

# making it matter

*the impact  
of volunteering on  
social inclusion*

Partner organisations from  
Ireland - Volunteer Ireland,  
Denmark - FriSe,  
Germany - BBE,  
Belgium - CEV,  
Slovenia - Slovenska Filantropija,  
Croatia - Volunteer centre Osijek  
have launched an ERASMUS+ Project



## “Making it matter - the impact of volunteering on social inclusion”

Measuring and communicating the effects of the impact of civil society is an important topic among civil society organisations and academics. However, measuring the influence of volunteering on social inclusion as an important component of individual well-being is not yet explored and confirmed. The lack of evidence of the effects of volunteering on individuals and organisations limits the potential that volunteering can have on empowerment and inclusion.

The ERASMUS+ project “Making it matter” will enable the creation of methods and indicators for impact measurement that will help volunteer involving organisations to understand the key benefits, and shape the most inclusive volunteer programs. It will also assist institutions and decision-makers to formulate policies and support programs through comparable systematic data on the circumstances in which volunteering is useful for personal development, empowerment and inclusion of young people.

### The project will have the following outputs:

- 1) The research report, as a source of information for volunteer involving organisations and decision makers, with a detailed picture of volunteering of disadvantaged young people and social inclusion in partner countries;
- 2) The Manual on Measuring Impact of Volunteering on social inclusion, created and piloted in volunteer involving organisations, supporting organisations to demonstrate the benefits of volunteering;
- 3) The curriculum as a transnational educational tool developed to support capacity building of volunteer involving organisations and volunteers;
- 4) The Policy Paper with a set of recommendations to improve the legislative and strategic framework for inclusive volunteering and to influence the development of more opportunities for young disadvantaged volunteers;
- 5) Three international events involving decision-makers, researchers, practitioners, and volunteer involving organisations

The project will promote and increase the recognition of volunteering as one of the key components of social inclusion and integration of disadvantaged young people. The significance of this project will ultimately contribute to the improvement of social and organisational capacities for the development of high quality, innovative and community oriented services that support the empowerment and inclusion of young people at risk of social exclusion through volunteering.