## The New Opportunity, Rotterdam, The Netherlands



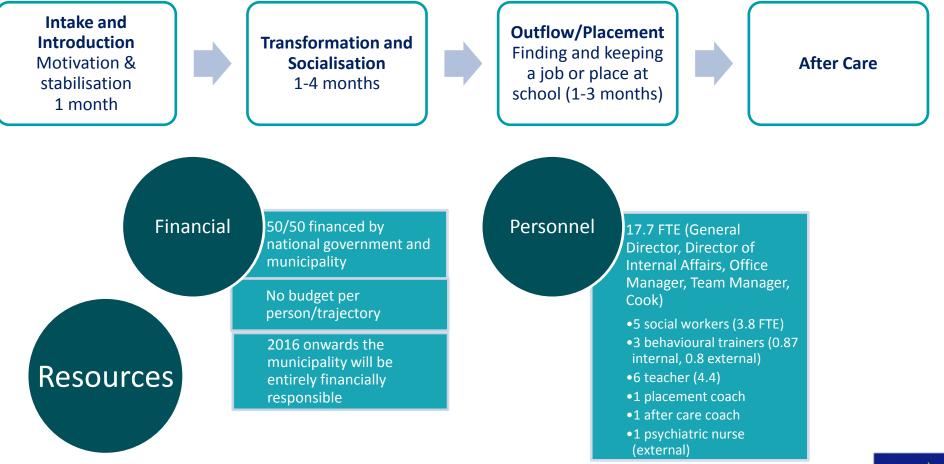
Municipality and partners: Youz (care), employers, employment offices and schools	<ul> <li>Aims/Objectives:</li> <li>Centre for "change and transformation"</li> <li>Support young men (18-27) with multiple problems to participate in society by: <ul> <li>Working on sustainable changes in thinking and behaviour</li> <li>Direct them to work, school or specialised care (if necessary)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Often seen as "last change for the age group</li> </ul>	псист	Young People: Motivated for integration Living day by day by day Motivated for job

The goal of The New Opportunity (TNO) is transformation. From surviving to living, from chaos to stability, from criminality to good citizenship and from street culture to work identity.

TNO focuses on altering the dynamic, changeable factors behind the (delinquent) behaviour of the participants & their needs, such as:

- practical problems
- social and psychological problems, addictions
- lack of education
- lack of 'labour-identity'; specific and general, communication and relationship skills to function in a job
- lack of motivation, meaning giving, lack of identity

### TNO lasts 4-6 months and is run at a day centre.





## Beatfreeks, Birmingham, UK



Actors:		Aims/Objectives:	Reach:	Young
Social enterprise	•	To give a voice to young people, develop life and transferable employability skills & create community leaders	150 + 45	People: Motivated for integration Alternative
& partners (Theatre, Arts Centre)	•	Uses art forms (dance, poetry, music & media) as tools to inspire, engage and empower youth as individuals & as members of a wider community/network of like- minded young people	volunteers	Living day by day get ahead Motivated for job

Beatfreeks has been in existence for almost two and a half years and has developed a wide range of activities which share the philosophy to do things <u>with</u> and not <u>to</u> young people.

As an organisation they work to address:

- A lack of alternative pathways for young people not in training or employment who seek to 'go-it-alone' outside formal job creation/welfare support services and survive in the labour market
- Provide support for alternative approaches (e.g. arts-based) to personal development and acquisition of social competences and skills
- The breakdown of trust between disadvantaged young people and those in authority, which leads to a disconnect between them and opportunities for development and sources of support
- The need for motivational role models relevant to disadvantaged youth's life experiences to raise their aspirations and open up new possibilities and ways of thinking about themselves and the wider world
- The need for young people to have support communities/networks so they move outside their zones of familiarity and improve their chances of economic and social self-sufficiency.



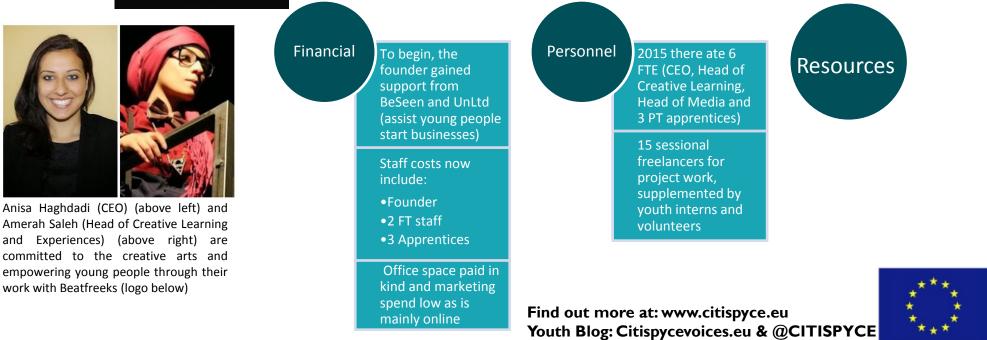
Engaging with young people and encouraging them to share their ideas, thoughts and opinions is a key feature of Beatfreek's approach

Beatfreek logo. They also run a consultancy and TV (Youtube) station



The activities fall under the following three categories:

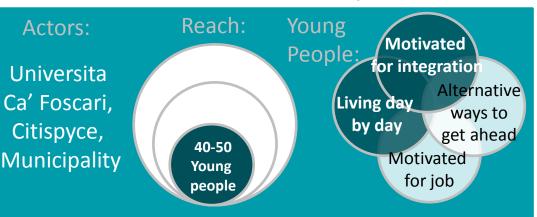
- In-house training to develop personal, social and emotional resilience, social competences (e.g. leadership, self-confidence, self esteem and teamwork)
- **Transferable skills** (e.g. project design & management, marketing and communications and social media) of its paid staff and interns as well as its core of young sessional freelance artists through arts-based activities. (These are all learnt 'on-the-job')
- Engagement/outreach arts-based activities co-created between Beatfreeks' 'own' young people and young people attracted to their programmes in Poetry, Music, Dance,



### **Beatfreeks Pilot Transfers**



### Pilot: Beatfreeks, Venice, Italy



The need for a free and open space where young people could express themselves and promote their skills. They address:

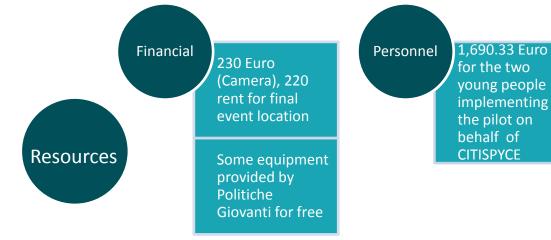
- Inequalities linked t
- Inequalities linked to the isolation and to the breaking up of social ties.
- Need to strengthen the communication and connection among young people, public services and the various associations engaged in issues/policies/interventions for young people.

8 meetings with a group of young people Use of social networks (facebook, twitter, instagram ...) to better connect the group and let it grow spontaneously Organization of a public event for and with young people



CITISPYCE Venezia awarded participants (above) and organised events, such as the Show and Tell (Mostra e Dimostra) (right)





Hidden Wings culminated in a performance in Feb 2015 of circa 40 participants

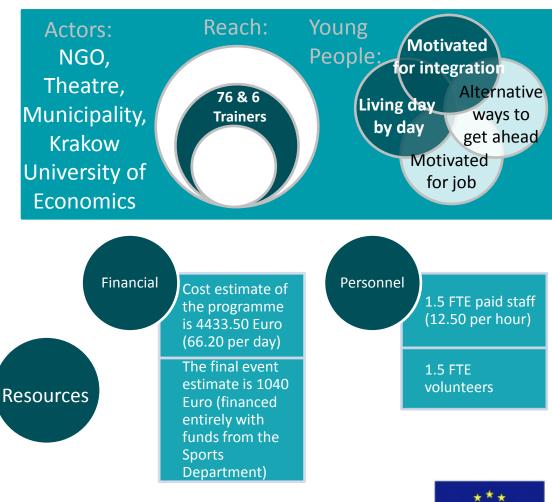


Hidden Wings works with young people with a low level of formal education, excluded from broader society with low self-esteem. They may take part in activities of socially excluded groups or simply resigned to their situation, may have low level of entrepreneurial skills, low support and, in general, have low abilities (or abilities that are not perceived highly by society) or not using their actual potential.

The pilot organised several components for groups of young beneficiaries:

- Breakdance lessons,
- Music lessons,
- Muay-thai workshop,
- Graffiti workshops,
- 3 theatre lessons,
- Leadership-media skills building.
- Preparing beneficiaries for a show during which acquired abilities and skills will be presented.

### Pilot: Hidden Wings, Krakow, Poland

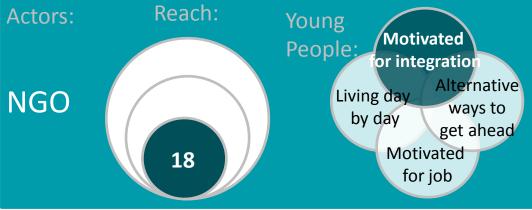




### Learning by Working, Brno, Czech Republic



### Pilot: Integrated Approach to Employment, Sofia, Bulgaria



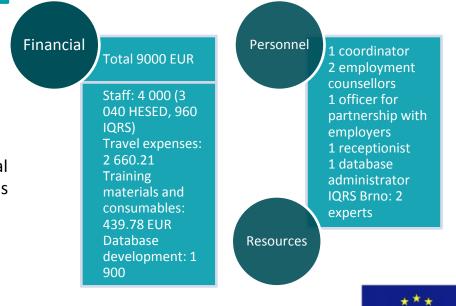
Due to the low level of education and competences, many young Roma lack key knowledge on where and how to look for a suitable employment, how to apply for a job and how to communicate with employers. Furthermore, they often lack the resources needed to apply for jobs (computer, Internet, email, printer, phone).

This pilot provides a new and effective measure to address this crucial social need – employment. It helps young Roma to improve their skills for job seeking by i.e.:

- Supporting Roma able to look and apply for jobs independently
- Providing information on relevant job openings
- Dealing with social isolation and discrimination through the building of cooperative ties with a network of employers.

Over two thirds of the young Roma (under 30) in Bulgaria have never had a job, which is much more than any other ethnic community.

According to young Roma interviewed, unemployment is by far the most important problem they face because it reflects negatively on all other aspects of their lives; education, housing, access to adequate health care, standard of living, and leisure.







### Youth Employment Agency, Hamburg, Germany

Actors: National level: state, district, municipality + NGOs & Schools	<ul> <li>Aims/Objectives:</li> <li>Assist young people with seamless transition into education, independence and employment</li> <li>Fight youth unemployment and reduce number of training scheme careers</li> <li>Lead to shorter paths to secure independence</li> <li>Secure labour force for future</li> <li>Bundle the services for young people effectively and efficiently</li> </ul>	Reach: 1000s p.a.	Young People: Motivated for integration Living day Alternative by day get ahead Motivated for job

The Agency aims to connect the widespread responsibilities and resources concerning the work with young people and offer a **"one- stop-shop"** around all the services for the specific needs of young people under 25 years for their transition into education and the labour market through a coordinated approach of career guidance, apprenticeships, job placement and social counselling in order to bundle the services for them more effectively.

The project addresses problems occurring in the transition from school to employment e.g.:

Job orientation

**Financial** 

Resources

- Problems in school
- Individual and personal issues that lead to 'training scheme' careers or unemployment.
- A prolonged process of becoming socially and financially independent
- Many young people get 'lost' after school
- Competition for jobs gets more difficult in the region of Hamburg.

Of course, authorities always need time for implementation of new structures. Now, however, an added value of the new cooperation is already being felt. Project Manager of YEA Hamburg

> It is a very good initiative getting all services concentrated and to show young people an easier way through the jungle of services. Project manager at a stakeholder for socioeducational accompaniment and coaching towards training

Staff – number of people

Other

Know-how, premises in specific location etc.

The services of the YEA are conducted via the Books of the social code II, III and III and the education act. (Schulgesetz). The YEA consists of public providers (for labour market pol-icies) and stakeholders commissioned by the YEA.

Find out more at: www.citispyce.eu Youth Blog: Citispycevoices.eu & @CITISPYCE



In total divided into investment in EUR per month: • AA: 1014 persons & property charge: 7,397,000.00 € p.a. • JC: 174 persons & property charge: 12,742,000.00 € p.a.

 BASFI: 15 persons for counselling and the following amount for integration programs o 2012: 300.000 €
 o 2013: 900.000 €
 o 2014: 900.000 €
 o 2015: 600.000 €
 o 2016: 600.000 €

#### Personnel

involved, in FTE per month • 303 FTE6 of AA, JC, BSB and HIBB • 28 FTE in the neighbourhood schools (100 until 2015)



### Free Remedial Tutoring, Krakow, Poland

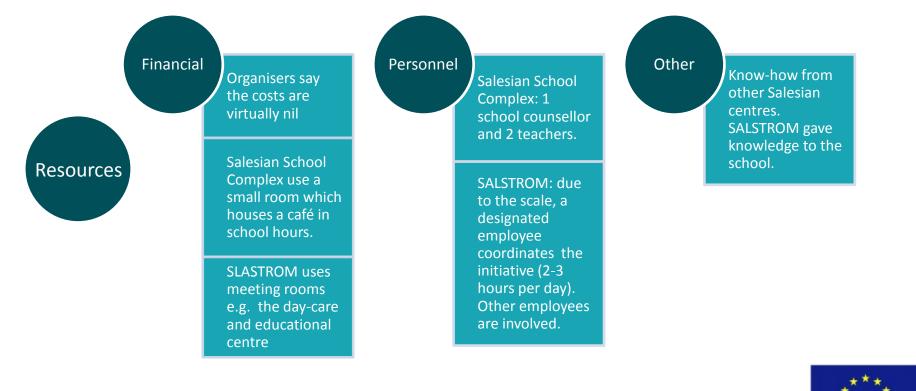
Actors: NGO & Young people themselves	•	Aims/Objectives: As tutors, to develop a sense of satisfaction from helping others and being responsible for students To fill gaps in knowledge, & possibly social skills, needed by beneficiaries in order to make effective use of education system To strengthen the positive image of the school and familiarise the children of local residents with the high admission requirements	Reach: 120 pupils	Young People: Motivated for integration Living day Alternative by day get ahead Motivated for job

Free Remedial Tutoring offers the provision of tutoring for young people with learning deficits It is an education programme, as well as a values changing programme.

- A large proportion of beneficiaries' education is neglected due to the fact that they are raised, in effect, in single-parent families, often caused by the phenomenon of 'Euro-orphans' (one or both parents working abroad), which places them at a lower level among their peers in terms of educational achievement;
- A significant proportion of parents cannot afford to help their children take advantage of educational opportunities in the event of academic underachievement.

The practice is coordinated by the Salesian School Complex and consists of free tutoring provided by school students to younger pupils who reside in the district of Mistrzejowice.

The practice operates on a small scale and is characterised by a low degree of institutionalisation. It was inspired by the experience of SALTROM – the Salesian Movement of Concern for the Youth – which is an association dedicated to working with difficult young people in the centre of Krakow. Since 1999, it has implemented a comprehensive programme of remedial tutoring for local young people. The Salesian School Complex involvement began in 2009.





### Multisectoral Cooperation, Malmö, Sweden

in terms of exclusion County, Public & . In terms of exclusion Test how a collaborative penta-helix model can Growing Growing Uving day by day get ahe	Actors:		Aims/Objectives:	Reach:	Young
University for job	Municipality, County, Public & Private sector,	•	structural causes of societal problems, spoken of in terms of exclusion	Growing	Peop for integration Living day by day get ahead Motivated

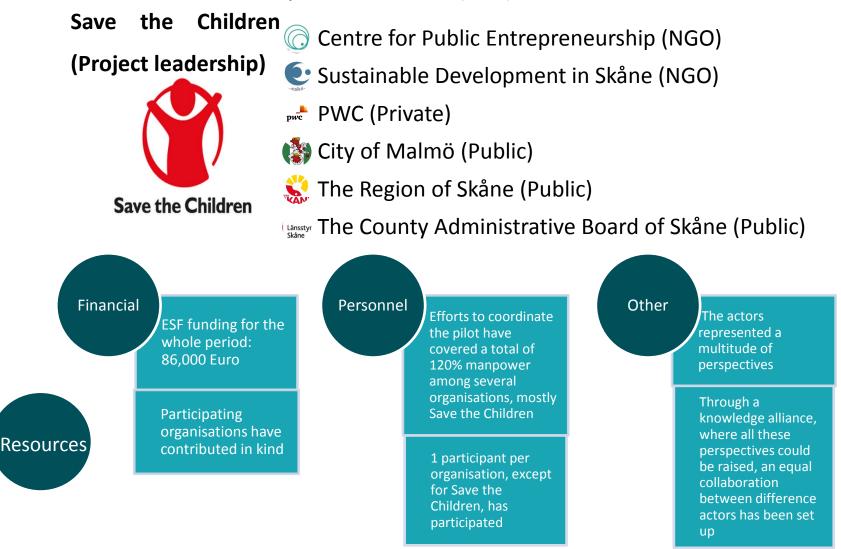
For the Multisectoral Cooperation project, the exploration of the causes and effects of social inequalities has been of central concern, for example by involving young people in the discussion of social exclusion.

The activities in the project have been done within two tracks:

- "Development group"
- "Youth involvement process".

The core of each track has been a number of workshops on different themes connected to the societal problem of social exclusion and to multisectoral cooperation.

Discussions involve 11 young people from different parts of Malmo, Malmo University and external partners such as The Social Economy Network in Skåne (NGO) and others:



### Educational Demos, Barcelona, Spain

Actors: NGO And Municipality	•	Aims/Objectives: Raise awareness of human rights and promote active citizenship among youngsters Train young people in new technologies and composition Promote rap as an education tool for young people, as well as a channel of social transformation Identify individual and social needs faced by young people and address them through this educational project and/or redirect them to the most appropriate actors	Reach:	Young People: Motivated for integration Living day Ways to by day get ahead Motivated for job

Educational Demos works with young people of the deprived neighbourhood of Raval facing difficulties in their daily lives (e.g. at school, at home, in the street), due to their family, ethnic or socioeconomic background.

Financial

Funded thanks

Administration

It is difficult to

calculate total

investment, as

it has been

running for a

to support

from the

**Public** 

This project embraces several activities:

- learning and work with human rights,workshop of rhymes (which includes training
- on rhythms and music competences, use of literacy resources)
- elaboration of video clips
- dissemination through social networks and web platforms
- performance in different kinds of events
- participation in community activities
- horizontal mechanisms of decision-making.







Personnel

Human

sound

basis

engineer

Volunteers

work with the

project on an

intermittent

resources are

worker and a

mainly a youth

Young people from Brno visit Education Demos in Barcelona

### Amaro Records addresses low work opportunities in Brno

Roma people are often perceived negatively by the ethnic Czech majority, but Roma music is very popular
Young people often have dreams that are not fulfilled

- What (activities in brief)Planning and organising the creation of the
- studio with young Roma participationBuilding of the recording studio
- Music recording lossons
- Music recording lessons
- Support in making contacts
- Creating a musicians' network
- Organisation of a public musical performance
- Active participation in organisation of public
- musical performance
  - Promotion of artistic activities



CITISPYCE

Other

Know-how and

premises in a

specific

location



### The Loft, Birmingham, UK





#### The Loft was a temporary pop-up space in central Birmingham that provided space for young creatives to produce work, exhibit, network and create a supportive community



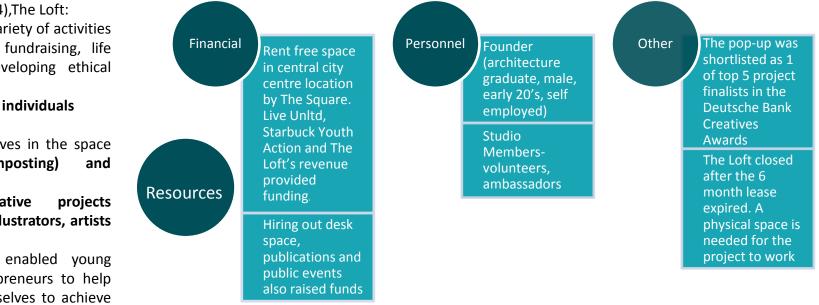




Having a variety of young creatives present in the space created opportunities for networking, collaboration and entrepreneurship, for example a piece from a collaboration between a graphic artist and textile graduate

The Loft addressed:

- A lack of alternative pathways for young people not in training or employment seeking to 'go-it-alone'. The project also identified nation wide trends on the career prospects of arts-based graduates and more "traditional" graduates (e.g. law, business, maths, humanities)
- The above also includes a lack of alternative approaches (e.g. artsbased experiences) to personal development and the acquisition of social competences and skills;
- The breakdown of trust between disadvantaged young people and those in authority leading to the **disconnect** between them and opportunities for development and sources of support (lack of signposting);
- The need for support networks (creatives) to support other young people and open up new possibilities and ways of thinking about themselves and the wider world;
- Creating a platform and workspace to enrich participants' ideas and sustainability plans for the future. This included the need for mentoring and support after gaining financial support
- It was believed that the creative arts and (small scale) pop-ups are already discriminated against, resulting in the restriction of funding opportunities. The Loft addressed this inequality by proving a city centre platform to showcase work and for young creatives / social entrepreneurs to base themselves could work



Find out more at: www.citispyce.eu Youth Blog: Citispycevoices.eu & @CITISPYCE



In the 6 month period of the pop-up space (March 2014 to August 2014), The Loft:

• Held 15 exhibitions & a variety of activities (artist residences, charity fundraising, life drawing sessions and developing ethical brands)

- Created workspace for 86 individuals
- Had 5,000 visitors

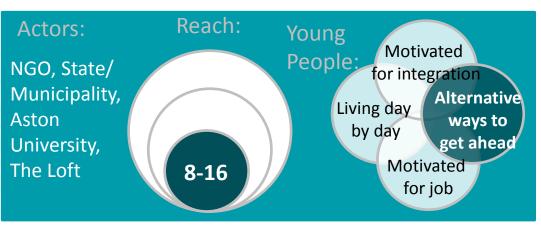
• Helped artists and creatives in the space achieve funding (signposting) commissions;

Facilitated collaborative with/between designers, illustrators, artists and photographers.

The use of the space enabled young creatives and social entrepreneurs to help each other and help themselves to achieve commissions / visibility / business

### Pilot: The Loft/Shelter of Ideas, Elefsina, Athens





Although the Municipality of Elefsina has a robust framework of social services, unemployment, especially youth unemployment, is a huge issue in the area. There are no youth social policies in the area or services targeting young people, so this practice is considered to be a novel approach that engages young artists, allows them to liaise with local authorities and provides them with opportunities to promote their skills and competences.

#### The main areas of need that this practice targeted involve:

- The lack of trust between young people and authorities by trying to bridge the gap of communication.
- The lack of motivation, energy and meaningful stimuli that can provide a productive 'way out' to young people and particularly young unemployed people.
- A possible gap in peer collaboration and networking by enhancing solidarity and collaboration channels among young artists/participants
- The need for novel approaches that will help young people to survive in the labour market by strengthening capacity building in entrepreneurship.

Activities can be divided into two main categories:

#### a) Information/Dissemination & Declaration of Interest **Activities including:**

-Creation of a Facebook page during the pilot action

-Dissemination and Information material hosted under the Website of the Municipality

-Creation of information leaflets to attract young people to the pilot

#### b) Activities with Young People were based on young participants' needs:

-2 Focus Groups with young people to identify their needs. -Meetings with young people

-Creation of a website for the pilot activity that could also display the art work of young participants

-Training on entrepreneurship & coaching

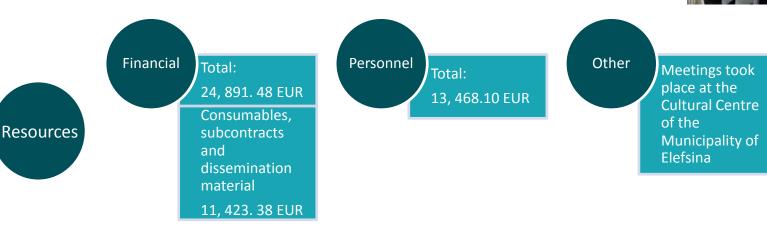
-Business planning for the creation of a social enterprise -Presentations/ Meetings with entrepreneurs: tips for setting up a successful business

-Meetings with the Municipality and young people consultation sessions



Yinka Danmole, founder of The Birmingham, meets with the Shelter of Ideas

The team prepare for a presentation with the Elefsina municipality







### Buzinezzclub, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Actors: Municipality, Private Agency, NGO & Volunteers	<ul> <li>Aims/Objectives:</li> <li>To foster an entrepreneurial spirit among young jobless people in Rotterdam (aged 18-27)</li> <li>To activate young people, stimulate a different mindset</li> <li>To reduce the duration of dependence on social assistance or help young people to remain out of social assistance</li> <li>To create a financial return on investment</li> </ul>	Reach:	Young People: Motivated for integration Living day Ways to by day get ahead Motivated for job

Buzinezzclub aims to fight:

- inequality in chances / deprivation and promote socio-economic mobility.
- Young unemployed people with limited social networks, living in more deprived areas, from families with a low socio-economic status.
- Often young people without a proper basic qualification (education).

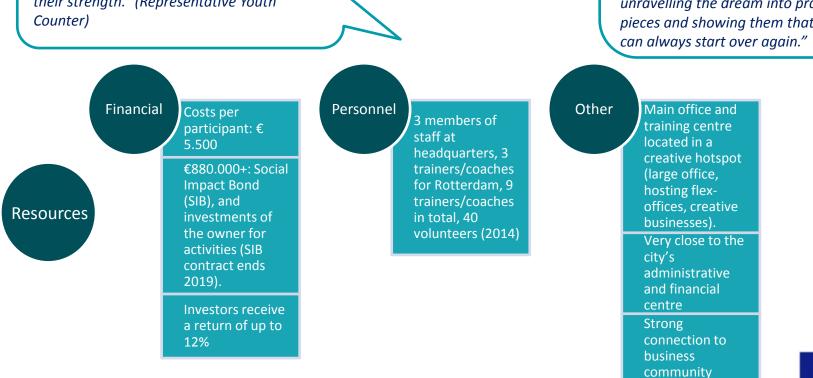
"People here are really enthusiastic, they seem to believe in their work, they're not like 'we've got to keep them busy' ". (Male, 23, unemployed) "On the first day I noticed: 'Okay, this is not – what I'm used to - simply learning how to write a job application letter or improving a resume. This is deep thinking'. That scared me a bit". (Female, 23, unemployed)

The Buzinezzclub runs personal coaching & group counselling focused on developing personal development and business plans

Their activities help in establishing networks within business communities

Young People receive long term coaching from volunteers

'Taking them seriously, motivates young people. (...) They make a business plan for an enterprise and a business plan for life. That's their strength." (Representative Youth Counter) "They're missing the tools to realise their dreams, and the insight that it goes step by step, one does not reach the top at once. I feel that as a volunteer I can be a real help in this, next to the work the Buzinzezzclub delivers for these young people. It is about trust, unravelling the dream into practical pieces and showing them that one can always start over again."









### Challenge Sports, Rotterdam, The Netherlands

Actors: Municipality, Youth Centre & Private Agency	•	Aims/Objectives: Trains and coaches young people on benefits in the hope that this can direct them towards school or work within a short period of time (3-6 months) The practice helps young people to develop the necessary attitude and skills to obtain and keep in education or employment Sports are an essential part of the training	450 p	Young People: Motivated for integration Living day Alternative by day get ahead Motivated for job

Challenge Sports addresses participants':

- limited skills in communication,
- personal presentation,
- motivation and endurance,
- school and employment skills.

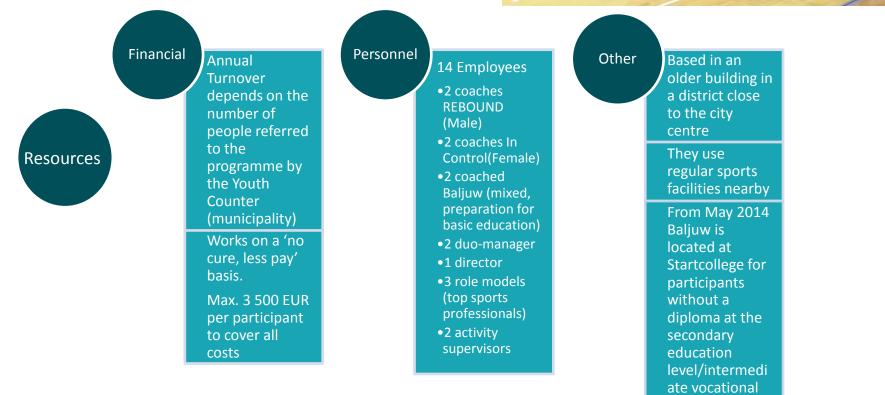
Almost all young people have problems concerning money management, and their life style and health situation are sometimes considered problematic.

#### Challenge Sports tackles these issues through:

1. Sports,

Group training (behaviour, presentation & communication skills, intakes for schools, job application, resume-writing, etc.)
 Individual support (personal plans, depts.)







education





### **TOPEKO**, Elefsina, Greece

Actors: Private Sector • (Consultants, NGOs, Professional Association), Public Enterprise, • Vocational Education Training Centre, Municipality •	Aims/Objectives: Aims to mobilise local government to ensure the creation of jobs & professional training for vulnerable groups The current programme aimed to integrate a small group into the labour market in the local secondary sector Entrepreneurial development opportunities in waste management, reuse and resale of products	Reach: 80	Young Motivated for integration Living day by day Motivated get ahead Motivated for job

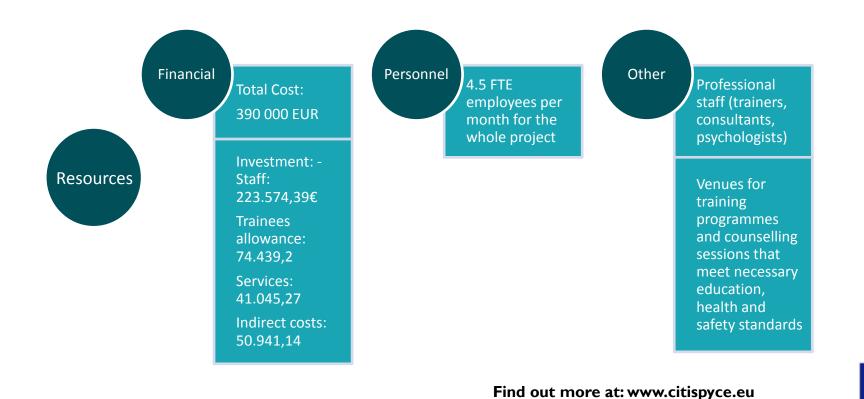
TOPEKO is aimed at the multifaceted support of the unemployed (through training and counselling), who will be supported in an integrative manner before founding their Social Cooperative Enterprise by placing them in jobs in dynamic sectors of the local economy i.e.

- social economy
- green economy

On the basis of identified development needs in the area of Elefsina.

TOPEKO has achieved this by carrying out various activities, including:

- Expert analysis of the local labour market
- Networking between beneficiaries and businesses
- Training programmes in alternative waste management, repair and reuse of products and recycling materials & principles of social and individual entrepreneurship
- Counselling aimed at psychosocial support and social integration of beneficiaries
- Consulting aimed at employability and employment of beneficiaries
- Building Business plans for the establishment of individual or other type of business/enterprise
- Consulting of the newly founded enterprises at the early stages of operation
- Publicity, and awareness raising activities for recruiting target groups and dissemination of the action plan





Youth Blog: Citispycevoices.eu & @CITISPYCE



## Brightful, Malmö, Sweden

Ν

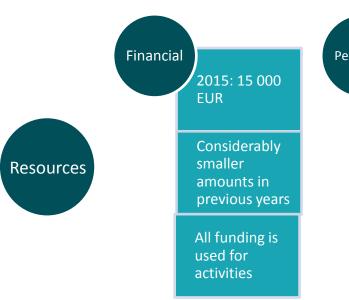
Actors:		Aims/Objectives:	Reach:	Young
NGO, unicipality & Schools	•	Help and motivate young men and women to believe in themselves and their ability to set (and reach) their own individual goals through different activities Aims to encourage young people to set goals for the future, provide a forum for them where support and encouragement is provided	140	People: Motivated for integration Living day by day Ways to get ahead Motivated for job

Brightful responds to a lack of self-confidence and constructive role models among young people, particularly in disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the city.

Brightful offers different activities, coaching and workshops on specific topics where the participants meet different organizations, schools and entrepreneurs from their local context. The participants are given the chance to discuss different issues such as equality, self-esteem, job & educational opportunities.



# BRIGHTFUL



Brightful mentorship programme workshop, held at 'The Garage' in Sofielund, February 2015. (Source: Brightful Facebook page)

Personne	Three volunteers run the operation
	When necessary, they are aided by considerably larger groups of people gathered from Brightful activities





### Moin Moin Hamburg- Welcome Tours for refugees, Hamburg, Germany



Tours for refugees have

Bücherhalle (Public Library) where refugees

membership for all

electronic media (left)

Miniaturwunderland

model train world during a special offer

included the

received free

and to

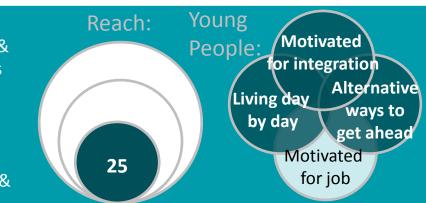
(below)

### HAW Hamburg, **Municipality** Cooperation

Actors:

#### Aims/Objectives:

- Aiming at the gap between informal qualifications & abilities and a long-term formal integration process Better knowledge about the city to move around more easily outside the shelter to get involved in (social) activities
- Better knowledge of possibilities & language
- Empowerment to make better use of own abilities & • avoid infantilisation



#### Moin Moin Hamburg looks at the refugee experiences and helps young refugees overcome various challenges

- The city is a new and complex system for new arrivals.
- Young refugees are limited in the ways they get around the city.
- They often remain isolated in the shelters which prevents them from involvement in social activities and excludes them from society.
- The education- and employment market and their access to the German system is a big hurdle.
- Their resources are not recognized and they have little confidence in their abilities.
- Integration is mainly based on language skills which are often non-existent and only improve very slowly, as they only have little contact with the world outside their shelter.

This certainly prolongs and makes harder the process of settling down as the people easily lose confidence on the way.

2000-2 5000 EUR

Moin Moin Hamburg carries out the following activities:

- Interviewing; the target group to assist their needs
- Networking; to search for potential tours that meet the target group's needs and expectations
- Touring Other Financial Approx. 500 EUR Personnel Experts for the per month to a 3 people from work with Young person HAW team refugees and new from Hamburg (1FTE/month) arrivals in the who helped conceptualise and Resources organise tours. Experts in the city Paid from project 1 external council for project budget planning and with assistant (0.25FTE/month) Symbolic amount a wide network of stakeholders. to volunteer tour guides & tickets Volunteers for for local public tours who speak transport paid the refugees' from project languages of budget or origin. financed by project partners or sponsors Find out more at: www.citispyce.eu 4 months: Youth Blog: Citispycevoices.eu & @CITISPYCE



### Form de Teatre Pa'Tothom, Barcelona, Spain



#### Reach: Aims/Objectives: Young Actors: Motivated Better knowledge about the city to move around more People or integration easily and through that get involved in (social) activities Better knowledge of possibilities NGO Living day Empowerment to make better use of own abilities • by day Avoidance of infantilisation Motivated Improvement of language skills 18 Cultural organizations and businesses get engaged in an for job innovative social practice

Young people of the deprived neighbourhood of Raval face difficulties in their daily lives (e.g. at school, at home, in the street), due to their family, ethnic or socio-economic background.

The organisation Forn de Teatre Pa'Tothom provides 2-year-courses in Drama and Theatre of Social Intervention as well as workshops, intensive courses and apprenticeships to all people who want to be actors, but also to those who want to develop social projects such as community actions. The school has recently started to offer training courses in Theatre for School Instructors.

Within the specific project with young people, they devote one school year to undertake three main activities:

- 3 months to foster group's cohesion,
- 3 months of improvisation exercises
- 3 months to create a theatre play.

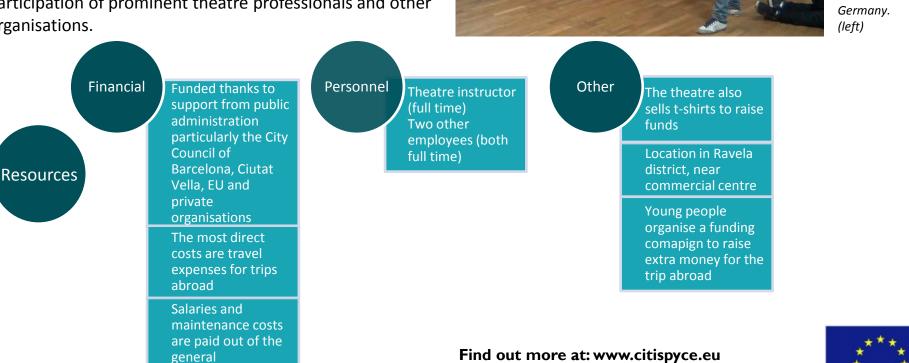
At the end of the course (in June), the youngsters travel to France or Germany to show their piece of theatre in an international festival.

Pa'Tothom organise workshops in:

- Public schools of disadvantaged areas,
- Theatre Forum and workshops in prisons, with drug addicts, mentally handicapped people
- They also organise an International Meeting of Theatre and Education IETM), with seven editions thus far, and with the participation of prominent theatre professionals and other organisations.

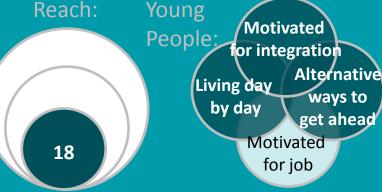
organisation's

budget



Youth Blog: Citispycevoices.eu & @CITISPYCE









## Cricket Club, Venice, Italy

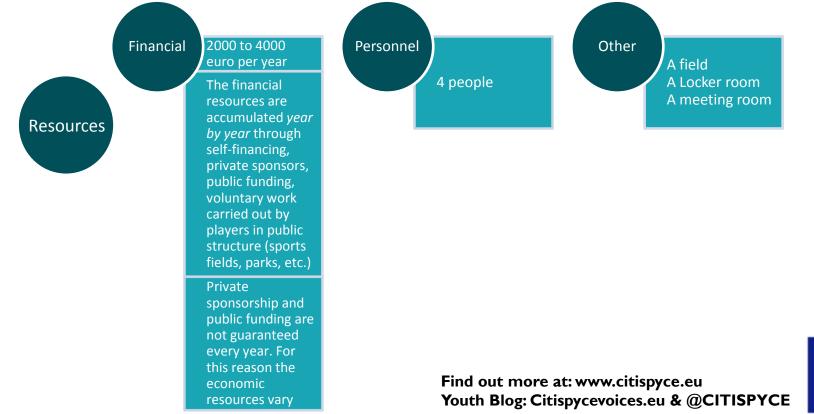
Actors: Private Residents/NGO & Municipality	<ul> <li>Aims/Objectives:</li> <li>Give to young people of migrant origin the same opportunities to practice sports activities as their peers</li> <li>To give the most marginalized young people, such as those of migrant origin, training, working, relational, educational and experiential opportunities</li> </ul>	Reach:	Young People: Motivated or integration Living day Ways to by day get ahead Motivated for job

**Cricket Club** gives disadvantage youth **a**ccess to recreational and sports places, to improve social and relationship capital and overcome inequalities in using neighbourhood spaces and resources. The Club allows them to participate in recreational and sports experiences.



The game of cricket is considered a "minority" sport in Italy where most young people play and are interested in football

**The club** is a managed and organized official and structured cricket team. It offers opportunities related to sports management, promotion of cricket, issuing certificates of different types (coach, umpire, scorer, first aid etc.) that can be used in the labour market.







## Social and Health Centre, Sofia, Bulgaria

Actors: NGO (ESF Funded)	Aims/Objectives: Provide an integrated approach to address numerous interconnected problem of the Roma community. The Centre's strategy includes three central elements 1. Suitable infrastructure based in a Roma neighbourhood 2. Provision of complementary community-based services	Reach: 35 staff	Young People: Motivated for integration Living day Alternative by day get ahead Motivated for job
	3. Human resources development of Roma community		

## The Health and Social Centre operates in the Fakulteta neighbourhood, which is widely known as the biggest Roma ghetto in Sofia.

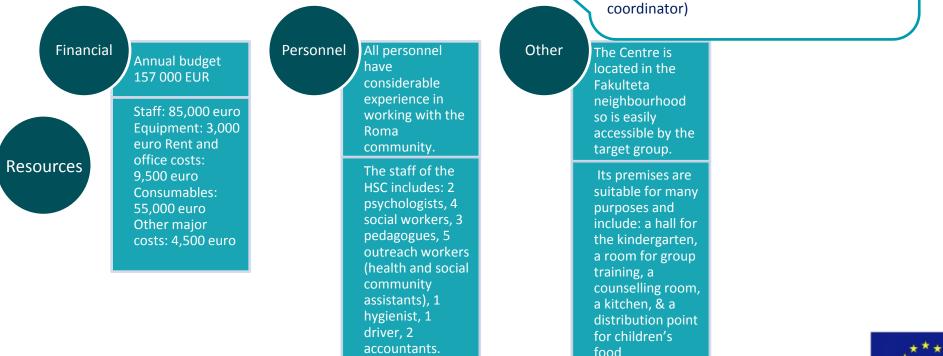
The unemployment, social exclusion and poverty are drastically higher than in the rest of the city, while the incomes are lower and the housing conditions and public infrastructure are worse. The only existing element of social infrastructure in the area is a municipal school, which is of substandard quality, while all other crucial institutions (employment bureau, social assistance service, health centre) are missing from this socially and economically deprived neighbourhood.

A wide range of services and interventions available at the Social and Health Centre try to break the vicious circle of poverty and social exclusion. They include: "We have been doing this for many years and

- 1. Early childhood development for school readiness;
- 2. Motivation for the continuation of education;
- 3. Life skills for adolescents;
- 4. Professional orientation and employment support;
- 5. Family planning;
- 6. Parenting skills;
- 7. Health education;

8. Prevention of infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS, STI, tuberculosis.

- 9. Prevention of drug use;
- 10. Prevention of aggressive, delinquent and criminal behaviour;
- 11. Promotion of gender equality;
- 12. Promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination.



Find out more at: www.citispyce.eu Youth Blog: Citispycevoices.eu & @CITISPYCE

have acquired a status. They know it is nice

and friendly here, that we talk about things

that are important for them, that they can

understand what is being said, because nobody likes to go somewhere where they do

not understand anything." (HSC, Psychologist

and Project Coordinator)

"Everything in this neighbourhood starts with

a great difficulty. There are many suspicions.

It takes years of work before you acquire a certain status – that you are here for them,

that you do things that are important for

them." (HSC psychologist and project

