Fostering Transversal Skills through Implementing the UNESCO Global Network of Learning Cities

Denis Barrett
Cork Learning City Coordinator
UNESCO Third International Conference on Learning Cities:
Beijing 2013 First International conference of learning cities

Mexico 2015 Second International conference of learning cities

Global Network of Learning Cities & PASCAL Learning Cities 2020 Networks

Cork a Learning City ~ all ways & for all
Global and Regional Learning Cities Networks
Population : 210,000

UNESCO Learning City Award 2015

Hosts of the 3rd UNESCO International Learning Cities Conference 2017

THE Learning City CHALLENGE :

- No Blueprint
- Complexity
- Organisations are Silos
- How to maintain motivation and continue to innovate
- No one organisation can do it alone
Goal 7: Cork as a city of learning

- Where access to learning is available for all levels and to all ages in the city.
- Where the city is recognised nationally and internationally as a centre of learning and research.
- Involving all stakeholders in lifelong learning: Formal, non formal, and informal
- Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON LEARNING
between
Four lead partners, with 2 strategic partners in Cork,
And with cities around the world.

MOU
- The four organisations have joined with others to form a Steering Group to advance these aspirations:
  - Learning for all;
  - Promoting Inclusion,
  - Prosperity and Sustainability.
- This initiative builds on Cork City Council’s formal adoption of the UNESCO Beijing Declaration on Building Learning Cities in 2014.

Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork City
Cork Lifelong Learning Festival

A week of activities that spin out into a year of possibilities

- Workshops, lectures, classes, walks open days, expos & demonstrations.
- Celebrating Learning
- Formal, non formal & informal
- All events are free
- Engaging 10,000+ citizens

Creating a *Culture of Learning in Cork City*
Developing Cork as a More Equitable and Inclusive Learning City

Applying the UNESCO Learning City Vision

Cork ~ a learning city ~ all ways & for all

Cork Lifelong Learning Festival Memories 2018
Our Community of Learners
And Learning surrounds us

Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork City
Learning City Project Partners

Cork City Council
CIT
UCC
Cork Institute of Technology
HSE
Department of Education and Skills
Cork Education and Training Board

and many community, school, youth and industry partners, and friends

Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork City
In an era of complexity, escalating pace of change and transformation and in a cyber connected world, ‘Silos’ have no place.

Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork City
Benefits of the EcCoWell Approach

- Cross-fertilisation of ideas
- Reframing our perspectives
- Non-Traditional Partnerships
- The Medici effect
- Diversity as a source of creativity

Creating a Culture of Learning in Cork City

Reframing our perspectives:

- Building dynamic synergies requires considerable
  - innovation,
  - creativity,
  - good will.
Cities as drivers, Lifelong learning as energy for sustainable change. ‘No-one left behind’

Figure 9.4 Global Goals for Sustainable Development (Source: UN)

Goals 11 and 17 Sustainable Cities and Partnerships

Cork Learning City ~ all ways & for all
Cork Call to Action on Learning Cities

Calling on cities worldwide to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals through developing their cities as:

- Green & Healthy Learning Cities,
- Equitable and Inclusive Learning Cities,
- Supporting decent work and entrepreneurship.
Cork a Learning City ~ all ways & for all
• Learning Workplaces
• Student Entrepreneurship
• Learning Factories
Learning Factories
• Community Response to Covid-19
• Green Campus
• Food Forest
• Learning for Health & Wellbeing

Cork a Learning City ~ all ways & for all
Webinar and Meeting of the UIL Cluster of Learning Cities for Health and Well-being

LEARNING FOR WELL-BEING 2020
SUPPORTING RESILIENCE IN LEARNING CITIES
CORK . IRELAND

FURTHER INFORMATION
Denis Barrett: info@corklearningcity.ie
Event Language: English
Virtual event via Microsoft Teams

#LEARNINGFORWELLBEING2020

SAVE THE DATES
3 & 4 DECEMBER 2020
12.45 - 15.00 HRS CET

Presenting and investigating innovative and transferrable examples of best practice in UNESCO UIL Learning Cities across the world in supporting the health & well-being of their citizens.

presentations . well-being . innovations . networking . workshops . inspiration . support .
Food Forest
Area based responses to peoples needs

Eg. Blue Vests

Social Distancing Innovation in response to peoples expressed needs

Piloted locally in 2 areas

Rolled out citywide following communications campaign
Community Response Forum Task Groups

• Food Distribution
• Youth Response
• Bridging the Digital Divide
Global UNESCO Webinar
'Learning for Health & Wellbeing - building resilience in Learning Cities'
in December 2020

Cork Co-leads with Osan a UNESCO Cluster of Learning Cities on Learning for Health & Wellbeing

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Inputs from:
Lowell, Mass, USA
Manizales & Bogota, Colombia
Aswan, Egypt
Cork a Learning City ~ all ways & for all
A Cross Sectoral Learning City initiative
A series of sessions bringing together leaders from cross sectoral partners to explore and apply each Global Goal in Cork over the next decade

Goal 4 Quality Education and Lifelong Learning for All, hosted by CETB and CIT