



### **THE ISSUE**

Between 50 and 85% of our Federal Laws are determined by the European Institutions, and still we find most “active citizens” on neighbourhood or city level. To have a real influence on the way their neighbourhood or city are organised, these active people should better get organised internationally. For instance by sharing experience, information and strategies or by formulating shared objectives.

### **THE CHALLENGE**

We are convinced that next to the Europe of Lisbon agreements and European trade unions, there is a place [and even a need] for a European civil society: collaboration between those people who work on a very local level on issues that are influenced internationally, and therefore should also be addressed internationally.

For several years now City Mine(d) has been wondering how that could happen. Meanwhile groups from 13 European cities -from Istanbul to London and from Göteborg to Barcelona- have become contaminated by the same question. City Mine(d)'s new year's resolution for 2010 is to settle the matter once and for all with all those concerned.

### **THE QUESTION**

How can local actions benefit from international connections?

### **THE APPROACH**

At a time when a belgian takes office as the first president of Europe, and at the start of the European Year of struggle poverty and social exclusion, we want to put our question on the European agenda.

We start on January 29 in the grand hall of KVS [with our 13 partners present] and finish on November 19/20/21 in the also grand Flagey with a workshop for 150 participants among whom 75 invitees from abroad. During the whole year we take symbolic, technological, mercantile and artistic action to give weight to our network.

### **INVITATION**

on friday 29 january at 20:00 everyone is invited to the KVS

- “Active citizens” from Brussels, London, Barcelona Rouen, Göteborg, Ljubljana, Istanbul, Copenhagen, Vienna, Berlin, Sarajevo, Milan and Zürich get together to strategise and build local-international bridges;
- Prof Dr Erik Swyngedouw, expert in “Globalisation”, gives his perspective on things;
- you can see, try and discuss projects;
- you can meet the 13 partners *live*;
- you can be the first to answer the call for ideas, and get a chance to have the seat of honour in Flagey in November 2010

Friday 29/01/2010 :: 20:00 :: KVS Bol :: free entry  
English spoken :: translated to Dutch and French

**AND WHAT HAPPENS NEXT ? ...**

In February we bake Wafels for the European Commission to hear directly from them what they are really good at, sponsored by the Waffle Bank, Investment bank

May is Festival month, with 1 weekend market, one weekend international tandems, and one weekend “carte blanche” for all sustainable innovators and networkers to show what they are capable of..

In September the 13 partners meet again in Ljubljana, Slovenië.

From 19 to 21 November the whole circus takes over Flagey for 2 days, starting with a official opening session, followed by worksessions to turn the responses for the call for ideas into action. Contributors of ideas [locals] from all over Europe meet in worksessions and plan next steps. And on the third day we rest.

City Mine(d) is an international network of individuals and collectives involved with city and local action. By means of arts projects, campaigns and debate, City Mine(d) puts current themes from neighbourhood to the European level on the public and political agenda and offers a framework in which experience, contacts and information can be shared. Urban and economic development are not only achieved through official agencies, but also small, temporary and informal initiatives of you and me contribute to a positive dynamic.

<http://www.citymined.org>

## **CONTACT**

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