



# System Thinking – Future of Youth Work

**Type of event:** 1.5-hour interactive workshop using LEGO® Serious Play methodology

**Target group:** Youth workers, educators, and stakeholders interested in future-oriented youth work strategies

## Short description of the workshop:

This workshop introduces participants to systems thinking as a tool for shaping the future of youth work, highlighting interconnections within the youth work ecosystem. Using the LEGO® Serious Play methodology, participants explore individual and collective visions, identify relationships between key actors, and co-create models for the youth work landscape of 2050. The process builds awareness of interdependence, fosters creativity, and encourages collaborative problem-solving.

## Framework (structure)

### Before the workshop (online)

**Pre-reading/video:** Short introduction to systems thinking and examples in citizen science.

**Participant expectations poll (Mentimeter or Google Form):**  
“What is one change you would like to see in youth work by 2050?”

### During the workshop (in-person)

#### Introduction & warm-up

**5'** Introduction to purpose and LEGO® Serious Play methodology.

**3'** Quick build challenge: “Build a bridge in one minute.”

**12'** Name round: Share your name and why your bridge is special.

#### Activity 1 – Building individual model

**7'** Build an individual model representing your vision of the future of youth work.

**15'** Share the story of your model, supported by guiding questions.



## Activity 2 – Understanding the systems

**3' Instructions:** Build a shared model of future youth work considering the ecosystem (education, community, young people, social care, health, municipality, other actors).

**17' Build shared model.**

**25' Sharing and discussing models** – two volunteers present stories.

**10' Group Q&A on methodology.**

**10' Reflection:** Summarise how the future of youth work will look and how other actors will perceive it in 2050 (write on moderation cards).

### Evaluation

**10' Feedback via Mentimeter.**

**After the workshop (online)**

**Photo & model gallery (Padlet or Miro):** Upload images of models and summaries.

**Shared reflection document (Google Docs):** Participants note how they will integrate workshop insights into their work.

**Follow-up call (1 month later):** Exchange on actions taken since the workshop.

