

ANNUAL REPORT 2010



Message from the Chair of the Board



CEBSD has just celebrated its 20th anniversary since it was launched at a conference in Swansea in 1990 as what the former director of the Community Development Foundation David Thomas called a “high risk project”. Gradually CEBSD expanded from its original 3 partners thanks to CEBSD’s first director the late Wim van Rees who managed to find some seed money to make contacts and meet possible partners in Europe both within and outside the European Union.

Many things have happened in Europe, both with CEBSD member organisations and CEBSD itself. As one of the co-founders of CEBSD I firmly believe in the need and advantage of being a member of a European foundation like CEBSD for professional community development in Europe.

The combination of old and new members from west and east, north and south sharing experiences, methodologies, projects and policy-making is one of the things which can make Europe more democratic and sustainable.

This report forms the basis of our mutual journey into a future Europe. Come join us!



Hans Andersson
CEBSD Chair

Hans Andersson

Activities Report

Increase in Membership

After the Future Seminar in Örebro in October 2009 CEBSD offered new organisations that had been invited to the seminar the chance to become members of CEBSD as well as to take part in CEBSD activities. As the Chair of the Board Hans Andersson said "together we can work better for inclusion, participation and democracy through the promotion of community development. We believe in the mutual benefits generated by this cooperation." Five new organisations joined CEBSD in 2010.

Leadership Meetings

In 2010 the CEBSD Board met twice: once in May in Barcelona and once in November in Prague.



BOARD MEETING IN BARCELONA

May 25–26, 2010

Our member Foundation Desenvolupament Comunitari (FDC) hosted the meeting in their new office space Fabrica del Sol. This building is part of a special sustainability project run by the city in cooperation with various local NGOs.

During their visit CEBSD members had a chance to hear and see more about the project as well as learn about other activities being carried out by our Catalan member.

During the meeting board members focused on what they wanted to achieve from CEBSD as a European body and what they can contribute. As a result a strategy was created that focuses on four main issues:

1. Overall thoughts, basic directions

Creating/keeping a strong feeling of CEBSD identity
To see community development as the tool for active citizenship and welfare

2. Professional and management directions

Clarity and transparency – in internal working mechanisms, projects and information
Flexibility – being open towards new partnerships, members, professional focuses
Visibility – the key to CEBSD's future brand strategy

3. Concrete tasks/steps

4. Dangers, what to avoid



BOARD MEETING IN PRAGUE

November 4–5, 2010

Our new member AGORA CE hosted the autumn meeting. At this meeting the Board approved the memberships of the following new organisations:

- AGORA CE – the Czech Republic
- The CAL Association – Poland
- The CEGA Foundation – Bulgaria
- The Community Workers' Co-operative – Ireland
- The Scottish Community Development Centre – Scotland, UK

The agenda consisted of three parts: past and present, building the future of CEBSD and plan of action. Board members discussed all three parts in detail. They used the OPERA method to find out what they need/want and what they can do. It helped them to shape the plan of action for the next period.

Besides board meetings the Executive Committee operated via e-mails, phone calls and Skype. ExCo had eight Skype meetings in 2010. Hans Andersson, Lies Beunens, Fenny Gerrits and Gianni Orsini served as ExCo members. The work of the Executive Committee and Board was supported by a part-time coordinator Anna Karailieva.



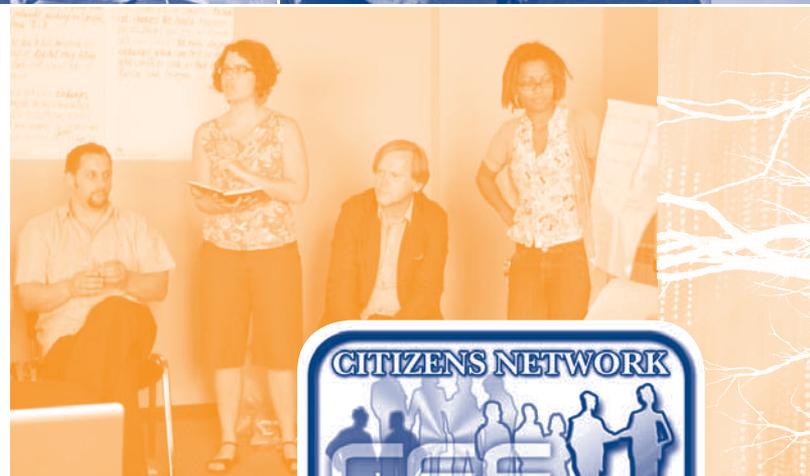
Social Platform Membership

Social Platform (www.socialplatform.org) was established in 1995 and brings together more than forty European non-governmental organisations, federations and networks which are working to build an inclusive society. The three main strategic objectives of Social Platform are:

1. To support the development of a strong, vibrant social NGO sector
2. To reinforce participatory democracy by supporting a process of dialogue between NGOs and a more transparent European Union
3. Shaping a fairer Europe based on social equality

CEBSD decided to join Social Platform in 2004 because of the following reasons:

1. CEBSB works on inclusion, participation and democracy through promotion of community development. We strongly agree with Social Platform's main vision and can contribute by taking part in policy discussions on social development.
2. Working on community development means that we work on different themes concerning basic rights. Due to this we feel a lot of connection with other members of the Social Platform to develop a democratic Europe.
3. Being a member of Social Platform increases our visibility and strength. This is important during a period of transition as it helps to attract members from more EU-member states.



Cooperation with CEE Citizens Network

Background

Strategic cooperation with CEE CN started in May 2008 as a part of the "European Dialogue" project¹, followed up by joint meetings in Palermo in November 2008 and Sofia in May 2009. Based on the decisions made during these meetings concerning common future activities CEBSB took part in three main events arranged by the CEE CN in 2010:

¹ The Hungarian Association for Community Development initiated the project as part of the 'Europe for Citizens 2007–2013' European Union programme. The aim was to help the members of the two European community development networks, which had both been working independently, but towards the same goal get to know each other, to seek a common European dimension to their work while they inspire each other to find potential ways of cooperation.



1. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION UNIVERSITY
KUNBABONY IN HUNGARY
July 20–24, 2010



Representatives of five CEBSD member organisations joined the CEE CN for its 10 year anniversary and participated in the CEE CN summer four-day training event full of lectures and workshops. Each day the lectures and workshops were centred on a particular theme. The themes were as follows:



1. Introduction to the Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation in the Decision-Making Process and how to implement the Code. Two examples of how the Code is being implemented in Serbia and Slovenia were presented. These presentations were followed by a café dialogue on the following theme: What can the Citizens' Network, CEBSD and other friends do to implement the Code?

2. Introduction and discussion of the Citizens' participation study (see below).

3. Citizens' Participation Week and Local Democracy Week

At the end of the working day, participants reached joint conclusions during plenary sessions. The organisers collected the conclusions, as well as the important points for evaluation and good ideas for future planning (for more information www.ceecn.net).



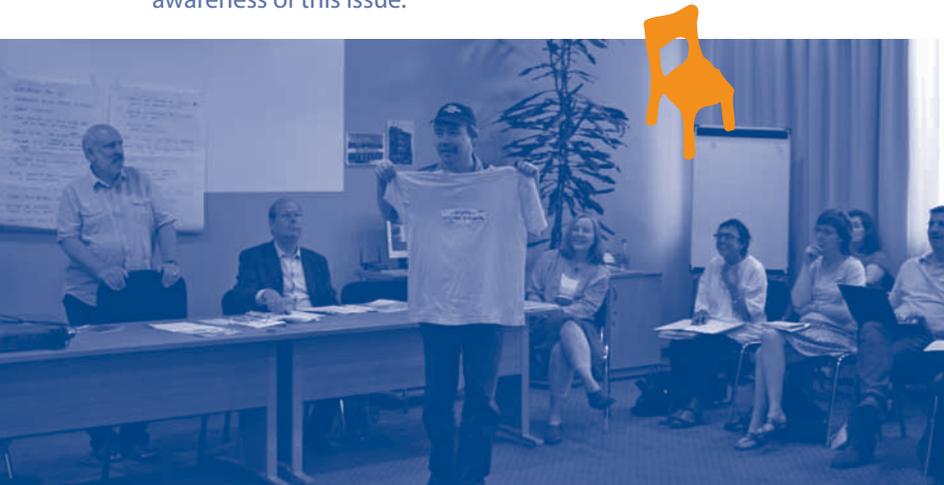


During their free time participants were able to cook together, watch movies and generally socialise. Sometimes music groups would come and play too. The CPU was organized in such a way as to give participants the chance not only to learn from different presentations but also from each other and the experiences of others working in the same field as them.

2. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION WEEK

September 20–26, 2010

Citizens Participation Week, which is organized annually by CEECN during the last week of September, consists of a series of events, calling for society's attention to the importance of participatory democracy and community welfare, by increasing citizen action. The Citizens Participation Week events programme includes, amongst other things, local, regional and national actions, media events, exhibitions and public meetings. All CEBSD members were invited to take part in Citizens Participation Week and use the opportunity to promote citizens participation and help increase public awareness of this issue.



CITIZENS PARTICIPATION WEEK



3. PROJECT „CITIZENS ACTING AND LEARNING FOR LOCAL DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE“

This project, which is partially funded by the EU, aims to expand and disseminate knowledge about local citizen participation in Europe with a particular emphasis on Central and Eastern Europe where the transition to democracy is still in play and where civil society and citizen involvement is still being built.

The lead agency and manager of the project is the CEE Citizens Network, with CEBSD as an active member of the initiative. An advisory or task group has been set up to assist and support the initiative to achieve its goals. This group includes representatives from the Citizens Network and CEBSD, as well as practitioners and other independent experts. Their first meeting was held in Berlin on the 23rd and 24th of November 2010. The initiative is targeted at those promoting citizen participation at the local level – practitioners (both primary and secondary); policy makers (including local authorities); influencers (academics, EU, Council of Europe); and donor organisations.



The initiative will comprise of 3 main actions:

- A mapping or scoping exercise to ascertain the nature, extent and focus of citizen participation through non-formal associations and networks. This will be a non-academic exercise composed of case studies, thematic discussions, a robust analysis and critique and specific informative learning conclusions. It will be normative driven in its approach and will capture the dynamics between concepts and practice. The end result will be a wealth of information that can be packaged in different ways and branded to appeal to particular audiences.
- The second action relates to the Citizen Participation University which convenes annually and provides a space to reflect upon matters related to participation and associated activity such as community development. The CPU provides an opportunity for the following: to test our approach and the initial outcomes of the mapping exercise; to elicit feedback and advice on the concluding parts of the exercise; and to make recommendations as to its use and function as a resource for groups and organisations.
- The third action will be to make available all the final materials within the framework of ideas arising from the CPU, as a resource to groups for use in Citizen Participation Week, which mobilises up to 30,000 community leaders and participants as active citizens across Europe.



The initiative will adopt a modular schema, leaving open the possibility of adding to or further developing particular aspects of the materials gathered and the conclusions reached.



List of members



Name of the organisation

Name of the board member nominated

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Financial Report

Financial statement of cumulative expenditures
of the year **2010**



Organisational Costs

Funded by income from membership fees

Administration	€ 979
Virtual office	€ 178
Website hosting	€ 215
Membership Social Platform	€ 669
Registration Chamber of Commerce	€ 26
Freelance staff costs	€ 7 750
Staff expenses	€ 650
Bank costs	€ 63

€ 1 0530 Total organisational expenses

Remaining costs TLCD

Funded by EU

Travel	€ 3 217
Staff costs	€ 16 445
Subsistence	€ 5 408
Consultancy	€ 3 020
Other costs	€ 480

€ 28 570 Total expenses of TLCD paid in 2010

€ 39 100 Total expenses of the year 2010



Mission

CEBSD works on inclusion, participation and democracy through the promotion of community development.

CEBSD should contribute to the optimal development of sustainable community development in Europe. In that way CEBSD:

- supports citizens, professionals and policy makers from different countries in Europe
- endeavours to develop a Europe which functions on the basis of community and participative democracy
- helps build European civil society through community development.

Aim and activities

To achieve this mission, CEBSD aims to implement dynamics which could help transform the European reality. Within this framework, CEBSD carries out the following activities:

- Studies and research – national and international
- Facilitation of agency development
- Taking part in policy discussions on social development
- Make studies of good practice widely accessible by disseminating the results
- Use all legal means possible to achieve the goals of Community Development

Structure

CEBSD consists of the following
a Board to which all CEBSD members belong
an Executive Committee
Friends of CEBSD; Task Forces
Ad Hoc Commissions

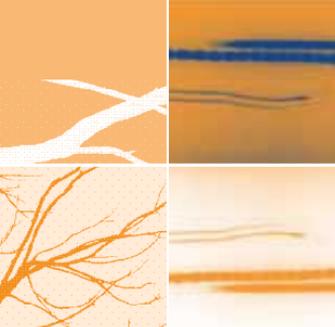
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Stichting Combined European Bureau for Social Development

Abbreviated name

Stichting CEBSD

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Date and place of registration

May 29, 1996, The Netherlands

Legal registration number

41156304

Legal status

not-for-profit organisation

www.eucdn.net

