



Igamma-Femina Newsletter April 2018

Erasmus+ Igamma-Femina, Issue 3 — April 2018

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PROJECT UPDATE

With the Erasmus+ Igamma-Femina project now into its second year, the project partners have continued to promote the programme. Igamma-Femina partners have also conducted further vital research, essential for the effective delivery of the project. Additionally, in January 2018, partners have started to plan and implement Igamma-Femina training session.

Project lead Folkuniversitetet launched an information campaign about Igamma-Femina, particularly through the Folkuniversitetet KISA project (Shorter Integration Quicker to Work), in the Uppsala region of Sweden, presenting the Igamma-Femina to partners in 8 municipalities within the region. Folkuniversitetet has also continued to work with fellow Igamma-Femina partners Uppsala University and Revalento, planning and carrying out training at the Public Employment Service (PES).

In Greece, DIMITRA has conducted a dissemination event with the purpose of informing stakeholders about the Igamma-Femina project, strengthening their network and identifying a plan for the next stages of the project. In Ukraine, the Vinnytsia regional department of international NGO "Ukraine-Poland-Germany", has finalised a report on IDP (Internally Displaced Persons), focusing on those displaced by the annexation of Crimea.

Revalento has been collaborating with various organisations in Sweden in conducting research on gender-sensitive counselling, factoring in the Igamma-Femina methodology. Rinova has been running is in the process of delivering a promotional campaign in the UK in order to increase the projects overall profile. This has enabled Rinova to engage with organisations such as the UN Migrant Agency, the International Organisation for Migration. Finally, 15Billion has also been running a promotional campaign. They have planned promotional events and consulted with professionals in the field of career support. More information on individual partners' updates is included in this newsletter.

Folkuniversitetet, Sweden

Folkuniversitetet in Sweden carried out an information campaign about Erasmus+ Igamma-Femina and the planned training to begin in 2018.

From September 2017 to January 2018, Folkuniversitetet Uppsala carried out an information campaign about Igamma-Femina in the Uppsala region within the framework of the KISA project, which is financed by the European Social Fund. Folkuniversitetet presented the Igamma-Femina project to local partnerships of 8 municipalities in the Uppsala region, meeting professionals and managers working in different areas of the integration programme.

Igamma-Femina will be included into the local strategies of 8 municipalities to secure gender equality in the integration programme provided in Uppsala region.



Igamma-Femina promotion in Uppsala



Revalento promoting Igamma-Femina

In January 2018, Folkuniversitetet Uppsala in cooperation with Uppsala University and Revalento planned training of officers at the Public Employment Service (PES) in the Igamma-Femina methodology

Further training was carried out in February 2018 which was directly integrated into the services of the Public Employment Service offices, increasing awareness and skills in gender integration among Employment practitioners.

In addition to this, Igamma-Femina was presented to the PES management and professionals in 3 meetings in January 2018.

DIMITRA, GREECE

On the 19th January 2018, DIMITRA hosted a dissemination event to inform stakeholders about the Igma-Femina project.

On the 19th January 2018 DIMITRA hosted a dissemination event to increase awareness and inform stakeholders about the Igma-Femina project, its prospects, its goals and how they could be involved.

The goal of the event was to spread the word about Igma-Femina and also strengthen the stakeholders' network. The participants of the event were VET providers, policy makers, career advisors and employers from 11 stakeholder organisations, as well as 14 self employed counsellors/advisors and VET providers.

During the event, an introduction on the project took place. Following the rationale behind the project, the results of the national research and the next steps that are going to be taken, were presented.

Finally it was also discussed that once the curriculum of Igma-Femina is finished, pilot training will take place which the stakeholders could be informed about and invited to participate in. The stakeholders seemed to be very interested both in the project and also to the prospect of taking part in the pilot activities.



DIMITRA Dissemination event in Greece

VRD INGO, UKRAINE

International NGO "Ukraine-Poland-Germany", Vinnytsia regional department have finalized a report, focusing on Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in Ukraine.

The Igma-Femina project and expert teams in the Ukraine have finalized Intellectual output 1: "National research on current services for refugee women with focus on gender-sensitive analysis, Ukraine". The main objective of this report is to map existing migration/integration services available in Ukraine with a focus on gender-sensitive analysis. The report explores main issues such as the service map, current legislation, education, financial possibilities and entry to the labour market for migrant and refugee women.

It should be noted that the key target group of the Igma-Femina project in Ukraine is Internally Displaced People (IDPs).

Since 2014, a significant level of internal migration in Ukraine has been caused by the annexation of the Crimea and the Anti-Terrorist Operation in the East of Ukraine (Donetsk and Luhansk regions). According to the Ministry of Social Policy, on 6 June 2016, 1,785,740 IDPs were registered in Ukraine, and almost 1,100,000 of them are women and 700,000 are men.

The practical aspects of the report were achieved through the involvement of different project target groups for the assessment of the current services in Ukraine. 3 focus groups were conducted, 9 interviews with migrant and refugee women, and also IDP women from Ukraine.

According to the results, it is possible to conclude that respondents (migrant, refugee and IDP women) haven't faced discrimination during their experiences. However, gender aspects are not taken into account in Ukraine during initial engagement between integration service staff and migrant, refugee and IDP women on employment, education and other integration services issues.

VRD INGO also carried out 2 further focus groups, involving 5 representatives and stakeholders, particularly organisations that are engaged in the process of integration and providing migrant and refugee women with different kinds of support.

There are many Ukrainian organisations of various legal forms that work in the process of integration. These are educational institutions, state structures, public organisations and other private organisations. The directions of integration work with migrant and refugee women include information and legal support, support in education and employment, assistance in arranging household issues, psychological support etc. Organisations often use their own methods for work and, unfortunately, don't always have professionally trained specialists.

Revalento, NETHERLANDS

Revalento in the Netherlands has been meeting and collaborating with various organisations around Europe to conduct research on gender-sensitive counselling. They have also hosted the “Nice to meet you” event in Tilburg.

On December 8th, Anneli Hayrén of the Centre of Gender Research of Sweden and Roger Van de Winkel of Revalento of the Netherlands have had a preparatory meeting to discuss ways to incorporate gender-sensitive counselling within the framework of the Igamma-Femina methodology.

Objectives and outcomes of gender-sensitive counselling have been discussed in the context of the objectives of the project. Decisions have been made regarding the content of the methodological handbook as well as to the structure and content of the training manual.

The labour office of Uppsala municipality had a meeting on the 9th January 2018 to discuss piloting of the gender-sensitive counselling. The meeting involved the Labour Office of Sweden, the Institute for Gender Research, Folkuniversitetet Uppsala and Revalento. During the meeting, the details of the pilot requirements and possibilities were discussed. A consensus was reached on the main objectives to be addressed during piloting: raising awareness of counsellors on the dominant masculine frame of reference and of its consequences for women in general, and for immigrant women especially.

As an outcome of this meeting, the dates for piloting were decided, with initial sessions at the end of January and then a follow-up in March 2018.

On the 25th January, more than 200 people came together for the network meeting “Nice to meet you”. This meeting was for the public organisations, NGO's and individuals in Tilburg that are working with refugees and status holders. In plenary session and in workgroups the attendees talked with one another about integration policy, in particular the things that went well and the things that could be done better in the future.

Some of the organisations involved in this event included: the municipality of Tilburg, the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers, the Dutch Council for Refugees South-Netherlands and the Social Welfare Organisation ContourdeTwern.

Further information on the results of the meeting can be found at:

<https://netwerkbijeenkomsttilburg.jimdo.com/>.

Rinova, UK

Rinova has been running a promotional campaign to bring about awareness of Iigma-Femina, as well as working with the IOM.

Over the last 6 months, Rinova has been promoting Erasmus+ Iigma-Femina to key UK stakeholders and our strategic network to increase the projects overall profile throughout England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

This has included an increase in general social media promotion and more importantly through direct engagement with stakeholders working within the migrant/refugee integration and welfare to work sectors as well as the wider women economic development sector in the United Kingdom. This was kicked off by attending key events hosted by the British Council, Bond, the Refugee Council, as well as local and regional events etc.

Through this sustained promotional campaign, Rinova's team were able to engage with a range of key partners, strategic contacts and stakeholders with a key interest in women migrant/refugees' economic development and integration. Including the UN Migrant Agency, the International Organisation for Migration in the UK in December 2017.



During the week of International Migrants Day, Rinova met with Myriam Mwizerwa from the IOM's Resettlement and Integration team and explained the Erasmus+ Iigma-Femina concept, project objectives and progression to date.

IOM indicated that the Iigma-Femina training programme was required today in the UK and were particularly interested in learning how soon the methodology would be available in the UK for testing, to address the lack of services open to women refugees and migrants.

Rinova plans to continue to work with the IOM both in relation to Iigma-Femina and in addressing the deficit of training for refugee support workers working with women.

15billion, UK

15Billion have been continuing to raise awareness of Iigma-Femina, and have, as part of this, planned a promotional event.

With Iigma-Femina progressing well, 15billion are continuing to raise awareness of the project and actively build upon our network of employers, NGOs, advisers and careers professionals, to ensure the best possible outcome for the program.

15billion continue to promote the program and its progress to our existing stakeholder group of leading employers. In addition, we have consulted with strategic leads in careers counselling and reached out to careers delivery staff and organisations providing direct support to the target group. Our next promotional event will take place in March 2018, with a range of Vocational Education and Training sector organisations.

Project Summary

Igamma-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 material to the regional needs and to the needs of migrant and refugee women.

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