

CHAPTER 6: RECOMMENDATIONS

GREEN INCLUSION - WIDER LEVEL

Green inclusion is a relatively new topic. Already some main areas of improvement for it were described and suggested by those at the seminar:

1. LOBBYING/ADVOCACY

Young people need a place at the table. All voices need to be heard. Policy discussions need to open up spaces to citizens, including those with fewer opportunities who would otherwise never be heard. Governance should not be about privilege. Those who are more affected by change must be addressed. We should open up the space, the conversation, for those more affected to be included.

Power isn't only held by policy makers. The lobbying of different business sectors by climate activists in recent years, for example, has resulted in some successful changes which are quite visible and well reported in the media. Finding ways to influence other stakeholders with power is important. Approach those who are open-minded for change. Those who are not already open-minded cannot be converted.

On the other side, the personal and social benefit of sustainability needs to be acknowledged, evidenced and shown to more people. Explaining how and why it makes a difference, telling case study stories that evidence it, can help with persuading and getting people 'on board'.



"We need to express our problems and be at the core of the solutions. They need to know what we want and how to address the problems."

Lucia Sanchez, Keynote input.

2. MEASUREMENT AND TRACKING OF POLICIES

Having a baseline measurement, and ways to measure change (indicators) is important. We need to evaluate the results of the policies we have, and how the implementation of the policies affects different people's lives.

Measurement only on economic success, labour market integration, or GDP, is not enough. Development should be measured on other indices, such as the well-being in society. The areas of the Green Comp could be an option for measurement change and impact in *green inclusion* projects.

3. MAPPING

A future research recommendation would be to map the many current and potential strengths of the youth work field in Europe related to *green inclusion* and add to this list. There are also potential cross sector collaboration opportunities related to several of the areas of strength listed in the chapter above.

4. JOINED-UP THINKING

We can't deal with climate change as an isolated issue – the impact of the climate crisis exacerbates inequalities in society. It makes poor people poorer. We aren't facing two separate issues – climate and social. We must find an integrated approach that deals with these issues as a package. Solutions mustn't be one-sided.

5. IMPACT OF CLIMATE CHANGE - LEARNING FROM OTHERS

Climate change and its effects are already impacting millions of people around the world. Those who feel that impact are already living the solutions. They must be recognised as a role model for sustainability and be brought to the discussion so that we can learn from them how to address the changing needs that we have now. We need lenses from different people that have already been affected, to see in the long term the results and ways to address the issues.

Solutions proposed to tackle the causes and the impact must be based on the current feeling of those directly affected. In the West, we will have to adapt. We should learn from the resilience of the global south.



"It's good to acknowledge differences. It's not good to keep things quiet. [Different concerns from different people should be more transparent]. If you want to make a change, you need to understand the fears of the others."

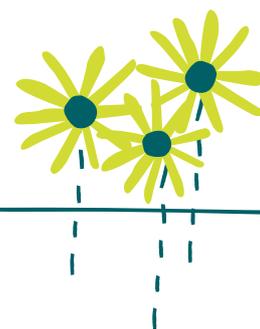
Richard Apeh, Keynote input.

6. GREEN TRANSITION

In the past, we talked about mitigation of climate change impact. Now what is needed is adaptation of millions of people to a new situation. Different competences and a good sense of resilience will be needed for that. Young people will need to be guided to be able to do that. We will need to give capacity for people to adapt. It's not just about adapting and the end target of change itself. The way we change must be done in a sustainable process.

Recommendations for European Programmes

How the Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps could improve for the beneficiaries of the grants to do more and better *green inclusion* projects:



EUROPEAN PROGRAMME BENEFICIARY SUPPORT

- ◆ More information and support for beneficiaries to the European Programmes.
- ◆ Easier access to information for target groups
- ◆ Quicker flow of information in response to queries
- ◆ Simplified guidelines
- ◆ Support workshops for applications and projects.
- ◆ Support to fill in the application form
- ◆ Simplify accessibility in the concrete application form
- ◆ Build trust by more face to face contact and connection

DIGITAL SOLUTIONS FOR EUROPEAN PROGRAMME PROJECTS

- ◆ Develop a platform to search for sustainable logistics (accommodation, work space, food, transport etc)
- ◆ Accessible documentation, with digital systems interconnecting
- ◆ Centralised online administration for applications, travel reimbursements etc that you only have to fill once

PROJECT SUPPORT

- ◆ Concrete workshops to write/implement projects
- ◆ Develop a SALTO for youth exchanges?
- ◆ Promotion about ongoing projects that can be learned from
- ◆ Access to the network of organisations / experts / professionals
- ◆ Clarity on how to translate / approach to grant-writing / harmonization between NA's policies

BUDGETS AND FUNDING

- ◆ More flexible budgets to use funding for different needs
- ◆ Trust that we use the money right
- ◆ More financial sources, adaptable to the real expenses, keeping up with inflation

GREEN INCLUSION



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