

# Contrasting and preventing school drop-out in disadvantaged urban neighborhoods from early childhood education

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## San Siro district



The action-research, within the framework of the MUSA Spoke 6 project *Innovation for Sustainable and Inclusive Societies*, is embedded in an ecological paradigm and in a democratic and inclusive citizenship education perspective. Actions will be co-designing in multi-professional teams and implemented in the Milan San Siro district, a multicultural and multi-problematic neighborhood.

### Research objective

Explore the synergy between school and extra-school contexts to integrate formal and non-formal education against school drop-out.

Spoke 6 Action 3.1.3  
Contrasting and preventing school drop-out in disadvantaged urban neighborhoods  
(PI: Prof. Luisa Zecca)

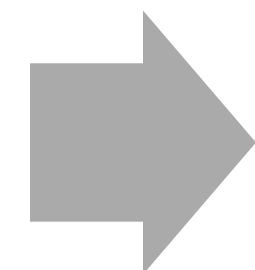
### Multifunctional educational centre L'ABC del quartiere

The centre, activated in 2022 thanks to the BiUniCrowd - Bicocca Università del Crowdfunding and the contribution of Fondazione di Comunità Milano, aims to promote multicultural identity and to support children of the neighborhood in their educational needs, as well as families in building meaningful relationships with the city community, schools and services.

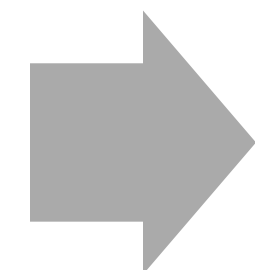


## Topics

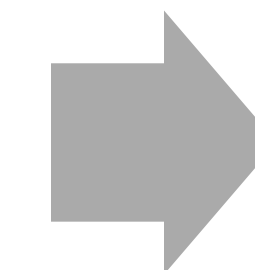
1. **Exploratory action-research**, with focus groups and participatory observations, to detect needs and interventions on educational poverty



2. **Creation of a multiprofessional team** to analyze contextual conditions and reinforce L'ABC del quartiere



3. **Research-intervention** in lower secondary schools, to test innovative curricula (competences/climate) within a PRIN project



4. **Settling-in processes** of children aged 0-3 and their mothers in L'ABC del quartiere

## Results

- Consolidate from a **cross-cultural perspective** the network between: 1) formal and non-formal education; 2) families and schools
- Consolidate of the **Community Service Learning** approach
- Implement a **multi-professional, cross-sectoral intervention model**
- Co-design and experimentation of **active innovative teaching and learning methodologies**
- Preliminary construction of an educational and didactic **tutoring model** and cultural mediation model
- Implement **accessibility to ECEC**

## Foreseen impact

- **Sustainability of the educational centre** thanks to student participation in Community Service Learning programs, internships, undergraduate and doctoral theses
- **Support from the Bambini Bicocca Foundation**, which will ensure continuity and participation in national and international projects as a third sector organization

## Dissemination

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## Traineeship and theses

• 3 Educational Sciences • 12 Primary Teacher Education • 9 Pedagogical Sciences

**Key words: School drop-out - Social cohesion - Non formal education - Innovative educational approach - Community Service Learning - Cross-cultural perspective**