

Manifesto for Inclusive Learning Intellectual Output 1 Advocacy Tool Kit

Collection of successful practices of inclusion of migrants through education and training

Description of existing practices (carried out by the partner or within in its network)

The objective of the following grid is to describe existing practices on migrants' and asylum seekers/refugees' integration in hosting societies trough education and training.

Each partner should select from 3 to 5 practices that he/she deems coherent and consistent with the principles of the Manifesto for Inclusive Learning (please see below). The practices will be presented at the training in Berlin and they should provide evidences/demonstrate the value of applying an education and training-based strategy in inclusive policies and practices for a welcoming Europe.

The data collection can take place through interviews or asking the interviewee to fill out the form on his/her own. There must be a contact with the practice provider (download from the Internet Is not enough!)

PART I CONTACT DATA	
Name of the organization implementing the action	Blauwe Paraplu – Blue Umbrella
Website/Social Network	https://blauweparaplu.org/over-de-blauwe-paraplu/
Name of Contact Person and Role within the project/teaching programme	
E-mail	
Phone (not mandatory)	
Address (Town and Country)	Amersfoort, the Netherlands
Are you part of any national, European or International thematic network	National: https://lansco.nl/
PART III INFO ON THE INCLUSIVE EDUCATION & TRAINING PRACTICE	
Number of teachers/educators/trainers/volunteers or other operators involved	3: two coordinators and a coach. People are hired for specific trainings and workshops.
Does it involve: Refugees Migrants in general Operators and educators working with migrants/refugees Local Communities Other (please specify)	Anybody that wants to start a business. We mainly focus on people on welfare but anybody is welcome to become a member.

<p>Characteristics of participants (nationality, age, any other interesting characteristic)</p>	<p>Diverse in age, background and migratory background. No recent refugees because of the construction of the city where there is a separate institution providing for recent refugees/migrants</p>
<p>Average number of learners</p>	<p>In total 18 people part of the process, now 9 members of the cooperation. Max amount 15</p>
<p>Sex disaggregation of participants (if available)</p>	<p>Mixed group, men and women, a bit older in general (40-50+). There is one member of 33. Diversity in backgrounds: Egyptian, Surinamese, Iranian, Turkish, Chinese, but all have been in the Netherlands for a longer period</p>
<p>Concise description of the learning experience ()</p>	<p>Members do not officially start a business, the BU is part of the chamber of Commerce and they deal with all financial aspects. Estimates, invoices, etc, is all formally organized under the umbrella. Taxes etc as well. When you earn money, we have different ways to use that money. Our members are on welfare and as such it is very difficult to make something extra. But now we have a deal with the municipality to deal with the income flow. It took us three years to get a deal.</p> <p>A cooperation is a legal form, a social cooperation not. We work with two case workers of the municipality (of the dept of welfare, not integration or immigration!). They collaborate really well, and help a lot. But there are 35 other case workers, we cannot reach everybody. We would love to give an information session for the municipality but it is very complicated. The case workers have a case load of 70 people, tough job with little extra time. We would like to come by but we have not managed to get passed the hurdles yet. There are so many trajectories and regulations for the case workers, it is almost impossible to know it all.</p> <p>The rules are very complicated. To be on welfare and to make money, even in other tailor-made programs linked to welfare, is very difficult. And there are very strict boundaries. There are rules that you have to follow and no deviation is allowed.</p> <p>We started with the cooperation after a conference on social cooperations by Cordaid. We met somebody from a different cooperation and we realized that this was the way, the form we wanted to start. It perfectly fit our ideas.</p> <p>For recent refugees is there so much value in interacting with customers. The cooperation in Huizen is organized by Syrians only but they talk to the customers, they tell stories to the customers and in that way they learn Dutch. Besides making money and being part of a collective (catering)</p>

	<p>Educational possibilities: normally, you can get training and schooling through your employers. If you are on welfare, you miss out on these options. Your networks fades, your connection to the labor market but also to people from the labor market, falls away. A newly arrived refugee/migrant also faces that problem. Contacts, interaction, building of a network, it is so crucial on the road to labor market participation. Contacts, interaction, new experiences.</p>
<p>Have you established a satisfactory collaboration with the public service network, including schools, vocational centres and Universities?</p>	<p>Not all, cooperation with the municipality is difficult. When people are still in the integration trajectory, they are part of NVA of the municipality. If they want to start a business, it has to be in a different way (status holders)</p>
<p>Have you established a satisfactory collaboration with other civil society activists?</p>	<p>NewBees is an organization that provides for internships for recent refugees, we work with them StadsLAB33 where they rent the space from. Other social cooperatives</p>
<p>Have you established a satisfactory collaboration with migrant communities representatives, if any?</p>	
<p>Have you created a link/value chain with local social and educational services?</p>	<p>NewBees and StadsLAB33. But because of the separation of different initiatives by the city, collaboration is difficult. If somebody gets a subsidy out of one municipal project, they cannot be part of a different one. Makes collaboration really difficult.</p>
<p>On line platform or app for e-mobile learning, if available</p>	
<p>Strengths of the approach</p>	<p>People do not have a distance to the labor market, the labor market is far removed for some people. Our system excludes people, and makes that different people cannot participate. We are trying to ensure that some can, that they can participate at least a little bit. Even if somebody makes only 10 euro a month, it is more than not making anything and not participating. The system does allow people to participate (activation) but as soon as they make some money, there is a problem. Activation, day programs, are very important. It is such a shame that the system does allow for that but as soon as money is part of it, there are lots and lots of issues.</p>
<p>Weaknesses of the approach</p>	<p>We are not very good in the administrative part of the business. We are not business people, we could use help from financial experts. We both have a background in community building. We should be more business like.</p>
<p>Indicators of success</p>	<p>The municipality makes us accountable for numbers that leave unemployment. But numbers do not mean much, what does the person do now, is it a job that is suitable, is the person happy, and will the person be</p>

	<p>keeping the job. Those aspects are also important. And the municipality wants numbers from us but never gives us their results.</p> <p>The non-economic aspects are just as important as economic gain. It is so important to understand the person, especially when there are hidden issues. There are so many aspects you do not immediately discover, and for a client manager (case worker with a busy schedule) it is difficult to grasp or to take time too discover all that. It really is a battle.</p> <p>We try to create room for dealing with issues, dealing with problems, before people really start the job. If you give them that time, they flourish. They have to conquer barriers, but once that is done, they can start. If you do not give that room, that space, they will be home with a burn out in no time.</p> <p>We are a cheap solution</p> <p>The brother of one of the members now wants to become a member as well. He saw the change in her. She started a year ago, but she only became a member recently. She first had to deal with a lot of issues at home. She was even afraid to sent an email before, and now it is no problem. She used to work but never to her full ability/capacity. She is multitalented but always had to be available for others. Now she can organize events for 60 people, such a change.</p>
<p>Story telling (anecdotes) worth to be reported</p>	<p>Examples of (success) stories:</p> <p>https://www.ad.nl/amersfoort/van-zwerver-tot-ondernemer-dankzij-wil-kreeg-ik-mijn-leven-weer-op-de-rails~ad0082c2/</p> <p>https://blauweparaplu.org/blauwe-paraplu-werken-geld/</p> <p>One member is a text writer (?), used to be a journalist. We have a Egyptian bookkeeper. We have a photographer, that person used to have a job in administration but self-taught photography. We have R who works in online marketing and on websites. J organizes cooking workshops and play rooms for children. She dreams of starting a neighborhood restaurant. K is a coach for people with adhd and trains teachers to work with children with adhd. D used to be a cook at home but now has a catering business, M supports municipalities and citizens in the interaction and establishment of civic initiatives. A few people are still in a starting phase, to think of what to do and how to do it. 'The art of living' is a project that G wants to do.</p>

	<p>We are captured in a neoliberal context where all social connections are broken, disrupted. People that cannot make it on their own, cannot rely on a safety net, as it used to be. The cooperation is a way to fill the hole in the structures, a new connection. You see this development in different areas as well, energy cooperations for example. In agriculture. Cooperations exist on national and internationally. But the link to welfare and the move out of welfare makes our construction unique. And more complicated.</p> <p>The integration system linked to the municipality of Amersfoort is a good system but it can be more open for innovation. They have been functioning for 20 years, and that often gives a bit of rustiness.</p> <p>The Egyptian member of our cooperative wanted little side wheels for her bike. She had fallen a few times and so she was scared. So we applied for them but it was refused since she does not have a (visible) handicap. Some time later I heard that the municipality has budget to offer biking classes. But at the integration bureau, nobody mentioned this. I did not ask for it, but why not think with me! She once had followed the biking course through the agency so she did not qualify anymore. Such little bureaucratic rules and steps that can so easily be solved. Similarly, her diploma was not recognized because 'there is no point, she cannot work as a bookkeeper anyway'. Ignorance and assumptions. She is a different person now, since she had a chance here at the cooperation. She was not allowed to do anything, had some major issues but with extra help she can get there. It is not easy, but that is why the cooperation is such a good way to support.</p>
Project Homepage/Social Network if any	
Training kits or tools available online	
How is the activity financed (public, private funds, project based)	<p>Our financial model is complicated. The members pay membership dues and once they start earning, they pay that to the cooperation. But we need external support, training, workshops, and coaching. So we need structural (not project base) financial support.</p> <p>When a new member joins the BU, we have municipal financial support. The second year the support is halved and after the second year, the entrepreneur is supposed to be financially self sustainable. WE received funding from Foundation Doen but that has</p>

	<p>stopped. The membership dues are not high, it has to build up. We get money from the man who just started his own business but he is an exception. In total we received 7.000 euro from the members. It is a good amount of money but we cannot survive on it. The rent of this place is not cheap and we have other costs. Members come and go, which makes it difficult. New members obviously cannot contribute as much.</p>
Pictures	

Principle	How is it it met?
<p>1. Centrality of education and training, be it formal and non-formal, understood as a relationship that transforms and connects those who teach and those who learn, in every place and time of life.</p>	<p>In the Blue Umbrella learning is done in formal and informal ways. There are workshops by external and internal experts. Members can subscribe to an educational track if necessary and relevant for their business. But most learning is in informal ways. People start their business, and soon discover where they need help. For example with the design of a website, and another member can help. So there is a lot of mutual learning without a formal educational relationship.</p> <p>Learning is central in the BU. People often do not realize how much they have to/can learn because the business- process is step by step in the BP, not all at once. Similarly, the coordinator/counsellors learn a lot in this relatively new organizational form.</p>
<p>2. Hosting, understood as the recognition of the common humanity of the other person and his/her needs and aspirations, without discrimination</p>	<p>Members of the BU commonly have a long(er) history of welfare dependency. The dependency and inactivity is often connected to low self esteem, self confidence and lack of a network. They often experience stereotyping and negative treatment based on poverty and welfare dependency (lazy, fraudulent).</p> <p>At the BU we welcome and accept anybody and everybody. That is one of the main core values – acceptance of all. We experience the positive impact of acceptance, people grow mentally, in self esteem, in confidence when they are treated positively. People need acceptance, acknowledgement and appreciation.</p>
<p>3. Solidarity, intended as an enhancement of sharing, reciprocity and mutual self-help</p>	<p>Members of the BU support each other whenever they can. Solidarity is central</p>
<p>4. Protection of the weakest, understood as the ability to look at the world always from the point of view of the most fragile, offer them protection first and paths of autonomy than.</p>	<p>The BU is started to help people that have difficulties finding work and that are labelled as 'having a long distance to the labor market'. It often concerns people that have a (non diagnosed) psychological or physical limitation, or people with a history of addiction. These are</p>

	often vulnerable people. They find a safe place at the BU where they can develop themselves and their business
5. Confidence in a shared future, intended as the conscious choice to include migrant people, starting from young people and women, first or second generation, in the design of an inclusive society, as the result of the meeting and the <i>metisage</i> between different stories, cultures and interpretations of the world	The BU aims for an inclusive society, not just for migrants and refugees but for all. Meeting is central
6. Accountability of the Institutions and the Third Sector, seen as an instrument of transparency and security for all citizens and their associations.	The BU is a cooperation and as such member owned. Everything is shared and each decision is made by all the members. Transparency is essential for the functioning of the cooperation
7. Networking to strengthen collaboration and stimulate creative synergy and social innovation	The BU is aimed to work with others and other organizations. We see the BU as an active actor to create innovation in the social domain.
8. Evidence-based approach, understood as the continuous tension towards the scientific analysis of change, based on quantitative, qualitative and mixed tools and methods, to overcome perceptions, stereotypes and information that are often distorted and manipulated.	There has been studies (of the BU but also on a national level) on the effects of a social cooperative. All results are positive 😊
9. Centrality of narrative approach, understood as a research method and a tool for respectful dialogue on the “stories” that make "History"	We measure impact on a qualitative manner, using people’s stories to discover the impact of the organization.
10. Curiosity and respect for all the diversity of which everyone is a bearer against the culture of hate, xenophobia and any possible expression of intolerance	We battle the stigmas attached to welfare-dependency, regardless of background.

Please add anything you might see fit

Name of the person in charge of filling out the grid

Date and Place