



Presentation of

ESCOOP
European Social Cooperative –
Cooperativa Sociale Europea –
sce

www.escoop.eu



ROOTS OF THE IDEA

The idea of establishing an European social cooperative came from the need to consolidate the good practices implemented by the members in the field of design and management of European projects and to create a tool useful for the further development of this activity. To do so, we decided to intensify and “institutionalize” the relationships and mutual esteem between actors which jointly work, since many years, in fields of common interest, particularly in that of social and work integration of underprivileged people. The relationships between the ESCOOP founder members have developed thanks to the collaboration realized under Community Programmes such as the C.I. EQUAL I and II Turn.

SCOPE

The key-role of ESCOOP in the submission of transnational projects, mainly consists in **building steady partnerships**, based on the collaboration between the members, that is, between actors endowed with different and complementary competences and experiences, linked by relationships of mutual trust based on direct acquaintance and collaboration and unified by the sharing of common guiding principles.

This represents a form of mutual guarantee among the members, that allows to design project proposals characterized by a strength point since their planning phase.

SCOPE

Thus, ESCOOP has been conceived to *“transfer the resource Europe”* on the members’ national territories, becoming a tool available to those working in the social field in Europe. The *“resource Europe”* includes, first of all, the considerable economic resources made available by the European Commission, through programmes to finance activities of vocational training and social/working integration of weak categories of population, Research and Technological Development, cooperation in environmentally friendly and sustainable development, etc. (PROGRESS Programme, ESF, CIP, FP7, etc.), which can be exploited by submitting transnational projects. Furthermore, the *“resource Europe”* is represented by the various and diversified knowledge, experiences and competences accumulated in centuries all over Europe and that may be put at the territories development disposal.



ESTABLISHMENT PROCESS

ESCOOP has been formally established thanks to the work performed, on a transnational scale, within the framework of the following 3 projects funded by the C.I. **EQUAL** II Turn. These projects represented the opportunity, for the Italian, Spanish and Finnish partners involved, to join their efforts and address them towards an idea-dream conceived and developed in the preceding years:

ITALY: IT-G2-PUG-038 "Per l'Impresa Sociale"

FINLAND: FI 68 "RAKET"

SPAIN: ES 284 "EMPRENDEJOVEN"

ESTABLISHMENT PROCESS

The tasks performed at transnational level, as provided for by the TCA "*ESCO – European Social Cooperative*" allowed to:

1. Collect and analyse the European legislation on cooperative companies
2. Draft the Social Statute of the future European Social Cooperative, thanks to the precious and qualified contribution by Italian experts in the field of social cooperation (Prof. Romano Mosconi)
3. Establish ESCOOP starting from the involvement of the project partners and other actors belonging to their national networks



LEGAL FRAMEWORK

ESCOOP was founded on the 6th July 2006 in Mola di Bari (BA) – Apulia – Italy according to the Regulation of the EC Council 22nd July 2003, N. 1435/2003 on the European Cooperative Society (SCE) and the law of the Italian Republic 8th November 1991, N. 381 on social cooperatives.

The decision of setting up the ESCOOP Main Office in Italy, thus to found it under the Italian legislation apart from the European one, derived from the results of the analysis and comparison of the relevant legislations in the 3 Partner countries, carried out during the EQUAL project. Indeed, they showed the convenience of inspiring ESCOOP to the principles of the Italian legislation, due to the multi-years experience of this country in the field of social cooperation.



ESCOOP STATUTORY ACTIVITIES

- Planning, realisation and management of pilot projects to develop activities for the members and to create occupational fields for the new social needs
- Study and monitoring of the evolution of the Social Enterprise in its legal status and fields of activities
- Promotion and realization of research and for its practical development in the different social fields
- Promotion, organization and participation in national and international networks of information and exchange of experiences
- Promotion, organization and realization of conventions, fairs, studies, research, useful to human advancement and social integration of citizens
- Establishment of centres for supplying real services to Social Enterprises in their activity fields
- Creation of agencies, overseeing and research institutes, linked and/or having arrangements with European institutes (universities, vocational schools, etc.)
- Planning, organization and management of vocational and refresher courses for training, qualification and re-qualification



ESCOOP PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH PROJECT AND ACTIVITIES

ESCOOP has activated important collaborations with various research bodies and Universities. More specifically, it has subscribed on July 2010, a Protocol of collaboration with the **ENEA - *Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development***, the most important public research body in Italy, to carry out joint research programmes, particularly in the field of **robotic** applied to **domotic solutions**.

Furthermore, ESCOOP has subscribed an Agreement of Collaboration with the **CENTICH *Centre d'Expertise National des Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication pour l'autonomie*** to co-operate in training and research activities in the field of development of **technical aids** for people with low autonomy.

The collaboration between ESCOOP, ENEA, CENTICH and other SMEs, Universities and research bodies, has brought to the design and submission of an European project, approved in December 2011: **I'CityForAll - Age Sensitive ICT Systems for Intelligible City For All**



**CURRENT PROJECTS
and
ACTIVITIES
implemented by ESCOOP Italian
branch**



IN-VIVO TESTING OF A NAO ROBOT

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: September – December 2015

BODIES INVOLVED

- ENEA - Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development
- ESCOOP
- 4 NURSERY SCHOOLS (in Andria, Cerignola and San Severo - Puglia region)

TARGET GROUP

Autistic children (3 per school), schoolmates acting as caregivers, teachers and teachers aids

GOALS

Assessing the suitability of NAO Robot to detect, prevent and heal autism in children

ACTIVITIES ENTRUSTED TO ESCOOP

- Design of the medical protocol to be applied
- Coordination of the robot testing in the involved schools
- Data collection and analysis and transfer to ENEA researchers with the aim of adapting and developing the robot efficiency and improving its suitability to the end-users real needs and specificities.



LET'S WORK 2GETHER

PROGRAMME, FUNDING BODY and CALL:

YEI (Youth Employment Initiative) – Puglia Regional Government - "*Avviso Multimisura*" approved by Executive Decision n. 405 of 02/10/2014 published on the Apulia Region Official Gazette n. 138 Supp of 02/10/2014 and it has been approved by Executive Decision of the Managing Authority of the E.S.F. O.P. n. 598 of 23 December 2014, published on the Apulia Region Official Gazette n. 177 of 31/12/2014

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: 2015 - 2016

MEMBERS OF THE ESTABLISHED TEMPORARY ASSOCIATION

training bodies, associations, Employment agencies, vocational training and education bodies, environmental education centers, social cooperatives, social enterprises, private companies, a social research body, City of Foggia, Regional Productive Districts in the field of agro-food production and renewable energies and energy efficiency, University of Foggia, schools, Farmers' national and regional confederations, regional shopkeepers confederation

TARGET GROUP

"NEET" (young people who are not *engaged in Education, Employment or Training*)

ACTIVITIES ENTRUSTED TO ESCOOP

ESCOOP will participate in the implementation of actions referred to the following Measures and addressed to NEET aged between 15 and 29:

- 1-A: Beneficiaries reception and provision of information on the Programme
- 5: Extracurricular Apprentiship, including geographical mobility
- 8: Transnational and local Vocational Mobility

ESCOOP is a member of the Technical and Scientific Committee of the ATS.



ATELIER DELL'AUSILIO

FUNDING BODY AND CALL: *Fondazione con il Sud* (Foundation that supports innovative actions in the Italian "Convergence" area) - *Iniziativa Carceri 2013*

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: May 2014 – August 2016

PARTNERS

1. L'Obiettivo social cooperative (Lead partner),
2. ESCOOP
3. Voluntary Association «Lavori in corso» of Lucera
4. Reha Ltd (orthopedic institute)

ASSOCIATED PUBLIC BODIES

1. Office of the Guarantor of people subjected to measures limiting personal liberty of the Apulia Region
2. U.E.P.E. of Foggia (body responsible for sentences served out of jail)
3. District Prison of Lucera
4. Health Care Unit/Agency of the Province of Foggia – ASL FG
5. Ambito territoriale di Cerignola (network of 5 municipalities)
6. Ambito territoriale Appennino Dauno Settentrionale – Lucera (network of 14 municipalities)

GOALS AND TARGET GROUP

- Experimentation, in the north of Puglia, of a social and work inclusion model of people serving their sentence, through the establishment, start up and development of a social enterprise that will manage a productive unit in the service sector for collection, restoration and maintenance, recovery and sanification of prosthetic aids for people with low autonomy and disabled ones.
- Setting up of workshops for aids restoration in the prison of Lucera and in the city of Cerignola (FG).



“CERCAT – Center for Exhibition, Research and Advice on Technical Aids”

The Center establishment was funded by the Councillorship for Welfare Policies of Puglia Regional Government in the period between 29.07.2009 and 31.01.2012.

CERCAT, set in Cerignola (FG), Puglia region, is dedicated to people with low autonomy and it promotes the establishment of a regional network of competences on technical devices and accessibility.

It supplies the following SERVICES:

- Exhibition, demonstration and test of technological aids for people with low autonomy;
- Suitability assessment of technical devices prescribed by public health services providers (service provided in the framework of the agreement signed with local health care unit);
- Provision of information and advice on the choice of technical aids and training on their use;
- Provision of information, advice and assistance on home accessibility and adaptation;
- Promotion, organisation and participation in public events to disseminate knowledge and raise awareness on technical devices and issues related to accessibility (participation in the “*Innovabilia*” fair dedicated to innovations aimed at improving the quality of life of people with different abilities held in Foggia in December 2009 and in May 2012, in the “*Festival dell’Innovazione*” held in Bari in December 2010, in the “*AAL – Ambient Assisted Living Forum*” held in Lecce on September 2011);
- Promotion and implementation of national and international research projects aimed at improving the quality of life of people with low autonomy.



“I’CityForAll - Age Sensitive ICT Systems for Intelligible City For All” (www.icityforall.eu)

FUNDING BODY AND PROGRAMME: EC - “AAL – Ambient Assisted Living” Programme, Call AAL-2011-4 - AAL-2011-4-056

DURATION: 36 months + 6 (July 2012 – December 2015) – **BUDGET:** € 5.082.399,00

PARTNERSHIP

FRANCE: CEA (Commissariat à l’Energie Atomique et aux Energies Alternatives) – Lead partner; Université Paris Descartes; CENTICH (Centre d’Expertise National des Technologies de l’Information et de la Communication pour l’autonomie); Active Audio

ITALY: ENEA (Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development) and CRF (FIAT Research Center)

GERMANY: Technische Universität München

SWITZERLAND: EPFL - Laboratoire d’Électromagnétisme et d’Acoustique

ESCOOP participates in the project as ENEA sub-contractor and as end-users’ representative.

GOALS and TARGET GROUP

Design of “Audio Aged sensitive” ICT systems enhancing self-confidence, mobility, security, for a better social and mental (overall) well being. The target population is composed of people aged between 55 and 85 years, without mobility problems and affected by presbycusis. The technological devices to be developed will be tested in railway stations and cars. ESCOOP will participate in the “in-vivo” tests.



"INNOVAAL"

network involving Public and Private bodies for research, development, experimentation and validation of innovative technologies and services for Ambient Assisted Living

FUNDING BODY AND PROGRAMME: Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research - National Operational Programme for Research and Competitiveness

PARTNERSHIP

National Research Council – Department of Materials and Devices (Lead partner); CETMA Consortium (Center for Planning, Design & Materials Technologies); "GE.N.T.ECO" social Cooperative; eResult Ltd; EXPRIVIA Ltd; INFORMATICA E TECNOLOGIA Ltd; IRCCS Casa Sollievo della Sofferenza; "Dr. P. Pignatelli" clinical analysis laboratory; MATRIX Ltd; Polytechnic of Bari; Simonetto Elettroimpianti Industriali Ltd; "La Casa" Building cooperative company; University of Bari and University of Salento.

GOALS

- Establishing a **network of expertise** in the areas of services design and supply addressed to elderly people, to allow them to autonomously live at their homes through technological devices (robot, PC, smart homes systems, etc.);
- Establishing a **Productive District** of technological innovation in service design and supply for the improvement of the quality of life.



CLOSED PROJECTS and ACTIVITIES implemented by ESCOOP Italian branch



“MET-AAL - METHodology and instruments for pervasive model in Ambient Assisted Living”

FUNDING BODY AND PROGRAMME: Region of Puglia (ITALY) through the ERDF – call to support regional partnerships for innovation

DURATION: 18 + 3 months (July 2012 - April 2014)

PARTNERSHIP

MATRIX ltd– Lead partner; CNR-IMM (national research council), University of Salento – Department of Innovation Engineering; BAUTECH ltd; CUPERSAFETY; “Dr. P. Pignatelli” clinical analysis laboratory; AMT SERVICES ltd; AGILEX ltd; ENA CONSULTING ltd; ORIZZONTI social cooperative ; ITEM OXYGEN ltd

GOALS and TARGET GROUP

Design and experimentation with end users of an ambient assisted living platform to provide support, aid and services to people with low autonomy (disabled and elderly people). The SMEs and research bodies involved have developed innovative technological devices based on the end-users’ needs analysis which have been tested in lab and in real life environments (users’ home and facility hosting elderly people) with the support by ESCOOP and ORIZZONTI, involved as end-users’ representatives.

ACTIVITIES

- Analysis of functional and methodological specifications to assist and monitor people needing aids in their life environment;
- Study and definition of interaction models between individual and assisted environment;
- Definition and design of the hardware and software assisted environment platform;
- Development of the assisted environment platform components;
- Demonstration and validation.



“Po.L.I.S. Politiche per l’Inclusione Sociale”

(policies for social integration)

FUNDING BODY AND PROGRAMME: Region of Apulia (ITALY) – Councillorship for Vocational Training – Call n. 2/2012 – Projects for research and monitoring of social integration policies – O.P. Apulia – ESF 2007/2013 – Convergence Objective – Axis VII Institutional Capacity

PARTNERSHIP: I.R.E.S.S. – Istituto Regionale Emiliano – Romagnolo per i Servizi Sociali e sanitari, per la ricerca applicata e la formazione (socio-health services institute of research applied to training)

GOALS and TARGET GROUP

- *capacity building* addressed to regional actors working in the Policy Area “Poverty”: bodies under the Councillorship for Welfare - Sector in charge of designing Social and socio-health care integration policies, Network related to the Regional and Provincial Observatory on social policies;

- renewal of *policy making* capacities to promote social rehabilitation of underprivileged people, by valuing their specific and personal resources and capacities.

ACTIVITIES

- **INFORMATION and AWARENESS RAISING ACTIVITIES** aimed at increasing the awareness of both public and private stakeholders on poverty related issues;

- **RESEARCH (desk and field ANALYSIS):** collection of qualitative and quantitative data on poverty and social exclusion in Apulia, main critical aspects, typologies of services and target groups;

- **TRAINING (WORKSHOPS)** aimed at improving knowledge and competences of public bodies and third sector organisations on design, implementation and monitoring of social integration policies;

- **CONSULTANCY AND TUTORING SERVICES** addressed to the Regional Observatory by providing the collected data and support in the design of social integration policies coherent with the identified needs;

- **DISSEMINATION AND MAINSTREAMING:** *empowerment* processes including the development of networks between Public Administrations and third sector organisations to exchange information, experiences and best practices regarding poverty related issues and enhancement of the target groups.



“ESENSEE – Eco Social Economy Network South and East Europe”

FUNDING BODY AND PROGRAMME: EC-“IPA–Socio-Economic Partnership” Programme

IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD: December 2010 – November 2012 – **CONTRACT N.**
2010/251-527

PARTNERSHIP

CROATIA: Healthy City – Lead Partner; Slap; ACT

SERBIA: Grupa 484

MACEDONIA: ORT-Training for Sustainable Development

KOSOVO: Little People of Kosova

ACTIVITIES

Establishment of the “ESENSEE” network (members identification, members’ training needs analysis and implementation of training programmes, website design and development: www.esensee.org)

Establishment and promotion of the Academy for creative eco-social Leadership (Academy registration, design of training and educational programmes, call for scholarships and implementation of Pilot training programme for eco-social leaders, including a study visit in Italy organized by ESCOOP)

Establishment of the Project Incubator for eco-social economy development (provision of on-line consulting services)

Communication and dissemination (PR activities)

“ALI AL PENSIERO” PROJECT

The first project realized in the period 2007-2008 and promoted by the Italian member Elpendù. It allowed to equip the Main Office with the necessary tools for its operation (computers, desks, chairs, printers, scanners, etc.). Furthermore, it allowed to train the staff involved in supporting its operational and administrative management. It was funded by the *ROP Puglia 2000-2006, Measure 5.3 az. c), Sovvenzione Globale “Piccoli Sussidi”*.

“ARIADNE – ARIANNA” PROJECT

It was funded by the Regional Government of Apulia under the Call for Proposals for projects of social Connectivity. It allowed to establish an “*advanced computers centre*” dedicated to low sighted and blind people and their families by putting at their disposal:



- Information on available technologies;
- Computer posts equipped with advanced technical aids (braille display and printer, screen reader and software for vocal recognition, scanner to convert texts into audio file, etc.);
- Links to databases, multimedia libraries collecting e-books, audio-books, etc.



ESCOOP MEMBERS GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION AND TYPOLOGY



ESCOOP

 Finland 5.2 million 14 MEPs	 Croatia 4.8 million
 Italy 57.6 million 78 MEPs	 Cyprus 0.8 million 6 MEPs
 Spain 39.4 million 54 MEPs	 Czech Republic 10.3 million 24 MEPs
 France 59.0 million 78 MEPs	 Denmark 5.3 million 14 MEPs
 Germany 82.0 million 99 MEPs	 Ireland 3.7 million 13 MEPs
 Greece 10.5 million 24 MEPs	 Latvia 2.4 million 9 MEPs
 Estonia 1.4 million 6 MEPs	 Lithuania 3.7 million 13 MEPs
 Hungary 10.1 million 24 MEPs	 Luxembourg 0.4 million 6 MEPs
 Poland 38.7 million 54 MEPs	 Malta 0.4 million 5 MEPs
 Portugal 10.0 million 24 MEPs	 Netherlands 15.8 million 27 MEPs
 Slovak Republic 5.4 million 14 MEPs	 Romania 22.5 million 36 MEPs
 Austria 8.1 million 18 MEPs	 Slovenia 2.0 million 7 MEPs
 Belgium 10.2 million 24 MEPs	 Sweden 8.9 million 19 MEPs
 Bulgaria 8.2 million 18 MEPs	 Turkey 63.9 million
 UK 58.3 million 78 MEPs	



FINNISH MEMBERS

FOUNDER MEMBERS:

- Lapland University of Applied Sciences
(educational institution)
- Northern Community Support Centre
PYRY – Raahe *(NGO)*
- City of Raahe *(public body)*

NEW MEMBERS

- AIKU- Vocational Adult Education
Centre of Raahe
- OAKK - Vocational Adult Education
Centre of Oulu
- Jani Grönroos



Lapland university of applied sciences

The polytechnic is made up of six units, such as business administration, business and data processing, cultural and media arts, health care, social services and ecology.

The Research and Development Department in Tornio coordinates international activities such as mobility (Socrates, Leonardo, First) and liaison projects.

<http://www.lapinamk.fi/en>





Northern Community Support Centre PYRY

Belonging to the Centre of Social Enterprises "Meijeri", The Northern Community Support Centre PYRY is an organization for team work among association of Northern Finland.

Its main activities are related to planning and offering financial services and training for communities.

PYRY is a member of the European Social Cooperative ESCOOP to represent its members' associations and as a connection to the NGO organisations in the Raahe region.





City of Raahé

The city of Raahé, located in the Finnish region of Northern Ostrobothnia, through its development centre, implements development strategies of team work between the municipalities of the region.

Its work is also related to the execution and administration of the district centre, the regional supervision of trading and tourist services as well as the execution of regional programmes and plans.





RAAHEN AIKU – Raahe Vocational Adult Education Centre

It is a vocational adult education centre which offers both local and national educational services. It represents an institute owned by city of Raahe hosting around 48 000 students per year.

AIKU areas of know-how are: business and administration, cleaning services, immigrant training, information technology, metal industry, logistics, orientation training, social and health care, security training and house construction. It also offers training services to companies with the aim to improve its customers' competitiveness.

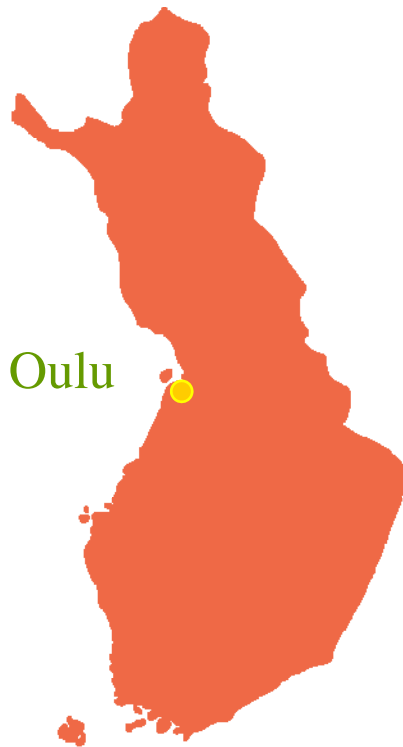


OAKK – Oulu Adult Education Centre

It's a vocational training centre that offers adults opportunities to learn and grow as an employee, entrepreneur, expert, and as a human being. It is a limited company owned by the city of Oulu that hosts about 7300 students / year.

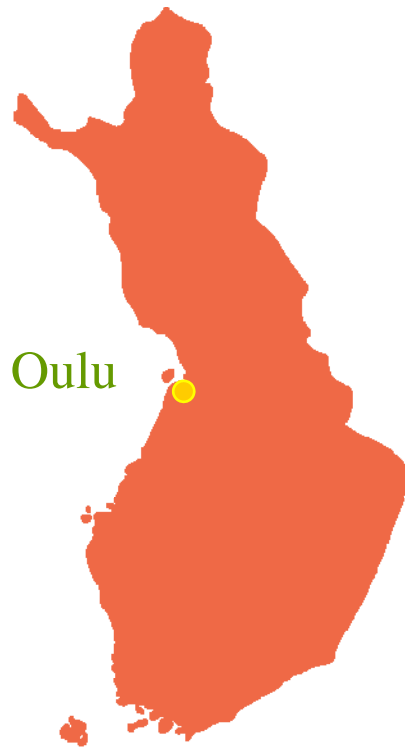
The OAKK know-how areas are: Business and Trade, building maintenance technology, heating and ventilation technology, cleaning services, electrical engineering, health and social care, restaurant services and tourism industry, safety and security, etc.

It organizes also training for immigrants and tailor-made education and training for companies and individuals seeking to develop their professional competences.



JANI GRÖNROOS

Advisor in field of social economy and NGOs establishment and management. Experience in designing and management of European and local projects. Vice Chairman of ESCOOP.



ITALIAN MEMBERS

FOUNDER MEMBERS:

- Elpendù - Consortium of Social Cooperatives (*no-profit making organisation*) – Apulia Region
- Mosconi Consulting srl (*private company*)
- Municipality of Mola di Bari (*public body*)
- Romano Mosconi (*natural person*)

NEW MEMBERS

- Consorzio Sociale Light - Consortium of Social Cooperatives (*no-profit making organisation*) – Lombardy Region
- Cooperative Officine Meccaniche Murgesi (*no-profit making organisation*)
- INTEC srl (*private company*)
- Municipality of Cerignola (*public body*)
- Social Cooperative ALBA (*no-profit making organisation*)
- Paolo Tanese (*natural person*)
- Alessandra Brescia (*natural person*)
- Marco Sbarra (*natural person*)
- Michele Bellosguardo (*natural person*)





Elpendù - Consortium of Apulian social cooperatives www.elpendu.it

- Planning and carrying out of pilot projects at local and EU level
- Vocational Training
- Research in the social field
- Services supply to the associated social cooperatives



Mosconi Consulting

Assistance to enterprises for what concerns administrative, fiscal and financial matters





Municipality of Mola di Bari

Public body in charge of managing the town territory





Municipality of Cerignola

Public body in charge of managing
the town territory



Romano Mosconi

Expert at national level on matters regarding cooperatives in general and social cooperatives in particular

Paolo Tanese

Expert in the field of social cooperation and in designing and management of European projects.
ESCOOP Chairman

Alessandra Brescia

Person in charge of Transnational Activities ELPENDÙ Consortium.
Support in transnational projects design and management



Marco Sbarra

ESCOOP Director.

Expert in

- Active social inclusion and employment of disadvantaged people, with social cooperatives of type B;
- Socio-educational and health services, with social cooperatives of type A.
- Education and Training
- Local Development, Rural Development and Territorial Strategic Planning



Lucera
Cerignola

Michele Bellosguardo

Responsible for the CERCAT, expert in technical devices for people with reduced autonomy and experienced in advising elderly and disabled people in choosing and using such devices.

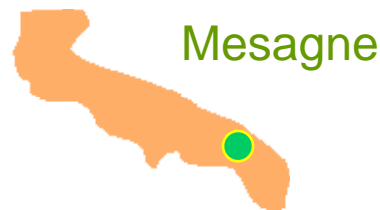
INTEC srl



It was founded in 2002 treasuring the individual and multi-disciplinary experiences of a team of experts and business economists that studies, plans and realizes, in collaboration with the Customer, specialized and modular consulting services, thanks also to the collaboration with a wide network of professionals. The consulting services it provides range from Business Management (managerial guidance, business planning, management control and account rendering), to Process and Project Management (BPR, processes computerization, business protection, support to projects planning and development). Thus it guarantees solutions for the customers' needs of innovation and changes required by the market, together with a rationalization of the company processes aimed also to the start-up of new business activities. The services are provided by means of tools such as Management by Objective and Problem Solving. INTEC collaborates with Universities, Public Bodies and SMEs at national and international level.



Cooperativa Sociale ALBA



Founded in 1986, ALBA is an organization focused on recovery, rehabilitation and social integration of people with disabilities. This primary goal is reached by different activities: management of structures for minors, disabled people, elderly people, people with social problems, management of social care services, promotion of culture and human rights, also through the organization of music and theatrical performances and live concerts, pre-training and job training addressed to disabled and/or underprivileged people, assisted and not assisted transport of children, elderly, disabled and underprivileged people. As secondary activities it realizes the following: cleaning, green maintenance, environmental actions, general maintenance, engineering, construction and repair works, etc.



Consorzio Sociale Light

The Consortium was founded in 1998 by a group of social enterprises based in Lombardy. The Consortium consists of a network structure through which several types of initiatives, projects and services can be designed, implemented and managed.

The Consortium manages (either directly or through its associates) services of very different kinds such as welfare, health, social, educational, rehabilitation and social and work inclusion services. Based in the city of Milano, Consorzio Light is endowed with a large territorial base allowing it to work across the whole Region. The activities carried out throughout the years have brought to the reinforcement of the already existing members and to the creation of new member-cooperatives. Currently, the Consortium is made up of more than 30 cooperatives.



OMM - Officine Meccaniche Murgesi

Established in 1975, OMM masters integrated technologies for the design, construction and "turnkey" supply of automatic and robotised lines for optimising manufacturing processes. Since its start-up, OMM has been operating both on the Italian and international market. OMM is specialised in turnkey manufacturing of production lines for polygonal and circular section steel poles for public lighting and for low, medium and high voltage electrical power lines; manufacturing lines for road manufactured products; manufacturing production line for vehicle number-plates with alphanumeric numbering. OMM has also skills in other manufacturing segments (railway vehicles, cars and trucks, etc.). OMM'S mission is to meet the increasing demand for highly specialised industrial automatic systems by assisting foreign companies in modernising and expanding production processes: this is achieved through strategic cooperation for research in customised design and delivery of special production equipment.

SPANISH MEMBERS

FOUNDER MEMBERS:

- Castilla-La Mancha Region
(public body)

NEW MEMBER

- Juan Manuel Gutierrez de la Torre
Alonso





Castilla - La Mancha Region

The Regional Government of Castilla-La Mancha, through the Social Welfare Department develops nowadays the Regional Plan of Social Integration.

With this plan it is involved in projects which objectives are:

- social integration of people and families socially vulnerable or in risk of social exclusion
- the complete development of disadvantaged neighbourhoods;
- adapted measures to immigrant foreign people with language and cultural difficulties;
- adapted measures to people and families of gipsy ethnic socially vulnerable or in risk of social exclusion.



Juan Manuel Gutiérrez de la Torre Alonso
Natural person, ESCOOP Treasurer





GERMAN MEMBER

VOLKSHOCHSCHULE HANNOVER

Volkshochschule Hannover belongs to the German network of no-profit adult education institution. Each Volkshochschule serves its local area and is organisationally autonomous.

Volkshochschule Hannover runs as a part of the Municipality of Hannover.

GREEK MEMBERS

- **SYNEIRMOS** – No-profit Civil Society -
Trikala
- **DIAPLOUS** – Social Cooperative of
limited liability – Athens



Syneirmos

Civil non-profit society that promotes the values of social solidarity and social economy, as well as social integration of people threaten by social exclusion (unemployed, people with mental health disorders, etc.).

It opened, at the beginning of 2007, a Day Care Centre for immigrants with mental illnesses and a Mobile Unit for Mental Health.



DIAPLOUS (Social Cooperative)

The aim of the cooperative is the social-economic and occupational integration of people with serious psychosocial difficulties and efforts are made to contribute to their treatment as well as their economic self-sufficiency.

To achieve its purposes, the cooperative may carry out different kind of economic activities such as trade, transportation services, tourism, construction, credit, developmental services, educational or cultural activities.

OPERATIONAL ASPECTS

ESCOOP has designed operational tools to rule the relationships among the members:

- **INTERNAL REGULATION:** drafted by the Board of Directors and approved by the General Meeting. It defines the internal relationships among the members, ruling aspects such as the exchange of information on funding opportunities and modalities to design and manage projects, use of human resources, IPRs, etc.
- **DOCUMENT ON PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION:** attached to the Internal Regulation, it has been edited and undersigned by the members with the aim to protect the confidentiality of a precious tool shared by the members: IDEAS, that is, the ground on which projects and new employment opportunities for the members and the local populations are built.

OPERATIONAL ASPECTS

- **MINUTES of the Board of Directors meetings:** the model used to edit the Minutes, represents an example of osmosis and mutual enrichment among the members. Indeed, ESCOOP has adopted the Finnish model that, among those used by the founder members of the 3 countries, was considered the most rational and clearer one. The members that have “renounced” to their usual model, after having overcome their cultural opposition and psychological barriers, have benefited from the acquisition of a new and more advanced tool.
- **MEETINGS MANAGEMENT MODALITIES:** a very complex aspect is represented by the need to hold periodical meetings among the members from different countries. The problem has been solved by holding, apart from the unavoidable direct meetings, also “virtual” ones via e-mail and/or web conferences. In this case too, the experience of Finland, gained in the peculiar climatic conditions and of demographic distribution of this country, has been a source of inspiration for the “Mediterranean” members.

MANAGEMENT BODIES

- **GENERAL MEETING:** convened at least once a year to approve the Financial Statements and is based on the democratical principle "*one head, one vote*", regardless the subscribed quota
- **BOARD OF DIRECTORS** (composed of 5 members from Italy, 5 from Finland, 3 from Spain and 2 from Greece) that appoints the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer
- **OVERSEEING COMMITTEE** composed of 3 members (1 Italian, 1 Finnish and 1 Spanish). Furthermore, every 3 financial years, an **AUDITOR** is appointed who has the task to check the correctness of bookkeeping entries.



BROADENING PROCESS

ESCOOP is open to the adhesion of new members that share its scopes and are willing to contribute to its growth.

To join ESCOOP, applicants shall submit an application with the following documents attached :

- Social Statutes and Memorandum of Incorporation;
- Abstract of the resolution stating the willingness to join ESCOOP;
- Declaration by the Legal representative certifying that the abstract is a true copy of the original Minutes

TYOLOGY OF MEMBERS

- **CO-OPERATOR MEMBERS** work in the cooperative and contribute to the achievement of its scopes. They have full voting rights
- **VOLUNTEER MEMBERS** can work for free and have no voting rights
- **NON USER (INVESTOR) AND FINANCING MEMBERS** give their contribution in terms of financial capacity and may not be assigned more than 25% of the total voting rights
- **HONORARY MEMBERS** give prestige to the cooperative thanks to their experience and fame. They don't have any voting right

SHARES OF CAPITAL STOCK

- The **minimum amount** of share that shall be subscribed when joining ESCOOP is € 250,00 for natural persons and € 1.000,00 for legal persons
- The members are **liable** for the amount of shares they have subscribed only
- The financial year **INCOME** is destined to:
 - Fund of legal reserve (min 30%)
 - Mutual funds for the promotion and development of cooperation
 - Funds of reserve or members' incomes



JURIDICAL FORMS, PARTICIPATIONS AND ADHESION TO OTHER BODIES

- ESCOOP is considered, apart from a European social cooperative, also an **ONLUS** in Italy and a **NGO** in Finland. Furthermore, it may acquire other juridical qualifications in the countries where this is permitted.
- ESCOOP has joined **LEGACOOP** in 2007 and it is registered in it with n. 24199.
- Since it was established, ESCOOP has joined **BANCA ETICA** (Italian Ethic Bank) and it has opened two bank accounts with it.



ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

ESCOOP was registered in the Companies' Register of Bari with n. **06478540724** (VAT number) on the 18th August 2006, date in which the Regulation of the EC Council 22nd July 2003, N. 1435/2003 entered into force. Thus ESCOOP is the first European social cooperative established according to the relevant Regulation above.

ESCOOP is enrolled in the Register of Cooperatives with Prevailing Mutuality with n. **A177326** and in the Italian economic administrative register (R.E.A.) with n. **489005**.

Finally, it is enrolled in the Register of social cooperatives of the Puglia region at the section "A" with n. **818**.



ESCOOP Contact Details

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