DEVELOPMENT OF INCLUSIVE INTEGRATION PATHS 4 MIGRANT WOMEN

ENGAGE

Press Release

ENGAGE
Women Circles (workshops and dialogues)

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ENGAGE Project Empowers Third Country National Women for Inclusive Integration

The ENGAGE project, (Development of inclusivE iNteGration pAths 4 miGrant women), continues to make progress in its mission to enhance the capacity of Third Country National (TCN) women to enter the labor market and social life of the host society. With TCN women representing 45% of refugees in the EU, the project aims to address their unique integration challenges and contribute to their social and economic inclusion. To achieve this, ENGAGE has developed comprehensive up-skilling workshops and training materials for both TCN women and Labor Market Stakeholders (LMS).

TCN women, particularly migrant women, face numerous hurdles in their integration journey, including lower activity and employment rates, a higher risk of poverty, and limited access to skilled occupations. These challenges are often attributed to lower education levels and fewer opportunities in their home countries, which reinforce gender inequality and hinder their economic prospects. Recognizing the importance of an effective integration process, ENGAGE has created tailored training programs for both TCN women and LMS to bridge these gaps.

The up-skilling workshops for TCN women, named "Welcome Educational Pack for migrant women," consist of various modules aimed at facilitating their settlement and integration into the host community. The first module focuses on familiarizing TCN women with the characteristics of the host country, including its history, culture, values, norms, and access to public services. By providing this knowledge, the training equips TCN women with the necessary skills and attitudes to navigate their new environment successfully.

Simultaneously, the project has developed capacity-building materials for LMS called the "Capacity Building Material for Labour Market Stakeholders." The first module of this training program sheds light on the specific characteristics of migrant women in partner countries, highlighting their skills, competences, cultural backgrounds, migratory experiences, and language proficiency. By increasing the awareness and understanding of LMS about migrant women's social positions and unique needs, the module aims to foster inclusive employment practices and innovative solutions.

The project consortium recently convened in Magliano near Lecce, Italy, for a productive partner's meeting. The partners discussed the progress of individual work packages, with a particular focus on the up-skilling workshops for TCN women and LMS, as well as the development of job shadowing schemes. Learning materials and tools for the modules have been finalized, allowing the workshops to commence. The partners emphasized the importance of tailoring the workshop organization to suit the specific requirements of the target groups, ensuring maximum effectiveness.

Another significant topic of discussion was the development of Women's Circle activities, including art workshops, structured dialogues, and volunteering activities. These events will provide opportunities for migrant and local women to engage and collaborate, promoting cultural exchange and mutual empowerment. The partners exchanged ideas, methodologies, and practices to ensure the successful implementation of these activities, and they eagerly anticipate the production of documentary movies documenting these events.

One notable Women's Circle Art Shop took place in Ljubljana, Slovenia, at Skuhna, a popular social/migrant restaurant. The workshop centered around hospitality, food preparation, customs, storytelling, and traditional clothing associated with festive meals in Iraq. Participants had the opportunity to immerse themselves in the culture of hospitality in Iraq, even in a new context, fostering understanding and appreciation for diverse traditions. As the ENGAGE project moves forward, it remains committed to its mission of empowering TCN women and promoting their inclusive integration into the labor market and society. The project consortium will continue to collaborate and implement the up-skilling workshops, job shadowing schemes, and Women's Circle activities, further advancing the objectives of the project.

For more information about the ENGAGE Project and its initiatives, please visit https://amif-engage.eu/or follow us on social media: @amif-engage.eu, @ProjectEngageU, @engage_project.

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