

Third meeting of the Expert Group on the Mobility of Young Volunteers

Progress report

WG 1: Creating more opportunities for cross-border youth volunteering

Ondrej Lochman Ph.D.

National Institute of Children and Youth, Czech Republic



www.mladezvakci.cz

„Opportunity only knocks once“

???

www.mladezvakci.cz

Motivations and expectations

Brussels, 9.March 2010

- ➔ To look for appropriate **evaluation approaches** to demonstrate progress and justify the relevance of the implementation
- ➔ To run **mapping exercise** summing up examples of both existing and potential activities/projects/initiatives
- ➔ members of the group shall **commit themselves for a continuous work** and follow-up of the agreed activities

www.mladezvakci.cz

The basis

➔ Czech Presidency **Conference on Youth** in March 2009 in Prague (the Conference was meant as a “kick-off meeting” for the implementation of the Council Recommendation on the mobility of young volunteers across the European Union).

➔ **Key messages** of the conference

www.mladezvakci.cz

Local dimension

Exchange of volunteers within neighbouring regions of different countries

- ➔ short travel distances
 - ➔ cost-effective
 - ➔ short term activities
 - ➔ youngsters with fewer opportunities
 - ➔ closer knowledge of the neighbour's culture and language
- ➔ To support this process:
- Investment in networking, training and capacity building

www.mladezvakci.cz

Quality dimension

To ensure positive impact on both young volunteers and on local communities

- ➔ emphasis should be put on learning, support and guidance of the volunteers
- ➔ creative innovative approaches
- ➔ recognition of the voluntary experience
- ➔ sustainability of the impact

www.mladezvakci.cz

Synergic dimension

Opportunities for synergic actions:

- ➔ 2011 a European year of volunteering
- ➔ valuable good practices and resources: Youth in Action programme (especially Actions 2, 4 and partly 5)
- ➔ seek for other synergies at all relevant levels.

www.mladezvakci.cz

Activities/actions

- ➔ Launching of a **mapping exercise** of good practices in order to identify as many existing and potential opportunities for cross-border youth volunteering
- ➔ Establishing a **stable platform** (formal or informal) for coordination and implementation of the agreed actions/activities at national/regional level
- ➔ **Identifying and using synergies** at national/regional/local level

www.mladezvakci.cz

Offers and proposals

- ➔ Czech Republic representatives are open to clarify more about the outcomes of the Prague Conference (March 2009) if necessary
- ➔ The WG „create new opportunities is open for others to join

www.mladezvacki.cz

**“Opportunities always look bigger
going than coming”**

www.mladezvakci.cz



Ondrej Lochman, Ph.D.
Czech National Institute
of Children and Youth

ondrejlochman@gmail.com

4 your attention

www.mladezvakci.cz