

The project «SOLIDA – Network of municipalities for promotion of immigrants’ democratic participation » was funded with the support of the European Union under the Programme "Europe for Citizens"

Strand 2 – Measure 2.2 "Networks of Towns"

8 events have been carried out within this project:

Event 1

Participation: The event involved 60 citizens, including 3 participants from the city of Birgu (**Malta**), 3 participants from the city of Lousada (**Portugal**), 3 participants from the city of Erdut (**Croatia**), 3 participants from Novo Mesto (**Slovenia**), 3 participants from Santa Pola (**Spain**), 3 participants from Neapoli-Sykies (**Greece**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Gioiosa Ionica (Italy) from 24/10/2017 to 26/10/2017.

Short description: The aim of the event was to introduce the hosting partner, to present all participating municipalities, to present local and national policies related to integration of immigrants and to present Italian SPRAR model. During the event the participants had the opportunity to exchange their views and to gain knowledge on Italian local and national policies and practices and to improve their knowledge on main EU instruments to promote the integration of immigrants at all levels. The first event was also the occasion to agree on working methodology and to plan further events.

Event 2

Participation: The event involved 50 citizens, including 6 participants from the city of Gioiosa Ionica (**Italy**), 2 participants from the city of Birgu (**Malta**), 1 participant from the city of Lousada (**Portugal**), 2 participants from Novo Mesto (**Slovenia**), 2 participants from Santa Pola (**Spain**), 2 participants from Neapoli-Sykies (**Greece**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Erdut (Croatia) from 12/12/2017 to 14/12/2017

Short description: The aim of the event was to improve the knowledge and to exchange best practices related to volunteering activities among immigrants. The hosting municipalities organized several workshops and roundtables with local associations and volunteers who worked during the refugee’s crisis in Croatia. The local associations presented their projects and the participants discussed on methods which could be used to involve immigrants in volunteering organizations and thus improve their social and civic participation within local communities.

Event 3

Participation: The event involved 40 citizens, including 6 participants from the city of Gioiosa Ionica (**Italy**), 1 participant from the city of Birgu (**Malta**), 2 participant from the city of Erdut (**Croatia**), 2 participants from Novo Mesto (**Slovenia**), 2 participants from Santa Pola (**Spain**), 2 participants from Neapoli-Sykies (**Greece**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Lousada (Portugal) from 14/02/2018 to 16/02/2018

Short description: The aim of the event was to improve the knowledge on Introductory programmes aimed at acquisition of skills of immigrants and to discuss the first version of the Statue of the Association to be established within the project. The partner from Portugal presented some good practices on how to make immigrants better-equipped citizens capable of contribution to society. In addition, a workshop was organized with the National Center for Support to the

Integration of Migrants and with the Portuguese Council for Refugees. The Municipality of Gioiosa Ionica and RECOSOL presented the draft version of the Statute of the Association and collected observations and comments from each partner.

Event 4

Participation: The event involved 62 citizens, including 7 participants from the city of Gioiosa Ionica (**Italy**), 2 participants from the city of Birgu (**Malta**), 3 participants from the city of Erdut (**Croatia**), 2 participants from Novo Mesto (**Slovenia**), 2 participants from Lousada (**Portugal**), 3 participants from Neapoli-Sykies (**Greece**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Santa Pola (Portugal) from 14/03/2018 to 16/03/2018

Short description: The aim of the event was to improve the knowledge and exchange good practices on how immigrants' consultative bodies can stimulate immigrant democratic participation and improve integration policies. Besides the organization of a round table with the experts and operators from the local office for migrants, the Municipality of Santa Pola organized a simulation on the port of Santa Pola on how the immigrants should be saved and assisted once they approach the coast by boat. In addition, the partnership organized a working session to discuss the integration to the Statute of the Association.

Event 5

Participation: The event involved 50 citizens, including 7 participants from the city of Gioiosa Ionica (**Italy**), 3 participants from the city of Santa Pola (**Spain**), 2 participants from the city of Erdut (**Croatia**), 4 participants from Novo Mesto (**Slovenia**), 2 participants from Lousada (**Portugal**), 2 participants from Neapoli-Sykies (**Greece**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Birgu (Malta) from 11/04/2018 to 13/04/2018

Short description: The aim of the event was to present the local and national policies related to integration of immigrants with a special focus on civic and democratic participation. The participants got information on migration situation in Malta. The Municipality of Birgu organized also a conference with associations and experts to discuss the Integration of Irregular Migrants in the Maltese society and traffic of migrants in Malta. In addition, the participants adopted the final version of the statute to be approved by each local municipal council.

Event 6

Participation: The event involved 46 citizens, including 5 participants from the city of Gioiosa Ionica (**Italy**), 2 participants from the city of Santa Pola (**Spain**), 1 participant from the city of Erdut (**Croatia**), 2 participants from Novo Mesto (**Slovenia**), 2 participants from Lousada (**Portugal**), 2 participants from Birgu (**Malta**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Neapoly Sykies (Greece) from 27/06/2018 to 29/06/2018

Short description: The aim of the event was to present the local and national policies related to integration of immigrants with a special focus on perception of local citizens when it comes to the promotion of immigrants' democratic participation. The hosting municipality organized several meetings, seminars and open discussions with experts and associations: Ministry of Immigrations Policies, UNCHR, presentation of local projects related to integration of immigrants in schools. A session was organized to discuss the relations with immigrants and local governments, Immigration Integration Council. The partners also discussed the state of art of the approval of the Statute by local councils.

Event 7

Participation: The event involved 50 citizens, including 7 participants from the city of Gioiosa Ionica (**Italy**), 2 participants from the city of Santa Pola (**Spain**), 2 participants from the city of

Erdut (**Croatia**), 2 participants from Neapoly Sykies (**Greece**) 1 participant from Lousada (**Portugal**), 3 participants from Birgu (**Malta**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Novo Mesto (Slovenia) from 03/10/2018 to 5/10/2018

Short description: The aim of the event was to meet local and national stakeholders who are working on immigration policies in Slovenia and to discuss the enlargement of the network. The Municipality of Novo Mesto organized several working sessions and meetings to exchange views, best practices and stimulate the discussion among partners: meeting with Slovenian Migration Institute, Peace Institute, Employment Service in Slovenia, Red Cross Slovenia, Government Office for the Support and Integration of Immigrants. The participants also got acquainted on integration policies into the school system and works of local associations and asylum homes in Slovenia.

Event 8

Participation: The event involved 61 citizens, including 2 participants from the city of Novo Mesto (**Slovenia**), 4 participants from the city of Santa Pola (**Spain**), 2 participants from the city of Erdut (**Croatia**), 3 participants from Neapoly Sykies (**Greece**) 1 participant from Lousada (**Portugal**), 3 participants from Birgu (**Malta**).

Location / Dates: The event took place in Gioiosa Ionica (Italy) from 04/12/2018 to 05/12/2018

Short description: Official establishment of the Association Solida (signature of the establishment act) and organization of the first General Assembly of the Association. Organization of the final conference to present the association and the results of the project.