

Research-based Analysis and Monitoring of Youth in Action – RAY

Online Surveys

Based on concepts and research instruments developed by the Institute of Educational Science at the University of Innsbruck in Austria, two multilingual online questionnaires in 14 languages¹ were established – one for participants and one for project leaders/team members of YiA-funded projects. Between October 2009 and November 2012, more than 80,000 participants and project leaders/team members of YiA projects were invited to RAY online surveys and more than 25,000 completed the respective questionnaires. These surveys are coordinated for the RAY network by the Institute of Educational Science of the University of Innsbruck.

The response rate for the surveys implemented in November 2012 (inviting around 14,000 participants and 4,000 project leaders) was around 33% (counting only respondents completing most of the questions).

The RAY network members analysed the responses for projects funded through their YiA National Agencies and produced respective reports; a first transnational analysis of data collected between October 2009 and June 2010 was presented in 2011, a second transnational analysis of data collected in October 2010 and in May 2011 was presented in 2012.

These “standard surveys” will be continued by the RAY network on an annual basis in order to receive a sufficient number of responses also at national level to provide for meaningful results during the programme duration until the end of 2013 and possibly beyond since many projects funded by YiA will only end in 2014.

Additionally, “special surveys” were developed to focus on special issues related to YiA, in particular, a special survey on non-formal education and learning in YiA projects, with a view to study which conditions and contexts support learning and the development of key competences in YiA projects, and a special survey on competence development aimed at validating outcomes from the standard surveys. Both special surveys were implemented in 2012. Respective reports are available.

Online surveys with project participants

- The completion of questionnaires is voluntary. All data remain anonymous and are treated confidentially.
- The survey is addressed to participants of projects funded through the National Agencies of RAY network members.
- The survey addresses 100% of the participants of a minimum of 25% of the projects which ended between three and nine months before the survey. For smaller countries, larger percentages of projects are invited in

¹ Bulgarian, Czech, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Hungarian, Polish, Russian, Slovak, Swedish and Turkish

order achieve meaningful results. With respect to EVS, 100% of the participants from all countries participating in the surveys are invited since the contact data is easily available in electronic format.

- The questions of the standard surveys refer to perceived effects of the participation in the YiA project, in particular on knowledge, attitudes, behaviour, the development of key competences (following the European reference framework) and on educational and professional pathways; questions also refer to the access to YiA, to the participation in the project development and implementation and to the profile of the participants (demographic, educational, professional, identity).
- The questions of the special surveys refer to situations, activities and methods that occurred in the YiA project as well as to how these situations and activities supported the learning of the participants. Furthermore, questions also refer to the development of key competences and to the profile of the participants.

Online surveys with project leaders

- The completion of questionnaires is voluntary. All data remain anonymous and are treated confidentially.
- The survey is addressed to project leaders/team members (with a socio-pedagogic function) of projects funded through the National Agencies of RAY network members.
- The survey addresses all project leaders/team members of all projects which ended between three and nine months before the survey.
- Questions of the standard surveys refer to the effects of the participation in the YiA project on the participants and the project leaders themselves, in particular on attitudes, behaviour, the development of key competences (following the European reference framework) and on educational and professional pathways; questions also refer to the effects on the organisations and communities involved in the project, to the access to YiA, to the development and implementation of the project, and to the profile of the project leaders (demographic, educational, professional, identity).
- The questions of the special surveys refer to situations, activities and methods that occurred in the YiA project as well as to how these situations and activities supported the learning of the participants and of the project leaders. Furthermore, questions also refer to the development of key competences and to the profile of the project leaders.

The questionnaires have between 30 and 40 multiple-choice questions and between 5 and 10 open questions. They take about 30 minutes to be completed.

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