

## Partners of the consortium involved in weReurope

### P1

#### **ibw, Institute For Research On Qualifications And Training Of The Austrian Economy, Austria**

The *ibw* was founded as an association by the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and the Federation of Austrian Industrialists in 1975. Since this time the *ibw* has completed more than 1200 European and national projects, mainly for the Austrian Chamber of Commerce, the Career Guidance Institutes of the Chambers of Commerce, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth, the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, the Public Employment Services, the European commission, and CEDEFOP. The projects focus on career guidance, lifelong learning, apprenticeship training, labour market analyses, qualifications in general and school education (secondary level, universities, universities of applied sciences).

The *ibw* is an experienced manager and active partner of LdV-projects, e.g. MEVOC - [www.mevoc.net](http://www.mevoc.net); ECGC - European Career Guidance Certificate Summary - [www.ecgc.at](http://www.ecgc.at), DYNOT - Dynamisches Onlinetool für die Berufsberatung - [www.dynot.net](http://www.dynot.net); FORMATION CREDIT POINTS - [www.q-zwh.de/creditpoints/](http://www.q-zwh.de/creditpoints/); VQTS Vocational Qualification Transfer System - <http://www.vocationalqualification.net>; ALTERNATIVE: SELBSTSTÄNDIGKEIT - [www.alternative-selbststaendigkeit.at](http://www.alternative-selbststaendigkeit.at); VETWOOD - <http://www.vetwood.eu/au/index.html> see [www.ibw.at](http://www.ibw.at) for many more.

#### **1. Why do we participate in the project, our motivation?**

*To transfer results of international work is a profit for our everyday work, as experienced in previous projects (mostly LdV).*

#### **2. What is "intercultural" in our work?**

*Recognition of learning outcomes, intercultural dialogue and new learning methods are relevant for *ibw* against the background of EQF and young people's experience when working abroad .*

#### **3. What role do we play in the project?**

*Lead Agency, host of 1<sup>st</sup> ICD-Conference in Vienna, coordinator, administration, contracting, monitoring; participated in all conferences and is responsible for all project products and outcomes and the dissemination of the ICD-Conference idea and strategies.*

**Persons involved:** Dr. Monika Thum-Kraft, Judith Cerwenka MBA, Dr. Gabriele Stöger

## **P2**

### **ZSI/ASO Zentrum für Soziale Innovation, Austrian Science and Research Liaison Office, Sofia, Bulgaria/Austria**

The ASO Sofia served (together with ASO Ljubljana and ASO Brno) as information hub for science, research and learning in the Western Balkan countries. It organised workshops and supported research initiatives in Bulgaria and its neighbouring countries building up co-operation between South East Europe and Austria. ASO Sofia was an extension of the Zentrum für Soziale Innovation (ZSI) in Vienna and was closed at the End of March 2010, its tasks being carried out by ZSI. The ZSI is a self-determined, politically independent scientific institution, asserting thematic leadership in Europe to advance social innovation and to foster an overt and solidly united society. The ZSI therefore designs and implements amongst others education, training and networking projects to strengthen the civil society, and major international projects that involve great numbers of public and private organisations in international and cross-cultural collaboration to improve social development.

ASO Sofia possessed inter alia a wide experience in network building, and marketing of "social" products and public relation.

#### **1. Why do we participate in the project, our motivation?**

*We Like the "carpet"-idea, since we do innovative conferences and projects ourselves, new methods are interesting to bring people together in order to acquire new knowledge. Different member states involved and networking is another motivation.*

#### **2. What is "intercultural" in our work?**

*Our work environment is to a large extent international since we carry out projects on all world continents. Hence, we have to cope with different cultures (work, daily life) from different countries to find the right way in communication, working procedures, etc. in order to develop and prepare solutions for the challenges we are working on.*

#### **3. What role do we play in the project?**

*Host of 4<sup>th</sup> ICD-Conference in Sofia, participated in all other conferences and contributed to the development of all project products and supported dissemination through networks, especially in South Eastern Europe.*

**Persons involved:** Mag<sup>a</sup>. Maria Schwarz-Wölzl, DI Martin Felix Gajdusek, Zlatka Pandeve (Dirk Maier until Dec. 2009)

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## **P 3**

### **Kanaal 127, Belgium**

Kanaal 127 promotes the integration of the disadvantaged groups in society, through the instigation and creation of qualitative and sustainable employment within new and existing companies in the South of Westflanders.

The services of Kanaal 127 as a start-up centre in social economy include advise to social enterprises, advise and support for jobless people who wish to start up their own business and the promotion of the "insert"-concept, a subsidy for new or existing companies who wish to follow a path of growth paying attention not only to the Profits of the company, but also to the People (internal as well as external) and the Planet. Kanaal 127 is also a business centre with various (social) enterprises who subscribe this same philosophy.

### **1. Why do we participate in the project, our motivation?**

*Kanaal 127 is a facilitator in the process of social, sustainable business and as such commits itself to the personal development and integration of the marginalised groups in society.*

### **2. What is “intercultural” in our work?**

*People from the marginalised groups are often people with different nationalities. By promoting the “insert” concept, Kanaal 127 is indirectly involved in the recruitment process of the disadvantaged groups within (regular) companies. On the other hand, through the personal trajectory service in guiding jobless people in setting up their own company (Gusto), Kanaal 127 is daily and directly in contact with the “marginalised” groups.*

### **3. What role do we play in the project?**

*Kanaal 127 hosts the final ICD-Conference in Kortrijk, during Belgium's presidency of the EU , and contributes to all project products and outcomes and dissemination of the ICD-Conference idea and strategies.*

**Persons involved:** Rik Desmet, Nicolas Claus, Laurent Dewilde

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## **P4**

### **University Jena/Intercultural Business Communication, Germany**

The Friedrich Schiller University Jena (University Jena) was founded in 1558 by Johann Friedrich I and is one of the most historic universities in Germany which is also reflected by its membership in the prestigious COIMBRA group, a network of traditional European universities (<http://www.coimbra-group.be/>).

Intercultural Business Communication was established as a subject at Jena University in 1992. Students can chose it as subsidiary subject or study for the Diploma Course of Studies "BWL/ Interkulturelles Management" (BA "Intercultural Business Communication", MA "Intercultural Personnel Development an Organizational Communiation"; Blended Learning-Certificate "Intercultural Trainer and Coach). Uni Jena/ IWK is publisher of the "Interculture Journal" and host of [www.interkulturelles-portal.de](http://www.interkulturelles-portal.de).

### **1. Why do we participate in the project, our motivation?**

*New methods for intercultural understanding are interesting*

### **2. What is “intercultural” in our work?**

*E.g. intercultural business communication sets up worldwide e-learning sessions, practising interculture*

### **3. What role do we play in the project?**

*Designing, hosting and technical administration of the website; contributed with its competence in intercultural training for the development of the ICD-Conference Design; participated in all conferences; theoretical inputs for intercultural learning and business communication; dissemination of project idea and outcomes via networks, website and media.*

**Persons involved:** Prof. Dr. Jürgen Bolten, Luisa Conti M.A., Dipl.-Kfm. Florian Frommeld, Dipl.Psych Susann Juch

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## **P5**

### **ARCI - Italian Association for Recreation and Creativity, Italy**

ARCI is an independent association - funded in 1957 - working for the promotion of social and civic rights. With its 5.300 clubs and more than 1.100.000 members, it represents a broad structure for the democratic participation, fully committed to the promotion and the development of associative actions as key factors for social and cultural cohesion. Our committees and clubs are places where people meet and share interests, joining educational activities and courses for any artistic passion; they also organise festival and events, produce publications and promote cooperation among artists.

ARCI is fully committed in creating networks of relationships and reducing isolation and loneliness, in order to fight against any form of racism and discrimination and promote different forms of solidarity, especially devoted to people at risk of exclusion.

ARCI participates in the great peace movement, the European Civic Forum, the Mediterranean and the World Social Forum, Solidar and Migreurop networks; it is also present in many parts of the world, working side by side with the populations of Palestine, Sahrawi, Asia and Latin America, Cuba, Balkans, Mozambique and Albania.

ARCI is absolutely convinced that "another world is possible".

#### **1. Why do we participate in the project, our motivation?**

*Intercultural dialogue and cohesion among different cultures are key-actions of our association. These aims are also included in our Legal Statute, which refers to Culture and Arts as preferential means to promote social cohesion and democratic participation. With its activities, ARCI aims to reduce isolation and loneliness, helping all marginalised groups to promote their participation to social and cultural life in our Country.*

*This project represents for us the opportunity to enlarge our strategy and to deep our relationship with other European Countries, giving our daily activities more and more a European dimension.*

#### **2. What is "intercultural" in our work?**

*Intercultural is a changing strategy and in our work means the development and the respect of the "diversity" as well as of each different way of being. The intercultural approach is a methodology of work in which education is basic. Intercultural education is learning to have no fear of managing and acting as going-between in conflicts. The aims and objectives of intercultural education are to promote social cohesion and communication, helping learners to develop transversal competences in a cooperative way of learning instead of a competitive one. At least, intercultural in our work means to share good practices and training material for operators who work with marginalised groups in different countries, people with less citizenship rights as asylum seekers, refugees, Roma people, trying to involve them to develop their knowledge too.*

#### **3. What role we do play in the project?**

*Host of 2<sup>nd</sup> ICD-Conference in Rome; participated in all other conferences and contributed to the development of the ICD-Design and all other project products as well as to their dissemination by using its wide network.*

**Persons involved:** Ilaria Graziano, Milena Scioscia, Natalia Mariani, Milvia Rastrelli

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## P6

### **SRC SASA, Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Slovenia**

One of the leading research and educational centres in Slovenia, the SRC SASA ranks as one of the cutting-edge academic institutions in Central and South-Eastern Europe. As of 2004 the Centre comprises an independent network of researchers and technicians who study cultural, social and natural phenomena, issues and practices, within the framework of research groups, 17 institutes and the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research.

SRC SASA participated in several projects dealing with research and work directly or indirectly related to the problematic of intercultural dialogue: "Needs for Female Immigrants and their Integration in Ageing Societies" (6FP-STREP, 2006-07); "Population policy acceptance study" (5FP, 2003-05); "Raising Awareness of Values through the Process of Education" (Interreg, 3B CADSES, 2005-07); "Learning-Migration" (COMENIUS C3, 2005-08) etc.

#### **1. Why do we participate in the project, our motivation?**

*The role of SRC SASA in this project is to provide internal project evaluation and through close cooperation with the weReurope partners further develop international research cooperation. It is always a challenge to compare to other situations.*

#### **2. What is "intercultural" in our work?**

*Doubt the word expresses anything, the only thing "intercultural" in the real sense is a football club.*

#### **3. What role do we play in the project?**

*ICD-Conference evaluator; attended all 5 conferences and produced a final expert report, which includes the evaluation of model conferences on Intercultural Dialogue (ICD Conferences), the presentations and topics addressed and also a review and analysis of project outputs; supported the dissemination of project results and products via its research network and conferences.*

**Persons involved:** Prof. Dr. Oto Luthar, Dr. Lucija Mulej (in the first year), Martin Pogačar M.A.

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## P7

### **Riksantikvarieämbetet (RAÄ), Swedish National Heritage Board, Sweden**

The Swedish National Heritage Board, which serves as Sweden's central administrative agency in the area of heritage and the historic environment, is under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture. The Cabinet's objectives for the Board include encouraging: 1) preservation and protection of the historic environment; 2) respect for the heritages of different groups; 3) appreciation of, commitment to, and the assumption of responsibility for one's own heritage.

Heritage belongs to everyone, and protecting and preserving the historic environment is a responsibility shared by every member of society. The Swedish National Heritage Board has a proactive, coordinating and inspirational role to play in that effort. At the core of what we do is the vision of a heritage that is accessible, useful and vital for people everywhere. One of the Board's primary tasks is to empower heritage as a

force in the evolution of a democratic, sustainable society.

Among other tasks the Board has been working closely with SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency) in providing professional support and collaborating with authorities and organisations in developing countries. We are also participating in projects relating to Heritage in the Baltic region.

### **1. Why do we participate in the project, our motivation?**

*The project weReurope will increase our staffs knowledge and competence regarding intercultural dialogue and intercultural perspectives. By meeting colleagues and participants from all EU member countries in five international ICD-Conferences and during the partner meetings we will collect valuable experiences. Experiences that can be put into practice in a lot of our work.*

### **2. What is "intercultural" in our work?**

*Looking back we realise that cultural heritage very often has been linked to an aim to define Sweden and people living in Sweden. The cultural heritage has been and can be used to exclude rather than to include people. We also know that most of the history and stories told are the ones which tell us about the powerful, white man.*

*Today we work with the aim to reach cultural diversity and pluralism. Trying to be a door opener, not a door closer. There is still a lot to be done, we have started, but we haven't reached our goal yet. Historic places gets more powerful when we learn the stories about it and can put it in a historical as well as a contemporary context. Because then we learn something about ourselves and the community today. It's about the experience of being human.*

### **3. What role do we play in the project?**

*Host of 3<sup>rd</sup> ICD-Conference in Stockholm; participated in all other conferences and contributed to all project products and outcomes and dissemination of the ICD-Conference idea and strategies*

**Persons involved:** Ewa Bergdahl (until May 2009), Maria Sträng (until January 2010), Lena Johansson, Anna Klint-Habbe (from June 2009)

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## **P 8**

### **Credit Works Ltd, United Kingdom**

Credit Works is a leading authority in the development and reform of learning and qualifications. We use action research to shape, support and help implement reform of vocational learning and qualifications. We work with key government agencies sector organisations, employers and learning providers across the UK and have shared experience and understanding of the reform process with partners in Europe. We supported the establishment of the Swedish OCN. Our intercultural dialogue has focused on dissemination and sharing understanding of the recognition of learning achievements, especially those gained in non formal and informal contexts.

Technical experts in relation to using the Qualifications and Credit Framework - QCF (England Wales and Northern Ireland) and leading research experts in the field of recognition of learning outcomes in credit systems, Credit Works' research is used instrumentally to inform UK government agency thinking, planning and implementation in relation to the QCF. We are now engaged in implementing reform; getting the best from the new QCF for learners and employers.

### **1. Why do we participate in the project, our motivation?**

*Previous participation in Grundtvig project was a positive experience, always good to learn from each other. Recognizing of achievement, is core task in Credit Works every day experience. After 2 years without EU work, now a good opportunity to participate again.*

### **2. What is “intercultural” in our work?**

*Work across different cultures of gender, diverse employer and sector cultures, and diverse cultures across pedagogical institutions and practitioners. Intercultural dialogue is everywhere...*

### **3. What role do we play in the project?**

*Worked with partners through the project to identify a set of learning outcomes and to draft recommendations how to involve marginalised groups (pedagogical strategies) in Lifelong Learning; supported partners to disseminate the shared learning outcomes for use in their country qualification systems; participated in all conferences and contributed to the development of project products and dissemination.*

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