



Newsletter 2

June 2018

**2nd Newsletter for the MigrEmpower project
(Itineraries and resources for migrants and
refugees' empowerment and integration)**

Introduction

This is the second issue of the MigrEmpower project's newsletter. The newsletter marks the project's 9 months completion and the initiation of two of the most important Intellectual Outputs of the project, which are related to the development of the tools for the creation of the "Orientation and counseling handbook for migrants and refugees' self-evaluation of competences" and the Modules for the "Training package for reinforcing migrants and refugees' competences". In this issue, you can read about the second project meeting, the outputs under development and the partners' dissemination activities.

Second Partner Meeting in Leipzig (Germany) on the 20th and 21st March 2018

The partners of the MigrEmpower project met on the 20th and 21st March in Leipzig (Germany) on the occasion of the 2nd project meeting. They had the chance of sharing the results of the "Study on policies and good practices addressed to migrants and refugees' social and labour integration" and plan the MigrEmpower itinerary with migrants and/or refugees that each partner will carry out in the following months. Discussions about the tools they are going to use with beneficiaries also took place. The partners agreed the following steps to be the development of the finalised working tools and modules in order to start acquiring data and implement the project's activities in order to help migrants and/or asylum seekers to enter the labour market and integrated in the community of the hosting country.



Orientation and counselling handbook for professional working with migrants (IO2)

As part of the MigrEmpower project, the German partner WISAMAR is working on a handbook for professionals, containing useful tools for the guided self-assessment of migrants and refugees. The research tools have already been completed and will be tested by all project partners in September/October 2018, who will afterwards provide feedback on their use in practice. Spread across three individual client sessions and one group meeting, the method proposed encourages an in-depth look at migration history,



personal characteristics, work and school background, social network and ends with the creation of a CV and a personal action plan. The final version of the handbook will be made available in English, French, Greek, Spanish, Italian and German in March 2019.

The recruitment of participants for the pilot phase is starting soon, so if you are interested in participating, please get in touch using the contact form on the project's website.

> Training package of the project (IO3) <

One of the main activities of the project is the elaboration of a training package for reinforcing migrants and refugees' competences to promote their social and labour integration in hosting countries. Partners are currently working on developing the modules and they are also sharing ideas towards their development, which will be around the following topics:

- 1) Computer literacy
- 2) Linguistic literacy
- 3) Citizenship and social skills
- 4) Communication and personal brand
- 5) Self-employment

Once the modules are completed by all partners, a round of feedback will take place in order to ensure that the modules are of the best quality and revise the points that need attention. Following this the finalised version will be shared with the consortium of partners, who will translate the modules and implement them in September/October 2018.

Once the modules are completed by all partners, a quality check and translations in partners' own languages will be carried out in order to have the Modules ready to be tested in September/October 2018.

> Acción Contra el Hambre: "On our way to bring self-employment closer to our participants" (IO3) <

For the purposes of the MigrEmpower project, Acción Contra el Hambre has been working on the "Self-employment" Module with cooperation of other organizations and projects in Catalonia (Spain). With the aim to include diversity of visions and experiences, as well as different methodologies, Acción Contra el Hambre presented the MigrEmpower project to a number of institutions and initiatives. For instance, Acción Contra el Hambre had the chance to talk with Marta Pérez Viñas, from Dones pel futur and Oriol López Planas, co-founder of Chapter#2, in order to share methodologies, challenges and opportunities for the future.

During the meeting, Acción Contra el Hambre exchanged points of view around how to bring entrepreneurship closer to a group of participants that at first are not interested in starting a business. Some of the ideas that came up are related to work on soft skills such as self-knowledge and self-confidence and let the participants find out if their desire is to create a business. In addition, there were discussions on how the urban context shapes migrants' and asylum seekers' experiences and specifically their potential jobs. The gathering was an opportunity to get to know other projects, with whom the MigrEmpower project shares goals and therefore, possibly lead to future alliances.





Guidelines for planning and carrying out actions aimed at promoting migrants and refugees' employability

AMSED has developed the final draft of the internal guidelines for the Migrempower project partners regarding the "Guidelines for planning and carrying out actions aimed at promoting migrants and refugees' employability". These guidelines describe the ways that partners can implement different activities in each country in order to improve refugees'/migrants' competences and facilitate the socio-professional inclusion. In addition, guidelines for beneficiaries have been developed in order to help the beneficiaries of the project (migrants/refugees) to address some complicated questions as for the socio-professional inclusion and development of one's network.

MigrEmpower at SÜDWIND STRASSENFEST

The MigrEmpower project was presented at the biggest Austrian's Civil Society Festival organised by Südwind on the 26 of May 2018, an event that welcomed over 5000 visitors, among other activities of Südwind. Project flyers have also been distributed to visitors, who expressed a special interest in following the outputs of the project.



Red2Red disseminated the MigrEmpower project in the working breakfast by INCIPE

On the 4th May 2018, Red2Red had the opportunity to participate in the working breakfast organised by INCIPE, the Institute for International Affairs and Foreign Policy, entitled "Hanger, climate and war: origins of migration" and conducted by Ms. Jennifer Nyberg, Head of the office in Madrid of the World Food Programme (WFP).

During the event, the results of the 2016 WFP Annual Performance Report were presented, focusing the conversation on the reasons of migration, that are undernourishment, low economic growth and existence of a previous diaspora and which compel people to migrate to other countries.



In addition, the problems of Sahel region in Africa were highlighted as nowadays millions of people are in situation of extreme vulnerability provoked by poor rains that destroyed crops. Therefore, the WFP foresees that more than 5 million people will require food aid in the following 4 years, aggravating the food security situation and provoking new migrations. In order to avoid that situation, WFP proposes to solve by political means conflicts, to take into account the relationship between climate change, hunger and conflict; to boost education, to provide support to vulnerable groups and to build resilience and to empower women in countries with the highest risk of hanger.

SANSAT's dissemination activities

In March 2018, SANSAT held 2 internal dissemination meetings and 1 internal exploitation meeting. The two dissemination meetings were attended by the SANSAT employees committed to the home-care services. Out of 24 participants, 17 came from other countries (Romania, Ukraine, Poland, Chile, Peru and Nigeria) and experienced the problems and difficulties of immigration: having to let go of their loved ones, nostalgia, discrimination and their constant integration efforts. Many of them had already been involved in the BIS project in 2012, which means they also attended the 5 workshops aimed at the Development of the Intercultural Dimension into the organisation and at the Self-Learning Laboratory.

During the meetings, the objectives and activities of the MigrEmpower project were presented and the flyers were distributed. Participants were also asked to give their opinion about the project. Most of them were happy with this new project and many offered to cooperate through meetings with beneficiaries and share their experience. Four coordinators of internal services participated in the exploitation meeting. It was focused on the Intellectual Outputs of the MigrEmpower project, especially on the assessment tools: Orientation and Counselling Itinerary. Participants evaluated the tools drafted positively, providing opinions and suggestions for improvement.



CARDET presented the MigrEmpower project during the fourth WELCOME partner meeting in Cyprus on the 19th April 2018

CARDET hosted the fourth partner meeting of the WELCOME project in Cyprus on the 19th April 2018. During the meeting, several projects were presented to the consortium of partners in relation to migration and integration. One of these projects was the MigrEmpower project, which was presented as a good practice by CARDET. CARDET analysed the objectives of the project and provided an in-depth description of the process that are followed in order to promote the entrepreneurship among the project target groups as a way of improving their social and labour situation in each of the participating countries. In addition, CARDET explained the way of developing the working tools, which aim at supporting target groups' social and labour integration to facilitate their access to training and employment. A fruitful discussion among between CARDET and the WELCOME partners took place, leaving CARDET with a valuable feedback in order to improve the future outcomes of the project.

During the event, the results of the 2016 WFP Annual Performance Report were presented, focusing the conversation on the reasons of migration, that are undernourishment, low economic growth and existence of a previous diaspora and which compel people to migrate to other countries.





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