

- *Titre général (pas celui du projet: effort pour trouver un titre attrayant mettant directement en lumière ce dont il est question) // - General title (not the project title: find an attractive title which directly referred to the theme): Young women becoming more involved in political life*

- *Eventuel sous titre précisant les choses // Possible subtitle stating things:.....*

### ***L'histoire // history***

*(1 ou 2 paragraphes, 200-300 mots) // (1 or 2 paragraphs, 200-300 words)*

The idea of the European project “Contribute to change – Young Women in Political Careers” started from the reality that women are less involved than men in the political life at a local and international level, and aimed at increasing the participation of young women aged 16-35 in the political life and in the process of voting by increasing their trust in their own forces, with the help of workshops based on scenarios and role play.

In order to contribute to the changing of this state of art, the partnership aimed at starting from changing the mentality of the target group, young women, who need to increase their self-esteem and their abilities of free expression. By means of the participatory workshops the target group was supported in improving their knowledge on participatory democracy, the importance of their involvement in the political life at local and European level, but also the role of the vote.

The groups directly involved in the project were: young women ages 16-35 from Romania, the Czech Republic and UK, who participated directly within the needs analysis, the workshops and the debates.

Other groups participating within the activities (debates and final conference) were from: schools, high schools, universities, city halls, NGOs, politicians, public institutions, etc.

### ***L'impact // The impact***

*(Evocation synthétique des principaux résultats atteints et des publics atteints) // (Summary evocation of the main outcomes achieved and the interested public)*

## **1. Methodology for carrying out the needs analysis and questionnaire for the target group (EN)**

This product has been developed in order to be able to realize a relevant analysis of the needs of the target group. In order to obtain an objective result at the level of the 3 European countries, a questionnaire and a common work methodology were used.

## **2. Needs analysis report (EN)**

In the view of realizing the report of the needs analysis, a workshop was realized with each of the target group of the 3 countries. 67 young women participated in these workshops: 30 from Romania, 20 from UK (Northern Ireland) and 17 from the Czech Republic.

The Needs analysis report was also published in 900 copies in view of disseminating the output among other interested organizations working in the field of active citizenship.

**Target groups:** schools, high schools, universities, adult education centers, providers of education, etc.

### **3. Workshop methodology and curriculum in EN, RO, CZ**

The methodology had as purpose to ensure a starting point for the realization of workshops which are according to the needs resulted in the needs analysis and also according to the objectives of the project.

Thus, the methodology settled what the girls would learn during the workshops, what were their needs according to the needs analysis, what are the results and the subjects the workshops deal with.

It also contains various possibilities for motivating the target group, workshop form and learning styles.

The curriculum was developed in view of carrying out the workshops with the target group and was developed after studying the results of the needs analysis at the level of the three partner countries in the project.

**Target groups:** young women from target group, schools, high schools, adult education centers, providers of education, etc.

### **4. 15 participatory workshops with women in EN, RO, CZ**

The implementation of the participatory workshops with women (5 in each country) in the 3 partner countries was realized in the period March- May 2010, with the participation of 48 young women.

The target group made up of young women aged 16-35 participated directly in view of improving their abilities and knowledge on political education and self-esteem through specific methodologies adapted to their needs: scenario and role play.

Within these workshops the young women learned to:

- correctly develop their self-esteem within the working group;
- improve their self-expression abilities;
- improve their knowledge on participatory democracy and the strategies of active involvement in the society as active citizens;
- be aware of the importance of the involvement in the political life and the role of voting at a local level but also for the European Parliament;
- how common interests and aims can create long personal relations and how informal education can cultivate the personality and knowledge of each participant.

The workshops were disseminated within partner organizations, high schools, City Halls, discussion group on educational matters, within the community in which the young women live, parents, etc.

## **5. Analysis of the Implementation of the Workshops (EN)**

The workshops' implementation report was realized by the partners in the project in the view of developing an individual evaluation of the manner in which the workshops were implemented.

Target groups: staff of the partners organizations, providers of education, teachers and trainers, European Commission.

## **6. Public debate- The role of women in the national and European politics**

3 public debates took place at the end of the workshop, one in each of the 3 partner countries.

Within the public debates the young women put in practice the knowledge acquired during the workshops, but also rhetoric and speaking in front of an audience.

Target groups: parents, colleagues, teachers and trainers, non-governmental organizations, public administration, mass media, voluntary, etc.

## **7. Project website: [www.srep.ro/ctc](http://www.srep.ro/ctc) (EN, RO, CZ)**

The website of the project represented a useful dissemination tool, having the function to inform on the objectives, partnership and results of the project, but also a role of exchanging information and debating within the forum of the project.

The website has a public area and a member's area, which requires a password. The member's area contains internal materials, realized during the project and necessary for its development.

## **8. DVD of the project in EN**

The DVD is the most complex product of the project. It contains all the important products and results of the project, in order to ensure an exchange of good practices for those interested in the theme and activities of the project. The DVD is developed in a user friendly style, being easy to navigate through when searching for different information.

300 DVDs were realized and used for the dissemination of the project in all partners countries.

Target group: teachers and trainers, schools, adult education centers, providers of education, general public, etc.

## **9. Success stories booklet in EN, RO, CZ**

The realization of the success stories booklet had as its main purpose presenting the experience gathered by the partners within the project, in an accessible manner, but also the opinions of the young women directly involved in the project.

500 copies were distributed during the dissemination events, national and international conferences, but also after the end of the project, as good practices.

Target group: practitioners working with young people, be they teachers, trainers, tutors, but also to the large public.

## **10. 2 Newsletters, brochures, flyers, poster in EN, RO, CZ**

2 newsletters were developed during the project in order to inform the large public about the evolution of the project.

The brochure was developed with the aim to promote the project among the target group and therefore to promote the workshops that were going to take place.

The brochure contains relevant information on the project, such as objectives, results and partnership, but also an invitation to participate in the workshops.

3000 copies were distributed for the dissemination of the project among the large public and direct stakeholders.

The flyer of the project was created for the dissemination of the project among the large public, being an extremely useful tool to spread the main information on the project, as well as the contact data for those interested in the project and its results.

3000 copies were distributed for the dissemination of the project among the large public, during all the events in which the partners participated and disseminated the project (meetings, workshops, seminars, conferences, exhibitions, etc).

The poster of the project was developed in view of disseminating the final dissemination conference organized in Bucharest in the last month of the project.

200 posters in RO and EN were distributed for disseminating the conference in Bucharest.

## **11. Final conference**

The objective of the final conference, held in Bucharest on 4 June 2010, was to offer all the interested stakeholders the possibility to know the results of the project, as well as the opportunity to participate in debates and present papers on the following themes:

1. Fostering action, debate and reflection on European citizenship and democracy;
2. Women participation in political life;
3. Active European Citizenship: participation and democracy in Europe;
4. Promoting European Values (tolerance, mutual understanding, solidarity, etc.);

5. The contribution of informal learning to the development of an active European citizenship

43 people registered for attending the conference.

The participants in the conference were: teachers, students, researchers, lecturers, VET promoters, educational organizations, secondary schools, university professors, presidents of NGOs, etc

## 12. CD of the conference EN

The CDs of the conference contains the papers presented during the conference. 500 copies of the CDs were distributed to the conference participants, but also to other organizations that could not attend but who wanted to receive it. The CD contains 21 papers presented within the conference.

### ***Le(s) témoignage(s) // Witness***

***Citation du porteur du projet et/ou d'un des partenaires. // Quote of the project leader and / or partners***

### **Opinion of the young participants**

#### **Mrs. Karen, UK**

*“My name is Karen and this is my experience of taking part in the *Contribute to Change: Young Women in Political Careers* project at Ballybeen Women’s Centre:*

*The study visits gave me a chance to see where our Councilors, MLA’s and MP’s carry out the business they were elected to do. We also visited the Dáil in Dublin where we were able to speak with and question a TD on how Ireland has benefited from being part of the EU and also talk about the Peace Process in Northern Ireland. This gave us an opportunity to find out how another government operates. These visits were followed by workshops on the European Union. The facilitator shared a lot of information on what the EU actually does, why and how it was set up. We also found out who our representatives are in the EU, how to contact them and how to make our voices heard at an EU level. I enjoyed the session on ‘your rights as an EU citizen’ as we found out about entitlements and the impact the EU has on our everyday lives.*

*Most importantly I learnt that I have a right to question politicians both at home and in Europe on issues that affect my life. Taking part in this project opened my eyes to politics and gave me the confidence to vote in the recent General elections. I can now say that I know about the EU and what a European citizen means. It has also given me a thirst to learn more about politics and Europe.”*

#### **Mrs. Martina, Czech Republic**

What is your total assessment of workshops?

*"I liked the workshops very much, there was a pleasant atmosphere and a good team."*

How did you like topics of the workshops? Do you think this information will be useful for you? If so, in which areas?

*"The topics were convenient for me. There was a lot of information which was certainly useful. I am mainly glad to have learnt something more about our members of the European Parliament."*

What did you like most in particular?

*"I liked most the workshop with the topic men versus women. I hope the highest possible number of women will be elected in our House of Commons in the expected elections."*

Do you think your attitude towards your participation in political life has been changed after you participated in the workshops?

*"Definitely yes. I will be more brave and I will be more interested in developments in our country."*

### **Mrs. Cristina, Romania**

*"This project means a lot to me. It made me look at life with different eyes, to think more maturely, to acquire more trust in myself and my own forces; in this respect, knowing my rights and obligations as a citizen contributed a lot. The knowledge I gained during this project will prove useful to me and, indirectly, to those who will ask advice and support from my part. Working in a team made me realize the importance of listening and respecting the ideas of others, no matter their ethnicity, religion orientation, age or other differences, since we all have the same rights.*

*I learned that it is important to participate in the voting process and to get involved in any way in the life of the community you take part in. I hope that life offers me the opportunity to apply everything that I have learned, since I would like to get involved in the political domain."*

### **Faits et chiffres // Facts and Figures**

Titre du projet // Project Title: **Contribute to change: young women in political careers**

Porteur du projet // Project leader: **Romanian Society for Lifelong Learning, RO**

Partenaires // partners: **AKLUB, Czech Republic; Ballybeen Women's Centre Ltd, UK**

Durée // Duration: 1 year

Financement du programme Europe pour les Citoyens // Financing from Europe for Citizens program: "Europe for Citizens" Action 2 – Measure 3.

### **Pour en savoir plus // For more information**

**(Liens utiles pour approfondir la connaissance du sujet traité ou pour compléter l'information sur le projet) // (Links to deepen the knowledge of the subject or to complete the project information)**

<http://www.srep.ro/ctc>