

Child citizens project



Család, GYERMEK, IFJÚSÁG
KÖZHASZNÚ EGYESÜLET
FAMILY CHILD YOUTH ASSOCIATION



Eurochild
Putting children at
the heart of Europe



03.07.2024,



Jóker

JÓZSEFVÁROS
Benne vagy?

Aims: empowering children, new child participatory mechanisms from a very young age, fostering active and innovative ways of participation in public decision making, capacity building, university curricula



Characteristics of Józsefváros and the foundations

- App. 64 000 inhabitants, 9000 children, (12%) , 9,7% of those under 14 years of age are severely deprived, 8% are living with disabilities
- The Child Friendly District Concept approved in 2023, based on six pillars, which are closely interlinked: clean and green, liveable and playful, safe and sustainable, engaging and active, thriving and smart, healthy and active neighbourhoods for the children of Józsefváros. Because they deserve the best.

The EU-funded Inclusive Kindergartens project (2021-23) intended

- to tackle social disadvantage and develop a system of that can effectively prepare children for school and develop their competences.
- strengthen the inclusion and integration by encouraging middle-class families not to place children into kindergartens in less diverse environments. (Partners Hungary and Rosa Parks Foundation) – SozialMarie Award, 2023



Milestones of the first year – May, 2023 – May 2024

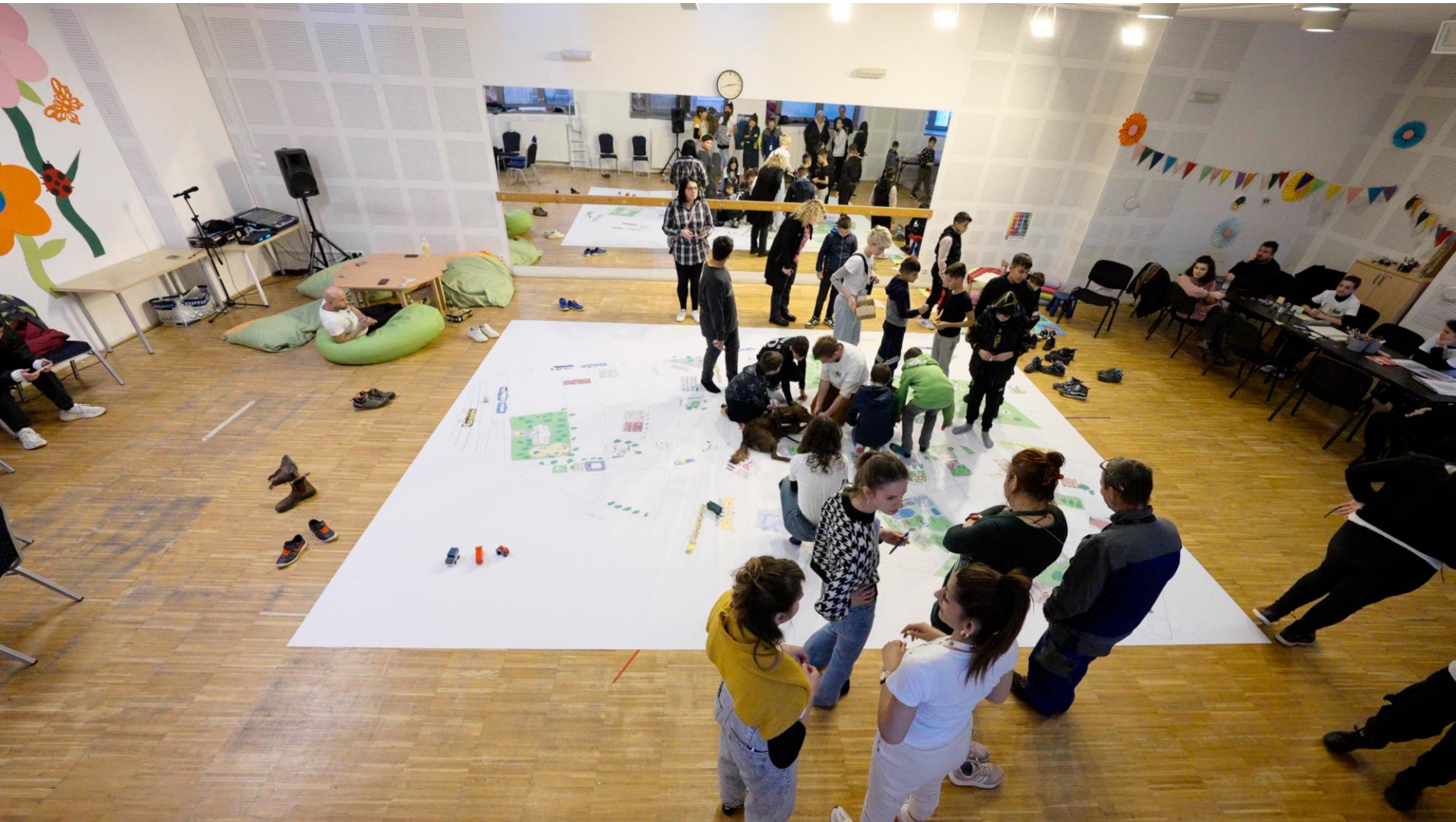
- Let's meet at the square initiative
- Eurochild training for more than 30 professionals of the district – co-facilitated by the Hungarian Member of Eurochild Children's Council
- Wide range of train-the-trainers' workshops by CSAGYI and Partners Hungary for a diverse group of local professionals - reaching more than 80 professionals in the district
- Creative innovative tool involving children from design to implementation – a large, 25 sqm district map
- A safeguarding framework about portraying children in media respecting their rights
- Creating synergies and allies between other projects and NGOs

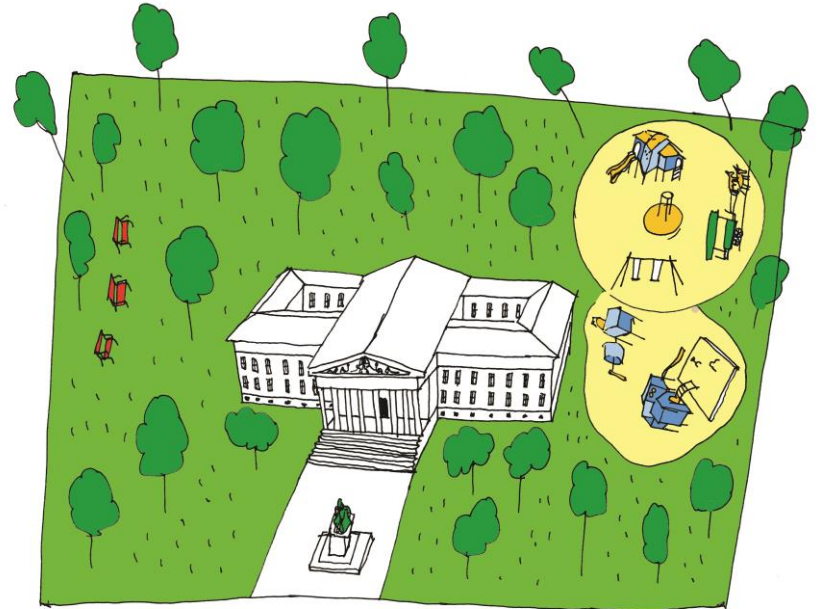


Let's meet at the square!



The 25 sqm district map based on ideas and drawings of elementary school students from the district





Children know what they want



Challenges

- As traditionally the approach to children has been paternalistic and patronising, and many adults have not believed in their own opportunities to exercise their rights, it is a long way to go....
- High fluctuation, shortage of professionals, low prestige and remuneration, unfavourable legal and professional, political environment nationally
- Limited capacities, time and resources to ensure the optimum conditions for child participation in many instances – large groups, shortage of staff and support for integrated groups



Challenges – what is your experience?



Next steps

- Expanding the *Let's meet at the square!* initiative
- Train – the – trainers – Family conferencing, Project pedagogy
- Child – and youth participatory roundtable
- Child participatory budgeting
- Child and youth forums



Child citizens project online

- Information for children and young people on the webpage of the municipality:

<https://jozsefvaros.hu/fiataloknak/>

- JóKer Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/jokerjozsefvaros>

- Eurochild webpage and newsletters:

<https://www.eurochild.org/initiative/child-citizens-project-creating-meaningful-local-child-participation-in-hungary/>



Thank you for your participation!

Mária Herczog & Fanni Mátyók



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