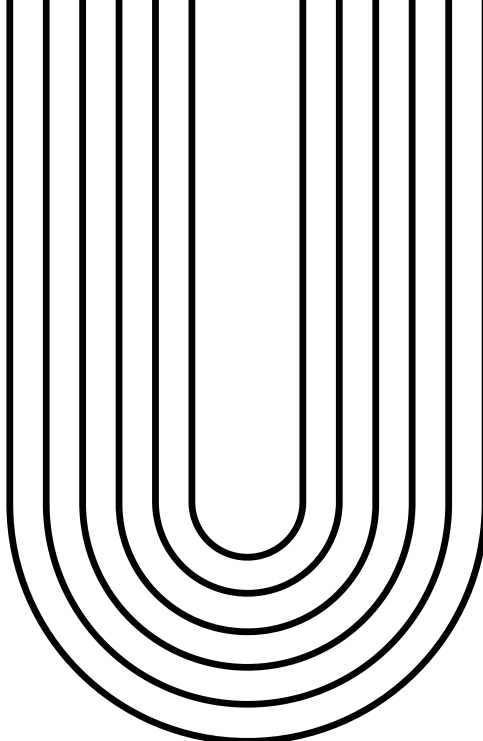
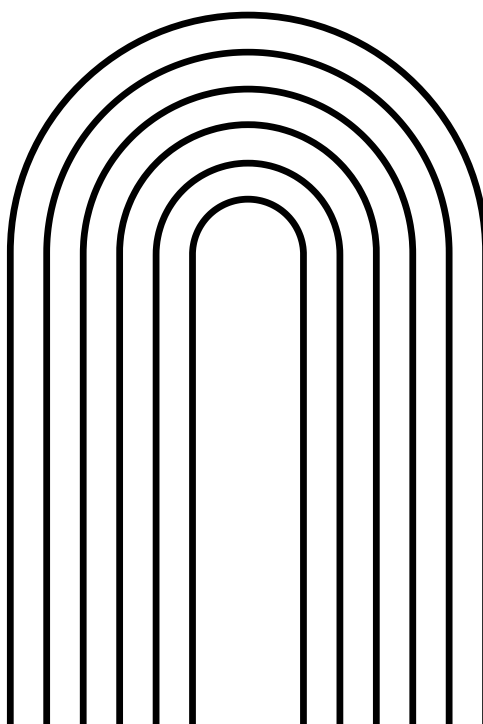


VERSION 1 – 25
OCTOBER 2023



FROM DOTS TO LINES

A MAEK PROJECT



5-13 JANUARY 2023
CASTAGNETOLI MS

INFOPACK

Title | **From dots to lines**
Project code | 2022-3-IT03-KA153-YOU-000099000
Dates | 6-12 January 2024 mobility (excluding travel days)
Arrival day | 5 January 2023
Departure day | 13 January 2023
Venue | Casa-famiglia San Francesco - Castagnetoli (MS)
Group | 3 youth workers per each partner

ABOUT THE PROJECT

"From dots to lines" is a project that serves as an example of collaboration among distinct individuals, sometimes distant from each other, yet unique. It leads to unity, cooperation, and the construction of an integrated and supportive community.

The "From Dots to Lines" project was born in the wake of "Connecting Dots," a project implemented by the Maek APS association in September 2022. The integration and socialization outcomes of the residents of the San Francesco family home in Castagnetoli inspired Maek APS to propose a second training initiative. This aims to train young youth workers in creating social inclusion within their own communities through experiential learning methods. During the main activity, participants will have the opportunity to connect, educate themselves, and coordinate hands-on workshops designed to engage inmates serving alternative sentences. The chosen experiential context will be agricultural, particularly focusing on beekeeping, and will be identified as a replicable model in the specific areas of action for each local partner association.

The "From dots to lines" training involves a total of 9 partners with the goal of effecting concrete change in their respective local communities. The project aims to build systems of dialogue between young people, associations, and local entities that support the implementation of events and initiatives aimed at social inclusion. The project specifically intends to put into practice a common, coordinated, and parallel strategy in the five local communities. Another fundamental objective is to raise awareness of social inclusion and active participation on an international level. The specific modalities will be defined during the project's planning phase, serving as an experience for implementing the entrepreneurial spirit and initiative of the young workers involved in the project.

The project addresses the specific needs of youth workers, active volunteers in partner associations, and local communities with marginalized youth.

Consequently, the development of a common strategy for planning activities involving them is necessary, as we have gained experience through previous training courses. Each association has developed innovative practices through studying and gaining experience within their own community. Therefore, the project will enable the sharing of individual

practices among the organizations' workers, the transfer of direct skills by experienced trainers in the field, and the creation of a common action plan that will have a direct impact on the communities. This will be identified as a model for implementing actions in other communities.

ELEMENTS OF ACTIVITY

The training course is based at the San Francesco family home located in the hamlet of Castagnetoli in the municipality of Mulazzo, which can be viewed at the following link: <https://comune.mulazzo.ms.it>

Participants are accommodated in the house, which is surrounded by a green and wooded upland area, contributing to a relaxed and communal atmosphere that is conducive to team building and focus on the activities. The rooms are shared with multiple occupants, and the bathrooms are also shared. Inside the house there are animals, dogs and cats effectively trained for human contact.

Specifically, the house belongs to the Papa Giovanni XXIII Association, which can be viewed at the following link: <https://www.apg23.org>

It collaborates continuously with Maek APS. The house is used to accommodate individuals with various socio-cultural disadvantages, including those with a criminal background serving alternative sentences and those without a fixed residence. For over 40 years, they have been assisted through social reintegration programs at both the local and international levels. Additionally, at various times of the year, the house voluntarily hosts scouts, pilgrims, travelers, and young people from various countries around the world.

The history of the house dates to the pre-World War I period and is certainly a rustic structure, made of stone and wood, hence dated but equipped with everything necessary to fully experience the project. The atmosphere created here is magical, the spaces are adequate, and the group will add the project's unique value. If the weather permits, we will also explore the Lunigiana territory and its environmental and gastronomic beauties.

Meals are prepared using local ingredients, primarily sourced within a short distance (Km 0). They are served in the central dining room, where we will eat both lunch and dinner. The cuisine is based on local ethical choices and Lunigiana traditions, enhancing the Italian and Mediterranean heritage we have on the peninsula. The diet during the training course will be predominantly vegetarian.

The primary language used during the project will be English. For this training course, a language proficiency level of B2, as referenced in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, is required.

Please note:

Wi-Fi connection is available at the accommodation facility, and the normal Italian mobile network provides coverage throughout the village. However, being in a rural area, it is common for the service to experience occasional disruptions. We would like to inform you that we are not responsible for specific issues with online services. In the event of connectivity problems, we encourage you to view the project as an opportunity to explore communication by taking a break from digital devices.

HOST ORGANIZATION

Maek APS is an Italian organization established to undertake activities that promote social welfare, as well as engage in international cooperation activities within Europe, primarily employing non-formal education as a method of learning.

Our guiding principles are rooted in solidarity, democracy, and responsibility. We are a private legal entity in Italy, non-political and non-profit, and we conduct our activities in accordance with the legal provisions set forth in the current Civil Code, the regulations of the Consolidated Law on Income Taxes, the provisions of our statute, and the principles of internal democracy, electivity, and the voluntary nature of association roles. We actively engage in collaborative efforts and the execution of human rights initiatives in partnership with other associations, both nationally and internationally.

Maek APS is dedicated to fostering synergies, cooperation, and the individual's centrality, as well as promoting the development of the specific skills of every individual while working to eliminate the root causes of marginalization and injustice. Our primary activities are closely tied to the Erasmus+ program and the European Solidarity Corps program.

The primary target demographic consists of young individuals (aged 18-30) who have access to the personal, educational, and employment growth opportunities provided by international programs. The geographical area where we carry out our activities in Italy is Lunigiana.

PARTNER INVOLVED

Applicant Partner

Maek APS (E10020892 - IT) info@maekaps.com

Partner Organisations

Millenium Sweden (E10020871 - SE) mikaelhammarlund89@gmail.com

Stowarzyszenie Youth Human Impact (E10133258 - PL) stowarzyszenie.yhi@gmail.com

Roes Cooperativa KOIN.S.EP. (E10005274 - EL) weare@roes.coop

MIHI (E10008414 - LV) mihiyouth.lv@gmail.com

Asociación Juvenil Jarrón Club (E10088566 - ES) jarronclub@hotmail.es

Seiklejate Vennaskond (E10086848 - EE) seiklejate.vennaskond@gmail.com

Smokinya Foundation (E10040561 - BG) info@smokinya.com

Associação Inspira! (E10025569 - PT) inspirajuventude@gmail.com

WHAT TO BRING WITH YOU

- Bring with you objects that represent your culture, such as traditional foods, musical instruments, typical clothes, or anything else that you can share with other participants during the cultural evening.
- Bring a personal notebook with you to take notes, draw or write during sessions and workshops.
- If you have a musical or craft talent that you can share during the creativity workshops, bring with you the musical instrument or tools and materials needed to make your creations.
- Bring along a selection of books that you like or would like to share with other participants to discuss during free time.
- Bring your personal bottle with you because no disposable plastic and/or paper is used during the sessions.
- Bring your personal hygiene kit and towel set with you as they are not present on site
- Bring with you hiking clothing suitable for traveling in the woods that you could use for specific activities.
- Bring with you additional medicines and/or specific components that you usually take
- Bring an open mind and a willingness to learn. This project promotes knowledge sharing and collaborative learning, so be sure to bring an open mind and a willingness to learn from other participants' cultures and experiences.

Please note:

Remember that this project values creativity and many other things synergistic with non-formal education so be prepared to engage in manual, artistic and cultural sharing activities that will help you connect with other participants in a meaningful way.

HOW TO REACH CASTAGNETOLI

The most convenient airports to consider when arriving in Italy for this project are Milan-Bergamo "Orio Al Serio" Airport, Milan "Malpensa" Airport, Bologna "Guglielmo Marconi" Airport, and finally Pisa "Galileo-Galilei" Airport.

To easily reach the village of Castagnetoli, you should take a train from the Central Station of Milan, Bologna, or Pisa, depending on the airport of your arrival. The train journey takes approximately 2-4 hours, depending on your departure station, and you'll arrive at the Pontremoli railway station. We will be there to pick you up from this station and transport you directly to the project accommodation.

For any travel-related needs and to better plan your trip in Italy, you can visit the Trenitalia website at this link: <https://www.trenitalia.com>.

Please note:

Once your partner has selected you and you are officially confirmed to participate in the training course, enter the WhatsApp group at this link:

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/L8dtGY1bbErFor60aS2Tpm> to receive more logistical and organizational information on the project

INSURANCE AND SPECIFIC DOCUMENTATION

In relation to any potential adversity, it is our intention for the project to be carried out and experienced with the utmost safety. It is your responsibility to inquire and/or explicitly ask your partner about the current health regulations in force in Italy during the project.

In any case, please comply with all regulations in effect at the time of travel, and we recommend obtaining private medical and travel insurance if you feel more secure and covered during your stay in Italy.

This insurance is not reimbursed by travel costs.

You can find more information through this official link: <https://www.viaggiasesicuri.it/home> and/or periodically check your Embassy's website in Italy.

Specific situations and/or medical issues encountered during your stay in Italy are not financially supported by the project partner. Before returning to your home country, it is your responsibility to verify the current government health regulations.

BUDGET

Please note:

There is no participation fee requested by the applicant partner.

Food, accommodation, and local travel costs (only during the activity program) will be covered by the grant from the Italian NA.

REIMBURSEMENT

According to the rules travel refunds can only be made by bank transfer to the sending Partner and based on the real costs incurred by each participant.

The transfer, after verifying the correctness and the amounts spent, will be made:

- after having received all the electronic tickets (preferably) and / or by post all the original documents (receipts, invoices, original boarding passes in pdf format downloadable from the airline's website).
- after having filled in the survey generated by the NA online through the Beneficiary Platform.
- after producing educational material and sharing the results of the project in your local community.

To be eligible for a refund, we ask that you keep all your original tickets, boarding passes and invoices in pdf A4 format downloaded from the airline's website.

At the following link you will find the drive folder of the project:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hd_bzd2zcLtkJE5WUSi9RXhnEdmiAr2y?usp=share_link

Inside the main folder you find specific sub-folders for each item (travel expense reimbursement, dissemination material, photos and videos, list of youth workers, Youthpass, extra documents)

Please note:

Only if you have travel tickets, original boarding passes and invoices (downloadable from the airline's website in the A4 original format), we can reimburse your travel cost.

We clearly prefer electronic tickets.

The reimbursement is done usually approx. 2 months after the mobility once you send us the originals of the tickets and took part in all the phases of the project.

PARTICIPANT SPECIFIC TRAVEL REFUND

Please note:

The total budget for the trip of each participant in the 500-1999km range is 320 euros if it is carried out according to the green travel regime and 275 euros if it is carried out according to the standard travel regime. The green travel with the means of transport accepted by the new procedure of the Erasmus+ Program is visible in the official guide under the heading "Budget category".

For this project the green travel budget was not requested so you must respect the economic ceiling of the standard travel regime.

Italy.....	210,00€
Bulgaria.....	275,00€
Estonia.....	275,00€
Greece.....	275,00€
Latvia.....	275,00€
Poland.....	275,00€
Portugal.....	275,00€
Spain.....	275,00€
Sweden.....	275,00€

RULES FOR REIMBURSEMENT

Only economy class means of transport and possibly without intermediate stops, is accepted.

Before buying anything send your travel plan to francescocavicchioli@maekaps.com for confirmation. Only uninterrupted travel expenses incurred within the start and end dates of the activity can be accepted for reimbursement with the clause of being able to take advantage of two extra days eligible for reimbursement.

The participant can decide to arrive 2 days before the start of the mobility or to stay two days longer and be entitled to a refund of the travel.

Please note:

During these 2 extra days, all expenses related to food and accommodation are the responsibility of the participant. The costs of tourist transfers and/or specific travel stops cannot be covered by the project budget and are to be borne by the participant.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

112 is the single emergency number identified by Europe to ensure the necessary intervention. Calls to the single emergency number 112 flow into a single reference center in which all emergency calls are channeled that are made to request the intervention of the State Police, Carabinieri, Fire Brigade or Health Rescue. If you call 112 and you are in one of the provinces where the single emergency number is active, then a specialized operator will answer you who, based on your request, will call in the authority that deems most appropriate.

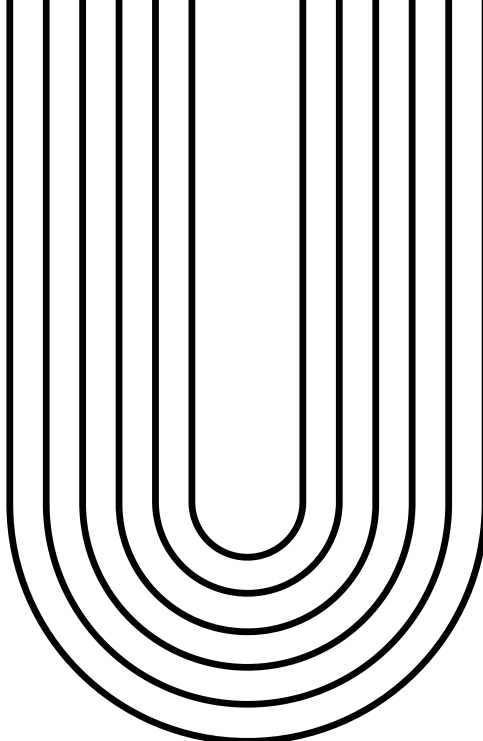
112 is therefore the reference number for every emergency. The intervention of not only the carabinieri, but also of all other emergency numbers (113, 115, 118) may be required.

CONTACT DETAILS

For each request I doubt and / or specific clarification, we invite you to send a message to the coordinator of Maek APS: francescocavicchioli@maekaps.com

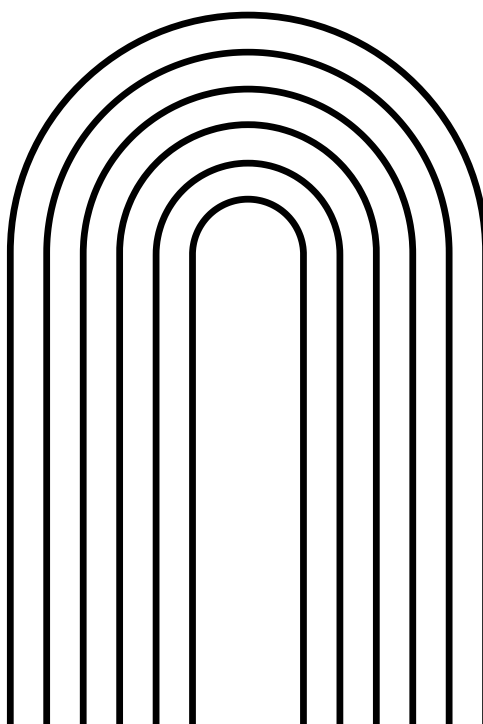
Looking forward to meeting you soon!
Maek APS Team

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