



Call for proposal under Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (2014-2020) 2018 - AMIF-2018-AG-INTE

Priority 1: Local and regional networks for the integration of third-country nationals

General objective

This project proposal has the ambitious objective of creating a network among authorities at local and regional level of the European Union aimed at fostering integration among migrant populations and host societies, thus encouraging a new awareness that renders all involved people the main actors of a new way of conceiving the social fabric, through a cultural path that overcomes barriers and fears mainly based on ignorance intended as non-knowledge. The involved partners have gained direct experiences in those sectors closely linked to the fulfilment of the individual's needs without neglecting his or her dignity and so, concerning topics such as housing, education and training, access to healthcare services, integration in the labour market, social inclusion through sports, arts and cultural activities in general. Of great value will be the contribution of local and/or regional authorities that have implemented political strategies at the benefit of integration in their territories.

Actions

Convinced that children and youth are the fertile ground to invest in, in order to shape a "global" and conscious population, our action will aim at organising training sessions focusing on the history of peoples (in particular, of hosted peoples) to better understand their customs and traditions, as well their reasons to migrate. This training sessions may tangibly offer an opportunity for overcoming mental and cultural barriers, and be a real occasion for integration and mutual acquaintance. Side activities will be sports and art activities, as well as fair cooking to share a common goal and to socialise, which will allow cultures to encounter, thus making an added value out of integration. This will let us identify psychological criticalities that may emerge when migrants and host societies really meet, and help identify the most urgent needs in the attempt to provide adequate response, at least in the reference context.

The local and regional authorities involved will gather the on-the-field experiences gained through these pilot actions of mutual learning and integration and will enrich their own knowledge and know-how by means of constant exchange among the entire partnership. This way, the network will have the chance to consolidate and create a perspective on reality that is close to the territory and the people, which can be subsequently capitalised with future actions on integration of migrants.



Partnership

The partnership includes local and regional authorities such as municipalities, regional services, schools and/or universities, with the active participation of NGOs, cultural, sport art promotion associations and SMEs.

Expected results and long-term effects

The specific role of the local and regional authorities will be to gather and share experiences on the field, best practices and knowledge at transnational level in collaboration with the partner NGOs, cultural, sport art promotion associations and SMEs, inevitably leading to contribute to the national and EU political debate on immigration. This last aspect will allow the project to produce long-term effects: The proposal intends to combine real needs and institutional approaches, to raise awareness of territories, and at the same time to enhance local and/or regional authorities' know-how when orienting political decisions, even more when identifying operational objectives and related financial actions.