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Enhancing the professional integration of migrants

project leader :  project coordinator 

partners :  **OIKODROM**,  **CERMES**,  **UNIVERSIDAD DE BURGOS**,  **Roehampton University London**

in France  Austria  Bulgaria 

Spain  and United Kingdom 

Programme Leonardo da Vinci



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Context

Since the Amsterdam treaty in 1997, migration has become a competence of the European Union. The programme “lifelong learning” refers to key competences such as knowledge, skills and appropriate professional behaviour. They are essential for each person in a knowledge society.

Public

Migrants have developed - thanks to their migration experience - a unique and special competence which is called a “meta-competence”.

Main issue

Migrants suffer from two forms of discrimination in the labour market. The first – a direct form of discrimination - excludes migrants from certain jobs or training for reasons which are presented as “objective”. A second (indirect) form involves relegating foreign workers to low qualified jobs with difficult working conditions. This segmentation of the labour market is highly prejudicial.

Goal

The Migrapass project will propose a tool and a method through a portfolio and a collaborative training/mentoring programme, which will allow migrants to express their experience and give value to their competences so that they can enter the labour market or improve their professional career. It is based on the knowledge and competences acquired by migrants thanks to their previous employment, voluntary involvement in NGOs, community organisation, trade unions or political parties, for example, and experience of migration. Valuing migrants’ competences is a key issue for enhancing integration.

Agenda

1st of October 2010 – 30 September 2012
(24 months)

Objectives

The main goals of the Migrapass is to propose a portfolio together with a training programme which includes a collaborative approach in order to value the unique experience of migrants and so enhance their chance of improving their prospects within the labour market.

A tool

The portfolio will identify and value:

- 1) professional experience acquired in the migrant’s country of origin (often ignored in the countries they have moved to),
- 2) their non-formal and informal learning (such as a voluntary involvement)
- 3) the special competences linked to their migration experience (meta-competence)

Thanks to this portfolio approach, the professional profile of migrants will be enriched by unique competences which are vital in a changing labour market where the ability to adapt and mobility are key assets in a professional career. The proposed mentoring/training programme focuses on a collaborative approach with migrants and those working with them.

A method

The main goal of this approach is to allow migrants to fight against loneliness and exclusion linked to their status, which can lead to a devaluation of their skills and competences. Migrapass seeks to help migrants change their professional perspectives and open up new horizons.

For more information see www.migrapass.net

A website