

## **Concept note – Project KA3 – “IFS – Fostering Social Justice”**

- Context:

In connection with its federal orientations, the FCSF proposes a contribution to a strategy in the development of the actions of IFS - Europe and this for the period 2021-2023. The project “IFS – Fostering Social Justice” tries to crucially contribute to this strategy and provides an opportunity for the IFS Europe to project itself towards a new cycle of European programs for the period 2021-2027.

This project, during its duration and once completed, allows the development of a stronger European cooperation and a deeper exchange of resources and practices in line with the diversified European social realities. Recognizing ourselves in the same values, IFS members and external organizations wish to rely on collective intelligence to share our expertise and experiences, to upscale processes and strategies and to innovate in order to, on the one hand, empower our respective educational networks and, on the other hand, contribute to the reinforcement of capacities at IFS Europe for the implementation of transnational educational programs at European level.

The ambition of the project is therefore to bring together 10 IFS European members and 2 external partners from Southern Europe (Spain and Greece) and open up a space for reflection between different actors in adult education in order to share forms of engagement, to encourage the desire to act of active citizens and to create conditions driving to the development of educational initiatives that contribute to social justice and to a more responsible and ecological society.

- General objective:

The general objective of the project “IFS – Fostering Social Justice” is to encourage European cooperation and strengthen capacity of the IFS network to provide and advocate for effective adult learning opportunities targeted to people with fewer opportunities, migrants and refugees by means of mutual learning, peer counselling and capacity building.

- Specific objectives:

10. To train, equip and support professionals and educators of IFS members in developing and setting up educational projects in the field of social inclusion or justice, active citizenship and migrants’ integration by identifying, observing, sharing, analyzing and upscaling good practices of adult learning.
11. To upscale IFS strategies and processes to improve European cooperation and advocacy in the field of adult education

- Expected results:

The strategy has been declined in three axes (operational, strategical and political) with a 'fil rouge' represented by the importance of the observation stages. The expected outcomes have been thus defined as follows:

R1 - Professionals and educators of official project partners have developed skills and competences, have acquired and scaled up methods and tools and are able to develop and implement adult education projects and initiatives in the field of social inclusion, active citizenship and migrant's integration.

R2 - IFS members and external partners have developed and scaled up processes and strategies to improve the effectiveness of their capacity to provide educational opportunities responding to target group needs

R3 - Policy recommendations are developed and disseminated in order to make institutions aware of the needs of the target group and of the potential of adult education in the field of social inclusion, active citizenship and migrant integration

- Evaluation

The evaluation of the project strategy will be based on the following indicators:

- Increasing capacity of IFS members in providing adult learning opportunities fulfilling target groups' needs
- Increasing awareness and understanding of effectiveness of adult education opportunities offered by the IFS network targeting people with fewer opportunities in local, national, European and international stakeholders
- Increasing awareness and understanding of effectiveness of adult education targeting people with fewer opportunities in local, national, European and international authorities
- Increasing European cooperation of IFS members and external partners in the field of adult education

- Partnership:

The project "IFS – Fostering Social Justice" involves 12 partners from 11 different European countries of which 10 IFS Europe members and 2 external organizations from Southern Europe (Spain and Greece).

This project is complementary to European projects in the field of adult education coordinated by FCSF and involving IFS members, such as "FABUS" and "Together we can do it!". In fact, it paves the way for a multilateral rather than bilateral/trilateral dynamic of 'exchange, dissemination and upscaling of practices' based on a joint analysis of the needs of the actors involved, while benefiting from already tested work protocols that ensure risk prevention.

- List of partners

1. FCSF

The Fédération des centres sociaux et socioculturels de France (FCSF), is a network coordinating 1215 social and socio-cultural centres, including 83 direct members, 46 departmental and/or regional federations affiliated to it.

2. ARCS – ARCI CULTURE SOLIDALI

ARCS is the NGO of one of the biggest and oldest secular associations in Italy, Arci, which has more than one million members and around 5.000 cultural clubs.

3. Nachbarschafts- und Selbsthilfezentrum in der ufafabrik e.V. (NUSZ)

The Nachbarschafts- und Selbsthilfezentrum has working since 1987 with the mission to promote societal change and personal development as well as to further acceptance and tolerance for different ways of life.

4. SUOMEN SETLEMENTTILIITTO RY (FFS)

The settlement movement in Finland has a long tradition of community work and it is deeply committed to the international work for social justice, sustainability and human rights, fighting against racism, nationalism and populism. The organization is hosting IFS Europe in their headquarters.

5. ASKOVFONDEN

The Askov Foundation works to create better terms for vulnerable people in Denmark. It is a Settlement that has existed since 1943 and it offers help and support to more than 2000 people annually.

6. ELETFA Segito Szolgalat Egyesulet

The organisation has about 30 years' experience on adult education, formal and non-formal on social work, community work and volunteering. Participants of its trainings come from disadvantaged groups. Moreover, it is working as a development and consultancy center for the region.

7. FUNDACION ESPLAI

Fundación ESPLAI's mission is promoting committed citizenship through social inclusion, social-educational action and a responsible use of ICT, with an especial dedication to young people, with a transversal aim of encouraging and strengthening the third sector role in society.

8. SVENSKA SETTLEMENTFORBUNDET (SFS)

Svenska Settlementförbundet is a national federation organising Neighborhood Centers and Youth centers in Sweden. SFS has around 200 local member organisations from all around the country. It has a long tradition of community work and non-formal learning.

9. Wiener Hilfswerk

Wiener Hilfswerk is a large NGO working in Vienna, part of an Austrian network. The neighborhood centers of Wiener Hilfswerk have 40 years of experience in inclusion and supporting communities. It offers people programmes for formal and informal learning.

10. DAFNI KENTRO EPAGGELMATIKIS KATARTISIS

DAFNI KEK is a no-profit education and research center. The organization acts both as an independent research center for innovation in adult education, while also being a LifeLong Learning Center, certified by EOPPEP (The National Organization for the Certification of Qualification and Vocational Guidance).

11. Stichting Beschermende Woonvormen Utrecht

Lister offers support and, if necessary, housing to people with a mental disorder whose lives have been disrupted. Specialised employees shape the guidance together with the beneficiaries and their network. This approach is based on the knowledge and strength of trained and experienced experts.

12. Landelijk Samenwerkingsverband Actieve bewoners (LSA)

The Landelijk Samenwerkingsverband Actieve bewoners (LSA) is the national association for community led organisations in the Netherlands, with the common belief that community is the answer to many of society's questions.

- Structure of the project

The structure of activities planned according to the expected results is as follows:

R1 – Professionals and educators of official project partners have developed skills and competences, have acquired and scaled up methods and tools and are able to develop and implement adult education projects and initiatives in the field of social inclusion, active citizenship and migrant’s integration.

A.1.1 - First Round of Observation Stages

A.1.2 – Capitalization of 1st round good practices

A.1.3 - Second Round of Observation Stages

A.1.4 – Capitalization of 2nd round good practices

A.1.5 – Third round of Observation Stages

A.1.6 - Capitalization of 3rd round good practices

R2 – IFS members and external partners have developed and scaled up processes and strategies to improve the effectiveness of their capacity to provide educational opportunities responding to target group needs.

A.2.1 - Trainings on EU funding for adult education projects

A.2.2 – Field visits to project partners

A.2.3 - Seminar on IFS operational, communication and advocacy strategy in adult education

A.2.4 – Working Group meetings (Website, Platform and Webinar)

A.2.5 – Development of support program for IFS members (Webinar)

A.2.6 – Update of website and creation of online platform for sharing good practices, tools and methods

R3 - Policy recommendations are developed and disseminated in order to make institutions aware of the needs of the target group and of the potential of adult education in the field of social inclusion and active citizenship

A3.1 - Awareness Raising Meetings and Events with local and national institutional bodies and stakeholders

A3.2 - Working group meetings (Policy recommendations)

A3.3 – Final conference

The project also foresees activities for project coordination, communication, management and capitalization that will be further presented in section “Management”.

The project will consist in different phases, each including specific steps. Below, the activities are presented according to their chronological order, as illustrated in the GANTT diagram attached.

- Management

In order to ensure a fair distribution of tasks and responsibilities as well as an efficient monitoring and evaluation system of all stages of the project, the Steering Committee (SC) with both transnational and national tasks will meet up regularly. The SC is composed by the general coordinator (GC) and the five national project coordinators (FCSF, ARCI, FFS, NUSZ and SFS), i.e. 6 participants.

The GC will have the role of monitoring the partnership and coordinating national project coordinators of partner organizations. Also, he will be in charge of the management of the activities of the project. The financial management of the project will be carried out according to analytical accounting and all budgetary decisions will be validated by the Steering Committee. The GC will be supported by a project assistant and an accountant.

The working group on Website, E-Platform and Webinar (WPW) will ensure the respect of the dissemination and exploitation of results on the basis of a jointly elaborated communication strategy in connection with the IFS communication officer. It will monitor the update of IFS website and will ensure that the digital platform is fed by the various partners after each seminar of capitalizations. It will be in charge of identifying needs and designing a Web-support program for IFS members. The working group reports back to the general coordinator and to the Steering Committee.

The working group on Policy Recommendation (PR) will be established to collect the feedback produced during the whole project and in particular on the basis of seminars of capitalization's policy reports. The inputs, enriched by the follow up events within regional and national networks, will be translated in policy recommendations to be concerted and addressed at institutions, educational agency and stakeholders active in the fields of social inclusion.

Planning:

Operational level

- 3 rounds of observations stages (17)
- Seminars of capitalization (3)
- Organization of follow up events with regional and national networks to share results

Strategical level

- Seminar on IFS strategy in adult education
- Training on access EU funding for adult education projects (2)
- Field visits to associated partners (7)
- Development of support program for associated partners (Webinar)

Political Level

- Awareness Raising meetings and events with local and national institutional bodies and stakeholders
- Final Conference

Impact measurement

- Definition of impact measurement(s) criteria and instruments
- Collection and analysis of data
- Impact Measurement of professional capacity (3)
- Impact Measurement of organizational capacity (3)

Project capitalisation

- Meetings Steering Committee
  - Online communication activities
  - Update IFS website and creation of online platform
  - Working Group meetings (Website, Platform and Webinar)
  - Working group meetings (Policy recommendations)
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## (Detail) Operational activities:

Year 1

- Identification and mapping existing good practices within the IFS network
- First Round of Observation Stages (6)
- Seminar of capitalization of 1<sup>st</sup> round good practices
- Organization of follow up events with regional and national networks to share results (multiplier effect)
- Impact Measurement of professional capacity targeting professionals and educators participating to first round of observation stages

Year 2

- Second Round of Observation Stages (6)
- Seminar of capitalization of 2<sup>nd</sup> round good practices
- Organization of follow up events with regional and national networks to share results (multiplier effect)
- Impact Measurement of professional capacity targeting professionals and educators participating to second round of observation stages

Year 3

- Third Round of Observation Stages (5)
- Seminar of capitalization of 3<sup>rd</sup> round good practices
- Organization of follow up events with regional and national networks to share results (multiplier effect)
- Impact Measurement of professional capacity targeting professionals and educators participating to third round of observation stages



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