







WE AfriHug at a glance
Countries
Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Togo, Ghana, Refugee Camps of Western Sahara in Algeria, Nigeria
Number of HEIs
7 HEIs
Number of Erasmus+ Training Seminars
7 Erasmus+ Training Seminars
Number of Students & Academic Staff
1560 Students & Academic Staff
Number of partnerships between AU & EU HEIs
2 partnerships
Number of mobilities between AU & EU HEIs
3 mobilities
Number of Youth Empowerment Training Seminars
6 Youth Empowerment Training Seminars
Number of Educational Camp
1 Educational Camp
Number of Sports Milestones
2 Sports Milestones
Number of Academic Research
1 Academic Research
Number of Participation in International projects
4 International projects
Number of Awards
3 awards



Social Media

<u>Website</u>
<u>Facebook</u>
<u>Twitter</u>
<u>Instagram</u>
<u>LinkedIn</u>
<u>Infographic</u>
<u>YouTube channel</u>



Timeline of WE AfriHug





Post-phase of WE AfriHug

04 - 10 Nov 2018

Greece

Mobility of Kyambogo University, Uganda in the University of Piraeus, Greece for Training on International Mobility

23 Nov 2018

Cyprus

Screening of documentary "We hug Africa" at the premises of their sponsor Trade.com - Lead Capital Markets Limited, in Nicosia

28 Nov 2018

Greece

Screening of documentary "We hug Africa" at the premises of the NGO Inter Alia in Athens

08 Dec 2018

Greece

Screening of documentary "We hug Africa" at the event "WE AfriHug short documentary and Reggae night" at the premises of the African house in Athens

09 Dec 2018

Greece

Screening of documentary "We hug Africa" at a gathering in Athens

16 Dec 2018

Greece

Screening of documentary "We hug Africa" at the Youth Exchange of the Erasmus+ programme "Generation Europe" in Kalamata

22 Dec 2018

Cyprus

Screening of documentary "We hug Africa" at the premises of the private language school CareAct in Larnaca

24 Dec 2018

Italy

Screening of documentary "We hug Africa" at an event in Ostia

11 Jan 2019

Greece

Screening of documentary "We hug Africa" at the premises of the 20th Primary School of the municipality of Kallithea

20 - 28 Jan 2019

Greece

Mobility of Academic Staff of Kenyatta University, Kenya in the University of Piraeus, Greece for Training on International Mobility



Team

WE AfriHug team

5 volunteers from 3 EU member states (Greece, Italy & Cyprus) came up with the idea and development of WE AfriHug project. They joined forces for the preparatory, implementation and dissemination phases of the project in Africa and Europe. We believe in the idea of a united Europe and we promote our common European identity showcasing great collaboration. The team involved Youth organizations across Europe, such as the Erasmus Mundus Association & the foundation garagErasmus and across Africa, such as the Afrika Youth Movement and several NGOs.



"We believe that the project is used as a role model for young people who want to bring the change by collaborating and co-creating together for a better world."



Greece: [Marilena Maragkou](#)

"WE AfriHug is the result of people who share the same dream and want to contribute to this world with a meaningful way. I believe in the team, the passion and the power of education."

Marilena is 29 years old and holds a Bachelor in MBA and an MSc in International Marketing. Since 2013, she has been working as a Project Manager in European educational projects. She has participated in several volunteer programs in Europe and abroad and she had the chance, through studying and training opportunities, to live abroad, interact with people from all over the world, exchange views and ideas with them and open her mind. She loves learning foreign languages and her hobby is traveling. She is now among the 42 young experts of the AU-EU Youth Cooperation Hub (Education cluster).



Greece: [Konstantinos Maragkos](#)

"WE AfriHug is a project born in the mind of ambitious dreamers. We want to see something changing in this world and we are here to make things happen. Education is the key."

Konstantinos is 26 years old and he is a graduate of Classics from the University of Athens and a postgraduate from the Erasmus Mundus European Master in Tourism Management. He has lived in Greece, Austria, Denmark, Slovenia, Spain and Ghana until now and he is keen on learning and working in different fields. He loves foreign languages, traveling, volunteering and entrepreneurship. He is passionate about sports and he is a marathon runner. His main interests lie on international development, education and mobility programmes for youth. He represents the Erasmus generation



after being awarded with the Golden Laissez-Passer "Best Erasmus Talent of 2017" by the foundation garagErasmus.



Italy: [Marco Valerio Battaglia](#)

"What we do for ourselves dies with us, what we do for the others lasts forever."

Marco Valerio is 25 years old and he is the president of the Italian NGO IPA – Io Per l'Altro. He decided to establish this organization five years ago after his first experience in Togo. He studies Psychology in the University La Sapienza and he works as a Non-Formal Education facilitator in the Italian organization, Kamaleonte, since 2013. He believes in the power of Education as equal right for everyone. He is passionate about literature and he has published three collection of poems. He thinks that sports can also be used as a tool for social inclusion. He plays Touch Rugby for Touch Rugby Roma since 2014.



Italy: [Claudia Cirilli](#)

"The world changes with your example, not with your opinion."

Claudia is 25 years old and she studies Communication for Public Institutions and Private Companies at the University La Sapienza. She speaks fluently three languages and she works for the organization Kamaleonte since 2015 as Non-Formal Education



facilitator. She is passionate about travelling and she has participated in different Erasmus+ youth exchange programmes. She believes that each of us should put ourselves in the first line if we want to change the society we live in.



"I believe in people and in the power of people united in order to bring a change"

Cyprus: [Demetris Christodoulou](#)

Demetris is 29 years old and he holds a bachelor degree in Political Science from Panteion University in Athens and an MSc in Financial Economics from Leeds Beckett University in United Kingdom. He works currently in the financial industry. He had the opportunity to gain various experiences by interacting with people from different backgrounds and cultures. He is a highly motivated professional with strong analytical and problem solving skills. He has strong teamwork and communication skills.

Volunteer



"I believe in the power of volunteerism"

Greece: [Irene Zaraloglou](#)

Irene is 21 years old and she is an undergraduate student at the department of Business and Administration in the University of Piraeus. Her passion for volunteerism and travelling became reality a year ago, when she started participating in Erasmus+



actions. Since then, she has accomplished to be a part of many national and international projects, organise events and meet people from all over the world. That has completely changed her mind and has opened new horizons for her to explore. She loves learning about new cultures and her dream is to be able to inspire people about how joining forces all together can truly bring a change to our societies.

Ambassadors

According to our values, we respect other cultures and our approach is always locally tailor-made. In each country that we visited, we had a local ambassador, who was responsible for the organization and coordination of our activities providing always expertise and advice for the local cultures and needs of the communities that we visited.



“A boat doesn't go forward if each one is rowing their own way.”

Tanzania: Stephen James Ntinginya

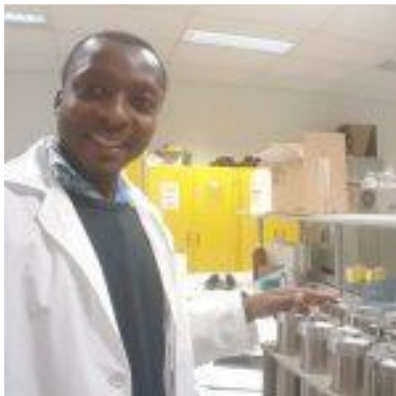
Stephen James Ntinginya is 28 years old and he lives in Dar es Salaam city, Buguruni local area. He pursued a bachelor degree in Accounting at the Institute of Accountancy Arusha in Arusha region. WE AfriHug team aims at reducing the big gap between European opportunities and African countries like Tanzania by communicating and accessing European opportunities in some fields where needs to have presence of African young people in order to shape a better future for the world. Coming together was a beginning, keeping together was progress, working together was a success, hence teamwork was the secret that makes common people achieve uncommon results.



Kenya: [Lina Mkoji](#)

"I am pleased to be an ambassador of the WE AfriHug Project as it gives me an opportunity to interact with youth and to encourage them to pursue their dreams through education and cultural exchanges."

Lina is 29 years old and she is from Nairobi. She holds a bachelor degree in Hospitality and Tourism from Kenyatta University and she has been working in the aviation industry for the last years, particularly for Kenyan airlines. She just finished her master studies at the Erasmus Mundus European Master in Tourism Management. She is the Eastern Sub-Regional Coordinator of the African Chapter of the Erasmus Mundus Association.



Uganda: [Edwin Kamalha](#)

"I look forward to strengthening and harnessing more from the many networks I have created and contribute socially and Academically."

Edwin is 33 years old and he is the Erasmus Mundus Association Country Representative for Uganda. He is in the final year PhD candidate of the SMDTex programme. He is also a lecturer at Busitema University in Uganda. He has studied in France, Italy and now he is in China; He is enthusiastic about volunteering, teaching and research. Being part of EMA and Erasmus mobility programme has been exciting and so rewarding.



Togo: [Béné Agbeko](#)

"It is real pleasure for me being the WE AfriHug ambassador in Togo and of course helping to implement the training for our youngsters here was a successful experience of improving my learning of Non-Formal Education methods."

Béné is 28 years old and he has been volunteering for 12 years now. He is the co-founder of Acet-Togo and the president of the same NGO since July 2015. He has an extensive experience as youth worker and project coordinator. He has coordinated 4 youth exchange projects under Erasmus+ programme. His main soft skills include public speaking, conflict management and negotiation.



Ghana: [Abukari Shaibu Niendow](#)

"It is my great pleasure and honour to be the ambassador of WE AfriHug in Ghana, an impactful and life-changing project for Africa and Europe. We worked together with the team in Tamale during 2018, we empowered young people with skills and we raised the awareness about the European project Erasmus+."

Abukari Shaibu Niendow is 33 years old and he is from Tamale, Northern Ghana. He is a social/youth worker and founder of SEDARVP GHANA organization. He has been engaged in the field of humanitarian activities since 2008 when he founded the organization. The main activities include youth and women empowerment and community development. He loves reading and he promotes the habit of reading among Ghanaian children, something which has given birth to the innovative street Library which serves many children with access to basic learning materials and also



offer these children the opportunity to interact with volunteer teachers, both locals and foreigners.



Refugee Camps for Western Sahara in Algeria: [Sil Van De Velde](#)

"It is my great pleasure and honour to be the ambassador of WE AfriHug in Ghana, an impactful and life-changing project for Africa and Europe. We worked together with the team in Tamale during 2018, we empowered young people with skills and we raised the awareness about the European project Erasmus+."

Sil Van De Velde is 27 years old and he is from Belgium. He is the assistant project-coordinator of a tourism ambassador programme in the refugee camps of Western Sahara. He is a PhD candidate, researching the inclusiveness and governance of protected areas, and he has been engaged as a researcher, activist, entrepreneur in a tourism ambassador programme striving to create genuine connections between visitors and the Sahrawi refugees of Western Sahara. "As WE AfriHug ambassador, I champion the values and mission of this organization, but above all the hard work of the two main founders, Marilena and Konstantinos Maragkos. It is said that organizations grow and develop, but I find that it is rather the people within that build capacity and push for progress."



Nigeria: [Fortune Afatakpa](#)

"I am passionate about Africa and the African youth. I love to work for African youth from different sociocultural persuasions and engaging them on the inherent importance of building their mental, entrepreneurial and leadership capabilities."



Fortune Afatakpa is 39 years old and he holds a Bachelor's degree in Religious Studies from Obafemi Awolowo University and a Master's degree in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Ibadan. Currently he is a doctoral student of Peace and Conflict Studies also in the University of Ibadan.



Higher Education Institutions

1. University of Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania
2. Kenyatta University, Kenya
3. Kyambogo University, Uganda
4. University of Accra, Ghana
5. University of Cape Coast, Ghana
6. Technical University of Tamale, Ghana
7. University of Ibadan, Nigeria

High-schools

1. Nyamasaria Secondary School, Kisumu, Kenya
2. Collège et Lycée d'Essor, Togo
3. Lycée d'Enseignement Technique et Professionnel, Togo
4. Kpando Secondary School, Kpando, Ghana
5. Northern School of Business, Tamale, Ghana



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Association





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Description

The story behind

What started a couple of years ago from 5 ambitious volunteers as a drop in the ocean turned into an ocean for us and our purpose in life. We started our initial projects being motivated by the declaration of human rights and the power of volunteering believing that we could be the change that we wish to see in the world. We invested our time, money and commitment in order to develop and implement voluntary projects in Europe and Africa. We believe that each person has the right to education and we acted upon this belief by organizing actions in local, national and international level. During our endless efforts through volunteering, we realized that development is a complex issue that needs a well-researched and well planned approach, in order to benefit people in the long term. Putting the lessons learned in practice, we understood that sustainable development is an approach that needs the involvement of various stakeholders. Therefore, we learned that we should think global but we should act local, giving voice and opportunities to people to be the protagonists for their path for change.



Marilena and Konstantinos, the **Greek team**, have implemented the project [H-Ug Project – Help Uganda](#) in Uganda in from July until August 2016. The aims of the project were: i. to empower students of primary, secondary and Higher Education and ii. strengthen the links between European and African Universities. You may see the trailer of the documentary [here](#). Following this project, the team decided to disseminate the results of the project in Europe by implementing another project in April 2017, entitled as [H-Ug within Balkans](#). During this project, one more member was added in the team from Cyprus, Demetris Christodoulou. Eight volunteers from Greece, Cyprus, Kenya, Italy, Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria travelled to Romania, [Slovenia](#), Croatia, [Montenegro](#), [Bosnia-Herzegovina](#), [Serbia](#), [France](#), Bulgaria and [Greece](#). The aims of the project were: i. to empower active youth in NGOs and schools and ii. to the raise the awareness about the value of education and volunteering in Africa. You may see the [dissemination video](#) of the



project and a [TEDEd talk](#) in Greek, which the team gave in the end of the project in Greece.

Claudia and MarcoValerio, the **Italian team**, have implemented educational projects in Africa and Europe through the NGO IPA – Io Per l'Altro. They developed projects, in order to make the community of Avete (Togo) independent and self-sufficient. The first step was to build a well for drinking water to provide it to all those kids and people who lived in the community. The association organized several events in order to [raise funds](#) and to install a working hydraulic pump. Moreover, in 2016, an orphanage was constructed and it was supported from the [Pontifical Lateran University](#). In Europe, the Italian team implemented another project entitled as [No Walls-More Words](#) (8 European countries, April-May 2017). A bicycle trip of 1,800 km from Amsterdam to Rome with the aim to interact with the European Youth and discuss about the Youth Mobility with zero impact, social integration through sports, the future of Europe, intercultural dialogue, migration and to raise the awareness about Erasmus+. The result of these experiences and project was for the volunteers to join forces, skills, knowledge and mainly passion, in order to develop the project, WE AfriHug. We believe in the power of knowledge-transfer and capacity building with skills and we also believe that partnerships are crucial for sustainable development. Therefore, we decided to create synergies between European and African CSOs.



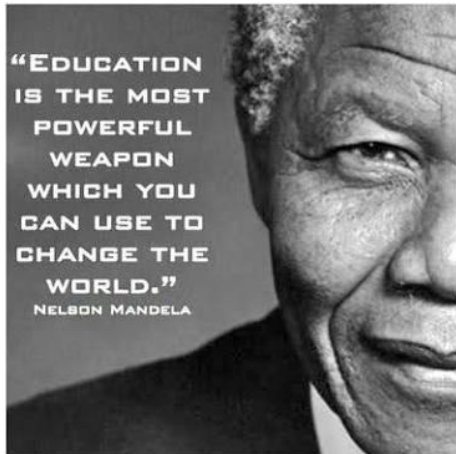
Ideology

According to *Nelson Mandela* "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world". The effort of the project is based on this statement, since the team develops a project based on education with the aim to bring a change dedicating our endeavours to Youth empowerment in Africa and Europe. The project focuses on EU fundamental values of equality, tolerance, human rights and non-discrimination while the focal point is the field of education and lies on Article 26 of Human Rights¹. According to the article "Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages.

¹ <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>



Elementary education shall be compulsory. Technical and professional education



shall be made generally available and Higher Education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit". Moreover, the project aligns with the Sustainable Development Goals set by the United Nations². Particularly, the goal no 4: "Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning"³. Our focus is on the following targets and indicators of SDG4:

Targets	Indicators
4.3 By 2030, ensure equal access for all women and men to affordable and quality technical, vocational and tertiary education, including university.	4.3.1 Participation rate of youth and adults in formal and Non-Formal Education and training in the previous 12 months, by sex.
4.4 By 2030, substantially increase the number of youth and adults who have relevant skills, including technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship.	4.4.1 Proportion of youth and adults with information and communications technology (ICT) skills, by type of skill.
4.7 By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights,	4.7.1 Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development, including gender equality and human rights, are mainstreamed at all levels in: (a) national education policies, (b)

² <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

³ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg4>

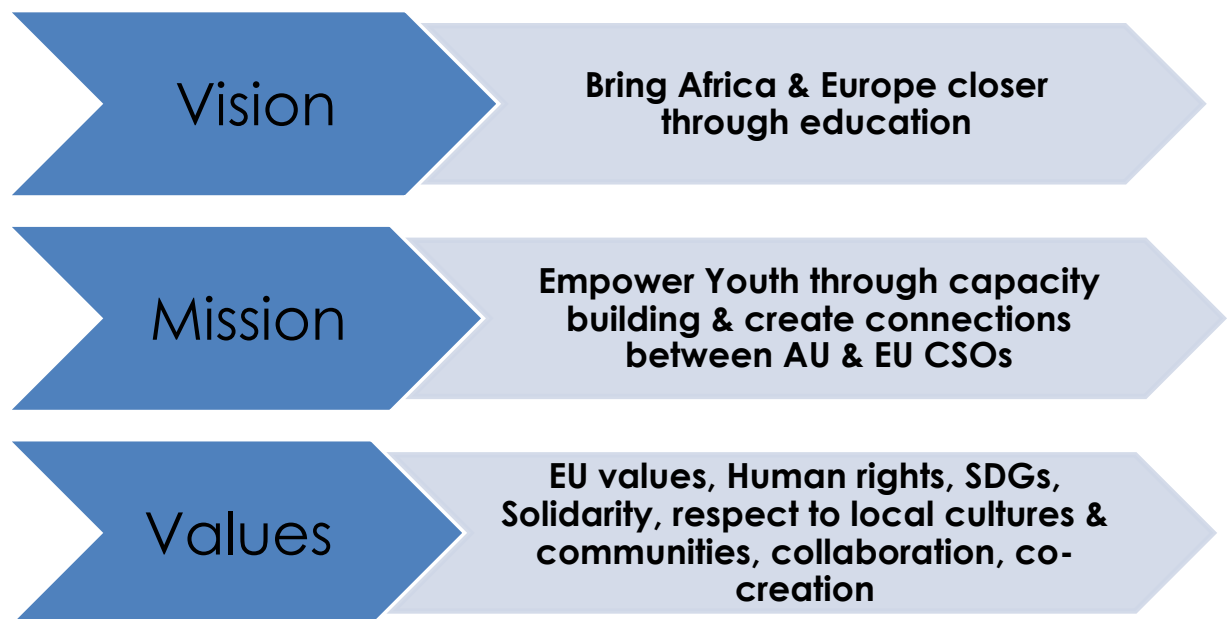


<p>gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development.</p>	<p>curricula, (c) teacher education and (d) student assessment.</p>
<p>4.B By 2020, substantially expand globally the number of scholarships available to developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and African countries, for enrolment in Higher Education, including vocational training and information and communications technology, technical, engineering and scientific programmes, in developed countries and other developing countries.</p>	<p>4.B.1 Volume of official development assistance flows for scholarships by sector and type of study.</p>



Problem Identification

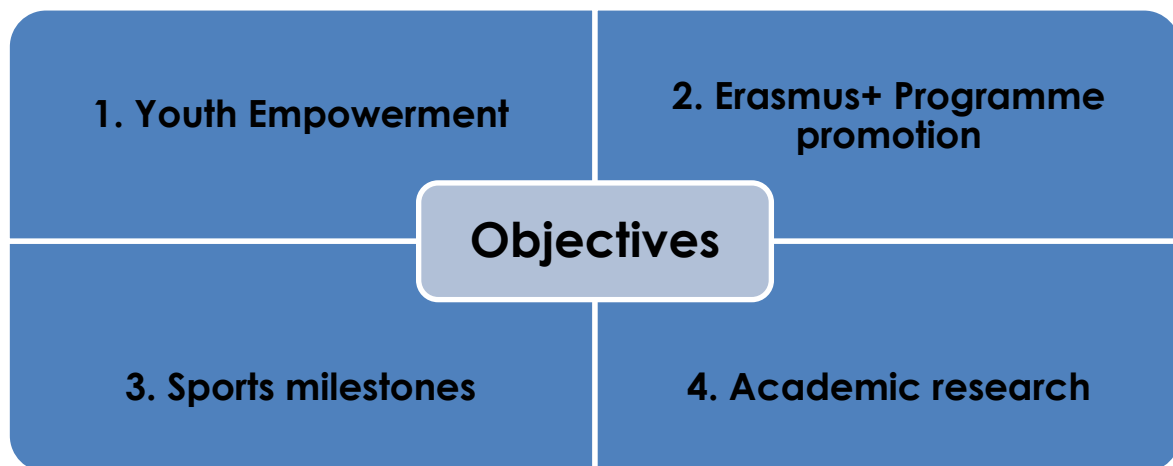
The project addresses to a problem with 3 layers: 1. Lack of information about mobility opportunities through the programme Erasmus+. African HEIs and CSOs can participate but there is not enough awareness. 2. Lack of capacity for HEIs & CSOs. Therefore, Academic staff, students and Youth workers do not have the skills needed to submit successful applications for Erasmus+ projects. 3. Lack of partnerships between European and African HEIs and CSOs. It is a big challenge for African HEIs and CSOs to find partners in Europe and vice versa to create strategic synergies for sustainable development.





In a nutshell

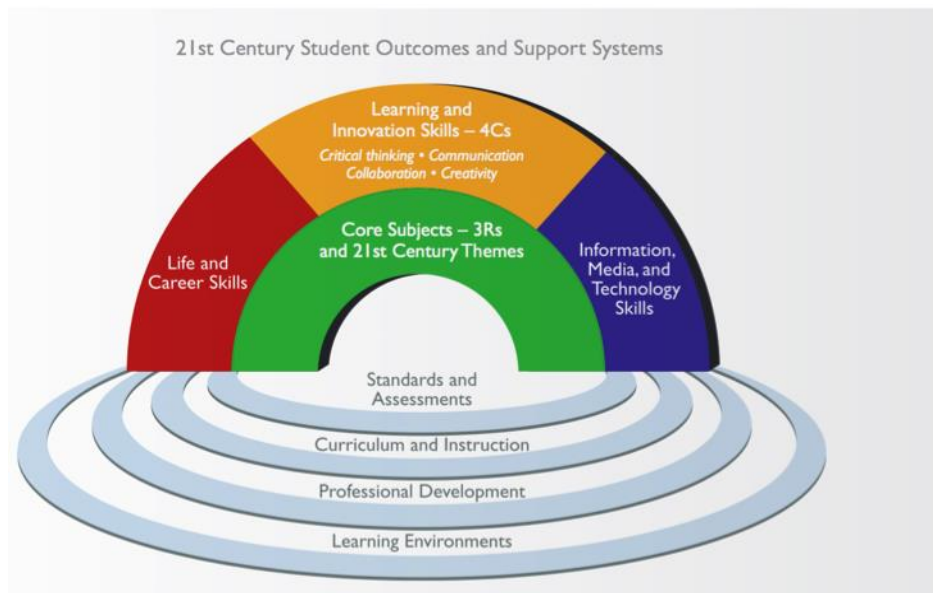
WE AfriHug is a voluntary project that took place in 7 African countries (Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Togo, Ghana, Refugee Camps of Western Sahara in Algeria) from January 1st until July 31st 2018. Five passionate volunteers from Greece, Italy and Cyprus join forces and travel to the Eastern and Western part of Africa to work together with grassroots organizations and Universities.



Methodology

Youth empowerment

During the [Training Seminars](#) the focus is the Empowerment of the Youth through facilitation of the students to develop the “Skills needed for the 21st century”⁴. After doing research, we decided to go along with UNESCO strategy and we used the framework of the “Partnership for the 21st century learning”⁵.



Framework for the 21st century skills⁶

After identifying our strengths and multidisciplinary skills and relevant experience, we focused on “Learning & Innovation Skills” & “Life and Career skills”.

All the activities are based on [Non-Formal Education](#), going beyond the traditional way of education in the classroom.

⁴ According to UNESCO Education Strategy (2014-2021) “There is an increasing recognition that lifelong learning is the philosophy, conceptual framework and organizing principle for in the 21st century”. UNESCO is giving priority to three strategic thematic areas: literacy, skills development for work and Higher Education. 3-day workshops for high-schools’ students have been implemented focused on “the skills needed for the 21st century” and more specifically aiming at the category “Learning and Innovation skills” & “Lifelong Career Skills” (Partnership for 21st century skills). Critical Thinking & Problem Solving, Creativity, Communication & Collaboration and Social & Cross-cultural Skills have been developed during the workshops.

⁵ <http://www.battelleforkids.org/networks/p21>

⁶ Source: <http://www.battelleforkids.org/networks/p21>



What is Non-Formal Education?

“Education that is institutionalized, intentional and planned by an education provider. The defining characteristic of Non-Formal Education is that it is an addition, alternative and/or a complement to formal education within the process of the lifelong learning of individuals. It is often provided to guarantee the right of access to education for all. It caters for people of all ages, but does not necessarily apply a continuous pathway-structure; it may be short in duration and/or low intensity, and it is typically provided in the form of short courses, workshops or seminars. Non-Formal Education mostly leads to qualifications that are not recognized as formal qualifications by the relevant national educational authorities or to no qualifications at all. Non-Formal Education can cover programmes contributing to adult and youth literacy and education for out-of-school children, as well as programmes on life skills, work skills, and social or cultural development.”⁷

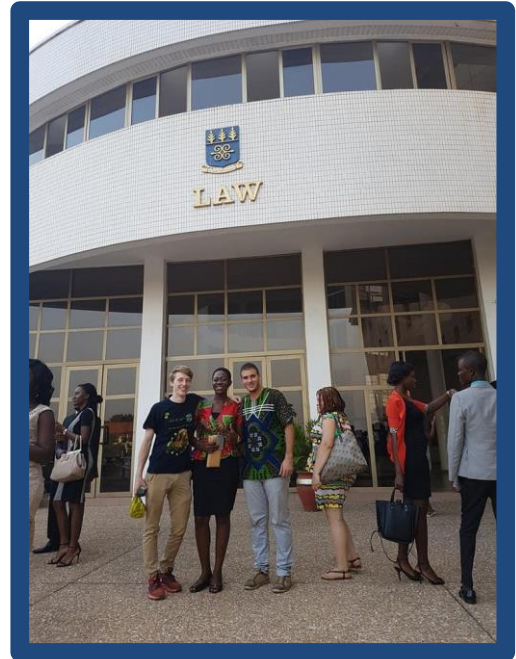
During out activities, the students have the chance to express themselves, discover who they are, reflect on their strengths and weaknesses and develop skills. Moreover, the involvement of local NGOs in each country aims at creating space for knowledge transfer between the trainers of WE AfriHug and the partner members, so as for the local partners to continue implementing similar workshops in the future and sustain the results of the project acting as multipliers. For example, our local partner in Uganda, Vijana Kwa Afrika organized and implemented a [similar educational camp](#) to the one we organized in January 2018 in the village of Monde. They used similar approach training the youth on skills and using some of the Non-Formal Education activities that were transferred to them throughout our partnership and work on the ground.

⁷ <http://uis.unesco.org/node/334726>



Erasmus+ promotion

During the [Training Seminars](#) the focus is the knowledge transfer for the opportunities that the Erasmus+ programme can offer for African Universities. Board members, Academic Staff and Students get to know about [Erasmus+](#), the [Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees](#), and information for [partnerships](#) between European and African HEIs, tips and guidance on how to submit good proposals and make applications. Moreover, connections between European and African Universities are facilitated with an aim to create new networks and collaborations. The main of these Training Seminars is to explain to African HEIs the benefits of participating in this programme of the European Union.



Sports milestones



Sports have been always a means to bring people together, motivate and unify them for a good cause. The project aims at the Empowerment of the Youth through education but at the same time it aims at the motivation and inspiration of its followers, in order to believe in them and prove that impossible is nothing by overcoming their limits. For this reason, the volunteers challenged themselves in two extreme sports milestones, combining hiking and running

aiming also at raising the awareness about the project. Firstly, in early January, they [climbed to the top of Africa](#) in 5.895 m at mountain Kilimanjaro. Through Machame route and after a 6-day hike they reach the top. Then, in late February, the volunteers participated in the [Sahara Marathon](#), an international sports event which aims at supporting the Saharawi refugees by showing [solidarity](#) and providing humanitarian



help. It took place in the Sahrawi refugee camps of Western Sahara close to Tindouf in Algeria.

Academic Research



The aim of the research was to examine the study abroad experience impact on Africans and to investigate the way that the form of “travel and learning” contributes to one’s personal development and also to community’s development. The Thesis is entitled as “Academic mobility: Traveling abroad for

educational purposes, Case study: WE AfriHug Project in Ghana” and the research question, which was answered was: To what extend do Academic mobility experiences contribute to personal transformation and development? Moreover, the main objectives of this research were the following: To understand the impact of the study abroad experience in terms of personal transformation and new competencies gained and to investigate the impact of the study abroad experience in terms of community impact and development through the individual’s personal transformation.

WE AfriHug project was used in this Research as a case study and as data-gathering mechanism. The data were collected during the implementation of the project in Ghana. The researcher contacted the [Erasmus Mundus Association \(EMA\) in Ghana](#) and has been able to come in touch with Ghanaian alumni of this programme.

After analysing the data, the research explains the current occupations of the research participants, the connection between the “study abroad” and educational tourism, the significance of building human and social capital, the personal transformation and development and at last the social impact and the Ghanaian “kɔ bra” mentality.



Engagement for a future vision



During our stay in Ghana, we participated in international training projects with African Youth, Experts, Youth workers, NGOs, Trainers and Policymakers aiming at contributing to Africa's educational future. We participated in the Erasmus+, Key Action 2: Capacity Building in the field of youth project "[STEP](#)

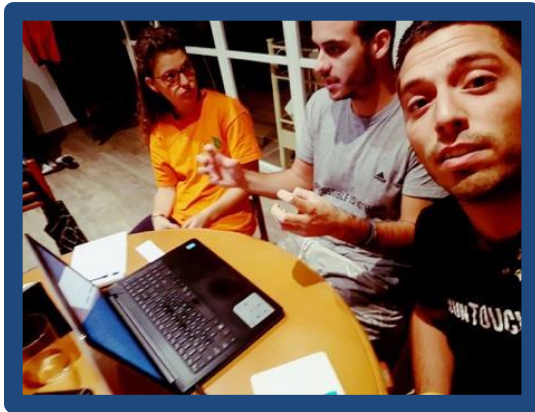
[Forward](#)" and "[The Grapes of Wrath](#)" and we got engaged in the 2nd [Afrika Youth Movement](#) Youth Empowerment [Retreat & Forum](#) in Accra, Ghana. Afrika Youth Movement (AYM) is a Pan-African, action-oriented, youth-led movement that strives for the participation, development and leadership of African youth to transform Africa and achieve their rights to peace, equality and social justice. Lastly we got selected for the [Changemakers' Room Africa 2018](#) Africa Edition in Lagos, Nigeria from July 15th until 22nd, 2018 being among the 50 most promising grassroots' practitioners, socially active youth workers and community leaders from across Africa who gathered together to identify local and national problems, ideate solutions, build long-lasting partnerships and develop international mobility projects creating interventions in response to those issues.



Preparation Phase

Preparatory activities

Physical meetings



An initial physical meeting took place in Girona, Spain in September 2017, where three of the five volunteers met to discuss further the project development idea and ask for feedback from experts on the field on education, youth empowerment and international development. Following this meeting, the first draft of the project idea was

ready and the volunteers continued intensively the discussions via online means.

Skype-meetings

Because of the long distance, the members of WE AfriHug team conducted several Skype calls to continue the design of the project. The first online meeting took place in late September 2017. Afterwards, weekly meetings followed to arrange all the details of the project, discuss the methodology, the activities, the training and all the information needed to be arranged before the departure of the team for Africa.

Partnerships

The team used their network, in order to reach the people in the countries that the project was about to be implemented. We contacted people in HEIs and NGOs, which work directly in the field of youth, in order to discuss the needs and potential collaborations. After discussing with the NGOs for the first part, youth empowerment, we co-created the framework of the skills that we were going to work on and after discussing with the HEIs for the second part, Erasmus+ promotion, we decided on the days of the trainings. It was crucial for us from the beginning to involve local actors and ask them how we could accelerate our impact during our collaborations on the ground.



Visual Identity



The logo was created after brainstorming sessions of the team members. A simple but clear logo was decided, which can convey the message of the project, thus the name and the map of the African continent.

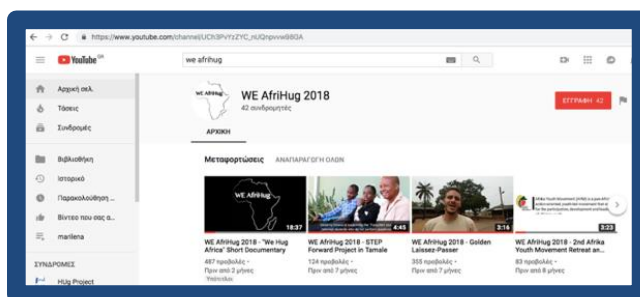
Website and Social media

Additionally, the team of the project created a website, a Facebook page, a twitter and an Instagram account in order to boost the online visibility. The website consisted of the following sections: description of the project, information about WE AfriHug team, ambassadors, supporters, press clip, a gallery with photos and videos and contact details. The website is translated in Greek, Italian and English. The website targets not only the participants and beneficiaries of the project but also HEIs, CSOs, stakeholders and policymakers who want to be informed about the project and its results in Greece, Cyprus, Italy and the African countries that participated in the project. The website increased WE AfriHug's visibility and raised awareness for its goals among the target groups. During and after the Training Seminars all the press clips, photos and videos of the activities were uploaded in the website. Facebook, twitter and Instagram were extensively used in order to reach more people and raise their awareness about the project, its objectives and activities.

Piktochart

An interactive presentation was prepared in the form of piktochart, in order to explain the project in a couple of minutes. You could check it out [here](#).

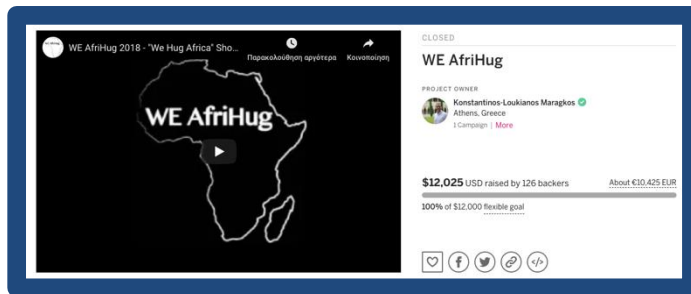
YouTube channel



We created several videos, in order to show and explain the project to the online community. You could see all the videos in our [channel](#).



Crowdfunding campaign



The project was developed on a voluntary basis from an informal team of youth and therefore, the funding was a great challenge. We decide to create an [online crowdfunding campaign](#) in order to

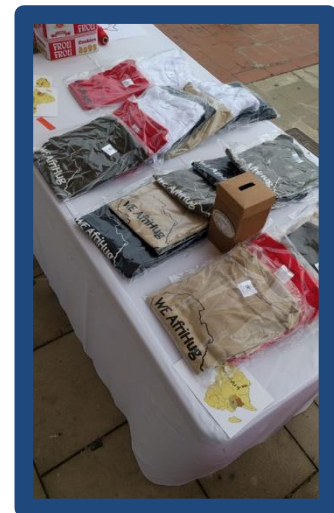
raise funding for the implementation phase. The team used the platform Indiegogo for this campaign and reached the 100% of its goal, \$12.025 in a period of 5 months from 126 backers. We created rewards for each backer (personalized videos and photos from our activities) and we posted several updates, in order to inform the people about the progress of the project.

Fundraising events

In order to raise more funds for the project, the team members organized fundraising events in their countries ([Greece](#), [Italy](#) and [Cyprus](#)). The aim of these events was not only to raise funds but also to raise the awareness of the people about the project, its objectives and activities.

T-shirts

Another source of raising funds and awareness about the project was the creation of [t-shirts](#) with the “WE AfriHug” logo. The t-shirts were sold in Greece, Italy, Spain and Cyprus during the fundraising events and also on a personal-meeting basis.





Implementation Phase Activities per country

Tanzania



The team of “WE AfriHug” [started](#) its mission in the end of December 2017, flying to Tanzania for the first activities. The first one was to conduct an Erasmus+ Training Seminar at the University of Dar es Salaam and the second one was to climb to the top of Africa, Mount Kilimanjaro. The team was hosted by the Ambassador of WE AfriHug in Tanzania, Stephen James Ntinginya.

Erasmus+ Training Seminar



A 2-day Training Seminar took place in the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), in the capital of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam. The Ambassador of WE AfriHug, facilitated all the discussions between the Board of the University and WE AfriHug team, in

order to arrange the practical details of the training seminar. On the 2nd of January 2018, the team had a [meeting](#) with the International office of the UDSM and finalized the last details for the 2-day upcoming training.



On the 3rd of January, 40 members of the Academic Staff attended the [Training](#), among them Deans and Directors of various Departments of the University. The audience was informed about Erasmus+, how they could become part of the programme, how to submit good proposals and they were also informed about Greek Universities and partnership opportunities.

On the 4th of January, 250 students attended the Training and they were informed about Erasmus+, Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, the benefits of participating and how to submit good applications. [William Nambiza](#) from Tanzania shared his testimonial as EMJMD Alumnus and gave practical tips for the application process.



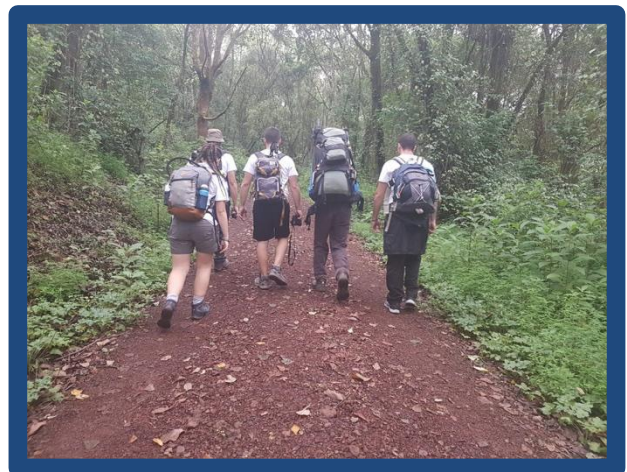
"For the future of the programme, I think it is very promising"

*Ernersta Mosha, Director,
Institute of Kiswahili Studies,
University of Dar es Salaam,*

Sport milestone to the top of Africa

On the 5th of January 2018, the team flew to Kilimanjaro aiming to achieve a powerful sports milestone: [climbing to the top of Africa](#), Mount Kilimanjaro. The team chose to raise the awareness about the project and inspire the Youth by breaking physical and mental limits and reaching the top of the mountain.

The team started hiking on 6th of January following the "Machame" route, starting at 1.490 m. from Machame gate and reaching after 5 hours the Machame camp at 3.000 m. During the second day the team hiked for 5 km. through a very steep



environment inside the forest until they reached Shira camp at 3.800 m. The third day,



the team reached 4.600 m. in Lava tower through the Alpine dessert and came back to 3.950 m. in Barranco camp, in order to start the acclimatization.

The next day, the volunteers climbed up to 4.600 m and got to Barafu camp after 8 hours of hard weather conditions. On the fifth day and after 3 hours of sleep and endless tiredness, the volunteers started the hike to the top of the mountain in the midnight. From Barafu camp they hiked for 7 hours until they reached Stella peak at 5.756 m, where everything was frozen due to the bad weather conditions. The day after, the volunteers started hiking down, where they first stopped at Mweka camp for a few hours of sleep and then got down to Mweka gate.

[Dissemination video for Tanzania](#)



Kenya



The next country of Eastern Africa was Kenya. The team took the bus from Arusha, Tanzania and arrived in Nairobi, Kenya after a long trip. The team conducted an Erasmus+ Training Seminar at Kenyatta University, Nairobi and a Life Skills Training Seminar in Kisumu. The team was hosted in Nairobi by the Ambassador of WE AfriHug in Kenya, Lina Mkoji, Eastern Sub-Regional Coordinator of the African Chapter of the Erasmus Mundus Association and in Kisumu by Ruth Kasina, representative of the local partner in Kisumu, Resource Hub for Development.

Erasmus+ Training Seminar



On the 16th of January 2018, the team had an [initial meeting](#) with the Department of Hospitality and Tourism of Kenyatta University, in order to discuss and finalize the last details for the upcoming training.

On the 17th of January 2018, the [Erasmus+ Training Seminar](#) was organized at the Department of Hospitality and Tourism of Kenyatta University and was attended by almost 450 students and Academic Staff. The team together with Lina Mkoji, Eastern Africa coordinator of the [Erasmus Mundus Association \(EMA\)](#) made interactive presentations engaging the audience and explaining in detail the



opportunities offered. The team explained to the audience what Erasmus+ is all about, why and how they could be part of this, what are the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees exactly are and how they could submit competitive applications. In the afternoon, [another meeting](#) was conducted in which WE AfriHug team, Erasmus Mundus Association members, Board of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management and the Head of Press and Information of the EU Delegation in Kenya discussed about Erasmus+ and future collaborations with European Universities in Greece and Spain.



"I am very pleased that you are doing this sort of things, because you have people and you have the knowledge, the enthusiasm, the time to be able to do this and it is a really good initiative"
Andy Barnard, first Counsellor of the EU Delegation in Kenya

Life Skills Training Seminar



Continuing in Kisumu from the 19th until the 21st of January 2018, WE AfriHug team together [met](#) with their Kenyan partner "Resource Hub for Development (R.HD) - Kenya" and discussed the framework and implementation of the upcoming training. They worked with the students of Nyamasaria Secondary School on the development of significant soft skills, which are needed for the 21st century. The aim of the [Training Seminar](#) was to empower Youth with soft skills, like Communication, Collaboration, Critical thinking, Innovation, Problem Solving, Social and Cross-cultural skills through Non-Formal Education.



50 students actively participated in these 3 days, learnt how to work in teams and collaborate, how to solve problems and overcame obstacles. Students challenged themselves and came up with new ideas discovering their internal power. All the activities were based on Non-Formal Education, going beyond the traditional way of education in the classroom. Students had the chance to express themselves, discover who they are, reflect on their strengths and weaknesses and develop skills. In the end of the training, [certificates](#) were given to the participants.



*"I think it is a very good project. Many youths should embrace it, not only Africans, Kenyans but around the world because it really encourages and gives some directions to us."
Galvy Janiburr Nasion
Student at Nyamasaria
Secondary School*



*"Generally, I love WE AfriHug, everything, this is the best project ever that can change the lives of many students."
Ruth Kasina Otrawoh
Member of Rresource Hub for
Development*

[Dissemination video for Kenya](#)



Uganda



The last country of East-Africa was [Uganda](#), where the team implemented an educational camp and a Training Seminar about Erasmus+. The co-founder of WE AfriHug, Konstantinos Maragkos was awarded as the "Best Erasmus Talent 2017" by the garagErasmus Foundation via online competition on the 25th of January. The team was hosted by Father Antonios, chairman of the partner NGO, "Love and Hope Monde".

21st Century Life Skills Camp



Since the schools were still closed in the end of January, the team organized a 3-day "[21st century life skills camp](#)" in the village of Monde in Wobulenzi, area located close to the capital of Uganda, Kampala. From the 26th until the 28th of January 2018, WE AfriHug

team interacted with approximately 60 students, teachers and trainers from different parts of Uganda.

WE AfriHug team and the Ugandan local partners "Love and Hope Monde" and "Vijana Kwa Africa" joined forces and implemented this camp. Students, teachers and trainers from all parts of Uganda with different backgrounds came together to empower themselves with soft skills. The participants learned through diversity with



different approaches. Non-Formal Education activities, followed by interactive [presentations](#) on social issues but also through sports, the participants have been successfully integrated and enjoyed the "[learning by doing](#)" process.



*"The opportunity you gave to Africans is a big opportunity to realize that everybody can find an opportunity to open up his career, not only to study in Africa but also to go outside of Africa."
Father Antonios Mutyaba,
Love and Hope Monde*

Erasmus+ Training Seminar

More Erasmus+, more connections happened in Uganda. On the 25th of January 2018, the team had an [initial meeting](#) with the International relations office of Kyambogo University, in order to finalize the last details for the upcoming training.



On the 30th January 2018, the [first training seminar](#) at Kyambogo University in Kampala took place with approximately 20 board members of the University. The team explained Erasmus+ and the benefits and more specifically how to submit good proposals and be part of the programme. Moreover, the team discussed about mobility

opportunities and future partnerships between African and European HEIs, promoting credit mobility and interested Universities from Greece to create synergies.



On the 31st of January and together with Edwin Kamalha, EMA Country Representative for Uganda, the team implemented successfully the [second Training](#) interacting with approximately 110 Academic staff and Students. The trainers explained to the audience about Erasmus+ the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees and how Ugandan students can be involved by submitting competitive applications. Edwin Kamalha gave [his testimonial](#) as a current beneficiary of Erasmus+ motivating and inspiring the students to consider participating in the future.



“WE AfriHug project and team have really done a dedicated work. When I look at the reports and the summary of the updates, promoting the Erasmus+ programme while trying to implement another core objective, going down to the rural areas, coming down to Africa. I think it has been an amazing work.”

*Edwin Kamalha
Country Representative for
Uganda of Erasmus Mundus
Association*

[Dissemination video for Uganda](#)



Togo



The first country in Western Africa was Togo. The team implemented two [life skills Training Seminars](#) in French and English two High-schools located in Lomé, the capital of Togo. The team was hosted by the Ambassador of WE AfriHug in Togo, Béné Agbeko.

Life Skills Training Seminars



After arriving on the 6th of February 2018 in the capital of Togo, Lomé, the team visited two High-schools for the Training Seminars in excellent [collaboration](#) with the local partner Acet-Togo (Association pour la Culture, l'Éducation et le Tourisme au Togo). On the 8th of February 2018, the team visited the High-school "[Collège et Lycée Essor](#)" for the first training seminar

based on Non-Formal Education. 62 students participated in various innovative activities experiencing for first time the Non-Formal Education and the method "learning by doing." The focus of the training was the development of significant soft skills, which are needed for the 21st century. The next day, on 9th of February 2018, two Non-Formal Education Training Seminars took place. In the morning at the High-school "[Lycée d'Enseignement Technique et Professionnel](#)", 55 students participated



and in the afternoon at the High-school "Collège et Lycée Essor", where the same 62 students have been trained for a second day.

In the end, the students received [certificates](#) of participation for their 2-day training. On 10th of February 2018, the team visited again the "Lycée d'Enseignement Technique et Professionnel" and worked with the same 55 students. During the training seminar, the students were able to develop soft skills, express their opinion about Non-Formal Education and evaluate the training.



"I can say that this training session taught me how to live in a community, how to work together and develop team spirit, how to overcome difficulties and achieve my goals"

Ben, Student, Lycée d'Enseignement Technique et Professionnel



"I learnt many things such as community life, how to express yourself and how to think carefully before acting"

Pierrette, Student, Lycée d'Enseignement Technique et Professionnel



*"I think it is a good project that you are doing and it is not easy what you are doing. It is very useful in Africa what you are teaching to our young people."
Béné Agbeko, President ACET*

[Dissemination video for Togo](#)



Ghana



The team stayed in Ghana for 5 months (March – July 2018). During this period, an Academic Research was conducted on Academic Mobility and the impact of African students who have studied abroad, 3 Erasmus+ Training Seminars in HEIs, 3 Training Seminars for Life Skills and the team participated also in 3 international projects.

Training Seminars for Life Skills at Kpando Secondary School, Volta region

Continuing with the same passion and purpose, the empowerment of the Youth through education, the team joined forces with the local partner in Ghana, UNITED



Projects. The team visited "[Kpando Secondary School](#)", located in the town of Kpando, in the Volta region of Ghana in order to implement the 3-day [Non-Formal Education Training Seminar](#) with students with the aim to facilitate them developing soft skills needed for the 21st Century.

From the first day, 53 participants showed [enthusiasm](#) towards this new experience and learning approach and have been actively participating. During the first day activities,



students introduced interactively themselves, expressed their expectations and fears about the 3-day training and were challenged to “find their power” through the activity “[Where is my power?](#)”. During this activity, the participants were asked to create a “white wall” consisted of papers on the wall, where they have to draw their body's outline on the paper sheet in the position that they prefer. In order to draw it, other participants should interact and help them do it because the “white wall” starts 10 cm higher than the ground floor. Then, each participant should identify their outline and draw with a small symbol their unique internal power. Afterwards, always placed in a circle, a discussion is following with each of the participants talking about their unique strength and justify why they feel that this is their power.



During the second day of the training, the students have been challenged with the activities “[Front page](#)”, “[The battle of orange](#)” and “[The hidden path](#)”. During the activity “Front page”, the students are creating the front page of a newspaper trying to convince their classmates about the authenticity of the news. Being extremely active, the students worked on soft skills, such as creativity, problem solving, critical thinking, communication,

collaboration and public speaking.

During the last day, the students participated in the last activities, [evaluated](#) the training seminar, received their [certificates](#) and also participated in interviews for the evaluation of the project and their experience.



"I wish I had a lot of funds to support this project. I pray that you should continue with the good way that you are doing spreading the good news to the outside world."

Justice, Teacher at Kpando Secondary School



"I like the basis and the idea behind it. I am excited to see where it goes but I think it is something really important. Youth empowerment is something very needed in the area of Kpando."

Blake, Project Manager UNITED Projects



"We love the programme and we want everybody across the continent to know about WE AfriHug."

Delight, Student at Kpando Secondary School

[Dissemination video for Kpando](#)



Northern School of Business, Tamale

The members of WE AfriHug extended their stay in Tamale after the STEP Forward Project and organized a 3-day [Non-Formal Education Training Seminar](#) for the 21st Century Skills at the Northern School of Business (Nobisco) in Tamale in cooperation with their local partner, the NGO Sedarvp Ghana. 25 students from different classes of "[Nobisco](#)" took part in the Training and got empowered with soft skills.

During the first day, the students expressed their expectations and fears and also identified their talents. Gaining leadership & [public speaking skills](#), encouragement



and motivation were some of their expectations for the Training while their fears were related to failure and disappointment.

During the second day, activities on leadership, public speaking, teamwork and collaboration took place. Through the activities "[Front Page](#)" and "Lead to Success", the students came up

with creative ideas, developing their own inclusive and friendly environment. Interesting discussions on significant topics such as teenage pregnancy, corruption, environmental protection and leadership took place. During the third and last day, the activities focused on debate, [the art of persuading](#) and public speaking skills.

After a successful 3-day Training, the participants evaluated the seminar, [reflected](#) on their experience and received their [certificates](#).

Nasara Football team



One of the objectives of the study visit in Tamale under “Grapes of Wrath” project was to organize and implement Non-Formal Education activities in order to empower youth in the area. The target group selected was Nasara Ladies Football team, one team of 19 young inspiring ladies who are practicing their favourite sport

against the opinion and comments of their fellows, families and the community.

Playing football as a lady is not socially acceptable in the area of Tamale, although these girls they go after their passion for football against the obstacles they face every day. WE AfriHug team shared the knowledge and experience in organizing and implementing these kind of trainings and activities and together with the participants of “Grapes of Wrath” designed activities so as to empower these girls with soft skills like leadership, collaboration and communication.

On 20th of June 2018, the Training took place at the field of Nasara Ladies Football team together with the 19 young ladies, actively participating in these activities which were something totally new for them. All the activities were based on their passion which is football so as to be easier to engage them and make them feel more comfortable.



Erasmus+ Training Seminars

Erasmus+ Training Seminar in Accra



On 24th of April 2018, WE AfriHug team participated in the Training Seminar "Scholarships Prospects in Europe: The case of Erasmus Mundus and other Bilateral EU funding opportunities". The Training Seminar was organized by the Centre for European Studies of the University of Ghana, the Erasmus Mundus Association and the [EU Delegation](#)

in Ghana. Representatives from Embassies of France, Spain, Germany, Hungary, Denmark informed the students about bilateral agreements and scholarships opportunities. Sil Van de Velde, Erasmus Mundus Alumnus of European Master in Tourism Management introduced the Erasmus Mundus Association, Konstantinos Maragkos, Erasmus Mundus Representative of Greece informed students about practical details and how to apply.

Later on, Alberta Jonah, Country Representative of [EMA Ghana - Erasmus Mundus Association Ghana](#) shared her own

experience and motivated students to apply for this programme. At the end, [Julian Appong](#), Local Committee Vice-President of AIESEC in Ghana of Legon presented to the students the opportunities offered through this organization. Almost [400 students](#) gathered and attended the speeches of the speakers and



were motivated to find opportunities for scholarships for studies and volunteerism.

Erasmus+ Training Seminar in Cape Coast



On 26th of April 2018, WE AfriHug team and EMA Ghana - Erasmus Mundus Association Ghana in collaboration with [AIESEC in Ghana \(UCC\)](#) and the [Centre for International Education \(UCC\)](#) organized the [Training Seminar "Studying and Volunteering Opportunities Abroad with Erasmus](#)

Mundus and AIESEC" at the premises of the UCC under the kind support of garagErasmus Foundation. More than [150 students](#) got informed about Opportunities for Studying and Volunteering Abroad. The most interactive part was the [Live Library Session](#), during which students had the chance to ask our "books", Konstantinos Maragkos - Erasmus Mundus Association Representative for Greece, Sil Van de Velde, Graduate of the European Master in Tourism Management and Alberta Sagoe, Country Representative for Ghana, specific questions.

Erasmus+ Training Seminar in Tamale

On 25th of June 2018, WE AfriHug organized an Erasmus+ [Training Seminar](#) in the Technical University of Tamale about Erasmus+ and opportunities to the [Board of the University](#). 15 members, including the Vice Chancellor, the Director of International Affairs and Academic Staff of the University attended the [Training](#), having so many questions for the programme that seems so promising for them and a new window of opportunities for further partnerships abroad.



Engagement for a future vision

Apart from the planned activities of WE AfriHug, the team participated in further activities in order to be engaged for a future vision, expand the network, give input and take valuable knowledge from experts who work on the ground. These activities included Forums, Retreats, International projects, Job Shadows and Study Visits.

2nd Afrika Youth Movement Retreat and Forum



The next activity of WE AfriHug team was the participation in the [2nd Afrika Youth Movement Retreat and Forum](#), which took place at Accra, 18th to 22nd of April 2018. [Afrika Youth Movement](#) (AYM) is a pan-African, action-oriented, youth-led movement that

strives for the participation, development and leadership of African youth to transform Africa and achieve their rights to peace, equality and social justice. They try to create a continent that respects the rights of all its citizens. Through their works they promote values that binds the continent; unity, self-determination, integrity and accountability. Afrika Youth Movement has 10.000 members at 40 African countries.

The Retreat took place from 18th till 21st of April at Accra, for selected number of [participants](#) from Tunisia, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Togo, Kenya, Ethiopia and Greece. The members of WE AfriHug team were the only non-Africans who participated at the programme. The participants had the chance to meet member the movement, its history and the Hubs which exist in



each country. Divided in groups they had to create the Code of Content, Governance Structure and the Working Methods of the Hubs.

In the afternoon session we had to deal with Membership Engagement, Fundraising ideas and Action Plans of the future



Hubs. The Delegates were divided to Committees and they [discussed](#) their future projects, action plans and timelines. Agriculture, Health, Peace & Development, Gender Equality and Education are the main Committees that will operate in the Hubs of AYM across Africa. The Retreat attended the former Minister of Sports, Zaya Yeebo, who shared his experience as former Minister and motivated the delegated to continue to be active and promote the idea of Pan-Africanism. Non-Formal Education activities, multicultural panels, open discussions and exchange of opinions took place during the first four dates of the Retreat.

On 22nd of April 2018, the 2nd Empowerment Youth [Forum](#) of Afrika Youth Movement which took place at the Institute of African studies at the University of Ghana, in Accra. Participants from Tunisia, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Kenya, Ethiopia, Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti and Greece attended and interacted with each other. The Forum focused at Pan-Africanism and Development. There were [discussions](#) and plans on Governance and Leadership, Youth and Women Empowerment, Peace and Justice, Agriculture and education in the context of realization of Agenda 2063 and SDGs. The co-founder of WE AfriHug, Konstantinos Maragkos [facilitated](#) the panel for the present and future of the Movement and Africa between the active members of Afrika Youth Movement from Tunisia, Kenya and Nigeria.

[Dissemination video for 2nd AYM Retreat & Forum](#)



STEP Forward Project



WE AfriHug team participated in the European project «[STEP Forward](#)» in the framework of Erasmus+, Key Action 2: Capacity Building in the field of youth. The action took place in Tamale, Ghana from 1st of May till 10th May 2018. The coordinator of the project is Inter Alia; organization from

Greece and the participating organizations are Sedarvp Ghana, Brigada De Voluntarios Bolivarianos del Peru, Xeración and Asociación Projuven from Spain, Resource Hub for Development from Kenya and Solidarites Jeunesses Vietnam.

STEP links active citizenship to formal education by drawing attention to the values of sustainability and integrating them to Non-Formal Education activities. STEP aims at promoting the application of active and participatory education through experiential activities and solution-oriented educational approach. By exploring alternative community models, social and ecological initiatives the project uses information and resources to design a new educational module with the scope to integrate these in the formal education system.

On 1st of May, the [participants](#) arrived in Tamale of Northern Ghana with the aim to stay together for ten days, interact with the local community, the “forgotten students”,



come in contact with policy makers and stakeholders, be informed about the projects of the hosting organization Sedarvp Ghana with the final aim to create a Non-Formal Education activity. The participants [shared ideas](#) about sustainable and innovative practices regarding the talented but forgotten students and how they could be socially integrated through sports. Furthermore, they visited the social enterprise

[Pagsung ICS](#), an initiative which contributes at women empowerment and has a significant impact on the well-being of the whole community. One of the innovative projects of Sedarvp Ghana is the [Street Library](#), gathering children and motivating them to read creating friendly and inclusive environment. Their aim is to expand to more communities and give the chance to more children to read in their leisure time. Sedarvp Ghana is supporting the “forgotten students”, students who are talented but do not perform Academically. During a



[meeting](#) with the students, they expressed their obstacles and dreams regarding their future career. The discussion was completed with a friendly football match. [Stakeholders](#) in the field of sports and education, teachers, sports journalists and former footballers shared their opinions regarding the social inclusion through sports and after working in groups, they developed interventions and future practices. The final result of the project in Tamale was the development of a Non-Formal Education activity for the “forgotten students” which aims at the creation of an inclusive environment in which they can develop soft skills and enhance their talent.



*“We are talking and discussing with people to understand the concept of sustainability & community building, come up with ideas and develop educational activities.”
Participants of STEP Forward*

[Dissemination video for STEP Forward Project](#)

Grapes of Wrath



WE AfriHug team was also selected to participate in the Erasmus+ project "[Grapes of Wrath](#)" in Tamale, Ghana. The project is coordinated by [Inter Alia](#), a Greek NGO in collaboration with NGOs from Italy, Kenya, Senegal and Ghana. Grapes of Wrath is a Capacity Building project in the framework of Erasmus+ for youth workers aiming to explore and deconstruct patterns of psychological

and social tension between in-groups and out-groups with reference to migrant communities in the EU.

The main objective of the study visit in Tamale was the [screening](#) of the documentary "The Land of Milk and Honey", which was produced by Inter Alia in the framework of the project. The host organization Sedarvp Ghana arranged the daily plan, the visits and the three screenings of the documentary. Approximately [30 people](#) attended each screening, different target groups every time so as our documentary to reach various local people. The most interesting part after each screening was the fruitful [discussion](#). Some of the people stated their dream to go to Europe as they think it is a continent



full of opportunities for everybody and that life would be easier there for them. Some of them they are willing to go there for studies and some of them to work. Most of them claimed that they would prefer to follow the legal route to Europe. Even though they stated that sometimes it is really difficult for them to get the visa.

Apart from the three planned screenings, the team visited local enterprises focusing on Women Empowerment, male and female football teams who are chasing their



dream of becoming professional footballers, street libraries and schools. The aim of all these visits were to get a better understanding and idea of how things work in Tamale and how people behave in their everyday life.

Academic research⁸



During the 5-month stay in Ghana, Konstantinos conducted an Academic research and wrote a Master Thesis, entitled as "Academic mobility: Travelling abroad for educational purposes. Case study: WE AfriHug Project in Ghana" in the framework of his master studies at the European Master in Tourism

Management. The research was evaluated with 10 (ten) / excellent.

The door for Academic mobility is now open for students from all over the world. The focus of this Thesis is Africa and particularly Ghana since only Ghanaian students participated in the study. The aim of the research is dual: First, to understand the impact of the "study abroad" experience in terms of personal transformation and new competencies gained and secondly, to investigate the impact of the "study abroad" experience in terms of community impact and development through the individual's personal transformation. The Thesis answers the following Research Question: *To what extend do Academic mobility experiences contribute to personal transformation and development?*

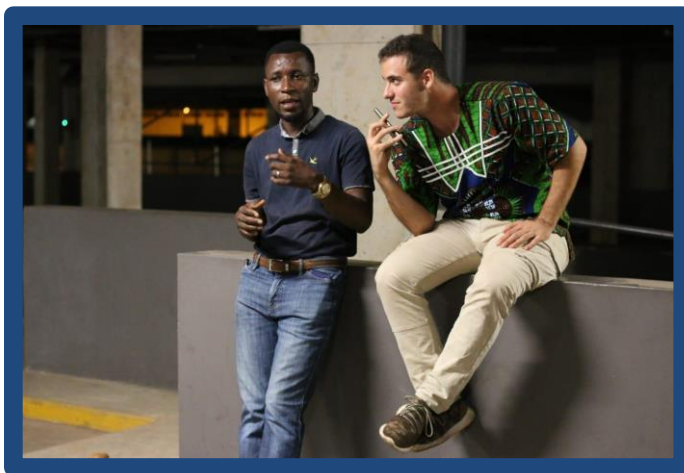
The researcher, as a "study abroad" ambassador and Co-founder of WE AfriHug, has been spreading the word about study abroad opportunities while at the same time he has been backing up his study with relevant literature to the topic. Moreover, he transformed this "theoretical" research into "praxis" while moving on with the project interacting in public and private with potential "educational tourists" and hosting workshops about studying abroad. For this study, fourteen (14) Ghanaian research participants who have studied abroad were interviewed on the ground in three

⁸ The Thesis can be sent upon request.



regions in Ghana and through Skype. For the data analysis, the researcher followed the Input-Transformation-Output (ITO) model investigating the study abroad experience from the beginning until the end. He used Thematic Content Analysis (TCA) and the computer software "NVivo 11", in order to facilitate the process of data coding and analysis. Also, he used quantitative analysis tools, like frequency charts and descriptive statistics to ensure clarity and precise information.

Findings and discussions at a glance



After analysing the data, the research explains the current occupations of the research participants, the connection between the "study abroad" and educational tourism, the significance of building human and social capital, the personal transformation and development

and at last the social impact and the Ghanaian "kɔ bra" mentality.

44% of the research participants are currently involved in Universities in Ghana and abroad. 22% of them are employed as lecturers, 15% of them are doing their PhD and 7% are employed as researchers. The vast majority of the research participants were travelling for first time abroad and that consisted their main motivation before departing followed by having a new Academic experience and get cultural experience and exposure. 50% found the whole experience of study abroad surprising and 18% stated that the biggest challenge that they faced was the language barrier. The interaction with other people for 55% has been amazing and for 45% eye-opening. Regarding the output, 52% acknowledged that the biggest change in their life was a mindset shift and 48% argued that they became more open-minded.

The research participants have been able to develop several and various life and Academic competencies during their experience. Interestingly, 100% of them developed self-confidence and 50% developed intercultural skills. 50% have an impact on their community by sharing the experience and the knowledge and 33%



expand the understanding between diverse people and makes the intercultural communication easier, bridge the religious or language gaps and bring people together by creating a sense of global citizenship and shared responsibility for the betterment of the world and of the country.

86% of the research participants are currently contributing to Ghana's development by working in different sectors, while the rest 14% are currently abroad for research and work but they will do the same soon or later, as they mentioned. The research found out that the Ghanaians who go abroad for studies have a strong desire to return and serve Ghana with every means, fact that makes the willing to travel out of the country also strong.

Certain limitations constrained the capacity of this research and should be taken into consideration while exploring the findings and conclusion. A greater number of research participants could not be reached and therefore only fourteen (14) participated. The



research participants have various ages, despite the fact that the initial aim was to target participants who are over 30 years old and currently living in Ghana. Because of time limitations, this audience could not be effectively approached.

The Thesis has a constructivistic approach, fact that makes subjective the explanation and judgment of the participants' constructed realities. Lack of literature on the African study abroad impact also constrained the capacity of the research. A future research on a related topic could use more data-gathering mechanisms, such as questionnaires and quantitative research. Also, people who reside only in Ghana and are over 30 years old can be approached, so as to fully see the impact at a personal and community level, since the impact needs a lot of time to be fully understood, recognised and shown



Refugee Camp of Western Sahara in Algeria



WE AfriHug team [visited](#) the refugee camps of Western Sahara. The Saharawi refugee camps are located about one hour from the city of Tindouf, Algeria, close to the Moroccan and Mauritanian borders, where around 160.000 Saharawi refugees live in the desert. The team travelled to this special destination having three objectives. First, to [achieve](#) the sports milestone of Sahara Marathon, running in the desert for 42 km, secondly to spend a week together with the Saharawi families and get knowledge and understanding of the 42-year-long conflict, their way of living and culture and thirdly to empower young refugees through education.

Sport milestone in the Sahara Desert



WE AfriHug team successfully accomplished the [sports milestone](#) of running the solidarity marathon of [Sahara Marathon](#). Konstantinos Maragkos and Demetris Christodoulou ran the [42.195 km](#) and Marilena Maragkou the 10 km. It was the first time for Greece and Cyprus to be represented in this marathon since its first edition, in 2001. In total 500 participants from 23 countries participated in the marathon, the half marathon, the 10 and

5 km races. The route of the marathon symbolically connected the three refugee camps of Smara, Auserd and El Ayoun, and led the runners through the desert



which has been the home of refugees for 42 years. The motto of the 2018 edition of Sahara Marathon was "42 kilometres of our effort, for 42 years of your resistance".

Life Skills Training Seminar

Thanks to the support of the members of the "[Global Western Sahara Ambassador Programme](#)", in which alumni of the Erasmus Mundus European Master in Tourism Management are working, WE AfriHug team arranged a 2-day [Non-Formal Education Training Seminar](#) with [15 Saharawi students](#) of "17 June Intermediate school" in Spanish. During the first day, the activities "Shield power" and "The Hidden Path" took place, while the students being open and

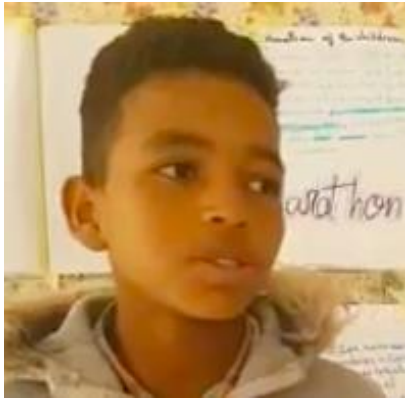


adaptable [participated actively](#), embracing Non-Formal Education, even if it was their first approach to this new learning process. During the second and last day of the Training Seminar, the students gave their best and participated in the activities "The Front Page" and "The Battle of Orange". Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking, Social and Cultural were the key skills to be developed through the activities. In the end, the students got their [certificates of participation](#), shared their thoughts and evaluated the training.



"It was really nice and it is a nice way that people can learn about us"

Mohamed, Student at 17th June Intermediate School



"It was a really nice project because it helps many people and it can change many peoples' lives.

Mohamed Nayerr, Student at 17th June Intermediate School



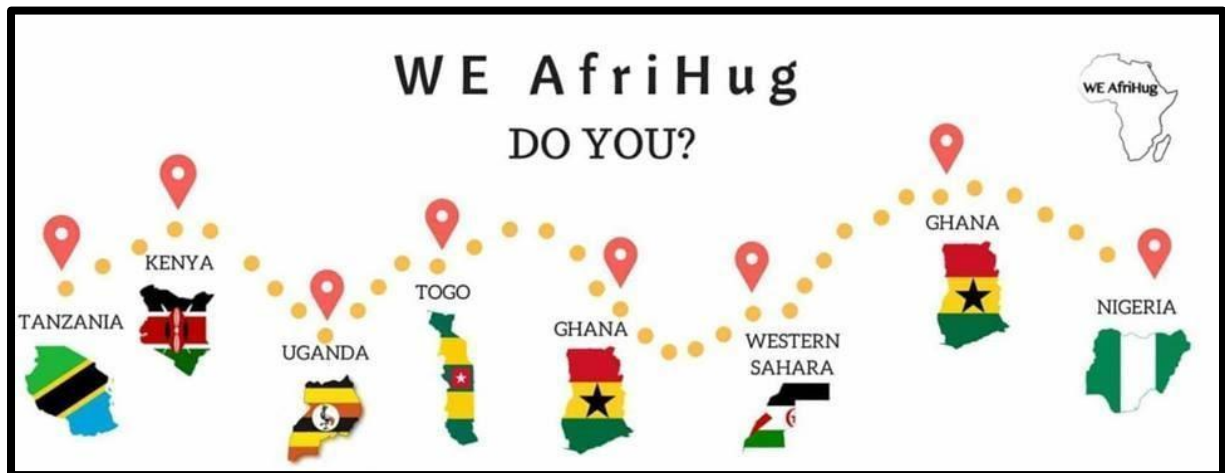
"I really like it and thank you very much"

Fala, Student at 17th June Intermediate School

[Dissemination video for the Refugee Camps of Western Sahara](#)



Nigeria



Despite the fact that Nigeria was not in the initial plan of WE AfriHug project, the team decided to include Nigeria as the 7th and last country of the project. WE AfriHug members, Konstantinos and Marilena were selected as African Delegates, representing Ghana, to participate in the Changemakers' Room 2018 Africa Edition which took place in Lagos on 15th-22nd of July 2018. Moreover, they implemented an Erasmus+ Training Seminar in the city of Ibadan.

Engagement for a future vision

Changemakers' Room Afrika Edition



[Changemakers' Room 2018 Africa Edition](#) is a six day long [Training Forum](#), gathering some of the most promising grassroots practitioners, socially active youth workers, social entrepreneurs, activists and community leaders from across Africa and Europe to identify local and international problems, ideate solutions, build long-lasting

partnerships and develop international mobility projects creating interventions in response to those issues.

[35 participants](#) from Africa and Europe gathered in Lagos to work and collaborate with the aim to create projects to be implemented in the near future. On 16th of July

2018, the [International Forum](#) of the Training took place in which public figures of Nigeria participated and discussed with the Delegates. Worthy to mention that among them, there was the Honourable Segun Olulade, Member of the Lagos State House of Assembly and Mr. [Emmanuel Etim](#), consultant of the African Union and candidate for the next elections in Nigeria in 2019.



From 17th till 22nd of July 2018, the practical part of the Training actually started, sessions from early in the morning till the night focusing on creating interventions and projects by identifying problems across the globe. Divided into teams according to their interests, the delegates started working hard and creating solutions on these specific problems. Apart from the development of the projects, field visits were also plan of the Training.



Delegates visited Bariga Local Council Development Area where Hon. [Kolade Davis Ajayi](#), Chairman of the LCDA integrated the team in the plans that he has for the people of Bariga. The team also visited the Lagos State Secretariat at the Ministry of Youth and Social Development where the Commissioner of Youth

discussed with the delegates regarding the development of Youths in Lagos State and in Nigeria. Delegates had also the chance to meet with the Lagos Man of the year 2017, Dr. [Akindele Adebola](#) and his company Courteville Business Solutions PLC, he inspired the delegates by sharing his plan of success through the years.

WE AfriHug team was selected to participate in the Change Talk session and present to the rest of the delegates the project, its objectives and the impact so far. WE AfriHug team decided to be [involved](#) in the development of an educational project along



with delegates from Nigeria, Portugal and Democratic Republic of Congo. Six days full of training, networking, discussions among Changemakers from Africa and Europe.

Erasmus+ Training Seminar in Ibadan



The team travelled to the city of Ibadan in order to visit the Institute of [African Studies](#) in the University of Ibadan. WE AfriHug team implemented a Training on Erasmus+ and Opportunities abroad. The team presented

Erasmus+ to the Board of the Institute of African Studies early in the morning and later on to the students of the Department. The [students and the Academic staff](#) expressed their interest regarding Erasmus+ and engaged the team into a fruitful [discussion](#). The team was hosted by the Ambassador of WE AfriHug in Nigeria, Fortune Afatakpa.



Impact of WE AfriHug

Educational activities

Universities in a nutshell



7 Erasmus+ Training Seminars were implemented in HEIs in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Togo, Nigeria and Ghana with 1560 board members, Academic staff and students in total. The project facilitated two partnerships between AU and EU HEIs. Particularly,

Kenyatta University, Kenya signed an MOU with the University of Piraeus, Greece and Kyambogo University, Uganda signed an MOU with University of Piraeus. The implementation of our pilot project ended in July 31st, 2018.

The first mobility took place in October 2018 with Dr. James, Head of the International Office of Kyambogo University from Uganda came to Greece at the University of Piraeus to attend Training Seminars on credit mobility. Dr. James attended also the



Celebration of the 80 years of the University of Piraeus. During his visit he had the chance to be trained about the International Mobility and how to implement it in Uganda. He met with the Academic Staff of the University and discussed for further collaborations. WE AfriHug team was present during all the meetings and contributed with their expertise from their experience in Africa.



The second mobility took place on the 20th until the 28th of January 2019, Dr Esther Kagure Munyiri, Chairman and Lecturer, Department of Hospitality and Tourism and Dr Rahab Mugambi, Lecturer, Department of Hospitality and Tourism Management from Kenyatta University, Nairobi, visited the University of Piraeus. During their visit, they met with the academic staff

of the University and got trained on how to implement International Mobility in their University.

Moreover, WE AfriHug team arranged a meeting with the University of West Attica in order to discuss further collaboration with this University. They visited the premises of the University of West Attica and also met the Department of Tourism and Hospitality. More mobilities are about to happen during 2019 and onwards.



Lastly, WE AfriHug team arranged a meeting and introduced the Staff from Kenyatta University to the State Scholarships Foundation in Greece.

Mobility during education constitutes without doubts, the most positively transformative and impactful experience for any youth. Being outside of the comfort zone and exposed to a multicultural and international environment is a great opportunity for personal development and growth. The human and social capital that is being built through the process of being abroad is being utilized during the post-phase of the mobility, in order to bring a positive change in the society. The experience and knowledge sharing is key for development for the whole process of

empowerment not only for an individual but also for the community that the individual is active in.

Why it matters?

- ✓ *Higher Education Institutions, Academic Staff and Students get informed about Erasmus+ mobility opportunities.*

By getting informed about Erasmus+ mobility opportunities, more Higher Education Institutions become a part of the Erasmus+ programme. The Academic Staff and the Students get benefits from their participation in the Erasmus+. Through Erasmus+ students gain soft skills and improve their international competences which facilitate them



to access the labour market. Furthermore, their self-assessment is increasing through the participation in Erasmus+ mobility programmes. Students gain also soft skills like intercultural awareness, adaptability, problem solving, critical thinking, team working and communication. Through Erasmus+ Academic staff enriches their knowledge, gain experience in an international level, create synergies, and have opportunities for further Academic Research in an international field. The project aimed at strengthening the links between European and African Universities by connecting the offices of International relations in specific Universities. Memorandums of Understanding were signed and collaborations to start, so as the mobility between Africa and Europe will take place in the next years.

- ✓ *Direct and Indirect impact in the local community*

Through the participation in Erasmus+ programmes, Students and Academic Staff transmit their experience and gained knowledge to their local community, once back home. By being Ambassadors of the Erasmus+ they transfer the Erasmus+ spirit in their local community and acting as multipliers they raise the awareness and the interest for more people to apply and take advantage of mobility opportunities.



High-Schools

287 High-school students got trained about 21st Century skills during activities based on Non-Formal Education.

✓ *Students develop the 21st Century Skills*

Why the 21st Century skills are important?

According to UNESCO Education Strategy (2014-2021) "There is an increasing recognition that, 'lifelong learning is the philosophy, conceptual framework and organizing principle for education in the 21st century'". "UNESCO is giving priority to three strategic thematic areas: literacy, skills development for work and Higher Education". 3-day Training Seminars for High-school students have been implemented focused on the "Skills needed for the 21st century" and more specifically aiming at the category "Learning & Innovation Skills" & "Life and Career skills" (Partnership for 21st century skills). Critical Thinking & Problem Solving, Creativity & Innovation, Communication & Collaboration and Social & Cross-cultural skills have been developed during the Training Seminars. Leadership, Decision-making, Public speaking and Teamwork are also being developed through the activities.

✓ *Students get familiarized with Non-Formal Education*

Why is the Non-Formal Education important?

The concept of this type of education varies from country to country sometimes but in any case it is recognized as an essential tool for lifelong learning. It is an education apart from formal institutions and is provided through interactive seminars, workshops, exchanges and trainings. The main point of Non-Formal Education is the process



"learning by doing". Despite the fact that the Training Seminars last for only few days, this effective way of learning facilitates students to develop quickly the 21st century skills. It gives the opportunity to youngsters to develop various competences through



different activities and empowers them to identify and trust their instinct, understand and develop their values, define their role in the society and to become active.

- ✓ Direct and indirect impact on the local community

The students, as members of their society, enhance their skills and participate actively in the community. Social inclusion increase and as a result, the students are able to leave a more significant impact by themselves in their communities. Non-Formal Education encourages them to be active citizens, to care and to do their best to affect the current status quo. Moreover, through the involvement of the local partners, the knowledge is being transferred, so as to apply the Training Seminars in the future by themselves and sustain the results of the project.

Sports milestones

The team achieved two sports milestones: 1. Climbing to the top of Africa, mountain Kilimanjaro in Tanzania and 2. Running the Solidarity Marathon of Western Sahara in Algeria. The sports milestones positively affect with an intangible way the followers of the project on ground but also online. Since internet becomes accessible



almost everywhere and social media become more and more popular at an international level, the project aims at engaging the audience through posts, videos and images, in order to motivate and inspire them to be involved into sports. Sports have the power to bring people together, no matter the origin, religion, belief or skin colour. It can act as a motivation for the Youth to try different sports and increase their well-being but also improve their physical condition. Moreover, using as a case the Sahara Marathon, which is an excellent example of combining sports in order to support/help/contribute to community development, the project aims at leaving a positive impact in the refugee camps of Tindouf supporting the Saharawi cause. Since 2001, the Secretary of State for Sport of the RASD, supported by a significant number



of international volunteers, organizes one of the most special sports events in the desert aiming at raising the awareness about the Saharawi cause. One more important effect of the participation in the marathon is the message to the young refugees to participate in sports. The participation is the beginning of an ambassadorship for the strive for freedom of the refugees but also through the Training Seminar, WE AfriHug aim is to empower Young refugees with soft skills, which they can use in their everyday life.

Research

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The Master Thesis brings new knowledge at a scientific level and investigate how education can be a significant reason to travel abroad, especially for people who live in less developed countries and are in need of getting more exposed and educated. Especially, Ghanaian students are used for this Research

because the most significant problem of the African continent is the illiteracy and the lack of education in general. In the end of the Research, the lack and need of information about Academic mobility opportunities are being identified with Ghanaian students expressing their potential interest to be part of mobility programmes. Mobility opportunities with European programmes, such as Erasmus+ are already into place but the lack of information might constitute an obstacle for African students to participate.



Visibility on the media

Press clip

a/a	Media	Category	Type	Link	Date
1	La Mia Ostia	Website	Press Release	Link	14/11/2018
2	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	11/01/2018
3	Sigma Live Network	Website	Press Release	Link	14/01/2018
4	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	14/01/2018
5	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	14/01/2018
6	European Commission	Website	Press Release	Link	18/01/2018
7	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	05/02/2018
8	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	10/02/2018
9	City of Larnaca	Website	Press Release	Link	16/02/2018
10	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	16/02/2018
11	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	19/02/2018



12	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	19/02/2018
13	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	19/02/2018
14	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	24/02/2018
15	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	27/02/2018
16	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	05/03/2018
17	garagErasmus	Website	Press Release	Link	31/03/2018
18	Impakter	Website	Article	Link	24/04/2018
19	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	02/05/2018
20	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	02/05/2018
21	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	07/05/2018
22	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	12/05/2018
23	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	12/05/2018
24	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	15/05/2018



25	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	17/05/2018
26	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	30/06/2018
27	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	30/06/2018
28	Live Media	Website	Press Release	Link	03/07/2018
29	Erasmus Mundus Association	Website	Press Release	Link	25/07/2018
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No 1

La mia Ostia

Cultura e Turismo periodico on-line

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WE AfriHug, il nuovo progetto IPA Ostia

Serata di beneficenza al Teatro Nino Manfredi per la raccolta di fondi per il nuovo progetto dell'IPA Ostia che si svolgerà in Africa a cavallo tra il gennaio e febbraio 2018 e che anche questa volta sarà seguito da La mia Ostia in diretta

WE AfriHug il nuovo progetto di IPA Ostia

No 2

Erasmus Mundus Association

Enter your search term...

Home | GA 2018 | Erasmus Mundus | About EMA | EMA Projects | Become a Partner | Become a Member | Volunteer

11.01.2018 17:31

WE AfriHug in action: an educative project across Africa

WE AfriHug kicked off its project in Tanzania with the 2-day training seminar at the University of Dar es Salaam on 3rd and 4th of January 2018. During the first training day, the team interacted with almost 40 Board members of the University of Dar es Salaam, presenting Erasmus+ and raising the awareness on mobility opportunities between European and African Universities.

During the second training day "Erasmus+ - Open your mind, Change your life" the team interacted with more than 250 University students & Academic Staff through dynamic and interactive presentations but also through a "live library", the WE AfriHug team raised the awareness on Erasmus+ opportunities. The audience had the chance to get informed in detail about the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees, the procedures and applications and also tips have been given to the students who would like to get involved in the future. William Namboko, former Country Representative for Tanzania of the Erasmus Mundus Association, gave his precious testimonial of his experience as a Master student in EMJMD and inspired many students who were not aware of this opportunity. Konstantinos Maragkos, current Country Representative for Greece, presented his own case as a student in EMTH by sharing his experience.

#weafrihug #afrika #ema #erasmusmundus #erasmusplus #education #eurpe

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Website: www.weafrihug.com

No 3

CITY

ΕΚΔΟΤΗΣΗ ΗΜΕΡΗΣΙΑ

ΕΚΔΟΤΗΣΗ ΗΜΕΡΗΣΙΑ

TOPA | ΕΚΔΟΤΗΣΗ | ΜΑΙΑ ΜΟΥ | CITIZENS | VIBRAL | ΒΡΕΞ ΕΔΩ | ΑΓΩΠΑ | TI

Αρχική / Έξω Θέμα

ΕΚΩ ΘΕΜΑ

Ο Δημήτρης μάς είπε «WE AfriHug» και έφυγε για Αφρική

09.01.2018

No 4

LIVE MEDIA

CONGRESSES | COURSES | EVENTS | NEWS | WEBTV

Sport Events | Video | WE AfriHug | WE AfriHug

Erasmus Mundus Association and the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Degrees

WE AfriHug 2018 - Tanzania
Posted by WE AfriHug
1,229 Views

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Erasmus Mundus Association

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14.01.2018 16:53

WE AfriHug combines education and sports spreading the world in Kilimanjaro

WE AfriHug continued its activities last week achieving a powerful sports milestone: climbing to the top of Africa, Mount Kilimanjaro. The team chose to raise the awareness about the project and inspire the Youth by breaking physical and mental limits and reaching the top of the mountain. The five volunteers started hiking on 6th of January following the "Machame" route, starting at 1.450 m, from Machame gate and reaching after 11 km, and 5 hours the Machame camp at 3.000 m.

During the second day they hiked for 5 km, through a very steep environment inside the forest until they reached the Shiru camp at 3.800 m.

The third day, WE AfriHug team reached 4.600 m. In Lava tower through the Nepes desert and came back to 3.950 m. in Barafu camp, in order to start the acclimatization. The next day, the volunteers climbed up to 4.600 m and got to Barafu camp after 8 hours of hard weather conditions. On the 8th day and after 3 hours of sleep and endless tiredness, the volunteers started the hike to the top of the mountain in the midnight. From Barafu camp they hiked for 7 hours until they reached Stella peak at 5.756 m, where everything was frozen due to the bad weather conditions.

The day after, the volunteers started hiking down, where they first stopped at Mweka camp for a few hours of sleep and then got down to Mweka gate.

No 6

Delegation of the European Union to Kenya

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EEAS homepage > Kenya > Erasmus+ > Opening minds and changing lives

Erasmus +: Opening minds and changing lives

18/01/2018 - 14:03

News stories

Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association (ESAA) and the WE AfriHug project visited Kenyatta University in Nairobi for an Erasmus Plus Information Session

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LIVE MEDIA

Home > News > Το WE AfriHug Project στην Κένυα? Η Ομάδα του WE AfriHug συνεχίζει δυναμικά τις...

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18/01/2018/02:10

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ΠΡΟΣΩΠΑ

Ο Δημήτρης Χριστοδούλου από την Αραδίππου και 4 φίλοι του ανέβηκαν στην κορυφή της Αφρικής

23/01/2018 10:52

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Home > News > "Το WE AfriHug Project Στο Τόγκο" Η Ομάδα Του WE AfriHug Συνεχίζει Το Πρόγραμμά ...

"Το WE AfriHug Project στο Τόγκο" Η ομάδα του WE AfriHug συνεχίζει το πρόγραμμά ...

490 2018/02/16

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Erasmus Mundus Association

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18/02/2018 14:41

Study in Europe Erasmus+ Information Session at Kenyatta University, Kenya

This event themed "Erasmus+ Open your mind, Change your life," took place on the 17th of January 2018. EMA was represented by Ms. Lina Muiji (Eastern Sub-Regional Coordinator and alumni of the School of Hospitality and Tourism at KCU). Other participants included Chondro (active EMA Kenya members) and invited guests from the WE AfriHug Project team led by Konstantinos Loukantonis (EMA Country Representative, Greece). Also in attendance was the University Administration and Senior Faculty Members led by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic Affairs, Registrar Academic Affairs, Dean School of Hospitality and Tourism, Heads of Department, Lecturers, Postgraduate Students, Undergraduate Students, Alumni, Student Union leaders among others. The Acting Dean of the School of Hospitality, Travel and Tourism Management from the Mount Kenya University (MKU) and staff from the EU Delegation in Kenya led by the First Counsellor/Head of Press and Information were also present.

The event started with registration at 8.30am (but due to excitement some students were already at the venue 30 minutes before) and ended at 4.00pm with an impressive audience of about 400 people. After the welcome note from the Chairperson of the Tourism Management Department, a surprise entertainment session comprising of a South African and a salsa dance performed by students of the Department of Music and Dance began. This was followed by brief presentations of Erasmus+, EMA, and the WE AfriHug project. To give further information about EMERDs, the European Master in Tourism Management course was used as an example with Konstantinos and Lina, who are currently taking the course, giving an account of their experience in the programme as well as encouraging the Hospitality and Tourism students to apply. The other EMA Alumni present also gave their testimonials. Moses shared the experience as a student of the Erasmus Mundus Master in Applied Project Activity (EMAPBA) while Thius case was a student of the Master of Science in Com-

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Erasmus Mundus Association

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18/02/2018 14:24

Non-formal education training in Kisumu, Kenya

WE AfriHug Team headed to Kisumu after the training seminar at Kenyatta University in Nairobi. Together with the local partner "Resource Hub for Development (R.H.D.) - Kenya" they implemented the 3-day 21st Century Skills Training Seminar at Nyamasaia High School and worked with the students on the development of significant soft skills, which are needed for our current.

The aim of the Training Seminar was to empower youth through non-formal education with skills, such as Communication, Collaboration, Critical thinking, Innovation, Problem Solving, Teamwork, Social and Cross-cultural. 50 students actively participated in these 3 days, learnt how to work in teams and collaborate, how to solve problems and overcome obstacles. Students challenged themselves and came up with new ideas discovering their internal power. All the activities were based on non-formal education and were prepared in such a way so as to be interactive and participatory.

The training seminar included several and various activities, each of them was aiming at the development of a specific soft skill. The only prerequisite for the students was to be open and participate, something that happened successfully, since they got integrated quickly and adapted to this new approach of learning.

Enjoy our dissemination video for Kenya!

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18/02/2018 14:38

WE AfriHug in Uganda

WE AfriHug team continues its path in Eastern Africa empowering more and more youth. After travelling from Kisumu, Kenya to Kampala, Uganda, the team met their local partners to conduct the planned activities. First, the 3-day "21st century life skills camp" took place in the village of Abokya, Wobusungu district, from 28th and 29th of January, where WE AfriHug team had the chance to interact with approximately 60 students, teachers and trainers from different parts of Uganda.

WE AfriHug team and the Ugandan partners "Love and Hope Monitor" and "Vigara Kiwa Akira" joined forces and made a dream come true for the community of Abokya. Students, teachers and trainers from all parts of Uganda with different backgrounds came together to empower themselves with soft skills. Teamwork, Communication, Collaboration, Critical thinking, Innovation, Problem Solving, Social and Cross-cultural skills were on the first place the ones that participants gained during these days. They had the opportunity to learn through diversity with different approaches.

Non-formal education activities, followed by interactive presentations on social issues but also through sports, the participants have been successfully engaged and enjoyed the "learning by doing". On 30th and 31st of January, a 2-day training seminar with Kyanbugo University Board, Academic staff & Students took place. Thanks to the excellent cooperation with the EMA Country Representative for Uganda, Edwin Akamula, the two days have been fruitful for the attendees. Erasmus offers the chance to the human resources of Universities from all around the globe to broaden their horizons and improve their knowledge through mobility opportunities and that was the main focus of the 2-day seminar, which was attended by approximately 130 Board members, Academic staff and Students. Μονάβη ενσωμάτωσης και διασύνδεσης μεταξύ Αφρικανών και Ευρωπαίων Μέλτρ

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Erasmus Mundus Association

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24/02/2018 16:42

We AfriHug in Ghana

After Togo, **WE AfriHug team** moved to the neighboring country, Ghana. After traveling to Accra first, the members arrived to the next destination of the project: the rural community of Kpando.

Continuing with the same passion and purpose, the Empowerment of the Youth through Education, the team joined forces with the local partner in Ghana, **UNITED PROJECTS UNITED** is a community resource and empowerment centre with the mission to educate and empower by encouraging collaboration and by providing accessible information to the community of Kpando and the surrounding. Excited to work with this impactful NGO, the volunteers visited together "Kpando Secondary School", in order to implement our 3-day Non-formal Education Training Seminar with students with the aim to facilitate them developing soft skills needed for the 21st Century.

From the first day, 53 participants showed enthusiasm towards this new experience and learning approach and have been actively participating. During the first day activities, students introduced themselves, expressed their expectations and fears about the 3-day training and were challenged to "find their power" through the activity "where is my power?". During this activity, the participants are asked to create a "white wall" consisted of papers on the wall, where they have to draw their body's outline on the paper sheet in the position that they prefer. In order to draw it, other participants should interact and help them do it because the "white wall" starts 10 cm higher than the ground floor. Then, each participant should identify their outline and draw with a small symbol their unique internal power. Afterwards, always placed in a circle, a discussion is following with each of the participants talking about their unique strength and justify why they feel that this is their power.

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"Το WE AfriHug Project στη Γκάνα" Μετά από το Τόγκο, η ομάδα του WE AfriHug συνέ...

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"Το WE AfriHug Project στη Δυτική Σαχάρα" Ο επόμενος προορισμός της ομάδας του ...

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GOLDEN LAISSEZ-PASSER

On the night 25th of January, the award ceremony of the Golden Laissez-Passer took place with the victory of Konstantinos Maragkos, a 25-years old young professional from Greece. A jury composed by the Foundation Members proclaimed Konstantinos as the Best Erasmus Talent of 2017 and he was awarded 3.000€ for his project "WE AfriHug" which aims at empowering the Youth within African local communities through education in High-schools and Universities.

The votes expressed by the jury are as follows: Kostantinos 68, Basak 66, Gevoro 57, Veronika 52, Patrick 53, Adina 43.

IMPAKTER CULTURE STYLE SOCIETY PHILANTHROPY IMPACT

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Το Livemedia χορηγός επικοινωνίας του έργου WE AfriHug "Το WE AfriHug Proje...

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Χορηγός επικοινωνίας στο έργο της ομάδας WE AfriHug "Η ομάδα του WE AfriHug συμ...

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Erasmus Mundus Association

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07.05.2018 20:34

WE AfriHug team participates in the 2nd Afrika Youth Movement Retreat Forum in Ghana

PRESS RELEASE

WE AfriHug team participated in the 2nd Afrika Youth Movement (AYM) Retreat for Forum, which took place in Accra, from the 18th until the 22nd of April 2018.

AYM is a pan-African, action-oriented, youth-led movement that strives for the participation, development and leadership of African youth to transform Africa and achieve their rights to peace, equality and social justice. They try to create a continent that respects the rights of all its citizens. Through their works they promote values that binds the continent; unity, self-determination, integrity and accountability. AYM has 10.000 members at 40 African countries.

The Retreat took place from 18th till 21st of April at Accra, for selected number of participants from Tunisia, Cameroon, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Nigeria, Sudan, Topo, Kenya, Ethiopia and Greece. The members of WE AfriHug team were the only non-Africans who participated in the programme. The participants had the chance to meet member the movement, its history and the Hubs which exist in each country.

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LIVE MEDIA

Home > News > "Η ομάδα του WE AfriHug συμμετέχει στο ευρωπαϊκό πρόγραμμα STEP Forward στο Ταμά...

"Η ομάδα του WE AfriHug συμμετέχει στο ευρωπαϊκό πρόγραμμα STEP Forward στο Ταμά...

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Erasmus Mundus Association

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27.07.2018 15:46

WE AfriHug team participates in the European project STEP Forward in Tamale, Ghana

The most recent activity of WE AfriHug team in Ghana was the participation in the European project "STEP Forward" in the framework of Erasmus+ Key Action 2: Capacity Building in the field of youth. It took place in Tamale from 1st of May till 10th of May 2018. The coordinator of the project is Ili Anastasiou from Greece and the participating organizations are Step4you Ghana, Brand 2 (Youth-led educational and social entrepreneurship project from Spain), Resource Hub 3 (Development from Kenya and Solidarias Jóvenes from Spain).

STEP links active citizenship to formal education by drawing attention to the values of sustainability & integrating them in non-formal education activities. STEP aims at promoting the application of active or participatory education through experiential activities and solution-oriented educational approach. It explores alternative community models, social and ecological initiatives the project uses information or resources to design a new educational module with the scope to integrate these in the formal education system.

On May 1st, the participants arrived in Tamale of Northern Ghana with the aim to spend ten days together to have an opportunity to interact with the local community, the "forgotten students", come in contact with hobby makers and stakeholders, and be informed about the projects of the hosting organization Step4you Ghana, with the final aim to create a non-formal educational activity. "Forgotten students" are students who are talented but do not perform well academically, but yet have high potentials.

The participants shared ideas about sustainable and innovative practices regarding the talented "forgotten students" and how they could be socially integrated through sports. Furthermore participants visited the social enterprise Phospho 360, an initiative which contributes to women empowerment and has a significant impact on the well-being of the whole community.

One of the innovative projects of Step4you Ghana is the Street Library, an exciting project which gathers children and motivate them to read and create friendly and inclusive environment. Their aim is to expand their communities and give the opportunity to more children to read their leisure time. Step4you Ghana supporting the "forgotten students". During a meeting with the students, they expressed their obstacles as dreams regarding their future career. The discussion was completed with a friendly football match. Stakeholders in the field of sports and education, teachers, sports journalists and former footballers share their expertise regarding the social inclusion through sports and other working groups. They develop interventions and future practices.

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Home GA 2018 Erasmus Mundus About EMA EMA Projects Become a Partner Become a Member Volunteer

27.07.2018 15:11

WE AfriHug team organizes a Training Seminar to promote Erasmus+ in Tamale, Northern Ghana

The members of WE AfriHug extended their stay in Tamale after the STEP Forward Project and organized a 3-day Non-formal Education Training Seminar for the 21st Century Skills at the Northern School of Business (Nobisco) in Tamale in cooperation with their local partner, the NGO Sedaprv Ghana.

25 students from different classes of Nobisco took part in the Training and got empowered with soft skills. During the first day, the students expressed their expectations and fears and also identified their talents. Gaining leadership & public speaking skills, encouragement and motivation were some of their expectations for the Training while their fears were related to failure and disappointment. "I had the chance to express myself, it is the first time that I experience the non-formal education and I feel really motivated" stated one of the students during the first day of Training.

During the second day, activities on leadership, public speaking, teamwork and collaboration took place. Through the activities "From Page" and "Lead to Success", the students came up with creative ideas, developing their own inclusive and friendly environment. Interesting discussions on significant topics such as teenage pregnancy, corruption, environmental protection and leadership took place.

During the third and last day, the activities focused on debate, the art of persuading and public speaking skills. After a successful 3-day Training, the participants evaluated the seminar, reflected on their experience and received their certificates.

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17.05.2018 20:31

Erasmus+ Training Seminar at University of Cape Coast, Ghana

EMA-Ghana, EMA-Greece and EMA-Belgium combined efforts to organize two successful training seminars at two universities in Ghana (namely, University of Ghana and University of Cape Coast respectively) in the month of April. These events were organized to promote the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master Programs among students and also sensitize them about international volunteerism through presentations made by the WE AfriHug Project and AIESEC during the seminars.

TRAINING SEMINAR AT UNIVERSITY OF CAPE COAST

Two days after the University of Ghana event, another seminar was organized at the University of Cape Coast (UCC) campus. EMA in collaboration with WE AfriHug project, AIESEC Ghana and the Centre for International Education (CEE) at UCC organized a less formal but interactive session for students on the opportunities for studying and volunteering abroad.

One hundred and fifty (150) students participated in the seminar which was delivered in two parts. The first part was dedicated to volunteering abroad. This was delivered by representatives from AIESEC in UCC, who explained the processes involved in traveling and volunteering abroad. The participants were urged to develop a volunteerism attitude to help develop their soft skills and also to give their quota in making societies better by challenging themselves out of their comfort zones. A practical example of volunteerism was demonstrated in a presentation delivered by Mariena Maragkou on the WE AfriHug project to motivate the participants.

LIVE MEDIA

Home > News > "Η Ομάδα του WE AfriHug διοργανώνει εκπαιδευτικό σεμινάριο στο Ταμάλε της Γκάνας...

0305 2018/05/03

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30.07.2018 18:59

WE AfriHug team participates in Erasmus+ project, "Grapes of Wrath"

The highlight of the visit in Tamale was the screening of the documentary, "The Land of Milk and Honey".

The WE AfriHug team was selected to participate in an Erasmus+ project called "Grapes of Wrath in Tamale".

The project was carried out by a Greek NGO, Inter AI, in collaboration with NGOs from Italy, Kenya, Senegal and Ghana. Grapes of Wrath is a capacity building project in the framework of Erasmus+ for youth workers aiming to explore and deconstruct patterns of psychological and social tension between in-groups and out-groups with reference to migrant communities in the EU.

The highlight of the visit in Tamale was the screening of the documentary, "The Land of Milk and Honey", which was produced by Inter AI in the framework of the project.

The host organization Sedango Ghana organized three different screenings of the documentary. Approximately 30 people attended each screening with different target groups every time. Following each screening, a discussion took place, where people would express their desire to go to Europe for work or studies.

Apart from the three scheduled screenings, the team visited local enterprises focusing on women empowerment, male and female football teams who are chasing their dream of becoming professional footballers, street libraries and schools. The aim of all these visits was to get a better understanding and idea of how things work in Tamale and how people behave in their everyday life.

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Home > News > Οι δραστηριότητες του WE AfriHug στο Ταμάλε

0248 2018/07/03

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Erasmus Mundus Association

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27.07.2018 14:43

WE AfriHug Promotes Erasmus+ in Tamale, Ghana

During the participation of WE AfriHug in the Erasmus+ project "Grapes of Wrath" in the Northern Region of Ghana in Tamale, the team organized and implemented further educational Training Seminars.

One of the objectives of the study visit in Tamale under "Grapes of Wrath" project was to organize and implement non-formal education activities in order to empower youth in the surrounding communities. The target group which has been selected was "Nana's Ladies Football team", a team of 19 young inspiring ladies who are practicing their favourite sport against the opinion and scorn of their relatives, families and the community. Playing football as a lady is not socially acceptable in the area of Tamale, although these girls go after their passion for football against the obstacles they face everyday.

WE AfriHug team shared knowledge, designed and implemented a training seminar together with the participants of the "Grapes of Wrath" and the local organization "Sedango - Ghana", so as to empower the girls with soft skills like leadership, collaboration and communication. On the 28th of June 2018, the Training took place at the field of Nana's Ladies Football team together with the 19 young ladies. All the activities were based on their passion which is football combined with non-formal education.

WE AfriHug team took also the opportunity of the visit in Tamale to organize a Training Seminar at the Technical University of Tamale. On 28th of June, WE AfriHug team implemented a Training Seminar about Erasmus+ and opportunities offered for the Board of the Technical University of Tamale. The Vice-Chancellor and the Director of International Affairs and Academic Staff of the University attended the Training, having so many questions for this programme that seems so promising for them and a wide window of opportunities for further partnerships.

WE AfriHug team is still in Tamale for the study visit of the Erasmus+ programme "Grapes of Wrath". Grapes of Wrath aims to explore and deconstruct patterns of psychological and social tension between in-groups and out-groups with reference to migrant communities in the EU. Specifically, the project promote intergroup contact by conveying the agony of outsiders and inspiring empathy, using arts as a tool for communication.

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LIVE MEDIA

Home > News > "Οι δράσεις του WE AfriHug στη Νιγηρία" Livemedia χορηγός επικοινωνίας Παρόλο ..

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garagErasmus Newsletter July 2018 [View this email in your browser](#)

The EU upgrades the European Solidarity Corps!

On June 27, EU institutions confirmed the agreement to move the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) out of its pilot phase and make it a fully-fledged activity of the European Union. A very important step for an ever more engaged European citizenship! The ESC was created to help young people between 18 and 30 to participate in a range of solidarity activities in different fields (environment, culture, social services, helping refugees, migrants, children or the elderly) as a tangible expression of European values. The aim of the ESC is to contribute to addressing unmet societal needs, while enhancing young people's personal, educational, social, civic and professional development.

For details of the agreement and its future development, visit: [here](#).

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EU 4 U blog

[Zoom in WE AfriHug](#)

Iniciativa WE AfriHug je projektom neformálního vzdělávání, který má za cíl podpořit studenty ze šestnácti Afriky a zároveň je informovat o příležitostech, jak jim nabídnout program Erasmus Mundus. O podobné projekty, workshopy a artistické studenty, ale také zahraniční maratonu jsme si povídali se spoluzakladatelem iniciativy WE AfriHug, řeckým studentem Konstantinem.

What is the driving force that led you to create the WE AfriHug initiative?

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LIVE MEDIA

αναζητήστε υλικό, φωτογραφίες και κείμενα...

CONGRESSES COURSES EVENTS NEWS WEBTV

Events | Video | Career Talks 2018 | Κωνσταντίνος Μαραγκός | Co-founder of WE AfriHug, Erasmus Mundus Association Ambassador

Κωνσταντίνος Μαραγκός | Co-founder of WE AfriHug, Erasmus Mundus Association Ambassador

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Home GA 2018 Erasmus Mundus About EMA EMA Projects Become a Partner Become a Member Volunteer

14.10.2018 15:25

WEAfriHug members participate in Changemakers' Room 2018, Lagos

35 participants from Africa and Europe gathered in Lagos to collaborate and work on projects.

Even though Nigeria was not in the initial plan of WE AfriHug project, the team decided to include Nigeria as the 7th and last country of the project.

WE AfriHug members - Konstantinos and Mariena were selected as African Delegates to participate in the Changemakers' Room 2018 Africa Edition which took place in Lagos between July 15 to 22, 2018.

Changemakers' Room 2018 Africa Edition is a six-day-long training forum, gathering some of the most promising grassroots practitioners, socially active youth workers, social entrepreneurs, activists and community leaders from across Africa and Europe to identify local and international problems, ideate solutions, build long-lasting partnerships and develop international mobility projects creating interventions in response to those issues.

35 participants from Africa and Europe gathered in Lagos to work and collaborate with the aim to create projects to be implemented in the near future.

On July 16, 2018, the International Forum of the Training took place in which public figures of Nigeria participated and discussed with the delegates. Honourable Segun Oluwalade, Member of the Lagos State House of Assembly and Mr. Emmanuel Ehin, consultant of the Africa Union and candidate for the next elections in Nigeria in 2019 were in attendance.

From July 17 to 22, 2018, the practical part of the training actually started, sessions from early in the morning till the night focusing on creating interventions and projects by identifying problems across the globe.

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LIVE MEDIA

NB - Ξεπουλάι τα μοντέλα '18

Home > News > Οι Συνεδρίες Του WE AfriHug, Μαριλένα Μαραγκού Και Κωνσταντίνος Μαραγκός Παρέυ...

Οι συνεδρίες του WE AfriHug, Μαριλένα Μαραγκού και Κωνσταντίνος Μαραγκός παρέυ...

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23.11.2018 00:01

The tangible impact of WE AfriHug in Higher Education

On Tuesday, 07.11.2018, the University of Piraeus invited Marielena Maragkou & Konstantinos Maragkos to present WE AfriHug during a meeting with several HEIs' representatives from Greece, Uganda, Russia, Armenia, Lebanon, Jordan & Israel. A strong focus was given for the topic of partnerships, exchange and academic mobility.

We are very proud to see with our eyes the impact of WE AfriHug's work. Yesterday, 07.11.2018, it was a historical day for WE AfriHug, since the team received and welcomed James Bulembulwa, Head of the International Relations Office - Kyambogo University from Uganda. In the framework of the partnership that the project facilitated with the University of Piraeus in Greece, the first mobility is happening for these days and in the framework of the celebration for the 80 years' anniversary of the University of Piraeus in Greece.

On Tuesday, 07.11.2018, the University of Piraeus invited Marielena Maragkou & Konstantinos Maragkos to present WE AfriHug during a meeting with several HEIs' representatives from Greece, Uganda, Russia, Armenia, Lebanon, Jordan & Israel. A strong focus was given for the topic of partnerships, exchange and academic mobility.

The contribution of Erasmus Mundus Association has been significant, since the collaboration among Konstantinos Maragkos, CR for Greece, Edwin Kamahala, CR for Uganda and Lina W. Hedy, Eastern Africa coordinator, WE AfriHug team, the Universities and the representatives of the International Relations Office of the two Universities achieved the partnership and as a result the first mobility already.

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LIVE MEDIA

Home > News > "We Hug Africa", Ένα 18λεπτο βίντεο

"We hug Africa", ένα 18λεπτο βίντεο

© 94 2019/01/09

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Home GA 2018 Erasmus Mundus About EMA EMA Projects Become a Partner Become a Member Volunteer

12.01.2019 21:55

Post-phase of WE AfriHug

In order to disseminate the project, the team developed a short documentary entitled as "We hug Africa", an 18 minute video that showcases the activities of the project, the personal view of the members and the obstacles they faced in order to achieve the goals set in the beginning of the project. The team conducted 7 screenings of the documentary in Greece, Cyprus and Italy in order to inform their audience about what has happened during their 7-month stay in Africa.

A milestone for WE AfriHug was the selection of the Co-founder Marielena Maragkou, among 1.700 applications, as a Young Expert in the cluster of Education & Skills at the AU-EU Youth Cooperation Hub. She is one of 42 young Africans, Europeans and Diaspora to work with the African Union & the European Union to help developing the scope of the Call for Proposals worth 10 Million € for projects in both continents. She is working on Education & Skills Cluster and her experience with WE AfriHug plays a big role. She has already visited the Headquarters of African Union in Addis Ababa where she worked on the development of new

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Home > News > Τριμηνία Τελετή Βράβευσης Νέων Ταλέντων - Πρότυπα Επιτυχίας

Τριμηνική τελετή βράβευσης νέων ταλέντων - πρότυπα επιτυχίας

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Home > News > «Απονομή βραβείου Για Κοινωνικό Αντίκτυπο»

«Απονομή βραβείου για κοινωνικό αντίκτυπο»

© 52 2019/01/23



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23.01.2019 16:11

Social Impact award



WE AfriHug team participated in the award ceremony of Young talents - Role models. With the slogan "Believe in You", the Honorary Award Ceremony took place in Athens on the 19th of January 2019, entitled as "Αιέν οριστεύειν" in the framework of strengthening Youth Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

The event was organized by the Leadership Committee "Protagonistes Zois" within the framework of the international conference "Money Show". The event was attended by 80 guests, who listened to the testimonials of the winners in the following categories: sports, music, innovation, youth entrepreneurship, science, environment, fine arts, volunteering - social offer and social impact.

Konstantinos Maragkos and Marilena Maragkou were recognized and awarded for their contribution to social change, bridging Europe and Africa through the creation of partnerships and empowerment of youth.


Follow the path of WE AfriHug in the social channels:
Website

Website

https://www.weafrihug.com

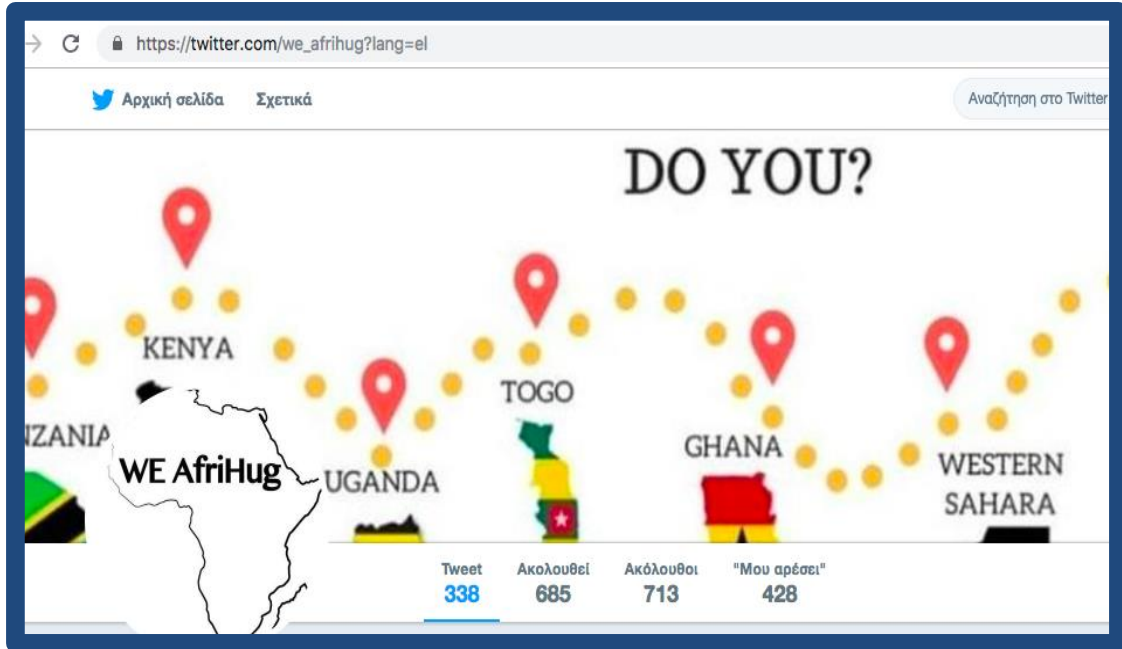
WE AfriHug

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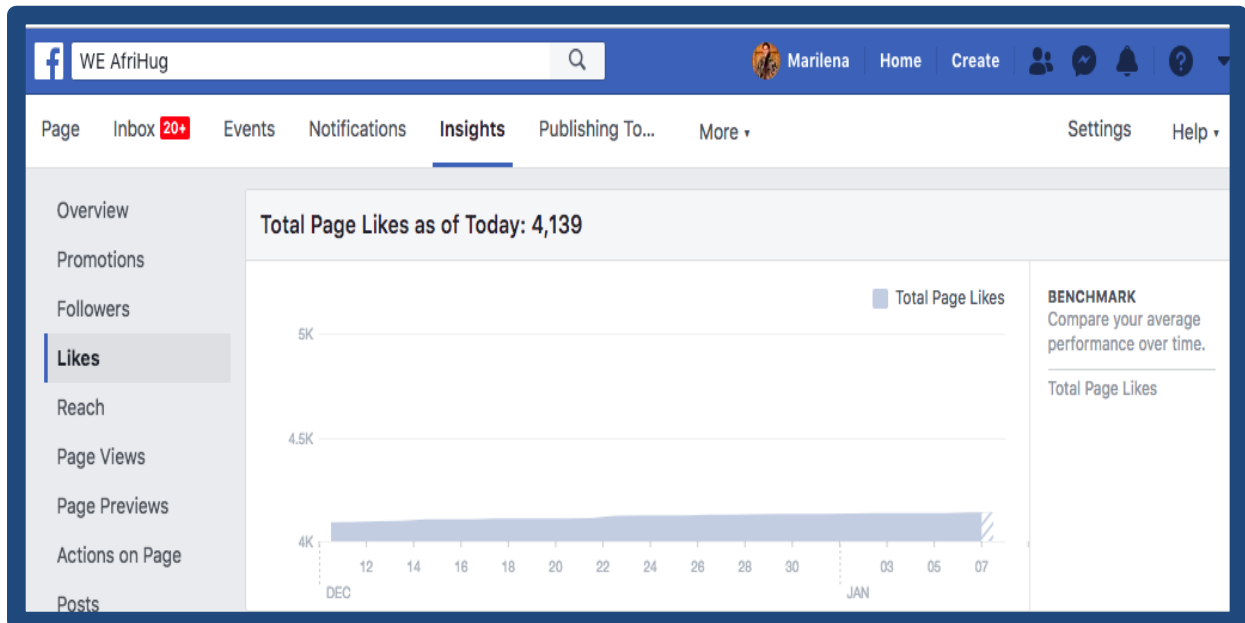


Facebook fans' demographics





Facebook likes



Instagram

The screenshot shows the Instagram profile page for 'weafrihug'. The profile picture is a map of Africa with 'WE AfriHug' text. The bio states: 'WE AfriHug Youth Empowerment - Education ⇄ Sports ⇄ Research ⇄ Tanzania ⇄ Kenya ⇄ Uganda ⇄ Togo ⇄ Western Sahara ⇄ Ghana ⇄ Nigeria ⇄ Dissemination ⇄'. A link to a YouTube video is provided: 'youtu.be/ixPLKKH6W58'. Below the bio, there is a row of seven circular profile pictures of various locations, including Nigeria, Future Vis..., Western..., Ghana 1, and Togo.



YouTube channel

YouTube **we afrihug**

WE AfriHug 2018
42 συνδρομητές

ΑΡΧΙΚΗ

Μεταφορτώσεις ΑΝΑΠΑΡΑΓΩΓΗ ΟΛΩΝ

Video Title	Duration	Views	Time Ago
WE AfriHug 2018 - "We Hug Africa" Short Documentary	18:37	442 προβολές	Πριν από 2 μήνες
WE AfriHug 2018 - STEP Forward Project in Tamale	4:45	118 προβολές	Πριν από 7 μήνες
WE AfriHug 2018 - Golden Laissez-Passer	3:16	354 προβολές	Πριν από 7 μήνες
WE AfriHug 2018 - 2nd Afrika Youth Movement Retreat an...	3:23	80 προβολές	Πριν από 8 μήνες
WE AfriHug 2018 in 80 days	2	110 προβολές	Πριν από 9 μήνες

LinkedIn Page

https://www.linkedin.com/company/weafrihug/?viewAsMember=true

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GHANA

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WE AfriHug
Higher Education · Athens, Attica · 8 followers

A non-profit project which promotes international understanding and fosters collaborations between AU & EU HEIs & CSOs.

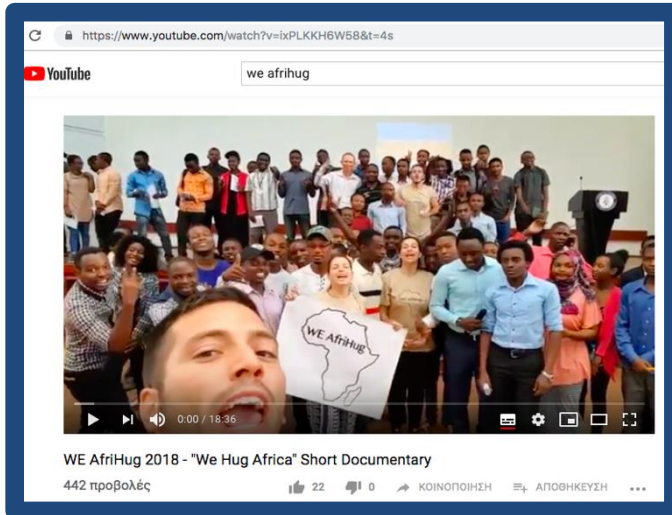
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Dissemination activities

Documentary “WE Hug Africa”



The documentary «We hug Africa» presents the activities of WE AfriHug during the 7-month stay in 7 African countries. Which were the challenges and what did the volunteers achieved? Which were the main problems and what is the observation of the team about Africa? A 18-minute video produced by the company [Eshereshe Africa Media](#) in Nigeria.

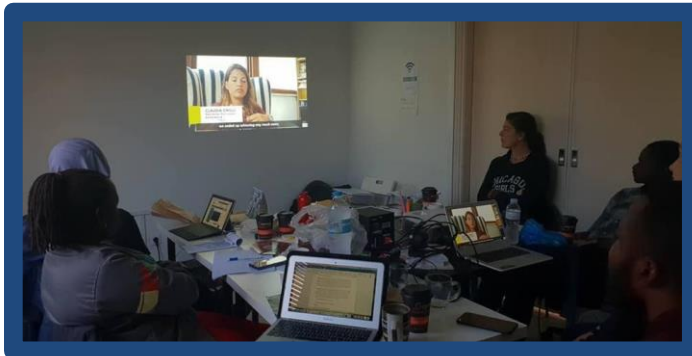
Screenings of the Documentary in Europe during the post-phase of the project

1. 23th of November 2018, Cyprus



The [first screening](#) of the documentary took place in Cyprus, the team visited the premises of their sponsor Trade.com - Lead Capital Markets Limited, in Nicosia. The team discussed with the representatives of the company about the project, the challenges and the future plans of the team.

2. 28th of November 2018, Greece



The [second screening](#) of the documentary took place in Greece at the premises of the NGO, Inter Alia in Athens together with the participants of the Erasmus+ project Grapes of Wrath. The event was attended by

Senegalese participants of Dimbaya representatives also of their partner Sedarvp Ghana & Resource Hub for Development, Kenya.

3. 8th of December 2018, Greece

The third screening of the documentary took place in Greece at the event [WE AfriHug short documentary & Reggae night](#) at Cosmos of Culture in collaboration with the African House in Athens. Supporters of the project attended the event and got informed about the 7-month stay of the team in Africa.



4. 9th of December 2018, Greece



The [fourth screening](#) of the documentary took place in Athens in which supporters of the project were invited to watch the documentary, discuss with the team and express their opinion about the project, Africa and education.



5. 16th of December 2018, Kalamata - Greece



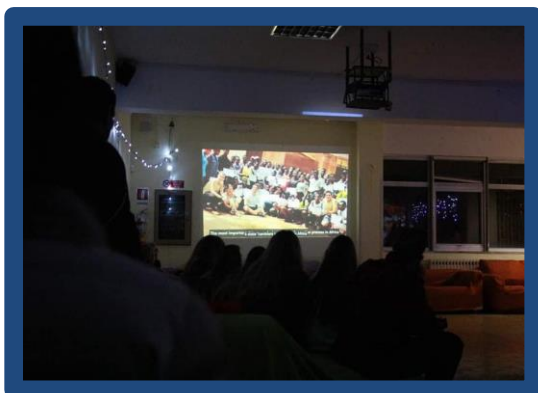
The [fifth screening](#) of the documentary took place in Kalamata, in Greece, during the Youth Exchange of the Erasmus+ project Generation Europe. Youth from Greece, Portugal and Germany attended the screening, discussed and gave feedback about the project and its activities.

6. 22th of December 2018, Cyprus

The [sixth screening](#) of the documentary took place in Cyprus where Demetris Christodoulou presented the project and shared his testimonial with CareAct in Larnaca. Educators and children attended the event and discussed all together about Africa and education.



7. 24th of December 2018, Italy



The [seventh and last screening](#) for 2018 took place in Ostia, in Italy where the Italian team presented outcomes of the project, the short documentary and interacted with the audience.



8. 11th of January 2019, Greece

The [eighth screening](#) of the documentary "We hug Africa" took place at the 20th primary school of the municipality of Kallithea in Athens. The 120 students and 12 teachers of the school watched the documentary and discussed with the team about Africa.



Awards and Recognition

Awards

Award of Social Impact



On the 19th of January 2019, WE AfriHug got the award of “Social Impact” in Athens, Greece by the Cypriot Organization “[Protagonistes Zois](#)”. The team participated in the event “Aien Aristevein” implemented in the framework of the [International Conference Athens Money Show 2019](#) which took place in the Hotel Divani in Athens. The Money Show is more than

a Convention; it is a Multi-Conference with specific audiences in all parallel events, fully controllable from the viewpoints of organisation, quality and size. This Conference operates as catalyst for the discussion of collaboration agreements and, secondarily, as information disseminators for preselected audiences. The award was given to the team for the social impact they had in Africa and Europe through the project WE AfriHug.

Award Golden Laissez-Passer “Best Erasmus Talent 2017”

On the 25th of January 2018, the award ceremony of the [Golden Laissez-Passer](#) by garagErasmus Foundation took place. 539 people participated in the first phase of the competition and almost 15.000 people voted. Konstantinos was first with 495 votes. The 6 finalists were invited in the annual meeting of garagErasmus in Milan in



order to present the way that they could use the award. Despite the fact that

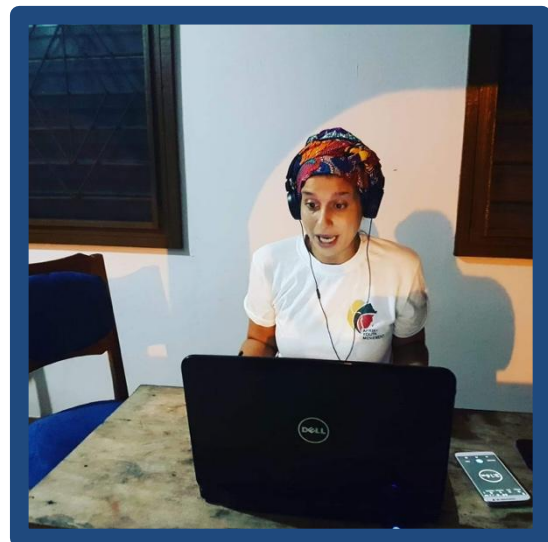


Konstantinos did not attend physically the meeting, after his impressive pitch about WE AfriHug project via Skype from Uganda he has been voted from the committee as first with 68 points. A jury composed by the Foundation Members proclaimed him as the Best Erasmus Talent of 2017 with 68 votes and he was awarded 3.000€ for the project. The amount of the award was invested in the project WE AfriHug to further develop its activities.

[Golden Laissez-Passer Video](#)

Award Best World Changemaker 2018

Marilena Maragkou was awarded as the best [World Changemaker for 2018](#) during the virtual hackathon [UNITE2030](#), organized by the [International Development House](#) in UK. She achieved this award because of her experience in WE AfriHug, an “initiative to change the world” as the founder of the ID House stated. UNITE 2030 is a global, virtual, 48-hour hackathon for positive social change. UNITE 2030 Summits are 100% online, and totally inclusive.





Recognition

Young Expert at the AU-EU Youth Cooperation Hub

Marilena Maragkou was selected among 1.700 applicants as a Young Expert in the cluster of Education at the [AU-EU Youth Cooperation Hub](#) because of her expertise and experience during WE AfriHug project. Marilena is responsible together with her team in the cluster of Education to create call for proposals in the field of Education, monitor and evaluate them for the



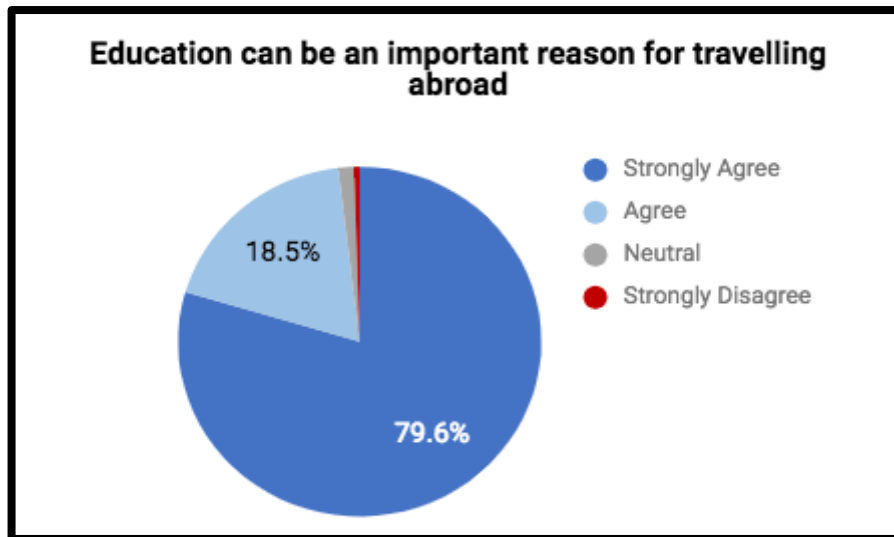
next 2 years until 2020. The AU-EU Youth Cooperation Hub, launched in October 2018, is about turning some ideas into reality; piloting them on a small scale but with maximum impact, visibility and result-evidence. With €10 million, civil society organisations, and 42 Young Experts from both continents as core drivers.

[AU-EU Youth Cooperation Hub Education](#)

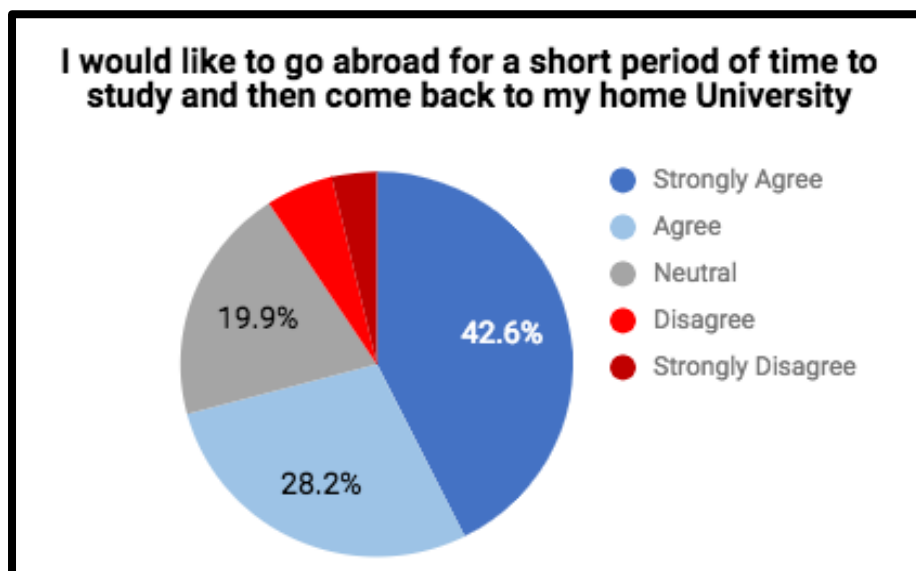
Evaluation Results

Evaluation from students from Higher Education Institutions

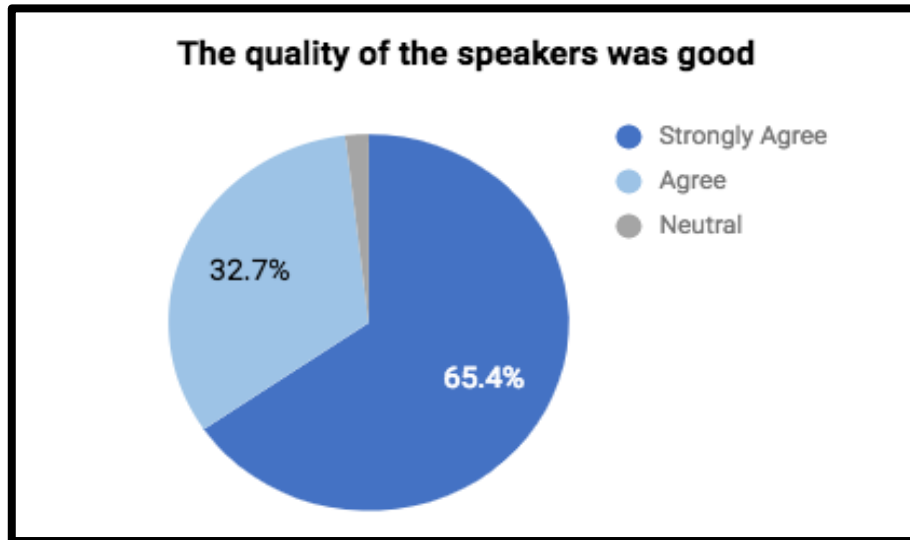
A Likert-Scale, open-ended questions as well as a simple Questionnaire was distributed to the students during the Erasmus+ Training Seminars, in order to explore the impact of WE AfriHug and also identify the educational need for mobility in their HEIs.



An impressive percentage of 98.1% of the students agreed that education can be an important reason for travelling abroad.



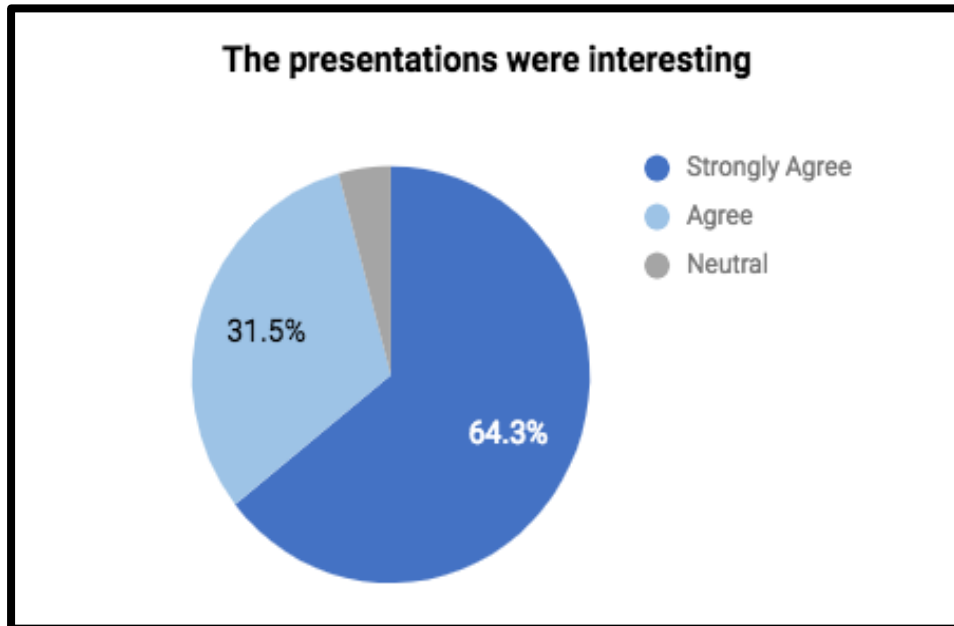
A percentage of 70.8% of the students agreed that they would like to go abroad for a short period of time and then come back to their home University.



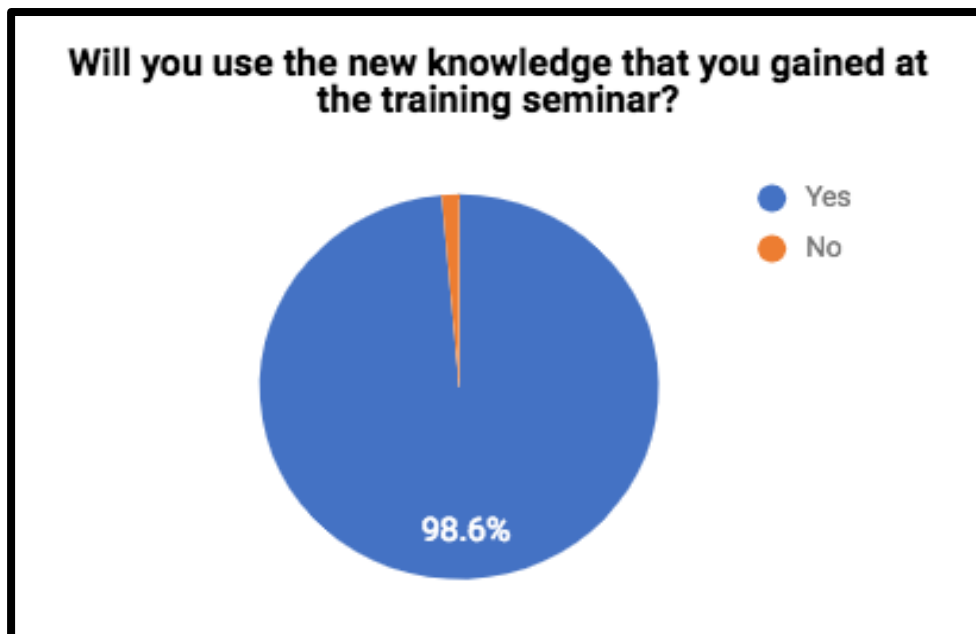
An impressive percentage of 58% of the students agreed that the quality of the speakers was good during the Training Seminars.



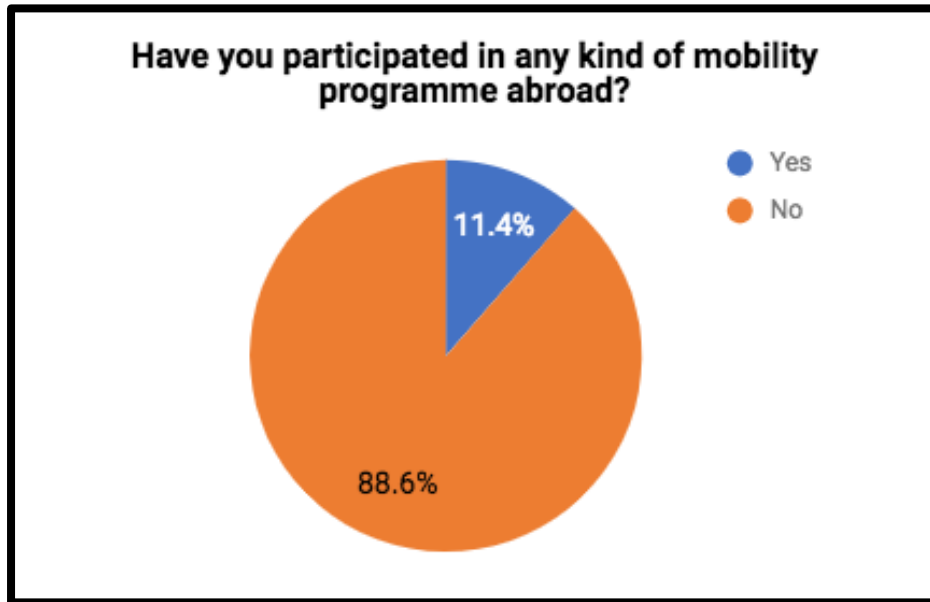
An impressive percentage of 97.7% of the students agreed that the Training Seminar improved their knowledge on the opportunities offered



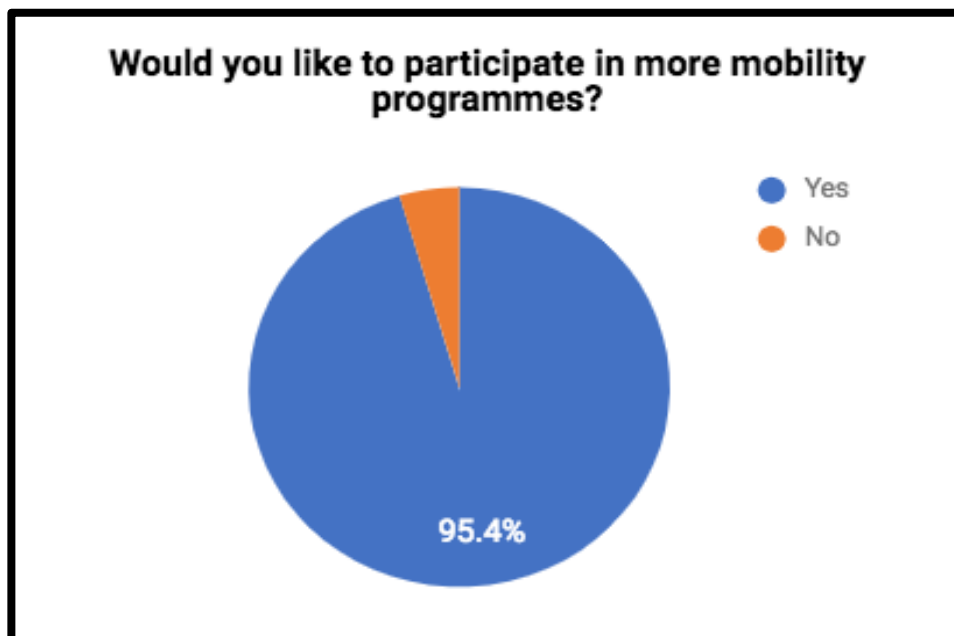
An impressive percentage of 95.8% of the students agreed that the presentations of the Training Seminars were interesting.



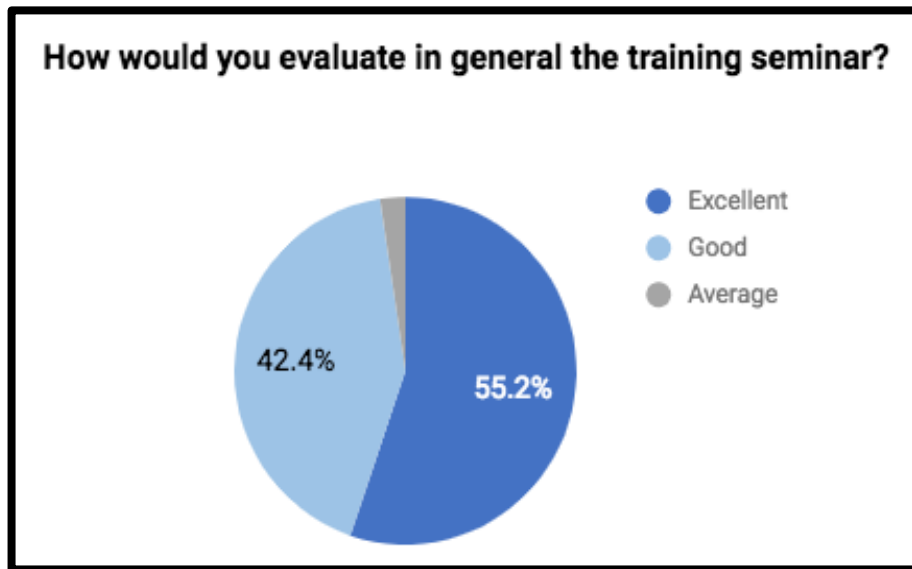
An impressive percentage of 98.6% of the students stated that they will use the knowledge gained during the Training Seminars.



A percentage of 88.6% of the students stated that they have not participated in any kind of mobility programme abroad.



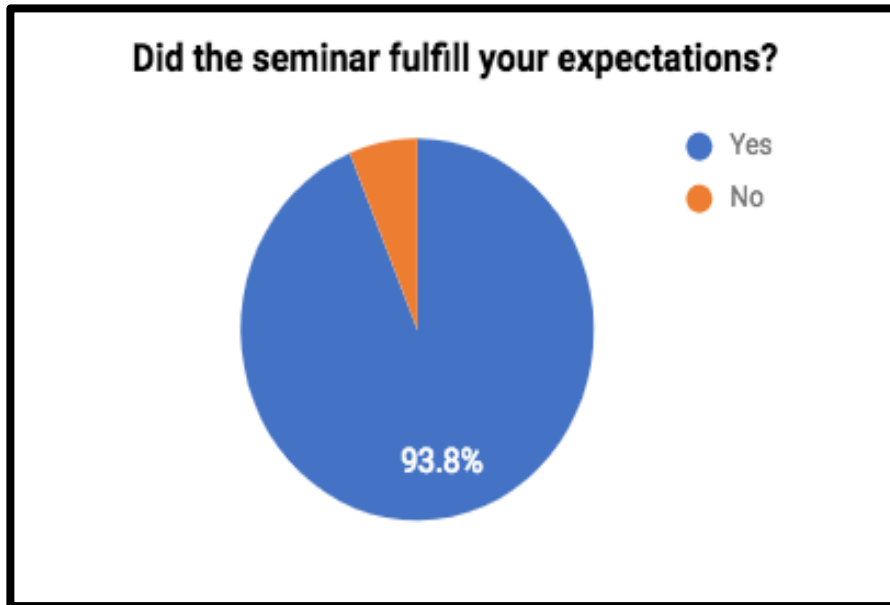
An impressive percentage of 95.4% of the students expressed their will to participate in mobility programmes.



An impressive percentage of 96.6% of the students stated that the Training Seminar they attended was really good.



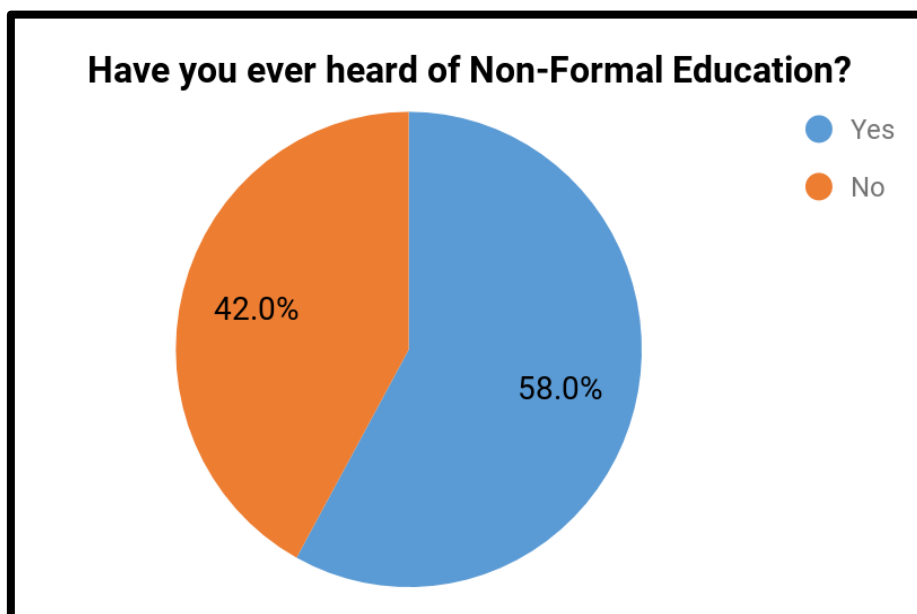
An impressive percentage of 94.7% of the students stated that the organization of the Training Seminar they attended was really good.



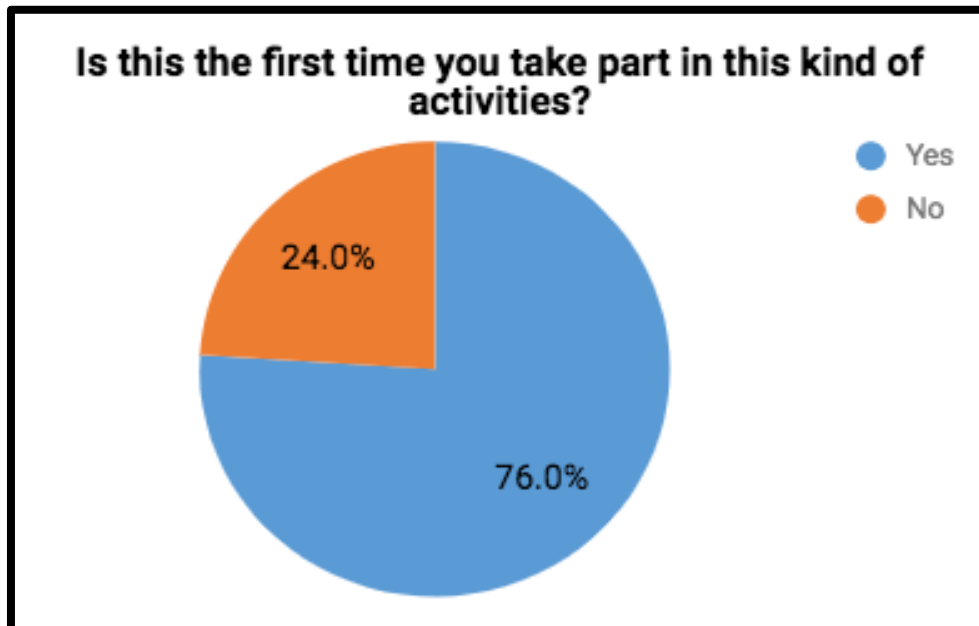
An impressive percentage of 93.8% of the students stated that the Training Seminar they attended fulfilled their expectations.

Evaluation from students from High-Schools

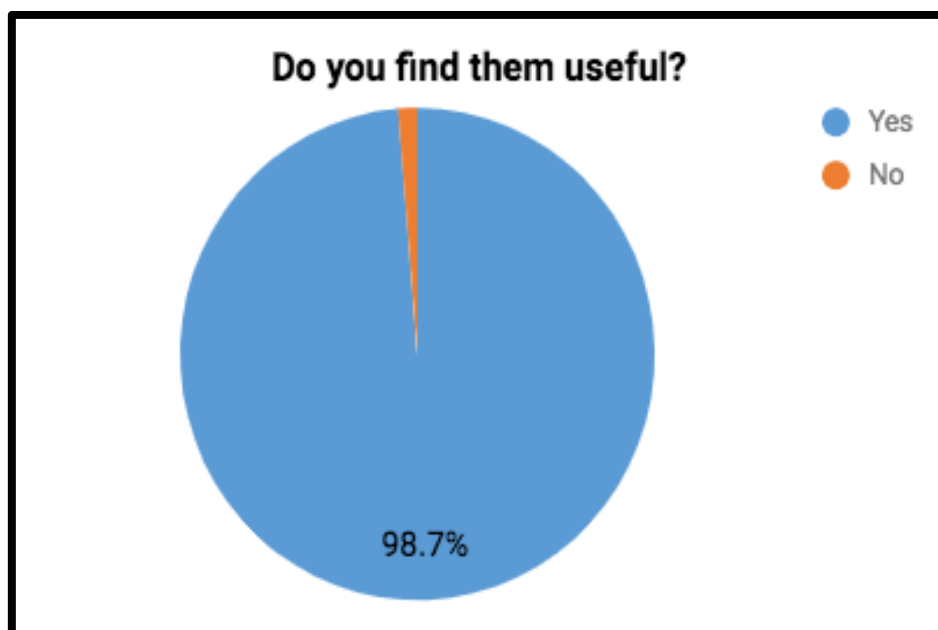
A Linkert-Scale, open-ended questions as well as a simple Questionnaire was distributed to the students during the Training Seminars, in order to explore the impact of WE AfriHug and also identify the educational need for Non-Formal Education in High-schools.



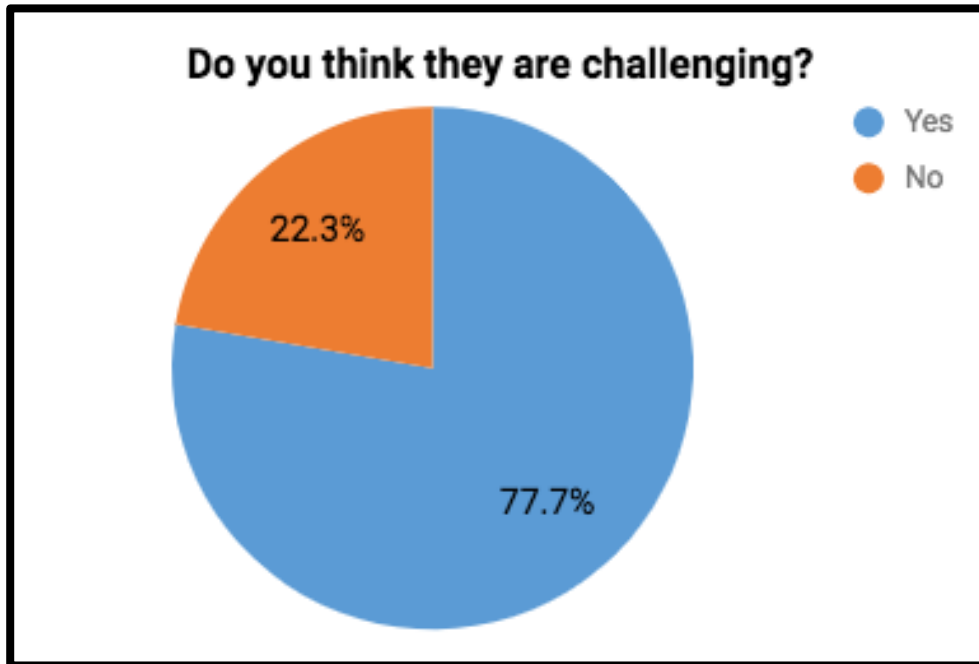
A percentage of 58% of the students stated that they have heard before the Non-Formal Education.



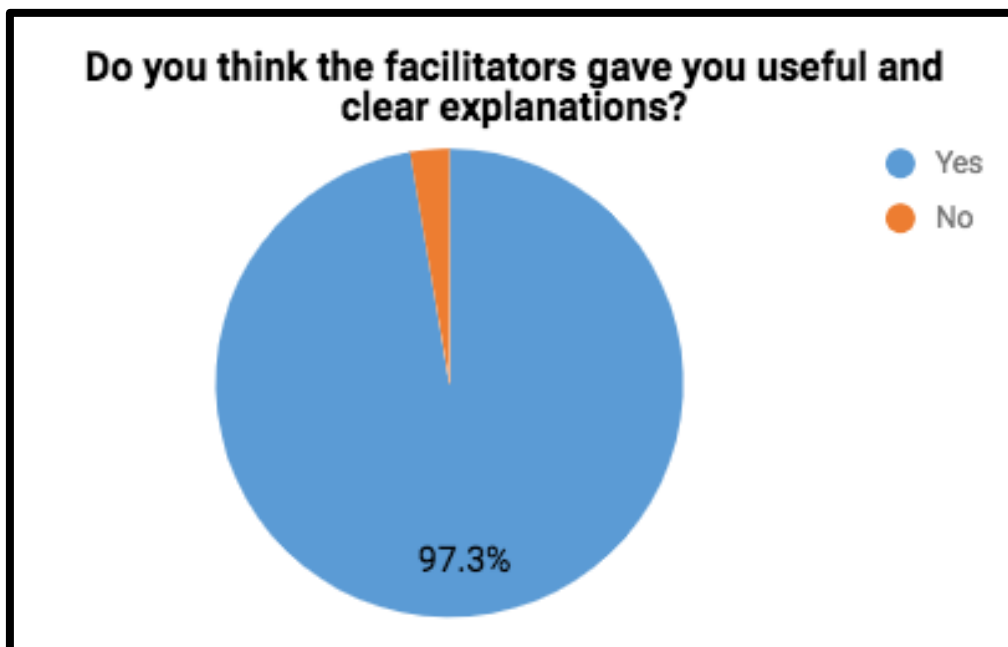
A percentage of 76% of the students stated that this was their first time taking part in this kind of activities.



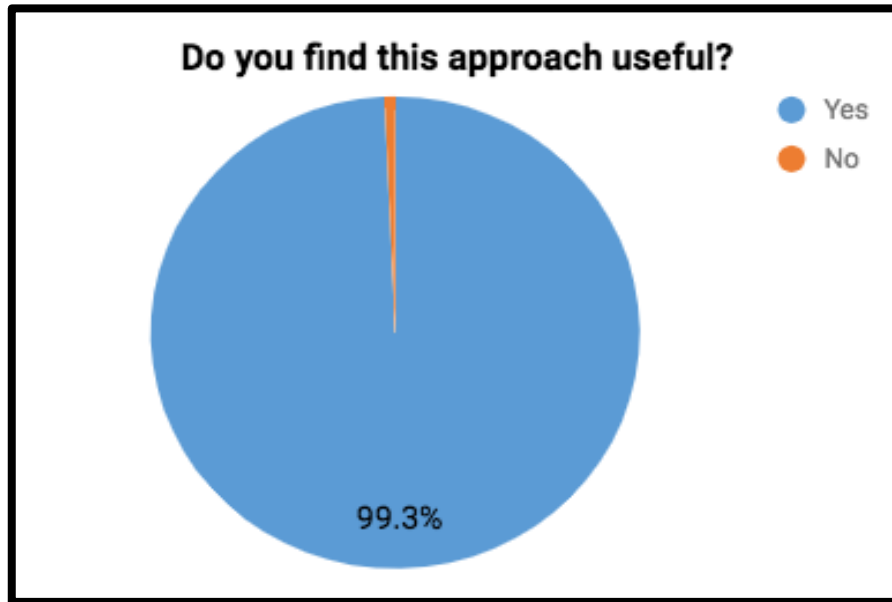
An impressive percentage of 98.7% of the students stated that they found this kind of activities useful.



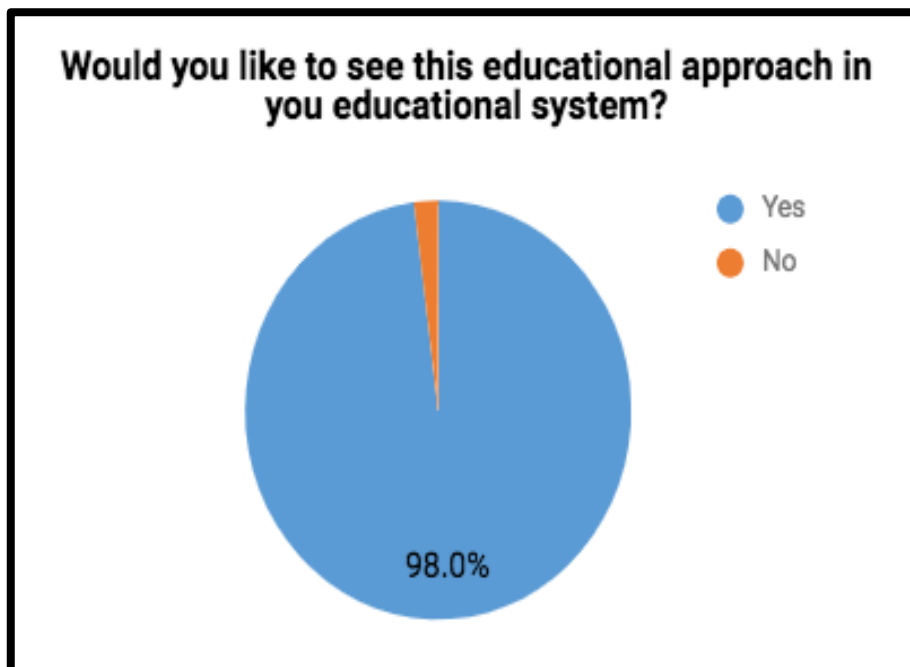
A percentage of 77.7% of the students stated that they found this kind of activities challenging.



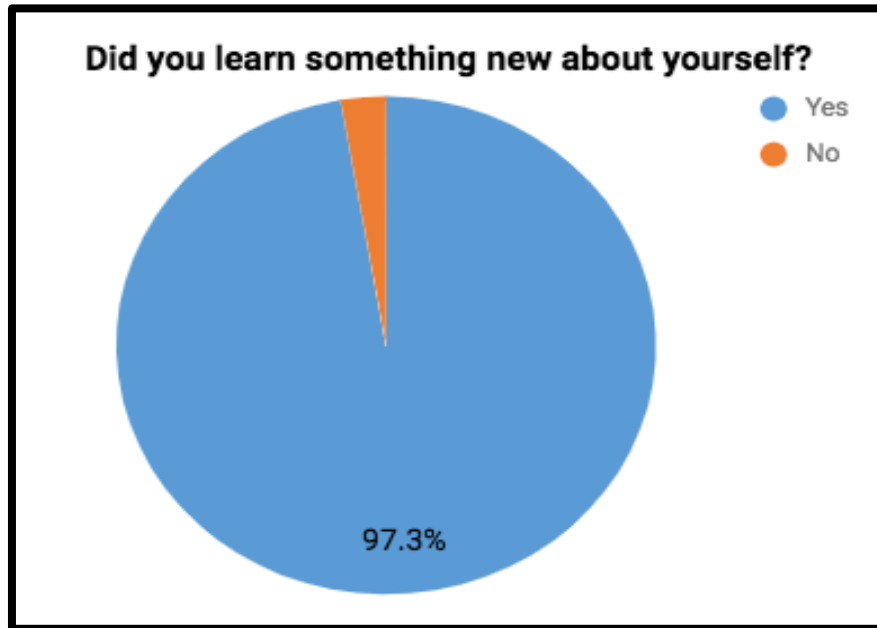
An impressive percentage of 97.3% of the students stated that the facilitators gave useful and clear explanations.



An impressive percentage of 99.3% of the students stated that they found this approach really useful.



An impressive percentage of 98% of the students stated that they would like to see this educational approach in their educational system.



An impressive percentage of 97.3% of the students stated that they learnt something new about themselves.



Sustainability of WE AfriHug project

1. Mobilities between Africa and Europe

The mobilities between the HEIs and CSOs constitute the tangible result of the solution and the feasible impact that WE AfriHug provides. Impact can be assessed from the one side from the number of applications submitted, then from the number of applications accepted and in the end from the number of the mobilities that took place from Africa to Europe and vice versa. Progress can be monitored by keeping in touch continuously with the already beneficiaries and the potential beneficiaries. A mentoring system will be created after a good number of beneficiaries, so that the multiplier effect will lead to greater progress and more beneficiaries.

2. Establishment of a legal entity

WE AfriHug team members decided to establish a legal entity, the "Youthmakers Hub" in order to continue the activities of WE AfriHug and receive European and International grants and awards. The new legal entity will be established in Greece and the main reason for its establishment is the participation in European and international projects in the field of education, youth empowerment, mobilities, culture, volunteerism, sports and entrepreneurship. The team is willing to contribute to the 17 SDGs and promote EU values and opportunities not only to EU citizens but also globally. The vision of the new organization is to make youth be the change they want to see in the world. WE AfriHug will be one of the projects of the new civil society organization and will continue its activities in Europe and Africa.

3. Development of more documentaries to showcase the impact from the African perspective

The team is already preparing a new documentary which will include the African perspective of people about WE AfriHug and its impact. The ambassadors of the project, the Academic staff, the students and the local partners will express their opinion about their involvement and participation and showcase the effect of the project to their lives. This documentary aims to raise the awareness of people about



the activities of the project and the impact on the local communities. This documentary will be disseminated in Europe and Africa.

4. Financial sustainability

The goal is clear, since we want to continue running WE AfriHug and accelerate the impact in more countries in Africa and Europe. Our initial goal is to receive financial awards, sponsorships, grants, European and international funds to continue implementing the project. We aim at doing more versions of WE AfriHug (ex. WE AfriHug 2019, WE AfriHug 2020 etc.) and get more beneficiaries. Our goal is to turn this voluntary initiative into a funded project that will continue changing lives and make the world better.



“WE AfriHug was just the beginning...”