

URBAN SOLUTIONS SEMINAR 2

Sharing Power with Young People

Athens, Greece

15 - 19 October 2013

PARTICIPANTS' EVALUATION



Youth
in Action

Dear participants of the “Urban Solutions Seminar” we want to thank you again for your great participation and contribution to the seminar in October 2013. In this report we will present to you the outcomes from the evaluation questionnaire and your feedback from the flipcharts!

Enjoy going through this report, and maybe it will re-remember the way you got inspired or activated by the things you discovered!

The Urban Solution Seminar team!

Input of this report:

On the last day of the “Urban Solutions Seminar”, participants were asked to evaluate how they assess their knowledge, skills and attitudes in relation to the social challenges and youth work in disadvantaged (sub)urban areas, before the seminar and at the end of the seminar.

33 participants (there were 48 in total) filled out “pre & post” evaluation questionnaire.

Scale used:

0 - no/very few/poor/negative/

5 - yes/detailed/fully/very good/positive

On the diagrams:

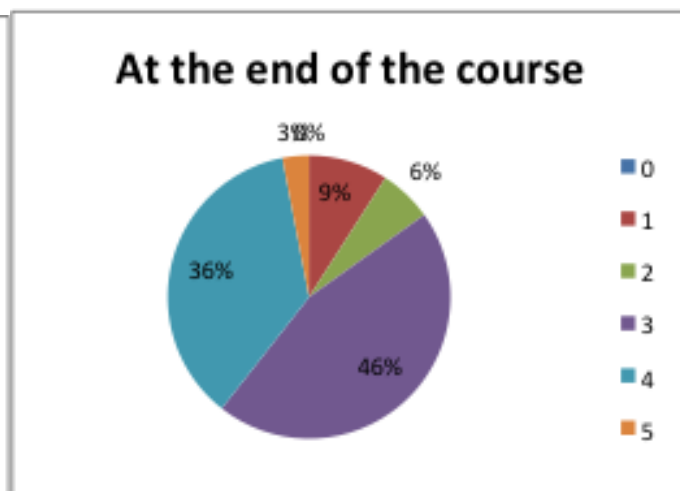
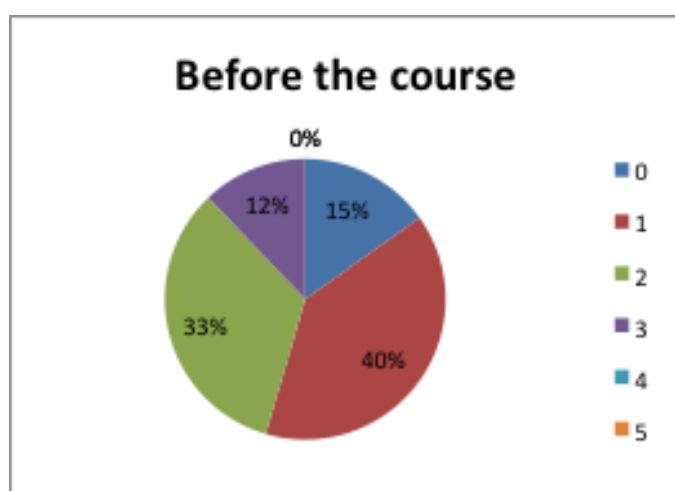
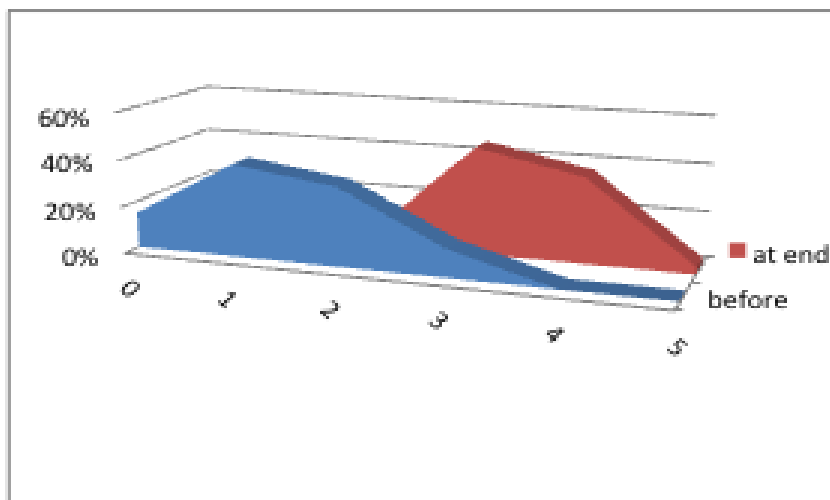
X = score 0-5 given by the participants,

Y = the number of participants who marked that score



RESULTS

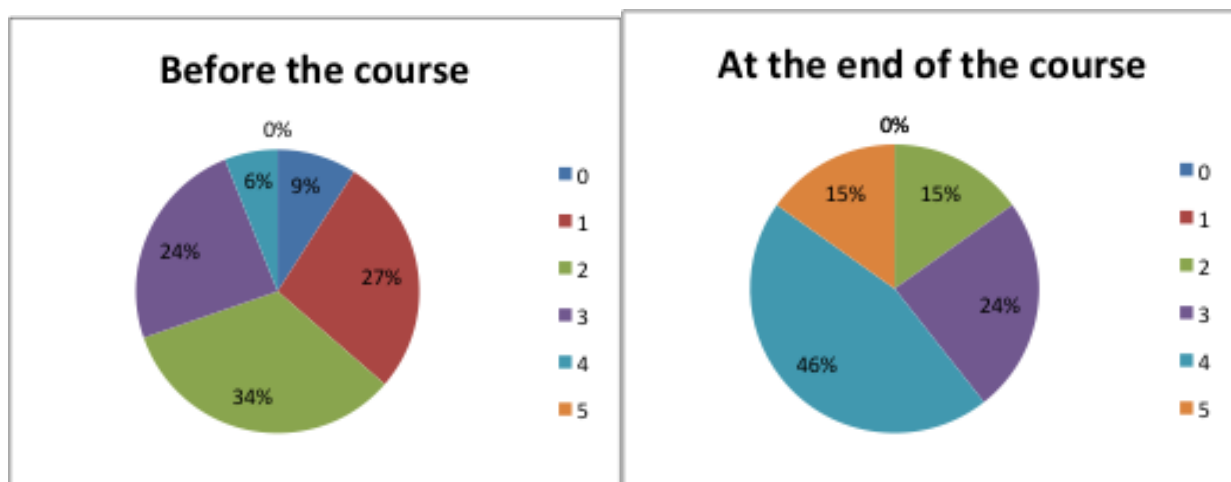
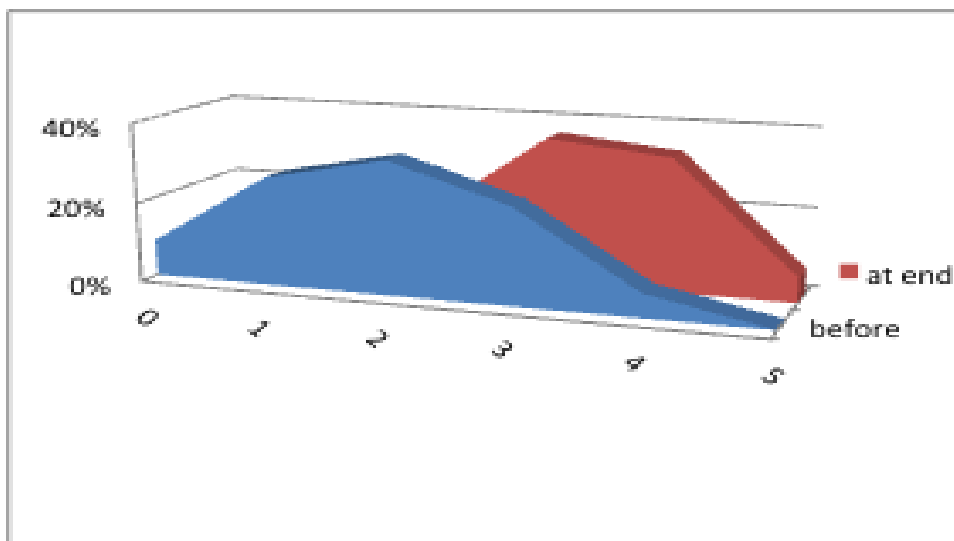
1. How good is your knowledge of different (sub)urban realities and youth work interventions in cities across Europe?



Before Average: 1.42 / After Average: 3.18

There is a substantial difference in participants' knowledge concerning suburban realities and youth work interventions cities across Europe deriving from the extensive sharing of practices, examples and experiences that were facilitated during the seminar.

2. How good is your knowledge about the different ways of raising the voice of youth and sharing power with young people in disadvantaged (sub)urban areas?

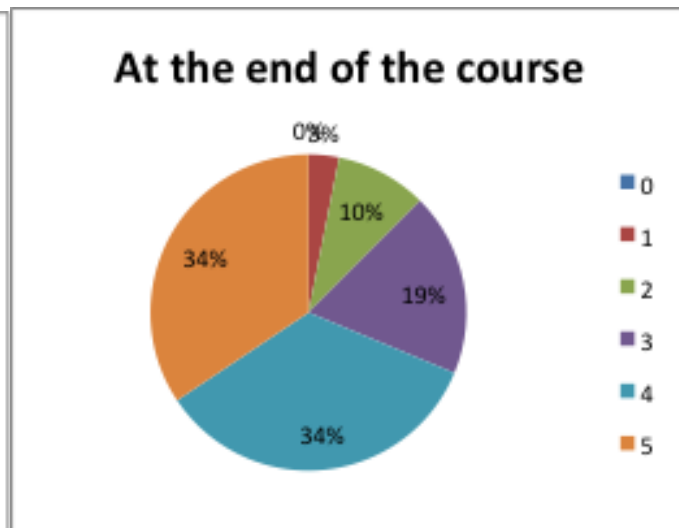
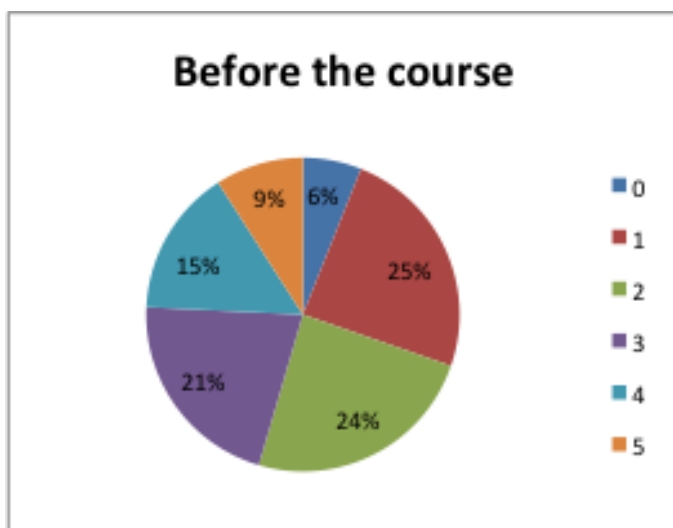
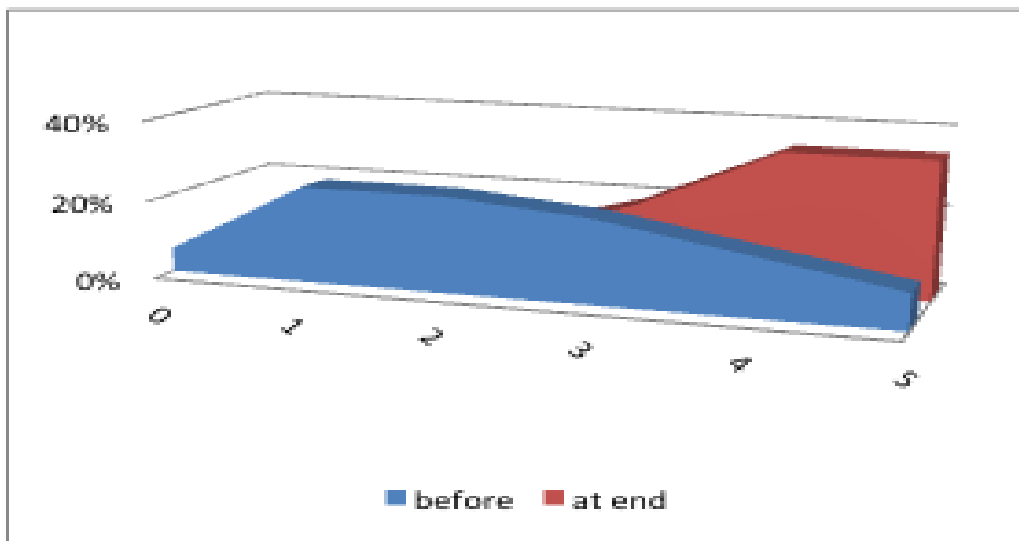


Before Average: 1.91 – After Average: 3.12

Once more there is a significant increase in participants knowledge in regards to ways of raising the voice of youth and sharing power. We believe the correlation here is again dependent on the opportunities that the participants had to share experiences and practices in different aspects of suburban youth work, including the theme of the subject question.



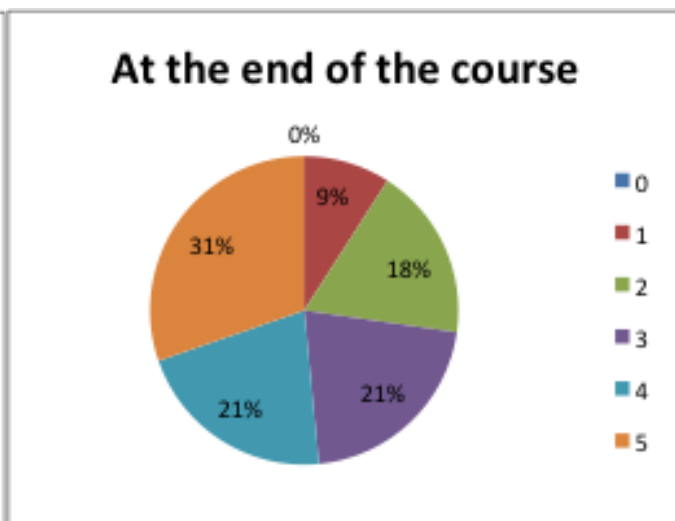
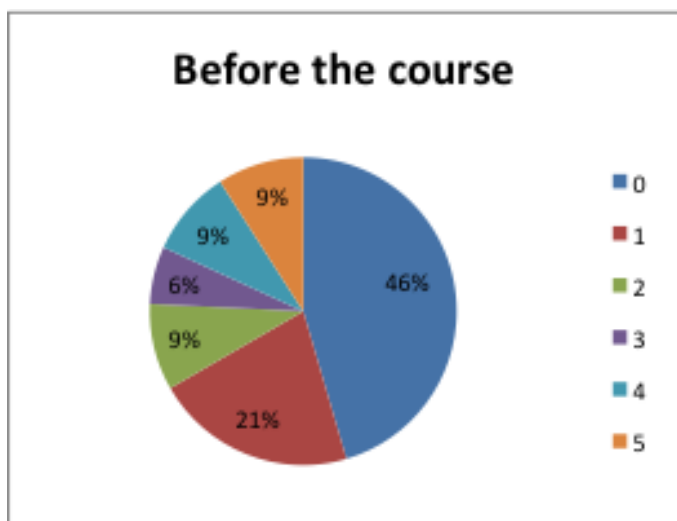
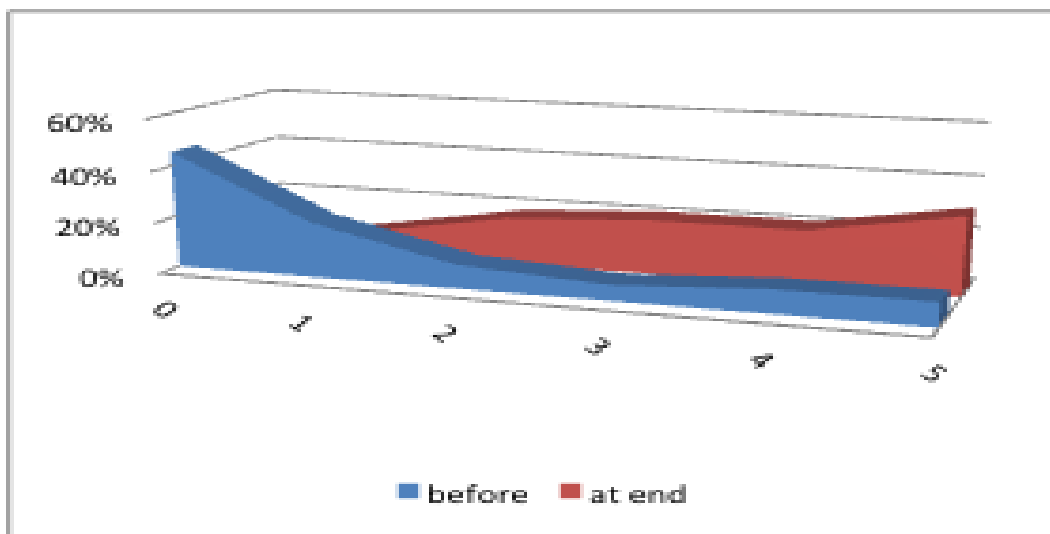
3. How confident are you to cooperate with different stakeholders to address urban challenges and stimulate/support youth participation?



Before Average: 2.42 – After Average: 3.88

The participants' group consisted of the diverse presence of different stakeholders including municipality officers, police, youth workers, young people, youth councils, youth organisations and informal groups, and further enhances through the presentations of our guests (one academic and one professional) and the visits to local organisations that included and informal group, a youth cooperative, a public institution and a local NGO. As a result the participants had the opportunity to experience working with different stakeholders and increase their understanding over the way they work but also their level of confidence to cooperate with them, hence the increased average level.

4. How familiar are you with the Youth in Action programme (and other funding sources) which can be used for urban youth (work) interventions?

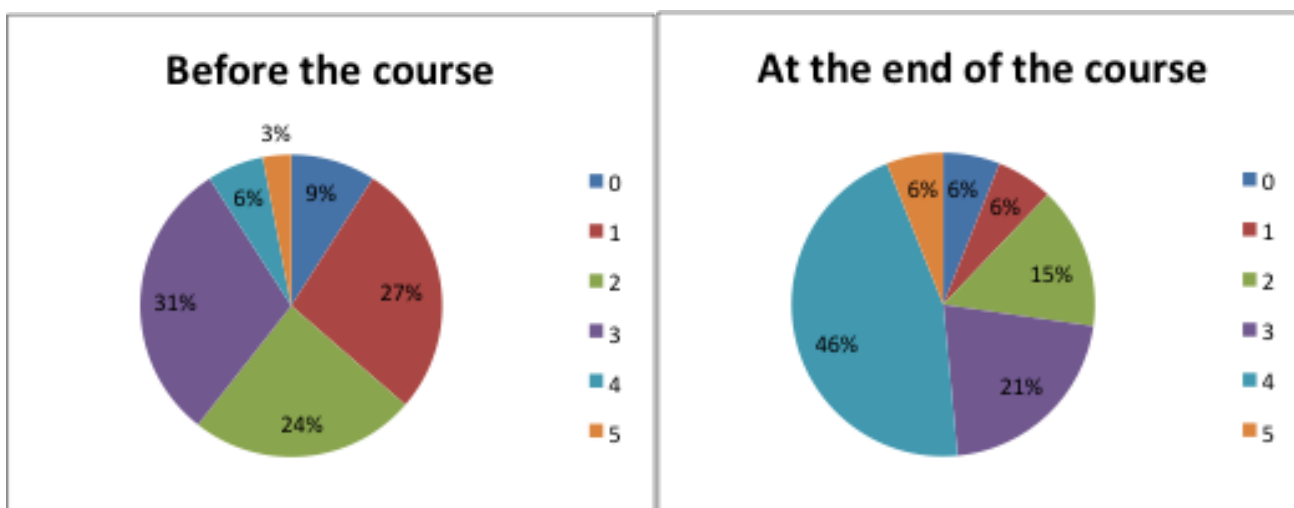
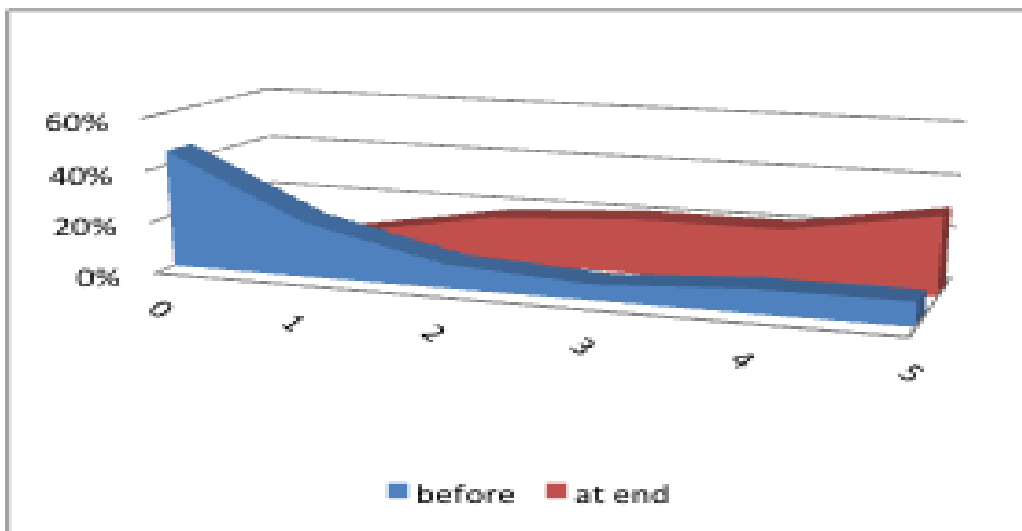


Before Average: 2.36 – After Average: 3.61

There is an increase being a result mainly of participants that were not aware of the funding possibilities that were shared within the seminar. Unfortunately being in the transition period from Youth in Action to Erasmus + and not having concrete information that can be useful to the participants, there has been an increase but not substantial. However, people do feel more aware that there are funding opportunities on European level.



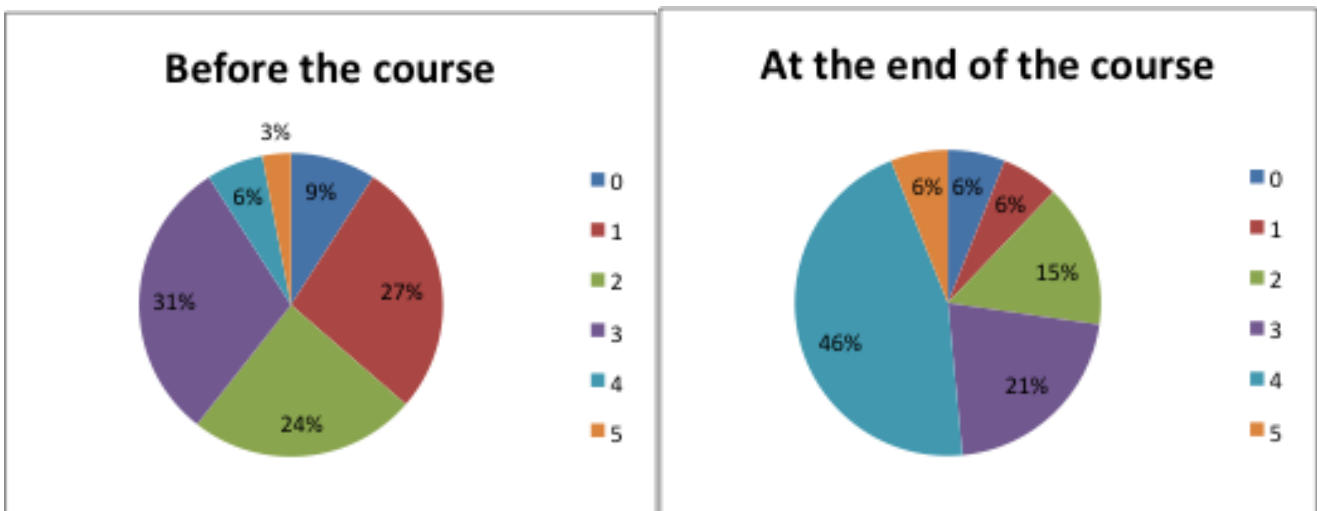
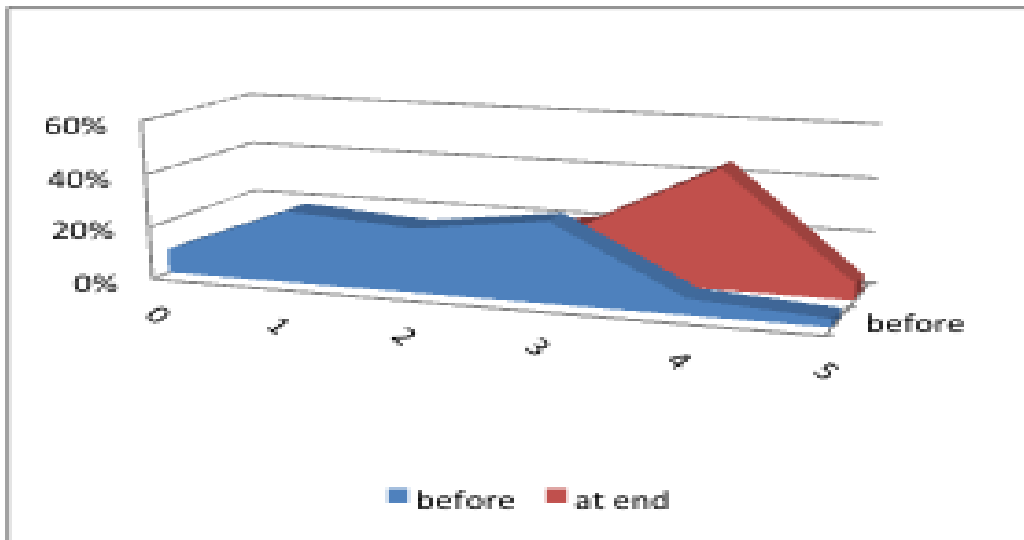
5. How familiar are you with the local reality in Athens and their local good practices?



Before Average: 1.67 – After Average: 3.45

Participants had the possibility to visit different organisations in Athens that are active within (sub)urban youth work. Also, having a big number of Greek participants that shared their experience and perspectives in the seminar’s formal and informal times have given the other participants a more clear picture of the current situation in Athens and the reality in regards to local practices.

6. How aware are you of the potential and the limits of youth work in urban areas?

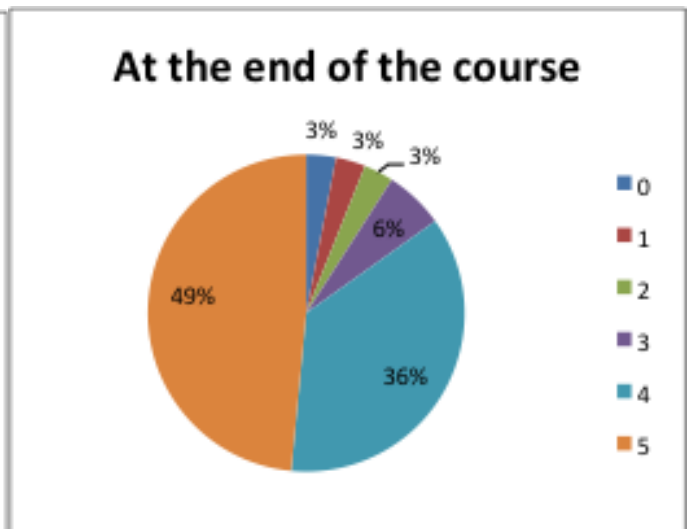
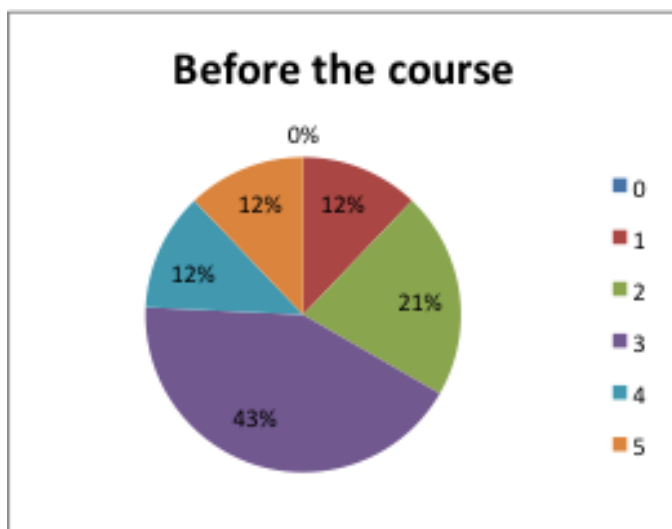
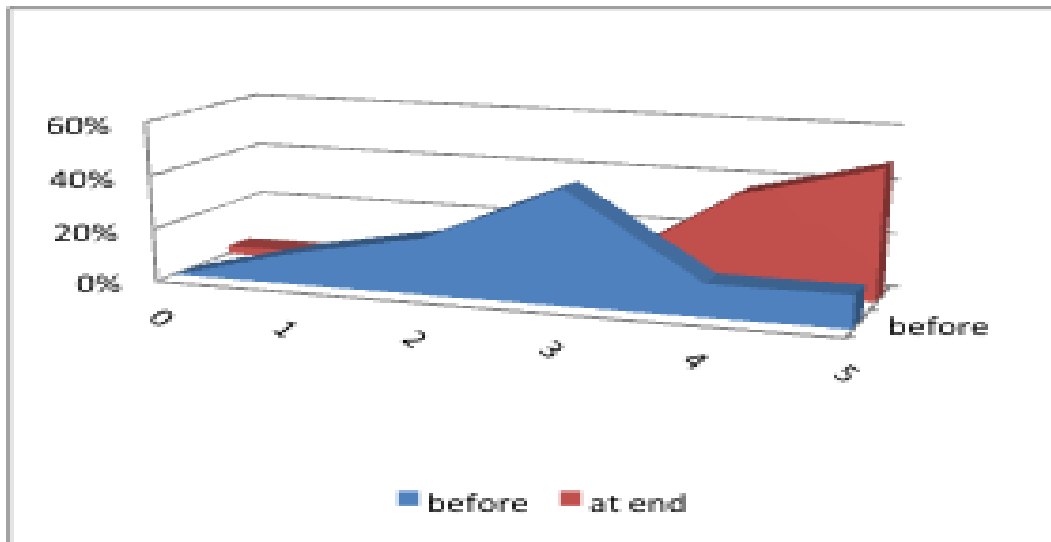


Before Average: 2.06 – After Average: 3.12

Again, there is a small increase that can be related to the fact that through the discussions and the different perspectives of the diverse background and experiences of the participants.



7. How motivated are you to develop future youth work initiatives in (sub)urban areas?

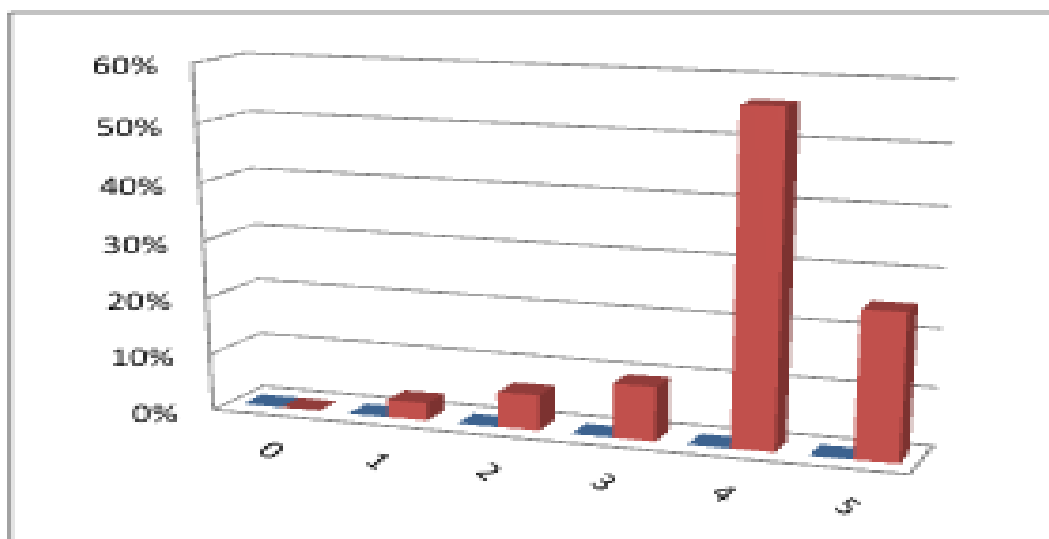


Before Average: 2.91 – After Average: 4.15

Motivation increase is one of the highest increases. An important role played was the group atmosphere that despite the small duration of the seminar and the big amount of participants, was warm, welcoming, inspirational and create an atmosphere were participants could express freely and go through a 'give and take' process.

Also the different experiences and practices were a motivational factor that we can also see in the evaluations where participants have mentioned several times that they are going home with new ideas and the motivation to realise them.

8. In general, was Urban Solutions Seminar successful for you? (new contacts, new ideas)



Average: 3.94

Some positive comments from participants:

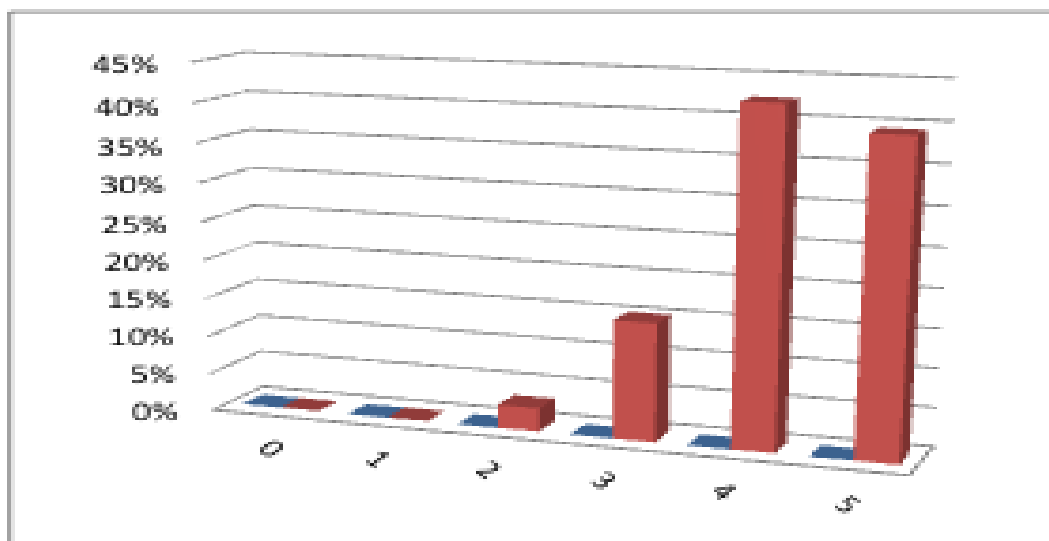
- Eye opening in meeting new people whose view perspective is very different.
- I came as a youth volunteer and came out inspired.
- I have one concrete idea to cooperate with another organisation. It gave me new energy to move on and keep being passionate about my job.
- I have learnt so much about different perspectives.
- Nice mixture of theoretical and practical input, from the local area as well the European. Many interactive parts.
- I think this seminar realised me on topics which I did not have much knowledge.
- I made new contacts (mentioned several times). I loved the idea of participation of the social media team in the seminar.
- New idea for projects (mentioned several times).
- Inspirational.
- Impeccable organisation.

Some constructive comments from participants:

- Urban Solutions could be more successful if there were youngsters. Where are they?
- It was not possible even to talk personally with all the participants, because of the number of participants and of limited duration.
- The context of the seminar could be more structured
- Expected something more about influence of young people on local area.
- There was only a superficial approach of the topics.
- It would had been useful if everybody could have attended all workshops.



9. Did you have space to get in dialog and share your experiences with other participants during the seminar?

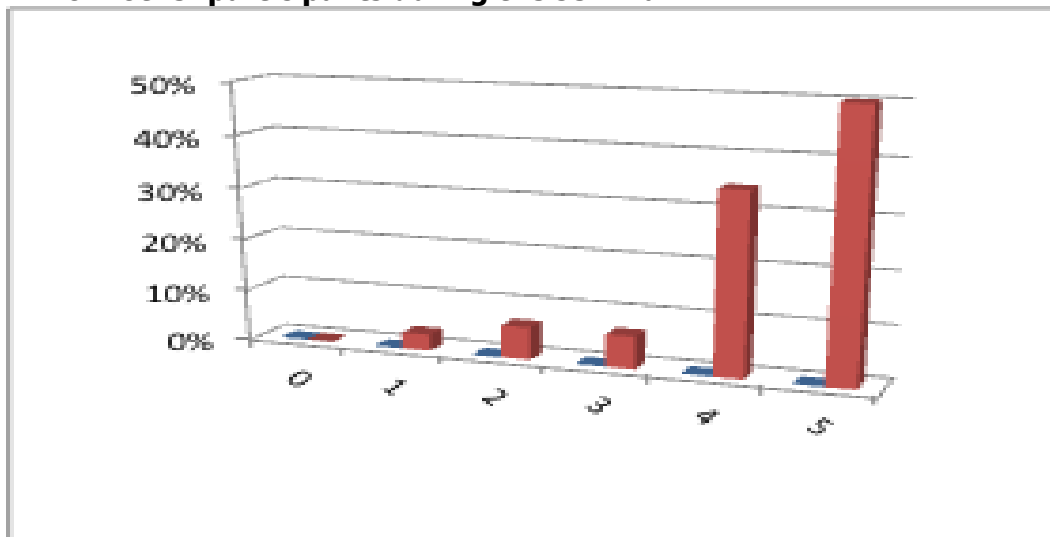


Average: 4.18

Comments from participants:

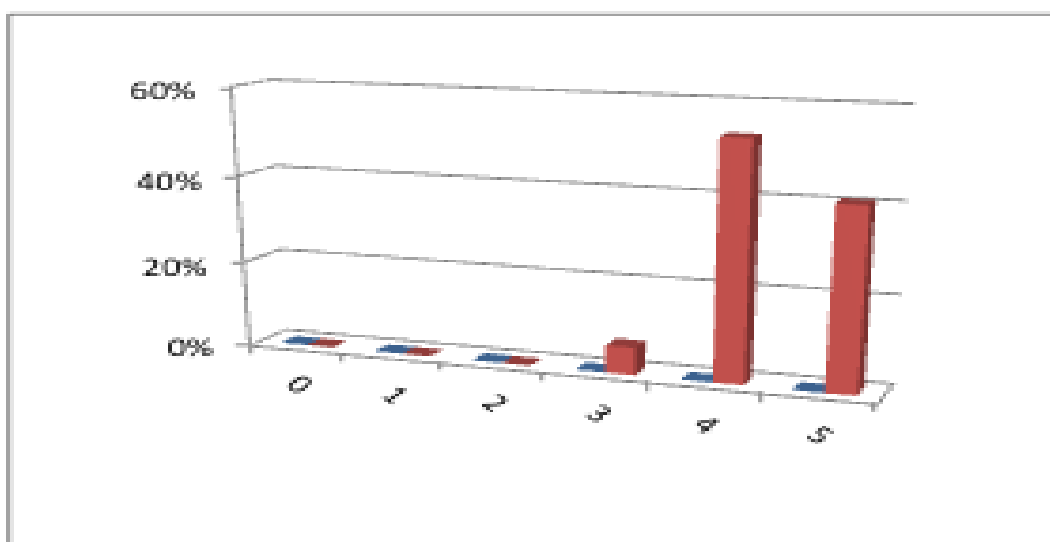
- Youth in public space, critical thinking on international level, engagement participation, inclusion, respect.
- My reality not always transferable to others.
- Creativity. Friendships. We have to believe in the power and goodwill of volunteers.
- Non-formal education necessity
- European Union has actually several tools and programme for young people.
- Just start! Do things! Realisation the world needs us.
- Theory of making bridges between youth and other parties.
- Salto Participation. Using abandoned shops for community information.
- Issues which Bob talked about were very interesting.
- How youth centres work.
- Networking, how to find good partners tools that can be used.
- Inspirational ideas from projects.
- Youth workers I other countries have similar problems and dreams.
- Urban realities in Greece and other countries of Europe.
- Erasmus +
- Workshop on non-violent Communication.

Did you learn from other participants during the seminar?



Average: 4.22

10. How did you find the Urban Solutions Seminar organisation? (practicalities, team, venue, info received before the event,...)



Average: 4.37

Comments from participants:

- Organization's team did a great job. I love it
- Very motivating and inspiring team.
- More doing less listening to PowerPoints.
- Team: experienced, skilled trainers created nice atmosphere.
- To sum up: My best seminar I have even participated.
- Nice social media solution.
- Not enough feedback from the trainers after the sessions like reformation, summary of the day.



FLIPCHARTS EVALUATIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS ON LAST DAY of SEMINAR

Program of activities:

- Great made! (mentioned several times in different wording)
- Very well organized but it's a pity we didn't have more time for informal work on ideas.
- It was good with the activities because I learned a lot. Best was about Greek Reality.
- More practice knowledge. More sharing personal knowledge, experience. Tight programme. Enjoyed but it was space for improvement.
- Useful, good that it was flexible (in a way), most space for workshops of participants needed.
- Finding new project ideas could be more structured.
- Tight program, no chance to exchange substantial thoughts and opinions with other participants. Not enough time to get to know most of them.
- Good programme, interactive, diverse and supportive.
- Where the youngsters? Missed.
- Didn't get anything out of expert's contributions.
- Critical sharing.
- It was not in a deep level. A little bit superficial. There was no increased interesting.
- Less powerpoint

Team and trainers:

- Thank you and you are great mentioned several times in different wording
- Special dedicate to Stellios <3 Dina.
- Not enough feedbacks to the group during workshops.
- I think facilitating can and should be structured, it was not time for group coaching (ref. to running for individuals).
- One of the takeaways and inspiration from the seminar is a team and trainers. Their attitude, methods and tools used. Big thank you guys for making these days so special, serious and easy-going at the same time.
- Close with what you started -> circle game. Feedback - next level.
- Really nice mix of energy and transfer of knowledge.
- Builders of bridges.
- Wonderful attitude and way to mobilize us.
- Melanie's energy is great.
- Next part, please 😊
- More personal coaching.

- Melanie was with the good communication with the group. SHE DOES A REALLY GOOD JOB!!! (Didn't feel the trainers worked as a team).

Project visits:

- Now we know better the local challenges (and Greek) 😊
- Real good learning experience. Good setup.
- Authentic.
- A bit superficial.
- Nice, very good idea to see and hear by our eyes and ears and very good combination with the free time in the city.
- Not interesting!!!
- Was one of the best parts but we could visit more projects.
- Projects visits were inspiring and chance to see real local reality. Some had problems with the way how groups were divided, maybe to ease up the division descriptions of projects could have been given earlier in the day but division itself later – when people have made a choice in their mind already.
- Marija did it very well to give us an impression of how 'youngsters of other countries' they must feel when they arrive in new school/new world!
- This reality was so touching and make us to realize how much is to do.
- Not only the place, project but also the opportunity to shape/discuss our local and Athens reality.

Participants/group:

- We all want a better world. Such power.
- From the multiculturalism to cross-culturalism -> the difference as leader of CREATIVITY.
- One very balanced group of very different people doing different stuff but with the same passion!
- Great. Not enough time to know everyone.
- All = but = interesting. Yes!!!
- Different creation of knowledge.
- People full of energy ready to talk about experience. I liked our conversations. <3
- I like that we are all from different countries. My group was ok, but I would have liked that there were more diversity.
- Well selected. I am sorry it's over and I didn't had the opportunity to meet / share with all the others.
- Sofia's presentation was very useful.
- Thanks to participants and their experience. Was this seminar successful for me.
- The activities which others do inspires! Thank you for sharing experience and good emotions!
- Mentioned several times positive characteristics for the team (great, love you all, stimulating etc)

