

## ESF Learning Networks

1st Coordination Meeting of "Learning for Change" networks  
(2007-2013 ESF)

# (ex-)Offender Community of Practice

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## Topics

- European Social Fund and his role on Education Training Employment (ETE)/resettlement of (ex-)offenders
- The work of more than 15 years of development in the Common Initiatives and Objective 1&3 Funds
- Different ESF-Programmes in the last two decades
- From first individual projects to an European Network
- The role of innovation and Transnationality



## Tasks done

- 1991 – 1994 HORIZON
  - First individual measures on vocational training in prisons
  - First NGOs working in prison (private public cooperation)
  - First transnational exchange on the level of prison staff
- 1995 – 1997 Employment: INTEGRA I
  - Qualification in prisons
  - Vocational counseling in prison and outside
  - First steps to modernize prison education and prison work
  - First steps to implement a labour market orientation in the traditional system of prisons
  - Increase of transnational exchange

## Tasks done

- 1998 – 1999 Employment – INTEGRA II
  - New ways of vocational qualifications in prisons
  - First e-learning projects
  - First projects of job placement out of prison
  - Cooperation with labour market agencies and actors
  - First steps to staff und organisational development



## Tasks done

- 2000 – 2008– EQUAL results Prison Regime Level
  - Development partnerships on ETE in around prisons
  - Increase in e-learning measures
  - Development of a Learning Management System, and e-learning platforms, knowledge management platforms
  - First pilots on transition management (Through the Gate Management)
  - Complex Staff Training and Personal Development approaches
  - Set-up national or regional networks NEON's, Northern ETE Alliance of Justice Ministries in Germany
  - Mainstreaming of several EQUAL Projects
  - European wide Changement of decision maker level in terms of ETE and external stakeholders e.g. Community links, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector

## Involvement of other relevant European Programmes

- Cooperation with DG Education and Culture
  - LLL - LEONARDO DA VINCI, GRUNDTVIG
- Cooperation with the DG Justice, Liberty and Security
  - Criminal Justice Programmes

## Results of the development on the Policy Level

- 2007: Policy Forum Warsaw on (ex)prisoners
- European Parliament Resolution 2007/2116/INI) on ex-prisoners and ex-offenders
- Nov. 2008: Council of Europe decides to promote the Warsaw recommendations in the European Prison rules  
(CDPC-BU European Committee on Crime Problems)



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## The story so far...

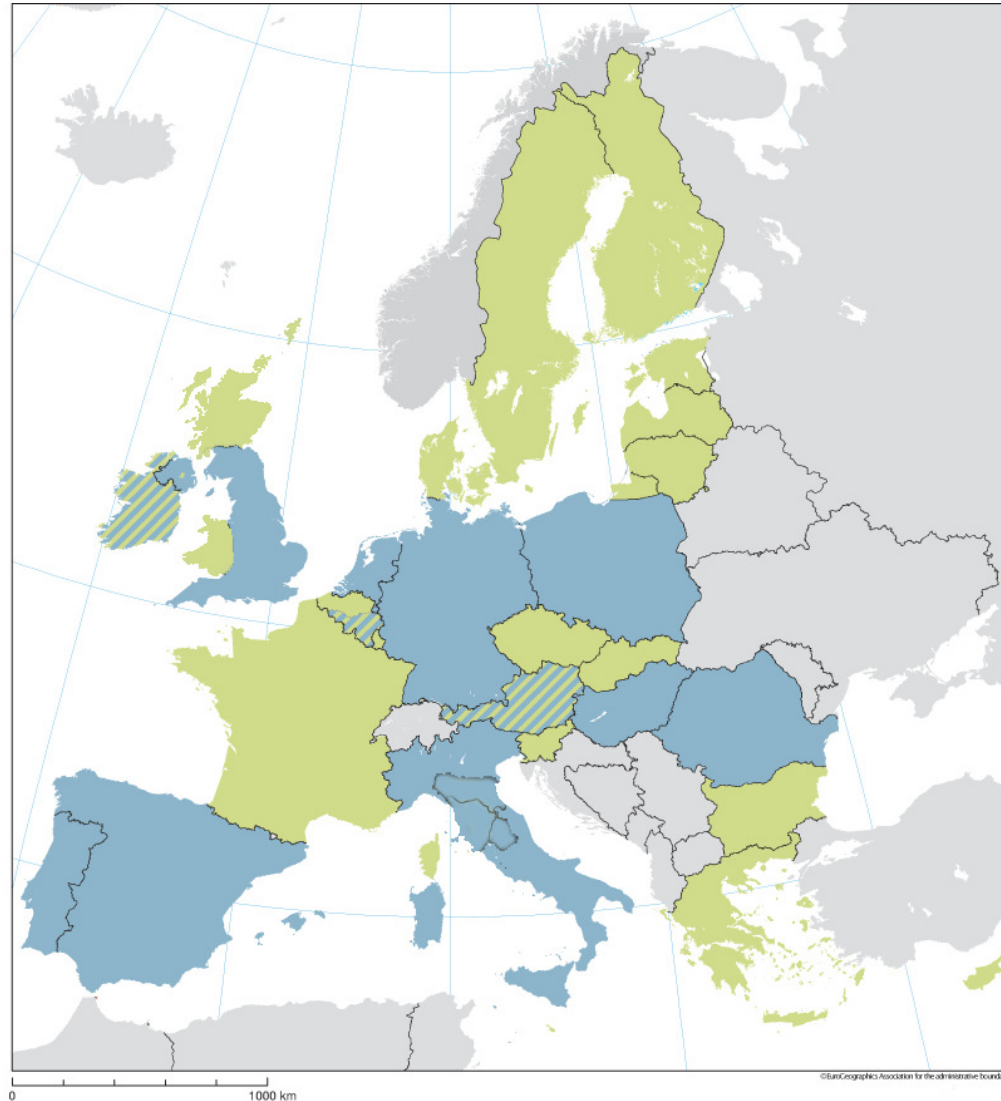
Based on the experience worked out in all the programmes, we will now hide for broad ETE community under the umbrella of Prison Regime and Probation :

Ex-Offender Community of Practice  
EXOCOP

# Cooperation Partners

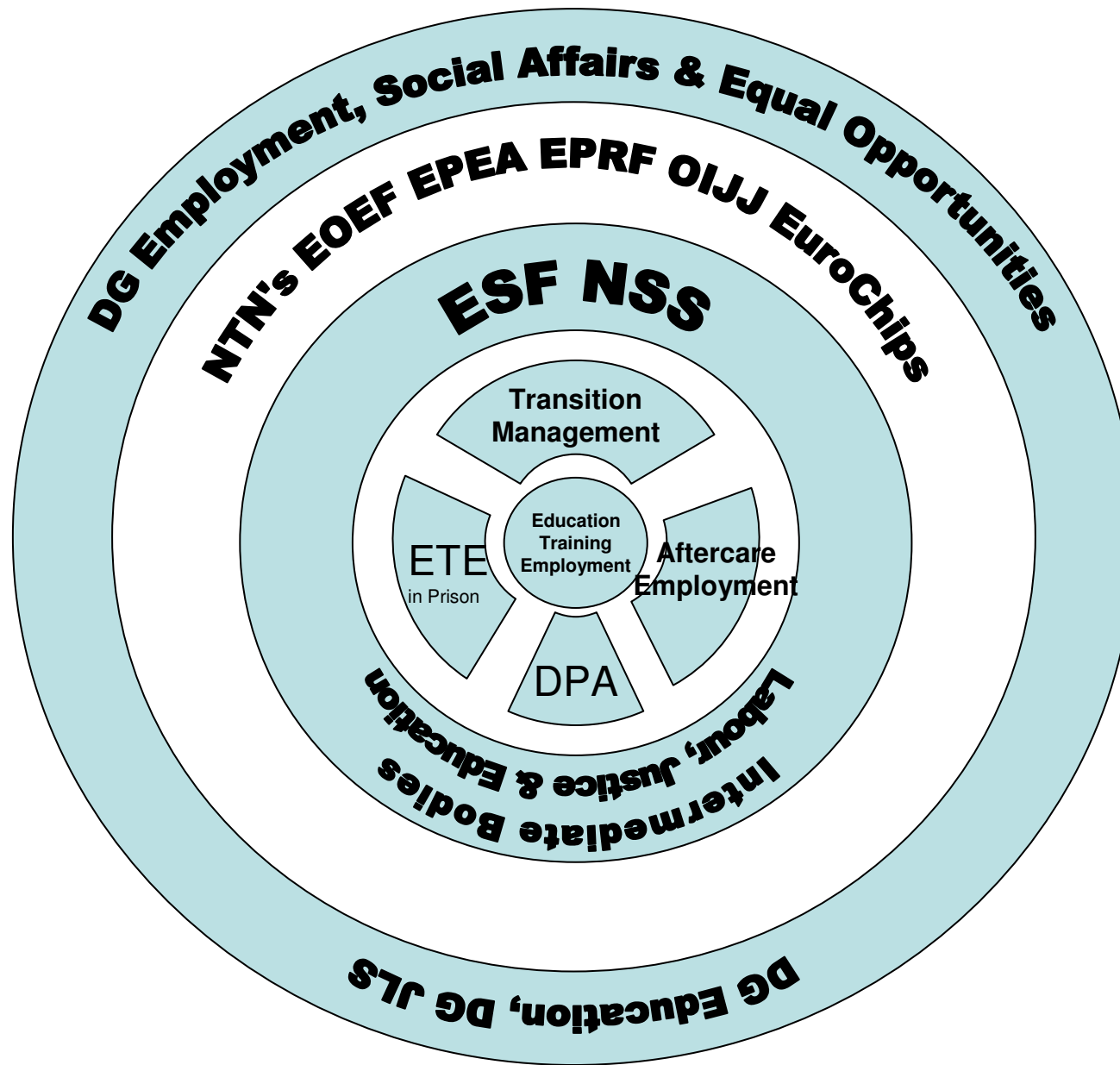
- Ex-OCoP Consortium
- UK England
- UK Northern Ireland
- Belgium\*
- Netherlands
- Poland
- Portugal
- Spain
- Hungary
- Romania
- Austria\*
- Italy
- Ireland\*
- Germany

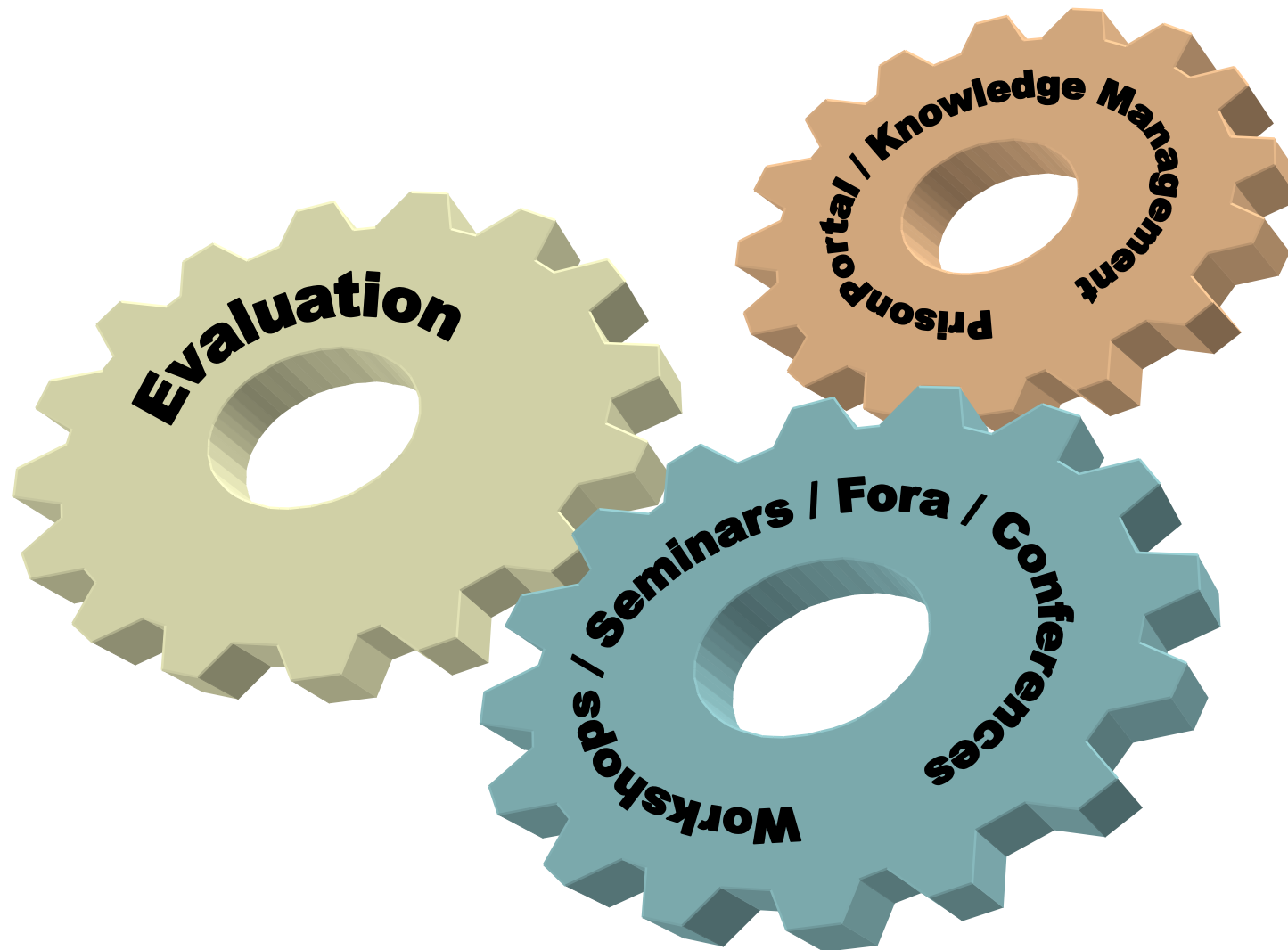
\* interest, will join



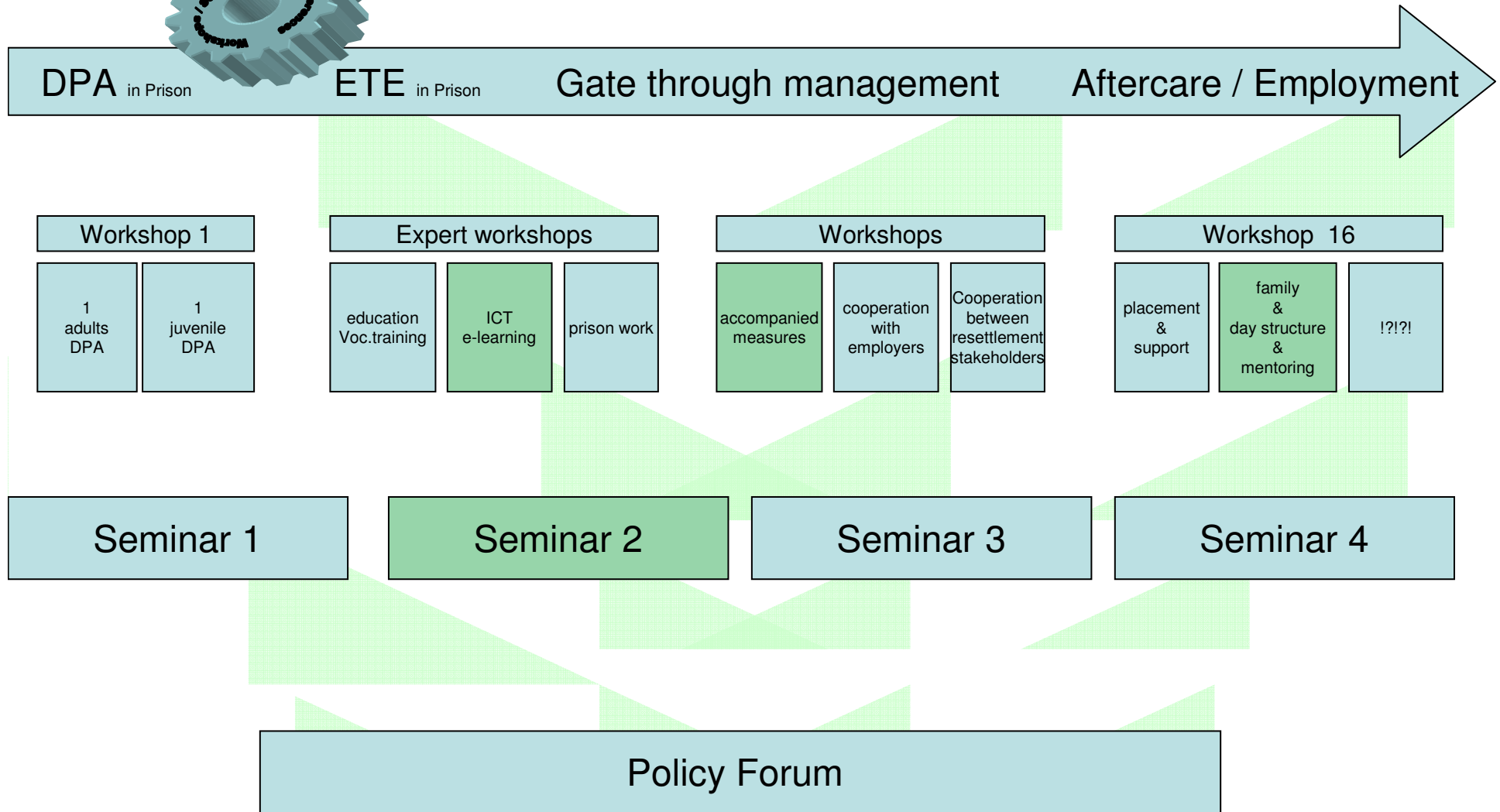
## Tasks to be done

- Transfer of Knowledge
- Learning from each other
- Identification and transfer of good practice
- Standardisation and Harmonisation
- Further development of an European perspective on vocational resettlement and social integration of (ex-prisoners)

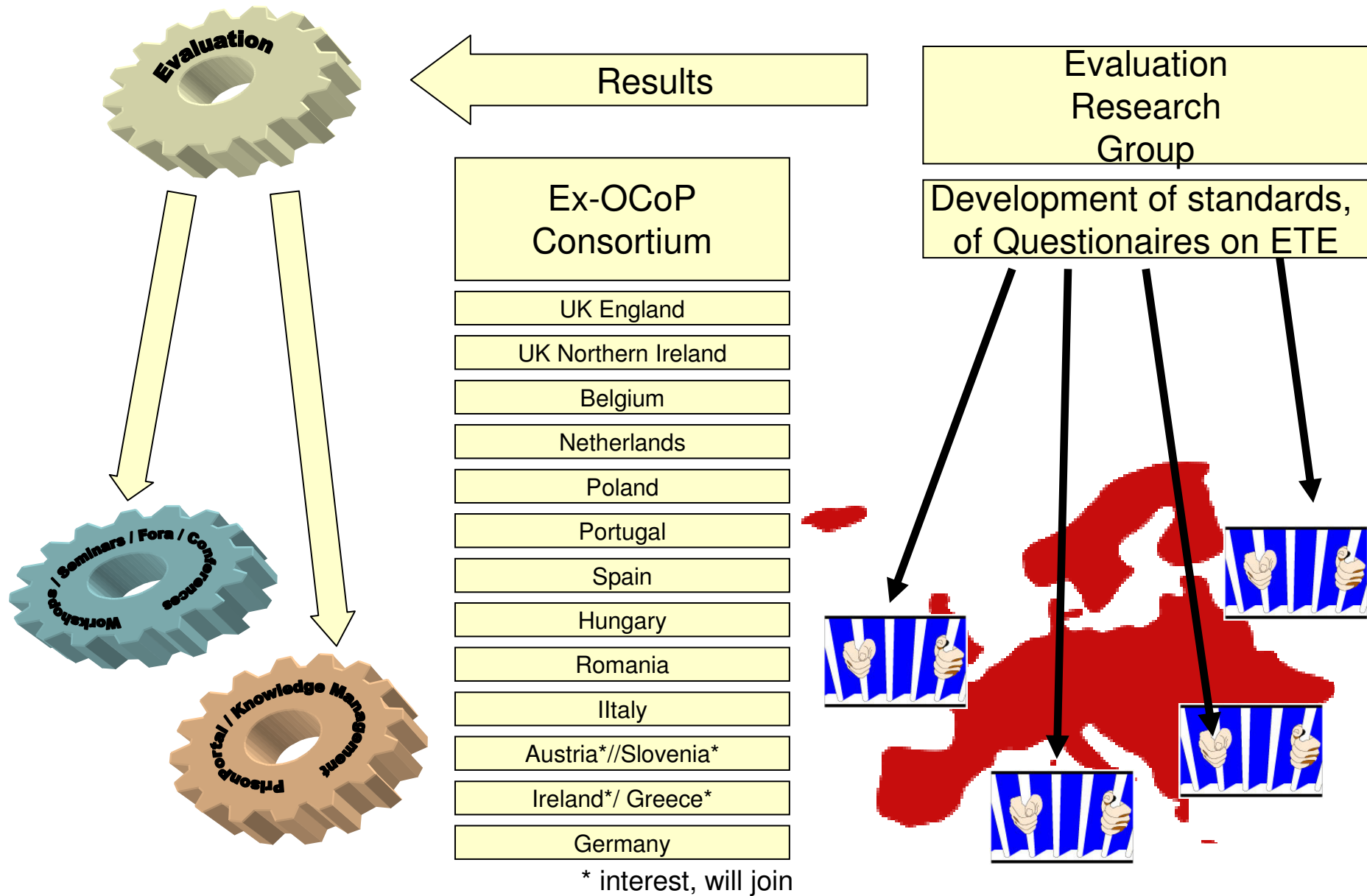




# ESF Learning Network ex-offenders Community of Practice - exocop



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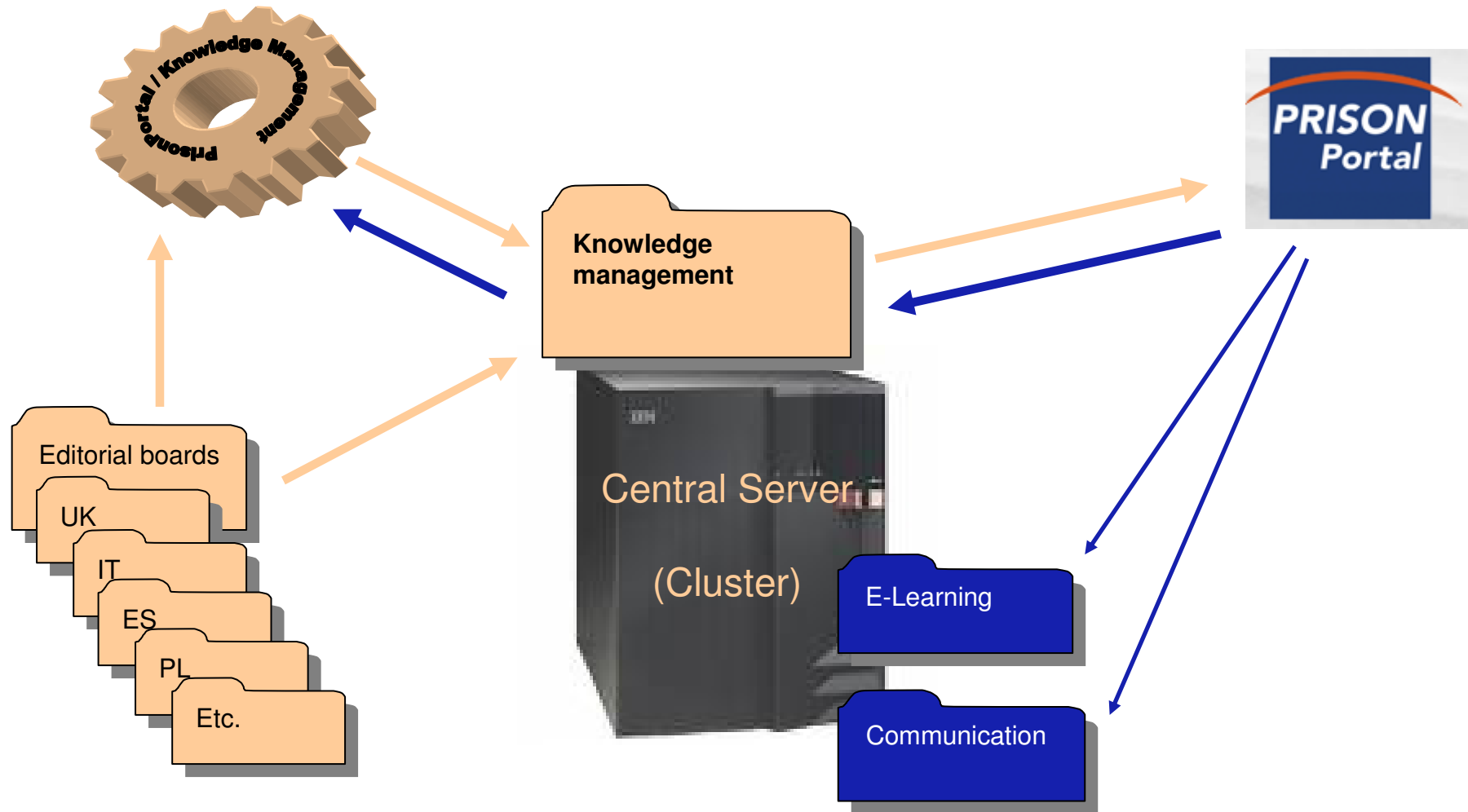
## ...to build an evaluation network

- Creating national and transnational evaluation networks build of research institutions as well as ESF evaluation groups
- Establishing an overview of the state of art of evaluation and research in prison and aftercare
- Analysing and defining the Common Standards and basic principles for successful measures in prisons and aftercare

## Task to build an evaluation network

- Defining a catalogue of criteria relevant to labour market and criminological concerns and interests that would enable transnational comparative research
- Identifying gaps in research on the vocational reintegration of ex-prisoners

# ESF Learning Network ex-offenders Community of Practice - exocop



# Knowledge Management

- The knowledge base is ...
  - an instrument for **sharing knowledge** among employees who are involved in the penitentiary system.  
**Directly:** teachers, guards, probation services, NGO's, prison boards etc.  
**Indirectly:** technical staff in Ministries of Justice, labour, etc...
  - an instrument for **mutual qualification** processes of employees  
an integration of qualification and use in context
  - a kind of an “organisational memory”: not only the individual but also the organisation as a whole profits from sustainability of generated knowledge with a high degree of acceptance, applicability and usefulness



# Knowledge Management

## Knowledge domains – fields of action

Areas of Practice	Prison Service	Fundamentals	Sources of knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sentence planning</li> <li>• Education and vocational training</li> <li>• Work and occupation</li> <li>• Reintegration</li> <li>• Health care</li> <li>• Daily routine in prison</li> <li>• Legal structure</li> <li>• Management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prisoners                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Categorisation</li> <li>- Prisoners with special needs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Types &amp; categories of imprisonment</li> <li>• Prison establishments                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministries of justice</li> <li>- Prison establishments</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theories                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>... of criminality</li> <li>... of treatment</li> <li>... of punishment</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Strategies &amp; concepts                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trends &amp; strategies</li> <li>- Strategies, concepts &amp; regimes</li> <li>- Gender mainstreaming &amp; diversity</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Methods &amp; instruments</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experts</li> <li>• Networks</li> <li>• Organisations</li> <li>• Projects</li> <li>• Conferences</li> <li>• Data bases &amp; information systems</li> <li>• Facts and figures</li> <li>• Legal information</li> <li>• Publications</li> </ul>

## The European Perspective

### The Vision: The European Penitentiary Knowledge System

- Participants / authors from various European countries
- Establishing national publishing boards:
  - Distributed content production
  - Unified technical knowledge management approach
  - European server farm (servers in each country) in a consolidated network
- Cooperation with main European organisations and networks working on the field of correctional and probation issues (e.g. CEP, EPEA, EPRF, EOEF, ICPA, IJJO etc.)
- Establishing specialised multi-national publishing boards to provide knowledge in special fields of the penal system

# Learning Network / Knowledge Transfer

- To define and evaluate
  - What makes sense?
  - What can be implemented?
  - Which new measures and programmes have to be developed?

## Nature and Scope of the preparatory phase

- Common preparation of the Kick-off with some partners ( IT,UK-ENG,NL) (realized)
- Bilateral Meetings with PL,PT,HU,RO,NL,UK-ENG/NI (realized)
- Discourse and presentation of the networks to relevant European ETE / Probation & Prison Regime Association/Foundations/Fora  
CEP/EOEF/EPRF/ICPA/OIJJ/EPEA (partly realized)
- Set up website [www.exocop.eu](http://www.exocop.eu) (under construction)
- Support on member states who are interested to join (SLO, GR)

## Nature and Scope of the preparatory phase

- Kick off Meeting in Bremen 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2009
  - set up consortium, steering Group, coordination
  - set up work plan and schedules
    - » workshops/expert meetings
    - » seminars
    - » sub projects evaluation & knowledge management
    - » nomination procedure for experts (internal & external) liaison persons to networks & professional Organisation
    - » responsibilities and contributions of partners