

Best Practices

Theme Month (living together, racism, diversity, etc.)

The theme month will take the form of various interactive activities: training for the general public and socio-educational services, evening debates and film-debate sessions, conferences open to the public, language cafés and other events. The aim of these initiatives is to maintain or create direct contact with the population and to discuss different forms of respect (or other subjects).

Theme months can focus on a very specific subject. For example, the Month of Respect 2023 in Dudelange focused on a specific theme: communication. The slogan was: “Say, how do you talk to me? – “So, wéi schwätz du mat mär?!”

This project is based on the idea that respect in interpersonal relations is a continuous learning process. If we are to continue to live in a respectful, tolerant and cohesive society, it is essential to increase the number of experiences of respectful practices.

Objectives

- **Raise citizens' awareness:** Inform and educate the public about the values of living together: respect, tolerance, equality and solidarity through various activities and events.
- **Identify and eliminate prejudice :** Encourage participants to identify and reflect on their own prejudices and cognitive biases.
- **Strengthening social cohesion :** Encouraging positive interactions between different groups in the community to strengthen social ties and promote inclusion.
- **Promoting cultural diversity :** Celebrating the city's cultural diversity and encouraging appreciation and respect for different cultures and backgrounds.
- **Engaging citizens:** Involving residents in discussions around respect. Organise debates and discussions to address issues related to respect and tolerance.
- **Training and development:** Offer training and workshops to develop professional skills, as well as promoting respectful practices.



Methods

Before the Theme Month:

- Contact the partner associations to see if they want to participate and propose projects and activities.
- Meetings with partner associations.
- Drawing up a calendar and a timetable.
- Drafting descriptions for the promotional brochure.
- Writing grant applications.
- Booking rooms.

During the Theme Month :

- Organising events
- Attend events

After the Theme Month :

- Evaluation of the project

Budget

The budget has to be calculated for each edition and depends on the fees for the trainers, equipment reservations, room hire, catering and publicity.

Plan on a budget of €30,000 to €40,000 for a month-long programme.

Materials

The equipment required depends on the projects and activities proposed during the theme month:

- A room that can accommodate the public
- Projection screen
- Projector
- Laptop
- Sound system
- Catering



Periodicity

Every two years

Evaluation indicators

Quantitative:

- Number of participants

Qualitative:

- It is also important to engage in dialogue with the citizens and people working in the municipality who are present at the events, to listen to the speakers/trainers, to pay attention during the activities and to engage in discussions with the participants.

Practical advice - DO's

- Plan in detail
- Draw up a realistic budget
- Choose a suitable venue for your event (check accessibility)
- Simple registration process
- Regular communication: keep the co-organisers, the participating organisations and the target audience informed of all important information and changes.
- Technical tests (test all technical equipment and Internet connection in advance)
- Gather feedback
- Thank participants
- Encourage networking

Practical advice - DONT's

- Lack of planning
- Unclear objectives
- Cost overruns
- Unsuitable venue: don't choose an event venue that is difficult to access or too small for the number of participants.
- Technical faults: don't overlook technical requirements and don't wait until the day of the event to test the equipment.



Contact person/Possible partners

Partners who are experts on the subject (non-exhaustive list).

- Respect.lu
- CID Fraen a Gender
- Asbl 352
- Commission consultative du vivre-ensemble interculturel
- Zentrum fir politesch Bildung (ZpB)
- Intersex & Transgender Luxembourg asbl (ITGL)
- Association de soutien aux travailleurs immigrés (ASTI)-Centre d'éducation interculturelle (IKL)
- One People asbl
- Lëtzt Rise Up asbl

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Additional information

Mois du Respect à Dudelange :

<https://www.dudelange.lu/index.php/evenement/mois-du-respect/#:~:text=La%202ème%20édition%20du%20Mois,du%202%20au%2028%20mai>.

