Three pillars for better inclusion in Higher Education

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on behalf of the consortium
Social Meaningful Impact through LLL Universities in Europe: SMILE

- ERASMUS+ KA3 Social inclusion and common values
- Support for Policy Reform
- 11 partners from 8 different EU countries
- HEIs and NGOs
- TOTAL GRANT: € 479 117,60
- 36 MONTHS
Background

- HE4u2 project work
- EU countries face similar diversity and inclusion challenges
- There are several areas that have been identified as priorities
- The target audience must be included in the discussions, in order to know what they really feel and think
- Universities must be more aware of the challenges and be prepared to find (or facilitate solutions) – they have a responsibility with their community (inside and outside)
Three SMILE pillars

SMILE focusses on three main areas of inequality and disadvantage in HE

Learners with migrant background
- Lower access participation and attainment of 1st or 2nd generation migrants in HE
- Categorisation and stereotyping
- To train university staff (both academic and non-academic)
- To embed empowerment of these individuals
- To give them voice

Women leadership in HE with a focus on diversity management
- Equal access to leadership positions
- Equal visibility and recognition
- To train university staff (both academic and non-academic)
- To address the topic
- To promote critical thinking
- To enable discussion with students and alumni
- To encourage mentoring

Learners with low socio economic status
- Lower access participation and attainment of learners with a Low Socio Economic Status
- Problematized needs and stigma
- To train university staff (both academic and non-academic)
- To facilitate feelings of inclusion
- To develop inclusive pedagogies
- To give them voice
Intersectionality: the complex, cumulative way in which the effects of multiple forms of discrimination (such as racism, sexism, and classism) combine, overlap, or intersect especially in the experiences of marginalized individuals or groups.
Reports 2021

- The project has consulted in the target audiences of the three pillars and NGOs working with them
- The project has carried out an in-depth Peer Learning Seminar, to discuss and contrast findings within the consortium
- Everything collected has been rationalised and turned into three reports (one for each pillar)

http://smile.eucen.eu/about-smile/
Ongoing work

Diversity audit tool
- Focused to support universities’ self-reflecting process, self-assessing their commitment to diversity and social inclusion

4 CPD courses
- Addressed to university staff, developed and tested via a bottom up approach

Policy operational action plan
- Designed to support universities in fulfilling their commitment to diversity and social inclusion, including a set of policy recommendations
Interested? Join us!

If you are interested in this topic or you have something to say:

- You can become an Associate Partner – contact us smile@eucen.eu
- You can join our INCLUSIVE EUROPE community
Channels

✓ SMILE is promoted via the ‘Inclusive Europe’ social media channels – you can join us to read them and add your own news/articles.

Inclusive Europe: the social media approach for European projects with a common focus on diversity and inclusion that brings together worldwide experts.

- https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13929176/
- https://www.facebook.com/inclusive.eu
- https://twitter.com/EuropenInclusive
- https://mailchi.mp/26b889688d7b/inclusive-europe
THANK YOU!

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