

The project «Touchstone/Get Engaged for Europe» was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Applicable to the Strand 2 – Measure 2.3 "Civil Society Projects"

Preparatory activities:

In 2021 Age & Opportunity designed and developed a Train the Trainer programme for the project (WP1)

Location / Dates: 16th and 23rd March 2022 and 19th April 2022, the Train the Trainer programme was delivered to all partners online. (WP2)

Short description: Age & Opportunity delivered the Train the Trainer course online to the project partners: 4 people from Bulgarian Red Cross, 5 from Gouden Dagen in the Netherlands, 4 from Fundacion Albihar and 2 from Age & Opportunity. (WP2)

Events:

Seven events were carried out under WP3, and one under WP4.

Event 1 (WP3)

Participation: The event involved 15 participants from the city of Hasskovo (Bulgaria).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Hasskovo, Bulgaria, from 01/06/2022 to 04/06/2022.

Short description: The aim of the event was to deliver training to 15 older Bulgarian citizens on the topic of positive ageing. Issues discussed included team-building, team work and interaction, civil engagement, how to make change, letting go of prejudice and COVID-19 impact on the perceptions of ageing. The event was held over 4 days with 3 days of workshop activities and 1 day for a joint trip with a group of 15 Syrian migrants resident in Bulgaria to a local archaeological site Mezzek.

Event 2 (WP3)

Participation: The event involved 15 participants who are migrants from Syria resident in Bulgaria.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Harmanli, Bulgaria, from 01/06/2022 to 04/06/2022.

Short description: The aim of the event was the same as Event 1. In addition to the topics discussed in Event 1 participants in this group explored the impact of being a refugee and positive narratives. This event was also held over 4 days with 3 days of workshop activities and 1 day for a joint trip with the group of 15 older Bulgarian citizens (from Event 1) to the local archaeological site Mezzek.

Event 3 (WP3)

Participation: The event involved 15 people originally from Syria, Iraq and Palestine, who are resident in Bulgaria.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Sofia, Bulgaria from 06/06/2022 to 09/06/2022.

Short description: The aim of the event was to deliver training on the main topic of positive ageing. The issues discussed were as for Event 2. The event was also held over 4 days with 3 days of workshop activities and 1 day for a joint trip to a local natural site, Pancharevo, with a group of 15 people originally from Iraq and Afghanistan, who are resident in Bulgaria.

Event 4 (WP3)

Participation: The event involved 15 migrants from Iran and Afghanistan who are resident in Bulgaria.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Sofia, Bulgaria from 06/06/2022 to 09/06/2022.

Short description: The aim of the event was the same as Event 3. It was also held over 4 days with 3 days of workshops and then a joint trip on the last day with participants from Event 3.

Event 5 (WP4):

Participation: The event involved 27 people including an international delegation comprised of 3 officials from the British Red Cross (BRC) and 3 from Red Cross of Bosnia and Herzegovina; and 21 people resident in Bulgaria including officials from Bulgaria Red Cross and migrants from Ukraine, Syria, Iran, Afghanistan and Iraq who are resident in Bulgaria.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Sofia, Bulgaria on 23/06/2022.

Short description: The aim of this local learning event was to share the outcomes of the delivered trainings, good practices and challenges. The speakers at the event included BRC officials, expert-trainers and people who attended the trainings.

Event 6 (WP3):

Participation: The event involved 13 participants originally from China who are resident in the Netherlands, living in Rotterdam, the Hague and Delft.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Rotterdam, The Netherlands on 22/06/2022.

Short description: The aim of the event was to promote social contact and to discuss participants' experience of assimilation into Dutch society, both positive and negative, and how their lives could be improved. The event consisted of a rooftop walk in the centre of Rotterdam, followed by a meal and discussion.

Event 7 (WP3)

Participation: The event involved 14 participants all of whom are resident in Spain, including 3 originally from Venezuela and 4 from Colombia.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Granada, Spain from 07/06/2022 to 28/6/2022.

Short Description: The aim of the event was to facilitate the group to design an activity called 'Eternal Childhood', where participants played 4 typical childhood games from participants' birth countries, while sharing information about their culture and enjoying local food.

Event 8 (WP3)

Participation: The event involved 7 Spanish residents, including 2 originally from Venezuela and 1 from Colombia all resident in Spain.

Location / Dates: The event took place in Granada, Spain from 11/07/2022 to 19/07/2022.

Short Description: The aim of the event was to facilitate the group to design an integration activity called 'Get to know Granada, discover friendships', consisting of a programme of monthly meetings to make cultural visits around the city. Due to the summer heatwave the visits were postponed until September.

