**IncludeYOU**

# IncludeYOU

## Policy Dialogue & Networking with Stakeholders
## Local Youth Participation Event
## Greece

**Project No: 2023-3-EL02-KA154-YOU-000184071**

**www.includeyou.eu**

fifty-fifty
Social Innovation
& Cohesion Institute

ASEID
Asociación para la Especie, la Inclusión y el Desarrollo

DAPHNE YOUTH

Erasmus+
Enriching lives, opening minds.

YOUTH AND LIFELONG LEARNING FOUNDATION

Co-funded by
the European Union

# WHY THIS WORKSHOP?

Youth participation is a priority in Erasmus+, but opportunities are often connected to international mobilities such as exchanges or training abroad. Many young people, however, cannot benefit from these experiences due to barriers beyond their control. The pilot workshop explores how to create meaningful youth participation events without mobility, ensuring that every young person has access to engagement and empowerment.

# GAPS IN PARTICIPATION

While mobility is a powerful tool, it is not always accessible. Financial constraints, social exclusion, disabilities, or local restrictions prevent some youth from taking part. Over-reliance on mobility risks leaving behind those who cannot travel. The challenge is to develop inclusive and innovative models that make participation possible for all, regardless of mobility.

# SMART YOUTH ENGAGEMENT

**A new approach**

Smart engagement means using creative, flexible, and accessible methods to involve young people in decision-making and community life. It combines digital tools, non-formal education, and local initiatives to ensure that youth can participate meaningfully. Accessibility, inclusion, creativity, and impact are the core principles guiding this approach.

# PILOT WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

The workshop is designed to test and develop new models of youth engagement. Its objectives are to strengthen the capacities of local youth organizations, introduce blended and digital methods, and co-create participatory initiatives with young people. Feedback from participants will help shape future Erasmus+ strategies on youth participation without mobilities.

# ACTIVITIES IN THE PILOT WORKSHOP

Youth councils create structured opportunities for dialogue:

- Represent local or regional youth.
- Advise governments on youth policy.
- Act as a training ground for future leaders.

They transform young people from passive observers into active shapers of policy.

# CORE OBJECTIVES

- Promote active citizenship by involving youth in local decision-making.
- Create a safe space for young people to share concerns, priorities, and proposals.
- Encourage networking between youth organizations, civic groups, and local authorities.
- Develop policy recommendations that reflect youth voices and are actionable at the local level.
- Build sustainable channels of dialogue for future youth-policy engagement

# YOUTH NETWORKING DIALOGUE WITH LOCAL POLICY-MAKERS

creates a bridge between young people and decision-makers, giving youth the chance to voice their ideas, concerns, and solutions on issues that affect their lives. These dialogues promote active citizenship, inclusion, and mutual understanding while helping policymakers design strategies that truly reflect the needs of the younger generation. By combining non-formal methods, open discussions, and collaborative workshops, such events empower young people to become active partners in local democracy and strengthen trust between youth and institutions.

# NETWORKING AT NATIONAL LEVEL

At national level, youth can:

- Take part in youth parliaments or advisory boards.
- Engage with ministries of education, employment, or youth.
- Participate in national consultations on youth strategies.

This ensures national policies reflect youth priorities.



**09**

# PARTICIPATION AS A RIGHT

Youth participation in decision-making is not just a privilege but a democratic right. Local authorities play a crucial role in creating opportunities for young people to engage in shaping policies that affect their daily lives. Networking dialogues ensure that youth voices are heard, respected, and integrated into community strategies.

# BUILDING BRIDGES OF TRUST

Many young people feel disconnected from politics and decision-makers. Dialogue events create a safe and inclusive space where young people and local leaders can meet face-to-face, exchange perspectives, and build mutual trust. This strengthens democracy at the local level and helps reduce the gap between institutions and citizens..

# LOCAL ACTION, EUROPEAN VALUES

By engaging in networking dialogues, youth connect their local experiences with broader European values such as inclusion, solidarity, and active citizenship. These events help translate EU priorities into concrete local actions, showing that youth voices matter both in their communities and in the European project.

# EMPOWERMENT THROUGH DIALOGUE

Networking with policymakers allows young people to develop confidence, advocacy skills, and civic knowledge. At the same time, decision-makers benefit from fresh perspectives and innovative ideas that only young generations can bring. The process is not just consultation , it is co-creation of solutions.

# INCLUSION AND DIVERSITY

A successful youth–policy dialogue must actively include marginalized groups: young migrants, those with fewer opportunities, and rural youth. By embracing diversity, these dialogues ensure that policies respond to the realities of all young people, not just a few.

# IncludeYOU

## Policy Dialogue & Networking with Stakeholders
## Local Youth Participation Event
## Greece

**Project No: 2023-3-EL02-KA154-YOU-000184071**

**www.includeyou.eu**