

**INFOPACK | CONNECTING DOTS**  
PROJECT CODE | 2020-2-IT03-KA105-018735  
MOBILITY | 3 - 10 September 2021  
EXTRA TRAVEL | 2 days  
VENUE | Treschietto – Bagnone MS, Italy  
PARTECIPATION FEE | 25 €  
TOPIC | Access for disadvantaged  
Inclusion – Equity  
Social dialogue

## BIO

The Make a circle<sup>1</sup> association was established in Italy to carry out promotion and social utility activities, as well as international cooperation activities between young people from different European countries, using formal and non-formal education.

The association is non-profit and aims to pursue the general interest for human promotion and the integration of citizens, inspired by the principles of solidarity, reciprocity, democracy and responsible commitment. It aims to promote the synergies, cooperation and centrality of the person and encourage the development of the specific abilities of each individual, eliminating the causes of marginalization and injustice.

Make a circle firmly believes that international mobility is beneficial not only for individuals, but has a positive and significant impact on society by reducing racism, prejudice and violence, with counterparts who are more competent and motivated to develop in a healthy environment and progressive.

Make a circle also develops in order to create the tradition of discovering, cultivating and preserving community values among European citizens, an important challenge above all for the radical change that society is experiencing. We firmly believe that social and environmental responsibility, fairness and inclusion, self-expression and self-confidence, self-confidence and resilience, mental and physical well-being, active citizenship are not just values, but they form a set of skills.

## MAKE A CIRCLE CONTACTS

Mail | [francesco.cavicchioli93@gmail.com](mailto:francesco.cavicchioli93@gmail.com)

Mobile number | +39 3482596668

We kindly ask you to use the above e-mail address for normal matters and use the above mobile phone for emergency situations.

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<sup>1</sup> More info at the following link: <https://www.facebook.com/makeacircleitaly>

## THE PROJECT

CONNECTING DOTS is an international project financed by the Erasmus+<sup>2</sup> program carried out over a period of 6 months with the collaboration of 6 international partners. The organizations are based in several countries:

Italy, Romania, Spain, Portugal, Greece and Bulgaria.

The project includes a series of interconnected activities in which people from different cultural backgrounds are encounter and experience non-formal and informal learning in an intercultural environment for multiple days.

The project was born with the aim of training youth workers to create social inclusion within their community through experiential learning methods. In particular, during the main Training Course activity, participants will have the opportunity to get in touch, train, and coordinate first-person workshops aimed at involving ex-prisoners. The experiential context chosen will be an agricultural context, which will involve beekeeping in particular, and will be identified as a replicable model in the specific contexts of each range of action of the partner associations at the local level.

Connecting dots also has the aim of bringing about a concrete change in the five local communities of the project partners, by building dialogue systems between young people, associations and local authorities, which support the creation of events and initiatives aimed at social inclusion. It is in the intention of the project, in particular, to implement a common, coordinated and parallel strategy in the five local communities. The third fundamental objective is to raise awareness at an international level about social inclusion and active participation. The modalities will be defined during the planning phase, as the experience of implementation of the initiative and entrepreneurial spirit of the youth workers involved in the project.

## PARTNERS INVOLVED

Asociación Juvenil "Jarrón Club" | SPAIN

Asociatia "Centrul pentru Dezvoltarea Instrumentelor Structurale | ROMANIA

Smokinya Foundation | BULGARIA

Roes Cooperativa | GREECE

Associação Inspira! | PORTUGAL

Make a circle | ITALY

All Partners included in the project have international experience in the field of youth mobility, share common values and sponsor the development of a Europe that is more united and closer to fewer opportunities, intercultural differences, gender disparities.

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<sup>2</sup> More info at the following link: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

## PROGRAM PLAN<sup>3</sup>

Arrival day

Day 1 | Getting to know each other, project intro, self-discovery as youth workers

Day 2 | Roles and patterns, communication and cooperation, problem solving

Day 3 | Identifying exclusion, social inclusion, experiential learning

Day 4 | Quality research, feedback, creativity, agro-social experiential learning

Day 5 | Cooperation with marginalized groups, open sharing, group experience

Day 6 | Active citizenship, city involvement experience, outdoor experience

Day 7 | Local communities, international cooperation, evaluation, closing and thank yous party

Departure day

## PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

The Erasmus+ program is open to all young people, not just those following a course of study or training. With Erasmus+ it is possible to volunteer all over Europe and the rest of the world or participate in an exchange abroad.

This project allows young people from different countries to meet, live together and work on common activities.

This youth project takes place outside the school and university environment. The learning experiences made by young people through this exchange are recognized by the Youthpass<sup>4</sup>.

Motivated young people aged between 18 and 30 resident or residing in one of the partner countries can participate in the project.

Each national group must have a leader.

To be leader of a national group you must be at least 18 years old, motivated, responsible, experienced, ready to accompany and follow your reference group throughout the project. Establish a communication link with the receiving association and manage possible inconveniences between your participants. Previous experience, skill in managing a team, organizational and problem solving skills, interpersonal relationship skills and excellent linguistic knowledge in English and several international languages are recommended.

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<sup>3</sup> The programme plan is preliminary and might change

<sup>4</sup> More info can at the following link: <https://www.youthpass.eu/>

## TEAM INVOLVED

### CAVICCHIOLI FRANCESCO

President and co-founder of Make a circle.

Degree in Sports and Health Sciences and Master in Psychopedagogy and didactics of inclusion at the University of Urbino Carlo Bo 1506.

He has been a volunteer with international projects in north-central Africa, eastern and southern Europe, a White Helmet with the Universal Civil Service in Brazil, a volunteer with the European Voluntary Service in Bulgaria, a volunteer with the European Solidarity Corps in Thailand and participated in various international mobilities and projects funded by the Erasmus+ program as a participant, group leader and facilitator. He has worked in various social and welfare realities on the Italian territory, currently he works as a socio-cultural educator in projects related to human rights and financed by the Italian government.

He is fluent in Italian, Portuguese, Spanish and English.

### IMPINNA ARIANNA

Partner and facilitator of Make a circle.

Degree in Modern Languages and Literature at the University of Turin 1404.

Master in Euro planning at the Europa Business School. Master in teaching cooperative learning and the use of the CLIL methodology at the Dante Alighieri University of Reggio Calabria 2007.

She spent seven months in Australia starting study and research projects on the cultural variables of Italians residing on the oceanic continent.

She worked in various Italian social sectors, teaching English language and literature to people with fewer opportunities and inmates at the Lorusso e Cotugno prison in Turin.

She has taken part in multiple international projects funded by the Erasmus + program as a participant, group leader and facilitator.

Since 2019 she has been organizing and managing webinars aimed at involving young people in themes of reconnection, personal expression, radio planning and storytelling.

She is fluent in Italian, English, French and German.

### MARIN SANCHEZ TANIA

Partner and facilitator of Make a circle.

Degree on Marine Sciences achieved in Spain at the University of Cadiz 1979, in Portugal at the University of Algarve 1979 and Brasil at the University of Santa Catarina 1960.

Master in Teacher's education at the University of Extremadura 1973.

She had worked as Marine Mammal Observer on board in waters of Spain, Brazil, Croatia and Falkland Islands. She has developed various volunteer projects related to human rights and against hate speech, focused on development local and international activities in Spain.

She has been a volunteer with the European Voluntary Service in Bulgaria, a participant and group leader in various European countries with the Erasmus+.

She is fluent in Spanish, Portuguese, English and Italian.

## VENUE AND TERRITORY

The project is developed at the "La Stele"<sup>5</sup> Hostel located in Lunigiana, a territory between Emilia Romagna, Tuscany and Liguria.

The hostel is located in the heart of the Tuscan-Emilian Apennine National Park and the UNESCO Man & Biosphere Reserve<sup>6</sup>.

In the Municipality of Bagnone, in Lunigiana, Province of Massa Carrara, in the rural village of Treschietto<sup>7</sup>, at 460 meters above sea level, on the border between olive groves and woods, at the foot of the peaks of the Tuscan-Emilian Apennines that reach up to 2000 meters of altitude and accessible by various paths.

A modern hostel recently built and a functional structure in line with all current safety regulations. It consists of three floors connected by internal stairs equipped with stair lifts (up to the first floor where there are two single rooms for disabled people with en suite bathroom).

A total of 50 beds with numerous accommodation possibilities.

Treschietto is just 5 kilometers from the capital of the municipality where you can find all the necessary services.

The territory has shown a healthy characterization and a strong cultural unity since prehistoric times, as the famous Lunigiana Stele Statues still testify, up to being, in the modern age, a border area between multiple municipalities and seignories of different entities.

Lunigiana<sup>8</sup> is a region that embraces mountains, hills and sea, establishing an intimate relationship with nature that is still preserved and not plundered by the globalizing and inefficient system that afflicts us.

The Apennines, the Alps and the Sea create a unique atmosphere here.

Castles, towers and medieval walls characterize the scenography of this wonderful territory that branches out into stories and music of other times, a territory that disseminates characteristic villages that represent a real attraction for those who want to enter, let themselves go and get to know their essence.

## COSTS AND REFUND

### PARTICIPATION FEE

This fee represents a decisive and transparent means for those situations where the host association is required to accompany the participant during the selection, travel, preparatory and specific activities, follow-up, dissemination and contact with the international partner.

The participation fee of 25 euros is deducted from the expense of the travel plan.

<sup>5</sup> More info can at the following link: <https://www.sigeric.it/ostello-la-stele/>

<sup>6</sup> More info can at the following link: <http://www.mabappennino.it>

<sup>7</sup> More info can at the following link: <https://www.terredilunigiana.com/borghi/borgotreschietto.php>

<sup>8</sup> More info can at the following link: <https://visitlunigiana.it/>

The indication of this contribution, if necessary, will be explained and motivated, clarifying how these resources will be used for the purposes of the project itself.

## EXPENSES AND TRAVEL REFUND

Travel expenses include all costs actually incurred to reach the place of destination (even if in some cases the trip required the use of multiple means of transport). The total contribution assigned to each participant is calculated using the community tables for travel and accommodation expenses which can be viewed in the Official Program Guide<sup>9</sup>.

The participant is reimbursed part of the travel cost, from the place of origin to the location of the project activity and back, based on the travel distances. Travel distances must be calculated using the European Commission's distance calculator<sup>10</sup>. The contribution for the trip is calculated on the basis of unit cost scales for distance bands. The mileage range refers to a single leg of the journey while the corresponding amount covers both the outward and return journeys.

During the trip, the participant must obtain and keep all the original documents relating to the route traveled from the country of origin to the project site. To justify travel expenses, only the originals of the expense documents are taken into account (return travel ticket; boarding passes, etc.) and the most convenient fare of the chosen means of transport must be used.

*Example: in the case of air travel, the cheapest second class fares and direct routes without possible stopovers should be used.*

The host association, after verifying the correctness of the documents, proceeds with the reimbursement by bank transfer to the sending partner association which then proceeds to send the money to its individual participant.

## REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL MAXIMUM EXPENSES BY COUNTRY

Italy	20€
Spain	275€
Portugal	275€
Romania	275€
Greece	275€
Bulgaria	275€

## DAYS OF TRAVEL AND TYPE OF TRANSPORT

Up to a maximum of two days for the trip will be recognized: 1 day for the outward journey and 1 day for the return. The host association reserves the right not to reimburse travel costs if the

<sup>9</sup> More info can at the following link: [https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/programme-guide\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/programme-guide_en)

<sup>10</sup> More info can at the following link: [https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/distance-calculator\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/resources/distance-calculator_en)

participant stays for personal reasons beyond the eligible period (before or after the training activity).

The means of transport eligible for reimbursement at the cost actually incurred by the participant are Airplane, Train and Bus.

The most functional and practical airports to get to the project comfortably are in the north center of the country. The Italian cities of Milan, Bologna, Turin, Genoa or Pisa are the best destinations on which to develop your travel plan.

The reference railway station to arrive comfortably in the project is Villafranca-Bagnone<sup>11</sup>.

## **ANTI COVID19 MEASURES**

Participants have the responsibility to strictly and carefully comply with the Italian national measures against the COVID-19 pandemic that can be consulted directly on the Italian<sup>12</sup> government website and any measures requested by the host organization.

In particular, participants must:

1. Arrive at the project stage vaccinated in advance and certified by the green pass or with a negative COVID-19 PCR Test or COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Test. The test is not reimbursed so the participants organize this expense in the best possible way by checking costs and solutions before purchasing the travel plan.
2. Avoid risky behaviors in the ten days before the project. In the event of a positive arrival in Italy, the participant is quarantined in a second facility at his own expense without receiving a refund.
3. Respect any new legislation that the Italian government may adopt during the project and any measures that the host association deems necessary for the health of each member of the project.

## **EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

112 is the single emergency number identified by Europe to ensure the necessary intervention.

Calls to the single emergency number 112 flow into a single reference center in which all emergency calls are channeled that are made to request the intervention of the State Police, Carabinieri, Fire Brigade or Health Rescue.

If you call 112 and you are in one of the provinces where the single emergency number is active, then a specialized operator will answer you who, based on your request, will call in the authority that deems most appropriate.

112 is therefore the reference number for every emergency.

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<sup>11</sup> More info can be found at the following link: <https://www.trenitalia.com/>

<sup>12</sup> More info can be found at the following link: <http://www.salute.gov.it/portale/nuovocoronavirus/>

The intervention of not only the carabinieri, but also of all other emergency numbers (113, 115, 118) may be required.

## **FACEBOOK GROUP**

Once the selection is complete, you can enter the project's private facebook group.

The group is important for exchanging information before and after the mobility, it serves to get to know each other better through our presentations, it is useful for organizing specific activities without making too many communication errors.

To enter in the facebook group, simply click on the link below and wait for our confirmation.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/588027945515722/about>

## **APPLY TO THE PROJECT**

To send your application to this project, simply click on the link below and complete the google form.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1argt-0kMzHjTfqIV6IJHhk2PKewXx7yuzjBOrOfI8L8/edit?usp=sharing>

In case of selection, you will receive a confirmation email with further information.

We hope to see you part of the Italy team in this incredible project!

Make a circle