Title: Let's dream wider! Identity, Vision, Action

Theme: INCLUSION and DIVERSITY

Do you also dream about a society where everybody is included? Diversity and social inclusion<sup>1</sup> are essential components for living together. Nonetheless, a lot of (young) people experience some form of exclusion.

Many training courses and seminars focus on one specific dimension of inclusion, inviting one target group in particular. We would like to propose a different approach, ensuring a safer space to address many dimensions of diversity and social inclusion. Does this sound challenging? We believe it actually sounds fun and like a great learning opportunity. We invite you to participate in the 6-day training course "Let's dream wider!", from 24-29th April 2023, including travel days, in Würzburg, Germany.

#### Aim

This training course aims to equip participants to have a more inclusive approach in their (youth) work. It will be a helpful resource for participants to be vulnerable in a safer space, where being open is embraced.

Instead of focusing on differences we will emphasize connections: with yourself, with other participants and within your respective communities.

We propose to take you along in a new way of creating a concrete action plan for a specific change that you can implement in your daily life.

## **Objectives and learning Outcomes**

When discussing diversity, the conversation often revolves around difficulties, discrimination or victimization. To give you an insight of what to expect in this training course, keep on reading!

- We will work together to create an inclusive (short term) community among ourselves:
- We will explore the challenges and limitations of "inclusion";
- We will try out Dragon Dreaming project design<sup>2</sup> to support yourself and to make a change in your community;
- We will look at systemic discrimination and how to challenge it in youth work;
- We will support you to develop an action plan to take home so you are ready for the next inclusive steps on your diversity journey.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> We use the term inclusion in its broadest sense, as **the act of making all groups of people within** a society feel valued and important

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>DRAGÓN DREAMING</u> is based upon the principle of personal and group empowerment to realize creative, collaborative and sustainable projects

# **Key points**

- We will hold space for you and invite you to share your professional and personal experiences about social inclusion;
- We will use non-formal and innovative methods as well as empowering language;
- We will explore the participants' experiences, including the intersectional<sup>3</sup> ones;
- We, as a team of professional trainers in the field of youth work, will also bring our experiences related to social inclusion and share concrete examples of our past projects;
- We will go through a learning journey together, where you will be the main actor\*actress:
- There will be opportunities for group and peer-to-peer support during and after the training.

## Who is this training for?

Anybody, that identifies as belonging to one or more of the following groups:

- Youth workers, people working regularly with young people on a voluntary or paid basis, interested in the topic of INCLUSION
- Activists in their respective fields that have the role of a multiplier in social inclusion
- We especially invite people with diverse backgrounds to apply. This includes, but is not limited to: lived experience of migration (including refugees), diverse abilities (disabilities), neurodiversity, lgbtiq\*, people of color, people with fewer learning opportunities, people from diverse socio-economic backgrounds etc.
- Likewise if you do not consider yourself part of any of these groups but want to challenge your youth work practices to be more inclusive, we would love to welcome you.
- Lastly: if you identify as a change maker and/or a solution finder within youth work: you are our people!

**About the venue:** The venue Jugendbildungsstätte Unterfranken, Würzburg<sup>4</sup> is accessible for wheelchair users and those with walking impairments. We will be able to accommodate other special needs. After the selection process we will get back to all the participants regarding their specific needs during the training course<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Intersectionality addresses how an individual can face multiple threats of discrimination when their identities overlap a number of minority classes, such as race, gender, age, ethnicity, health, and other characteristics (Steven Williams in Barber, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>Jugendbildungsstätte Unterfranken</u> (website mostly in German)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> If any assistance is needed in order to take part in this training course, the organizers will provide it (sign language interpretation, costs of personal assistance...). For any specific question about the support, please contact our support person.

#### FLOW of the TRAINING COURSE

Kick off meeting: Tuesday 11th April 19h00 CET for one hour together online.

We get to meet, take away some of the nervous butterflies before the training and talk about expectations and practicalities. Short and sweet.

## Residential TRAINING COURSE in Germany - 24 - 29.4.2023

### Day 1: ARRIVAL and WELCOME dinner

We would be grateful if the participants arrive by 17h CET. After arriving, you will have time to settle in and meet the participants of the group. The emphasis is on connections and understanding who is in the diverse group of participants.

#### Day 2: IDENTITY

We will go into some self reflection exercises and try to find out what brings you to the Training Course and what you are bringing to the TC yourself. We will also tackle different struggles with social inclusions that you would like to overcome. The evening will bring together different stories of our own experiences.

#### Day 3: VISION

We will look at positive change and what motivates us to make changes. We will try out the method of Dragon Dreaming Project Design to get closer to our goals.

# Day 4: ACTION

How to go about getting from dreams to action? We will try it out in practice in the venue and in a themed afternoon out. We gather what we learnt so far and will start on our action plans to make a (small) change in our communities.

## Day 5: CELEBRATION

We will use this day to answer open questions regarding the action plans and to close our training course with some reflexion and celebration.

### Day 6: DEPARTURE

Enjoy one last breakfast together and have a safe journey back home.

**Check in** online meeting: Tuesday 13th June 19h00 CET - One hour to check in and see how everybody is doing - with their action plan and beyond.