



Fostering
Social
Justice

2022

PROGRAMME STATUS REPORT

18 MONTHS OF
#FOSTERINGSOCIALJUSTICE

11 COUNTRIES
17 PROJECTS
1 NETWORK



IFSJ Programme Background

A strategic European programme run by the IFS network in 2021-2024 to enhance cooperation between IFS members around innovative practices in adult non formal education, and to influence international institutions on **active citizenship, migrant integration, and social inclusion**.

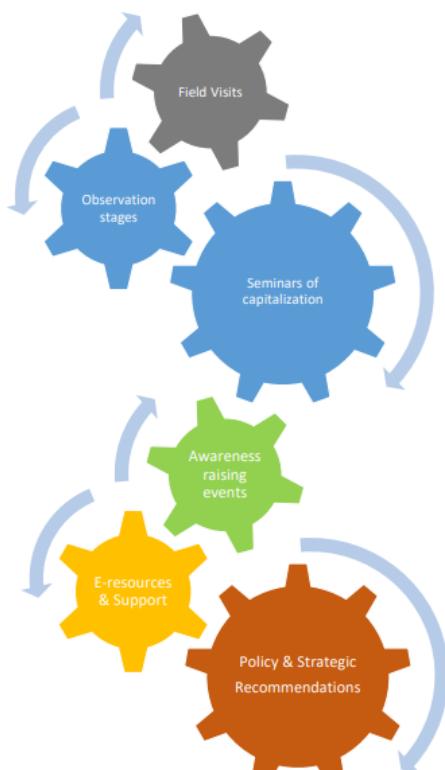
More on [Programme Background & partners](#)

The Objective is to Foster European cooperation and strengthen the 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 :

- 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.
- To upscale IFS strategies and processes to improve European cooperation and advocacy in the field of adult education.

There are 11 Countries involved in the project: France, Italy, Germany, Finland, Sweden, Spain, Hungary, the Netherlands, Greece, Denmark, and Austria.



PROGRAMME LOGIC MODEL

This overview of the programme activities explains how each part of the programme links to another one, and helps turn the wheel of the next activity.

* FU: Follow up events

AR: Awareness Raising meetings & events

2021 visits and tools

Out of the 6 study visits that took place this year, our group capitalized 7 tools / methods:

Austria 1 Language Cafe and conversation groups

The language cafe and conversation is an easy to access activity for meeting people from different backgrounds. The aim is for new migrants to learn the local language and meet local inhabitants. So, the tool has many side effects besides learning the language alone. It helps people to be understood and get a feeling of belonging in a new country they do not know. It helps volunteers to contribute and participate in building a nice society that gives access to minorities and new citizens as well.

Austria 2 Volunteer Guidance

Volunteers wanting to join the Neighborhood Center, they find, in each of the centers, a delegated member of staff that will guide them in one-to-one sessions. They then structure an official volunteer process to get to know each other, to know where the volunteer would be and feel useful. The focus of the process is highlighting the personal strengths and the meaning to the community.

Germany: Music as a universal language to connect people

“Spirale” offers an easily accessible space for learning about, making and creating music and dance. Everybody can join. A team of staff and volunteers administer the connection that is happening through the common base line: music and participation. Since it is located within uafafabrik there is a wide range of other (peer)support options.

Italy: Mutualism

This is a way to organise the individuals to act as political beings for the civic society by enforcing the sense of making one's own decision and the right to access and choose while advocating for oneself and communal equity.

Netherlands: Peer support group working

The recovery college is a learning environment 100% run by peers, which means everyone shares similar lived experiences. All who struggle with disruption caused by a mental health disorder or addiction are welcome to find peer support and inspiration to strengthen their mental resilience.

Spain: #WithoutPrejudice Campaign

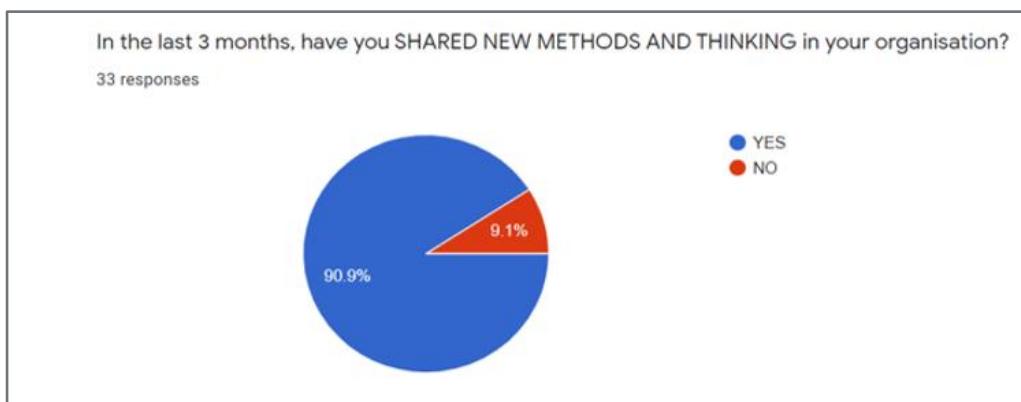
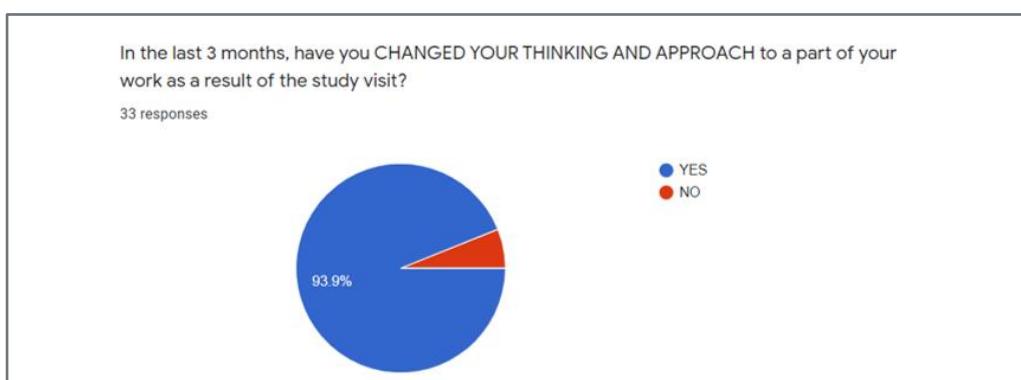
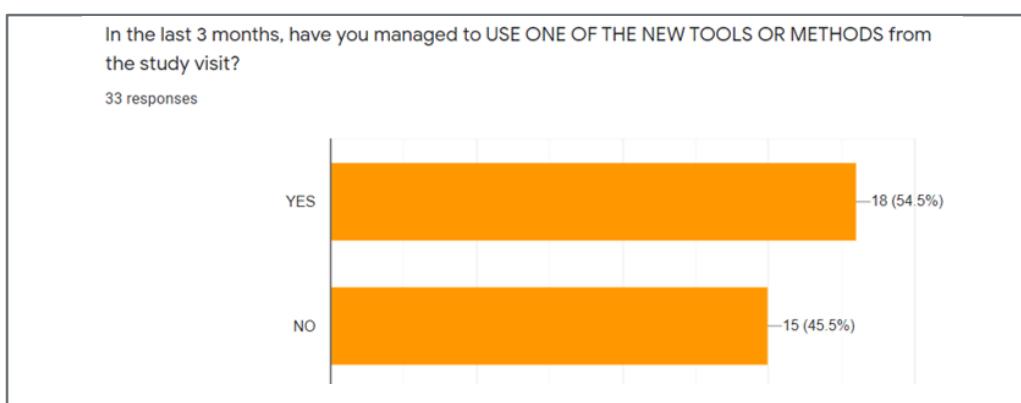
Red Conecta Migración is the programme in which #sinprejuiciosRCM is framed to combat inequalities around migrants and racialised people. They use ICT as allies in social transformation and the aim of the campaign is to denounce the disinformation and hoaxes that circulate on the web and to identify them as cause of prejudices and discrimination towards certain groups or people.

France: The Wheel of collective action

The process of collective action aiming for emancipation was built from an observation: in our structures we often know how to mobilize people who are already mobilizing! And we are often disappointed when, at our meeting, we find the same people. We ask ourselves: "why don't the people concerned come? » The process that we propose aims to mobilize (or more precisely to support the mobilization) of people who have never participated in collective actions.

Impact on participants

After 45 participants took part in 6 study visits in 2021, 33 wrote back to us about the impact on their practice and thinking in non-formal adult education.



Quotes from participants:

“Meaningful adult education, as a weapon against oppression.”

“We can make a symphony together and make a big difference.”

“From the micro to macro, local to global.”

2022 Visits and upcoming tools

Sweden

Finland

Denmark

Greece

Hungary

Netherlands

Policy framework: A Welfare Society

The public sector is currently having to supplement and define its welfare pledge, which means redefining welfare services and resolving funding issues. At the same time, relations, and divisions of responsibilities between the state, municipalities, the private sector, and the civil society sector will be reviewed. It is essential to carefully carry out this examination of relations and the sharing of responsibilities. Consequently, the ongoing major changes in public and civil structures also include issues of local democracy, and civic participation. And about the place of civic and civil society in society as a whole.

We are concerned about ever-worsening social policy policies, budget cuts in social services and the confusing logic of providing services, where the big company is believed to be cheaper and better in principle. Similarly, the findings on the rise in social inequality, unemployment and in problems relating to representative democracy, such as falling voter turnout, public distrust of politicians and the gap between decision-makers and citizens, as well as the lack of inclusion of immigrants.

We regard the Settlements as a community of values that, on the one hand, channels the voice of the voiceless in society and on the other hand, is open to all. Settlement activities are aimed at citizens, all people, all classes of society, with the aim of meeting people and uniting people. In other words, Social Justice!

“

In our upcoming White paper (2023), we will use our experiences from the programme to make a stand for a Welfare Society rather than a Welfare state.

That means a relation that is on an “eye-level” where we, together; all good forces, public authorities, organisations, social and other companies, together with citizens, will be able to build a socially, economically, and ecologically sustainable society that is human-faced, culturally rich, supportive of work and entrepreneurship. A society where people from far away are seen as our neighbours.



IF SJ at the European Parliament in June 2022

LINKS

<https://ifsnetwork.org/e-platform/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/487594855116311>

<https://ifsnetwork.org/>

Mission: We strive to build an inclusive global community by empowering, inspiring, and connecting people who are working locally for social justice.

[IFS Declaration on Social Justice](#)

Programme Contact : fosteringsocialjustice@gmail.com



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union