
Best Practices Transferability Report

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Molise Region



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1. INTRODUCTION

The phenomenon of migration for the Mediterranean cannot be considered an accidental fact, but it is tied up to its geographical position that makes it the crossroad of the passage and the encounter of the people that crosses it. The Mediterranean is one of the core of the migratory courses that historically interest Europe and that currently has assumed dramatic characteristics both for the numbers of the migrants that try to cross the Mediterranean illegally that for the causes (especially humanitarian) that determine these displacements.

Behind the crisis problems, the migration phenomena is a challenge for Mediterranean regions that, addressed in a positive way, can give to the territories involved tools for a social and economic growth. Migrants actively contribute to the economic, social and cultural development of European societies. Their successful integration into society is crucial to maximising the opportunities and the contributions that immigration can make to EU development.

The current EU policy document of reference is Action Plan on the integration of third country nationals that European Commission adopted on June 2016¹. It foresees comprehensive framework to support Member States' efforts in developing and strengthening their integration policies, and describes the concrete measures the Commission will implement in this regard. The Plan includes actions across all the policy areas that are crucial for integration.

The key policy areas of interventions identified in the document are social inclusion, labor market and vocational training, access to basic services (healthcare and housing), participation in the social life. It also contains tools to strengthen coordination between the different actors working on integration at national, regional and local level. The Commission foresees concrete actions and activities to be carried out by the Member States and relevant stakeholders in those sectors.

At international level, the Sustainable Development Goals contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, foresees at the Goal n. 10 target 10.7 to “Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”².

1.1 OVERALL OBJECTIVE OF THE REPORT

¹ https://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/legal-migration/integration/action-plan-integration-third-country-nationals_en

² <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg10>

The Best Practices Transferability Report contains projects, strategies, initiatives, approaches and activities proved to be effective, sustainable and transferable, and reaching to the prefixed result. The report is intended to:

- collect the best practices in the Mediterranean region of on innovation and migration;
- share and exchange ideas and information on existing approaches, initiatives and activities which have been realised in the field of migration and innovation;
- represent a source of inspiration and examples for the implementation of other projects in the field of migration and social innovation in the Mediterranean region.

The field of the present research concerns the issues related the migration to the theme of the Innovation and in the specific social innovation with the focus of social entrepreneurship in the area of the Mediterranean.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. APPROACH USED

The research was carried out following the guidelines contained in the “Methodology to tackle migration”³. This document was used with flexibility and the approach was adapted to the necessities of the research.

The first thing done was to identify and to map innovation projects related to migration in the Mediterranean region with this approach:

- identification of innovation policies and practices for the social inclusion of migrants focused on social entrepreneurship;
- identification of innovation policies and practices for the labour market integration;
- identification of innovation policies and practices to generate economic and social opportunities in the territories affected by migration.

The analysis of the projects was realized in two steps:

First phase: Identification of projects

- Desk analysis: done via keep.eu website and the INTERACT analysis.

Field of the analysis: social innovation and migration with a focus on social entrepreneurship and labour integration.

³ This document was provided by ERVET ER (now ART – ER) in the framework of WP4 – Methodology and Evaluation.

Second phase: interviews to projects selected via online questionnaire⁴. It was structured as follow:

1. a section for investigate the key elements of the practice;
2. a section aims to explore if elements related to labour inclusion and social entrepreneurship (in particular in new business models);
3. a specific section was introduced to explore the connection of the practice with the south side of Mediterranean.

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The analysis considered projects that have at least one partner of MED area. The selected projects, in this stage, come from Interreg Programmes.

This Report wants be a tool for the sharing of positive experiences interesting and potentially transferable. It will be updated in a second stage of project implementation also with practices coming from other financing instruments where possible and when compatible with the parameters of interest of the project.

3. EXAMPLES FROM THE FIELD. SELECTED PROJECTS AS BEST PRACTICES

The Best Practices selected come from different institutions and Programmes, as well as the area of intervention, for that it is not always easily comparable. Furthermore, social innovation and migration are new topics with not a wide range of projects to analyze. The two projects selected come from INTERREG VB Central Europe 2014-2020 and INTERREG VB Alpine Space 2014-2020. The first in closed and the positive assessment is carried out on results reached, the second is in an ongoing phase and the results are still to be achieved.

The following Best Practices (it is not a list) want to provide examples of interventions that can be transferred and can be replicated taking into account the territorial diversity and their different needs. The element of transferability is a focal point for the good practices individualized. The second aspect concerns the value and the level of territorial networks and partnerships. The positive impact of the interventions on the target group of reference is another key element considered, in particular the capacity of the project in the involving of migrants as actors in the project. The last element considered in this report is having dealt with the issue of labour inclusion and / or social entrepreneurship as element to promote social integration.

The key element is social innovation as a type of innovation that address social needs and that includes solutions in the welfare system, in the empowerment of citizens and in the social use of technologies with the aim of general well – being. Social innovation foresees new approach

⁴ The questionnaire is based on questions contained in the methodology to tackle migration, provided by ERVET ER (now ART – ER) and given online.

and solutions to tackle societal challenges. From this point of view, it includes new process, new models, new ideas and services that have a high level of transferability and a broad impact.

Both the projects foresees the implementation of innovative pilot projects of activities that are developed by local actor. The process has a bottom up logical with the involvement of local communities and enhancement of the migrant as the protagonist of the process. The capabilities to respond to the real needs on the local and regional level and having were co-designed and developed with local actors the pilot projects is a key factor for the success of the practices and their sustainability meeting the needs of the territories.

Another significant common point of the selected projects is the development of innovative actions that try to face demographic changes⁵ (that represent a common problem and challenge of many territories in the Mediterranean area) with the presence and integration of migrants. In this way, the phenomena of migration that often is seen as a problem become an opportunity to face a societal challenge of many region and Country of Mediterranean.

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3.1.EXPLORING SOCIAL INNOVATION APPROACHES FOR THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF NON-EU NATIONALS - ARRIVAL REGIONS (INTERREG VB CENTRAL EUROPE 2014 - 2020)

3.1.1 PROJECT SUMMARY

ACRONYM / TITLE	Exploring social innovation approaches for the social and economic integration of non-EU nationals/Arrival Regions
PROGRAMME	2014 - 2020 INTERREG VB Central Europe
PRIORITY	Innovation and knowledge development
DURATION (START-END)	01-04-2019 31-03-2022
WEBSITE	www.interreg-central.eu/Content.Node/national/information/Arrival-Regions.html
COUNTRIES INVOLVED	Germany Poland Czech Republic Croatia

⁵ This is the objective of the project “Arrival Regions”, but it’s an element present also in PlurAlps. Further information are contained in the description of the practices.

	Bosnia Herzegovina Italy
LEAD/PARTNER	Leibniz InstitutNe for Regional GeogRaphy
PARTNERS	Burgenland district Center Rotunda, Koper National Union of mountain municipalities and mountain communities – UNCEM Piemonte University of West Bohemia in Pilsen City of Osijek LAG Escartons and Waldensians Valleys Information legal centre Mountain Union of Mongia e Cevetta Valley Langa Cebana Alta Valle Bormida University of Szczecin Municipality of Postojna Lodzkie Region Westpomeranian Region

3.1.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE⁶

- Objectives

The Arrival Regions project will build the capacities of policymakers in nine rural areas that face population decline and ageing to improve the integration of young non-EU migrants into the communities’ social life and employment to stabilise their demography. Partners will develop a toolbox of possible approaches and offer various trainings. Furthermore, the project also aims to change the foremost negative perception of non-EU migration.

- Expected Results

Status of capacities of the public and private sector for skills development of employees and entrepreneurial competences achieved through transnational cooperation driving economic and social innovation in central European regions.

- Expected Outputs

The main result of ARRIVAL REGIONS are enhanced skills and knowledge of social innovation approaches among stakeholders in the labour market and societal integration of non-EU nationals. The learning from transnational exchange and pilots of social innovation approaches and the creation of local stakeholder alliances for long-term concerted action in promoting the integration of non-EU nationals are other important results of the project. The project foresees the advancement of capacities

⁶ Some of the informations provided are available on keep.eu website. Others have been found on the website of the project and on the questionnaire.

among the 135 stakeholders from all partner territories. They will get directly involved in ARRIVAL REGIONS activities (including among others trainings, transnational peer review, local stakeholder alliances' activities). Furthermore, many more Central European actors from rural areas will have access to the tool-box outlining successfully piloted approaches and the complete documentation of realised transnational learning activities. The partners' experiences and good practices are added up to a Transnational Strategy showing how social innovation approaches are beneficial for the social and labour-market integration of non-EU nationals. Further to the advanced skills and knowledge among public authorities, NGO and business support organisations pulling forces for the integration of non-EU nationals, the project activities are expected to directly improve the situation of more than 1,000 migrants addressed by the project's foreseen pilot activities.

- Specific Objective

To improve skills and entrepreneurial competences for advancing economic and social innovation in central European regions.

The following section will describe the project, detailing the specific criteria used in the analysis.

Innovation. The project is improving activities that are testing social Innovation approaches to tackle local challenges regarding migration in depopulating rural areas, transnational cooperation and the involvement of several target groups in the project activities.

Effectiveness and Sustainability. The project is expecting that the activities of trainings, pilot initiatives and knowledge transfer will have a “lasting effect” and that the tool box will be used by the project partners and other rural stakeholders in Central Europe in the future to create local cultures of welcome and to make rural areas more attractive for non-EU nationals.

Transferability. The final output of the Project, the transnational tool-box, is expected to be replicable in different contexts.

Governance. Some Project Partners plan Pilot initiatives that would test organisational changes in their regions.

Involvement of migrants as actors or beneficiaries. In the project Arrival Regions, this element varied depending on the Pilot initiative. Migrants will be addressed directly in the upcoming pilot initiatives; they will also be involved in the assessment of the project as peer reviewers.

Territorial level. This element in Arrival Regions contemplates different levels in different countries (NUTS2, NUTS3, LAU1). 135 stakeholders from all partner territories will get directly involved in Arrival Regions activities (including among others trainings, transnational peer review and local stakeholder alliances' activities). The project foresees the involvement of many more Central European actors from rural areas.

Organisations and actors involved. Local and regional administrations/governments, NGOs, research institutions. The projects has the horizontal and vertical involvement capacity (Mainstreaming effects).

Solutions developed/adopted for migrants' labour inclusion or for the promotion of social entrepreneurship. The project aims to create supportive environments in the partner regions, including a better cooperation of local governments, social and economic stakeholders and the migrants themselves. Some of the planned pilot initiatives will deal with the labour market inclusion of migrants. The promotion of social entrepreneurship is not an objective of the project.

3.2.ENHANCING CAPACITIES FOR A PLURALISTIC ALPINE SPACE – PLURALPS (INTERREG VB ALPINE SPACE 2014 – 2020)

3.2.1 PROJECT SUMMARY

ACRONYM / TITLE	PLURALPS - ENHANCING CAPACITIES FOR A PLURALISTIC ALPINE SPACE
PROGRAMME	2014 - 2020 INTERREG VB Alpine Space
PRIORITY	Innovative Alpine Space
DURATION (START-END)	01-11-2016 31-10-2019
WEBSITE	www.alpine-space.eu/projects/pluralps/
COUNTRIES INVOLVED	Austria Italy Slovenia France
LEAD/PARTNER	Regional Development Vorarlberg eGen
PROJECT PARTNERS	Urban Planning Institute of the Republic of Slovenia Auvergne Rhone-Alps Region Regional Development Agency Upper Styria East GmbH Community Network Alliance in the Alps CIPRA International Lab GmbH Franco Demarchi Foundation

3.2.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE EXAMPLE OF BEST PRACTICE⁷

- Objectives

PlurAlps project aims to increase the territorial attractiveness, social cohesion and social innovation capacity of mountainous and peripheral Alpine municipalities and regions. The project enhances the capacities for the delivery of services of general interest for migrants in municipalities. It will demonstrate examples of multilevel and cross-sectorial cooperation for welcoming services and will raise awareness of pluralism, welcoming culture and the integration in our Alpine societies of migrants.

- Expected Results

The project aims to improve the level of capacity of social organisations and public authorities to deliver innovation in the field of social services and services of general interest through transnational networking.

- Expected Outputs

The project reached three main outputs:

- 1) the municipalities are enabled to engage in social planning considering aspects of integration affecting the quality of life of all citizens ;
- 2) the capabilities of municipalities, SMEs, and social organisations for cross-sectorial cooperation for welcoming services are strengthened ;
- 3) knowledge and awareness regarding the integration of migrants in Alpine municipalities and regions is improved.

The results contribute to improve conditions for social innovation in municipalities and SMEs.

- Specific Objective

The overall objective of the project is to Increase the capacities of local territories for the delivery of services of general interest in a changing society.

⁷ Some of the informations provided are available on keep.eu website. Others have been found on the website of the project and on the questionnaire.

The following section will describe the project, detailing the specific criteria used in the analysis.

Innovation. The innovative aspect of the project consists in the implementation of nine pilot projects and one social planning instrument.

Effectiveness and Sustainability. The PlurAlps project partners describe the cooperation and communication with their local implementation partners as a positive experience that benefited both sides. What is important in this respect is to follow a participatory approach right from the beginning. The pilot activities need to be jointly defined with local stakeholders. Although it is a long process, it increases the impact of the activities and the long-term commitment of the local implementation partners. All PlurAlps partners see their pilot projects as sustainable measures for the integration of migrants. The main reason cited for the sustainability of the pilot projects is that they respond to the real needs on the local and regional level and those were co-designed and developed with local actors. In addition, the personal motivation of some of the local project partners is a key factor for the sustainability of the pilot projects. In addition, the broad involvement of stakeholders (local and regional public authorities, sectoral agencies, NGOs, higher education and research, etc.) is also crucial for the long-term sustainability of the actions.

Transferability. The main elements of the pilot projects were summarized in a tool box. These elements can be replicated. The most suitable elements for such transfers are contained in the PlurAlps innovation toolbox. The objective of this instrument consists in sharing what has been learned, make processes transparent and inspire further ideas and projects in other regions. The pilot projects focus on new offers and services for the social and labour market inclusion of migrants. The new service developed and implemented by the partners included topics such as information delivery for newcomers (online platforms and welcome events) Intercultural Coaches / Mediator / Tutors (Job and Housing coaches employed by municipalities), organising volunteers to support the integration process, language competences (new language training formats for rural areas combining child care and language training for women, or teaching local dialects). These elements face challenges common to many territories (in particular the internal and rural areas) and represent a replicable and transferable approach to tackle the issue of migration and local development with innovative and participatory solutions.

Governance. The project PlurAlps shows that integration issues should be tackled at the lowest level of governance. At local level, the trust between the various actors is highest, so the problems related to the integration can be better solved. One of the main impacts of the pilot projects is that the stakeholders experience that migration does not need to be a source of fear and conflict.

Involvement of migrants as actors or beneficiaries. Many of the pilot projects tried to support the development of a welcoming culture in municipalities, regions and organisations. The interventions created opportunities for meetings and direct exchange between local people and migrants, within contexts structured for this purpose.

Territorial level. Local and regional level.

Organisations and actors involved. The actors involved in the project are ten partner organisations from the Alpine Space. The PlurAlps partners launched pilot projects in the fields

of social integration, labour market integration and environmental and landscape conservation. Local or regional implementation partnerships were formed to involve different actors such as municipalities, SMEs, NGOs and other stakeholders. In total, more than 80 organisations and institutions in the six participating Alpine countries were involved in the implementation of the pilot projects.

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Solutions developed/adopted for migrants' labour inclusion or for the promotion of social entrepreneurship. The pilot projects focus on new offers and services for the social and labour market inclusion of migrants. Examples come from two pilot projects. The project "Heimat Vinschgau", implemented by the municipality of Mals/Malles (Italy) with Eurac Research, focused on different fields among which labour market inclusion. Through a job-coach, information on labour rights and obligations are provided to immigrants/asylum seekers, in order to enhance autonomy and enable free movement of newcomers within the labour market and related institutions. The second example coming from the pilot projects is called "L'Arbu" and implemented in Piedmont Region (Italy). It aims to train a migrant with the objective of building up a mountain farm in cultivation of typically local products. One of the migrants living in the valley attends a training course provided during which his personal and professional project is developed. He also worked for a local cooperative for one year. Attending this vocational training he improves his working skills.