



YEPP COMMUNITY NETWORK: WORKING STANDARDS

Hereby

(Full name of the partner organisation/s, YEPP Local Site)

as a member of the YEPP Community Network, embraces the Vision and Mission of YEPP Europe and commits to the YEPP Goals & Principles as Working Standards.

Mission & Vision

The Vision of YEPP Europe is to be an expert centre for youth and community empowerment and a major contributor to building an active, inclusive and prosperous civil society in which children, young people and communities have equal opportunities to participate in the decision-making processes that take place at local, regional, national and international level.

The Mission of YEPP Europe is to bring about sustainable change in local communities with fewer opportunities by disseminating and implementing the “YEPP” approach and methodology across Europe and beyond in order to foster youth and community empowerment.

Goals and Principles

The Goals and Principles express the essence of “YEPP” philosophy and approach. They are shared by the members of the YEPP Community Network and underpin diverse activities and projects of the members at local, regional, national and international level.

- 1 - Youth Empowerment
- 2 - Community Empowerment
- 3 - Partnership
- 4 - Advocacy
- 5 - Learning

1. Youth empowerment

Goal:

- To enable young people who are at risk of social exclusion and/or live in areas with fewer opportunities to participate in local decision-making processes, to create change in their communities and to become active citizens in the wider society.

Principles:

- ✓ Young people are considered as the main actors of local change.
- ✓ Young people participate in the decision-making processes and have decision-making power.
- ✓ Young people have equal opportunities regardless of racial or ethnic origin, education, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief.
- ✓ Young people and other local stakeholders engage in joint strategic planning based on the YEPP Concept of Change and participatory Monitoring and Evaluation, which is recurrent systematic process of analysis, planning, implementation and evaluation.

2. Community Empowerment

Goal:

- To create self-confident and competent communities, so that residents and local stakeholders become active citizens and bring about positive change to the environment in which children and youth develop.

Principles:

- ✓ Members of the community participate in the decision-making processes.
- ✓ Needs mapping of the community is the base of every change process and project.
- ✓ The resources of the community (both human & natural) are recognized and used by the members to bring about sustainable change which benefits the community and the environment.

Community-based entrepreneurship is developed to complement the “YEPP” approach to bring about social change.

3. Partnership

Goal:

- To establish strong and sustainable partnerships and strategic alliances with the stakeholders from different sectors (public, private, and independent) and levels (local, regional, national and international) to foster youth and community empowerment.

Principles:

- ✓ Local stakeholders set up informal action groups, formal structures and strategic alliances.
- ✓ Local stakeholders develop joint action and cross - sectorial collaboration.
- ✓ YEPP Local Sites and project partners establish transnational partnerships to foster youth and community empowerment.

4. Advocacy

Goal:

- To influence public and third sector policies to ensure that the principles of youth empowerment, community empowerment and partnership become mainstream and are transformed into action at all levels.

Principles:

- ✓ Young people and community members change the community by taking initiatives in partnership with other stakeholders.
- ✓ Young people and community members bring local stakeholders and decision-makers together around key issues and targets.
- ✓ Young people and community members make sure that the target group and beneficiaries are included in policy discussions and policy making processes.

5. Learning

Goal:

- To provide opportunities for learning and capacity-building through exchange and transfer of knowledge and expertise at local, regional, national and international level.

Principles:

- ✓ Young people and community members participate in the training activities and capacity-building projects at all levels.
- ✓ Young people and community members build networks and strategic alliances at all levels and engage in peer exchange and learning.
- ✓ The members of the YEPP Community Network regularly inform each other about the training and exchange opportunities and invite each other to their events and projects.

Date:

Name of organization:

Name and signature of legal representative:

Members of the YEPP Community Network commit to YEPP Europe's vision, mission and to the goals and principles of YEPP which outline the YEPP philosophy and the common ground for local communities, practitioners, partners, funders and other stakeholders involved.

YEPP Europe strives to ensure that its members embrace and uphold YEPP goals and principles and act in accordance with national and international legal standards. However, YEPP Europe cannot be held responsible for the positions or actions of any of its members (or their employees). The views and opinions expressed by individual members, do not necessarily represent those of YEPP Europe unless officially endorsed.