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**« Approach and practices in the taking in charge of street minors and training programmes for street educators »**

The basics of this programme resides in the continuity and the will of the Child 's Voice to improve the taking in charge of street children, with the experience gained in previous Leonardo programmes 2002/2003 (« Exchange programme for an adapted training on the protection of children in danger » in collaboration with France, Romania and Italy) and Leonardo 2003/2004 (on the « Exchange of practices for the elaboration of a methodology and common criteria for the training concerning the taking in charge of non-accompanied children in France, Romania, and Germany).

This new programme, proposed by the Child's Voice in partnership with Italy (Save the Children) and Poland (GPAS), pretends to analyse the real life of street children or children living in the street, isolated or non- isolated minors, foreigners or not, who live on a disadvantaged situation, minors who get into prostitution, delinquency, drogues, etc...

The street children or children living in the street are also children who live on the threshold of poverty, maintain difficult relationships with their family and institutions, including school. They live in the street or in squats, which become spaces of survival, submitted to delinquency strategies that penalise their future adult life.

This programme, with a duration of two years, wishes to know and understand the practices and programmes established by the partners associations in their country to prevent the risks of a social and economical marginalisation and the deviancy of street children.

**Principal objectives of the programme:**

To analyse the practices utilised by professionals to approach and take in charge of the minors in the street.

**Specifics objectives of the programme:**

- To share the practices and professional trainings that exist in the partner countries.
- To confront themselves to the practices of partner countries to be able to better develop the actions and programmes of prevention and intervention in France.
- To know the programmes taken in place by the partner associations
- To be in contact with the reality of the problem of street children in the partners country.
- To meet the different professionals in contact with street children (street educator, social assistant, peer educator, psychologist, etc ...)



- To collect information and good practices on the professional trainings (in France, Poland, and Italy) on the approach and the taking in charge of street children.
- To give news answers to the problem of street children.
- To implement the development of transnational cooperation between professionals in order to keep the benefits of these exchanges.

### **Who benefits from the programme :**

This programme is addressed to professionals working with street children, who meet them in the places where they live to establish a contact with them and to suggest positives solutions.

The ones who benefit from this programme are professionals working during several years on studied topics and who establish the actions to prevent the risks of social and economical marginalisation and deviancy of theses minors.

This group of professionals will be constituted by social actors of the childhood protection (social assistants, educators, street educator, peer educator, ...), who were selected among the associations working with the Child's Voice (Arc75, GPAS, Parada Hors la rue).

### **Displacement of the Beneficiaries :**

The project foresees the displacement of a first group of French experts to Poland and of a second group to Italy.

The two missions in the partners countries have the aim to:

- Show the reality of the phenomenon of street children, as well as the national, social context in which professionals work.
- Clarify the practical experiences.
- Get to know the established programmes in both countries and the function of peer educators.
- Get to know the carried out actions by the partner associations and get in contact with the street educators in Poland and Italy to understand their practices.
- Confront two different realities: one of a country in the south and the other one in the north of Europe, which belong to the European Union. Italy since 1958 and Poland since 2004.

### **Stages of the programme :**

- Establishment of relationships with the partner associations and sending of documents.
- Contact between the different beneficiaries and referents of the partner associations through emails and exchange of information concerning the practices and programmes on street children.
- Displacement of the first group conformed by 6 French experts for one week in Warsaw (May/June 2008).
- Displacement of the second group conformed by 6 French experts for one week in Rome (October/November 2008).
- Several meetings between the beneficiaries are foreseen : at the beginning of the programme, before and after the visits.
- Report of the visits done by the beneficiaries.
- Diffusion of the results of the programme.

