



"Investing in your future"
Cross-border cooperation programme 2007-2013
Part-financed by the European Union (European Regional Development Fund)



The European Ownership Award: project summaries

Date: 3 December 2013

Location: Nieuwe Veste, Molenstraat 6, 4811 GS Breda

KORTRIJK

1. Neighbourhoods with benches (V-TEX)

The lawn at V-TEX is already a nice place for people to relax and children to play. We would like to expand the possibilities of using the area by providing benches and/or picnic tables. This will provide people with more comfort and gives them the opportunity to organise an enjoyable relaxing picnic with their family. It is also a way for people who don't have a garden to enjoy the outside and to meet like-minded other people.

We were inspired by the ideas that we got from the interviews we held in the neighbourhood (with local people, parents of the local school and the instructors and parents from the local nursery).

We have looked at the different ideas available and have chosen those that seemed most realistic, reach most people and are the most affordable.

We have also discussed our idea with potential project partners, such as "Bolwerk vzw", "Buurtschool V-TEX" and Kinderopvang "De Puzzel".

We want to turn the square next to V-TEX into a more attractive, nicer, cleaner and more flexible area for the neighbourhood by

2. Transformation of a neglected spruce forest into a green meeting area (V-TEX)

The piece of land surrounding Eandis' electrical sub-station has been abandoned for years. Employers once planted pine trees on this piece of land, but many have died from neglect. The area has been neglected, and it has been used as an illegal dumping space. It has also attracted drug addicts as evidence from the many needles that were found. The area is an eyesore to the neighbours and an ugly sight for passers-by.

During the past summer, the undergrowth under the pines and waste was removed. This has made the area look a lot better and most importantly, people are not leaving behind as much litter now.

Our aim is to make the area more attractive, greener and nicer. This is why we want to work on it together with the residents. The public space belongs to and is meant to be used by the residents. The project leaders want to involve as many people as possible to increase the social cohesion for this new green area. The social cohesion will increase if people can work together on the realisation of this project.

The idea is to remove the dead trees, to grow ornamental grasses on a blind wall, to plant a hedge around the electrical sub-station and to provide a few square meters to grow crops, to plant small fruit trees and to plant flowering bushes. Also a composters and a rain butt will be needed, maybe a bench to enjoy the garden and a noticeboard with the new name and information for passers-by.

We will also organise a few events to invite local residents to the garden. This is not only meant to inform people about the new destination of the area, but also to motivate them to help to maintain the garden.

On Tuesday 26 September, the residents were invited for a brainstorming session at the area. Residents were able to meet each other as they all live in the neighbourhood, some of them are even close neighbours. By bringing these people together to improve the area, we also want to increase the social cohesion in the neighbourhood.

1.3. Children's Party Stasegemsestraat (V-TEX)

We would like to organise a party for children once a year in Stasegemsestraat in Kortrijk. The idea is to bring children from a wide range of backgrounds, both social and ethnic, together and to give them the opportunity to play and do sports together.

While the children enjoy playing together, they also bring their parents, members of the family and neighbours together, leading to more interaction and better communication between the residents, no matter their ethnic or religious background. This is how this children's party realises a bigger party, bringing the whole neighbourhood together.

If we win this prize, we will organise a party on Friday 13, Friday 20 or Friday 27 September 2014.



Gemeente Breda



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Evaluation chart KORTRIJK

| | Marks | Neighbourhoods with benches | Transformation of a neglected spruce forest into a green meeting area | Children's Party Stasegemsestraat |
|---|-------------|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| The extent to which the project has a positive influence on the whole neighbourhood (positive effect) | /50 | | | |
| The extent to which the project has a lasting influence on the neighbourhood (duration of the effect) | /20 | | | |
| The extent to which the project reaches people from the neighbourhood (number of people) | /20 | | | |
| Original/creative presentation | /10 | | | |
| total | /100 | | | |

Notes:

4. Educational tour round forgotten knowledge (Lange Munte)

The idea is to provide a permanent route for cycling and walking through the green, car free area of the neighbourhood. The trail can be followed with the street markers on the ground.

This is a way to motivate families, the elderly and disabled people to leave their homes and actively discover their neighbourhood. With this street markers route, we create a red thread through the neighbourhood, connecting people literally and figuratively. The trail is easy to use, so you don't even have to be sporty. The trail is accessible for all, and you can start the trail at every marker, even the one in front of your door.

The trail has an official starting point: at OC Zuid (former Saint Paulus Church). At this starting point, there is a notice board with a map and an indication of the distance of the route. Thanks to the use of icons, drawings or pictures the notice board is understandable for everyone.

Through crowd funding (1 Euro or more), we can involve the residents in this project to become owner (or part owner) of a marker. Residents, local organisations and traders can buy their own marker and personalise it the way they want, following the example of the air single in Rotterdam (see www.architizer.com).

The residents will also decide where this trail should be situated.

Local artists and writers can create something eye-catching along the route and residents can provide an interesting 'did you know' feature along the trail to surprise other residents.

The trail will traverse through green areas, playgrounds, 'slow roads' and special or meaningful buildings and trees, schools and social organisations.

The unknown trail is especially aimed at young families, less mobile and older people. The trail also invites visitors to visit the neighbourhood actively. This is a way to put Lange Munte in a positive light. We hope to reach the media and to promote Kortrijk.

The project ends with the festive opening of the trail. All residents will be invited to walk the trail. The organisation of this event creates the opportunity to work together with local organisations and to organise an accessible multi-cultural event, focusing on encounter.



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BREDA

1. Parkhoeve Breda-Noord

In 2001, the children's farmyard Parkhoeve Breda-Noord (used to be called Kinderboerderij Breda-Noord) was set up by and for residents from Breda-Noord, it also attracts lots of visitors from Geeren-Noord and Geeren-Zuid. The park is used by everyone, young and old alike. Apart from visiting the farmyard, one can also play minigolf or go for a relaxing walk in the four seasons garden.

There are two large terraces where up to 140 people can sit down and relax for a break. In the main building, there's an area (De Hoeve) where people can sit in case of bad weather. Furthermore, there's a playground area, a bookshelf and a corner for children to draw. Unfortunately, the place is outdated and not exactly cosy, but there is no budget to redecorate it. In case of bad weather and during the winter, this could be an ideal place for (grand)parents and (grand)children to spend the afternoon.

If we win this competition, we could use € 5.000 to decorate De Hoeve and make it more cosy and attractive. All residents from Geeren-Noord and Geeren-Zuid (and the surrounding neighbourhoods) could then use and enjoy the new facilities. We could even offer elderly people living in homes a cosy afternoon.

The plan is realistic and easy to execute, because we have our own club of local people who can do the works. Thanks to this club, we can also limit the costs. It is clear that lots and lots of residents from Geeren-Noord and Geeren-Zuid would enjoy the result of this project.

2. Boosting local economy in Geeren

This project consist of 2 parts. Firstly, we want to offer both new and existing entrepreneurs the chance to advertise for free and to promote their services in a larger context.

Especially small companies lack the necessary budget for promotion. This is even the case for semi-commercial organisations such as Parkhoeve Breda-Noord or charitable organisations such as the Women Studios and the Repair Cafés.

Koers is a popular local paper which is read by lots of people from Breda-Noord and Teteringen. Being able to offer 12 half or 6 whole page ads for free to the above mentioned target groups will give them a chance to draw the attention of lots of people. Furthermore, another advantage would be that these companies could count on professional assistance regarding the revision and lay-out of their adverts.

Secondly, we want to assist local traders with the creation of easy websites for the above mentioned target groups. Other interested parties could, as a member of a network of comparable and familiar sites, build on a company's name or brand.

3. Community Garden Hoge Vucht

In Hoge Vucht, there's a piece of waste ground. A few months ago, while cycling past, I saw a small community garden in the middle of urban wilderness with beautiful yellow sunflowers that welcome you. After I required, I discovered that a unique project is being executed there and I decided to join the team.

The ground at Bernard de Wildestraat will be waste land possibly for the next few years. Partially because of the crisis, the construction companies don't have plans to build there in the near future.

Rather than leaving the space to run to waste and pollute, we want to change this piece of land into a beautiful, flowering community garden with a natural playground, a community garden where people can pick flowers and a community garden for crops.

In May 2013, the works started after approval by the owners of the land. Last summer, a group of about 10 residents started to use the first square meters for the growing of various crops and flowers. During the works on the field, we are regularly approached by passers-by who are interested in what we are doing. Working outside increases the chances of meeting people, people we would otherwise never meet. Especially children pass by and show interest in working in the garden.

Since the area is situated on the outskirts of Geeren-Noord, it's a meeting point for people from both neighbourhoods. From the community garden in Noord, we can see the community house in the South, where we hold our meetings.

In the first half of 2014 we would like to expand the community garden and finish it off with the natural playground and the community garden for picking flowers.



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Evaluation chart BREDA

| | Marks | Parkhoeve Breda-Noord | Boosting local economy in Geeren | Community Garden Hoge Vucht |
|---|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| The extent to which the project has a positive influence on the whole neighbourhood (positive effect) | /50 | | | |
| The extent to which the project has a lasting influence on the neighbourhood (duration of the effect) | /20 | | | |
| The extent to which the project reaches people from the neighbourhood (number of people) | /20 | | | |
| Original/creative presentation | /10 | | | |
| total | /100 | | | |

Notes:



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ANTWERP

1. The soundtrack of our square

We believe that singing together connects people, especially when they have worked together on its conception. Therefore, we would like to create a community song with various people from the immediate neighbourhood of De Coninckplein. The lyrics of the song will be hung on a banner above the square for all to learn. The song (written and produced by the residents) will be recorded by the group and published on You Tube, Facebook and Sound Cloud. It will be sung and/or played whenever there's an event in the square.

The project will consist of the following phases:

The organisation of several workshops: 4 workshops with children from 2 different schools, 2 workshops with elderly people living in a home, 2 workshops at community house deBuurt

2 sessions of recording

Musical performance and singing of the song at different events in the square with various local music and dance groups (Café Kiebooms' house bands, Tibetan musicians, fanfare, ...)

This project can be seen as enriching our cultural heritage, which can be passed on from generation to generation. It increases the social cohesion and it puts the square in a positive light, namely a place to encounter and connected and a playground for children. The banner with the lyrics of the song can be seen as nice decoration for the square.

We are convinced that the whole neighbourhood will be proud of this song.

2. Multicultural Expo "A" Coninckplein

Different cultures organise a small festival together in the square.

The cultures of different countries are exhibited in the square. We organise a market with different stalls, each stall will demonstrate the habits of its country by wearing traditional clothing and offering local products.

Afterwards, each culture group will do a performance. This might be a dance, a piece of music, ...

We will decorate the square with flags, adapted light and live music.

Thanks to this project, the whole neighbourhood will discover a variety of different cultures in the same moment.



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Evaluation chart ANTWERP

| | Marks | The soundtrack of our square | Multicultural Expo "A" Coninckplein |
|---|-------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| The extent to which the project has a positive influence on the whole neighbourhood (positive effect) | /50 | | |
| The extent to which the project has a lasting influence on the neighbourhood (duration of the effect) | /20 | | |
| The extent to which the project reaches people from the neighbourhood (number of people) | /20 | | |
| Original/creative presentation | /10 | | |
| total | /100 | | |

Notes:



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MEDWAY

1. Playground equipment at Luton Infants School and Nursery

The project will transform an otherwise concrete jungle playground into something to benefit children between the ages of 2 and 7. A lot of the children live in flats and areas where they have no access to gardens and so would benefit hugely by teaching them balance, sharing, sensory and lots of other skills.

The project will install playground equipment into the very concrete area of the school playground. The project will enhance the area with a wooden track with beams, stepping stones etc. onto a rubber play surface. This would certainly contribute to the learning of the children.

The school plan to run after school clubs which will be open to the wider community. The children have been asked what they wanted to see in their playground and the equipment chosen is what they want to see in their playground.

2. Physical Folk

The project will develop a cohesive multi-cultural community through coaching collective creativity locally to enable the communication of community stories created by local residents, performed by locals to the local community.

The project will run creative workshops in Luton and the surrounding areas of All Saints, White Road estate, Luton Arches and Chatham town centre in public libraries and other public community centres/venues. These workshops will culminate in a public performance in Luton Millennium Green and local schools.

Engaging local people in a positive and fun way through the arts in their local community may stimulate them to have more local cooperation and take action to make other improvements to their local area and beyond. We would therefore use the arts to be a catalyst for further community engagement in other events and activities.

3. Annexe Football Club Ladies and Youth Teams

Annexe Football Club is a club for young people in Chatham Central, All Saints and the Luton area. The project 'Annexe FC Ladies and Youth teams' is to extend the benefits of an established men's team to a wider population and deliver a community event of football for female players aged 15+ and for young people aged 13 – 15.

There will be regular training weekly and regular games from other teams in the area. We will encourage the participants to develop their own healthy lifestyles. We will encourage alcohol and drug awareness courses through the club. We will promote the importance of regular exercise.

The wider community will benefit as young people will have a regular activity to engage in and we hope this will relieve some of the pressures on parents in the community. It will encourage the community to engage in healthy exercise routines as well as having fun.



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Evaluation chart MEDWAY

| | Marks | Playground equipment at Luton Infants School and Nursery | Physical Folk | Annexe Football Club Ladies and Youth Teams |
|---|-------------|--|---------------|---|
| The extent to which the project has a positive influence on the whole neighbourhood (positive effect) | /50 | | | |
| The extent to which the project has a lasting influence on the neighbourhood (duration of the effect) | /20 | | | |
| The extent to which the project reaches people from the neighbourhood (number of people) | /20 | | | |
| Original/creative presentation | /10 | | | |
| totaal | /100 | | | |

Notes:



Gemeente Breda



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