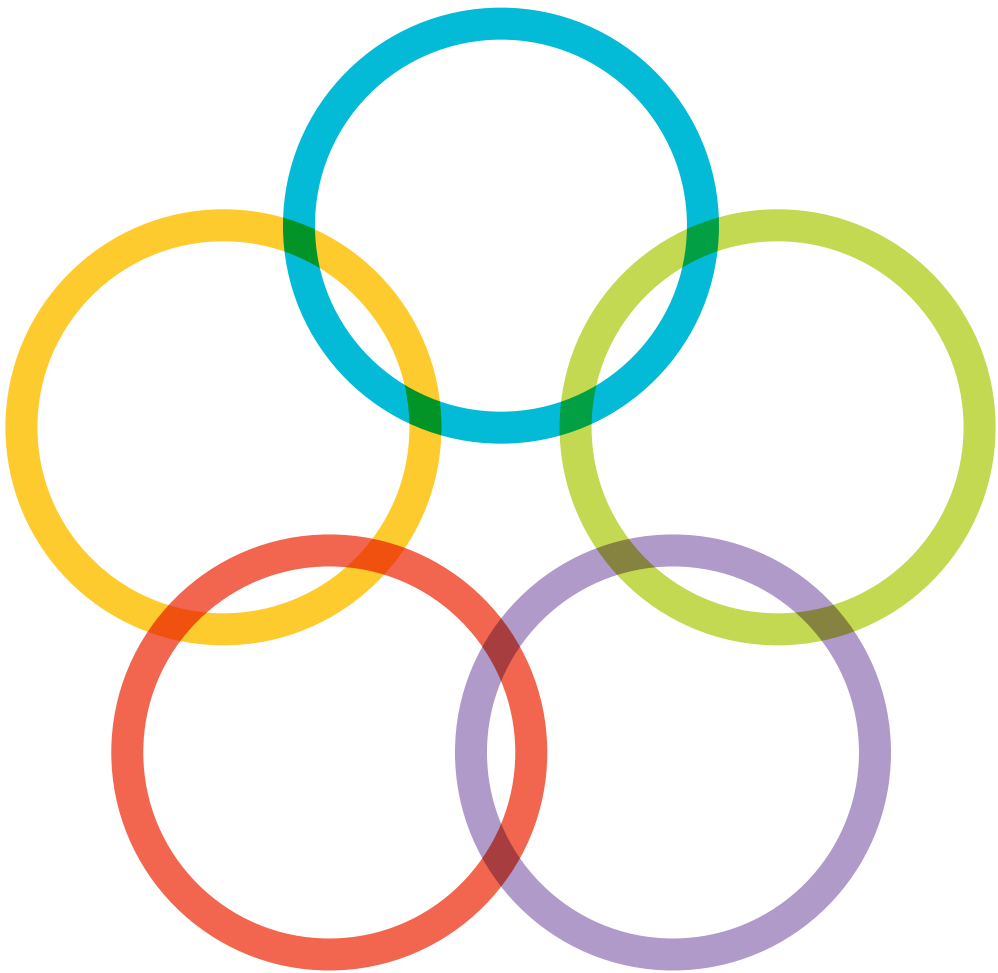


# EUROPEANS, FOR EXAMPLE

Volunteering experience



# Europe's most precious capital is its citizens

## The people's europe

Every day, thousands of volunteers all over Europe are working to promote social cohesion and citizens' rights, while developing their own skills at the same time. Europeans, for example aims to draw on these citizens as a resource for the European community, exploiting and promoting positive examples of active citizenship and volunteer work, and supporting the formal recognition of volunteers' skills.

The Europeans, for example project intends to meet a double challenge: **encouraging participation in voluntary organizations, and increasing the level of professionalism in the sector**. These two goals are closely intertwined, because training and the recognition of skills are important means of stimulating involvement.

The six partners of Europeans, for example will embark on a process of **strengthening European social capital**, thanks to the development and implementation of a training model to be provided to adult volunteers, enabling them to meet communal and social needs in their local areas. This model of public-private partnership will promote the development of social institutions and civil society and can be applied in other countries in the European Union through the publication of documentation on the website.

The project will involve 600 adults in partner countries, as well as public bodies, non-profit organisations, providers of adult education, and social partners. It is estimated that thousands of people will be indirectly involved.



## 4 GOALS FOR A COMMON PROJECT

- 01 Promoting volunteer work and  
supporting horizontal subsidiarity
- 02 Disseminating good practices
- 03 Training 600 adults who wish to be  
- or already are - volunteer workers
- 04 Recognising acquired skills  
through the use of the “Volupass”

Doing volunteer work  
means being citizens  
in every sense of the term

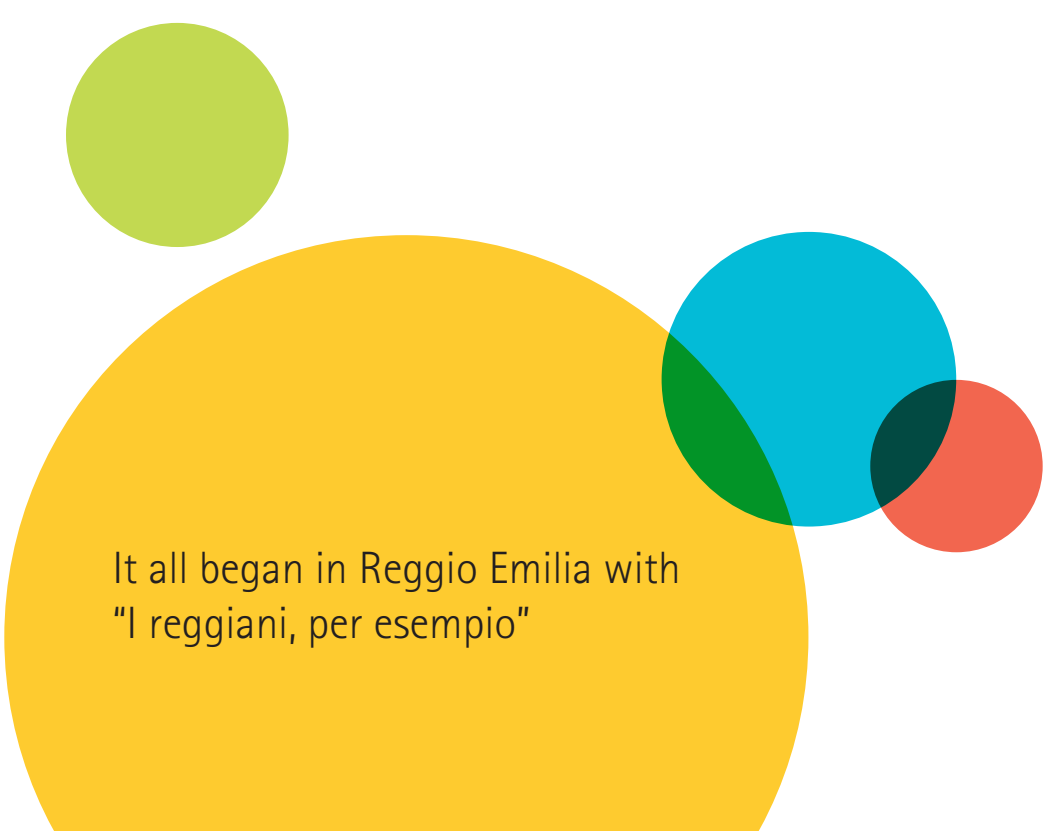
# Project leader: Reggio Emilia

Europeans, for example was created out of the experience of the Municipality of Reggio Emilia (Italy) acquired through programs dealing with permanent education and active citizenship. With the project called I reggiani, per esempio ("Reggio Emilia residents, for example"), the Municipality of Reggio Emilia has defined good existing practices, appealed for volunteers, and has promoted the involvement of citizens in local government through the financing of ideas and projects for the public interest.

The I reggiani, per esempio project has consistently been implemented through the active involvement of the greatest possible number of local operators and entities representing diverse interests: public organisations, representatives of industrial firms and labour groups, services-producing sector and volunteer organisations, schools and private companies.

To date, more than 300 stories of active citizenship, volunteer work and social responsibility have been collected and made widely known; over 400 project proposals have been received, and more than 200 volunteers have donated their time to activities that support the Municipality and the services-producing sector.

Today, four years after its launch, the I reggiani, per esempio experience is not only a list of good practices, but is itself a good practice to be shared and disseminated throughout Europe.



It all began in Reggio Emilia with  
"I reggiani, per esempio"

5 European countries  
are reaching beyond  
their borders to learn  
about the new frontiers  
of volunteering

## Networked partners

The partners, which belong to 5 European countries (4 EU members and 1 candidate for membership), will be responsible for one or more elements of project activities, according to the concrete skills they have acquired in various sectors.

The City of Reggio Emilia (Italy), the Project Leader, will coordinate the planned activities as a result of its previous, consolidated experience.



IFOA (Italy) will work together with the Municipality of Reggio Emilia to ensure coordinated management of the project and of the certification of volunteer training (Volupass). The training centre operated by Italian Chambers of Commerce boasts 40 years of experience in training young people and adults.



The CCD Dolj (Romania) regional centre for professional teacher development will contribute its know-how to a study of the needs of partner areas and the contents of training programs for recruited volunteers.



In consideration of its role as the Provincial Department of Public Education, Konya MEM (Turkey) will manage activities to raise the awareness and involvement of local operators through focus groups and round tables, and will also provide local governance in the various local areas, according to the background of the project developed through Reggio Emilia's experience.



CTL Vallecas (Spain), an association of over 450 adult trainers and voluntary educators, will coordinate the development of volunteer training programs together with IFOA.



The E.N.T.E.R. Network will publicise and utilize the results obtained, in order to give the project visibility beyond the boundaries of the partnership and also assist its reproducibility after its conclusion.



# 9 work packages for member countries

## Work packages relating to management (for the entire duration of the project)

Work package 1  
**Project coordination and management**  
(Municipality of Reggio Emilia and IFOA)

Work package 3  
**Implementation and coordination of the Quality Plan**  
(Municipality of Reggio Emilia and IFOA)

## Work packages relating to results obtained (actions taken over a short time span)

Work package 4  
**Identification and analysis of the needs  
of local areas and of target groups**  
(CCD DoIj)

Work package 5  
**Raising awareness and the involvement  
of local operators**  
(Konya Mem)

Work package 6  
**Development of the training framework**  
(CTL Vallecas)

Work package 7  
**Training, assessment and certification**  
(IFOA)

Work package 8  
**Skills in action**  
(Konya Mem)

## Work packages relating to impact

Work package 2  
**Dissemination/communication**  
(E.N.T.E.R. and the Municipality of Reggio Emilia)

Work package 9  
**Utilisation of results**  
(E.N.T.E.R.)

# OUTPUT

## Promotion of volunteer work and active citizenship

Actions will be taken in the partner countries of the project to promote volunteer work and active citizenship through the collection of stories, experiences and examples which make up the social capital of each partner area.

## Volupass for 600 volunteers

Six hundred volunteers (a minimum of 100 per country) will be trained and certified with a Volupass, a “Volunteering Passport” that will not only facilitate cooperation with local authorities and organisations, but also help in promoting initiatives involving citizens.

## Towards a community framework

Europeans, for example will be an important step towards creating and managing a common framework - complete with guidelines and tools for its implementation - in which the skills of volunteers will be formally recognized.

## Heightened awareness

The project will aim to promote greater, more widespread awareness among public officers and private operators regarding the potential benefit of trained volunteers for the local community.

## Good practices to be shared

Data, materials and experiences will be exploited and made more easily transferable, and will also be disseminated through the media and on [www.europeansforexample.eu](http://www.europeansforexample.eu).

Motivating volunteers  
also means  
recognising their skills

[www.europeansforexample.eu](http://www.europeansforexample.eu)

# The process in 6 steps

COLLECTION OF EXPERIENCES  
AND ANALYSIS OF NEEDS

DEVELOPMENT OF STRATEGIES  
FOR THE GOVERNANCE OF ACTIONS TAKEN

IDENTIFICATION OF  
A SAMPLE OF VOLUNTEERS

TRAINING

ASSESSMENT  
AND CERTIFICATION

DISSEMINATION  
OF THE RESULTS



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Sapere utile

