

# Learning Cities Commission Action Plan and Budget: 2023

## Action Plan 2023

### Background

UBC Board accepted the establishment of the Learning Cities Commission in its April 2022 meeting. The new Commission has already during its' first half year of activities proved to be a significant tool in improving the joint collaboration of UBC cities in the field of education.

Global pandemic meant huge challenges in all fields of society, including education. Especially the most vulnerable groups have suffered school lock downs and struggled with distance learning. School dropouts and absenteeism present a significant risk of social exclusion, and when they are combined with problems in basic skills, there is an extreme danger of a vicious circle of exclusion. Basic skill deficiencies can also be a major obstacle for adult participation in society and working life. Education is the best way to combat the social exclusion of children, young persons and adults and face the contemporary and future challenges. When we combine here other social and environmental risks, challenges and wicked problems we are facing right now and in the near future, we can be sure that we need new innovations in education to help present and future generations to create solutions and innovations that will save the planet and humanity.

A new Commission on Education can be a significant tool in improving the joint collaboration of UBC cities in their work on these issues. STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) education and other new innovative education practices together with different forms of support and guidance systems, for instance, guide children, young people and adults into the individual educational paths leading to high employability, meaningful life and new innovations. These practices can also offer, for example, learning-by-doing options for those who struggle with regular, theory-oriented classroom study.

The new commission is built on the work done by a former UBC Task Force for Supporting Youth Employment and Well-Being, which original mission was to create an UBC program to prevent youth social exclusion. The Task Force has also produced an extensive follow-up report on the program, carried out several parts of its action plan (dissemination of best practices, joint projects, study visits, workshops and meetings), and organized a UBC Youth Guarantee seminar in Brussels in collaboration with the European Committee of the Regions.

### Objectives

Main objectives of the Commission will be as follows:

- Strengthen the UBC cooperation in the field of education
- Organizing workshops, webinars and study visits
- Planning and implementing BSR Education Conference
- Implementation of the GREEN Steam project (funded by Erasmus+)
- Planning of the new transnational projects (including a search for external funding) and other initiatives

- Collection and dissemination of good practices
- Deepening cooperation with the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Policy Area Education (PA EDU)
- Cooperation with other networks, such as Flagship School to Work, StartNet and Exchanges for All
- Implementation of the Advisory Board (the role of the Advisory Board is to support the Commission in its actions by offering national and theme-related expertise and recommendations)

## Activities

- 2 Commission meetings and study visits
- 2 Advisory Board meetings
- 3-4 webinars (themes: STEAM, Inclusive Education, Basic Skills, Early school leaving, School segregation, Attractiveness of VET), estimation of participants in each webinar: 20-40 (altogether 60-100)
- Planning and implementing BSR Education Conference (September)
- Organising workshops in School to Work seminar (March)
- Starting the implementation of the Green Steam project (funded by Erasmus+)
- Planning of the new transnational projects (including a search for external funding) and other initiatives
- Collection and dissemination of good practices
- Deepening cooperation with the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Policy Area Education (PA EDU)
- Cooperation with other networks, such as Flagship School to Work, StartNet and Exchanges for All
- Reporting
- Planning of the year 2023

## Schedule

### January – June

- Planning and implementation of 2-3 webinars (each webinar will cover 1-2 of the themes mentioned above), estimation of participants in each webinar: 20-40
- Evaluation of the webinar results
- First Commission meeting and study visit
- First Advisory Board meeting
- School to Work seminar (Commission workshop/s)
- Starting the implementation of the Green STEAM project
- Planning of the new transnational projects; including deepening cooperation with the European Union Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Policy Area Education (PA EDU)
- Planning of the BSR Education Conference
- Collection and dissemination of the good practices
- Cooperation with other networks, for example, Flagship School to Work and StartNet

### July – December

- Planning and implementation of 1-2 webinars (each webinar will cover 1-2 of the themes mentioned above), estimation of participants in each webinar: 20-40
- Evaluation of the webinar results
- Second Commission meeting and study visit
- Second Advisory Board meeting
- BSR Education Conference (September)
- Continuing the implementation of the Green STEAM project
- Collection and dissemination of the good practices
- Reporting
- Planning of the year 2023

## Budget 2023

Activity	Description	Sum (€)
Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- coordination, planning and implementation of the TF activities</li><li>- evaluation and reporting</li><li>- communication</li><li>- financial issues</li><li>- web-site development</li></ul>	4.000
Webinar expenses (3-4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- technical support</li><li>- marketing</li><li>- speakers</li></ul>	1.000
Study visit expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- planning</li><li>- marketing and materials</li><li>- participant dinner</li></ul>	3.000
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- UBC and TF meetings (TF Chair)</li><li>- webinar and conference speakers</li></ul>	2.000
BSR Education Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- planning and implementation</li><li>- location and services</li><li>- speakers</li><li>- marketing</li></ul>	5.000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>15.000</b>