

1. Name of organisation, city, country

Youth Agency, Aalst, Belgium

3. How many interested staff? (if possible names, function)

- Inne Van den Abbeele: head of youth agency
- Karen De Bruyn: coordinator youth work and outdoor accommodation
- Laure Van Medegael: coordinator of communication and participation
- Tine Holbrecht: coordinator inclusive youth work
- Toon De Grez: coordinator of youth culture
- Veerle Jacques: coordinator of holiday activities

4. What is the staff interested in seeing /learning? (Themes/methods/activities)

- all forms of participative projects with youngsters, children, adults, organisations,...
- alternative forms of youth culture and how they are used to empower young people
- > special interest in gaming (for example: <http://gamedenmark.org/en/game-zones/game-aarhus-2/>)
- skate and urban culture and how it is used to empower youngsters
- policy making for children and youngsters: how are they included?
- use of urban space for children and youngsters
- good practices of safe mobility for children and youngsters
- good practices on how to support young entrepreneurs
- innovative, childfriendly infrastructure (for example: http://www.boredpanda.com/children-playgrounds-monstrum-denmark/?utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=link&utm_campaign=BPFacebook)

5. What type of activity is relevant? (Job shadowing/Study visit)

Both are relevant!

We prefer talking to fellow youth workers, organisations working with youngsters as well as participating in activities

6. How long should the activity last?

3 – 5 days

7. When would be a good time for your organisation to send youth workers?

Mid-May – mid-June

September, October, November

8. What can your organisation offer in terms of interesting examples of youth activities/methods etc?

- Youth council 'VONK': participation for youngsters
- Children's council 'KADEE': participation for children
- Several active youth organisations
- Interactivity library/academy where young people are the central users/visitors
- Centre for youth culture 'Cinema': opening foreseen in January 2018
- CIRK!: 3 day lasting festival, last weekend of august for families, children and youngsters
- Buurtwild/t: inclusive youth work for children and youngsters
- Cimorné and SULB: young, creative entrepreneurs
- Biensoigné: interactive online youth platform
- Broeikas: supporting young entrepreneurs
- Concrete skatepark + BETONG skate festival: mid-May
- Activities for children during holidays 'speelplein' with over 100 volunteers and 600 children

9. When would be a good time for your organisation to host?

- April-mai

- July, august, September

10. Other relevant information

We are specifically interested in exchanging with northern European countries (Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland) because we want to learn more about the participative way they approach youth work. There are a lot of good practices we could learn from and we consider their approach as very innovative. We are convinced that the youth policy in our city should evolve in a similar way and are very curious to learn how they organise different aspects of youth work.