



# NEF State of Play

Network<sup>of</sup>  
European  
Foundations

Update May 2020

Philanthropy House – Rue Royale 94 – 1000 Brussels – Belgium

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation - Compagnia di San Paolo - Erste Stiftung  
Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian - Fondation de France - Institusjonen Fritt Ord  
King Baudouin Foundation - Open Society Foundation - Robert Bosch Stiftung

## Contents

Civitates - A Philanthropic Initiative for Democracy and Solidarity in Europe.....	3
European Artificial Intelligence (A.I) Fund.....	4
European Foundations' Initiative on Dementia.....	5
European Fund for the Balkans .....	5
European Programme for Integration and Migration.....	8
European Philanthropy Learning Initiative.....	11
The Evaluation Fund: Reducing Violence Against Children .....	11
Fair Energy Transition for All (FETA) .....	13
Joint Action for Farmers' Organisations in West Africa (JAFOWA).....	13
Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium.....	15
Transnational Forum on Integrated Community Care (TransForm) .....	16

## Civitates - A Philanthropic Initiative for Democracy and Solidarity in Europe

**Foundations involved:** Adessium Foundation, Bertelsmann Stiftung, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Compagnia di San Paolo, Erste Stiftung, European Cultural Foundation, Fondation de France, Fritt Ord Foundation, King Baudouin Foundation, Körber Stiftung, Oak Foundation, Luminare, Mercator Stiftung, Nicolas Puech Foundation, Open Society Foundations, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Rudolf Augstein Stiftung, Schöpflin Stiftung, Stefan Batory Foundation.

**Budget 2018-2020:** 6.3 million EUR

**Timeframe:** 2018-2020 (current), 2021-2025 (next phase)

Civitates is a programme developed and supported by NEF.

### **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 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. It now also supports independent, public interest journalism in Europe.

### **Latest developments:**

#### ***New strategy framework and growth strategy***

With the first strategy period coming to an end in 2020, the steering committee decided that Civitates will move from a 3-year cycle to a 5-year framework cycle, with the next framework running from January 2021 until December 2025. It also adopted a growth strategy allowing for the creation of a contingency fund as of 2020, a distinction between partner foundations, associated foundations and aligned foundations in the next strategy period and the hiring of a new staff member.

#### ***New team member***

In April 2020, Ekaterina Mandova joined the secretariat as programme officer. With a background in journalism and communications she is a great addition to the Civitates team.

#### ***New foundations***

Three foundations joined the group in 2020: Compagnia di San Paolo (Italy), Rudolf Augstein Stiftung (Germany) and Schöpflin Stiftung (Germany).

#### ***New request for proposals to strengthen public interest journalism organisations across Europe.***

Civitates is currently [accepting applications](#) for multi-year core grants to strengthen independent, public interest journalism organisations in Europe. In addition to strengthening specific organisations, Civitates will connect its grantee partners, encouraging them to learn and grow stronger together. The deadline has been extended to 30 June 2020 due to the COVID-19 crisis.

#### ***Extended support to coalitions strengthening civil society across Europe***

Following an interim evaluation of the work on strengthening civil society across Europe, the working group reaffirmed its commitment to supporting coalitions in national contexts to strengthen civil society. The report provided some food for thought to the working group but also pointed out that it was too early to measure the impact of the coalitions on the space for civil society in their respective countries. Extension grants will be provided for activities of the coalitions throughout 2021.

### ***New: Opportunities Fund for a healthy digital public sphere***

In January, the Opportunities Fund was created to increase the capacity of Civitates grantee partners to anticipate new challenges ahead and their readiness to address them. At the beginning of May 2020, 4 opportunity fund proposals had already been approved.

On 6-8 May 2020, an online grantee convening was held during which the cohort of grantees discussed evolutions in the field and discussed current and future work.

### **European Artificial Intelligence (A.I) Fund**

Foundations involved: Mozilla, Luminate, King Baudouin Foundation, and Open Society Foundations. Other foundations are to be confirmed- Mercator Stiftung, Oak Foundation, Mott Foundation, Bertelsmann and Schöpfung Stiftungs.

Budget 2020-23: around 6 million euros

Timeframe: 2020-2023

NEF is the fiscal sponsor of the European A.I. Fund.

#### Background :

The long-term vision of the Fund is to create an ecosystem for European public interest and civil society organisations to shape the direction of AI in Europe based on a diversity of actors and a plurality of goals that represent society as a whole.

Without a strong, informed and united civil society taking part in Europe's plans around artificial intelligence, Europe - and the world - risk missing opportunities to better society through this digital transformation and instead, might choose a path paved with societal harm or even existential threat. To supplement this problem statement, we identified ethical questions and human rights challenges associated with AI and algorithmic decision-making (ADM). These risks included: pervasive state surveillance; manipulation of democracy; discrimination through automated decision making; profiling of individuals by private companies; and monopolisation and the concentration of power.

The Fund is composed by a group of European and American foundations working across industries dedicated to using our resources -- financial and otherwise -- to strengthen civil society and deepen the pool of experts across Europe who have the tools, capacity and know-how to catalogue and monitor the social and political impact of AI and data driven interventions and hold them to account. Originally convened by King Baudouin Foundation, Mozilla, Luminate and Open Society Foundations in late 2019 and early 2020, the group aim to encompass other partners' foundations in Europe working already on this issue or willing to engage.

#### Latest developments:

In response to the current climate, and the urgent need for leadership therein, the funders of the European AI Fund will start in the spring 2020 by focusing on a single, early work stream on responding to COVID-19. This will encompass work on AI/ADM (algorithmic decision-making) used to address COVID-19 directly, and AI/ADM used in response to the broader economic and social impact of the virus.

The group starts immediately with the original conveners of the initiative but will dedicate resources to embark already interested and potential new partners that will be able to join, depending on their internal timeline.

The first operational step is the recruitment of a Programme Manager with knowledge of the field that will support the funding coalition. The strategy paper has been also refined and the group is in the process of formalising its governance arrangements.

## European Foundations' Initiative on Dementia

Foundations involved: King Baudouin Foundation(Chair), Compagnia di San Paolo, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Fondation Médéric Alzheimer and Porticus Foundations

Budget 2020: 137.000 EUR

Timeframe: 2010-2020

EFID is a programme developed and supported by NEF.

### 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 5<sup>th</sup> Phase (2019-2020) is focusing on the theme of valuing the expertise of people living with dementia in the community. Compagnia di San Paolo joined the partnership early 2020.

### Latest developments:

The EFID toolkit for Planning, Reflection and Learning was published in April 2020 and presented during a Webinar with the EFID Awardees and stakeholders. The toolkit has been co-created with the EFID Awardees and a few experts through interviews, desk research, and a co-creation workshop in Brussels on 23-24 September 2019. It was ultimately fine-tuned at the EFID conference in Turin on 4-5 December 2020.

The EFID conference "Valuing the expertise of people living with dementia in the community" took place in Turin in December 2020 and was organised in collaboration with the Awardee Rifugio Re Carlo Alberto. A site visit to their premises enriched the event with experiential learning.

EFID organises a series of webinars on different dementia-related topics. Three webinars took place (1. Spotlight on Rifugio Re Carlo Alberto – Co-creating the EFID quality framework, 2. Dementia and Migration, 3. Three steps for Planning, Reflection and Learning) and the fourth webinar is scheduled on 10th June to discuss the challenges of COVID- 19 for people with dementia.

A call for projects on dementia and inclusive communities was scheduled for April 2020. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the call has been put on hold until fall 2020. This raises the question on the follow up with the selected projects, considering that EFID will end in December 2020. The SC is currently discussing on whether freezing the call until fall 2020 or allocating the funds to another activity in response to the corona virus crisis.

Finally, EFID will wrap up after 10 years of work on dementia with a policy dialogue in Brussels co-organised with the European Policy Centre. The event, titled 'Addressing dementia within migrant communities – From diagnosis to EU policy actions' will take place on 28th September and aims at shedding light on the prevalence and challenges of dementia into migrant communities and presenting the legacy of EFID.

## European Fund for the Balkans

Foundations involved: ERSTE Stiftung; King Baudouin Foundation (Chair); Robert Bosch Stiftung

Budget 2020: Around 1 million euros

Timeframe: 2007-2025

NEF is registered in Belgrade and the EFB-NEF 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 focused 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:

The Fund's Strategy for the period 2020 – 2024 was adopted at the Steering Committee Meeting, which was held in Vienna in December, 2019. Three main directions were defined as strategic in the work of the EFB for the next 5 years -empowering citizens' engagement, enhancing regional cooperation and boosting European integration.

The key goals of the EFB for the next period has been defined as follows:

- Providing means and platforms where informed and empowered citizens will take action and demand accountable institutions and democracy.
- Improving regional cooperation among the civil society in the WB region based on solidarity and demand-driven dialogue and exchange of ideas, opinions and actions.
- Supporting the process of affirming the political credibility of the enlargement policy across the Western Balkans region while insisting on the commitment to the principles of the Thessaloniki Agenda.

## [Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group \(BiEPAG\)](#)

### **BiEPAG' Covid19 Analysis for the Western Balkans, April 2020**

BiEPAG provided an urgent policy response to the #Covid19 global pandemic publishing the [analysis](#) "The Western Balkans in Times of the Global Pandemic" with key recommendations to tackling the COVID-19 crisis in the Western Balkans.

### **"Facing up to COVID-19 in the Balkans: Where is the EU?", April 2020**

On April 8th, 2020, the Brussels-based European Policy Centre organised the policy dialogue "Facing up to COVID-19 in the Balkans: Where is the EU?" and four BiEPAG Members were participating as speakers at this panel. This online Policy Dialogue discussed the impact of COVID-19 on the political, social and economic level in the Western Balkan countries. More about the panel at: [Facing up to COVID-19 in the Balkans: Where is the EU?](#)

### **BiEPAG Annual Planning Meeting, April 2nd, 2020 (digital version)**

Due to the outbreak of the Covid19 virus, the first annual meeting of the Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory Group in 2020 was held as a zoom conference among its members coming both from Western Balkans and the EU. This BiEPAG Meeting was also an opportunity to officially welcome three new members that will enrich the expertise of the group as a whole.

### **Western Balkans Think Tank Forum, March 2020**

The Western Balkans Think Tank Forum in Skopje, 8-10 March 2020, an integral part of the 2020 Berlin Process Co-Presidency programme hosted by the governments of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of North Macedonia, was enriched by inputs of five BiEPAG's experts who participated as speakers in the respective sessions dedicated to the rule of law, future of Europe and migration.

## **BiEPAG non-paper [Busting 10 myths about EU enlargement](#)**

and BiEPAG Brief: [Overcoming enlargement deadlock: and action plan for the incoming EU leadership](#)

The Balkans in Europe Policy Advisory group had its own response to the stalemate in the EU Enlargement process following the French veto on opening negotiations with Albania and North Macedonia, followed by a non-paper that was published later on. BiEPAG's Members have come up with their own non-paper, which was published and disseminated in English and French and received great attention in the Western Balkans, but also in the EU. Additionally, a policy brief putting forward a series of BiEPAG's recommendations for the EU's incoming leadership to address some of the current shortcomings and advance towards a more constructive and transformative involvement in the Western Balkans has been published: [Overcoming enlargement deadlock: and action plan for the incoming EU leadership](#)

#### [BiEPAG Blogs](#)

The blog section at the BiEPAG website is active with new blog posts (<https://biepag.eu/>). Here is a list of the most read blogs:

[Time for a Balkan reboot](#)

[Flatter and faster: New Western Balkans pathways to the EU](#)

[Politicised institutions are key obstacle to fighting corruption in Montenegro](#)

[Crisis at Europe's periphery – Serbian democracy in quarantine](#)

[Fellowship Programme for Government Officials from the Western Balkans](#)

The 11th edition of the Fellowship Programme for Government Officials 2019/2020 was concluded in January 2020. The final seminar was held in Thessaloniki, Greece from November 9 to November 13, 2019.

This was the last generation of fellows within this Programme, as it is coming to an end for the time being.

#### [Think and Link Regional Policy Programme](#)

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. In 2019, the thematic areas of the programme were: migrations, rule of law, security, monitoring of the Berlin Process and the regional cooperation. Published policy results of the separate regional projects were presented through scheduled public events in the WB6 countries: <https://www.balkanfund.org/publications/think-and-link-publications/>

#### [Supported Initiatives:](#)

[“Building Societal Resilience in the European Neighborhood” panel at Munich Security Conference 2020](#)

The Executive Director of the European Fund for the Balkans, Aleksandra Tomanic was one of the participants in the panel “Building Societal Resilience in the European Neighborhood” at the Munich Security Conference 2020. The panel Ms Tomanic attended with the Kosovo PM Kurti, North Macedonian MFA Dimitrov and EC VP Schinas. The event was organised as part of the European dialogue process initiated by the BMW Foundation.

[EFB in support of the live debate “Environmental Movements in the Balkans” , 1<sup>st</sup> Balkan Trafik Digital edition](#)

The global outbreak of the Covid-19 has postponed the *Balkan Trafik Festival* in Brussels to autumn 2020, but the EFB was pleased to support the organisers in hosting the first *Balkan Trafik 360° Digital edition*.

[European Fund for the Balkans Fellowships at the Austrian Parliament 2019/2020](#)

On the initiative of the Austrian Parliament and with the support of ERSTE Foundation, the European Fund for the Balkans launched the new initiative "European Fund for the Balkans Fellowships 2019-2020 at the Austrian Parliament". It is a new practice-oriented educational programme designed for 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 German. Between September 2019 and March 2020, 7 public servants from National Parliaments attended the 6 weeks programme.

## [CAS SEE Junior Research Program 2019/2020](#)

The Fund supported the Regional Centre for Advanced Studies in Rijeka (RECAS) in organising the CAS SEE Junior Research Program 2019/2020. Refugees, migration and democracy: reflecting current policies and reshaping politics were the key topics that were addressed.

## [European Movement in Serbia](#)

One of the output of this project is the publication of the pocket book “Democratisation and Reconciliation in the Western Balkans/Towards the Politics of Serbian-Albanian Friendship”. The aim is to contribute to reconciliation between Albanians and Serbs by challenging currently entrenched hostile perceptions through presenting stories about persons and events which tell a different story about love and friendship between Serbs and Albanians.

## [Social Dimension Initiative \(SDI\) of ASB](#)

On January 15th 2020, the European Fund for the Balkans signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung Dialogue Southeast Europe and the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund at the EFB’s Secretariat office in Belgrade. The idea behind this joint action is to establish a support coalition for the ongoing campaign “Social Dimension Initiative (SDI)” aiming to point out the necessity for better social and employment policies in the enlargement process of the Western Balkans countries beyond the framework of the EU social acquis.

## **European Programme for Integration and Migration**

**Foundations involved (Partner):** Adessium Foundation, Aga Khan Foundation, Barrow Cadbury Trust, Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, Compagnia di San Paolo, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Fondation de France, The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, King Baudouin Foundation, Oak Foundation, Robert Bosch Stiftung, Open Society Foundations, Fondation Abbé Pierre, Charles Léopold Mayer Foundation, Porticus Foundation

**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

**Timeframe:** EPIM has existed since 2005. Its current strategy covers the timeframe 2019-2023.

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 with the goal 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 the connection of actors from 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 Protection of Children and Youth on the Move in Europe; Access to Rights for Mobile EU Citizens; Strategically Communicating on Migration in a Changing Environment; and Building Inclusive Societies.

## Latest developments:

### **Joint EPIM/DMI webinar on “A closer look at the intersection of technology and migration management”**

On 29 April, EPIM co-organised a webinar “A closer look at the intersection of technology and migration management” with the Diversity, Migration and Integration (DMI) Network of the EFC. Through a discussion with Petra Molnar (Mozilla Fellow, [EDRI](#)), Stephanie Hankey ([Tactical Tech](#)) and Michele Levoy ([PICUM](#)), this webinar addressed the opportunities and risks posed by the interconnections between new technologies and migration, the impact this has and may have in the future on the lives and rights of migrants arriving and living in Europe, and what this may mean for the migration sector overall. Lastly, it also addressed obstacles and opportunities for (supporting) CSO engagement in that area.

### **New EPIM Partner Foundation and Appointment of new Executive Committee member**

The Kahane Foundation has joined EPIM as a Partner Foundation. Tim Verbist from Porticus has joined the EPIM Executive Committee and was appointed at EPIM’s last Steering Committee meeting in April 2020.

### **EPIM emergency response to humanitarian needs in Greece**

In response to the extreme difficulties faced by migrants and CSOs supporting them in Greece in the context of COVID-19 and recent political developments, EPIM has dedicated funds to CSOs who are persisting their work to exceptionally address emergencies in Athens, Evros, Thessaloniki, Lesbos, Kos, Samos, Chios, and Leros, in particular.

150,000 EUR have already been made available to organisations who are providing medical, legal, sanitary and social support to children and adults living in precarious situations such as camps and on the streets in the first half of April 2020. This enables the grantees [METAdrasi](#), [Greek Council for Refugees](#), [Greek Forum of Refugees](#), [Lesvos Solidarity](#), [Starfish Foundation](#), [Médecins du Monde Greece](#), [Human Rights 360](#) and [AITIMA](#) to continue and expand their important work.

## **Developments in Thematic funds**

### Thematic fund on Migration and Detention

**Aim:** Ensure that migrants who are subject to European migration systems to 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 2020:** European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), International Detention Coalition (IDC), Cyprus Refugee Council (CyRC), Association for Legal Intervention (SIP), Centre for Legal Aid – Voice in Bulgaria, HumanRights360, Italian Coalition for Civil Liberties and Rights (CILD), JRS Belgium, Migrant Rights Centre Ireland.

### **Main developments:**

- EPIM will provide co-funding for a **Belgian ATD pilot**, which will be implemented by [JRS Belgium](#). Due to the disruptive effects of COVID-19, the official starting date of the pilot is still to be confirmed.
- EPIM has confirmed a **grant for the ‘Rise Up’ project** under the Call for Proposals ‘[Shaping Fair and Effective Migration Systems](#)’. Led by the [Migrant Rights Centre Ireland](#), the project will support a pan-European coalition of CSOs to produce new advocacy tools and to strengthen advocacy coordination on alternative pathways to regularity.

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

Aim: Children and youth on the move in Europe, regardless of origin, gender, status and age have access to their rights and are protected holistically with the highest possible efforts, equal to other children.

Grantee organisations in 2020: Mentor-Escale; Minor-Ndako; Defence for Children Italy; Collegio del mondo unito dell'Adriatico; Cespi; International Centre for Policy Advocacy; Intersos; Esserci; Fo.Co; Oxfam Italia Intercultura; La Rada Consorzio di Cooperative Sociali; Centro Ambrosiano di Solidarietà Onlus; Cooperazione per lo Sviluppo dei Paesi Emergenti; P.G. Frassati; Programma Integra; SEND; Società Cooperativa sociale Progetto Tenda; Velos Youth; The Young Republic; Oxfam Italia; Missing Children Europe.

**Main developments:**

- EPIM decided to **continue the work to support migrant children in Europe** after the current Thematic Fund strategy ends at the end of 2020. The development of a new strategy and outreach to new foundations is a key focus for the Fund this year.
- **Two new grants have been awarded to support advocacy at EU level** for the protection, inclusion and long-term prospects of children on the move: to [The Young Republic](#), in partnership with [Voices of Young Refugees in Europe](#); and [Oxfam Italy](#), in partnership with [Greek Council for Refugees](#) and [Oxfam International EU Office](#). The start and implementation of both grants are expected to be delayed due to COVID-19.
- [New grants have been awarded to three pilots in Italy](#) aiming to support volunteer guardians before and after young migrants turn 18. The pilots are partnerships of 16 CSOs in total and will be implemented in Piemonte (partnership led by [Esserci](#)), Tuscany (led by [Oxfam Intercultura](#)), and Sicily (led by [Fo. Co.](#)).

Thematic fund on communicating migration in a changing environment

Aim: Increase the weight of their messages and recommendations and contribute to more nuanced political and public discourses as well as policy-making on migration in and across EU Member States as well as at Brussels level.

Grantee organisations in 2020: 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:**

Together with the Social Change Initiative (SCI), EPIM organised a workshop on ['How to Use Digital to Effect Change?'](#) for communications professionals in December 2019.

Thematic fund on Asylum in Europe

Aim: To ensure that people in need of international protection are able to access European asylum systems that are humane, fair, effective and capable of offering protection

Grantee organisations in 2020: European Council for Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)

**Main developments:**

- EPIM adopted the 2020-2022 strategy for its Thematic Fund on Asylum in Europe. The strategy aims to contribute to ensure functioning asylum systems and address obstacles to policies and practices that are more humane, fair, effective and capable of offering protection.
- EPIM has launched a [rolling Call for Proposals](#) aimed to support (transnational) partnerships of civil society organisations active at EU, national, bilateral, regional and local levels, in their efforts to seize (urgent) opportunities to advise asylum policies and practices across Europe.

Thematic fund on protecting access to rights for mobile EU citizens

Aim: Ensure that mobile EU citizens and their family members are able to effectively exercise and enforce their free movement rights in law and in practice.

Grantee organisations in 2020: European Citizen Action Service (ECAS); European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA); Médecins du Monde (MdM); European Alternatives.

#### Main developments:

- [European Alternatives](#) has received a project grant to push for a strong role of the [European Labour Authority](#) in **safeguarding the citizenship rights of EU mobile workers** in cross-border situations.
- With the support of [Quality Matters](#), the Civic Observatory on the Rights of EU Citizens (CORE - consisting of FEANTSA, ECAS and MdM) has developed a joint Theory of Change. The agreed central objective is to **advocate for a new European Commission Communication on the 2004 Citizens' Rights Directive**, in order to address current gaps and grey areas in the transposition of EU legislation on free movement.

#### 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 2020: DUO for a JOB; Rising You; International Council for Cultural Centers; SINGA France; Womenability; Interventionbüro; SINGA Deutschland; Welcoming International; Artemisszio Foundation; MigHelp; ECRE; PICUM; SPEAK; Altekio, Asociación La Bolina, SOS Racismo Gipuzkoa; Saathi House

#### Main developments:

- As a result of its [call for interest on 'Rethinking Inclusion'](#), EPIM awarded **10 capacity development grants** to help civil society organisations prepare the ground for the scaling of their initiatives across Europe.
- In 2020-2021, EPIM will undertake a **strategic review of its grant-making strategy** in the area of inclusion.

### European Philanthropy Learning Initiative

Foundations: U.S. Embassy in France, Fondation Nationale des Sciences Politiques, Fondation Ensemble, The de Groot Foundation, and After Fact.

Budget 2020: approx. 10.000 euros

NEF is the fiscal sponsor of the EPLI.

#### Background and Overview:

The European Philanthropy Learning Initiative was founded in 2009 with the objective of promoting research and learning in the European philanthropy sector. The Initiative has carried out this mission through the development of curricula and establishing courses and carrying out research projects in philanthropy and social investing. Since 2017 it has enhanced the Initiative with a complementary multi-year and multi-disciplinary research and field-building project, the Pursuit of the Common Good (PCG) in collaboration with institutions in Europe and the United States, initially funded by the Heron Foundation and continuing on a voluntary and project-supported basis. EPLI funding is dedicated to both the PCG and supporting innovation, outreach and debate related to philanthropy Master courses at Sciences Po, Paris.

#### Current Focus:

The focus for the end of 2019 and continuing throughout 2020 is to explore cross sector and system-changing case examples to identify characteristics of the common good. The initial phase examines the cases through a philanthropy lens, primarily at the Rockefeller Archive Center. The intention is to continue the process with the market and public sectors. The initial findings are being used to develop pilot course materials for "operationalising" the common good for courses in the School of Management and Innovation at Sciences Po in the context of the New Prosperities initiative. The courses will be informed by the papers commissioned on how themes of the pursuit of the common good play out in specific areas of modern life, such as: democratic governance, digital transition, civil society and climate change. Fundraising and coalition building continue.

### 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: Selection of 4 Grantees**

The idea behind this Call for Proposals is to provide evaluation funding and support for INSPIRE<sup>1</sup>-type interventions in two pathfinding countries, Uganda and Tanzania. Selected projects should contribute to the policy momentum to ending violence against children at country level while also reinforcing the growing momentum generated by the Sustainable Development Goals, the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children and the Pan-African Forum on Violence Prevention, hosted under the African Child Policy Forum.

In February 2020, four projects were selected under this Call for Proposals: National Institute for Medical Research (Tanzania); Raising Voices (Uganda); AfriChild Centre (Uganda); and Child Health & Development Centre (Uganda). These four projects are comprised of research and practitioner teams that will evaluate interventions aimed at reducing violence against children. These four projects are diverse in their methodologies and all have a robust dissemination plan which includes advocacy and knowledge sharing to policy-makers and practitioners, as envisaged under the Call for Proposals.

The Secretariat has also begun exploring and identifying consultants for capacity development in research methods and program intervention who would support the grantees selected under this Call for Proposals. Related, the Secretariat is also exploring how best to support organisational resilience in the context of COVID-19, which is delaying the implementation of these projects and straining the research and practitioner partnerships.

**Next steps:** To work with the grantees and the Steering Committee to determine capacity strengthening efforts.

**Evidence Briefs**

To-date, 10 evidence briefs have been released, explaining the highlights of evaluations conducted in Burkina-Faso, Colombia, Jordan, Uganda, South Africa, Indonesia, Burundi, Ethiopia, Dominican Republic 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.

As we near the end of past project reviews, we are exploring how best to summarise and synthesise the learnings from these briefs. This will include a summary narrative to the briefs, which will draw learnings across projects; as well as a peer-reviewed article which will explore learning in research design and implementation across past projects.

**Next steps** Finalise the remaining briefs by the summer and work on the summary and peer reviewed article for submission in the fall of this year.

---

<sup>1</sup> 7 strategies to end violence against children: [http://www.who.int/violence\\_injury\\_prevention/violence/inspire/en/](http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/violence/inspire/en/)

## Strategic Planning Exercise

Following completion of the retrospective review, The Evaluation Fund is finalising 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 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 the end of this year, 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 and Steering Committee will meet with the consultants of this review to analyse the landscape overview and the opportunities for the future of the Fund.

## Fair Energy Transition for All (FETA)

**Foundations involved:** King Baudouin Foundation (Chair), Mercator Stiftung, Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt, Fondazione Cariplo, IKEA Foundation, Schneider Electric foundation and Open Society European Policy Institute. It is implemented in collaboration with IFOK and Climate Outreach.

**Budget 2020-22:** 1,9 million EUR

**Timeframe:** 2020-22

NEF is the fiscal sponsor of FETA.

### Background:

The Fair Energy Transition for All project aims to improve the development of fair energy transition policies by providing to national and European policy makers and stakeholders a better understanding on the perceived impact of energy transition policies on the living conditions of economically disadvantaged people. To do so, a consortium of European Foundations will organise a European consultative and listening process with vulnerable people.

This project is a new addition to the NEF portfolio: it started in the spring 2020 and will last until 2022.

The project will organise consultations and focus groups in potentially nine European countries amongst which: Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, Poland, and Romania.

The ultimate aim of the project is balanced energy transition policies that take into account the concerns of and solutions from disadvantaged people.

The project has just been added to the NEF portfolio.

### Latest Developments:

The project is in its planning phase, contracting with operational partners and managing the coordination within the different partners. The original timeline has to be adapted due to the COVID Crisis. It is expected that the focus groups and consultations will be organised at the end of 2020 with a cycle of national reports and European policy outreach at the end of 2021 until 2022.

## Joint Action for Farmers' Organisations in West Africa (JAFOWA)

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

**Budget 2020:** Around 1 million euros

**Timeframe:** 2016–2022

JAFOWA is a programme developed and supported by 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 in Senegal and Burkina.

#### Latest developments:

4 proposals in Burkina Faso and 4 in Senegal were finally selected in September 2019. All of them started since January 2020 for a duration of 2 to 3 years.

#### **In Senegal:**

- **The Senegalese Association of Farmers' Seed Producers (ASPSP)** for "Biodiversity for food security and household resilience" in Koussanar and Sare Coly Sale, in partnership with the movement "We Are the Solution" and Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA).  
Their project aims to strengthen food and nutrition security by domesticating uncultivated biodiversity in fields and market gardening, through 10 agricultural households and 200 women (gathered in 4 market garden groups). "We Are the Solution" ensures the culinary promotion of biodiversity and AFSA strengthens local advocacy.
- **The Association of Garden market producers of Niayes Unions (AUMN)** for its project "Promote agroecology in the Niayes", in partnership with the Filao Band Development Plan Implementation Unit (CMOPABF), the Centre for Horticulture Development (CDH - ISRA), the National Agency for Agricultural and Rural Advisory (ANCAR) and the Directorate of Water Resources Management and Planning (DGPRE). The project supports the producers to move towards a more rational management of natural resources, so as to address the environmental and health threats due to the intensive use of pesticides and chemical fertilisers in the area.
- **The National Federation of Sesame Producers (FENPROSE)** for the project "Strengthening the resilience and productivity of sesame-producing family farms through the adoption of agro-ecological practices" in Fatick, Tambacounda, Kolda and Sedhiou regions, in partnership with CERAAS (Regional Study Centre for the Improvement of Drought Adaptation) and the NGO Rikolto.  
FENPROSE seeks to enhance agro-ecological practices for more resilient production systems providing quality food and decent incomes to family farmers, especially young people and women. They rely on sesame which is an important vector of agro-ecological transition for family farms in the "peanuts basin" and Casamance.
- **The Federation of Non-Governmental Organisations of Senegal (FONGS)** for the TAE Dandé Mayo project "Agro-ecological transition along the river" in the department of Podor; in partnership with the Koyli Wirnde Young Farmers' Union (UJAK), and Galoya Union, and the international NGO SOS Faim.  
In this project the farmers aim at diverting from the intensive agricultural systems in the middle Senegal River valley and strengthening the resilience of family farms through the adoption and dissemination of sustainable agro-ecological intensification practices (integrating agriculture & livestock). They will also accompany the Podor County Council to achieve its goal of preserving and regenerating natural resources as part of its departmental development plan.

#### **In Burkina Faso**

- **The National Federation of Farmers' Organisations (FENOP)** for "Agricultural practices conducive to an agro-ecological transition and jobs creation in rural Burkina Faso" in the Cascade Region, in partnership with the Munyu Association of Women, the international NGO Nitidae and the GIE Bioprotect.

Through their project they are supporting the association “Munyu des Femmes” to meet the growing local demand for healthy and nutritious market garden products. They contribute to the development of resilient agriculture while improving their incomes.

- **The women association La Saisonnière** for its project "Support for the market gardeners in agroecology in the peri-urban areas of the city of Ouagadougou", in partnership with the Associations Burkina Faso Action Against Poverty (ALCP) and Association of Professionals of Sanitation of Burkina (APAB). The farmers work together for a better dissemination and adoption of agroecology principles and practices, as well as for the co-design of solutions adapted to urban agro-ecological production systems. They also enable a network of actors to produce and commercialise healthy vegetables for Ouagadougou’s inhabitants.
- **The Union of Market Garden Nanglobzangade Loumbila (UGNL)** for the proposal "Ensuring a better income for producers by improving the competitiveness of agro-ecological products" in the municipality of Loumbila, with the Town Hall of Loumbila, the Association for the Promotion of "Organic Consumers" and the fight against cancer (APCB /PC) and the international NGO Mani Tese. They seek to improve agricultural productivity in market gardening as well as the quality of vegetables for rural households and consumers of Ouagadougou. They will enhance the agricultural production of 450 producers (on which 60% of women) and promote entrepreneurship in rural areas. The project also seeks to influence the political environment in favour of the development of the agro-ecological sector.
- **The Union of Organic Mango Producers of the High Basins Region (UPROMABIO / HBS)** for its project "Environmental resilience through an agro-ecological transition based on technological innovation and equity" in the High Basins, Cascades, Central, Central West regions, in partnership with the Women's agricultural processing Cooperative (COTRAPAL). While increasing their production capacity and strengthening their structure, they aim to change urban households, product distributors, policies, production cooperatives, research... attitudes in order to replace conventional foods products with those originated from agro-ecological and organic farms.

In February 2020, these 8 organisations and their main 2 or 3 partners, JAFOWA steering committee’s members with some advisory board members, met in Thiès, Senegal, to co-build a Joint project evaluation monitoring system. This workshop also allowed JAFOWA’s Community members to get to know each other better while discussing around common goals.

A Senegalese consultant has being engaged to reinforce FOs financial management and accounting capacities. His mission started in February 2020 in good cooperation with the FOs Partners.

## Privatisation in Education and Human Rights Consortium

<u>Foundations involved:</u>	OSF, Wellspring
<u>Budget 2019-2020:</u>	\$300.000
<u>Timeframe:</u>	January 2019- Dec 2020

NEF is the fiscal sponsor of the PEHCR.

### 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.

## 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 2020- June 2021: 3000.000 euros

Timeframe: 2017-2021

Transform is a programme developed and supported by NEF.

### Background:

TransForm is a joint initiative of Foundations in Europe and Canada that aims to put the community at the centre of primary and integrated care. Integrated Community Care recognizes people and communities as co-producers of care. It seeks to examine how partnerships that engage and empower people in local communities can be developed through trans-disciplinary and cross-sectoral collaborations.

The overarching aim of the Forum is to mobilize change at policy and practice level by engaging policymakers, practitioners and key stakeholders in knowledge generation and sharing of promising and best practices.

A series of 4 transnational conferences on ICC and site visits form the backbone of the project. IFIC, the content partner, support the Forum through research and networking. Three transnational conferences took place in Hamburg, Turin and Vancouver and created a crescendo of learning on ICC as well as a community of practice.

### Latest developments:

The SC and few experts and practitioners gathered together in a retreat in November 2020 in Brussels. The event, facilitated by ShiftN, enabled a system-thinking approach to ICC that led to the definition of 7 Effectiveness Principles of ICC. The Principles and the results of the expert meeting fed the 'discussion paper', that will inform the fourth transnational conference "Integrated Community Care 4 all - New Principles of Care".

The conference was scheduled in March 2020 in Brussels. It has been postponed to Spring 2021 due to the corona virus outbreak. TransForm will use the upcoming period to engage in a collective reflection on the numerous innovations that have emerged, allowing to remove hurdles in the health system that had been in existence for decades. More than ever ICC is on the agenda as a systemic approach that reinforces community strengths in the social and health sectors and emphasises prevention.

TransForm will adapt the agenda of the conference to take into account the current challenges and opportunities linked to the sanitary crisis to bring about the much needed change in the community health. In order to prepare better the conference, a collective learning exercise will be organised in September 2020, with partner foundations and a few experts.

A series of online communication will also be scheduled: a blog on the new TransForm website, webinar or podcast, a digital discussion paper to share the 7 Effectiveness principles and digital posters of case studies on ICC.

The SC decided to extend the programming period which was supposed to end in December 2020 till June 2021. The role of the content partner and the idea of launching an Award scheme are under discussion. The future of Transform will be discussed when time permits.

