



Organising Twinning: Starting a twinning

In this document you will find a few ideas you can implement to put some flesh on the twinning programme. The things listed here are meant to be cheap (if not free), easy to implement and motivating.

1st Getting to know one another

Most of the time, your cities are already twinned together. Try to find out why, since when etc. Discuss it in your respective places, ask questions to the City Hall... in addition to being a great introduction to each other, it will put you in touch with civil servants who might come in helpful for future events. If your cities are not twinned, simply try to get to know each other's history, main places and so on.

2nd Creating a day-to-day link

You can, in order to make the twinning a real thing, organise one or two things that will turn it into part of your daily activities. If you have a website, add a page on the twinned section, to present it and show some of its newest/biggest activities. Share content on Facebook and Twitter – use all the possibilities for interaction we have!

Another idea is to start a buddy programme. There is a possibility some of your members want to learn the language of the country where the other section is located. If not language, think of cultural things you could share – why not a Polish cuisine cooking class via Skype? Be imaginative. The sky is the limit.

3rd Sharing of best practices

You can create a Facebook group where people can answer each other's questions in order to become more efficient in your daily activities. Another possibility is to have regular Skype calls, with for instance a specific topic to be discussed on which you need advice or ideas. If you happen to have such calls, make sure to advertise it, to show you are actually doing things with this other section!

And of course, if you have time and money, you can start organising an exchange... for which we suggest you read the sharing of experience from JEF France which is presented on the website.

<http://www.jef.eu/members/twinning-programme/>