVS volunteers. We want to integrate sports and culture experience. This will give the athletes from over 60 nations aged between 14 and 18, the European Volunteers and the local youth the unique opportunity to experience an unforgettable sports and culture festival. The intercultural exchange and the unique mix of sports and culture will inspire youth across Europe and the world and foster their personal development as well as capture their enthusiasm for the Olympic Values.

The multi-faceted Culture and Education Programme gives the volunteers, athletes, local youth and local community many opportunities for intercultural exchange. Here are the proposed activities where the EVS volunteers will have the chance to work on the preparation, execution and evaluation. They will bring in their interests, knowledge and enthusiasm in these different activities.

The Youth Media Lab

With the Youth Media Lab an emphasis on new media will be incorporated in the Culture & Education Programme. The volunteers who decide to participate in these activities will be accompanied by the professionals of the media College in Innsbruck. They will learn about new media, but also about making films, digital photography or television and radio programme. In the preparation stage volunteers will get a detailed introduction to the equipment and techniques needed to work in the media lab. Then they will share their new knowledge with the local youth visiting the Olympic Games. We will give the volunteers and youth the possibility to express their ideas and convey to the world the story of their experience at the 1st Winter Youth Olympic Games.

The four production environments will include:

Film & Video Studio – development of Culture and Education Programme-related films and videos

Television & Radio Studio – interview and self presentation trainings
Digital Photography Studio – all aspects of field and studio shoots
Web Lab – creation of a web sports/culture media phenomenon

The Youth World Mile

The World Mile will showcase the unique and diverse cultures of the expected in the Youth Olympic Games participating countries across the 10 days of the YOG, and breathe life into the arts and culture experience in the Congress (Congress is the central place where most of the activities and workshops will take place). Intercultural booths hosted by local youngsters and EVS volunteers who are similar in age to the athletes will provide a platform not only for the young participants, but also for the other target groups, like local community and international guests to share their understanding and interpretation of their countries in various areas, e.g. history, geography, culture, music, food, etc. In addition to this, at the World Mile visitors will have the opportunity to learn more about global issues through a series of interactive displays, set up by various international organizations such as WADA, UNAIDS, UNICEF, UNEP, UNHCR, IFRC and IOA. These interactive display booths will feature walk-in activities to engage the participants and visitors in thinking about various important issues that impact the world.

The Youth Sustainability Project

Placing a distinct emphasis on the importance of environmentalism and sustainable development, The Youth Sustainability Project will serve to reinforce the “Learning to know & Learning to do” component of the Culture and Education Programme.

The following initiatives will be incorporated:

- The Green Olympic Village – poster campaign on saving energy and responsible waste management in the Youth Olympic Village. Volunteers will be trained to support the participating young competitors in different environmental issues, like garbage separation, energy saving, etc.
- Mountain awareness – getting to know risks while practicing sport in the alpine terrain. Volunteers will participate in preparatory workshops to give this knowledge and awareness of different risks occurring, while practicing sports in the mountain areas. The volunteers will have the possibility to get in direct contact to the athletes.

The Youth Arts Project

Through this project we intend to explore another aspect of the sports and Olympics in general. With its own studio in the Congress Innsbruck, the Youth Arts Project will explore the youth-cultural uses of art, the rich variety of youth media that art employs, and its unique capacity to communicate deeply held values. An essential feature of the Youth Arts Project will be creative exploration of interplay between individual art and collective art, and ways in which – much like athletes and teams they serve and support each other.

The following programmes will be part of the Arts Project:

- Dance: various dance styles, e.g. the official YOG dance and the traditional Tyrolean dance “Schuhplattln”
- Music – Drumming and DJing workshops
- Visual Arts – Action painting, digital graffiti, spraying & sculpturing

EVS volunteers will take part and accompany young visitors and participants in the workshops. They will be a very valuable intercultural support, but also experts in the project trained and accompanied by professional staff in the preparation stage of the project.

The Youth Competence Project

In this project we will cooperate directly with the representatives of the International Olympic Committee, sport and cultural leaders, Olympic champions and experts. We plan series of presentations, discussions and workshops – which will broach the issue of some specific topics related to young people doing sports, but also young people in general. We will have interactive cooking courses with the focus on intercultural aspects and healthy food. Another workshop is attended to the cross-cultural stereotypes and prejudices. In all these workshops EVS volunteers will have the possibility to adopt all their intercultural competences, but also methodical competences they will gain in the preparations for this project.

The Youth Festival 2012

Different sport, culture and education activities will allow the young locals, athletes and international guests to learn, contribute, interact and celebrate the Youth Olympic Games 2012 in a fun and collaborative manner.

The following projects will be incorporated:

- Mountain Snow & Fun – Team buildings and fun activities in the alpine environment
- Sport Initiations – Introduction of different sports e.g. sport climbing or ice stock
- Dialogue in the dark – an exhibition to discover the unseen

All these activities will be outdoors in the snowboard arena in Innsbruck. EVS volunteers will have the chance to prepare these activities accompany the participants of the workshops and take an important part in the project management. They will implement their own ideas to these activities.

Every single project above is designed that the EVS volunteers can work in the preparation stage, where they can communicate their own ideas and implement these. They will have partially supportive activities, but also activities where they will lead a workshop or a smaller project. For every activity EVS volunteers will be trained before the activity and they will have a permanent professional support of the people who will have the responsibility for the projects. Volunteers will be a part of the teams, and will take part in all discussions and team processes as full-fledged team members. There won't be typical activities for the volunteers, because we have a lot of possible projects, so they will decide according to their personal preferences in which project they will participate. However, in every area the volunteers will be invited to take part in the preparatory courses, where they will be learned in different issues like media equipment, communication, project management, time management, activities set-up. These new competences they will combine with their own to create very individual activities.

During the first days of the project volunteers will have the chance to select one of this sub projects where they will be working for two months. If there will be more interest for one project than for others we will have to make the decision about the project groups.

Lodging and Food: Volunteers will live together in the "Jungscharhaus" in Mutters. This is a youth house in a village next to Innsbruck. The rooms are 2,3 and 4 bed rooms. The food will be provided in the house, except of the meals during the games time when Olympic games will provide the food. Please let us know if your volunteers have some requests about this (vegetarians, allergies, no pork,...). Next to the house is a tramway station from where volunteers can take a tram directly to the city (about 15 minutes).

<http://innsbruck.jungschar.at/index.php?id=praxis>

Local Transport: Volunteers will get monthly passes for the public transport in Innsbruck.

Volunteer's allowance: 110€ per month. They will get the pocket money at the beginning of the month in cash. They will have to sign, that they received the amount.

Mentoring: Volunteers will have mentors who have experience in dealing with volunteers. Most of them did the EVS by them self.

On Arrival Training will take place in Innsbruck for the first 5 days of the activities.

Information Centre

During the project volunteers will have the opportunity to visit Infoeck in the Kaiser Josef Straße 1 in Innsbruck to get information about working schedule, information about the city and offers for young people or to use internet.
www.mei-infoeck.at

Contacts

Estonia: Elen Brandmeister, Continuous Action info@continuousaction.ee / www.continuousaction.ee

Austria: Zdenko Stevinovic, CUBIC (overall coordination for the project) office@cubic-online.eu