

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Local Youth Policies on Social Entrepreneurship

Study visit to Lisbon

27th May – 1st June 2019

Organized by:



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Background & Context

DYPALL stands for **Developing Youth Participation at Local Level**, and as a network, it started its development in 2011, with the purpose of fostering the potential of young people to be active citizens and actors of real social change in their local communities, as well as in their regional and international realities.



Our experience strengthened our belief that involving young people in decision making is a key driver to empower them and to increase their sense of belonging and active citizenship. This involvement should include not only the support from local authorities to activities targeting young people, but also a broader dimension, where youth has an active voice and is a fundamental actor of the development of their local communities.

The network itself is built on the principles of creating an effective and sustainable involvement of youth on decision-making with and in cooperation with local authority's demands, as well as willingness and commitment from both parties, but also the development of knowledge, sharing of experience and tools to create and to develop further these spaces of shared decision-making. This demands the development of strategies, building structures and relations of trust and cooperation between actors. This necessity and the similar experiences of several partners, made visible the common need to **establish a network that could work in a stable and systematic way on themes of common interest and strengthen the cooperation among local authorities (LA), civil society organizations (CSO) and young people, where the creation of mutual understanding and learning spaces are the main goals.**

Among a wide range of diverse but complementary activities implemented by and with its members, DYPALL Network has involved and strengthened the cooperation among municipalities and organisations working in the field of youth at local level. These initiatives and all the different local, national and European experiences strengthened our common understanding that it is crucial to develop a new culture of youth participation, especially regarding the decision-making processes on issues of direct concern and interest of youth. It is essential to look at youth as a forceful and creative source of solutions for our societies that can largely contribute for their sustainable development.

For more information on the network and what we do visit us at: <http://dypall.com/>

Study visit

This Study visit is designed for **municipality officers** and **youth workers** from Bulgaria, Croatia, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Turkey, UK and Netherlands.

During the Study visit the participants will be able to see a variety of practices and **models of youth social entrepreneurship** and of **mechanisms and structures that support such practices**, as well as to transfer this experience into their own local reality. This will allow the participants to gain skills and knowledge to support young people in starting a business. Moreover, they will develop a deeper understanding on the different realities, experiences and opportunities for youth social entrepreneurship and **Local youth policies for social entrepreneurship** aimed at the inclusion of young people with migrant background. We also expect that the project can contribute to a better understanding of youth workers on how to support the creation of social start-ups that can enhance the social economy and the creation of new job opportunities for migrant youth as a step towards social inclusion and integration.

The idea of this project was born out of need identifies by the partners to work together on the theme of youth employment and entrepreneurship. Particularly, addressing the development of youth social enterprises as a strategy to reduce unemployment among young people with migrant background and at the same time respond to existing needs in their communities.

We have identified the importance of creating opportunities to learn from each other's realities by observing the implementation of best practices projects on the theme of youth social entrepreneurship involving young migrants directly on the field. We realized that currently there is a huge diversity in terms of approaches and strategies to support youth entrepreneurship and young people in self-generation of jobs that have a positive social impact. We identified that in all the partner countries there was the need to develop better strategies and mechanisms to support the development of financially sustainable social enterprises, particularly those of migrant youth who face even more challenges. It is our belief that there is a huge potential in terms of developing future cooperation projects for capacity building of youth workers to foster the potential of growth and exchange among the partners' countries.

This project is composed of two Study visits, the first one being in Portugal (May 2019) and the second one in The Netherlands (October 2019).

This Call for participants is *only* for participating in the Study visit in Portugal. There will be a separate Call published for the Study visit in Netherlands.

Objectives

The specific objectives of this Study visit are to:

- Allow youth workers to support the development of structures and mechanisms to increase the entrepreneurial competencies of young people, particularly addressing young people with migrant background;
- Allow youth workers to increase the knowledge of different models and approaches to support young people in setting structures such as start-ups;

- Develop further the understanding of the role of social economy, social enterprises, and social entrepreneurship to increase youth employment opportunities and to generate social development and well-being in our communities;
- Empower municipality workers to create more inclusive local youth policies for social entrepreneurship;
- Provide the opportunity for the project partner organizations to discuss further the possibility to develop a “European Youth Social Enterprises Network”

Participants’ profile

This study visit is targeting youth workers and youth municipality officers. Moreover, the participants must:

- Be able to work in English;
- Be willing to contribute with their experience to the Study visit;
- Be residents of Bulgaria, Croatia, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Turkey, UK or Netherlands;
- Be able to attend the whole duration of the Study visit;
- Have relevant experience in the topic of youth participation and social entrepreneurship at the local level;
- Highly motivated towards learning about models and local youth policies for social entrepreneurship.

Two participants will be selected **per country**, namely:

1. Municipality officer (working in youth, employment or other department relevant for the topic of the Study visit), working within the municipality.
2. Local youth worker working with and for youth and young people, particularly young migrants and young people with migrant background.

Practical information

Travelling days and expenses

- **Arrival day** is 27th May 2019 (preferably by 6 pm), and **departure day** is 1st June 2019. *The arrival and departure airport is Lisbon;*
- Travelling **maximum 2 days before or 2 days after** the designated travel dates is allowed; otherwise the ticket will not be eligible for reimbursement;
- **Flight tickets** shall be bought only after agreement and confirmation with the organizers. Travel expenses to and from the venue will be reimbursed up to a maximum pre-agreed with the organizers, according to the Erasmus + Key Action 1 rules;

- **Reimbursement** will be done via bank transfer **after** the Study visit (approximately in one month);
- **Accommodation and meals** will be provided by the organizers in the Youth hostel of the Lisbon Youth Centre. Please note that the accommodation will be provided in rooms of 2 and 3 people and that the rooms do not necessarily have a private bathroom. There is no possibility to be accommodated in a private room.

Other information

- An **info-pack** with further details on accommodation and programme will be shared with the selected participants;
- There is **no participation fee**

Registration procedures

To apply for participation in this Study visit, please **fill in the online registration form**:

<https://forms.gle/asF2Ygr5F8UJLDJaA>

The deadline for application is **1st May 2019** by 23:59h CET.

Organizers

This Study visit will be organized by DYPALL Network in cooperation with R-Newt (Netherlands) with the support of Lisbon Youth Centre.

R-Newt is an NGO based in Tilburg (Netherlands) which focuses on underprivileged youth and how we to make them more self-reliant. They offer a variety of activities and projects all based on their talent so they can develop skills to invest in their future, making it easier to participate in the Dutch society. Besides the activities and projects they offer help and are often the link to several other social work organisations

Funding

The activity is co-funded by the Erasmus + Programme of the European Union, implemented by the Nederlands Jeugdinstuut, which performs the function of being the National Agency for the Erasmus+ programme in Netherlands. For more information: <https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/>

Contacts

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