



CliVEx Facilitation Training

Engagement & Impact

January 2024 – January 2025



Co-funded by
the European Union

SOLIYA.NET



Soliya is an international NGO founded in 2003, pioneering the field of Virtual Exchange.

Our mission is to promote intercultural understanding and constructive dialogue across difference — connecting people who might otherwise never meet, across Europe, MENA, and beyond.

Facilitating the Future






Our role in ClivEx:

- » Designed and delivered facilitation trainings for the programme
- » Prepared facilitators for climate-focused Virtual Exchange sessions
- » Supported intercultural engagement across Europe and MENA
- » Recruited trainees through partner universities and Soliya networks



Introduction Course

Advanced Training

Format	5-week asynchronous	10-week blended
Platform	 + optional live sessions	 + weekly live 
Focus	Foundational facilitation skills	Practice-based facilitation
Rounds	3 rounds (Jan 2024, Aug 2024, Jan 2025)	2 rounds (Spring & Fall 2024)

How we teach:

- » Dialogue-based
- » Intercultural exchange

- » Reflective assignments
- » Practice-first learning

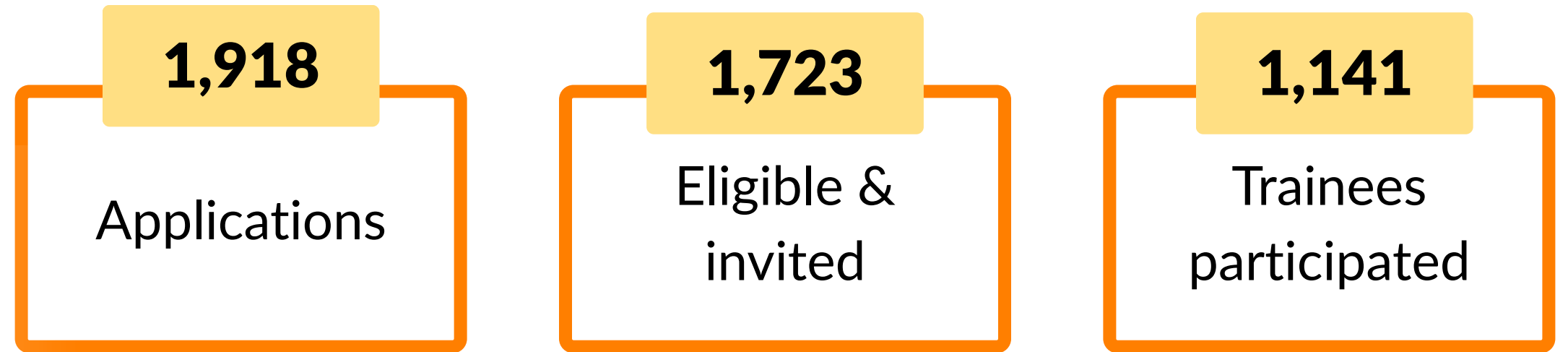
Recruitment:

Partner universities across Europe & MENA + direct Soliya outreach

Participation & Reach



Overall reach:



Training delivery:

5 rounds

20 Intro sections

12 Advanced groups

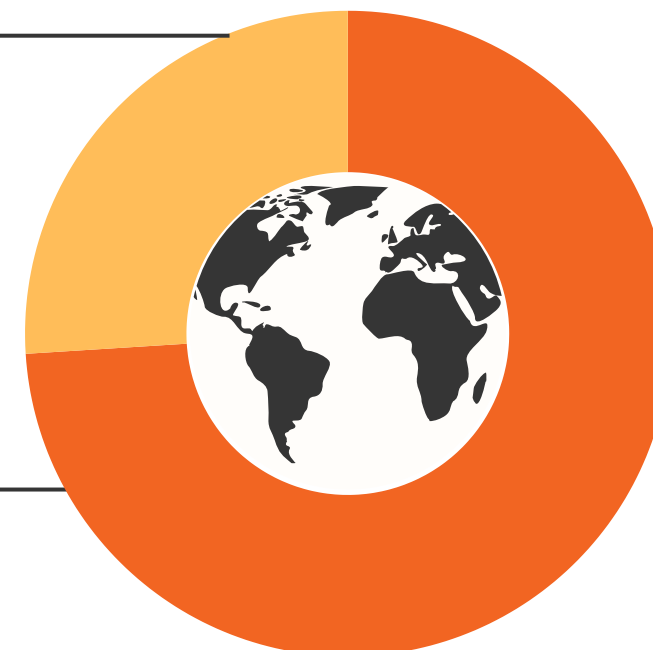
Who participated:

EUROPE

26%

MENA

74%




» **65** nationalities

» Majority aged **18-25**

» **71%** female

Key Insights & Lessons Learned

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- 1 Blended learning drives stronger engagement.** Advanced Training (blended) achieved 76% active participation vs. 28% in the fully asynchronous Intro course. Live interaction improved retention and commitment.
 - 2 Participant profile matters.** Older participants and those at Master's/PhD level showed the strongest completion rates. Younger, Bachelor's-level participants had the highest dropout.
 - 3 Regional disparities persisted.** MENA participants faced higher dropout rates than EU counterparts — shaped by contextual and accessibility barriers rather than motivation.
 - 4 Partnership quality shapes outcomes.** Strong institutional ties (Palestine, Italy, Morocco) produced both higher numbers and better completion. Where partnerships were weaker, reach and retention suffered.

Impact of the Facilitation Trainings

What trainees reported:

Introduction Course

Advanced Training

Developed facilitation skills



Gained key transferable skills



Improved active listening



Rated experience high/very high



BROADER OUTCOMES:

- » Trained facilitators ready for Virtual Exchange
- » Strengthened intercultural dialogue skills across Europe & MENA
- » Facilitated climate discussions across regions
- » Support for academic internationalisation and virtual mobility



Participant Voices

Germany, female
Advanced Training



"The learnings are not limited to the facilitation process only — **they changed my complete way to communicate.**"

Egypt, female
Advanced Training



"I've already started unconsciously **implementing the skills** in my personal life. Especially in conflicts, I find myself becoming **less judgemental** and **more willing to hear** the other person's side."

Tunisia, female
Advanced Training



"I've become more **self-aware**. I now understand what I'm good at in terms of communicating with others, what my biases and weak points are, and how to deal with them."

Tunisia, male
Introduction Course



"**Active listening**: this part kept me searching for what it really means and I kept trying to apply it any time I got the chance. It was mind blowing for me."

Skills Beyond CliVEx & The Climate Dialogue Imperative

Facilitation skills reported across all rounds:

- » Communication (89–94%)
- » Empathy & active listening (90–100%)
- » Leadership (71–83%)
- » Intercultural dialogue (97–98%)
- » Critical thinking (consistently highlighted)



Why this matters beyond the project:

Climate change is one of the most complex and cross-cultural challenges of our time. Addressing it requires people who can stay in conversation across deep difference — across regions, values, and lived experiences. **The facilitation skills developed through CliVEx are precisely the capacities that make those conversations possible.**

As polarisation increases globally, the need for trained dialogue facilitators — people who can hold space for disagreement, bridge divides, and move groups toward understanding — is only growing. **CliVEx has contributed directly to building that capacity across 65 nationalities.**

The world needs people who can sit with discomfort and stay curious. Soliya through the CliVEx project has been training them.

THANK YOU

Lead the conversations that matter

1,141

Trainees

65

Nationalities

5

Training rounds



Climate Virtual ExChange

