Youthpass is both a tool and a process that helps to reflect on, document and recognise learning outcomes from youth work and solidarity activities. It is available to participants in projects funded by the Erasmus+ Youth* and European Solidarity Corps programmes and is aimed at young people as well as youth workers. It is also part of the EU’s efforts to promote recognition and validation of non-formal and informal learning in the European youth field. The Youthpass Strategy of 2021 aims to guide the work around Youthpass.

* Except for the general DiscoverEU action

**YOUTHPASS IN NUMBERS**

Since it was launched in 2007, more than 1.4 million Youthpass certificates have been created for over 85,000 projects run by around 32,000 organisations. In 2022, 195,989 Youthpass certificates were issued to participants in 9,695 projects run by 5,120 organisations.

**YOUTHPASS HIGHLIGHTS AND MILESTONES IN 2022**

The new Youthpass certificates (for the 2021-2027 programmes) were launched! Among the many novelties introduced was the option to list several activities within the same project, provide further evidence of learning, issue certificates for team members, and use the ETS Competence Model for youth work practitioners as learners in a project.

The users certainly seem to appreciate the new Youthpass.

Feedback from the ongoing user feedback survey on the Youthpass tool

While developing the technical background for the new certificates, the accessibility of the Youthpass tool and certificates was enhanced. Now the certificates for the 2021-2027 programmes are screen reader-compatible.

The Empowering Competences event during the French Council Presidency in April 2022 served as an occasion to launch the new certificates. During the event, possible solutions to the challenges regarding the recognition of competences developed in youth work contexts were discussed.
With the new programmes, the Youthpass Advisory Group was renewed to include more experts, researchers, National Agencies and young people. The group met twice in 2022.

To strengthen the work under the second Field of Action of the Youthpass Strategy, several projects were realised that explore learning in youth work; including:

- two expert meetings within the long-term cooperation project FOCUS Learning,
- the Expert Seminar on Learning Environments that brought together 21 experts to discuss and define learning environments in EU youth programmes,
- the pilot training course Learning Playground in Volunteering that brought together 22 practitioners engaged in volunteering projects.

Hosted by Germany’s National Agency JUGEND für Europa, the training course One2One – supporting learning face-to-face brought together 17 youth workers whose competences were enhanced so they could work one on one with young people and strengthen their learning.

Youthpass <3 Corps – a new facilitated edition of the open online course was realised with over 200 registered participants. The course aimed to equip support staff working for the European Solidarity Corps with the information and competences they need to implement the Youthpass process. The course is freely available as a self-paced open online course for all those with an interest in this aspect.

Cooperation with the National Agencies was vital to promote a better understanding and quality implementation of Youthpass. In addition to several thematic online meetings and workshops with the National Agency colleagues, the first in-person Youthpass Officers meeting since 2019 took place in June in Frankfurt, Germany.

Special attention was paid to trainers as crucial multipliers of the Youthpass concept and a series of online workshops for trainers was designed. Besides, SALTO T&C RC organised regular meetings with its contracted trainers to discuss different aspects of its strategies, including the Youthpass Strategy. Youthpass also contributed a chapter to the trainers’ toolkit of the Youth@Work partnership.

Tuning IN: to learning in youth work training course was organised by Bufdir, the National Agency of Norway, as an opportunity for 22 youth workers to explore learning in youth work and exchange tools and methods to help support reflection.

The Youthpass Team has grown and now includes a public relations officer. This will help us better communicate the value of Youthpass to its various target groups.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

In 2023, Youthpass will continue developing. We will extend our coverage to include the decentralised DiscoverEU action. Among the planned developments is the use of learner accounts and electronic signatures, besides other conceptual and technical improvements.

The SALTO Training and Cooperation Resource Centre is responsible for implementing the Youthpass Strategy across Europe. You can contact the Youthpass Team at youthpass@salto-youth.net.