



EducAction – WP2
612191— The EducAction – EPP – 1 – 2019 – 1- IT – EPPKA3 – IPI – SOC- IN

Community solution prototype
ActionAid

Community solution prototype objective

The goal of this document is prototyping a community solution (voted by the community and advised by the local institutions) to one of the problems analysed in the territorial mapping report, emerged by the discussion with the community and related to young needs. The solution has been discussed with the city municipality with a cost-benefit analysis.

Introduction: methodology and preliminary considerations

Many issues emerged from the community stakeholder meetings. During the meetings, two students had the task of taking notes to record the problematic issues that emerged. At the end, all the issues that emerged were elaborated through a group discussion, links were made between the various issues and similar problems were compared and summarised. A list of 10 main problems was created from the students' point of view and then, through a bottom-up approach, they were prioritised.

Main findings from the Territorial Mapping

The most relevant findings identified and assessed in the territorial mapping after the meetings with the partners and stakeholders from the community were: the Municipality 6 is characterised by a strong presence of social housing, many immigrant families who often do not have all the documents and therefore have fewer rights than other people, in terms of access to education, housing and health. In the neighbourhood, there are abandoned, run-down places with poor lighting at night that can transmit fear and insecurity. It is not always easy, but it is possible to create solidarity and take care of a place together and during the lockdown there were experiences of solidarity. There are differences, inequalities, and discriminations among the population: women are often more discriminated, they can be victims of violence, they have to make their voices heard to be taken into consideration. Young people do not have a lot of free spaces where they can meet and the lockdown was very tiring for someone who lives in a small house and large families. People with disabilities, if there wasn't an association to welcome them, would spend a lot of their time doing nothing and would also be a burden on their families. From different points of view there are many stereotypes and prejudices that prevent people from feeling part of the same community.

Priority Problem identified

“Young people are excluded from public space, there is a lack of spaces to gather and socialize or undertake social activities and too many common spaces in the neighborhood are unkempt, dirty and abandoned” is the problem chosen to elaborate a community solution prototype.



This problem emerged in all the meetings: Luca Sansone from CDE Creta told us about the cleaning initiatives carried out together with the inhabitants of the neighbourhood and young people to clean and take care of places full of rubbish. Councillor Rita Barbieri told us about the murals painted on some of the walls in the neighbourhood in the past years and also about the benches in the garden in front of the Municipality 6 headquarters that have been painted red to send a message against violence against women. Francesco Grosso of the Association Handicap..su la testa! told us how they all together renovated and repainted the facade of their centre because it was degraded. The women of the Association “Le Giardiniere” told us about the abandoned Piazza D'Armi Park and the projects they want to realise. Dario Anzani from Comunità del Giambellino, told us about the places in the neighbourhood and also Carola del Bono, as a mother, told us how many spaces there are that are abandoned and not used by young.

As stakeholders have told us, some initiatives in the neighbourhood have been carried out over the past years, but there are still many abandoned, unkempt and dirty spaces, courtyards and walls.

Why this problem and what are the most relevant issues

This issue was chosen because it emerged in all the meetings with stakeholders and because is very much felt by young people because seeing dirty and abandoned places conveys a sense of mistrust and lack of care; on the contrary, creating something beautiful together also creates aggregation and a sense of belonging. Also an initiative carried out to clean up rubbish, repaint walls and spend time together in the open air is an opportunity to meet and socialise for free, given that Milan is becoming an increasingly expensive city.

This problem has been chosen also because allows us to link up with other issues that emerged as problematic: the need for young people to stay together and aggregate, and the need to stay together among different people, among foreigners, to get to know each other better, to meet and exchange between different cultures. Requalifying a space, therefore, also deciding to leave a message of inclusion, solidarity, overcoming prejudices that can be an example to the whole community.

Community solution prototype: practical and feasible solutions to implement

The community solution prototype will identify a place that is most of all neglected, dirty, unused and clean it up and paint a wall with a mural that, through a sentence or a drawing, leaves a message of solidarity, inclusion, anti-racism and overcoming prejudice, students will plan and design in collaboration with the community a new place to gather, socialize or a place with a social utility for the community.

Some key "initiatives" to address the problem are:



Actions	Objectives	Timetable
Neighborhood walk, meeting with local shops, associations and inhabitants	look at the places nominated during the meetings, understanding of the public spaces in the hood, share among all the students the abandoned places and where it would be possible to intervene	
choice of location, choosing a message of solidarity and inclusion and design together with professional writers and the community	Identify a place after talking the community, choose a communicative phrase or design; the murals must also be professional and have an aesthetic value	
organize the work and invite the whole community	this solution must be an example for the whole community, which can be replicated and will be implemented in collaboration with the community	

Actors/stakeholders involved

Actors and stakeholders involved in the design and implementation of the above actions and the community solution prototype will be:

- Students from the Oriani Mazzini and from local schools
- Professor Virginia Guarnieri, our contact teacher and other teachers from the school
- Rita Barbieri, Councillor of Municipio 6 for Personal Services, Social Cohesion, Tourism, Mobility, Welfare, Gender Policies, Civic Education, Economic Development, Rights
- Luca Sansone, head of Cde Creta and young people from the Cde
- Inhabitants of the neighbourhood
- Professional graffiti writers
- Carola del Bono, parents' representative at IIS Oriani - Mazzini, and others parents from the school



- Francesco Grosso, head of the association Handicap..su la testa! Onlus and other people from this association
- The association Le Giardinere
- Dario Anzani, head of Comunità del Giambellino

Conclusions

This process of territorial mapping, meeting and discussing with stakeholders, identifying the main problems and choosing a priority problem, devising and implementing a community solution can be used by the community as a model for investigation and action to bring about concrete changes in the place where one lives. This proposal will be voted and discussed with the community with local audit in order to finalize the action and project the initiative.

Community solution prototype - UCLL

Community solution prototype objective

The goal of this document is prototyping several community solutions (advised by the local institutions) to a few of the problems analysed in the territorial mapping report, emerged by the discussion with the community and related to young needs. In a next phase, the solutions will be discussed with the city municipality with a cost-benefit analysis.

Introduction: methodology and preliminary considerations



The community labs were organised from April to June 2021, in 11 sessions. During these sessions, students were first introduced to several of the services and departments that are concerned with local policy, participation and youth. They were able to ask questions to a local policy maker for the youth department, to a member of the city council, and to a member of the youth council. These interviews, as well as background information provided by UCLL's trainers, gave them more insight into how local policy works, and how they as young citizens can influence local policy.

The next step was to analyse the current situation in the community and possible gaps and needs for its young inhabitants. In groups, students analysed the latest report on Hasselt's demography and the satisfaction survey that was carried out with a large number of inhabitants. This results in this report allowed the students to get a broad idea of what their community already has to offer, and how its members feel about it. This in turn allowed them to see where there are still needs and gaps, especially for young people.

Starting from this analysis, each group decided on an area (sustainability, leisure, urban development, public transport, ...) to identify a specific need, which they would research further. After deciding on this area, students went into the field to interview members of the community, to identify their needs and to gather ideas on their specific domain. One group also launched an online survey with more than 200 respondents. Another group interviewed the alderman for youth policy to see what initiatives already exist and what the local government is working on to improve the community for young people.

Main findings from the Territorial Mapping

Group 1 and 2 focused on leisure for youth. Group 1 found that there is a need to discuss issues specifically for youth. So far, there is no platform that allows young people to share their stories and experiences. This group launched a survey in which a large number of young people indicated the need for such a platform or safe space to discuss and share issues with peers. Group 2 went out into the streets and identified places that were not child friendly. By interviewing inhabitants and visitors, they also identified the need for more activities directed at children and their parents

Group 3 and 4 focused on safety in the city. Group 3 identified specific places and areas in the city that looked or felt unsafe. In these areas, they interviewed citizens and passers-by to also have an idea of how safe or unsafe they feel in the city. This allowed the group to get a complete picture of feeling of safety for both members of the community and its visitors. Group 4 focused less on which areas are safe or unsafe, but rather on possibilities for support in unsafe situations. This group investigated the possibility of providing a support service for people who are feeling unsafe.

Priority Problems identified

Group 1: there is a need for a platform for young people to share their story and to exchange experiences. A platform that is tailored to their specific needs.

Group 2: Hasselt is still lacking spaces and initiatives aimed at children and young people. Especially in the areas of the city that were recently built or renovated, there is hardly any infrastructure that is child friendly.

Group 3: The students found that especially the area of the railway station was perceived to be unsafe by citizens and visitors of Hasselt, especially at night.



Group 4: this group found that an app would be useful as a platform or support services for people feeling unsafe in the city.

Why this problem and what are the most relevant issues

Group 1 – platform for young people: young people indicated the need to discuss issues that specifically regard them, to be able to share stories and experiences on these issues. So far, there is no such platform in Hasselt, despite the benefits it would have for young people’s wellbeing and social interaction. Students’ research underlined the demand for this platform. Moreover, they contacted the student council of the city, who also confirmed this need and supported the idea of creating such a platform.

Group 2 – child friendly spaces and activities in the city centre: these students, and the people they interviewed for their research, believe that children need to have safe spaces in the city where they can play and feel free without care. They should be able to discover the city at their own pace and without dangerous situations. Especially new areas in the city were not yet adapted to children’s needs.

Group 3 – the area around the railway station: this neighbourhood is an important area for the city, as it is the main access point to public transport for many travellers coming to the city or leaving it. Nevertheless, the area is neglected and feels unsafe for many travellers. Especially a lack of light makes the area feel unsafe.

Group 4 – safety app: when walking around in the city, one can always feel unsafe at any time. The students researched the possibility of creating a buddy system with an app, where users can call for support or help whenever they feel unsafe.

Community solution prototype: practical and feasible solutions to implement

Actions	Objectives	Timetable
Youth Radio	To improve leisure possibilities for young people and their overall wellbeing, by setting up a youth radio where they can share experiences.	
Child Friendly Spaces	To improve the child friendliness of certain areas in the city, by installing new infrastructure or organising activities where children can play freely.	
Enlighten the area of the railway station	To improve the feeling of safety of travellers and inhabitants of the railway area, by placing more lights and livening up the neighbourhood.	
Safety App	To improve the feeling of safety at any time, by putting up a buddy system through an online	



	app that can be easily accessed with a smartphone.	
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Expected results

With their ideas and actions, students aim at improving the general wellbeing of young people and at improving the feeling of safety in the city.

Actors/stakeholders involved

The youth council of the city will support students in creating a youth radio. They have a good overview of the possibilities in the city and how to take action to realise this plan.

The alderman for youth policy and his department will support students in elaborating their ideas on how to make the city more child friendly.

The department of prevention policy will support students in creating ways to make the city (feel) safer. This department regulates all the prevention and safety measures in the city and can support the students in making their plans more concrete.

Community solution prototype- ASTERI Organization

Community solution prototype objective



As it has been one of the main goals of the project to present one of the main problems in the community for discussion and at the same time to analyse it, we worked with the students in the schools labs and in some cases students worked also at their spare time with the teachers and prepared believe it is best for their needs and of course we had the cost analysis as well.

Introduction: methodology and preliminary considerations

Since this was the first time of such a project we faced quite a few problems and most of the time these were solved quite easy or it occurred a=further discussions. One student from every team, that worked for the implementation of the presentation presented the problem and the solution to the meeting. While another student had to record the minutes as a secretary. When these presentations took lace students from the other teams and stakeholders made their questions and discussion was really interesting. The problems finally were under a vote and 4 (four) of them were chosen as most important for the time being

Main findings from the Territorial Mapping

In the discussions that took place and in the meeting, students, teachers, parents, stakeholders and the experts of the Organization identified the following:

the Municipalities are lacking very much in public spaces which actually have a friendly approach to young people. Most of there places are built just to cover the need of the City for green park places and never the architects or anybody else sees further for the actual use and the benefit the citizens can have. In the beginning they care for the decoration and not so much for the use of the park. They young students presented the luck of spaces they have in the Community and since their allowance is not very high most of them can not afford to visit coffee shops, cafeterias or restaurants to sit with their friends, have a juice or snack and discuss about their problems, their lives, their ideas and their future plans, while most of the parks have no “character” at all.



So in n time these places abandoned from the community, people who don t care destroy the benches, the flowers, immigrants find them as the best solutions for their meetings and some times these places are the main meeting place for drug dealing as well since poor lighting offers a great places for them and fear makes students to stay far away. In the lockdown period when all the spaces such as cafeterias and coffee shops were closed these places were transformed into the worst areas in most areas of the Cities.

It was made clear in the student presentation and discussion that they do not have a lot of free nice clean and secure spaces where they can meet. And it is a great need for a lot of students were they live in houses that are not very big and they need to have a space to meet with their friends play, create or discuss. Also most of the parks luck of access for people with disabilities they way they are built.

Also some parks and public spaces in an extremely short period of time they are characterized by the people who use them and the rest of the citizens avoid going to them, stereotypes and phobias are created and this results in the degradation many times of an entire area

Priority Problem identified

“Young people are having a serious problem for finding a public space, a park that is suitable for them. They can not have a place to sit, talk, relax and create, in general to socialize since most of the place are dirty, abandoned or already “taken” from a group of people and have been characterized” . This problem is very important also because the young people have a small amount of cash to spend for their “fun” and this does not allow them to sit in a private café or other place. Also even if some of them have the money and the rest don’t public parks should be their spaces for meetings, for creation even to show their talents such as playing music in public or present a theatrical play, or even have some sporting activity away from the Sport stadium.

The problem was identified from several students around the City. Students made a questionnaire for their friends in other areas of the City as well and the problem is common in other Municipalities as well.

Students agreed to choose a Park to reconstruct with the help of the Municipality council. But before that they also agreed to present the problem and the issue in several Municipalities since



some of the students leave a bit further from the area where their school is located. So we have proposals for three Municipalities, Thessaloniki, Kalamaria and Pilea Chortiatis. For each park a different cost and a different approach had to be done. In the discussion there was acceptance from the stakeholders and authority representatives for the problem in the public spaces.

Why this problem and what are the most relevant issues

This problem seems quite important for young people OR maybe the most important since lack of space holds them back in general, and does not allow them to communicate with their friends and enjoy their City. Open air places especially in a country with sunshine like Greece are very important. Also clean spaces are important for young people's health too. Students agreed that they would actively be engaged in the reconstruction, and they presented open spaces and parks from other cities of the world as a paradigm. These spaces are needed for young people and students since most of the time they bring to these place snack or drinks from home.

Also by being part of this reconstruction students feel that they will change the way they look at parks and public spaces. They will look at the them as their own places, so they said that this has to be presented in their social media too. And maybe an open even will have to take place to introduce it to the rest of the Community. To Invite parents and other people to see that they are part of the community that they have needs and ideas and that the Community council will have to take them more seriously and engage them in the Meetings in the future.

Community solution prototype: *practical and feasible solutions to implement*

The places or the place that will be chosen will have to be a place that young people and students like to use. That has been abandon, it's quite close to a school area and it will be the prototype for the rest of the city or cities as well.



Following are some of the initiatives

Actions	Objectives	Timetable
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a walk around the neighborhood, • Question and discuss with the citizens • Meet the people needs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a close observation to the open places that are presented for reconstruction • Exchange ideas and proposals • Understand the general needs of a public space and their needs too • Find out where they can or would be possible to intervene 	<p><i>This will be identified</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find and choose a location, • Create a message for the community • Design together with ASTERI experts, stakeholders and the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Find the Space • Show the Space to the Community • Present before and after ideas together with professionals 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare the Event • Inform the Community • Engage with more than one community • Cooperate with students from another area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since this is going to be a proposal for the Community the idea students from one community work in a space for another community and create a friendship and also share problems and solutions is very interesting too and will create further cooperation with the 	



	community	
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Expected results from the Project

Results expected from the project and the Cooperation of young people and Communities :

- Present a New Open Space in their neighborhood
 - clean, beautified, colored, secure and friendly
- Present a message to the Communities
 - Together we can built better
- Exchange knowledge, ideas and meet the authorities and the people of the community
- Restore young people's confidence that things can change and they can be part of this change
- Make communities cooperate and exchange ideas, multiply the best practices and have young people cooperate with local organizations, stakeholders, authorities etc
- Create a “GIFT” for the Community and the young people, a Park, a Public Space to be proud

Actors/stakeholders involved

Experts, actors and stakeholders for the design and implementation :

- Students from the 1st Prototype High School “White Tower”
- Teachers from the 1st Prototype High School “White Tower”
- Students from the 1st High school of Kalamaria
- Students from the High School, Pilea Chortiatis
- Teachers from the 1st High school of Kalamaria
- Teachers from other High Schools around the Country
- Experts from ASTERI Organization
- Experts from ACROSS Hotel design team



- Ioannis Dardamanis, Mayor of Kalamaria City
- Vasiliki Nikolettou, Vice Mayor Culture, Council of Kalamaria
- Ioanna Kosmopoulou, Vice Mayor of Education, Council of Thessaloniki
- George Babaratsas, Vice Mayor of Pilea Chortiatis, City Structure
- Ioannis Kartalis, Vice Mayor of Pilea Chortiatis, Environment
- Sofia Segkouli, Expert from EKETA, National Institution of Innovation
- Panagiotis Skepetaris, Across Hotel Co, Stakeholder
- Inhabitants of the neighbourhoods,
 - Konstadinopolitika, Pilea Chortiatis
 - Square Park Skra, Kalamaria
- IRAKLIS, Athletic Club, Fotis Theos President
- ASTERI Organization Volunteers
- HFUW, Hellenic Federation Urban Wheels, National Sport Federation

Conclusions

The meetings and discussions that took place for the implementation have been really successful.

The problem that was identified will be presented to the main Councils of the Cities involved as well for possible finance support



Community solution prototype ECOS

Community solution prototype objective

The objective of this document is to present the prototype of solutions proposed by the participants, designed for a community that is very close to them and for which they themselves understand to



have problems, and from the problems analyzed by the participants, they defined solutions regarding the issues presented.

Introduction: methodology and preliminary considerations

The methodology used was questionnaires to the participants about what they considered to be the biggest problems, then they evolved and discussed in a group, and then in plenary until they defined the list of problems to work on. The list of questions emerged from the participants' meetings with the various interviewees and according to their role in society. During the laboratories, and after finding the list of solutions, the solutions to work and to present the entities were voted among them.

Main findings from the Territorial Mapping

The main findings were already referred in other document, to let you know the students detected, problems in the areas of cleanliness, mobility and safety remain in evidence, and were explored by them. In the city, there are degraded green spaces in need of intervention, which could be used for sportive purposes, for example. There is a climate of insecurity, even at the door of educational establishments, which can transmit fear.

On the other hand, the public transport network is deficient, and not adequate to the needs of young people.

Priority Problem identified

Lack of green spaces and sports

Young people find themselves in spaces close to public spaces, which are lacking in green spaces and to practice outdoor sports, where they can also meet and socialize.

The public transport network is not suitable for student and youth use.

Routes and timetables are not suitable for school timetables for example.

Lack of interest and incentive to recycling

There are not enough spaces to deposit this waste dedicated to being recycled, and lack of publicity and incentives for the practice of the same.

Why this problem and what are the most relevant issues

The questions chosen were the ones that were given more importance by everyone throughout the laboratories, but there were also changes.

In our case, the recycling part was not initially the most chosen in terms of priority, but after conversations with the entities, and ideas that emerged, it was thought to be one of the easiest to implement.



Community solution prototype: practical and feasible solutions to implement

The solutions found and thought that are more realistic and capable of being put into practice are:

Lack of green spaces and sports

The participants defined, together with the representative of the municipality, an intervention to be carried out, and plan to make a call for voluntary work, within the scope of volunteer projects, to use this intervention to rehabilitate the chosen space, without the need for additional costs.

The public transport network is not suitable for student and youth use.

Students had the idea of creating an app, where there is updated information on the GPS positioning of vehicles, where you can buy tickets, etc.

Due to the high cost of carrying out such an application, it was suggested by the representative of the school, that they open a competition between students of computer courses in schools and universities in the region.

Such a contest would allow a low cost of execution of the idea, and promotion of the young people who created it, would be a 2 in 1.

Lack of interest and incentive to recycling

The proposal on recycling, which was worked on throughout the project, was not one of the most voted at the beginning. However, it has been modified, and easy to implement.

Instead of working on the material part, in terms of deposits and locations, which would require large amounts of money, and the intervention of cleaning companies. They modified the proposal to a proposal where they proposed to carry out dissemination, information and awareness actions, among primary school students. The speakers for these lectures would be students from secondary schools and universities in the region, who need to carry out projects within their courses, and to develop pedagogical skills. It would be, once again, a solution that would benefit, who would practice them, and those who would benefit from it.

Expected results

The expected results of this community solution are:

Lack of green spaces and sports

- having another space in the city that has been rehabilitated, beautified, and capable of carrying out physical activity.
- create a space for socializing.



The public transport network is not suitable for student and youth use.

- enable young people to make better use of the transport network.
- make the students running the app and participating in the contest actors of change, planning and designing an application that will be of public use and utility.

Lack of interest and incentive to recycling

- Strengthen the involvement between the school community at different levels of education and the relationship between students, young people and organizations.
- to promote together with the inhabitants of FAro, through the education of the youngest, a society that is more conscious and interested in the environment.

Actors/stakeholders involved

All the participants, teachers, stakeholders want to try to help and be involved in all the action of the project.

Conclusions

The entire process developed throughout this project, from the school laboratories to the community laboratories, territory mapping, discussion with stakeholders, identification of the main problems, design and implementation of community solutions were extremely important in learning. But in our opinion, the great feeling on the part of the participants is that they carried out a project and as their ideas do not end with the end of this project, they can be classified in practice even later.