

1. Start - Basic information

1.1. Project information

Project title CreaTeams in Library

Project number NPAD-2017/10021

1.2. Access to the report

Editor access

Read only access

2. Institutions

2.1. Coordinating institution

Name coordinating institution

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Type of institution: Other

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2.2. Partner institutions

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3.Gen. info. - General information

3.1. Type of project

Type of project: Collaboration project

Thematic network

Project period 09/2017 - 09/2018

4.Content report

4.1.Objectives & activities

4.1.1. Objectives

Objectives 5. Completely

Objectives

The aim of the "CreaTeams in Library" project was to bring more competence and knowledge to the library professionals and NGO workers. Especially in order to support customers' efforts and skills in life-long learning and active citizenship. This increase of competence was planned to implement with learning by doing method and trained by producing experimental and cross border measures.

The results on how to learn transnational cooperation were successful. With Nordic-Baltic partnership functioning well, transnational and innovative thematic network named "CreaTeams in Library", was developed.

The project was carried out as planned without major deviations.

Activities 4. Mostly

Activities

Project's activities (transnational meetings, national mid-term meetings, communication between the meetings and experimenting cross border and cross sectoral measures) were carried out as planned.

A few deviation was related to the number of mobilities at each meeting.

- At the first meeting in Denmark there were no participants (planned 2) from the National Library of Latvia (for administrative reasons). Therefore there were four participants (planned 2) from the Turku City Library at the third meeting in Latvia.

- At the Turku Meeting there were only one participant (planned 2) from Vaggeryd Library (for healthy reasons), but three participants from Sweden (planned 2) attended to the last meeting in Latvia.

In the end, all grants for transnational meetings were used as planned.

NOTE!

An explanation of how we have used English words in this report. We hope that the definitions below clarify the terms.

PARTNER - PARTICIPANTS (- CUSTOMERS)

When using the word partner, we mean partner organizations.

When using the word participant, we mean a person/employee (from partner organization).

And then the third kind of persons, who are involved and participating to the measures are customers, meaning library customers.

ACTIVITY - MEASURE

We use the word "activity" when we mean those actions that seek to promote international cross-border work in libraries.

And we use the word "measure" when we are talking about the cross-border library events/ happenings, which were developed in the project. Actually they are results of the "activities".

CO-OPERATION VS. COLLABORATION

When cooperating, people work together (cooperate) while working for benefit to themselves, yet common goals.

When collaborating, people work together (co-labor) on a shared goal. Like an orchestra which follows the notes. Everyone has agreed the notes and each musician plays own part not for own sake but to make something bigger.

Description of the activities

ACTIVITIES

This increasing competence aimed to achieve through the development of a functioning thematic network (7 countries, 12 organizations) to ensure that the partner organizations will start practicing an international collaborative measures planned under the project on the basis of the experimental culture (www.creativeliteracyturku.com/experimental-culture).

This practicing was verified for sure by organizing transnational project meetings, where it was bound the participants into the network during and after the project. And also participants were encouraged to cooperate and work with other informal adult education actors collaboratively and experimentally, in both transnational and national levels.

The project's activities were the transnational meetings, national mid-term meetings, communication between the meetings and experimenting cross border and cross sectoral measures.

The activities were carried out both with the support of Nordplus grant and partly as own contribution.

DESCRIPTIONS

1. Transnational meetings

September 14.-15.9.2017 Herning and Ikast-Brande Libraries, Denmark
<https://www.creativeliteracyturku.com/1transnational-meeting-in-denmark.html>

February 8.-9.2.2018 Turku City Library, Finland
<https://www.creativeliteracyturku.com/2transnational-meeting-in-turku.html>

September 13.-14.9.2018, Valmiera Library and National Library of Latvia, Latvia
<https://www.creativeliteracyturku.com/3transnational-meeting-in-latvia.html>

Content:

- Evaluation (personal and organizational level).
- Dissemination and familiarization with local activities.
- Planning of new joint measures.

The main task of the meetings was to encourage participants to practice international cooperation through the experimental actions agreed upon. During the meetings "Flipped Classroom" method was used. Preparatory assignments were given for preparing meetings.

In the meetings, the already implemented measures were dealt and on the basis of the experiences, the new ways and plans to make cross-border work were planned. Also, in each meeting the members of the host organization introduced their library and their cooperative partners as well as the work done and planned in their own area related to lifelong learning.

In the core of the meetings there were three issues: 1. Encouragement, Recreation and Motivation; 2. Involvement in the network and increasing responsibility for the development work; 3. Development of cross-border measures.

Plans for new measures were made using creative methods and keeping the experimental culture principles (small, cheap, easy-to-implement) in mind.

2. National mid-term meetings

Different partners had different practices. Others held regularly these mid-term meetings, either physically or via the internet, when some other partners' members were in contact with each other so regularly and everyday, that no separate meetings were needed. Even so, regular summaries were made of what had been done and what would be done in the near future.

3. Communication between the meetings: Pep talks on the Facebook Group for encouraging and evaluation, also kept Skype meetings.

4. Cross border and cross sectoral measures:

The project encourages the use of experimental culture when implemented the measures. This was done in above mentioned meetings.

Small experimental measures were carried out during the first half year of the cooperation. Measures were designed in Denmark meeting and the results of the measures were distributed to partners a wide range of uses. Each subproject was implemented by several partners, so each partner was involved in many different measures and with many different partners.

MEASURES IN AUTUMN 2017

Working across border was trained in small teams (participants from 3-5 partner organizations). The measures were planned and agreed at the meeting in Denmark.

Implementing took place during Autumn 2017.

ALL MEASURES: CreaTeams in Library 2016-2018 <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1741455952771673/> . Join the Facebook group to see the content.

This page served as a forum for measure implementation discussions. Everyone was able to follow the work of others and tacit knowledge was transferred.

Different measures:

WINDOW TO THE WORLD: Xmas in different countries.

NORDIC NIGHTMARES: What kind of things are embarrassing for people in different countries?
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASYjg1jgx6s&feature=youtu.be>

BEHIND THE BOOK COVER: How do the covers of the same book are illustrated in different cultures in different ways?

FOOD STORIES: Food and culture presentations.

KNOW THY NEIGHBOUR: Who are living in your neighborhood?
<https://www.instagram.com/knowthyneighbour/>

LIGHTHOUSE: Presentation of "new, not so known" Nordic and Baltic authors.

NORDIC LITERATURE: Library staff introduced their favourite books in video.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EXv6VJdjOmc&index=1&list=PLYZKkneQkNL245KIaIHwW7DCrCfLR8RN>

GREEN LIBRARY: Visualize environment questions in libraries in different ways.

ORDINARY HOUSES: This project was about architecture of different cities and knowing better other cultures thru pictures of modern and old houses.

As a summary of training practicing: During these activities we learned about working in transnational context in small groups and use of digital learning spaces.

MEASURES IN SPRING 2018

At the Turku meeting in February 2018, the current state of the project and international cooperative skills were carefully evaluated: what was done, what was learned on personal and on organizational level, and how to develop the competence in cross-border cooperation.

Two larger groups were formed based on the themes of the previous measures. The idea was to develop cooperation now with a greater team and more participants. The themes were also dealt with more personal touch.

MY LIFE IN BOOKSHELF:

People presented book that have been significant some way in presenters` life.
<https://mylifeinabookshelf.wixsite.com/mysite>

MY GREEN ID:

In My green ID the pledges about more sustainable way of living were collected from people in different countries. During summer 2018 ,the pledges were presented in exhibitions, which were simultaneously open in all partner libraries.
<https://www.facebook.com/events/938567406308668/>

As a summary of training practicing: The success of these two experimental measures indicated that the participants had got ability to work and success also in future and also in the bigger team collaboratively.

4.2. Time schedule & cooperation

4.2.1. Time schedule

Time schedule 5. Completely

Time schedule

There were no deviations regarding to the schedules, all project activities were carried out as planned.

TRANSNATIONAL MEETINGS AND CONTENT OF THE MEETINGS:

September 14.-15.9.2017 in Herning and Ikast-Brande Libraries, Denmark
Hopes and plans for the cooperation
How to use experimental culture in cooperation and international context.

February 8.-9.2.2018 in Turku City Library, Finland
Evaluation of the already implemented measures.
Planning of the springtime measures and sharing the responsibilities.

September 13.-14.9.2018 in Valmiera Library and National Library of Latvia, Latvia
Evaluation of the already implemented measures and the whole project.
Follow up: dissemination, future plans for cooperation.

As a whole CreaTeams in Library project aimed to develop participants' competence in working international nets. All projects' activities were thus based on the education of transnational collaboration. Learning process was carried out in two phases with the help of experimental measures between partners.

In transnational meetings were designed a framework and guidelines for measures. Between the meeting, via internet, the partners made agreements how the measure was implemented in each country, how the results were collected and how the results of measures were shared.

National activities as part of international co-operation were implemented in libraries as a part of every day library work.

In application, the focus of CreaTeams in Library project was to increase the collaboration between partners and participants, on international and regional level cross-sectorally.

International cooperation developed well and new forms of partnerships emerged. Regional cross-sectoral connections have also been established, but there is still room for development in this area. During this project, the focus was on international cooperation and there the result there was good.

4.2.2. Cooperation within the partnership

Cooperation and Nordic/Baltic added value

4. Mostly

Cooperation and Nordic/Baltic added value

International cooperation developed well and new forms of partnerships emerged. Regional cross-sectoral connections have also been established, but there is still room for development in this area. During this project, the focus was on international cooperation and there the result there was good.

THOUGHTS ABOUT COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION FROM PARTICIPANTS:

"The collaboration was electrifying, sometimes confusing but in the end it gave us all immense amount of experience and inspiration for doing future projects on an even grander scale and work across borders more often."

"Collaboration took place not only between partners-libraries, but also between librarians and library community-visitors, while generating discussions, working together in workshops."

"In the best way: To visit each others countries was a perfect way to learn about society, culture and conditions in Nordic/Baltic countries. And afterwards through Facebook, mails etc."

"Valmiera Library collaborated with other international team organizations to get project finished efficiently. We shared knowledge and tips within team members to gain as much mutual benefit as possible."

"We think it was good that we had both meetings in different libraries and Skype meetings. We found it sometimes a bit difficult to catch up all information by Facebook. Otherwise communications was good and the meetings too."

4.2.3 Nordic/Baltic added value

Nordic/Baltic added value

4. Major benefits

Nordic/Baltic added value

With Nordic-Baltic partners was developed well functioning international, thematic network named CreaTeams in Library to join project participants in order to create and implement ideas, activities, methods and working ways.

CreaTeams project created a network to help all participants to connect even outside the project and lead to ongoing, nearly-day-to-day co-operation with participant and partners. Libraries and cooperative

partners worked together in the network creating effective possibilities to improve people's quality of life, support lifelong learning and share the experience of cultural diversity. In many ways, all partner organizations have the same positions in the Nordic/Baltic countries and therefore it is possible to learn a lot from colleagues' experiences. Co-operation also gave and will give participants/partners more resources for development work.

From participants:

"It was a fine possibility for our libraries to make exhibitions about the Nordic/Baltic countries and in other ways to present and focus on the outcomes of the cooperation for all the users of the library, for all the citizens."

"The project gave us the opportunity to get acquainted with the characteristics of different nationalities, their thinking, values, culture, work style and, ultimately, literature. It was indeed a project's added value!"

"To meet colleagues from other countries near us. We liked the creative workshops, that gave us new ways to work."

Notable was, that during the project, the anniversaries of 100 years of the Baltic states and Finland were celebrated. That brought more understanding about the common history.

4.3. Outcomes & impact

4.3.1. Results and outcomes

Results and outcomes 5. Completely

Results and outcomes

According to the project plan, the aim was to create a thematic network whereby members of the partners could increase their skills in implementing cross-border work. This was done using learning by doing method and this work managed well. Personally, the participants participated in different way (for reasons of motivation or time), but at the Latvian final meeting it became very clear that the participants wanted to continue work together in future and consider the network very important. This desire tells the issue that the creation of a thematic network was successful.

There were no deviations from the planned outcomes.

In addition to the official CreaTeams network, new networks were created both inside and outside official network.

Even before the start of project activities, Nordplus Adult projects were presented in Vilnius Androgogy project meeting (Erasmus+ KA2) with participants from other European countries and non-European countries. In addition, Nordplus activities were presented also at IFLA WLIC 2017 Congress (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions) in Poland.

From the participants:

"The network gave staff invaluable experience into international cooperation and expanded their world view on what is possible when creativity is sourced from unexpected places and combined into a multinational team of people who are all able to use the best from their country/library and receive the best from others. "

"We saw first-hand that the principle of a library as a centre of sharing (ideas, commodities, talent etc) is the way of the future for not only libraries themselves but also for any communities that wish to have a sustainable future."

"We had many new good practices, showed examples of cooperation."

4.3.2. Impact

Impact 4. Mostly

impact

The main goal of the project was to increase competence of participants, adult trainers and they clearly indicated that in feedback as to competence increasing. Particularly clear that comes out in the hope of continuing future cooperation.

“The project led participants to look at everyday things differently and accept the idea that libraries nowadays should also be able to play and experiment. We implemented various pop-up measures, exhibitions, online meetings of the skype book club, master classes for artists and poets, we learned how to film a video and many other good things.”

“During this project started new projects for community i.g. in heritage, green ideas, tolerance , trainings about recycling of materials, prepared virtual exhibition in different topics, organized meetings with community-library visitors.”

“It gave us many new ways to think and to do our work in the library. We value the big network of professionals.”

4.3.3. Website

Website

During the project a lot of activities and materials were implemented and numerous of materials have been produced.

Some of the CreaTeams in Library (and the materials of previous projects also) materials have been collected in the website: <https://www.creativeliteracyturku.com/>

The list the project web site and other relevant web sites:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pQPIAyKX3NNbsN5czJEAENwl-9NaGqKm/view?usp=sharing>

Material shows how versatile the results of the project are.

4.4.Evaluation & dissemination

4.4.1. Evaluation

Evaluation 1 4. Mostly

Evaluation 2

WHAT ISSUES WERE EVALUATED?

THEMATIC NETWORK

The aim of CreaTeams in Library - project was to add adult learners` competence in library context, as to participants` work supporting long life learning. Also we wanted to achieve a change in attitudes concerning cross border cooperation. And that was achieved by collaboratively implemented measures. Competence (skills, courage, ideas) and attitudes were in the core of evaluation.

Of course the basic issues (e.g. how the project progress went, how the meetings and other supportive activities were organized) were also measured, but the main focus was how it is possible to do collaborative, cross sectoral work transnationally and how did that taught us.

The anchoring and dissemination of the idea of cross border work as an everyday library work was very important in evaluation. The main question was, how important the participants and organizations kept and keep the transnational development work.

Gradually, when the project proceeded, also library management became committed to co-operation so much, that they also wanted to participate in transnational meetings where practical measures were planned. At the meetings, the importance of libraries and tasks of library institutions in modern society were handled. These are the issues that concerns the work of the managers.

HOW THE EVALUATION WAS TAKEN PLACE?

The evaluation of the achievement of the project goals (increasing competence and motivation) was done via especially designed activities in transnational meetings.

Evaluation of the communication between participants and project progression (locally, cross sectorally and internationally) were made after every project measure by interviews and discussions.

The communication did have some knots in the beginning because not all partners were used to digital communication channels and preferred face-to-face meetings. That's why at first they were not in regular contact with others. But in the end of the project everything worked out well and all joint tasks finished on time, and with great success.

EVALUATION RESULTS

The transnational meetings, where people from different countries met each other personally gave opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences and it has resulted in expanded cooperation. That shows in new activities between the participating countries. Meeting personally also encouraged to use new digital connections, when trust to each other increases. The new good relations between partners were also used in "outside the project" events and meetings. These good relations will continue in cooperation between libraries, and new projects for future have been already preliminary planned.

International cooperation impacted in many various ways: new working methods were developed also new strategies and cooperation encouraged to look for untraditional ways to solve traditional library issues.

From the participants:

"The network gave our staff invaluable experience into international cooperation and expanded their world view on what is possible when creativity is sourced from unexpected places and combined into a multinational team of people who are all able to use the best from their country/library and receive the best from others. We saw first-hand that the principle of a library as a centre of sharing (ideas, commodities, talent etc) is the way of the future for not only libraries themselves but also for any communities that wish to have a sustainable future."

"It was good opportunity to wide a professional network and networking, meet new people, share knowledge and learn something new. This project encouraged to prepare new project in cultural heritage theme with partners from Nordic and Baltic countries. Also to improve English language skills."

"Both professionally and personally I have become a more confident, fearless and determined to proceed with developing a more sustainable library culture and thereby a more sustainable way of life for my community at large."

4.4.2. Dissemination

Dissemination 1 4. Mostly

Dissemination 2

DISSEMINATION ABOUT WHAT WAS DONE AND HOW IT WAS DONE

The project had its own Facebook group, to where participant invited other people (outside the transnational meetings participants) from their own area. In Facebook page it was possible to follow - in real time - what was happening in the project. The work related in planning and implementing measures was also done in the Facebook group. The work was able to follow. Facebook group make also possible to get the tacit knowledge about how to implement successfully transnational work.

In addition, to the joint Facebook group, separate groups were set up for all measures. To these groups were invited those interested in the subject and there was planned informed about implementation and evaluated the measures.

INFORMATION ABOUT CREATAMS IN LIBRARY -PROJECT AND RELATED EVENTS

Our partners' web pages provided information about the project and transnational and local events related to the project. Applications and reports on Nordplus Adult projects are on project's website.

Global visibility Nordplus co-operation was reached in summer 2017 at the IFLA WLIC Conference where poster session about Nordplus Adult cooperation was held. The project results have been in addition shown on Instagram and other social media, at public presentations, exhibitions, library tours and presentations to professionals from other organizations. About numerous actions (meetings and measures) were also made the virtual presentations, which were shared on libraries and library channels.

From the participants:

"We took the opportunity to present all our fine results from our cooperation with the Nordic/Baltic countries: in several exhibitions in our libraries, in articles in the newspapers, at our social media and in several meetings with colleagues and other collaborators."

Website: <https://www.creativeliteracyturku.com/>

The list: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1pQPfAyKX3NNbsN5czJEAENwl-9NaGqKm/view?usp=sharing>

4.4.3. About Nordplus

Nordplus

In the point of view of the coordinating organization, the counseling has been good.

About the financial reporting, we think that the lump sum system helps a lot of the project work. This will make budgeting and financial reporting more easier and there will be more time to invest to the actual development work.

Otherwise, we find the reporting was useful also for ourselves. Collecting the report summarized our efforts and all the things have been done during the project.

How did you get acquainted with Nordplus?

Web

Comments:

Continuity transnational work and deepening of collaboration has not been possible without Nordplus Adult Programme. New plan to wide up the network and collaboration is already going on.

5. For publication - Results and outcomes for publication

5.1. Outcomes and results

5.1.1. Summary of project outcomes and results (max 350 words)

The aim of the "CreaTeams in Library" project was to bring more competence and knowledge to the library professionals and NGO workers. Especially in order to support customers' efforts and skills in life-long learning and active citizenship. This increase of competence was planned to implement with learning by doing method and trained by producing experimental and cross border measures. A transnational network was created for this purpose.

Three transnational meetings were organized during the project, in which the framework for cross-border measures were planned and cooperative work was evaluated. Between the meetings, the partners worked via internet and decided on the measures implemented in each country, how the results were collected and how the dissemination was organized.

In the first half of the project year, many experimental measures were carried out. This was done by small implementation teams (2-5 partner organizations). In these activities participants learned about working in transnational context and using internet for interaction.

In the second half of the year, two larger collaboration measures were produced. They based on the themes of the former measures. The idea now was to exercise cooperation with larger teams.

The results on how to learn transnational cooperation were successful. With Nordic-Baltic partnership functioning well, international thematic network named "CreaTeams in Library", was developed.

In evaluation, participants told that they were more confident and had gained courage from transnational cooperation, both professionally and personally. Also understanding the importance of collaboration and determination to proceed with developing a more sustainable library culture increased during the project. In a larger scale, a more sustainable way of life was created for participating communities.

In addition, the project led participants to look at everyday things differently and accept the idea that libraries nowadays should also be able to play and experiment. For example, various pop-up measures, exhibitions, videos, online meetings of the Skype Book Club and master classes for artists and poets were implemented.

5.1.2. Products and materials

5.1.3. Websites and links

<https://www.creativeliteracyturku.com/>