Asociacija IVAIGO

E10282749

Type of organization	Non-governmental organisation/association
Main sector of activity	OTHER Non-formal education through local and international activities

Please briefly present the organisation / the group*

Asociacija IVAIGO is a non-profit organisation based in Lithuania, working in the fields of youth work, adult education, and lifelong learning. The organisation aims to empower individuals through accessible, inclusive, and innovative non-formal education, supporting personal development, employability, social inclusion, and active citizenship.

IVAIGO designs and implements local and international projects addressing key societal challenges such as social exclusion, digital transformation, unemployment, mental well-being, gender equality, environmental sustainability, and civic participation. The organisation places strong emphasis on creative and experiential learning methods, including digital storytelling, arts-based education, sports, and innovative digital tools.

IVAIGO actively engages young people and adults in Erasmus+ projects, international exchanges, training courses, and capacity-building activities. Through its youth and adult programmes, the organisation promotes democratic participation, intercultural dialogue, media literacy, critical thinking, and ethical values in education.

In recent years, IVAIGO has expanded its focus on digital education, AI literacy, and online learning, offering workshops, webinars, and blended training formats for youth workers, educators, parents, and learners. The organisation also delivers Erasmus+ training courses for international participants, focusing on inclusion, digital skills, sustainability, and well-being.

IVAIGO works closely with schools, NGOs, municipalities, and international partners, ensuring strong local impact and sustainable results. Its activities particularly target young people, adults with fewer opportunities, migrants, refugees, women, and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds.

What are the activities and experience of the partner organisation in youth work? Please provide information on your organisation's / group's regular youth work activities at local level.*

Asociacija IVAIGO has extensive experience in youth work at local level, combining regular non-formal education activities with the implementation of Erasmus+ youth projects. The organisation works closely with young people aged 13–30, with particular focus on youth with fewer opportunities, including migrants, refugees, NEETs, early school leavers, young women, and young people with special educational needs (SEN).

IVAIGO's local youth work is implemented through workshops, trainings, sports activities, awareness campaigns, mentoring, and community-based initiatives. Many of these activities are piloted, tested, and further developed through Erasmus+ projects, ensuring quality, innovation, and sustainability.

Social inclusion and equal opportunities

IVAIGO actively supports social inclusion by creating safe and accessible learning spaces for young people from disadvantaged backgrounds. Local activities include creative workshops (visual arts, storytelling, reading sessions), inclusive sports, confidence-building activities, and introductory digital and AI skills training.

Relevant Erasmus+ projects supporting local inclusion activities include:

- **Creativity for Social Inclusion** (2021-2-CZ01-KA220-YOU-000050810) – using creative methods to promote inclusion of young people with disabilities.
- **Inclusion through Creativity** (2023-1-EE01-KA210-SCH-000151315) – supporting refugee pupils through arts, music, and sports.
- **The Fun Factor: Gamification for Inclusive Education** (2023-1-LT01-KA220-SCH-000151145) – improving inclusive learning for students with SEN through gamification.
- **Playing Together for a Better Tomorrow** (2023-1-TR01-KA210-YOU-000150793) – promoting social inclusion of war refugees through sports-based youth work.

IVAIGO's director also works as an inclusion coordinator at an international school in Vilnius, allowing the organisation to regularly implement and evaluate inclusive practices with young people with SEN in real educational settings.

Media literacy, digital skills and AI

IVAIGO has strong experience in delivering local youth activities focused on media literacy, critical thinking, digital competence, and safe online participation. Workshops address topics such as fake news, disinformation, digital storytelling, AI basics, gamification, online safety, and digital creativity.

Key projects supporting these activities include:

- **Tool4Youth** (2021-2-PT02-KA220-YOU-000048125) – combating fake news and strengthening media literacy among young people.
- **Artificial Intelligence Qualifications' Improvement and Utilization** (2023-3-LT02-KA153-YOU-000173079) – improving youth workers' digital and AI competences.
- **Digital Futures** (2023-3-CY02-KA210-YOU-000172933) – developing digital and online career skills for young people.
- **Unboxed Democratic Youth** (2023-3-FR02-KA210-YOU-000172814) – encouraging democratic participation through filmmaking and storytelling.

These activities are regularly implemented at local level with youth groups, schools, and NGOs.

Refugees and migrants

IVAIGO works directly with young refugees and migrants, supporting their social integration through language learning, digital skills training, creative workshops, and sports activities. Lithuanian language courses and intercultural learning sessions are organised to support adaptation and participation in local communities.

Relevant projects include:

- **Inclusion through Creativity** (2023-1-EE01-KA210-SCH-000151315)
- **Breaking Digital Boundaries** (2023-2-FR01-KA210-ADU-000172870) – promoting intercultural dialogue and anti-discrimination through digital storytelling.
- **We Can** (2022-3-BE04-KA210-YOU-000103446) – strengthening personal and social skills of migrants and refugees.

Health, well-being and sports

IVAIGO promotes healthy lifestyles and mental well-being through inclusive sports activities, mindfulness sessions, yoga, stress management workshops, and awareness campaigns. Activities are designed to be accessible for all young people, including those with SEN.

Relevant projects include:

- **Playing Together for a Better Tomorrow** (2023-1-TR01-KA210-YOU-000150793)
- **Mindful Living** (2023-3-LT02-KA152-YOU-000176457)

Environment and sustainability

IVAIGO integrates environmental awareness into its youth work through workshops, community clean-up actions, sustainability campaigns, and green skills training. Young people are encouraged to adopt responsible behaviours and actively participate in local environmental initiatives.

Relevant projects include:

- **Sustainable You(th)** (2023-1-LT02-KA152-YOU-000113802)
- **Embracing the Youth Perspective: Smart Cities** (2024-1-PL01-KA210-YOU-000243681)

Entrepreneurship and employability

IVAIGO supports young people—especially NEETs and early school leavers—through entrepreneurship education, mentoring, and skills development. Activities focus on creativity, emotional intelligence, initiative, and labour market integration.

Relevant projects include:

- **Entrepreneurship vs. Youth Unemployment** (2022-3-LT02-KA152-YOU-000099160)
- **Entrepreneurial EQ** (2023-3-ES02-KA210-YOU-000176317)

Women empowerment and gender equality

IVAIGO implements local youth activities aimed at empowering young women, addressing gender-based violence, strengthening leadership skills, and promoting digital safety and advocacy.

Relevant projects include:

- **Beyond Silence** (2023-3-RO01-KA210-YOU-000172946)
- **Equal Futures** (2023-3-DK01-KA210-YOU-000174979)
- **eSafety Women** (2024-1-LT02-KA210-YOU-000243179)

Please give information on the key staff/persons involved in this application and on the competences and previous experience that they will bring to the project.*

Vaida Tufan

Vaida Tufan serves as the Director and Project Coordinator at IVAIGO, bringing extensive experience and expertise in education and youth work. She is a versatile educator, teacher, and youth worker with a deep understanding of developing educational materials. Her professional portfolio includes involvement in a wide range of

international projects across diverse fields, such as education, sports, health, entrepreneurship, and media literacy.

Vaida's teaching experience spans mathematics and English, complemented by her specialization in digital storytelling and non-formal education methods. She has successfully organized numerous seminars and workshops for students and teachers, fostering innovative teaching techniques and promoting inclusion. In her role as an inclusion coordinator at Vilnius International School, she works directly with students with special educational needs (SEN), applying her expertise to create inclusive environments. Vaida's ability to coordinate complex projects and her hands-on experience in educational program delivery make her an invaluable asset to this initiative.

Gorkem Tufan

As the Co-founder of IVAIGO, Gorkem Tufan brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in sports education, digital skills, and AI applications. A certified PE teacher, basketball coach, and Duke of Edinburgh trainer, Gorkem excels at organizing sports activities, summer camps, and sports lessons that inspire youth participation and promote healthy lifestyles.

Gorkem has a strong background in project coordination and event management, with a particular focus on youth motivation and engagement. He has organized numerous local and international meetings and seminars, addressing challenges faced by minority groups and individuals living abroad. His expertise in digital skills, AI fundamentals, and data analysis allows him to design and deliver cutting-edge training sessions and workshops. Gorkem's ability to integrate AI and digital tools into youth work, coupled with his skills in automation, ensures participants acquire essential competencies for the future workforce. His experience in creating interactive and impactful learning environments is a key contribution to the project.

Fikret Müge Alptekin

Fikret Müge Alptekin is an environmental engineer with specialized expertise in circular economy principles, particularly in food waste reduction. Her work focuses on developing high value-added products from biomass wastes to promote sustainable and eco-friendly practices.

As an advocate for sustainable living, Müge actively raises awareness about environmental challenges and encourages responsible food choices and waste management behaviors. Her experience in integrating circular economy strategies into

projects enhances IVAIGO's environmental initiatives. Müge's ability to bridge technical knowledge with practical applications makes her a key contributor to the project's sustainability goals. Her advocacy for eco-friendly behaviors and her dedication to fostering environmentally conscious communities align perfectly with the project's objectives.

Together, this team of experienced professionals combines a diverse set of skills and expertise in education, digital transformation, sports, environmental sustainability, and youth work. Their collective knowledge and practical experience ensure the successful implementation and impact of the project.

Would you like to make any comments or add any information to the summary of your organization's past participation?

IVAIGO is a non-profit organization established in 2021 in Lithuania, driven by a mission to provide accessible lifelong learning and non-formal education for all individuals, regardless of their origin or background. Guided by its mission, IVAIGO aims to develop people's potential through mentoring, education, and creating awareness in the areas of culture, employment, health, and sustainability. The organization's vision is to enable individuals to grow personally and contribute positively to their communities.

Despite being a relatively young organization, IVAIGO has established a strong track record in implementing Erasmus+ projects. These initiatives have allowed participants to develop key competencies, explore socially relevant topics, discover new cultures, and strengthen fundamental values such as solidarity, democracy, tolerance, and inclusion. IVAIGO prioritizes fostering social inclusion, empowering youth, advancing digital literacy, and championing sustainability through its projects and activities.

The organization is led by a team of experienced professionals, including educators, psychologists, sports trainers, and non-formal education experts, with expertise in areas such as inclusion, digital skills, mental well-being, entrepreneurship, and environmental sustainability. Its management team has been actively involved in running Erasmus+ projects, taking on roles such as participants, group leaders, facilitators, coordinators, and youth workers. Through these roles, IVAIGO's staff have gained valuable insights and practical experience in international cooperation, project management, and the dissemination of results.

IVAIGO also collaborates with professional officials such as decision-makers, pedagogues, trainers, psychotherapists, and psychologists, which enhances its ability to

create impactful and sustainable projects. The organization's extensive network of young people and partnerships with schools, local governments, and NGOs ensures that the results of its initiatives are widely disseminated and utilized for maximum impact. IVAIGO's close collaboration with partners and stakeholders on a local, regional, and international level solidifies its position as a reliable and sustainable organization, actively contributing to youth policy and innovative educational practices.

With a clear strategy and commitment to advancing lifelong learning, inclusion, and sustainability, IVAIGO continues to make a meaningful impact through its projects. Its proactive engagement in areas such as mental health, entrepreneurship, and environmental awareness, combined with its expertise in coordination, promotion, and dissemination, makes IVAIGO a valuable partner in creating and implementing successful youth initiatives.

Legal representative and contact person

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