

SOCIAL INCLUSION - OUT OF THE BOX

NGO INFORMATION

Organisation name: NEXES Interculturals de Joves per Europa

Country: Spain

Contact person: Marta Piszczek

Website: www.nexescat.org

Other links you would like to share (facebook, videos...)

<https://es-es.facebook.com/nexescat>

Logo of organization



NGO Short description

Nexes is a youth organization created in Barcelona in 1999. It has the aim of working locally and globally in order to promote intercultural learning, boost empowerment through personal and professional growth (including development of professional and social competences), stimulate active participation - especially among young people - in the local community development, raise political awareness, promote democracy, human rights, international cooperation, culture of peace, equality of opportunities and combating social exclusion. The objective is to lay the foundations for a sustainable social transformation that sees diversity as an enriching resource.

The team of Nexes is formed by youth workers that came together because of their shared values, dreams and interests in the dialogue between cultures and in the action for social justice.

Our mottos are: *When two cultures meet, the adventure starts* and *Be the change you want to see in the world*. Nexes implements various educational projects focusing on youth in cooperation with partners from different regions of the world.

Field of work (which are the main domains your organizations works on):

- Empowerment of young people and youth leaders
- Intercultural learning
- Active participation

- Social inclusion
- Culture of Peace
- Local training and counselling on international youth mobility as a tool for a personal and professional development

How do you work with youth? (methodology used and examples of activities)

Nexes develops projects and activities linking local and international actions and partners, in the frame of non-formal education.

-We develop intercultural and empowerment experiences for young people and adults, including: youth cultural exchanges, volunteering projects, internships and professional training projects, youth initiatives, trainings for professionals in the youth field, adult education, and local cultural and leisure activities.

-We organize informative and guidance sessions, workshops, training courses, and counselling on international mobility.

-We promote international justice through cooperation between countries in the North and in the South: we organize educational stays, trainings, capacity building projects, awareness raising activities, photographic exhibitions and documentary videos.

Structure of organization:

Nexes has a circular organisational structure: the active members support the organization as volunteers, the team of Nexes carries on/leads the association's activities and the board contributes with ideas, proposals and technical support.

The members' Assembly elects the board, composed by 5 people, which afterwards chooses inside itself the president, the treasurer and the secretary.

The board meets every 2-3 months with a team representative. The team informs the board about the projects' development and the organisation's life. The board provides and receives feedback.

The team takes the main daily decisions about the organisation and implementation of the projects.

Number of workers in organization:

8

Number of volunteers in organization:

1 EVS volunteer, 1 person in practice, 8 local volunteers cooperating in different projects/activities

Social Inclusion - OUT OF THE BOX

What is the project Social Inclusion - OUT OF THE BOX for your organization? (in one sentence)

A great opportunity for learning, networking, experiencing diversity and shaping inspiring and creative tools for social inclusion all together!

What you/your organisation expect to learn/gain in this project?

- To foster cooperation with all the partners involved in the project and build up in the long run a vibrant thematic network
- Know better different realities participating in the project and the people directly involved
- Get inspired and learn new ways of working with social inclusion, in order to be more creative and more inclusive
- Get new and fresh motivation for daily youth work

Current situation regarding Inclusion in your country

a) which is the understanding/definition of Inclusion in your environment (social and political)?

From our perspective, the biggest concern in Spain towards social inclusion is migrant youngsters or youngsters that have migrant parents. But the issue obviously is more complex than only migrants. Because of the crisis that started in 2007, many families lost their work and with that many lost their houses. Some youngsters have no access to schooling, because they are not capable of paying the fee. It is significant, according to the statistics, that youngsters in Spain emancipate being between 25 and 30 years old, which in the rest of Europe is much earlier (often because of their economical situation).

b) who are in your country included and excluded youth?

Excluded:

- Migrants, or children of migrant parents
- Youngsters with special needs
- Youngsters with economical obstacles (exclusion from education, housing, diets)
- Roma communities

Included :

- Homosexuals (at least in Catalonia)

c) which are the social groups that have a stronger need for Inclusion in your area? Why are them in this situation?

Nexes works often as a link between local (public) organisations working directly with excluded youngsters and local as well as international projects which give the youngsters opportunities for non-formal learning.

From this experience we see that the groups who need inclusion actions are: migrants, or children of migrant parents, youngsters with special needs, youngsters with economical obstacles.

d) What is done for social inclusion in your country?

Every town/city has public facilities. The services, because of the economical crises are reduced. The centres have specialists such as: youth workers in youth centres, youth information points with people who inform and program workshops for capacity development. Integration projects in schools, special programs, adapting spaces. There are many private and public entities that work hard to make inclusion policies a reality.