

Local Safety Audits For Children and Youths

Theme	Developing a toolkit which integrates the needs of children (0-11 years old) and youths of both sexes (12-18 years old) to improve their safety in cities
Funding programme	European Commission - DG Justice - DAPHNE 2011-2012
Deadline	29th March 2012 RSVP before 15th February 2012
Background	<p>"Child welfare is the ultimate indicator of well-being in a safe city." The safety of children and youths and their protection from all forms of violence are a priority in every city.</p> <p>Although much has been done to make cities safer, children and youths are too often the victims of violence and the dangers of the city. In addition, children and youths have a sense of security in the city that is not identical to that of adults. They feel danger in situations where adults might not, and vice versa.</p> <p>To increase the safety of children and youths as well as their protection from violence in the city, we must take better account of their needs, integrate their specific perceptions and include them in efforts to improve urban safety and better community life. "The local safety audits for children and youths" could help overcome this obstacle and make efforts to protect children and young people in the city more efficient.</p> <p>The idea of this participatory approach would allow children to become figures in the city. It should be part of other methods of "civic education" like the "youth councils" that exist in many European cities. The local safety audits for children and youths could give a new dimension to their efforts to make cities safer.</p> <p>The methodology of safety audits should be adapted to children and youths, perhaps by distinguishing these two segments of the public (<15 and 15-18 years old) and by taking into account gender differences, as young girls are particularly affected by violence in public spaces.</p>
Aims	<p>The project proposes to develop a comprehensive methodology for the establishment of local safety audits by adapting the methodology of safety audits to children (<11 years old) and youths (12-18 years old) and to assist cities in their implementation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of a methodology with partner cities and European experts, in order to build the tools for local safety audits for children and youth. • The implementation of this methodology in pilot cities

<p>Results</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Through the implementation of local safety audits for children and youths based on safety audits tailored to these segments of the public • By developing a methodological guide for local safety audits for children and youths.
<p>Methodology</p>	<p>The project will use the methodology of local safety audits, including the methodology of safety audits by modifying it with cities and European experts to tackle the question of child and youth safety in cities.</p> <p>The local safety audit for children and youths will then be implemented in six European cities.</p> <p>The participating cities will benefit from technical assistance which includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • training in the methodology of safety audits • a survey (focus group) on the points of view of children and youths regarding safety, with gender differentiation; • an analysis of the present systems of child and youth protection; • the establishing of a safety audit for children and youths of both sexes • monitoring recommendations stemming from the participation of children and youths, in institutional, educational and cultural establishments, in order to capitalise on the knowledge gained. • mapping security issues as seen by children and youths of both sexes <p>Consequently, each city will :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • receive training for these audits, including in survey methods and safety audits; • be accompanied by the European Forum, Psytel and European experts, as well as by peers in the various phases of the process; • benefit from an analysis of its experience and its system at the end of the project by Psytel. <p>Following the experiences of the pilot cities, the project partners will develop and publish a toolkit that establishes the "local safety audits for children and youths" based on safety audits.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>The total cost of the project: around €700,000 EU funding: €600 000 (80% = max) Contribution per partner: to be determined</p>
<p>Project length</p>	<p>24 months</p>
<p>Start date</p>	<p>June 2012</p>
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<p>Potential partners:</p>	<p>The cities in the European Forum (in particular the member cities in the network "Cities for children" and those who signed UNICEF's "Child friendly city" initiative Psytel</p>