



20 YEARS OF EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES FOR YOUTH



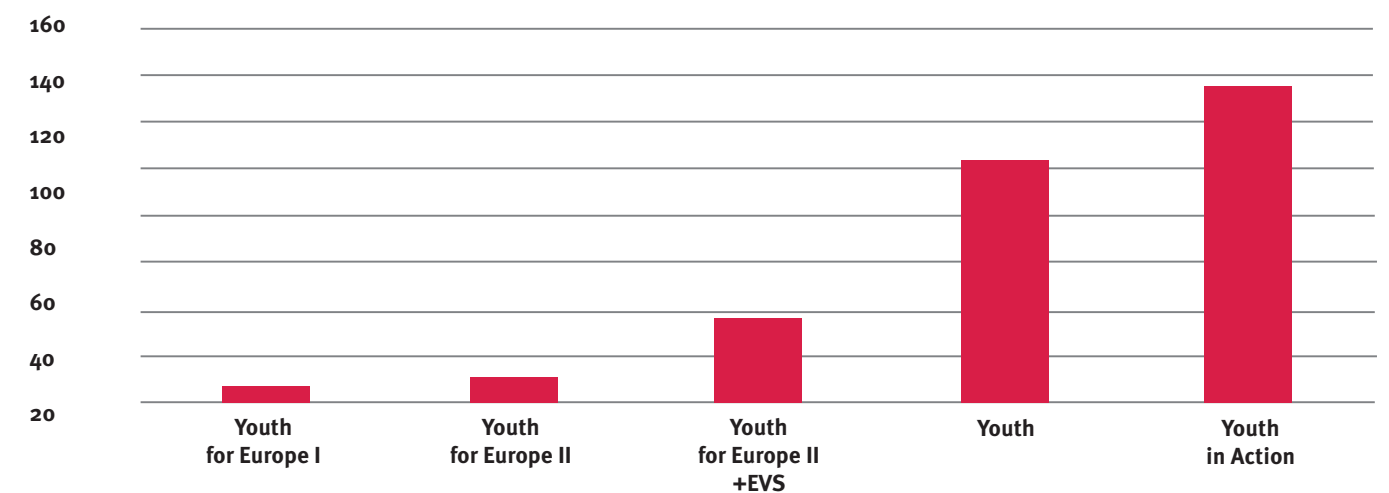
GENERAL STATISTICS OVER 20 YEARS

THE EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES IN SUPPORT OF YOUTH 1988-2008

Programme	Period	Budget allocations (MioEUR)	Number of participants (thousands)
Youth for Europe I	1988-1991	19,5	75
Youth for Europe II	1992-1994	31,6	75
Youth for Europe III	1995-1999	145,1	399
European Voluntary Service	1998-1999	48,4	5
Youth	2000-2006	715,7	852
Youth in Action	2007-2008*	269,1	234
Total in 20 years	1988-2008	1.229,4	1.639

* The programme will cover the whole period 2007-2013 - As for 2008: estimates

A CONTINUOUSLY INCREASING BUDGET WHICH REFLECTS A STRONG POLITICAL SUPPORT



Note: the former Programmes have regularly benefited from amendments in the course of the annual budgetary procedures; the budget for the current Youth in Action Programme has also been increased by the European Parliament by 1,5 MioEUR for 2008 and it should be increased by 3,0 MioEUR for 2009.

GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE YOUTH IN ACTION PROGRAMME FOR 2007

(NB: Figures in this section are estimates)

- Over 110 000 participants have participated.
- Among the participants, 51% were female.
- Nearly 30 000 participants with fewer opportunities took part in this first year of the Programme.
- More than 40 000 young people took part in a Youth exchange and almost 5 000 in a European voluntary service. Globally, almost 55 000 participants (over 60% of the total number of participants) have experienced mobility in the framework of the Programme through activities realised abroad.
- More than 20 000 youth workers have participated in the Programme.
- Nearly 11 000 young people and youth workers took part in more than 760 projects developed in cooperation with Partner countries.
- 83 European NGOs have received operating grants.

More information on what the Youth in Action Programme has to offer and the conditions for participation are available in the Programme Guide at the following address:
<http://ec.europa.eu/youth>





THE YOUTH PROGRAMME (2000-2006)

EVALUATION RESULTS

The “Youth” Community action programme covered the years 2000-2006. Its final evaluation has been published by the Commission in June 2008. This evaluation took notably into consideration the results of on line surveys which have permitted to collect the opinions of hundreds of young participants, youth workers and youth associations.

Here are some key messages stemming from this evaluation:

Clear positive impact could be found in the field of skills of the young people:

- 94% of the participants in youth exchanges state they have developed better communication skills and 91% of the volunteers better social skills;
- 86% of the participants in exchanges have learned at least some words of a new language and 90% of the volunteers have improved their command of foreign language during the service;
- 62% of participants in European voluntary service say that this participation has had an influence on their professional carrier; 56% consider that it provided them with better job opportunities.

Concerning European citizenship:

- 91% of the participants in youth exchanges and in European voluntary service state they have got, through the participation in a project, a better understanding of the cultural diversity of Europe;
- in both types of projects (youth exchanges and voluntary service), the youngsters have developed their feeling of European citizenship; after the project around 90% of the participants have stated that they consider themselves as European citizen;
- over 80% of the participants have stated that their participation in the project made them more active in youth, societal or political organisations;
- 90% of the young people in the youth exchanges (88% of the volunteers) have stated that they have become more tolerant towards other cultures or young people from other backgrounds.

Furthermore:

- nearly 75% of the participants in youth exchanges were for the first time in the country where the youth exchange took place. These mobility projects had also a significant influence on the intention to work in another country in the future: 81% of the volunteers stated this;
- 80% of participants in a Youth project feel a stronger sense of responsibility and 90% consider their participation has increased, at least partially, their sense of solidarity;
- 91% of the youth workers having participated in the programme consider that this represented, at least partially, an added value compared to other training they had received;
- 81% of the youth organisations involved in European voluntary service projects have maintained contacts with their partners in the projects, or at least some of them, after completions of the projects. 79% consider that the project led to an exchange of good practice.

THE YOUTH IN ACTION PROGRAMME (2007-2013)

GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROGRAMME

Duration: 2007-2013

Budget: EUR 885 million for seven years

Target group: 15-28 years old (in some cases 13-30), youth workers and youth organisations

Geographic reach:

- Programme Countries: the 27 EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Turkey (soon to be open to Croatia and FYROM)
- Partner Countries: Eastern Europe and Caucasus, Mediterranean countries, South East Europe countries
- Other partner countries of the world having signed an agreement with the EU relevant to the youth field

5 Objectives:

- promoting young people's active citizenship
- developing solidarity and tolerance
- fostering mutual understanding
- developing the quality of support systems for youth activities and youth organisations
- encouraging European co-operation in the youth field

5 ACTIONS:

ACTION 1

Youth for Europe
(supporting youth exchanges, youth initiatives and youth democracy projects)

ACTION 2

European Voluntary Service
(encouraging voluntary activities abroad to the benefit of local communities)

ACTION 3

Youth in the World
(exchanges, training, networking and cooperation with neighbouring countries and other partner countries of the world)

ACTION 4

Youth Support Systems
(promoting the development of exchange, training, networking and information schemes)

ACTION 5

European Cooperation in the youth field
(supporting youth policy cooperation development at European level)