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Facilitation Tactics Training

Become a Certified Facilitator to promote mental health through Art and get Certified by Yellow vs. Blue

Become a Facilitator to promote mental health through Art and get **certified by [Yellow vs. Blue](http://www.yellowvsblue.org)**

When: April 19 to April 25th (including arrival and departure)

Where: Matsevani, Georgia

Organizer: [Yellow vs. Blue](http://www.yellowvsblue.org)

Host: Parzival





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Our Story with Facilitation

We still remember the first time we joined a youth exchange and saw the non formal education facilitators in action. We thought, “How do they do this? How can we become like them?” That moment planted a seed.

Since then, facilitation for non-formal education became more than something we admired, it literally became a lifestyle for us, it became the way we decide to learn because of how interactive and it is about us, as participants, we figure out our own learning, we are supported in a beautiful way to find out the answers, not being talked at.

Step by step, we discovered the small, invisible parts of it: how one gesture changes a group’s energy, how a simple question opens a new space, how presence itself can be a tool. And in all of that, we noticed how much this work changed us, not only professionally, but also personally, deeply with friends and family, so it doubled the impact by just learning this magic tool ‘facilitation’ and opened for us countless opportunities professionally.

We got certified in facilitation and coaching, and since we started facilitating numerous projects and cultural programs in different countries, we felt how much people appreciated the “behind-the-scenes” of those programs and the skill. Many participants started to ask us: **“How did you learn to facilitate this way, and how can we start our career journey in facilitation as well?”**

So we decided in 2024 to run our first virtual facilitation training, and it was a huge success, we obviously wanted to do it again and this month we finally got to decide that we would like to put time into this Facilitation Training because of the impact that it created since we ran it last year and how many of the participants are kicking their career journey in facilitation globally already.

Another reason is that we would love to expand our community of qualified facilitators through the people that we will meet and train. So here we are, this time going to run it in Georgia with **very limited spots**, ready to go deeper, to share more of what we’ve gathered



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over years of facilitating, coaching, learning, and growing. Also sharing how we ran various mental health and wellbeing programs through art.

Program Overview



This facilitation training “Facilitation Tactics” in Matsevani, Georgia is a week-long, immersive learning journey for people who want to get certified in facilitation in non-formal education methods, and start their career journey to facilitate intercultural programs in their own countries, work institutions, or different countries, understand, practice, and embody the art of facilitation, not as a theory, but as a real, living skill. This training is organized by Yellow vs Blue, the program bridges mental health, art, and creative group processes, combining years of experience from running mental health, wellbeing and intercultural programs around the world.

Over six days in nature, you’ll explore the foundations of facilitation with non-formal education, how to listen deeply, hold space, read the room, ask meaningful follow-up questions, and guide groups with empathy and awareness. You’ll learn how to design and run art-based wellbeing sessions, navigate challenging moments, care for yourself as a facilitator,

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and take your first steps toward building a facilitation career. This training is an invitation to anyone who wants to explore facilitation not just as a skill, but as a way of being and to explore it as a career further.

With the facilitation skills, you will be able to manage a team or organisation, run workshops, meetings, organise events and network effectively, and work better with stakeholder groups.

Why Georgia? 🇧🇪



Georgia (the country) is an authentic place, that unfortunately not many people have explored its beauty and presence with its beautiful culture. We will be staying in a little village called Matsevani in a locally-built education center, Parzival. So for us with the calmness of the countryside, and the amazing space of, is the perfect site for this learning, and hard working journey we will do together in the facilitation training.

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Training Learning Objectives

By the end of the week training, you will:

1. Understand the foundations of facilitation - you will learn how to truly listen, read the room, notice the energy shifts, the silences, the facial reactions. You'll discover how to ask questions that open something deeper, how to stay neutral yet fully present, how to hold space when emotions rise, and how to connect with empathy without losing your role and neutrality. These are the invisible skills that make facilitation feel effortless, and this is where we start.

2. Design & run art-based mental health and well-being workshops - you'll explore how to turn creative expression into safe, meaningful group experiences. How to use art as a way to let participants connect, reflect, and start a recognition journey. You'll learn how to guide people through each step, from warm-ups to closure, while holding space for emotions and stories that may surface.

3. Respond to challenging dynamics & difficult conversations- you'll learn what to do when things get intense, when someone shuts down, opens up, disagrees, or when the room goes silent. What if a participant started to get emotional, etc.. You'll practice staying grounded in uncertainty, asking the right questions, and meeting tension with presence instead of panic.

4. Work ethically and compassionately with vulnerable groups - you'll learn what it means to create a space that is intercultural and inclusive, and grounded in respect and consent. We'll explore what "safety" really means, how to honour boundaries, and how to approach the group with humility and curiosity.

5. Kickstart your facilitation journey forward - by the end, you'll start shaping your own path, creating your first artistic workshop idea, refining your style, and seeing how facilitation can grow with you. We'll explore ways to continue learning, find opportunities, and stay connected to a wider community of facilitators.



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Who is this Facilitation Training for?



This training is valuable for:

- Emerging facilitators and trainers who want to build strong foundations and learn how to design and lead workshops effectively and use creativity as a learning method for wellbeing
- Coaches, mentors, and educators who want to bring facilitation tools into their work with individuals or groups.
- HR, learning & development, and team leaders who guide conversations, manage group dynamics, or hold space for wellbeing and collaboration.

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- Artists, art therapists, or creative practitioners who want to use their art and non formal education as a tool for connection, reflection, and emotional health (non-clinical).
- Youth workers, NGO professionals, and project leaders running intercultural, educational, or wellbeing programs.
- Anyone curious about facilitation as a personal and professional skill, how to listen deeply, create psychological safety, and guide meaningful experiences.

This training is NOT for:

Those who already have advanced facilitation skills and are looking for supervision-level or high-level specialization (this program focuses on core and intermediate skills).

Group size: small and intentional, around 8–12 people, so we can work closely and learn better in a smaller international group.

Get to know the trainers

Ahmed Abdelsalam: Egypt/UK

Ahmed Abdelsalam is an Erasmus+ certified Dialogue Facilitator and Facilitation Coach, with extensive experience in facilitation, coaching and training. He has over five years of experience in designing and leading transformative learning spaces that inspire personal and

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professional development both virtually and in-person. Ahmed received his Facilitation Training in 2019 with Soliya, US, which has been instrumental in shaping his approach in addition to the Advanced Facilitation Training of Trainers in Poland in 2021, where he deepened his practice in non-formal education and creative learning.

As a trainer and facilitator, Ahmed led several international programmes with Yellow vs Blue, such as Art of Change in 2024 & 2025 in Norway, Beyond The Lens Filmmaking Program, and the Human Theatre workshops in Valencia, Spain in 2023. He also led the Facilitation Tactics training, a programme designed to equip emerging facilitators with foundational skills of facilitation. In addition to this, Ahmed facilitated other programmes such as the ChangeMakers Reflection Groups with Now Institute in 2021 and the JoveSolides pilot Virtual Exchange programme supported by Mandela Mile organization in 2020.

Now based in the UK, Ahmed currently serves as a facilitator for the Global Professional Awards programme at the University of Huddersfield, supporting learners embark on a journey of personal and professional growth. Known for his reflective and human-centered approach, Ahmed believes in education as a powerful tool for self-awareness and transformation, empowering individuals and groups to engage in meaningful experiences that inspire authentic change.

Shrouk Hussien: Egypt/Spain

Shrouk is the founder and director of Yellow vs. Blue, a certified NLP practitioner, facilitator, and coach. She integrates art, theatre, and coaching practices to support young people and adults in promoting mental health and well-being. Her facilitation journey began with Soliya where she became certified in Erasmus+ facilitation and coaching, followed by an advanced Training of Trainers in non-formal education in Kielce, Poland. She has since organized and facilitated multiple international and local projects, including two rounds of Art of Change in Utoya, Norway (2024 and 2025), where she worked as organizer, project manager, and co-facilitator, and the pilot Facilitation Tactics training by Yellow vs Blue.



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She has also organized Human Theatre Workshops in Valencia, and she regularly facilitates Art Therapy Workshops through Life as a Local in Valencia initiative by Yellow vs. Blue, connecting expats and locals through creative expression. She has facilitated a workshop on mental health with Peace First in the USA, coached a virtual exchange program organized by Jovesolides Egypt supported by Mandela Mile, and led reflection groups with NOW and IOFC in Switzerland.

Shrouk worked with HLAB Japan as a global side mentor for mental health and wellbeing facilitated sessions to support Japanese high school students, and she also worked as mentor and co-lead mentor with MCW Global in New York, to support leaders to bring their projects to life in their community. Additionally, she recently co-facilitated an intercultural retreat in Koppang, Norway, focused on art and theatre for well-being, and contributed as co-facilitator in the educational team of an Erasmus+ project on Critical Media Consumption in Madeira Island, Portugal. Within Yellow vs. Blue, she currently manages and facilitates various international and intercultural programs, bringing inclusive facilitation and creative methods to empower participants around the world.

Testimonial from Facilitation Tactics previous participants:

"Facilitation Tactics is one of the best trainings I have ever attended, and the reason why I think so is that it was very interactive with little theoretical and reading materials. I learnt through our discussions and your feedback much more than I could have learnt through readings." - **Ahmed Essamaldin from Egypt**

"Through the facilitation training, I learned about facilitation tools, skills and strategies but also to recognize difficult situations that might happen during a group session and how to deal with them (eg. when a participant start to take over the discussion or feels overwhelmed; when there's a conflict among the group etc.). I learned the importance of being empathetic, of giving follow-up questions and summarizing when needed after a discussion. From a personal level I think that this training helped me to be more confident, fearless and less shy, so I can say that I feel a different person now." - **Elizabetta from Italy**

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What is the program covering?



- 1- Shared comfortable and simple accommodation in the middle of nature (you will be sharing a room with 3 people from same gender - there are no private rooms option)
- 2- Three nutritious & delicious meals cooked by a professional Italian chef (plus coffee breaks!)
- 3- Private Bus Transfers from Tbilisi to the training venue and back
- 4- All materials, art supplies, and activities of the whole training learning experience
- 5- Facilitation Certification by Yellow vs. Blue & ongoing facilitation journey support

- **Program Fees:**

- **Early bird program fees:** 850 EUROS (from October 14th until November 14th)
- **Regular registration fees:** 950 EUROS (from November 15th until March 14th)
- **Last minute registration fees:** 1000 EUROS (From March 15 until April 1st)

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Please note that all participation fees go directly toward sustaining our non profit's initiatives for youth to promote mental health. The training language is in English.

If you require a VISA to Georgia, Yellow vs. Blue can provide an official invitation letter to support your visa application.

If you would like to stay a few days before or after the training in Georgia to explore it, as you won't have time to deeply explore during the training, you are welcome to do so, however, it should be at your own expense.

The fees do not include flights / travel to Georgia/ Travel insurance or visa (if needed)

The training program fees can be paid over 2 installments if needed, to support you joining the program. You might also like to explore if your national agency or any of your youth city councils would be open to fund your training course fully or partially.

Interested to join us in Georgia in April? If you have not yet, you can apply from [here](#). We will be in touch shortly after you submit your application to invite you for a short discovery call. The application is open - but can close at any moment due to the limited spots we have, so once filled, the registration will be closed. **If you have already applied, and received this info-pack, you can reply to the email you received to schedule the Zoom discovery call.**

If you have any questions, reach out to us at: info@yellowvsblue.org. We are looking forward to seeing you in Georgia soon!