



PYLON ONE

INSPYRE

Inclusive Paths: Youth-Led Accessible Exploration in Thessaloniki

Sustainability & Partnerships

Project No: 2024-1-EL02-ESC30-SOL-000235532

www.inspyre-project.eu



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INTRODUCTION

The INSPYRE project, moving from short-term pilot activities toward creating long-lasting impact. The focus is on building sustainability into the project's outcomes, ensuring that accessibility and inclusivity are not treated as temporary initiatives but as embedded values within the city. To achieve this, strong partnerships with institutions, schools, community centers, and the municipality are essential. At the same time, effective dissemination through feedback from the e-Handbook, video recordings of walks, and shared educational materials ensures that knowledge and practices continue to reach wider audiences. Ultimately, this phase seeks to guarantee that the lessons learned and tools created live on, shaping urban planning and community engagement well beyond the project's lifespan.



PURPOSE

- Strengthen partnerships with institutions, schools, and community centers to embed inclusivity in daily practices.
- Collect feedback to refine and improve tools like the INSPYRE e-Handbook.
- Engage diverse stakeholders from municipalities to local residents in spreading awareness of accessibility issues.
- Create sustainable pathways to ensure that the project's impact continues long after the pilot phase.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Collect user feedback on the e-Handbook to refine and enhance its usability.
- Record and share accessibility walks through video to illustrate real challenges and solutions.
- Build partnerships with Thessaloniki Municipality, schools, and community centers to strengthen community involvement.
- Develop dissemination materials (videos, guides, presentations) to expand outreach and awareness.



FEEDBACK FROM E-HANDBOOK USERS

The INSPYRE e-Handbook is not static it evolves through continuous user input. Collecting feedback ensures it remains relevant, practical, and impactful:

- Identify strengths and gaps – Real-world use reveals which sections are most useful and where additional guidance or examples are needed.
- Ensure accessibility of the content itself – Testing the Handbook across different formats (digital, mobile, easy-to-read versions) ensures inclusivity for all learners.



- Adapt resources to multiple audiences – Materials are adjusted so that technical experts, city officials, teachers, students, and everyday citizens can all benefit.
- Build credibility and trust – Incorporating user insights demonstrates responsiveness, making the Handbook a living, user-driven tool.
- Encourage ownership – When users see their feedback integrated, they feel part of the process, strengthening commitment to accessibility goals.
- Support continuous learning – Feedback loops transform the Handbook into both a guide and a platform for collective knowledge-building.



EDUCATIONAL VALUE OF FEEDBACK

- Teaches the importance of continuous improvement – Learners see that effective tools are never “finished” but constantly refined to remain relevant and practical.
- Shows how tools evolve with real-world input – Participants understand that user experiences and community voices directly shape the development of resources.
- Demonstrates user-centered approaches to knowledge creation – Highlights how inclusive design is built not only for users but with them, ensuring accessibility and ownership.
- Encourages reflective practice – Learners grasp the value of testing, reviewing, and adjusting methods to achieve lasting impact.

VIDEO RECORDING OF WALKS

- Document real accessibility challenges and solutions – videos capture both barriers and ways they can be addressed, turning observations into practical case studies
- Serve as teaching material for schools, universities, and institutions – they provide relatable, visual content that makes learning about accessibility more concrete and engaging





- Capture authentic voices of people with disabilities – first-hand experiences are preserved and shared, giving visibility to perspectives often overlooked in planning
- Offer visual advocacy to influence public awareness and policy – videos become powerful tools for raising empathy, shaping conversations, and pushing for systemic change



BENEFITS OF VIDEOS

- Make accessibility issues visible and relatable – help viewers understand real challenges and the impact on daily life
- Provide material for workshops, campaigns, and online dissemination – versatile resources for teaching, awareness-raising, and advocacy
- Strengthen the educational dimension of INSPYRE activities – bring practical, real-world examples into learning and community engagement



MUNICIPALITY ENGAGEMENT

Collaboration with Thessaloniki Municipality ensures:

- Integration of INSPYRE findings into city policies – making accessibility improvements part of official urban planning
- Shared responsibility for inclusive urban planning – fostering joint ownership between the project team and city authorities
- Alignment of project outcomes with long-term municipal strategies – ensuring that project activities support sustainable and lasting urban improvements





SCHOOLS AS PARTNERS

- **Awareness Sessions:**

Schools host interactive workshops where students learn about the challenges faced by people with disabilities. These sessions include discussions, simulations, and role-playing exercises to raise awareness about accessibility and inclusion in everyday urban environments.

- **Educational Use of the e-Handbook & Videos:**

Students use the INSPYRE e-Handbook and accompanying videos as learning tools. These materials help them understand real-world accessibility issues, learn about inclusive urban planning, and apply practical knowledge in classroom projects or community activities.

- **Co-Creation Activities:**

Students participate in hands-on exercises such as designing mini accessible paths or evaluating local public spaces. These activities encourage empathy, responsibility, and problem-solving skills, allowing younger generations to actively contribute to creating inclusive communities.

Visual Suggestions:

- Students interacting in workshops or group activities.
- Using tablets or watching videos.
- Simple illustrations of ramps, sidewalks, or accessible city paths to reinforce the accessibility theme.



COMMUNITY CENTERS AS PARTNERS

Community centers provide:

- A platform to engage diverse residents – creating opportunities for wider participation in accessibility initiatives
- Opportunities for intergenerational learning – bringing together people of different ages to share experiences and insights
- Stronger community ownership of accessible urban spaces – fostering collective responsibility and long-term commitment to inclusive city planning



IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS

- Build stronger networks for sustainable change – connecting institutions, communities, and stakeholders to maintain long-term accessibility initiatives
- Share knowledge across institutions – exchanging best practices, resources, and experiences to strengthen collective expertise
- Ensure inclusivity becomes a shared value, not just a project goal – embedding accessibility into the culture and decision-making of all partners

DISSEMINATION MATERIALS

Videos, feedback reports, and educational resources:

- Spread awareness beyond immediate participants – reaching schools, community groups, and the wider public
- Encourage replication of INSPYRE approaches in other cities – sharing practical methods and successful strategies for inclusive urban planning
- Serve as open-access resources for advocacy and training – providing tools that can be used by educators, policymakers, and community leaders



SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE

- Embedding accessibility into city policies – ensuring that inclusive urban planning becomes a permanent part of municipal strategies
- Empowering communities to continue advocacy – giving residents the tools and knowledge to maintain accessibility initiatives
- Providing practical tools (handbook, videos) for ongoing use – resources that support education, training, and continued engagement
- Strengthening long-term collaboration between institutions – building networks that sustain inclusive urban development beyond the project

EDUCATIONAL VALUE

Learners gain:

- Experience in partnership-building and stakeholder engagement – understanding how collaboration drives sustainable change
- Skills in using dissemination tools for advocacy – applying videos, reports, and digital resources to raise awareness
- Insights into how sustainability is created in real-world projects – seeing firsthand how partnerships, feedback, and community involvement ensure lasting impact



CHALLENGES

- Different levels of commitment among partners – varying priorities and engagement can affect project continuity
- Resource limitations for long-term dissemination – funding, time, or staff constraints may restrict outreach activities
- Maintaining momentum after pilot activities end – sustaining engagement and interest over time can be challenging





SOLUTIONS

- Continuous communication and joint planning with partners – maintain alignment and shared responsibility
- Low-cost but high-impact dissemination methods – using videos, the digital handbook, and online platforms to reach wider audiences
- Embedding activities into school curricula and municipal agendas – integrating accessibility education and engagement into existing programs to ensure longevity



KEY INSIGHTS

- Partnerships multiply the project's impact – collaborations extend reach and effectiveness
- Videos and dissemination make accessibility relatable – visual and interactive materials help people understand real challenges
- Sustainability requires both institutional support and community ownership – long-term success depends on combined commitment.



IMPACT SO FAR

- Growing awareness among schools, community centers, and city officials – more stakeholders understand accessibility issues
- Practical use of the e-Handbook and videos for education and advocacy – materials are actively applied in learning and outreach
- Stronger networks for accessible and inclusive urban planning – connections between institutions and communities are reinforced

CONCLUSION & NEXT STEPS

INSPYRE is transitioning from local testing to long-term sustainability, focusing on embedding accessibility and inclusivity into the fabric of the city. The next steps involve strengthening cooperation with the Thessaloniki Municipality to ensure that inclusive planning becomes part of official city strategies. At the same time, the project aims to scale outreach through schools, community centers, and other local stakeholders, broadening participation and fostering ongoing engagement. Additionally, dissemination tools such as videos, the e-Handbook, and reports will continue to be used to raise awareness, support education, and maintain accessibility as a shared, lasting priority. Through these actions, INSPYRE seeks to create sustainable, community-driven, and institutionalized improvements for inclusive urban mobility.



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