

Partner Search – Grundtvig Partnership – Brighton & Hove, Southern England, UK “Growing in the City”

Title of the project Growing in the City

Outline of the project idea

The Friends Centre is an independent adult education centre based in Brighton. In 2010, we launched **One Planet Learning** – a new range of courses and workshops designed to help people to live more sustainably. Recently as part of this development, the Friends Centre has been working with volunteers on developing community gardens for growing fruit and vegetables and other plants in unused or underused spaces. Because of space limitations, both around the premises of the centre and in the city as a whole, this has been through the use of planters and also the design of mobile gardens using recycled wheelie bins and other containers to grow plants. We would like to share our ideas with other organisations with projects around community gardens to help our volunteers learn more about different aspects and types of community gardens which are possible and learn about different cultivating methods which can be developed at low cost in restricted space. We would hope to work together with European partners on advising and working on each organisations community gardens to establish longstanding links between the partners and also make a ‘European element to the garden we produce here in Brighton.

Visits would take place in Spring and Autumn when most activity is taking place in the gardens and would involve exchange students and tutors working on the gardens and being taught new techniques and skills i.e. designing planters from wheelie bins. The publicity of the campaign will be used to raise the profile of community gardens across Europe and design a joint guide to techniques to starting your own community gardens

Programme and Call

Grundtvig Partnership

<http://www.grundtvig.org.uk/page.asp?section=0001000100600001§ionTitle=Partnerships> (UK page)

Deadline for call

21st February 2013

Describe the kind of partners you are looking for and their expected role in the project

The Friends Centre is signed up to One Planet Living <http://www.oneplanetliving.org/index.html> which forms the basis for their work in this area and we are looking to work with other organisations in adult learning that are developing an environmental element in their work, and already have good practices to share in the area of community gardens or are based in a country where little work has been done in this area and are keen to start one up.

We expect partners to develop a local project on developing a small scale community garden and to be able to host visitors from other partners and provide some training in different methods they have devised. Each partner would introduce elements from their own community gardens to their partners work.

Please write to us saying what you could offer to the project by 1st February along with phone and email and Skype details if possible as we want full partner input into the project development.

Foreseen project duration: 2 years.

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<http://www.friendscentre.org/>