

## “Participation of Young People in Youth Information Work”

Vienna, 20-23 April 2006

European Seminar, organised jointly by ERYICA, Eurodesk and EYCA,  
in the framework of the Austrian Presidency of the European Union

<p><b>DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVE OR PROJECT INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTLY IN AN ASPECT OF YOUTH INFORMATION WORK</b> included in Compendium of Projects prepared for the European Seminar</p>
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Ref: **06-04**

Organisation: **CIDJ**

European Affiliation: **ERYICA**

<p>1. <b>Name of Initiative</b> (project, activity, service or product):</p>
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<p><b>04 - BELGIUM (Wallonia): “Une place à prendre”</b></p>
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<p>2. <b>Description of Initiative or Project</b> (<i>please give a short but complete description, including the aim of the initiative or project</i>):</p>
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“Une place à prendre” (“A place to be taken”) is an educational role-play, intended for the young people of the French Community of Belgium, from the age of 15. The CIDJ has created this role-play in collaboration with young people, thanks to a lot of co-operation with schools and youth clubs.

The main aims of this teaching aid are to learn how decisions are made in the field of the local development and how the citizen participation can take place in this matter. We hope that playing to this game will, at least, encourage young people to be more interested in political local decisions and, at best, to become “cre-a(c)tive” citizens.

How does this role-play go?

Each player has to choose a role among 26 characters, all citizens of Friseul, an imaginary town. Invited to a briefing meeting with the Friseul’s mayor (played by the role-play master) at the town hall, they are told that the town council is planning to build a car park, on land that belongs to the town. The realization of this project would cause the removal of a basketball court and a playground (both situated on this land) as well as the demolition of an old factory building which is, at the moment, squatted by some artists.

How will the inhabitants react while learning this?

Nothing is decided yet: the town council has asked the relevant authorities for planning permission. It takes time because, among other things, the town council has to organize a public enquiry about the project. The public inquiry will give the citizens, especially those who live on the land in question, the opportunity to let the authorities know what they really think about it, in favour of the project or not. That is what the players are going to experiment with through the role-play.

**3. Form of Youth Participation in Youth Information Addressed by This Initiative :**

*(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)*

This is:

- a) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in the identification of the information needs of young people in their locality or field of interest**
- b) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in the designing and preparation of information magazines and materials** (for a young public)
- c) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in informing or advising other young people**
- d) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in managing or evaluating youth information centres or other services** (such as a youth card)
- e) An initiative or project that addresses **another aspect of youth participation in youth information work** (please specify the aspect):

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**4. Name and Address of Organisation Responsible for This Initiative :**

Name: CIDJ - Centre d'Information et de Documentation pour Jeunes  
Address: 88 rue Haute, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium

**5. Name and E-mail Address of Person to Contact** (for information about this initiative):

Name: Cécile Girboux and Alain Maron  
E-mail Address: [cecile.girboux@cidj.be](mailto:cecile.girboux@cidj.be), [alain.maron@cidj.be](mailto:alain.maron@cidj.be)

**6. Who Participated in This Initiative ?**

The role-play has been created in a process which has involved young people (coming from different areas of the French Community of Belgium) in all the stages of the project. By means of activities mostly based on improvisation techniques, many groups of teenagers have participated in the first stage of the project. On one hand, it consisted of collecting their images about the different kind of people and personalities you can generally find in any town. On the other hand, another aim was to make a survey about the subjects concerning them in the field of local development.

Our educational team has gathered all these elements into a first version of the role-play, also including the legal procedures of the citizen participation in decisions about the local development. Later, those groups and other new ones tested it out and gave feedback on it. Those several testing sequences have enabled us to improve the role-play and to get it suited to the public as much as possible.

The groups who have taken part in this project were from schools, in youth clubs, community centres and non-formal education centres. The CIDJ team has worked on this project with many partners, including the local information centres of the CIDJ Federation.

The last stage of the project will be to distribute the game box and teaching aids. Our aim is, once again, to involve young people in this stage. Some of the groups who have taken part in the first stages are motivated to promote the role-play - they are interested in taking up the challenge of leading the role-play for their peers. We would like to initiate a co-operation with different groups in the French community in order to set up "peer information".

<p><b>7. What Was the Scope of This Initiative?</b>  <i>(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)</i></p> <p>Local <input type="checkbox"/>                  Regional <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                  National <input type="checkbox"/>                  European <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p><b>8. When Was This Initiative Undertaken</b><i>(please state the date when the activity was started, when it finished, or if it is still continuing):</i></p> <p>This initiative has been undertaken during 2004. The role-play “Une place à prendre” game box will be available at the beginning of March 2006. At the same time, the training program for role-play leaders will start, as well as the collaboration with the local centres and different groups of young people for the promotion and the development of the “peer information” aspects. It is difficult to say when it will be finished because we would like that it never ends... Anyway, as local elections take place in October 2006 in Belgium, we can imagine that till that moment, it will be a very interesting period to promote the role-play.</p>
<p><b>9. What Were the Results Obtained by This Initiative?</b></p> <p>At the moment, the results obtained by this initiative are: the participation of young people in every stage of the project for several months, a set of 12 animations in schools, the presentation of “Une place à prendre” during a youth information workers workshop, the production of the role-play game box, the starting of the training for role-play leaders.</p>
<p><b>10. Report – Publication – Other Product</b> <i>(if there is a report, publication or other “product” relating to this initiative, please state where it can be obtained or consulted, and in which language):</i></p> <p>The following material is available concerning this initiative:  <i>(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)</i></p> <p>Report <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    Publication <input type="checkbox"/>    Other Product (specify) ..... <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Title:</p> <p>1. Expériences novatrices en information des jeunes - <b>Rapport d'évaluation intermédiaire dans le cadre du renouvellement de la demande de subvention</b> - Appel à projet 2005  Projet introduit dans l'Axe 2 (Projets visant à l'appropriation de l'information par les jeunes et/ou à la participation des jeunes dans le travail d'information jeunesse)</p> <p>2. Expériences novatrices en information des jeunes - Appel à projet 2005 - <b>Renouvellement de la demande de subvention</b> / Projet introduit dans l'Axe 2 (Projets visant à l'appropriation de l'information par les jeunes et/ou à la participation des jeunes dans le travail d'information jeunesse)</p> <p>Language(s):                          French  Can be obtained from (address of organisation): CIDJ, rue Haute 88, B-1000 Brussels</p>
<p><b>11. Additional Information:</b></p> <p>We have attached an image of the box containing the “Une place à prendre” game.</p>

This description form has been completed by:

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