

# Igma-Femina Newsletter March 2019

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#### PROJECT UPDATE

With the Igma-Femina project now entering its final stretch, the project partners have been busy organising and delivering project outputs:

Much of the work has been linked to creating a curriculum to eventually be disseminated to relevant stakeholders in all partner countries to introduce igma-femina concepts and techniques to those



working with refugees and migrants. This curriculum has been shared and updated and is now being piloted by trainers within each country.

Folkuniversitetet has been developing exercises for the curriculum. As part of this they have provided introductory materials for training sessions, which included information on the IGMA methodology.

Revalento has run two training days on gender awareness, focusing on coaching and counselling. They also organised a demo session, in collaboration with the Municipality of Tilburg and ContourdeTwern for the newly arrived to learn about a new tool to aid integration into Dutch culture.

VRD INGO hosted a work meeting in Vinnytsia between themselves and Folkenuniversitetet, focused around cooperation in terms of planning the next steps for project delivery within Ukraine.

DIMITRA has scheduled pilot activities and has already garnered a substantial pool of potential participants. Due to the large scale of interest in the training, DIMITRA has begun planning potential training activities in Greece.

Since attending the transnational training meeting in Tilburg to test and adapt training materials, Rinova have been planning the running of joint pilot training sessions with 15billion in the UK.

15billion has been preparing for pilot-testing by reaching out over social media to organisations who work with the target group, which has already been successful.



## Folkuniversitetet, SWEDEN

Folkuniversitetet have been developing various exercises and materials for training and Intellectual Output 4.

The team of Folkuniversitetet developed exercises for Intellectual Output 4 of the Igma-Femina project. We were responsible for providing the introductory materials for the training sessions. The introductory exercises and materials are intended to set the scene of the training and foster a general understanding of the Igma-Femina project. These exercises included information about the IGMA methodology itself and the process of perceiving activities set up in the current network. The introductory sessions focus on the professional and their current role and responsibilities.

As well as the exercises for the igma-femina pilot trainings, as a result of the activity supplementary materials such as a power point were developed. The introductory outcomes were developed and presented in the transnational meeting.

The pilot testing is going to be carried out in all partner countries with use of the developed materials. The elaborated training exercises are going to be translated to partner languages. The concrete description of following activity is not applicable.

#### Revalento, NETHERLANDS

REVALENTO has been running various training days and demo sessions on methods of integration for migrant women in the Netherlands.

As part of the piloting of Igma-Femina in Uppsala, Sweden, Revalento has run two additional trainings days on gender awareness, coaching and counselling. The second training day started with an inspirational lecture on the barriers the newly arrived, more specifically the women, face when entering Sweden. Staff became aware of the double barrier women have when compared to men: not only do they need to cross the cultural gap, but in addition the gender gap. This session was the last one which was offered as part of the Igma-Femina project.

Revalento has organised a demo session in which the newly arrived had the opportunity to check out a new tool. This session was organised in collaboration with the Municipality of Tilburg and ContourdeTwern. The tool's function is to facilitate the newly arrived to familiarise themselves with Dutch Society, culture, norms and expectations. A group of 11 newly arrived from Syria, Eritrea and Curacao have been testing the game and providing feedback on content and usability. Tilburg Municipality has decided to incorporate this new tool as a standard instrument in their new integration programs.

As part of the Igma-Femina project a 5 days preparatory training has been run in Tilburg, Netherlands. During the training, newly developed exercises and supporting materials were tested. The training feedback was used to develop the new Igma-Femina curriculum.

For this particular training those trainers who are responsible for the pilot activities in the partner countries had been invited. Part of the program was informing trainers on specific ideas and concepts used in the Netherlands for facilitating integration. A short study visit was organised to Broodje Aap and a neighbourhood centre. Municipality Tilburg arranged for a presentation of their new integration program as well as of a new tool to be used in their programs.



# **VRD INGO, UKRAINE**

NGO "Ukraine-Poland-Germany" hosted a project meeting in Vinnytsia.

The pilot activities of the Igma-Femina project will start in March 2019 in Ukraine.

On December 19, 2018, in Vinnytsia a work meeting was held with the participation of the Director of International Cooperation Department of Folkuniversitetet Ali Rashidi, the Igma-Femina project coordinator in Ukraine Serhii Tatusiak and representatives of the project partner NGO "Ukraine-Poland-Germany". Topics discussed at the meeting were about different angles of cooperation, as well as the interim results of the implementation and planning activities for the next six months of the "Igma-Femina" project in Ukraine.



A picture of the meeting.

In particular, the participants discussed pilot activities of the "Igma-Femina" project in Ukraine which are scheduled for March-April 2019.

The pilot activities will consist of two training courses in the gender-sensitive Igma methodology for the next target groups: decision-makers working in the field of migration and integration of migrant and refugee women at policy and system levels in the Ukraine; counsellors and adult educators working in counselling, training and other integration activities with migrant and refugee women at delivery level.

Each group of participants will include representatives of public organisations working in employment services, private employers, employer associations, adult education providers, counselling services, etc. The official announcement of the participants' selection is expected on February 15, 2019. Priority will be given to representatives of local stakeholder network organizations working with migrant and refugee women.

Follow for an announcement on the official site of the NGO "Ukraine-Poland-Germany": www.ukrpolgerm.com

#### DIMITRA, GREECE

DIMITRA has been organising pilot activities and planning the possible implementation of training in Greece.



A poster for Dimitra's Pilot Activities.

DIMITRA in Greece has already scheduled the pilot Activities of the Igma-Femina project. The activities are scheduled to start in January and already we have a great pool of participants from which we will choose the most appropriate participants for the pilot. However, since there is great interest in the Igma-Femina trainings there is a plan for possible implementation of the training activities of Igma-Femina in Greece once the training material is finalised.

As the stakeholders in the region of Larissa are familiar with the Igma methodology, after the recent igma3 trainings and events, they are excited to be trained in the updated training material after being revised to include the gender perspective methodology. Stay tuned to learn the pilot training outcomes at our next Igma-Femina newsletter.



## Rinova, UK

Rinova have been focused on developing training materials which will support dissemination of the Igma-Femina approach.

All partners developed training materials for the training manual. At a transnational training meeting in Tilburg, partners presented, tested and adapted these materials.

Since then the revised materials have been finalised and collated by Folkuniversitetet to be available and used by all countries in their pilot testing of the training manual.

Rinova and 15billion are running joint pilot training sessions. We have set dates, found a venue, created marketing materials and started to plan the sessions.

The pilot has been marketed via e mail and twitter to a variety of Rinova's contacts, including individuals and organisations involved in other projects linked to working with refugees and migrants, and those working specifically with women.

The pilot will not only help us to gain feedback on the curriculum of the training manual, but will give the participants information and tools to support their work with all women and refugees and migrants.



The partners visiting Broodje Aap Linke Soep, an organisation which supports integration of refugees through catering.

#### 15billion, UK

15billion have been reaching out to various organisations in preparation for pilot testing and engaging closely with some of them in order to conduct research.

In our work preparing for the pilot-testing, we have reached out to over 100 different organisations who work with female refugees and migrants via twitter to share our work and to promote our pilot testing event. This was successful as we have already had several sign-ups to the session.

We have also engaged more closely with groups supporting refugee women, e.g. Routes, a mentoring programme and Migrateful, who offer cookery courses run by female refugees. This has allowed us to find out more about how the labour market affects the client group, and also further expand our network. The pilot testing session on 6<sup>th</sup> February will involve careers practitioners and industry professionals, including those in leadership positions. For these, the outcome will be practical tools to help support refugee and migrant women into the workplace, a greater awareness of the significance of gender, and the chance to network with likeminded colleagues.

It will also be a useful opportunity to gather feedback about the curriculum developed by the Igma-Femina Partners.



The Flyer for the Gender Awareness Training



## **Project Summary**

Igma-Femina aims to improve the accessibility of adult education for migrant/refugee women and gender-sensitive counselling in order to increase their chances to enter the labour market. The specific objectives of the project are to develop:

- Sufficient gender-sensitive career counselling through training of professionals;
- Efficient gender-sensitive strategy for cooperation within local stakeholder networks, dealing with validation/training/job placement to provide services based on individual needs and barriers of every woman;
- Active involvement of employers in the local stakeholder networks as a key to "education to work" transition.

The partnership is a mix of adult education providers with private companies, representing employers, regional NGOs working with refugees, migrants and women and European networks for inclusion from 7 countries. This will ensure relevance of developed

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