



Annual Report 2023

Belgrade, April 2024

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Acronyms

AED – Adult Education and Development
AHAED - Arab House for Adult Education and Development
ALE - Adult Learning and Education
ASEM – Asia-Europe Meeting
ASPBAE - Asia South Pacific Association for Basic and Adult Education
BFA – Belém Framework for Action
CEAAL - Latin American Council for Popular Education
CLADE - Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education
CONFINTEA - International Conferences on Adult Education
CREFAL - Centre for Regional Cooperation for Adult Education in Latin America and the Caribbean
CSF – Civil Society Forum
CSO – Civil Society Organisation
DEAR – Development Education and Awareness Raising
DIE - German Institute for Adult Education
DVV – German Adult Education Association
DVV International- German Adult Education Association
EAEA - European Association for the Education of Adults
EASG – Education and Academia Stakeholder Group
EC – Executive Committee
ECOSOC - United Nations Economic and Social Council
EPATV - Escola Profissional Amar Terra Verde
ESREA – European Society for Research on the Education of Adults
ESU – European Students Union
EU – European Union
EUCEN - European University Continuing Education Network
GAL – Global Alliance for Literacy
GCE – Global Campaign for Education
GEC – Global Education Coalition
GNP – Gross National Product
GRALE – Global Report on Adult Learning and Education
HLPF – High Level Political Forum
IALLA - International Academy of Lifelong Learning Advocacy
ICAE - International Council for Adult Education
ICÉA - Institut de coopération pour l'éducation des adultes
JACAE - Jamaican Council for Adult Education
MFA - Marrakech Framework for Action
NGO – Non-Governmental Organization
ODA - Official Development Assistance
OEI - Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture
OSF – Open Society Foundation
PIMA – Promoting, Interrogating and Mobilizing for Adult Learning and Education
SDG – Sustainable Development Goal
SVEB - Swiss Federation for Adult Learning
TES – Transforming Education Summit
UIL - UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning
UN – United Nations
UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
UNEP – United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VHS - Volkshochschule
VNR – Voluntary National Review
WHO - World Health Organization
WSF – World Social Forum

Editorial by Robbie Guevara, ICAE President

WE are ICAE.

2023 has been a year of many celebrations. WE turned 50 years old as a global advocacy civil society network committed to transformative adult learning and education. WE were inducted into the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame (Organization Category). WE witnessed the re-birth of CONVERGENCE, the International Adult Education Journal, after almost 12 years.

2023 has been a year of sustained advocacy. WE continued to be visible and influential in key global and regional education platforms. WE were at key global post-CONFINTEA VII events advocating for the Marrakesh Framework for Action (MFA), like the Inclusive Lifelong Learning Conference in Bali in June, the High Level Political Forum on the SDGs in July and the SDG Action Weekend in September. WE were in key regional events, in Europe, Latin America, Asia and the Arab States, through our regional members.

2023 has also been a year of recommitting to advancing the right to education, as key to achieving quality education and Lifelong Learning for all. WE convened the General Assembly, elected a new set of officers, and approved a new Strategic Plan.

WE could not have achieved all of these without each and everyone of our members and long-standing partners, who themselves are committed to advancing adult learning and education as a right for all.

WE offer this ICAE Report 2023 as a documentation of events, achievements and significant milestones.

WE offer this ICAE Report 2023 as our way of recognising and expressing our appreciation to the many individuals, organisations and partners who have contributed to these events, achievements and significant milestones.

WE offer this ICAE Report 2023 as our way of demonstrating, that WE, each and every one of us reading, sharing, and celebrating 2023, are ICAE.

Jose Roberto Guevara,
President ICAE

1 Global Advocacy

1.1 CONFINTEA VII and the MFA

Global advocacy has remained a cornerstone of our priorities at the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE), reflecting our steadfast commitment to advancing adult learning and education (ALE) on a global scale. Throughout the past year, we have seized every opportunity to advocate for the importance of ALE and to promote its transformative impact on individuals and communities worldwide. Integral to this endeavor has been the active engagement of all members of the Executive Committee, who have leveraged various platforms and occasions to promote our cause.

ICAE President Robbie Guevara participated in the **Inclusive Lifelong Learning Conference that was held from 3 - 6 July 2023, in Bali, Indonesia**. Organized by the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL) and the Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs, Republic of Indonesia, the main objective of the conference was to promote the right to education throughout life and discuss strategies and actions to make lifelong learning more inclusive in ASEAN and other countries. And more specifically, to translate the recommendations of the Marrakech Framework for Action (MFA), adopted at the Seventh International Conference on Adult Education (CONFINTEA VII), into policy measures, strategies and programmes.

Robbie spoke in two plenary sessions where he advocated for the key commitments made in the Marrakech Framework for Action (MFA) to recognise and resource adult learning as essential if we are to achieve lifelong learning opportunities for all. He also spoke at a parallel session on learning innovations for older learners.

The Conference adopted the Bali Manifesto, embracing inclusion: a roadmap to lifelong learning for all. It called for the implementation of comprehensive lifelong learning policies, and the creation of inclusive learning spaces, curricula, learning pathways and learning materials. The Manifesto emphasized the importance of increased public investment in lifelong learning and the promotion of inclusive lifelong learning ecosystems that effectively cater to the needs of all learners, especially vulnerable and marginalized individuals and communities.

In 2023 ICAE took part actively in the **CONFINTEA VII Follow-up meetings**, such as the one organised for the European Region by UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL). Cecilia Palm, ICAE Executive Member, was moderating a session on "Implementing the MFA: regional and national perspectives." This session provided valuable insights into the implementation of the MFA (Marrakech Framework for Action) with a focus on both regional and national perspectives.



A further series of events were undertaken in 2023 to continue discussions on **ALE in Latin America**. These activities encompassed various themes, such as achievements, pending issues, and new priorities, with the participation of organizations like CLADE and ICAE in the VI Andean Meeting on **ALE** held on 28 March 2023. The region also organized discussions on public policies in ALE, including a case study from Chile on 26 April 2023, and shared inspiring experiences of inclusive public policies on 15 June 2023, featuring cases from Argentina, Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, and Chile. Furthermore, there were dialogues on the Marrakech Framework of Action as public policy on 28 June 2023, and discussions on women's right to education in a critical analysis on 27 July 2023. The culmination of these efforts resulted in the declaration of a Platform of Regional Networks for ALE on International Literacy Day, 8 September 2023. Additionally, CEAAL published a book on "Educational Justice for Young People and Adults: Challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean," addressing contemporary crises and the priorities outlined in the Marrakech Framework of Action.

Further activities and meetings

- SDGs and Marrakesh Framework for Action - what are the priorities for Egypt? UNESCO office in Cairo, 9 May 2023.
- Regional meeting CONFINTEA VII follow up for Central Asia, 16 May 2023
- International seminar on the role of academia in promoting adult education and LLL after the MFA, Morocco, 12 September 2023.
- The Second Arab Forum for Lifelong Learning and CONFINTEA VII Follow-up in Morocco, organised by the Moroccan Forum for LLL (member of ICAE) and the University of Rabat, 16 November 2023



1.2 HLPF on the UN Sustainable Development Goals

The High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) stands as the preeminent platform for monitoring the progress of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), serving as a crucial arena for global dialogue, collaboration, and accountability. At the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE), we recognize the paramount importance of the HLPF in driving collective action towards sustainable development. Continuously and unwaveringly, we have actively engaged in the HLPF process, alongside our partners from other Major Groups

and Other Stakeholders, especially with our co-chairs in EASG (Education and Academia Stakeholder Group) steadfast in our commitment to advancing adult learning and education (ALE) as integral components of sustainable development efforts.



Throughout our participation in the HLPF, we have advocated tirelessly for the recognition of ALE as a catalyst for achieving the SDGs, emphasizing its transformative potential in empowering individuals, fostering inclusive societies, and driving progress across all dimensions of sustainable development. Our collaborative efforts with fellow CSOs have been instrumental in amplifying our collective voice, advocating for policy coherence, and holding governments and stakeholders accountable for their commitments to the SDGs.

ICAE, as co-chair of the EASG, played a significant role during the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) 2023. ICAE was actively engaged in the formal HLPF program, contributing its voice and expertise to the Multistakeholder Group of Organizations (MGoS) and participating in strategic discussions and planning sessions as well as chairing session. One of the highlights of ICAE's involvement was the EASG Side Event, where ICAE took a leadership role. This event went beyond conventional rhetoric, challenging assumptions and exploring the complexities of transformative education in the context of achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4, Quality Education. Furthermore, ICAE actively participated in the Side Event, "Education for Sustainable and Green Societies," underscoring the crucial role of education in fostering positive change and supporting the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in areas such as clean energy, sustainable communities, green jobs, and women's empowerment.



1.3 SDG Action Weekend

ICAE President Robbie Guevara spoke at a Side Event during the SDG Acceleration Day, which was part the SDG Action Weekend, on 17 June 2023 at the UN Headquarters in New York. Entitled, Skilling, Reskilling, and Upskilling for a Resilient Workforce, the side event focused on sharing skilling initiatives that aimed to close the skills gaps, promote inclusivity, and enhance workforce adaptability for more resilient economies and the achievement of global sustainable development.



It was organized by the Government of Indonesia together with the Government of Lao PDR, the Government of the Philippines, the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning (UIL), the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE), and the Asia South Pacific Association For Basic And Education (ASPBAE).

The ICAE Secretariat also engaged in the Partnership Forum, a platform for multi-stakeholder partnerships and voluntary commitments, which took place during the HLPF. This forum brings together governments, civil society, private sector,

academia, and other stakeholders to discuss ways to support the implementation of the SDGs.

Moreover, the ICAE Secretariat participated in MGoS meetings with the President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to discuss the progress made in achieving the SDGs and explore ways to enhance cooperation and collaboration to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs.



1.4 International Literacy Day

The Global Conference convened by UNESCO on International Literacy Day serves as a pivotal gathering to underscore the critical role of literacy in fostering sustainable development and peace. It provides a platform for global leaders, experts, and stakeholders to exchange ideas, strategies, and best practices in advancing literacy efforts worldwide.

UNESCO invited Timothy Ireland to deliver the keynote speech at the Global Conference held in Paris to celebrate International Literacy Day on 8th September under the theme "Promoting Literacy for a world in transition: Building the foundation for sustainable and peaceful societies".

1.5 Global Alliance for Literacy

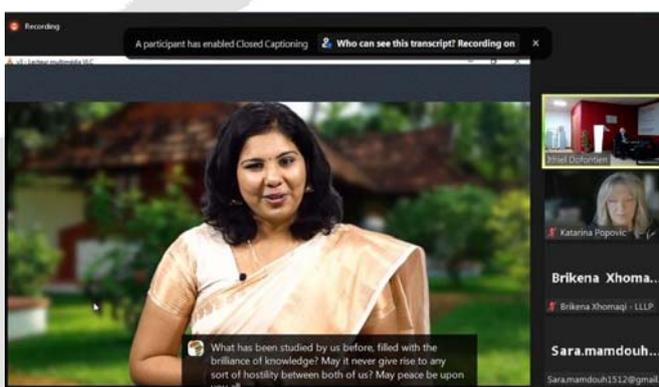
Since its launch in 2016, the Global Alliance for Literacy within the Framework of Lifelong Learning (GAL) has driven international discourse and guided the agenda for literacy provision globally for those who need it most. GAL is an alliance of 29 countries committed to improving youth and adult literacy and it serves as a platform for its members to collectively discuss progress and challenges, exchange knowledge and good practices.

ICAE took part in the online GAL Annual General Meeting 2023 'Literacy for peaceful societies', where ICAE's SG K.Popović facilitated the session 'International perspectives and support on literacy for peaceful world', aligned with 2023- year's International Literacy Day theme. GAL member countries had the opportunity to showcase their literacy policies and programmes, with a particular emphasis on those operating in crisis-affected regions. The goal was to encourage dialogue and collaboration among GAL members, recognizing the vital role that literacy plays in promoting peace and stability, social cohesion, social and economic reconstruction, and sustainable development.

1.6 Other events in which ICAE participated

The President and the Secretary General of ICAE, other members of the Executive committee of ICAE as well as representatives of regional and local members of ICAE also participated in the following events:

- 7th World Forum "Health Education for All, Today and Tomorrow", organized by the World Committee for Lifelong Learning / Comité Mondial pour les apprentissages tout au long de la vie an ICEA, UNESCO and Senghor University, 7 to 9 March 2023



- 10th Adult Education Academy International and Comparative Studies in Adult Education and Lifelong Learning, University of Wuerzburg, Germanay, ICAE online session "ICAE and adult education in the post-COVID-19 times".
- International critical education conference, Hosted by the UNESCO Chair in Global Adult Education, University of Malta, 9-12 May 2023.



- Regional Academy on ALE-Advocacy 2023, DVV International for East and Southeast Europe, with EAEA and ICAE, Sarajevo, 30 May- 3 June 2023.
- ICAE celebrated its 50th Anniversary at the conclusion of the ACE Aotearoa National Conference in Auckland, New Zealand, 15 June 2023.
- UNESCO/UII Think tank meeting: Placing citizenship education within a lifelong learning perspective: From research to action at UNESCO/UII in Hamburg/Germany 31 August 2023.
- ICAE took part at the National Conference of the Nigerian National Council for Adult Education (NNCAE) and the elections of the new NNCAE Board, at the University of Ilesa, Ilesa, Osun State, Nigeria between 9th and 13th October, 2023
- UNESCO/UII capacity-building workshop on the 'Strengthening Education Systems from a Lifelong Learning Perspective', September online; 19-25 October at the Open university in Shanghai.



2 Capacity Building

2.1 Curriculum GlobALE

The UNESCO Institute for Lifelong (UIL) in 2020 signed a memorandum of understanding with DVV International, the German Institute for Adult Education (DIE) and the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE) to further develop the existing Curriculum GlobALE as a recommended tool for the pre-service and in-service training of adult educators.

Originally developed by DVV International and DIE (German Institute for Adult Education), Curriculum GlobALE is a cross-cultural core curriculum/competence framework for the training of adult educators worldwide. A revised version of the curriculum was provided to UNESCO Member States in early 2021. It consists of five modules, describing the relevant skills needed to lead successful courses and providing guidance on their practical implementation.

The Curriculum is initially aimed at institutions and organisations in Adult Learning and Education (ALE) that wish to ensure a qualification level of their educators satisfying professional standards. As a quality-assurance reference framework, Curriculum GlobALE provides an international standard that also addresses other interested specialist audiences and education policy decision-makers beyond the level of adult education institutions.

Curriculum GlobALE supports the professionalization of adult educators. By providing cross-curricular approaches, it is a unique reference framework for the training of adult educators which can easily be contextualized to national and regional environments. By supporting adult educators around the world, Curriculum GlobALE improves not only the standard of adult learning and education programmes but also the capacities of countries to meet the SDGs.

The successful implementation of Curriculum GlobALE has extended its reach globally, with notable progress in various regions - currently implemented in East Africa (Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia), North Africa (Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria, Mauritania) and Egypt.





2.2 IALLA 2023

The International Academy of Lifelong Learning Advocacy (IALLA) is a global training program established in 2004 by ICAE, with the primary goal of identifying and supporting professionals, leaders, and activists in the field of Adult Learning and Education (ALE). IALLA aims to enhance their understanding, knowledge, and advocacy skills in ALE. It utilizes a participatory methodology and emphasizes networking and experience-sharing as effective tools for collective learning. Over the years, ten editions of IALLA have taken place in various regions, with the most recent being held in Lebanon, bringing together 16 participants from 12 countries.

The 10th IALLA training program focused on the theme of "Women and Adult Education" and employed a hybrid format, combining both online and onsite components. It featured a week-long onsite workshop in Beirut, Lebanon (26 April to 2 May 2023), along with three online introductory sessions and three follow-up sessions. The online sessions provided foundational

knowledge, including global advocacy for women's education, the history of feminism, and discussions on women's contributions in advancing women's rights.

The academy facilitated diverse discussions on gender equality, recognizing the complexities of discrimination, historical legacies of colonialism, and the influence of cultural, social, and economic factors on women's access to education. Additionally, it fostered a commitment to continued collaboration, with participants organized into small groups working on various thematic areas related to gender equality. These groups will contribute to an online seminar in 2024, ensuring sustained efforts and a lasting impact in the pursuit of gender equality in adult education worldwide.



3 Projects

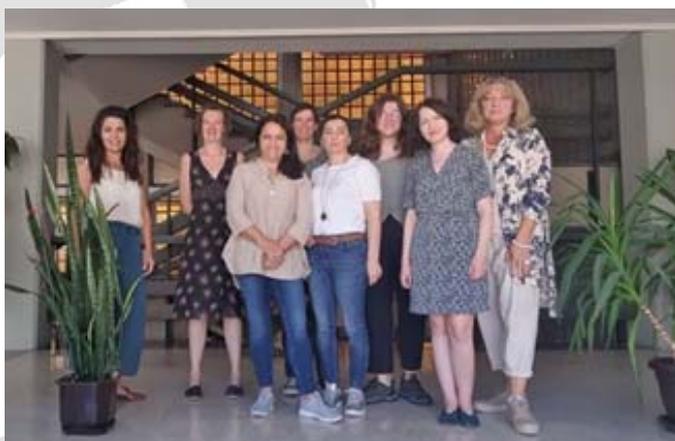
3.1 Safe spAces For lEarning (SAFE)

ICAE was a partner in the [Safe spAces For lEarning \(SAFE\) project](#). The project duration was October 2020 to March 2023. The aim of the project was to strive for social inclusion and change by improving and extending the supply of high-quality learning opportunities for adults, through the creation of a comprehensive guide for creating and maintaining safe spaces for learning, including extended research on safe space mentality in the life systems of people, meaning family, community and international identity. In 2022, ICAE organized a partner meeting in Belgrade, Serbia.



The website [Safespace.eu](#) is online, where you can find all relevant outcome documents, such as:

- A library of good practices, including ICAE's contribution
- A common report reflecting on concepts and experiences
- A Learning guide, prepared by ICAE



The project partners were: Escola Profissional Amar Terra Verde (EPATV), Portugal; DAFNI KEK, Greece; PATATRAC, Italy; Die Wiener Volkshochschulen GmbH, Austria; EAEA, Belgium; and ICAE.

3.2 Transformative Adult Learning for Green Transition (TALE)

We are proud to present to you the new edition of CONVERGENCE! It has been almost twelve years since the last issue of Convergence was published. After an approximate hiatus of 12 years, the adult education journal, Convergence, has been revitalized through a collaborative effort between the UNESCO Chair in Global Adult Education at the Faculty of Education, University of Malta, and the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE). Serving as ICAE's flagship journal since its establishment, Convergence has now been taken up by the University of Malta's Faculty of Education, which has assumed the responsibility to advance this project with the support of an international Editorial Board.

ICAE is a partner in the Tale project – Transformative Adult Learning for Green Transition with a duration of 24 months between December 2022 and November 2024. The project responds

to the urgent need to transform into a more climate-friendly and sustainable society. Tale project explores solutions to this challenge by using transformative learning approaches.

In the Tale Erasmus+ project, adult education organisations engage with learners, communities, social movements, and grassroots initiatives to provide new insights on transformative learning. The partners will run innovation groups using transformative learning approaches. The goal is to examine how we can learn from each other to further green transition in organisations and communities. In addition, the project consortium utilises peer learning, organises events, and publishes recommendations on how adult education can contribute to green transition. As a result, the Tale project will help adult learning and education organisations to find new ways to work with learners and their surrounding communities.

The project will produce knowledge, events, tools, experiences, methods and recommendations on how to use transformative learning to further green transition and help upscale the innovative practices of the grassroots initiatives.

The project consortium consists of nine partners and one associate partner:

- Finnish Lifelong Learning Foundation (Finland, coordinator)
- European Network for Community-Led Initiatives on Climate Change and Sustainability, ECOLISE (Brussels)
- European Association for the Education of Adults, EAEA (Brussels)
- International Council for Adult Education, ICAE (Serbia)
- Educators Centre Association (Hungary)
- DVV International (Germany)
- Hellenic Open University (Greece)
- VHS Wien (Austria)
- SVEB (Switzerland)
- AONTAS (Ireland, associate partner)



3.3 ALE4TT

The ALE4TT project supports ALE organizations in better communicating, advocating and developing strategies to convince third parties such as policymakers why ALE has a crucial role to play in a just transition process. It will also support them in building a wider network with diverse allies from the broader digital and green community. It's organized by the European Association for the Education of Adults, the Swiss Federation for Adult Learning and the International Council for Adult Education, and co-financed by Movetia, taking place from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2025.

Multiple global and European policy agendas recognize the challenges of the digital transition and the green transition, from Agenda 2030 to the European Green Deal. Increasingly, the green and digital transitions are no longer considered separately, but as a twin transition.

The twin transition assumes that the green and digital transitions are mutually dependent. Digital skills are essential for learning about climate change, participating in solutions or finding climate-friendly alternatives. Green and digital transitions are also connected, as large amounts of data are energy-intensive.

The main outputs of the project are:

- An international training programme on ALE and the twin transition, co-created with participants from ALE organisations
- An advocacy toolkit bringing together case studies and methods that can support ALE providers in advocating ALE in the twin transition.



3.4 JUST4ALL

Just4All is an EU-funded initiative promoting a just transition through inclusive and innovative lifelong learning and adult education. The action's overall objective is to support an inclusive recovery and digital and green transitions in Europe. More specifically, it aims to develop integrated, inclusive, and innovative adult learning and education (ALE) models that promote just transition, with a special focus on migrants, women, and low-skilled adults.



Titled "Building Social Innovation Learning Laboratories in Europe through a Just Transition for All and with All", Just4All is a two-year project running from October 2023 to September 2025.

This partnership offers a wide range of expertise in the project's key areas, sustainable platforms for training and peer exchange, as well as a sounding board for new ideas and innovative tools. Together, SOLIDAR, EAEA and ICAE – bring more than 900 Civil Society Organizations from 75 countries in Europe and worldwide, a network with vast opportunities to disseminate the project's results and raise awareness on adult education and just transition.

Improving adult education curricula, stimulating inclusive debates, and strengthening national and EU policies are all key to enabling Just Transition in Europe, including for women, migrants and low-skilled adults. With strong local and regional buy-in, Just4All will facilitate the implementation of the first principle of the European Pillar of Social Rights (EPSR) on Access to Education, training and life-long learning, and its 20th on Access to Basic Services.

4 Publications

4.1 Convergence

The last issue of Convergence was a special issue for CONFINTEA VI published in 2007. After an approximate hiatus of 12 years, the adult education journal, Convergence, has been revitalized through a collaborative effort between the UNESCO Chair in Global Adult Education at the Faculty of Education, University of Malta, and the International Council for Adult Education (ICAE). Serving as ICAE's flagship journal since its establishment, Convergence has now been taken up by the University of Malta's Faculty of Education, which has assumed the responsibility to advance this project with the support of an international Editorial Board. The launch took place during the Civil Society Forum within CONFINTEA VII.

4.2 Publications for the ICAE World Assembly 2023

50 Years Anniversary Publication

In celebration of its 50th anniversary, ICAE has released a special publication highlighting its relentless pursuit of adult education and lifelong learning worldwide. This milestone edition not only commemorates half a century of advocacy and innovation in adult learning but also sets the stage for future initiatives aimed at fostering educational equity and global cooperation.

4-Report 2020-2023

ICAE presented its comprehensive report on activities spanning the years 2020-2023. This document serves as a testament to our commitment to our mission and the substantial progress we've made in advancing our goals during this period. This is detailed account of the diverse initiatives, projects, and achievements that have shaped our organization's journey, showcasing our dedication to education, advocacy, and community engagement.

Strategic Guidelines 2024-2027

During the ICAE World Assembly, the Strategic Guidelines for the period 2024-2027 were unveiled. These guidelines serve as a comprehensive blueprint for our objectives and strategies in the coming years, emphasizing its dedication to advancing adult education and lifelong learning globally. Reflecting a consensus on the priorities and approaches for future endeavours, this document lays the groundwork for initiatives aimed at enhancing the impact and reach of adult learning worldwide.

5 Organisational development and governance

5.1 Funding

The grant awarded by the Open Society Foundation in 2022 and 2023, combined with project income and membership fees, has significantly bolstered ICAE's capacity to fully engage in our core activities. These encompass lobbying, advocacy, capacity building, and active participation in global policy events. Despite these encouraging advancements, ongoing budgetary constraints underscore the need for sustained efforts in intensive fundraising. This is especially crucial given the limited staffing capacity within the Secretariat.

Furthermore, despite difficulties, a substantial and complex funding application was submitted to the open Call of the European Commission for the 3-years project titled 'Adult Learning and Education – Paving the Road to the Transformed Future.' Unfortunately, the application was not accepted due to technical reasons beyond ICAE's control.

5.2 Governance

In 2023, the Executive Committee met virtually twice and in person in Marrakech, while subcommittees met multiple times throughout the year.

Sub-Committees:

- Policy, Advocacy and Capacity building Committee (Robbie Guevara (chair), Cecilia Palm, Nani Zulminarni, Carole Avande, Christoph Jost, Katarina Popovic, Ricarda Motschilnig)
- Membership, Partnership, Information and Communication Committee (Ronald Cameron and Tom Sork (co-chairs), Timothy Ireland, Robbie Guevara, Ricarda Motschilnig)
- Finance, Funding and Human Resources Committee (Per Paludan Hansen (chair), Ronald Cameron, Bernhard Grämiger, Christoph Jost, Shermaine Barrett, Robbie Guevara, Katarina Popovic)
- Ad hoc Committee for the General Assembly and the elections of EC (Maria Khan, Mats Ehn, Donia Benmiloud)
- Constitution Committee (Tom Sork, Robbie Guevara, Katarina Popovic)
- Ad hoc Committee for the ICAE's 50th anniversary (Robbie Guevara, Sandy Morrison, Carole Avande, Timothy Ireland, Nani Zulminarni, Katarina Popovic)

5.3 ICAE General Assembly, online, 26-28 October 2023

The Online General Assembly took place from October 26th to 28th and included the following tasks:

- Approval of the ICAE's 4-year reports
- Election of the new Executive Committee
- Ratification of the updated member list

4-years report was adopted and **New Executive Committee** was elected:

President	Jose Roberto 'Robbie' Guevara
Treasurer	Per Paludan Hansen
Vice President for the Caribbean Region	Keshawna Salmon-Ferguson
Vice President for Europe	Bernhard Grämiger
Vice President for Africa	Carole Avande Houndjo
Vice President for Latin America	Nora González Chachón
Vice President for the Arab Region	Elarbi Imad
Vice President for North America	Peter Waite
Vice President for Asia Pacific	Nani Zulminarni
Regular EC members	Uwe Gartenschlaeger
	Cecilia Palm
	Elsy Wakil
Secretary General	Katarina Popović

Secretariat:

Policy and Communication Officer	Ricarda Motschilnig
Financial and Legal Officer	Dušan Zdravković, Adult Education Society
Assistant	Majda Richer, Adult Education Society

5.4 ICAE 50th Anniversary and 11th World Assembly- *Towards a Learning Planet*, Bali, Indonesia

In November 2023, the ICAE convened in Bali, Indonesia, for a three-day conference commemorating its 50th Anniversary and hosting its 11th General Assembly. The event, co-hosted with ASPBAE and PEKKA as regional and local hosts, brought together 100 participants from 44 countries, celebrating past achievements, and igniting discussions on the potential of ICAE and adult education movement in the future.

The ongoing preparations for the event started in 2022, culminating in a Virtual General Assembly held in October, and finally in the physical three-day conference held from 28th – 30th November in Holiday Inn Resort Baruna Bali.



The physical three-day conference was facilitated by ICAE President Jose Roberto Guevara and ICAE Secretary-General Katarina Popović, supported by Ricarda Motschilnig, ICAE’s policy officer, and Majda Richer, ICAE’s assistant. Crucial support was provided by PEKKA’s and ASPBAE colleagues and staff, in the preparatory as well as during the implementation stage.

The event featured a two-day World Assembly focused on the history and future of global ALE movement, succeeded by a one-day General Assembly centered around ICAE Strategic Guidelines 2024 - 2027. Key segments of the event were accessible for remote participation and recorded for subsequent distribution.



5.5 ICAE World Assembly Conference

During the first two days of the event, under the theme “Towards a Learning Planet”, participants explored different aspects of the global ALE movement, discussed challenges, celebrated achievements, and outlined future steps. Additionally, effort was made to enhance understanding of Balinese culture and the distinctive features of adult education in Balinese context.

The World Assembly featured a range of activities aimed at providing better understanding of Balinese culture. Community visits were structured to give participants a practical and firsthand encounter with the characteristics of adult education in the local context. In addition to that, certain activities were included with the aim to promote broader cultural understanding.

Setting the cultural tone, the opening ceremony of the World Assembly took place in the garden, where participants engaged in a traditional Balinese ritual known as Prayascitta.



Opening panel

Centered around the theme “Towards a learning planet”, the entire conference was dedicated to exploring this concept. The opening panel set the tone for discussions on the intersection of global, regional and national perspectives, considering the overarching theme in the context of UIL, ASPBAE and Indonesian Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology. Speakers on the panel were:

- Mr. Alex Howell from the UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning reflected on the role of learning planet within the Marrakesh Framework for Action, and explored related concepts embedded in the broader work of UIL.
- Dr. Ir. Kiki Yuliati, Director General of Vocational Education within the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research and Technology in Indonesia shared her thoughts on the challenges ALE faces globally, and discussed the initiatives and actions that Indonesian government is taking towards a learning planet.
- Mr. Peter Clinton Foase, Executive Council - South Pacific (ASPBAE) shared his insights on the importance of ancestral intelligence and ancestral identity, as well the international collaboration and support where voices of the children and young people are heard.



Regional panel

A dedicated regional panel sought to explore the distinctive features of the ALE movement across regions, and aimed to pinpoint actionable steps for ICAE to take in order to provide support within these regions. The panelists shared valuable perspectives on specific situation and support needed in each region.

Speakers at the panel were:

- Asia-Pacific - Helen Dabu, ASPBAE
- Europe - Uwe Gertenschlaeger, DVV International
- Africa - Teddy Naluwu, Unbound

- Arab States - Elsy Wakil, AHAED
- Latin America - Norah Gonzales Chacon, CLADE



Community Visits

Participants explored six Balinese organizations dedicated to various aspects of adult education, including economic empowerment, health, disaster response, family planning, gender justice, fair trade, physical rehabilitation, and sustainable tourism. These organizations aim to enhance participants' understanding of adult education in Bali, focusing on areas like economic empowerment, responsible family planning, women's dignity, fair trade practices, physical rehabilitation services, and ecotourism.

Participants shared photos from the visits and reflected on their experiences recognizing some of the organizations as instances of good practices.



Community visit Ecology Tourism



We are looking at the Village indicative financial plan that was created by the community for the community. I thought this was amazing, collective, inclusive, collaborative, and solutions based. Amazing

Maha Bhoga Marga (MBM) ICAE Community Visit



MBM VISION: "Bali Earth is Healthy, Prosperous and Dignified"

In line with its vision, the Maha Bhoga Marga (MBM) provides sewing and baking skills for Bali women - all in an effort to increase their income.

ICAE was able to see first-hand the beautiful sewing products and hear about the business processes from beginning to end.

This life-affirming assistance continues today for the women of Bali.

Workshops

With the aim to address important aspects of the global ALE movement and gather insights from members and partners, attendees participated in three concurrent workshop sessions. Each of the sessions was designed around key themes: ALE Practices for a Learning Planet, Capacity Building for a Learning Planet and Advocating for ALE and a Learning Planet. A total of 15 workshops were hosted by various ICAE members and partners.



50th Anniversary Dinner

To celebrate ICAE's dedicated work in the field of global adult education, a commemorative dinner was organized for a retrospective journey through ICAE's history. President Robbie Guevara, Secretary General Katarina Popović, former presidents Sandy Morrison and Alan Tuckett, and important figures in ICAE's journey such as Gina Ebner, Peter Mayo and Timothy Ireland, shared their reflections and recalled some of ICAE's accomplishments.



Among many, some of the milestones mentioned were the creation and relaunch of the Convergence Journal, organization of IALLA, the inception of Voices Rising networking tool, and the recent inclusion of ICAE to the Hall of Fame.

Expanding on the cultural experience, the 50th Anniversary Dinner involved participants receiving Balinese sarongs, a traditional Balienese piece of clothing.

They also enjoyed a performance by Balinese dancers and practiced the dance steps together.



5.6 ICAE General Assembly, in person, 30.11.2023

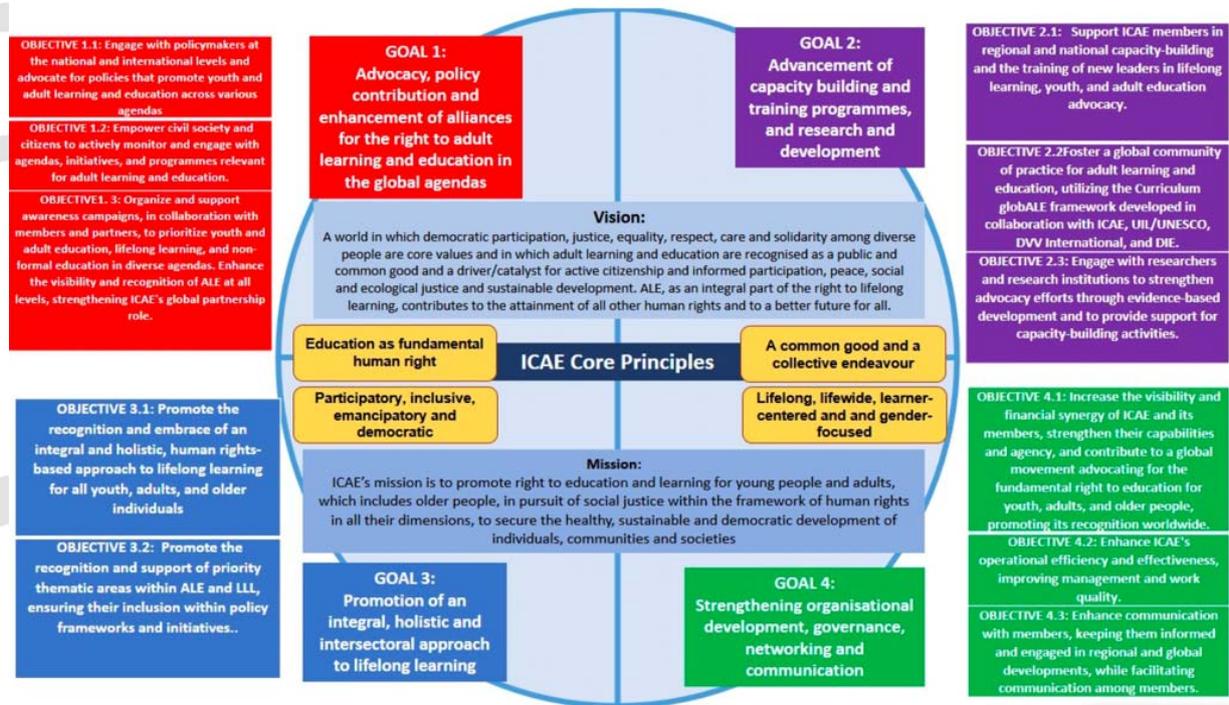
The in-person ICAE General Assembly took place on the third day of the event. One month before the in-person gathering, a virtual General Assembly unfolded, hosting the election for Executive Committee members, approval of the financial report, ratification of new members, and acknowledgment of member removals.

The in-person General Assembly assessed ICAE's challenges and achievements over the past four years, while the focal point was engaging in discussions about Strategic Guidelines for the upcoming period, examining them through regional perspectives, and actively gathering input from members.

Opening panel

The opening panel was dedicated to revising ICAE's accomplishments over the past four years and presenting Strategic Guidelines for the future. Cecilia Palm presented ICAE four-year report, discussing the organization's active role in global advocacy spaces, detailing its involvement in various new initiatives, projects, and partnerships, and discussing its achievements in capacity building activities. Per Paludan Hansen proceeded to present the financial report, emphasizing the critical need to ensure future financial stability, highlighting the multidimensional significance of active membership support, and discussing the need to explore diverse funding models. After the presentation of the two reports, ICAE Secretary-

General Katarina Popović provided her reflections on the preceding period. She underscored the importance of ICAE’s commitment to its core values, highlighting how joint efforts and collaboration between members and partners played a crucial role in achieving past milestones. The plenary session concluded with Timothy Ireland presenting ICAE’s Strategic Guidelines 2024 - 2027, articulating a detailed description of four key goals.



Regional Panel

A plenary session, specifically designed to gather regional perspectives on the Strategic Guidelines 2024 - 2027, featured ICAE Executive Committee Vice Presidents as speakers sharing insights from different regions.



Speakers at the panel were:

- Africa – Carole Avande Houndjo, PAMOJA
- Arab States – Elarbi Imad, Moroccan Center for Civic Education
- Asia Pacific Region – Nani Zulminarni, ASPBAE

- Caribbean Region - Keshawna Salmon-Ferguson, Jamaican Council for Adult Education (JACAE)
- Europe – Bernhard Grämiger, SVEB
- Latin America - Nora González Chacón, Latin American Campaign for the Right of Education (CLADE)
- North America – Thomas Sork, Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education (CASAE)

Workshops

In addition to the panel, which explored regional perspectives, it was important to gather input from members. To achieve this, workshops were organized, each centered around one of the four goals in the Strategic Guidelines. Workshops were facilitated by Ricarda Motschilnig (ICAE), Shermaine Barrett (JACAE), Timothy Ireland (Federal University of Paraíba) and Per Paludan Hansen, (Danish Adult Education Association, DAEA).

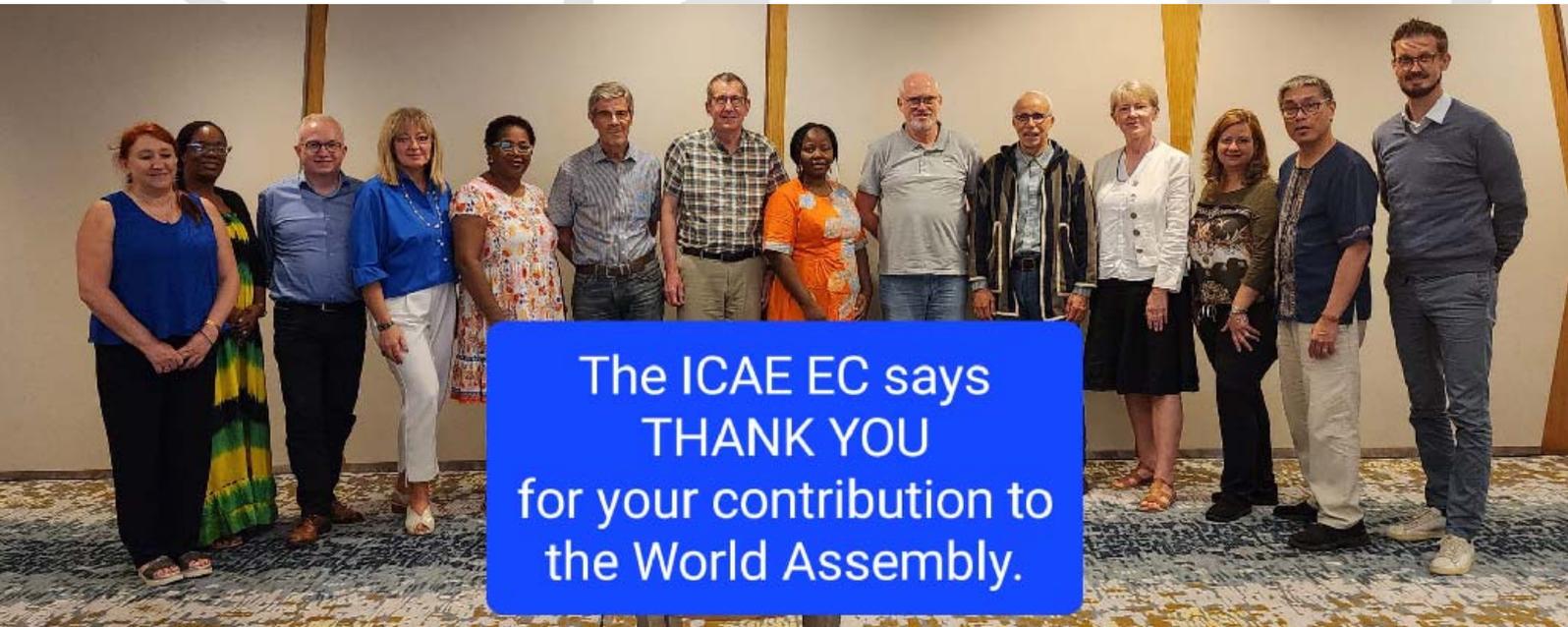


Concluding the Event

Following the conclusion of the workshops, a review session was held to wrap up the entire event. The session encompassed the sharing of insights gained during community visits, reports on workshops from both the World Assembly and the General Assembly, and the formal ratification of Strategic Guidelines. Following the concluding session, a final joint General Assembly dinner was held.

To foster unity and underscore the collaborative effort of the ICAE membership, the dinner featured a symbolic exchange of hopeful ALE messages using Tibetan flags. Attendees wrote their ALE wishes and traded flags with one another. Participants also took part in candle-lighting ceremony to honour and remember their leaders who have passed away.

The evening reached its conclusion with a ceremony during which ICAE President Jose Roberto Guevara and ICAE Secretary General Katarina Popović extended expressions of gratitude to the outgoing Executive Committee, and a warm welcome to the incoming members.



5.7 International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame - Where the spirit of learning is the lasting legacy

In 2023, a significant year marking its 50th anniversary, ICAE received the Organisational Award of the International Adult and Continuing Education (IACE) Hall of Fame, in recognition of its unwavering commitment and remarkable achievements as the sole global civil society organisation for adult education and lifelong learning. The ceremony was held in conjunction with the American Association for Adult and Continuing Education (AAACE) in Lexington, Kentucky.

IACE Hall of Fame - *Reflecting the Great Diversity of Adult and Continuing Education*, honours leaders in the fields of continuing education and adult learning, serving as an enduring source of inspiration for the next generation of continuing education leaders. Additionally, it recognizes outstanding organisations through the Organisational Awards, which spotlight organisations that have made distinguished contributions and significantly impact the field of adult and continuing education. The organisation award is a highly visible component of the Hall of Fame's dedication to lifelong learning.



6 Information and communication with members

ICAE has been dedicated to enhancing information and communication with its members. Through a series of initiatives, ICAE has ensured that its members stay well-informed and engaged. Monthly newsletters, which transitioned to quarterly updates in 2023, have been a cornerstone of this effort, delivering timely insights, updates, and highlights directly to the inboxes of our valued members.

Additionally, ICAE has leveraged the power of onsite and online events to foster knowledge sharing and interactive discussions, providing a platform for members to engage with experts and peers.

Social media activities have been a vibrant part of our communication strategy, with platforms such as Twitter and Facebook serving as dynamic hubs for discussions, announcements, and networking. Furthermore, our information and communication campaigns on social media have amplified critical messages and initiatives, ensuring that our global community remains informed, connected, and empowered throughout this period.

We express our gratitude to the Open Society Foundations for their valuable support. Their contribution has been instrumental in our endeavours, enabling us to make meaningful progress and achieve our goals.



**OPEN SOCIETY
FOUNDATIONS**

7 Financial Report

ICAE - CATEGORIZED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2023

INCOME	Code	Income RSD	Income EUR	Income USD	Income Total in EUR*	Income Total in RSD*	Income Total in USD*
1. MEMBERS CONTRIBUTION AND ROLLOVER		775.261,72	37.871,94	311.664,60	326.079,01	38.207.884,43	360.904,23
1.1 Membership fees	110	149.600,00	16.286,00	10.725,60	27.253,38	3.193.379,05	30.164,04
1.2 Solidarity contributions	120	0,00	195,00	163,50	342,72	40.158,14	379,33
1.3 Rollover	130	625.661,72	21.390,94	300.775,50	298.482,91	34.974.347,24	330.360,87
2. DONORS, GRANTS		0,00	26.199,40	0,00	26.199,40	3.069.880,64	28.997,49
2.1 EU project SAFE Spaces for Learning	210	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
2.2 EU proj. TALE Transformative Learn.	220	0,00	4.789,00	0,00	4.789,00	561.144,85	5.300,46
2.3 EU project JUST4ALL	230	0,00	20.238,40	0,00	20.238,40	2.371.408,21	22.399,86
2.4 University RMIT Donation on UNSDG Summit	240	0,00	1.172,00	0,00	1.172,00	137.327,58	1.297,17
2.5 SVEB project ALL4TT	250	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
TOTAL INCOME		775.261,72	64.071,34	311.664,60	352.278,41	41.277.765,07	389.901,73

EXPENDITURE	Code	Expenditure RSD	Expenditure EUR	Expenditure USD	Expenditure Total in EUR*	Expenditure Total in RSD*	Expenditure Total in USD*
1. PROGRAMMES		-7.577.553,74	-25.105,12	-21.023,04	-108.768,96	-12.744.861,82	-120.385,48
1.1 Coordination (gross) 55% of total	300	-2.545.107,32	-11.495,00	0,00	-33.215,81	-3.892.019,00	-36.763,25
1.2 Policy and advocacy for ALE and LLL							
1.2.1 CONFINTEA VII	321	-125.700,00	0,00	0,00	-1.072,77	-125.700,00	-1.187,34
1.2.2 World Assembly	322	-2.084.477,17	-2.997,56	-6.505,14	-26.664,62	-3.124.392,67	-29.512,40
1.2.3 ALE and SDGs - HLPF	323	-594.833,00	-782,03	-3.506,13	-9.026,34	-1.057.650,16	-9.990,36
1.2.4 ALE Campaign	324	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00	0,00
1.3 Capacity building							
1.3.1 IALLA	331	-1.971.482,03	-7.650,00	-11.011,77	-34.424,49	-4.033.644,99	-38.101,02
1.4. Projects							
1.4.1 SAFE Spaces for Learning	341	-226.615,22	-807,36	0,00	-2.741,37	-321.216,58	-3.034,15
1.4.2 TALE Transf. Learning	342	0,00	-652,98	0,00	-652,98	-76.512,08	-722,72
1.4.3 JUST4ALL	343	-29.339,00	-334,20	0,00	-584,59	-68.498,45	-647,02
1.4.4 ALL4TT	344	0,00	-385,99	0,00	-385,99	-45.227,88	-427,21

2. ORGANIZATION DEVELOPMENT		-3.968.935,06	-8.987,10	-24.898,45	-65.355,22	-7.657.913,51	-72.335,16
2.1. Coordination (gross) 45% of total	300	-2.082.360,54	-9.405,00	0,00	-27.176,57	-3.184.379,19	-30.079,03
2.2. Communication and information	420	0,00	-1.341,17	0,00	-1.341,17	-157.149,85	-1.484,41
2.3. Membership and partnership - GA	430	-446.009,00	1.802,63	-24.844,40	-24.450,82	-2.864.992,75	-27.062,16
2.4. Meetings and fundraising (EU app.)	440	-594.281,00	0,00	0,00	-5.071,80	-594.281,00	-5.613,46
2.5. Office - admin., account, bank charg.	450	-365.861,69	-43,56	-54,05	-3.214,78	-376.687,89	-3.558,12
2.6. Office - audit	460	-480.422,83	0,00	0,00	-4.100,09	-480.422,83	-4.537,98
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		-11.546.488,80	-34.092,22	-45.921,49	-174.124,19	-20.402.775,33	-192.720,64

EXCHANGE	RSD	EUR	USD	* National Bank of Serbia middle exchange rate list on 31.12.2023	
Exchange EUR-USD		0,00	0,00		
Exchange USD-EUR		0,00	0,00		
Exchange EUR-RSD	347.277,00	-3.000,00		1 EUR =	117,1737 RSD
Exchange USD-RSD	12.003.527,00		-110.000,00	1 USD =	105,8671 RSD

BALANCE	RSD	EUR	USD	Total in EUR*	Total in RSD*	Total in USD*
	1.579.576,92	26.979,12	155.743,11	181.174,54	21.228.891,63	200.523,97

8 Auditor's Report



**AUDITOR'S REPORT - AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT
REGARDING SPECIAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2023**

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR ADULT EDUCATION - ICAE



CONTENTS:

AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT

1 - 3

ANNEXES:

Annex I – Financial Report

Annex II – List of Transactions Verified

AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT

To: International Council for Adult Education - ICAE
Garsije Lorke 9, Belgrade

Purpose of this Agreed – Upon Procedures Report and Restriction on Use and Distribution

In accordance with the Contract that International Council for Adult Education – ICAE agreed with us, we provide our Agreed-upon procedures report (“the Report”) on ICAE special purpose financial report, prepared on activity-based costing, for the period covering 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 (“ICAE Financial Report”). ICAE requested certain procedures to be carried out in connection with ICAE Financial Report for the purposes of reporting to ICAE Board and ICAE members. Namely, this Report is prepared solely for ICAE internal use and solely for the purpose of submission by ICAE to its Board and its members.

Our engagement was income and expenditure verification which is an engagement to perform certain agreed-upon procedures with regard to the ICAE Financial Report. The objective of this income and expenditure verification is for us to carry out certain procedures to which we have agreed and to submit to ICAE an Agreed-upon procedures report with regard to the procedures performed. The procedures to be carried out are listed in Chapter 1 of this Report.

The total income which is the subject of this verification amounts to EUR 352,278.41. We verified all income presented in the Financial Report.

The total expenditure which is the subject of this verification amounts to EUR 174,124.19. We verified all expenditure presented in the Financial Report. ,

We report the details of our factual findings which result from the procedures that we performed in Chapter 1 of this Report and more details are given in the Annex 2 to this Report.

Responsibilities of the Engaging Party

ICAE has acknowledged that the agreed-upon procedures are appropriate for the purpose of the engagement.

ICAE as engaging party, also the responsible party is responsible for the subject matter on which the agreed-upon procedures are performed.

Practitioner’s (Auditor’s) Responsibilities

We have conducted the agreed-upon procedures engagement in accordance with the International Standard on Related Services (“ISRS”) 4400 (Revised), Agreed-upon Procedures Engagements. An agreed-upon procedures engagement involves our performing the procedures that have been agreed with ICAE, and reporting the findings, which are the factual results of the agreed-upon procedures performed. We make no representation regarding the appropriateness of the agreed-upon procedures.

The agreed-upon procedures engagement in not an assurance engagement. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or an assurance conclusion.

Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported.

Professional Ethics and Quality Control

We have complied with the ethical requirements of the IESBA⁷ International Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including international independence standard).

Our firm applies International Standard on Quality Control (ISQC) 1, Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Statements, and Other Assurance and Related Services Engagements, and accordingly, maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with the ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements:

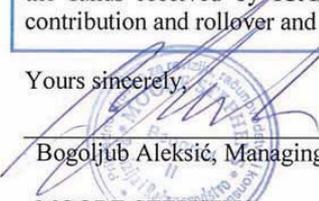
Procedures and Findings

We have performed the procedures below, which were agreed upon with the ICAE in the terms of engagement. Namely, the ICAE, as engaging party (who is the responsible party) has acknowledged that the procedures are appropriate for the intended purpose of the engagement and their purposes, respectively. The intended users of this report are ICAE Board and ICAE members. These procedures were performed to assist ICAE Board and ICAE members in evaluating whether the expenditure and the income presented in Financial Report for 2023 are eligible in accordance with ICAE financial plan and activities during 2023.

	PROCEDURES	FINDINGS
1	Income - Verify that funds paid to ICAE and presented as income were properly reflected in the accounting records of the ICAE	We found that the funds received by ICAE as grants and members contribution and rollover were properly reflected in the accounting records of the ICAE i.e., it was recorded in accordance with the provisions of the local accounting regulations. The amounts presented in the financial report are in line with those stated on the respective bank statements and supporting accounting documents.
2.	Expenditure - Obtain a listing of all expenditures during the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 for the agreed-upon procedures engagement and perform the following:	We obtained a listing of all expenditures and incomes and the financial report.
a.	(Verify that expenditure item is recorded in the ICAE accounting system and was recorded in accordance with the applicable accounting standards of the country where the ICAE is established and the ICAE's usual cost accounting practices	We found that the expenditures are recorded in the ICAE's accounting system and were recorded in accordance with the applicable accounting standards in Republic of Serbia and the ICAE's usual cost accounting practices. In addition, ICAE keeps accounts by using an appropriate accounting and double-entry book-keeping system. This system is running in accordance with the accounting and bookkeeping policies and rules that apply in Republic of Serbia. As per Serbian regulation, the chart of accounts is prescribed by Ministry of Finance. So, the ICAE is obliged to use a prescribed chart of accounts in its accounting system. On the other side, for the purposes of reporting to the Board and members, the expenditures were classified by following the ICAE activities (activity-based

		costing). Therefore, the ICAE maintains the supplementary accounting records for expenditures by using excel files, it contains information on expenditures classified in way to show ICAE activities on cash basis. Accordingly, the financial report is supported by a transaction listing manually prepared from the ICAE's accounting records. We agreed the transactions through to the accounting system, gaining assurance that reported costs were recorded in the ICAE's accounting system;
b.	Verify that expenditure items are substantiated by appropriate evidence and supporting documents and if applicable, verify that it is in compliance with the terms of the donors' contracts	We found that the expenditures are substantiated by appropriate evidence and supporting documents. Namely, the documentation exists to support the expenditures in accordance with the ICAE's rules and regulations and the supporting documentation is in line with documentation usually used by the ICAE for similar transactions. Moreover, it includes documentations such as: service contracts, invoices issued by suppliers, bank statements etc. In addition, the transactions per bank statements agree with that reflected in the accounting records and financial report.
c.	(Verify that the monetary value of expenditure item agrees with underlying documents (e.g. invoices, salary statements)	We found that the monetary value of expenditure items agrees with underlying documents
3	Verify exchange rate used for conversion of expenditure and income into reporting currency	We found that all transactions in financial report are presented in their original currencies and translated into presentation currencies: EUR, USD and RSD by applying the NBS official middle exchange rates applicable on 31 December 2023.
<p>The total expenditure which is the subject of this verification amounts to EUR 174,124.19. These expenditures were presented in the accompanying financial report under two main categories: Programmes and Organization Development.</p> <p>The total income which is the subject of this verification amounts to EUR 352,278.41. These incomes, the funds received by ICAE, were presented in the accompanying financial report as Members contribution and rollover and Donors, grants.</p>		

Yours sincerely,


Bogoljub Aleksić, Managing Partner

MOORE STEPHENS
Revizija i Računovodstvo d.o.o.
Studentski trg 4, Beograd

16 April 2024



INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
ADULT EDUCATION

International Council for Adult Education

Conseil International pour l'éducation des adultes

Consejo Internacional de Educación de Adultos

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