

Center for youth activism KRIK
Guangzhou Yuexiu District Nurturing Relationship
Education Support Centre
Report on 2017 EU-China NGO Twinning Program

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Brief description of exchange purpose/projects.

The significance of the topic providing direct support to young people and children with disabilities and continue advocacy towards decision makers and service providers to better fulfill the needs of people with disabilities. Raise public and stakeholders' awareness for young people with disabilities that they have rights and needs in relation to gender and sexuality in sexuality education. Promote sexual and reproductive health and gender equality among the public, work in mix groups (young people with and without disabilities) in order to succeed social inclusion.

**Sanja Mihajlovska, Center for youth activism KRIK, Skopje,
Macedonia**

25.09-24.10.2017 Guangzhou, China

Introduction (Objectives, expectations)

The main objects of this project was to experience how we work in the same sector with people with disabilities but on different countries, and to compare the methods and the situation of gender on the field. The expectations of this process was to see and learn about totally different culture of mine, to gain knowledge and partners, and to test my capability of adopting in their society and work, because I considerate that is very different then the Balkan.

Activities

My activates I'll separate in 4 sectors:

- First the office work where we were discussing and exchanging methods of work, especially with the new internists of NRC which were eager to hear how we are function in Macedonia.

- The second is visiting partners Guided by my partner Mag I've visited organization who are working on gender issues, sexual education, lgbt community, organization who are working with people with disabilities, and organization who are working on preventing STI and STD. This part of my stay in China was very useful for me despite the connections I've made all over Guangzhou and the region I learn a lot about how is the situation in this field, and a lots of working techniques which can be used also in Balkans, and in my mind I formed couple ideas for future project and impacts.

- The third sector is observing and working in the Children Palace (a place where NRC is going ones per week and have sexuality workshops for autistic kids). It was very surprising to see how every kid have one volunteer next to him/her. That luxury of a lot of volunteers we don't have it in Macedonia. After the workshops we had meetings with the whole stuff and I gain a lots of interesting point of views how to work with people with autism and to compare with my country where we are putting the key note what feeling means and what does it mean to be in love with someone and what does it mean to be intimate with someone and like a last part is how properly to use protection, and their key note is how to protect them self's in terms of sexual assault.

I was twice invited in a foundation for supporting parents with kids with autism where I had the best time of my exchange. It was real Chinese family experience

which I appreciated the most. Among the family experience like exchanging culture values and learning the Chinese cuisine I had the opportunity to spend 2 whole days with a kid with autism and to interact and play with him.

-The last part is me being a guest speaker. First I was a guest speaker in a university on the sexuality class where I present my program for gender, and unfortunately the low gender balance in Macedonia.

After I was a guest speaker in a book club for feminism. Where mainly I bring the situation for females in Macedonia, the abortion law and similar.

-In the end I'll add like my personal experience I took part of interviews of one journalist where she was making her second book for ordinary people outside of China, who we see China and how is our live in our countries, specially being a women.





Outcome and Impact

(What were the concrete results and accomplishments of the exchange?)

The disappearing of my exchange partner was very difficult in the beginning but luckily I was in constant contact with the partner NRC and Mag which is very capable and friendly person, also the feeling that I had constantly the money of Su was very unpleasant feeling but from this I think I build myself even more like

responsible person and learn to deal with situations of this type. The difference between the cultures had very big impact on me. To see and feel what they value in life is amusing and I think this had a huge influence on my life. When I come back I took the courage to quit my job where I wasn't paid enough. Found a new better paid job and again I'm again working with young people with fewer opportunities where I think I'm making more differences in the society then previously and also I open my own NGO where I put the main goal human rights and right to sexual education, as well as female rights and freedom through gender equality, as a product from the twinning exchange.

Future Plans and Sustainability of the Partnership

We had 2 possible follow up projects in mind with Mag from NRC, but we decided not to proceed right now with them. I'm hoping that with my NGO we will continue the collaboration and to have long term partnership.

Yanwen Su, Guangzhou Yuexiu District Nurturing Relationship Education Support Centre, Guangzhou, China

20.06-27.07.2017 Skopje, Macedonia

Activities

-First activity for Su was the conference in Sofia, Bulgaria where I was the official representative of Krik. The event was Dissemination of project results ERASMUS4VIP part of ERASMUS +, KA2 Strategic Partnership Project. Su had the opportunity to see what are the problems of visual impaired persons on the Balkans and how we are dealing with it, to experience how to write on the Braille machine. And also to see the module of Erasmus+ program.

-In the office me and Su we mostly were working on exchanging working methods and materials for gender from my side, and from her side how they work with parents with kids with disabilities about the sexuality in China. Also she was preparing one workshop for sexuality for the summer camp.

-Attending on the green action "Мрдни со прст/Move with your fingers" where the local community is visiting areas and cleaning them and promotion of recycling. On the action there is also music in order the action to be more

interesting and more people especially young people to get involve.

-Attending and participating on Summer Camp for young people with and without disabilities from Macedonia, France and Belgium. The main goal of the summer camp was social inclusion and through social inclusion to teach them about gender equality and sexual and reproductive health. Su prepared one session for sexuality and also she was included in the workshop different culture where she explain what are the customs of one Chinese wedding.

-In Skopje Su visited different partner organizations which are connected with lgbt community and sexual education, as well as youth centers for kids of fewer opportunities areas or families.

-Su was invited in my home for lunch to experience the Macedonian lunch family and friends time and the cuisine.





For more information, please contact contact Stiftung Asienhaus-China Program and request access to in-depth twinning reports.