

A Partnership for Youth – Statutory Meetings “Towards a Common Advocacy Agenda”

Issue-cutting worksheet No. 1

Name the problem we want to address! (What do we want to solve?)	Break it down to a very specific or very local problem we want to address inside the wider problem.	What is/are the demand(s) we want to make? (What will solve the problem?) Are they specific and measurable?	Who is the person who can address our demand? Is this person accessible?	Is this issue winnable? How do we know? WHAT do we want to win?	Is this issue heartfelt and compelling? Is it connected to the interest(s) of our organisation/group?
<p>Limited space for youth NGOs to be intermediaries connecting youth with policy-making.</p> <p>Which is it a problem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy making processes need to be grounded to social realities. - Big gap between the decision makers and the young people. - Narrowing access of the organisations for the policy reform process. Initiative is taken away from organisations and disregards their role - Young people are unaware of available channels to reach decision makers. - Disconnection between the European and local levels – CSOs mediate. - Lobbying perceived as an activity suitable for subjects that have money. - 	<p>Youngsters think their voice is not heard. Why should they then participate?</p> <p>Inputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disconnection between local and European and between local youth and decision makers at local level - Lacking information for a number of policy making instruments at national and local levels. - It gives access to information from local youth that cannot be found in other ways. - Culture / country / context – important factors that need to be taken into account - Lack of information – participation in public affairs – lack of encouragement to create a culture of believing in change. - Lack of capacity to believe in change through advocacy or civic action 	<p>1. On what evidence was the KA3 envelope reduced? On what evidence were resources moved from organisations to institutions?</p> <p>2. More transparency of information about institutions involved in the policy reform, their exact roles and actions</p> <p>Inputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The extra resources would not solve the problem but it could be a start - Civic education and advocacy in formal education. - Coordination because youth CSOs lack the skills to advocate. - Campaigning/dissemination – transversal capacity - Encouragement by NGOs - Connect with a wider demand with specific reference to the KA3 for a more active role in the elaboration of policies - Not all institutions for policy reform do not work correctly. More transparency on what they want to do. They ask excellent organisation by applicants but they are not effectively structured/ - What are the instruments for ensuring equal participation from different places (especially in view of the EYY)? - Finding ways/spaces for decision makers to listen to youth 	<p>Council of Europe Youth Chapter could raise the issue indirectly</p> <p>Biljana Sirakova EU Youth Coordinator</p> <p>Researchers in EU-funded think tanks working under KA3 about the access to the right information</p> <p>Mariya Gabriel – raise a question to her office</p> <p>Babis Papaioannou - EAC</p> <p>European Youth Forum</p> <p>Michail Moschovakos, EAC</p> <p>MEPs from the CULT committee</p> <p>MEP Georgoulis who supported the network’s previous campaign</p>	<p>Yes! This should be publicly available information in the interest of the public. Benefits overtake the risks.</p> <p>Access to information will enable us to better understand the ways decisions are made so we can give concrete input.</p>	<p>Yes, because a technical issues could raise crucial political demands:</p> <p>Question of transparency (Rule of Law, Democracy) and respect for our work (being practically denied taking initiative on reform processes)</p> <p>Discontinuous with the development of the sector</p> <p>The people who are more ambitious will change sectors.</p> <p>Cost effectiveness of advocacy of organisations in comparison to allocated budget to institutions</p> <p>It is ok not to be heartfelt. Just to bring results.</p> <p>It is connected to the interests of our target groups and secondarily to us.</p>

Next steps

- Go with private connections first
- Priority to building power and then aiming at bigger claims
- Creation of a representative instrument of the wider network, steering group
- Approach network members with both advocacy claims and involve them in the one that resonates more with their needs. Contact organisations that are in need of what we offer (e.g. for the salary campaign, the one that struggles with salary)
- Put together a research plan
- Research visit/call (a few people asking questions – facilitator, note keeper, interviewer)
- Raise the question of the roles of institutions by the end of March 2022
- By mid-January make a call for participants in the steering committee with a concrete role and needs
- By end of February to have the meeting of a steering group.