

## **Lead Partner visit to Mollet de Vallès, Spain**

### ***Diet for a Green Planet practice transfer***

### **Sept 16 - 18, 2014**

#### **Participants from Södertälje:**

Helena Nordlund, lead expert.

Sara Jervfors, project leader and head of Diet Unit, Södertälje

#### **Local coordinators in Mollet:**

Albert Garcia Macian, project leader in the City of Mollet

Antonio Martínez Martínez, director of Citizen Services in the Mollet Municipality

#### **Objectives of the visit:**

1. Follow up the transfer process in Mollet
2. Follow up work plan for Handbook

#### **Summary: Process status and actions needed**

- Coordination and cooperation functions very well, no need for specific action.
- Local Support Group, LSG, consisting of eleven persons had their first meeting in April. The LSG seems to be well established now, no need for specific action.
- Diet for a Green Planet transfer process has been very successful, and Mollet is already implementing the concept in three kindergartens from September this year. It has been a surprisingly quick and well managed process and the understanding of the concept is broadly and well established. No need for action from Lead partner or Lead expert.
- Due to the hard work to get the implementation going, the handbook work has not been prioritized. The LSG is responsible for the production and the idea that was presented in April is now transformed. Latest October 3 the LSG will send a content and timeframe plan. They have not started to write texts or collect recipes, which mean they are in a great hurry. They have asked for a prolongation until the end of January or early February to get the handbook printed. The whole process needs continuous follow up from lead expert.
- This visit took place at the same time as the Mollet Diet Policy Transnational Conference was going on. The conference was organized in an excellent way and politicians and high civil servants from Mollet contributed actively.

#### **Analysis and conclusions**

##### **Coordination and cooperation**

We have all through the project had a very good cooperation with the coordinator Albert Garcia. He is a very engaged person and hard working for the project.



Connecting cities  
Building successes



## **Local support group, LSG**

The Mollet Local Support Group consists of 11 persons and had their first meeting in April. The members are:

- The coordinator, Albert Garcia.
- One officer of the European Projects Department, Magda Dasilva
- Two high civil servants, Antonio Martinez and Nuria Duño.
- Three primary schools directors, Mireia Oliva, Anna Duñach, Montserrat Farell, and one kindergarten director, Isabel Cusco.
- One representative from the Association for Ecological School Canteens which can vary.
- The manager of the Gallecs consortium, Gemma Safont.
- The manager of Empresa Ecomenja, Joan Maria Ribas.

Seven of the eleven persons participated in the transnational conference in Södertälje in May. The two civil servants have been very active together with the Association for Ecological School Canteens to make it possible to already this year start to implement the concept in three public kindergartens.

This group will also be responsible for the Handbook production, see below.

## **Diet for a Green Planet transfer process**

The transfer process of the concept and the practice from Södertälje has been very successfully and rapidly transferred to Mollet. They have already contracted a company which prepares Diet for a Green Planet food in the three public kindergartens. Their contract went into function in the beginning of September this year (two weeks ago).

In accordance to what we were told in our visit in April, Mollet signed an agreement with the Association for Ecological School Canteens in Catalonia, to make a study on the public canteens in Mollet. The study included kitchen's equipment and staff purchase and food practices etcetera, and was linked to an advisory contract<sup>1</sup>. As Mollet do not have a Diet Unit, this agreement has been a good substitute and it has played the role as the head of the Diet Unit in Södertälje does. The study, which was presented on the Wednesday in the Mollet transnational conference, has used the six criteria of the Diet for a Green Planet concept as its point of departure.

The politicians have showed a good understanding and support of the concept. At the inauguration of the transnational conference the Mollet Mayor, Josep Monrás i Galindo, talked and showed that he was well familiar with the criteria. Also the councilor of the public education department, Alicia Dominguez, was presenting her support to the concept and its implementation.

During the first working day of the conference we got the complete proof that the practice transfer has been completely successful. First the Association for Ecological School Canteens presented their study of the Mollet public canteens,

---

<sup>1</sup> Both documents: the study and the advisory contract are available in the Project's Progress Report.



mentioned above. It gives a very thorough analysis of how school canteens can work to implement the Diet for a Green Planet concept. It is also a very good material for extending the concept in Mollet and in other municipalities of Catalonia.

The same day we had a presentation from one of the highest civil servants in Mollet, Antonio Martínez, director of personal service at the municipality, and Nuria Duño, manager of the Public Education Institute. They told about the process of transforming the three public kindergartens' canteens into the Diet for a Green Planet way of cooking. This process has been very rapid. First the study from the Association was done. Then a procurement process took place in which the specifications in the tender document were based on the Diet for a Green Planet concept, in accordance with the recommendations from the study.

Two weeks ago the newly contracted company 9Natural Cuina started their work. We also got a presentation from them on how the work is going and we had the opportunity to eat their food two times during the conference.

### **Work plan Handbook**

At our visit in April Albert presented an idea of a more academic handbook with less recipes and longer texts than we have in the Swedish handbook. The target group was the specialists rather than people in general.

Now when we had the LSG meeting, which is also the group responsible for the Handbook production, it seemed as this first idea has been transformed. Now they want to make a Handbook more like the Swedish original, the target group is all key players/actors who can be interested in the transformation of the schools canteens: principals of kindergartens and schools, parents associations, civil servants or politicians, having started to implement it or aiming to do it in the future.

They also want to include more recipes and also weekly planning menus in order to give a real example to a parents association or principal who wants to transform the service.

But still there was no plan for the content yet and no one has started to write texts or collect recipes.

Their idea is to include:

1. A general introduction of the concept ( a translation of the Swedish introduction more or less)
2. A presentation of the facts from the study made by the Ecological School Canteen Association (Nani and Ivana)
3. The points of view that comes from the municipality, (Antonio and Nuria)
4. The experiences of the school that already converted their canteens (Mireia)
5. The ideas from those who want to convert in the future (Anna)
6. The Gallecs rural work (Gemma)
7. Also some experiences from the kindergartens that were recently converted.



Connecting cities  
Building successes



The work is not started because they have had so much to do with the conversion of the kindergarten canteens, which is understandable. Now there is little time until end of the year and they need to decide content, get the first version of the texts, send them around and get the second versions, redact it and balance the different styles, collect the recipes and redact them for 4 and 50 persons, find illustrations, get the layout done and then control read everything before it gets printed. They will ask for a prolongation trying to have the original ready before Christmas, but do the printing in January-February.

We decided that they will send the content and timeframe planning latest the 3 of October.

### **Diet policy transfer and Diet Policy conference in Mollet**

The Diet Policy transnational conference was very well organized and planned by the Mollet group. Both politicians and high civil servants contributed actively. In the Diet policy workshop the Spanish group was working intensively and they seem to be on the track. I do not see the need for more interventions from Södertälje, but I see many possibilities for a future cooperation with Mollet to further develop this kind of policies and activities.

### **Rural area of Gallecs with potential to be a model for others**

A great asset for the Mollet City and for this project is the very nearby rural area of Gallecs, where aprox. 750 hectares serves both as a recreation area and for agriculture production. Already in 2005 the Gallecs Consortium initiated the conversion to ecological agriculture reaching nowadays 50% of the total cultivated area. It plays an important role to supply Mollet with local vegetables, legumes and cereals. After Mollet got into this project their conversion to the Diet for a Green Planet concept has been very quick. This would probably not have been possible if the Gallecs work had not been established already. The lead partner gets a great inspiration from Gallecs and their work with three basic concepts:

- Natural areas: Protection of natural values, flora and fauna.
- Cultivated areas: Diversification of crops and conversion to ecological farming
- Public use: Recreation possibilities for the inhabitants from Mollet and other municipalities around Gallecs through paths, cultivation plots etcetera.

---

Report author: Helena Nordlund, Lead Expert.



Connecting cities  
Building successes

