



Newsletter 4

January 2021

What is Job Bridge?

Job Bridge a two-year project funded by the European Programme Erasmus+ and coordinated by the German partner BUPNET GmbH (Bildung und Projekt Netzwerk). The project is implemented by a consortium of eight partners from seven European countries: Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Spain and UK. The aim is to improve the recognition and the validation of volunteers' competences in the EU by developing a fully-fledged user-centred approach for validating non-formal and informal learning processes in volunteering activities, including a well proven web-based documentation, both for volunteers and the voluntary organisations.

And the winners are ...



In May 2020 the Job Bridge consortium launched the European Job Bridge Award - A competition that aims to promote projects and initiatives for validating learning outcomes in volunteering. We were looking for innovative initiatives and activities that promote the development of competences of volunteers in a new way. We were explicitly looking for practical cases or novel ideas on how learning outcomes and competence development within volunteering can be assessed and documented. From the 23 submissions the jury selected three winning projects.

And the winners are ... We are happy to announce the three winners of our Job Bridge Award:

www.job-bridge.eu

jobbridge@three.p2n.de

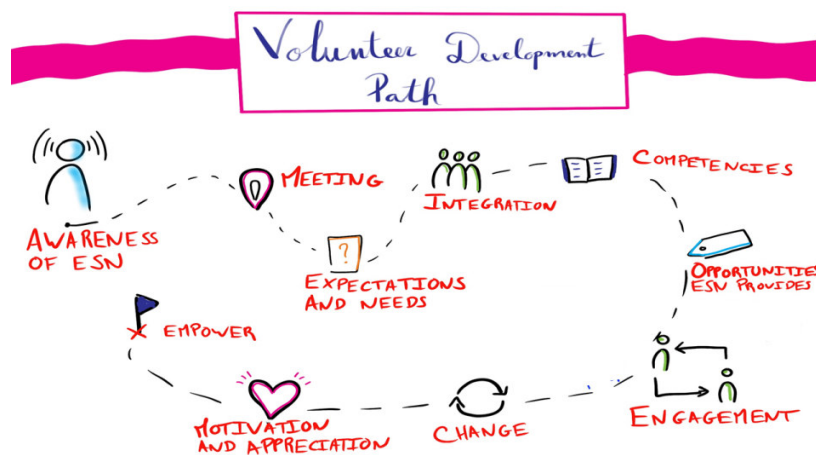
#JobBridge

- ✦ Validation of Volunteer Work, presented by ESN, Belgium
- ✦ Skills Summary - The easy way to track and develop your life skills, presented by National Youth Council of Ireland
- ✦ NOW App, presented by NOW, Switzerland

Find here the project abstracts:

✦ **Validation of Volunteer Work, ESN:**

The main aim of the project is to develop a tool based on collected data to better understand and measure the development of our volunteers to be able to validate their competences. The process started with researching and reviewing prior research, tools and documents done in and outside the organisation.



Based on research, ESN developed a competency framework that defines knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for volunteers within an organisation. Individual roles inside the organisation will have its own set of competencies identified for them to perform the job effectively. We have also developed a competence inventory for the organisation,

where there are 85 competences connected to the work done in the organisation, and for each of them, we have defined skills, knowledge and attitude.

In the following months the plan is to extend the HR map, identify and develop more competences, create competence clusters, identify competence levels and create performance indicators for each of them and map the competences per field and create field-specific competency frameworks. Finally, the aim is to develop the validation tool in the digital form in order to optimise the use of it, make it accessible to all 15,000 volunteers in our organisation, as well as sustainable.

✦ **Skills Summary - The easy way to track and develop your life skills, presented by National Youth Council of Ireland:**

The skills people gain through volunteering are skills for life. Skills Summary is an innovative way for young people to explore these skills and identify areas that need development. Skills Summary is a free and easy to use online tool that captures and measures the transferrable life skills young people gain by participating in non-formal education, such as volunteering and youth work. It builds confidence in young people, so that they can better communicate the value of these essential skills, both to themselves and future employers. Furthermore, it raises awareness of the importance of volunteering and youth work for personal skills development and the impact on our society.

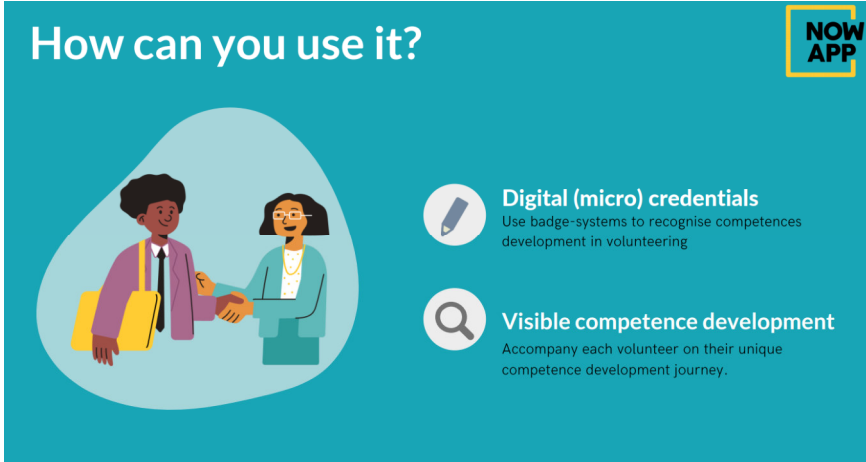


Skills Summary is a dynamic way to track, develop, capture and evaluate core, transferable life skills. More than just a measurement tool, Skills Summary supports the sustained development of young people's learning outside of formal education. It introduces a language to young people which helps them to recognise and validate the skills they already have, while also inviting them to set goals, increase their skill levels and pursue new skills. This new awareness of core skills, combined with their resulting new confidence, is an asset to young people pursuing employment and other opportunities.

Find out more: <https://www.skillssummary.ie/>

NOW App, presented by NOW, Switzerland:

With the NOW App we have developed a solution to accompany and measure the development of 21st Century Competences acquired in volunteer experiences or



How can you use it?

Digital (micro) credentials
Use badge-systems to recognise competences development in volunteering

Visible competence development
Accompany each volunteer on their unique competence development journey.

NOW APP

non-formal education. The NOW App allows organizations to map the competences developed in the learning opportunities they offer and to track each individual's development. The NOW App allows each organization to personalize the solution and select the competences that are most relevant to them.

For learners, the app allows to gain insight into their strength through self-, peer- and facilitator assessment and to boost their competences with micro-learnings. With the e-certificate generated at the end of the learning experience, learners will have a simple tool to showcase their competences and link them back to the real-life experiences that allowed for their development. For the facilitator or volunteer coordinators the app helps to personalize the learning process through the facilitator dashboard and offers a simple way to monitor and measure the development of each individual.

Find out more: <https://nowornow.org/>

Our offer for the future

Digital Badges

A badge is a recognition of a 'learning-experience'. A badge can be a simple token, a sign, real or electronic, preferably linked to a (short) description of the learning activity and the competences involved. It can be handed out on the spot or be sent electronically afterwards.



In Job Bridge two different badges are offered: The “Savvy Facilitator” badge that is assigned to those facilitators that enrol into the Job Bridge e-learning course (<https://job-bridge.eu/training/>) and that receive a badge on completion of a defined number of activities and tasks with the aim to recognise and certify their learning outcomes. And the “Savvy Volunteer” badge that is assigned to those volunteers that are involved in some

volunteering activities and that reflect on their competence

Both badges shall be an additional incentive to get involved in the proposed activities, as it evidences the achievements and learning progress.



KA1-Course

One of the main results of the Job Bridge project is a training course addressing trainers, facilitators and multipliers that work with volunteers. The aim of the course is to introduce concepts of mentoring, assessment, validation and recognition of competences in the context of voluntary work. The course consists of five modules:

- ✦ M1: Setting the context: Volunteering as a means to increase job readiness
- ✦ M2: Competence oriented learning in volunteering
- ✦ M3: Validation and link to the labour market
- ✦ M4: The validation system LEVEL5
- ✦ M5: Learning Projects

The Job Bridge partners will offer the course in the future (preferably in face-to-face once we have overcome the pandemic) The respective course offers will be published on the KA1 platform PROVIDE: <https://provide-eu.org>.

Project Partners



BUPNET GmbH,
Göttingen, Germany
www.bupnet.de



La Ligue de l'enseignement,
Paris, France
<https://laligue.org>



CATRO
Sofia, Bulgaria
<https://catro.com>



LLLP
Brussels, Belgium
<http://lllplatform.eu>



CCUM
Rome, Italy
<http://www.collegiuniversitari.it>



Camara Oficial De Comercio
Cáceres, Spain
<https://www.camaracaceres.com>



Volunteering Matters
London, UK
<https://volunteeringmatters.org.uk>



blinc eG
Göttingen, Germany
<https://reveal-eu.org/>



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Website

<https://job-bridge.eu>