NEF
State of Play

Network of European Foundations

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Civitates - A Philanthropic Initiative for Democracy and Solidarity in Europe


Budget 2018-2020: 4.4 million EUR

Timeframe: 2018-2020

NEF has been involved in the development of Civitates since its inception.

Background:

Civitates was established in 2017 by a consortium of 16 foundations committed to upholding democratic values in Europe. It believes in European democracies, where all citizens have the opportunity to access information, make their voices heard, organise, mobilise and engage fully in the democratic processes. To achieve this vision, Civitates strengthens the capacity of civil society to play its indispensable role in shaping vibrant and open European democracies that work for all. The fund supports civil society coalitions that strengthen the resilience of the civil society sector in their respective countries, collectively and more effectively. It also supports civil society groups that push for a healthy digital public sphere in which public and democratic values are safeguarded.

Latest developments:

Potential new sub-fund to support independent, public interest journalism in Europe

Against the backdrop of a decline in trust in the media, declining media freedom, and business models in distress, combined with a new type of journalism organisation popping up all over Europe, Civitates feels that philanthropy has a valuable role to play in keeping independent, in-depth, not-for-profit journalism alive. Based on an initial proposal from the Adessium Foundation, which was met with interest by several other Civitates partner foundations, the Civitates secretariat is now exploring in depth what such a sub-fund should look like in order to have most impact. Civitates is gathering input from a range of foundations that are interested in participating in the fund, including foundations that are not yet part of Civitates and field experts from across Europe, so that the potential fund will be consistent with the needs and demands of this sector. The secretariat hopes to get the green light to establish the new sub-fund from the steering committee in December 2019.

Grantees come together for a healthier public discourse online

On Wednesday the 18th of September, in Brussels, Civitates brought together all of the grantees that have received funds for their work on ‘improving the digital information ecosystem in Europe’. It was the first time the grantees had come together as a group and the meeting rooms were buzzing with enthusiastic and excited conversations. The objectives of the meeting were for the grantees to meet and learn from each other’s work, to explore potential areas of collaboration, to refine their project indicators and to contribute to the development of indicators for the sub-fund. The grantees convening was also a good opportunity for them to learn about the foundations behind Civitates through a session entitled “I’m a funder, ask me anything” where the foundations’ representatives presented candidly answered questions from the grantees. The monitoring and evaluation part of the meeting was facilitated by an independent consultant who will also conduct an interim review of the sub-fund strategy at a later date, which will be presented to the steering committee in Autumn 2020. A short summary of the meeting is available [here](#).

Capacity building for coalitions strengthening civil society across Europe

While the coalitions’ work is ongoing, the grantees also invest in their own capacity and training, thanks to Civitates’ Learning Initiatives program. This allows for additional funding (up to €5000 per coalition) for the grantees’ learning and capacity-building needs, in terms of both individual learning initiatives and joint learning initiatives (this can pay for participation in training courses, workshops, and networking events, strategy consulting, etc.). Some examples of when grantees drew on these funds are: the organisation of a workshop on strategic and crisis communications for CSOs in Slovenia; a workshop exploring community development methodology which can be relevant for network building at the national and European level; and participation in specific training courses/academies on EU advocacy. The grantees will be coming together again at the end of this year, in Warsaw, to build their capacity together and to learn from each other’s work. That particular grantee convention will also be attended by an independent consultant who has been tasked with conducting the interim...
review of this sub-fund. The review will provide Civitates with an opportunity to reflect on the sub-fund’s accomplishments to date and the surface lessons learned, to bring together our collective insights into a shared document and to provide information on the sub-fund’s future development. The review will be presented at the Steering Committee meeting in Spring 2020.

New communications approach: regular stories featuring grantees

Civitates has started to work closely with a communications consultant who regularly publishes interviews of grantees. These stories not only put the grantees’ work in the spotlight, but also highlight the dreams and hopes of the people behind the projects, hoping to trigger empathy and a sense of belonging. The interviews are published every two weeks on the Civitates website, as well as being distributed through a mailing list and re-posted/shared by several of the foundation partners. Anyone who would like to learn more about the great work the Civitates grantees do, is advised to sign up for the mailing list here.

The Evaluation Fund: Reducing Violence Against Children

**Foundations involved:** Oak Foundation (Chair) and anonymous donor

**Budget:** Around 4 million EUR for 2011-2020

**Timeframe:** 2011-2020

NEF has been involved in the development of the Evaluation Fund: Reducing Violence Against Children, since its inception.

**Background:**

The Evaluation Fund: Reducing Violence Against Children is a pooled funding initiative aimed at reducing violence against children by supporting rigorous evaluations of childhood violence prevention interventions in low-income and middle-income countries. These evaluations provide insight into what works (and what does not) in reducing violence against children in a variety of countries and contexts. The findings support greater evidence-based policymaking and programming so that all children may live a life free of violence.

Since 2011, The Evaluation Fund has supported 18 research studies in 17 countries and is in its second phase of programming, which will continue throughout 2020.

**Latest developments:**

**East Africa: Call for Proposals**

The idea behind this Call is to provide evaluation funding and support for INSPIRE\(^1\)-type interventions in two pathfinding countries, Uganda and Tanzania. The Call should contribute to the policy momentum at a country level while simultaneously reinforcing the growing momentum generated by the Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children and the new Pan-African Forum on Violence Prevention, hosted under the African Child Policy Forum.

In January 2019, two consultants were selected to help coordinate the efforts of the Regional Advisory Committee and the Academic Advisory Committee for both Tanzania and Uganda. These committees helped to frame the Call for Proposals and to drive the applicants’ selection process, thus anchoring the Call and the selected projects to local ownership by actors that are active in the field of childhood violence prevention in the region. The Academic and Advisory Committees were established in April, paving the way for the Call for Proposals to be launched in June 2019. 123 concept notes were received and seven have been shortlisted and invited to submit a Full Research Proposal. The grantees will be selected in early December.

The Secretariat has also begun exploring and identifying consultants for capacity development in research methods and program intervention who would support the grantees selected from this Call for Proposals.

\(^1\) 7 strategies to end violence against children: http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/inspire/en/
Next steps: To work with the Academic and Regional Advisory Committees to select Full Research Proposals and determine the capacity development needs.

Visibility of the Fund

In line with the Communications Strategy developed in 2018, the Evaluation Fund has been working to modernise its communications and build connections among other actors in the field of VAC, in order to best achieve its mission. As such, the Evaluation has written 8 articles that highlight the work of its grantees and some encouraging findings from evaluations of violence prevention programs. The idea behind these articles is to 1) share valuable information on what works (or doesn’t) to reduce violence against children, and 2) to build collaboration and connections among our grantees and other partners in the field of VAC.

Next steps: Several opportunities to share findings are coming up in October, including at the Elevate Children Funders Group AGM, where the Evaluation Fund will be part of a panel, and at the Sexual Violence Research Initiative (SVRI) Forum in Cape Town.

Evidence Brief

Since the beginning of the year, 6 evidence briefs have been released, explaining the highlights of evaluations conducted in Burkina-Faso, Colombia, Jordan, Uganda, and Albania.

To produce these briefs, the evaluation reports were assessed by a quality review process; next, the key learnings, challenges, and outcomes are gathered by a research institution; and finally that content is refined by the Secretariat and handed over to a communications agency that then designs the brief accordingly.

Since April, the quality review, content extraction, and brief design process has been done in such a way that allows for a brief to be released approximately once a month.

Next steps: Continue to release briefs and research studies on past projects. Next brief: Burundi.

Strategic Planning Exercise

Following completion of the retrospective review, The Evaluation Fund is currently undergoing a strategic planning exercise that will help to define the future of the fund as it nears the end of its funding cycle. The outcome of this planning exercise, which is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2019, will provide guidance on whether the Evaluation Fund should continue, and if so, under what structure. This will allow the Secretariat enough time to redefine their roles and restructure the collaboration accordingly by 2020, when the funding phase will come to a close.

This project is being pursued jointly with IGNITE Philanthropy, which operates in the same sector and works with many of the same actors as the Evaluation Fund, despite its own unique mission and scope of work.

Next steps: The Secretariat, together with IGNITE, will meet in London at the end of September, to discuss the findings of the landscape overview and the opportunities for the future of these funds.

European Foundations’ Initiative on Dementia

Foundations involved: King Baudouin Foundation, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Fondation Médéric Alzheimer (Chair), Porticus Foundations

Budget 2019: 110,000 EUR

Timeframe: 2010-2020

NEF has developed and managed this programme since its inception.

Background:

EFID’s mission is to improve the life of people with dementia by enabling a dementia-friendly and inclusive environment in communities across Europe. The community's commitment and the mobilisation of societal resources are very important to structuring the social environment. Real improvements to the situation of people
with dementia can only be achieved when forms of common ownership are developed and experienced in cities and communities.

EFID’s 5th Phase (2019-2020) is focusing on the theme of valuing the expertise of people living with dementia in the community. Porticus Foundation joined the partnership and contributed to the strategic development.

**Latest developments:**
A group of consultants is developing alongside the Awardees a quality framework to measure the impact of their work and to identify key indicators common to the EFID network of practitioners. A series of interviews with experts, awardees, foundations and people living with dementia were carried out in summer 2019. A co-creation workshop took place in Brussels on 23-24 September 2019 to draft the basis of the simple but yet solid tool (quality framework) that will be released in January 2020. The tool will be further adjusted and piloted at the workshop in Turin, on 4-5 December.

EFID is organising a series of webinars on different topics. The first webinar “Spotlight on Rifugio Re Carlo Alberto – Co-creating the EFID quality framework” took place on May 7th and was restricted to awardees. The second webinar on Dementia and Migration took place on September 12th and featured presentations by Alzheimer Europe and Demenz Support Stuttgart. This webinar was open to the wider public.

Finally, a quarterly newsletter has been launched to spread the information on EFID awardees’ initiatives and enhance the communication at project level.

**European Fund for the Balkans**

- **Foundations involved:** ERSTE Stiftung; King Baudouin Foundation (Chair); Robert Bosch Stiftung
- **Budget 2019:** Around 1 million euros
- **Timeframe:** 2007-2025

NF is registered in Belgrade and the EFB-NF has an office in Belgrade.

**Background:**
The European Fund for the Balkans is a joint initiative of European foundations that envisions, runs and supports initiatives aimed at strengthening democracy, fostering European integration and affirming the role of the Western Balkans in addressing Europe’s emerging challenges. The up-to-date programme strategy is based on three overarching areas – Capacity Development, Policy Development and Regional Cooperation – and channelled via flagship programmes and selected projects, complemented with a set of actions arising from EFB’s regional identity as a relevant player in its fields of focus. Their synergetic effects are focussed on continuous “Europeanisation” of the policies and practices of the Western Balkans countries on their way to EU accession, by merging the region’s social-capacity-building with policy platform development and through a culture of regional cooperation.

**Latest developments:**
After celebrating its 10-year anniversary in 2018 and the renewed support from the funding partner foundations until 2025, the year 2019 is marked by detailed stock-taking and updating the Fund’s strategy according to the modified context in the Western Balkans and in the EU. The Fund’s Secretariat is currently involved in the process of strategically reviewing the programme’s main pillars, exploring the possibilities for broadening and deepening the scope of actions and supported projects.

Furthermore, this year is marked by the 11th and last edition (in this format) of the EFB Fellowship Programme for Government Officials from the Western Balkans – a decision taken following previous detailed strategy and evaluation exercises. This flagship programme was widely recognised as a positive example for exchange of know-how not only between Western Balkans and EU administrations, but also for contributing to the regional
exchange and connectivity. After a decade of investing in the capacity building of public administrations, the time has come to consider new ways of working and fields of activities to fulfil the Fund’s mission.

On September 23-24, 2019, the Steering Committee and the Secretariat were involved in the Strategic Planning Meeting to discuss possible scenarios for development. The final decision on the EFB’s future portfolio activities will be taken by the Fund’s Steering committee in December 2019.

Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group (BiEPAG)

Latest developments:

- BiEPAG public event on ‘Serbia, The Western Balkans and the EU’, Hague, May 28, 2019
  The Clingendael Institute and the Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group (BiEPAG) organised the joint public event "Serbia, The Western Balkans and the EU". It presented an opportunity to debate on the Serbian accession process to the EU and the regional cooperation and good neighbourly relations in the region with two panels of renowned experts.

- Public event "The Netherlands, the Western Balkans, and the EU", Belgrade, June 6, 2019
  The following topics were discussed: the EU enlargement, the foreign influence in the Western Balkans and the bilateral disputes in the region.

- Public event “Global Actors in the Western Balkans”, Belgrade, June 17, 2019
  The Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group and the European Western Balkans organised the public event “Global Actors in the Western Balkans” in the EU Info Centre Belgrade on June 17, 2019, presenting the latest BiEPAG Policy Brief “The Balkans as a Geopolitical Chessboard? Myths, Realities and Policy Options”
  What is the real impact of the non-Western actors in the Western Balkans? What are their interests? Are the local political elites harmed or empowered by this influence?

- Conference “Buckle-up! The Western Balkans joining the EU in 2025? Or Not?”, Athens, July 1, 2019
  On July 1st, the European Fund for the Balkans and its pillar programme BiEPAG joined forces with the Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy (ELIAMPEP) and the OSF Policy Institute for organising the open event and whole day conference “Buckle-up! The Western Balkans joining the EU in 2025? Or Not?” in Athens, Greece.

- Presentation of the BiEPAG policy brief “A New Geopolitical Game in the Western Balkans”, Athens, July 2, 2019
  The BiEPAG event “A New Geopolitical Game in the Western Balkans” was held on July 2, 2019 at the European Parliament Information Office in Athens and it presented the latest BiEPAG policy brief in front of the Greek academia, journalists and policy makers.

All the BiEPAG activities, policy publications, BiEPAG policy blogs are available at: www.biepag.eu

BiEPAG Meetings - BiEPAG Annual Planning Meeting, Kosovo, Prizren, September 25-27, 2019

Civil Society Forum of the Western Balkans Summit Series (CSF)

Latest developments:

- A roundtable discussion on the forthcoming Summit in Poznań, Poland (July 4, 2019) “Looking forward to Poznan Summit” in the context of the Berlin Process was held in Belgrade on January 24, 2019. The discussion was organised by the European Fund for the Balkans, coordinator of the Civil Society Forum of the Western Balkans, together with the portal European Western Balkans. The event was an opportunity for the civil society and the representatives of the countries included in the process to discuss the so far achieved results and the ways in which they can be improved. The CSO’s representatives from the region also had an opportunity to discuss the Poznan Summit agenda with H.E. Wieslaw Tarka, coordinator of the Poznan Summit from the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs;

Six CSF Policy Briefs were produced with recommendations on the key Poznan Summit topics:
Economic issues in the WB region;
Legacy issues and rule of law;
Civil society and youth participation in decision making process;
How to improve cultural cooperation in the SEE region;
Local communities in the process of EU Integration;
Proposals for accelerating and reenergising the enlargement process.

The CSF Publications can be found here: https://wb-csf.eu/csf-publications

- The representatives of the Civil Society Forum of the Western Balkans (CSF WB) took part at the Western Balkans Summit in Poznan on July 3 and 4, by presenting the policy input through its member organizations and selected representatives. The regional experts presented the CSF Policy Briefs at the Think Tank Forum and at the gathering of civil society, which were an integral part of this high-level meeting. Through a series of meetings and panels, the CSF WB representatives discussed their recommendations with the decision-makers to help address the challenges faced by the region.

For the first time during the Berlin Process, the civil society representatives were invited by the Polish MFA, Jacek Czaputowicz, not just to provide input, but to stay throughout the entire foreign ministers’ meeting. The Executive Director of the EFB, Aleksandra Tomanic, and the six representatives of the Western Balkan civil society organisations (CSO) – Jovana Marovic (Politikon Network), Vukosava Crnjanski (CRTA), Adnan Huskic (Center for Election Studies), Gjergji Vurmo (Institute for Democracy and Mediation), Naim Rashiti (Balkans Policy Research Group) and Marko Trosanovski (Institut for Democracy Societas Civilis) discussed regional trends. The state of democracy in the Western Balkans, rule of law, bilateral issues, EU enlargement, media freedom and the future of the Berlin Process were some of the issues raised by the CSO actors.

Fellowship Programme for Government Officials from the Western Balkans

Latest developments:
- The 11th edition of the Fellowship Programme for Government Officials 2019/2020 was launched with the public call for applications posted on January 18, 2019. This edition of the Programme was specifically designed for government officials working in the fields of justice, security, economy, energy, transport and digital policy, social policy, education, research and innovation, and public administration. The final list of selected candidates was confirmed in April.

- The new edition of the Programme was launched with the Introductory Seminar in Berlin and Potsdam, September 7-13, 2019. The European Fund for the Balkans conducted the seminar with the support of the academic partners from the “Potsdam Center for Policy and Management” (PCPM) at the University of Potsdam, one of the leading competence centres for governance and the public sector in Germany. The skills training sessions in this seminar included presentation skills, employing the Fellows’ individual presentations as “practice cases” and “Presenting with Impact”. The Change Management and Intercultural Training were also part of the agenda.

Upcoming activities:
The final seminar of the Fellowship Programme is scheduled for November 9-13, 2019 in Thessaloniki, Greece.

Think and Link Regional Policy Programme

Latest developments:
- The Think and Link Regional Policy Programme Edition 2019/2020 was launched at the beginning of 2019 with the selection and support of 4 regional networks.

Upcoming Activities:
- After the mid-term reports, the programme cycle will proceed with the scheduled public events and with publishing the policy results of the separate regional projects in October and November.
- The deadline for the final reports is December 2019.

Supported Initiatives:
European Fund for the Balkans Fellowships at the Austrian Parliament 2019/2020
On the initiative of the Austrian Parliament and with the generous support of ERSTE Foundation, the European Fund for the Balkans launched the new initiative the “European Fund for the Balkans Fellowships 2019-2020 at the Austrian Parliament”. It is a new practice-oriented educational programme designed for the public servants working in the administrations of the WB6 National Parliaments - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kosovo, North Macedonia and Serbia, who are proficient in the German language.

A press conference and the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the representatives of the Austrian Parliament and the European Fund for the Balkans was held in Vienna on March 28 and it marked the official start of the newly established initiative entitled “EFB Fellowship at the Austrian Parliament”. The selection process was done over the course of May. Seven candidates from the region were selected as Fellowship recipients and they will spend their practice time in the Austrian Parliament.

International Summer School in Comparative Conflict Studies 2018, June 2019
The European Fund for the Balkans supported the jubilee 10th International Summer School in Comparative Conflict Studies that was held from June 23-30, 2019. The European Fund for the Balkans provided 10 EFB scholarships to a selected group of participants from the WB region.

Move.Link.Engage Conference, Belgrade, September 2019
The European Fund for the Balkans supported the fifth in a series of conferences entitled ‘Move.Link.Engage’, organised by the Belgrade Open School. The aim of the Conference was to promote and encourage the regional approach to resolving the shared problems and to foster cooperation among citizens and civil society organisations and media, as well as to support and enhance the European integration-related reforms in the region’s countries through the advanced role of civil society organisations and media.

European Programme for Integration and Migration

Foundations involved (Associate): Fondazione Cariplo, Fondazione CON IL SUD, Enel Cuore, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Torino, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Cuneo, Fondazione Cassa di Risparmio di Padova e Rovigo, Fondazione Monte dei Paschi di Siena, Fondazione Peppino Vismara, John S. Latsis Public Benefit Foundation, Stavros Niarchos Foundation

Budget: January 2019-December 2023, with a starting budget of €6.3M


EPIM is a programme developed and supported by NEF.

Background:

The European Programme for Integration and Migration is a pooled fund, currently supported by 25 private foundations, which aims to strengthen the role of civil society in building inclusive communities and in developing humane and sustainable responses to migration, based on Europe’s commitment to universal human rights and social justice.

EPIM gives grants to projects led by civil society organisations across Europe and strengthens grantees and the wider field through capacity development, knowledge support and by connecting actors from the local, national, regional and EU levels. Funds are allocated through targeted Thematic Funds on Migration and Detention; Reform
of the European Asylum System; Long-term Prospects and the Protection of Children and Youth on the Move in Europe; Access to Rights for Mobile EU Citizens; Strategic Communication on Migration in a Changing Environment; and Building Inclusive Societies.

**Latest developments:**

**Joint EPIM/DMI meeting on ‘Addressing Irregularity’**

In the context of its biannual Steering Committee Meeting, EPIM will co-organise a meeting on ‘Addressing Irregularity’ with the Diversity, Migration and Integration (DMI) Network of the EFC. The meeting will take place on 29 October in The Hague and be hosted by the Adessium Foundation. The meeting will aim to explore pathways for addressing and preventing irregularity in a non-punitive way, and to provide a space for exchange among DMI and EPIM members on key developments and priorities in the area of migration and integration.

**EU Summit for Refugees and Migrants**

In the context of its ‘Opportunity Fund’, which is intended to support the identification of and timely responses to emerging opportunities in the field, EPIM co-supported two migrant-led organisations (The Syrian Volunteers in the Netherlands and New Women Connectors) in organising the first ‘EU Summit for Refugees and Migrants’, which took place in Brussels on 4-6 May. Bringing together more than 60 refugee and migrant leaders from all EU Member States, the Summit provided a platform for migrant advocates and migrant-led organisations to exchange experiences and learnings and to strengthen the coordination of advocacy efforts at a national and European level ahead of the European elections in May.

**Developments in Thematic funds**

**Thematic fund on Migration and Detention**

**Aim:** To ensure that migrants who are subject to European migration systems have access to fair, transparent and efficient procedures to resolve their migration case, so that detention is reduced to a tool of last resort applied only when it is legitimate, proportionate and necessary.

**Grantee organisations in 2019:** Hungarian Helsinki Committee (HHC), Migreurop, European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), International Detention Coalition (IDC), Cyprus Refugee Council (CyRC), Association for Legal Intervention (SIP), Center for Legal Aid – Voice in Bulgaria, HumanRights360, Italian Coalition for Civil Liberties and Rights (CILD).

**Main developments:**

- Five Alternative to Detention (ATD) pilots have been selected for support by EPIM in the 2019-2021 timeframe. These include three pilot projects from the previous implementation phase in Bulgaria, Cyprus and Poland, as well as two new pilot projects in Italy and Greece.
- The International Detention Coalition has received a grant to continue the ATD Network, in close coordination with PICUM, in 2019-2021. The ATD Network will continue to provide a platform for capacity development and peer exchange between ATD pilots and continue to support and facilitate advocacy efforts on ATD at a national and regional level.
- A new Call for Proposals, ‘Shaping Fair and Effective Migration Systems’, has been launched in July 2019 to support CSOs in promoting humane and sustainable responses to irregularity in Europe. The emphasis is on identifying and challenging current gaps and framing alternative approaches to ensure fair and effective case resolution.

**Thematic fund on the long-term prospects and protection of children on the move in Europe**

**Aim:** Through policy and in practice, to ensure the protection of children and youth on the move in Europe and support their longer-term paths, enabling them to identify their longer-term perspectives and to establish an autonomous life in the society they can live in.

**Grantee organisations in 2019:** Mentor-Escale, Minor-Ndako, Save the Children Italy, CESVI Fondazione Onlus, Centro Italiano Aiuti all’Infanzia Onlus, C.I.D.I.S. Onlus, Cooperazione Internazionale Sud Sud, Istituto Don Calabria, Dedalus Cooperativa Sociale, Fondazione Museke Onlus, Missing Children Europe (with partners PICUM, Terre des Hommes, Child Circle, EPCAT, Eurochild and ECRE), Safe Passage International, Centro
Main developments:
- The Greek organisation Velos Youth was awarded an EPIM grant for a project being led in partnership with HumanRights360 and Babel Day Centre. The two-year project started in September. Located in Athens, Velos Youth centre provides a safe space for children and youth on the move to access essential services and a varied program of participatory activities, centred around wellbeing, social development, and learning. Through advocacy and support with access to housing, education and the job market, Velos Youth and partner organisations will further empower migrant youths, aged 16 to 21 years old, facilitating a smoother transition to adulthood and an autonomous life in Greece.
- In July, EPIM invited key organisations advocating at EU level to submit a proposal. Through this new request for proposals, EPIM aims to support joint advocacy work in partnership contributing to coherent policy frameworks and funding in Europe for the protection, inclusion and long-term prospects of children on the move, in their best interests and regardless of their migration status. The project(s) will be selected by the end of the year.

Thematic fund for communicating on migration in a changing environment

Aim: To increase the weight of their messages and recommendations and to contribute to more nuanced political and public discourses as well as policymaking on migration in and across EU Member States as well as in Brussels.

Grantee organisations in 2019: Migration Policy Group (MPG); Refugees Welcome Italia/Refugees Welcome International; Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM); European Network on Statelessness (ENS).

Main developments:
- To support and inform EPIM’s partner foundations, grantees and other CSOs about the latest development in narrative tactics work and to unravel the narratives on migration that resonate best, EPIM has commissioned the research ‘Mapping Narratives Tactics in the Migration Sector’ which was disseminated in early September. This report will inform Thematic Fund’s future strategy and will be unpacked at a convention of experts targeting key organisations, which will take place in the first quarter of 2020.
- Having completed the first year of their three-year capacity development plan, the European Network on Statelessness, Refugees Welcome and PICUM have received a grant for the second year of their project. The Migration Policy Group (MPG) had its grant renewed for the project ‘The Alliance for a Welcoming Europe’.
- Building upon the success of the workshop on advancing digital communications campaigns which took place in May 2019, the Social Change Initiative and EPIM are jointly organising the second workshop ‘How to use digital to create change?’ which will take place in December. The aim of this workshop is to provide deeper training on the use of digital tools; strategies for maximising organisations’ uptake of digital; and transferable lessons from other sectors.

Thematic fund on the European asylum system

Aim: To help shape European and national asylum systems that are humane, fair, effective and capable of offering protection to those in need.

Grantee organisations in 2019: European Council for Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)

Main developments:
- EPIM is currently reviewing the progress of this Thematic Fund to explore potential priorities for the years to come. In that context, two meetings were organised in May and July to provide funders with a space for strategic reflection on funding opportunities and needs as well as collaboration in the field of asylum.

Thematic fund on protecting access to rights for mobile EU citizens
**Aim:** To ensure that mobile EU citizens and their family members are able to exercise and enforce their free movement rights effectively both in law and in practice.

**Grantee organisations in 2019:** European Citizen Action Service (ECAS); European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA); Médecins du Monde (MdM).

**Main developments:**
- Grantees launched the Civic Observatory on the Rights of EU Citizens (CORE) in May 2019. CORE is a joint initiative by FEANTSA, ECAS and MdM, aimed at capitalising on the thematic complementarity of their projects. CORE is focused on monitoring legal and political developments in the field of EU citizenship, and on implementing joint advocacy actions, in order to enhance the impact of supported projects.
- EPIM organised a strategy development workshop for grantees in September 2019. In collaboration with **Quality Matters**, the workshop focused on supporting the grantees to develop a Theory of Change for CORE and to further articulate the envisaged joint activity strands.

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**Thematic fund for building inclusive European societies**

**Aim:** To help enhance community cohesion structurally in various European societies so that this leads to collective and individual improvements in the quality of life and social relationships of all members of the community, including migrants.

**Grantee organisations in 2019:** European Council for Refugees and Exiles (ECRE); Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM); Artemisszió Foundation; DUO for a JOB; MPI Europe; Share your World; SOS Racismo Gipuzkoa; Welcoming America.

**Main developments:**
- EPIM produced case studies on each of the 18 initiatives selected under the “Rethinking Inclusion” call for interests. The case studies are aimed at helping to identify CSOs’ capacity-development needs, concrete ways to address these needs and potential scaling opportunities. They also consolidate evidence and identify ways to strengthen the narrative and communications about the impact of the selected initiatives.
- EPIM has awarded small strategic communications grants to organisations interested in strengthening their communications strategy, in particular around the impact of shortlisted initiatives. A total of 16 grants will be awarded.
- To support civil society efforts to inform future EU funding for inclusion, EPIM supported two publications:
  - [Mainstreamed or overlooked? Migrant and social cohesion in the European Social Fund](#), a report by Aliyyah Ahad and Timo Schmidt which analyses the European Social Fund and its role in supporting migrant inclusion and social cohesion;
  - [Money Wise – Improving how EU funds support migration and integration policy objectives](#), a policy brief by MPI Europe which looks more broadly at how the EU funding landscape can be used to meet migration and integration policy objectives.

Additionally, EPIM supported the organisation by MPI Europe, ECRE and PICUM of a closed-door, roundtable meeting on 26 June 2019 bringing together participants from the European Parliament, European Commission, national and local authorities and CSOs to discuss future funding for migrant inclusion.

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**Fikra – Tunisia Joint Fund**

**Foundations involved:** Fondation de France (Chair); King Baudouin Foundation

**Budget 2012-2018:** 1.2 million euros

**Timeframe:** 2012-2019

Fikra is a programme developed and managed by NEF.

**Background:**
The Tunisia Joint Fund – known as Fikra – was launched officially in April 2013 in the wake of the ‘Arab Spring’. Since then, around 60 projects have been funded. Fikra, meaning ‘thought’ or ‘idea’ in Arabic, is what makes this initiative different: poor, remote communities in the Northwest of the country are taking the lead on their development by creating innovative opportunities to promote social and economic justice.

Fikra was conceptualised to support the transition in Tunisia. This path is multi-pronged, consisting of empowerment, innovation and network-building. The core of Fikra’s work lies in helping Tunisian citizens to access opportunities to achieve social and economic justice. In general, many Fikra projects support social entrepreneurs, while others involve animal husbandry, agriculture, education, environment, health, and cultural initiatives in schools. Fikra encourages people to cooperate with each other and to mobilise local resources so that they have ownership of the agenda rather than relying on international funding.

**Latest developments:**

Fikra is in its sunset phase. Some dissemination activities will take place this autumn, targeting officials and CSOs in the North West of Tunisia to spread Fikra’s learnings and legacy.

The remainder of the programme will be spent on the call for projects managed by Fondation de France within the framework of their Tunisian programme, with a selection aimed at scaling projects initially funded by Fikra or aligned with the Fikra criteria. The disbursement will be done in October once the final selection has been confirmed. Fondation de France will monitor the new projects.

**European Philanthropy Learning Initiative**

**Foundations**: U.S. Embassy in France, Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques

**Budget 2019**: approx. 5000 euros

**Background:**

In an era of unprecedented wealth, technological advancement and global interdependence, we find ourselves simultaneously confronted with ominous trends of social and political dysfunction. The thing that has been missing from efforts to address these negative trends, is a fundamental understanding of a key dimension of the problem—a radically diminished sense of the common good that characterises modern society worldwide.

The initiative emerged from a series of conversations involving academics, practitioners and representatives of more than a dozen institutions in France, Germany, Great Britain, and the United States over a two-year period. The goal at the heart of the project has been to expand understanding of the common good and to explore how that understanding can practically empower efforts to strengthen the pursuit of the common good through economic incentives, policy-making, shifts in cultural norms, public communication efforts and other means.

**Latest developments:**

I. **Continued Consultative Convenings (CC), Refinement and Studies**

The empirical study began by scanning the Rockefeller Archive Center for examples from its extensive foundation and civil society archives to identify examples of cross-sector collaboration around systemic transformation. The initial scanning phase took place in February 2018 and is being analysed to determine the need for further scanning and examples (from selected and more diverse resources). Once the report on the latter has been completed, it will be reviewed during a consultative convention (in early June 2019) for common themes concerning the role of the common good in these examples (or the absence thereof), how this empirical evidence might be applied to the contemporary resolution of societal challenges and what the necessary learning infrastructure would be to make this happen.

The full empirical study is scheduled to be completed by September 2019.

As mentioned in the previous report, this study will complement six other papers, currently in the process of completion, authored by postdocs and other experts on how the themes of the pursuit of the common good play out in specific arenas of modern social life: democratic governance, digital technology, income inequality, civic media, civil society institutions, race and xenophobia, and climate change. Cumulatively, these field-by-field analyses, together with the case studies, will provide an intellectual basis for the next phases of the project, beginning with an invitational conference for sectoral leaders to be convened in London in 2019.

The studies will be carried out by the Initiative’s founding cohort and knowledge partners with strategic inputs to be solicited from outside specialists and the review convenings.
II. Fundraising and Constituent Building

At the same time, the Steering Group is undertaking a focused and essential fundraising programme in Europe and the U.S. to allow the PCG to establish an actionable collaborative organisational network to carry out the work. Phase Two will mark the official launch of the initiative with an invitational conference for sector leaders in London in the second half of 2019. The specific components of this phase will be determined by recommendations from the study and cross-sector review convenings during phase one, which will be reviewed, debated confirmed at the launch conference. The initial priorities will focus on establishing the basic elements of the learning infrastructure and building a constituency and communities to restore a sense of the common good as the coalescing force for ensuring a sustainable and equitable future. It is envisioned that these priorities will include the following, while recognising that it will be an evolving agenda.

Joint Action for Farmers’ Organisations in West Africa (JAFOWA)

Foundations involved: Compagnia di San Paolo; Fondazione Cariplo; Fondation de France (Chair), OSIWA and Fondation for a Just Society (USA).

Budget 2019: Around 1 million euros

Timeframe: 2016–2020

JAFOWA has been developed and is implemented through NEF.

Background:

JAFOWA seeks to reinforce FOs who work with smallholder farmers, pastoralists and fishermen, to manage good quality local food systems that benefit their families and communities in ecologically sustainable ways. It aims to support a strong and equitable farmers’ movement in West Africa. This movement proposes local and regional policies, promotes ecological solutions and enables the leadership of women and youth.

JAFOWA supports farmers’ organisations (FOs) through grant making and capacity development with a focus on Burkina Faso and Senegal.

In 2018, JAFOWA decided to focus on the transition towards agroecology and worked through a restricted call for proposals in the second phase. As part of its advocacy leg, JAFOWA will support an advocacy collaborative in Ghana aimed at integrating agroecological concepts into national agricultural production systems and policies for 2019-2020.

Latest developments:

The second call for proposals entitled “Sustain and accompany farmers’ organisations towards the agroecological transition in Burkina and in Senegal” was launched in April 2019. Of the 27 FOs pre-selected for their engagement and/or willingness to engage in agroecological transition, 18 responded to the call and after analysis of their concept notes 16 (8 in both countries) were selected to participate in a “Strategy design workshop”. The first selection was based on criteria such as the FO’s governance, practices in terms of agroecology, advocacy and capitalisation, gender and youth-oriented policies and activities, quality and diversity partnerships.

The bearers of the 16 preselected FOs proposals were invited to a workshop either in Dakar (17 to 19th of June) or in Ouagadougou (26 to 28th of June) with their main (1 or 2) partners, which could be either local or international NGOs, Research institutes, other FOs, etc. The workshops were designed to lead participants to agree on: their vision of change in their territories; their strategies for each actor; and finally, the activities for the next 2 or 3 years.

The steering committee’s final selection was held in Turin, on September 13. Advice from advisory board members and experts on agroecology was collected beforehand. 4 proposals in Burkina Faso and 4 in Senegal were selected, most of them will be implemented as of January 2020 for 2 or 3 years.

NEF has supported the development of a dedicated website for JAFOWA (www.jafowa.org) that will portray the programme and the different capitalisation materials better.
Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium

Foundations involved: OSF, Wellspring
Budget 2019-2020: $300,000
Timeframe: January 2019 - Dec 2020

PEHRC is implemented through NEF.

Background:
Since 2014, a group of over 100 organisations from all parts of the world have been working together as part of an informal arrangement, the Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC). In the current climate of increasing privatisation in education, the Consortium emerged from the need to strengthen joint and international collaboration to respond to challenges that may arise from the rapid growth of private actors in education and to raise the issue’s profile as a human rights concern.

PEHRC’s aim is to increase the collective impact of our organisations’ work, through strategic coordination of advocacy activities, to enable civil society organisations to monitor and where necessary, address the impact of the growing privatisation in education around the world more effectively, and to reorient attention to the support and improvement of quality, accountable, public education systems that deliver on the right to education.

The Consortium provides practical support to collaborative work and to strengthening collaborations over the short and mid-term.

Specific objectives:
- To build a stronger movement (citizen led/rooted) critical of privatisation in education.
- To implement the Human Rights Guiding Principles on States’ obligations and the role of private actors in education (Working Group on Guiding Principles).
- To define solutions: to develop a strong alternative (counter) narrative and to propose a viable alternative (Working Group on Positive Evidence-Alternatives).
- To take action to address key issues at national and international levels.

Following the departure of the consortium’s coordinator, the group has begun the search to fill the position. It is expected to make a decision on the new person by October 2019.

Re-granting activities to members of the consortium have not yet begun.

Transnational Forum on Integrated Community Care (TransForm)

Foundations involved: King Baudouin Foundation (Chair); Compagnia di San Paolo; Fondation de France; Graham Boeckh Foundation; Robert Bosch Stiftung; Fund Danielle De Coninck (managed by King Baudouin Foundation), Conconi Foundation, St. Paul’s Foundation
Budget 2019: 290.000 euros
Timeframe: 2017-2020

NEF has developed and managed this programme since its inception.

Background:
Integrated care at a community level, which seeks to co-ordinate services better by working around people’s holistic needs. It implies a shift from problem-based, disease-oriented care to goal-based, person-centred care aimed at improving the quality of life of the patients (and those close to the patient). It also engages individuals
and communities in managing their care. The focus of the Transnational Forum on Integrated Community Care (TransForm) goes beyond the most common interpretations placed on integrated care (i.e. integration of health and social care provision), rather, TransForm seeks to examine how co-productive partnerships that empower people in local communities can be developed through cross-sector collaborations.

The overarching aim of the Forum is to pique the interest of and to inspire policymakers, key stakeholders and practitioners to foster integrated community care (ICC). It seeks to achieve this by finding and analysing promising practices in integrated community care and learning from their experiences and impact.

At the start of the project IFIC undertook a mapping exercise of promising practices in the area of integrated community care (ICC) that serves as the basis for developing a series of conferences and site visits. The research will continue throughout the project and will be enriched by new cases identified along the project. Experts in the field of integrated community care have been appointed as members of the TransForm Advisory Group. The Advisory Group provides guidance on identifying case studies and inputs for and at the conferences. A series of 4 conferences forms the backbone of the project.

Latest developments:

The third conference “Building stronger communities through integrated community care” will take place in Vancouver, Canada, on 3-4 October 2019. The conference will examine how to facilitate the participation and engagement of communities in decision-making, including an examination of responses to different cultural contexts and building social capital. Agendas, case study descriptions and input papers are available on the website. The conference’s main objectives are to:

- Demonstrate through evidence and practical experiences the positive impact that community engagement and empowerment can have on improving people’s health and wellbeing, including addressing social determinants of health;
- Understand the options and processes by which local communities can participate meaningfully in local decision-making and governance processes to support integrated community care, including the creation and maintenance of new forms of partnerships and alliances, and the challenges and issues to developing a shared purpose;
- Explore how to mobilise policy makers and community leaders to take the lead towards system transformation through community-led, collaborative approaches;
- Demonstrate how evaluation and research can support the design and deployment of community-based approaches that enable ICC; and
- Generate further inspiration and confidence to develop and change practice that values and encourages the role of the community at all levels: sectors, countries, communities, organisations and individuals.

A final conference in Brussels will summarise what has been learnt from the programme at the start of 2020. Prior to this, the SC members will meet with experts and advisory members in November 2019 for a retreat to agree on what has been learnt about ICC, generated by the project to be presented at the policy conference.