



After having presented a draft version of their Integrated Action Plan our network partners are holding final discussions and consultations meetings within their Local Support Groups and with a wider group of stakeholders, in order to finalise the Action Plan and present it by the end of March 2018. The Lead Partner together with the project staff is also engaged in the organisation of the project Final Event that will take place in Brussels on the 23rd and 24th of April 2018, in the premises of the Committee of the Regions. Furthermore two weeks ago took place in Val de Marne the [5th Transnational Workshop](#) and 7 th SGM of the project, which have seen the participation of more than 40 persons among delegates, project staff members and local stakeholders along with URBACT representatives. During the workshop a public debate around the theme of the workshop ([migrants' and refugees' participation in city life](#)) has been organised, the debate which has seen the intervention of experts, artists and journalists that work in the field of migration in various ways has been a real moment of exchange and participation.

2018

Migrants perspectives 3



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MIGRANTS PERSPECTIVES 3

From the second newsletter's edition the Arrival Cities Network presented some of the local support group members through their migration stories. In this publication will tell the stories of three members of Vantaa's groups.

ARTICLES:

- [The Welcome Class Project](#) - a best practice of the [Damaia Schools Grouping](#) (Amadora's ULG member)
- [Fiction and Arts speak more clearly about the migration "crisis" than our democratic institutions](#)

WE INTRODUCE OUR NETWORK PARTNERS



The **Municipality of Messina** is the capital of the Province of Messina and is the third largest city of Sicily. The port of Messina, the closest point in Sicily to the mainland of Italy, it is an important centre for commerce and for cruise ship tourism. Messina has a long history of migration. The migrant population currently numbers around 12,000, making up about 5% of Messina's population. Messina is a transit point in the current mass movement of refugees from Africa, Asia and the Middle East through Europe and a key transit location for migrants crossing by sea from Libya to Italy.



Val-de-Marne is a County-level authority covering the south east suburbs of Paris and is located within the Ile-de-France region. The county, composed by 47 municipalities, is historically a land of welcome; its situation within the Ile-de-France makes it a territory of migrations since the Pre-history. More recently, the great wars that have crossed France and industrialisation have accompanied the development of migratory flows on the territory. Looking as the statistics we see that in Val de Marne the people born outside French territory, make up 20% of the population of Val de Marne county.

NETWORK'S ACTIVITIES

In occasion of the 12th ULG meeting the Municipality of Roquetas de Mar hosted a representative of the University of Dresden (Dr. Magdi Khalil) with the aim of sharing with the ULG members the experience and the actions undertaken by the Municipality and vice versa, to foster migrants integration at local level. [Read More](#)



In order to make the best from our network and from the exchange opportunities given by the URBACT



Programme, in the past months the Arrival Cities Partners were very active in organizing bilateral visits and exchanges. [Read more](#) about Dresden, Oldenburg and Thessaloniki's bilateral visits.

NEWS

In the last three months the **Municipality of Riga** developed an intense communication and consultation process in order to inform local stakeholders about the advancements and the impact that the Integrated Action Plan can have at City level. Read more about the [first](#), [second](#) and [third](#) consultation meetings.

The 18th of December, the international « **Migrant's Day** », was selected by « Patras Municipal Enterprise for Planning & Development-ADEP SA » for completing the work meetings of Patras ULG for 2017. The consultation that took place among the members of Patras ULG during their session, has led to significant insights into the content of local IAP, which will be finalized by the end of February 2018. It is expected to be presented in a special dissemination event, for promoting the project and its results, in March 2018 in Patras. [Read More](#)

On Saturday 13 Jan. 2018, **Messina's URBACT Local Group** organised its 1st Consultation Meeting, many local actors working with migrants, along with migrants lead organisations and associations have been invited. [Read More](#).

The Cova da Moura neighbourhood, known as "African neighbourhood" opened its doors for the Amadora's 15th ULG meeting which took place on the 24th January. The meeting was attended by the local associations, two residents in the neighbourhood and also by the Lead Partner First Level Controller that wanted to participate in order to better understand the Project and the products of the Project. [Read More](#)

TAKE A LOOK..

The [4th Transnational Workshop Report](#) has been released, take a look at the study cases on educational services for migrants and refugees and other useful resources.

