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## FIELD VISITS

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Given that the forum participants were for the most part grassroots street workers, the idea was to give them the chance to discover the third sector in Brussels.

The aim was not only to highlight the different initiatives being run to support various communities in street situations, but also foster a debate between street workers in order to generate discussion, ideas, or simply address from another angle issues and questions that are already present in their daily lives. Furthermore, the field visits enabled participants, as part of a single visit group, to meet each other and talk about their reactions and what they discovered while on the visits.

A list of associations that agreed to receive visits can be found below. The associations wanted to share their work, explain and showcase it, and play a part in defending and showcasing street work.

### Youth work

**Alhambra AMO:** AMO ALHAMBRA is a community-based outreach service targeting young people up to the age of 22, and all the people who are part of their environment. The organisation focuses on social and educational prevention work. Alhambra runs several projects with young people, schools, and on the streets, in order to have a close relationship with the neighbourhood and its residents.

**AtMOsphères asbl:** AtMOsphères is a community-based outreach service approved by the *Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles* (French Community of Belgium). The organisation provides a **social and street on-call service, individual support, various activities, and personalised support** for young people and parents who request it.

**CEMO AMO:** CEMO is a community-based outreach service located in Saint-Gilles and works with young people. Their service is free-to-access for all local young people aged 0-22 and their families. The service is open to any young person needing help or who is experiencing difficulties, and any parent or relative or friend who is encountering difficulties in bringing up or relating to a child.

**Centre Comète:** A community-based outreach service located in the city centre. It works with local young people in order to build relationships, undertake groundwork based on being close to young people, and offer a forum for dialogue and trustworthy, open-minded and non-judgemental help.

The Comète street workers have a regular Wednesday afternoon outdoor session, and undertake outreach work. The rest of the time they work in teams and with young people at the organisation's premises. Their door is always open, and they are determined to bring alive the neighbourhood!

**Itinéraires AMO:** **Itinéraires AMO** is a community-based outreach service which focuses on and supports young people in difficulty (education, family, petty crime, etc.) It is part of the youth services sector (AAJ) and focuses on the under-22s. The organisation's work revolves around preventive help for young people in their community and in their relationship with their environment. The service helps them to develop tools or enables them to be involved in the life of the community and become responsible and independent adults.

**JES vzw:** An organisation that works with children and young people in Brussels. JES supports them with leisure activities, education, work, training and wellbeing. [Streetcornerwork](#) is one of the services offered by JES. The JES street workers work with the most vulnerable young people on the streets in several areas.

## Sex work sector

**Alias:** The aim of the organisation is to relaunch and secure the long-term future in Brussels of a quality counselling, social and medical support project aimed at male sex workers in Brussels, with the priority being health promotion work, including prevention and risk reduction, access to healthcare and social rights for the target population.

**Espace P:** Espace P is an association that helps people involved in sex work, their clients, and those close to them. It offers and/or encourages the following: medical help, social support, counselling, emancipation, continuing education, cultural activities, networking.

## Homelessness sector

**DIOGENES:** The organisation works on the streets with homeless people in the places where they live. It offers personalised support throughout their time on the fringes of society. Situations encountered on the streets are always unique, different and complex. Standardised responses do not work. They only lead to more misunderstandings and a greater feeling of rejection. Bespoke social support tailored to the expectations and needs of each homeless person is the only method that works. The organisation also develops a large number of housing-based reintegration schemes.

**Douche Flux:** Douche Flux seeks to counteract the rejection of people in precarious circumstances, whether or not they are homeless, documented, from Belgium or further afield. Human beings and their intrinsic dignity are at the heart of their work. Douche Flux offers essential services, organises activities, and runs an "advocacy" hub, which seeks to deconstruct the stereotypes about poverty, and advocates that homelessness can become a thing of the past. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, Douche Flux has opened temporary accommodation for homeless women with the aim of supporting them towards moving to long-term housing.

**Infirmiers de Rue asbl:** Over 700 people sleep on the streets of Brussels. **Infirmiers de rue** (Street Nurses) refer to them as their patients. They go out on to the streets with their teams and actively seek out the homeless. They deliver intensive social and medical care to the homeless community in the long term. The end goal is to get them off the streets and sustainably reintegrate them into society in appropriate and suitable housing.

**Latitude Nord:** Very vulnerable people sometimes need a welcoming place to go. They are welcome at Latitude Nord! The organisation provides a space for an informal chat, as well as social and administrative support, and counselling.

[Team Herscham](#): Team Herscham is a unique police force in Belgium. Its main aim is to look after the homeless. After years of grassroots work, they have gained the trust of many people who live on the streets. Sometimes, real relationships are forged. This is because their work is primarily human and social.

## Drug users sector

[Dune – CLIP](#): The services offered by Dune aim to reduce drug user mortality, morbidity and social exclusion, by viewing them as fully-fledged citizens, who are concerned about their environment and life in the city. Their work is based on the fundamentals of reducing the health and social risks involved in drug use. They favour a non-directive attitude on the ground, and refrain from making any judgements or discriminating with regard to drug use. They focus on providing a listening ear.

[Transit asbl](#): Launched in 1995, the non-profit Transit is a non-medical drop-in centre for adult drug users (narcotics, alcohol, prescription drugs). It encompasses nine projects: the crisis centre (day centre and shelter), the risk reduction unit (access to sterile equipment), prison work, phase IV (supervised studio flats), street work, phase V (access to social housing), ORBA (Brussels Region dependency management contract), training, and the women's space.

## Other sectors

[Allée du Kaai \(Toestand asbl\)](#): Allée du Kaai is a *spontaneous action area* located between Avenue du Port and the Quai des Matériaux, along the banks of the canal in the Nord area of Brussels. It is a temporary project rolled out by the non-profit Toestand commissioned by the city's environment department. They are transforming unoccupied and abandoned spaces into temporary sociocultural centres. The area is coming back to life because of the citizen initiatives that are being stimulated and for which they are providing a venue.

[Foyer Roma Stewards](#): Development and provision of expertise on the subject of the Traveller Community and settled Roma with a focus on education, training and employment. Roma representatives and mediators facilitate communication and cooperation for settled Roma families with the Traveller Community on the one hand, and with public bodies and the education system on the other, and try to bolster the social position of this target population.