

The partnership circle

includes six organisations from four countries, where two are national organisations of voluntary arts and culture, and four work in the field of liberal adult education.

- National Association of Adult Education in Art and Culture (Applicant and coordinator) www.mof-dk.dk
- Interfolk, Institute for Civil Society (DK) www.interfolk.dk
- Finnish Swedish Youth Association (FI) www.fsu.fi
- Cultural Council of North East Iceland (IS) www.eything.is
- Tartu Folk High School (EE) www.rahvaylikool.ee
- Husavik Academic Center (IS) www.hac.is



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This development project has been supported by the Nordic Council of Ministers' funding program for lifelong learning, Nordplus Adult.

This Nordplus Adult development project

entitled "Curricula and training for culture volunteers in sparsely populated areas" (SPARK) is a 2-year project, carried out in the period, August 2016 to July 2018.



The project idea

is to engage volunteers to promote cross-cultural activities in the sparsely populated communities with an added value for civic participation, local identity and community bonding.

For more information - see the project website: www.nordplus-spark.one

SPARK

Curricula and training for culture volunteers in sparsely populated areas



Background and need

Sparsely populated areas face stark challenges to revive the local communities, but also represent an opportunity to rebuild a community and strengthen local identity through artistic and cultural activities.

Art and culture can play a major role to make our marginal areas more attractive to new residents and businesses, because:

- Art and culture help to create the community and unity that can save a village or area from being emptied of content.
- Inclusion in art and culture gives new life and creates responsible citizens.
- A vibrant cultural life and an enhanced community can create a sustainable society where all citizens are ready to take responsibility for their own and others' lives and for the local community as a whole.



Objectives

1. To develop innovative ways of outreach to citizens engaged in arts and culture to become resourceful volunteers in cross-cultural activities in the local communities.
2. To develop high quality learning opportunities tailored to these groups to learn how to initiate and organise local cultural activities with an added value for civic participation and community bonding
3. To develop the know-how and abilities of the voluntary associations in this cross-cultural sector to support volunteering and cooperation with local stakeholders to initiate enlivening arts and culture opportunities.



The project is based on the concept of “cultural sustainability” meaning that active citizenship, social inclusion and cultural cohesion will be promoted by “citizens help citizens” in a civil society context.

Main results

The planned outcome is:

- To map competences of successful culture volunteers in sparsely populated areas.
- To present the core competences in a Nordic multilateral report.
- To develop and test the curricula in a series of national pilot courses in each partner country.
- To publish a multilateral Curricula Compendium on core competences and training methodologies..
- To disseminate the results at national conferences and by means of project website and other pr-activities.

Envisaged impacts

- The new course concept and curricula will to some degree be incorporated in the Nordic-Baltic sector of voluntary arts and culture.
- Main stakeholders will know and support the concept political, ideological or financial

