

May 11, 2015 (M16)

CONSOLIDATION from COORDINATORS' FEED-BACK

Several reminder messages were necessary to receive FEFI Coordinators' answers (the 1st one was sent back on March 09, 2015 while the last one arrived on April 17, 2015).

Strong points

1 – All FEFI coordinators sent back their answer.

2 – Due to the size/organization of their institution, several coordinators were alone to manage with the project's works and sometimes feel exceeded by FEFI tasks like reporting, for example, even if they find it normal. At the same time, other partners think that developing an EU project focusing on education for female inmates is part of their normal job too because they are working in prison and are interested to enlarge their competences based on abroad experiences and exchanges.

3 – Two partners admit to being very well supported in their FEFI tasks by the coordinating organization.

4 – The project is fulfilling the goals step by step without major deviation from the original plan. National coordinators think that the project is not only theoretical but expect some interesting new methods and outcomes based on experimentations and professional exchanges.

5 – FEFI national coordinators note a real new interest from their hierarchy (prison's directors, ministries) such as:

- ↪ implement new methods in other prisons (than the ones already involved in FEFI) hosting female inmates
- ↪ introduce some change or adjustment through new and innovative solutions and to offer more relevant courses
- ↪ make more fruitful the treatment in prison based on new working practices with female inmates
- ↪ make FEFI results as basis for further development to give importance to education of female inmates
- ↪ help and support female inmates in their path to future civil life

6 – The experimentation of new procedures is still in process so national coordinators are able to only make partial comments at this moment (M16/May 2015). Nevertheless, some of them already notice that:

- ↪ it's difficult to implement new practices in prisons which house very few female inmates
- ↪ it's necessary for female inmates to follow some healing process before even thinking about educative plans (ie. developing and reinforcing self-esteem, rehabilitative programs for substance abuse problems, health matters)
- ↪ it's very important that female inmates have all opportunities to take up their rights on education with a specific content gearing towards their own needs and requirements



Weak points

1 - Answers sometimes are very laconic and do not offer matters to learn from individual experiences.

2 - The transversal analysis of the 8 national sources of data (BE-CY-DE-FI-FR-IT-MT-TR), collected through Questionnaire 1 to female inmates and Questionnaire 2 to various profiles of professionals working in prison, has been delayed from the FEFI initial working plan so that FEFI partners only focused on their own national data to determine new procedures they want to experiment. It could have been interesting to analyze first the crossed data at European level then to decide new methodologies and practices to explore.

3 - National supports for communication are not sufficient.

Crossed recommendations

1 - The project does not belong to one physical person. Project's coordinators belong to teams. When an organization joins an EU partnership, the project's development needs to take its part from the organization's involvement and that all their staff have to be more or less interested in. Partners must not forget that if the project's coordinator leaves (for any reason) it's, the organization (through its legal representative) stays involved in the partnership and tasks and duties still have to go on.

2 - To fulfill feed-back questionnaires is part of any project's evaluation process (and is included in EU grants); it's also the job of the coordinating organization to encourage and remind the national coordinators that they have to participate.