

TOOLKIT

STORIES OF OPPORTUNITIES

1. Name of the Activity:

Stories of opportunities

2. Objectives:

- To spread knowledge among the young generation about different youth activities/opportunities which could help their personal development.
- To highlight and promote stories of youths who have successfully participated in EU activities.
- To overcome stereotypes and prejudices by providing an opportunity for people to interact with the “living book” while they share their personal stories and experiences.
- To increase awareness about different youth opportunities offered through the European Youth Portal and SALTO Youth, including internships, workshops, grants, and training programs.
- To explore opportunities to collaborate with organizations listed on the above mentioned platforms to foster relationships and explore a broader range of opportunities for the young.
- To create an inclusive environment where everyone’s story is valued and foster a sense of community by bringing people together to share and learn from each other’s experiences thus contributing to a more accepting and diverse society.

3. Target Group / Group Size:

18 – 24-year-old young adults unfamiliar with EU job and educational opportunities/
20 participants

4. Duration: 2 hours

5. Materials Needed: speaker, microphone, laptop/smartphone

6. Instructions (Step-by-Step Implementations):

- Introduction (5 minutes): Welcome participants and explain the objectives of the workshop.
- Expectations (10 minutes): Have the participants open Mentimeter (*refer to key point 10) and brainstorm 3 words about their expectations. Have a short discussion.

- FIRST ACTIVITY: LIVING LIBRARY

1. Planning (before the activity):

- Determine the number of "living books" participating and the duration of each session. Have at least 2 experienced people in Erasmus+ activities and youth opportunities. They should present Youth exchanges, Training courses

and International voluntary service programmes. Living books will rotate to different virtual rooms after each session.

- Set a date and time for the event.
- Choose a suitable video conferencing platform (e.g., Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Google Meet) for the interactions.

2. Participant Registration:

- Create a registration page or form with details about the event and living books.

3. Pre-Event Communication:

- Provide clear instructions on how to join the video conferencing platform and what to expect during the interactions.
- Remind participants of the event date and time.

4. Tech Setup and Rehearsal:

- Conduct a technical rehearsal with living books to ensure they are comfortable with the video conferencing platform.
- Address any technical issues or concerns.

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1. Event Day (5-10 minutes)

- Open the video conference platform and create separate "rooms" or meeting links for each living book.
- Have a moderator or organizer available to assist participants with any technical difficulties and guide them to their chosen living books' rooms.

2. Interactions (up to 45 minutes)

- Participants will be randomly divided into 2 or 3 small groups. Each group will join a virtual room of one living book at their scheduled time. After the "story" has finished, an interaction period follows and then each living book will be transferred to a different virtual room.
- Living books and participants engage in one-on-one conversations based on the living book's story or expertise.
- Set a time limit (15 minutes) for each story (including interaction time) to ensure all participants have a chance to engage.

3. Promotion and Documentation (5 minutes)

- Share highlights and testimonials from participants and living books on social media or your organization's website.
- Record the sessions (with participant consent) for future reference or promotion.

- SECOND ACTIVITY: Exploring the European Youth Portal & SALTO Youth Website Registration Workshop

PREPARATION:

Prepare a list of the activity on Mural (*refer to key point 10) related to the European Youth Portal & SALTO Youth Website to give to participants.

1. Introduction (5 mins)

- Welcome participants and introduce the topic and Mural.

2. Understanding the European Youth Portal and SALTO Youth Website

- Participants are divided into 2 groups and each is given a link to one of the websites and to the interactive Mural board where they can find a set of questions, instructions and feedback notes to work on throughout the activity.

- Research and answers – 10 minutes
- Detailed information on the topics mentioned. The facilitator gives an overview of the European Youth Portal and its significance, explaining its features and available opportunities. – 10 minutes
- Self-correction on behalf of participants – 5 minutes
- Feedback – 15 minutes
 - ➔ Interactive session between all participants and the facilitator to give explanation on answers and provide meaningful responses to their choices (example: what factors determined their answers and further correction).
- Benefits of Dual Registration – 5 minutes
 - Discuss how registering on both platforms enhances opportunities.
 - Illustrate cases of successful collaborations.
 - Provide guidance on how participants can explore further opportunities.
- Step-by-Step Registration on both websites– 10 minutes
 - Live demonstration and guidance for the sites
 - A walkthrough of the registration process
 - Tips for creating an appealing profile
- Q&A Session - 10 minutes
 - Answer participants' questions related to registration, platform features, and potential use cases.
- Conclusion
 - Thank participants for their attendance and interest.

European Youth Portal:

The European Youth Portal is a comprehensive online platform designed to empower young individuals across Europe. It provides a central hub for youth-related information, opportunities, and resources. From job opportunities to education, volunteering, and travel, the portal serves as a gateway to various avenues for personal and professional growth.

SALTO Youth:

SALTO Youth is a valuable resource for youth workers, educators, and young leaders. It offers a range of training and support activities to enhance youth development projects. From training courses and seminars to tools and publications, SALTO Youth equips youth workers with the tools they need to inspire and guide the next generation effectively.

7. Suggestions or Tips for Facilitators:

- Give clear explanation to all the participants.
- Have the living books improve their storytelling skills prior to the Living library.
- Engage the audience.
- Get knowledge about online platforms registration process.

8. Debriefing and Evaluation:

- What are the key takeaways from the workshop on youth opportunities though Erasmus+, SALTO and EYP?
- Which youth activities you would be eager to join in the future? How do you think they will benefit you in your personal life?
- Were there any specific stories or experiences shared by the living books that left a lasting impression on you?
- In what way was the workshop inspirational?

9. Annexes:

- Prepared stories from the experience of the living books;
- Questions that will be on the Mural interactive board:

1. What is SALTO-youth and its primary mission or purpose?
2. How does SALTO-youth engage with young people and communities?
3. Could you explain the key activities or programs that SALTO-youth offers?
4. What impact has SALTO-youth had on youth empowerment and development?
5. Are there any notable partnerships or collaborations that SALTO-youth is involved in to achieve its goals?

1. What is the European Youth Portal and what are its main objectives?
2. How does the European Youth Portal provide information and resources to young people?
3. Can you describe some of the key features or sections available on the European Youth Portal?

4. What role does the European Youth Portal play in promoting youth participation and active citizenship?

5. Are there any specific success stories or initiatives that highlight the impact of the European Youth Portal on the lives of young people?

10. **Sources of Knowledge:**

SALTO - <https://www.salto-youth.net/>

European Youth Portal - <https://youth.europa.eu/>

Erasmus+ - <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/>

Mentimeter - <https://www.mentimeter.com>

Mural - <https://www.mural.co>