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Call for third parties – 28 capital events in Europe, Sub-contract number: SNAPSHOTS/388115/2019/12

Project duration: 1st September 2019 – 30th October 2019 (2 months)

Project coordinator: Amref Health Africa Onlus

Project partners: Diversity Development Group, Dokumedija (Nanook)

Contact person: Lina Kisevičienė

this project is the part of

Under the EU funded project:

Snapshots from the borders - Small towns facing the global challenges of Agenda 2030 - Project code: CSO-LA/2017/388-115

Project duration: 22nd October 2017 (36 months)

Link: <http://www.snapshotsfromtheborders.eu/>

Description

Snapshots From The Borders is a 3-year project co-funded by the European Union (EuropeAid DEAR budget line), run by 35 partners, border Local Authorities and Civil Society organisations.

Snapshots From The Borders aims to improve the critical understanding of European, national and local decision makers and of public opinion about global interdependencies determining migration flows towards European borders, in the perspective of reaching SDGs targets, especially SDG 1, 5, 10 11 and 16. Specifically, the project intends to strengthen a new horizontal, active network among cities directly facing migration flows at EU borders, as a way to promote more effective policy coherence at all levels (European, national, local).

By adopting the *No more bricks in the wall* campaign to Lithuanian national context, project aim - to raise awareness about migration, issues faced by migrants and refugees in Lithuania and Europe more broadly, as well as to advocate for the idea of integration as a two-way process. Currently, public attitudes towards migrants in Lithuania are rather hostile, even though most nationals admit having little knowledge about migrants or their experience; national immigration framework lacks coherent migrant integration policies. The campaign aims will be achieved by implementing: 1) solidarity-building events targeted at national stakeholders; 2) a series of podcasts on migration, including an open discussion with migrants and residents of the capital city, later to be disseminated on well-known podcast platform as well as the project documentary screenings and 3) the publicity campaign aimed to challenge public misconceptions about migration and promote the capital events.

Capital Event (October 3rd)

The capital event in Lithuania would therefore address both 1) the social distance between refugees as well as other migrants and Lithuanians by providing a more human, interpersonal perspective towards migration processes underrepresented in media accounts through awareness raising campaign and 2) continue the policy debate with national stakeholders on issues in current integration policies. While labour immigration to Lithuania has been growing over the past years as a result of skills shortages, few new integration measures have been adopted. A public dialogue on migration as a complex phenomenon, its push factors and integration as a two-way process is therefore highly relevant and politically timely.

Outputs:

1. Tackling the culture of unwelcome: building solidarity at institutional level

This output aims to facilitate solidarity for refugees and migrants at institutional level by organising 3 events targeted at 3 different groups of stakeholders, aiming to establish institutional memory of the 3rd October as the European day of Memory and Welcome. The events will aim to address core levels of migrant inclusion: a) national policies; b) local policies and civil society initiatives as well as c) labour market and employment.

2. Breaking the “Us vs. Them” Dichotomy

The fear of migrants is often driven by the fact that people have never met a migrant or a refugee. This output will improve their knowledge of migrant experiences through a conversation led in a humane and empathetic way.

3. Increased awareness through media campaign



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This output aims to create a horizontal awareness raising campaign through different means of media that would 1) help to increase outreach of the activities covered in Output 1 and Output 2; 2) improve understanding of issues faced by migrants and refugees in Lithuania and more broadly and 3) inform the general public on the capital events.