

LEARNING MATERIALS for Vocational Mentors in Creative Work

Unit 5 ENGAGE CREATIVE YOUNG PEOPLE

LO1 Identify, research and map the agencies, services, resources, activities and places that attract and support creative young people in your district or region

Workshop “Map supporting resources for creatives at regional level – illustration and comics”

Partner name: EASP

Macedonia

Case study

Resources at regional level for young creatives – comic illustrators

Purpose

The purpose is to test the format “case study” as mapping tool for the existing **education and promotion resources** at regional level for young creatives with interest in developing comics stories and illustrations.

Scope

The case study will give an overview of the currently available education/mentoring services and supporting activities in the field of illustration and comics, regional networks, and ways of promotion of young creatives works.

Mentoring practices:

>> The non-formal and not accredited peer to peer education in illustration and comics development with elements for development of characters and script is self – organised open online forum giving opportunity for interaction and feedback. The online forum has diverse subject that contain more elaborated information on trends, global events, local comics illustrators with achieved visibility in the comic world. They act as online peer mentors.

>> There is scarcity of available physical spaces for interaction and exchanges, this is compensated with online and offline communication through Facebook pages, groups and the forum “Mak Stripovi”. The comic artists are represented by an Association at regional level in Veles “Strip Centar – Makedonija”



>> The network at local level is weak, it is rather personalised and incoherent, that for the young creatives might be discouraging.

>> **Engaging young people:** There are organised gatherings for comics artists and international exhibitions by the Association Strip Centar – Makedonija. The comic bookstore Bunker is valuable place for comics fans, but also illustrators as it is probably the unique place where they gravitate when it comes to the world of comics.

>> **Specific services still needed:** CCI mentors on one side could support and work to strengthen the network and the networking on other side there is space to personalise the mentoring of young creatives that are prone for visual art and illustration, in addition the external supporting services (forum, association of illustrators) can be encouraging and socialising. The employers are not currently part of the networking in the field and there are emerging companies for 3D and 2D animations, the CCI mentors can be facilitators to access these employers.

>> **Success indicators for CCI Mentor?**

- Directly engaging with young creatives talented in visual arts, illustration, animation
- Develop enterprising, employability skills and freelance activity
- Support promotion on international platforms
- Support consolidation of network of stakeholders
- Facilitate access to employers

Review >>>

To prepare this Case study we used simple format to track down: educational facilities and practices, detect mentoring practices and ways of engaging with young people. We have made interviews with the stakeholders in the comic world (Strip centar – Makedonija and the Comics bookstore Bunker) and online research. The “London Journey of change” and the “TME Occupational profile” served as learning base to detect the gaps and the possibilities for “adding” new TME services of future CCI Mentors.