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Policy strategies and recommendations for the establishment of Second Chance Schools in Europe

Strategy for the promotion of Mobility, Training and Research Centres





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**STRENGTHENING
SECOND CHANCE
NETWORKS IN EUROPE**

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Contents

1. Introduction	5
1.1. <i>WP5 Purpose and aims</i>	5
1.2. <i>Partners' roles in the WP</i>	6
1.3. <i>WP's Indicators</i>	5
2. Objectives of the SCS CENTRES	5
3. Organisations and professionals integrating the SCS CENTRES	7
4. Identification of the roles and responsibilities of the organisations and professionals	7
5. Definition of the activities to be held by the SCS CENTRE	7
5.1. <i>Setting up</i>	5
5.2. <i>Step by step</i>	6
6. Planning of the meetings to be held by the SCS CENTRES, identifying the moments, topics, participants and expected results	
6.1. <i>Portugal</i>	5
6.2. <i>Bulgaria</i>	6
6.3. <i>Croatia</i>	5
7. Drafting the strategy for the sustainability of the SCS CENTRES at national level	
8. Identifying the plan for the exploitation of the SCS CENTRES	7
9. Writing recommendations for the creation of the European Centre for Mobility, Training and Research to be linked to the European Network	7

1. INTRODUCTION

This Strategy is part of S2CENE project WP5 deliverables and aims the promotion of the SCS Centre for Mobility, Training and Research, as a main policy strategy for the establishment of Second Chance Schools in Europe.

It includes information about:

- Objectives of these structures
- Organisations and professionals integrating these structures
- Identification of the roles and responsibilities of the organisations and professionals
- Definition of the activities to be held by these structures
- Planning of the meetings to be held by these structures, identifying the moments, topics, participants and expected results
- Drafting the strategy for the sustainability of these structures at national level
- Identifying the plan for the exploitation of these structures
- Writing recommendations for the creation of the European Centre for Mobility, Training and Research to be linked to the European Network

This document follows on from the previous work already developed in this Work Package, as well as in the other S2CENE Work Packages. The next topics are dedicated to describing this context.

1.1. WP5 Purpose and aims

WP5 comprises a range of activities to support the consortium in structuring and validating local and policy strategies and recommendations for the establishment of Second Chance Schools in Europe. These strategies and recommendations will be prepared with the inputs of policy makers, experts and professionals and will also be based on the partners experience shared during S2CENE project. WP5 will be particularly focused on the establishment of the **SCS Centres for Mobility, Training and Research** at National and European level.

In detail, this WP has as objectives:

- To strengthen the local/regional partnerships and cooperation between territorial entities working in adult education & training, health, justice & protection and research;
- To contribute to a new paradigm of local/regional intervention, foreseeing the full development, guidance and support to young adults, promoting their qualification, development and inclusion at different levels;
- To define the conditions for the promotion and interaction between the Second Chance Schools for Mobility, Training and Research, essential to guarantee the innovation of the local/regional networks and to promote impact at European level;
- To propose an updated “White Paper on Second Chance Schools”, based on the experience and perspective of S2CENE partners, involving policy makers in the process of discussion and validation of the main results.

1.2. Partners' roles in the WP

AE2O (PT) and INOVA+ (PT) are the leaders of this WP, being responsible for:

- defining the guidelines and templates to support the partners in the preparation, implementation and report of the activities related to this work package;
- defining the strategy for the promotion of the SCS Centre for Mobility, Training and Research, based on inputs from partners (D5.3);
- developing the SCS recommendations, based in inputs provided by partners (D5.4).

All the partners will:

- Identify 60 organisations acting at local, regional and national and other actors working in adult education & training, health, justice & protection and research (D5.1) (15 per country);
- Contribute to the development of the table of education and training responsibilities and procedures of the local social networks (D5.2);
- Contribute to the definition and draft the strategy for the promotion of the SCS Centre for Mobility, Training and Research (D5.3);
- Translate the D5.3 – Strategy for the promotion of the SCS Centre for Mobility, Training and Research;
- Prepare, implement and report 15 meetings of the Centres for Mobility, Training and Research, involving 150 participants (50 per country and/or 10 per event, not including France);
- Prepare, implement and report 3 events with policymakers to introduce, debate and validate deliverables, involving 45 participants (15 per country and/or 5 per event, not including France);
- Provide inputs for the development of the SCS recommendations (D5.4);
- Translate of the D5.4 – SCS recommendations.

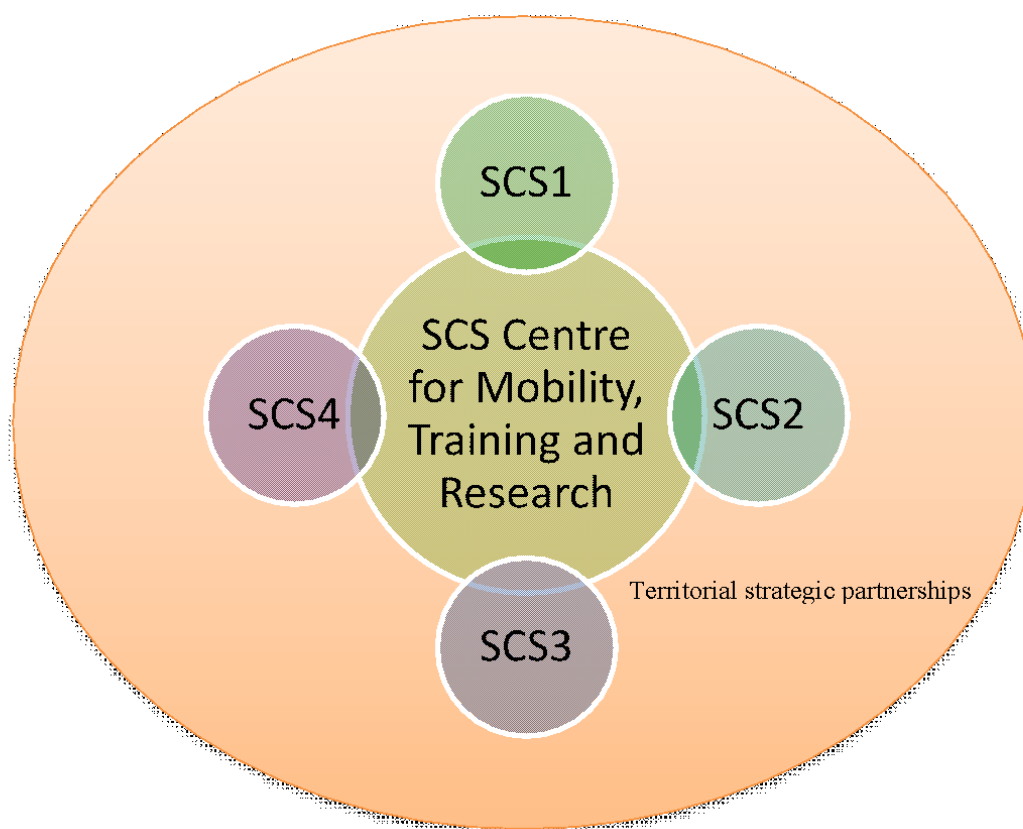
1.3. WP's Indicators

The main indicators of WP5 are the following ones:

- 60 organisations identified at local, national and/or national levels (15 per partner country);
- Establishment of 3 SCS Centres for Mobility, Training and Research (1 per partner country)
- 15 national meetings of the Centres for Mobility, Training and Research (5 per partner country), involving 150 professionals (10 per meeting);
- 3 events with policymakers to introduce, debate and validate the Second Chance Schools accreditation model (1 per partner country), involving, 15 participants (5 per partner country);

- 3 events with policymakers to debate and draft conclusions about the Social impact of SCS (1 per partner country), involving, 15 participants (5 per partner country);
- 3 events with policymakers to present, debate and validate the profile and capacity building programme for SCS professionals (1 per partner country), involving, 15 participants (5 per partner country);
- 3 national conferences for the presentation and validation of the white paper (1 per partner country), involving 90 participants (30 per partner country).

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE SCS CENTRES



The main objective of these structures is to establish local/regional social networks, gathering the organisations identified as partners and potential partners working in adult education & training, health, justice & protection and research, that will support and feed the work and offers to be made by the Second Chance Schools at local/regional level.

The role of these SCS Centres for Mobility, Training and Research will be to:

- Support cooperation and the development of joint actions between SCS in Europe.

- Support SCS in the investigation of topics relevant to their intervention, innovation and sustainability;
- Assure the development of proposals and funding for the mobility of young adults and professionals between SCS from different European countries;
- Provide opportunities for capacity building of professionals of SCS, essential for their professional development and recognition;
- The exchange of practices and experiences between SCS and related Centres for Mobility, Training and Research.

3. ORGANISATIONS AND PROFESSIONALS INTEGRATING THE SCS CENTRES

The database of territorial entities that has been developed within the WP, provides relevant information about the local/regional organisations with whom Second Chance Schools can establish partnership, including:

- Identification of the organization
- Local/region/country
- Typology of the organisation
- Main services and support provided by the organisation
- Direct target group of the services/support provided
- Examples of practices, activities and/or intervention
- Main contacts (e.g. website, e-mail, phone number)
- Added value to S2CENE project
- How it can be involved in the S2CENE project

This database was meanwhile converted in a georeferenced mapping comprised of more than 100 organisations and is available in the project's website.

4. IDENTIFICATION OF THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ORGANISATIONS AND PROFESSIONALS

Based on the strategy here presented, and building on the mapping previously created, a cross table will be generated, containing the following information:

- Identification of the organisations selected by the partnership in T5.1;
- Brief presentation of the organisations in terms of field of intervention, services/support and main target groups;
- Definition of their role & responsibility in the framework of S2CENE project;

- Characterization of the expectations related to this organisation in the context of the project.

Partners can decide to include any additional information that can be useful for the definition of D4.3.

This table will be an internal document, to support partners in the next steps and thus, will be only available in English.

5. DEFINITION OF THE ACTIVITIES TO BE HELD BY THE SCS CENTRES

One of the main goals of S2CENE project is the creation of Mobility, Training and Research Centers connected with SCS or groups of SCS, at local/regional/national level, that will cooperate with other SCS Centres located in other countries and ultimately, contribute to the creation of an European Centre for Mobility, Training and Research to be connected to the European network of SCS (P4).

5.1. Setting up

Based on this strategy, S2CENE partners will:

- Invite local/regional organisations to integrate the SCS Centres for Mobility, Training and Research;
- Mobilize these organisations to participate and contribute to the meetings to be promoted by the consortium in Portugal, Bulgaria and Croatia in key-moments of the project;
- Monitor and support the meetings to be implemented, assuring the registration of the main results and contributions, that can be useful to the project.

5.2. Step by step

In detail, the partnership will implement

- 15 national meetings of the Centres for Mobility, Training and Research (5 per partner country), involving 150 professionals.
- 9 policy events (3 per partner country), involving a total of 45 policy makers and aligned with the launch/publication of the most relevant S2CENE products.
- 3 national conferences (1 per partner country), for the presentation and validation of the “SCS updated white paper” (1 per partner country), involving 90 participants.

The results of these meetings will be incorporated in the D4.3 - Strategy for the promotion of the SCS Centre for Mobility, Training and Research, a document that will be continuously updated during the project implementation.

Besides being available in English, this deliverable will be also available in Portuguese, Bulgarian and Croatian and free for download in the project’s website.

6. PLANNING OF THE MEETINGS TO BE HELD BY THE SCS CENTRES, IDENTIFYING THE MOMENTS, TOPICS, PARTICIPANTS AND EXPECTED RESULTS

Aiming political, social and educational impacts, not only in the partnership countries, but also at European level, S2CENE project will develop a set of events addressing policy makers, institutions and professionals seeking to contribute to:

- Strengthening of the existing and establishment of new Second Chance Schools in European countries;
- Establishment of new national or regional networks of Second Chance Schools for young adults education;
- Social and economic recognition of the Second Chance Schools and related networks as an effective approach for adults education.

The events will be promoted in the project partner countries, Portugal, Bulgaria and Croatia, aligned with the launch/publication of the most relevant S2CENE deliverables.

The events previewed are as follows:

- 15 national meetings of the Centres for Mobility, Training and Research (5 per partner country), involving 150 professionals (10 per meeting). It will be a sequence of meetings that will accompany the mapping of organizations interested in participating in the construction of the SCS Centres in each partner country, in order to confirm their interest and availability and assign specific responsibilities in the various actions of the Centres.
- 3 events with policymakers to introduce, debate and validate the Framework (State of the Art) for Second Chance Schools, the Toolkit and the Second Chance Schools accreditation model (1 per partner country), involving, 15 participants (5 per partner country);
- 3 events with policymakers to debate and draft conclusions about the Social impact of SCS (1 per partner country), involving, 15 participants (5 per partner country);
- 3 events with policymakers to present, debate and validate the profile and capacity building programme for SCS professionals (1 per partner country), involving, 15 participants (5 per partner country).
- 3 national conferences for the presentation and validation of the “SCS updated white paper” (1 per partner country), involving 90 participants (30 per partner country).

The development of the previous events will consider each partner country reality, and the vision for this local implementation, as described below:

Portugal

In Portugal, the first of the 3 planned events with policymakers is already scheduled and will coincide with the IV National Meeting of the SCS Portuguese network, E2O Portugal, that will take place on 29.04.2022. This meeting will bring together a group of policy makers, representatives of central, regional and local state structures, as well as other stakeholders active in the field of policy measures (researchers, social movements and institutions, social partners). The structure of the meetings will generally present S2CENE project and the project results available at the moment, present the idea of the Mobility, Research and Training (MRT) Center, collect feedback, interests and contributions and plan the next steps.

On the next dates, around October 22 and March 23, planned initiatives will be used or dedicated initiatives will be organized. These policy events are intended to be important contributions to the visibility and mobilization around the creation and development of the Portuguese MRT Centre.

The Portuguese MRT Center will be built in a sequence of meetings with the organizations mapped, in order to confirm their interest and assign responsibilities for the Centre's actions. 5 meetings of potential partners of the Portuguese Center will be organized, until the end of the project's duration, with a total of at least 50 participants. The agenda of these meetings will include the dissemination of European and national policy on second chance education, namely second chance schools, identification of needs and interests, attribution of responsibilities and joint planning of the Centre's actions. Close to the project final date, a National Conference will be organized (which may coincide with a planned event), to which all organizations involved in the development of the Portuguese Center will be invited and where the creation of the Portuguese MTR Center will be formally announced.

Bulgaria

In Bulgaria, the plan to implement the approach foreseen in this strategy will mobilize the active network of NBU, creating the opportunity to explore the potential of Second Chance Education in Bulgaria starting from the academic and policy making sector. All the work within S2CENE diverse Work Packages will feed this process.

Croatia

The idea of creating the EU Center for Mobility and Research is mainly aimed at increasing and strengthening the professional updating sector for teachers and educators in the national and international education system.

There is still one aspect to contemplate. Starting from 1 st April 2022, the Government of the Republic of Croatia, through the Hrvatski zavod za zapošljavanje (Croatian Employee System)

is implementing a campaign to strengthen the work skills of citizens named Education Voucher Project – co-financing of education programs for the acquisition of green and digital knowledge and skills mainly oriented to the development of the necessary skills for career development, employment or job retention.

Since the idea of the institution is to implement the second chance school model in the national training system in favour of the adult segment with particular reference to the age group from 15 to 30 years, the Network would expand the educational offer and at the same time it would offer the possibility of updating and professional improvement for the staff of the institution.

Therefore, the EU Center would strengthen the already existing structure of training and professional updates at national and international level of the institution. The strengthening would be mainly oriented towards the identification of a development and training program aimed at respecting professional needs that respect the particularities and specificities of professional development of citizens in the different regions of the Republic of Croatia that are territorially and economically quite different from each other.

Through the EU Center for Mobility and Research, the Adult Education Institution Dante will work at two levels of professional updating and training: towards the outside, through the offer of professional updating courses for external users of all level of education and towards the internal, as participating in the training program of the other partners will affect the professional development of the teaching and management staff of the institution.

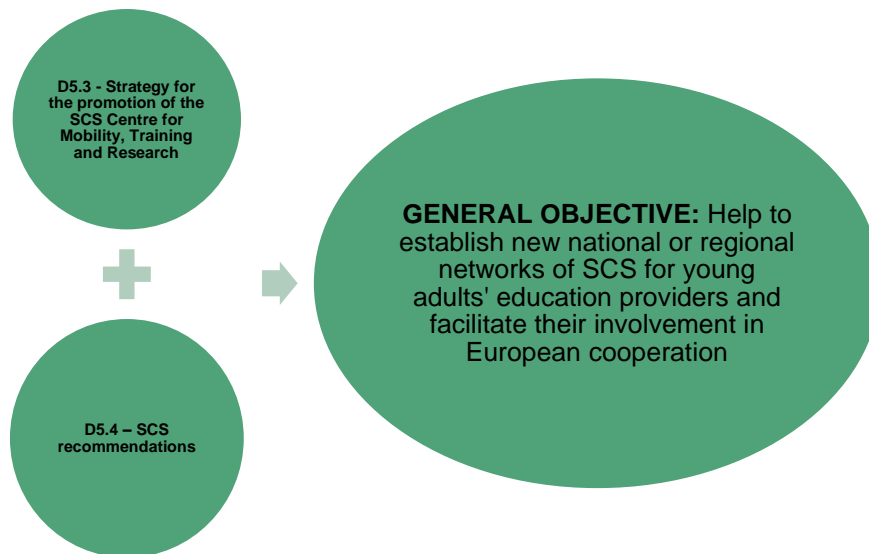
7. DRAFTING THE STRATEGY FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE SCS CENTRES AT NATIONAL LEVEL

S2CENE project aims at creating the optimal setting for the establishment, strengthening and/or maintenance of national networks of Second Chance Schools (SCS), improving their cooperation at local, regional, national and European levels.

Territorial strategic partnerships will be established between the Second Chance Schools and local/regional organisations acting in the fields of education & training, innovation & research, health & well-being, justice & protection, youth & sport and social, cultural and professional inclusion.

To accomplish this, the consortium will start by exploring the partnership resources and other schools integrating the European network of SCS. The exchange of experiences, expertise and perspective will be also stimulated allowing partners to deepen their knowledge related to existing policies, models, practices, learning methods related to SCS in Europe and also to related networks.

The promotion of the SCS Centres for Mobility, Training and Research is a crucial element for the overall objective of the project, contributing inherently to its sustainability.



Exploitation is crucial for the sustainability of the project's results and to guarantee that the deliverables will remain and will be used, by partners and other target groups, after the end of the project.

The promotion of strategic events within the scope of the implementation of these SCS Centers, enhance the results of other organizations outside the partnership as well as the transfer of project results to the contexts of other organizations. A good example of this dynamic will be the meetings of the SCS Mobility Training and Research Centres, which will seek to support local Second Chance Schools in identifying cooperation opportunities, in researching and sharing practices and in defining sustainable plans for the future. Additionally, events with policymakers will create the opportunity to foster a sense of common belonging among the partners involved, which will contribute to the support of these Centres beyond the scope of the project.

The partners will act as the first multipliers of the project results, incorporating them into their practices, both internally and externally, offering training and other services to a wider audience. Furthermore, everyone will be committed to maintaining communication and dissemination efforts after the end of the project in their regions, sharing the results and lessons learned, but also the (long-term) impacts that will be possible to measure in the meantime. Other multipliers will include stakeholders and end users involved in project implementation, such as adult education providers/professionals, policymakers at local, regional, national and/or European levels, social, cultural and professional inclusion experts and practitioners. and second chance schools and/or networks of adult education providers, as they will act as first testers, first users and thus will be in a position to replicate the benefits.

8. IDENTIFYING THE PLAN FOR THE EXPLOITATION OF THE SCS CENTRES

The design of S2CENE project includes a WP dedicated to Communication, Dissemination, Sustainability and Exploitation of activities and results, covering the entire period of the project (WP6).

The general approach assumes that the consortium countries will be reached first, but also other European countries later, with a view to generating a constant flow of communication with the project's target groups and multipliers and the main political stakeholders, configuring the project's activities as direct interaction and involvement of target groups (associated not only with the research, resource design and validation phase, but also with implementation events) with the project's transferable results. This effort will support partners to raise general awareness of the project and its activities, engage and gain support from target groups for different activities, and ensure replication and sustainability of project results for target groups and policymakers.

A set of existing tools, templates and promotional materials (as well as channels) will enable the partnership to:

- Use a common visual identity of the project, increasing the recognition of the project by its target groups and associated partners;
- Increase the impact of the communication and activities to be performed in the framework of the project;
- Guarantee the coherence on the external communication, even in the different countries of the partnership.

This Communication and Dissemination Plan addresses the following aspects, which also refers to these Centres:

- Gathering target-groups and stakeholders interest: a set of initial actions will aim at raising awareness to the project mission and vision, the promising results to be achieved and to the planned activities, making clear how target-groups and stakeholders can benefit from the process and from the results, and how they can be co-creators and active in the process of development of the resources. To do so, partners will use their network of contacts and expand it to other relevant stakeholders' contacts, and address them releasing information and materials, such as the brochure, the newsletter, and so on.
- Engaging the target groups and stakeholders in the activities: Over time and continuously, partners will keep the target-groups and stakeholders informed about the progress of the project, availability of results, events to be launched and upcoming activities, giving them insights of what is happening, involving them in the activities and collecting feedback to be incorporated into the development process. At this stage, the different communication materials will also be used, as well as the different channels (website, social media, etc), namely the brochure, other editions of the newsletter, press releases. Special focus will be put on the promotion of activities such as the workshop of staff, joint staff learning event, national and European actions, the capacity building validation actions, national meetings of the Centres for Mobility, Training and Research, and policy events at national level.
- Scale up towards the sustainability of the results: At the final stage of the process, the objective will be related to use and exploitation of the project results, as well as to the contributions to develop policy lessons and recommendations.

In conclusion, the plan for the exploitation of these Centres include:

- 1) Assuring the communication with adult education providers & professionals and policy makers throughout meetings, sessions, events.

- 2) Promoting regular dissemination of project's activities, achievements, results and products (e.g. mailing, press-releases, newsletters, news at the websites, presentations).
- 3) Assuring the match between the needs and expectations of the organisations and professionals of the partnership with the results and products of the project, assuring its incorporation in these organisations (sustainability)
- 4) Involving other organizations and professionals in the process of collecting information, development of activities/products and validation of outcomes, strengthening the exploitation of the practices and products of the organisations outside the partnership

9. WRITING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE CREATION OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR MOBILITY, TRAINING AND RESEARCH TO BE LINKED TO THE EUROPEAN NETWORK

This deliverable will result from the events to be implemented with policy makers and aims at providing guidelines and recommendations for the implementation of S2CENE approach for:

- Strengthening of the existing and establishment of new Second Chance Schools in European countries;
- Establishment of new national or regional networks of Second Chance Schools for young adults education;
- Social and economic recognition of the Second Chance Schools and related networks as an effective approach for young adults education.

Addressed to policy makers, experts & professionals from the SCS, from the field of education & research, adult education and social & professional inclusion from different European countries and European networks of SCS and adult education, this document will be organised as follows:

- Introduction to the S2CENE approach
- Presentation of the Framework and Toolkit for Second Chance Schools (D1.2 and D13)
- Capacity building of organisations and professionals for the use of the Second Chance Schools accreditation model (D2.2)
- Capacity building of SCS professionals (D4.2, D4.2 and D4.3)
- Promotion and maintenance of the SCS Centre for Mobility, Training and Research (D5.3)

Other topics can be added to this deliverable, which conception is of the responsibility of the co-leaders of the WP.

The deliverable intends to update the EU policy on second chance schools measure, and will be designed during the national events, being a working document that will be fed by the consortium, according to the inputs and feedback provided by policy makers, institutions and professionals. With this deliverable, partners expect to contribute to update the EU policy

paper “White Paper on Education and Training”, published in 1995, in what concerns second chance education and schools.

The “Second Chance Schools and Education Updated White Paper” will be available in English, Portuguese, Bulgarian and Croatian and will be presented to the project’s direct target groups at the 3 national conferences to be held in Portugal, Bulgaria and Croatia.



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