



**YOUTH INFORMATION AS A BASE
FOR YOUTH PARTICIPATION:
Boosting youth participation at local level**

19-21 MAY 2010, LJUBLJANA, SLOVENIA

*“No one is born a good citizen; no nation is born a democracy. Rather, both are processes that continue to evolve over a lifetime. Young people must be included from birth. A society that cuts itself off from its youth severs its lifeline; it is condemned to bleed to death.”
(Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations)*

Background information

European institutions and organisations responsible for youth policy have on several occasions emphasised the importance of youth participation to foster young people’s active citizenship, their social inclusion and their contribution to the development of democracy. Participation in the democratic life of any kind of community is about having the right, the means, the space, the opportunity and the support to participate in society’s decision making and the possibility to engage in activities that contribute to building a better society¹. For more background information please have a look at the document Background Information.

What’s in it for me?

Participants will have the opportunity to:

- Share experience with youth information activities, which were implemented with a view to increase participation;
- Compare tools and methods used;
- Identify the challenges and possible solutions;
- Learn how to use the Action 1.3 (and other resources) to support future projects.

The outcomes of the seminar will be gathered and published in a booklet showcasing examples presented by the participants, which will enable the dissemination of the seminar results to other interested practitioners and municipalities in Europe.

¹ Source: http://youth-partnership.coe.int/youth-partnership/ekcyp/BGKNGE/Participation.html?_locale=fr

YI – CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS



Profile of participants:

The seminar is open to participants, who are involved in the youth information process at local level which aims to increase participation, i.e.:

- Representatives of municipalities (responsible for youth)
- Youth information multipliers (regional or local youth centres, clubs, councils, info services)

The participants should:

- Have an understanding/connectivity to young people;
- Have the ability to multiply the outcomes of the seminar at their regional/local level;
- Be aware of the importance of youth information and participation;
- Have experience in youth information and participation projects at the local level;
- Be prepared to share this information / experience in the seminar
- Attend the seminar in full length and to actively participate in all activities.

The participants have to:

- Come from the Programme countries of the Youth in Action Programme (members of the EU, the EEA or Turkey);
- Be over 18 years old.

The maximum number of the participants is 24.

Working language for the seminar:

Working language of the seminar will be English. Participants do not need to be advanced English speakers; however, they should be comfortable expressing their thoughts and ideas in English.

Application procedure:

The completed application form should be sent to info@eurodesk.si till the **9th of April 2010** at the latest.

Before the seminar the selected participants will be asked to submit detailed descriptions of their information activities which they intend to present at the seminar.

Venue of the seminar

The seminar will take place in M Hotel in Ljubljana, Slovenia. The hotel is situated a 15 minute walk from the centre of Ljubljana. In the close vicinity there is also a Centre of Urban Culture - Kino Šiška, where various exhibitions and concerts are taking place. The Centre of Urban Culture was rearranged from an old movie theatre. More about the hotel, you can find out at www.m-hotel.si. More about Ljubljana: www.visitljubljana.si.

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Financial considerations:

All programme costs (accommodation, food, trainers, programme of activities...) will be covered by the United Kingdom, Slovenian and Norwegian National Agencies of the Youth in Action Programme in cooperation with Eurodesk Slovenia and Eurodesk UK.

Participants may get their travel costs (public transport – 2nd class or economy) refunded by their respective National Agency for the Youth in Action Programme (see contact details in the YiA Programme Guide, Pages 128-130: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/youth-in-action-programme/doc/how_to_participate/programme_guide_10/guide_en.pdf).

International participants arriving to the venue on 16th of May or leaving on 20th of May 2010 may have the additional accommodation costs covered by the organizers. They should indicate their arrival and/or departure date on their application form.

Organisers:

The seminar is a result of cooperation between the Youth in Action Programme National Agencies of United Kingdom (British Council), Slovenia (Institute Movit NA Mladina) and Norway (Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs) and national Eurodesk partners from United Kingdom and Slovenia.

Contact:

Should you have any questions about the seminar, please contact Ms Tinkara Bizjak Zupanc at tinkara.bizjak@mva.si or Ms Josie McAlpine at josie.mcalpine@britishcouncil.org.

Welcome to Ljubljana! :-)