

GRUNDTVIG PROJECT MEETING IN KOPENHAGEN 8/9 May 2014

Preparation paper

Theme of project: economic literacy (EL), understanding how local and global economies work, how gendered it is and what women's roles are

Aim of project: To increase the capacity of women in the field of economics as actors and observers, to enhance their power of definition from a women's rights perspective and to detect mechanisms of gender specific discrimination.

Output: produce a collection of economic literacy tools (online publication) based on experiences – June 2015

Objective for Copenhagen: present one or more EL tools that each partner organisation has been using already

Some preliminary comments:

EL definition: WIDE Switzerland conceives economic literacy as an important tool of a critical feminist approach to understanding economic processes and as a process of critical economic learning that puts women's economic expertise and experience into the centre of attention.

EL tool: Our EL tool/instrument is actually the whole WIDE CH network.

The network of WIDE can be seen as a platform or wheel for the churning of the process of critical economic learning, which puts women's realities and expertise in the centre of attention and allows a continuous critical reflection of both (economic / political / feminist) theories and political and economic processes that influence the conditions of living, especially the way how care work is being done.

The platform's sub-tools enabling this process in various ways are the Debate club, working groups such as "Gender&Sustainability" and "Care, work, Power", courses on Feminist Critique of Political Economy, panels and public conference, public statements, and EL workshops with Louise Gubitzer Model.

The different forms of practice can be distinguished by the levels/kinds of knowledge transfer and dynamics, including different learning forms, learning hierarchy, actors involved, recurrence, outcomes, finances, themes of their focus and (partly) in the target persons of the EL process. All together they form a plethora of learning forms that constitutes the WIDE platform itself and moves its wheel of EL learning.

EL sub-tool → Criteria: ↓	Debate club	Feminist Critique of Political Economy Courses	Panels and conferences on: care/work/Power; Gender&Sustainability	Louise Gubitzer Model Workshops
Learning form(s)	Debate/discussions/reading	Course	Elaboration of thesis/key questions in working groups, speeches, panels with experts; workshops; lectures	Workshops and their preparation within the working group in collaboration with an economist
Actors involved	Mixed: Practitioners, Researchers, etc.	Experts on the theme; interested women of various backgrounds	Experts on the themes; professionals, representatives from relevant organisations	EL-Facilitators, and expert on care economy as well as interested women (and men)
Hierarchy	Flat	Vertical	Flat (Round table of experts) and semi-vertical (conference)	Semi-vertical (participative approach)
Themes (e.g. those already done)	Basic income; pension schemes; social security, etc.	Political Economy; Care; Critique of economic indicators	Care/Work/Power, Gender perspective on "Sustainability" (Green Economy; Energy transition, Development)	Analysis of an issue related to the Economy of care using the 5 Sectors of Economy (model by Gubizer)
Target persons	Open to all interested	Open to all interested	Politicians, professionals, activists	All interested or specific groups (e.g members of a union, an interest group or NGO etc)
Outcomes	The follow-up WG can produce papers, brochures public statements, and panels on the topic	Individual capacity building	Opinion making of individuals and organisations, publications, networking	Individual capacity building; may help an organization or group to clarify their position on a specific issue
Other specifica	It can result into forming of working groups which continue working with experts on the topic (or its aspects) People bring up topics of their own interest! Mainly taken from actual political debates and decision making processes	Can be a starting point to get into EL/Wide-topics and start to look at things with a different view	The trans-disciplinary way of addressing current potentially explosive topics opens ways of restructuring chains of argumentation and dominant narratives and help to understand political decisions from a feminist perspective	Can be a starting point to define further questions to clarify for a deeper analysis of the same issue as a follow-up (e.g.as a working group)
Recurrence	The 2 nd Thursday of every month	Winter semester	Every 2 or 3 years a conference, 2 years preparation, meetings according to availability of task team members	On request
Finances	Free of charge access	Course fee		

