

D.T1.1.4

STUDY TRIP REPORT

Activity A.T1.1.4

Date 12.11.2019

Name of Partner: GAL Escartons and Waldensians Valleys

Contact Person: Remy Baltieri



Study trip report

Study trip has been organised within a framework of the project titled “*Exploring social innovation approaches for the social and economic integration of non-EU nationals ARRIVAL REGIONS*”.

- **This form is designed to capture the social innovation approaches for the social and economic integration of non-EU nationals.**
- **The responses from this survey will be collected, analysed and used to prepare the pilot action concepts.**
- **In order to improve the readability of the questionnaire, please delete options that don't apply to the visited initiative.**

Practice summary	
1. Title of the good practice	PETTINENGO: A WELCOMING VILLAGE
2. Geographical Coverage <i>(underline the right answer)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European • national • regional • local
3. Location of the practice (city, country)	Pettinengo, Italy
4. Main institution involved	Association Pacefuturo
5. Visit agenda <i>(people met, institution visited)</i>	<p>People met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - - Andrea Trivero, director - Michela Del Gaudio, social worker, employee - Ginestra Odevaine, association employee - Massimo, beekeeper - Mahamadou, beekeeper and beneficiary - Fabio, clinical anthropologist, employee - Ibrahim, beneficiary - A voluntary and former director of a wool mill - Henry, asylum seeker <p>Activities visited:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villa Piazza Association Center - Apiary - Exhibition - Weaving laboratory <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villa Pasini host structure
6. Dates of study trip	12.11.2019
7. Thematic area <i>(Intercultural dialogue, Social innovation, Migrants' Economy)</i>	<p>Migrants' Economy</p> <p>Social Innovation</p>

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<p>8. Type of practice visited <i>(delete options that don't apply)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • better preparing the local community by providing information about immigrants and immigration • introducing or improving integration programmes for immigrants upon arrival (orientation courses, providing basic information on the way of life, values and norms of the society or various forms of training) • offering or improving language courses to immigrants upon arrival • providing measures for job finding (training, job matching, guidance, recognition of qualifications etc.) • ensuring that immigrants have the same rights in practice as nationality citizens in access to education, healthcare and social protection • promoting intermingling of nationality people and immigrants in schools and neighbourhoods
<p>9. Participants (PPs + stakeholders)</p>	<p>PPs: PP2 (1 participant), PP5 (1 participant), PP6 (1 participant), PP7 (2 participants), PP8 (2 participants), PP12 (1 participant)</p> <p>Stakeholders: Harz University (1 participant)</p>
<p>10. Reporting Person</p>	<p>Remy Baltieri (PP 2)</p>
<p>Practice description</p>	

11. Introduction (include any relevant pictures)

background information, aim/purpose of the study trip, objectives

Background information:

The Pacefuturo Association was born officially in 2004 after 3 years discussion on peace theme. From 2006, the association's site is Villa Piazza, a public property building (owned by the Municipality), and it is working on:

- Culture and Peace (peace promotion)
- Welcome and solidarity (support to vulnerable people)
- Economy and Territory (craftsmanship, artistic and landscape heritage recovery and valorisation)

In 2014 Pacefuturo hosted for the first time 15 asylum seekers in Villa Piazza. Their effort towards migrants continued during the years until now with several activities.

Due to a new law, approved from the government, the funding for hosting activities are now cut of a full 50%. This cut created many problems to Pacefuturo that was obliged to decrease the staff and the activities. Pacefuturo is trying to do its best to keep alive the activities and to create a network with other associations and municipalities.

Pacefuturo is now hosting 136 migrants from different countries and with different status, divided in 14 buildings in the Biella area. The houses are owned by municipalities, churches and/or private owners. A maximum of 25 people can stay in each house to try to keep their life normal. They have their kitchen where they can cook what they want, no more than 3 people are sleeping in the same room.

Even without money, the following activities are still going on:

- Beekeeping laboratory
- Vegetables garden
- Weaving laboratory
- "Souvenir" exhibition
- Magic Box – an artistic room
- Language courses (now reduced)

Purpose and objectives of the study trip:

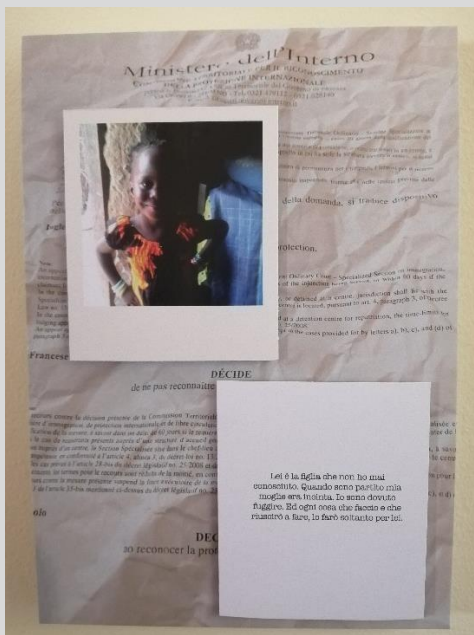
Visit performed activities, understanding which are the most important characteristics and good practices of the project, especially connected with the fact that it takes place in a rural area composed by small villages.



Pic. 1: Massimo shows us the apiary



Pic. 2: Massimo and Mahamadou in the warehouse, explaining honey production and bees' life.



Pic. 3: one of the pics of "Souvenir" exhibition with explanation



Pic. 4: Ibrahim working in the weaving laboratory



Pic. 5: Visiting the “Magic Box” in Villa Pasini. Henry explains the activity and replies to our questions

12. Implementation of the study trip

The following issues were discussed during the study trip:

Michela and Ginestra explain Pacefuturo activities and insist on the difficulties they deal with in this period to let the project „Pettinengo: un paese che accoglie“ continue.

Due to this situation, Pacefuturo is trying to create a network with other organizations. The relationship with the Pettinengo municipality is positive. As for other Municipalities,

to build sound relationships the mayors' commitment is crucial: when he/she is not cooperative, it is difficult to build activities together.

For language courses the association „Piccola Fata“ is now organising a course on Mondays. They are not professional teachers but just volunteers from the village. Anyway, this is a good opportunity for integration. The language courses organised by a professional teacher are now suspended due to lack of funds.

In Villa Piazza we could visit the apiary and the warehouse. The beekeeping activity, started in the past for vulnerable people, is now working thanks to Massimo (a local farmer) and Mahamadou (a migrant from Mali). The beekeeping purpose is mostly ecosystem preservation (vegetables pollination), but it is used also to train migrants in this activity and to sell honey to finance the association.

Later, Fabio, a clinical anthropologist that is working in the organization, shows us „Souvenir“ exhibition that he prepared thanks to migrants contributions.

„Souvenir“ is a pictures exhibition made of pictures taken from migrants own mobiles. Photos are memories from their origin country, the travel to reach Europe or in Italy. Each photo has an explanation. In the background we can find a reproduction of State letter that informs migrants about their asylum request denial.

The exhibition purpose is to show to the public migrants' life and thoughts in a precarious situation while they are waiting for documents to settle in a new country.

The weaving laboratory born in 2014 in a specific context. The Pettinengo area is a traditionally important area in textile production.

The first migrants' arrival in 2014 coincided with the textile sector crisis and the shutdown of a big factory in Pettinengo that left many people without a job. For that reason, Pacefuturo decided to open a weaving laboratory to train and support migrants in a traditional sector of that area and in the meantime to employ local people in the same laboratory. At the same time, people from the village and migrants had an occupation and it was a good meeting point.

Now the laboratory is still working, mostly producing scarves. The project does not have money to pay a teacher. Ibrahim, whom we met in the laboratory, is now teaching to new people interested.

Finally, we visited Villa Pasini, one of the 14 hosting structures.

The house is organised with rooms for 2-3 people, a big common kitchen, a living room, and a gym/game room. We visited the „magic box“, an artistic room where migrants can be free to do artistic activities and isolate themselves from the world around.

There we were accompanied by Henry, a migrant from Biafra (Nigeria), that explained us the activity and talked about his situation and his wishes for the future.

13. Evidence of success (results achieved)

The most interesting „Pettinengo, a welcoming village“ success, is the village involvement in the migrants hosting. The migrants percentage present in the village is way more higher

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than the Italian average, in a rural (and mountain) area where people are leaving the small villages, it helps to keep the area „alive“. Those results could be reached thanks to 3 different strategies:

- Community involvement in the project
- Activities and services addressed both to local population and migrants
- Widespread migrants' reception in the territory

The project ensures employment opportunities in the area and a cleaning service of the municipality common areas.

Considering the migrants job inclusion, some of them are now working for Pacefuturo, 2 others are now working for a weaving factory.

14. Difficulties encountered

The most difficult issues are linked to the public funds cut. Only 50% of the budget is now available. The local political partners (especially mayors) cooperation, is mostly linked to the personal involvement. When mayors are not cooperative, it is difficult to work in that area.

15. Which structural funds support this good practice?

The project support arrives principally from the State programs.

Municipality, Church and local companies are other supporters.

The project has not benefited from structural funds.

16. Is there any cost to participate in engaging with this good practice?

If yes, what are additional costs incurred by project participants?

The project costs are covered, and participants do not have additional costs.

17. What is new and/or innovative about this good practice?

A strong community involvement connected with activities proposed for both migrants and local population. The idea is that migrants, arriving in a small community, become an integral part of it.

Another important factor is the local craftsmanship artistic and landscape heritage recovery valorisation through migrants' support, always thanks to the local population assistance, involvement and know-how.

18. How has this good practice boosted immigrants' integration?

The project organization, involving local people in the project itself, permitted a good integration with Pettinengo and local communities.

Some migrants are now employed in local factories. One of them is now hosted by a local family.

19. What lessons did you learn? What are your overall conclusion?

The project shows that rural areas integration is possible if well prepared and if the hosting organisation works in close partnership with local actors such as municipalities, churches, associations and the local community.

A key action is to offer services and opportunities not only to migrants but also to local population. The area development is strictly connected with the migrants' effort and presence.

20. Outreach and dissemination

Newsletter, useful websites, mailing group, local government

- List of the attached document(s):

List of Study Trip Participants

- Link to website:

Pacefuturo website: <https://www.pacefuturo.it/>

Piccola Fata website: <https://www.piccolafata.it/>

- Contact information of the good practice:



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D.T1.1.4 – STUDY TRIP REPORT: Pettinengo: a welcoming village

Pettinengo (Italy), 12.11.2019

List of Study Trip Participants

Organization	Last Name	First Name	Signature
PP2 – GAL Escartons e Valli Valdesi	Baltieri	Remy	
PP5 – Unione Montana	Ingaria	Alessandro	
PP6 – UNCEM Piemonte	Santo	Dario	
PP7 – Uni Pilsen	Pěchota	Jan	
PP7 – Uni Pilsen	Křížek	Daniel	
PP8 – Rotunda, Koper	Mevlja	Bojan	

PP8 – Rotunda, Koper	Goja	Denis	
PP12 – Burgenland District	Moreno	Sonia	
Harz University	Aplitz	Stefan	