

The European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy

Key priorities for youth policies answers on
Information



Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth policy, youth research and youth work.

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BELGIUM (Flemish Community), 2006

1 Information services

1.1 Legal framework of the youth information service

Youth information provisions are specified in the Decree (29 March 2002) on Flemish youth policy and Decree of 14 February 2003 for lending support to and providing incentives for municipal, inter-municipal and provincial youth and youth work policy. The youth policy report (2004-2009) treats youth information as a key concern. Specific items in this policy report include: a portal site for youth information, definition of youth information, making an inventory of youth information activities, youth involvement in preparing information, accessibility of information, assessing information, information coordination, information quality, #

1.2 Youth information points

1.2.1 Number of youth information points at national level

2 information points (national level)

1.2.2 Number of youth information points at regional level

108 information points (regional level)

1.3 Are information services free of charge?

| | public | private |
|----------------|--------|---------|
| free of charge | | |

1.4 Youth portals

1.4.1 Number of national youth portals

13 youth portals (national)

1.4.2 Number of regional youth portals

5 youth portals (regional)

1.5 What are the contents of the information delivered

JIPs (youth information centre) and JACs (youth advice centres) deliver information about: culture, youth work, sports, training, tourism, overseas, media, traffic and transport, organisation and participation, society, health, sexuality, relations, stimulants, education, work, accommodation, rights and duties, money, - 18 years, violence and abuse, children's rights, leisure, legal affairs, accommodation, social institutions

2 Access for young people

2.1 Number of young people using the information services

N/I *persons*

2.1.1 Number of young people using the information services by age groups

| | 13-15 | 16-18 | 19-21 | 22-24 | 25-27 | 28-30 |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| number of persons | N/I | N/I | N/I | N/I | N/I | N/I |

2.1.2 Number of young people using the information services by gender

| male | female |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| N/I <i>persons</i> | N/I <i>persons</i> |

2.1.3 Number of young people using the information services by rural-urban

| rural | urban |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| N/I <i>persons</i> | N/I <i>persons</i> |

2.2 Number of young people visiting the national and regional youth portals

N/I *persons*

2.3 Is there any mobile information service?

yes ~~no~~

Description

The 'Condomobiel' gives information on safe sex. The Condomobiel is to be found on music festivals and other happenings.

3 Ensuring quality of information

3.1 Number of universities that offer courses on the delivery of youth information

0 *universities*

3.1.1 Names of universities

None

3.2 Number of training centres specialised in youth information

3

3.3 Number of information points that are following ISO quality standards

N/I

3.4 Number of information points that facilitate career guidance

N/I

3.5 Existing monitoring systems on the quality of information dissemination

Approval conditions for JIP (approval of Delta): the Delta and JIPS information services meet the following criteria: they are up-to-date, objective, accurate, relevant, based on self-help, comprehensive, accessible, clear, attractive.

4 Participation by young people in information

4.1 Number of publications by young people

N/I *publications*

4.1.1 Publications by young people by age groups

| | 13-15 | 16-18 | 19-21 | 22-24 | 25-27 | 28-30 |
|---------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| publications | N/I | N/I | N/I | N/I | N/I | N/I |

4.1.2 Number of publications by young people by gender

| male | female |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| N/I <i>publications</i> | N/I <i>publications</i> |

4.2 List of the existing mechanisms to involve young people in information making

Information disseminated via the JIPs and JACs is prepared by people involved in youth information. In the case of each activity, In Petto cooperates with a working group comprising young people and related figures. The broader youth work sector also has examples of such participatory information activities because young people are naturally closely involved with this.

4.3 List the existing mechanisms to involve young people in dissemination of information

The various JIPs (Youth Information Points) have a large number of young volunteers. In the 'young advisers' projects youngsters between 15 and 19 are offered a short training enabling them to inform, support and help their friends with problems and if necessary refer them to professional support services. In 2003, 330 youngsters followed this training. The 'young advisers' project is supported by the Youth Advice Centres, sometimes in collaboration with a Youth Information Point and/or a municipal Youth Service.

4.4 Recent developments that have been made to include young people in the creation and dissemination of information

In 2005 there was a research project about 'information policy for youth', on demand of the Flemish Government. It consists amongst others of the following topics: - which actors are working on youth information? - how is 'information for children, teenagers and young people' defined? - how are young people included in the creation of information? - is youth information accessible for young people? - what are strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats in the domain of youth information? The report results in some proposals for policy makers to improve youth information and to increase participation of young people. In May 2006 the VIP (Flemish Information Point) was set up. The main tasks of the VIP are: research and development, datamanagement, support, coaching, training and promotion.



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