

WEMIN PROJECT

MIGRANT WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND INTEGRATION

EMBROIDERY AND HERBAL DYEING FOR INCLUSION



ART, CRAFTS, CULTURE AND SOCIAL INCLUSION

The first cycle of ALDA's arts and crafts workshops in the framework of WEMIN has officially started! On the 6th and 7th of July ALDA animated a workshop on embroidery and herbal dyeing in collaboration with the seamstress Felis Catus at Lieu d'Europe, in Strasbourg. Women coming from France, Armenia, Mali, Guinea, Italy and Spain had the chance to learn about these techniques while exchanging and getting to know each other. Some of their creations will be exposed at the end of November.

The continuation of ALDA's arts & crafts workshops started in September: two more days of embroidery and herbal dyeing, a second cycle of upcycling and a third cycle of photography.

Arts and crafts workshops are being implemented in all European countries involved in #WEMIN: this is a key strategy for the integration of migrant and refugee women in their local communities.



INTERVIEW SKILLS WORKSHOP

A workshop was held for migrant women participating in the WEMIN Programme on Interview Skills on 6th June 2019. This workshop was a follow on for those who had already participated in the four job-seeking skills workshops in March and April. The women who participated in this workshop are now seeking or have found employment. Some of the women have recently had a change in their immigration status, which now allows them to work.

The workshop focused on topics such as types of interviews, what to expect, how to answer questions, advance communication, interview etiquette and dress codes etc.



The most common interview style now used is competency based interviews. Participants looked at ways of providing structured answers to such questions. They also asked questions about their specific career interests and how to explain career gaps. Cultural issues and cross-cultural communication in interviews were also explored. The women found the workshop very beneficial and expressed an interest in a follow up workshop.

INTERVIEW OF NADIA – CULTURAL MEDIATOR FOR ASEV

At the Italian school of Montespertoli (province of Florence), a final event took place on the morning of June 6th to conclude the Italian course and the mentoring activities of the WEMIN project. Many migrant women attended the classes. The women were happy about the opportunities offered by the school. The event was organized at the end of Ramadan, so all of them were able to participate and celebrate together. However, the ladies requested that their faces do not appear in the pictures to protect their privacy, feeling that this was a confidential moment to share time in a group that has strengthened its ties over time. During the party, Nadia (Cultural mediator for Arab and French language) oriented the women of the class towards supporting services and legal protection activities present in the territory of Empoli (close to their villages). Nadia said:

"I especially love helping migrant women: they are the ones who have to take care of many things in the family. They often have difficulties reading and writing. Even in the past, I had to start my life all over again, which is why I feel them as very close, almost sisters. So for me, it is not only a job but also a source of satisfaction and joy, especially when I can see their lives changing thanks to the fact they learn to speak Italian, they become independent to access to health, legal and social services".



WEMIN AT THE 5TH EUROPEAN MIGRANT FORUM



Esther Subias of Colectic (Spain) represented WEMIN at the 'Marketplace of projects and best practices' during the 5th European Migration Forum, held in Brussels the 3rd and 4th April.

We had the opportunity to present the work that the WEMIN Consortium is doing to empower migrant and refugee women to become active participants in the life of the communities in which they live, and to act as multipliers within their families and circles.

This forum has been an opportunity to enable fruitful exchanges between the participants to discuss the challenges and gather the good practices when it comes to the role of local authorities and civil society in managing migration and ensuring safe and regular pathways to the EU. The best moments happened during the workshops and interactive debates.

We had the chance to informally discuss the Guide for Policy Makers and the 10 good practices in the field of social integration and to talk about our dissemination strategy with some key actors.

The main output of the Forum is the document "Recommendations adopted by the European Migration Forum, 5th meeting".

NEWS UPDATES FROM IRELAND



As part of WEMIN we are coming to the end of our art project called A Global City. This has involved women from every corner of the globe as well as local women. Working with two community artists and volunteer facilitators, we have organised a series of workshops in four different venues using techniques such as paper cutting, fabric, water colour painting, geometric designs and a focus on patterns in women's cultures. We are putting all our creations together to create an Ideal Global City, which will be exhibited for a week during Social Inclusion week, and as part of a special International Women's Breakfast on 9th October.



SOON WE WILL SHARE WITH YOU OUR BOOKLET 'STORIES OF CHANGE!'

TRANSNATIONAL PARTNERS MEETING IN DUBLIN, IRELAND

WEMIN fourth partners meeting was held in Dublin (Ireland) on 4th and 5th of July 2019. The meeting was hosted by Southside Partnership DLR. The meeting saw all partners reunited to discuss several aspects of ongoing activities. Partners reflected on the ongoing and future challenges of the project, considering the recent political decisions relating to migrant and refugee women throughout Europe. Therefore, the consortium aimed to think together of strategies to maximise the impact of the work in such a sensitive time in Europe. As the project will come to an end in December 2019, dissemination strategies and involvement of the local communities was a focal point of discussions, with partners welcoming the continuous engagement of those communities throughout the project.



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ON WEMIN'S WEBSITE
WWW.WEMIN-PROJECT.EU**

**USE #WEMIN TO FOLLOW
OUR ACTIVITIES ON SOCIAL
MEDIA!**

CONTACT US!

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