NEAR NEWLY ARRIVED IN A COMMON HOME

NEAR aims to foster the integration of newly arrived migrants (adults and children) by helping them in settling into their host country. It also aims to support a process of mutual trust, knowledge exchange and intercultural exchange between migrants and local communities, thus creating a sense of belonging under a «new common home»

BENEFICIARIES
Newly arrived migrants (adults, minors and university students), diaspora
members, diaspora organizations, volunteering organizations, local communities and authorities, citizens, European and national organizations

How to enable diaspora stakeholders in the development and provision of local integration services

In response to the large-scale refugee arrivals in 2015 and 2016, a flurry of initiatives has been launched at the local level--partly intensifying and upscaling already existing practices, partly leading to various innovations in terms of new tools and approaches. Networking and peer exchange initiatives have sought to foster **connections between different actors** working in policy and service areas relevant for migrant integration while also supporting transnational learning and transfer of practices.

The response to the arrival of new migrants has also drawn in a wide range of new actors with possibly lasting impact, including **a new generation of refugee and migrant leaders acting within and beyond their diaspora community**. While the added value of these actors in ensuring the quick and effective deployment of integration services has become clear to local stakeholders, the degree of their involvement varied considerably across cities and posed different sets of challenges.

In **February 2023** NEAR will organise a workshop aimed at European and local stakeholders to present its results and reflect on how diaspora stakeholders can be involved at local level in developing, implementing and evaluating integration services for newly arrived migrants.

The event will be a valuable opportunity for networking, peer-learning and coordination between cities, practitioners, civil society organisations and diaspora stakeholders at local and European level

Building the capacity of diaspora stakeholders

Diaspora stakeholders, when provided with the correct support and tools can facilitate integration for newly arrived migrants. During the **NEAR** project, the team worked alongside community agents and diaspora stakeholders at a local level in **Milan, Perugia, Nicosia** and **Lisbon**. Our latest reports highlight the distinctive traits and lessons learnt from our work with community agents for the integration of **newly arrived migrants**.

NEAR partners developed and implemented a number of activities directly addressed to diaspora members in the four target cities. The practice developed was eventually modelled into a number of tools under the NEAR National Stakeholder Reports, a set of publications taking stock of a year-long outreach, training and engagement of diaspora stakeholders. In doing so, they aim to facilitate the transfer of experiences, tools, knowledge and practices for organizations, practitioners and other interested groups to build the capacity of and empower diaspora communities as actors in the integration of newly arrived migrants at local level.

In this newsletter you will discover more about everything we learned throughout this period of carrying out all our activities and working closely with diaspora members and communities.

In Milan, the neighbourhood around the Central Station became the place where new ideas, meetings and relationships came to life! This neighbourhood at the Central Station has always been a place of exchange, symbolic for many of those who arrive in Milan for the first time.

An interesting district, with a lot to discover, where through a series of activities in which we will involve citizens and newcomers, we aim to rewrite the narrative linked to the Central Station.

Read more:

https://nearproject.eu/images/deliverables/reports/NSR%20ISMU%20EN.pdf

Bairro das Galinheiras was the space where words such as integration, full citizenship, sharing, inclusion, equality and equity took place. NEAR is the project through which AIDGLOBAL contributed to accomplish that. Newly arrived immigrants living there come from Portuguese-speaking African Countries (PALOP). Through the activities carried out, the integration process was facilitated to find themselves and feel the city as their own home.

Read more:

https://nearproject.eu/images/deliverables/reports/NSR%20AIDGLOBAL%20EN.pdf

The city of Perugia is a medium-small city. In this outer urban Laine which was our main field for the development of all the activities developed by NEAR.

The decision to embrace the entire territory in which the city extends and continues to develop, constituted a privileged observatory and a field for experimenting with the change of vision and narration of the relationship between the citizens of Perugia with the people who have recently arrived in the city .

Read more:

https://nearproject.eu/images/deliverables/reports/NSR%20TAMAT%20EN.pdf

The neighbourhood of old Nicosia has turned into the place where the last 2 years developed ideas, events and relationships! This neighbourhood was chosen because it is the center of immigrants where many integration activities take place. There are also organizations and services that support newly arrived immigrants in the place where all immigrants gather and find their future home.

Read more:
https://nearproject.eu/images/deliverables/reports/NSR%20CARDET%20EN.pdf

NEAR Documentary

Get a taste of what NEAR has really been like on the ground, watching our Documentary **here**

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