

You said:

In the EUYD9 consultation, young people explored the question: *“What key elements of infrastructure (e.g., transportation, housing, services, etc) need to be accessible to young people in order to support them in living sustainably?”*

Financial limitations were identified as one of the key factors preventing young people from making more sustainable living choices. The participants consulted called for the development of sustainable infrastructure that is affordable for young people. The general lack of infrastructure in rural areas was also highlighted. The types of infrastructure requested included:

- affordable and improved public transport along with safer and more widespread facilities for cycling, becoming viable options compared to cars.
- financially accessible housing options, as young people said that financial barriers were a major factor for them in making it difficult to consider sustainability when choosing housing.
- more green, open public spaces and promotion of renewable energy.
- affordable sustainable food and consumption options, including recycling and reuse. This was important to many young people but not as high a priority as other suggestions.

The EU Youth Conference in Prague identified a role for youth policy, and the youth sector in supporting young people's participation within the policy areas more directly related to infrastructure, such as transport, housing, urban planning, energy and agriculture.

We did:

Through the implementation phase reports National Working Groups (NWGs) stated they had:

1. Supported the delivery of activities for young people which:
 - Increased awareness and reflection on the topic of access to infrastructure in order to kick-start deliberations.
 - Developed the knowledge and skills of youth advocates relating to topic of infrastructure.
2. Considered how the work of youth sector organisations could take new approaches to young people and sustainable infrastructure by:
 - Creating new tools and educational methodologies to encourage to young people to use sustainable infrastructure and green space.
 - Considering new organisational approaches to sustainable events and sustainable consumption.
 - Sharing good practice examples on sustainable events and projects (e.g., sustainability guidelines).
Supporting young people in developing new projects to enhance sustainable infrastructure (e.g., bike sharing schemes).
3. Tried to influence policy and political developments by:
 - Seeking cross sectoral mechanisms to enable the youth sector to influence infrastructure policy.
 - Promoting evidence-based approaches to infrastructure policy that includes the voices of young people.
 - Influencing infrastructure policymaking by giving feedback and recommendations from young people to infrastructure policy-makers.

Remember! Influencing change across Europe is a complex process that takes many years. These results show just the first steps taken by the EU and its Member States in response to EU YD9. More details can be found in the full implementation phase reports and the national implementation phase reports.