

## Who are we?

We are an interdisciplinary and transnational team of journalists, social scientists, humanists and economists. Our topic is innovation and education. Since 1990, we have been passionate about improving education and training systems, creating better opportunities for people from all social and local backgrounds, and using innovative technologies and entrepreneurship to tackle social challenges. We have the privilege of working with more than 200 partners in almost every country in Europe.

## What do we do?

We develop, accompany and evaluate innovative and effective projects. We support practitioners to analyse problems in their everyday practice, to plan and implement interventions effectively and to evaluate the experiences in such a way that they can be used by all interested parties. To this end, we make use of national and European research funding, such as the Federal Ministry of Education and Research or the European Commission. With our experience from more than 50 funded projects, we help to formulate project proposals in a way that is eligible for funding, to implement them effectively, to communicate them in a way that is appropriate for the target group and to provide evidence-based proof of their effectiveness.

## What do we stand for?

Our home is Europe. Our partners see us as an innovative, practical and reliable support. We are united by the joy of learning together and from each other. Together we work for a Europe that creates sustainable prosperity and peaceful coexistence, where everyone can fully develop their own talents.

We offer many years of expertise in action research-oriented labour research as well as in consulting and accompanying individual, organisational and regional change processes. ISOB is a member of the German Evaluation Society (DeGEval) and the Vocational Training Research Network (AGBFN). In addition, our staff are involved in the Verein für sozialwissenschaftliche Beratung und Forschung e. V. (SoWiBeFo).

## How do we work?

We stand in the tradition of action research. We support the improvement of social practice with scientific means such as qualitative and quantitative data analysis, literature analysis, formative-responsive evaluation, model building and evidence-based communication of pilot projects. In our projects, the knowledge of experienced practitioners meets scientific theorising and its application. We do not research about practice, but in and with it. This is how effective innovation emerges. In our projects we act as a "critical friend". We encourage our partners to adopt new perspectives and support them in tackling new issues.



## What are our fields of competence?

Our fields of expertise lie in corporate and university education as well as in organisational and regional development, especially with regard to digital transformation, entrepreneurship and the shaping of a social and inclusive migration society. The idea of sustainability guides our actions in all of these fields.



**Education:** ISOB advocates for free, comprehensive, not exclusively purpose-oriented education as the orienting framework for practice-oriented vocational training as well as life-oriented adult education (e.g. MHELM, TourisME Comp, Young Leaders).



**Regional funding:** ISOB accompanies transformation projects in structurally weak areas in Europe. One focus of ISOB's work is the further development of the Eastern Bavarian region, especially in the area of lifelong learning (e.g. LernReg, WuP, Comp Serv) and the networking of regional actors (e.g. FairPlus, KIT).



**Digitisation:** ISOB supports the development of innovative technologies (e.g. HealthComm Simulator) as well as the technologisation of operations (e.g. Digital Script). Furthermore, ISOB promotes the training of basic digital skills and learning with digital media (e.g. TourEng, DigiVET).



**Entrepreneurship:** ISOB promotes an entrepreneurial mindset with a common good perspective to support the potential development of high performing individuals (ARTISAN).



**Organisational development:** ISOB advises and accompanies organisations and companies in social transformation processes and offers a space for practice and reflection (e.g. Webinar Expert, Apprenticeship, NiceDesign4KMU, HOTSME).



**Diversity:** ISOB is committed to diversity and equal opportunities in Europe. With our projects, we help disadvantaged groups, especially people with a migration background and refugee experience (e.g. CiSoTRA, RoMigSc) as well as individuals with physical and psychological impairments (e.g. LaboTrans). Gender equality is also an important issue for us (e.g. InspireUs!, CCNET).



**Sustainability:** ISOB is committed to the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. With our projects, we contribute to a sustainable, mindful and democratic society that is economically efficient and socially responsible (e.g. SocialSME, CoSoRe).

### You can find us here:

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