



The Eurodesk Malta Updates | Issue 2014

Dear friends!

Welcome to the 9th issue of our Eurodesk newsletter for 2014.

eurodesk

My role as the Eurodesk officer is to keep you updated once again with various interesting information the Agency would like to offer. I have created a number of newsletters for Eurodesk now, and I would like to keep you abreast with news from the Island too.



Since the beginning of the year a number of activities and information meetings for all sectors of the public and for all young people, people who work in the youth field, such as Youth Workers, teachers Educational staff and others who are interested. To register for any one-to-one information meetings, kindly send an email to Karl.engerer@gov.mt or call on 25586120.

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Due to the global environmental challenges and climate change issues, the newsletter will also be providing you with an environmental friendly tips to help us use our water more efficiently.

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Entertaining outdoors? These tips can lighten your environmental footprint

Entertaining outdoors? These tips can lighten your environmental footprint

- From lunch on the porch to parties on the patio, warm weather brings you outdoors for entertaining with family and friends. But these get-togethers often create a lot of waste. Is there anything you can do to lighten your environmental footprint?

Turns out there is. Here are some simple tips to enjoy entertaining while reducing packaging and food waste and increasing recycling at your next outdoor gathering.

Look for lightweight, re-closable packaging

To reduce packaging waste, lightweight is key. And to prevent food waste, choose the right packaging.

* When shopping for your menu items, look for foods packaged in lightweight, minimalist packaging, such as plastic wraps, pouches and

zipper bags. Many summertime favorites (hot dogs, sausages, chicken tenders, deli meats, dried fruits, nuts) today are sold in lightweight, re-closable packaging. Even many prepared side and main dishes come in thin yet tough plastic pouches that help protect food while creating very little packaging waste. This packaging helps extend the shelf life of food in the grocery store - and at home - so we waste less food.

* Lighter packaging also helps cut down on fuel needed to deliver food and drinks, which can result in less energy use and fewer emissions during transport. For example, one company replaced its glass jar for dry roasted peanuts with a recyclable plastic jar, emblazoned with the label: "84 percent less packaging than glass jar by weight!" The company said that the switch would result in a 25 percent reduction in trucks on the road to ship the same amount of nuts, along with saving millions of pounds in packaging and shipping materials.

* Keep food from wasting away and spoiling in the outdoor heat with simple reusable ice packs. Inexpensive plastic zipper bags work great - just fill with ice cubes when needed. Or fill with water, set in the freezer, and use to keep cold foods cold. Then simply return them to the freezer to use again or use the water on your plants or garden and reuse the bag.

* If there are too many leftovers for your own use, send extras home with guests using airtight plastic storage containers and zipper bags, which help keep food fresher in the fridge, so you and your guests waste less food. The right packaging is an investment in protecting our food and all the resources we use to produce it.

Recycle and look for recycled products

When entertaining outdoors, many people prefer shatter-resistant plastic tableware. Fortunately, today more plastics are being collected for recycling and returning to homes as new outdoor products.

* Plastics recycling has gone well beyond bottles and milk jugs in most community curbside programs to include yogurt cups, deli containers, lids, bottle caps, clamshells for fruit, and more. And now your plastic bags, along with wraps from products such as water bottle cases, napkins, produce, and buns, can be dropped off at thousands of participating retail or grocery stores for recycling.

* Recycling everyday plastics during your outdoor party is a great way to help valuable materials live a new life. An easy way to encourage recycling and to collect more recyclables is to place a clearly labeled recycling bin next to the outdoor trash.

* Another simple way to help the environment is to look for serving bowls, cups, plates and utensils made with recycled plastics, which helps keep more plastics out of landfills.

* Many manufacturers now use recycled plastics to make durable outdoor furniture and accessories, such as flower planters, birdhouses, and lawn furniture. And in some communities you can recycle these products at the end of their long life.

* Lightweight outdoor rugs woven from fibers made with recycled plastics are another eco-friendly option for your outdoor space - and they can be cleaned by rinsing with a garden hose.

So look for packaging that helps you entertain with less packaging and food waste - and make sure recycling is an integral part of your plan - so you can lighten your environmental footprint all summer long.

Best

Karl Engerer

EUPA News

Erasmus+ The new EU programme for Education, Training, Youth and Sport

The next deadline for sport has been extended to 26th June 2014

The Erasmus+ programme is intended to support activities in education, training, youth and sport in all sectors of lifelong learning (Higher Education, Further Education, adult education, schools, youth activities etc). Erasmus+ will be an *integrated* programme which means that it will be based around Key Actions rather than sectors of education.

The deadline for submission of applications for the actions 'Collaborative partnerships in the sport field' and 'Not-for-profit European sport events' of 15 May 2014 (point 6 of the Call) has been prolonged until **26th June 2014 at 12.00PM (Noon)**.

- Helps young people gain more and better skills by studying & training abroad.
 - Enhances teaching quality in the EU and beyond
 - Supports Member States and partner countries in modernising their education and vocational
 - Training systems
 - Promotes youth participation in society
 - Supports teaching and research on European integration
 - Supports European grass-roots sport
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- More opportunities for higher education and vocational students to study and train abroad to improve their skills and job prospects

- More opportunities for teachers, trainers and youth workers to study and train in another country
- More opportunities for young people to learn through youth exchanges, volunteering and participation in democratic life
- More opportunities for education and training institutions to exchange good practice
- Increased cooperation between educational institutions, businesses or regional authorities and other bodies such as youth organisations
- Launch of new 'Knowledge Alliances' between higher education institutions and businesses.
- Expanding the eTwinning initiative that connects schools via the internet
- Better cooperation in education policy, with an emphasis on practical outcomes such as the Europass CV, which is used by more than 10 million Europeans.
- A new loan guarantee scheme making it easier for students at Masters level to finance their studies in another country.
- More support for higher education in other parts of the world, particularly in neighbourhood countries.

Information on the European Union Programmes Agency can be found at the agency website www.eupa.org.mt.

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs

About the programme

Malta Enterprise in collaboration with Stiftelsen Europa Institutet in Sweden are working together to facilitate exchanges for entrepreneurs between Malta, Sweden and all the other EU countries, within the framework of the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs programme (www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu).

Partly funded by the European Commission, this exchange programme offers new entrepreneurs the possibility to work with an experienced entrepreneur in another EU country. The exchange programme is particularly beneficial for those individuals who are thinking of starting or have just set up their own business, who are given the opportunity to acquire relevant skills whilst working with experienced owners of small and medium enterprises across Europe. On their part, the experienced entrepreneurs participating in the programme and hosting the budding entrepreneurs would benefit from fresh

perspectives on their own business whilst also getting the opportunity to cooperate with foreign partners or learn about new markets.

The programme acknowledges the fact that many founders of SMEs lack management, experience and other key skills required to succeed in today's highly competitive markets, as well as the fact that the vast majority of SMEs operate only in one country with limited possibilities for growth. Recognizing the importance of entrepreneurship for economic growth and job creation, it thus seeks to help new entrepreneurs acquire the relevant skills, whilst both new and experienced entrepreneurs would be expanding their European outreach.

Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs is a win-win collaboration, whereby both new and experienced entrepreneurs can discover new European markets or business partners, different ways of doing business, as well as opportunities for networking. The entrepreneurs may also decide to pursue their collaboration on a longer term by becoming business partners after the end of the exchange period. In this manner, the programme stimulates entrepreneurship, competitiveness, internationalisation and growth of start-ups and established SMEs in the EU. It also contributes to the transfer of know-how and building of management skills essential for the running of an SME.

Who can participate?

New entrepreneurs eligible to participate in the programme are those who firmly plan to start a business or otherwise have an existing business that is not older than three years, irrespective of their personal age or the sector in which they operate.

Host entrepreneurs can participate in the programme if he or she is the owner or manager of an SME or directly involved in entrepreneurship at SME board level; has experience running a company for several years; and is willing to act as a mentor by sharing knowledge and experience with a new entrepreneur from a different European state.

Your intermediate organisation: Malta Enterprise

As a local contact point in Malta, Malta Enterprise can guide interested entrepreneurs throughout the exchange programme: helping with the application process, helping with finding and establishing a successful relationship with a suitable entrepreneur, as well as answering any questions.

Malta Enterprise will also provide financial support to new entrepreneurs participating in the programme, covering (part of) the travel costs to and from the country of the stay and subsistence costs during the visit, which may last between one and six months. The

grant is given as a monthly flat rate, depending on the country you will be travelling to (depending on their cost of living). The grant would not cover all the costs but would be covering a substantial part of your expenses.

Benefits

In a nutshell, what are the benefits of participating in this programme?

Benefits for new or aspiring entrepreneurs:

Active participation in the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs programme offers aspiring entrepreneurs access to a wide range of benefits to help successfully run or start a new business:

Up to six months stay with an experienced entrepreneur in another European Union country to gain first-hand knowledge about business start-up in a wide range of areas such as: marketing/sales, financial accounting, customer relations, business finance etc. You will also have the opportunity to improve your business plan;

- Building self-confidence and skills: sector-specific knowledge or know-how, technical and management skills;
- Opportunities for collaboration with other entrepreneurs and the development of cross-border business co-operation;
- Networking and building of strong relationships, which can be useful for mutual consulting, business referrals, and for finding business partners abroad;
- Insights into different cultural and organisational settings and how companies function in another European Union country;
- Insights into the business environment of another European Union country
- Improved language skills;

Benefits for host entrepreneurs:

As a host entrepreneur participating in the programme, you will benefit from the exchange by having the opportunity to:

- Work with an energetic and motivated new entrepreneur who can contribute to your business with innovative views, new skills and knowledge;
- Benefit from a "fresh eye" on your business, and specialised knowledge that the new entrepreneur may have and that you do not master;
- Act as a coach or mentor;
- Learn about foreign markets, expand your business opportunities and engage in cross-border activities;
- Interact with entrepreneurs from other EU countries and get

- opportunities to collaborate with them;
- Network and build strong relationships, which can be useful for mutual consulting, business referrals, and for finding business partners abroad;
 - Improve your language skills;
 - The large majority of most entrepreneurs enjoyed the experience so much that they decided to host other new entrepreneurs afterwards!

Interested?

What do you need as a New Entrepreneur to participate?

Interested persons just need to fill out a short online application form, upload a CV and a business plan. At Malta Enterprise we can help you with all this, including the business plan.

In the online form, participants can choose which country they would want their counterpart to be from, what kind of entrepreneur/business they are looking for, how long they would like the exchange to take and when. Established entrepreneurs that would like to host new entrepreneurs, can choose from which country they would like to host. We will try to find you the best match according to your requirements and/or give you possible other options. There is absolute no additional cost for participants.

More information

More information may be viewed on www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu and the programme information guide can be downloaded from here http://www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu/upload/ERASMUS-GUIDE_EN.pdf

To see how the programme works in practice, one can see some success stories here: <http://www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu/page.php?cid=9>.

For any questions or more information on how to apply kindly contact Brigitte Tanti at Malta Enterprise on tel. 2542 3443 or on Brigitte.tanti@maltaenterprise.com

Training Courses

EMPOWERING WOMEN IV

EMPOWERING WOMEN IV: Youth work for young women entrepreneurship

Seminar / Conference

26-31 October 2014 | Turkey

Youth Work can thus play a fundamental role in the empowerment of women, especially in terms of providing opportunities for self-assessment, development of skills and competences and by giving practical support in the attainment of self-realization.

After the great success of the previous editions in France – in 2010 with a very general approach on the role of women in society, in 2012 with a more specific analysis on women in the field of social economy, in 2013 with an emphasis on the promotion of young women employability through non-formal education – we are now moving to Turkey for dealing more specifically on the topic of entrepreneurship and the role youth work can have in its support and encouragement.

In this partnership building seminar we will focus on the concept of entrepreneurship, the competences needed both for the target groups and youth workers and above all we intend to set an inter-sectorial partnership among participants for future cooperation.

Application deadline: 31st July, 2014

Date of Selection: 1st September, 2014

Check out the SALTO Training Website

Tool Fair IX

Seminar / Conference

3-7 November 2014 | Romania

The “Tool Fair IX” will be focusing on transferability and adaptation of tools in different sectors. The “Tool Fair IX” offers the opportunity to the people active in the fields of education, training and youth, as well as companies, public authorities, civil society organisations active in different socio-economic sectors to cooperate in order to share, transfer innovative educational tools to high quality teaching, training,

learning and youth work.

Tool Fair IX aims:

- To further develop the quality of tools, according to the quality criteria of the overall tools strategy, with special focus on feedback of the tools as such and for their transferability.
- To give space to participants to share and experience educational tools developed and shape their own educational and experiential pathways, by facilitating and attending workshops.
- To engage participants in the further development of educational tools
- To contribute through the “Tool Fair” to the overall SALTO strategy on tools quality development
- To inspire participants to apply learning outcomes of the “Tool Fair” to their own reality and explore the potentials to use creativity to foster cross-sectorial approaches.

Why should you take part in the “Tool Fair”?

Participating in the “Tool Fair IX” will offer the chance to shape your own educational and experiential pathway, to run a workshop so as to share your tools with other colleagues from an international level as well as to participate in workshops run by others.

However, beyond experiencing a wide variety of tools, the “Tool Fair” aims to provide a space to reflect on tools, give and receive feedback and pave the way for their transferability and further development.

This way, the “Tool Fair IX” tends to contribute not only to the learning outcomes of each individual participant but also to the quality of educational tools and learning process on a European level, complementing SALTO-YOUTH Toolbox for Training and Youth Work (<http://www.salto-youth.net/tools/toolbox>) and various publications on educational tools, in coherence with the European Training Strategy.

Application deadline: 10th September, 2014

Date of Selection: 22nd September, 2014

Click [here](#) for more information about this seminar/conference and how to apply for it

Hey! What´s going on? Advanced Training on Group

Processes and Facilitation

Training Course

6-14 October 2014 | Laugar, Sælingsdal, Iceland

This course is aimed at youth workers, group leaders and trainers with some reflected experience in working with groups. The point of departure for the course is a lived experience of 2-3 days in this group that will be reflected upon and used as a learning platform to gain a deeper theoretical understanding of the dynamics of group processes. To this will be added more practical tools and methods for group facilitation, opportunities for training and practice within the group and using the resources of the group to find solutions for case studies drawn from participants' own experience.

The aim is to develop participants' practical know-how and skills in the facilitation of group processes, and to raise inter- and intra-personal awareness.

The objectives are: To experience and reflect upon the real-life processes of a group, over a number of days; to gain a deeper theoretical and practical understanding of the dynamics of group processes; to gain more practical tools and methods for group facilitation; to practice and train with the group of participants to use the resources of the group to find solutions for case studies drawn from participants' work situations; to use the Youthpass process for positive constructivism; to provide possibilities for consultation for participants after the course; and finally to leave space for the unexpected, for the unforeseen and for intuition.

Application deadline: 16th June, 2014

Date of Selection: 27th June, 2014

Click [here](#) for more information about this training course and how to apply for it

Freedom Fountain: Youth Culture as Expression of Freedom

Seminar / Conference

13-17 October 2014 | Thessaloniki, Greece

Youth Culture and Youth art as expression of freedom is very important topic to be developed within the EuroMed field. Youth is more and more present in the social and political scene bringing new form of expression. More and more music, graffiti, murales, and so on became a way of expression, of communication with the outside world. Taking in account the political and social changes in the EuroMed area and the role that youth is keeping... that makes this topic very important to explore and, also, to develop educational tools for International youth workers and youth leaders.

Aims and objectives:

- To gather together youth workers and leaders working or motivated to work on youth art and culture in Euro-Med region
- To explore and define Youth Culture and what it means to youth leaders and Euro-Med youth
- To gather best practices, learn from them and inspire with them
- To create new high quality projects and opportunities for Euro-Med youth
- To develop a web resource as educational tool on how to use youth art in International projects as an expression of freedom

Application deadline: 1st September, 2014

Date of Selection: 12th September, 2014

[Click here for more information about this seminar/conference and how to apply for it](#)

If interested in going on a Training Course to enhance your youthwork skills and project implementation, check out www.salto-youth.net/find-a-training/ .

Partner Requests

[Looking for Partners around Europe for EVS](#)

[For more partner requests click on : Eurodesk Malta - Partner Search.](#)

Scholarships

[Official Ministry of Foreign Affairs Application Form for Scholarships\(pdf\)](#)

It is now possible to enroll in the 2014 – 2015 edition of the scholarships programme. The objective of these scholarships is to provide participants with the skills to successfully work in the field of European cooperation, through the use of funding made available by the European Commission. You may also wish to subscribe to the emailing list for scholarships, press the link below!

<http://www.gov.mt/en/Life%20Events/Scholarships/Pages/Scholarships.aspx>

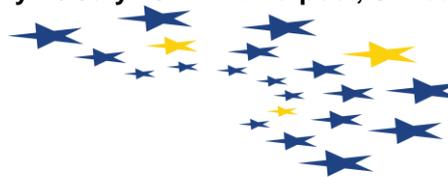
[Subscribe to the Scholarships Mailing List](#)

For information about studying in Malta and abroad click [here](#)

EuroParlYouth

EYPUK Summer National Session 2014

2 July - 6 July 2014 in Liverpool, United Kingdom



The Summer 2014 EYPUK National Session is being presided by Laura Hibberd (UK), and will take place between the

EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT 2nd and 6th of July 2014. The PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN DES JEUNES UNITED KINGDOM session will be held at Liverpool Hope University, in the city of Liverpool, and is being Head Organised by Kyle Robertson and Martha Saunders. The UK National Sessions offer the chance to be part of a session with excellent delegates, passionate alumni and stunning venues. For the first time, full resolution writing will occur at the session.

From the Continent

MVC – Malta Vocational Centre is a Maltese based association.

It dedicates itself to train young people through national and international projects managed on a European scale. MVC is specialised in increasing and improving the professional qualifications

of young people, in improving their aptitudes, and in aiding them to acquire new profiles and linguistic competence, improving individual authority, acquiring an enterprising spirit, in improving the adaptation to a new culture, bettering the possibilities of entering and of assimilation in the professional sector, the continuation of professional education and training, in increasing the beneficiary's interest and completing their learning cycle.

In the framework of the European Mobility projects, MVC acts as intermediary and coordinating organisation. One of its objectives is to build up relations with sending organisations (training bodies, vocational schools, universities, social partners, NGOs, non-profit organisations, professional associations, business companies, SME, chambers of commerce, etc.) from several European countries.

The role of MVC Association within the European mobility projects consists in: organizing accommodation for the participants during their stay; organizing the language course and culture tuition; organizing and monitoring the work placement; organizing weekly and monthly evaluation of the work activities carried out by the participants; supervising and tutoring the participants; cooperating in the completion of the final certification for each participant (Europass Mobility); cooperating in the organisation of the evaluation of the project; disseminating project results.

Also, for your kind perusal, the website: www.maltavocationalcentre.org and our presentation in attachment.

Study on Policy Measures to improve the Attractiveness of the Teaching Profession in Europe

The study focuses on teachers in primary and secondary education (ISCED 1, 2 and 3) in the 28 EU Member States plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Turkey. It is based upon a survey of more than 80,000 student teachers, teachers and school leaders, interviews with national decision-makers, and a review of the research in the field.

- Key findings:
- - - In most European countries, the teaching profession has lost much of its attraction for the best candidates because of a decline in prestige, poorer working

conditions and relatively low salaries.

- - - Few countries have specific, long-term strategies to make the profession more attractive to the best candidates, or even to evaluate the effectiveness of their current policies
 - - - In many countries, the teacher shortage is addressed by longer working hours for teachers, higher pupil-teacher ratios or an increase in the retirement age.
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Feel free to contact us for further information!

- At a time when several countries are faced with shortages of qualified teachers, a new study undertaken by the European Commission looks at what Member States could do to attract the best people into the profession.
- - The study looks in detail at what makes the teaching profession attractive (or not), maps the different policy measures that countries use (or could use) to attract high-quality recruits, to make careers more attractive, and to enhance the social status and prestige of teaching, and assesses their effectiveness. It also makes recommendations for improvements.
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What 's on the Rock

EARTH GARDEN 2014 ★

06/06/2014 - 08/06/2014



EARTH GARDEN 2014 | 6,7 & 8 June | National Park, Ta Qali.

Earth Garden Festival strives to provide a performing platform for top local artists, enhanced by the luxury of a professional set-up. We believe in nurturing new upcoming local artists, giving them the ability to perform and share the stage with established local acts and foreign artists, and the opportunity to gain the necessary experience that artistically will take them to the next level.

Earth Garden remains the local green finger festival that voices care for the environment through Arts, Music, Culture in a holistic way.
More information from <http://www.earthgarden.com.mt>

Venue

Ta' Qali National Park

Phone: +356 23398484

Email: park.mrra@gov.mt

Website: <http://www.mrra.gov.mt>

[More Info »](#)

- **Organiser**

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- Website: <http://www.earthgarden.com.mt>

[Eurodesk Malta](#)

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