



Lifelong
Learning
Programme

Lifelong Learning Programme



Lifelong Learning Programme Evaluation Report

Detailed Evaluation of the Project:

“Parks and Gardens in Europe, Paths towards Environmental Education”



Lifelong Learning Programme

Introduction

This evaluation details the findings and conclusions of the final independent external evaluation of the Grundtvig Lifelong Learning Programme: *“Parks and Gardens in Europe, Paths towards Environmental Education”*. It builds upon our external Interim Evaluation Report presented in the final report. This project was progressed and managed by a transnational partnership, comprised of the following seven organisations:

- Gartenakademie Sachsen-Anhalt e.V. - **Germany**
- Gartennetz Deutschland e.V. - **Germany**
- Anyksciai Education Assistance Authority – **Lithuania**
- Carl Robert Jakobson’s Farm Museum- **Estonia**
- DOBRO KULTURY - Fundacja dla ochrony Europejskiego Dziedzictwa Kulturowego – **Poland**
- Umweltschutzverein Bürger und Umwelt – **Austria**
- Croatian Society of Captives of Serbian Concentration Camps of Osijek-Baranya County – **Croatia**

After each of the five meetings, the participants were asked to fill in a feedback form, judging the content and progress of the workshops. The results of these forms were analysed by the project coordinators of each country individually and later compiled in this report.

Meeting 1 : Germany

Feedback Questionnaire – The German Meeting

Gartennetz Deutschland e. V.

October 22nd–25th 2012

GRUNDTVIG Learning Partnership – „PaGE“

What did you learn during this mobility that you can apply in your educational activities in your home country?

- The presentation by Stana Schenck was a good introduction to Grundtvig Programme and gave us a good overview about the aims, principles and possibilities.
- We got to know about the different ways garden projects can be used and help by bringing together people from different backgrounds and different ages.
- Until now it is hard to say anything about the projects of our partners, we hope to learn more in the future during next meetings.

How did you cope with communicating in a language which is not your mother tongue? Were there communication problems? If so please describe:

- As we understood one of the purposes of the meeting was to get to know our partners from Grundtvig Partnership. The language of the meeting was supposed to be English.
- Unfortunately many parts of the program had been in German and lacked a sufficient and simultaneous translation. The members of our team represented by the Foundation are able to at least understand German. But the use of German most of the time didn't help in communicating with the teams from other organizations. Therefore, the communication and the interaction would have been probably more sufficient if the meeting would have been lead in English.

How did this mobility enhance your cross cultural understanding of the other participating countries?

- Unfortunately we had not much time to get in contact with other Grundtvig partners. The communication and interaction between the participants was weak because it wasn't moderated by the organizers.

Which parts of the programme did you enjoy the most?

- The part of the program we enjoyed the most, and the one that seemed most in accordance with

the purpose of the meeting was the afternoon session on 23rd October lead by Stana Schenck. Mrs Schenck explained with most clarity the purpose of the partnership and the role of each partner. The material provided during the meeting we believe will be helpful during the whole period of the partnership.

- We noticed the absence of the representative of the host organization at this introductory meeting.
- The trip organized on the last day was interesting, but it would be better if translation of all the tours would have been provided.

Which parts of the programme could be improved?

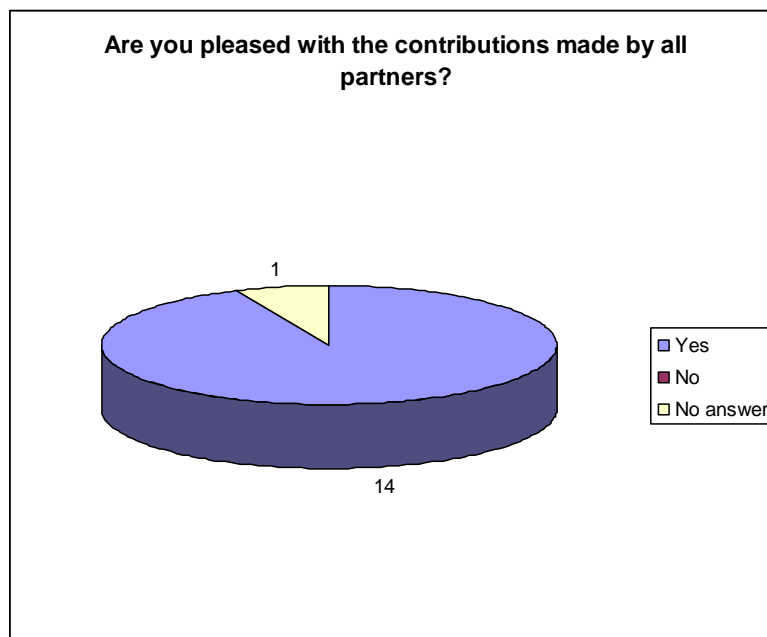
- The idea of inviting the participants of the meeting to the final conference of the program about microbiology wasn't that relevant for the purpose of the meeting and has had no real benefit for our organization. Even though we learned about this EM-project quite a lot, also as a part of the tasks GARTenakademie deals with, the focus on that had been in our opinion too strong. Therefore it would have been more interesting to learn about other projects and their benefits for the people and the organization. Also to enhance one's own perspectives.

Meeting 2 : Lithuania

EVALUATION of the workshop in Lithuania, Anyksciai



1. Are you pleased with the contributions made by all the partners?



The international meeting in Lithuania was successful. All the partners were pleased with the contributions made by all the partners.

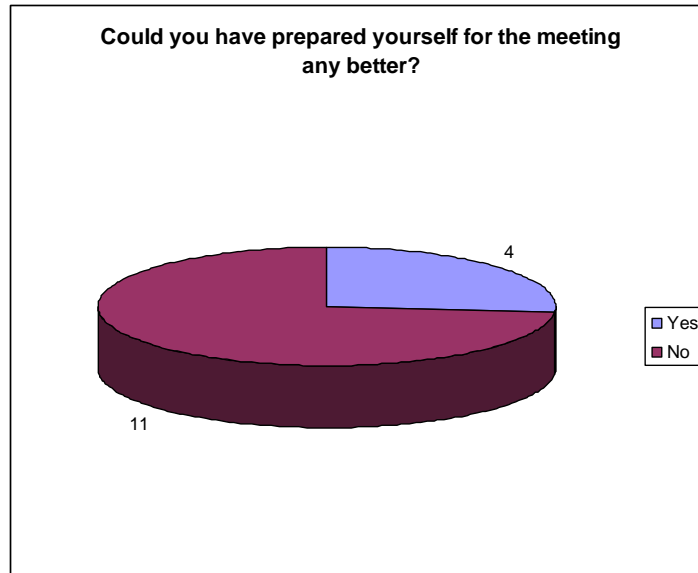
2. Could your own contributions to the meeting have been improved?



The mainly part of the participants were positive about their own contribution to the meeting. Only 3 participants think that their contributions to the meeting better:

- I do not have clear feeling about that. Hopefully it was improved.
- After the group has formed and organized, we could change knowledge more deeply on the interest and needs of participants.
- I could prepare the presentation a bit better.

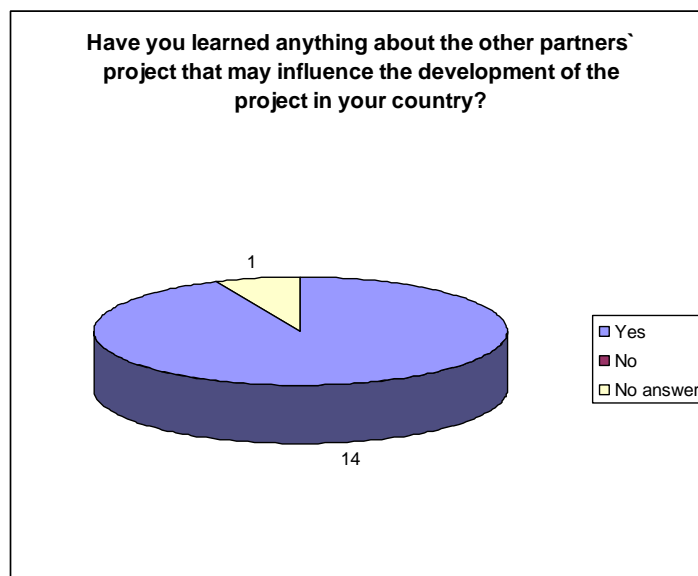
3. Could you have prepared yourself for the meeting any better?



The mainly part of the participants evaluated that the preparation for the meeting was good. Only 4 participants think that they could prepare for the meeting better:

- Maybe I could research about the partners' project in advance.
- I could have taken more brochures of own organization to the meeting.
- That misunderstanding happened to the financial part.
- I didn't specify the payment so it become a bit mess.

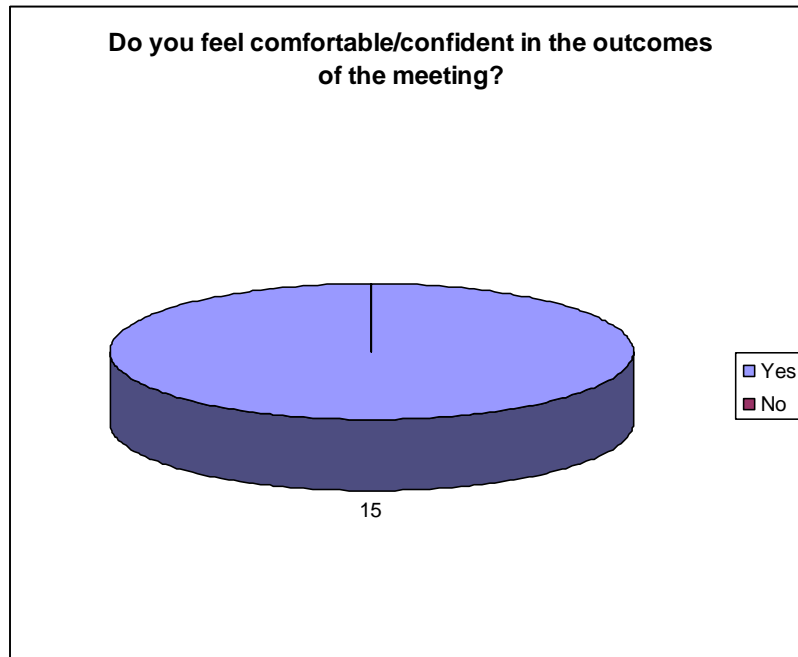
4. Have you learned anything about the other partners' projects that may influence the development of the project in your country?



The mainly part of the participants evaluated that have learned a lot about the other partners`:

- Generally this meeting expanded the definition of gardening, because I have seen new kind of gardewns (community gardening)
- We got a wider perspective on education System
- I got ideas how to prepare and organize new educational programm and events.
- Getting new ideas for future activities.
- Exchanging the different kind of approaches.
- We get lots of good ideas and share good practices.

5. Do you feel comfortable/confident in the outcomes of the meeting?



The atmosphere of the outcomes of the meeting was friendly, because everyone felt comfortable/confident.

6. Which parts of the programme did you enjoy the best and which parts of the programme could be improved?

The mainly part of participants were very positive about the program of the meeting: it was lovely organized meeting.

Some remarks:

- The introducing part could have been longer.
- The organizational parts.
- Some participants found difficult to communicate in English.

Meeting 3 : Estonia

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Feedback Questioner – the III meeting in Kurgja, Estonia

July 04th – 08th 2013

What did you learn during this mobility that you can apply in your educational activities in your organization or country?

- Parts from the handcraft workshop day can be integrated in our future programmes, the workshops about the traditional games and toys can be used in our project about the cultural heritage. Also the interesting information about plants and they use in daily life can be applied.
- We got a lot of new inspirations for our regional market. The invited providers should not only offer their products. We will also ask them if it's possible to show the visitors how it has been produced. And for our pupil-workshops we got new ideas for games, to have even more fun

Which part of the program did you enjoy most?

- There was variety of very nice events and the workshops on the handcraft day were very interesting and really enjoyable part of the program. The atmosphere and organisation were splendid during those three days. There were enough breaks, a lot of interesting sights to visit on the program and good possibilities to enjoy the free time after the program.
- I enjoyed the whole meeting! You offered (in such a short time :-)) everything what I want to see and learn from a country: nature, culture, culinary and traditional offerings, dances! It was a great pleasure to be a part of this meeting!

Which parts of the program could be improved?

- There could have been more strategies and methods organising a day in the nature and garden for children or adults. So far the program mainly concentrated on excursions and not so much on how to integrate ideas into activities.
- Everything was very fine! We visited a lot of interesting places and met a lot of nice people!

What proposals would you make to improve the museum and handcraft day?

- Nothing at all. It was very nice to have the tour in the museum to learn about the farm and its development. We also enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and that there was no pressure to follow constantly when someone needed a break. The handcraft day too was very nice, with lots of free room for oneself and nice activities and also an interesting presentation about plants. In consequence it awoke interest in the topic.
- As I had now learned to know the museum and the handcraft day, I don't have any proposals!

Any other comments (accommodation, meals, transport, information, etc)

- Accommodation was very nice and comfortable in a beautiful, quiet area. The meals were perfect. Transportation in the bus also very comfortable and easy. Good and friendly, very ambitious translator.

Meeting 4 : Poland



Evaluation of the Grundtvig PaGE Workshop in Poland 2013

What did you learn during this mobility that you can apply in your educational activities in your home country?

- no answer: 1x
- using land art (in educational programmes / for children): 7x
- how to use parks and gardens for educational purposes (in general) and certain teaching methods (in particular): 2x
- how to recover and reconnect an old castle and a park: 2x
- the rally in Dabroszyn as a method for learning / a way to discover the park 2x
- information about problems in border regions: 1x
- different methods to engage a target group in outside activities: 1x
- how to work with different people from different: 1x

Were there communication problems? If so please describe:

- no answer: 3x
- no problems: 5x
- not all participants spoke English. The translation into other languages disturbed the flow of the presentation / discussion: 3x
- translation from Polish to English was not loud enough: 2x

How did this mobility enhance your cross cultural understanding of the other participating countries?

- no answer: 2x
- presentation of Croatians enhanced knowledge about their country and culture: 5x
- Polish-German culture in border region (and better understanding of problems in border regions in general): 5x
- local cuisine: 1x
- learned how to do an exchange: 1x

- "good": 2x
- hearing about the eviction and relocation of Germans in Dabroszyn and experiencing the amazing history of the castle: 1x
- it was shocking to see how little Polish people seem to care about the environment because there was a lot of litter in Dabroszyn as well as nearby the Oder: 1x
- quote: "I learned a lot about the Polish history and political situation, especially in the area around the border. It was very interesting for me and I will take this information home with me and I will transfer my knowledge to my friends and family."

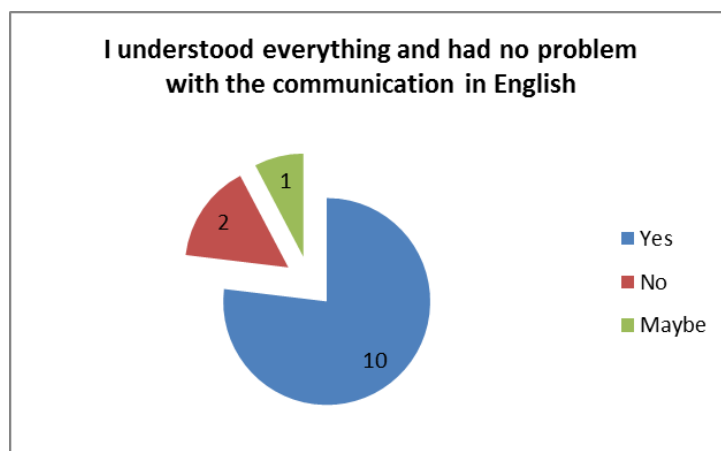
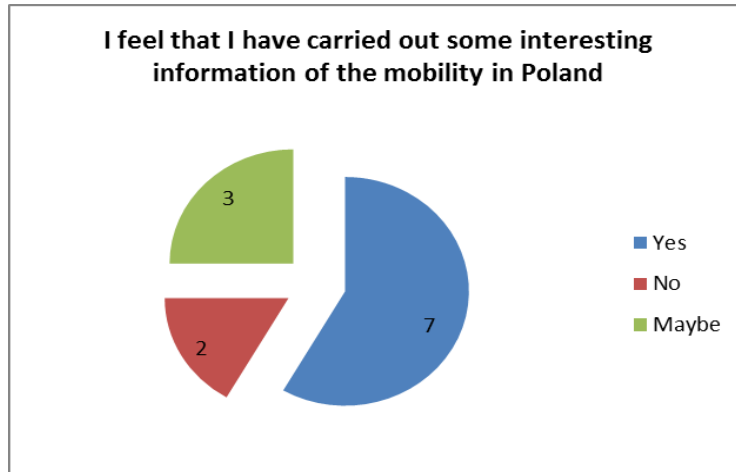
Which part(s) of the programme did you enjoy the most?

- no answer: 1x
- Dabroszyn (the rally through the park, the castle and / or talking to the old lady who lived there): 10x
- the land art workshop: 7x
- getting connected in the evening: 1x
- the food: 1x
- the whole programme was good: 1x

Which part(s) of the programme could be improved?

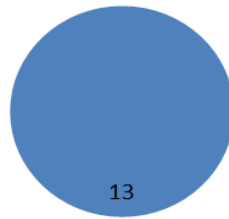
- no answer: 1x
- time management:
 - not enough free time: 3x
 - start earlier in the morning: 2x
 - trip to Tamsel was too long: 2x
- presentation:
 - too much information, instead more active participation (especially on Wednesday): 3x
 - talk more about the history of the area before visiting the palace: 1x
 - translator was too quiet: 1x
 - presentation in Tamsel castle was too long: 1x
- content:
 - did not visit enough places: 4x
 - rally focused too much on Polish history: 1x
 - more information about educational programmes in Poland: 1x
 - learn more about Polish traditions in general and the institution Dobro Kultury: 1x
- the food:
 - missed local cuisine: 1x

- smaller portions: 1x
- no plastic cutlery: 2x
- no water to drink during the meeting on Wednesday: 1x
- nothing to improve: 2x



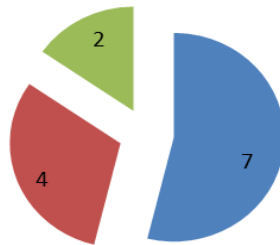
If there was a problem or a question, I always knew whom I could contact.

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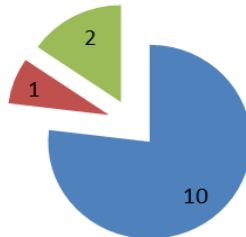
- Yes
- No
- Maybe

I learnt many interesting things about the area and its parks and gardens



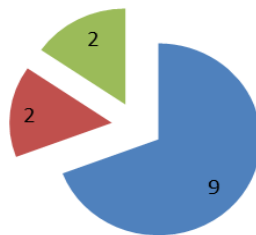
- Yes
- No
- Maybe

I have been very happy with my time here



- Yes
- No
- Maybe

I was able to bring my own skills, interests and ideas to the programme



- Yes
- No
- Maybe

Meeting 5 : Austria

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Feedback Questioner – the V meeting in Tulln, Austria

May 12th – 15th 2014

What did you learn during this mobility that you can apply in your educational activities in your organization or country?

- We got new ideas for educational programs and how to make programs more interesting and increase the participators involvement. We also got new ideas in horticultural landscaping.
- New ideas how gardens can be used for projects and in the field of cultural heritage such as the historical museum and park in Niedersulz
- I got to know interesting methods for the ecological work with childrens and I joined interesting insights in creative ecologically garden design. Furthermore I got to know how to work with and in show gardens.
- Combining cultural heritage with historical gardening, especially forgotten plants

Which part of the program did you enjoy most?

- The Garten Tulln was beautiful and interesting. The tour and especially introduction of educational programs were very interesting and inspiring. We also liked the tour in different gardens and the stories of the owners how they started and why everything is like it is
- Visit in the "Arche Noah"
- I enjoyed most the visit to the show gardens, the museums and GARDEN TULLN. The gardens gave a lot of exciting ideas and insights into the Austrian garden culture.
- This visits to the museums and the Arche Noah

Which parts of the program could be improved?

- Everything was great. Maybe there could have been little more local culture in the program.
- Activities for the participants, not only lectures and guided tours
- It was such a nice meeting. I could take longer!
- There was no free time or time to talk to the other participants. There were no activities or any

other way for us to participate, only lectures, which is not what I personally expect from a workshop... We visited too many show gardens and spent too much time in them

Have you learned anything about the other partners' projects that may influence the development of the project in your country?

- One person says no, the other says yes!

If yes, what exactly?

- All the mobilities gave us new ideas or methods and also remind us old ones. It is important to try and to it boldly and people are thankful.
- Ecological gardening and development
- How environmental education can be implemented with simple materials.

Do you feel comfortable/confident in the outcomes of the meeting?

- Yes No

If not, what could be improved or changed for the future?

Any other comments (accommodation, meals, transport, information, etc

- Very nicely organized.
- It was a nice time in Austria, we enjoyed our tours and your program. I just missed more active learning by doing myself, such as the landart presentation in garden tulln. We could do some more activities, but after all it was informative and nice!
- I don't mind sharing a room with my colleague, but it would have been more comfortable if the rooms had twin beds instead of double beds... Apart from that, you have been great hosts. I had a lovely time in Austria!