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YouthMetre – Closing the gap between youth and institutions

STRASBOURG, FRANCE

In line with the objectives of the Erasmus+ Programme and in order to foster the achievement of Europe2020 goals, the YouthMetre project aims to support EU Member States, local authorities and regions in carrying out effective policy reforms in the field of Youth, in line with the indications provided by the EU Youth Strategy and according to the priorities perceived by its target population: young Europeans.

The YouthMetre activities provide in-depth knowledge about the perceived needs of Young Europeans and establish effective methodologies and tools that help policy makers to develop initiatives in line with the target population's collected needs.

The YouthMetre project empowers young people, encouraging them to become engaged and actively participate in EU Youth policy matters. The YouthMetre connects young people and their needs to the public sector and the initiatives and actions being undertaken there under OMC.

A benchmarking process leads to the **establishment of a data dashboard and visualization of EU Policy achievements using innovative but now mainstream technologies**. The YouthMetre is competitive – encouraging the outcomes of public authorities' actions to be measured and compared.

The project approach derives from the acknowledged difficulty for policy makers to develop ideas and implement initiatives in youth policy fields that respond to the self-perceived needs of youngsters living in their target territories. It contributes to the Open Method of Coordination in the field of youth since it envisages the establishment of a set of indicators measuring the "performance" of local authorities in youth policy fields and fosters the exchange of good practices.

The project addresses "Priority 7 - Using e-participation as an instrument to foster young people's empowerment and active participation in democratic life".

Through OMC the YouthMetre empowers youth to engage with and impact on EU youth policy. **An e-tool will be produced to close the gap between youth and institutions** by collecting the perceived needs of youth in key policy areas and providing guidelines to public institutions that help address them. The YouthMetre aims at directly providing youngsters with necessary skills and knowledge to foster effective implementation, by policy makers, of the guidelines provided by the YouthMetre.

The YouthMetre "proposes and field-tests an innovative solution in the youth field". It undertakes multiplier training and under OMC provides guidelines and practical examples to policy makers, "which have the potential to improve and/or transform

policies and practices". Since the instrument will be tested and disseminated among youngsters and policy makers in, at least, 20 European countries: the initiative "can have a sustainable and systemic impact on Europe's youth systems".

The YouthMetre instrument will be tested, developed and assessed, with young Europeans and public policy agencies. The instrument will have "the potential of becoming mainstreamed": since it will be accessible with no quantitative or geographic restraints.

The project will promote the collection of initiatives that were able to address youth needs: facilitating "the collection and analysis of substantive evidence allowing the responsible authorities to develop new, innovative and effective policies and practices in the youth field".

In order to encourage the engagement with policy makers, local partner youth workers will be provided with training to run advocacy campaigns aimed at fostering their effective involvement and their reactions to the results delivered by the YouthMetre.

Please visit the YouthMetre website for the latest updates: <http://youthmetre.eu/>

For more information and inquiries, please contact:

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