

# LET'S DO IT BETTER

improving quality of education for  
adults among various social groups



GRUNDTVIG

GRUNDTVIG – Partnership

NICE MEETING 14-15 JUNE



## DEFINITIONS OF TWO CONCEPTS:

### POPULAR EDUCATION AND SOCIAL MEDIATION

"Let's do it better" project refers to two concepts: popular education and social mediation.

Definition in of these two concepts according to the point of view of Foundation For Society, Latvia:

#### 1 / popular education:

Popular education may be defined as an educational technique designed to raise the consciousness of its participants and allow them to become more aware of how an individual's personal experiences are connected to larger societal problems. Participants are empowered to act to effect change on the problems that affect them - popular education is a collective effort in which a high degree of participation is expected from everybody.

Teachers and learners aren't two distinct groups - everyone teaches and everyone learns. Learners should be able to make decisions about what they are learning, and how the learning process takes place. A facilitator is needed to make sure that new ideas arise, progress, and don't get repetitive, but this isn't at all the same thing as a teacher. In popular education, then, we do not teach another person, but we can facilitate another's learning and help each other as we learn.

#### 2 / social mediation:

Simple definition of social mediation could be that it is new, different way of conflict resolution in everyday life, by means of involving society - resolving the tensions in society through community based action process of empowerment.

Social mediation is a way of solving conflicts at an early stage, perhaps before they reach the level of overt conflict.

Social mediation is an expression of empowering the individual components of that good society, empowering them to take responsibility for maintaining social peace and preventing crime.