

PhotoVoice - Participation & Empowerment in Youth Work

REPORT | 2nd Transnational Project Meeting

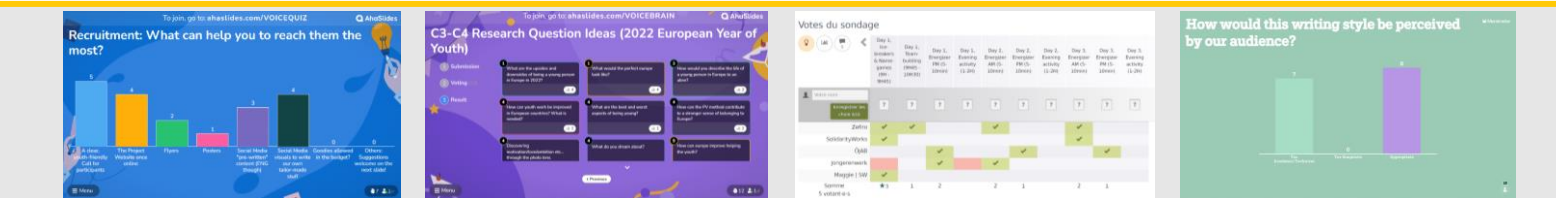
Online, 1-2 February 2022

Summary

On the 1st and 2nd of February, the VOICE partnership gathered for the 2nd time in all its diversity . Due to the evolution of the Covid-19 pandemic, the meeting was held online ... in a positive atmosphere nonetheless!



Partners from the youth & creative fields first **reviewed the progress** made so far. The spotlight was put on the **preparation of four Photovoice Trainings** for social work students planned mid-year, and the creative results their input will lead to: a **Video-tutorial** about the Photovoice method, a **Guide** tailored for students, a **Photo Exhibition** and **Policy Recommendations**.



This allowed partners to agree on a **detailed 2022 VOICE Calendar** and to discuss specific aspects of their collaboration. The **gathered input** will now allow all partners to make swift progress in their respective tasks while taking each other's needs & expertise into account!

[Key outcomes are highlighted](#) on the following page. For a broader overview of results, take a look at the Annexes!

Key Milestones

By the 3rd Project Meeting planned in September 2022, the partnership’s plans will follow three main phases summarized below. For the complete overview, [check our brand new “2022 Detailed VOICE Calendar” here!](#)

February – May | Before the Training

- Youth Partners will get prepared for the C1-C4 Trainings (Recruiting & Preparing participants, Programme & Logistics fine-tuning).
- Partners from the creative field will create the Project Website, as well as get prepared to film the Trainings.

May – July | C1-C4 Trainings

- Trainings in Lucca, 23-25 May (3 full days)
 - Training C1: 4 pax per Youth partner, 2 pax per Creative partner (BOGUS & Frissekom)
 - Training C2: 4 pax per Youth partner, 2 pax per Creative partner (BOGUS & Frissekom)
- Trainings in Vienna, 04-06 July (3 full days)
 - Training C3: 4 pax per Youth partner, 2 pax per Creative partner (FRAMEWORK & Semperia)
 - Training C4: 4 pax per Youth partner, 2 pax per Creative partner (FRAMEWORK & Semperia)

July – September | After the Trainings, “Local Photovoice Experiments”

- Youth Partners & C1-C4 participants will go through their own local Photovoice process with new participants.
- Creative Partners will join to film Photovoice activities in their local context.

Nota Bene #1: Each Training will involve different participants for a wider outreach.

Nota Bene #2: A co-facilitator is not yet secured for C4 in Vienna. Potential solution: a Partner staff taking part in C1-C2 to learn Photovoice could then become a facilitator in C3-C4 for an even stronger learning experience!

Communication Update

Google Group & Slack have been left aside, instead:

- elie.demerseman@yes-forum.eu is your “Single Window”!
- **Mailing List:** its updated version is now available to all partners if needed.
- **Shared Online Folder:** now created, it will gather all resources as they are made available to partners!

Dissemination

Partners should now **communicate** about project activities (meetings, recruitment, trainings ...) on a regular basis through their **Social Media, Websites & Newsletters** especially. Dissemination can’t wait until the Promotion Phase planned in early 2023!

To make your own reporting easier, fill this [Dissemination Listing regularly!](#)

Annex 1 - Agenda

Day 1 – Tuesday 1st February

10:00 -13:00	Welcome & Introductions
	Reconnecting with VOICE <i>Overview of 2021's progress, Updated Timeline and Partners' expected contributions, Focus on 2022's Plans</i>
	“Intercultural Collaboration”, the way forward! <i>Reflecting about best practices in an international environment and what they mean for VOICE.</i>
14:00 - 16:00	Focus on IO3, the “Photovoice Training Resource” <i>Presenting the current progress of this “Photovoice Guide” and gathering partners' input to fine-tune it to our target group's needs.</i>
	Trainings C1-C4, Plans & Partners' Input #1 <i>Presenting the current concept for all trainings, Gathering partners' ideas and feedback to adapt programme and activities to participants' needs.</i>

Day 2 – Wednesday 2nd February

10:00 -12:00	VOICE's Creative side <i>“Creative partners” share their ideas and plans for 2022 which will lead especially to a Video Tutorial (IO1) and PhotoVoice Exhibitions (IO2).</i>
13:00 – 16:00	Trainings C1-C4, Plans & Partners' Input #2 <i>Further discussions on the Photovoice Trainings' content with a focus on partners' ideas, wishes and contributions.</i>
	Financial Aspects & Miscellaneous <i>Financial outlook by YES Forum as coordinator, Briefing about financial reporting, Impact of the cancelled trips, Dissemination.</i>
	Conclusions & Next Steps!

Annex 2 - List of participants

Partner Organisation	Country	First Name	Surname
ÖJAB	AT	Sebastian	Frank
ÖJAB	AT	Oliver	Böck
Foundation SolidarityWorks	BG	Maggie	Nazer
Foundation SolidarityWorks	BG	Ilina	Stefanova
Semperia Films	BG	Katerina	Borisova
YES Forum	DE	Annett	Wiedermann
YES Forum	DE	Iliana	Petsa
YES Forum	DE	Cagla	Yildiz
YES Forum	DE	Olatz	Alonso
YES Forum	DE	Elie	Demerseman
FRAMEWORK	DE	Robin	Höft
FRAMEWORK	DE	Danny	Golebiewski
Zefiro	IT	Mirco	Trielli
Zefiro	IT	Maria	Pacini
Zefiro	IT	Chiara	Traversa
Zefiro	IT	Nell	Carême
BOGUS SNC	IT	Isadora	Ongini
BOGUS SNC	IT	Michele	Bellana
Jongerenwerk Barkema & de Haan	NL	Ronald	de Haan
Jongerenwerk Barkema & de Haan	NL	Manon	Luchtenburg
Frissekom	NL	Jeroen	van der Meulen

Annex 3 – Results’ detailed overview

Day 1 - Reconnecting with VOICE

The meeting started with updates on staff changes and the online collaboration tools used so far. Participants then reviewed the progress made on all Intellectual Outputs (IOs) and the C1-C4 Trainings in 2021. The first months focused on laying the ground for the most concrete activities planned in 2022, which led to the discussion of a more detailed “VOICE Calendar” for this year.

Noteworthy remarks and questions:

- [Sofia’s TPM was cancelled](#): what about organizing another TPM there with the remaining budget?

Day 1 – “Intercultural collaboration”, the way forward!

Participants reflected about what the intercultural aspect of the project means for their own collaboration. Interculturality’s benefits & obstacles were covered, with one overarching message: [awareness of interculturality is the first step towards overcoming its difficulties!](#) It indeed fosters common [understanding](#), [honesty](#) and [transparency](#), and [empathy](#), all much needed in the context of online collaboration!

Day 1 – Focus on IO3, the “Photovoice Training Resource”

The next session focused on IO3, a Guide which will teach the Photovoice method and be tailored to the needs of social work students and social workers in Europe. YES Forum presented an early concept and gathered feedback from partners to calibrate the next writing phase as closely as possible to the target group’s needs.

- [Language: Half of the partners thought the provided text extracts were too academic, the other half thought it was appropriate.](#) While this reflects different expectations explained by the diversity of the target group, this may not be an issue: YES Forum will strive for the most youth-friendly and accessible language overall, but will also include different levels of complexity to accommodate different needs: e.g. [Chapter 1 will be more academic](#) since about theory and research but robust scientific content is needed for students & universities, while [Chapter 4 will be about more actionable, practical content](#) (activities outlines) for readers searching for ready-to-use material!
- [Length: the suggested total length of 50 pages also split partners 50/50.](#) A compromise may be reached by [aiming for a total of 40 pages](#), 20 covering the most theoretical aspects (Chapters 1 to 3), and the 20 last focused on concrete material (Chapter 4). [Chapter 3.2 especially can be kept short](#) for now, providing bullet points to help social workers advocate on their own for Photovoice, but developing these thoughts in IO4 later on.
- [Sharing the workload: YES Forum has the lead on this IO and will draft its content.](#) Graphic design will involve BOGUS among creative partners mostly. To reach the most youth-friendly language possible, [Youth partners’ expertise](#) will also be used not only by gathering indirect feedback (e.g. through using the Photovoice guide in [Local Photovoice Experiments as a test](#)), but also asking for more [direct feedback](#) (e.g. each partner editing/proof-reading a few pages, which can also involve young people!).

Day 1 & Day 2- Trainings C1-C4, Plans & Partners’ Input

General Concept & Draft Programme

The YES Forum presented the general concept of the C1-C4 Trainings, their imbrication in the year’s overall programme, and their follow-up Local Photovoice Experiments by youth partners with their participants. A [Draft Programme Layout can be checked here](#). The main highlights of this presentation are on page 2.

Recruitment Process

A specific session addressed the crucial step of the participants’ recruitment. Q&A allowed partners to fine-tune the plans to their own context.

- ÖJAB suggested to make it explicit during the recruitment that [participants must commit to take part in 1 Preparatory Meeting, 1 Training, and the follow-up](#) Local Photovoice Experiment.
- Specifics on the [preparation: Guidelines will be provided](#); overall [one meeting at least](#) is expected but more are possible to adapt to participants’ needs. It should cover (1) [Creating a group atmosphere](#), (2) [Preparing for the trip](#) and its intercultural aspects, (3) [Getting basic information](#) on VOICE and Photovoice and (4) [Making participants comfortable with being filmed](#).
- [Partners’ wishes for the “Recruitment Toolkit”](#) to finalize, in order of priority:
 1. A clear, youth-friendly Call for Participants
 2. The Project Website
 3. Social Media visuals to write their own tailor-made content
 4. Social Media “pre-written” content in English
 5. Flyers
 6. Posters
 7. A ready-to-use, pre-filled PPT in English
 8. A promotional video

Participants’ Profile “Pop Quiz”

YES Forum and partners assessed a more precise “participant’s profile” to fine-tune the Trainings accordingly:

- [3 Students / 1 Staff](#) is the expected ratio in each training for all partners;
- Students will come from [Universities and Vocational schools both](#);
- The setting can involve a [balanced mix of non-formal and formal methods](#) both.
- Most students will have an [intermediate level](#) (2nd or 3rd year);
- [B1-B2](#) is the expected average English level in most groups;
- “Fewer opportunities”: participants will come from disadvantaged backgrounds, with a majority encountering [Cultural differences, Economic obstacles and Geographical obstacles](#);
- Reading Assignment: Participants could [reasonably be asked to read ca. 10 pages](#) before Trainings;

Hosts: Logistics & Covid-19

ÖJAB has secured accommodation and venues for [C3 & C4 groups in the same student house in Vienna](#). Meals will be provided, except for dinners on Day 2 & 3.

Zefiro will settle last details soon for C1 & C2 groups, aiming for [2 hotels and 2 venues very close](#) to each other.

Extra costs: Covid-19 explains higher costs for the hosts, and why the Erasmus+ budget can’t cover 100% of costs. Solutions will be discussed with one [red line in any case: participants themselves will not pay anything](#).

Brainstorming on potential Photovoice Research questions

Partners brainstormed on possible topics/questions to link C1-C2 with the 20th YES Forum anniversary & C3-C4 with the European Year of Youth. Results [can be found here](#) and will feed into the Trainings’ fine-tuning.

Partners’ Contributions

[Partners shared some responsibilities in the Trainings’ programme](#) as a way to make them more participative and interactive, while showcasing the diversity of youth work in the EU and empowering the students themselves. This will feed into the programme fine-tuning.

Remarks on the Evenings’ activities:

- Day 1: a “mandatory” evening activity, but rather short (e.g. 1H), ideally outdoor (seaside in Lucca?!). Could simply be a “touristic info-point” to give participants tips on what they can enjoy in the evening, and let small groups plan together.
- Day 2 & 3: Optional, very small and flexible activities. Maybe having a movie ready in case some participants want to share time together but don’t feel like going out (it happens yup!).

Day 2 – VOICE’s Creative Side

Creative Partners’ Presentation

The team of Creative partners presented their progress so far and discussed their needs from the whole partnership such as:

- [IO1 Feedback: 7min may be slightly too long](#). IO1 should be first and foremost the planned Video-tutorial, and could be complemented by very short snippets in partners’ mother tongues working as an “appetizer” leading to IO1 provided enough budget remains then.
- [C1-C4 Trainings’ Filming: the Creative team should come up with a list of needed material](#), so that hosts can check whether it can be provided on-site or brought.

Closer collaboration among Creative & Youth Partners’ “Matching Pairs”

Each pair of Youth and Creative partners took time to discuss their collaboration in more details, and especially fine-tune the general plans to their local context.

All matching pairs agreed to involve the Creative partners in the participants’ preparation, especially to give tips to take quality pictures to participants, and make them comfortable with being filmed during the trainings.

Day 2 – Finances & Miscellaneous

[Finances: Unfortunately, the YES Forum staff in charge of VOICE finances was tested positive](#) to the Covid-19 at the last minute. Q&A helped partners with the main questions and planned a future 1H Zoom to catch up with remaining questions.

[Dissemination: partners were reminded](#) about the importance of communicating about the project long before its official “Showcase Phase” in 2023. They all agreed it would come naturally and be much needed for the participants’ recruitment in any case.