



Co-funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund of the European Union



Review of the "Citizenship Initiative":

Final Report

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#### I. The Application

The "Citizenship Initiative" was already one main activity foreseen at the application of the project. They were planned as monthly local meetings in neighborhoods between migrant women and nonmigrants. Contacts with the local actors-network should be made, roundtable discussions to explain the project and to discuss the daily issues of migrant women entering their social and cultural lives should be developed and carried out. The difficulties encountered daily by migrant women to adapt to social and cultural life should be discussed.

The purpose of the Round Table of Consultation was "to identify together the obstacles and opportunities to be put in place to better integrate immigrant women into the social and cultural life of the neighborhood, to inform migrant women and refugees about existing opportunities (training, cultural activities, Atelier not formal, proximity activities ...), create links between migrant and non-migrant women, debate and dialogue to help break down barriers" between the different cultures and ethnic groups (see the application).

It should have been informal, neighborhood activities, to develop proximity, to unite people and reduce social exclusion.

As intended seven of the eight project-partners (including the lead-applicant) took part in the activity. After the dismissal of the greek partner ALFEA (Pisa, Italy) took over the responsibility for implementing an own Citizenship Initiative.

As phase preparation the months of September to December 2017 were foreseen.

The implementation should take place from January to June 2018, normally once a month, in total each partner involved in this activity should organize six of this neighborhood meetings.





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The first Citizenship Initiative of Arci-Lecce







#### 2. Concepts of the Partners

All six partners already foreseen as responsible for implementing this activities documented their plannings just-in-time. A form for doing this was handed-out by the Lawaetz Foundation in advance.

Almost all partners have planned to inform potential participants with e-mails, whatsapp, facebook and twitter should also be used several times. Existing mail lists could be used in this way. One partner continued working with what he said were highly motivated participants in the Creative Ateliers.

All partners have planned to cooperate with external partners, such as universities, schools, youth groups and sports clubs, libraries and museums as well as the local city and regional administrations.

The partners have described the objectives of the Citizenship Initiative in general and in detail: In addition to informing women about their basic possibilities of social and cultural integration, advisory services have also been developed to provide information about health promotion, language courses and employment opportunities.

Workshops and round-table discussions should be used by almost all partners. In addition, visits to museums played several roles in the planning.

The duration of the meeting was almost exclusively two to three hours.

Finally, all partners planned to document the activities photographically or by video. In addition, power-point presentations were to be used as a working method for several partners.









Agenda of World-Refugee-Day" at Lecce







# 3. The Midterm-Review

To monitor the progress of the local implementation of the "Citizenship Initiative" a midtermreview was done at the beginning of April 2018.

Various results are worth noting:

- It is useful, to involve migrant women themselves, to assign them responsibility
- It is necessary, to look for the right time during the day or at the evening, weekend?
- Attractive, well-known meeting-points were helpful, eg. a public library
- Using already existing contacts was very helpful, eg. regarding the time-wise restricted duration of the project
- Using and compiling existing mailing-lists had the same effect
- Different ways of working were chosen: Dialogue with students, video projections, round-table discussions, workshops, lectures.



A meeting at Slovenia







#### 4. The Final Review

According to the plans of the entire project, the local projects of the Citizenship Initiative should end in June 2018. The partners concerned were therefore asked to report on the implementation and the experience gained after three weeks. A number of topics were at the heart of the project:

#### 4.1. Target-group

According to the available documents, no partner had problems reaching the target groups envisaged. This was certainly due to the use of existing mail-distribution-lists, the cooperation with renowned partners (e.g. universities, family and social centres) and the selection of well-known meeting-points as locations (eg. public libraries).

Next to migrants other target-groups like students, social operators and service-providers, civil servants and politicians, journalists and volunteers working for non-governmental organizations were taking part at the meetings.

# 4.2. Topics

Already at the midterm-review it was reported that a wide range of topics was presented and discussed:

- Health and Health Insurances,
- Schools and Kindergarten,
- Migration and Discrimination,
- Human Rights the Rights of Women,
- Labour-Market and job-search
- History of the local cities
- Local governance-models:
  - administration local politians Media: newspapers NGO

# 4.3. Concrete activities, the ways of working

In addition to the topics, the partners have also opted for a variety of working forms and event formats in line with the innovative character of the project:





For example, one partner took International Women's Day on March 8th as an opportunity to hold a thematically appropriate event with various speakers in a community of the region. The same applies to the "World Refugee Day", which the partner organised together with the UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees). The program of this event concerned workshops, exhibitions, meetings, theatre and music, free and open to all citizens who participated with interest in all activities.

Workshops and round-tables were methods chosen by nearly every partner. The participants could participate in different way, contribute to the success oft he meetings with their own experiences and attitudes, they became "experts-of-their-own".

Another main approach were site-visits and cultural excursions, the participants visited:

- Museums
- Cultural centers,

Lawaetz-Stiftung

- Other districts of the city where they were living
- The local parliament or City-Council

Last not least common activities like cooking, sport and dancing were other tried and successfully tested approaches.

# 4.4. Modification of the work

There was one important modification of the first concepts, related tot he dismissal of the greek partner. ALFEA (Pisa, Italy) took over relative late the responsibility fort he implementation of a Citizenship Initiative (see chapter 1).

Other main changings of the plannings made in 2017 and at the first weeks of 2018 cann't be seen.

#### 4.5. Results

Given the different nature of the events in the different cities, the results of the meetings were also different:

- New forms of cooperation and partners were found,
- Construction of a network of contacts with other stakeholders, a process of sharing information on projects and mutual initiatives took place, enriching the debate and the common vision on the topic of migration and inclusion







- Migrants and non-migrants have jointly developed further event formats
- Better coexistence between locals and migrants

#### 4.6. Impact

According to the assessment of several partners, these different results, which can currently be observed, are also expected to have medium-term effects:

One partner assumes that migrants will become more attuned to the culture of their new homeland and that the local population will be able to better understand the challenges posed by immigration.

Another partner saw during the activities gradually change the relationships with other stakeholders of the area. The partner watched more frequent communications and smoother information exchange and collaboration, he noticed a more open and fluid collaboration.

At the same time, it should be emphasised that the decentralised implementation of citizenship in several partner countries will certainly not increase the development of effective impacts in the medium term.

# 4.7. Success-factors

Despite the differences between the Citizenships realized by the transnational there can be common aspects and factors of success seen:

- Giving the migrants and other participants an active role
- Finding the right relationship of concreteness (discussion and debate) and openness
- Supporting a real dialogue face-to-face, listening to the real problems
- Accepting diversity, different realities and points of view
- Not only carrying out the activities, but to learn how to communicate them effectively to the outside





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A meeting of the Spanish partner "Fundación Pública Andaluza El legado andalusí"







# 5. Summary

On the one hand diverse approaches were developed and carried out by the different partners of the project EnFeM:

- Some partners decided for a spatially concentrated work (at one city), others preferred a de-concentrated concept, they included several cities at a region or the whole country,
- Different topics were chosen by the partners: next to political themes more practical aspects of the daily life (eg. health and job-search) were chosen,
- the target-groups and participants at the individual meeting were changing or identical.

These differences make it difficult to describe overall results and make recommendations. At the same time, however, several similarities can be identified, which could also be described as success factors and adopted by other providers as "good practice":

- - Use of existing contacts or mail distribution lists
- - Cooperation with external partners,
- - Select well-known locations as meeting points



A meeting of the Spanish partner "Alianca por la Solidaridad"







# 6. Links

Meanwhile there are other suggestions for the development of comparable projects available, existing guidelines and experience reports can be downloaded:

Working with Migrants and Refugees. Guidelines, Tools and Methods: http://www.iynf.org/download/Working%20with%20Migrants%20and%20Refugees%20-%20Guidelines%20,%20Tools%20and%20Methods.pdf

Inclusion of Migrants in and through Sports: A Guide to Good Practice: https://adsdatabase.ohchr.org

Art gallery guide education program for refugees: http://campcph.org/guide-program/

Do your own migration story activities or programs: https://www.chicagobotanic.org/sites/default/files/pdf/education/connect/MIGRATION-STORIES-Part-2-Do-Your-Own-Program.pdf

<u>The Welcoming Training, Sharing Practices and Collaborative Scenarios:</u> https://www.tellmeproject.com/learning-activities/

Finding Best Practice - Inclusion of refugees and migrants:

https://www.rodekors.no/globalassets/globalt/rapporter/nasjonal-omsorg-aktivitetsrapporter/best-practice-refugee-guide-2018.pdf



One meeting of the Citizenship-Initiative at Hamburg.