



Learning Lab(Oratory)

QUALITY NON-FORMAL EDUCATION
IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

Training Course “Learning Lab(Oratory)”
organised in collaboration by SCI Poland and CVS-Bulgaria

7-14 July 2022

Emen village, Veliko Tarnovo region, BULGARIA

*for educators and trainers (also to-be trainers),
leaders, volunteers, and youth workers*

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

**from Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Germany,
North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Serbia and Slovenia**

APPLY BY 7.06.2022!



Co-funded by
the European Union

- ✓ Are you **interested** in non-formal education?
- ✓ Are you willing to develop your **facilitation** skills?
- ✓ Do you want to learn more about how to provide **high-quality non-formal activities** (workshops, webinars, workcamps, training courses...)?
- ✓ Are you motivated to explore more about **online facilitation and digital tools**?
- ✓ Are you committed to organising more **inclusive** educational events?
- ✓ Are you a **resident** of Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium, Germany, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Serbia or Slovenia?
- ✓ Are you ready to meet **amazing people from 9 countries**, make new friendships, and get inspired by their ideas and projects?
- ✓ Would you like to enjoy **nature** staying a week in a peaceful green environment and also having the possibility to explore the picturesque Veliko Tarnovo town?
- ✓ And all this **without any cost**?!

If your answers are "Yes, this is me!", then...

... we have an offer for you!! :-)

ABOUT US

Service Civil International is the oldest voluntary peace movement in the world, with over 100 years of experience. Our mission is to promote a culture of peace by organising international volunteering projects with local and global impact. We are present in 40 countries on 5 continents, and we cooperate with partners in almost all countries of the world.

Read more at <https://sci.ngo/>.



During over 100 years of operating globally, SCI has accumulated lots of expertise in non-formal education and peacebuilding, which had been recognised by many institutions, including UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

And do you know that SCI was even nominated numerous times for the Nobel Peace Prize?!

Stowarzyszenie Jeden Świat is the Polish branch of SCI. We combine international projects with local spirit and have 30 years of experience in peace work and non-formal education.

Learn more about us [here](#).

CVS-Bulgaria is the Bulgarian branch of SCI. CVS-Bulgaria promotes the development of societal values and encourages responsible behaviour towards peace, social justice, and nature protection culture. This is achieved by organising volunteer initiatives and educational programmes.

Learn more about CVS [here](#).

THE PROJECT IN SHORT



Learning Lab(atory)
QUALITY NON-FORMAL EDUCATION
IN THE DIGITAL WORLD

With the “**Learning Lab(atory) – quality non-formal education in the digital world**” project, we aim to improve the quality of the non-formal and informal learning aspects of volunteering activities in our organisations, in both physical and online formats.

Read more about our project [here](#) and have a look at the summary below!

The project has 5 main components:

1. Learning Lab(atory) Training Course (7-14 July 2022, Emen, Bulgaria)

Key aspects of the training: organising and running high-quality learning activities in both in-person and online environments, digital laboratory: gaining confidence in using various online tools, working on plans how to offer inclusive volunteering opportunities and reach new groups who could then strengthen your organisation as volunteers.

2. Three thematic webinars (May-October 2022)

Three online webinars with guest experts on topics related to visual facilitation, impact measurement, and inclusion of persons with fewer opportunities.

3. Learning Lab(atory) Pro Training Course (27 October - 3 November 2022, Poznań, Poland)

Key aspects of the training: reflecting on the learning experience, collecting good examples/practices, getting more in-depth on the topics of inclusion and blended and digital learning, new tools and trends in learning and development (e.g. Action Learning, gamification...), future steps (how to apply the knowledge and skills in practice), personal development of the trainers/educators (how to take care of ourselves and plan our learning path and growth), Open Space lab.

4. Practice time (July - December 2022)

Practising the learning moments in national teams, organising and running activities on a local level.

5. Facilitator’s Cards, Infographic for Inclusion and an Open Webinar (December 2022)

The *Facilitator’s cards* will be a checklist on how to organise a high-quality learning process.

Our *Infographic on Inclusion* will guide users on how to make non-formal learning activities more inclusive.

The *Open Webinar* will be an online event officially launching the tools and presenting their utility.

N.B. You can apply either for just **one** of the training courses or **both**.

THE TRAINING COURSE - Learning Lab(atory)

We are ready to invite you to join a one-week training course "Learning Lab(atory)", which will take place **between 7th and 14th July 2022** in Emen village, Veliko Tarnovo region, Bulgaria.

At the training course, you will:

- understand better what a quality non-formal learning is, what its elements are and how to provide such learning experiences to all young people,
- learn innovative methods for enhancing the learning processes directed towards young people,
- explore tools for supporting digital learning and online volunteering,
- find creative and engaging ways for turning regular educational activities into an online format,
- discuss how to provide more inclusive and versatile learning opportunities for young people, including such with fewer opportunities,
- exchange ideas, good practices, inspirations, and share resources,
- plan a follow-up action to take place in your local community upon the course completion.

The training programme can be found on the last page of this call.

All in all, we offer you **an excellent learning opportunity** that will support you to increase the quality of non-formal education activities you and your organisation are doing, and also **a unique networking experience** with fellow-minded people from across Europe.

Please read the following points to check if you are eligible to apply!

FOR WHOM?

Our ideal course participants are educators and trainers (also to-be trainers), leaders, volunteers, and youth workers with an interest in non-formal education, online learning and its applications in their work with young people.

The most important for us is your motivation and willingness to provide high quality non-formal education activities in online and in-person settings.



There are a few formal requirements you need to satisfy to join the training course:

1. You need to be a **resident of one of the 9 project countries** mentioned on the cover page.
2. You must be able to **communicate in English** (the working language of the course).
3. You must be **at least 18 years of age**.
4. You need to **attend the whole course duration** (there is no possibility to make exceptions).
5. You commit yourself to organise a **follow-up action** in your local community/country upon the course completion (it can be e.g. a workshop, workcamp, training or other educational activity).

We explicitly encourage participants of all genders, abilities and ethnic backgrounds to apply!

WHEN?

The training course will last 7 days.

You need to **arrive** to Veliko Tarnovo on **Thursday, 7th July 2022 before 4 p.m.**

The course finishes on 13th July, in the late evening, therefore, **departures** are planned for the **morning of Thursday, 14th July 2022.**

WHERE?

The training course will take place in Hotel Imenieto, which is situated in Emen (Bulgarian: Емен) - a small village located near the old Bulgarian capital - Veliko Tarnovo. The place is famous for the canyon and waterfalls nearby.

Veliko Tarnovo – unique in its architecture and historical importance – is only 20 km away.



The accommodation will be organized in double or triple rooms (in small family houses) which have a private bathroom, bed-linens and towels, and free Wi-Fi.



There are many possibilities to enjoy the free time in the place - table tennis, swimming pool, volleyball, walk in nature or just relax in the green garden.

METHODS

Our working methods will base on the principles of adult learning, creating a stress-free and motivating environment where the human brain has a full capacity to learn.

You will often work in smaller groups to achieve the best results.

All the methods will encourage active participation, creativity, initiative, and responsibility for one's learning process.

Our training courses are also very colourful, with many visuals used in the learning process. We include the proof! :)



MEET THE TRAINERS

We are happy to announce that the training course will be facilitated by experienced and certified trainers, experts in adult education, and – at the same time – peace activists. The main trainers will be:



Natalie Jivkova, Bulgaria:

I am a trainer and facilitator, passionate about non-formal learning and ways to support the learning process and personal development and growth of youngsters and adults. I have been involved in SCI activities on a local and international level since 2002. Since then, I have been working in various national and international projects - educational, environmental, social, for the youth, and peace.

I have vast experience in facilitating both in online and in-person settings as well as working with individuals and with groups of various sizes.

Happy to meet you soon!



Goška Tur, Poland:

I am a sociologist, trainer and educator, a certified member of the Polish Association of NGO Trainers and owner of Pracownia Interakcji training company. Between 2015 and 2020, I was the International President of SCI.

I love helping participants to learn, reflect and grow, and I've been doing it for more than 20 years now, specialising in adult education, peace and conflict resolution, and leadership, often in the form of long-term educational processes.

I work a lot online and [here](#) you can watch a recording of a series of webinars I ran last year on online facilitation.

Expect to learn much more at the training course! :)

There will be more experts involved, e.g. leading the sessions on social inclusion.

CERTIFICATES

You will be awarded a training completion certificate, issued by SCI Poland and CVS Bulgaria, and additionally, you will receive a Youthpass certificate.

FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

The food and accommodation as well as all organisational costs (additional insurance, training materials, etc.), will be fully covered thanks to the co-financing by the European Union.

NB. We run this project in a partnership between [SCI Austria](#), [SCI Belgium](#), [CVS-Bulgaria](#), [SCI Germany](#), [CID North Macedonia](#), [SCI Poland](#), [Para Onde? Portugal](#), [VCV Serbia](#) and [Zavod Voluntariat Slovenia](#).

Some of the partners may ask for a small sending fee to cover their placement costs.

Please check with the relevant organisation.

Reimbursement of the travel tickets will be 100% up to the maximum amounts after the receipt of original documents. Maximum travel reimbursement will be according to the Erasmus+ rates:

- travel by plane: distance 100-499 km up to 180 euro, 500-1999 km up to 275 euro,
- green travel (bus, train, car sharing): distance 100-499 km up to 210 euro, 500-1999 km up to 320 euro.

If you are from Austria, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia and you choose **green travel** (bus, train, car sharing), you can receive reimbursement of additional accommodation costs on the way to Emen, as well as reimbursement of small expenses made while travelling.

Even though this is not a “getting to know Bulgaria” project, **you may also stay in Bulgaria a few days before or after at your private expense**, as long as the travel cost is not higher than the cost which you would bear if coming only for course duration - otherwise you will be asked to cover the difference.

We do not cover the costs of COVID tests, should you need one.



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SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainable food: The food we provide will be vegetarian with vegan options. This is not just a practical decision, but also an ideological one: SCI believes in the values of sustainability and climate justice – and if we want to contribute to a more peaceful planet, we need to give up on animal agriculture and its destructive effects on our planet.

Sustainable travel: We encourage you to use environmentally friendly transport (bus, train, car sharing) when possible, and we will explicitly ask participants from Austria, North Macedonia, Serbia and Slovenia to choose this type of transport instead of a plane. Questions or doubts? Contact us!

HOW TO APPLY?

If you find yourself a suitable candidate for the course, please fill in the application form at <https://bit.ly/learninglabBG> by 7.06.2022, 23:59 CEST.

You will be notified of the selection results by 13.06.2022.

All those accepted will receive a detailed infosheet (including how to get to the venue, how to book your travel, more info about the agenda of the project).

We will support you in the pre-departure phase together with our project Partner Organisations.

MORE QUESTIONS?

If you have further questions regarding the project, you can write to us at learning@poland.sci.ngo.

We are looking forward to your application!

The coordinating team

Gośka Tur and Natalie Jivkova

P.S. And do not forget to have a look at the **Training Programme** on the next page!

See you hopefully in Bulgaria at the Learning Lab!

**Preliminary programme of the “Learning Lab(oratory)” Training Course by SCI Poland & CVS-Bulgaria
7-14.07.2022, Emen village, Veliko Tarnovo region, BULGARIA**

DAY	1 – Thu, 7.07	2 – Fri, 8.07	3 – Sat, 9.07	4 – Sun, 10.07	5 – Mon, 11.07	6 – Tue, 12.07	7 – Wed, 13.07
08:00-9:00		Breakfast at 8:00					
9:00-10:30		Project & Training Overview	Living in VUCA times My survival kit	Inclusive educational activities	In-person vs. Digital Learning	Facilitation techniques	From theory to practice: planning practice phase
10:30-11:00		Break					
11:00-12:30		E+ Programme Opportunities in the youth field Quality non-formal and informal learning	Role of a youth trainer Me as an educator of young people	Inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities (special guests)	Blended Learning	Successful online facilitation	From theory to practice: feedback on the practice phase ideas
12:30-14:00	Lunch at 13:00						
14:00-15:30	16:00 Meeting point in Veliko Tarnovo	Learning in our life	Learning cycle Learning zone	Free afternoon (possible visit to Veliko Tarnovo)	Digital tools I	Open Space - sessions and discussions depending on the needs and initiative of participants	What's next? Facilitator's Cards & Infographic for Inclusion
15:30-16:00	Break						
16:00-17:30	17:00 - Opening of the training & Getting to know the group and the place	Learning activities of our organisations	Team and their specificities Group dynamics	Free afternoon	Digital tools II Practice time	Open Space	Evaluation & Closure of the training
17:30-18:00		Reflection teams			Reflection teams		
18:00-20:00	Dinner at 19:00						
20:00- ∞	Welcome evening	Guess My Passion	Games? Games. Games!	Dinner out	Free evening	Chit-chat evening	<i>Here we go!</i> Party Certificate awarding ceremony

Departures from the training venue are foreseen for Wednesday, 14th July 2022, after breakfast.

The **final programme** may be slightly modified depending on the profile of selected participants and their specific needs and interests.