

The CITIES GROW (integration of migrants and refugees through economic activity in cities) project is implemented by a consortium coordinated by EUROCIITIES and including three organisations for migration as well as 16 major European cities.

CITIES GROW

Cities integrating refugees and migrants through economic activity

coordinator

EUROCITIES

expert organisations



city partners

- Athens
- Barcelona
- Birmingham
- Brighton & Hove
- Dresden
- Gdansk
- Ghent
- Helsinki
- Lisbon
- Munich
- Nantes
- Nicosia
- Riga
- Rotterdam
- Tampere
- Utrecht

contact

Follow our progress at www.integratingcities.eu

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about the CITIES GROW project

CITIES GROW aims to enhance mutual learning between cities and to improve the implementation of migration policies through concrete actions to facilitate the integration of migrants and refugees.

Led by EUROCIITIES, the network of major cities in Europe, CITIES GROW enables cities to exchange know-how, expertise, and good practices on how best to implement local actions. It builds on the experience and success of past EUROCIITIES projects (MIXITIES, DIVE, INTI-Cities, ImpleMentoring) by shifting the focus from peer reviews and standard-setting towards policy implementation and concrete actions at local level.

CITIES GROW aims to provide city-to-city support through tailored mentoring schemes in four specific areas:

- A. matching buyers and suppliers: access to public and private contracts for immigrant entrepreneurs
- B. engaging with businesses, local employment agencies, and local educational institutions
- C. services to support migrant entrepreneurs
- D. anti-discrimination strategies on local job markets

EUROCIITIES Integrating Cities Charter

The Integrating Cities Charter identifies the duties and responsibilities of European cities as policy makers, providers of services, employers, and buyers of goods and services to provide equal opportunities for all residents, to integrate migrants, and to embrace the diversity of their populations.

see: www.integratingcities.eu

city-to-city support and exchange for change

Mentoring scheme: 16 partner cities are paired up in eight thematic clusters to enable mutual learning. This benefits both the **mentor city**, which shares its experiences, and the **implementing city**, which wants to raise its standards and deliver changes. Each thematic cluster is facilitated by one expert partner organisation.

Each cluster will offer:

- study visits by representatives of each implementing city to a mentor city to see how policy initiatives are implemented, and to learn about good practices through brief presentations, site visits, and peer-to-peer discussions
- mentoring visits by representatives of each mentor city to an implementing city to assist with the process of sharing experiences and knowledge and exchanging good practices. All visits involve EUROCIITIES and one expert partner as facilitator
- work on a benchmark for integration policies based on agreed European standards
- action plans to bring about changes in the implementing cities – with the endorsement of public administration and involving relevant stakeholders

activities

- **eight local action plans** to bring about change in the cities drafted in a collaborative manner
- **four new Integrating Cities toolkits:** key recommendations for change based on European benchmarks
- **four Integrating Cities video clips** showcasing good practices in policy implementation
- **Integrating Cities Conference VIII (September 2018):** multi-stakeholder dialogue involving EU officials and local government representatives

goal

Transferable results and long-term policy impact in cities through mentoring and exchanges. City-to-city visits are catalysts for change. These provide a unique opportunity for cities to benefit from the expertise, targeted advice, support, and recommendations of their peers.

