



Show Colours for Münster: EPSA2011028

Submitted by City of Münster



Strengths of the project (I)



- **Innovative** in the sense that citizens were engaged in the upkeep and development of green spaces in the city.
- In time of scarce resources, the “do-it-yourself” principle becomes an opportunity for citizens and private entrepreneurs to evaluate the amount and quality of the effort necessary to embellish the city, to increase the protection of the environment and maintain those public assets.
- This project addresses an important and interesting problem of **public concern**. Citizens play a major role in the green planning and realisation, as well as take over responsibility for the maintenance. It intelligently turns a matter of urban esthetics into one of public ethics.
- The project has engaged with citizens from the more than 100 nationalities which have come to live in Münster.



Strengths of the project (II)



- One of the main advantages of this series of community campaigns is that the **impact** on the public space is visible and immediate. Besides the material impact on the urban landscape, it enhances the communal bond, as it is an endeavour of the appropriation of the public space by its agents and beneficiaries.
- Two important **lessons** are to be taught by the project: one regards the instruments and procedures designed in order to mobilize the large scale participation of citizens and private entities; the other concerns the planning capacities of the township.
- There is no reason why this project cannot continue to be **sustained** given the fact that it is a project which relies as much on the high level of enthusiasm already shown by citizens and businesses (and the support of the local media) as the resources of the city. The level of public enthusiasm and financial contributions from citizens and businesses generated by the project is unusually high.
- Without a doubt it has the potential for successful **replication** by other governments. Designed as a series of campaigns, the project contains a procedure for inner-improvement.

