

# PROGRAMME OF WORK 2019/2023



Education  
and Solidarity  
Network

# OUR NETWORK, AT THE CROSSROADS OF THE HEALTH AND EDUCATION SECTORS...

« In the Education and Solidarity Network, we believe that education and health are interdependent and at the heart of all human development. Health and well-being are vital components in building quality education systems as quality education is essential for any individual or group to achieve « a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being ».<sup>1</sup> That's what we believe in and the reason why our organisation was founded ten years ago.

When we talk in ESN about health in school, we're talking about **student health**, which is a great vehicle for development. We're also talking about **the health and well-being of education staff**. It's one of the reasons that makes our organisation so unique.

We believe that a stagnating quality of life and emerging health problems among education staff can lead to a loss of resources and consequently impact on **education quality**. We affirm that the health and well-being of education staff is a fundamental part of **students' educational success**.

Ultimately, we affirm that **social protection** is a fundamental factor in health and well-being. This protection must be **collective, inclusive and based on solidarity**. This is a vital component in ensuring as many people as possible have access to quality healthcare. And here too, **the issue of education** is essential. Education is key to fully grasping and supporting the concept of social protection and universal coverage against life risks. And what better ambassadors to advocate for this social protection culture than education staff all over the world?

The Network is working to strengthen the links between education and health and promotes a **multi-stakeholder, participatory and solidarity-based approach** to promoting health and well-being for education communities. »

**Matthias Savignac**, *President of the Education and Solidarity Network*

<sup>1</sup> The WHO's definition of health

*« Our approach is in line with at least three of the United Nations' seventeen sustainable development goals: 1. No poverty, 3. Good health and well-being and 4. Quality education. »*

*« Born from the desire to bring the key players in education and health to the same table, the range of ESN members is diverse and representative of our interdisciplinary origin: education unions, health mutual funds, cooperatives, youth associations, research centres, academics and individuals. While they may have very different regulations and functioning rules, they still hold shared values: democracy and solidarity. »*

*« We think that members of the ESN, mutual funds and unions who fight for universal access to quality education and health systems should join forces and work with other advocates who support solidarity, public services, and democracy, to ensure everyone can enjoy the inalienable and sacred rights inherent to human beings. »*



*« This mosaic of key players in education in health makes it possible to group topics and various fields of expertise: health promotion, school health, community mobilisation, social protection, animation, research/action, etc. These skills serve the goals of the ESN, its members and partners. »*

# THE STRATEGIC PROJECT

With a view to prepare the programme of work 2019-23, in 2019, the Executive Committee of the Education and Solidarity Network has implemented a participative self-evaluation approach. Supported by members of the association's strategic committee, this approach has enabled the identification of ESN's strong points, its areas of improvement and the activities corresponding to the strategic objectives and the members' needs.

ESN's General Meeting, which took place in Bangkok in July 2019, on the fringe of the 8th World Congress of Education International, approved the strategic orientation plan and the recommendations that came from this self-evaluation.

## The programme of work 2019-23 solidifies these recommendations.

Since its creation in 2009, ESN has gradually **consolidated pilot projects, shaped its activities and maintained its structure**, while increasing its efforts in terms of communication and mobilisation. In 10 years, ESN has made a name for itself alongside

international organisations, funders, trade unions and cooperative organisations and other actors within our ecosystem.

The first phase of 2019-23 will be dedicated to **the role of facilitator** of ESN and of the hub of skills that are innovative in its methods of facilitation and exchange of good practices. The introduction of several, high visibility projects will enable the added value of ESN to be increased for its members, by supporting its members' influence campaigns.

Our network's work will continue to be focused on two themes:

### The promotion of health in the education communities

### The development of social security systems

These themes will be addressed through an approach that promotes the **mobilisation of young activists**, relying heavily on facilitation tools **in collective intelligence** and in connection with the research, in particular thanks to the **research-action** approach.



The activities are separated within three areas that reflect the triple community that represents ESN:



### 1. A community of values

Bring together organisations that share the values of solidarity and democracy

Collective Intelligence



### 2. A community of subjects

Promote health & social protection for the education communities

Mobilisation of young activists



### 3. A community of initiatives

Share good practices and projects

Research / Action

# A COMMUNITY OF VALUES

THE OBJECTIVE OF ESN IS TO SHARE THE VALUES OF SOLIDARITY, NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORIENTATION AND DEMOCRACY, AND TO MAKE THEM LIVE ON AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE.



## CONFIRMING THE MODE OF OPERATION FOR BODIES AROUND THE THREE PILLARS

Regular executive committee meetings

Annual meeting of the Board of Directors in the form of remote consultation

Physical meetings every year (General Meeting, Strategic Committee, workshops)

## ESTABLISHING THE « COUNTRY FOCUS » STUDY TRIP

Promotion of the issues and realities of a country and of one of more members from this country

Visits and meetings around education, health and social security issues

Advocacy support for members who host the study trip

## EXPANDING INTERNAL COMMUNICATION

Monthly newsletter with highlights on members activities

Increase of contacts in member organisations to enable a better dynamic

Increasing bilateral meetings between members



# A COMMUNITY OF TOPICS

AT THE HEART OF ESN'S WORK ARE THE SAME SUBJECTS WHICH THE NETWORK HAS MOBILISED AROUND SINCE ITS BEGINNING:

- OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH OF EDUCATION PROFESSIONALS AND HEALTH EDUCATION
- SOCIAL SECURITY



## SUPPORTING THE ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH EFFORTS OF MEMBER ORGANISATIONS AND PARTNERS

Implementation of an international survey on occupational health

Mobilisation of ESN's networks around partners' campaigns, such as the UHC and ILO partnership

## PROVIDE AN INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE WITH THE MOBILISATION OF EXPERTS AND MEMBERS

Participation in events (seminars, conferences, etc.)

Regular implementation of joint interviews creating a dialogue between the leaders of the social economy and trade unions

## STRENGTHENING ITS PARTNERSHIPS WITH RESEARCH NETWORKS AND CENTRES

Creation of new partnerships enabling the development of the research-action approach



# A COMMUNITY OF INITIATIVES

ESN'S MAIN ROLE AS OF NOW IS TO FOCUS ON LINKING, FACILITATION AND THE PROVISIONS OF SKILLS AND EXPERIENCES.



## MAKING AVAILABLE TO ITS MEMBERS CROSS-SUPPORTING TOOLS AND THREE TYPES OF EXPERT NETWORKS

Offshoots of collective intelligence methods and tools in ESN's events (open forum, worldcafé, photolanguage, participative evaluation, etc.)

Research action methodology and experience in partnership with research networks and centres

Methods of youth mobilisation



## BRING TOGETHER MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL PARTNERS TO INITIATE A PROJECT

Launching a cooperative project or other projects on social security

Health education initiatives and tools

Community mobilisation initiatives and tools

## SUPPORTING MEMBERS IN LOOKING FOR FUNDING



The Education and Solidarity Network was created in 2009 by MGEN (the France leading healthcare mutual society in the public sector for education, research and culture), Education International and the International Association of Mutual Benefit Societies (AIM) with the support of the International Labour Office (ILO). The Network aims to build bridges between education actors and health and social protection actors, in order to work for the well-being of the education community worldwide.

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