



*Erasmus+ Strategic Partnerships 2016-1-NL01-KA203-022974
Social Inclusion, Education and Urban Policy for Young Children*

2nd transnational meeting in Ghent October 1st – 4th 2017

Minutes

Sunday Oct. 1st

We enjoyed a VIP Guided tour of Ghent in the afternoon, giving some history and impressions from this interesting city.

In the evening a dinner with ‘debate tables’ had been arranged: A sharing of practices with the guests at the table. Interesting debates took place with the **special guests:**

Sven De Visscher, University College, High School Ghent

Jan Peeters, director VBJK, Centre for Innovation in the Early Years

Elke Decruynaere, Alderwoman, City of Ghent

Inge de Putte, University College, High School Ghent

Naomi Botterman, guarantee coach, Education, City of Ghent

Esmeralda Verton, Director, primary School, Education, City of Ghent

Samira Wymeersch, coordinator school mediators, Education Center, Ghent

And the Hosts:

Karolien Nijs, ECEC, Childcare City of Ghent

Lieve de Bosscher, ECEC, Childcare director, City of Ghent

Karleen De Rijcke, Pedagogical Counselor, ECEC, Childcare City of Ghent

Valérie De Smet, Pedagogical Counselor, Education, City of Ghent

Kathleen Nuyts, Pedagogical Counselor, Education, City of Ghent

Jo Dreezen, School mediator, Education Center Ghent

Monday Oct. 2nd

1. Our Belgian hosts, Karolien Nijs, Kathleen Nuyts and Karleen De Rijcke welcomed the group, each participant presented him/herself and the program was presented.

Hereafter, Kirsten Nøhr, talked shortly about the progress in the project: which activities are taking place or planned. Also, Kirsten talked about the cohesion the the project, see paper on the SURF site.

2. After a coffee break, cases from Ljubljana, Berlin, Copenhagen, Amsterdam and PACT were presented and a discussion took place about the cases (see also later in these minutes). The case material gives a base for working with Activity #02 and will also be subject for discussion in the workshop C1 with students and lecturers which will take place in Copenhagen from 30th of October till 3rd of November.

3. After lunch we split up in two work groups around the Activities #02: *A competence profile* and #05: *Publication for local policy makers*.

Feedback from the group work:

#02 Discussions took place in subgroups. Conclusions from all groups were

- that there are different perspectives in the cases (concerning prevention, problem solving, context, focus on children with special needs);
- that the context is very important when discussing a case; each of our participant countries have different structure/rules/conditions for the ECEC area;
- that it would be good to have the same format for all cases;
- that there is a gap between theory and practice – the question is how we can make links between theories on social inclusion and the cases from practice?

The case material can be used as educational material, both in the educational programs as in the work field. Also the material can give an 'overall impression' of which dilemmas, practice is facing and give different perspectives on these dilemmas.

The different starting points from each country raised the following questions:

- what questions can you ask to a 'succes case'?
- can you use this approach?
- what would a preventive approach mean in a given case?

#05: See conclusions from Oct. 3rd.

4. Karolien Nijs and Kathleen Nuyts presented the context and organisation of Early Childhood Care in Gent with a focus on integration of Child Care, Education and Community Work (Vlaanderen).

The Powerpoint presentation can be found on the SURF site.

5. Kirsten Nøhr presented activity #03: Films – ideas and planning. See paper on the SURF site. The first films will be shot in Copenhagen 6th – 8th of December 2017. In the spring of 2018 films will be shot in Berlin and Ljubljana, and in June(?) 2018 in Amsterdam.

Tuesday Oct. 3rd

1. In the morning we enjoyed a number of field visits in smaller groups. After lunch we shared the inspiration and outcome of the visits. General impression: very interesting visits; some groups noted that they would have preferred to have more time in one organisation instead of visiting several in a short time.

2. In the afternoon we had feedback from the different activities and discussed how to continue after this meeting:

#01 – Summary needs to be finalized (Ruben Fukkink)

#02 – Working towards a competence profile using as basis:

- the collection of cases
- a common framework
- a focus on the context
- discussion about 'what we have learned'
- question: how does it relate to the concept of social inclusion?

This should add up to a note on the concept of competences.

A skype meeting will take place with the researchers (Ankie, Ruben, Matéa, Rikke, Jeppe); aiming at a cross reading of the cases to make connection with the theoretical basis.

#05 – question if we are looking for consensus/aiming at one concept of inclusion?

What is inclusion? A value? An instrument? What are the good things, what works?

Benefits? Avoid the discussions about the negative points.

A paper is made about the different systems in each country (shared on the SURF site).

The group around #05 is discussing 'What advice can you give politicians?' – they only read facts and figures. Politicians need reasons to spend the finances!

3. In the evening we attended the opening ceremony ISSA Conference at the Town Hall.

Wednesday Oct. 4th

In the morning eight of us (Yvette, Serv, Odette, Monika, Christina, Annette, Petra, Kirsten) had a work session where we discussed further progress of the project and some practical matters.

Here are some of the issues we talked about:

- **a common email adress** (this is in progress/KN)
- **focus in Copenhagen** (3rd transnational meeting): Interprofessional collaboration and the inclusion pedagogue
- **cohesion between #01 and #05**: Serv and Annette are looking at that
- **about the films**: ideas from Monika; looking from the perspective of the child, child participation: **Kid's Parliament** (how do professionals think about this? How did they have to adapt to the idea? They were not sure how to go about with it..)
- **Creative ideas** for titles for the films, thinking of Pipi Langstrømpe's saying: I haven't tried this before, so I'm sure I can do it – or inspired by Winnie the Pooh (quotes?)
- We also talked about how we can create a better bonding in the project, also between the meetings? Important how the meetings are closed...

This smaller group of eight people experienced that it was easier to get deeper into subjects / make decisions. Is it an idea to have a '**steering group**' to follow the progression in the project?

REACTIONS ARE WELCOME!

Important dates:

3rd transnational meeting takes place in Copenhagen 11th-13th of April 2018

(arrival date 10th of April in the evening).

4th transnational meeting takes place in Ljubljana in the first week of October 2018.

THANK YOU AGAIN, KAROLIEN, KATHLEEN AND COLLEAGUES, CITY OF GHENT FOR A VERY WELL PREPARED MEETING!!

For the minutes:

Esther Captain, Odette Spee and Kirsten Nøhr

Nov. 11th 2017