Empowering non-formal learning for individual and social level transformation – perspectives and models from Cork, Ireland

Concurrent sessions 2
Session 2.2

Denis Barrett, Coordinator, Cork Learning City, Ireland
Cork Learning City

A model based on a Partnership of Equals
Population: 210,000

UNESCO Learning City Award
2015

Hosts of the 3rd UNESCO
International Learning Cities
Conference 2017

The Learning City CHALLENGE:

- No Blueprint
- Complexity
- Organisations are Silos
- How to maintain motivation and continue to innovate
- No one organisation can do it alone
Goal 7: Cork as a city of learning

- Where access to learning is available for all levels and to all ages in the city.
- Where the city is recognised nationally and internationally as a centre of learning and research.
- Involving all stakeholders in lifelong learning:
  Formal, non formal, and informal

Creating a **Culture of Learning in Cork**
Cork Learning City Structure 2021

- Early Childhood Studies
- Primary & Secondary Education
- Tertiary / Further Education & Training
- Higher Education Providers & Learners
- Community Education
- Youth & Active Retired
- Inclusive Learning
- Private Sector
JOINT Lifelong Learning Projects
Cork Lifelong Learning Festival

A week of activities that spin out into a year of possibilities

- Workshops, lectures, classes, walks open days, expos & demonstrations.
- Celebrating Learning
- Formal, non formal & informal
- All events are free
- Engaging 10,000+ citizens

Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork City
Developing Cork as a More Equitable and Inclusive Learning City

Applying the UNESCO Learning City Vision

Cork ~ a learning city ~ all ways & for all

Cork Lifelong Learning Festival Memories 2018
Collaboration key
Community led public engagement
Local Coordinating groups,
  • all stakeholders and residents
Agenda shaped by regular local meetings.
Adopted approach of Cork Lifelong Learning Festival.
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON LEARNING between Four lead partner organisations, With 2 strategic partners in Cork city

The four organisations have joined with others to form a Steering Group to advance these aspirations:
- Learning for all;
- Promoting Inclusion,
- Prosperity and Sustainability.

This initiative builds on Cork City Council’s formal adoption of the UNESCO Beijing Declaration on Building Learning Cities in 2014.

Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork City
LEARNING NEIGHBOURHOODS
Our Learners, Communities

Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork City
Cork Learning City Structure 2021

- Early Childhood Studies
- Primary & Secondary Education
- Tertiary / Further Education & Training
- Higher Education Providers & Learners
- Community Education
- Youth & Active Retired
- Inclusive Learning
- Private Sector
UNESCO

Cork Call to Action on Learning Cities

Calling on cities worldwide to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals through developing their cities as:

- Green & Healthy Learning Cities,
- Equitable and Inclusive Learning Cities,
- Supporting decent work and entrep
Cork City Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2016 – 2021

Pure Cork
An Action Plan For The City

Cork Learning City ~ all ways & for all
2018
Cork Learning City Day launched with first Learning Workplaces event

2018
Irish Network of Learning Cities formed following Seminar in Cork City Hall.

2019
European and North American Network of Learning Cities formed in Cork following SDG Conference

2019
Cork Learning City Lead partners deliver keynote addresses at UNESCO Global Conferences in HQ in Paris, and Medellin, Colombia

2020
Cork Hosts Global UNESCO Webinar on Learning for Health and Well-being, co-ordinated with Osan, Korea

2021
Cork Access Network formed to deliver on SDG 4 and tackle educational disadvantage
A series of sessions bringing together leaders from cross sectoral partners to explore and apply each Global Goal in Cork over the next decade.

Goal 4 Quality Education and Lifelong Learning for All, hosted by CETB and CIT.
To deliver on the SDG’s in Cork will require new thinking
‘Citizens must be empowered to anticipate and tackle constantly changing social, environmental and economic challenges.’ UN 2016
MITIGATING AGAINST EDUCATIONAL DISADVANTAGE

WEBINAR
TUE 15th DECEMBER
11am – 1pm

Cork Learning City ~ All Ways & For All
Webinar
8th Oct 2021 @ 11am - 1pm

New Department - New Opportunities in Further Education, Higher Education, Access and Progression

Keynote Speaker: Dr Drew Koch
President, Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education, North Carolina, USA
‘Unjust Design in Education Systems’

Including Access themed inputs from the Department of Further and Higher Education and local best practice

This is a FREE Event but spaces are limited
Register today via email: catherine_sheahan@corkcity.ie
Global UNESCO Learning City Networks
Mr. Denis Barrett
Cork Learning City
Info@corklearningcity.ie

Thank You

www.corklearningcity.ie