



ENSA General Assembly 2014

**ENSA – EUROPEAN NETWORK OF SOCIAL AUTHORITIES
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
KREIS-OFFENBACH (FRANKFURT AM MAIN), 23 – 24 OCTOBER 2014**

Conference - European Instruments for Inclusive Growth

Four years after the launch of the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, the European Commission decided to carry out a review with a wide public consultation (Open from 5 May 2014 to 31 October 2014). This initiative inspired the ENSA network to have a closer look to the instruments the European Union is developing, in the field of Inclusive Growth and to discuss which chances and opportunities these instruments contain for the ENSA work in the coming years.

The conference has as aim:

- To contribute to a better understanding of Social Innovation and Social Investment
- To have a closer look to the role of public-private partnerships and the role of Social Entrepreneurship
- To discuss initiatives that are targeting specific groups as fight against child poverty, creating youth opportunities, work-life balance, social inclusion and active ageing
- To see which opportunities the new EU programming period will bring

ENSA Thematic Working Groups

The network organises its work in 5 subject areas of intervention and each has its own 'thematic working group': elderly, youth, child, disability and social inclusion. It is in the thematic working groups the practical work is done: study visits, exchange programmes, joint and shared projects and special events. During the General Assembly, all the ENSA thematic Working groups will have a meeting to look back to the past year, but especially to build a strategy and agenda for the future. For the thematic working groups Elderly and Disability, a study visit will be organized on 23 October 2014 (morning). In attachment you find a detailed description of each working group.

Special Youth Care Platform

Last year the Special Youth Care Platform was launched during the annual meeting of ENSA. In March 2014 a second meeting took place in Brussels. Now service providers and national and regional governing bodies active in youth care all over the European Union, will meet again. The aim of this meeting is to take this initiative further and to build an active and strong platform.

During the meeting in Brussels in March, the participants of the Platform started to develop a strategic planning for the upcoming 3 years. This discussion will be finalized during the meeting in Germany. More information on the agenda of the Special Youth Care Platform is send in a separate invitation.

Contacts:

ENSA

Elena Curtopassi, Elena.Curtopassi@regione.veneto.it, +32 2 743 70 12

Georg Horcher, G.Horcher@Kreis-Offenbach.de, +49 6074 8180 3340

Special Youth Care Platform

Jos Sterckx, jos.sterckx@kcse.eu, +32 (0) 477 44 97 14

Wednesday, 22 October 2014

Arrival of the participants

Thursday, 23 October 2014

08:30 - 09:30 **Registration of participants**

09:30 - 12.30 **Session 1:** *(running in parallel to session 2)*
Special Youth Care Platform

Chair:

Stefaan Van Mulders

(Flemish Agency for Youth Welfare)

Moderator:

Jos Sterckx

(Knowledge Center Social Europe)

More detailed information on the program in attachment

09:30-12.30 **Session 2:** *(running in parallel to session 1)*
Study Visits
Transport foreseen for the participants

Study Visit 1 – Disability Network:

Coordinator: Miljana Dejanovic, Conseil Général du Val de Marne

Study Visit 2 – Working Group Elderly:

Coordinator: Kerstin Seipel, Nacka Municipality

12:30 -14:30 **Reception**
Welcome snacks for participants

14:30 - 18:30 **ENSA General Assembly ‘European Instruments for Inclusive Growth’**

Welcome Head of the District Authority, Mr. Oliver Quilling

Welcome Head of Social Department, Mr. Carsten Müller

Welcome Minister of Social Affairs of the Federal State of Hesse

Welcome Coordinator of ENSA network and Director of Social and Health Services

Department Veneto Region, Mr Mario Modolo

ENSA Stakeholders’ dialogue with the European Commission and EU institutions

New members contributions
Next ENSA General Assembly

More detailed information on the speakers and program will follow soon

19:00 - 21:00 Buffet and cultural programme

Friday, 24 October 2014

09:00 - 12:00 Joint Meeting Networks Elderly & Disability
Coordinator Disability: Miljana Dejanovic & Mélanie Bourjal, Conseil Général du Val de Marne
Coordinator Elderly: Kerstin Seipel, Nacka Municipality

12:00 - 13.00 Meeting Network Social Inclusion
Coordinator: Quentin Callens, Kruispunt Migratie-Integratie, Flanders

13:00 - 14.00 **Lunch**
During the working group sessions coffee and soft drinks are available.
Lunch self-service in the cafeteria (price ca. 6,00 € per participant)

14.00 - 17.00 Joint Meeting Networks Child & Youth and Family
Coordinator Youth and Family: George Louis Del Re, Veneto Region
Coordinator Child: Rudy De Cock, Kind & Gezin

17:00 **Leaving of the participants**

Detailed information about the ENSA Working Groups

ENSA CHILDHOOD

The European Commission put child poverty and children rights in the forefront with the Recommendation 'Investing in Children – breaking the cycle of disadvantage', published in 2013. Since the recommendation, different measures and actions were developed on how to tackle child poverty and social exclusion through measures such as family support and benefits, quality child care and early-childhood education.

The ENSA Childhood Thematic Group welcomes this policy action and positions its work within the priorities of the recommendation: we exchange and develop practices that have a positive impact on children and families in EU Member States . During the General Assembly, we will discuss existing initiatives as the follow up of CHAIN - a project on creating common standards in the methods of early intervention and child care to reach disadvantaged families in using social services and parenting trainings, in order to strenghten (new) parents in their parental skills. Furthermore, we are asking all ENSA members to share their innovative proposals on access to and the quality of child care services. The proposals could be for example on:

- Child care services in diverse societies and for vulnerable groups (eg high risk living in poverty and social exclusion, non-native speaking parents)
- Methods that assure the quality of child care services (eg the methodology of self-reflection of the practitioner, conditional frameworks, methods on measurement of quality)
- Integrated care within child care services: how can different services collaborate in a sustainable way? Can day care be embedded in other social services?
- Celebration of the 25th anniversary of the UN Convention on the rights of the child

Please send your input for the ENSA Childhood Thematic Group to Rudy De Cock, rudy.decock@kindengezin.be , +32 (0)2 533 13 29

ENSA YOUTH AND FAMILY

As youth employment crisis is hitting, an increasing number of young people are facing the risk of poverty and social exclusion with, in some cases, a negative impact on the economic performance of Regions. Furthermore trust in the European Union has fallen and stands at its lowest level. It is clear that there is a need for an action able to close the gap between European citizens and European institutions, in order to re-build the reciprocal trust by means of a better knowledge of EU functioning and a stronger involvement of European citizens in the EU political debate.

The European Commission has developed, consulting stakeholders, a follow up of the Europe 2020 strategy to support an intelligent sustainable and inclusive growth supported by several initiatives for this target group such as the Youth Guarantee, Youth on the Move, the European Platform against poverty and social inclusion.

The ENSA Youth and family group welcomes these EU policy actions and works to favor an active and greater involvement of youth, specifically the group suggests to ENSA members and

interested authorities to contribute with their best practices and experiences in the following fields:

- European Youth leadership.
- Culture as a vehicle to favor integration.
- Community welfare approaches: support to families*, through their life course, as social capital for the benefit of the whole community. **(whatever form they may take)*
- public/ private partnerships, building alliances: supporting actions directed to promote quality employment for women and men offering instruments to reconcile work and family life linking enterprises, social cooperatives and families.
- Fight against violence: prevention and detection

(noting that “Save Solutions Against Violence in Europe” Specific Programme DAPHNE III call for proposals for action grants JUST/2013/DAP/AG) has just been selected for funding)

Please send your inputs to the ENSA youth and family working group to: (elena.curtopassi@regione.veneto.it) in order to prepare the meeting with project ideas and plan study visits.

ENSA DISABILITY

The work of “ENSA Disability” is focused on:

- Persons with learning disabilities.
- Daily activities.
- Supported employment.
- Job coaching - accessibility to the labour market and support to persons with learning disabilities to remain employed.
- Case studies methodology (the group worked exchanged knowledge and methodologies to look for a better answer to the needs through comparison of case studies).
- Improving the design of accessible spaces for persons with disabilities regardless of their disability (physical, sensory, mental, cognitive or mental).

Additional information on topics for contribution will be communicated subsequently.

For more information please contact Miljana Dejanovic, Miljana.Dejanovic@valdemarne.fr.

ENSA ELDERLY

The ENSA Elderly thematic working group is run by the Mälardalen region where Nacka municipality is the coordinator.

The working group is focused on:

- home care
- active healthy ageing / social and health integration
- new innovative technologies for the elderly / disabled.
- Fall and injury prevention

Also, the working group is participating in the Commission's drive for European Innovation Program (EIP), which aims to develop guidelines for the "age friendly environments". The network supports the AGE Platform which is a network of 165 organizations for people over 50.

During 2012 the network had two joint meetings with the Disability working group that focused on the Active Ageing year 2012.

During this year, Elisan and Foundation Médéric Alzheimer announced an Alzheimer award. Elderly thematic working group has continued cooperation with participants in the competition such as study visits and a conference. Other collaborations in the working group include Multi-cultural Elderly Care (MEC), fall prevention projects, for example PROFALLPRE and SILVER - a project for competition in technology solutions for the elderly. Ongoing projects include: Transfer and development of AbetSam's results, a project under Leonardo led by Stockholm Gerontology Research Center, Stockholm; a proposal is made under Horizon 2020 – ICT robotics for elderly still living at their own homes and AIDA Advancing Integration for Dignified Ageing, co-funded by the progress program 2007-2013. It has produced national guidelines for health and social integration. An invitation to partnership for a new project in fall prevention is made by the University of Padua, Italy - "Prevention of functional decline and frailty through targeted intervention of physical activity".

Last meeting for the working group was in Rotterdam 11-12 of May 2014.

Suggestions of exchanges in the field of social experimentation are made by Veneto in the field of social housing (for elderly and vulnerable groups)

Please send your inputs to the ENSA Elderly working group to: kerstin.seipel@nacka.se or elena.curtopassi@regione.veneto.it in order to prepare the meeting with project ideas and plan study visits.

ENSA SOCIAL INCLUSION

The main operational objectives of the ENSA working group on social inclusion are to stimulate cross-border exchange of existing practices and to develop innovative trainings and methods. The strategic objective is to allow for professionals to develop the skills needed to see their clients as individuals rather than as cultures. Tackling racism and discrimination is not our starting point, but rather an indirect effect.

These practices, trainings or methods can be directed at:

- professionals working in the broad context of services for newcomers such as civic-integration courses, language trainings, career-orientation,,...
- professionals who assist regular services in the process of interculturalisation

- professionals in 'regular services' who feel dispossessed in dealing with the growing diversity of their customers

Integration is a transversal and very broad theme. The topics which field our interest cover all aspects of society where learning to live together in diversity is essential: opportunities to practice a new language, openness of the labour market, recognition of skills and degrees, the impact of mobile European citizens on social cohesion, user-friendliness of health-services, integration of travelling populations and Roma, orienting asylum-seekers, stimulating participation of newcomers in leisurely activities and organisations,...

The working group on social inclusion is still at a starting point. We hope you will join us to define common needs across national borders, to determine concrete working topics, to develop project ideas and to execute projects.

The new coordinator of the ENSA working group on Social Inclusion is Junction Migration-Integration, Flanders. Junction Migration-Integration (Junction MI - www.kruispuntmi.be) develops and exchanges expertise, methods and tools on how to deal with the consequences of migration, the challenges in integration and the growing diversity of society. More information on the organisation Junction Migration-Integration will be send in a separate document together with the invitation.

For more information please contact Quentin Callens, quentin.callens@kruispuntmi.be , +32 (0) 205 00 63
