

Seminar “Youth Friendly Community” Tallinn, 24-28 October 2016

Challenge

- To develop in each country, youth policy in accordance with the European discussions and developments;
- To implement and develop youth policy through multilateral cooperation in European, national, regional and local level;
- To stimulate local partnership;
- To empower and upgrade the quality of the key actors in the youth field;
- To raise the visibility and recognition of multilateral cooperation established under the Co-operation Programme

Aim of the seminar

More spaces (quality and quantity) and opportunities for young people on local level (municipality level +cities) in public space which leads to youth friendly community (with focus on diversity of the places and target groups).

Questions to answers

- Young people do not feel welcome and safe in public space.
- There is not enough recognition for youth work (it gets mixed in with other fields (tourism, eco- efficiency). The idea exists that youth work = hobby education. They do not see the need for separate strategy and long term planning).
- Within the youth work the different types of youth work are not recognised (Youth centres vs youth work organisations vs informal groups etc.).
- There are not enough resources (money, human resources).
- There are not enough spaces to be ‘young’.
- Young people are not involved enough in the decision making progress.
- Too much bureaucracy for young people to take initiative in starting new projects and being part of decision making process (not youth-friendly).
- Activities are not attractive for young people, young people are not active, do not feel engaged.
- There is not enough connection between young people (subcultures) and services/activities for young people.
- There is not enough networking / lack of cross-sectoral approach amongst professionals.

Objectives

Skills, knowledge and attitudes we will be working on: Skills

- Map the stakeholders and youth in local area.
- Analysing communication between these actors.



Flanders
State of the Art



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- Creating and improving the network and communication.
- Bring together stakeholders (including young people).
- Plan future activities as a group and as an individual (prioritize).
- Plan dissemination and exploitation of the results (f.e. between counties amongst youth work specialists). NB! starting before the event.

Knowledge

- Get an overview of activities in their own country/region/community related to young people and public space/opportunities (youth friendly communities).
- Map (obstacles/possibilities/good practices) of their own reality.
- Know about realities (obstacles/possibilities/good practices) of work around youth friendly communities of the other 3 countries.
- How to connect the good practices to my own reality.
- The results of the seminar for me and for my group.
- How improvement of public space will benefit young people and society at large.

Attitude

- Motivated to implement activities to create more youth friendly communities.
- See the value of cooperation on a local and international level.
- Willingness to include young people in the planning process (planners).
- Self-efficacy related to creating better spaces for young people.
- Believe in the usefulness of implementing new ideas and trust it will solve my problems.

Expected outcomes of the seminar

- Mapping good examples of space sharing.
- Identified good practices, innovative methods of involving young people.
- Specific recommendations and formats for local level and national level (focus on dissemination and exploitation of the results of this event through diverse methods (articles, prepare meetings, events, documents with recommendations etc.).
- Future project ideas (including action plan where and how to get funding etc.)
- Stimulate cooperation between existing partners.

Profile of participants

- Youth representatives (youth council, NGO's)
- Youth workers
- Local (municipality level) policy makers (urban planners etc.)
- National level / representative of organisers

Participants should:

- Up to 5 participants from each country: Belgium, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania (mixed "teams" with priority of people from one city/county/neighbourhood).
- Participants eager to participate and willing and able to cooperate and implement activities afterwards.
- Able to use English as working language.

SEMINAR – preliminary program

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	
Arrivals	Who is here – getting to know each other further	Good practices – from the field (study visit Tallinn)	Can we do it together – idea fair	Action planning and evaluation	
	Aims and objectives of the course; personal learning goals		Input on different funding possibilities for future projects		
	My reality – what kind of problems do we face in our reality	Good practice – expert input (architect focused on social spaces / urban planner that cooperates with youth)	Developing ideas / recommendations together		Departures
	My reality – what are the existing possibilities / solutions in our reality	Putting good practices in my own reality – how can we work with that			
Dinner + Getting to know each other		Dinner out + tour in Tallinn city	Farewell party		

Approach / practicalities:

- Prep meeting plus homework (mapping realities) for each country group before seminar - between 26 September – 24 October 2016.
- Practice what we preach (cross-sectoral approach).
- After selection trainers send questionnaire to participants.
- Parallel sessions as well for different target group.
- Experts / inspiration: architect / urban planning; youth Initiative

Further preparation

An information package with practical details will be sent to the selected participants in the week of 10 October 2016.