



# Notes from the **EU DEAR** **Multi-stakeholder group meeting** Online | 25-26 October 2021





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## MSG meeting participants

The meeting brought together **30 representatives** of:

- ❖ EU Member State departments and agencies (3)
- ❖ Non-Governmental and youth organisations (11)
- ❖ Scholars and academic networks (4)
- ❖ Regional and Local Authorities and their networks (4)
- ❖ Global Education Network Europe (GENE) (1)
- ❖ Council of Europe - North-South Centre (1)
- ❖ ROM Team (1)
- ❖ European Commission, DG INTPA - Unit G3 (5)
- ❖ DEAR Support Team (DST)

[See complete list of participants in Annex 1]

## MSG meeting discussion topics

- ❖ The state of play of the 2022 DEAR Call for Proposals
- ❖ The renewed mandate of the DEAR Multi-Stakeholder Group
- ❖ The new DEAR Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL) framework



## DAY 1 | 25th October 2021

**Agata Sobiech** (DG INTPA, Unit G3 - Youth, Education and Culture - Head of Youth and DEAR Sector) opened the meeting and welcomed participants.

### 1. DEAR PROGRAMME 2022 CALL FOR PROPOSALS - STATE OF PLAY

**Markus Pirchner** (DG INTPA, Unit G3) introduced the current state of play regarding preparations for the 2022 Call for Proposals (CfP - see a video-presentation [here](#)), with a focus on five key issues the Commission is discussing at the moment:

#### **1) How to implement an approach that is complementary and coherent with EU member state national policies, i.e. brings European added value?**

DG INTPA is exploring ways to assure that the DEAR Programme does not duplicate, replace or top up national DEAR programmes. DG INTPA is looking for other means that could be used to favour the European character of the Programme, and pondering upon the need for different approaches depending on the project type (e.g. development education vs awareness-raising).

#### **2) Given the wide range of topics and approaches covered by DEAR, how could the CfP be organised in order to provide a level playing field for comparing actions in different thematic areas, with different approaches?**

As the Call is likely to span over a range of different thematic areas & approaches (formal/nonformal education, awareness-raising, financial support to third parties, among others), the Commission is exploring ways to ensure that the best (merit) actions for each approach are selected.

#### **3) How to ensure access to DEAR grants for smaller stakeholders with less (operational) capacities, while ensuring the efficiency and the impact of the actions funded under the DEAR Programme?**

Prior to discussing this further, three assumptions need to be clarified:

- Assumption 1: project size matters - there are certain things only a big project can deliver
- Assumption 2: big projects require the capacities (resources, personnel, knowledge, network, structure, reputation/standing...) of a "big player"
- Assumption 3: certain smaller or niche players may have the highest competence, credibility, strongest roots in the community, the best knowledge of the realities on the ground, among others

The last DEAR CfP (2018) has favoured big projects with several partners. The key challenge is now how the Programme could also reach smaller organisations.

#### **4) How to facilitate the participation of youth organisations both in the call and in the activities?**

The youth dimension of the DEAR Programme will be strengthened in the future. Young people are amongst primary target groups, but how could the Programme support youth-led activities by youth organisations and networks?



## 5) How to involve new and diverse stakeholders, such as private sector actors or partners from outside the EU, in DEAR initiatives?

The DEAR Programme wants to explore the value of cooperation with the private sector in order to increase the Programme's reach and impact. Furthermore, DG INTPA would also like to look into the possible contribution by partner countries outside Europe.

\* \* \*

**Points raised in group discussion** (Note: all MSG discussion summaries include points raised, but not agreed upon or debriefed):

### ***Q1. Complementarity with national policies and European added value:***

- The focus on European added value should not be limited to a geographical approach (to include as many Member States (MS) as possible), but should focus on promoting values: sustainable development, human rights, inclusiveness, etc. Positive discriminatory measures should also be considered, in order to target specifically EU MS where those values are challenged
- The Programme should promote a balance between Civil Society Organisations' (CSOs) right of initiative and strategic (policy) intent
- The CfP should increase innovation and research, allowing failures to be part of the process
- Respect for national context, increase the role of national associations, as well as existing links between local, national, regional, pan-European and global organisations should be embedded in the CfP
- Encourage collaboration and coordination across Europe and beyond, for example through involvement of European networks
- Global Citizenship Education (GCE) is a very good tool to combine approaches and policies but can also be a challenge if a vague conceptualisation is used (UNESCO definition of transformational education could be of help). We need to combine a broad definition with key priorities: identify narrow key areas on which projects are requested to focus
- Peer-learning opportunities and communication platforms to support potential applicants to join consortia lead to: a) improved GCE/DEAR practices and b) stronger project proposals
- Clear criteria in CfP can support diverse consortia and complementarity.

### ***Q2. Level playing field for comparing actions in different thematic areas, with different approaches:***

- Many adult education organisations lack experience in large-scale EU project management. It is challenging to join a DEAR project for an organisation with no prior experience in EU projects (financial and operational capacity)
- Small projects can have impact with less funding, if for example they focus on specific sectors/topics
- Perennial 'funders' dilemma': big and strategic projects vs smaller and bigger variety. Separate lots are the solution (small/large; different approaches, etc.), as it is the case in Erasmus+ but there cannot be too many lots as it gets too fragmented



- More information and info sessions would help to even the playing field for all types of applicants.

### ***Q3. Inclusion of smaller stakeholders, while ensuring significant impacts:***

- Complementarity of big and small organisations is good to develop organisations and capacities
- Information and support is key: DEAR beneficiaries lack national reference points/support; can the Programme identify resources to support them? Another opportunity: can new organisations join during the course of the project?
- Smaller organisations need assistance to participate in big calls - one solution is positive discriminatory measures in the CfP (e.g. get extra points if such implementing partners are included in the proposal)
- Subgranting allows smaller organisations to feel part of a big EU project, connects with other actors (and subgrantees) within the project, and provides funds for activities on the ground
- Small vs big: diversity of GCE requires smaller organisations, committed to GCE. "Devotion" is more important than balance between big/small organisations
- It is important to provide advice and guidance on project development at national level. Research programmes have their support structures (e.g. Horizon) - is there a way to set up national contact points or national agencies?
- There are national platforms in all EU member states (CONCORD members); resource allocation for national platforms could help build capacity at national level; extending the project timeframe would help to achieve greater outreach; sub-granting is another solution, but it involves a lot of admin work
- There is already a high burden on the projects and coordinators; it is up to the Programme how to support small CSOs - this is a question of resources; if we look at the perspective of a project lead - being smaller allows organisations to be more agile; on the other hand, there is a benefit in learning from bigger organisation
- Brexit had a negative impact - UK organisations had considerable experience, this is a loss of capacity; if we focus on smaller consortia, this will be even harder
- The term 'beneficiary' could be changed to project promoter or something else more 'active'.

### ***Q4. Facilitating the participation of youth organisations***

- Youth organisations are fundamental in multiplying youth voices and building capacity
- There are some doubts about giving a leading role to youth organisations (they require strong operational capacities), but they are valued in partnerships in terms of capacities and should be part of DEAR consortia
- It depends on the profile of a youth organisation: to meaningfully involve youth organisations, a diverse range of opportunities in terms of thematic area/budget/ etc. is needed, according to their capacities; we need to consider grants for smaller and less experienced organisations; calls focused on young people can help; coaching and info sessions as well
- Some of the youth organisations lack legal identity (informal groups, community groups); make space for informal groups (eg allowing partners to 'host' them with a larger formal partner acts as an intermediary); informal groups can give us the creative and innovative angle; there are proven





solutions within other Programmes like in Erasmus+ when individuals and organisations can represent informal groups. This is a challenge for INTPA in terms of management and also a resource burden but DG INTPA asked for legal support and work with informal groups is possible

- Youth is not a social group; there is a problem of representation; we may need more guidance on how youth is defined; definition helps to narrow down the scope of interventions and tools to be used with them; we need to make sure we also allow for flexibility
- Youth is a 'target' group, but we need to overcome this understanding, and address other groups and issues for greater impact: if we focus on youth alone, this may be isolated; we can work with youth on consumer habits; we can work with youth on private initiatives
- Sometimes the CfPs 'force' organisations to work with particular sectors: now it is about youth and the private sector - but do we know if they are the most impactful?
- The school system is key, including tertiary education, lifelong learning, adult education etc.

#### ***Q5. Involving new stakeholders such as private sector actors or partners from outside of the EU:***

- In GCE the global aspect is very important so we need non-EU voices; we should not be too Eurocentric. Non-EU partners are very needed in education and campaigning for policy improvement, as they 1) challenge our concepts; 2) change our practices to fight inequalities; 3) for (fair) trade, consumption etc. campaigns contribution from partners is more than just flying to a conference, as they are key stakeholders
- Objectives of the Programme and Call should be key, not specific solutions or modalities like involving partners from the global South; we should give flexibility to the applicants
- Considering the importance of cooperation with the private sector, we should make this more of a priority in the Call, but not a firm requirement, as there is some reluctance of CSOs to work with the private sector
- Private sector is not only corporations: the business sector spans from SMEs to social enterprises to corporations, so including them in DEAR projects can require different strategies; we need to be wary of 'greenwashing' i.e. companies using GCE to gain credentials in sustainability; include local companies with sustainable approaches
- It is important to clarify the goals of cooperation with the private sector: e.g. changing consumer behaviours may not be attractive to the private sector; how to work with CSOs so that they enter a "fair" collaboration with the private sector? The involvement of the private sector may potentially dilute the power of GCE, whose mission is to empower citizens to make their own decisions and take a critical look at the world; GCE is more than simply encouraging citizens to consume sustainably
- It takes time, a lot of thinking and planning; the private sector wants to engage with organisations, not projects. Long-term relationship-building may be beneficial for our larger mission as well as the visibility & credibility of specific CSOs
- There is some evidence that private companies are not interested to be involved as partners (but contractors) in the last CFP (in communication activities only)



- Projects involving the big players in the private sector can make a big impact (example: McDonalds recycling used oil - with a single corporate change a big impact can be achieved)
- Private sector should be engaged as targets (not project partners).

## DAY 2 | 26th October 2021

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### 2. RENEWED MULTI-STAKEHOLDER GROUP MANDATE

**Francesca Vanoni** (DST) presented an overview of the new MSG mandate proposal.

Besides funding projects and direct grants, since 2015 the DEAR Programme also promotes the Multi-Stakeholder Group (MSG), as a forum to exchange, discuss and develop strategies to strengthen DEAR-related policies.

A **number of critical points** of the current DEAR MSG set-up emerged from the findings of the external evaluation of the CSO-LA Thematic Programme (Dec 2020)<sup>1</sup>; the DEAR multi-stakeholder survey, carried out in Nov-Dec 2020<sup>2</sup>; and the DEAR MSG meeting [held in March 2021](#).

Recommendations suggested that:

- The MSG should have a clearer and better-defined role
- The selection process and composition should be clarified to uphold representativeness
- Interaction and transparency should be strengthened
- Learning from experience should be valued more
- Participants should be motivated to be active
- The views of stakeholders should be better considered, also providing more feedback after having consulted them.

A request emerged from various parties calling for **a revision of the mandate and composition of the DEAR MSG**. INTPA drafted a proposal and involved MSG participants by seeking feedback and validation on a revised mandate. The highlights of the proposal follow.

#### MSG AIMS

- Enhance coordination and networks amongst key DEAR stakeholders
- Facilitate policy-relevant exchange & learning

#### WHAT DO MEMBERS DO?

- Exchange and develop ideas to strengthen GCE in Europe
- Support cross-fertilisation among different stakeholders and national contexts

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<sup>1</sup> See:

[https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/evaluation-cso-la-thematic-programme-2014-2019-main-report\\_en\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/international-partnerships/system/files/evaluation-cso-la-thematic-programme-2014-2019-main-report_en_0.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> See: <https://europa.eu/capacity4dev/dear/documents/your-views-dear-programme>



- Advise the Commission on the DEAR Programme, as well as on specific implementation issues - beyond individual affiliations.

## MEMBERS RESPONSIBILITIES

The MSG will meet in plenary twice a year, preferably in person in Brussels. In between meetings, *ad hoc* working groups may be set up on specific topics. Members' responsibilities include:

- Participation in setting the agenda of MSG meetings
- Actively contributing to half-yearly MSG meetings
- Contributing to thematic working groups between plenary meetings
- Timely disseminate and collect information among peers/constituencies
- Share respective DEAR-related initiatives
- Share knowledge about the most recent and innovative approaches, methodologies and practices related to GCE across the world - notably including 'Global South' perspectives.



## SELECTION PROCESS AND MSG COMPOSITION

Every three years, MSG members will be selected on the basis of an open **Call for expression of interest**. Eligibility criteria will be specified in each Call. Each typology of stakeholder will be assigned a number of representatives (see right).

Out of the overall 36 members, six organisations (or networks) will have an assigned 'seat', as they are considered "one-of-a-kind" or particularly strategic for the DEAR Programme (see right).

### Future Composition of the MSG

Balanced distribution in terms of **typology and geography**

Up to:

- ❖ 8 CSOs (and their networks - including NGDO platforms connected to Presidency trio)
- ❖ 8 LAs (and their networks)
- ❖ 4 Youth organisations (and their networks)
- ❖ 4 Member States (departments or agencies)
- ❖ 4 Scholars (individually or as representatives of academic networks)
- ❖ 4 DEAR-supported projects (from current/previous Calls for Proposals)
- ❖ 1 CoE (North South Centre)
- ❖ 1 GENE
- ❖ 2 Other stakeholders relevant for thematic priorities
- ❖ European Commission staff

**TOTAL 36 + EC staff**

**Six organisations/networks,** considered unique/strategic

>> Assigned a 'permanent seat'

- ❖ CONCORD Europe
- ❖ PLATFORMA
- ❖ European Youth Forum
- ❖ North-South Centre (CoE)
- ❖ GENE
- ❖ ANGEL Network







After discussing (and validating) the new set-up, the MSG will adapt to the renewed mandate and the call for expression of interest will be launched by INTPA in early 2022.

\* \* \*

### Points raised in plenary discussion:

- Welcome to “new blood” that may bring different perspectives to the DEAR MSG
- This is an important forum for advising the Commission on DEAR-relevant topics. Bilateral dialogue is also important and welcomed
- It is important to share MSG inputs within DG INTPA (i.e. other Units). It is also advisable that the DEAR Programme increases cooperation with other DGs especially, but not exclusively, in the education sector (firstly DG EAC), as DEAR is complementary to several policy areas
- The new MSG mandate rightfully mentions the need to include perspectives from partner countries but should also explicitly address EU-internal issues such as the rise of populism, xenophobia and democratic backsliding in more and more EU Member States.

### Suggested changes to the draft document:

- The expression “consultation body” should be explicit in the document
- Replace “donors” with “international players”
- Replace “Global south/southern perspectives” with “partner countries”
- Include an explicit mention to countering the roots and implications of populism in Europe.

## 3. THE NEW DEAR MEAL FRAMEWORK - MONITORING, EVALUATION, ACCOUNTABILITY, LEARNING

**Inka Bartosova** (DEAR Support Team MEAL consultant) presented the new DEAR MEAL framework, covering the timeline of the revision process, its purpose, key principles and the new intervention logic.

### PURPOSE OF THE NEW DEAR MEAL FRAMEWORK

- Top-down, horizontal and bottom-up accountability - to communicate DEAR Programme’s contributions and uniqueness to high-level policy makers as well as to citizens and partners, to increase their support and participation
- Learning and adaptation - to help DEAR stakeholders learn what works in achieving DEAR objectives and how, as well as what does not work, and why in order to adapt the Programme.

### KEY PRINCIPLES OF THE NEW DEAR MEAL FRAMEWORK

- Coherent, holistic, systemic, long-term, participatory approach
- Adaptive, focused on qualitative changes
- Flexible, simple, cost-effective and applicable



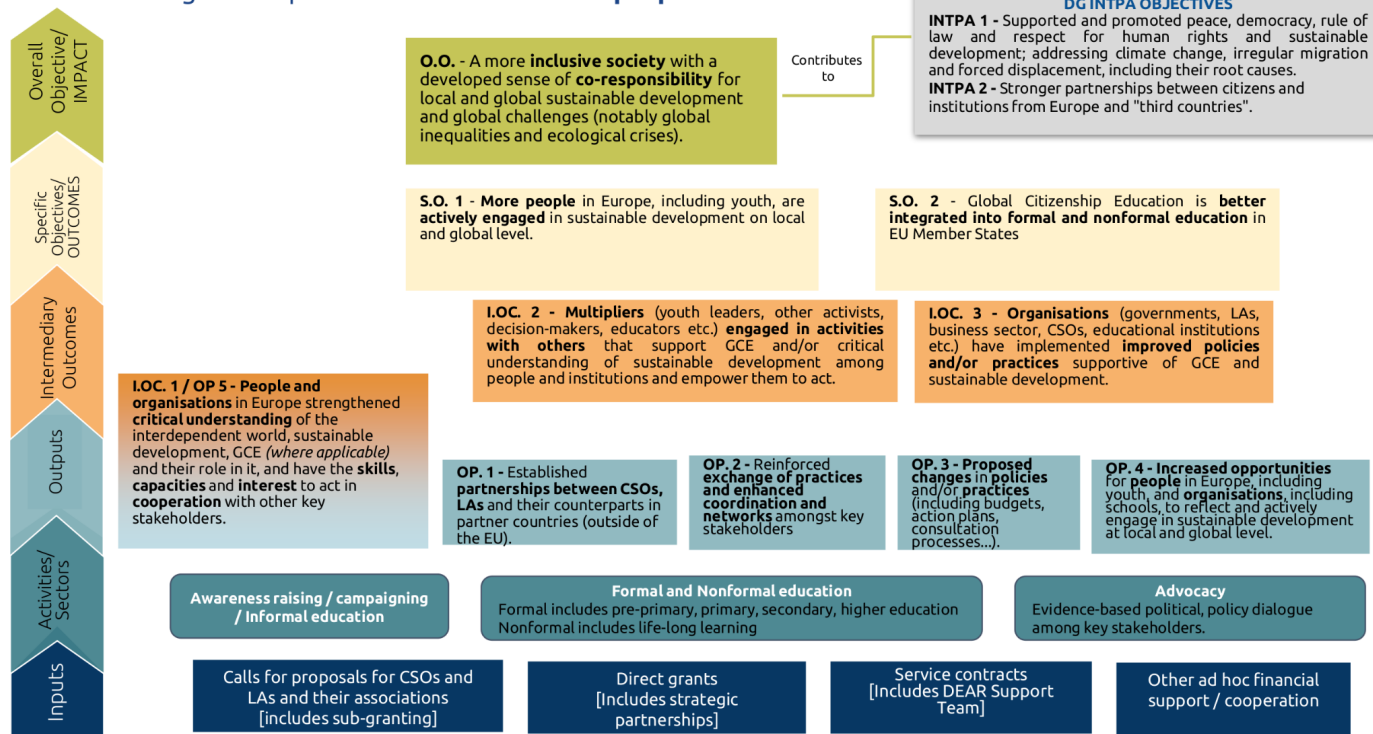
- Transparent
- Promotes GCE / DEAR quality
- Supports learning and innovation
- Links to INTPA / EC priorities.

## KEY CHANGES IN THE DEAR MEAL FRAMEWORK

- First ever Programme-level Intervention Logic (IL), developed with DEAR stakeholders/ implementers, to serve both learning and accountability purposes
- Mix of “common” and “project-specific” monitoring indicators
- Evaluation questions help focus mainly on changes & how they came about
- First ever DEAR MEAL Guide with methodological notes and tips for planning, MEAL, and communication
- Different learning spaces (tentatively - a DEAR multi-actor exchange to reflect on the past, context, and joint collaboration for future, during CFP launch)
- Consolidated MEAL data on-line: common indicators, repository of project evaluation reports, meta-analysis of evaluations / narrative reports / ROM, stories of changes, lessons learnt
- Suggested communication with actors during MEAL, dissemination outputs.

## NEW DEAR PROGRAMME INTERVENTION LOGIC/RESULTS CHAIN

### EU DEAR Programme | INTERVENTION LOGIC - proposed to the MSG



This introduction was followed by a discussion on the new MEAL framework proposal in three working groups.

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## Points raised in group discussion:

- Competencies for democratic culture (by the CoE - North South Centre) are aligned with the DEAR IL as they connect knowledge to critical understanding
- The proposed DEAR MEAL framework is very useful for proposal writing as well as for MEAL. The learning dimension is key, very welcome, and quite new
- Critical understanding involves different learning steps, should it be considered as an output or a specific objective?
- Critical understanding and capacities are still an output as the implementers have a control of it (as per INTPA conceptualisation). This output reflects the quality of the intervention. Outcome is what people do with critical understanding. People need to engage to have a successful DEAR project
- On the other hand, the uniqueness of DEAR lies in critical understanding (before action). People may not be able to commit to actions. DEAR should help transform attitudes (via critical understanding). Employing critical understanding is a key step before the action, therefore it should be kept at the specific objective (outcome) level, also in line with other strategic INTPA documents
- The terminology used in DG INTPA objectives differs from the DEAR IL (e.g. in references to 'third countries' or 'irregular migration'), but INTPA objectives cannot be revised as part of the DEAR IL revision process
- Overall Objectives are very clear and agreed. GENE will send proposals on: output level rephrasing; the importance of new evaluation paradigms, not only log-frames; ensuring further coherence between EU level and national level i.e. not burdening GE practitioners with different and opposing requirements
- Specific Objective 2: "Stronger partnerships between citizens and institutions from Europe" could be revised to include "third countries"
- Specific Objective 2: we currently use 'integrated' - is it not the same as 'mainstreamed'?
- "Demanding others (politicians, companies) to act" could be a part of DEAR specific objectives. But then other types of actions should be added but keep it short
- Output 3 - we can consider including Local Authorities
- Among institutions that may "change policies/practices", it would be good to include the EU itself
- Private sector is missing from the outputs
- Both schools and nonformal education need to have the same relevance
- We need to address curricular revisions and textbooks - this is very important in terms of both coherence and complementarity (so GCE messages are not contradicted)
- Youth participation / emancipation in DEAR: it is crucial that youth shape the process themselves, they are not just participants, but are on level 5-6 of the Engagement pyramid. Each project should consider meaningful youth participation
- Youth is a key constituency - youth political party branches/groups are a good platform to convey GCE ideas and approaches - we need to consider them as part of the youth organisation landscape,



possibly under 'stakeholders'

- The DEAR Programme should consider learning on a grassroots level - how people and CSOs learn
- Diaspora organisations need to be considered among stakeholders and target groups
- The Programme should be open to those with different opinions/perspectives. A good DEAR project does not polarise
- Researchers can support DST in systematically understanding evaluation results and to further develop learning implications. ANGEL, GENE, CONCORD, CoE NSC (others?) may help with MEAL development, analysing the DEAR / GCE context, supporting DEAR project implementers enhance their MEAL systems etc.
- Importance of innovation: failures should be considered part of the learning process
- The proposed 'DEAR Sprouts' event (sharing of experience by current projects with prospective new applicants) is very welcome. It should happen beyond CFP and focus on past learnings/failures (openly)
- Dissemination potential in making this system being used and relevant
- If we want to reform the education system(s), mainstream GCE, then are CSOs and LAs the main groups to work with? Education happens mostly elsewhere - especially formal, how do we make sure we have a connection there: schools and universities?
- Relations with Team Europe and other policies need to be explored.

## CONCLUDING REMARKS BY AGATA SOBIECH

**Agata Sobiech** (DG INTPA, Unit G3 - Youth, Education and Culture - Head of DEAR Sector) delivered closing remarks at the end of the meeting, thanking all participants, contributors and staff and highlighting the following issues:

- As for the upcoming **DEAR Call for Proposals** - it should be launched in early 2022
- Some further inputs on the CFP may still be forthcoming both from the MSG and other stakeholders
- As for the **MSG mandate**, It was good to see consensus around most issues proposed. We will fine-tune this document and launch a call for expressions of interest
- On the **MEAL framework**, we can see we have travelled a long way since the process was started; there is general consensus on key parts of it, and some further work to be done on some aspects; we will be talking to some more stakeholders as well
- All of those elements will come together in the **programming documents** for the new DEAR Programme; DG INTPA is now preparing those documents and trying to incorporate the approaches and language used by the new MEAL framework; we will also have a MEAL guide and intervention framework as parts of the new CFP.



## Annex 1 - Participants List

Name	Surname	Position and Affiliation	Country	Stakeholder type
Galia	Chimiak	Associate Professor, Polish Academy of Sciences	Poland	Academia
Massimiliano	Tarozzi	Professor, University of Bologna, ANGEL coordinator	Italy	Academia
La Salete	Coelho	Researcher, Educator and Project manager, University of Porto	Portugal	Academia
Suzanne	Von Itter	Executive Secretary, European Association of Development Research and Training Institutes (EADI)	Germany	Academia
Rita	Nascimento	Técnica Superior, Camoes/Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Portugal	Member State
Martin	Naprstek	Czech Development Agency	Czech Republic	Member State
Mari-Helene	Kaber	Co-Chair, CONCORD GCE Working Group	Estonia	CSO/network
Calin	Rus	Director, Intercultural Institute of Timisoara	Romania	CSO/network
Patricija	Virtic	Head of Global Education, Sloga	Slovenia	CSO/network
Judit	Lantai	Policy Officer, European Youth Forum	Belgium	CSO/network
Guzal	Matniyazova	Project Manager, Fairtrade International	Belgium	CSO/network
Veronica	Arduino	Project and Policy Coordinator, Lifelong Learning Platform	Belgium	CSO/network
Rilli	Lappalainen	Chair, Bridge47	Finland	CSO/network
Nora	Forsbacka	Project Manager, Bridge 47, Finnish Development NGOs Fingo	Finland	CSO/network
Davide	Capecchi	Secretary General, European Federation for Intercultural Learning	Belgium	CSO/network
Raffaella	Kihrer	Head of Policy, European Association for the Education of Adults	Belgium	CSO/network
Tilemachos	Boni	Grant-Making Processes Manager, World Organization of the Scout Movement	Belgium	CSO/network
Miguel	Carvalho Da Silva	Global Education Programme Manager, CoE North-South Centre	Portugal	Other (CoE)





Liam	Wegimont	Executive Director, Global Education Network Europe (GENE)	European	Other (GENE)
Sofia	Caiolo	Project Management Coordinator, European Association of Local Democracy (ALDA)	Italy	Local Authority or network
Lur	Fernandez Salinas	DEAR Officer, PLATFORMA - CEMR	Belgium	Local Authority or network
Silke	Lunnebach	Project Coordinator, Climate Alliance	Germany	Local Authority or network
Sara	Garrido	DEAR Officer, Diputació de Barcelona	Spain	Local Authority or network
Alecos	Kelemenis	ROM Expert, ROM Global Core Team	Greece	Other (ROM Global)
Mehdi	Achour	Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs	France	Member State
<b>DG INTPA</b>				
Agata	Sobiech	DG INTPA		EC staff
Anne-Marie	Vermunt	DG INTPA		EC staff
Markus	Pirchner	DG INTPA		EC staff
Maja	Biernacka	DG INTPA		EC staff
Viviana	Galli	DG INTPA		EC staff
<b>DEAR SUPPORT TEAM</b>				
Francesca	Vanoni	DEAR Support Team		Consultant
Bianca	Baumler	DEAR Support Team		Consultant
Max	Fras	DEAR Support Team		Consultant
Alexandre	Foubert	DEAR Support Team back office		Consultant
Valentina	Bezzi	DEAR Support Team back office		Consultant



## Annex 2 - MSG participant evaluation

The final evaluation of the October 2021 MSG meeting was conducted using an online evaluation form (Google form). It consisted of five questions related to different aspects of the MSG (see graphs on the right) plus open comments and suggestions.

MSG participants provided an overwhelmingly positive evaluation of the meeting:

- The preparation process was rated very good by two-thirds of participants (65%) and good by all other attendees (35%)
- The quality of preparatory materials was rated good or very good by over 90% of the respondents
- MSG facilitation was rated good or very good by over 90% of the respondents
- MSG programme was rated good or very good by all respondents
- All MSG participants agreed that the MSG meeting allowed sufficient space for the views of DEAR stakeholders and improved the transparency of the process.

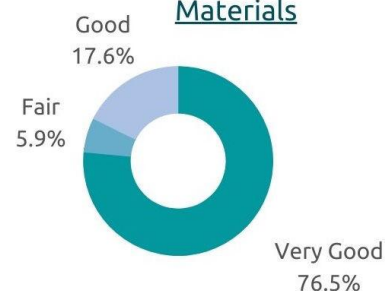
Additional comments and suggestions related to the following issues:

- Recognition of the fact that all members of the MSG are actively participating in the meeting
- A suggestion to add one longer break (e.g. 20 minutes)
- Appreciation for the discussion on populism, proposing the Programme holds a politically neutral position and focusing on common values in the EU treaty (also promoted by the CoE)
- Appreciation for the presence of DG INTPA colleagues
- A suggestion to hold the next meeting in person
- A suggestion that stakeholders, especially big networks, need more time to prepare their input for crucial policy topics like the Call for Proposals, programme etc.
- A suggestion to invite facilitators and rapporteurs from outside of the DEAR Support Team, to allow more varied voices, and a higher-level discussion on DEAR strategy and context at the beginning of the meeting, to have everyone working in the same direction.

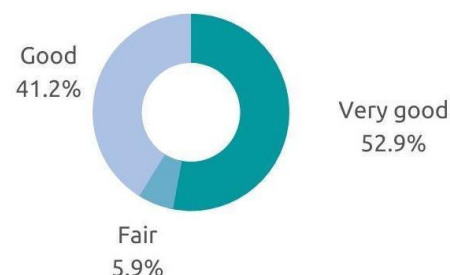
### Preparation



### Materials



### Facilitation & Topics



### Relevance



### The MSG has improved space & transparency?

