What is SWAG about?

SWAG - **S**hare ideas, **W**ork together, **A**ct now, **G**et involved - is a collective educational program based upon the concept of commoning, aiming at:

- Connecting schools to their communities
- Introducing alternative learning methods
- Developing collective ownership of the city by exploring the public space, the natural and the cultural heritage.

To do so, through this program:

- We <u>support</u> activities that provide openness between educational community and its surroundings, such as existing projects promoting participation in schools.
- We <u>promote</u> co-learning situations, such as meetings, mobilities and trainings.
- We <u>produce</u> educational methodologies and materials in the form of open-source tools.

What do we need SWAG for?

The current school system is a product of the industrial age. As a consequence, it is ill suited for the demands of a changing world and many of the learning and teaching approaches fail to prepare children and young people for the challenges of the 21st century.

Likewise our multinational local communities, schools often struggle with financial crisis and social cohesion issues. By opening them towards their surroundings, educational resources and community resources can be linked and more effectively used to work on solutions for local challenges in an increasingly global world.

With SWAG program, we aim to support schools to contribute to the education and social inclusion of children by introducing alternative learning approaches that inspire them to become active citizens. Through the concept of commoning, we also encourage communities to involve children and young people in community projects to make them active contributors to the collective memory of their community or city.

"The commons is the cultural and natural resources accessible to all members of a society, including natural materials such as air, water, and a habitable earth. These resources are held in common, not owned privately." (Definition from Wikipedia, one of the most interesting example of knowledge commons.)

Keywords: Education, Learning, Commons, Communities, Public Space, Open Source, ...

Partners (in alphabetical order): Changes&Chances (Netherlands), Chromo Foundation (Hungary), De Nieuwe Kans (Nederlands), Escola Pública Ramon Llull (Spain), Escola Pública Pere Vila (Spain), European Forum for Freedom in Education (Germany), Ideas Factory Association (Bulgaria), Idensitat (Spain), Institute for Progressive Education (Bulgaria), Institut Maria Espinalt (Spain), Intercultural School of Athens (Greece), Mitost (Germany), Municipality of Athens (Greece), Monumenta (Greece), Stichting Kunstzinnige Vorming Rotterdam (Nederlands), Straddle3 (Spain), Tecnopolis (Greece), Vibrant Village Foundation (Bulgaria). This partners will be distributed in 3 roles: *leading, official, associated*

Other potential associated partners: MitOst, Municipality of Rotterdam (Netherlands), Municipality of Barcelona (Spain), Municipality of Sofia (Bulgaria), several schools from the participating countries.