EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Innovation Booklet

5 new innovative ideas for your next event!
Over the course of a weekend, a group of future project-coordinators came together in the International Office in Berlin to discuss how EYP could further innovate its practices in order to become a more aware, sustainable and connected network. Through many discussions, alumni talks as well as workshops, the team put together top 5 practices which they have personally implemented, or are currently planning to implement in EYP projects.

We have structured and presented these innovations for any and all future Head Organisers & Project Managers to implement in any scale of event. You may simply use the index above to pick the scale of your session and read the details of how a given concept could be implemented.

These innovations are by no means an exhaustive list of ways we could innovate in EYP, but merely the beginning of a very long list. Feel free to further develop these ideas or use them as inspiration to develop your own fresh ideas to make EYP more inclusive and sustainable!

For more innovative ideas, please refer to the Innovations Tracker (2017).
SESSION VISION DEVELOPMENT


Abstract

A ‘session vision’ is, usually developed by the Leadership team of an event, which serves as a guideline for cooperation, stating the most important values that the participants would want to conduct themselves by. When implemented thoroughly, it counts on a high level of commitment from all teams and ensures a better experience to all participants, since it helps unite them through common goals. A complete vision outlines common goals, describes the measures to achieve the latter and suggests a method for concept implementation. Such a document may include a plan for impact assessment to leave room for future improvements.

How

- Identify the goal - what is the aim of your vision?
  - Take inspiration from pre-existing concepts, as for example the sustainable development goals (SDGs). Harmonise your goals to make a greater impact on an external audience. Most enterprises have committed to achieving the SDGs and in their eyes, you want to be doing the job for them.
  - Present your vision as the means to incentivise behavioural change, collecting young opinions, fostering active citizens, give young people the tools and knowledge to succeed, the motivation to be part of something greater, become part of a movement by contributing in your unique way. make it a concrete and substantial concept;
- Delegate tasks, doling out responsibility will give everyone ownership and make the vision easier to implement;
- Define a working schedule, developing a method for implementation;
- Set deadlines for the conception of tasks;
- Get feedback through the process of implementation, adapting and adjusting accordingly

Examples

Pre-session:

- Having a starting discussion. At this stage, the ideas can be vague and all over the place, complementing each other, a concept can come from any member of the leadership team;
- A session vision should not be too specific: it should be very feasible and promote a certain value or action that can be easily implemented.
- Narrowing down goals, drafting a vision, creating a written document stating the vision;

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- Discussing measures within leadership, then presenting them to Officials and collecting feedback to implement the vision;
- Creating team or inter-team working groups who can focus on different moments or measures that can serve in implementing the vision; Appointing someone from the Leadership in charge of the WG
- Drafting the session programme according to the measures that would ideally be implemented

**At-the-session:**
- Restating goals and measures during CJO/CMO/CAT;
- Integrating feedback session on measures during Buddy Groups or team meetings;
- Reaching conclusions during the leadership meeting and adapting accordingly;
- Closure to assess the impact of measures

**Post-session:**
- Creating a feedback mechanism - a survey, Skype session, report;
- Sharing your achievements with the network (video/report/infographic)

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### Evaluation

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Short-Term</th>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>If there is a connection with the vision, participants will feel more united with each other and connected to the event;</td>
<td>Since it is not something palpable, but indeed a concept, the vision can be lost along the way due to work/other priorities;</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>An implementable vision and effort towards it will create a bigger impact on its participants</td>
<td>If participants do not relate to the vision or feel that it’s theirs, they can feel disconnected to the session or demotivated</td>
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| Long-Term | Can be taken from the session, having an impact outside the particular session and also outside EYP | A vision can end up being restrictive, creating obstacles for yourself and your team - losing flexibility |
Things to Consider

Regional Sessions
It is important to remember to be realistic. Take into account the time available and the size of the event, so to draft a program that is challenging and encourages proactiveness, but is still enjoyable.

National Sessions
You will have the chance to invest in connections with participants. Do not forget that at a national-scale event you can create moments that can impact participants individually. Yet, remember that you may have the time to implement ambitious ideas, but not dispose of the financial resources or venues for their realisation. There is more of a scope to actually get involved with the vision and theme when you organise an event.

International Sessions (IF’s, IS’es)
International events may become dispersive due to the number of participants. You might witness a loss of focus due to the length of the event and the lack of one-to-one contact. Bear in mind the need to communicate and adjust your vision to the International Office in the case of International Sessions. Have a concrete programme for vision implementation even if sponsors and partners will give you confirmation at a late stage of the organisation process. Thus it is particularly important to act promptly and not procrastinate, letting the long amount of time allocated to pre-session preparation lull you into a false security. However, keep in mind that large-scale events naturally have a great impact and that they attract high internal and external interest, from participants, local communities, sponsors and partners.

What If’s

- What if you do not have enough funding?
  If there is not enough funding for a CAT or a leadership weekend, implement the same concept onto a weekend and do the discussions and work via Skype. This was successfully implemented by the leadership of Valencia IS.

  If there is not enough funding for the implementation of a measure, then rescale the activity to make it doable. For example, reduce the number of materials involved, ask teachers or delegates for their help with supplies. Alternatively, you can take the concept of the measure and try to modify it into something that will not require funding or materials.
- **What if there is not enough time? Or the delegates are too tired for an innovative activity?**
  Try to shorten the time allocated to the activity. If you feel like the measure will not be successful, reschedule or let it go. It is important to keep in mind quality over quantity.

- **What if the Officials do not feel committed to the vision?**
  Address the problem openly. Discuss the issue within the leadership and ask the Officials as a whole for feedback. Reach a new consensus on the goals that you want to achieve as a group. Do not be afraid to take a step back and proceed with a new selection of the measures you want to implement.

  To prevent this problem a pre-session vision can be made as part of the application process for Officials. You may set it as one of the criteria for applying, by including a question where applicants are asked to describe their understanding of the vision, and how they plan to help build on it.

- **What if someone misses a deadline?**
  Do not ignore it. Be proactive. Get in contact with the person responsible for a task and ask if there are any issues you should be aware of. Speaking with the person on a personal-level is often one of the best approaches into understanding why they might be missing a deadline and therefore allowing you as a leader to better adjust the given situation to theirs. Offer your help in order to avoid pressure or tensions. If this approach does not work, rethink the allocation of tasks. To prevent such scenarios, consider setting “fake” deadlines, to give yourselves buffer time.
**Involving Local Communities**

Local communities for a global impact

**Abstract**

When an EYP event takes place, it can be easy to forget that a pre-existing community lives within the region where it is taking place. Local people are affected by the issues discussed and debated at EYP events every year, yet it takes place unbeknownst to them. Their experiences, opinions and perspectives are underutilized resources within EYP and involving local communities can help promote a more tolerant and informed environment at EYP sessions. Engaging with local communities helps burst the EYP bubble by showing communities that the work we do can speak to them. This is a mutually beneficial relationship as it empowers the locals with the knowledge that the issues they face are being discussed and considered by people who attend events in their region and also helps spread awareness of EYP to the wider community. If done correctly it can also give local people a platform for the voices of local people to be heard alongside those who participate in EYP.

**How**

- Define the local groups to whom you want to reach out for which elements of the session. Which people can have relevant input? Align this with the vision you have for your session.
- Have an organiser dedicated to ensuring local participation and engagement at various aspects of the event through communication with local authorities and groups such as schools, interest groups and local representatives.
- Showcase local traditions and culture in the programme (e.g. during a city tour, Eurovillage or Euroconcert)
- Get local stakeholders involved in the debates by:
  - seeking local input in the topic creation process
  - invite local people as speakers or topic experts
- Show active citizenship to the locals by:
  - Having a committee of local youths to join aspects of the session such as Committee Work and General Assembly
  - Opening up the General Assembly to the wider public
  - Making media output that is accessible for or in cooperation with the local community
- Get input from the local community on session topics
  - Have the committees conduct social studies on the streets to collect information for the topic resolutions
Examples

- Trondheim & Roros 2017: Sami people presented their culture at Eurovillage and Euroconcert. The same people share their experiences as experts for a topic on cultural minorities.
- Mechelen 2018: Open a call for local youths to participate in the committee work and join the GA debates.
- Mechelen 2018: The topics for the session we chosen according to the needs of local communities so that the debates during the session and the academic output would be relevant for local stakeholders. During the session the delegates went out on the streets to conduct local studies, gathering input for the resolutions.
- Oslo 2019: All resolutions were concluded with ‘Grassroot goals’. These were 2-3 actions that could easily be implemented by the session participants on a local level.
- IF Styria 2019: The organising team cooperated with a local organisation dedicated to Styrian culture for various aspects of the organising process such as finding venues and organising transport which was very helpful since the local organisation knew the area far better.

Evaluation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short-Term</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Engages local communities with the session.</td>
<td>- Can be hard to find locals willing to participate.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Makes more realistic resolutions.</td>
<td>- Can be a time-consuming process to source and secure relevant local people.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Creates a more open minded and two-sided approach in discussions.</td>
<td>- Lack of local EYP knowledge.</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Increased cultural impact of the locality through interaction with the locals.</td>
<td>- Including ‘outsiders’ in the session could bring up potential welfare concerns for participants.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Long-Term</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Increased visibility of EYP in local communities.</td>
<td>- Local people do not understand the mission of EYP - inability to peak the interest of locals in an area could stop a</td>
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European Youth Parliament

<table>
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<tr>
<th>partnerships.</th>
<th>future session from doing the same.</th>
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<tr>
<td>● Better cultural awareness of participants.</td>
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Things to Consider

Regional Sessions

- Regional sessions have strict time constraints, so it is difficult to allocate time to extra activities involving non-participants;
- Involving local actors can be the first step in seeking sponsorship for the session;
- Delegates are often new to EYP so there is less of a barrier between delegates and local people regarding knowledge of EYP;
- If the session is in a smaller city, it is easier to promote it to the local community.

National Sessions

- National sessions often have more time available for activities outside of the committee room;
- The competitive aspect of a national session might mean delegates are less willing to engage with the locals;
- Level of understanding varies between participants and local people;
- Locals will be more approachable for participants if they return to the session multiple times and participate in multiple session elements;
- Participants will not necessarily know the local area as they are coming from their respective regional sessions.

International Sessions (IF’s, IS’s)

- The size and scale of an International event could create an intimidating or abstract atmosphere for those not involved in EYP to immerse themselves in;
- Having more human resources for the organisational process will make it easier to engage with the local community and reach out to all geographical areas and components of society (for example minority groups).
- Given that there is more time for pre-session academic preparations with the committees, delegates can already engage with their own local community for the preparations on their topic.
- Even though there’s more freedom to implement new things, don’t go too far away from the session elements.
What If’s

- **What if only very few or no locals show up to join the committee work or GA?**
  Chairpersons could plan a time slot for their committees to go into the streets and do polls/social studies to get the popular opinion on their topic. To prevent this, it might be a good idea to invite local communities which are within a certain framework (unions, organisations, NGO’s)

- **What if there turns out to be a big language barrier for the locals?**
  If locals are participating in the session elements, this can be checked through registration forms. If it is then logistically and financially possible, try to get interpreters to these parts of the session. You can alternatively ask officials who speak the language to be interpreters. You can also have native speaking organisers stand by. These can be organisers who are specifically tasked with local involvement.

- **What if there turns out to be a big knowledge barrier for locals who are joining the Committee Work or General Assembly**
  Organise a preparatory module for the locals to give them an insight on the topic. These modules can be ‘chaired’ by members off the organising or media team.
  It might also help to distribute copies of the topic overviews in order to allow locals to have an insight to the topics.

- **What if the local ‘expert’ has a very radical opinion?**
  Brief these experts about the purpose of the discussions before they get in contact with the delegates.
  Get the delegates in contact with different stakeholders regarding their topics over the course of the session.

- **What if the local authorities are not willing to cooperate?**
  Aim at cooperation with other local organisations, NGOs, start-ups…
  If you want local people to not only watch, but participate in GA, time will have to be allocated to teach them about GA procedure. As well as this, time during GA will have to be allocated to hear their concerns.
PROJECT FOLLOW-UP

If you don’t have something to show, did it even happen?

Abstract

After a Session it is important to acknowledge the impact it had, not only on its participants but also the relevant external parties. One important aspect to consider, is to also communicate the impact of the Session beyond the EYP and thus giving purpose to the academic work. Often, the impact can be lost if not realised and structurally approached, it is therefore not only important to communicate this but also ensure that this knowledge is passed down.

Not only is it important to measure participants’ satisfaction for the purpose of acknowledging how qualitable the session was, but it also serves as a way to engage them in the organisation by making them a part of the process. Follow up nurtures the motivation of all the attendees of the event. Furthermore, it helps establish the ground for future synergies with partners that have collaborated with the event.

○ Measuring satisfaction. Evaluating the Session and impact.
○ Engaging delegates. Delegate retention. Nurturing motivation of all participants of the session.
○ Engaging partners. Keeping partners.

How

- Send out a personalized compilation of relevant Session Content - parts of the resolution booklet, infographics and other media output, etc - to local partners, institutional authorities, sponsors and other agents with only the content they might be interested in.
- Schedule meetings with relevant external partners - such as committee sponsors, Government bodies, NGOs relevant in the field - after the event to both keep the contact and assess the impact of the session.
- Providing following sessions with the content of the feedback forms from precedent events.
- Having feedback forms for specific events and sending them right after the event, even if the session is not over yet so that people have a more recent input and don’t feel overwhelmed with lots of forms post-session.
- Apart from sending out feedback forms, communicating with delegates after the session explaining to them how to stay involved in the organisation and keeping them updated on network.
- Creating a session Facebook group with the participants where updates on future events as well as news from the network keep being posted after the session. Sending videos, opportunity to sign up...
to newsletter.

- Attending and actively participating in events organised by external partners' and other institutions.
- Organising post-session small scale events such as reunions, meetups, happy hours etc.
- Engaging participants after the session by making use of social media features such as Instagram polls to keep them involved, tagging them in photos, making throwback to posts and using the session hashtags.
- Tagging partners and sponsors in Social Media publications is also a very straight-forward yet effective way of gaining visibility and working on engagement, which might lead to long-term partnerships.
- Thanking partners after the session and on relevant dates, for example by sending them Christmas cards, etc. Inviting them future events, sending them a personalised report with the topics discussed, how many schools and participants have been reached, etc. More publications.
- Maintain communication with the officials team after the session through the communication channels used during the session in order to share experiences on how the session has made an impact in their personal and professional lives, or even during their EYP career.
- Reports on specific aspects of session i.e. how many bottles were returned to provider, carbon footprint, how much waste was generated, etc.

Examples

- IS Trondheim: shared resolutions with partners and received feedback on them. Were used for promotional things on Facebook etc.
- ASK: Organisers, participants and moderators were invited the First National Channel of Ukraine to discuss the results of the event in a 1-hour program.
Evaluation

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<th>Advantages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short-Term</strong></td>
<td>● People are motivated after the event to continue engaging in EYP events as well as other parts of the organisation.</td>
<td>● Saturation from an excess of output</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Personal development - giving feedback to the people involved in the project will allow them to do better next time.</td>
<td>● It needs to be done within a reasonable time after the session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long-Term</strong></td>
<td>● Delegate retention</td>
<td>● Misrepresentation of the event could lead to future generations not fully understanding the extent of a certain concept which was implemented - leading them to think it was not a good idea.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>● Keeping officials motivated</td>
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<td></td>
<td>● Potential long-term partnerships</td>
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</table>

**Things to Consider**

**Regional Sessions**
- Officials not that motivated to not give post-session input due to the small scale nature of the session
- Impact of the follow-up difficult to communicate throughout the network
- Delegates may not be able to give an insightful opinion on the feedback forms due to their lack of previous EYP experiences they can compare the session to

**National Sessions**
- Delegates who haven’t been selected might lose motivation
- Larger scope to use project follow up to engage with sponsors and stakeholders regarding the outcomes of the event.
International Sessions (IF’s, IS’es)

- Scale of event - a lot of participants, time consuming to communicate to all
- Need to use the standard IO feedback form
- Timeframe - the session is long so have to consider what is relevant for feedback forms, feedback form would be super long - would be better to have smaller ones throughout the session
- Keep in mind the importance of the follow up with sponsors since the weight of the events could lead to long lasting partnerships or equally if not done correctly, could have a negative impact on any potential future cooperation
- Sponsors may want a particular follow up focused on only one group and not every participant of the event

What If’s

- The work is not done?
  Project managers/NC (or the IO in cases of IS’es) ensures further coordination among team leaders to make sure the reports/take-aways are completed.
  - Participants don’t fill the feedback forms
    Creating a timeline for the feedback forms which take into consideration the time they are sent out and the number of reminders made, will help in ensuring that input is given. Asking Chairs to help remind their delegates as well as team leaders to remind their team members is also a helpful addition to email and Slack reminders.
  - People don’t show up to reunion/small scale events?
    Best way to decide whether a reunion will be fit would be to see if participants are willing/enthusiastic. If it is the case that many people want such event to take place, having the organisation of this coming from them - giving them initiative in organising the event - might engage more people and ensure that participants from all teams attend.
**Sustainability Events**

Sustainable cohesion within EYP – giving participants tools to turn thoughts into action.

**Abstract**

At the present time, sustainability has been a very popular topic discussed all around the EYP Network and mentioned in a lot of events through the past few years. Having noted this increase in focus on sustainability issues in the European Youth Parliament it is fundamental that our discussions are turned into actual practical ways of implementing these ideas as an organisation and as individuals. EYP should be a pioneer in action and promoting an improvement in sustainability.

One way to tackle this issue is to create Sustainability Events within EYP projects. These small-scale events would be a more constructive approach to raising awareness where participants could get tools to lead a more sustainable lifestyle. Taking into consideration the Sustainable Development Goals, it is of great importance that our organisation is setting the example for the European youth.

**How**

- **Sustainability Fairs**
  - Stakeholders from both private and public sectors sharing their knowledge and perspective;
  - Creating an open space for communication between companies and individuals;
  - Sharing sustainable products and options with participants.
- **Swap markets where participants can give their old belongings a new purpose, such as:**
  - Clothing;
  - Books;
- **Sponsored sustainable meals from:**
  - Vegetarian/vegan restaurants and caterers;
  - Collected dumpster dived food\(^1\)
  - Locally produced goods.
- **Panel discussions with people from different backgrounds sharing their experience in sustainability and answering questions;**

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\(^1\) Dumpster dived food is that which is collected for instance from bakeries, restaurants and supermarkets which was going to be thrown out. You can arrange the pickup of leftover food with local commerces at the end of the day, for example.
• Sustainability Workshops
  ○ Interactive way to come up with new solutions together
• Organisers specifically in charge of the environmental aspects of the session, such as: waste management, meals, events...

Examples

• Oslo 2019 NSC: held a Sustainability Village with a clothing swap market for participants and workshop on sustainable packaging. The session was a part of the European Green Capital 2019 programme, giving them the chance to be visible in the local community. This visibility lead to partnerships with other Green Capital initiatives, providing the Sustainable Village with sponsored sustainable food and drinks.

• Trondheim IS 2017 was branded with an eco-label as a sustainable event, where they needed to bind themselves to always try to find sustainable solutions to all aspects of the session. Whilst doing the assessment of all aspects of the session they rethought all aspects from SHE to recycling, to disposal of recycling and transport, as well as pre-session communication etc.

• IF Mechelen 2018: organised a Sustainability Market during one of the lunches. The meal consisted of vegan food from local businesses and salads from local farms. Furthermore, a package-free store from the city came to present and sell their products. To raise awareness about the impact our meals usually have, there were placards with harsh facts: e.g. the amount of water that was saved by having a vegan meal, etc…

• Laax IS has produced a guide on sustainability which can be found on the members platform.

Evaluation

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Advantages</th>
<th>Disadvantages</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short-Term</strong></td>
<td>• Dynamic session programme</td>
<td>• Take time from other aspects of the session.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Showing participants how to implement sustainable practices easily</td>
<td>• Could take away from the actual theme of the Session</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Inspiration and practical tips to adapt a more sustainable lifestyle.</td>
<td>• Sceptical participants might not feel</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Give a lasting impact in</td>
<td>• If implemented at multiple sessions could become monotonous - in terms of specific activities.</td>
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European Youth Parliament
participants' lives.

- Create a “new norm” of how we do and see events.
- Save the environment.

## Things to Consider

### Regional Sessions

- Shorter pre-session period;
- Programme and time constraints that do not allow the insertion of another element in the session schedule;
- Difficulties with getting large scale sponsors and funding
- More opportunities to work more local companies and organisations;

### National Sessions

- Long distance travel for participants can make it difficult to bring things, for example to a swap market or sustainability fair;
- National sessions need to balance or combine sustainable events with cultural events.
- Optimal amount of participants for various types of sustainability events.

### International Sessions (IF’s, IS’es)

- The long pre-session allows for a carefully planned and perfected session moment;
- Amount of participants could make it difficult for everyone to be comfortable during one event
- Long distance travel for participants can make it difficult to bring things, for example to a swap market or sustainability fair;
- The scale of the event might be hard to get local producers to participate and be able to provide to such a big session;
- Being aware of the cultural differences of so many participants, it might be hard to promote and incentivise a sustainable lifestyle to such a varied audience.

## What If’s

- What if participants are not interested in sustainability?
Make the activity more interactive and engaging with, for example, concepts such as gamification; Introduce the vision of the sustainable event in advance, and make sure it is clearly communicated throughout the session. Project managers/NC (or the IO in cases of IS'es) ensures further coordination among team leaders to make sure the reports/take-aways are completed.

- **What if participants do not bring anything for the Swap market?**
  The Orga team should have a contingency plan, like having a stockpile of items ready. Open the event for locals and other external actors.

- **What if you do not have enough funding for sustainable food?**
  You can make it into a teambuilding activity by making participants cooking their own dinner.
FIELD/STUDY TRIPS, EXPERTS & WORKSHOPS

Better understanding our topics through experiencing the real world

Abstract

EYP is an educational organisation, which conducts its activities within the framework of non-formal education. In the scope of non-formal education, it is very important to ensure high academic quality of session output, as well as the academic experience of the participants. For this reason, it can be an effective practice to add more interaction between participants and professional representatives from different spheres.

This can be reached via having expert talks, thematic workshops, study trips and other methods. The interaction of participants with experts can be very valuable when it comes to their closer interaction with them, and obtaining more profound knowledge about a specific sphere. Additionally, study trips can become more holistic experience in terms of getting practical knowledge, sparking more interest about the topic and visiting places that they may not otherwise visit. At the end, this practice will help students to come up with higher academic quality resolutions in short term, and will make them generally more knowledgeable about the sphere for their future career in the long term.

How

- Expert talks on specific committee topics or the overall session theme
- Workshops on specific topics or the overall session theme
- Field/Study trips related to specific topics or overall session theme
- Expert involvement in the academic preparation period
- Use of social media to facilitate expert involvement (skypes, video tutorials...)
- Regulated expert involvement during General Assembly

Examples

- Morning Lectures at ASK 2014: Agora on Security Kyiv by EYP-Ukraine: having non-compulsory lectures during free time open for any delegates or citizens from outside the Session to attend.
- Study trip to Central Bank of Armenia, during FIND 2017 National Selection Conference of EYP Armenia concentrating on financial awareness and security.
## Evaluation

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<tr>
<td><strong>Short-Term</strong></td>
<td>• Higher academic quality of session output</td>
<td>• Might take time from the committee work/cultural program</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• More interactive experience for participants</td>
<td>• Might cause disproportion in the activities among committees</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Long-Term</strong></td>
<td>• Profound knowledge about the sphere among participants</td>
<td>• If poorly planned and executed it might negatively impact on possible future cooperation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Possible guidance for the selection of future profession</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Positive reflection on the reputation of EYP as an educational organization</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Possible cooperation with different public and private organisations, companies and institutions</td>
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## Things to Consider

### Regional Sessions

- Questionable usefulness for this type of input at Regional Sessions, as delegates are already overwhelmed with the very packed program. Nonetheless, study trips, experts talks and workshops would be useful for the officials team and could maybe be included in the officials’ program.

- Language barriers might occur, in case expert don’t speak English

- Limited time - is it reasonable to do during the time?

- Inviting experts from partners early on can improve their engagement and ensure long term partnerships for bigger sessions afterwards which can result in a full on longer cooperation.

- Limited Resources (when it comes to study trips)
• Lack of infrastructure in rural areas (might consider online tools)

National Sessions
• Consider that not all committees might have the opportunity to go for study trips, depending on the specifics of the session and topics.

International Sessions (IF’s, IS’es)
• Bigger scale events with more participants, need careful planning and execution;
• Long-lasting sessions usually have more flexible schedules, making study trips more feasible
• Bigger visibility, stronger impact on organisation image

What If’s
• If not planned correctly, might be overwhelming for delegates;
• If not properly coordinated, the expert might provide unrelated content.