

**Interreg
Europe**



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Project presentation – Partner point of view

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MILEstone – Migrants' Integration in Local Economies

March 2023 – May 2027



Aim and purpose

The MILEstone project addresses the sustainable labour market inclusion of non-EU nationals by achieving better public policies in this domain and encouraging public authorities across Europe to take additional measures to promote vocational training (lifelong learning) as well as business creation by non-EU nationals.

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Partners

- **District of Burgenlandkreis (DE) – Lead Partner**
- Municipality of Postojna (SI)
- Westpomeranian Region (PL)
- Hanze University of Applied Sciences Groningen (NL)
- Municipality of Ascó (ES)
- National Union of mountain municipalities and mountain communities – UNCEM Piemonte (IT)
- City of Jyväskylä (FI)
- Regional Development Fund of Central Macedonia (EL)
- Leibniz Institute for Regional Geography (DE)
- City of Linköping (SE)

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City of Jyväskylä

Policy instrument

[City of Jyväskylä's Integration Programme 2021-2024](#) - municipality's service provision plan for immigrants, based on the current Act on the Promotion of Immigrant Integration (1386/2010)

Challenges identified

- Increasing the readiness of the employers to hire people who have immigrated to Finland
- Directing the available competence into the available job functions in the local economy (recognition of skills and competence)
- Tackling the language barrier to find employment corresponding to one's potential
- Addressing the differences in work culture and communicate the benefits of diversity more broadly

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City of Jyväskylä

Desired changes

Deep exchange of knowledge, ideas and good practices



Insights for updating the municipal integration programme, such that it addresses the sustainable labour market integration of immigrants better by means of promoting lifelong learning and entrepreneurship



Minimizing the challenges identified and utilising the policy instrument as a guideline for further development of International House concept in Jyväskylä

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International House Jyväskylä

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The International House can be described as a place (physical or virtual), where all the services related to promoting the overall integration of international population of the region and support for local employers to boost the recruitment and retention of international talents are brought together - by means of a wide network-based collaborative functioning.

The objective of bringing together services under “one roof/umbrella” is to improve the accessibility of the services for its users and to promote synergic collaborative work among the actors involved.



Project phases

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Core Phase (Exchange of experience) semester 1 - 6

- Stakeholder involvement
- Baseline Study including ecosystem mapping and SWOT analysis
- Good practice research and exchange
- Three Thematic seminars 2023-2024
- Peer Reviews
- Draft decision for proposed improvements

Followup Phase semester 7 - 8

- High-level Policy Workshop (Interregional policy learning event)
- Reflect their project achievements - efficacy and lasting effects of the policies improved



Experience so far

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Local level collaboration with the stakeholder group

- Ecosystem mapped is deep and wide - willingness and appetite for collaborative work
- Strong educational and third sector presence
- Appetite for promoting bi-directional integration and good peoples relationship
- Service landscape is still fragmented at some levels due to the sheer no. of actors resulting in redundancy and inefficiency
- Present service landscape does not fully support the differing needs of the sub groups with in the target group
- Coordination and information flow needs to be improved among the actors and the existing networks. High bureaucracy.



Experience so far

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Partner level collaboration within the project

- Challenges identified are on similar lines accross regions in Europe –first thematic seminar
- Rich learning exchange - good practices and new ideas- second thematic seminar
- Commonalities and differences based on regional demographics and policy making procedures
- Warm and welcoming culture withtin the team
- Sync and collaboration works efficiently despite the geographical distances



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**Time for
questions**



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Thank you!

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