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University Lifelong Learning to Live a Better Life – Continuing Education for Sustainable Quality of Life in Europe

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University Lifelong Learning for Active Citizenship within the Learning City Model. The Example of Pécs as a Global Learning City

The University of Pécs has been participating in the Research and Development process to promote the Global Learning City Programme of Pécs, Hungary. In association with the local House of Civic Communities, the partnership has reached to organise annual learning festivals with around 60-70 organisations and institutions in every September for 2-3 day with around a hundred and thirty programmes by focusing on the needs of the local lifelong learners, representing a diverse community of languages, religion and minorities. The Global Learning City Programme of Pécs is an outstanding third mission of the University of Pécs to merge new and innovative teaching and learning formations, methods and grounds, together with active participation of local citizens with intergenerational dimensions, group-work, collaborative and experimental learning.

The topics of the learning festivals so far represented Cultural/civic, environmental and health issues, skills development in order to relate this series of joint action under the learning city umbrella in alliance with UN Agenda 2030 for SDGs.

It is important that the local citizens are involved in those many programmes offered and can either participate or even organise specific knowledge transfer and learning programmes or even teach others with special settings and forms.

Our presentation will shortly underline the role of university lifelong learning in this process and, more precisely, provide some examples how the University of Pécs combine the Learning City model with the development of active citizenship.