The Project Labour INT brought concrete support to hundreds of asylum seekers and refugees for their better labour market integration in Europe. Through the project representatives of local organizations and public authorities were included in various training activities.

The project LABOUR-INT was built on the cooperation and dialogue of the European Economic and Social partners to support opportunities for integration of migrants and refugees into the European labour market. The LABOUR-INT 2 (2019-2021) aimed at further meeting the objectives of the first Phase of the project (2016-2018) to identify common solutions for the challenges faced by migrants in their access to the labour market, with a specific focus on skills and qualifications.

Particularly the LABOUR-INT 2 project aimed to:
- Promote employment as a key part of the integration process of asylum seekers and refugees in the society.
- Support multi-layered and multi-stakeholder integration paths for recently arrived migrants across the EU- from their arrival up to the workplace, through skills assessment, training, and job placement.

It was based on the specific “LABOUR-INT approach” of cooperation, dialogue and commitment of economic and social partners and fostering collaboration with other relevant stakeholders in the public, private and not-for-profit sector. Three pilot actions have been implemented in Austria (Tyrol), Greece (Athens) and Italy (Naples) during the second phase of the project together with the follow up of the LABOUR-INT 1 pilot actions in Belgium, Germany, and Italy.
Each of them has dealt with specific subjects related to the integration of asylum-seekers and refugees in the labour market. In Italy the project helped the Labour market integration of asylum-seekers in the agricultural sector in Naples providing legal employment opportunities in the Campania region where recently arrived asylum and protection seekers were hosted in reception and urban centres.

This pilot action was built on a protocol signed in May 2016 aiming at fighting “caporalato” (The illegal employment of agricultural workers for very little pay) and exploitation in the agricultural sector. The protocol was signed by several stakeholders (employment, agricultural and interior ministers, and various regions in the South of Italy, sectoral trade unions, cooperatives, and NGOs.

The Greek Pilot Action called “From reception to integration of beneficiaries of international protection in Athens” was implemented in partnership of EKA (the Athens Labour Unions Organization) & and KEK GSEVEE (the Vocational Training Centre of the Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen and Merchant) with the support of the Municipality of Athens, NGOs based in Athens (Elaiionas refugee camp & accommodation units) and the multinational team of Solomon (Media for social inclusion and diversity).

Several Integration training seminars on labour, social and TU rights in Greece were followed by a second module of Digital seminars with certification. In addition, a Pilot testing of the EU Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals was held. The Pilot Testing of the Tool was implemented also in Tyrol, Austria where it stepped up the Tyrolean Integration Compass – a tool created for Integration in the education sector and labour market by the Austrian partner Tiroler Soziale Dienste. An Expert Group on Skills and Migration (EGSM) lead by FIERI assessed the implementation of the EU Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals in Greece and Italy and explored the potential of technological innovation in refugees and migrants’ integration into the labour market. To this end two field research missions in both countries were implemented. The final result of these actions was a Mapping of ICT tools and Reports produced in the context of the EGSM.

After the completion of the project LABOUR-INT the Trade Unions continue to focus their future efforts on the following areas:
- Adoption of a Multi-stakeholder approach in the field of labour market integration of migrants and refugees
- Promotion of employment as a key part of the integration process
- Facilitation of the identification, assessment and validation of skills and qualifications.

LABOUR INT showed that the integration into the labour market is possible because of the joint efforts and coordination of various actors such as Trade Unions, local authorities, Chambers of commerce, employers, Civil Society organizations and other stakeholders.

The Skills Assessment of refugees through the Pilot testing of the EU Skills Profile Tool for Third Country Nationals highlighted that the migrants and refugees have various educational backgrounds, possess formal and informal skills, and professional experiences not only in the field of dependent work, but also from their own micro-enterprises in the country of origin.

The Multi-layered and Multi-stakeholder collaboration is a key factor for combating ghettoization and creating safe integration paths for immigrants and refugees with focus on human element for active community participation. (http://www.labour-int.eu/)
The Trade Unions continue their action of labour market integration of migrants and refugees providing information and support for equal access to workplaces through Trade Union Migrant Units at national level.

Projects

“From reception to integration of beneficiaries of international protection in Athens”

“The pilot action is implemented by the Athens Labour Unions Organization (EKA) and the Vocational Training Centre of the Hellenic Confederation of Professionals, Craftsmen and Merchant (KEK GSEVEE) in cooperation with the Municipality of Athens and a number of local civil society organisations and Solomon, representing media for social inclusion and diversity.”

“Stepping up the TIK concept in Tyrol, Austria”

“The Tiroler IntegrationsKompass - Tyrolean Integration Compass (TIK) is an instrument that makes it possible to sustainable integrate people with a refugee and migration background into the Tyrolean work and education landscape. The instrument includes an individual consultation of the target group, the promotion of existing knowledge and competences as well as a standardised and certifies documentation of the results to allow the efficient mediation between the target group and the existing offers in the education sector as well as on the job market.”

“Labour market integration of asylum-seekers in the agricultural sector in Naples”

“This pilot action aims at favouring migrants’ legal employment opportunities in the Campania region where recently arrived migrants (mostly asylum and protection seekers) are hosted in reception centres or simply settled in urban centres such as Naples. Training activities for integration in the agriculture sector took place, including Italian language courses.”
“Integration of Refugees and Asylum Seekers: A multi-stakeholder approach”

The conference aimed at sharing the results of the LABOUR-INT 2 project, through which the ETUC, SGI Europe together with the involvement and support of several national, European, and international organisations have been advocating for a multi-stakeholder approach in setting up inclusive integration paths of migrants and refugees in the European labour market.

Dissemination Seminar – LabourInt2 project

The seminar aimed at disseminating results and promoting Labour-int model in Central and Eastern Europe, with a special focus on social economy enterprises as tools for developing integration facilities for asylum-seekers in transit-countries. The project is managed by the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC). This event was organised by Diesis Network with the participation of project partners and social economy organisation of Central and Eastern Europe. The event targeted various countries: Slovenia, Croatia, Poland and Czech Republic, Hungary and the Balkans.

"Arriving at the Workplace – Labour Market Integration in Germany"

All relevant “stakeholders” in Germany were specifically invited: trade unions, employers, chambers, representatives of administrations, politics, project promoters, educational institutions, migrant organizations, self-organizations of refugees, refugee councils, IQ Netz, IVaF, science, European top organizations that are partners in the Labour-Int project.
Co-funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration
Fund of the European Union

Generation 2.0
For Rights Equality & Diversity

Copyright © 2021

Generation 2.0 for Rights, Equality & Diversity
Eleftherias Square 14
(Koumoundouros Square)
Athens, 10553
Email:
info@g2red.org

MIGRANT POINT EKA
3rd Septemvriou 48/ B,
Athens, 104 33
Email:
eka.migrofice@gmail.com