

VIII Call for Grants to Inclusive Projects 2019-2020

Fundación Universia and Konecta Foundation grant 50,000 euros in aid to projects for the inclusion of people with disabilities

- The Complutense University of Madrid, ASPACE Madrid, the Gil Gayarre Foundation, the CERMI Women Foundation, We Act Assoc, the ASINDOWN Foundation and the Mater Misericordiae Organization are the winning entities in the VIII Call for Grants for Inclusive Projects Fundación Universia - Konecta Foundation, with the support of Banco Santander.

Madrid, 26th November 2019 - Last Friday, 22nd of November, at the ABC Museum of Drawing and Illustration in Madrid, the annual meeting for the resolution of the Grants for Inclusive Projects 2019 Fundación Universia and Konecta Foundation took place, with the support of Banco Santander.

More than 40 finalists, associations, foundations and Spanish universities took part in the session, and the seven winning entities of this edition were revealed. The Complutense University of Madrid, ASPACE Madrid, Gil Gayarre Foundation, CERMI Women Foundation, We Act Assoc, ASINDOWN Foundation and Mater Misericordiae Organization will receive 50,000 euros -10,000 euros per category- to develop their projects of employment and entrepreneurship, education, sport, research and culture with the aim of promoting the social and labour inclusion of people with disabilities.

During the last 2018 edition, a total of 792 people benefited directly from the six winning projects. *"This figure represents an increase both in the direct impact and in its measurement"*, stressed Sonia Viñas, director of Fundación Universia, when compared with the scope of 306 people with disabilities, included in the 2017 Call for Proposals. *"The measurement of social impact is a key element to value the projects that we carry out in this type of initiatives and within each of our entities."*

For her part, Graciela de la Morena, director of the Konecta Foundation, highlighted the great work carried out by all social entities supporting the people who have it most difficult, such as people with disabilities. *"This year 258 projects have been received from Spanish universities, associations, foundations, cooperatives and non-profit confederations, of which 51 have been shortlisted as finalists, all of them with the aim of promoting the social and labour participation of people with disabilities"*. This figure is a success as it has increased 64% compared to the projects received in the last edition.

The winners in this VIII Call by category are:

In **Employment and Entrepreneurship**, the award-winning entity is ASPACE Madrid, for its project: 'Urbanitas ASPACE por la Accesibilidad'. The first employment project with support for people with cerebral palsy.

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In **Education**, the prize has been shared between the Gil Gayarre Foundation with the project: 'Diverse Natures' and the CERMI Women Foundation, with the project 'We Research. More Scientific Women with Disabilities'.

In **Research**, the Complutense University of Madrid will develop a 'Mapping of the strengths, demands and needs of university students with functional diversity and/or with specific needs for educational support in the Community of Madrid'.

The winning projects in the **Culture** category are 'Inclusive and Accessible Documentary Theatre' by We Act Assoc and 'Distintos Educa' by the ASINDOWN Foundation.

To conclude, in **Sports**, has been awarded the project 'ORGSPORT: Adapted and Inclusive Sports Program' of the Mater Misericordiae Organization.

The main objectives of this Call for Grants are to promote the participation and independence of people with disabilities, to serve as a support line and to develop a map of trends with respect to the current needs of Third Sector entities in Spain and to generate a space for collaboration and connection between associations, foundations and universities for attention to disability.

More information: www.fundacionuniversia.net/proyectos-inclusivos/

Banco Santander and its commitment to Education

Banco Santander is the only European bank included in the 'Change the World' 2018 ranking of companies that are helping to improve the world (Fortune magazine) due to its positive impact on society, among other criteria.

Its firm commitment to Higher Education, which is materialized through [Santander Universities](#), also distinguished as the company that invests the most in Education in the world (Varkey Report / UNESCO / Fortune 500) and has become one of its hallmarks, with 1,200 collaboration agreements with universities and institutions in more than 20 countries, more than 1,700 million euros allocated to academic initiatives since 2002 and more than 73,000 scholarships and university aid granted in 2018 in order to contribute to the progress of individuals, companies and society.

About Fundación Universia

[Fundación Universia](#), which is sponsored by Banco Santander, develops innovative projects that promote the social and labour inclusion of people with disabilities, through their higher education and professional development, in order to consolidate itself as an international reference organization in the field of qualified employment and linked to the development of diverse talent in companies that are committed to inclusive, responsible and sustainable growth.

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