



Comité Européen de Coordination

# Operations Report 2019

# CONTENT

FOREWORD .....	3
I. INTRODUCTION .....	6
II. CEC'S PRESENTATION & OBJECTIVES .....	6
III. CEC PARTNERS.....	7
IV. CEC OPERATING METHODOLOGY.....	17
V. CEC ACTIVITIES .....	18
VI. CEC INITIATIVES IN 2019.....	18
A. PROJECTS.....	18
B. SEMINARS.....	25
C. THINK-TANK CEC – CET.....	28
D. Social Economy Intergroup of the European Parliament.....	28
E. Transnational ESF Platform .....	29
VII. CEC PERSPECTIVES IN 2020 .....	29
A. Projects.....	29
B. Seminar.....	30
VIII. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF CEC MEMBERS IN 2020.....	31
IX. VARIOUS .....	32

The year 2019 was marked by the campaign for the election of the new European Parliament and then by the appointment of the MEPs who will sit in it until 2024.

The setting up of the new European Commission followed with some twists and turns.

In the aftermath, other appointments were made, namely that of the new President of the Council, the new President of the European Central Bank (ECB) and the new High Representative.

So many new personalities which CEC will follow the action!

However, 2019 was also the year of the "Brexit Saga" with its many twists and turns and with the prospect of difficult negotiations to consummate the divorce that took place at the end of the year.

These negotiations will influence those related to the 2021-2027 budget and make them more difficult than they already are.

We hear everywhere that we will have to do more with less...

Thus, we must compensate for the United Kingdom's departure by asking Member States for more, which they do not want generally speaking, while at the same time asking that budgets not be reduced.

There are Member States among the contributors that clearly want to reduce their financial contributions to the budget, particularly in the name of their own difficult budgetary situations.

Discussions on the European Budget or Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) should focus on the question of the amount of Member States' contributions and whether there is a possibility of creating new own resources within the EU, as proposed by the EP.

These discussions must also consider a new choice in the distribution of expenditure between the major areas of EU action (the Common Agricultural Policy, defence, climate, an effort to achieve economic balance between the richest and poorest regions).

Another question is that of the legal possibility that European funds can only be paid out if the Member States respect the rule of law.

Questions related to choices in major European policies and the rule of law were often raised by participants and in the framework of our "Vote4Europe?" project funded by the "Europe for Citizens" programme.

Our challenge towards the participants was to inform them, to explain and to exchange a lot with them, as future voters, on the added value of the European project.

What contributions can be made in the following areas: EU actions in the field of the general well-being of citizens, as regards the future of our consumption and of the planet, what responses in the

fight against corruption, what strong commitments can be made in the social and professional integration of people furthest from the labour market?

These questions refer directly to the options that will be taken into account in the framework of the MFF's discussion...

CEC and partners of this project allowed bringing answers to the participants' questions about the functioning of European bodies, European policies and initiatives in the field of employment, equal opportunities, fight against climate change, reception of migrants etc... and also to underline what Europe would be without the E.U.: "You don't like Europe, try without it! »

During the numerous seminars and exchanges with the participants, most of whom are people far away from the labour market, we have been able to see that they are looking for more Europe. This refers to a need for vigilance on the part of CEC and its partners in the follow-up of the MFF options.

The notion of citizenship is rapidly spreading among our participants ... provided that they feel listened to. It is another challenge for CEC in 2020, to claim this requirement to listen, on behalf of populations in difficulty.

In conclusion, quoting one of the sentences of the open letter that the partners of the projects EU COOL and VOTE4EUROPE? wrote together and sent just before the European elections of May 2019 to the Presidents of the European institutions and to the Spitzkandidaten.

“We expect Europe to recognise the value of its youth, to listen to them and care for them, to look after the interests of its citizens rather than those of companies, banks and merchants.”

CEC will continue to carry out its lobbying and monitoring work for and with the members of its network. Together, we need to work on the strengthening of public policies for training and social and professional integration for people far from the labour market, with the European institutions and national public authorities during the next five years of the mandate of the European Parliament and the European Commission.

N.B. At the time of writing this foreword, the COVID-19 pandemic has spread around the world. This crisis, unprecedented since the creation of the E.U., will have socio-economic impacts for all of us and no one knows how we will get through it and with what budgetary impact.

The most vulnerable are at risk of paying a high price for this crisis.

It is therefore time to question ourselves on the functioning of our economy.

Let's use this time of crisis to think about putting in place something fairer, with a system that promotes balance and well-being for all.

CEC staff.

## I. INTRODUCTION

This CEC report concerned the year 2019.

CEC is made up of 21 partners from 15 EU member states: ACFI-FIAS (Belgium – Wallonia, Brussels), AID (Belgium, Wallonia, Brussels), Argentura Rri (Slovakia), Association Convergences Emploi Cergy (France), Barka Foundation (Poland), Team (Serbia), Civitas (Romania), Diopter (Croatia), FISSAAJ (Belgium), Fondazione Luigi Clerici (Italy), Integrity Consulting (Bulgaria), KEM-RVA (Hungary), Medialys (France), Mesogeiaiko (Greece), Pro Vocatie (Romania), Santa Casa da Misericordia de Lisboa – SCML (Portugal), Scuola Centrale Formazione (Italy), ŠENT (Slovenia), Sud-Concept (Corse, France), Fundacio Privada Trinijove (Catalonia, Spain), Zebranic (Cyprus)

CEC members represent around 1000 organisations such as social enterprises (non-profit companies providing supported employment), social cooperatives, training centres, vocational schools, residential centres and employment training organisations that offer re-socialisation, training and social and professional integration opportunities to around 100,000 young people and adults who are mostly removed from the labour market.

## II. CEC'S PRESENTATION & OBJECTIVES

**CEC's objective is to contribute to the definition and implementation of solidarity policies regarding populations excluded or far away from the labour market and in particular to the strengthening of the European action for promotion of socio-economic integration of these populations.**

For this purpose, CEC led its action in two complementary directions: on the one hand, it develops partnerships between its members to promote innovation, identification and dissemination of best practices based on experience. And on the other hand, participates in the public debate on the improvement of public policies in this area, and especially EU policies, and cooperates to this end with all the actors involved in the fight against social exclusion.

### **A. CEC strengths: partnerships, methodologies and best practices in socio-economic integration**

In their action towards people excluded or remote from the labour market, CEC members have in common to develop socio-economic integration pathways including as required assistance towards socialization, training, integration and support towards and into employment. In this perspective, they provide training mainly not formal allowing obtaining a series of technical and behavioural skills, and/or they promote access to work experience combining people needs and business and the labour market realities. Integration pathways favour a tailored accompaniment, anchored in local contexts and mobilizing various partners in an integrated approach using the following methods:

### **1. Tailor-made accompaniment :**

- σ Continuous guidance and support for the person throughout their training pathway and, if required, during the first months of employment;
- σ Individual or in small group coaching based on learner needs, by formal or informal training (more practical than theoretical) focused on labour market needs.

### **2. Anchored in local and regional contexts:**

- σ The bottom-up approach taking account of the local and/or regional specificities, (and so mobilises the territorial actors);
- σ Region, district or micro-district is often the most relevant scale to reach individuals, early school leavers or low-skilled by setting up formal and informal training pathways targeted the most possible on learners needs.
- σ Cooperation with actor's networks or federations at national and European levels can increase the visibility of local action and have a multiplier effect.

### **3. Partners mobilization in an integrated approach:**

- σ Working in partnership (education, training, business, social enterprises, associative sector and public authorities) allows offering integrated support of the various components of social and economic integration; this partnership includes engaging in training these people, encouraging learning and having companies offering internships (as appropriate to the title of Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives).
- σ The willingness to constantly assess the actions carried out with these partners encourages research and innovation synergies between actors.

### **B. CEC contribution to the fight against social exclusion: participation in the public debate on policies and cooperation with the actors and networks of actors.**

CEC, and especially some of its members have developed regular cooperation with actors and networks of actors, public and no profit in the areas of integration, education, training and social cohesion. They also committed specific collaborations with actors of social economy and Corporate Social Responsibility. Some CEC members are also directly involved in structures with capacity to mobilise economic, social actors at sectoral or national levels.

CEC and its members are attentive to the initiatives and policies of the European institutions in the social field, not only because the European funding is crucial for the implementation of actions and transnational innovation, but also because the development of European economic integration has a growing impact on national situations and policies orientations including in the areas of employment and social policies.

## **III. CEC PARTNERS**

CEC partners develop and provide quality training in adequacy with the needs of the labour market as well as the learners' ones. This requires from our partners' strong flexibility, permanent adaptation to the evolution of the labour market and establishment of local partnerships between the various actors

responsible for training and employment. It is one of the essential means to provide a job to people engaged in a pathway to integration and specially to register them in sustainable and quality jobs.

### **ACFI-FIAS** (*BELGIUM, WALLONIE - BRUSSELS*).

Is a pluralist and militant network which gathers about forty training centres of social and professional insertion in Wallonia and in Brussels.

These associations offer to low qualified people, the opportunity to follow training with an aim of integrating or of reinstating the labour market. During the period of training people gets time to learn a trade and also makes it possible to the trainees to build their professional projects in an autonomous and responsible way.

More information: [www.acfi.be](http://www.acfi.be)

### **ACTIONS INTÉGRÉES DE DÉVELOPPEMENT AID** (*BELGIUM, WALLONIE - BRUSSELS*).

« AID », for Integrated Actions of Development is initially a multitude of social and professional integration projects articulated around the education and/or employment. Projects anchored in a local socio-economic and cultural environment, which want to be as experimentation of a levelling alternative development. The AID network is thus the gathering of these various initiatives around common values.

The centres federated by AID network aims to be an answer to the situations of inequalities, through concrete projects, carried by actors with and for the individuals who suffers exclusion at social, economic, political and cultural levels. The actions are carried out within the framework of socio-professional insertion through the formation and employment, but also by working with individuals at their individual and collective emancipation as active citizens.

More information: [www.aid-com.be](http://www.aid-com.be)

### **ARGENTURA RRI** (*POVAZSKA, SLOVAKIA*).

Is a private organization created in May 2005 and Agentúra already took part in various European projects.

Its objective is to propose to customers:

- σ market research and feasibility studies,
- σ council to enterprises,
- σ management, translation and translation/interpreting for European projects,
- σ training in communication, sale, marketing, staff management,
- σ decentralized co-operation and sustainable development projects,
- σ project evaluation

### **ASSOCIATION CONVERGENCES EMPLOI CERGY** (*FRANCE- VAL D'OISE*)

The Convergences Emploi Cergy association created in 1996 by the municipalities of the agglomeration of Cergy-Pontoise has the social purpose of working to bring economic and social back into play for those most in difficulty, especially those without paid employment for more than one year.

To fulfill this mission, the association carries out a Local Plan for Insertion and Employment (PLIE) created on the initiative of local authorities and whose governance is ensured by their elected officials, PLIE is an animation, coordination, innovation tool in the field of integration, employment and training in a defined territory, for a public that is distant from employment. The action of the PLIE contributes to the implementation of the National Operational Program of the European Social Fund for the period 2014/2020, within the objectives of promoting social inclusion and fighting poverty. They reach an average of 800 participants per year, and accompany them to quality sustainable employment through an integration path that combines, as needed, re-entry into employment. The Board of Directors of the association is composed of local and regional authorities (communes, department, and region), the public employment service, and actors in the fields of employment, integration and training.

### **BARKA-FUNDACIA** (*POZNAN, POLAND*).

Barka Foundation is a non-governmental organization. Its mission is to offer support for social development of excluded groups, build conditions to enable them to rebuild their lives by creating a system of mutual help, education and entrepreneurship, in line with a citizens' society.

The objective is to create a system of support for the process of integration of excluded groups. This system includes about 5000 persons annually (gathering persons in life crises, informal groups of citizens, non-governmental organizations, representatives of the government at national and local levels).

The main task is to create a program for the development of this system in Poland, in other countries in transformation and in developing countries.

The development of the program consists on creation of Schools of Social Animation, based on experiences and knowledge of people who overcame extreme poverty and serious life difficulties, and today are able to transfer the knowledge on the mechanisms of creation and development of programs of fight against social exclusion to groups from diverse regions of Poland and Europe, in a professional way

The new Law on Social Employment and the project of Law on Social Cooperatives enable to give legal and financial support for the development of these programs in Poland.

More information: [www.barka.org.pl](http://www.barka.org.pl)

### **Civitas Foundation** (*Cluj-Napoca, Romania*)

Created in 1992, Civitas Foundation for Civil Society is an organization which is guided by several principles such as involvement, participation and community development. They strongly believe in the power of initiative in the community and in its capacity to bring about change in people's life. This is the reason why Civitas Foundation supports rural and regional development by strengthening the civil society, public and private sectors. They use an innovative approach to the problems our community is facing; this is the reason why social innovation is one of the pillars underpinning their activities.

#### **They are contributing to the development of Human Resources through:**

- Boosting the entrepreneurship and supporting social inclusion of vulnerable groups;
- Delivery of trainings and educational activities;

### **Empowerment of institutional capacity for the public, private and civil society sectors:**

- Providing expert services to local, regional and central authorities;
- Training in the field of public administration;
- Supporting the foundation and development of non-government organizations and other associative forms;
- Designing local development strategies and working in specialized structures for the creation of development policies

### **Supporting initiatives in the public, private and civil society sectors**

- Supporting the initiatives coming from citizens, local action groups and encouraging active participation in the creation of public policies;
- Promoting social economy and the community-based economy;
- Providing consultancy and assistance in the field of rural development;
- Supporting the associative processes of the local authorities;
- Initiating charitable activities.

### **Facilitating the access to funding opportunities:**

- Providing assistance and consultancy in fundraising and project management;
- Developing and implementing investments projects, feasibility studies, business plans and marketing studies, technical projects and financial audit.

For more information: <http://www.civitas.ro/>

### **Diopter** (*Pula, Croatia*)

DIOPTER – open university is a private institution for adult education and training with a large number of external experts. The school has been founded in 1995 and since then they had more than 20.000 students.

Diopter has high school programs and numerous trainings and educations in economy, tourism, health and agriculture, all of them verified by the Ministry of Education and Science.

All of the programs have been developed to meet the needs of labor market and they have a great experience in working with various groups of students, such as addicts, long-term unemployed people and unemployed women.

Through various activities, Diopter helps people to raise awareness of the importance of lifelong learning.

Their goal is to continue further development in the field of adult learning and education, as well as lifelong learning.

For more information: <http://www.diopter.hr/>

## **Fédération des institutions et services spécialisés d'aide aux adultes et aux jeunes – FISSAAJ** (*Brussels, Belgium*)

FISSAAJ is a federation of social services. While respecting the diversity of its members, FISSAAJ promotes supports and defends the interests of services for the most vulnerable groups: disabled people, socially disadvantaged people and young people.

FISSAAJ is the most important French-speaking employers' federation in the field of services to children and young people (in the francophone community) and disabled people (in Wallonia). FISSAAJ has more than 300 members.

In the field of services to young people, FISSAAJ has 82 members which are certified by the government of the francophone Community and situated in Wallonia, and which employ about 1.100 workers. In the field of assistance to children, it has 5 members (certified by the government of the francophone community and by the Walloon Region, and situated in Wallonia), which employ about 160 workers. One of the priorities of the federation is to promote the exchange of good practice, collaboration between federations and other institutions, as well as the creation of innovative projects related to the evolution of the society.

More information: [www.fissaaaj.be](http://www.fissaaaj.be)

## **Fondazione Luigi Clerici - FLC** (*Lombardia – italy*).

Founded in 1972, the Foundation Luigi Clerici is an organization working in the field of vocational training, assistance to find a job, continuous training for workers, and training for groups in difficulty. These activities are carried out through 15 centres operating in Lombardy Region.

To develop its activities FLC counts on the collaboration of local organizations, enterprises, associations and craft enterprises operating in Lombardy.

The Foundation proposes in particular training activities helping the industrial reconversion process. The training offer of the Foundation is more than a simple offer of training. The Foundation takes care of the individual and social realization of the concerned person. Work is considered like a central dimension in life and as a factor of personal growth.

Trainers from various centres propose to provide the skills for personal evolution. The activities are divided into three sectors: assistance to find a job for young people (young graduates), continuing training for workers, and training for groups in difficulty (disadvantaged, immigrants...)

The activities carried out in the centres are mainly in the following sectors: new technologies (web language, web designer...), industry/production (mechanical, electrical and metallurgical industry), and administration (general secretariat, of direction, production and accounting). And also: deepening of foreign languages, aesthetics courses, hairdressing, health assistance, collective catering, pastry, photography, safety on work...

More information: [www.clerici.lombardia.it](http://www.clerici.lombardia.it)

## **Integrity Consulting** (*Sofia, Bulgaria*).

Founded in 2003 Integrity is a consultancy centre for enterprises know and recognised...

Through its subsidiaries and related companies Integrity Consulting deals with the consultancy of local markets in Macedonia, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro.

The main consultation services provided are:

Development, execution and management of projects under programmes funded by the structural funds of the European Union;

Elaboration, adoption and re-engineering of management systems in compliance with the international standards ISO, OHSAS, BS, GMP, IFS, etc.;

Organization of specialized trainings, seminars and other training and information activities;

Specialized research, analyses, strategies, investigations and evaluations on specific subjects.

INTEGRITY Consulting European project experience is broad. Over the past decade, INTEGRITY took part in the development, implementation and management of hundreds of projects in almost all the EU funds (INTERREG, IPA, PHARE, ERASMUS+...)

Integrity also cooperates with municipalities and Bulgarian companies, public administration and NGOs for the development and management of its projects.

More information: <http://www.integritybg.com>

### **KEM-RVA** (*Komaron, Hungary*)

KEM-RVA is a foundation created in 1992 by approximately 30 organizations to assist economic development in the region of Komarom (north-western of Hungary) promoting new businesses or existing businesses. KEM - RVA promotes, by granting micro-credits and management tools, the establishment of enterprises for marginalized audiences. KEM - RVA has already participated in INTERREG and GRUNDTVIG projects.

More information: [www.kem-hvk.hu](http://www.kem-hvk.hu)

### **Medialys** (*Lyon, France*)

Médialys is an association law 1901, created in May 2006 at the initiative of the State, SYTRAL, Keolis Lyon and "Grand Lyon". Its aims is to make public and private actors working together involved in the life of the TCL/TER network (local & regional public transport), organizations and personalities devoted on "Grand Lyon" territory to integration actions and return to employment, economic and social actors of the territory, including businesses, strengthening the social link and the employability of disadvantaged public, by actions conducted around the TCL / TER network.

It has a double objective: contribute to the professionalization and access to employment for young people without qualifications, job seekers and long-term unemployed people or beneficiaries of minimum social benefits.

Humanize and improve the functioning of the T.C.L. network allowing a better integration the social network, reduce non-compliance with the rules, combating fraud and this through implementing the rising door front and the Preventive Security Audit.

Médialys is committed to recruit and hire in single integration contract people facing difficulties of employability, eligible for the measure and resident throughout the entire agglomeration of Lyon.

The association:

- σ Recruits agents and manages contracts,
- σ Offers a socio-professional support
- σ Initiate individual and collective training in the professional integration pathway,
- σ Coaches and manage on a daily basis on the work employed agents and ensures the operational link with partners (Keolis Lyon, KPMR, Veolia Transport)
- σ Reports the operating process, including the results in terms of access to sustainable employment.

Since July 1, 2011, Medialys also provides support to persons with reduced mobility on the TCL network. For more information: [www.medialys.Asso.fr](http://www.medialys.Asso.fr)

### **Mesogeiako Mek SA** (*Greece*)

Established in 2000 MESOGEIAKO MEK SA is a company offering counselling and vocational training services to individuals who are: Unemployed, threatened by Social Exclusion, employed but in search of better prospects through training and professional development, in transition with respect to their education and career

They offer a wide range of training programs often implemented in co-operation with education and labour authorities in Greece, such as the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Labour and their agencies, OAED - Manpower Employment Organization (the Hellenic National Agency for Employment) and Local Administration authorities in all thirteen administrative regions in the country. They have centres in Athens, Thessaloniki, Serres, Heraklion-Crete, Ioannina, Samos, Lesvos and Limnos.

MESOGEIAKO develops education and training programs on an on-going basis and updates its methodologies, teaching materials and educational tools to best respond to the training needs of the learners. It has formed partnerships with VET centres in Cyprus, Bulgaria and Romania.

MESOGEIAKO is very active in education and training for entrepreneurs and social entrepreneurs.

More information: [www.mesogeiako.gr](http://www.mesogeiako.gr)

### **Pro Vocatie** (*Romania*)

PRO VOCATIE is a successfully NGO, created in 2002 that created the first Assessment Centre of Competences for Occupations in Romanian social field.

Mission: Facilitating the access at the certification of personnel's competences, obtained on other ways than the formal ones, personnel that activates in social field, in order to diversify the opportunities in their professional career.

Objective: After the candidates' assessment, C.R.F.P.S. PRO VOCATIE issues graduation or qualification certificates that give certification for the acquire competences according to the occupational standards.

More information: [www.provocatie.ro](http://www.provocatie.ro)

### **Santa Casa da Misericórdia de Lisboa – SCML** (*Lisboa, Portugal*)

Is the national largest private organization that pursues in a humanitarian way objectives of social action, provision of health care, education and culture, and the promotion of the quality of life, particularly for the benefit of those in greater need of protection.

In the pursuit of its objectives SCML:

- Has establishments and services in each of the areas of the city of Lisbon to provide directly the fulfilment of social needs;
- Carry out socio-economic studies, research actions and social surveys among the population;
- develops a social work in the areas of: childhood, youth, family and community, and elderly people;
- Has a teaching establishment and training centers;
- Has two hospitals and health services;
- Cooperate with all the entities (national and international) which pursue similar attributions.

For further information: [www.scml.pt](http://www.scml.pt)

## **Scuola Centrale Formazione - SCF (Italy)**

SCF is a national no-profit training organization, recognized by the Italian Ministry of Labour 40 years ago. SCF brings together 44 members based in 11 regions for about 100 vocational training centres and 2.156 employees providing over 16 million hours of training per year.

Its aim is to create a favourable environment for the exchange of best practices between its increasing members; this allows proposing effective responses to social and professional issues.

To pursue this goal, it organizes and supports counselling, training and support measures towards the job market.

SCF also offers services to make its associates' training offer increasingly competitive in line with the needs of beneficiaries.

This offer includes initial, continuous and/or long-life learning training that specifically target:

-Training of young people;

-Training and integration into the labour market of adults who lose their jobs, as well as disadvantaged or disabled people.

More information: [www.scformazione.org](http://www.scformazione.org)

## **ŠENT (Slovenia)**

Established in 1993, the Slovenian Association for Mental Health-is a non-profit, non-governmental humanitarian organisation established to aid individuals with mental health issues, those in temporary mental distress as well as their relatives and anyone else interested in mental health.

Our mission is the assurance of human rights and dignity for individuals experiencing difficulties in mental health, ensuring their inclusion into mainstream society and improving their employability.

The association was founded to create new jobs and offer a variety of services, including advocacy and psychosocial and employment rehabilitation to the socially excluded, the mentally ill, their relatives and other difficult to employ groups.

The association currently holds the status of a social welfare organisation operating in the public interest, the status of a humanitarian organisation compliant with the Law on humanitarian organisation as well as the status of a volunteer organisation in compliance with the Law on volunteerism.

The association's programs and services include:

- Psychosocial rehabilitation of individuals with mental health issues, those suffering from illegal drug abuse, the homeless, the elderly and other that are difficult to employ.
- Improvement of their social status

- Improvement of their quality of life
- Teaching skills required for independent living
- Increasing their employability

For more information: <http://www.sent.si>

## **Sud Concept** (*France – Corse*)

Sud concept Cooperative is a training and research consultancy centre specialized in employment problems intervening in the establishment and setting up of training and studies for public in employment research or in a integration process and especially young persons.

The cooperative is also implementing information campaigns, awareness, guidance, balance, evaluation in the fields of employment, training and groups facing integration problems. It conducts studies in training and projects engineering, strategic territory diagnostics and evaluation of public policies.

Since its conception in 2008, Sud concept Cooperative has implemented many actions promoting the development of employment and employees' qualification, in order to anticipate and accompany economic and social change of territories. Through the realization of studies, the conduct of projects and development and communication, it has developed an expertise in territorial animation and diagnosis of territories.

Sud Concept is based in Corsica. Antennas exist also in the South of France, Guiana and Guadeloupe. More information: [www.sudconcept.eu](http://www.sudconcept.eu)

## **TEAM (Leskovac, Serbia)**

Citizen Association TEAM is established on 29.08. 2006. as non-profit association of professionals with different background and expertise ready to commit their knowledge and expertise to the community. TEAM members believe that Together Everyone Achieves More and in that sense mobilize local experts and knowledge in order to create practical solutions for the most important economic, social and environmental challenges in their environment through education, research, dialogue, advocacy, networking, and lifelong learning. For TEAM member's education is fundamental to development and growth and it is one of the most powerful instruments for reducing poverty and inequality and it sets the foundation for sustained economic growth. Sustainable development is closely related to education. The TEAM uses a participatory approach to adapt the ambitious goals of sustainable development to the local context, thus contributing to achieving national, regional and global development goals at the same time. The association is focused on youth and adult education, creating meaningful partnerships, preparing of analyses, studies and strategies, facilitating projects and securing contributions to policies of relevance for the implementation of Agenda 2030 goals.

Members of the Association are guided by a holistic and inclusive approach and apply different innovative mechanisms, tools, platforms and processes to actors of sustainable development from the public, private and civil sectors in the transnational region of the Western Balkans, empowering them to make sustainable decisions for themselves and their communities.

TEAM members have been involved in the development sector for more than 20 years and have implemented numerous national and international projects from different fields, so the expertise of the Association is based on knowledge and experience in the following multidisciplinary areas:

- Education, non-formal education and lifelong learning;
- Innovation and competitiveness of the economic sector;
- Human resources, the labour market and social policy;
- Urban and rural development - local, regional and transnational;
- Circular economy and renewable energy;

More information: <http://eu-team.org/>

### **Fundacio Privada TRINIJOVE** (*Barcelona, Spain*).

Trinijove begin its activities in the field of training and job placement in 1985. During this time, we they have worked actively in the design and implementation of innovative programs and measures in order to overcome the situations of social exclusion.

Their action is based on the following key principles:

- . Ensure the gratuity of all the services and resources
- . Take a holistic approach combining information, education, professional integration and leisure time.
- . Support the territorial perspective which implies working to meet the needs of each specific territory in terms of social and professional inclusion of socially marginalized groups
- . Manage joint projects through our networks in Catalonia, Spain and Europe.

Trinijove Foundation's work is based on the following two elements:

1. The joint collaboration with people, institutions and companies' sensitive to social problems, including:
  - . Government of Catalonia (Departments of Enterprise and Employment, Justice, Social Welfare and Family of Planning and Sustainability and the general secretary of Youth),
  - . City of Barcelona (Barcelona Activa and the Municipal
  - . Council of the District of St. Andrew),
  - . Obra Social "la Caixa".
2. The belief that social and professional integration of young people, women and long-term unemployed will be effective only if it is including economic integration Trinijove don't want to give aid, training or employment from a cyclical view, but from a view of process tending to empower people.

Trinijove currently extends its social object, in developing the solidarity economy as a company of insertion in Catalonia, offering a range of services for the sole purpose of providing employment to the more disadvantaged people.

In order to give employment to the more socially disadvantaged people, including people suffering from mental, physical and/or sensory disabilities Trinijove has created in 2004 a "Centre for labour".

In accordance with the requirements of organizational functioning and management of projects, Trinijove is certified EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme).

Since September 2009, Trinijove launched jointly with the Ministry of labour, the “plan of work for Equal Opportunities between men and women” who promotes equality of opportunity in employment.

More information: [www.trinijove.org](http://www.trinijove.org)

## **Zebranico Consulting Ltd (Cyprus)**

Zebranico Consulting Ltd is involved in the fields of technology, education, consulting support services, development programs, the environment, energy, regional and local development and participation in national and European programs.

Zebranico engages in the design, preparation and implementation of programs to provide institutional support. It aims to contribute to economic, social and cultural development and the organization of agricultural production.

The Zebranico Consulting Ltd aims at providing the organization, coordination, implementation and management of vocational education and training activities (including research, studies and other related activities). It strives to provide services of the highest standard in its areas of expertise which include:

- Training related activities (surveys, studies, seminars, workshops, conferences, publication of educational material, implementation of educational and training programs)
- Organization and coordination of conferences and meetings related to the scope of the organization and / or on behalf of third persons, natural or legal and / or participation in European and National programs etc. and / or coordination of such events.
- Preparation, implementation, evaluation for the purposes of the corporation or third party legal entities of proposals, programs and projects.
- Submission, implementation, monitoring, evaluation of EU or nationally funded projects and their financial management. The projects may be undertaken by the organization itself or on behalf of other legal entities.

Website: <https://zebranico.com/>

## **IV. CEC OPERATING METHODOLOGY**

The training and advice methods used by the CEC partner organisations can be summed up as follows:

- Individual assessment of each person’s aspirations and aptitudes, allowing for the development of a personalised training and insertion programme
- Alternation of training sessions in small work groups and within companies
- Skills acquisition through technical workshops
- The development of social and administration skills through improved reasoning, literacy and numeracy

- Personal psychological and social support
- Familiarisation with new information and communication technologies
- Work placements
- Monitoring of assessments and achievements
- Partnerships with the business sector with a view to matching supply and demand for the social and professional integration of the persons concerned
- Support into and during employment (job coaching, assessment, tutoring)
- Official public recognition and certification of the training processes provided by the not-for-profit sector
- Evaluation and long life training for employees in social cooperatives and enterprises

## V. CEC ACTIVITIES

The activities of the CEC and its secretariat are mainly geared to the following objectives:

- Liaison between CEC member organisations: regular contact with member organisations either at their offices or in Brussels
- Liaison with European Commission departments for CEC member organisations (meetings, preparation and follow up of tendered projects). The CEC accompanies its members in meetings with Commission departments and takes charge of the follow up
- Development of joint projects between CEC members, particularly those that fall within the framework of various Community or Commission programmes
- Reflective seminars on European Community themes
- Constant monitoring of European Commission initiatives and invitations to tender
- European umbrella organisation, as requested by the Commission regarding the ever more numerous Community Initiatives that require the participation of several countries to be eligible, as well as taking charge of administration of coordinating with the Commission departments and meetings between relevant partners for the development of tenders
- Lobbying European institutions to get the social entrepreneurship sector recognised within the EU
- Research carried out in collaboration with CEC partners
- Contact with the European social partners (trade unions, employers) with a view to better integrate the targeted groups into the labour market
- Foster interactive reflection among CEC partners (e.g.: social protection, employment, European Strategy 2020 - Lifelong Learning Programme...)
- Participation to the think-tank CEC-CET focused on social European policy
- Participation to the public debate regarding fight against social exclusion policies.

## VI. CEC INITIATIVES IN 2019

### A. PROJECTS

## **A.1. Erasmus + Action Key 2: Strategic partnership – “ATOMS&CO” (01.10.17-31.09.19)**

### **The aims of the project:**

Develop and implement a system of school hooking centred on the inclusion of families.

- Define the needs of families and ground actors through the development of an inventory,
- Promote synergies between families, schools and welfare actors (help for young people, public services, etc.) in order to reduce the risk of dropping out of school and / or improve their success,
- Improve dialogue with families by making the meaning and challenges of schooling and the functioning of the school system more understandable,
- Develop a transnational scheme corresponding to identified needs, test and adapt it,
- To equip the actors on the ground in order to take into account the family factors in the support of dropout students.

### **Target groups:**

The ATOMS & Co project will target two specific groups:

- Families with particular attention to those at risk of dropping out of pupils aged 6 to 18 years.
- Schools and actors of social assistance (Youth aid, public services, etc.)

### **Main results achieved:**

This project has made it possible to set up school-family educational alliances to better fight school dropout.

Two productions are available on the project website:

1. A transnational report presenting an inventory of the different educational situations in each national context in Italy, Spain and French-speaking Belgium.

You will also find in this report a presentation of:

- the trends and policies implemented in the fight against early school leaving in the three countries concerned;
- the collective and individual rights of parents in each country;
- best practices promoting school-family educational alliances;
- the views of parents, educators and teachers on the relationship between families and schools gathered through focus groups and world cafés.

<http://atomsandco.eu/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/Transnational-Report.pdf> (available in French and English).

2. A device to facilitate school-family relations which has as objectives to :

- Promote an active approach by the school, families and local communities to identifying the involvement of families in the learning and training process of pupils;

- Promote the active participation of families, especially those in more precarious situations;
- Promote the active role of the school as an important place/actor in the development of local communities.

<http://atomsandco.eu/documents/dispositif/> (available in English, French and Italian).

Promotor: FISSAAJ (Belgium)

Partners: Comité Européen de Coordination (Belgique); Alma Mater Studiorum – University of Bologna (Italie); Associazione Gio.net (Italie); Fundacio Privada Trinijove (Espagne); Fundacio Escoles Parroquials – L’Esperança (Espagne).

For more information, check the website: [www.atomsandco.eu](http://www.atomsandco.eu)

## **A.2 Europe For citizen programme – “EU.cool” (October 2017 – March 2019)**

The aim is to fight against euroscepticism, to raise awareness of the added value of European citizenship, to neutralize clichés and misleading speech by bringing political knowledge about European citizenship.

Each partner ensured the necessary organisation for quantitative and qualitative participation: a national seminar prepared each transnational seminar. The target public was composed of young people in socio-professional integration. The seminars enabled these young people to discuss the issues put into perspective by the initial questionnaire (employment and training, environment, food...). National realities had an impact on the young people's responses. The debates showed them that many of the problems in their daily lives are comparable to those experienced by other young people. Global answers can be provided by the existence of the EU, for example: the free movement of citizens allows everyone to offer their labour force, skills and experience in the 28 member states... Their exchanges showed that this is not a theoretical provision: many people can train, gain experience etc... abroad.

Discussions focused on democracy, peace on EU territory, migration, climate issues...

The closing seminar allowed the ambassadors of the participating countries to draw pragmatic conclusions from their EU Cool experience: the most emblematic is the open letter drafted in collaboration with the partners of the Vote4Europe? project to EU officials. It shows that we have gone from a situation of almost indifference towards Europe to a phase of demands but also of understanding a reality: democracy is built every day, systematically, patiently and willingly.

Those in charge of the project, but also the trainers, educators and supervisors of these young people have regularly expressed their surprise at the willingness of many of them to debate and put forward ideas and proposals. Getting them to work together not only at home but also in a transnational framework, to question themselves, to stimulate their critical spirit has demonstrated their willingness to be heard and taken seriously, to become subjects in their own right. The notion of citizenship unfolds rapidly if they feel they are being listened to.

Promotor : ACFI (Be)

Partners: CEC (Be), Klimaka (Gr), Pro Vocation (Ro), Scuola Centrale Formazione (It), Bonnevie (Be), Femmes Actives (Be), ESOPE (Be) et Le monde des possibles (Be).

For further information, check: <http://eucool.eu/>

### **A.3 Erasmus+ Strategic partnership: Project “Pave the Way to a social entrepreneurship” (01.10.17 – 31.09.19)**

#### **The aims of the project**

This project aims to improve entrepreneurial skills through specific and user friendly analysis and guidelines and through development of online learning platform, which will simulate a working business. Thus, adult workers’ skills will be increased and diversified in the field of guidance, training, work placement and business creation.

The main objective of the project is to increase entrepreneurships in Europe by:

- Strengthen cooperation between the organizations from different EU countries
- Improving the quality and relevance of entrepreneurial education through an innovative approach using non-formal learning tools;
- Promote the development of entrepreneurial skills through development of specific guidelines and online learning platform;
- Provision of mentoring tools to those who wish to become social entrepreneurs

**Target group** Low-skilled adults

#### **Main results achieved:**

This project has enabled the Belgian, Italian, Spanish and Bulgarian partners to exchange good practices in the creation of social enterprise models developed in each of these countries and in particular to enable the Bulgarian partners to have a panel of schemes for the creation of social enterprises which are still at an embryonic stage in Bulgaria.

Two tools have been created:

- A business model outline presenting the structure of a business plan to identify the strengths and weaknesses of a social enterprise creation project (market analysis, marketing plan, production plan, organisation plan, legal and fiscal plan, etc.).
- an e-learning platform enabling people wishing to set up their own social enterprise to test their knowledge and capacity in business management and in particular to take on different types of job profiles (human resources manager, customer service, marketing, fundraising)

These tools are available in Italian, Bulgarian, Spanish, French and English.

<https://platform.igetadapt.org/platform/DEMO/?redirect=0#>

**Promotor** : Gis-Transfercenter Foundation (Bulgaria)

**Partners** : Comité Européen de Coordination (Belgium) ; Fondazione Luigi Clerici (Italy) ; FIAS-ACFI (Belgium) ; Technical Training Bulgaria Ltd (Bulgaria) ; Fundacio Privada Trinijove (Spain).

## **A.4 Europe for Citizens – Civil Society project “Vote4Europe?” (01/10/18 - 31/03/20).**

### ***Purpose:***

Encourage marginalized publics (young people between 16-35 years old) who attend training centres as well as people close to their environment to participate to the European debate by allowing them to become informed European citizens.

### ***Objectives:***

- Inform and raise awareness about the gains created by European citizenship;
- Educate the targeted public about the impact that their vote can have in their daily life and allow them to become active European citizens. Encourage them to vote for the European elections of May 2019;
- Allow the targeted public to blend in by working but also by becoming citizens of society;
- Educate and enquire Member of the Parliament on the expectations of the targeted public who are often forgotten in the programs of the U.E.

### ***How :***

- Create participation and expression tools and conditions
- Promote cooperation and debate between marginalized publics and society
- Interaction between targeted public, project partners, Member of the Parliament and European institutions about topics that matters to them

### ***Targeted public:***

Young people with low qualifications in training course often influenced by populism and radicalisation.

### ***Main results achieved:***

The project is entering its final phase, as a reminder, the project has allowed:

- a. to survey about 630 young people from 5 countries (Belgium, Spain, France, Poland and Romania) on their perceptions of the EU and to verify their voting intentions regarding the last European elections;
- b. to organise 5 transnational seminars in each of the countries participating in the project, bringing together almost 400 participants. These seminars were an opportunity for young people to debate with Members of the European Parliament on topics such as youth unemployment, the fight against climate change, the fight against discrimination, the functioning of the European institutions, what added value can the EU bring to the daily lives of young people, etc...;

The partners are currently working on a tool for trainers to inform young people about the strengths and weaknesses of the European institutions. This tool aims to be a support for trainers during the information and/or training sessions which they will set up in their respective organisations.

**The final seminar will take place on 6 March 2020 in Brussels** and will be an opportunity to question the new Commission and the new Parliament about the policies and initiatives they will propose on the themes of the fight against youth unemployment, climate change, European policy in the reception of migrants, the development of social entrepreneurship...).

The young people who participated in the project will submit several questions to which the MEPs will respond by presenting the European Parliament's initiatives on the above-mentioned themes.

We will also invite the European Commissioner Nicolas Schmit in charge of Employment and Social Rights to have a debate on the European Commission's employment initiatives and policies.

The conclusions of this seminar could be the subject of the elaboration of a political message coming from the associative sector that the CEC will defend to the European institutions and the European social partners during the 5 years of mandate of the Commission and the European Parliament.

**Partnership:**

Lead partner:

CEC

Associated partners:

CIJ (FR)

Barka Foundation (PL)

ACFI-FIAS (BE)

Fundacio Privada Trinijove (ES)

Civitas (RO)

For more information: <http://www.vote4europe.org>

## **A.5 Erasmus + Strategic Partnerships “Valorize Non Formal and Informal Learning across Europe –NFIL” (03/09/18 – 02/09/20)**

The **main aim** of the NFIL project is the recognition and the transparency of skills and qualification to facilitate learning, employability and job mobility for migrants.

The **direct targets** are the national entities in charge of the recognition of professional qualifications and the evaluation and certification of learning devices, employment services and stakeholders in the fields of education, training and civil society are all key stakeholders with an important role to promote initiatives for the validation of non-formal and informal learning.

**Main results achieved:**

Following the publication of the report "Validation as a tool for social inclusion", the partners have developed an online platform with the presentation of 20 professional profiles from the 7 project countries (BE, BG, FR, ES, IT, SI, UK) which aims to share information on the minimum qualifications required to either follow a qualifying training in the professions offered by the platform or to directly access employment.

A guidance module is also developed to help migrants and trainers to validate and certify their non-formal and informal skills acquired in another EU or non-EU country. ([www.valorizenfil.en/materials](http://www.valorizenfil.en/materials))

**Partners**

**Lead partner** - Fondazione Casa di Carita Arti e Mestieri onlus (IT)

Sdruzhenie Mezhdunaroden institut po menidzhmant (BG)

Training Vision Ltd (UK)

Confederación Espanola de Centros de Ensenanza Asociacion - Confédération espagnole de l'enseignement et centres de formation (ES)

GRETA du Velay – Lycée Charles et Adrien Dupuy (F)

Ljudska Univerza Ptuj (Slovénie)

CEC (BE)

## **A.6 Erasmus + Strategic Partnerships “Educate Yourself” (01/09/2018 - 31/08/2020)**

The aims of the project is the social inclusion through self-education and learning for migrants

**Methodologies:**

- The conduct of a study allowing to underline the principle needs of migrants in their paths of social integration in the host country
- Development of tools, training courses and guidance materials helping migrants in their cultural, economic and language integration courses
- Development of an online platform offering practical and useful information and materials in order to foster the integration of migrants in their new environment.

The **specific objectives** of the project are:

- Exchange of best practices between organisations of different European countries
- Improve the quality and relevance of services offered to migrants through an analytic study on the needs of migrants towards their social and economic integration
- Promote employment, professional training and entrepreneurship of migrants

#### **Main results achieved:**

In each of the partnership countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, Spain and Greece) a survey was carried out among organisations in charge of the reception, training and orientation of migrants in their new host country.

The managers of these organisations gave their opinions on the way their country and/or region operate in terms of migrant reception policy. Questions were asked about the availability of language courses for migrants, access to health care, housing, education, work, how to set up a business, etc. The questions were also asked about the availability of language courses for migrants, access to health care, housing, education, work, how to set up a business, etc. The answers to these questions were given in the form of a questionnaire.

For the moment the partners are drafting a panel of tools broken down into 9 categories relating to the different places accessible to migrants for learning the language of the host country, the functioning of the country's institutions, information on the country's geographical or demographic data, how to access health care, how to develop one's own business or self-employment.

Then these tools will be developed on an online platform and the challenge will be to make these tools as practical as possible for migrants.

#### **Partners:**

Integrity Technical Training Bulgaria (BG)

Mesogeiaiko Ekpaideftiko Kentro (GR)

Trinijove (ES)

CEC (BE)

### **A.7 ERASMUS+ FORM BRIDGE – PÉDAGOGIE DE CHANTIER : UNE APPROCHE REPENSÉE POUR FAVORISER LES PASSERELLES FORMATIVES. PÉRIODE 01/09/19 AU 31/12/2021.**

Partners :

Lead : Études et Chantier Corsica (FR)

Associated partners: VHS Cham (DE), CEFAL (IT), University of Bologna (IT), PED Epirus (GR), Association Alpes de Lumière (FR), CEC (BE)

After addressing the foundations of dropout prevention, defining the phenomenon and building a methodology for intervention under a previous Erasmus + programme, the project proposes to push forward this educational approach at the heart of local policies and share it within a network

coordinated at local and European level. It thus aims to co-construct on a partnership basis an educational alliance based on a rethought pedagogy.

Based on a rethought pedagogical approach, the partnership sets itself the following objectives:

- Create a reference framework for evaluating the skills mobilised by the experiences of the Pédagogie de Chantier, in particular transversal skills, which are recognised as fundamental skills for professional integration, citizenship and the well-being of the individual.
- (Re) define training paths to the evolution of the labour market and the needs of companies and territories through the methodological approach of Pédagogie de chantier, which represents an opportunity to link learning, citizenship and territorial development.
- Define the learning outcomes of the training paths of different sectors in relation to the cultural heritage of the territories through the common European language ECVET
- Support the educational achievements of young people with the contribution of representatives from the business world in order to break the cycle of inequality, poverty and exclusion.
- Encourage and promote collaborative approaches and educational alliances to reduce early school leaving in their territory.

## **B. SEMINARS**

### **B.1. Intermediate and final seminars of the ERASMUS + project “Pave the way to a social entrepreneurship”- April 25<sup>th</sup> and September 19<sup>th</sup> 2018, European Economic and Social Committee, Brussels**

The results of the project were presented during these two seminars (see main results achieved under A3 on page 21 of this report). It was also an opportunity to discover several social economy initiatives in Belgium, Bulgaria, Spain and Italy .

Sébastien Pereau, General Secretary General of ConcertES, the consultation platform of representative organisations of the social economy in French-speaking Belgium, presented the state of the art of social entrepreneurship in French-speaking Belgium.

Alain Coheur, President of the EESC's Group on Social Economy Enterprises stressed that a monitoring system has been set up to exchange information on the way policies are conducted in Europe in the field of social economy.

The EESC has presented an opinion for an adapted European legal framework on social economy enterprises

<https://www.eesc.europa.eu/fr/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/towards-appropriate-european-legal-framework-social-economy-enterprises-own-initiative-opinion>.

The European Commission represented by Patrick Klein (Social Economy Unit, DG Grow, European Commission) is organising working groups around the theme of SE working around the development of social finance or with territories to create territorial development and growth strategies for social economy enterprises. He underlined the conclusions of the Council of 7 December 2015 on the promotion of SE as a vector of economic and social development in Europe: "from these conclusions emerge a willingness at the level of Brussels and the Member States to develop a dynamic of SE and social entrepreneurship development for the territories. ».

Mr Klein informed the participants of the various actions that the European Commission is carrying out in the field of social economy such as :

- the programmes set up (EaSI, ESF, etc.);
- access to the market (working in partnership with socially responsible public procurement, discussion with the authorities of the Member States for the reservation of public contracts for social objectives, establishment of good practices and guides) ;
- Establishment of framework conditions as in many Member States there is no legislation on SE ;
- Vocational training for young people (support for young people who wish to set up cooperatives, support for organisations that train young people both at secondary and tertiary level);
- Digitalisation (how SE values can influence new technologies or digital issues).

## **B.2. VOTE4EUROPE? seminars**

5 transnational seminars prepared by national meetings organised between February and May 2019 in Poznan (PL), Barcelona (ES), Cluj-Napoca (RO), Ajaccio (FR) and Brussels (B), each with at least 55 participants from 7 different Member States.

At each of these seminars at least 1 MEP participated in order to exchange and debate with the participants, mostly young people with low qualifications, on the role and functioning of the European institutions and the importance of voting.

The themes addressed during these seminars were the following: youth unemployment, the fight against climate change, the fight against discrimination, the functioning of the European institutions, what added value can the EU bring in the daily life of young people etc...; <http://vote4europe.org/documents/newsletter/>

The closing seminar of the project will take place on 6 March 2020 at the EESC in Brussels.

## **B.3. CEC-CET-EZA seminar “Territories zero long term unemployed TZCLD”**

On 21 June 2019 in Namur the participants discussed the French experience of the territory of zero long-term unemployment.

In April 2016, 2.46 million people in France had been unemployed or in reduced activity for more than a year. And currently, one third of the long-term unemployed have been without stable employment for more than three years.

To combat this terrible problem, ATD Quart Monde association - joined by other players in the fight against exclusion (Emmaus France, Secours populaire, Le Pacte Civique, etc.) - offers the long-term unemployed a chance to find a permanent job that meets local needs that are poorly developed because they are not very solvent.

This approach, launched in January 2017, aims to use the benefits paid to the long-term unemployed to reallocate them to job creation in the regions. Aid for the unemployed can thus be redirected to "job-oriented enterprises", which are responsible for creating jobs that meet needs that the market economy cannot meet. With one golden rule: the project is based on the creation of activities which do not compete with existing businesses.

Three key concepts govern the TZCLD initiative:

1. No one is unemployable, everyone has skills and know-how that are wasted because they cannot be exercised ;
2. It is not work that is lacking, it is employment since many of society's needs are not being met ;
3. It is not money that is lacking, since every, year long-term unemployment leads to expenses and loss of income that the community assumes.

The implementation of the experimentation mobilizes 4 principles of action that guide its operation:

4. Voluntary adhesion of people deprived of employment ;
5. Starting from the skills and desires of the people;
6. A strong link with the territory;
7. Participation in the workplace as an experience to be lived.

The presentations and discussions highlighted the promising results of the first experiments carried out in France, and also highlighted the communication effort associated with the experimental approach, particularly in promoting the three key concepts. They showed the interest of Enterprises with employment purpose (EBE). They also highlighted the importance of the territorial dimension in the successful mobilization of actors and resources.

In conclusion, the TZCLD project is a perfect example of a social experiment that sets up a network of integrated services to take into consideration the needs of each individual who is consulted beforehand. Moreover, it is a project based on the principle of partnership and aimed at creating jobs that ensure integration into the labour market and regain their place in society.

#### **B.4. Participation of the Vote4Europe? project during the conference on European elections organized by the EACEA Agency on May 13<sup>th</sup> 2019**

The CEC was invited by the AECEA Agency together with 5 other representatives of European networks to present the first results of their projects aimed at fostering the participation of European citizens in the European elections. Several officials from the European Commission as well as Members of the European Parliament were present at this meeting.

It was underlined that the agency congratulated CEC for having been able to organize all the transnational seminars just before the European elections of 23-26 May 2019.

## **B5 Final seminar of the Atoms&CO project – « Building an alliance between families, schools and social welfare actors in the fight against school dropout » September 13th 2019, Brussels.**

In addition to the presentation of the project results, which you will find in point A.1. page 19 of this report,

A round table was organized on the theme "What priorities and policies to combat school drop-out and what place for families?"

The speakers were Elena Iacucci, Head of Qualification, Innovation and Development of Education and Training of the Municipality of Bologna, Xavier Chavarria, Chief Inspector of Education of the Generalitat de Catalunya and Mrs Anne Hellemans, Deputy Director of the General Directorate of Compulsory Education of the Wallonia-Brussels Federation. The seminar was attended by representatives of public authorities.

They presented the actions that their region is developing to better fight against school drop-out (Development in Bologna of School Drop-out Services, creation of a database listing young people dropping out of school in Barcelona, educational policies to fight against school drop-out in the Wallonia-Brussels Federation, etc.).

The conclusions of the seminar underlined that the results of the experimentation of the scheme confirm the relevance of parental involvement in the different contexts involved. It also highlights that, in order to be deployed in institutions, parental participation requires, on the one hand, that certain institutional conditions should be met (in particular a certain flexibility with regard to timetables and the availability of buildings) and, on the other hand, that training in new tools be carried out to enable everyone (professionals as well as parents) to occupy a new place in the interactions.

## **C. THINK-TANK CEC – CET**

The work was focused in particular on the future of the ESF+ for the 2021-2027 period and meetings with DG Employment officials were organized in order to better understand and inform the members of the CEC about the objectives of the future ESF+.

For more information: <http://cecasbl.org/en/component/attachments/download/274>

The Think-Tank also organized meetings in October 2018 for a French delegation of approximately 30 people from the Plan Locaux pour l'insertion et l'emploi (PLIE), with officials from the European Commission and the Parliament in order to be informed on the perspectives of future structural funds.

## **D. SOCIAL ECONOMY INTERGROUP OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

CEC participated in several meetings and shared some best practices from its members in terms of Social Economy entrepreneurship and challenged some MEPs to propose to the EC to increase the European funding for this sector with considerable employment potential for the targeted publics which most CEC members work with.

## **E. TRANSNATIONAL ESF PLATFORM**

Participation of the CEC and PLIE Cergy in the work meeting "Active Inclusion Integrated pathways" on May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> 2019 in Brussels during which the CEC network was presented as well as the mechanism of the Local Plans for Integration and Employment (PLIE).

## **VII. CEC PERSPECTIVES IN 2020**

### **A. PROJECTS**

#### **A.1. Vote4Europe? Bis**

On 6 March 2020, the CEC will organise at the European Economic and Social Committee in Brussels the final seminar of Vote4Europe? The CEC would like to stress that the work done by all the project partners and in particular by young people is not over because the European elections are behind us. The strategy is to work with the European institutions on the issue of social inclusion of low-skilled people over the next five years. This seminar will be an opportunity for young people to exchange with members of the European Parliament and officials of the European Commission. It will be an opportunity to discover the initiatives and policies that the new European Parliament and the new European Commission will be putting forward on subjects such as youth unemployment, the fight against climate change and environmental protection, and policies relating to migrants.

The CEC wishes to continue this dynamic of meetings between young people from training centres and social and professional integration of CEC members and representatives of the European institutions.

In this context, the CEC will submit a new application in September 2020 in order to promote the participation of young people far from the labour market in the European debate and to work together for a more united and inclusive Europe.

#### **A.2 Erasmus + Key Action 3 :**

The CEC will organise working meetings with the CEC Bureau members during 2020 to develop an Erasmus+ Key Action 3 project for the European network on the validation of basic skills by low-skilled adults.

It is planned to submit an application in February 2021.

The themes to be addressed will be:

- How to identify and reach low-skilled groups outside traditional education and training systems;
- To diagnose the non-formal, informal and formal competences of these groups and, after analysis, to propose an inclusive pathway to them;
- How to have their skills validated and to whom they should be directed to get them recognised;
- Proposals for professional pathways in order to strengthen skills and support towards and in employment.

### **A.3 ERASMUS + KEY ACTION 2 : SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP**

The CEC will participate in collaboration with Trinijove; Integrity, Barka, C.I.J. and the Fondazione Luigi Clerici in a project promoting the development of social entrepreneurship among young people, especially the low-skilled.

## **B. SEMINAR**

**1. VOTE4EUROPE FINAL SEMINAR AT THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC SOCIAL COMMITTEE IN BRUSSELS 06/03/20 (SEE POINT A.4. PAGE 22). THIS SEMINAR WAS UNFORTUNATELY CANCELLED BY THE EESC DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS.**

**2. CEC – CET- EZA TERRITORY ZERO LONG TERM UNEMPLOYED – JUNE 18<sup>TH</sup> AND 19<sup>TH</sup> 2020 (POSTPONED TO THE 10 AND 11/12/20 DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS).**

The seminar held in 2019 aimed to present a contribution from the voluntary sector to the socio-professional reintegration of the long-term unemployed and more generally to the work to be carried out specifically with a view to the inclusion of those furthest from the labour market.

At the start of the French experiment, we have a base of 10 experiments on which it is possible to communicate usefully and mobilise not only the European voluntary sector but also the social partners and local authorities who will be called upon to take a greater interest in the issue of unemployment and the unemployed with a global societal vision.

The project puts concepts/issues such as these back at the centre of the discussion:

- Do we dare to talk about the open-ended contract at a time when the precarisation of employment contracts is the norm?
- Is it possible to build pathways to integration with mechanisms that lead to precariousness?
- What is behind the "working poors"?

- Can we or cannot we discuss about an universal income?

The planned seminar will be confronted with these questions and will also have to reflect on the conditions that would make it possible to extend experimentation in a context other than the specifically French institutional context?

## **2. SEMINAR VALORIZE NON FORMAL AND INFORMAL LEARNING ACROSS EUROPE : NFIL – JULY 2<sup>ND</sup> 2020 - BRUSSELS (POSPONED DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS).**

The NFIL project partners will present the results of the project to several European Commission officials.

The topics will be "How can we reach the target group of migrants (by migrants we mean not only refugees or migrants from outside Europe but also EU nationals who move to other countries within the EU) and how can we ensure that the system of validation of competences is open and accessible for this target group?"

## **3. SEMINAR EDUCATE YOURSELF (FINAL DATE TO BE CONFIRMED -BRUSSELS)**

Presentation of the results of the project and in particular how to propose practical tools to best guide the administrative procedures of newcomers in their new host country (work permits, access to housing, training and employment, access to health care, children's schooling, etc.).

## VIII. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE OF CEC MEMBERS IN 2020

Unfortunately, several members of CEC are no longer be part of the network since January 2019. They are:

- σ **EQUA** in Cadiz and in Andalusia. The association has decided to focus on the local aspect and no longer commit to European project for the time being.
- σ **ENSINUS**: the Portuguese partner hasn't given sign of life in several months regardless of the requests from CEC.
- σ Our Belgian partners **ACFI** and **FISSAAJ** were in December 2019 absorbed by **UNESSA** which is a federation of associative institutions. It brings together actors active in the reception, accompaniment, help and care of people. It is present in Wallonia and Brussels.

UNESSA represents seven main associative sectors:

- Early Childhood Care and School Health Promotion
- Youth Assistance
- General Hospitals
- Socio-professional Integration and Social Economy
- Elderly people
- Persons with disabilities
- Mental Health

This new partner will allow the extension of CEC services to the development of European projects and activities in the sectors of aid and care for people.

CEC also calls upon its members to propose partners in the following countries: **IE, DK, FI, NL, AT, CZ, EE, LV, MT** and **LT**.

## IX. VARIOUS

- In 2020, CEC will change its logo underlining its role as an active social inclusion actor. A new, more user-friendly website will be created and a new communication plan will be put in place to facilitate the exchange of data and information between CEC members.
- CEC will inquire about the advantages of becoming an International Non-Profit Association - AISBL, in order to possibly benefit from financial support from the public administrations of the different countries of the ECC members and thus be able to strengthen the CEC team.