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Summer School: The role of early childhood development in promoting equity and social inclusion: theory, policy and practice

Training: Supporting Families for Young Child Wellbeing

The training was realized in partnership with ISSA members Campagne luglio Onlus, from Italy and Open Academy Step by Step Croatia (OASbS) under the project bambini al centro. Campagne luglio Onlus was the main partner in this training.

Based on the HV resource modules developed by ISSA and UNICEF ECARO, trainers Sanja Brajkovic, Program Director from OASbS and Zorica Trikic, Senior Program manager from ISSA developed a tailored made training to support the activists from Campagne luglio Onlus and their partners to organize and implement home visits to vulnerable families with young children, Italian and foreigner, Roma and non Roma, that live in Tor Bella Monaca neighbourhood and in Salone slum.

Training of Trainers (ToT): UNICEF One Response Office in Germany

Training 1: In cooperation with UNICEF One response, Germany, UNICEF ECARO ISSA has developed a training manual and the toolkit for trainers delivering training in reception centers in Germany. This training was organized for 25 trainers who were preparing to train employees in 25 reception centers.

Training 2: This Training of Trainers was organized to prepare trainers to conduct trainings in the 75 newly selected "consultation centres"/refugee reception centers nation-wide. This is not only important to increase the trainer-pool of the 25 DGFPI trainers, but also a significant step to ensure sustainability, anchoring knowledge and knowhow in national institutions that are there to stay.

Training of Trainers (ToT): TOY for Inclusion: Community Based Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) for Roma Children

Training under the EU project for the project partners, local coordinators and trainers from seven countries (Belgium, Croatia, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Slovakia and Slovenia) on ToY for Inclusion toolkit - A step-by-step guide to create inclusive ECEC play hubs for all generations.

TOY for inclusion aims to improve the transition experience of Roma children to schools by offering an innovative response to discrimination of Romani communities by creating community based ECEC Play Hubs (resource and meeting centres) where relationships between Roma and non-Roma young children and their families are built and interactions in safe play spaces across all generations are supported. Together with ISSA, ICDI has developed a toolkit to support practitioners and other stakeholders in the development of skills and competences to create these resource and meeting centres.

Training of Trainers (ToT): Embracing Diversity

Part 1: This ToTwas organized for the trainers selected by ISSA member from Bulgaria, Trust for Social Achivments. The new ISSA member decided to buy a licence for ISSA's training program for adults: Embrasing Diversity – Creating Equitable Societies for personal change. This ToT has two parts and this was a first part.

The lead trainers were Zorica Trikic, Senior program manager ISSA and Jelena Vranjesevic, professor

Part 2: The training was realized with the same group of trainers. In this part of the training more space was left for participants, trainers to be, to exersize their skills and deliver different sessions from the ISSA's program to their peers.

The lead trainers were Zorica Trikic, Senior program manager ISSA and Jelena Vranjesevic, professor of developmental psychology from Belgrade University

Workshop for National Master Trainers: "Supporting Families for Nurturing Care - The Role of Gender"

This was the third training for National Master Trainers who are delivering training for Home Visitors on "Supporting Families for Nurturing Care - The Role of Gender" by using the Resource Modules developed in cooperation between UNICEF ECARO and ISSA. The purpose of this workshop was to strengthen national momentum around the use of the home visitor resource modules, build knowledge and skills on the critical issue of gender, and facilitate horizontal exchange, collaboration and learning in the use of the modules with the following aims:

- Enhance trainer knowledge, practices and skills on addressing gender in the context of home visiting
- Create the conditions that facilitate an exchange progress made across the region in the adaptation of the modules
- Discuss barriers, constraints, facilitating factors and lessons-learned in the use of the modules,
- Share tools and other products that have been (or are in the process of being) developed to complement the resource modules, and
- Promote inter-country collaborative efforts and exchange including an "onboarding" of master trainers that participated for the first time

During the workshop the draft of the new module on Gender, GIRLS, BOYS, WOMEN, AND MEN: GENDER ISSUES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD AND PARENTING, was presented.

Summer School: The role of early childhood development in promoting equity and social inclusion: theory, policy and practice

Under the Summer Institute on Social Exclusion and Discrimination of Children and Youth, hosted by the Central European University and co-convened with the Open Society Foundations Early Childhood Program (ECP) ISSA member VBJK organized this course. The course was designed to bring together participants from diverse constituencies and professional groups including policy makers, civil society representatives, researchers and early years personnel. The course was aiming to review the role of early childhood development in tackling the causes and symptoms of exclusion through the lens of the European Quality Framework for Early Childhood Education and Care. The topics were access to services, training, parental involvement, funding and policy approaches with a particular focus on children and families most at risk of social exclusion , principally children with disabilities, those from Roma communities, migrants, refugees and minority groups.

The lecturers were Jan Peeters (VBJK, University of Ghent); Dr. Nora Milotay (Policy Analyst, European Parliamentary Research Service); Prof. Paul Leseman (University of Utrecht), Dr. Margie Whalley (Pen Green Research, Development and Training Base and Centre for Children and their Families, UK),, Zorica Trikic (Senior Program Manager, ISSA), Adrian Marsh (Swedish Research Institute in Istanbul) and Ankie Vandekerckhove (VBJK, former Commissioner of Children's Rights).