

Social Firms Europe CEFEC

Newsletter #9



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"A network for your social economy vision"

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1. Report of the 2014 SFE CEFEC Conference



The Conference was an excellent opportunity to visit the social cooperatives in Italy and Slovenia, participating in plenary sessions, seminars, workshops, debates about social economy and to design 5 new project ideas in order to strengthen our network and cooperation.

DOBROVITA Company for training and employment of people with disabilities d.o.o. was the **winner of the 2014 SFE CEFEC Award** which presented through a theatre play their best practice *DONE and DUSTED!*

The 2015 SFE CEFEC Conference was organized in **Gorizia-Nova Goriza** (Slovenia and Italy) in the period **28-31 May 2014**. This event was a cooperation between Legacoopsociali (Italy) and ŠENT (Slovenia) and it took place in the University of Gorizia. The organizers reported that there were 90 delegates from **12 countries**: Austria, Czech Republic, Greece, Italy, Romania, Belgium, Slovenia, Germany, Finland, Switzerland, Sweden, Serbia.



2. ACCES PLUS project

Until this moment, there were involved 4 SFE CEFEC experts which provided their expertise at two trainings developed for the personnel of the Centers of Social Inclusion (CIS):

✚ **Dominik Murawa** (*long term expert in professional training*) and **Athena Frangouli** (*short term expert in social inclusion for the training of the CIS personnel*) participated at the CIS Training from Brasov (Romania) during the period 26-29 August 2014

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✚ **Tom Zuljevic Salamon** is involved as a long term expert as **project coordinator**, within Die Querdenker (member of SFE CEFEC since 2007)

✚ **Igor Pavel** was involved in the project as short term **expert in social inclusion for the training of the CIS personnel** and participated at the CIS Training from Voronet (Suceava county, Romania) during the period 6-8 October 2014. He was assisted by **Polona Stefanic**, **SFE CEFEC Treasurer**.



✚ An important activity in the project was to **organize the first study visit** which took place in Liege (Belgium) in the period **24-26 November 2014**, hosted by **AIGS, SFE CEFEC founder**

member. This study visit was organized with the support of **Bernard Jacob** which was involved in the project as a short term **expert in social inclusion**.



3. EDF participation

- ✚ Athena Frangouli (SFE CEFEC representative in the EDF Board) and Alina Birsan (SFE CEFEC Secretary) participated between **17 and 18 May 2013** at the EDF Annual General Assembly which took place in **Zagreb (Croatia)**
- ✚ Ovidiu Tuduruta, nominated by SFE CEFEC as representative in the EDF Youth Committee, was elected the **chair of the EDF Youth Committee** during the meeting that took place in Brussels on the 1st October 2014. During the meeting there were discussions about the Youth Committee Action Plan 2015-2017 and about the importance of the voice of young people with disabilities and their engagement with EU institutions and stakeholders
- ✚ In the period 8-9 November 2014 it took place in Brussels the **EDF Board meeting** at which took part Athena Frangouli (SFE CEFEC representative in the EDF Board) and Ovidiu Tuduruta (SFE CEFEC representative in the EDF Youth Committee and chair of the EDF Youth Committee)
- ✚ Ovidiu Tuduruta, the SFE CEFEC young representative and the chair of the EDF Youth Committee, took part at the **European Day of People with Disabilities** which was organized in Brussels on **2-3 December 2014**. You can follow his speech about education and employment of young people with disabilities at the following link (minute 6.20): <https://scic.ec.europa.eu/streaming/index.php?es=2&sessionno=8c97dbeee3b0d40ced7f514b99a93d93>



4. New projects applied

- **ESF funds projects in Romania**, 6.1. measure in social economy, in which SFE CEFEC is partner and has a total budget of about 120.000 euro:

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- 1st idea came from Mr. Lorenzo Toresini in cooperation with Mr. Alexandru Paziuc from the Psychiatric Hospital from Campulung Moldovenesc (Suceava County, Romania). The project was submitted on 10 October 2014, the second attempt, with the objective on supporting social economy cooperatives in North East of Romania.
- 2nd idea was applied by Kelsen Association from Baia Mare (Romania), project promoted by Petru Vasile Gafiuc, the SFE CEFEC General Secretary, with the objective on supporting social economy cooperatives in North East and North West of Romania.
- 3rd idea was applied by Panaci Community (Suceava county, Romania), project promoted by Petru Vasile Gafiuc, with the objective on creating support services for access on the labour market of vulnerable groups from rural areas in the North East of Romania.
 - **ESF Funds project applied in Greece** by the Development Partnership Regional Support Mechanism of Social Economy in Sterea Ellada, where SFE CEFEC is a partner with a budget of over 30.000 euro. The objective concerns the development of social cooperative enterprises in the region of Sterea Ellada.

5. SFE CEFEC visits and events participation

✚ **Ensie General Assembly** in Porto in **6-8 June 2014**. The SFE CEFEC General Secretary took part at this event and he met with other SFE CEFEC members and discussed about the Alliance of Social Economy.

✚ **WEB** invited the SFE CEFEC General Secretary to visit them in the period **3-5 September 2014**. WEB is a SFE CEFEC member from

January 2014, based in Turnhout (Belgium) which provides support and training to job seekers and workers who need intensive guidance in finding sustainable employment.

✚ **Ensie Executive Committee** in Ljubljana on **20-21 October 2014**. The SFE CEFEC General Secretary took part at this event and he met with other SFE CEFEC members and discussed about the contract with Ensie for the PROGRESS project.

✚ **4th Annual Convention of the Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion** in Brussels where the General Secretary was invited and took part at this event in the period **20-21 November 2014**.



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6. First call for the 2015 Conference

The SFE CEFEC 2015 Conference ***Social Economy and Welfare in Transition*** will take place in **Olten (Switzerland)** in the period **9-11 September 2015** and it will be organized by the University of Applied Sciences and Arts Northwestern Switzerland. The **3 main organizers** of the 2015 Conference are: Social Firms Europe CEFEC, ICSEM (International Research Network „International Comparative Social Enterprise Models“, managed by EMES/Belgium) and ICSSO (Institute for Consulting, Coaching and Social Management of the School of Social Work).

Goals of the 2015 Conference:

- Discuss research based knowledge on work integration social enterprises (national and international)
- Discuss development of practice and policies concerning work integration social enterprises, exclusion/inclusion (national and international)



**The 2014-2015 SFE CEFEC President –
Mrs. Bernadette Wuthrich**

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