

SOCIAL INCLUSION - OUT OF THE BOX

NGO INFORMATION

Organisation name: Consilium Education and Training

Country: UK

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Other links you would like to share (facebook, videos...)

Logo of organization



NGO Short description

About Consilium

We believe that learning is a lifelong process which can lead to increased self-confidence, self-esteem and improved life chances. This is especially important for people with access to fewer opportunities than their peers or those who are marginalised by society. We also believe that learning needs to be engaging, appropriate to the learner's needs and student-centred in its approach.

Our aim is to help people unlock their potential and improve their own lives by increasing their knowledge and skills through non-formal, informal or formal educational opportunities.

Field of work (which are the main domains your organizations works on):

Personal and Professional Development - Our areas of specialism:

Learning Outdoors: Forest School, Bushcraft, Conservation, Horse Therapy, Sport – with many years of experience in outdoor education, we appreciate the therapeutic benefits of interacting with nature, animals and staying active through sport

Emotional Intelligence – training courses to develop essential people skills

Social Enterprise – cross-sectorial working to deliver positive change in local communities

In our areas of specialism we provide training courses, volunteering and work experience. We have sent participants abroad and hosted participants in the UK through Erasmus+ and previously through Lifelong Learning and Youth in Action funded placements.

How do you work with youth? (methodology used and examples of activities)

Methodologies: Informal and non-formal learning experiential learning approaches. Interactive games and activities; pairs and small group discussions; whole group debates; role plays and simulation exercises; small group research projects; individual and small group reflection; practical experiences (discovery learning).

Some examples of recent projects

‘S – Factor’, Summer 2014: Consilium hosted 6 Polish young people for our partners, MMS. This work experience project aimed to empower and activate young people who, despite their efforts, cannot find work. The objectives were:

- Promotion of entrepreneurial attitudes as well as mentoring and coaching of young unemployed people
- Developing skills necessary in the job market e.g. soft skills, presenting ones’ self, CV and motivation letter writing skills
- Encouraging development of skills in and learning of foreign languages

Work experience activities: Environmental conservation tasks and social enterprise placements.

CHIBROFAM, 2012 – 2014: Leonardo Partnership project coordinated by Zonguldak College in Turkey and with partners in Spain, Greece and Consilium here in the UK. The Main Aim of the partnership activities has been to 'Increase awareness of children from broken or vulnerable (at risk of family breakup) families in the field of vocational education and training.

The project activities had positive outcomes for the participating organizations including;

- Raising awareness of the impact on children in vocational education from broken and vulnerable families
- Increasing staff knowledge and skills in working with children to develop vocational and social skills
- Increasing educational expectations of staff, students and parents
- Improving strategies for behaviour management
- Enhancing awareness of parental responsibility
- Providing opportunity for cross cultural cooperation and inter-cultural diversity among the partners
- Promoting integration of Vocational Education development, family and social life

Structure of organization:
SME with associated not-for-profit sister company. Two directors and 4+ professional associates who work, freelance, on projects. 4+ volunteers.
Number of workers in organization:
Two directors and 4+ professional associates who work, freelance, on projects. 4+ volunteers.
Number of volunteers in organization:
4+ volunteers.

Social Inclusion - OUT OF THE BOX

What is the project Social Inclusion - OUT OF THE BOX for your organization? (in one sentence)
It is an opportunity to develop meaningful relationships with like-minded people.
What you/your organisation expect to learn/gain in this project?
Inspiration and examples of good practice.

Current situation regarding Inclusion in your country

a) which is the understanding/definition of Inclusion in your environment (social and political)?
<p>A sense of belonging: feeling respected, valued for who you are; feeling a level of supportive energy and commitment from others so that you can do your best.”</p> <p>It is about valuing all individuals, giving equal access and opportunity to all and removing discrimination and other barriers to involvement.</p>

b) who are in your country included and excluded youth?

Included groups: those with full health (physical and mental), those with with enough financial, intellectual, educational, emotional resources and support to meet, as a minimum, the 'average' standard of living and social norms – as compared with the majority social group.

Excluded groups: people with physical/mental health issues or disabilities (differently able), youth from low income families (financially disadvantaged), early school leavers / low achievers (educationally disadvantaged); minority ethnic groups (culturally disadvantaged); youth from rural/urban areas with few services (geographical disadvantage); youth with a disrupted home life (e.g. looked-after children, care-leavers, lone under-age refugees); youth offenders/youth at risk of offending

c) which are the social groups that have a stronger need for Inclusion in your area? Why are them in this situation?

- Financially disadvantaged
- Educationally disadvantaged
- Youth with disrupted home life

d) What is done for social inclusion in your country?

We used to have a good youth service to support young people and pre 2010, there was a focus on inclusion, eradicating child poverty. Support for young people has almost disappeared since 2010.

Only essential services are provided (e.g. social workers deal with cases of abuse and extreme neglect, some provision is made for youth offending). Any support these days is now done by religious organisations, secular charities and with volunteers.

Now that we have another right wing Conservative government, even more cuts have been announced and we expect more people to fall in to the 'excluded' category, especially 'financially disadvantaged'. We expect poverty to increase and an even wider gap between rich and poor. The prospects are grim for at least the next 5 years.