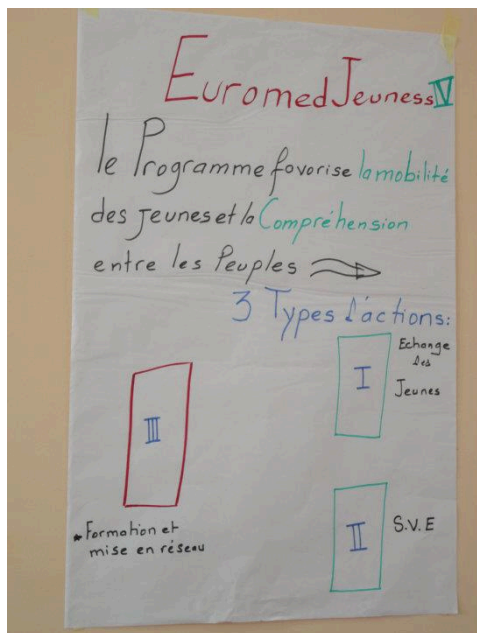


***Training for Tunisian Associations to the EUROMED YOUTH 4 Program
organized by the Regional Capacity Building and Support unity
and the Tunisian Euromed youth unity***



Preparing the second call for proposals for projects under the Euromed Youth 4 program, the Tunisian Euromed youth unity had organized on September 21 and 22 2011 a training session for project management for associations and NGOs. This training was in collaboration with



the Regional Capacity Building and Support unity based in Paris that had afford three French trainers to support and improve the network activities for a better integration of associations and NGOs into the program and for a success of the next submitted projects.

The EuroMed Youth Program is one of the regional programs established in the third chapter of the Barcelona Process entitled "Partnership in social, cultural and human affairs". It focuses on the activities of non-formal education, intercultural learning and active citizenship among young people, youth workers, and professionals in the field of youth who act within organisations and associations working with youth.

After the success of the three phases of the program for consecutive periods 1999-2001, 2002-2004 and 2005-2008, a fourth phase has been established for the period 2010 - 2013; its main objective is to encourage and strengthen participation and contribution of youth organizations and young people from the Euro-Mediterranean to the development of civil society and democracy.

The specific objectives are to stimulate and foster mutual understanding between young people of the Euro-Mediterranean region and fight against stereotypes and prejudices. The program is encouraging also the active citizenship among young people so that they contribute to the development of youth politics regarding there countries. These objectives are achieved through the implementation of actions conceived by the Euromed Youth Program: Action 1 Youth Exchange, Action 2 Euro-Mediterranean Voluntary Service and Action 3 training and networking.

The regional priority themes of the program are:

- Fight against racism and xenophobia
- Environmental protection
- Support for Gender Equality
- Human rights
- Youth participation in the development of civil society and democracy.

The national priority themes are:

- Support for national elections
- Development of local democracy
- Support young people's employability.

These topics does in fact fit to the needs and challenges of the country in this period of time, yet a fundamental priority is missing which is the management of cultural heritage (a priority theme for Morroco program). This topic presents a subject of conflict situations between generations and beliefs system hunting for identity and which indeed is reflecting the actual Tunisian youth situation.

RENCONTRES ET DECOUVERTES

- **Maysse BAROUDI : Association for Rural Voice "Assawt Al Rifi"** in Mednine created after the events of the revolution. It aims to assist and help primary schools in rural areas that are uncared and neglected by the state and does not offer a good education and learning environment for the students. Maysse and his friends of the organization are working to transfer this initiative to all rural areas of the country by creating representations of their association in order to come out with common practices and better collaboration for raising this issue. Maysse attended the training to discover the EuroMed Youth Program; according to him the actions of the program are all interesting to accomplish the objectives of the association, but he found the action of EuroMediterranean Voluntary Service more pertinent to his work in order to ensure international assistance and cooperation between the local community, the European Volunteer and the community that he will represent.

(Contact: maysse815@hotmail.com)



- **Mongi HAMZA : Association for Cooperation and exchange** in Gabes, created in 2002 to promote cultural and artistic youth exchanges in the country and abroad and to train young people for active participation in civil society. The association has already organized Euromed projects (youth exchange in 2004 dealing with the theme of

interculturality through the craft work, youth exchange in 2008 about the oasis as a World Heritage Site). the association has participated to its turn in projects with program countries such as the Euromed youth exchange in 2010 in Cote d'Armor in France on environment and sustainable development. Mongi assisted to this training to understand the objectives of the 4th phase of the Euromed youth program which represents for him an opportunity and solution to involve more actively the youth in the community life within an educational and non-formal learning and intercultural exchange. (Contact: acegabes@yahoo.fr)

- **Mohammed Hedi KORTAS:** Junior Chamber International in Akouda, a representation of the World Federation of JCI offering development opportunities to young people by allowing them to create positive change within their communities. Hedi recently knew about the Euromed Youth Program and assisted in the training to learn more about it; it was for him a good opportunity to know other associations, meeting new people and learn new tools of non formal education such as the 'Forum Theatre' workshop and the workshop on pedagogy and methods of youth work and non formal education. He is looking to assist in other training with the tunisian unity. His has a positive attitude towards Euromed Youth program so that it could change and improve the position of youth in local communities in Tunisia and especially with neighboring countries as long as the country has an important network of associations. (Contact: hedikort@yahoo.fr)

RENCONTRES ET DECOUVERTES

- **Neila SAHLOUL: Association for Youth Theater** in Hammam Sousse, founded by the first comedian generation in 1958. The association is specialised in training in arts shows, theatrical shows' production and cultural and artistic events. Neila, a young amateur comedian, attended this session to get acquainted with the program as it is the first time she heard about this type of European initiative in youth sector and to understand how to involve her association to the different actions of the program. Euromed youth 4 represents for her a funding frame of projects such as the organization of training in the field of theatrical carriers around the Euro-Mediterranean area or organizing theater amateur youth meeting that could be useful to the association in the making of their annually theater amateur spring festival. (Contact: Ajthammamsousse@hotmail.com)

- **Héla JDIDI : Association Les Aigles de Bienfaisance** in Sousse that offers charity acts, volunteering and social assistance to orphans and needy families . As a first discover of Euromed Youth 4 Program, the training was intense and instructive but very short. It was difficult for her to define and to choose the type of action that could fits the aims of her association and the way of performing non formal education technics in a youth exchange or in a seminar. However, following the recommendations made in the workshop of strategy management in the Euro-Mediterranean cooperation, Hela came to define the first steps to make after this session: first she will register her association in the Euromed youth platform, then she will share the training techniques and objectives with her team to understand the aims of the program and try to set up a project for the next deadlines. She is interested to assist in further training sessions with the Euromed unity to acquire better practices in projects making and to be part of more learning and training spaces. (Contact: associationaigles@gmail.com)



- **Afifa KHALIFA : Tunisian Association for cultural youth and leisure animation (Association Tunisienne de l'Animation Culturelle Jeunesse et Loisir)** in Hammam Sousse. Founded in 2007 and acts in the frame of youth, education and leisures activities. The association organizes activities and youth exchange in music, sport, dance and craftwork. Its goal is to involve youth in the associative life through their participation in cultural and artistic activities. Afifa knows about the Euromed program as she had collaborated with "the friends of the youth center association in Sousse" for a youth exchange dealing with the fitting out of areas through voluntary work. Concerning the fourth phase of the Euromed youth program, Afifa and her collaborators submitted already a youth exchange project about Olive as a cultural and natural resource and they are waiting for the answer of the Tunisian unity. The training has been very useful for her as she learned new animation technics like the "Forum Theatre" and she had the chance to share and to discover experiences of the participants in projects technics management for unexpected situations. (Contact: sahloulmj@yahoo.com/afifa.jegam@gmail.com)

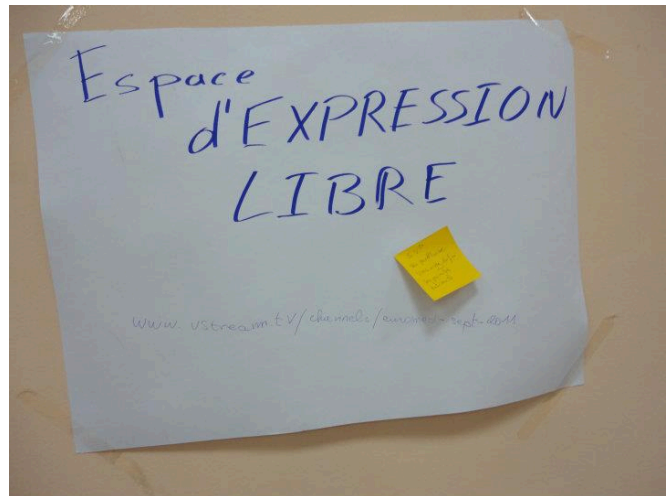
WORKSHOPS REVIEWS

“Forum Theatre” :

it is an interactive theatre technic developed by Augusto Boal which aims to let oppressed persons express themselves. The first and basic principle of the Forum-Theatre consists of approaching a collective issue within a group of persons . After the presentation of the conflict situation leading to a deadlock , the play is replayed. Audience or Jokers can then :

- Stop the performance
- Interfere on the stage
- Take the place of a character
- Change the outcome of the situation to give solutions
- Express his approval or disapproval
- Get Out of the conflict situation .

It is a participatory and "democratic" non formal education tool which allows to give a space of freedom of speech, of decision making, of awareness in different topics requiring prevention or reflection workouts .



Pedagogy of youth-working within Euromed project:

- Methodology : preparation of toolkits for learning process and project management, a review of the regularity of the action's program, game-rules set up collectively, defining projects stages (diagnosis, preparation (Advanced Planification Visits, meetings, communication tools such as Facebook, Yahoo Group), making of the project and evaluation), working with the local community .
- Youth-working techniques : participatory approach,controlling conflict situations, non formal education, team motivation (energizers, icebreaker games), simplify the instructions .
- Youth-worker profile: leadership, flexibility, adaptability, mentoring, coordinating, linguistic skills.

Youth and local democracy: relationship and role?

To promote and to strengthen the relationship of youth with public actors, participants concluded as follows:

- Providing the youth with an education and knowledge about public institutions functions and roles (long term education).
- Involve the youth in the responsibilities of the stakeholders by enhancing their skills and respecting their right of participation.
- Sustaining and directing the energy of youth.

The bottom-lines that participants concluded as important and needed to enable youth to take place and play a role in local democracy are:

- Train and educate youth for democracy culture.
- Co-responsibility and transfer of knowledge within generations.
- Respect and trust of youth skills.
- Motivate, encourage and promote the efforts of the young.
- Networking (snowball effect).