

REGIN Project Dissemination Meetings November 2020 - February 2021

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Addressing the integration of migrants and refugees in Murcia Region

24 November 2020 | 9.30-11.30 CET | Digital Platform Zoom



The conference was opened by the Moderator, **Francisco Ramirez**, from the Directorate General for Social Services and Relations with the Third Sector, who welcomed the participants and informed that the conference was part of the REGIN Project financed by the European Union's Asylum, Migration & Integration Fund (AMIF). He thanked the attendees and informed them about the recording of the event and how to participate in the debates.

Introduction to EU policy on migrant integration

José Ramón Bauzá Díaz, MEP, former President of the Balearic Islands and Army Reservist Pharmacist.

In the European Parliament, he is a Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Transport and Relations with the USA and the Arabian Peninsula, as well as a Member of Renew Europe, responsible for North Africa strategy



Mr Bauzá Díaz stressed that a **coordinated response is necessary to deal with migratory challenges**. Administrations have to respond to socio-economic situations dealing with complex problems such as housing, COVID, education, etc. At the same time, each community contributes to society.

It is necessary to capitalise on the potential of migrants in the European Union (EU), since they can be a source of attracting talents. In this regard, it is necessary to work together

with different organisations within the EU.



Mr Bauzá Díaz explained how the EU works on different policy areas. It develops its mission under the mandate of the Member States, in some cases by means of treaties in which they can give competences to the EU, or in key aspects where the EU can have a specific task. For migration policies, the competence belongs to the Member States, and according to the Lisbon Treaty, the EU's role is to "provide incentives and support for measures taken by Member States to promote the integration of legally resident third-country nationals" in the European Union.

There are currently 27 million third-country nationals legally resident in the EU, that represents around 5% of the whole population. The **integration of migrants varies greatly from country to country, so exchanges of good practices are crucial**, and financial support must also be provided.

Mr Bauzá Díaz pointed out that European Commissioner for Home Affairs, Ylva Johansson, former Swedish Minister for Integration - had just announced on the same day the **New EU Action Plan for Integration and Inclusion of Migrants with a focus on 4 areas: Education, Housing, Employment and Health**. The Commission foresees to make a plan with 6 actions over 6 consecutive years, and one of the main aspects will be the issue of the labour market, which is an important factor in the migration process. The Action Plan approved by the Commission foresees funding through the following programmes and financial instruments: Erasmus+, Structural Funds and AMIF.

The President of the European Commission Ursula Von Der Leyen had also recently made a statement on this issue, with the announcement in September of the New Pact on Migration and Asylum.

The EU intervention is governed by a **principle of multi-stakeholder involvement**. National governments are not the only key actors, but support is also sought from actors such as regional and local governments and other relevant stakeholders. **The bottom-up approach is fundamental: therefore REGIN is a key initiative in the collaboration between actors at different levels.**

The Moderator indicated the importance of the recently published European instruments and their link with the REGIN Project. He conveyed the apologies of the Vice-President who was unable to attend the event due to urgencies linked to the COVID pandemic. Mr Antonio Sánchez Lorente was participating to speak on her behalf.

Regional policy on integration of migrants and refugees

Antonio Sánchez Lorente, Secretary General of the Regional Ministry of Women, Equality, LGTBI, Families and Social Policy



Mr Sánchez Lorente started by mentioning that the Region of Murcia had a lot of experience in the field of integration of migrants and refugees.

REGIN is a very relevant project led by the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR), of which Murcia Region is a member. The project supports the work carried out by the Region which wants to develop policies to promote integration.

Migration to Murcia region has changed over the decades: in the 1990s it was mainly from the African continent, especially the Maghreb, then diversifying from Latin America, Asia and the

United Kingdom. In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of people from the Maghreb and Sub-Saharan Africa. In 2016, refugees arrived first from Syria and other countries, and now there is an increase in arrivals from Latin America, especially Venezuela and Colombia. There has also been a rise in irregular arrivals of migrants on the coasts.

Murcian society has thus been transformed into a multicultural one. In 2020, there were 222,022 foreigners in the Region, representing 14.7% of the regional population, four points above the national average.

The Region of Murcia was one of the first to create a multi-stakeholder Immigration Forum. Two Regional Plans were created, one in 2002 and another in 2006, which was maintained until 2010. Actions were varied, the most significant being the **joint intervention between different regional departments (including education and health)**, collaboration with the State and its financial support, and networking with local and non-profit bodies. Unfortunately, as of 2011, funds allocated to programmes for the integration of migrants in the region decreased as a result of the economic crisis.

Migration led the Region to rethink its policies. Social services for migrants had to be developed in the 1990s and first decade of the 2000s, but now most of these services are mainstreamed, except in very exceptional cases. Some examples of specific measures for migrants include:

- Comprehensive Care for highly socially vulnerable immigrants, which offers temporary accommodation (207 places, 188 in shelters and 89 in hostels), food and personalised services for social and professional integration.
- Housing for vulnerable migrants, young people under regional care, single-parent families and especially vulnerable migrant women.
- Programme for unaccompanied children reaching the age of majority.
- Coordination Commission within the Immigration Forum for the assistance of asylum seekers.

The Region also organises training courses for civil servants from different administrations to support integration work.

In October 2018 the European Union awarded the Region of Murcia the RegioStars Award in the category "addressing long-term migration". It must be stressed that the merit goes to the organisations that work directly with the beneficiaries.

At political level, there is a need to develop multilevel governance and cooperation and unity of action between the policies of the European Union, the Member States, the regions and local authorities. Adequate funding should also be ensured.

According to a national ruling, the Spanish Autonomous Communities are shortly due to assume responsibility for the integration phase within the National System for the Reception of Refugees.

The Region of Murcia is committed to fighting xenophobia and promoting interculturality being a member of the Intercultural Regions Networks.

Mr Sánchez Lorente expressed great confidence in the REGIN project to develop tools to allow us to move towards a more cohesive and just society and he expressed Murcia Region's willingness to contribute with its deep experience on migrant integration issues.

Presentation of the REGIN Project

Davide Strangis, Executive Director, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) - [Link to presentation](#)



After presenting some background information on the organisation and activities of the CPMR and its work on migration in particular, Davide Strangis provided an overview of the REGIN Project.

The aim of the project is to improve integration policies in European regions, which is related to capacity building of key actors. He explained the key activities of the project: Dialogue and Cooperation, Regional Indicators, Toolkit for Regions, Integration Actions and Integration Lab.



The technical work on indicators (MIPEX-R) to measure regional migration policies will be key.

These indicators will be used to develop actions at regional level, which can be innovative. There is already one example of an interesting practice in Skåne, Sweden, where health equity measures have been developed.

An evaluation framework for good practices is also foreseen in an adapted form.

The mapping of key stakeholders for participation in training and capacity building is important as a basis for regional work.



LABORATORIO DE INTEGRACION

Marco de evaluación de las medidas regionales.

Base de datos y mapa interactivo de prácticas de integración.

Enfoque en los procesos de aprendizaje.

WP6

Actividades

- ➔ Diseño y ensayo de un marco y una matriz de evaluación comunes para las prácticas de integración regional basadas en los criterios del Comité de Asistencia para el OCDE (pertinencia, eficacia, eficiencia, sostenibilidad de los efectos).
- ➔ Recopilación de prácticas mediante una amplia encuesta entre las regiones miembros de la CRPM y fuera de ella.
- ➔ Creación de una base de datos en línea y un mapa interactivo de prácticas regionales con filtro de búsqueda.

Objetivos

Comprender los factores que hacen que una práctica regional tenga éxito o que fracase.

Proporcionar a las regiones herramientas de evaluación y vigilancia para mejorar el diseño y la planificación de las medidas.

Crear una herramienta fácil de utilizar para compartir ejemplos de prácticas regionales a nivel de la UE.



David Strangis



LIPAD Interactive Mapping

4 - Integration and Services

- 4.1. Preparation (France)
- 4.2. Guidance (France)
- 4.3. Data (France)
- 4.4. Tools (France)
- 4.5. Results (France)
- 4.6. Tools (France)
- 4.7. Results (France)
- 4.8. Results (France)
- 4.9. Results (France)

Innovation stems from the multi-level work of analysis and can be linked to competence mapping at national and in particular at regional level. This allows conclusions to be drawn for the European Union to adapt plans or funding for this policy area.

María Teresa Muñoz Ibáñez, Head of the Social Volunteering, Emigration and Return Service, Murcia Region - [Link to presentation](#)



Región de Murcia



Jornada de presentación del Proyecto REGIN
“Regiones por la integración de migrantes y refugiados”

Abordando la integración de personas inmigrantes en la
Región de Murcia

24 de noviembre de 2020



This Project is funded by the European Union's
Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund



Marta Muñoz - CARM

Her presentation focused on the activities carried out so far by Murcia.

Regional stakeholder mapping: This took account of the cross-cutting nature and the involvement of different administrations. The process of selecting key stakeholders was dynamic, with 70 key stakeholders currently mapped.

Regarding the overall result of the 6 partner regions, civil society organisations predominate, as well as local authorities. At national level, there are only 8% of key stakeholders and the percentage of European stakeholders is significantly smaller. This may be a constraint for sharing information and good practices in the multi-level environment. The civil society sector is very strong though there are few migrant associations. The business sector has a limited presence.



Work on MIPEX-R indicators to provide an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of migrant integration policies.

Preliminary work to identify good practices from the region. A systematised analysis of these practices is still to be developed. Thanks to REGIN, a laboratory of good practices will be available at regional level.

Stakeholder capacity building and workshops for key stakeholders, which will focus on discussing results. In this way, the aim is to reach a consensus on the actions to be developed at regional level for the design of actions and policies. An innovation action will be carried out and is yet to be defined, which will have to be configured in the working groups and will be financed by the project.

Training days for civil servants at regional and local level

Presentation of the MIPEX-R study in Murcia Region, preliminary results

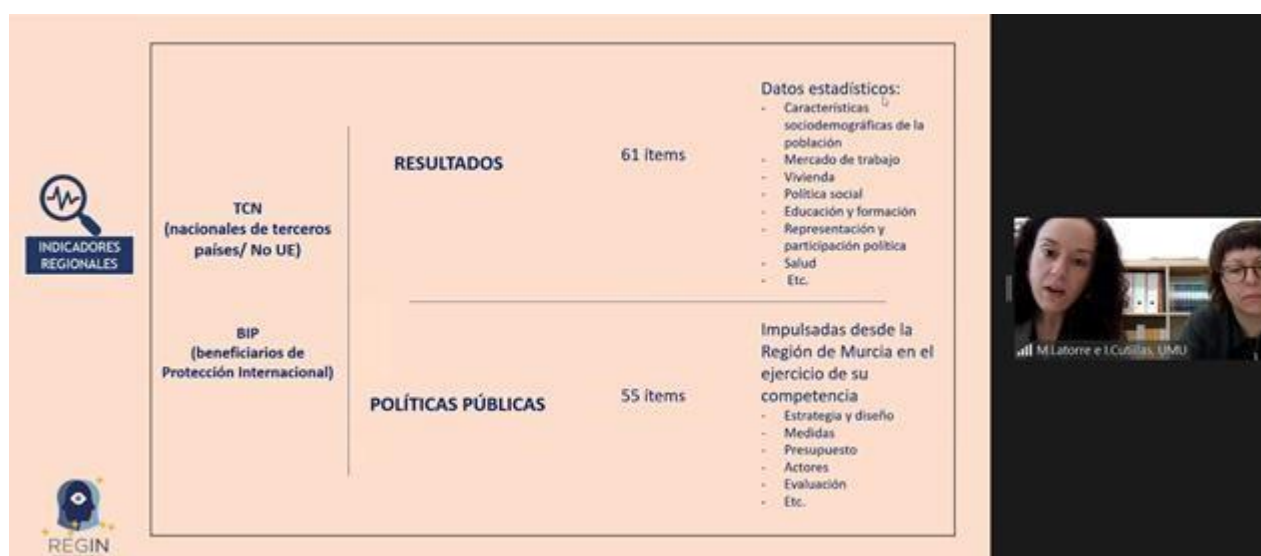
Marta Latorre Catalán / María Isabel Cutillas Fernández, Department of Sociology, University of Murcia - [Link to presentation](#)

Work on this topic was carried out by researchers at the University of Murcia with experience at European level.



The work had focused on completing the MIPEX-R questionnaire with regional data concerning two target groups:

- TCN - Third country nationals
- BIP -Beneficiaries of international protection



A preliminary analysis had been made based on the following indicators:



The researchers highlighted several issues and made some recommendations:

- Lack of some important and publicly available data. Without adequate and correct data, it is not possible to programme public policies, so it would be important to make them available. Other sources that could provide regional information should offer data, such as the statistical portal of the Region of Murcia. It would be interesting to include some interesting variables where not enough data is collected, eg. second and third generation immigrants. Finally, it would be good to construct comparable data at the European Union level. The asylum and refugee model in Spain is not adapted to the current migratory reality, and insufficient information is available on applications or decisions.
- There are two risks if the tertiary sector is in charge of integration: monopolisation of these entities by interest groups and the loss of clarity in competences on migration.
- The Integration Plans date from 2009 and are not adapted to the current reality. It would be interesting to update them.

- It would also be interesting to reflect on what we mean by integration, whether it is approached as inclusion into the different spheres of society. Data show a clear mismatch between the indigenous population and migrants.
- Integration cannot be achieved without the Region implementing policies specifically aimed at the migrant population, as has been the case in the last 10 years. And related to this issue, it is essential that they are conveyed in the appropriate language.

These are the first preliminary conclusions and there will be an opportunity to make a presentation with exhaustive and comparative results with the regions that will be planned in the near future in the framework of the REGIN project.

Panel discussion: "Opportunities and challenges in the integration of immigrants".

- Point of view of Civil society/third sector: Speaker: Juan Antonio Segura Lucas, Director General of the CEPAIM Foundation



Mr Segura Lucas spoke of the potential of migration for development. As a member of the Immigration Forum, CEPAIM is working on the Global Compact and in particular on refugees and the management of integration policies.

At the European level, he explained that while there is a common European model for asylum, there is not for integration, which is a State competence. However, the EU provides support to the states and CEPAIM is following current developments and recommendations in this regard, including:

- concept of integration as a two-way process concerning both the migrant population and the native-born population.
- the need for transnationality and the culture of making alliances with an international focus
- multilevel governance in all stages of the policymaking process.
- The future proposed Asylum and Migration Fund (AMF) replacing the current Asylum Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF), formerly the Solidarity Funds. In this regard EAPN and CEPAIM, which are part of international organisations, are campaigning to ensure that the "I" for integration is not lost.
- The new Pact on Migration and Asylum, which allows room for social innovation, but where solidarity is not considered mandatory.

In Murcia Region, there have been no Integration Plans since 2016, there is Citizenship and Coexistence. The Comprehensive Strategy against Racism and Xenophobia was a milestone that has not been renewed. The Strategic Plan for Citizenship and Integration (PECI) highlights the lack of Integration Plans and until 2020 there has not been any commitment to it. There is also a lack of evaluation and programmed support for interculturality, the reality is closer to cultural assimilation. The objective is to create communities living together, but the focus is more on living alongside each other. The Region of Murcia has had very successful experiences and can continue in the future.

CEPAIM's proposals are:

- - A long-term plan 2021-25 for integration policies.
- - Link this to Next Generation funds and reconstruction funds.
- - Set up a Focal Point for coordination

The model could be based on interculturality and inclusive cities. Urban development is important and in that sense, avoiding exclusion in housing. The future is achieved not from employment but from the integration of people and the link to the territory.

- Point of view of Associations / migrant community. Speaker: Mady Cisse Ba, President of the Federation of African Associations of Murcia (RASINET).



Different initiatives seek to achieve the full integration of immigrants, but migrant organisations encounter obstacles to their development and their role in society. Associations disappear without support and migrants thus lose their voice. Resources and technical means are essential to be able to promote them. One common problem is the many requirements to be met in order to access funding.

Among the main difficulties encountered by the migrant population, the following should be highlighted:

- Access to housing
- Working conditions in the countryside
- The representativeness of associations in institutions

Migrants make up 14% of the population and there are other countries, such as the UK, where integration is promoted with policies to offer jobs to local minorities as a priority.

- **Point of view of local government, Speaker: José Luís Ortega Cañavate, Coordinator of the Immigration Unit of Cartagena City Council**



The population in the Municipality of Cartagena is diverse. 12% of the people in Cartagena come from other countries, 50% are African and the rest are from Latin America and Europe. In the municipalities this percentage varies greatly in some cases up to 34%. It is also worth mentioning the differences between urban and rural areas.

In 2007 Cartagena became a member of the Social Cohesion Committee in the Federation of Municipalities at national level. Joining the Intercultural Cities Network and now EPI (the European Pact for Integration) constituted key steps for integration. They are fully in line with the contributions and conclusions provided by the University of Murcia and the approach proposed by CEPAIM.

Cartagena occupies a very interesting place in the ranking with the highest number of religions and religious diversity, with 43 religious communities and 45 places of worship.

The main actions carried out by the municipality are:

- Housing reports in conjunction with community work.
- Promotion and support of the associative fabric for migrants and migrant-led associations - 17 groups in Cartagena.
- Improving community actions to foster peaceful living together, mainly in neighbourhoods - intercultural centres - anti-rumour strategy - working table for reception since 2016 in Cartagena with social inclusion paths.
- Local roundtable working in the municipality with migrant women.
- Community forum in 2017, working with the Sea of Music Festival where the Sea of Neighbourhoods Festival with the involvement of neighbourhood residents.
- Creation of a community work scheme and a network of preferential care for COVID. A care centre and religious communities are being built in each neighbourhood.

The role of local councils is fundamental and has been insufficiently supported since 2009. It is necessary to find spaces for people to meet. Local bodies are hubs connecting different stakeholders at all levels. The weakness of the public funding model does not help local competences and strategic planning in the areas of housing, health, education and social affairs. The bottom-up approach is a good idea, from the local to other levels. He mentioned that bad practices in the management of irregular migration led to setbacks in the processes. It is important to have coordinated regional and local integration plans.

- Questions and participation of the audience



A question was put to Antonio Sánchez Lorente on interventions in the field of housing. The resources available to the Region are the 207 places with holistic care and socio-professional inclusion. It is obviously a network that must continue to grow, innovate and expand to other areas. An event was planned on the “PARES” programme designed as a network of community action to tackle residential exclusion. COVID-related residential aid schemes will be presented, that will be open to homeless people for the coming year.



A question was asked about the state of progress of the work undertaken by the University of Murcia. The MIPEX index has been adjusted as MIPEX-R for the regions, which is currently in the design phase. In this first phase, 6 regions have participated and it is expected to be opened to more EU countries.

Summary, next steps of the project and closure.

Antonio Sánchez Lorente, Secretary General of the Regional Ministry for Women, Equality, LGTBI, Families and Social Policy

The Secretary General indicated satisfaction in participating in the REGIN project, in which Murcia Region is reflecting on the integration of migrants. The Region is firmly committed to a more cohesive society and will take advantage of all the tools developed in this project. The current crisis, triggered by COVID-19, requires responses at European, national, regional and local levels. This has underlined the weaknesses of society in the social inclusion of migrants. There are great risks of exclusion and poverty for migrants residing in the Region of Murcia, which needs to be addressed in depth. It is a challenge for Europe to respond to integration, and it is necessary to respond from regional competences, as well as from the local sphere. He stressed the importance of aligning with the New EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, the Action Plan on Inclusion and Integration 2021-2027 and the UN Agenda 2030.

He thanked the CPMR is thanked for its support in this policy area. In the Region there is a clear will for socio-professional integration and relevant experiences, a solvent third sector, the contributions of migrant associations and other key stakeholders mentioned above. Regional responsibility is understood from all spheres within the territory and requires multilevel governance. There is still a long way to go and much remains to be done. Murcia will continue to work in this direction.

Annex 1 - Agenda



Jornada de Presentación Proyecto REGIN:

Abordando la integración de inmigrantes y
refugiados en la Región de Murcia.

AGENDA

- **09:30 h. Introducción a la política europea de integración de migrantes**
Ponente: José Ramón Bauzá Díaz.
 (Diputado del Parlamento Europeo)

- **09:40 h. Política regional de integración de migrantes y refugiados**
Ponente: Isabel Franco Sánchez
 (Vicepresidenta Regional y Consejera de Mujer, Igualdad, LGTBI, Familias y Política Social)

- **10:00 h. Presentación del Proyecto Europeo REGIN**
 (Regiones para la integración de Migrantes y Refugiados)
Ponente: Davide Strangis
 (Director Ejecutivo de Programas Europeos de la CRPM)
Ponente: María Teresa Muñoz Ibáñez
 (Jefa del Servicio de Voluntariado Social, Emigración y Retorno, CARM)

- **10:15 h. Presentación del estudio MIPEX-R en la Región de Murcia, resultados preliminares**
Ponente: Marta Latorre Catalán / María Isabel Cutillas Fernández
 (Departamento de Sociología, Universidad de Murcia)

- **10:30 h. Panel de discusión: "Oportunidades y desafíos en la integración de personas inmigrantes"**
 - **Perspectiva sociedad civil / tercer sector**
Ponente: Juan Antonio Segura Lucas
 (Director General de la Fundación CEPAIM)

 - **Perspectiva asociacionismo / comunidad migrante**
Ponente: Mady Cisse Ba
 (Presidente de la Federación de Asociaciones Africanas de Murcia)

 - **Perspectiva administración local**
Ponente: José Luís Ortega Cañavate
 (Coordinador de la Unidad de Inmigración del Ayuntamiento de Cartagena)

 - Preguntas y participación de los asistentes

- **11:15 h. Resumen, nuevos pasos del proyecto y cierre.**
Ponente: Antonio Sánchez Lorente
 (Secretario General de la Consejería de Mujer, Igualdad, LGTBI, Familias y Política Social)



This project is funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.



Annex 2 - List of participants

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12. Nidaa Botmi CPMR
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14. Cristina García
15. FaAM
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18. Raquel
19. Eva Fariña
20. Fulgencio Cerón ADLE CARTAGENA
21. Amparo - FUNDACION JESUS ABANDONADO
22. Vicente
23. JOSE MANUEL TAMAYO ALVAREZ
24. ANTONIO ALMAGRO SOTO COLUMBARES
25. Jesús Martínez Moreno
26. Manuel Mora
27. Antonio Sánchez Lorente CARM
28. Jose Luis
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33. Asun JSanchez
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39. Mayte Muñoz- CARM
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70. Andrea Ciavatta (Consortio Nova)
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72. MadyCisse Ba Presidente De la Federacion De Asociaciones African (Sul Ba Ndiaye)
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120. Antonio Sánchez Lorente
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122. Rosa Cano EAPN MU
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125. Rosa Cano (EAPN MU)
126. Mar Rodriguez 75894172Z
127. Adrian Carrillo-Concej
128. JUANA GAZQUEZ
129. MARTA LATORRE CATALAN
130. M.Latorre e I.Cutillas (MARTA LATORRE CATALAN)
131. Jose Ramón Molina. Fundación CEPAM
132. AGUEDA SANCHEZ GARCIA. Las Torres de Cotillas (AGUEDA FRANCISCA SANCHEZ GARCIA) amellado
133. Jose Luis Ortega
134. Mari Carmen Cruz Roja



Generalitat de Catalunya
**Departament de Treball,
Afers Socials i Famílies**

The significance of networking to improve inclusion policies (Catalonia)

15 December 2020 | 15.00-16.30 CET | Digital Platform Zoom

Inclusion in Catalonia. Where do we stand?

Mireia Vall - Secretary for Equality, Migration and Citizenship - [Link to presentation](#)

The Secretary for Equality, Migration and Citizenship, **Mireia Vall**, opened the day by reviewing the state of inclusion policies in Catalonia. First of all, she highlighted the diversity of Catalan society and the wealth of languages and beliefs. Nevertheless, she stressed that this diversity is still linked to inequality and disadvantages, for example in the area of employment, where the unemployment rate of the foreign population is double that of the national population; That is why one of the country's main challenges is to work together with administrations, social entities, economic actors, trade unions and civil society to reduce these inequalities. In 2019, the Interculturality Pact was launched with the aim of bringing cohesion to society and the Secretariat highlighted the 3 pillars of this pact:

1. Equal rights, rights and opportunities with the implementation of active employment policies and actions to improve school success and reduce the population at risk of social exclusion.
2. Recognition of diversity with policies and actions against hate speech.
3. Positive interaction between citizens through the creation of spaces for communication and citizen participation.

The REGIN Project

Claire Street - Policy and Project Officer, CPMR - [Link to presentation](#)

Claire Street presented the REGIN project, the aim of which is to mainstream the integration of migrants and refugees in regional cohesion policies by creating a common framework to help regions implement integration actions and improve results. She highlighted the activities underpinning the project:

- Dialogue and cooperation through the creation of an external network of active and committed partners
- Regional outcome and policy indicators to measure the effectiveness of regional policies. This analysis is carried out by means of questionnaires conducted by external impartial experts
- Integration actions with the implementation of a pilot programme in each region
- An Integration Lab to evaluate actions
- A toolkit for the regions with a mapping of the main actors and training for staff





Next, some preliminary data from the MIPEX-R for Catalonia were presented, indicating strengths such as the implementation of proactive policies through an integrated strategy and actions to raise awareness and promote diversity, as well as areas for improvement such as inclusion in the labour market and access to housing.

Regarding the mapping of stakeholders, in Catalonia there is a predominance of civil society organisations working on integration and inclusion with a dominance of local and regional actors that highlights the local and regional dimension of the integration of refugees and migrants. These civil society actors are innovative and can reinforce the actions of local administrations; However, the lack of international and European actors may represent a barrier when it comes to connecting with actors beyond the region or beyond the national level.

Finally, she recommended that Catalonia should seek to include other actors from other public administrations and the private sector in order to strengthen inclusive actions.

Panel discussion: The significance of networking to improve inclusion policies

Antoine Savary - Deputy Head of Unit, Integration and Legal Pathways, DG HOME, European Commission - [Link to presentation](#)

Karim Sabni, Spokesperson for the Girona Acull Platform

Homa Baldeh, Secretariat for Equality, Migration and Citizenship

Antoine Savary opened the panel discussion on the importance of networking, presenting the European Action Plan for Integration and Inclusion for the period 2021-2027. This was the result of a public consultation that had received 864 responses. First of all, he presented data related to integration and inclusion, showing the disadvantage between the migrant and national population in terms of employment, education and the risk of social exclusion.

The Action Plan will work in the areas of education, employment, health and housing, and aims to focus on 5 principles:

- Inclusion for all
- Cross-cutting integration measures with specific assistance for gender equality and anti-discrimination actions
- Alliances with multidisciplinary actors
- Assistance at all stages of integration to achieve long-term sustainable programmes.

He highlighted the priorities of the Plan: partnerships, EU funding, promoting participation in the integration processes themselves and the use of digital tools, and the monitoring and evaluation of integration.

Finally, he explained that the actions set out in the Plan will soon begin to be implemented with the cooperation of other DGs and Member States, local and regional authorities, civil society organisations, social and economic partners, the private sector, host communities and migrant associations. An interactive digital platform will also be set up to monitor the programme, and in 2024 a mid-term review of the Action Plan will be carried out. Finally, he informed that the idea is to be able to reach an agreement on the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) at the end of 2020 to review the future progress of the financing of local and regional activities.

The second presentation was made by **Karim Sabni**, Spokesperson for the Girona Acull Platform, who spoke of the need to forge alliances between different civil society organisations in order to respond to a wide range of needs and multiply the impact of actions; He explained that the citizens' platform is based on three pillars:

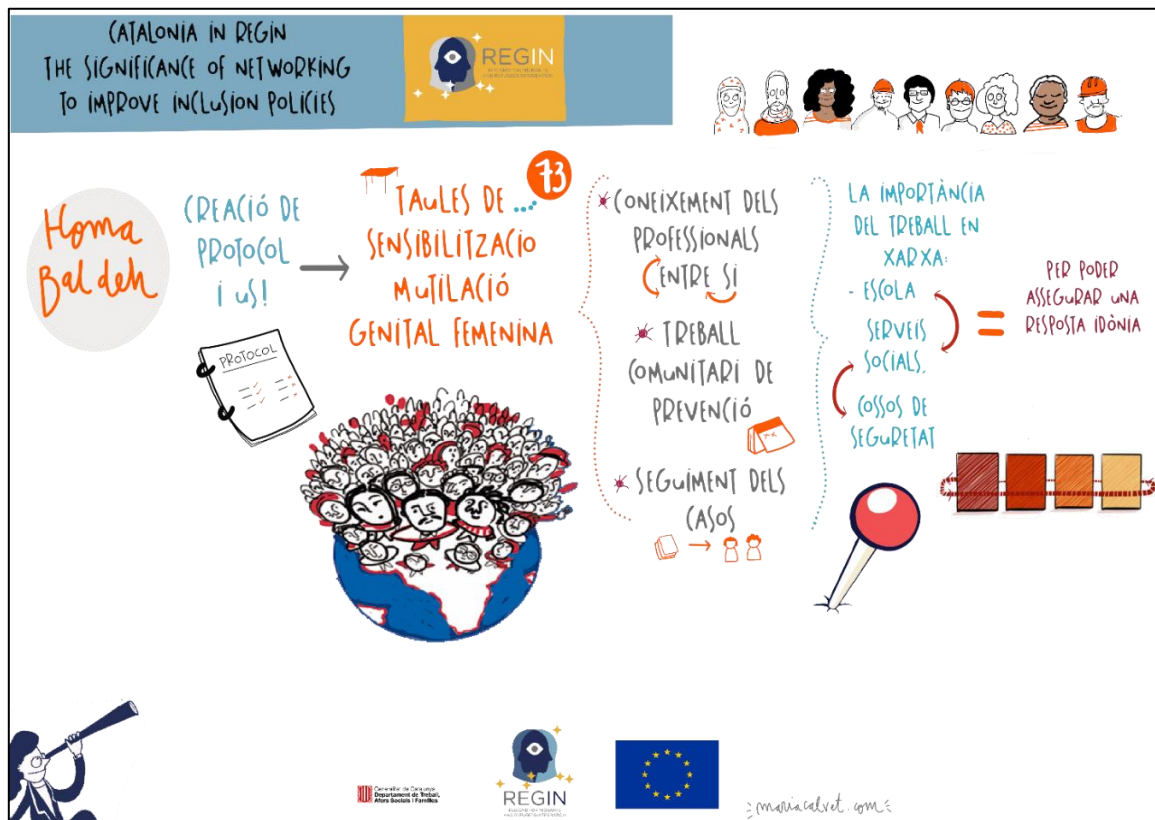
1. direct action in the streets with migrants and refugees
2. political action with a transformative vocation
3. internal observatory to design new actions



Karim Sabni stressed the need to focus inclusion policies on a more local and reduced scope in order to have a stronger impact. These policies must make the local level the protagonist and provide them with more resources. On the other hand, he stressed that in order to facilitate integration, people in an irregular administrative situation, who are currently invisible at the administrative level, must be included and a commitment to regularisation must be reached with the administrations. Finally, Karim Sabni stressed the need for collaboration and participation in order to move towards a cohesive society.

Finally, **Homa Baldesh** from the Secretariat for Equality, Migration and Citizenship explained the functioning of the local Female Genital Mutilation Prevention Tables, where different entities and administrations coordinate to offer comprehensive care. At present, there are 73 local centres throughout Catalonia and their creation has three main objectives.

1. Facilitate the coordination of multidisciplinary professionals involved in women's care in order to share knowledge and avoid malpractice
2. Design strategies to raise community awareness taking advantage of their knowledge of the territory
3. Monitor cases effectively.



In the **open question and answer session**, the participants asked about the training planned as part of the REGIN project and the possibility of extending it to social entities. **Claire Street** explained that the training is specifically for staff of regional administrations but there would be stakeholder capacity building sessions open to regional actors who would be able to discuss the region's migratory challenges.

The next question was addressed to **Antoine Savary** regarding the actions envisaged in the Action Plan to combat racial bias in public administrations. Antoine Savary replied that the Plan did not include any concrete actions against racism, as a specific Action Plan against racism was adopted by the European Commission in September 2020 September, but it does refer to anti-racism action plans to tackle institutional racism.

Karim Sabni was then asked about the organisation and coordination of the platform, and the possibility of including professional organisations in the field of integration and inclusion; Karim Sabni replied that they work from common and comfortable spaces with clear and shared goals for the fight for social rights. They also carry out this work with professional organizations that allow them to expand their scope of action and areas of work.

The last question was addressed to **Homa Baldeh** on the improvement of coordination between professionals as a result of the creation of the local Female Genital Mutilation Prevention Tables. Homa Baldeh emphasized that beyond prevention in this specific area, the tables will put in place a new channel of communication between professionals that did not exist before.

Closure

To close the day, **Maria Calvet** presented a graphic summary of the main ideas that were presented during all the speeches.

Annex 1 - Agenda



The significance of networking to improve inclusion policies

December 15th, 2020 15.00 h

Online event

15.00 h Welcoming

15.05 h Inclusion in Catalonia. Where do we stand?

- **Mireia Vall** - Secretary for Equality, Migrations and Citizenship

15.20 h The REGIN Project

- **Claire Street** - Project and Policy Officer at CPMR

15.40 h The significance of networking to improve inclusion policies

- **Antoine Savary** - Deputy head of unit of Legal pathways and integration - DG Home, European Commission

- **Karim Sabni** - Spokesman of Plataforma Girona Acull

- **Homa Baldeh** - Secretariat for Equality, Migration and Citizenship, program for preventing and addressing gender-based violence

16.10 h Questions and answers

16.25 h Closing

You can register through the following [link](#)



@ReginProject



reginproject@cpmr.org



reginproject.eu



Generalitat de Catalunya
**Departament de Treball,
Afers Socials i Famílies**

This project is funded by the European Union's
Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund



reginproject@cpmr.org • reginproject.eu • [@ReginProject](https://twitter.com/ReginProject)

Annex 2 - List of Registered Participants

Total number of registered participants: 96

Sector	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Job Title
A/R	Carlota	Cumella de Montserrat	CIDOB	Investigadora
A/R	Inès	Ayats	Institut d'Educació Secundària	Orientadora educativa
A/R	Anna	Tarrés Vallespi	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona	Càtedra d'Educació Comunitària
CS	Isabel	Mata Gutiérrez	Accem	Prospectora empresarial
CS	Beatriz	Lorente	Adoratrius _ SICAR cat	Coordinadora Atenció Integral
CS	Josep M ^a	Navarro Cantero	APROPEM-NOS	Coordinador tècnic
CS	Latifa	El Jouarani Afarjat	ASOCIACIÓN ÁRABE CULTURAL	CASTELLDIFELS
CS	Àgata	Sol	Associació Ambdrets	Directora
CS	Conxita	Vila Vila	Associació Atlàntida	Secretaria
CS	Daniela	Mansilla Faleroni	Associació Atzavara-arrels	Secretària
CS	Júlia	Bañeres	Associació Coordinadora Sinergia Social	Tècnica de projectes
CS	Bombo	Ndir Fall	Associació de Dones Inmigrants Subsaharianes	Presidenta
CS	Jessenia	Lagos	Associació Dones Endavant	Presidencia coordinacion
CS	Fatima	Ahmed	Associació Intercultural Diàlegs de Dona	PRESIDENTA
CS	Anna	Margarit Caldés	Associació Solidança	Tècnica
CS	Mariona	Enfedaque Pedros	CARITAS DIOCESANA DE BARCELONA	TÈCNIC ANÀLISI SOCIAL I INCIDÈNCIA
CS	Elisabet	Ureña Vila	Caritas Diocesana de Barcelona	Programa Migració i Codesenvolupament
CS	M ^a Amparo	García Serra	Càritas Diocesana de Barcelona	Tècnic
CS	Marta	Creus	Càritas Diocesana de Barcelona	Assessora programa Famílies i Infància
CS	Núria	Nuñez Jover	Càritas Diocesana de sant feliu	Responsable formació i inserció laboral
CS	Aurora	Taboada Basanta	Càritas Diocesana de Sant Feliu de Llobregat	Responsable de subvencions
CS	Goretti	Cebrián Bernat	Càritas Diocesana de Tarragona	Coordinació Acció Social
CS	Patin Laloy	Gaëlle	Casa Asia	
CS	Mònica	Fernández Márquez	Centre Residencial Ballesol Barberà	Treballadora Social
CS	Estel·la	Pareja Morte	Comissió Catalana d'Ajuda al Refugiat	Directora

CS	Moussa	Samba	Coordinadora d'Associacions Senegaleses de Catalunya C A S C	Responsable Programa Senexcel.lència Educació per al Desenvolupament Individual i Col.lectiu
CS	Mar	Avendaño Pons	Coordinadora Mentoria Social	Coordinadora Projectes
CS	Elisabet	Duran	creu roja	tècnica
CS	Henda	Conteh	dones andavan	secretaria
CS	Javier	Bonomi	Fedelatina	President
CS	Juan	Torres Alava	Federación de Asociaciones Ecuatorianos en Catalunya-FAec	Presidente
CS	Carmen Rosa	Bermudez Bonilla	Federación de Asociacionesde Colombianos en Cattalunya-FEDASCAT	Presidenta
CS	Laura	Sales	Fundació Surt	Àrea d'Empoderament Sociopolític
CS	Núria	Miró	Intress	Tècnica de projectes
CS	Marta	Garcia Rosa	isom	directora tècnica
CS	Lluís	Feliu Celma	ISOM, SCCL	Membre de l'Àrea Tècnica
CS	Jordi	Bonaterre	Jokkere Endam	Formador
CS	Nenita	Sanchez	KALIPI	Representante
CS	Merlys	Mosquera Chamat	Sant Joan de Déu - Fundació Germà Tomàs Canet	Programes d'acollida a refugiats
CS	Josep	Juanbaró	SDRCA, Assoc.	president
CS	Silvia	Durany	VINCLE Associació per la recerca i l'acció social	coordinadora
LA	Chaymae	Mechaal	Ajuntament	Regidora
LA	Geanina	Ungureanu Iliescu	Ajuntament d'Amposta	Agent d'acollida
LA	Laura	Díaz Melero	Ajuntament de Barberà del Vallès	Tècnica
LA	Àngels	Oliveras	Ajuntament de Caldes de Montbui	Tècnica d'Integració Ciutadana
LA	Soraya	Soler Bort	Ajuntament de Cerdanyola del Vallès	Tècnica d'Immigració
LA	Sanaa	El Harche Sakkali	AJUNTAMENT DE FIGUERES	Servei nova ciutadania
LA	Natallia	Holnik	Ajuntament de Guissona	Tècnica d'acollida
LA	Florentina	Budau	Ajuntament de Lleida	Tècnica d'acollida
LA	Júlia	Llovera	Ajuntament de Lleida	Agent d'acollida
LA	Alexandra	Rodriguez Montoliu	Ajuntament de Lleida	Agent d'acollida
LA	Florentina	Budau	Ajuntament de Lleida - SAM	Tècnic d'acollida
LA	Carla	Mulet	Ajuntament de Mataró	Tècnica de programes
LA	Marian	Sotos	AJUNTAMENT DE MONTGAT	REGIDORA DE SERVEIS SOCIALS
LA	Lourdes	Ferrando	Ajuntament de Palamós	Tècnica de ciutadania i immigració

LA	Mercè	Puigdelliur a Garcia	Ajuntament de Parets del Vallès	Tècnica d'acollida
LA	Isabel	Torrez RAMÍREZ	AJUNTAMENT DE POLINYÀ	TREBALLADORA SOCIAL
LA	Josep M.	Altarriba Roca	Ajuntament de Puig-reig	Alcalde
LA	Andreu	Bover Pagespetit	Ajuntament de Salt	Cap d'Àrea d'Integració i Convivència
LA	Albert	Bastida	Ajuntament de Sant Fost	1r Tinent d'Alcalde
LA	Martín	Miralles	Ajuntament de Santa Coloma de Gramenet	Projectes del Servei de Convivència
LA	Cristina	Grau Vidal	ajuntament de Tortosa	tecnic d'immigracio
LA	Oliver	Peña	Ajuntament d'Esplugues	Tinent d'alcaldessa
LA	Monica	Ortiz Garrido	ajuntament platja d'aro	tècnica d'acollida i convivència
LA	Verònica	Rincón Campos	Pla de Ciutadania Ajuntament de Lloret de Mar	tècnica
LA	Elisabeth	López	Ajuntament de Reus	
LA	Lila	Messibah Khemissi	Ajuntament de Tarragona - Imsst	TPM
Other	Janette	Vallejo	AMIC-UGT de Catalunya	Vicepresidenta de l'entitat
Other	Marc	Piera Arch	Autònom	Educador
Other	David	Benito	Consorti d'Acció Social de la Garrotxa	Tècnic comunitari
Other	Eduard	Baster Boix	Consorti de Benestar Social Gironès-Salt	Tècnic d'inclusió social i ciutadania
Other	Adriana	Cabeceran Gratacós	Secretariat d'Entitats de Sants, Hostafrancs i la Bordeta	Tècnica d'interculturalitat i coordinadora del projecte socioeducatiu Aprenem Compartint
Other	Núria	Farrús Izquierdo	Unió Sindical Obrera de Catalunya	Vocal d'Acció Sindical
Other	Mariluz	Escandell	USOC	Tècnica Immigració
PS	Pere	Ejarque	Fundació Cecot Persona i Treball	Recursos humans
PS	Susana	Zayas	Fundacio Formació i Treball	Cap de projectes d'inserció
PS	Raül	Rubiales Manjón	Fundació Germina	coordinador projectes
PS	Anna	Alie Zanini	Fundacio Guné	Responsable Projectes Catalunya
PS	Ester	Gil	Fundacio IRES	Responsable Oficina de Projectes
PS	Santi	Bolibar	Fundació Migra Studium	Col.laborador
PS	Sebastià	Notario	Fundació Pagesos Solidaris (Unió de Pagesos)	Projectes a les oficines d'atenció
PS	Irma	Rognoni	FUNDACIÓ PRIVADA VIARANY	DIRECTORA EXECUTIVA
RA	Teresa	Garsaball Naves	consell comarcal de les garrigues	Cap de l'Àrea de Benestar social
RA	Alicia	Assenza	Consell Comarcal del Baix Camp	Tècnic d'immigració
RA	Anna M	Gomez	Consell Comarcal del Baix Llobregat	Referent d'Ocupació Juvenil

RA	Fatima	Blanch Vidal	Consell Comarcal del Montsià	Tècnica polítiques migratòries
RA	Florina	Tudorache	Consell Comarcal del Montsià	Tècnica d'acollida
RA	Carmen	Galicia Badia	Consell Comarcal del Tarragonès	cap d'unitat
RA	Sió	Santaulària Muixí	Consell Comarcal del Tarragonès	Unitat tècnica de Ciutadania i Cohesió
RA	Tamara	Ruiz Pascual	CONSELL COMARCAL DEL TARRAGONÈS	TREBALLADORA SOCIAL
RA	Raül	Rodríguez Lara	Consell comarcal Les Garrigues	Dinamitzador cívic per a l'emancipació juvenil
RA	Brigid	Fernandez	CONSELL COMARCAL TARRAGONÈS	TÈCNIC ACOLLIDA
RA	Ramon	Castells Ros	Consell Nacional de la Cultura i de les Arts	Responsable de coneixement
RA	Josep	Rodríguez-Roca	Generalitat de Catalunya	Actuacions de Lluita Contra la Violència Infantil
RA	André	Duarte dos Santos	Regional Directorate for the Communities - Azores Regional Government (Portugal)	Project manager
RA	Magda	Garcia	Secretaria d'Igualtat, Migracions i Ciutadania	Tècnic

RA	REGIONAL AUTHORITY
LA	LOCAL AUTHORITY
CS	CIVIL SOCIETY
PS	PRIVATE SECTOR
A/R	ACADEMIA/RESEARCH
PR	PRESS
Other	OTHER



REGIONE PUGLIA

Integration and Inclusion of Migrants in the Age of the Covid-19 Pandemic (Puglia)

18 December 2020 | 09.15-10.30 CET | Digital Platform Cisco Webex

Institutional welcome and presentation of Puglia Region's actions on the inclusion of foreign citizens

Domenico De Giosa - Head of the Department for Citizens' Security, Migration Policies and Social Anti-Mafia Section

Puglia Region has implemented several strategies related to migration policies. These aim to eliminate the causes of poverty and the risk of exclusion for migrants subject to social marginalisation. In Puglia, we are witnessing a triple migration phenomenon, characterised by:

- flows of migrants "in transit", for whom Puglia represents a stage on their way to other destinations;
- sedentary migrants, settled throughout the region's territory;
- flows of migrants in response to the demand for seasonal work (seasonal workers).

Puglia Region promotes an integrated system of interventions and services to combat all forms of discrimination and to favour the full integration of migrants and their entry into the labour market, mainly through the dissemination and exchange of good practices and initiatives.

The resources for migration policies available to the "Citizens' Security, Migration Policies and Social Anti-Mafia" Directorate draw in a complementary way on the European Social Fund, the National Operational Plan and the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund.

Following the Covid-19 pandemic, Puglia Region has planned and stepped up interventions in the field of health care, especially in the Capitanata area, to provide further support to seasonal workers in the territory. In particular, an anti-Covid-19 guesthouse was set up, dedicated to all those migrants who had to comply with the fiduciary quarantine.

Finally, Dr. De Giosa pointed out that:

"Puglia Region will continue its engagement and expand the services available to the migrant population at serious risk of marginalisation."



The REGIN Project: Goals and Activities

Davide Strangis - Executive Director, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) - [Link to presentation](#)

The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions of Europe brings together 150 European regions from 28 EU and non-EU Member States. The CPMR carries out technical and political cooperation activities, such as the REGIN project.

Since 1973, the CPMR has been working as an interlocutor with national governments and EU institutions to ensure that the needs and interests of its member regions are taken into account in all policies with a strong territorial impact: regional and maritime, sustainable development, transport and spatial planning, fisheries and the environment, agriculture and rural development, research and innovation, energy and climate change, migration and tourism.

The REGIN project has been conceived as part of the Migration Task Force's work. It intends to promote the theme of migrants' and refugees' integration within social cohesion policies at regional level, by building a common reference framework that facilitates, guides and improves the Regions' work through innovative tools.

REGIN is promoted by the Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (Lead Partner), in partnership with Puglia Region, Campania Region, the County Board of Skåne, Murcia Region, the Presidency of the Regional Government of the Azores, the Department of Labour, Social and Family Affairs of the Government of Catalonia and, finally, the technical partners CIDOB (Centre for International Affairs of Barcelona), Instrategies, a consultancy agency expert in European and international affairs, and the Migration Policy Group (MPG).

In particular, the role of Puglia Region within the project is to test the tools developed within the REGIN project. Puglia informs and works with public officials and stakeholders to understand the key role of integration in providing social cohesion (training and capacity building sessions) and will promote and facilitate interactive and innovative activities to foster inclusion.

In collaboration with the CPMR, Puglia Region is also coordinating the selection of regional practices and experiences for a database and a related interactive map to highlight the learning process of developing actions and tools to promote inclusion and integration in European regions.

The main contribution of the REGIN project is to enable regional policy-makers to benefit from the results of cutting-edge research, tested and verified through feasibility analyses, to support the definition of integration policies for the foreign population on a regional basis.

The specific objectives of the project are:

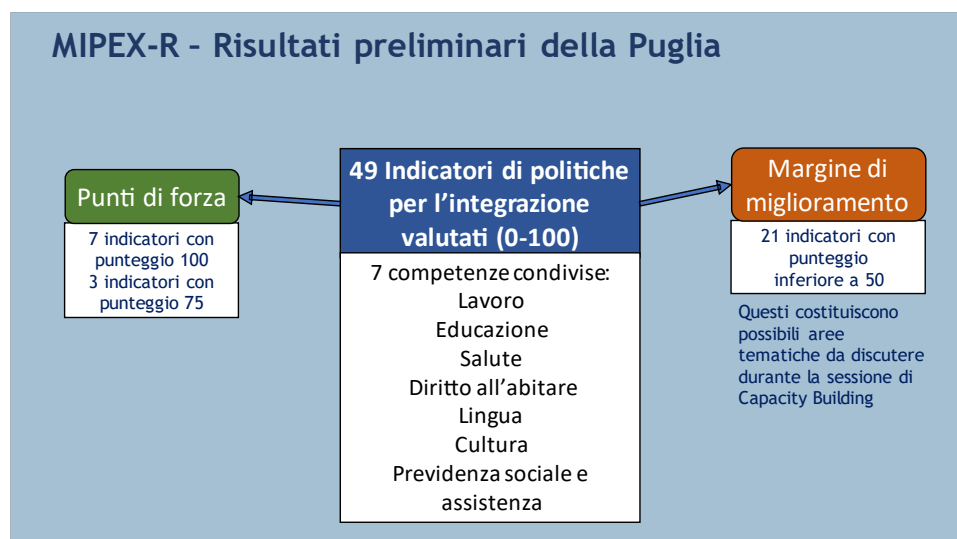
1. Improving the definition, planning and monitoring of integration actions
2. Identifying indicators of inclusion and integration of the foreign population at regional level
3. Developing a set of innovative tools to facilitate the work of the regions in promoting and strengthening the integration of migrants and refugees in their territory
4. To promote interchange, dialogue, cooperation in practice and to support initiatives among partners.

In particular, the REGIN project is based on a series of activities and initiatives, such as:

- **Regional indicators on integration:** in order to measure the effectiveness and results of integration policies at regional level, the Migrant Integration Policy index (MIPEX), already developed by CIDOB and MPG, will be adapted to the regional level as MIPEX-R (standing for MIPEX-Regions), taking into account specificities at regional level.
- **Integration actions:** definition and implementation of a pilot action in each region and a case study in Skåne: Test bed on health equity and social inclusion.
- **Resources and tools for regions:** provision of innovative tools for regional governments, through the development of capacity-building activities for regional stakeholders and tailor-made training for regional staff to help strengthen integration services.
- **Integration Lab:** To build and enhance an existing visual migration mapping tool developed by the CPMR that will build a database of innovative integration practices with a search engine that will be used for mutual learning between regions based on both successful and unsuccessful practices and for the promotion of regional integration actions, networking and identification of expertise in specific areas.
- **Building an external network:** In order to enhance transfer and capitalisation activities, the REGIN partnership will rely on an external network of supporting partners, including in particular: CPMR members, CPMR Migration Task Force and associated partners (Centre for Social Innovation (Cyprus), Migration Institute of Finland, MedCities, COPPEM (Standing Committee for the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership of Local and Regional Authorities), International Centre for Black Sea Studies (IcBSS) and L'Oriental region of Morocco).

MIPEX-R Preliminary results for Puglia

The preliminary analysis of regional integration policy indicators for Puglia Region reveals seven shared competences, namely: work, education, health, right to housing, language, culture, social security and assistance.



In particular, Puglia Region's strengths were highlighted regarding its integration strategies related to the full involvement of stakeholders. There were 7 indicators with a score of 100 and 3 indicators with a score of 75.

In addition, 21 indicators were found with scores below 50, where there is room for improvement.

Migrants' engagement in inclusion and participatory paths: the experience of Casa Sankara - ghetto out

Papa Latyr Faye - Chair of the Association Casa Sankara - ghetto out

The association Casa Sankara - Ghetto Out has been active in the capital city for about eight years and currently manages the Fortore Agricultural Undertaking in the province of Foggia, a structure designed to accommodate foreign workers and to carry out innovative agricultural activities that today hosts about 500 people. Papa Latyr Faye, President of Casa Sankara, emphasised that the association intends to be first and foremost a living example of how it is possible to combat labour exploitation in agriculture and to prevent and combat the creation of ghettos by working with local institutions. Since 2020, the association has been running a social farming project using 16 hectares of land made available by the Region, and has succeeded in introducing onto the market its label of peeled tomatoes *'Riaccolto, la terra della libertà'* ("land of freedom harvest").

Casa Sankara continued to work uninterruptedly even during the Covid-19 pandemic, despite the fact that the Capitanata area was overrun by fear. In the words of Papa Latyr Faye:

"We at Casa Sankara also took in people who were positive for the virus. We had to take this step of solidarity, because when people have placed trust in us, we have to be present... This is how we dealt with Covid..."

The weekly screening of the guests of the Fortore Farm was continuing in collaboration with a group of doctors from Bari.

What emerged in particular from the speech by the President of Casa Sankara is the need to encourage the protagonism of migrants, involving them directly in the processes of defining public policies on integration and inclusion of the foreign population:

"It is only with the support of the institutions and the protagonism of those who experience labour exploitation first hand that we can defeat the phenomenon of illegal hiring of workers. I think we can do it. I welcome the REGIN project, hoping that it will contribute to strengthening the dialogue between the various actors involved in the issue of integration and ensure that these issues do not remain relegated exclusively to political and institutional spheres."

Annex 1 - Agenda



Il progetto REGIN è finanziato dal Fondo per l'asilo, la migrazione e l'integrazione dell'Unione Europea

REGIONE PUGLIA

REGIN
REGIONS FOR MIGRANTS
AND REFUGEES INTEGRATION

SAVE THE DATE

Incontro di Disseminazione e Capacity Building

Integrazione ed Inclusione dei cittadini stranieri al tempo della pandemia da COVID-19

Venerdì 18 dicembre 2020
09:00-15:00

L'incontro si svolgerà online, su piattaforma *Cisco Webex*.

Per partecipare si prega di iscriversi al seguente Link:
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=e-vd8gaOhUWmLKsaVdWMj3iwo8rHjV0hE18Lame7TBUMkNDTjdVODZLRkQ1TFdHNEZOTVYSUVVNC4u>

Il numero di partecipanti all'evento è limitato (max.80) ed i posti verranno assegnati in base all'ordine in cui perverranno le richieste di iscrizione

NOVA
UNIVERSITÀ DEL SALENTO
Dipartimento: Salute, Società e Affari Locali

PROGRAMMA

09:00 - 09:15 Collegamento dei partecipanti e breve presentazione della giornata

♦ INCONTRO DI DISSEMINAZIONE

09:15-09:35 *Saluti istituzionali e presentazione degli interventi della Regione Puglia in materia di inclusione dei cittadini stranieri*
Domenico De Giosa - Dirigente Sezione Sicurezza cittadino, Politiche per le migrazioni e Antimafia sociale

09:35-10:00 *Il Progetto REGIN: obiettivi e attività*
Davide Strangis - Direttore Esecutivo della Conferenza delle Regioni Periferiche Marittime d'Europa (CRPM).

10:00-10:30 *Il protagonismo dei migranti nei percorsi di inclusione e partecipazione. L'esperienza di Casa Sankara - ghetto out*
Papa Latyr Faye - Presidente dell'Associazione Casa Sankara - ghetto out

Annex 2 - List of Participants

Nr	Nome e cognome	Organizzazione	Posizione
1	Abdou Thiandoum	Union 3	Mediatore interculturale
2	Ablaye Seye	Teranga-A.I.P (Ody) Lecce	Presidente
3	Alessia Rochira	Università del Salento	-
4	Andrea Valeria Ciavatta	Consorzio NOVA	Supporto alla Segreteria Generale
5	André Santos	Azores Regional Government	Senior Technician, Regin project Manager
6	Angela Sanitate	Regione Puglia	-
7	Anna Franza	Arci Brindisi, Siproimi S. Pancrazio	Coordinatrice di progetto
8	Anna Maria Cantacessi	Regione Puglia	-
9	Anna Paola Paiano	Università del Salento	ricercatrice
10	Antonella Bacchi	Comune di Bari	-
11	Antonio Ciniero	Università del Salento	ricercatore
12	Assunta la Donna	Ghetto out-Casa Sankara	Operatore Legale
13	Barbara Desario	Consorzio NOVA	Supporto alla Segreteria Generale
14	Claire Street	CRPM	Project and Policy Officer
15	Claudia Venza	Università del Salento	studentessa
16	Cleidiiane Pinheiro de Freitas	Unipop Interazione	Membro Consiglio Direttivo
17	Daniela Zitarosa	Intersos	Referente Intersos
18	Daniele Paolini	Università del Salento	Ricercatore
19	Davide Strangis	CRPM	Executive Director
20	Domenico De Giosa	Regione Puglia	Dirigente
21	Eliana Augusti	Università del Salento	Studentessa
22	Enzo Pilò	Babele Aps	Rappresentante Legale
23	Gianpietro Losapio	Consorzio NOVA	Direttore Generale
24	Gianpietro Occhiofino	Regione Puglia	Funzionario Amministrativo
25	Gloria Lagetto	Università del Salento	ricercatrice
26	Irene De Pinto	Oasi2 - Area R&D	Équipe Antitratta Referral Ct
27	Laura Intini	Regione Puglia	Segreteria
28	Leila Giannetto	-	Ricercatrice
29	Luana Duma	Fondazione Emmanuel	Junior Project Manager
30	Luigi Bellino	Regione Puglia	-
31	Luigi Vangi	Consorzio NOVA	IT Administrator
32	Marcello Ostuni	Arci Brindisi	Operatore sociale

33	Maria Girone	Usr Puglia	Docente A Progetto
34	Maria Rosaria Faggiano	Fondazione Emmanuel	Operatrice Legale
35	Maria Tiziana Severo	Scuola Secondaria Di Secondo Grado	Docente
36	Mariagrazia Cirrotola	Comune di Bari	-
37	Marianna Melone	Arci Brindisi	Mediatrice/operatrice
38	Marina Ruggiero	Comune di Barletta	Sociologa
39	Nicoletta Genchi	-	-
40	Nidaa Botmi	CPMR	REGIN Project Officer
41	Papa Latyr Faye	Casa Sankara - ghetto out	Presidente
42	Riccardo Ottavio Acquaviva	Regione Puglia	Funzionario P.O.
43	Rocco De Santis	Assessorato Politiche Sociali (Alezio)	Vicesindaco di Alezio
44	Rosa Porfido	ASL Bari	Direttore Distretto
45	Rosi Leo Imperiale	Amis Onlus	Presidente, Mediatrice interculturale
46	Rossella Putignano	Regione Puglia	-
47	Serena Lofano	Regione Puglia	-
48	Serena Verbena	Università del Salento	Dottoranda
49	Silvia Caraballo	Instrategies	Project Officer
50	Titti De Luca	Asl Lecce	Assistente sociale
51	Victor Liotine	Consorzio NOVA	Case Manager (IMPACT PUGLIA)
52	Viola Lavermicocca	Consorzio NOVA	Team Comunicazione

Länsstyrelsen
Skåne

Partnership Skåne

REGION
SKÅNE

Information Meeting, Partnership Skåne and the REGIN Project

3 February 2021 | 11.00-12.30 CET | Digital Platform Skype

Information on Partnership Skåne

Ola Melin, Deputy Governor, and Katarina Carlzén, Director Partnership Skåne, County Administrative Board - [Link to presentation](#)

Ola Melin opened the meeting welcoming everyone to the combined event of dialogue within Partnership Skåne (PS) and with international partners from CPMR. The event is a renewal of the dialogue last held 27th January 2020, after which the formal agreement around regional collaboration came to a stand-still. Today, regional collaboration is even more significant than before; as migrant reception has decreased, municipalities and authorities are reducing their activities and many authorities are making changes in their local presence. From the point of view of the County Administrative Board, PS has proven to form a significant and strong platform for collaboration on several levels. However, collaboration is not something that happens by itself. Effort is required along the way.

Ola Melin then presented PS as a regional platform and structure for collaboration and for method development which has the aim of supporting establishment throughout Skåne with a focus on health, participation and autonomy. The goal is that the newly arrived would take an active role in Skåne's social life, development and growth as quickly as possible. PS is a partner in the REGIN project - Regions for migrants' and refugees' integration with CPMR - Conference on Peripheral Maritime Regions as the project coordinator. During the project period, two dissemination meetings are to be organized and the present meeting is one of them, covering the decision-making level.

In her presentation, **Katarina Carlzén** focused on giving an overall picture of the most important actions implemented within PS in 2020. PS is a support structure for collaboration but also for concrete operational efforts. Since 2008, collaboration has covered questions that are often in a blind spot; there is awareness of the issues, but the responsibility can be unclear, and it can be difficult to know how to respond. But when actions are based on evidence and real needs, it is a strong method to identify what should be done, how, and what is the connection between actions and newcomers' health, participation, trust, motivation, knowledge and autonomy. These are components that are central to integration and establishment in the labour market.



Through its collaborating partners, PS reaches the vast majority of newly arrived who come to Skåne each year, which is unique in Sweden. PS is held together by the County Administrative Board as it has the assignment for building capacity and readiness for reception in the region, facilitate collaboration but also ensure that efforts for integration and reception are of a high qualitative level.



The main components of PS are **civic and health communication SHK** and **coordination with civil society through NAD - Network, Activity, Participation**. In addition, with the support of dedicated researchers and the academy continuous follow-up, **evaluation and knowledge development** is made possible. Different actors and organizations take responsibility for different parts of PS activities; and it is jointly decided what should be

done and how it should be done. The system is built on a high level of trust and commitment between the partners. Financing of PS is a rather complex system. There is a clear budget distribution, in addition, there is also funding from various European funds.

Katarina Carlzén then described how **SHK forms the heart of PS** as the civic and health communicators meet migrants daily. SHK is the basis which permits other efforts to reach their full potential.

Municipalities participate in PS through regional hubs, and it is the County Administrative Board which coordinates the collaboration with Region Skåne and the Swedish Public Employment Service. For SHK a new project plan has been developed for 2021-2023; and there are 25 municipalities involved in this work.

Recently an evaluation report was published by Uppsala University; about 800 newly arrived participated in the evaluation on the health status of participants before and after SHK. What we saw was that before participating in SHK, there were high levels of ill health, low trust in society, low knowledge of how society works, and high levels of mental trouble. After having taken part in SHK, new contact areas with civil society, cultural institutions, and employers were created; there was a clear evidence of increased health and trust in institutions and society. The participants had also felt that they had approached work and education. In summary, it can be said that there is a great need for civic and health communication.

In Skåne health communication has been added to civic communication even before civic communication became mandatory in 2010. And health communication still is not a mandatory part of civic communication. So **the Skåne model shows how health can be linked to civic orientation**. In addition, in 2020, PS was nationally commissioned to produce films in several languages about the spread of infection and about health promoting themes directly linked to the pandemic. A total of 15 films were produced in 11 languages and published throughout Sweden. This action was also highlighted by the WHO in a conference on infodemic management in December 2020.

Katarina Carlzén then presented PS's role in the project REGIN. An example of how PS works regionally, nationally but also internationally in REGIN.



PS has for several years worked with **method development on how we can respond to mental illness and challenges in parenting**; challenges which have great impact also on labour market access. By direct assignment from the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, PS has worked for several years to produce thematic materials and train communicators in Skåne and even nationally.

This development work has been further built on in collaboration within REGIN. **Two pilots have been carried out** in municipalities in Skåne, in collaboration with IM, Save the Children and other partners. The method development and a fully implemented pilot were completed in Malmö. The other pilot in Eslöv had to be paused due to the pandemic. In the pilots the local municipalities have taken a central role in coordinating local actors and participants; thus the regional level has been supporting the local; the public employment service has also been a key player in the project.

The evaluation carried out by Uppsala University is under way. **The preliminary results are over-expectedly positive.** In the beginning of the pilots, we met traumatized, poorly motivated, unhealthy participants, but who after relatively simple interventions and only a ten-week-long program ended up being more motivated and more able to take new steps in life. The material "Vägar vidare" has been produced by Sensus study union and it contains a very positive foreword by Skåne's Regions and Municipalities. The idea is to continue collaboration in the implementation of this method in the future.

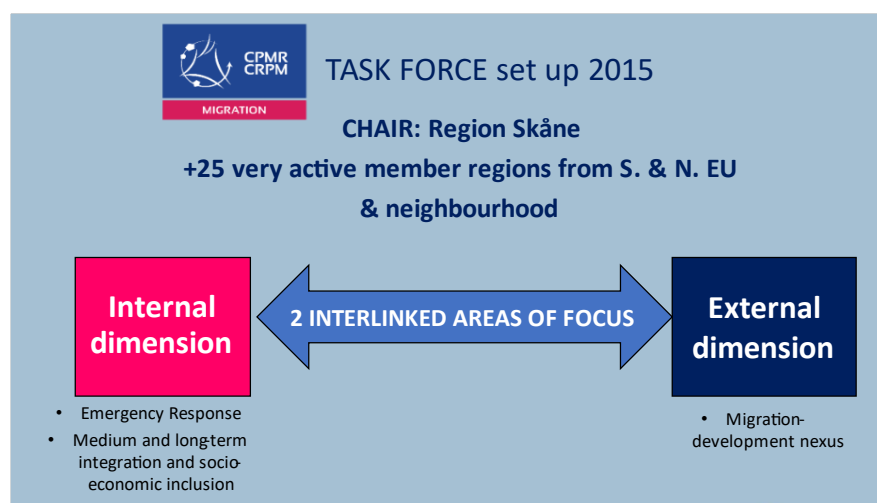
Katarina Carlzen finished by mentioning that PS has adapted to the expected reduction in admissions of migrants in 2021 in coordination with civil society, by creating a new structure where PS has one regional coordination system for newly arrived, asylum seekers and also for young and long-term unemployed; the development work within NAD and the employment service will be carried out in 2021. The whole of Skåne is benefitting from the work that we all contribute to, based on a shared value of everyone's right to participation and health. This has also attracted international attention, not least by the WHO, which published work on PS in 2016 and 2019.

CPMR and REGIN

Davide Strangis - Executive Director, CPMR - [Link to presentation](#)

Anne Jähnke, Chair of the Regional Development Committee of Region Skåne then welcomed **Davide Strangis**. The latter first presented CPMR as an organization and then focused more closely on REGIN.

CPMR brings together over 150 regional authorities in the EU and its neighbourhood and is organized in six geographical commissions. It defends the interests of member regions in European policy areas such as cohesion, climate, migration and others. CPMR is a platform for political and technical cooperation where the regions can exchange views and technical knowledge; and deliver messages which can have direct impact on European policies, financial allocations and legislation. Thus, CPMR is an interest group, a think-tank, and a platform for concrete projects.



CPMR started working on the migration in the wake of migration reception crises in Sicily and other Mediterranean islands in 2015. At the request of members, a Migration Management Task Force was set up focusing on emergency reception but also long-term impact on integration and inclusion. The aim of the Task Force is to better understand the needs of regional

authorities. CPMR is reaching EU institutions and national governments aiming to make the voice of regions heard in policy making, and make sure that regions can access adequate resources available to foster migrant integration and inclusion.

One of the CPMR's key messages is the need to consider the multilevel governance. In this regard, the ecosystem model executed in Skåne region has raised interest both in the Task Force and among partners of REGIN project, and beyond. Through the Task Force CPMR is formulating policy messages to be conveyed to European institutions, often in the form of policy positions, responses to consultations, lobbying, meetings etc. CPMR is establishing close relations with the cabinet of the European Commissioner Ylva Johansson. The cabinet is listening, and we are seeing a clear impact, for example in the new action plan published in November last year. Very recently a Task Force meeting was held with the Commissioner's cabinet, during which Skåne's work for civic and health communication was presented. CPMR is also aware that Skåne's work for migrant health has been acknowledged by WHO, and CPMR has been able to develop synergies with WHO Europe, for example in the field of capacity building and networking.

As an answer to **Anna Jähnke's** question on CPMR's methods of influencing EU policy making, **Davide Strangis** gave some examples: CPMR monitors EU budget negotiations and is lobbying on EU budget instruments and regulations affecting for example cohesion policy, fisheries, migration policy and its new funds, with the particular aim of strengthening the role of regional authorities. CPMR has also presented many suggestions concerning specific regulations, methodologies, raising budget lines, including sectors such as Interreg and maritime cooperation, transport and mapping of infrastructures, climate and energy, and renewable energies and energy efficiency. CPMR's

scope of action is very wide, and the six geographical commissions provide the necessary critical mass to deliver powerful collective messages mainly to the Commission and the EU Parliament. CPMR manages an inter-group in the EU Parliament, and thus has direct contact with over a hundred MEPs, which then in turn carries an influence into legislation through the co-decision process. Within the European Commission, CPMR has direct contact with all the DGs.

As examples of major impact made by CPMR, Davide Strangis mentioned the role of providing information to the regions about cohesion policy funds, as well as shaping the policies and funding linked to Interreg. In the field of migration, CPMR has succeeded in raising awareness of the role of the regions and the importance of multi-level governance.

Davide Strangis then presented the REGIN project; in 2018 EU Commission launched a call under the AMIF fund targeting networks of regional and local authorities. This call was partially a result of the lobbying work made previously by CPMR. CPMR submitted a project proposal focusing on promoting the role of regions in the work of integration and social and economic inclusion of migrants. The aim of the project is to mainstream the integration of refugees and migrants within social cohesion policies in the regional level. And to do this evidence-based research is being used, to build a common framework and to give regions innovative tools to help in policy-making and to be able to perform better.

The geographic scope of the project covers Skåne in Sweden, Azores in Portugal, Catalonia and Murcia in Spain, and Campania and Puglia in Italy. CPMR is coordinating the project. There is the involvement of regional governments, and three technical partners: Instrategies and CIDOB from Barcelona, and Migration Policy Group from Brussels. There is another layer of external partners called associated partners.

The project is divided in several components:

1. to facilitate **dialogue** on integration and cooperation between the regions
2. to develop **indicators** to measure regional integration policies and policy outcomes, called MIPEX-R (Migrant Integration Policy Index for Regions), it is a modification of the standardised national level indicator index called MIPEX. In MIPEX-R altogether 61 regional policy indicators and 55 policy outcome indicators have been developed. The potential of this exercise is huge as MIPEX-R can be applied in all regions in Europe and beyond, similarly to the national level MIPEX.
3. to develop a **toolkit** for **stakeholder capacity building** sessions. Taking advantage of the indicators developed within MIPEX-R the aim is to facilitate discussion of strengths and weaknesses in the region, and to include the diversity of voices such as civil society and private sector, in order to capture the multi-level and cross-cutting nature of integration. And not only to focus on integration in a strict sense but also health, education, culture, etc. There is also **training for regional staff**, which is another component. Modules and training guidelines have been designed primarily for staff in the public sector to raise awareness of integration in their day-to-day work, but some elements can be adapted to other target groups and other type of organizations.
4. Other partner regions are working on developing and implementing their own **integration actions** based on MIPEX-R results and debates in regional capacity building events.
5. Skåne has developed a **testbed for health equity and social inclusion** where the regional ecosystem of Partnership Skåne is linked to local ecosystems involving local municipalities

and civil society organizations. As this part of the project has been more or less finished we are now looking at how to capitalize on it, to spread the model and results among partners. We are also thinking about organizing possibly a specific event on this since it can be really inspirational to many other regions.

6. **Integration Lab** which is about **sharing and learning from different regional practices**, identifying best practices but also learning from failed processes. For this purpose, an evaluation framework has been developed based on criteria for development cooperation actions developed by OECD; main criteria include relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact and sustainability; thereafter a specific tool, a database for mapping selected practices is going to be developed. CPMR has already developed such a database and mapping tool on competences on multilevel governance, practices and needs; which, for example, the committee of the regions of the EU has found useful. The database will allow regions to showcase their examples and find partners who focus on similar kinds of topics.

As the last point of the presentation, Davide Strangis presented the preliminary results of MIPEX-R policy indicators. The survey and analysis have been carried out by independent experts in the regions. The answers have then been analysed and compared by scientific partners in CIDOB and MPG. They have developed a scoring system which can provide aggregated data across different regions.

There are wide regional differences in competences, so MIPEX-R policy indicators count the specificities in each region; in order to have higher level of comparability and to see how national level policy making may influence regions, different regions from the same country are going to be included in the survey. From Sweden Västra Götaland is going to be the other region participating in MIPEX-R.

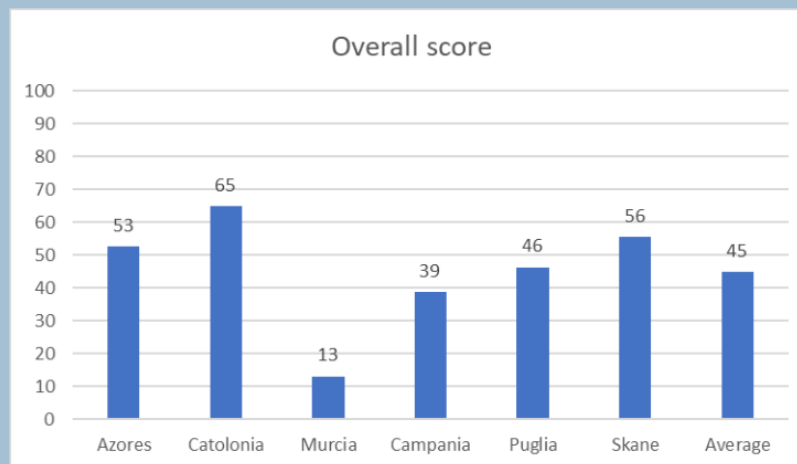
The MIPEX indicators show how the regions are performing in governance and policy cycle; more concretely, we can see if the region has an integration strategy, whether there are specific bodies or units within regional authority dedicated to migrant integration, how is the delivery of the public services, for example if there is targeted housing for migrant population, if there are antidiscrimination policies or awareness raising campaigns and so on.

The results show that Skåne is performing relatively well, being second after Catalonia, and that the strengths of the regions are in the implementation of strategies, policies and actions. Skåne is scoring very high in implementation, higher than other regions. On the other hand, the usual weakness is in the policy formulation and policy evaluation, and lack of actions targeted to beneficiaries of international protection.

Compared to the national policy making, regions are more closely linked to the local communities and have stronger powers when it comes to the implementation of the policies on the ground. This confirms the **importance of the regional approach and focus on multilevel governance**, and that **regional level can provide valuable models and initiatives both to national and even transnational level**.

The results of MIPEX-R shall be complemented with policy recommendations for participating regions and later this year each region shall organize policy debates with the presence of regional experts. It will be a good opportunity for all regional parties to come together to reflect and debate policy actions.

REGIN MIPEX-R Policy Indicators Preliminary findings



Full Datasets available <https://reginproject.eu/publications/>

MIPEX-R datasets, as well as contact information, are available at REGIN website at www.reginproject.eu.

Anna Jähke asked if also the Information Lab is available at the website. Davide Strangis answered that some part is already published, some is under construction, but all material is directly available to Skåne as partners.

Katarina Carlzén asked about the coming-up events, especially about MIPEX-R policy recommendations and policy debates. Davide Strangis answered that the details have not been decided yet; but the idea is to capitalize the results of MIPEX-R and to connect and to influence European and regional policy making. Regions will be in the leading role in such events. CPMR shall be building on those exchanges to develop policy recommendations in the future.

To guarantee the sustainability of the present project, CPMR is also already now working on new proposals on AMIF calls linking the MIPEX-R results to new projects and to new territories. The project committee shall work on the details of the policy debate events.

Katarina Carlzén commented that as Västra Götaland is now joining the project and is working on similar survey, it would be interesting to have a separate forum between Västra Götaland and Skåne, as in the end the results of both regions shall be used to extract results also on a national level. Davide Strangis responded that it would be positive if such coordination took place also in other countries; and that CPMR is looking at MIPEX-R in a long perspective.

CPMR representatives left the meeting.

Discussion

Ola Melin then opened the floor for discussion about REGIN and Partnership Skåne.

Richard Gullstrand started by naming the main topics to discuss : the big question about PS as such, how do we look at it; cooperation agreement with specific parts of NAD, MILSA and SHK; the fact that we lost a bit of pace in 2020; REGIN project and what it requires from the parties in 2021, also in terms of the policy work mentioned earlier. When it comes to CPMR, we are in a new situation, we need to look what policy questions are driven there, especially now that Anna Jähnke is coming in as a new Board Member. Region Skåne is a political organization and we have got a new regional government this term. Since 2019 we have worked intensively with focus on public health, but we will not have any specific integration policy in Region Skåne's portfolio. We work with skills supply, infrastructure, business development, better health for more people and binding the region together.

Richard Gullstrand then commented upon the developments since the meeting in January 2020; the municipalities had felt that SHK did not function fully as it had been thought. It has been fixed now but that was the reason for the meeting. And even Public Labour Service had savings in its budget and could not continue financing NAD activities; NAD efforts should be clearly linked to the labour market, with an employment plan after the effort. Region Skåne joined the debate as we saw that NAD could be linked to skills supply platforms; for which we have had assignments since 2010. We have had PS since 2008, the question is if we can form a new platform or if we can sync the platforms of skills supply and PS in a new way. We have the agreement with PS for 2021; we have also talked about organizing the steering group work; we can no doubt find a way forward with this.

Peter Cavala commented that now that so many municipalities have joined the new SHK program period it shows that the question around SHK has moved on, and with regard to NAD, it is true that NAD is influenced by changed circumstances within Public Labour Service and even within Region Skåne, but there is no contrariety, and the situation can even lead to positive transformation of PS.

Anna Jähnke added a political perspective to the discussion; the board of Region Skåne has given a clear mandate to work with skills supply, increased productivity and increased health with a focus on young people. The pandemic has taken a heavy toll on resources everywhere; we need to look at everything we do and do everything a little bit better.

Åsa Stenbäck-Holmér commented that we see it very clearly that the municipalities are asking how we can approach individuals with the labour market; the whole PS with its various parts works as a support system that leads newcomers closer to the labour market; PS is not just about health but about individuals' ability to approach work.

Katarina Carlzén then pointed out that there is a very clear connection between labour market establishment, skills supply and people's conditions, and PS works precisely with such basic conditions. The components we have in PS lead to faster and better labour market access. And the recently developed in-depth support for parenting and well-being, provides also support for children and young people's opportunities in life. We may need to talk more about that connection between parenting and children's opportunities, to clarify the connection.

Anna Jähnke responded that there are different roles in the skills supply. The municipality has an individual perspective, that is their main task; while Region Skåne has assignments of skills supply based on the needs of the business community; it is equally relevant for Swedish citizens or newly arrived. From Region Skåne's point of view, she did not see that we should focus on the individual, it is the municipality's mission. We need to keep this demarcation very clear.

Richard Gullstrand added that lots of planning takes place from a system perspective: labour market, skills supply, education, vocational SFI, health promotion and the health system of the future. But when it comes to the specific target group, newly arrived, we must ask ourselves if we can work so narrowly with one target group, or if there is another other kind of support structure we need to build. Let us not be locked into the question of whether we want PS or not, we can find new forms forward.

Peter Cavala responded that organizations represent different conditions and different assignments, and it is correct what has been said about the systems perspective, it covers a much broader target group. The County Administrative Board has an assignment regarding the establishment of newly arrived. We need to review our missions of how they can match PS. And it is exactly as being said before, skills supply concerns Swedes as well as foreign-born. In 2021, we may need to rethink how we can match all of this. There does not need to be any contradiction. We can enter with different conditions, have narrower and deeper assignments around newly arrived, and coordinate their establishment. We work with the target group, but it can also be fed with a system perspective. It is important that after so many years, with so many players and changes in politics, we unconditionally develop the content in PS. As being said, it is not whether it should be or not but how we can adjust it to match our entire mission in the region.

Katarina Carlzén then mentioned that through SHK, unquestionable societal benefits take place, reduced un-wellbeing, improved health. We have a great deal of knowledge about the risks of mental and physical ill-health that result in several diseases which then burden the health care system. Health communication is not stipulated by law, the municipalities have no responsibility to provide health communication if we do not provide it. We have a large recent study that looks at the effects of health communication and where we can see clear reduced ill-health, it is such a thing that saves a lot of money. We may add this to our agenda for continued discussion.

Richard Gullstrand responded that health communication is a unique module in civic and health communication, and we need to think that our knowledge centres are also involved in this module. Some municipalities have said that there was too much focus on health, or that the module came too early, and that they wanted to have the connection with SFI, and they wanted the focus on individuals becoming employable. But it is clear that we have the interest that the health module remains, but we have some homework to do with our colleagues, evaluation of hours, structure, etc.

Ole Melin then asked about how the dialogue could continue. **Richard Gullstrand** suggested that the steering group would start by looking at the whole set up of PS. **Peter Cavala** agreed and suggested regular and more intensive steering group work during the year 2021. The County Administrative Board coordinates. **Katarina Carlzén** reminded that there will be MIPEx-R policy recommendation and result presentations coming-up in the coming months and she suggested that the results would be received in the parallel constellation. **Peter Cavala** responded that if there will be knowledge from CPMR that benefits the region, there should not be any problem in spreading it also through this channel. **Anna Jähnke** commented that REGIN is a project that the County Administrative Board is involved in right now and it is about to end. The role of CPMR will be looked at closer in the light of Region Skåne's internal priorities such as infrastructure. From Region Skåne's perspective, infrastructure is a more important issue than integration. With respect

to the REGIN project, the parties may benefit from it as much as possible and the County Administrative Board may take it forward in the most appropriate way according to its assignments. **Ole Melin** asked comments on how the collaboration with CPMR should be worked upon, in terms of integration/infrastructure. **Peter Cavala** responded that inside infrastructure there are many interesting topics such as housing and community planning, but simultaneously there are also important challenges within migration. Why not let the year 2021 show where we land? he further suggested. CPMR is strengthening PS but the questions are not intertwined, so if Region Skåne, for example wants to shift a perspective and reduce efforts within CPMR, we still have the continued regional collaboration in all its scope, even regarding skills supply. The most important question for 2021 is the collaboration within PS. **Anna Jähnke** responded that CPMR is a side question, it is not our common platform. We need to be careful and not mix things. It is very good idea to look at the situation within PS based on our individual conditions and assignments. CPMR is a separate track.

Ole Melin thanked everyone for the fruitful dialogue and repeated that the invitations for the next steering group's meeting shall be sent by the County Administrative Board.



Annex 1 - List of Participants and Agenda



Partnership Skåne

REGIN Dissemination Meeting - regional group Partnership Skåne

February 3rd 2021, Skype

Participants

Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, CPMR

Mr. Davide Strangis, Executive Director

Ms. Claire Street, Project and Policy Officer

Ms. Nidaa Botmi, Project Officer, REGIN

Region Skåne

Ms. Anna Jähne, Chair of the Regional Development Committee

Mr. Samuel Jonsson, political secretary

Mr. Richard Gullstrand, Deputy Development Director

Mr. Jens Sörvik, Head of Environmental Unit incl. Public Health Committee

Ms. Maria Lindbom, Senior Advisor EU & International relations

County Administrative Board Skåne

Mr. Ola Melin, Deputy Governor

Mr. Peter Cavala, Head of Department Community Affairs

Ms. Åsa Stenbäck-Holmér, Head of Unit Establishment and Integration

Mr. Ziad Jomaa, Head of unit Civic- and Health Communication

Ms. Anne-Maria Ikonen, analyst Partnership Skåne (notes)

Ms. Katarina Carlzén, Director Partnership Skåne

Agenda

1. Introduction, Ola Melin

2. Information Partnership Skåne, Katarina Carlzén

11.30-12

3. Introduction, Anna Jähne CPMR /and REGIN, Mr. Davide Strangis, Executive Director CPMR Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions

12-12.30

4. Discussion

1



Länsstyrelsen
Skåne





GOVERNO
DOS AÇORES

REGIN Project Presentation Session (Azores)

3 February 2021 | 14:30 -16:00 | Digital Platform Zoom

<https://pt-pt.facebook.com/DirecaoRegionalDasComunidades/videos/572847037005113/>

Welcome Address

Artur Lima, Vice-President of the Regional Government of Azores



The Vice-President of the Regional Government, Dr. Artur Lima opened the Regin project presentation session. He began his speech by expressing his conviction that the Regin project will promote a healthy and advantageous exchange of experiences and mutual cooperation between the participating European regions, developing a set of tools and strategies, with a view to a more effective action in the reception of immigrants.

The Vice-President highlighted that the archipelago has a very relevant history in terms of emigration:

"This historical condition of the Azores going in search of better living conditions abroad, drives us to welcome and integrate new residents into our archipelago (...) Depopulation in the archipelago, especially in the smaller islands, is already a serious problem that needs to be faced. Although there are no miraculous solutions to this structural problem, migrants may contribute decisively towards attenuating this trend".

Therefore, according to the Vice-President, the strategy of the Regional Government of the Azores in this matter is based on a dual approach: promoting the full integration of the migrant communities and preserving cultural identity.

"This two-fold action is based on the permanent dialogue between communities and on the promotion of initiatives, such as strengthening Portuguese language teaching, promoting professional training or encouraging the entrepreneurial capacity of citizens of foreign nationality", stressed the Vice-President in his speech.



Migrant Integration in the Azores

José Andrade, Regional Director for Communities - [Link to presentation](#)



Next, the Regional Director for Communities, Dr. José Andrade, in his presentation on the integration of immigrants in the Azores, had the opportunity to explain the strategies, policies, structures and competences of the Autonomous Region of the Azores in this area. The Director highlighted that according to the most recent data from the Foreigners and Borders Service and the Regional Statistics Service of the Azores, **approximately 3,900 immigrant citizens from 95 nationalities officially reside in the Region.**

According to the Regional Director, the five major challenges of immigrant communities are:

- mastering the Portuguese language,
- social integration,
- respect for diversity,
- promotion of cultural identity
- civic and political participation.

The Regional Director highlighted that It is therefore important to facilitate integration and to value interculturalism. To this end, this Regional Directorate seeks to fulfil its mission with the implementation of **strategic policies in four areas:**

1. institutional cooperation
2. formal support to public activities
3. direct support to the immigrant citizen
4. intercultural education.

José Andrade ends his presentation by stating that:

“In the Azores, we respect and value differences, we build a plural society, we want everyone to be happy!”

REGIN Project

Claire Street, Policy and Project Officer, Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) - [Link to presentation](#)

The third presentation was given by Claire Street, Policy and Project Officer at CPMR - Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions, who presented the REGIN project whose main objective is to include the integration of migrants and refugees in social cohesion policies at regional level, building a common framework to facilitate, guide and improve the performance of regions through innovative tools. Claire Street then listed the **project activities:**

- setting up a network for **cooperation and dialogue** between European regions;
- The creation of **migrant integration indicators**, at the regional level, through the collection of statistical data and the analysis of public policies in order to assess their effectiveness. This analysis was carried out by a group of independent experts hired for this purpose;
- Pilot activities** for the integration of immigrants, to be implemented in each Region;
- "Integration Lab"** with the aim of evaluating migrant integration practices;
- Toolkit for the regions**: mapping of key social actors; capacity building sessions for social actors and training for public administrations.



She then presented some of the **preliminary results of MIPEX-R** for the Azores, which indicate that the Region's strengths are in integration strategies, access to basic services, anti-discrimination policies, holding cultural events as a means of promoting diversity, and data collection on third-country nationals (TCNs). On the other hand, aspects that could be improved in the Region are evaluation and monitoring, linguistic inclusion, support to local authorities and access to housing.

Claire Street also presented the **results of the mapping** and identification of social actors in the Azores, carried out by the Regional Directorate for Communities, indicating that there is a great diversity of entities and the inclusion of less traditional social actors such as newspapers, universities, chambers of commerce or sports clubs. The CPMR officer concluding by highlighting the need to identify more actors at the national, international and especially local level, with the recommendation that in the latter case relations should be strengthened for the development of integration and inclusion actions.

Panel discussion: The role of Associations in promoting migrant integration in the Azores

Leoter Viegas, Azores Migrants Association - [Link to presentation](#)

Ana Silva, Migrant Support Office - Cresaçor - [Link to presentation](#)

Two presentations were made during the panel discussion. The first was made by AIPA - Azores Migrants' Association, through the institution's Vice-Chair, Dr. Leoter Viegas, followed by the intervention of Dr. Ana Silva, Coordinator of the Migrant Support Office of CRESAÇOR (Regional Cooperative for the Solidarity Economy, CRL).

Both had the opportunity to inform the participants about the mission of each institution, the role they play in the lives of migrants within the Region, the actions and activities they develop in the field of integration, regularisation of residence, respect for cultural diversity, as well as all the tools available to foster the participation of the immigrant community in Azorean society.



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Os nossos objectivos:

- ☐ Promover a dignificação e igualdade de oportunidades, direitos e deveres junto da população imigrante;
- ☐ Contribuir para a formação de uma opinião pública positiva, face ao fenómeno da imigração;
- ☐ Combater a xenofobia e todas as formas discriminação baseadas na nacionalidade, origem étnica, cor ou religião;
- ☐ Contribuir para o reforço de laços de amizade e solidariedade entre os diversos povos.

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Question and Answer Session

The presentations were followed by a session dedicated to questions and answers. Two questions were asked.

The **first question** was put to the technician at Cresacor's Migrant Support Office

"In what way have migrants transformed the daily life of Azorean islands?"

Dr. Ana Silva began by answering that migration influenced the music, dance and the way of life in all the islands of the Azores. These changes have occurred not only at the cultural level (gastronomy, music or dance), but also through the creation of new businesses, new offers, which before we only knew about through other means such as television. Simultaneously, this change is visible through the creation of new jobs, occupied by Azorean residents and promoted by migrants.

The Cresacor officer mentioned that Portugal has demonstrated through various studies the weight of migrants in the economy, to which the Azores are no exception. In her view all these aspects shape the Azores by bringing new ways of being.

"Together we all end up learning to be and to be different people".

The **second question** was put to the representative of AIPA - Associação dos Imigrantes nos Açores (Azores Migrants' Association):

“Considering the activities that you develop in the area of immigrant integration, which do you consider to be the most effective and why?”



According to Dr. Leoter Viegas, AIPA's main purpose is to create a global family where migrants are part of society in two ways, in respect of both rights and duties.

In this sense, in his opinion, AIPA's most effective activities are:

1. **Support in regularising the status of migrants** in the Region, namely in terms of documentation, through the support of the Local Migrant Support Centres in Ponta Delgada and Angra do Heroísmo (...) Migrants do not feel happy or comfortable if they do not have a residence permit or residence card and so it is very important to help in their regularisation process in Portugal.
2. **Language promotion:** according to Leoter Viegas "someone living in Portugal, if he cannot express himself in Portuguese, will find it more difficult to fully integrate, because it is necessary for migrants to obtain a basic level of Portuguese in order to apply for long-term residency status and for those who wish to obtain nationality (who do not come from the PALOP countries).

Annex 1 - Agenda



REGIÃO AUTÓNOMA DOS AÇORES
VICE-PRESIDÊNCIA DO GOVERNO
Direção Regional das Comunidades

SESSÃO DE APRESENTAÇÃO DO PROJETO REGIN

3 DE FEVEREIRO DE 2021 | 14.30 - 16.00

14:30 ABERTURA DA SESSÃO

Artur Lima | Vice-Presidente do Governo Regional dos Açores

14:40 A INTEGRAÇÃO DE IMIGRANTES NOS AÇORES

José Andrade | Diretor Regional das Comunidades

14:50 O PROJETO REGIN "REGIONS FOR MIGRANTS & REFUGEES INTEGRATION"

Claire Street | Técnica de políticas e de projetos da Conferência das Regiões
Periféricas Marítimas

15:10 O PAPEL DAS ASSOCIAÇÕES NA PROMOÇÃO DA INTEGRAÇÃO DE IMIGRANTES, NOS AÇORES

Leoter Viegas | Associação dos Imigrantes nos Açores
Ana Silva | Gabinete de Apoio ao Migrante - Cresaçor

15:40 PERGUNTAS E RESPOSTAS

16:00 ENCERRAMENTO

DESTINATÁRIOS:

- Dirigentes e técnicos da administração pública;
- Dirigentes e técnicos de organizações não governamentais;
- Órgãos de comunicação social.



O projeto Regin é financiado pelo
Fundo para o Asilo, a Migração e a
Integração da União Europeia



Annex 2 - List of Participants

Nº	Name	Organisation	Job Title
1	Rui Jorge Cabral	Jornal Açoriano Oriental	Jornalista
2	Sara Borges	NO Revista	Jornalista
3	Nélia Câmara	Correio dos Açores	Jornalista
4	Jornal Incentivo	Jornal Incentivo	Jornalista
5	Liliana Cardoso	Direção Regional das Comunidades	Assistente Técnica
6	Mário Custódio	Câmara Comércio Indústria Açores	Secretário Geral
7	Carolina Aguiar	ALPA Associação dos Imigrantes nos Açores	Estagiária Centro Local de Apoio à Integração de Migrantes (CLAIM) Ponta Delgada
8	Sandra Silva	Direção Regional da Educação	Técnica superior
9	Daniela Corvelo	ALPA - Associação dos Imigrantes nos Açores	Técnica Centro Local de Apoio à Integração de Migrantes (CLAIM) de Angra do Heroísmo
10	Paulo Augusto Matos	Direção Regional da Educação	Diretor de Serviços Pedagógicos
11	Ricardo Martins Vieira	DRQPE - Direção Regional da Qualificação Profissional e Emprego	Chefe de Divisão
12	Rolando Laland-Gonçalves	UAC - Universidade dos Açores	Professor Associado
13	Maria Manuela Ramos	SEF - Serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras	Chefe do Departamento de Registo e Emissão de Documentos
14	Rita Dorez	ALPA - Associação dos Imigrantes nos Açores	Técnica Centro Local de Apoio à Integração de Migrantes (CLAIM) de Angra do Heroísmo
15	Válter Peres	Direção Regional das Comunidades	Técnico Superior
16	Paula Pamplona Ramos	ISSA - Instituto de Segurança Social dos Açores	Presidente do Conselho Diretivo
17	Laurinda dos Santos	Alto Comissariado para as Migrações	Técnica Superior
18	Eduardo Miranda	CRESAÇOR - Cooperativa Regional de Economia Solidária	Técnico de Turismo
19	Maria Helena Martins	SEF - serviço de Estrangeiros e Fronteiras	Diretora Regional
20	Fátima Homem	União Regional das Instituições Particulares de solidariedade social (IPSS) dos Açores	Secretária
21	Marina Aguiar Fonseca	ALPA - Associação dos Imigrantes nos Açores	Técnica Centros Locais de Apoio à Integração de Migrantes (CLAIM) Ponta Delgada
22	Nídia Inácio	Direção Regional de Educação	Diretora Regional
23	Eduardo Marques	UAç - Universidade dos Açores	Professor/ Investigador Universidade dos Açores
24	Piedade Laland	UAç - Universidade dos Açores	Professora Coordenadora da Universidade dos Açores

25	Ana Resendes	Direção Regional das Comunidades	Técnica Superior
26	Tânia Durães	Jornal Audiência	Jornalista
27	Maria Cristina Borges	ALPA - Associação dos Imigrantes nos Açores	Presidente da Direção
28	Ana Cerqueira	Direção Regional das Comunidades	Assistente técnica
29	Cláudia Pires	ACM - Alto Comissariado para as Migrações	Técnica Superior
30	Telma Silva	Direção Regional das Comunidades	Técnica Superior
31	Jairo Silva	Associação dos imigrantes brasileiros dos Açores	Presidente da Direção
32	Melanie Silva	Direção Regional das Comunidades	Diretora de Serviços
33	Gil Sousa	ARRISCA - Associação Regional de Reabilitação e Integração Sociocultural dos Açores	Direção Executiva
34	Nidaa Botmi	CPRM - Conferência das Regiões Periféricas Marítimas da Europa	REGIN - Project Officer
35	Daniela Soares	Associação NOVO DIA	Coordenadora técnica do Centro de Políticas de Igualdade (CIPA)
36	Rui Pedro Paiva	Agência LUSA	Jornalista
37	Raquel Rodrigues	Direção Regional das Comunidades	Técnico Superior
38	Maria Leonor	Associação dos Emigrantes nos Açores	Estagiária
39	Verónica Leite	Direção Regional da Juventude	Técnica Superior