



Inspiring BADGES event in Belgium

Our event - fourth and fifth of September - at the Alden Biesen castle was a success! We captivated the attendees with informal learning in the heritage sector. Our fifth partner meeting - where the BADGES toolbox was introduced - took place and we welcomed 60 participants at our first conference. Yper Museum took home the first BADGES Award.

What's next?

For the last time, the BADGES partners gathered for a meeting where we discussed ongoing project issues and next steps. We reviewed the current situation of the project and looked back on a successful and productive cooperation.

The partners finalised the BADGES toolbox. This tool is a guide to work with our unique BADGES methodology. The toolbox makes it easy to validate informal learning in the heritage sector and consists of three phases: plan, do and check. It is created in such a way that it is easy for potential users to understand and use. Right now, our goal is to valorize and disseminate the BADGES project.



60 participants at first conference



The second project day, 60 participants who share a love for heritage, enjoyed a day filled with lectures, workshops and networking.

To kick off the conference, the participants got an introduction in the vision behind the project and the BADGES methodology followed by a keynote given by Stephane Berghmans, director of Technopolis: an interactive science museum in Mechelen. The mission of Technopolis is to inspire and enthuse as many people as possible for science.

Next up: the Italian project Monumenti Aperti, a festival dedicated to the promotion of the Sardinian cultural heritage that unites kids and culture. Before lunch, Tim Scholze explained what BADGES can offer to individual sites: a framework to shape attractive competence-oriented learning.

After the walking lunch and inspiration fair, visitors could attend one of three workshops about how to use the BADGES methodology. The toolbox is a standardized European validation and award system to use in natural heritage contexts, heritage sites or museums and exhibitions.

Yper Museum wins BADGES Award



The award ceremony was the end of an inspiring conference day. The prize honours a project that is competence-orientated and teaches about culture in an informal way. The selected projects were presented with movies and interviews. Out of the three nominees – Hidrodoe, Yper Museum and Kassel – Yper Museum was very proud to receive the very first BADGES Award for their project *Stoeten doen ontmoeten*.

Stoeten doen ontmoeten consists of various activities to celebrate the traditions of the Westhoek. The project launched with a virtual procession Y'parade in 2017. Since 2018, Yper Museum tries to keep the tradition of Sint-Maarten and the use of *bietenlantaarns* – lanterns made of beets – alive. This year, the children of Voormezele took on the role of journalists and made a documentary about the *Heilige Bloedprocessie*.

With this project, the museum introduces children to their local traditions and heritage. It offers a framework that stimulates reflection on traditions and how to maintain them for future generations. That is why they deserve the first BADGES Award. Congratulations!

The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.