



“Assessing and disseminating the results of the social innovation calls financed by the EU Programme for Employment and Social Innovation (EaSI) 2014-2020”

FOCUS ON THE 2016 CALL « »

« Fast track integration into the labour market for third-country nationals, targeting exclusively asylum seekers, refugees and their family members »

THE “EaSI MIGRATION CALL”

“Experimenting innovative practices for fast-track labour market integration of refugees and their families“: WHY?

- **2016: dramatic increase in migratory flows = new societal challenge** for the European Union and its Member States (reception and long-term integration in the host societies)
- **Social innovation and social experimentation = find new solutions** to address new or unsatisfied **social challenges**, such as the refugee integration challenge, in order to **deliver better social outcomes**
- **The EaSI programme supports social policy experimentation projects** to test the validity of new innovative policies and measures
 - **at small scale**
 - **in conditions where their impact can be measured**
 - **can be scaled up if the results prove convincing**



SOCIAL INNOVATION TO ADDRESS REFUGEE INTEGRATION CHALLENGE



The VP/2016/015 call
“Fast track integration
into the labour market
for third-country
nationals,
targeting exclusively
asylum seekers,
refugees and their
family members

for proposals aimed at
funding for 3 years:

- **Innovative transnational projects** to test and implement innovative policy schemes and delivery mechanisms that will ensure and facilitate a swift labour market integration of asylum seekers, refugees and their family members
- **Replication of successful innovative initiatives** already implemented in other(s) country(ies)

The EaSI 2016 call for proposal on social innovation

5 AWARDED PROJECTS



Developing a model for **transferring and adapting good practices** for job inclusion among European **cities**: **Berlin, Milan, Vienna, Stockholm, Belgrade**, with a focus on women



Developing **instruments and strategies** for a fast-track labour market integration of **disadvantaged refugees** among **regions** in **Sweden, Belgium, Germany, Norway and Turkey**



Developing a regional model of **labour market integration for refugees** in **reception centres** in **Italy and Albania**



Regional integration accelerators implementing simultaneously various integration pathways in **Germany, Italy, Denmark, Turkey**



Acceleration of labour market integration of immigrants through **mapping of skills and trainings** in **Bulgaria, Serbia, Turkey, Austria**

Different countries, contexts and levels of experimentation

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PROJECTS SOCIAL EXPERIMENTATIONS



Created a model (TAP) to transfer and adapt existing good practices, based on a peer-mentoring system and in-depth cooperation between the city of origin and the receiving. Local pilots include welcome centres, counselling, language training combined with vocational training, skills development, job agencies adaptations and special measures for women

5
pilots



Implemented regional strategies developing **quality competence assessment strategies, training curricula, self-empowerment initiatives, and a workplace language learning concept** for the most vulnerable refugees

23
pilots



Implemented a pilot in the Piedmont region offering **skills assessment, individualised action plan, mentoring and cultural mediation, language and professional training, and individualised job placement services** for refugees hosted in reception centres.

2
pilots



Creation of **Regional integration accelerators** initiated with the **involvement of employers matching their concrete vacancies**, with refugees involved early in the workflows, receiving specific **language training course** and using **self-learning tools** with a multi-dimensional process faster than the step-by step approach

21
pilots



Designed and implemented pilots performing the **screening of abilities** of refugees to use the **language** of the resident country, to **initial civic and culture integration, skills profiling and matching with local labour market needs.**



THE “EaSI
MIGRATION
CALL”

PROJECTS SOCIAL EXPERIMENTATIONS

Common and combined essential features of these 5 social experimentations:

- Individualised, tailor-made approaches supported by mentors, cultural mediators, coaches
- Early skills and abilities assessment (including the EU
- Advising on the recognition and validation of competences
- Language skills integrated with vocational training, if possible provided on the job
- Provision of civic and intercultural skills
- Involvement of employers and close connection with the local labour market needs and shortages
- Self-empowerment measures
- Specific measures for women (special settings, childcare support, blended training, digital guidance)

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PROJECTS RESULTS



22 good practices shared, 5 good practices successfully transferred between Milan, Berlin, Belgrade, Vienna and Stockholm : **294 direct beneficiaries, including 231 women.**
In Stockholm and Vienna, good practices transferred and tested have been adopted by the cities.



23 pilots implemented, **2600 refugees reached, 254 companies contacted**



622 asylum seekers and refugees, increased job occupation rate of 20% compared to the control group (counterfactual impact evaluation)



224 refugees integrated in the labour market, unemployment can be reduced from 48 to 12 months



621 refugees in language training, **753** beneficiaries in civic and intercultural sessions, **201** beneficiaries of psychological consultation, settlement and employment workshops, **340** participants in the 'Mapping and Profiling' sessions

PROJECTS RESULTS

FAB

- **22 good practices shared, 5 good practices transferred**
- **294 direct beneficiaries, including 231 women**
- **More than 7000 refugees reached**

FIER

- **2600 refugees reached**
- **254 companies contacted**
- **90 % refugees integrated into the labour market in Germany (Baden-Württemberg)**

FORWORK

- **622 asylum seekers and refugees beneficiaries**
- **increased job occupation rate of 20% compared to the control group**

RIAC

- **224 refugees integrated in the labour market**
- **unemployment reduced from 48 to 12 months**

ALMIT

- **621** refugees in language training
- **753** beneficiaries in civic and intercultural sessions
- **201** beneficiaries of psychological consultation, settlement and employment workshops
- **340** participants “profiled”

SUSTAINABILITY, TRANSFER AND UPSCALING

FAB

- 2 Good practices transferred are adopted by Stockholm and Vienna
- Digital platform providing info and services to ALL asylum seekers in Serbia in collaboration with UNHCR
- One codified model for transfer and adaptation of tested good practices

FIER

- Fast-track labour market integration classes for refugees concept became an integral part of the labour market integration policy of the Stuttgart Jobcenter
- The pilot in Oslo serves as a test of an innovative model contributing to the Norwegian political agenda

FORWORK

- Regional Labour Agency in Piedmont will hire internal mentors and cultural mediators in PES for migrants

RIAC

- Standardization of the RIAC model, adaptable to different locations and easily transferable

ALMIT

- ALMIT approach would be used to address Venezuela's refugee wave in Colombia Colombia

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECTS



<https://fabproject.eu/>



<https://fierprojecteu28222090.wordpress.com/>

forwork

<https://www.forworkproject.eu/>

RIAC

<http://riac-project.eu/>



<https://almit-project.eu/>

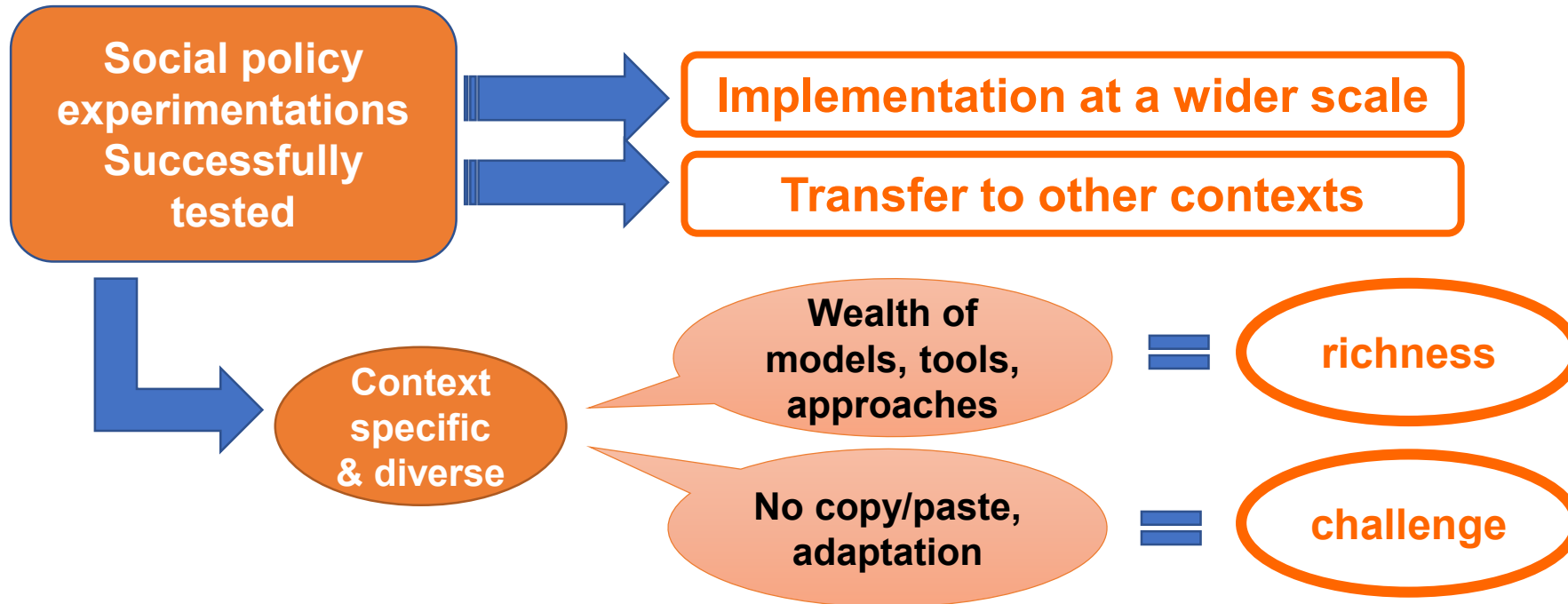


PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS FROM THE 2016 CALL ASSESSMENT

- **Diversity of social experimentations** depending on each country/region individual geographic position, legal framework, domestic policies, and local responses.
- **However**, relatively **similar recommendations** across projects, among which:
 - **"Working with refugees and not for them"**, involve them in the design and delivery of the innovative solutions, **empower** them.
 - **Better assess and valorise their skills and abilities, specific needs and desire**
 - Embark **policy makers** to ensure sustainability and growth
 - Build **strong multi level partnerships** to ensure comprehensive expertise and stability in case of political/policy changes on such a sensitive topic
 - Create **close cooperation with the local labour market** and work directly with **employers**
 - **Combine language training with in-company vocational training**
 - **Implement tailor-made pathways**, with **individualised support from mentors**, cultural mediators and other professional figures



PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS FROM THE 2016 CALL ASSESSMENT



**NEED FOR FURTHER SUPPORT FOR POSITIVE SOCIAL OUTCOMES TO BE
SCALED AT THE LEVEL OF THE SOCIAL NEEDS AND CHALLENGES !!!**

- From EU level programmes, ESF + notably (AMIF, Horizon Europe etc)
- From Member States, regions, cities

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

Armelle LEDAN

AEIDL – Association Européenne pour
l'Information sur le Développement Local

www.aeidl.eu

ale@aeidl.eu



Member of the consortium
commissioned for assessing the EaSI
calls led by INOVA+

