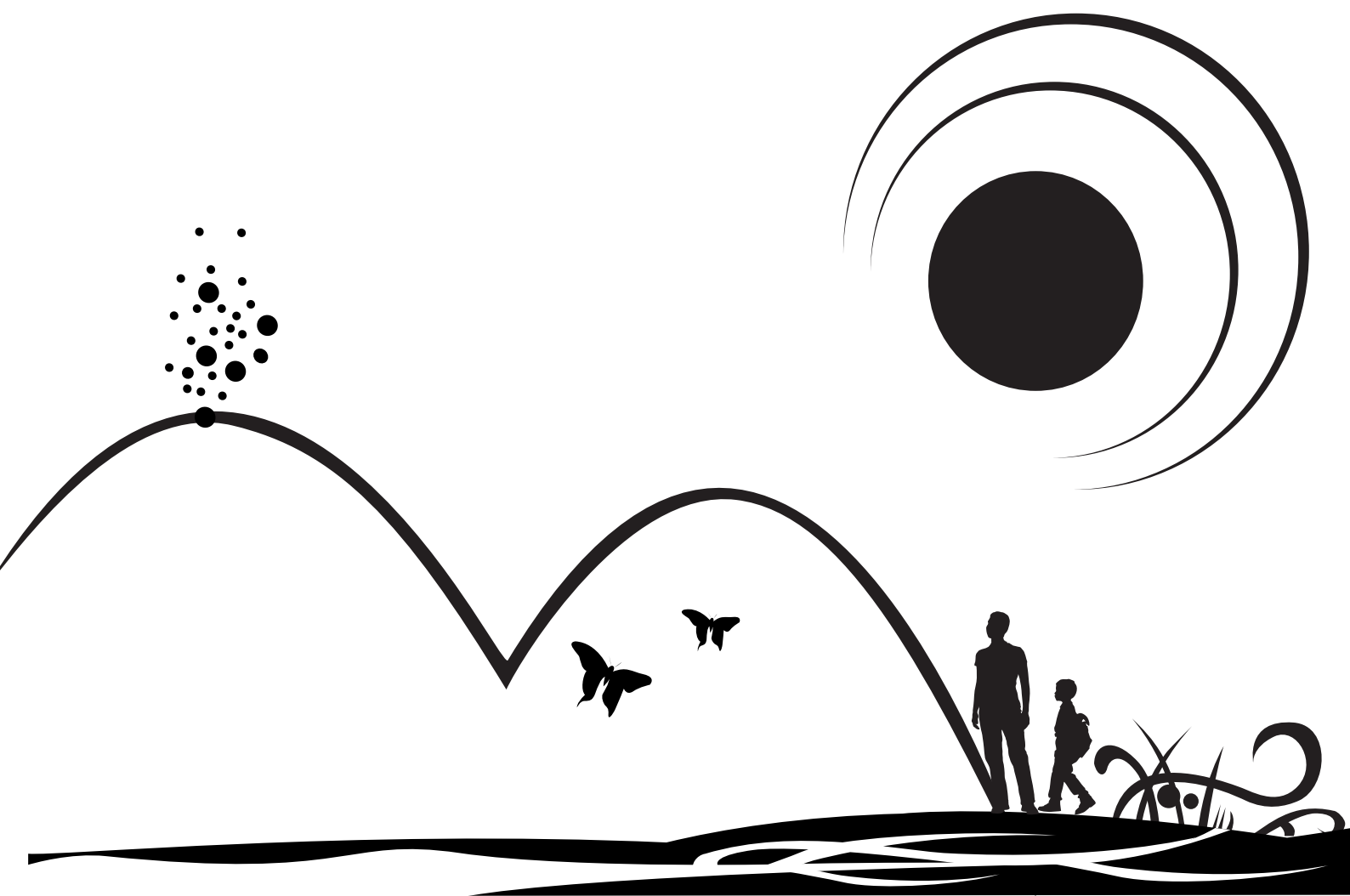


• LAVA-GLAMPI

- Living with nature
- European Youth Exchange



ICELAND – PORTUGAL – BELGIUM

30 JUN. 14 JUL . 2013
REYKJAVIK . ICELAND

-| WHAT IS A YOUTH EXCHANGE?

A Youth Exchange is a program which brings together groups of young people from two or more countries, providing them the opportunity to discuss and confront various themes, allowing the understanding of their countries and cultures. A youth exchange is based on a transnational partnership between two or more promoters from different countries.

Depending on the number of countries involved, a Youth Exchange can be bilateral, trilateral or multilateral.

Bilateral Youth Exchange is justified especially when the organizers promote for the first time a European project or when it comes to small youth groups or local groups without experience at European level. A Youth Exchange can be itinerant, that involves all participants at the same time, through one or more countries participating in the exchange.

-| YOUTH IN ACTION PROGRAMME

The YOUTH IN ACTION programme is the EU's mobility and non-formal education programme targeting young people aged between 13 and 30 years. Its general objectives are the following:

- Promote young people's active citizenship in general and their European citizenship in particular;
- Develop solidarity and promote tolerance among young people, in particular in order to foster social cohesion in the European Union;
- Foster mutual understanding between young people in different countries;
- Contribute to developing the quality of support systems for youth activities and the capabilities of civil society organisations in the youth field;
- Promote European cooperation in the youth field.

Youth in Action is a European Union program for youth. Aims to inspire a active sense of European citizenship, solidarity and tolerance among young Europeans and their involvement in shaping the future of the European Union. The program promotes mobility within and beyond European borders, non-formal education, intercultural dialogue, and encourages the inclusion of all young people, regardless of their educational, social or cultural background.

\\YOUTH IN ACTION IS A PROGRAM FOR ALL!!!

-| LAVA-GLAMPI

LAVA – A material that has many shapes and constantly changes. It is the volcanic substance of which the greater part of the mystic landscape of Iceland is composed by and it is constantly produced by the many volcanoes on the island.

GLAMPI – Is Icelandic for FLASH and refers both to the sparkling aspects of lava and the photo and filmographic approach of the program.

Through this journey, the participating youngsters will be a moving flow of lava as they explore Iceland and document their lava-experiences through photography, film and art products. The fiery flow of ... youngsters makes a double move: from their home countries (the Belgian & Portuguese) and back and from the south of the island to the north (the Icelandic's, Belgians & Portuguese). The diversity of experiences ('Back to basics' during the Landmannalaugar and Highlands trek, intercultural encounters within the participating group itself and with the local community, different artistical, social and intercultural perspectives through film, photography and various workshops, questioning environmental issues) during this flow will cause inner transformations in the volcanic substance of the youngsters. But also the environment will be seen through 'a lava-lense' as the youngsters pay attention towards the different substances & transformations of living conditions and the environment.

Lava has a destroying but at the same time a creating capacity. This creating capacity can't be more expressed than by the mystic landscapes of the island which triggers peoples imagination, creativity and purity. Through this journey, the youngsters become more aware of their own creating capacity which is strengthened through a conscious European citizenship: What can we do to accomplish positive changes (environmental awareness, social cohesion and responsibility)? What can we do to counteract destroying changes (individualism, poverty, environmental destruction)? What body armors (values and defenses) should youngsters wear to meet the torrents of challenges that they will have to face in their lives? And how can we convert our message to a diverse range of actors to eventually 'make a difference' (through photography, filmography and other forms of artistic communication)?

All this will be documented through the use of photography and film during the Landmannalaugar and Highlands trek (day 2-8) where the youngsters literally go 'back to basics'. The filming and photography will be guided by a daily focus on a specific perspective (e.g. movements, human versus nature, ...). During this trek a few artistic workshops will be organized within and with the natural environment and related to the photographic theme of the day.

A further deepening, reflection and communication on these back-to-basics and intercultural experiences will be done through activities focusing on group cohesion, artistic and intercultural workshops and the merging and editing of the gained images during the stay in Raufarhöfhn (day 9-14). There, the lava stream of ideas, experiences and expressions will gain a concrete substance – i.e. an ultimate, though temporary result – in a final exposition for and with the local community of Raufarhöfhn.

- Thematic Priorities

- \\ Cultural diversity
- \\ Participation of young people
- \\ Creativity and entrepreneurship
- \\ Promoting healthy lifestyles through physical activities including sport

-| WORKING METHOD

The project application and program is the result of an interactive process of the participating youngsters taking up responsibilities. Individual knowledge and skills are valued so that each one can use his or her own talents to contribute to the preparation of the program and learn from each other. These preparations take place during meetings with the whole group, but also in smaller groups. This participative method is the foundation of the preparation and realization of the whole project.

During the program in Iceland, the following working methods are used:

- Artistic self-expression and communication through the use of film and photography. As the photographic and filming skills of the participants are diverse on this, non-formal learning will be enhanced through cooperation in heterogeneous groups. These activities will be colored by daily 'themes' (cf. day program) but will further be based on the initiative and creativity of the participants.
- Making of artistic products through workshops with and within nature. Here the link is made to raising environmental awareness. Through this combination of formal and non-formal learning both artistic and social competences will be developed.
- Intercultural learning through story gathering, intercultural cooking contest, activities promoting group cohesion... These activities stimulate awareness and reflection on the intercultural dimension and differences in living conditions and values within the group and in relation to the local culture. Hence, they are aimed at promoting social and personal development. Moreover, this will enhance awareness on youngsters their potentials and societal responsibilities in a national and international perspective.
- Communication of experiences through a final exhibition. This will enhance reflection on (intercultural) communication and the use of traditional and new media.

Through the use of participatory methods, heterogeneous groups, democratic decision making and activities that require cooperation; social and personal development will be integrated from the start of the preparation to the implementation of the program.

-| COMPETENCES

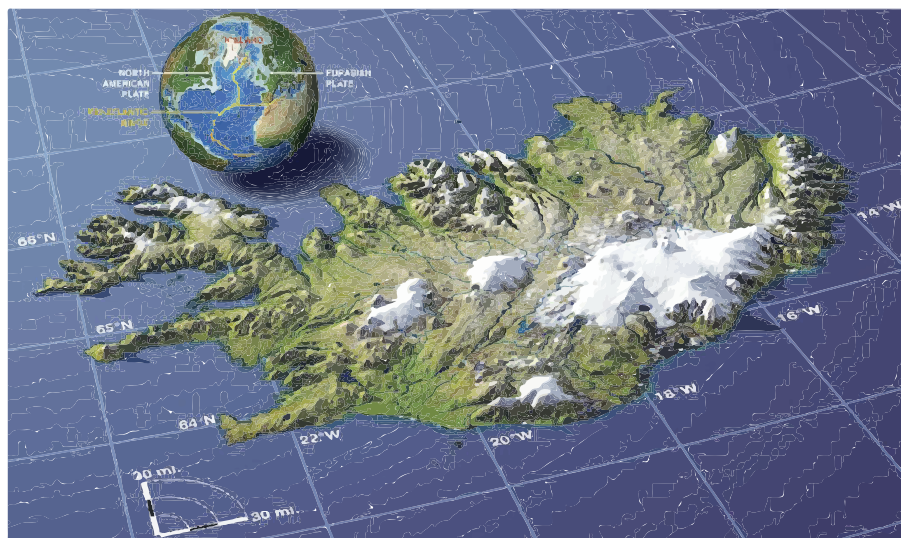
The following competences will be developed throughout the project:

- **Dialogue & cooperation:** as constant in the working method;
- **Multilingualism:** participants communicate in different verbal, artistic and cultural languages. It makes them multilingual citizens;
- **Flexibility:** by coping with various living and weather conditions, conserving group cohesion during an intensive trek, being open to and valuing each individual's skills and talents during the cooperative workshops and activities;
- **Multiperspectivity:** by looking to the environment from different perspectives (through film and photography), broadening perspectives through interpersonal and intercultural encounters, gaining multiple perspectives on the impact of humans on nature and vice versa;
- **Interpersonal competences:** During the program, and foremost during the trek, interpersonal competences as collaboration, empathy, solidarity, etc. will be required to cope with the unusual living conditions (weather conditions, few luxuries, physical limitations, etc.);
- **Artistical competences:** each individual will be stimulated to use his or her knowledge and skills during the activities and workshops and learn from the competences of others. This will contribute to broadening perspectives on how one can artistically express oneself;
- **Digital competences:** through the use of film and photography, editing programs and the use of new and traditional media to communicate the final message;
- **Self-expression:** both through language (verbal in mother tongue and foreign language & non-verbal) in interpersonal relations as artistically through the different workshops;
- **Initiative and entrepreneurship:** by organizing workshops and setting up a final exposition for and with the local community. This will require organization, communication, collaboration, initiative, ... through which a whole range of skills, knowledge and attitudes can be used and developed;
- **Citizenship:** through reflection on ecological issues and responsibilities, responsible and respectful ways of living to counteract destroying changes, how to reinforce social cohesion, the values we should place ahead to meet the challenges of postmodern society, ways to set up a dialogue with and communicate a message to a diverse public;
- **Self-reflection and awareness:** on the interpersonal, intercultural and artistic learning process.

-| LOCALIZATIONS

| ICELAND

Iceland is a Nordic European island country situated at the confluence of the North Atlantic and Arctic Oceans, on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge. The country has a population of about 320,000 and a total area of 103,000 km², which makes it the most sparsely populated country in Europe. The capital and largest city is Reykjavík, with the surrounding areas in the southwestern region of the country being home to two-thirds of the country's population. The nation's capital is the most northern capital in the world. Iceland is volcanically and geologically active. The interior consists mainly of a plateau characterised by sand and lava fields, mountains and glaciers, while many glacial rivers flow to the sea through the lowlands. Iceland is warmed by the Gulf Stream and has a temperate climate despite a high latitude just outside the Arctic Circle.



| REYKJAVÍK

Reykjavík is the capital and largest city in Iceland. Its latitude, at 64°08' N, makes it the world's northernmost capital of a sovereign state. It is located in southwestern Iceland, on the southern shore of Faxaflói Bay. With a population of around 120,000, it is the heart of Iceland's economic and governmental activity.

Reykjavík is believed to be the location of the first permanent settlement in Iceland, which Ingólfur Arnarson is said to have established around 870 C.E. Until the 18th century, there was no urban development in the city location. The city was founded in 1786 as an official trading town and grew steadily over the next decades, as it transformed into a regional and later national centre of commerce, population, and governmental activities. It is among the cleanest, organized and safe cities in the world.



| LANDMANNALAUGAR

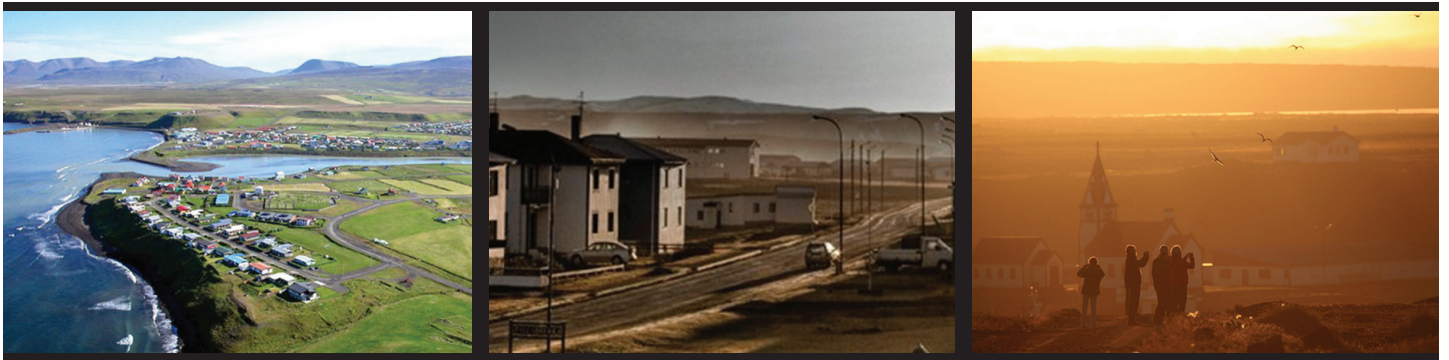
It's a region near the volcano Hekla in southern section of Iceland's highlands. The Landmannalaugar area is a popular tourist destination and hiking hub in Iceland's highlands. The area displays a number of unusual geological elements, like the multicolored rhyolite mountains and expansive lava fields. The many mountains in the surrounding area display a wide spectrum of colors. Two of the most popular mountains among hikers are Bláhnjúkur (meaning "blue peak") and Brennisteinsalda (meaning "sulphur wave"). Landmannalaugar is the usual starting point for a four day long hiking trail aptly called Laugavegur, as the main shopping street in Reykjavík city center is called the same and is referred to the herds of people that walk the trail every day. The name actually means "The Landmannalaugar Trail", "Laugar" being a shortened version for "Landmannalaugar". The usual four day trail ends in Þórsmörk, but one or two days can be added, trekking then all the way to Skógar nearly at the coast via Fimmvörðuháls between the two glaciers Eyjafjallajökull and Mýrdalsjökull.



| RAUFARHÖFN

Raufarhöfn is a village located on the northeastern tip of the Melrakkaslétta peninsula in Iceland. It is a fishing village with 250 inhabitants and is also the most northerly community in Iceland. Because of its position, Raufarhöfn has the longest days in Iceland during the summer and the shortest ones in winter.

The Arctic Circle lies just off the coast and in the village an arctic henge is being prepared. In Raufarhöfn can be found all the basic services, such as a health centre, chemist's shop, food store, a bank, post office, petrol station, garage, hotel, pub, gallery, etc. And from the village it is possible to book a sail to take you north across the Arctic Circle. There are many other pursuits which may tempt the visitor, for example bird watching, fishing by the harbour or in one of the many lakes and rivers, or going for a walk on Höfði or around the flatlands of Melrakkaslétta.



-| ORGANIZATIONS, THE PROGRAM COORDINATORS AND TRAINERS

TRANSFORMA.

Transforma is an organization based in Torres Vedras which operates in the field of culture and contemporary artistic practices, in order to enable other forms of development of society. Promotes the arts and creativity approaching the organizations and residents of the various communities, facilitating processes of theoretical and practical research and documentation, artistic and educational contexts.

Develops, strategically, a creative approach, sensitive and specific to the context in which it operates, recognizing the importance of this approach differential place, and the obligation of the individual to another within the community. Privileges as local intervention public space, that territory where the individual and the community are another simultaneously.

Believed in the necessity of giving to the arts and creativity a distinct role in the construction of new perspectives and new chains of meanings for a much needed personal and community revitalization – visionary, poetic, spiritual, meaningful and energizing! Still believes in the need to establish a dynamic and reactive parallel the trend to homogenization, established by humanism of modernity, contrary to the primacy of individualism and distortion of morality and justice.

In our era a deep transformation of the various spheres of society and the environment in which we have to contribute our utmost to mitigate risk, increase resilience and enhance the achievement of a more just future. A divergent involvement and empowerment of individuals and communities in this process is crucial and it is through acquisition and development of new knowledge and skills, critical skills and awareness for change.

Within the arts community and the public cultural sector and society in general, it is imperative to foster a change and a transformation imperative as we feel, which contributes to stabilize the environment and ensure a more sustainable future. The art and creativity can become a catalyst in this great transition, which we believe to be one of the biggest challenges of the XXI century. Indeed, the demand for alternative forms of sustainability can be based on the transformative power of art and creativity that contain, especially when linked with other areas of knowledge.

Transforma will continue and intensify this approach, extending it, because we sense that this process is absolutely necessary endeavor to ensure that the strategies developed to host and engage the designer / creative, they can simultaneously promote forms of individual participation as well as the various agents of local development. Art as a way of thinking and questioning the world as demand for other procedures at different scales of the transformation, can and should be largely participated.

. LAVA-GLAMPI

In order to contribute to this great transition, Transforma will continue to develop the following activities:

- Forums, Conferences, Meetings and Roundtables;
- Laboratories (workshops, think tanks, etc.).
- Project liaison with communities;
- Artist residencies and research;
- Artistic interventions in public space;
- Local and national partnerships and European networks;
- Interconnection between different areas of thought;
- Documentation and Edition.

\\Luis Firmo – Founder and Director

\\Tânia Guerreiro – Coordination Programming

\\Eliana Nicolau – Dynamization and Production

\\Nuno Relvas – Production Assistance

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The association Mu-zee-Um wants to give opportunities to children, youth and adults that allow them to express and create the immersive world based in arts and cultural, multi-disciplinary. In a globalized age in which the world is becoming more and more small, what better form exists to build understanding among different cultures through similar organizations?

\\ **Ewout Vanhoecke** – Founder and coordinator of Mu-Zee-Um. Working as a teacher of music and art for young people with disabilities.

\\ **Ann Delye** – Psychologist and member organization of Mu-Zee-Um

\\

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Worldwide Friends was founded in 2001 as a non-governmental, non-profit organization promoting nature and peace orientated activities for people interested in spending some time in Iceland as volunteers. WF also sends Icelanders abroad who wish to have similar experiences as volunteers. The main activities offered are workcamps, exchange programs and educational seminars. All our activities are suitable for anybody over the age of 18. In our present time the endeavour of attaining world peace has become a tangible reality, and the development and strengthening of bonds of cooperation and friendship through contact with people from other countries and cultures has proven to be one of the most fruitful means to achieve understanding and unity among nations. Veraldarvinir's main aim is to increase intercultural understanding through offering foreign volunteers the opportunity to take part in nature and peace oriented activities.

The organization main objectives are:

- a) Supporting friendship between humans and nature to create the necessary balance in our environment.
- b) Promoting peace and understanding between individuals and nations, working against racism or any other impartiality.
- c) To promote volunteer work in Iceland.
- d) To organize projects which support and aim on cultural variety.

The organization main fields are

- a) Long and short term youth exchanges.
- b) Language courses.
- c) Artistic and cultural projects.

\\

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