



Igamma-Femina Newsletter July 2018

Erasmus+ Igamma-Femina, Issue 4 — July 2018

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PROJECT UPDATE

With the Erasmus+ Igamma-Femina project now well into its second year, all the partners have been hard at work continuing with their efforts at dissemination, promotion and further development.

Folkuniversitetet has been carrying out demo training in collaboration with Uppsala University and Revalento. Additionally they have presented their methodology to various local partnerships and have planned to present the Igamma-Femina project at a business-brunch seminar. Finally, they have also presented the project at the final transnational conference for Igamma3.

Revalento have conducted an in-depth and highly insightful piece of research and analysis of Dutch labour market dynamics and their correlations with various socio-economic factors.

NGO "Ukraine-Poland-Germany" have hosted the Director of the International Cooperation Department at Folkuniversitetet for a visit. As part of this visit, they conducted training which was received by representatives of various higher education institutions.

Rinova has hosted the 3rd transnational Igamma-Femina partnership meeting, in conjunction with fellow UK-based partner 15billion. During this meeting, much of the project was evaluated by the attending partners, and action plans for progression were devised.

15billion presented the Igamma-Femina project at an event hosted by a London-based law firm, raising awareness of the necessity for the project.



Folkuniversitetet, Sweden

Folkuniversitetet has been presenting the Igma-Femina project at various meetings and conferences.

Folkuniversitetet, in cooperation with Uppsala University and Revalento, carried out the follow-up of the demo training in case management with focus on gender mainstreaming to the desk officers at Public Employment Services in Uppsala region. The goal of this demo workshop was to follow-up the implementation of the Igma-Femina methods by PES officers and get their feedback for further adaptation of the training material in the project.

It is vital to develop the training in close cooperation with professionals who will apply the Igma-Femina methodology and training curriculum after the project termination. Thus the development is done in an iterative way, by combining training and development into one process. Desk officers are working with an introduction program for the newly arrived, including refugees, at PES in Uppsala.

There are two main outcomes of the activity, namely higher awareness among the PES officers regarding gender mainstreaming as a part of the introduction program for refugees, as well as a finalised demo version of the igma-Femina training material which will be presented to the partnership at the transnational training event in the Netherlands in September 2018.

There is an ongoing cooperation with the PES in the Uppsala region in the Igma-Femina project, as they are the main future customer of the project product.

Folkuniversitetet has presented the igma-Femina methodology to local partnerships, including municipalities, PES, employers, training providers and representatives of the civil society in 8 municipalities in Uppsala region.

The presentation was carried out within the framework of the regional ESF-sponsored project: KISA (Shorter Integration – Closer to Labour Market).

Folkuniversitetet is responsible for development of local agreements for cooperation for more efficient integration of the refugees and the newly-arrived. Igma-Femina methodology is integrated as a part of the above local agreement, via close cooperation between Erasmus+ Igma-Femina project and ESF.



Folkuniversitetet, SWEDEN

Continued.

Folkuniversitetet is planning to present the igma-Femina project at a business-brunch seminar with the topic "Refugee Women and entrepreneurship" on 26th of June 2018.

The seminar targets all professionals working with counselling, training and employment of the newly-arrived and refugees, as well as general public. More than 70 participants have registered.

Folkuniversitetet presented the Igma-Femina project at the final transnational conference of Igma3 which was organised in Larissa, Greece on the 7th of June.

The conference generated an app. There were 120 participants representing the public and private sectors with a focus on inclusion and integration issues. The international guests from Sweden, Spain, Cyprus, and Ukraine participated in the conference.

Revalento, NETHERLANDS

Learning to choose

To understand the Dutch focus in the Igma-Femina project it is important to understand the current labour market dynamics. Currently the Dutch unemployment level has reached 4,2% (ILO statistics), and the youth unemployment (including those youngsters who are not following any form of education) is 7,4% of the labour force. Consequently the growth of the economy is currently becoming more and more dependent on the availability of properly skilled and motivated staff. This puts more constraints on the way allocation of the labour force (youngsters, unemployed, newly arrived) is arranged for.

Regarding youngsters, one of the main domains of fighting youth unemployment is prevention. Prevention can be achieved by helping youngsters to make better motivated choices in terms of education (and professional career). Similarly, for the newly arrived, the best way to fight exclusion is to arrange for a vast range of participation activities which allow the newly arrived to use their own talents and develop career paths which allow them to participate in a sustainable way. Within Igma-Femina therefore, NL contributions will focus on development of training material which will allow case managers and guidance counsellors to help the newly arrived (especially women) to become more aware of how they currently deal with their situation, their talents and ambitions and how they could improve the quality of their choices.

An essential element of learning to choose is also learning to discover how choices are guided by gender pressure and gender mechanisms in the society, and how the individual, once aware, might deal with them in a way that is more in line with talent and ambition. This will contribute to help newly arrived to make better career choices.

VRD INGO, UKRAINE

NGO “Ukraine-Poland-Germany” hosted the Director of the International Cooperation Department of Folkuniversitetet for meeting and presentation.

On June 21, 2018, the visit of the Director of the International Cooperation Department of Folkuniversitetet Ali Rashidi to Vinnitsia (Ukraine) was held in the framework of cooperation between Folkuniversitetet and NGO “Ukraine-Poland-Germany”.



Rashidi (left) at the presentation.

The main aim of the visit was to conduct the training about inclusive education within the project Baltic Network for prevention of Early School Leaving, implemented by Folkuniversitetet with the support of the Swedish Institute in Vinnytsia region and the Republic of Moldova.

More than 50 representatives of 5 higher educational institutions in Vinnytsia (Ukraine), the Soroka College (Republic of Moldova) and non-governmental organizations became the participants of the training.



The audience at the meeting.

It was a good opportunity to present the project Iigma-Femina to representatives of such an important target audience for the project.

Serhii Tatusiak, the project coordinator of Iigma-Femina in Ukraine, presented the aims and objectives of the project, the concept of Iigma methodology and invited participants to participate in local stakeholder networks in Ukraine.

Three higher educational institutions in Vinnytsia, for which the topic of educational possibilities for migrants and refugees is actual, expressed their interest in the project and the desire to participate in the pilot project activities.

In addition, all educational institutions supported the idea of creating the Joint Resource Center of Vinnytsia universities for developing and implementing joint educational initiatives. Such actions are planned from September 2018.

DIMITRA, GREECE

DIMITRA is responsible for the development of the Iigma-Femina training material concerning the 2nd module: Career counselling and coaching according to Iigma-Femina methodology, concentrated on guidance in a gender perspective .



A picture of the meeting held by DIMITRA's researchers.

In order to develop appropriate exercises DIMITRA's researchers met with experienced counsellors, advisors and trainers and formed work groups in order to design and finalise the material. The result was 4 exercises under the subject of "Guidance in a gender perspective."

Rinova, UK

Earlier in the year, Rinova hosted the 3rd project transnational meeting, in Stratford, London.

On the 25th and 26th of January 2018, Rinova, and fellow UK project partner 15billion hosted the 3rd transnational partnership meeting for Erasmus+ Igma-Femina project at their offices in Stratford, London.

Igma-Femina partner organisations attendees included: Uppsala University and project coordinator Folkuniversitetet (Sweden); Revalento (the Netherlands); Dimitra, (Greece) and International NGO Ukraine-Poland-Germany for Vinnystia Regional Department (Ukraine).



Group Photo from the January Meeting

Over the course of the two-day meeting, a number of key topics were discussed in relation to the project. A large portion of the meeting was dedicated to the development of Intellectual Output 2, which focuses on the creation of a gender-sensitive methodology and approach in supporting women refugees and migrants integrate and access the Labour Market.

Furthermore, the meeting also focused on an in-depth evaluation of how the objectives of the Igma-Femina project were being met, and what measures should be taken throughout the remainder of the project to ensure they are fully fulfilled.

Other topics that were addressed in the meeting included: key dates and deadlines partners should be aware of, plans for the development of Intellectual Outputs 3 & 4, as well as preparations for the workshops, pilots and training exercises.

15billion, UK

15billion continue to raise awareness of the Igma-Femina project and the need for gender-sensitive approaches to improve access to education and employment for migrants and refugees.

In March 2018, 15billion had the opportunity to present Igma-Femina during an event hosted at Macfarlanes Law Firm in London. Attended by practitioners and corporate employers from both private and local government organisations, the event provided a platform to build the stakeholder group, whilst raising awareness of the needs and benefits of adopting the Igma-Femina approach.



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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The European Commission support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents which reflects the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

