



The Estonian Pilot of the WINnovators Project showcased innovative ideas to empower and engage youth in various meaningful activities. Six teams developed distinct projects targeting different aspects of youth development, each aiming to foster socialization, enhance mental health, encourage community involvement, and promote environmental awareness.

Team 1 designed the "Regional Youth Initiative Day" to support young people in the Viru-Nigula municipality. The event aimed to encourage socialization beyond their usual circles by providing a platform for diverse learning and social experiences. Although the project was not executed as initially planned due to the increased workload of the young participants, the process provided valuable learning experiences. The youth were guided through project writing stages by student mentors, who helped them with tasks such as mapping target groups and conducting risk analyses. The collaborative effort highlighted the importance of proactive engagement and creative thinking in building confidence and expanding social networks.

Team 2 focused on improving high school graduates' sleep habits and mental health with the "Youth Sleep Habits" project. This initiative involved mapping sleep patterns and mental health statuses to raise awareness and skills through workshops and follow-up activities. The close collaboration between students and youth participants led to a comprehensive needs analysis, brainstorming sessions, and the creation of a practical project idea. While the final execution was primarily the responsibility of the students, the young participants played a significant role in the initial stages, demonstrating the project's potential to improve mental well-being through better sleep practices.

Team 3's "Young Adults in the Youth Work" project aimed to engage 18+ youth in local youth center activities. By addressing vital topics through a series of events organized in cooperation with the youth center, employment office, and youth group, the project encouraged young adults to participate actively. However, the team faced challenges in division of labor, time planning, and teamwork. Despite these difficulties, the project underscored the importance of peer-led activities in fostering youth involvement and developing organizational skills.

Team 4 introduced the "Survival Skills Camp" to teach urban youth aged 16 to 26 how to cope in crisis situations. The camp covered essential areas such as mental health, open-air cooking, recycling, sustainability, and crisis preparedness. Despite difficulties in collaboration and responsibility sharing between the two students leading the project, the camp aimed to equip young people with practical skills to handle modern challenges. The initiative highlighted the necessity of stepping out of comfort zones and learning to act in new and challenging situations.

Team 5's "Street Art in Small Village" project aimed to provide rural youth with an opportunity to learn and express street art skills through a two-day graffiti workshop. The project, which received funding from KULKA, fostered artistic creativity, built new friendships, and facilitated discussions on personal reflections and worldviews. The collaborative effort between youngsters and a student youth worker emphasized the role of art in community building and personal development.

Finally, Team 6's exchange students proposed a gardening initiative to instill environmental awareness and sustainability practices among children aged 8 to 12. Through hands-on gardening experiences, weekly meetings, planting workshops, and cooking sessions using harvested produce, the project aimed to foster

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responsibility and environmental stewardship. The exchange students' teamwork and project management efforts, coupled with their participation in the Winnovators Space, demonstrated the project's potential to promote sustainable living and healthy lifestyle choices among young participants.

the Estonian Pilot of the WINnovators Project provided a diverse range of initiatives aimed at empowering youth through socialization, mental health improvement, community involvement, crisis preparedness, artistic expression, and environmental awareness. Each project, despite facing various challenges, contributed to the overall goal of fostering proactive, creative, and socially responsible young individuals.

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