

Who are we?

We are a community of non-university researchers, practitioners and experts working for an innovative, sustainable and social Europe.

Since 2009, we have been supporting local authorities, non-profit organisations and companies in their development process with our research and consultancy work, thus contributing to the shaping of a European knowledge society. As initiator, supervisor, project partner, author and speaker, we work to make knowledge more accessible to all people in Europe.

What do we do?

We give impulses, encourage and support projects in Europe in the field of (high) school, vocational education and community development. With our projects, we are committed to the digital transformation, promote diversity in society and advocate for democracy building and sustainable development.

We see our task as supporting our partners in the development, scientific monitoring and formative-summative evaluation of innovation and research projects. In doing so, we take an action-research approach.

What do we stand for?

We work in a forward-looking, dialogical and process-oriented way. We are convinced that there is a flow of development in every human system, which we want to detect and support. Our partners see us as a reflective, tested and goal-oriented companion and a "critical friend".

We have already been able to contribute our expertise in the development and implementation of several multi-year national and international research and development projects. SoWiBeFo is a member of the Arbeitsgemeinschaft Berufsbildungsforschungsnetz (AGBFN) and signatory of the "Charta der Vielfalt".

How do we work?

Our research interest lies in social problems and interventions in practice, in which we actively involve the people concerned and we ourselves become part of the change. Gestalt-oriented action research enables us to clarify and solve problems and questions together with those affected. We do not research about, but with the "researched" and accompany their development process. We remain in dialogue and live an equal cooperation partnership in which everyday actions and research go hand in hand.

We adopt an agile approach to project implementation. Based on a common project vision, we alternate between planning, action and observation as well as reflection. We use classic research methods such as surveys, qualitative social research and participant observation to collect and evaluate data and experiences.

You can find us here:

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