



Atlantic Social Lab

Cooperation for the promotion of Social Innovation

ATLANTIC SOCIAL LAB STUDY VISIT REPORT - STUDY VISITS HELD IN GIJÓN

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A. GENERAL INFORMATION	
Date	14 – 06 – 2022
Location:	Gijón
Name	Gijón Youth Office
Legal Status	Public Administration
Contact Details	Address: Escuela de Comercio - C/ Francisco Tomás y Valiente, 1 Phone: 985 181 000 Email: oij@gijon.es

B. SHORT DESCRIPTION	
Objectives <i>(identify the main goals of the project and target groups addressed)</i>	The Gijón Youth Office is a space dedicated to young people aged up to 30, a free public service whose main objective is to provide a wide range of services that aim to share information, specialised advice, training, infrastructures and activities for young people in the municipality. This space aims to turn the young people of Gijón into active citizens, immersed in the culture of their territory and to be a comfortable, relatable and reference space for its target public.
Methodology <i>(identify the methodological principles, mode of operation and level of intervention)</i>	It mobilises a multidisciplinary methodology, due to the diversity of offers and the infrastructures themselves are decorated in such a way as to be attractive. Being a public space, all services are free and focused on innovation, culture, and training. All activities carried out at the centre must be open to the community that wants to participate. To encourage the use of space and participation in activities, the centre offers scholarships to help with studies, divulges job offers, grants, and provides professional and other forms of counselling.

C. MAIN FINDINGS	
Social Needs <i>(identify the social needs the organisation intends to fill)</i>	The centre seeks to meet the following social needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of young people; - Promotion of active and informed citizenship; - Public participation; - Widespread access to counselling; - Reduction of social inequalities; - Encouraging of study and innovation practices; - Incentive to free association; - Professional insertion and youth employment.
Social Innovative Practices <i>(identify)</i>	Its practices are divided into 5 areas:

<p><i>the main social innovative practices developed and the extent to which the work developed responds to those needs)</i></p>	<p>Specialised consultancies: Legal, Educational, Sexual and Youth Guarantee, with the intention of offering free personalised advice with professionals specialised in each area.</p> <p>Programmes aimed at educational centres: vocational guidance, workshops for educational centres, debate leagues;</p> <p>Programmes for young people and youth associations: a room with a capacity for up to 15 people which serves as a space for meetings, working groups, or debates, a room with a capacity for up to 40 people for courses, workshops, concerts, etc., a study room, and grants for youth associations.</p> <p>Training programs for young people and youth mediators: resources and tools for working with young people and teenagers, specific training on study techniques, task organization, preparation for exams, anxiety control, among others, and promotion of meetings between young people, associations and political officials.</p> <p>Social innovation centre: focused on training on virtual reality and programming, on information and contact with technological devices and co-creation of public services.</p>
<p>Collaboration and Networks (<i>identify the main connections of the organisation</i>)</p>	<p>The centre works on a collaborative basis, encouraging interaction with all citizens of the municipality, with companies, non-profit organizations, and public administration.</p>

<p>D. MAIN CONSTRAINTS TO SUCCESS</p>	
<p>Challenges and Barriers (<i>identify the main problems that the organisation faces: financial resources, human resources, networks, innovative environment...</i>)</p>	<p>The reported difficulties are directly related to the pandemic. On the one hand, because it compromised the commitment to collaboration on which they want to build their activities. On the other hand, because it has been difficult to attract people to events and activities in the current post-pandemic context. Another of the difficulty mentioned is related to the social innovation centre. This dimension is considered of great importance but still needs to be reinforced.</p>

<p>E. CONCLUSIONS</p>	
<p>Key Concluding Lines</p>	<p>This office has proved to be important for the young people of the municipality, functioning as a guiding guide for their academic and professional path. One of the groups that has particularly enjoyed the facilities are some youth associations that have had a relevant trajectory in the cultural scene of Gijón.</p>

	<p>A space focused and designed for young people, with free activities ranging from training to counselling, is an important tool for minimizing social inequalities, social exclusion and increasing the capacity for informed intervention, contributing to active citizenship.</p>
<p>Other information considered relevant</p>	<p>Nothing relevant to add.</p>

Study Visit Photos



Figure 1 – Building decoration by young local artists

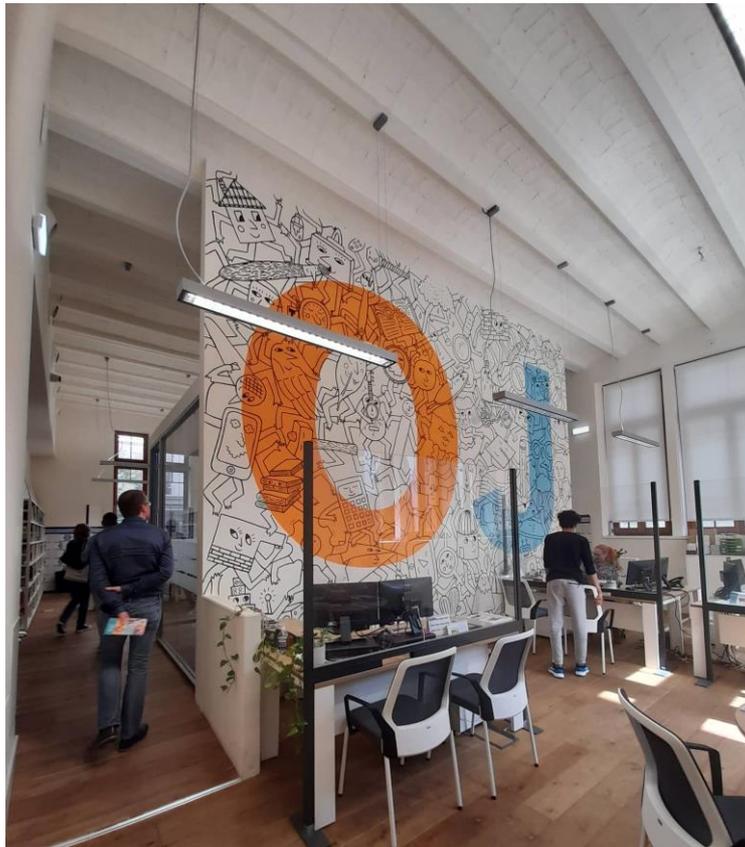


Figure 2 - Advisory Offices



Figure 3 – 3D printers at the Social Innovation Center

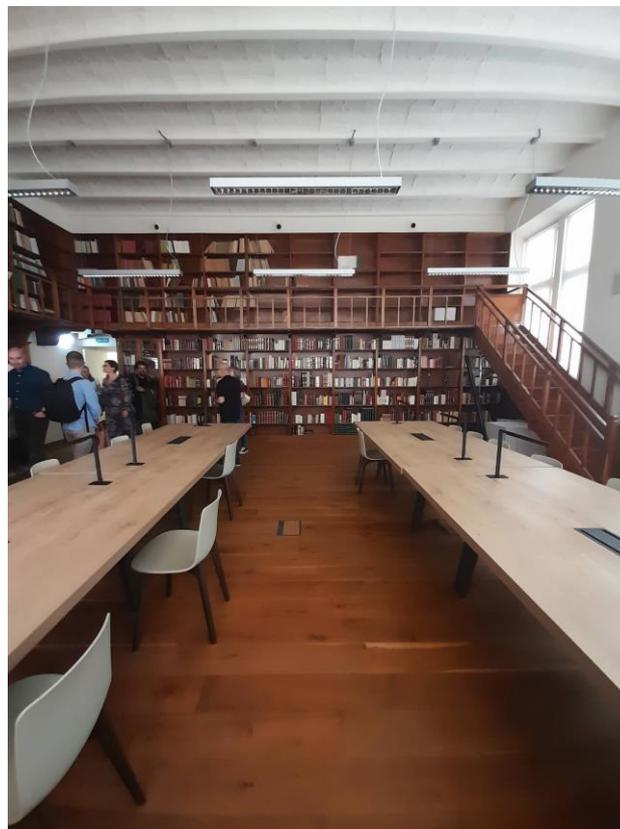


Figure 4 – Library

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