

Associazione Futuro Digitale

Project “YOUTHink Together”

Organization name: Associazione di Promozione Sociale Futuro Digitale - Campania	Project name: “YOUTHink Together” (ref. nr. 2016-2-IT03-KA105-008989)
Project date: from 1 st of April 2017 to 10 th of February 2018	Place of project, Country/city: Sant’Antonio Abate (Naples), Campania Region, Italy

Short organization description (function, vision and goals)

Futuro Digitale Association was born in 2013 and since then it has worked, mainly in small towns and contexts, to promote youth empowerment through concrete possibilities of development connected to e-learning, traineeship and personalised patterns of working periods. Futuro Digitale is based in three Italian regions (Calabria, Campania and Lazio) and it has 22 people in its team. The office in Campania is the one accredited for EVS hosting projects (accreditation Nr. 2016-1-IT03-KA110-008507).

It has three main objectives:

- empower youth, also for self-employment;
- educate to European citizenship and solidarity;
- reduce the digital divide and educate to digital awareness.

Futuro Digitale hosts volunteers and trainees within the Erasmus for young Entrepreneurs programme and Erasmus traineeship (more than 50 have been hosted so far) and he has received the accreditation as sending and coordinating organisation for the EVS (European Voluntary Service). We have worked so far with 8 volunteers and from next months with other 12.

Furthermore, Futuro Digitale supports youth in obtaining micro-credit loans through specific tutoring aimed at supporting all the bureaucratic passages. The tutoring is based on on-going support and relation with the micro-credit applicant.

Futuro Digitale is an accredited centre for teaching Italian language as well as to provide students with official ICT educational certificates (EiPass EU certificate).

FD prepares local young people to acquire transversal skills and has an extensive network of schools that cooperate with it present in different regions. In such schools, FD delivers workshops, conferences and works with students to boost basic competences in project management and planning.

Know more about the Hosting organisation: www.futurodigitale.org



Project summary and main theme *e.g. sport, culture, youth etc.* (goals and tasks)

“YOUTHink Together” is an EVS project focused on putting at the centre the role of volunteers in creating a real shift at local level. The project will be placed in an ex-industrial place in Sant'Antonio Abate (near Naples) converted to cultural and youth activities where a flourishing youth group is growing and the Association Futuro Digitale is located. Such a Center is attended by about 1.000 youngsters per week. The project will involve 2 volunteers (1 from Spain and 1 from Sweden), for a mobility of 10 months. The project has the aim to empower youth at local level through volunteering activities and the engagement of EVS volunteers, in order to better language skills, develop democratic dialogue, learning non-formal educational methods and foster a tolerant and inclusive society. The activities will be focused on youth work, sport, creativity (theatre, recycling, events planning) and NGO management.

Location of most of the activities and venue of the Association's office:

<https://www.facebook.com/CpSantaMariaRosaNova/?fref=ts>



Tasks and assignments of the volunteer

The volunteers will be actively involved in different and various tasks. First of all, they will be part of the ordinary activities of Futuro Digitale, such as the participation and organisation of EU and intercultural events, but also on specific projects created for “YOUTHink Together”. One of the aim will be their inclusion in the local community, for a bilateral contribution to the social and human growth of the people involved.

The overall calendar will reflect a number of activities referred to the association Futuro Digitale:

- Practical work in revamping the ex-industrial structure (some areas are being converted in sports pitches, in theatre places etc.). Volunteers will be working together with the local youth to support them in the local planning & restoration and in the requalification of the building;
- Volunteers will be in charge of creating educational activities on transversal skills (the eight foreseen by EU) both for children and for youth, in order to prepare them on Erasmus plus programme, as well as supporting them in their social empowerment referred to employability and

entrepreneurship.

- Volunteers will have to steer educational activities together with local youth workers such as workshops, info days, school meetings, theatre activities etc. A lot of events will take place during the 10 months of the project: Move Week, Europe Day, OroRosso (a festival about traditional foods), Volunteering Day, Multilingualism Forum, etc. Futuro Digitale carries out these events every year, but the contribution of the EVS volunteers can be a real added value to innovate them.

- Volunteers will organise linguistic activities through language cafes in order to support local youth to acquire better language skills both in English and in the volunteers' native language.

- Volunteers will have to back also Futuro Digitale's activities, such as networking (offline and online), conference organisation, project writing and revamping of digital documents.

- Volunteers will participate to the local democratic meetings which are regularly held by the local associations. Futuro Digitale is part of the NGO local forum. Volunteers will learn and understand how to cooperate with other associations and how to act in a democratic society.

- Volunteers will be learning Italian through regular sessions organised by Futuro Digitale.

- Volunteers will be formed also in storytelling as they will be working to tell the stories of their EVS as well as to engage other youth to be volunteers through Erasmus plus. They will be formed by Futuro Digitale in how to tell stories and how to use digital tools to better express themselves.

The dissemination activities will be focused on a strategy of digital storytelling and organisation of offline events for the community. An important part of the project will be referred to the preparation and follow-up.

A very important a huge space will be offer to the implementation of a personal project created by the volunteer him/herself.



Venues and possible leisure activities (City, restaurants, landmarks etc.)

The project will take place in Southern Italy, in the Campania Region. Campania is one of the best Italian Regions, rich of attractions from historical, naturalistic, monumental and gastronomic points of view. In 2016 the Region has been the one that had the best trend in terms of tourism and visits. The city is in the center of a lot of places of interest, such as: Pompeii (5 km), Sorrento (30 km), Naples (40km), Amalfi Coast (30 km) and many other wonderful places.

At the same time, the town itself can offer interesting attractions, mainly referred to the gastronomic and social heritage. In order to have a nice overview on Sant'Antonio Abate, look at this videos, created by the group of young videomakers called "Lobster" (you can select the subtitles in English in the video options): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KsOt_tDTihY

The city and its surroundings are full of typical restaurants and pizzerias. A pizza margherita costs only 3 €.

Futuro Digitale, as part of the Local Forum of Associations, can provide a lot of opportunities for being part of the many social, cultural and leisure initiatives led by the organisations based in the town.

Accommodation (i.e. housing), language lessons, food- and pocket money

The volunteers will be accommodated in an independent apartment with a wonderful view on the Vesuvius. The apartment is at the second floor, furnished of everything, with two bedrooms (+ one that can be used if we will host interns), one bathroom, one kitchen/living room. Futuro Digitale will provide bicycles for the volunteers, so they can reach the venue(s) of the activities in few minutes and in a sustainable way ☺

As regards the food allowance, each volunteer will receive a weekly amount of 40€. The life cost in the area is very cheap, so the pocket money (that is given monthly) will be enough to enjoy free time in the city and its surrounding. The pocket money for the EVS in Italy is 115 € per month.

From the beginning of the experience Futuro Digitale will focus on the language course for the volunteers, in order to put them in the condition of communicate with the local people as soon as possible.

Learning opportunities and work colleagues (other volunteers, work- and social mentor etc.)

The added value of our project is the presence of a lot of local volunteers, youth workers and other people that will cooperate with the EVS volunteers. Futuro Digitale will provide a specific staff for the volunteers: a trainer, a mentor and an Italian teacher. At the same time, there will be a lot of people and volunteers which, basing on the type of activity to be carried out, will support and cooperate with the EVS volunteers.



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