**ANALYSIS OF THE WORKSHOP RESULTS**

* **Workshop context**

The team has identified two key prerequisites for intercultural dialogue, to be effective in the context of the migration crisis and refugees:

• a positive inclination towards integration to engage in reciprocal dialogue between migrant and host communities;

• acceptance and respect for the rule of law, both in the migrant community and in the host community, following the relevant principles of fundamental human rights and condemnation of violence and terror.

Key themes identified by the group:

Strengthening personal skills must be a process to become stronger and more self-confident, especially in the control of one's own life and in claiming the rights as a fundamental step to increase the participation of migrants and refugees in cultural and social life.

Successful integration of migrants and refugees depends on many factors: the role of art, culture, vocational training should not be considered independently. We must therefore focus on those activities in which arts and culture are also related to other sectors of public action, such as employment, education, well-being, housing, justice. In order to affirm that art and culture contribute to unite individuals, it is necessary to monitor and evaluate the activities carried out during the workshop, to share the results, and to learn from each other's experiences.

* **DEFINITION OF A TOOL KIT TO OBSERVE THE WORKSHOP PROGRESS**:

**• Impact on the population involved**

Communication is a fundamental aspect of the project. It is essential to raise awareness the public and society to promote interaction within local communities and to make cultural diversities known for greater respect towards the others and for their fundamental rights, to make them participatory in the local community.

During the workshop sometimes mistrust and misunderstanding emerged among the participants, due to the lack of knowledge of a new space and new themes and their different origins.

It was an important step for them to get out of the pre-established space and meet host communities, schools, institutions during citizenship activities, info days and citizenship initiatives to raise awareness of the culture of their countries of origin and it has favoured the interaction with the local community and shared participation.

**• Satisfaction of the participants and the staff**

The following are three short interviews with the animators of the workshops and one participant in reference to the degree of satisfaction of the workshop that has been constantly monitored through audio and video interviews.

***Interview with Giuseppe Pezzulla, animator of the audiovisual workshop.***

“In these months the desire of the participants to express themselves by any means has emerged. Women interviewed also passers-by during some outdoor meetings of the workshop addressing them general questions about differences and intolerances that we fight every day in this period.

A path of growth therefore, not only professional but above human that has seen thirty people know each other, study and become attached, through an apparently technical activity but rich in hundreds of shades ".

***Interview with Massimiliano Bozza and Gianluca Carrisi, animators of the workshop.***

"Interdisciplinary work focus was the meeting and the story of the experiences among migrant and local women, while the chosen artistic language was the cinematographic language. The main wealth and at the same time the greatest challenge was the great variety of cultures of the group. In particular, we had participants from Ukraine, the Ivory Coast, Nigeria, Cameroon, Afghanistan, Iraq, Gambia and Italy with different languages ​​and cultures, different ages, different religions, were perfect unknown before beginning.

During each creative and recreational phase, women alternated in the shooting and recording of songs, rites and numerous details personally and independently chosen by them. The group has itself become the object of the video in the process of creating the video, by taking up the creative moments. The cultural exchange and the affection that has been created among the participants during the creative process, overcoming barriers and inhibitions, suggest that the socio-cultural objective of the project has been fully achieved ".

***Interview with M.D., 19 years old from the Ivory Coast:***

"Despite the daily commitments, such as Italian school or other training course, I never lost a lesson in the workshop. I met new people, first of all my teachers and some Italian women who made me forget the distance from my home and my family.

I live in a hosting project and I'm fine, but I miss my country so much and the workshop was a way to tell about my life and my people and to express myself with the camera.

I discovered a new world, the filmmaking; I would be very interested in continuing a training course in this field once the secondary school is finished ".

**• Difficulties, strengths and weaknesses**

Among the strengths of this workshop there are well-being, openness towards others, recognizing own positive aspects, evaluating / re-evaluating oneself, one's own values, traditions, language, desires, hopes. The main objective for all participating women was to be recognized as women. Some of them participated assiduously, playing an active role also in the activities, others more occasionally and putting themselves out there, especially in the theatre.

The contact between animators and migrant women has been experienced by both parties as an opportunity to increase confidence and empathy, contributing to improve communication in a relationship that has become mutual respect and trust, also thanks to the theatre. On the other hand, three women had to give up their constant attendance for problems related to childcare, two women left the workshop because they were hired by a company.

* **OBJECTIVES**

• **Recording of data related to the implementation of activities, organizing progressively in a global framework that allows maintaining an overview of the development of the project. Providing periodic updates of activities to the actors involved in the management and implementation of actions, both descriptive and evaluative, highlighting strengths and weaknesses, in order to allow and facilitate the operations necessary in the planning process.**

From November 2017 to December 2018: implementation of the artistic creation process, increasing the level of social cohesion by strengthening the relationship of trust among the participants.

Realization of a series of theatrical games for the production of a video, which has been functional to the learning of the techniques of shooting and realization of audio-visuals. Interdisciplinary work centre was the meeting and the narration of experiences among migrant and local women, while the chosen artistic language was the cinematographic one.

The theoretical and practical lessons of shooting and use of the video camera and the theatrical games were used with three different purposes:

- warming up the group, dissolving tensions, de-mechanizing movements, reducing inhibitions and creating an environment suitable for creativity and information exchange;

- re-evoking, through role-playing, individual and collective rituals of the daily life of native country and at the same time common to different cultures, which raise questions and mutual curiosity, and then generate questions and answers useful to structure the interviews, and then give body to the video;

- constructing scenes and choreographies to tell about different cultures.

At first we worked on the observation of moving bodies, mask exchange and active observation.

An important aspect of the theatre is in fact the narration, not only through the word, but also through the music and the gesture of the body. During this first phase, therefore, the participants through the body have narrated moments of daily life, and have retraced small rituals. From the awakening, with the ritual of breakfast, coffee or simple tooth-washing, to lunch and bedtime; particular attention has been given to celebration days such as religious holidays or birthday. The memory has been considered as a fundamental purpose of the workshop.

From December 2017 to January 2018: access to a training course and participation in a collective creative process.

Learning of the different techniques and skills necessary to shoot; knowledge of the camera starting with the basics: what is a camera, what are its potentials and what are the advantages and disadvantages to be shot. The use of the camera as social glue: this was the goal of the workshop, beyond the professional skills facilitated by the Italian language course carried out to acquire a technical language to follow this path.

At this stage the preparation for the filmmaking course started (choice / writing of the subject, video shooting), the light of the camera and its exposure values (how to get more or less light into the camera); interviews with women integrated in the local community, guided tours aimed at knowledge of the territory, film visions, reading of newspapers, analysis of advertising campaigns, etc. The women interviewed people for the collection of life stories or impressions of the host community after a free choice of the subject to be filmed.

From February 2018 to April 2018: self-representation as active agents of the society and contestation of the stereotypes imposed by the society

We proceeded with the realization of a brief editing of the lessons carried out using background music, highlighting the possibility to have the same scene taken from different points of view. Narration of native country: women have led the other participants to know their city on an imaginary walk, full of monuments, churches, mosques and parks.

At a later stage, the participants reproduced their typical markets, and they put on the stalls a wide variety of fabrics and spices.

Some scenes of religious and civil rituals such as marriage or birth and the choice of the name of the children have been created. The participants, alternating between actresses and the public, therefore knew the diversity and at the same time the similarity between the different religious rites, Catholic, Orthodox and Muslim. An important creative moment was the creation of small choreographies and the preparation of the scenic installation with clothes and decoration.

**Italian language lessons**

The idea behind the work is that the theatre can offer an opportunity for self-expression, enhancement of own resources and re-appropriation of own identity and learning the language of the host community is important not only to satisfy the basic needs, but also to share emotions, culture, stories, central themes of the process of social inclusion.

Linguistic support in the creative workshop was fundamental, as well as language courses in the host community through informal tools such as watching films, videos, reading press articles, interviews, and reproducing scenes of common life through the theatre. The words became sounds and music, body and expressiveness; the words were searched and discovered in the Italian language, evoked, remembered, sung in their original languages, placing at the centre the process of appropriation of a new language, Italian, as a communication tool and recognition of self in a new and unknown reality, as well as a vehicle for dialogue with own language and culture.

**• Giving evaluation of the results achieved, referring to quantitative and qualitative indicators.**

Starting from the origin land, leaving home, own life, cuisine, landscapes, sounds, rituals, habits, language, communication registers of your native country, as well as losing the points of reference, social recognition, the sense of autonomy assimilated in the whole journey of a life, one's own identity, are all factors that place the migrants in a state of uncertainty. The delicate emotional, psychological, and family balance, the intellectual and professional resources acquired and conquered in the origin country, are put into serious crisis and can lead to situations of marginality and isolation.

The artistic re-elaboration through concrete activities of personal experiences aimed at communication and sharing with the other allow a re-evaluation and rediscovery of one's own identity and influence motivation and interest to know the other. Moreover, this type of activity, thanks to the concrete artistic outcomes (installations, performances, etc.) is also useful to encourage moments of communication and meeting with the local community, promoting intercultural dialogue and integration paths.

**• Verification of the organization and operating procedures of the activated network.**

A shared reflection was necessary among the professionals involved in the project to set up a methodological approach for the development of the creative workshop to be as effective as possible in order to achieve the general objectives of the project.

The issue of cohabitation between migrants and the local people is now a political priority, and we must consider the characteristics of different people who temporarily or permanently live in our territory. Among the activities of prevention, awareness and information organized by Arci, the participation to national campaigns plays a significant role, for the involvement of people in different contexts, (the week against racism, the week against violence gender, the world refugee day, the international women's day, info days on the countries of origin of migrants, geopolitical dynamics of migrations, structured interventions at school, info days in the municipalities that organize and manage reception migrants centres with Arci).

At the meetings all open to citizenship, the most important representatives of foreign communities and associations engaged in the protection against all forms of discrimination were invited, with direct involvement of the institutions and local associations involved in the prevention and removal of the various forms of discrimination and good practices to adapt against them.

**Methodology and guidelines developed for the workshop animators**

The idea of this workshop is to provide migrant and local women with some tools for the realization of a video, which concerns in particular a theme of common interest (for example health promotion, perception of the migrant woman by the society, life in the countries of origin of the participants, etc.). After this first training session, the group made interviews and images on each theme helped by the animators of the workshop.

The aim of the course is not only to obtain a video, but in particular to provide minimal knowledge in the audio-visual field and to try to stimulate and investigate the needs of the community in relation to the issues dealt with.

At the end of the workshop path participants know how to manage, in an autonomous way, the design and operational processes of the audio-visual and multimedia sector, identifying both in analysis and in their production the expressive, communicative, conceptual, narrative aspects ,

aesthetic and functional that interact and characterize audio-visual research. They know and they are able to employ appropriately the different techniques and essential theories of visual perception.

Some of the participants are also able to identify, analyse and manage the elements of the image, from real or elaborated, fixed or in progress, they know cultural, conceptual, technical and historical-stylistic foundations that interact with their own creative process.

Through "artistic practice", by researching and interpreting the intrinsic value of the reality in all its aspects, the participants have understood the role and cultural and social value of the audio-visual language.

The procedures of the elaboration of the audio-visual product have been deepened, by identifying the concept, the expressive and communicative elements, and the function, through the management of the frame (fields and plans, angles of recovery), time, movement, colour and light.

The audio-visual workshop has contributed to the acquisition and deepening of specific techniques and procedures. It has represented a moment of confrontation, verification or experimentation of the process on the hypotheses and the sequences of work realization.

* **Positive impact of the approach for the integration of migrant women in neighbourhoods and change of mentality.**

It is important today to focus on women as a key player in important migratory flows. Surely it appears as the main interpreter of a slow and silent development in the host society. At the same time, it should not be overlooked that the process of integration and inclusion of the foreign women in our country will facilitate the process of building and consolidating a truly multi-ethnic and intercultural society. During social and cultural meetings with the host community during info days, citizenship initiatives with the students, awareness days as well as the comparison with the stakeholders of the territory, it emerged that concrete experiences and the knowledge increase confidence and empathy, helping to improve mutual communication and trust. Our efforts aimed at mobilizing individuals’ creative resources to create a collective project and a new way of thinking about our territory in the spirit of cosmopolitanism, cultural diversity.

The creative workshop is therefore a pretext to create a place to share and comparison and from this comparison the theme content will be developed through the activities of filmmaking and theatre, under the guidance of expert trainers who will facilitate the construction of an environment of socialization and openness.

**Recommendations to encourage better management of cultural diversity**

Recommendations for political leaders (at EU, national and local level)

1. Supporting and financing networking, self-organization and the active participation of refugees and migrants in arts and culture.

2. Be sensitive to the different needs, interests and abilities of individuals and groups, including people who suffer several forms of disadvantage and / or discrimination.

3. Providing opportunities and spaces for refugees and migrants to manage and participate in artistic and cultural initiatives, including new museums and new exhibitions dedicated to migration (according to a recent joint recommendation by UNESCO and the International Organization for Migration).

4. Taking an active approach in sharing information with policy makers in other areas of intervention (including the responsibles for immigration, education, work / employment, health and social issues).

5. Supporting and financing networks (formal and informal) among cultural organizations supported with public funds, civil society and other stakeholders, to improve policies.

6. Considering cross-sectoral cooperation (for example, with organizations operating in the educational / social / working field) as appropriate measure to finance cultural projects aimed at the integration of migrants.

7. Supporting and financing the development of assessment tools, for the constant monitoring and final evaluation of the project, including indicators related to intercultural dialogue and the performing arts.

Recommendation for stakeholders / cultural institutions of the territory.

1. Evaluating and improving recruitment in cultural organizations, promoting the opportunity to be open to people with different experiences and skills, including refugees and migrants.

2. Identifying project partners to ensure the necessary contact with refugee communities.

3. Giving particular attention to issues related to sensitive elements of refugee communities, such as data protection, security and gender issues.

4. Developing more activities with host communities, including activities between migrants and refugees.

5. Be aware of community awareness and have data on the quality of the relevant public (migrants) and their specific needs / interests (at each stage of the integration process).

6. Adopting learning attitude and critical approach to implement projects and to pay attention to a wider range of results.

7. Participating in networks (formal and informal) between cultural organizations financed with public resources, civil society and other stakeholders, to better understand all aspects of the integration process.

8. Considering cross-sectoral cooperation (for example through actors working in the field of education / social / employment, etc.) as an effective tool for the integration of refugees and migrants.

**CONCLUSION: transferability of creative workshops as educational tools for the social and professional integration of migrant women and promoting the replicability of the action as a best practice to follow.**

Migration and the right to hospitality are fundamental human rights, but the strengthening of personal capacities is often overlooked. Policies and activities that affirm human rights are fundamental for the autonomy and for the empowerment of migrants and refugees. Inadequately managed migratory phenomena, both in transit countries and in host countries, can create challenges requiring rapid responses. In order to address these challenges and the root causes of migration, the EU and its Member States should adopt a more coordinated, systematic and structured approach, strengthening interconnections and coherence between different European policies.

Participation in artistic activities is particularly efficient for the integration of refugees and migrants. Arts and culture offer unique opportunities to unite refugees, migrants and host populations.

The activities proposed during the workshop have been redesigned as a function of experimenting with new spaces and meeting modalities, giving rise to expressive and craft workshops aimed at

facilitating social and professional integration and focusing on a careful language teaching the communicative aspects linked to the self-expression and the manifestation of ideas, opinions and experiences, as a vehicle for the reconstruction of one's own identity in a new reality.

Among the fundamental objectives of the course, in addition to those related to the knowledge of the use of the camera and the consolidation of language skills, there are: well-being, openness to others, recognizing own positive aspects, self-evaluating, own values, traditions, language, desires, hopes. The main objective for all participating women is to be recognized in their totality.

How can we build sustainable communities? How can we achieve integration? In this historical period we need to fight against the growing risk that the suburbs of our cities will turn into incubators of intolerance, resentment and hostility between cultures through the creation of a place of exchange and knowledge between local people and migrants. In fact, creative art makes it possible to create bridges between the cultures of origin and ours, creating a new ground for approaching and meeting citizens, an opportunity for cohesion where migrants can develop their own capacity, thus generating new channels of employment. The aim was to promote the cohesion and social inclusion of migrant citizens, fighting against the stereotyped perception of the migratory phenomenon and spreading coexistence practices between people of different nationalities.