

Bolzano, 04.07.2013

**Youth participation:**  
not just events!  
methods and long term activities.

The case of Municipality of Milan and Mi  
Generation Camp  
Valentina La Terza



# Adult Education / active citizenship

Adult Education: professional life and active/  
responsible citizenship -> full citizenship.

Participation: tool and goal

Role of mass organizations in AE  
(political and religious movement in Italy)



# Crisis of traditional system

Past: homogeneous groups, clear rules, structured participation  
(even when anti-system was strongly organized).

Present: strong questioning of the traditional systems of political and institutional representation  
-> need to reinvent SYSTEM



# Young adults today (in Italy)

74.6% of young italians has no confidence in the Istitutions  
(66.9% in 2013 -> + 7.7% in one year!)

4.1 % trusts in political parties

9.3 % trusts in trade union

79.9 % trusts in civic society  
(ong, cultural association, unformal activism, etc)

→ Make things, not slides or speeches.



# 2011 : new Major in Milan

Youth Council? NO -> program of participation

MI GENERATION CAMP:

42 partners with activities all year

Social networking

Trasversal training (also for PA sectors)

1 annual meeting (2-3 days of workshops, debates, shows, recommendations, future projects and policies)



## **Mi Generation Camp: success**

Very large participation of young people

High level of discussion and proposal

Impact on Municipality's policies

## **Mi Generation Camp: critical points**

Lack of funds for coordinate the network

From an event to a governance system



# **Something we learnt**

**The transformation**

Forever? Absolute?

**The speed**

Young people and different activism

Self-entrepreneurship (profit and no profit)  
and values / civic engagement

Concrete and measurable results



# Something we learnt/2

Social innovation, sharing, internet of things, social networking

are way of life

But also future of production, economy, education and politics too.



# Challenges

Traditional systems (AE organizations too) may have to change, to look at the future, not to try to contrast it.

Learn to change and teach to change

Participation without shortcuts



# Last input

## The hack culture:

if you cannot open it, you haven't it.

Learn how to open, not what it's inside or outside.

Be open.

## Don't be afraid of the future:

When lamps were invented, a lot of candles' industries disappeared.

