

Report From ICA UK - Jonathan Dudding <jdudding@ica-uk.org.uk>

2019 continues to be a year of consolidation and gradual growth for ICA:UK. Internally we have begun a recruitment process for additional Board members, we have strengthened our internal structures and relationships, put more emphasis on our own community building, and tightened our ToP trainers' journey and licencing arrangements.

In April we appointed a part-time co-ordinator for our ToP training programme (Alice Blackwell) who is already improving our social media presence. Our schedule of public courses continues to be well enough subscribed to make sure we cancel very few training courses, and we hope that Alice's contribution will help both increase the number of courses and number of participants. The schedule of public and in-house courses currently provides sufficient funds to cover both the programme costs and our total overheads (an office and 3 part time staff).

In Europe, we continue to work with Initiatives of Change in Switzerland to organise and deliver ToP training in Geneva, with Focus Homini to run ToP courses in Poland, and we play more of an advisory role with ICA Netherlands. We are also pleased that our ToP training work in Ireland is expanding, with both public and in-house courses in the pipeline.

In Africa, we were recently awarded a £50,000 grant from the Department of International Development (UK government) for work with farmers in Uganda, working with ICAI Associate Member, the Safe Neighbourhood Foundation. The two -year programme focuses on improving food security and livelihoods. Also in Africa, we worked with Fourmis du Changement in France to deliver a five-day ToP training in Benin and with ICA Canada to support research work in Kenya- looking at the impact of ICA's work in Kenya over the past twenty years.

In the UK we have been focusing on supporting citizen activists with facilitation, training and event design. In addition to local activists in Cardiff, we are also working at a national level with groups like CtrlShift and Extinction Rebellion