MedNet

Innovation, Exchange and Networking for a New Leading Class in the Mediterranean Area

WHO WE ARE

MedNet is a project financed by the Tuscany Region and led by Oxfam Italia that aims at reinforcing the awareness and the work of youth associations of the Northern and Southern Mediterranean area that want to play an active role in understanding the ongoing processes of cultural, economic, political and social change.

By engaging youth associations in a path of online dialogue and mobility, MedNet has involved so far around 150 young people and 38 youth associations from Italy, France, Spain, Greece, Portugal, Palestine, Lebanon, Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Israel.

HOW WE ACT

We explore different topics and challenges in order to find shared and common solutions for the challenges that all young people of the Mediterranean area face daily. We do it by following Oxfam’s Learn-Think-Act process: first we make researches, collect data and support experts in setting up Dossiers, then we reflect on the topics by taking part in online activities and finally we meet and... plan the actions that we want to take!

METHODOLOGY

All the activities that we set up are participatory, dynamic, empowering, and structured according to the non-formal education training methods and tools, creating synergies among experts, trainers and participants with reflecting groups, implementation and action planning.

OXFAM EDU

Oxfam Edu (http://edu.oxfam.it/) is Oxfam Italia’s social educational platform that
already hosts many different global and active citizenship education projects. Please, feel at ease: Oxfam Edu want to be your living room, the keyboard of your computer should be your sofa and the atmosphere should just be the one in which you feel valorized, listened to and appreciated. It is a special house: as well as change comes from within, we will be bringing change into society worldwide.

**OBJECTIVES**

MedNet wants:

- **To reach common goals**: Understanding the goals of each other and setup a new strategy to reach them better and faster by sharing our different ideas and experiences and going beyond our differences;

- **To make the whole Med area a small village** reducing distances among North and South while still respecting diversity;

- **To advocate as a network** in order to achieve our goals;

- **To work towards a common awareness of rights** inside the organizations we represent and in our countries. By sharing experiences and points of view with organizations and groups that share our vision of human rights;

- **To encourage the move from awareness of rights to action, participation and engagement.** We will do this by working at different levels: community, national and international;

- **To expose human rights violation and put pressure on governments** about human rights. We will do this by working at different levels: community, national and international;

- **To promote equal opportunities** between the different organizations in the network;

- **To foster active citizenship and youth participation.** In addition, the network will create a good environment for growing to reach changes in society and having a big impact on decision makers.

- **To develop new forms of social business.** By keeping in touch with people and knowledge and sharing experiences (also on non-formal economy) (Ex. Set up a new form of trade based on skills and abilities: youth artisan network; youth farmer; youth artist, such as etsy.com

**WHERE WE ARE NOW**

During 2014, MedNet has:

- Given birth to several preparatory **non-formal education activities on Oxfam Edu**, Oxfam Italia’s social educational platform ([http://edu.oxfam.it](http://edu.oxfam.it)), containing food-for-thoughts and aiming at stimulating participants’ reflections and exchange;

- Produced **4 Dossiers** on: **Youth Labour Market in the Mediterranean Area**; **Youth**
Participation in Politics; Youth mobility, Exchange, Study and Training opportunities through the Mediterranean Area; Gender Equality and Equal opportunities for all. All the Dossiers can be found on edu.oxfam.it, Teaching Resources and have been written by Impact Hub Firenze (Italy), DPNA (Development for People and Nature – Lebanon), Rondine Cittadella della Pace (Italy) and SocioLab (Italy), analyzing the 4 issues from different points of view and collecting data from the whole Euro-Mediterranean area;

- organized a 2-day meeting in San Rossore (Pisa) on the 23rd and 24th of September called “Mednet: Networking for the Inclusion of Young People of the Mediterranean Basin” where 100 young people met decision-makers and discussed the above-mentioned main topics both in 4 different workshops run by national and international experts and in round table meetings (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2m7I0v_z95c)

JOIN US!

If you need more information or are willing to join us, do not hesitate to contact us: claudia.maffei@oxfam.it