

# International Empowering Workshop

Szeged, Hungary

Sunday 21 – Saturday 27 June 2026

## Participant Information

### About the Training

The **International Empowering Workshop in Szeged** will bring together youth workers and volunteers from **Hungary, Ireland, Poland, and France** to strengthen **cross-sectoral cooperation in volunteering**.

During the training, participants will exchange experiences, learn practical tools, and design volunteer actions that connect **non-profit organizations, public institutions, and other sectors** in their communities.

The workshop focuses on **empowering youth workers and community actors** to create impactful volunteer initiatives at the local level.

### Key concepts in the project

To ensure a shared understanding among participants, the project partners agreed on the following definitions:

#### Volunteering

Volunteering refers to activities that are:

- **Freely chosen**
- **Unpaid**
- **Carried out to benefit the community or society**
- **Often connected to the non-profit or community sector**

Volunteering can take many forms depending on the country and organisation.

## Volunteer Action

A **volunteer action** is a concrete activity organised for a social purpose. It can be:

- A **short-term event**
- A **one-time activity**
- An **individual or group initiative**
- An activity organized by an **organisation or community group**

Volunteer actions are often **focused, practical activities with immediate impact**.

## Cross-Sectoral Cooperation

Cross-sectoral cooperation means **different sectors working together to achieve a shared goal**.

This can involve:

- NGOs collaborating with **municipalities**
- Community groups partnering with **businesses**
- Public institutions working with **civil society organisations**

The project defines it as: **Common activities implemented together by actors from different sectors**.

## Learning goals for participants

By the end of the workshop, participants should gain:

### Knowledge

**Participants will understand:**

- How cross-sector cooperation works
- How volunteering systems differ across countries
- How to identify stakeholders and partners in their communities

### Skills

**Participants will learn how to:**

- Design and plan volunteer actions
- Conduct stakeholder analysis
- Present cooperation examples and best practices
- Work in international teams
- Use practical tools such as Youthpass reflection and infographic design

## Attitudes

The workshop aims to encourage:

- Openness to collaboration
- Confidence to initiate new projects
- Motivation to apply learning locally
- Respect for diversity and different experiences

## Responsibility & Autonomy

Participants will be encouraged to:

- Take initiative in planning volunteer actions
- Apply their learning in their own organisations
- Support local cross-sectoral cooperation after the workshop

## What participants will do during the workshop

Participants will take part in interactive sessions including:

- Icebreakers and energisers
- Best practice sharing from each country
- Stakeholder analysis exercises
- Local planning sessions for volunteer actions
- Group work and collaborative problem solving
- Reflection activities linked to Youthpass learning outcomes

Participants will also contribute to the development of **infographics and practical tools** that will be used to share project results.

## Cultural exchange

Instead of formal presentations, the workshop will include informal cultural exchange activities.

Participants are encouraged to:

- Share elements of their **culture and traditions**
- Bring **sweets or small treats** from their country for a shared session
- Participate in informal cultural activities and games

## After the workshop: follow-up phase

The workshop is only the first step. Participants will be expected to:

- Help organise or contribute to **local volunteer actions**
- Apply the tools and ideas developed during the workshop
- Share experiences with their organisations and communities
- Support the dissemination of the project results

Across the project, partners will implement **at least eight volunteer actions** at the local level.

## Practical information

### Language

- The working language of the workshop is **English**.
- Participants are encouraged to speak **clearly and at a moderate pace**.

### Participation

Participants are expected to:

- Engage actively in sessions
- Respect different experiences and backgrounds
- Contribute to group activities
- Participate in the follow-up phase after the workshop

### Accommodation

Participants will stay in accommodation in Szeged in **double rooms**.

If participants prefer a single room, they may arrange this privately by covering any additional cost. Your food will be provided for the duration of the training

### Travel

Travel costs will be **reimbursed according to the project rules**. Participants must keep and submit **all travel tickets and boarding passes**. You will fly from Dublin Airport to Budapest Airport (approximately 2h 50m), take a 10 minute bus journey to Ferihegy Train Station and then take a train journey to Szeged (2h 30m).

## Inclusivity

The project aims to involve participants with **fewer opportunities**, including:

- People from **smaller cities or rural areas**
- Participants with **visible or hidden disabilities**
- Individuals who may face **social or economic barriers**

The workshop environment will aim to be **supportive and respectful**, and participants will not be forced to present or participate in activities they are uncomfortable with.

## Project partners

The partners of this project are:

**Talentum Alapítvány** (Project Lead, Hungary),

**Benenova** (France),

**Centrum Wolontariatu** (Poland),

and **Volunteer Ireland** (Ireland).

The closing date for applications is **Sunday 29 March 2026**

The project is co-funded by the European Union under the Erasmus+ programme.