How to encourage young people to get involved in their community life?

- Hildegunn Rye
- Leader of Hedmark youth county council
Hedmark

- 22 municipalities
- 190,000 inhabitants
- 8 municipalities in the mountain region from Hedmark and Sør-Trøndelag counties
Hedmark youth county council

- Democraticly chosen
- Board of 13 members
- Meeting with all members at least two times a year
- Age: 15 - 23
- Four committees:
  - Culture
  - Transport and regional co-operation
  - Education and health
  - Environment and international co-operation
Youth participation on three levels

- Municipality: Members chosen through school. From 13-18 years old.
- Youth council choose two members to the county council
- County: 44 members + leader of youth county council.
- National: Youth parliament annually. Two representatives from each county.
How do we get what we want?

- Speak in the County Counsil
- Lobbying
- Media
- Stop talking – start doing!
From youth council to party politics

- Politic neutrality
- Learn political processes
- Networking
- Norways youngest mayor was member of the youth county council in Hedmark!
How do we get youth involvement?

- Power and influence!
- Fun, not only politics
- Learning by doing
- Let us meet YOU
- Confidence
When is our involvement vital?

- All the time!
- Involve youth with different backgrounds
- Counsils in the municipalities and the county
Good practise

- Taxi instead of bus
- Culture card
- Teaching evaluation
The Highlands and Hedmark

Similarities:
- Close link with local council
- Regular Executive Meeting (board meeting)
- Speaking rights at council meetings
- Political neutral
- Potential to develop future leaders and politicians

Differences
- Full time paid Youth Convener
- Voting rights on council committees
Thank you for your attention!