



Monthly Network News | Issue No. 8 | October & November 2011

Dear Reader,

Since the two-month issues got your approval the network decided to continue producing the newsletter at this interval. We hope you enjoy the update and get a chance to visit the IMPART website for more information. We are looking forward to your comments!

*Kind regards
Cigdem Ipek*

Events on Labour Market and Migrants

Recently IMPART was invited to take part in two interesting events to give insight to its work. The Cedefop guidance event in Thessaloniki on 29-30 September 2011 focused on “Labour market integration of immigrants in Europe – Implications for guidance policy, practice and research”. A wide range of experts discussed recommendations targeted at policy, practice and research. The conclusions for this event as well as other related material can be found on the Cedefop website at <http://www.cedefop.europa.eu/EN/events/18527.aspx>.

The Working Life Conference in Stockholm on October 12th was linked to the Partner Search Forum and had a high level participation. IMPART and other learning networks were invited to make presentations in several workshops. About 80 people followed the IMPART presentation as a successful model for transnational peer reviewing in the ESF. The presentation focused on both the IMPART method and recommendations. IMPART’s Swedish Partner Christian Råbergh and Flemish Partner Antonio Georgopolis joined the other workshop participants in a lively discussion.

Scotland Dissemination event: IMPART interim findings and working group activity

As part of Scotland’s mainstreaming and dissemination activity within IMPART, on 15th November the Scottish Partner presented the work and interim findings of IMPART to the ESF publicity day. This day targets around 100 organisations and stakeholders including Scottish Government departments, other ESF funded projects and people particularly interested in migrant integration. The event was attended by Alex Neil MSP the Minister of State in Scotland responsible for European funding. Having shown the IMPART film Maggie Lennon, director of Bridges, introduced the audience to an overview of IMPART’S work, its motivation, methodology and its interim findings with particular reference to the importance of Employer Engagement, the recognition that the migrant voice is not homogenous, the need for long term monitoring and evaluation of sustainable outcomes and the problems associated with scaling up projects’, often intense and costly, one to one support into a more mainstreamed approach. The presentation was followed by a panel discussion with Colin Woodward, Maggie Lennon, and Anne Boyd who went into each theme in more depth and drew out conclusions and possible solutions for Scotland from the Peer Reviews which have been conducted, including putting IMPART’s interim findings into the context of work on-going in Scotland. This was followed by a question and answer session from the floor. One of the issues raised was that the cost of not assisting migrants into the labour market was similar in outcomes to the costs of not assisting young people. There was particular interest from the representative of the Commission who was present, and Maggie Lennon has been invited by Inverness



College and the University of the Highlands and Islands to present more detailed information about IMPART's approach and findings in a part of Scotland with many migrants many of whom are unemployed or underemployed in seasonal industries.

Upcoming Events

- IMPART Thematic Working Group (TWG) Meeting in Berlin, 6-7 December 2011

The Peer Review process is coming to an end and IMPART is preparing its final findings, recommendations and outcomes of regional and European mainstreaming actions. The purpose of this event will be to actively engage with the TWG experts and to use the feedback for improvements, especially regarding the methodology and the peer review process.

- Management Committee Meeting in Berlin, 7 December 2011

The ESF Learning Network IMPART comprises of 12 partners from seven EU Member States. Its aim is to find out how ESF resources can best be used to increase the participation of migrants and ethnic minorities in employment. The Network uses the method of peer review to answer this question. In study visits to selected projects, practitioners in this field - peers - apply a benchmark toolkit, listing the critical factors which seem likely to bring long-term success in implementing and mainstreaming a project's good-practice model.

ESF Learning Network IMPART - Technical Secretariat

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