



**Developing capacities together:  
European CSO-university  
networks for global learning on  
migration, security and  
sustainable development in an  
interdependent world (InterCap)**

# **1<sup>st</sup> High Level Communication Paper Of the InterCap Community of Practice**

## **Activity 1.1.2: Establish a European development education Community of Practice**

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Version 1 prepared in October 2018

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Written and compiled by ICU



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## Project Information

Project title	<b>Developing capacities together: European CSO-university networks for global learning on migration, security and sustainable development in an interdependent world</b>
Project acronym:	<b>InterCap</b>
Project number:	<b>CSO-LA/2017/388-136</b>
Project Website:	<a href="http://www.developtogether.eu">www.developtogether.eu</a>

## Document Information

Document title:	<b>1st High Level Communication Paper Of the InterCap Community of Practice</b>
Activity involved:	<b>Activity 1.1.2: Establish a European development education Community of Practice</b>
Document author:	<b>ICU</b>
Version:	<b>1.1</b>
Date:	23/10/2018

## Document Version Control

Version	Date	Description
1.0	23/10/2018	Draft 1 (by ICU)
1.1	30/10/2018	Draft 2 (comments and track changes by CARDET, DDG, KMOP, ZAVOD)
1.2	31/10/2018	Final version (by ICU)



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## Executive Summary

InterCap project has set ambitious targets in terms of stakeholders to outreach, actively engaged within the project and expected to acquire ownership of the outcomes. For instance, 30.000 education stakeholders and decision-makers are expected to be reached and informed about the project.

The Community of Practice (CoP) has been thought and set-up to support InterCap partners' in their dissemination efforts and to promote the active involvement and contribution of relevant stakeholders to the project. Specifically, the CoP is intended to provide a venue for partners, associates and interested stakeholders (including Public Institutions, Local Authorities, Civil Society Organisations, University) to learn and discuss issues relating to project implementation in all partner countries and at EU level, exchange knowledge and ideas on InterCap topics in order to maximize the project impact and enrich its knowledge base.

The present Annual High Level Communication Paper outlines the approach that InterCap partners will follow in the next project six months to maximize the dissemination effectiveness and engage relevant stakeholders.

The approach has been defined during the first yearly online meeting of the CoP Steering Committee (held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2018) and fine-tuned during the project general meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018. Briefly, the proposed approach:

1. Focuses dissemination on **tangible outputs** delivered by the project each year;
2. Intends to **differentiate the outputs and messages** to be disseminated according to the different stakeholders' categories to be reached;
3. Suggests to **expand the outreach beyond Europe borders** to discover organisations and initiatives dealing with InterCap core issues that could be an added value to its knowledge base;
4. Recommends to **capitalize on EU level organisations' channels** and members' networks and on synergies with similar initiatives in the EU and single Member States;
5. Suggests to exploit **informal communication channels & teachers dedicated channels/ social media**.

The Paper also contains the Press Release illustrating InterCap tangible outputs accomplished in Year 1, which will be circulated by the CoP to EU and national stakeholders.



# 1. Introduction

## 1.1. Community of Practice mission and objectives

The **mission** of the InterCap CoP is twofold:

- to act as the **“front-line” for extensive communication of InterCap results and activities across Europe**, reaching the general public, relevant EU and national decision-makers in the education sector and maximizing the project impact;
- to contribute to **promote continuous knowledge exchange and cooperation among development education experts and practitioners**, including InterCap partners, their associates and external interested stakeholders at national and European level (e.g. teachers’ training institutions, education system representatives, CSOs, universities, local and national public institutions, etc.), that want to share, increase and innovate their thematic know-how.

Therefore, during and after the project lifetime, the CoP will pursue the following **objectives**:

- identifying additional, effective communication channels ensuring that **InterCap outreaches education decision-makers and key stakeholders across Europe** to advocate for increased awareness on development, migration and security in the framework of development education;
- fostering **visibility** of the project and of its activities benefitting teachers and their trainers, thus contributing to **increase target groups involvement in the project**;
- providing **high level support** to the project implementation and quality of results, through on-going feedback, suggestions and advice on its output.

## 1.2. Members and working methodology

Members of the InterCap CoP aims to include:

- the **13 partner organisations**;
- at least **40 associate organisations**;
- **at least 2 EU level organisations or networks**;
- **at least 500 external stakeholders**, to be outreached and involved in the course of the project. They will support the project, sharing knowledge/ideas or learning about mainstreaming sustainable development issues in national education systems (e.g. public institutions, local authorities, universities, CSOs).



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InterCap partners will regularly share project progress and output with the CoP. In turn, the other CoP members will be required to:

- **provide feedback, advice and input for improvement**, enriching the project with external expertise and points of view;
- **feed the InterCap e-library** (<https://developtogether.eu/en/networks>), by sharing relevant materials and other resources (e.g. videos, learning modules) to increase the CoP knowledge base and add value to the project knowledge base;
- **invite** new, additional **external stakeholders** to join the CoP and visit the InterCap e-library.

CoP members will interact through a **dedicated virtual space** on the project website (developtogether.eu) that provides a venue for dialogue, exchange of documents and other resources that will increase the knowledge base of each CoP member and of the project.

The CoP will be coordinated by a **Steering Committee** composed of **15 members**: 13 representatives of partner organisations (1 per partner, preferably a Communication Officer) and at least 2 representatives from the EU level organisations (1 per organization).

## 2. InterCap progress and results – Press release Year 1

### Migration, Sustainability and Development Education: where we are & way forward

31st October 2018. During the first year of activity (November 2017 – October 2018), the EU-funded InterCap project investigated:

- the current **understanding** of EU public opinion on conceptual links between **international migration** and **sustainable development**;
- **coherence** and **effectiveness** of current sustainable development, migration and development education policies both at EU and national levels;
- challenges and ways by which **development education** could be used as an instrument to raise awareness and improve critical understanding of the **interdependent world, individual roles and responsibilities in a globalised society**.

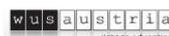
Findings were presented in an EU level “Audit on migration, sustainability and development education” report and in the 1st project international conference “Migration, Sustainability and Development Education: the way forward” (Vilnius, 12nd of October 2018).



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The “**Audit**” shows evidence from the EU and 12 national case studies (Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovenia and the United Kingdom). It mainly suggests that:

- Migration & Development policies often lead to instrumentalisation of development cooperation for migration management purposes, which contradict EU and Member States’ commitment to the Agenda 2030; therefore, EU institutions and MS should **prioritise long-term aims as outlined by the SDGs** over short-term interests driven by domestic affairs; otherwise,
- the EU and MS should **continue and improve financial and structural support** mechanisms for implementation of **development education in MS**. In this regard, it is crucial to implement coherent policy framework and build the competences of responsible actors (educational institutions, teachers and CSOs) to raise critical understanding of migration, sustainability and their links in the globalized society.

The 1<sup>st</sup> **International Conference** addressed the emerging concern on the way in which public perceptions of (in)security influence the understanding of international migration on one hand, and creates unfriendly public and political discourse around asylum, migration and integration issues on the other hand. Considering the complexity and interlinkages of the issues at stake, it was developed around two parts:

- **Conceptual part:** links between international migration and sustainable development discussed in 2 sessions: **Setting the Scene** (Dr. Karolis Zibas, Director, Diversity Development Group, Senior Researcher at the Lithuanian Social Research Centre (Lithuania); Agnese Lāce, Senior Policy Analyst, Centre for Public Policy PROVIDUS (Latvia); Dr. Harriet Marshall, Independent Global Learning Expert and Advisor); **10th Sustainable Development Goal on the spot: (reducing) global inequalities and (managing) migration policies** (Elisa Bacciotti, President of Oxfam Italia Intercultura; Céline Giertha, Policy & Advocacy Coordinator at CONCORD Sweden; Eliot Wieslander, Executive director of ‘Doctors of the World’ (Sweden));
- **Educational part:** workshops for representatives of educational institutions, government and NGOs to present different approaches and methodologies of development education (Communities for Philosophical Enquiry; Open Spaces for Dialogue and Enquiry; Theatre for Living) for better understanding of international migration.

Drawing upon lessons learned of the 1<sup>st</sup> year, InterCap will deliver a **new training package for teachers and their trainers** and put together education actors and CSOs to enhance their know-how and effectiveness in promoting learning and awareness about migration and its links to sustainable development. The package will be available on [www.developtogether.eu](http://www.developtogether.eu) soon.

InterCap will also offer an **E-Library**, which is an online repository of relevant **EU and national documents** (reports, academic publications, learning materials) and **media sources** on migration, sustainable development and development education. It will be soon available for free at [www.developtogether.eu](http://www.developtogether.eu). If you want to access to InterCap knowledge



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DIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT GROUP

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base and contribute to enrich it through additional resources, please register to our [Community of Practice](#).

For further information, please send us an email at [info@developtogether.eu](mailto:info@developtogether.eu) or visit our website <https://developtogether.eu> or follow us on social media



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### 3. Recommendations for effective communication

The following recommendations and suggestions will guide dissemination and knowledge sharing efforts of the CoP and InterCap partners in the next six months. They have been elaborated during the 1<sup>st</sup> online meeting of the CoP Steering Committee, held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2018 and fine-tuned during the project general meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

- 6. Focusing dissemination on **tangible outputs** (e.g. quantitative/ qualitative research outcomes, campaigns, events, etc.)

Main project outputs identified as the focus of dissemination are as follows:

- Year 1: Audit on migration, sustainability and development education (A1.1.1); 1<sup>st</sup> International Conference “Migration, Sustainability and Development Education: the way forward”, Vilnius, 12nd of October 2018 (A1.2.2);
  - Year 2: Training package (A2.1.1);
  - Year 3: International and national trainings for teachers’ trainers (A2.1.2), national workshops for teachers (A3.1.1).
7. **Mapping of stakeholders’ categories and target groups** to outreach through dissemination, both within and outside Europe

The project has identified different stakeholders and target groups to outreach and involve in its initiatives in the next years. Therefore, it would be beneficial to have a categorization of stakeholders and target groups to whom only specific and appropriate outputs will be delivered, according to their interests and field of activity. For instance, the “Audit on migration, sustainability and development education” may be of higher interest for institutional stakeholders and the academia, whereas the training package would attract more teachers and the whole education community.

This mapping should also include organizations (different from CSOs or institutions) active on InterCap core topics both within and outside Europe. Widening horizons beyond European borders would enable the discovery of other initiatives or methodologies and would bring an added value for the project. An example could be the AFS (<https://afs.org/>), a community of international educators, dealing with global competencies and gathering teachers, students and education practitioners.

#### 8. Capitalizing on EU level organisations’ channels and members’ networks

During the 1st online meeting of the CoP Steering Committee, CONCORD Europe offered to support InterCap dissemination by sharing news and materials with its mailing list. This would enable to reach organisations dealing with topics at the core of InterCap project throughout Europe.



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## 9. Exploitation of informal communication channels & teachers dedicated channels/ social media (e.g. Atmodo, fb pages)

Teachers and education practitioners often connect and keep in touch through informal communication channels (like Facebook groups) or dedicated social media (like Edmodo <https://www.edmodo.com>). These platforms could provide good opportunities to share InterCap training package and outputs that may be interesting for teachers and their trainers.

## 10. Creating synergies with projects and initiatives dealing with similar topics

Connections should be established with EU and national projects, initiatives or networks dealing with similar topics like migration, sustainable development, development education. Examples could include: projects funded by the Development Education and Awareness Raising (DEAR) or the Erasmus + or national level funding programmes, global networks (e.g. the Global Education Forum) and national networks (e.g. Teachers education for equity and sustainability – TeesNet in UK). This would enable involvement in events and forums where InterCap outputs could be presented and shared.

## 4. Next steps

Recommendations outlined in Chapter 3 will guide the CoP and all partners during the next six months, that is until the 2nd online meeting of the CoP Steering Committee is held (April 2019).

Taking them into account, all partners will disseminate the Press Release, including the Audit and the Proceeding of the 1st International Conference, and progress towards the achievement of InterCap dissemination targets.

