



International Association of

Educating Cities

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Information
bulletin
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EDUCATING CITIES
FOR A BETTER WORLD



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experience

"Art to Grow", a cultural education proposal from the City of Paris

Paris City Council is very aware that providing an extensive cultural offer is not enough to achieve true cultural democratisation, so in 2009 it began this programme, the aim of which is to bring culture to children and young people through art education, awareness and creation projects.

Paris has a population of nearly 2.2 million. Although the average family socioeconomic situation is favourable, the city is a place of huge contrasts. According to information

from the Family Allowances Fund (CAF), in 2008 20.6 % of Parisian families were living below the minimum pay threshold, most of the poorest families being concentrated in the 18th and 19th districts.

In order to meet the challenge of bringing culture to all children and young people, while prioritising those from the least privileged neighbourhoods, the "Art to Grow" programme was begun. With a view to twinning, an educational centre (school or high school) or a recreational centre establishes a close relationship with a cultural institution in order to work together on an educational project to be developed over one or a number of years, in and out of school hours.

There are currently eleven twinning projects enabling children and young people to come into contact with contemporary art, theatre, photography, cinema, music and so on. They all share the same premises: regular visits to a cultural institution, continued contact with various cultural agents and exhibition of children's creations in a cultural establishment. Some of the ongoing projects are:

"With a view to twinning educational institutions and cultural facilities, the "Art to Grow" programme of the City Council of Paris proposes a number of cultural access projects for youngsters."

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editorial

Nearly 3000 local and regional leaders, gathered in Mexico City from the 17th to the 20th of November for the **3rd World Congress of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)**, to exchange ideas and debate on how to build more inclusive cities, that would enable there to be a better future for everyone, once more reclaiming strong presence and a role in the new global governance.

The attendees' voice was heard through the manifesto "The City of 2030", which brought together 25 recommendations to build a better urban world. The recommendations, which emphasise everybody's "right to the city", are set out under the following headings:

- A democratic, self governing city.
- An inclusive city of participation.
- A city with a vision for its future.
- A liveable city.
- A creative city, a city of culture.
- A secure city, a city of peace.
- A mobile city.
- A city fit for work.
- A city with pride in its public services.
- A city without slums.

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“Art to Grow”, a cultural education proposal from the City of Paris

- “In the Country of Museums”: a recreational centre is twinned with a museum, which invites children to find out about the collections and to make their own creations, to be shown later in the museum itself and at the Petit Palais.

- “Audience School”: the City Theatre, in collaboration with schools and recreational centres, introduces children to drama games and how to put on a play.

- “Orchestra at School” and “Musical Tale”: the Municipal Conservatories collaborate with schools in the musical education of children while the youngest ones discover the history of music and instruments through a musical tale.

- “Group Photos, Class Photos”: guided by professional photographers, children from primary schools and recreational centres take photos which are then exhibited at the Artistic Creation Centre CentQuatre and the Arles Photography Festival.

- “Parisian Festival of School and Extramural Films”: the festival is organised by the Cahiers et Cinéma Association, the City Council and Academy of Paris, and consists of putting on



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films made by children in pre-school, primary and secondary education or from recreational centres, with the help of a teacher and/or an external professional.

An indication of the success of “Art to Grow” programme is the high number of institutions that have joined it during its first year of activity: 244 schools, 36 high schools, 130 recreational centres, 10 municipal museums, the Municipal Contemporary Art Foundation,

one theatre, 2 music groups, 3 district municipal conservatories, 18 cinemas and 5 associations. This success has led the Paris City Council to work on enlarging the municipal cultural offer, keeping young people’s needs and interests in mind.

You can find more detailed information about this experience at the website: www.edcities.org

presentation: Paris City Council,
Culture Department and School affairs Department

contact: Jeanne Bot
e-mail: Jeanne.bot@paris.fr

cities networks

★ Registration Open for the X Meeting of the Spanish Network

The period for registration and call for proposals for the X Meeting of the Spanish Network is open. The meeting will take place in Alcalá de Guadaíra on the 30th and 31st of March and the 1st of April 2011, under the slogan: “Education and City, an indispensable complicity”. For further information, visit: <http://ciudadeseducadoras.ciudadalcala.org>



★ III National Congress of the Mexican Network

The III National Congress of the Mexican Network was held on the 23rd and 24th of

November in Ciudad Victoria (Mexico) under the slogan “History and Identity with the City: people, characters, places and institutions of the city”.

★ Brazilian Network Seminar

Organised by the Brazilian network in collaboration with the Mercocities Thematic Unit of Education, the seminar “City, Education and Civic Behaviour” was held on the 30th of November in Belo Horizonte as part of the XV Mercocities Summit.

★ Central-Europe Delegation Seminar

The Polish city of Katowice, headquarters of the IAEC Central European Delegation, was the venue on the 5th of November for the seminar “Educating Societies - Societies of the Future” in which 75 representatives from ten cities in three countries took part. The presentations

given centred around the theme of education through art.



★ II Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Network

More than 200 representatives from Asian cities took part in the II Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Network, which took place last October 25th in Gunsan City (Republic of Korea). At the meeting, agreement was reached, among other matters, on the action plan for 2010-2012, and on the creation of a Secretariat to support the territorial network.

More information: www.edcities.org

interview

Khalifa Ababacar Sall

Mayor of Dakar, Senegal

What methods of communication does the municipal government use to promote civic participation?

The Municipal Council is open to the citizens. In order to make participative management a reality, which is the true goal of the council team, citizen involvement is encouraged in the production and implementation of local development programmes. Civic participation is channelled through structures close to the citizens such as neighbourhood counsels, youth associations, women's groups and so on.

Could you explain what the 'Information and Communication Caravan' consisted of, and what effect it has had?

Dakar's Information and Communication Caravan was a response as much to my own wishes to build a new city with the citizens' help, as to the whole municipal team's promotion of participative urban management.

The main aim of the Caravan was to provide information about the city of Dakar's services, programmes and projects, so as to get commitment and participation from the citizens.

The results have been very satisfactory. The population has responded well to the municipal authorities' initiative. Firstly, the citizens were able to benefit from free medical visits, meaning that those who need it can get monitored at health centres. Secondly, the population has had the chance to contact the people in charge of various municipal services, to get information about council programmes and projects and about how to get information on matters that affect them personally.

What does the Dakar City Volunteers' project consist of?

Following deliberation by the Municipal Council of March 29th, 2010, this new project by the council team was put into action. The aim is to increase capacity for prevention, intervention and management of the municipal government in the areas of health, road safety, hygiene, the environment, beaches and markets. The volunteer body, divided into a large number of brigades, is under the technical, institutional and operational charge of the Municipal Police.

Dakar has participated in and put on the exhibition "Educating Cities: Local Actions, Global Values" What impact has this had?

The travelling exhibition was the source of a large number of exchanges and contributed to raising awareness of the local values that



council action is based on. What is more, it has made it possible for the population of Dakar to get to know the city's educational potential and, above all, to learn what has been achieved in other Educating Cities. For two weeks, the exhibition was the meeting point for a wide variety of social and professional groups (students, workers, cultural and associative movements), letting the population know that Dakar is a true Educating City.

Awareness raising activities must continue to create a new citizen who is aware of the many challenges that the city faces and, particularly, who is prepared to stand alongside the municipal government in its daily activities. All this shows the importance of the mission of an Educating City.

More information at www.edcities.org



LOCAL GOVERNANCE
AND CIVIL SOCIETY

editorial

- A cleaner, greener, more compact city.
- The city of 2030 - a shared responsibility of governance.

The IAEC, an associate member of UCLG since 2005, joins the Manifesto. Main questions in this document are the object of specific principles of the Charter of Educating Cities, to which over 425 cities across the world are committed. Issues such as: equal opportunity promotion, social cohesion and justice; education in democratic values, peace and international cooperation; encouraging citizen participation; the right to a healthy environment, work and public transport; the need for urban planning that takes account the development of all individuals, to name some, coincide completely with the guidelines of this Declaration. These are issues to which all Educating Cities are committed.

We encourage all the IAEC local governments to continue working rigorously and creatively in the coming year to meet the challenges and make progress in this shared endeavour of creating more educating cities.

"The City of 2030" Manifesto can be read on: www.cities-localgovernments.org

The Secretariat of the IAEC

c/ Avinyó 15, 4th floor
08002 Barcelona (Spain)
Ph. + 34 93 342 77 20
Fax. +34 93 342 77 29
E-mail: bidce@bcn.cat



Exhibition's Opening at Dakar

experience

“Barcelona Open Works”: bringing young people closer to town planning

Young people see the urban space as a space for living together and for social identity. “Open Works” is a Barcelona City Council initiative, run by the Education Institute and the Urban Planning Department, the idea of which is to lead young people towards an understanding of how the urban space is built, from both a material and a social point of view.

Barcelona, capital of Catalonia, is a port city on the Mediterranean coast, with a population of 1,638,103 and covering 101 km², divided into 10 districts and 73 neighbourhoods. With an economy based on the service sector, Barcelona has built a strong image and opened itself up to the world. A clear illustration of this is the “Barcelona - posa’t guapa” (Barcelona, get beautiful) campaign, through which more than 22,000 building restoration operations have been carried out since 1986.

Exploring the architectural space is a prerequisite to any understanding of the urban environment, and to encouraging an attitude of respect for its maintenance. With this objective in mind, the “Open Works” project presents a learning area for pupils in compulsory secondary education about how



Guided Tour to the Born Market

urban-planning projects come into being, how they are documented, how the land is prepared, what machinery is used and the complexity of the underground installations for electricity, gas, phone lines and so on. It also offers the chance to see some major works in situ, as they are being carried out in the city.

Visits programmed by “Open Works” include: the Hub Design Barcelona; the urbanisation of part of the harbour where the marine zoo is to be built; the rebuilding of the old Born market where a 17th and 18th Century archaeological find has been uncovered, which includes the building of a Cultural Centre dealing with the city and its urban history; and the urbanisation of the Guinardó road, a work aimed at improving mobility and connections with this city neighbourhood.

“Through the “Open Works” project, the Barcelona City Council is trying to train young citizens to understand their city more fully, and to participate in it. To achieve this, it organises visits to major works going on in the city.”

Preparation of the visits is a key part of getting across the complexity of the constructions. This is why “Open Works” provides teachers with educational material through which they can approach the construction process and the basic terminology as well as possible problems that may arise during construction work. Similarly, there are activities to do during the visit, so the pupils come into contact with different professionals involved in the work. When the visit has finished, it is recommended that the pupils continue to think about the project, looking, for example, at the function or use of the work they have visited.

In this way, the works become comprehensible for the young people, and they also get to come into contact with architectural spaces that are important to the city, reinforcing their feeling of belonging, and appealing to their civic involvement.



presented by: Barcelona City Council,
Municipal Education Institute and Urban
Planning Department

contact: Ms. Júlia Quintela / Ms. Elena Sierra
e-mail: jquintela@bcn.cat / esierra@bcn.cat
Web: www.bcn.cat/obraoberta (soon available)

did you know that...

★ The next IAEC **Ordinary General Assembly** is to be held in Barcelona on the 18th of March 2011.

★ The IAEC took part in the **3rd World Congress of United Cities and Local Governments** (Mexico City, 17th-20th of November), co-organising the parallel session “Living in the City”.

★ The Travelling Exhibition **Educating Cities: Local Actions, Global Values** has a new website. You can visit it at:
<http://www.edcities-expo.org>

★ From the 1st to the 10th of October, **L’Hospitalet de Llobregat** (Spain) showed the exhibition “Local Actions, Global Values” as part of “Educating City Week”.

the voices of the cities



1. **Through the Street** is a festival supported by the City Council of **Chacao** (Venezuela) and the PlátanoVerde Foundation, the aim of which is to promote public space as a place for citizens to meet and participate, by putting on local and international artists.

2. The City Council of **Gwangju** (Republic of Korea), in order to support healthy aging, has set up the **Bitgoeul Senior Citizen Health Centre**, where senior citizens can do leisure, cultural and sports activities.



3. In order to get to know the architectural, cultural and natural heritage of **Évora** (Portugal), the City Council is promoting **Environmental Routes**, which form a network of over 100 km built on old railways, public roads and the length of the aqueduct.