



Crossing Borders

Uniting *for* Impact

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



2024



In line with Crossing Borders commitment to sustainability and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, we have chosen to publish this year's annual report as an e-publication only.

This decision reflects our dedication to reducing our environmental footprint, minimising waste and embracing innovative, accessible ways to share our work.

By making this shift, we reaffirm our belief that small, conscious actions contribute to a greater impact on our planet and future generations.





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Words from our Director

Garba Diallo

As I write these words for **Crossing Borders Annual Report 2024**, I would like to express my deep concern about the mounting challenges civil society and human rights-based organisations are grappling with world-wide. Civic spaces are shrinking and funding is becoming more scarce, yet the need for action is increasing almost everywhere. Old wars and conflicts are either becoming stuck or escalating, while new conflicts are erupting in many other places. These violent discords are not about necessities like food, water and shelter – rather, they are about greed and craving more control. In this increasingly drastic race to control the planet and its resources, double standards, hypocrisy and disregard for international law and humanitarian principles have become the new norm. Should this pattern continue, the resulting moral collapse will be harder to rebuild than the current ruins of Gaza and Palestine. Among many other things, the world will require honest soul-searching and dialogue-based education to rise from the moral ruins into a brighter future.

The team at Crossing Borders and I remain steadfast in our mission to create more spaces for dialogue and empower more young people to shape the world they deserve to live in. In response to the growing need for discourse and collaboration, we have amplified our human rights-based educational activities, both here in Denmark and across the globe. Our aim is to foster greater connections and collaborations across cultures, professions and perspectives. We believe the root causes of today's escalating crises lie in deep-seated fear, greed and short-sightedness, which then fuel a zero-sum mentality and the illusion of "Us vs Them." Despite the financial challenges we faced in 2024, we have not only sustained but also expanded our efforts to meet the urgent and increasing need to learn to live and work together on equal terms. This commitment is reflected in our office team and our partnerships in Denmark, Europe and around the world.

All the ideas, projects and events in the following report would not have come to fruition if it weren't for the tireless, dedicated efforts of the Crossing Borders team, the Executive and Advisory Boards, our funders and our project partners from around the world. I would like to give a special thanks to our partners in the Copenhagen Union Kulturhus for creating a stable foundation for so many civic and grassroots organisations to contribute towards making our capital city a safe and vibrant global hub.

As I reflect on the past year, the challenges facing civil society demand unwavering commitment, resilience and collaboration. At Crossing Borders, we remain dedicated to fostering dialogue, strengthening partnerships and equipping young people with the tools to shape a more just and inclusive world. The progress we have made would not have been possible without the invaluable support of our team, board members, funders and partners, whose dedication fuels our mission. As we move forward, we will continue to unite for impact.

Executive Summary

UNITING FOR IMPACT

In a world where we are all interconnected, true progress can only be achieved when we embrace diversity, collaboration and shared responsibility. At Crossing Borders, we strive to embody these values in every aspect of our work, ensuring that the internal operations of our organisation reflect the global society we endeavour to create. Our office team is a living example of this belief, bringing together a host of dedicated employees from every corner of the globe. The people of Crossing Borders come from Europe, Asia, Africa and the Americas, ensuring that our work and our projects are created and implemented with the utmost representation and integrity. Our reach is further amplified through our fifty Youth National Coordinators, each representing a different country, ensuring that young voices from every continent contribute to shaping a better world. This international spirit extends to the members of our esteemed Executive and Advisory boards, who bring unique expertise and perspectives to our mission based on their distinguished professional experiences and diverse backgrounds. Ultimately, our tireless efforts to foster an inclusive working environment where cultural insights are valued strengthens our ability to address global challenges with innovative, holistic solutions.

The dynamic nature of our worldwide community is further amplified by the interns and volunteers who bring fresh energy and new perspectives to our team. This year, we have had the pleasure of welcoming individuals from China, Côte d'Ivoire, Denmark, Eritrea, Egypt, France, Georgia, Germany, India, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Nepal, Palestine, Romania, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine and the USA. Their passion and dedication remind us that our world is teeming with kind and generous people committed to working together for positive change.

At Crossing Borders, we don't just talk the talk of global citizenship and partnership – we walk the walk. We believe that true impact is made when people from all backgrounds unite to turn visions of a better world into reality. By embracing the strengths of our collective experiences and perspectives, we continue to build a future where collaboration knows no boundaries. We are united for impact.



CULTURAL EXCHANGE

As a global organisation with partners in over forty countries, Crossing Borders cultural exchange programme forms a vital component of our efforts. From Armenia to Zimbabwe, India to Ghana and a host of nations in between, we have had the pleasure of visiting our partners abroad and welcoming study visits to our Headquarters in Denmark. In 2024, we hosted delegates from Japan and Korea, who took part in our diversity workshops. We were also delighted to facilitate an exchange study tour to Ghana, where 21 students and teachers from Fredensborg Municipality spent two weeks visiting our partners, including Ghana Community Radio Network, local schools and cultural hubs.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

In 2024, Crossing Borders continued the tradition of hosting the International Women's Day. Titled "Spaces for Empowerment," accomplished women shared their stories of resilience through inspiring speeches and live music. We also took part and presented our project Growing Green communities in the Bornholm Democracy Festival with the participation of our partner from Teach the Child in Nigeria Pearl Utuk. In collaboration with the South African Embassy in Copenhagen, we commemorate Mandela Day, cooking and serving food to homeless people in Copenhagen. Additionally, we organised a Growing Green Communities multiplier event at Lindevang School in Frederiksberg, bringing together over 100 students and teachers for an enriching experience.

DANISH PROGRAMME

As a global organisation, we foster partnerships all over the world. However, we also enrich our work with connections in Denmark, strengthening strategic partnerships with organisations a little closer to home.

We continue to collaborate with longstanding partners, such as the Association of Boarding Schools and the municipalities of Copenhagen and Fredensborg, but 2024 saw us extend our collaborative efforts to create new professional bonds. For example, the municipalities of Aalborg, Aarhus and Odense, as well as Copenhagen, were instrumental in enabling us to establish four local hubs for Ukrainian youth, made possible through generous funding from the Egmont and Spar Nord foundations.

Crossing Borders Danish programme has grown significantly through the Empowering Ukrainian Youth initiative, reinforcing our presence in the country's four largest cities.

Our school workshops programme has also grown significantly, thanks to the support of Hermod Lannung Foundation, Globus and the Agency for Culture. Other core initiatives, such as Food for Thought and Migrantour, have further strengthened our impact in Denmark.

For more information on our Danish programme, visit: [In Denmark](#)

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS – BRINGING THE WORLD TO THE CLASSROOM

Our school workshops programme is one of our four flagship initiatives, through which we bring the world to the classrooms in Denmark and beyond. The programme was scaled up this year thanks to partnerships with the Aabenskole of Copenhagen municipality, Globus, Hermod Lannung, the Agency for Culture and the Copenhagen Film Company.

While individual themes differ from workshop to workshop, they always centre around pressing global issues that currently have a hold over society. In 2024, these themes were climate change, the UN Sustainable Development Goals, social justice, democracy, digital awareness and resilience, intersectional feminism, migration, peace and conflict transformation and culture and identity. We take inspiration for developing, designing and delivering our workshops from international youths with lived experiences of the themes in question, who are either part of the Crossing Borders team or are participants in our programmes.

As part of our workshop initiative, 2024 also saw us deliver webinars and workshops for visiting partners from Japan, Korea and Italy. The webinar speakers included Sara Nasim of Transparency International (Maldives), Founder of Open Space Centre Wakibu Bunnuya (Uganda), Crossing Borders Director Garba Diallo, former President of the UN General Assembly Mogens Lykketoft and former Director of the Danish Institute for Parties and Democracy Lisbeth Pilegaard.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Food for Thought was developed on the principle that each and every one of us has a story worth sharing, which can inspire others and provide an opportunity to learn. This initiative combines the two universal social spaces of food and storytelling, connecting people from all walks of life and empowering them to share their own stories. In 2024, we had the privilege of hearing the stories of the following people:

Name	Field	Nationality
Lise Walbom	Food Sustainability	Denmark
Oda-Kange Midtvåge Diallo	Diversity and Inclusion	Norway, Mauritania
Narcis George Matache	Politics and Migration	Romania
Andrii Kusmyn	Humanitarian work	Ukraine
Mogens Lykketoft	World Affairs	Denmark
Tahmina Salik	Women's Rights under the Taliban	Afghanistan
Jesper Højberg	Media and Peace	Denmark
Mette Muller Kristensen	Civil Society	Denmark
PhD Arong Yang	Critical Race Studies	Denmark/Korea
Number of participants		430

MIGRANTOUR

Migrantour is a guided tour service which Crossing Borders offer to schools, universities, festivals, organisations, tourists and local people. We brought Migrantour to Copenhagen with the aim of showcasing our capital as a globalised city that is made richer, more innovative and more culturally diverse by migration. We aim to empower migrants in Denmark by encouraging them to share their own stories and the stories of the neighbourhoods they call home. The tours, which welcomed 359 people in 2024, showcase Copenhagen through the eyes of migrants, providing a platform for migrant voices to be heard and foster a sense of belonging and leadership to their local communities. Migrantour ultimately highlights that migration is a natural part of life and development, reminding us all that, at our core, we are merely guests on this planet, working together to create a home.

EMPOWERING UKRAINIAN YOUTH

Launched in October 2024, Empowering Ukrainian Youth has created integration hubs in Aalborg, Aarhus, Copenhagen and Odense, where Ukrainian youth can meet to address their common issues of concern as refugees in Denmark. By creating vibrant, inclusive safe spaces and fostering connections with local communities, we aim to transform their status from refugees to hosts and integrated members of society. This project was inspired by feedback from a Crossing Borders workshop in December 2023, where Ukrainian youths from all over Denmark expressed a strong desire for warm, welcoming spaces that celebrate cultural diversity and foster connection.

This remarkable group of young people continue to work directly with the staff at Crossing Borders to integrate with Danish youth and improve conditions for Ukrainians in Denmark. By creating safe spaces for Ukrainian youths to reflect, grow and connect, each hub fosters personal and professional development through life skills and project management training, while also sharing essential resources about the Danish labour market, education and cultural navigation. The hubs also encourage community building by hosting events, presenting collaboration opportunities, strengthening networks and building relationships.

This project has been funded by Egmont Fonden and Spar Nord Fonden. For more information about this project, visit our official Empowering Ukrainian Youth website: [Empowering Ukrainian Youth](#)

EU PROGRAMME

Funded by the European Union and comprising of over twenty strategic partnership projects, Crossing Borders EU programme is developed, designed and implemented in collaboration with civil society organisations, universities, social enterprises and municipalities all over Europe, in countries such as Finland, Portugal, Cyprus and Turkey. These projects focus on the likes of arts and cultural expression, media, digital and green transitions, active citizenship, green entrepreneurship and the inclusion and integration of people with fewer opportunities. Rooted in dialogue, nonformal education and collaborative creation, these initiatives drive meaningful impact across our continent.

In 2024, we expanded our pool of working relationships with the launch of a new initiative, EDU4Food, working alongside partners from Austria, Cyprus, France, Greece and Poland. We also successfully completed the major projects Food for Change and Growing Green Communities, whilst monitoring the continuing progress of Earth Heroes 2030. In tandem, many of our partner projects were successfully concluded last year, such as BRAND, EFIVOS, Rights Hero, Phoenix, and Includeate.

For more information on Crossing Borders EU programme, visit: [EU Program](#)

GLOBAL PROGRAMME

Funded by grants from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Civil Society Fund (CISU), the New Democracy Fund and the Nordic Council, Crossing Borders Global programme consists of projects in various countries in Africa, nations in the Caucasus region, Ukraine and in India.

The Global programme also includes projects in the Nordic and Baltic regions that were not funded by the EU. Driven by a firm belief that development must be rooted in local context and local communities, our Global projects are designed together with our partner organisations to identify and implement solutions to issues in they deem fit.

A significant number of projects in our Global programme, such as Localising the SDGs, Moldova's Great Debate Camp and Youth Promoting Peace and Political Tolerance in Zimbabwe (II), were successfully completed in 2024. We are currently researching new opportunities to expand our work to Asia, Africa and the Americas.

For more information on Crossing Borders Global programme, visit: [Global Program](#)

KNOWLEDGE HUB

As part of our efforts to document and share our insights, experiences, guidelines for best practices and sustain our successful project results, Crossing Borders now has a dedicated online knowledge hub for interested parties to use free of charge.

For more information on Crossing Borders Knowledge Hub, visit: [Resources](#)

NEW STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

As indicated above, we are grateful for the new partnerships established in 2024 with the Danish municipalities of Aalborg, Aarhus, Copenhagen and Odense, who are providing safe spaces for our Empowering Ukrainian Youth Hubs. The Hubs run with grants from Egmont Fonden and Spar Nord Foundations. Other strategic partnerships include GLOBUS, Hermod Lannungs Fond, Danish Cultural Council and Copenhagen Film Company.

INTERNAL RESOURCES

As a dynamic and evolving organisation, Crossing Borders continuously strives to adapt to the changing landscape of democracy and support.

While challenges in staffing and financial stability persist, our team remain committed to strengthening our internal capacity with resilience, innovative practices and strategic growth.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Crossing Borders is driven by learning, training and making the most of new opportunities, meaning that we greatly benefit from the energy, insights and fresh perspectives of young professionals, university interns and volunteers. However, this also makes our team naturally dynamic and mobile, leading to a high turnover of staff. At the same time, our reliance on smaller, short-term projects presents challenges in recruiting and retaining a stable core team of experienced professionals. We recognise these issues as an inevitable part of today's shifting socio-political and economic conditions and we are actively seeking innovative and sustainable solutions to strengthen our human resources.

FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Over the previous year, we have secured funding for several projects from

- CISU (Civil Society in Development)
- New Democracy Fund
- Nordic Council
- Dansk Kulturinstitut
- Tuborgfondet
- BUPL's Solidaritets-og kulturfond
- Egmont Fonden
- Spar Nord Fonden
- GLOBUS
- Hermod Lannungs Fond
- Copenhagen Film Company

In addition to the above, Crossing Borders has also renewed the Engagement Scheme with the Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF). As the head of the ALF Danish Network, Crossing Borders are provided with support for activities relating to the foundation.

While we are immensely proud of these achievements, we also acknowledge that continued heavy dependence on public funding now presents challenges to us in ensuring financial stability. As civic stages and global financial conditions continue to evolve, we understand that adaptation is essential for our sustainability.

Bearing this in mind, Crossing Borders is embracing an open-minded and proactive approach to diversifying our funding sources, strengthening our core team and expanding our impact. Now more than ever, we are committed to finding new ways to build the world we aspire to live in, facing both opportunities and obstacles with determination and hope.



STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2025

In light of the above, our strategic priorities for the coming year centre around ensuring the sustainability of Crossing Borders, thus enabling us to continue to make a difference to the lives of young people around the world for many years to come.

- **Website & Online Presence** – Revamp the website to improve accessibility and SEO, ensuring up-to-date content, new features and increased traffic to attract more participants, partners and supporters.
- **Funding & Partnerships** – Expand internal talent and partnerships to secure socially responsible private funding. Establish a dedicated team for project applications and seek fresh operational funding opportunities, also drawing on the expertise of the Executive Board and Advisory Board.
- **Project Development & Scaling** – Transform our Global projects to a longer-term programme. Develop new project ideas for our Danish, European and Global programmes with scalability in mind. Expand current projects (e.g., Food for Thought, Migrantour, School Workshops) to private companies.
- **Membership Growth & Engagement** – Increase visibility of membership opportunities, enhance benefits and improve advertising to attract new members.
- **Advocacy & Awareness** – Strengthen impact storytelling, boost social media presence and host events (fundraising, networking, donor appreciation) to engage current donors, attract new donors and expand our reach.



Garba Diallo

Director, Crossing Borders



Empowerment, Action, Meaningful Connection

Crossing Borders is a non-profit civil society organisation that has helped thousands of young people worldwide develop the skills, confidence and knowledge they need to shape their own paths and become active, global citizens.

By sparking inspiration, encouraging the exchange of ideas and experiences and building lasting partnerships, we cultivate a new generation of civic leaders and agents of change.

Together, we're working toward a future that's more inclusive, egalitarian and sustainable for everyone.

We provide opportunities for youth and educators to engage in non-formal education, storytelling and dialogue.

**Education,
Dialogue &
Peace Building**



**Diversity,
Equity &
Inclusion**



We foster a culture of civic engagement and community building among young global citizens.



Our work is guided by the 17 UN Sustainability Goals, with a focus on climate change, biodiversity and resource depletion.

**Environment
&
Sustainability**

The Four Ds of Driving Progress



Diversity:

We believe dedication to diversity is a dedication to building a kinder world.



Dialogue:

We know that dialogue is the most important tool in empowering youth to become active, global citizens.



Democracy:

We think democracy is the foundation for any and every meaningful change in the world.



Development:

We feel that development in any form is vital to growth, furthering education and the fight for a sustainable future.

Meet Our Team

Meet our dedicated team members who bring Crossing Borders vision to life



Garba Diallo
Director
GLOBAL



Tatjana Stefanovic
Global Programme
Coordinator
SERBIA



Mia Toftdahl
School Workshops
Coordinator
DENMARK



Andrew Gibbons
EU Project Coordinator
USA



Elisabeth Fredskilde
Project Coordinator
DENMARK/ECUADOR



Margaret Maged
Project Coordinator
EGYPT



Tanya Dewan
Creative Coordinator
INDIA



Cosimo Bianchi
Migrantour Coordinator
ITALY



Jess Hearne
Strategic Partnerships
IRELAND



Lili Katelyn Juul-Lou
Strategic Partnerships
CHINA/USA



Mia Brygger
Content Editor
DENMARK



Giovanna Saturni
Volunteer
ITALY/ROMANIA



Shani Schmidt
Intern
ZIMBABWE/DENMARK



Lana Shaly
Intern
FINLAND



Dania Al Jubeih
Intern
GREECE/PALESTINE



Amalia Bratus
ERASMUS Entrepreneur
UKRAINE



Karim Pedersen

Ambassador
DENMARK

Former Team Members from 2024

Angeliki Alexopoulou
Erasmus Young Entrepreneur



Audrey Cosyns
Intern



Bikalpa Basaula
Intern



Egle Butautaite
Intern



Eleonora Macerata
Intern



Furkan Akay
Programme Coordinator



Jacqueline Million Alem
Intern



Josephine Fröhlich
Project Coordinator



Kiara Walker
School Workshops Intern



Luka Tsibadze
ESC Volunteer



Maryam Alaouie
Project Coordinator



Oussama El Sayed
ESC Volunteer



Sara Montes Martínez
Intern



Susan Zekiros
Project Coordinator



Board of Directors



Marie Skov Madsen
Board Chair



Dr. Phaedria St. Hilaire
Board Vice Chair



Mignote Nesfin
Treasurer



Karen Blincoe
Board Member



Vibeke Quaade
Board Member



Roslyn Waters-Jensen
Board Member



Richard Walakira
Board Member



Helene Guldberg
Board Substitute



Kanan P. Samy
Board Substitute

Advisory Board



Dr. Morten Kjærum
Sweden



Rikke Rønholt
Denmark/Ghana



Lorena Torres
Denmark



Mozhdah Ghasemiyani
Denmark/Kurdistan



Mu'ayyad Mehyar
Jordan



Gunvor Krongman
Finland/Sweden



Søren Søndersrup
Denmark



Jakob Erle
Denmark



Wafa El Moudi
Denmark/Morocco



Jacob Holdt
Denmark



Dr. James Scot
Finland



Karsten Fledelius
Denmark



Antonino Imbesi
Italy



Oussama El Sayed
Lebanon

team reflections

Over the past year, I had the opportunity to volunteer at Crossing Borders through the European Solidarity Corps (ESC).

It was an incredible experience where I learned a lot, met amazing people, and developed valuable skills in teamwork, communication and project management. I also gained a deeper understanding of NGO work and the importance of cultural exchange.

One of the highlights for me was the team itself: supportive, open-minded and always willing to help. Their passion for making a difference was truly inspiring and I learned so much from them.

Overall, my time at Crossing Borders was a fantastic learning experience. I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity and for everything I've gained along the way.



Sara Montes Martínez
Spain

During my internship at Crossing Borders, I had an incredible experience that exceeded all my expectations. From the very beginning, I was immersed in a dynamic and multicultural working environment where collaboration, creativity and open-mindedness were at the core of everything we did. The team at Crossing Borders made me feel welcomed and valued, and their passion for creating positive change was truly inspiring.

One of the highlights of my internship was the wide variety of tasks I was entrusted with. I had the opportunity to facilitate workshops on diversity, work on impactful projects like Edu4Food, and contribute to the development of the Democracy Debate Hub Toolkit — a project close to my heart, given my background in Political Science.

What made this experience even more special was the exposure to different cultures and perspectives, reinforcing the importance of inclusivity and global cooperation. The multicultural atmosphere not only broadened my horizons but also enriched my understanding of how diverse backgrounds can come together to achieve common goals. Through this internship, I also discovered a new professional path that excites me: project coordination. Being part of the planning, execution, and management of various initiatives allowed me to develop essential skills in organising, strategising and leading projects — something I'm eager to pursue further in my career.



Luka Tsibadze
Georgia

Being a part of Crossing Borders has been an incredible experience that has shaped both my personal and professional growth. Working in such a diverse and dynamic environment allowed me to connect with people from different backgrounds, exchange perspectives, and contribute to meaningful discussions on global issues. From organising and facilitating workshops to engaging with youth and international volunteers, every moment at Crossing Borders was filled with learning and inspiration.

One of the highlights of my time at Crossing Borders was seeing how open dialogue and cultural exchange can bring people closer and create a space where everyone feels heard, whether it was through storytelling, educational activities, or simply our everyday conversations in the office.

For me, Crossing Borders is not just an organisation: it's a community that fosters growth, inclusion, and a shared vision for a better world.



406

Participants attended
our webinars this year



We facilitated
workshops in

10

municipalities
across Denmark



1020

Students joined our
school workshops in
2024



Bringing the World to the Classroom!

2024 has been an exciting year for the school workshop programme!

In 2024, we had the pleasure and the privilege of visiting several schools across the country, participating in exciting partnerships and receiving support from multiple foundations that recognise the value of our work in empowering young people.

This year, we also hosted our very first Global Webinar with Professor of Chemistry and Nobel Prize Laureate Morten Meldal, bringing together students and educators from around the world.

In 2025, we aim to engage with even more schools, explore new partnerships while strengthening existing ones and continue to foster a learning space where every young person has something valuable to contribute: A space where diversity is celebrated, dialogue is valued and important stories are shared.

You can read more about our school workshop activities on the following pages.

A big thank you to all my co-facilitators, our speakers and our partners!

- Mia Tøftdahl Olsen

SCHOOL WORKSHOPS COORDINATOR





Our Collaborations

Once again, we were part of Copenhagen Municipality's **Åben Skole** programme, allowing us to offer our signature Hatebuster workshops on tackling discrimination and intolerance to a total of 264 students.

In 2024, we ran two projects specifically for students at boarding schools—one focused on the UN and the SDGs, supported by **Hermod Lannungs Fond**, and another centred on the EU, supported by **Europa-Nævnet**. Through these initiatives, we engaged 240 young people in discussions on international collaboration, sustainability, cultural diversity and the future of the political landscape, both within Europe and the wider world. Additionally, we hosted webinars for more than 400 students and teachers, featuring distinguished speakers like politician Mogens Lykketoft and activist Lisbeth Pilegaard.

Another partnership we are especially proud to highlight is with the film company **CFC Short and Doc**. Through this collaboration, students from five different schools watched the documentary *Palm Oil in the Land of Orangutans*. After the screenings, Crossing Borders visited their schools to help students unpack their insights and reflections on biodiversity, sustainable consumption and global partnerships.



Åben Skole

Hermod Lannungs Fond



EUROPA
nævnet



CFC SHORT & DOC.

A Division of Copenhagen Film Company

GL-BUS

Puljen for globalt engagement,
uddannelse og samarbejde



**FREDENSBORG
KOMMUNE**

YES Project:

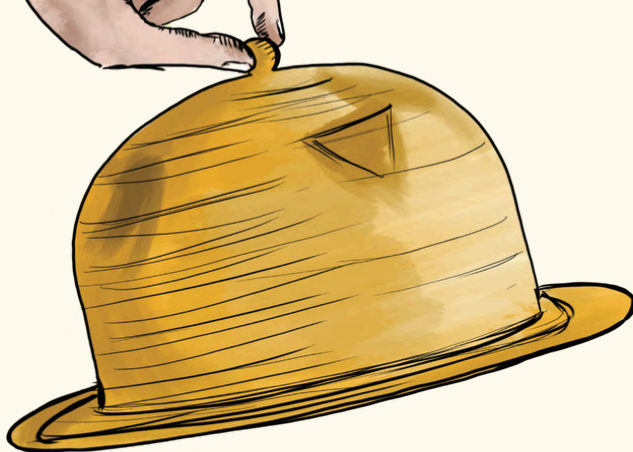
Youth Engagement and Sustainability

In 2024, Crossing Borders launched a one-year project in partnership with Fredensborg Municipality called “YES – Youth Engagement and Sustainability.” As part of the project, a group of 18 students and 3 teachers travelled to Ghana in November 2024 to visit their Ghanaian friendship school and gain valuable insights into sustainable innovation from the world around them.

Aside from their visit to Ghana, the students are developing their own podcast, creating an Instagram account to document the project and organising an Innovation Day at their school in 2025. Crossing Borders supported the group with workshops on team building and change-making before their departure. Now, we continue to assist them in sharing their insights with other youth and in organising their Innovation Day.

“Many of the things we encountered were different from what we had expected. Before we left, we had certain assumptions, especially about the people. We thought we would stand out a lot, but instead, they included us in everything and were incredibly welcoming.” – Student reflecting on their experience in the project.





FOOD FOR THOUGHT



OUR PHILOSOPHY

Through our Food for Thought events, we aim to facilitate learning and inspiration through the art of storytelling, fostering a secure, stimulating and inclusive social environment, all while enjoying a delightful community dinner!



Our **Food for Thought** events provide a safe and inclusive space to share stories and inspire others over a delightful community dinner!

2024
Moments



Speaker Lineup 2024



Lise Walbom
Food Nation Denmark
January



Narcis George Matache
Last Week in Denmark
February



Oda-Kange Midtvåge Diallo
Researcher
March



Andrii Kuzmyn
Bevar Ukraine
April



Mogens Lykketoft
Politician
May



Tahmina Salik
Women's Rights Activist
June



Dr. Mira Chandhok
Professor
August



Jesper Højberg
International Media Support (IMS)
September



Mette Müller
Global Focus
October



Ahrong Yang
Assistant Professor
November



**Anna Lindh
Foundation**
DENMARK



The Anna Lindh Foundation (ALF) is an international, intergovernmental organisation dedicated to promoting intercultural dialogue and collaboration across the Euro-Mediterranean region. ALF strives to build bridges between people and cultures, fostering mutual understanding and cooperation.

Founded in 2004, with its headquarters inaugurated in 2005 in Alexandria, Egypt, ALF operates through a network of coordinators and management teams in over forty countries. It stands as the first common institution for dialogue jointly established by the European Union and partner countries in the Mediterranean region.

The ALF Danish Network

There are more than eighty members of the ALF Danish Network, including organisations and individuals committed to:



Empowering Young Voices

Creating platforms for youth to engage, express themselves and contribute to open, inclusive and resilient communities.



Influencing Policymakers

Conducting impactful research and offering insights into conflict dynamics to shape international policies.



Leading Movements

Uniting civil society to amplify collective impact and inspire action.

Approximately 150 people participated in various events and initiatives in 2024, reaching over 80 organisations and independent persons.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON GAZA

23rd February

Crossing Borders hosted a panel discussion on the ongoing crisis in Gaza, focusing on actionable steps for civil society organisations. Featuring Lars Erslev Andersen (Senior Researcher, Danish Institute for International Studies) and Lisbeth Pilegaard (Chair, European Endowment for Democracy), the event provided key insights and strategies for humanitarian and civil society actors navigating these challenges.



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CELEBRATION

8th March

In collaboration with Union Kulturhus and Send Flere Krydderier, Crossing Borders organised a celebration of women's achievements on International Women's Day 2024. The evening featured inspiring talks from accomplished women, a communal dinner fostering connections and a live concert by the artist KENDRA.



IFTAR GATHERING

25th March

Organised by Finjan and Crossing Borders, this inclusive community event brought together people from Muslim, Christian and non-religious backgrounds to share a Ramadan Iftar. Guests engaged in networking and enjoyed a home-cooked meal prepared by Syrian women.





BRIDGING CULTURES: A DIALOGUE FOR UNITY

28th November

As the head of the ALF Danish Network, Crossing Borders hosted an intercultural panel discussion titled "Bridging Cultures." Featuring five speakers from diverse backgrounds, the discussion focused on Unity in Diversity and the transformative power of dialogue. Among the participants were activists, politicians, artists, students, and independent professionals, who engaged in meaningful conversations about fostering inclusivity.



HEAD OF NETWORKS MEETING IN ALEXANDRIA, EGYPT

11th - 13th December

Maryam Alaouie represented the ALF Danish Network at the Anna Lindh Foundation Heads of Network meeting, which brought together representatives from over forty countries to shape the future of intercultural dialogue across the Euro-Mediterranean region.



migrantour

Copenhagen

Migrantour Copenhagen is a unique cultural experience offered by Crossing Borders to schools, universities, festivals, organisations and other interested groups.

Migrantour's aim is to empower migrants by giving them a platform to share their stories and perspectives, showcasing the neighbourhoods they call home. Through their eyes, participants gain new insights into the city's cultural richness, fostering inclusion and a sense of belonging for migrant communities.

Looking ahead, Migrantour Copenhagen is excited to grow and evolve, ensuring that its role as a cultural bridge in the city continues to positively impact the community.


359
Participants

Joined the Migrantours in Copenhagen this year, engaging in first-hand narratives from migrants and discovering the city from a fresh perspective.



We support Ukrainian refugees in Denmark by creating safe spaces and fostering connections with local communities. Through integration hubs in Århus, Ålborg, Odense and Copenhagen, we empower young people to rebuild their lives and reshape their futures.

Our hubs foster personal and professional development through life skills and project management training, while also sharing essential resources about Denmark's job market, education pathways and culture.

The hubs encourage community building by hosting events and creating opportunities for collaboration, strengthening networks and building bridges across communities.

The project officially launched in October 2024 and is set to continue until September 2026. This year, we appointed Ukrainian coordinators for the four hubs and consolidated our project planning. Additionally, Ukrainian Christmas performances (Verteps) took place in several cities.



Our Partnerships

Partnerships are at the heart of our work. We are proud to collaborate with these incredible organisations, whose support and shared visions drive our mission to empower Ukrainian youth.

EGMONT
Fonden

spar nord
FONDEN

Københavns
Kommune

AARHUS
KOMMUNE

Aalborg
Kommune

ODENSE
KOMMUNE



Key Highlights from 2024

As the project is youth-driven, the hubs are designed to develop many co-created activities and foster connections with existing local youth communities in clubs and organisations. Our aim is to help them feel at home in Denmark, hosting community dinners and cultural exchange events.



Glimpse from the Project Launch



Glimpse from the Kick-off Meeting

On 11th December 2024, hub coordinators and members from all four hubs convened for the first time at Crossing Borders. This milestone gathering provided an opportunity to share visions, experiences and insights, fostering collaboration among participants. A hands-on exercise illustrated the importance of equal partnership in achieving collective goals.

During the meeting, the hub curriculum was presented and discussed, laying the foundation for the next phase of implementation.



Through collaborative efforts, hub members entertained around 150 people in December with Verteps - theatre plays which are a typical Ukrainian Christmas tradition.



Folk Højskole Workshop

5th January

Crossing Borders welcomed 20 Japanese educators to explore Denmark's folk high school system. Through interactive activities, participants exchanged perspectives and fostered cross-cultural learning. A hands-on workshop encouraged creativity as educators designed their own schools and curricula, highlighting the power of global collaboration in education.



International Women's Day

8th March

Crossing Borders marked International Women's Day with an inspiring evening of stories, music and connection. Accomplished women shared their journeys, empowering attendees with their resilience. A communal dinner by Send Flere Krydderier fostered meaningful connections, while a live concert by KENDRA celebrated the creative power of women through music.



Diversity Workshop

**18th March &
3rd September**

Crossing Borders facilitated a workshop on diversity and inclusion for visiting Japanese youth with Educational Visits Denmark. Through games, storytelling and interactive discussions, participants engaged in meaningful conversations and learned from one another. It was a day of exploration, connection and new perspectives, fostering greater understanding across cultures.



Annual Assembly

16th May



Crossing Borders hosted its Annual Assembly in May 2024, bringing together members for discussions and inspiration. The event featured formal proceedings followed by Food for Thought, where former UN General Assembly President Mogens Lykketoft shared his story. Attendees enjoyed dinner, drinks and networking, making it a memorable evening of learning and connection.



Staff Trip to Gdansk

27th - 30th May

The staff went on a memorable trip to Gdańsk, Poland, an adventure filled with bonding and new experiences. Eight of us, including employees and interns, enjoyed traditional Polish food, explored museums like the Museum of the Second World War, visited an organisation supporting disabled artists, attended music concerts and relaxed by the Baltic Sea.



Folkemødet 2024

16th - 12th June

At Folkemødet, Crossing Borders hosted a panel on integrating food systems literacy into SDG education. Experts and students shared insights from projects like Growing Green Communities and SESAM, highlighting youth-led solutions for plant-based food transformation. The discussion followed a workshop where students conducted voxpops on sustainable food practices.



Mandela Day

17th July

In collaboration with the South African Embassy and Charity Mission, Crossing Borders marked Mandela Day by serving fresh meals to 40-50 homeless individuals in Copenhagen. The event highlighted the city's growing diversity and the importance of compassion. With volunteers from multiple countries, it was a powerful tribute to Mandela's legacy.

Peace Day Youth Assembly

21st - 22nd September

The Peace Day Youth Assembly on Youth Island brought together youth, elders and innovators to connect inner peace with global impact. Highlights included UN Youth Delegates drafting a peace declaration, discussions on a "Good Future," a bonfire ceremony with Indigenous wisdom and a global livestream for peace. The event concluded with a sunrise ceremony, passing the baton to future leaders.



Staff Christmas Dinner

11th December

Our festive gathering kicked off with welcome drinks and snacks, followed by a Christmas Meditation. Participants enjoyed the fun of Pakkeleg, a Syrian dinner and a Christmas Quiz! Guests were asked to bring small wrapped presents for the game. It was a joyful, collaborative celebration of the season.





Funded by
the European Union

EU Programme



2024 OVERVIEW

The EU Programme at Crossing Borders continues to thrive as a hub for innovative education and youth engagement. We successfully completed ten projects in 2024, each contributing valuable insights, materials and methodologies that will continue to inform our work and be shared with our growing community worldwide.

Our completed projects have left behind a wealth of resources, including reports on discrimination in the EU, human rights education manuals for teachers and students, an online anti-racism training platform, a mobile app promoting sustainable fashion and much more. We encourage everyone to explore these valuable materials, all available on the Crossing Borders website.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2024 PROJECTS:

- **Growing Green Communities (GGC)** – 100 students in Copenhagen were engaged in sustainability by creating seed bombs with native wildflower seeds.
- **ACCT** – Hosted an anti-racism conference blending dance, music and theatre, along with a public awareness campaign that reached 2.2 million bus riders in Copenhagen.
- **INCLUDEDATE** – Developed a curriculum for migrant inclusion to support diverse communities.
- **Food for Change** – Organised a successful series of dinner events, bringing together youth from across the region.
- **ED Cyber** – Created a mental health support group with tools specifically designed for internationals in Copenhagen.
- **Rights Hero, Phoenix, BRAND, EFIVOS, DAR** – Many other impactful initiatives contributing to youth empowerment, digital literacy and social justice. Continue reading to find out more!

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2025

With changing priorities in Erasmus funding and shifting dynamics within EU programmes, we are adapting and strengthening our collaboration with partners across Europe. In 2025, we look forward to continuing our work with two key EU-funded projects: Edu4Food and Earth Heroes 2030. These initiatives will bring new educational materials, interactive games and engaging youth-focused events.

As always, our mission remains clear: to educate, empower and amplify the voices of young people, fostering a future rooted in sustainability, equality and active citizenship. A huge thank you to our European partners, facilitators, volunteers and participants for their dedication, creativity and hard work. We are excited for another year of meaningful impact and collaboration.



- **Andrew Gibbons**
EU Programme Coordinator



The EDU4Food project aims to educate young people about sustainable food systems, promote healthy eating and foster youth employment in the food industry. It seeks to inspire consumption change through interactive tools for youth workers, connect young people with local stakeholders and disseminate project results.

All project resources and more can be found on the project website: [Edu4Food](https://edu4food.eu)

2024 HIGHLIGHTS

In 2024 we created a training package, including:

- 5 educational modules on the “Farm to Fork” strategy.
- 10 case studies showcasing successful sustainability efforts.
- 10 career opportunities in the food sector.
- 10 sustainable recipes and cooking videos, including quizzes.
- An activity guide to train youth on the farm-to-fork strategy.



Growing Green Communities

The Growing Green Communities project was a two-year initiative that concluded in August 2024. It aimed to cultivate empirical insights into the potential impact of participatory, community-based initiatives within urban areas.

Specifically, the project investigated their role in mitigating the environmental footprint associated with food production and consumption. By promoting a plant-based lifestyle, fostering shorter food supply chains and curbing food waste, the initiative sought to outline effective strategies for reducing environmental strain.

TRANSNATIONAL PARTNER MEETING IN COPENHAGEN

The final transnational partners meeting for the Growing Green Communities project was hosted by Crossing Borders on 13th June in Copenhagen, Denmark. This significant gathering brought together project partners from Denmark, Finland, France, Germany and Switzerland to finalise the project's outcomes, discuss the impact of the project and brainstorm the sustainability of the project after Erasmus+ grants came to an end.



MULTIPLIER EVENT AT LINDEVANGSKOLEN

On 30th August, Crossing Borders and Lindevangskolen hosted a Growing Green Communities (GGC) Multiplier Event, bringing together over 100 students (aged 11-14) and ten teachers to engage in urban gardening and sustainability initiatives.

The event began with a presentation on GGC's progress over the past two years, highlighting the impact of urban gardening in fostering community, improving air quality and enhancing sustainability. A video further illustrated these benefits, sparking enthusiasm among students.

A dynamic Q&A session followed, where students actively explored how they could contribute to greener communities. The highlight was a hands-on activity where students planted seed bombs, fostering a sense of ownership and engagement.

The event received overwhelmingly positive feedback, with many students eager to start gardens in their own neighbourhoods. This initiative reaffirmed GGC's mission to inspire the next generation to take meaningful action for a sustainable future.



GGC's Web Platform



www.growgreencom.eu



Home

About

Partners

Activities

Results



Co-funded by
the European Union

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor EACEA can be held responsible for them.



Through our 'Food for Change' project, we empower young people post-pandemic by using food as a catalyst for intercultural dialogue. We foster community and civic engagement, transcending borders of race, gender and socio-economic class. Our training and dialogue dinners promote tolerance, inclusion and diversity to prevent radicalisation and discrimination among youth, thus strengthening the capacity of our organisation to work with young individuals.

All project resources and more can be found on the project website: [Food For Change](#)

TRANSNATIONAL PARTNER MEETING IN ALMADA

In July, the project partners gathered in Almada, Portugal for the final transnational meeting. The primary focus of this meeting was to discuss strategies for promoting the project's outcomes and engaging participants in upcoming multiplier events. Key discussions revolved around optimising communication channels, strengthening partnerships and ensuring that the project had met its predefined indicators.



The meeting concluded with a shared commitment to sustaining the project's legacy by enhancing its visibility and fostering community involvement. These discussions laid the groundwork for the final phase of the project, ensuring that its impact continues beyond its official conclusion.

MULTIPLIER EVENT AT CROSSING BORDERS

On 15th August, we hosted the final event for the Food For Change project, an inspiring evening that highlighted our achievements and the impact of our work. Moderated by our project coordinator Josephine Fröhlich, the event featured an engaging discussion led by Dr. Mira Skadegaard, an associate professor at Aalborg University and an expert in anti-discrimination studies. Her insights on equality, diversity, structural discrimination and human rights set the stage for meaningful conversations.

With over forty engaged participants, the event fostered an open and lively atmosphere. A delicious meal, prepared by Send Flere Krydderier, provided the perfect setting for discussing key issues such as justice, local politics and human rights.

A key highlight of the evening was the success of the Dialogue Dinner methodology, which proved to be an effective tool for building connections, promoting cultural exchange and encouraging inclusive dialogue. We encouraged participants to replicate this initiative within their own communities, extending the project's impact even further.



The project aims to promote environmental citizenship education among students by developing their understanding of environmental issues, simulating green challenges through a game-based approach and encouraging STEM knowledge through an interest in the environment. The goal is to create a lasting impact on the environment, equip students with valuable skills and knowledge and promote the development of national STEM strategies.

All project resources and more can be found on the project website:

[Earth Heroes](#)



PILOTING OUR ONLINE GLOSSARY

In the last months of 2024, we invited 80 students at Lindevangskole in Frederiksberg to try out our Online Glossary and Handbooks. They played games and listened to environmental stories to increase their knowledge and create excitement around topics such as renewable energy, plastic waste and recycling, food waste and a greener planet.

MOVING FORWARD

The second Transnational Partner Meeting (TPM) was held in October, marking the midway point of this project. Crossing Borders and our partner organisations were hosted by our Greek partners, AfCS, in Athens for two highly productive days of discussions. Key topics on the agenda included the design of a new online game focused on sustainability, as well as other exciting initiatives scheduled for 2025.

ACCT

Anti-racism & Civic Courage Training

Anti-Racism and Civic Courage Training (ACCT) was a two-year EU-wide project promoting respect, anti-racism and civic courage. We developed trainings and social campaigns, held conferences, and created intersectional educational materials to effectively combat racism and discrimination.

TRAIN THE TRAINERS

ACCT started off 2024 in Berlin. We trained four staff members in our unique non-formal curriculum, preparing them to facilitate further training sessions back in Copenhagen. While the training was important in developing skills, it was also transformative. For example, one participant stated that the train experience was revelatory for her, making her confront uncomfortable truths and break down stereotypes.



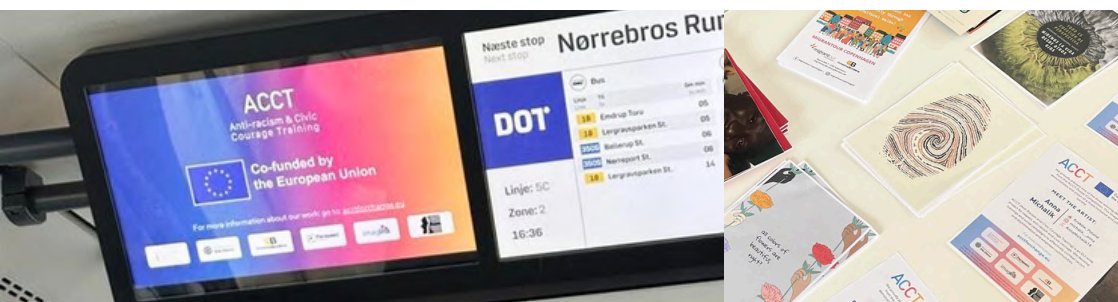
LOCAL TRAINING WITH DET FRIE GYMNASIUM

We partnered with Det Frie Gymnasium to engage 40 students in discussions on anti-racism and civic courage. The initiative inspired them to take action, including a full day dedicated to Forum Theater techniques, where students acted out scenarios to practice standing up against injustice. On the final day, students explored real-world examples of anti-racism through two distinct experiences. Half of the students visited the offices of LGBT Asylum to learn about their work with racialized queer individuals in Copenhagen, while the other half joined CB staff for a Migrantour of the Nørrebro neighborhood.



POSTER CAMPAIGN ON THE BUSES

Since November 2023, our Anti-Racism Poster Campaign has been showcasing the winning designs throughout our local communities and in our respective efforts. This initiative took a significant leap forward on 21st March 2024, coinciding with the International Day to End Racism. Our public transportation campaign launched in Copenhagen that same day, marking a pivotal moment in our journey to spread a message of inclusivity and awareness. Throughout Copenhagen and the surrounding areas, our posters came alive on the blue DOT bus lines, traversing the urban, suburban, and rural areas of the Zealand region. Over seven days, these messages captured the attention of about 2.2 million viewers. This strategic placement ensured that everyday commuters, occasional travellers and tourists alike were reached by our message, spreading the ideals of anti-racism through every corner of the region.



ACCT CONFERENCE

On 25th October Crossing Borders held a conference titled “ACCT: Anti Racism Conference – Community Responses to Breaking Down Structures.” We partnered with Union cultural centre to unite eight house-member organisations to showcase the diverse and impactful work being done in the field of anti-racism and anti-discrimination. This event highlighted the results of the ACCT project. It had two keynote speeches on anti-racism and intersectionality, as well as two panel talks. Additionally, it incorporated artistic performances in theatre, rap and dance.

The incorporation of artistic mediums allowed for nuance in discussion and meaning. One audience member stated, "The performance [Blinkered] made a big impression on me. It reminded me of the danger of a single narrative, how it simplifies and dehumanises a whole continent and its people, by taking away the nuances and replacing them with assumptions and stereotypes. It was such a powerful performance; I had goosebumps the whole time!" The performances, interspersed throughout the panels and keynotes, allowed for continued engagement and excitement.

ACCT LIVES ON

The ACCT project has officially come to an end, yet Crossing Borders will continue to use this curriculum to engage with students and learners of all ages. In 2024, we performed a modified one-day training session with hundreds of students ages 10-16 and we are using the posters with students as well.

You can find all the resources created for this project, including our training guidelines and curriculum, on our official programme website. To find out more, visit: [ACCT For Change](#)



INCLUDEDATE is designed to actively advance the Erasmus Strategy for Inclusion and Diversity. Its outcomes and results are focused on fostering the inclusion of people with fewer opportunities, particularly migrants, who often face intersectional marginalisation due to a combination of ethnic discrimination and socio-economic disadvantage.

The project highlights the critical need for capacity building to empower migrant associations to actively participate in inclusion and diversity strategies. From the initial needs assessment and strategic planning to coalition-building and implementation, INCLUDEDATE ensures a comprehensive approach. Effective communication and cooperation between local municipalities, migrant residents and migrant associations require strong intercultural competencies and tailored methodologies.

All our resources can be found on the project website: [Include Project](#)

LEARNING, TRAINING AND TEACHING ACTIVITY

A five-day Learning, Training and Teaching Activity (LTTA) was held in Gdynia, Poland, in April 2024. The event brought together partners and stakeholders to strengthen intercultural capacities and enhance migrant inclusion strategies. The programme featured interactive training sessions, study visits and practical exercises. Key topics included community mapping, reporting and action planning, with a focus on empowering migrant associations. Study visits to the Emigration Museum and SPILNO provided real-world insights into migration dynamics.





TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING IN BERLIN

The final INCLUDATE Transnational Project Meeting took place in Berlin in September 2024, hosted by Comparative Research Network and Polnischer Sozialrat. This gathering marked the successful completion of the INCLUDATE – Educating for Inclusion project.

The meeting provided a platform to reflect on the project's achievements and discuss the impact of its methodologies. Crossing Borders facilitated a workshop showcasing one of the developed methodologies, aimed at enhancing awareness of inclusive practices within organisations. This final meeting celebrated the collaborative efforts of all partners and reinforced our shared commitment to fostering inclusion and diversity beyond the project's duration.



The EDCyber Project is dedicated to empowering youth workers across Europe with the skills to facilitate online communities that promote active citizenship in their local contexts. At the heart of this initiative is Cyberanimation, a methodology that adapts sociocultural animation practices to the digital space. By leveraging this approach, the project consortium provides youth workers with innovative tools to harness social media, online communities and digital activities as catalysts for positive change.



YOUR MIND MATTERS WORKSHOPS

In our YOURMINDMATTERS! initiative, we've created a much-needed space for internationals to learn about and discuss their mental health. Below, you'll find insights from our community members who shared their experiences during our workshops in Copenhagen.

TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETING IN BRUSSELS

We attended the final coordination meeting for the EDCyber project in Brussels. The primary focus of the meeting was to plan upcoming activities related to the establishment of cyber communities and the development of the Social Influencer Hub. This meeting marked a pivotal step in advancing the project's objectives and setting the stage for the successful implementation of these initiatives.



Boosting youth towards Responsible and sustainAble choices in fashion inDustry

The BRAND project aims to educate young people about fast fashion's environmental impact while equipping youth workers with the tools and resources to inform, inspire and empower them toward sustainable fashion choices for a greener future.

All our resources can be found on the project website: [BRAND Site](#)

MULTIPLIER EVENT AT MISSIONARIES OF CHARITY

On 17th July, 2024, the BRAND Multiplier Event took place at the Missionaries of Charity, gathering around 50 participants including young people, youth workers and stakeholders. The event opened with presentations on Crossing Borders and the BRAND project, followed by the official launch of its digital tools: the BRAND Eco Fashion Toolkit, E-Book, E-Nfluencer, and BRAND App.

A key highlight was the clothes-swapping activity with the homeless, promoting circular clothing practices. The event concluded with a Q&A session and a networking lunch.



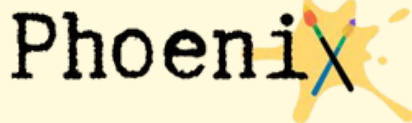
The project aims to empower youth across Europe by equipping them with the tools to express their opinions, influence public discourse and actively shape future EU policies. By providing youth with the skills and knowledge to create their own media content, the project fosters their ability to engage in journalistic practices. Ultimately, it seeks to ensure that young people have a meaningful voice in public political debate and can fully participate in the democratic process, helping to address their concerns for the future.



PROJECT MILESTONES

This year, we hosted a workshop on article writing where students explored the complexities of EU institutions and key societal issues. Their articles, which tackle topics ranging from mental health policies to diversity and gender equality, offer fresh perspectives grounded in research and a passion for change. These pieces are set to spark meaningful conversations and foster greater understanding. You can read them [here](#)

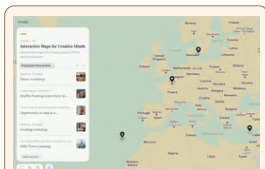
Additionally, we organised a highly successful podcast session. After an introductory talk on the project's progress, the students were divided into two groups. One group focused on climate change, while the other explored mental health. The session concluded with a one-hour recording featuring all 16 participants, highlighting their unique insights and engagement with these critical topics.



Although the COVID-19 pandemic seems to be over, the consequences of the long lockdown and isolation are still visible in our society. In particular, the creative sector is one of the most affected by the COVID-19 pandemic because of the unexpected and substantial loss of income, particularly for the most vulnerable players.

The PHOENIX project addresses these challenges and helps young amateurs, freelancers and non-profit youth associations from the creative sector to get back on their feet. We do so by re-adapting crowdfunding, digital content creation and community reporting to link young artists to their communities and gain support from them.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



Interactive Map for Creative Minds

Explore and support artists near your geolocation in your city on our customized map.



Phoenix Opportunities for Artists

Discover proposals for artists from municipalities, public bodies and private entities.



Young Artists Profiles

Create your artist profile and be featured on our platform to connect with your audience.

All our resources can be found on the project website:

[Phoenix Youth Project](#)

Global Programme

We're immensely grateful for our partners worldwide who work tirelessly to create positive change in their communities.

A special thank you to our primary funding partners **CISU - Civilsamfund i Udvikling** and **New Democracy Fund** for empowering us to make a global difference. Here are the projects from 2024:

01.
Localising the SDGs,
Ghana Community Radio
Network, Open Space
Centre, Circus Zambia,
Ghana, Uganda, Zambia

02.
**Women Empowerment
in Local Development,**
Sehgal Foundation,
India

03.
**Learning Spaces for
SDG 4,**
Teach the Child,
Nigeria

04.
**Armenia Meeting
Point,** Analytical Centre
on Globalisation and
Regional Cooperation,
Armenia

05.
**Amplifying Localisation
of the SDGs**
Open Space Centre
Uganda

06.
**Youth Promoting
Peace and Tolerance in
Zimbabwean Politics**
4H Foundation,
Zimbabwe

07.
Green Eco-Lab,
Open Space Centre,
Uganda

08.
**Democracy Debate
Hub,** Millenium,
Moldova





Localising the SDGs

Uganda - Ghana - Zambia



The Localising the SDGs project aims to create a south-to-south focused collaboration platform among Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and other stakeholders in Ghana, Uganda and Zambia. The platform focuses on localising the UN Global Goals (SDGs) at the grassroots level, ensuring that global objectives are turned into actionable, community-driven initiatives.

For project reports, blogs, updates, videos and more, visit the web platform: [SDGs - Crossing Borders](#)



PROJECT DOCUMENTARY

A documentary, "Localising the SDGs: A Documentary of Positive Impacts and Change," has been produced as part of the project, showcasing how communities in Uganda, Ghana and Zambia are getting to work. Through compelling stories and best practices, the documentary emphasises the innovative strategies and collaborative efforts that are driving sustainable development at the grassroots level. You can watch it [here](#)



MONITORING VISIT

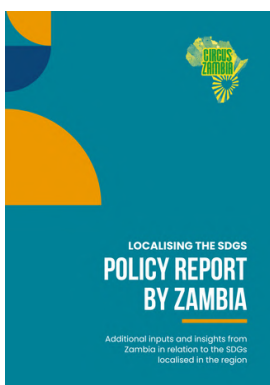
In May 2024, Garba Diallo, the director of Crossing Borders, along with Johannes Nordentoft, an external consultant, visited Uganda as part of their ongoing monitoring efforts.

The purpose of the visit was to meet with project partners, including Open Space Center (OSC) in Uganda, Ghana Community Radio Network (GCRN) and Circus Zambia (CZ). During their visit, they engaged with key stakeholders, such as youth leaders and local evaluators, to assess the project's impact and reflect on its successes and challenges. The visit concluded with a reflection event in Kampala, where the partners shared their experiences and discussed future steps for furthering SDG localisation.

PROJECT RESOURCES



[Download Report](#)



[Download Report](#)



[Download Report](#)

The Women Empowerment in Local Development project, in partnership with Sehgal Foundation, focuses on empowering women at the grassroots level in rural villages of Muzaffarpur, Bihar, India. Central to the project are the Women Leadership Schools (WLS), which aim to enhance women's leadership skills and elevate their roles in the community, and the Women Farmers Schools (WFS), which promote gender equality and agricultural skill enhancement.

Several key milestones have been achieved this year, including an exposure visit to the Borlaug Institute for South Asia, an interface meeting with NGOs, the installation of a compost unit, the distribution of Wheat PoP to Women Farmer Schools and a demonstration of the zero tillage machine to promote sustainable farming practices.

LAUNCH OF THE PROJECT TOOLKIT

A comprehensive project toolkit was published titled "Leaders Unveiled", highlighting the powerful ways in which rural women in India are breaking barriers and driving local development. The toolkit showcases how these women are using leadership and sustainable agriculture to create lasting changes in their communities. Get your copy here: [Download Toolkit](#)



Stories OF CHANGE

Abha was among the earliest participants in the Women's Leadership School. The confidence she gained is evident in the joy she exudes when talking about creating hundreds more women leaders and her flourishing kitchen garden, which provides good nutrition to her family.

- ABHA KUMARI

As a member of the Women Farmers School and one of the most active farmers in her village, she grows a variety of vegetables in her 50-square-foot garden. Through the programme, she has learned how to cultivate vegetables with minimal use of chemicals.

- REKHA KUMARI

Rubi learned about the zero tillage technique as a participant in the Women Farmers School and successfully grew wheat on her farm. A zero tillage machine allowed for the direct sowing of seeds, resulting in higher productivity.

- RUBI DEVI

Kajal has already completed a computer course and is currently in her first year of college. She lives in a joint family. Alongside her studies, Kajal helps her family with farming and running their grocery shop.

- KAJAL KUMARI



LEARNING SPACES FOR SDG 4



The Learning Spaces for SDG 4 initiative aims to equip public school teachers and students in Bwari, Nigeria, with 21st-century teaching and learning skills. This project, implemented in partnership with Teach the Child Initiative, aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4), ensuring quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all.

Through innovative teaching methods and educational tools, the project seeks to:

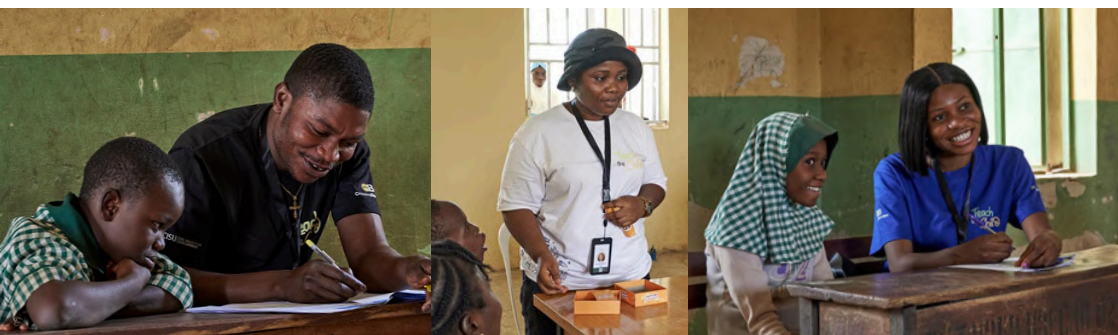
- Elevate learning outcomes for students.
- Empower educators with modern pedagogical skills.
- Establish accessible Learning Spaces for 90 students who have completed the Capacity Strengthening Workshops for Changemakers, funded by CISU.

PHASE 2 IMPLEMENTATION

The project progressed into Phase 2, focusing on integrating 21st-century learning methodologies and tools across diverse learning spaces.

A key milestone in this phase was the baseline assessment conducted at Junior Secondary School Dawaki, which served as a crucial step in tracking progress and measuring impact. Additionally, new interactive learning spaces were introduced, incorporating innovative tools such as educational tabletop games and talking books with pens.

These tools transformed the learning environment, making it more vibrant and engaging. As a result, students were encouraged to express themselves freely while developing essential foundational literacy skills.





EDUCATION SUMMIT 2024

The Summit brought together leading education experts to discuss the future of learning. The event featured prominent panellists, including Gideon Olanrewaju, Chiemezie Ucheaga, Kingsley Agu and Oye Intentions, who shared valuable insights on improving education. The summit emphasised the importance of project-based learning and global citizenship education in addressing learning deficiencies. Additionally, the discussions highlighted the need for governments to prioritise capacity building for educators and underscored the critical role of parental involvement in the success of any educational initiative.

PROJECT IMPACT

The Learning Spaces for SDG 4 project has made significant strides in transforming education across the Bwari area of Abuja, Nigeria.

Teachers involved in the project report professional growth, having gained new teaching strategies that enhance their effectiveness in the classroom. The project has also enhanced foundational literacy and numeracy skills for over 1,500 children.



[Watch Student Testimonials](#)



[Watch Teacher Testimonials](#)

ARMENIA MEETING POINT



The Armenia Meeting Point project serves as a platform for awareness, learning, collaboration and dialogue among 15 Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Community-Based Organisations (CBOs) and media outlets in Armenia. Through capacity-building initiatives and knowledge exchange, the project fosters good practices and strengthens Armenia's civil society. A key component is an innovative learning platform designed to enhance collaboration and sustainability.

PROJECT MILESTONES

Launched in 2023, the Armenia Meeting Point project implemented in collaboration with ACGRC and supported by CISU - Civilsamfund i Udvikling has already delivered five impactful activities, engaging over 150 direct participants, including CSO representatives, media professionals and local start-ups.

Key Achievements:

- Strengthened networking among CSOs and media outlets in target regions.
- Enhanced knowledge on combating misinformation and improving media literacy.
- Improved advocacy and lobbying skills among civil society actors.
- Facilitated joint strategies and mobilization of regional CSOs.
- Initiated the development of a comprehensive Guidebook.





MONITORING VISIT & CAPACITY-BUILDING SEMINAR

In November 2024, Crossing Borders Director Garba Diallo conducted a monitoring visit and capacity-building mission in Armenia, focusing on strengthening civil society and independent media. The visit was hosted by ACGRC and aimed to equip participants with the tools to address rising anti-democratic pressures.

A major highlight of the trip was a capacity-building seminar held in Gyumri, a city located near the Armenian-Turkish border. The seminar tackled the crucial theme: **“The Needs and Strategies for Civil Society Actors and Independent Media to Join Forces to Expand and Protect Civil Spaces.”**

Gathering 37 representatives from 12 civic organisations and three independent media outlets across Armenia, the seminar provided a platform for dialogue, experience-sharing and strategic planning. It was hosted by the renowned democracy advocate, journalist and art director Dr. Levon Barseghyan, whose dedication to democratic values inspired participants. The discussions culminated in a shared agreement among participants: The best way to safeguard democracy is for civil society and independent media to join forces around common interests.

This visit reaffirmed the importance of cross-sector collaboration in safeguarding democratic values.

AMPLIFYING LOCALISATION OF THE SDGS

The Amplifying Localisation of the SDGs project aims to enhance citizen engagement in sustainable development across Uganda by empowering diverse societal groups, including youth, religious leaders, businesses, the media, district leadership and marginalised communities.

PROJECT INCEPTION MEETING

In early 2024, the project officially launched with an inception meeting, bringing together over 50 stakeholders including youth leaders, community members, NGOs, local businesses, media representatives and religious leaders. The meeting provided a shared understanding of the project's goals and strategies to drive localisation efforts forward.



COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

A significant milestone for the project has been its collaborations, including:

- **United Nations Association Uganda (UNAUGANDA)** – Discussions on joint efforts to accelerate SDG implementation at the local level.
- **Uganda National Students Association (UNSA)** – Partnership for the UNSA Debates & Public Speaking Competitions 2024, aimed at popularising the SDGs among young people before 2030.

YOUTH PROMOTING PEACE AND TOLERANCE IN ZIMBABWEAN POLITICS (II)

Building upon the success of the “Youth Promoting Peace and Tolerance in Zimbabwe” initiative launched in 2022, this project continues efforts to engage youth in peacebuilding, dialogue and democratic participation. Through sports and the arts, the initiative fosters inclusive youth engagement, ensuring their active and peaceful participation in electoral processes.

The project’s key objectives include:

- Encouraging youth involvement in democratic participation.
- Implementing peacebuilding initiatives through art and sports.
- Increasing governance participation among youth by May 2024.



UNITING POLITICAL PARTIES FOR PEACE

In a groundbreaking achievement, our partner, 4-H Zimbabwe Foundation, successfully united 11 political parties, ZIPP, ZANU-PF, CCC, DOP, FREEZIM, MDC, NCA, NPC, UANC, ZCPD, and UZA to sign the Youth Peace Pledge in Harare.

A key highlight of the event was the launch of the Youth Council for Peace & Development (YCPD), a platform designed to empower young leaders in peacebuilding, leadership and national development. The event also saw the participation of key stakeholders, including chiefs from traditional communities. Additionally, voter education was emphasised to ensure that young people are well-informed about their rights and the importance of free, fair and peaceful elections.

GREEN ECO LAB PROJECT



The Green Eco Lab initiative empowers Ugandan youth to combat climate change through awareness, skill-building and innovation. In partnership with Open Space Centre, the project equips young individuals with the knowledge and practical tools needed to develop climate adaptation solutions.

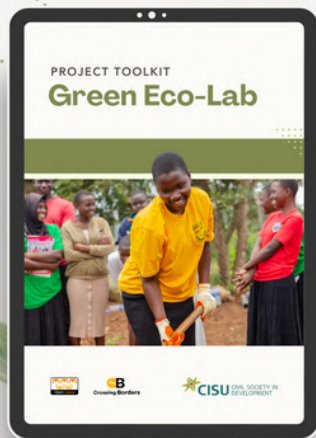
The programme primarily focuses on secondary school students and local communities, providing them with the resources to address climate-related challenges. A key component of the initiative is the Green Eco Lab, an in-school training and experimentation hub where students can conduct experiments and create climate adaptation solutions to support their communities.

LAUNCH OF THE PROJECT TOOLKIT

A major milestone of the project has been the development of the Green Eco-Lab Project Toolkit, a comprehensive resource designed to empower young people with actionable climate adaptation strategies.

By using this toolkit, young people gain practical experience and the skills necessary to implement real-world climate solutions within their schools and communities.

Get your copy here: [Download Toolkit](#)



The Democracy Debate Hub is a collaboration between Crossing Borders and the Millennium Training and Development Institute, both dedicated to youth empowerment and democracy-building. The project aims to equip at least 150 young people in Moldova with essential communication, collaboration and debating skills. Through structured debates, participants learn to navigate misinformation, propaganda and fake news, fostering critical thinking and democratic engagement.



TRAINING IN DEMOCRACY DEBATES

A training session was conducted to equip youth workers, teachers, and participants with the skills to facilitate Democracy Debates and establish local Democracy Debate Hubs. The participants engaged in dynamic debates, learned to document controversial subjects and constructed compelling arguments.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF DEMOCRATIC DEBATES

The Regional Championship of Democratic Debates, spanning northern, central and southern Moldova, offered young debaters a platform for idea exchange, skill development and the strengthening of communication, argumentation and critical thinking. It served as both a competition and a learning experience.



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP OF DEMOCRATIC DEBATES

The National Championship celebrated the achievements of the Democratic Debate Clubs in 15 localities during the 2023-24 school year.

Key Highlights:

- Teams showcased their debate expertise through well-researched arguments.
- The event emphasized the importance of democratic engagement and public discourse.
- Participants demonstrated exceptional dedication to democratic principles.



LAUNCH OF THE PROJECT TOOLKIT

A significant achievement of the project was the launch of the Democracy Debate Hub Toolkit. This comprehensive resource aims to empower young individuals to engage with democratic principles and community leaders to facilitate fair, informed discussions. The toolkit provides essential tools and knowledge to promote effective debate and dialogue. Get your copy here: [Download Toolkit](#)

Other Projects





ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Digital Awareness and Resilience (DAR) project is a Nordic initiative focused on equipping young people with essential skills to navigate the digital world effectively. The project aims to foster critical thinking in social media use, addressing pressing issues such as fake news, cyberbullying and the importance of democratic participation in the digital age.

Through targeted educational programs and transnational activities, DAR not only promotes digital literacy but also builds resilience among students across participating countries. The ultimate goal is to prepare young people to become conscientious global citizens, ready to thrive and contribute positively in an ever-evolving digital landscape.

INTERNATIONAL DEBATE 2024

A key event in the DAR project was the International Debate 2024, held in April. This event provided students with the opportunity to apply the knowledge gained from four digital literacy workshops, allowing them to use their critical thinking and digital skills in a dynamic and engaging environment.

The debate encouraged students to creatively express their understanding of digital issues, while also fostering important dialogue on how to navigate and address challenges in today's digital world. This event highlighted the importance of fostering both digital literacy and resilience among youth, preparing them to engage thoughtfully and responsibly in the global digital community.



NORDCONNECT

ABOUT THE PROJECT

NordConnect is a collaborative project focused on entrepreneurship, with a particular emphasis on female entrepreneurs and graduates from migrant communities. The initiative aims to engage migrant youth, foster a sense of belonging and equip participants with the necessary skills and networks to succeed in the Nordic business environment.

The Nordic collaboration enables an exchange of experiences, lessons learned and best practices, creating a supportive environment for aspiring entrepreneurs.

VOICES OF VICTORY

The Voices of Victory event, hosted by NordConnect in Copenhagen, featured nine speakers from nine different countries, each sharing their unique journey of integration and resilience in the Nordic region. The event served as a platform to motivate and inspire those navigating life in unfamiliar territories.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP BOOTCAMP IN FINLAND

NordConnect successfully concluded a two-day Entrepreneurship Bootcamp in Lappeenranta, Finland, with 50 participants eager to explore opportunities in entrepreneurship. This edition brought together 13 aspiring entrepreneurs, each with innovative business ideas and diverse backgrounds. The bootcamp provided valuable insights into business services, startup ecosystems and entrepreneurship pathways in the Nordic region.

Become a Member

As a member of Crossing Borders, you contribute to our mission of empowering young people around the world to become agents of positive change. Your modest contribution goes a long way, enabling us to execute impactful projects all over the world!

Youth (Under 30)

DKK
75
per year

Standard

DKK
200
per year

Family

DKK
300
per year



SCAN TO REGISTER





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