LET'S DO IT BETTER

improving quality of education for adults among various social groups



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.

Define in a few lines these two concepts according to the point of view of your organisation (Turkey)

Popular Education:

Popular education means participation of everyone to the social, economical, political and global problems. Starting from the learners' own experiences, we try to show the links between our daily problems and the common problems that threaten the whole country, even the world. Popular education which consists of active citizenship, responsibility and cooperation is needed for radical social change. No matter what the origin, background, life style or statue, every member of society must open their eyes to the ongoing problems of the country, Europe and the world, only then we can expect more peaceful, democratic, fair and liveable world.

Our institution attaches great importance to the implementation of popular education in and out of schools. We try to develop critical awareness, stimulate debate and free thinking rather then dictating facts, by sharing experiences and improving problem solving skills in groups. 'Let's do it better' project is good practice to sample popular education. Within the context of local activities of the project, we get in touch with women, listened and shared their problems, provided them the chance to express their feelings, opinions and ideas. During the sessions, the women felt them as a part of society and realized that there are lots of people having similar problems around. They are inspired and powered to change something in their life. Small changes trigger bigger changes! We believe it! We work for it! We do it better!

Social Mediation:

As the offical educational authority of the city, our institution is also responsible for social mediation practices especially to provide cohency between rural and urban life. In Bartin, 70% percent of inhabitants live in the rural areas, most of the schools are located in the villages. So, the teachers who work in the rural schools have significant roles to contribute social mediation. They guide parents and

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students for many social services such as health, education, counselling whenever they seek for help and support.

In addition, our institution co-operates with many local projects that can be related to social mediation. For instance, Social Support Volunteers' project which is run by volunteers is supported by us. There are volunteer teachers who take part in the project. This project is like a bridge between public and government. The volunteers meet people from different areas, listen their various problems and prepare a report to present the governor. So, the people get a chance to tell their problems and ask for help without tackling with burocracy.