

“YoUth PArticipatory budgets empowering young people using big Data: YUPAD” description

The YUPAD project aims to enable young people to understand, practice, and influence participatory budgets across European cities. The project will develop the capacity building of educators and local authorities to implement participatory budgeting and increase civic participation among the youth.

Among the objectives of the project are the following:

- To develop a comprehensive view of already existing grass-root and policy practices in youth participatory budgets combining the research, policy, and youth work practices;
- To create and put in place local policy mechanisms for participatory budgets;
- To develop the capacity of educators to provide quality non-formal educational activities for young people on topics of youth participatory budgets;
- To enable local authorities to put in practice youth participatory budgets using big data while addressing digital transformation;
- To ensure the sustainability of project results by developing the community of practitioners from across Europe.

Target groups

Young people will acquire skills in participatory budgeting and civic engagement.

Educators (youth workers, youth leaders, trainers, teachers) will have the chance to gain knowledge and raise their capacity in working with young people on participatory budgets.

Policymakers will gain awareness of how to involve young people in decision-making through participatory budgeting, with the transferability potential to spread such experience into other spheres of participation on a local, national and international level, using Big Data.

The **community of practice as a whole** will benefit from the creation of a space to share their good practices and experiences, as well as capacity-building activities.

Results

The YUPAD project will (1) prepare a set of participatory budget “recipes”, based on the existing needs analysis of the target groups; (2) create the YUPAD Calculator and

Training Curricula for Educators and Policy Makers based on the good practices showcased in the previous phase; and (3) develop a set of capacity-building activities adapted to the needs of the target groups (youth, educators, local authorities, and community of practice as a whole).

The needs analysis will be synthesised into **10 videos, 2-3 minutes long** each. The results will be used to create a **tailored platform that gathers input from young people on policy priorities**, expected outcomes, and their preferences for concrete projects in a city. A survey will be conducted among young people, and the conclusions will allow for the **piloting and preparation of the capacity-building activities** among educators and local authorities.

Partners

Out of the Box International (Belgium) is the lead organisation and implementing the project with 9 partners: Union of the Baltic Cities (Poland), CESIE (Italy), CSI (Cyprus), SÜDWIND (Austria), RD IKSD (Latvia), OPENS (Serbia), IED (Greece), XWHY and VYTAUTAS MAGNUS University (Lithuania).