



Município

Setúbal

Capital Natural

21 de maio de 2029
Sede YMCA Setúbal
Bela Vista

**visita da ETF – European Training
Foundation**



MUNICIPALITY OF SETÚBAL · YOUTH DIVISION

Experience on Reaching Young People Through Local Cooperation

Youth policies and community-based youth work in Setúbal, Portugal – focusing on local partnerships, youth participation, and the associative movement.

Who We Work With

Setúbal is a diverse coastal municipality with a strong community identity. Our youth policies are built through non-formal education, volunteering, culture, and the youth associative movement – with one clear goal: bringing young people closer to their community and to decision-making.

Youth Associations and Informal youth groups

Local groups leading initiatives and shaping community life

Schools & NGOs

Partners embedding youth work in everyday spaces

Cultural Organisations

Creative collectives driving inclusion through culture

Local Institutions

Public and civic bodies supporting the ecosystem



Local Cooperation as a Key Strategy



Young people participate more meaningfully when activities happen in their own territory. Projects are stronger when organisations work together – and youth participation grows through co-creation and shared responsibility.

Facilitator

The municipality creates the conditions for youth-led action

Connector

Linking associations, schools, and civic partners

Support Structure

Providing resources, mentoring, and continuity

Supporting Youth Associations and Informal Groups

Youth groups are encouraged to organise their own activities – the municipality provides the scaffolding, not the script.



Spaces & Logistics

Access to venues, equipment, and practical support for running activities



Communication

Help amplifying youth voices through municipal channels and networks



Mentoring

Guidance for cultural collectives, student associations, and volunteering groups



Coletivos com Voz

A dedicated programme promoting youth-led initiatives across the municipality

Examples of Collaborative Youth Projects

1 **A(Linha) – Urban Youth Festival**
Co-developed with local partners and youth associations, bringing culture and creativity to the streets

2 **Youth Volunteering Programmes**
Community and environmental action projects led by young people for their neighbourhoods

3 **School-Based Participation Projects**
Co-designed with schools and local organisations to embed civic engagement early

4 **Public Space as a Tool**
Using streets, squares, and parks as platforms for youth engagement and inclusion

5 **Municipal Youth Forum**

A participatory discussion space, facilitated together with local youth associations, where young people debate topics related to life in the municipality. Outcomes are presented to the municipal executive for possible implementation.



6 **Somos Hoje | - Communication Campaign**

6 *A youth awareness and participation campaign developed with local partners and young people, promoting reflection on current social issues, active citizenship and community engagement*

Reaching Young People

Communication is essential to cooperation. Without it, even the best initiatives remain invisible to those who need them most.



Social Media

Instagram and digital platforms are our primary outreach tools for reaching young people where they are



Schools & Associations

Trusted peer networks and institutional partners help disseminate opportunities authentically



265 Juventude Inquieta

Our centralised platform for youth information, activities, and opportunities across Setúbal

What We Have Learned

Local cooperation reaches more diverse young people

Partnerships extend reach beyond what any single organisation can achieve alone

Trust and belonging drive participation

Young people engage when they feel recognised and when relationships are sustained over time

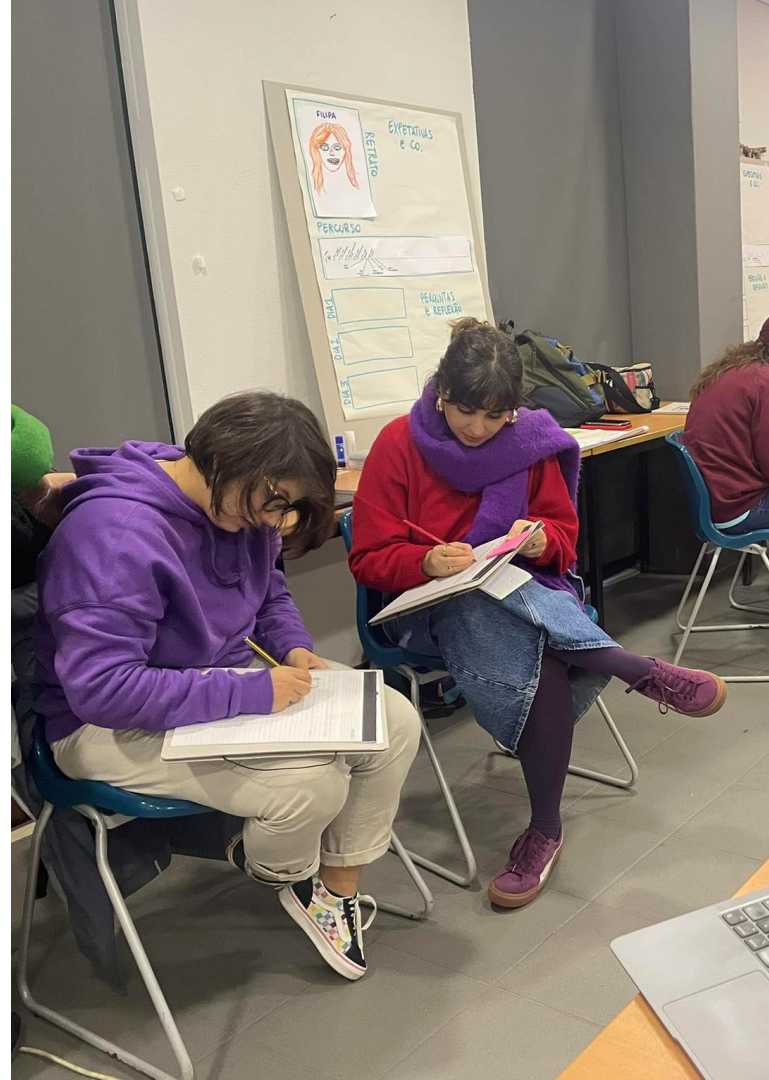
Young people need real opportunities to lead

Proximity, listening, and continuity are not optional – they are the foundation of meaningful youth work



Youth Participation is Built Collectively

Strong youth work depends on collaboration and community trust. Shared spaces and genuine partnerships create the conditions for meaningful participation – and young people must be recognised as active citizens, not just beneficiaries.



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Setúbal
Câmara Municipal

265 JUVENTUDE
INQUIETA



SOCIAL RIGHTS DIVISION · MUNICIPALITY OF SETÚBAL

Social Inclusion Through Local Cooperation

Social inclusion policies and community-based work in Setúbal, Portugal — focusing on local partnerships, citizen participation, and intercultural dialogue.

Social Inclusion as Collective Action

Social inclusion requires cooperation between municipalities, civil society, and local communities. Public policies become stronger when built through partnerships and proximity-based approaches.

Facilitator

Creating conditions for inclusive action across the territory

Coordinator

Aligning efforts between institutions, associations, and communities

Support Structure

Providing resources, continuity, and proximity-based intervention

"The municipality provides the scaffolding, not the script."



Strategic Role in the Municipality



The division works through an integrated local approach, in collaboration with institutions and associations, developing its work through local networks, partnerships, and proximity-based intervention.

Social Inclusion & Equity

Promoting equal access to rights and opportunities for all citizens

S.A.A.S.

Citizen Participation

Encouraging active involvement in local decision-making processes

Viver Anunciada

Intercultural Dialogue

Fostering understanding and integration across diverse communities

S.E.I.

Territorial Cohesion

Ensuring inclusive responses across all areas of the municipality

EnvelheSeres

Local Cooperation in Practice

Effective social inclusion depends on working alongside the institutions and communities already present in people's daily lives.



Schools & Health Services

Embedding social support in everyday institutional spaces



NGOs & Associations

Coordinated responses and resource sharing with civil society



Social & Employment Services

Early intervention and stronger community engagement



Community Groups

Migrant associations, social institutions, and local networks

Interculturality and Community Integration

1

Information & Guidance

Supporting immigrant and ethnocultural communities with accessible services and orientation

2

Intercultural Mediation

Building bridges between communities and institutions to ease integration

3

Associative Movement

Supporting community associations as drivers of participation and belonging

4

Awareness-Raising

Promoting intercultural dialogue and community participation across the territory



Community-Based Social Inclusion

The division reaches around 30,000 people across the municipality, through cooperation with approximately 150 local entities.

Migration & Interculturality

Supporting integration and participation of immigrant and ethnocultural communities

Maio, Diálogo Intercultural

Vulnerable Groups & Territorial Cohesion

Ensuring no community is left behind through proximity-based intervention

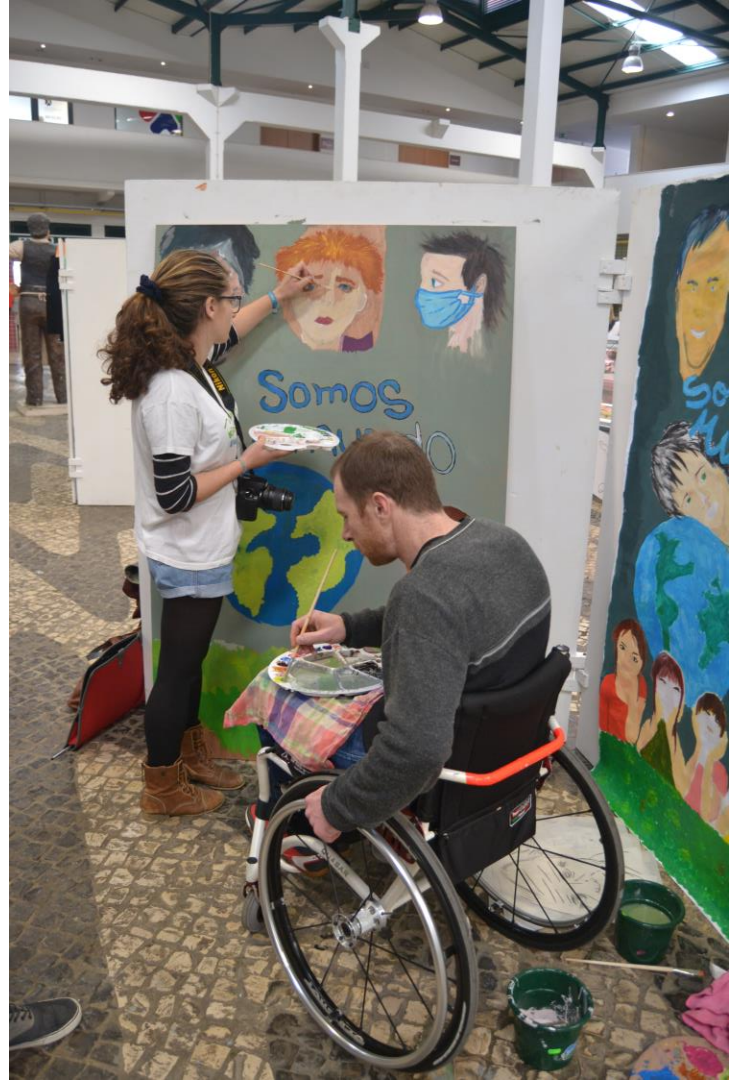
Viver Anunciada

Citizenship & Social Support Networks

Strengthening participation, shared responsibility, and local solidarity

Rede Social

Serviço de Atendimento e Acompanhamento Social



Inclusion Requires Cooperation

Effective social inclusion depends on proximity, trust, participation, long-term partnerships, and shared responsibility. Local cooperation helps create more inclusive communities, stronger social cohesion, and better responses to complex social challenges.

Proximity & Trust

The foundation of meaningful, lasting social inclusion work

Participation

Citizens as active contributors, not passive beneficiaries

Shared Responsibility

Long-term partnerships built on mutual commitment and cooperation



Setúbal
Câmara Municipal

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Thank you. We welcome your questions, reflections, and the opportunity to explore how these approaches might resonate in your own context.



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