

Reacting to Growing Immigration - Strengthening social inclusion of Estonian migrant families in Finland and Estonia (REGI)

Programme Priority: P4 Skilled and socially inclusive region

Programme Specific Objective: 4.1. More people benefiting from stronger Central Baltic communities

Sub-programme: Southern Finland - Estonia

Duration: 01.09.2015 - 31.08.2017

Total funding: 252.250 EUR

ERDF funding: 194.765 EUR ERDF

Project Summary:

The project REGI supports Estonian migrant families divided between Estonia and Finland due to work-related reasons. As migration from Estonia to Finland has grown in the last 5-10 years it has brought along a variety of social issues, for example unhealthy or broken families. The project builds stronger and healthier communities and societies both in Finland and in Estonia.

During the project social work professionals together with the families will develop solutions best suitable for supporting families from Estonia and ways to solve the related problems. The activities focus on training the social work professionals and volunteers to notice challenges related to work migration before they grow to be problems. This is a multi-directional process in which family-members not only receive support, but act as supporters in group activities. The activities include sharing first-hand information and skills on how to develop effective support methods.

As a result of the project the wellbeing of families and their members improves and wholesomeness increases on the community level. Successful implementation of project activities increases the number of communities with improvements as the piloted methods and practices are disseminated and adopted throughout Estonia and Finland. The developed methods are universal and transferable and can be used also in other countries.

Map of Partners



Partners

Lead Partner

Turun ammattikorkeakoulu Oy

Country: FI

www.turkuamk.fi

Partner budget: 117.718 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 88.288 EUR ERDF

Project Partners

Tallinna Ülikooli Rakvere Kolledž

Country: EE

www.tlu.ee/rakvere

Partner budget: 55.781 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 47.414 EUR ERDF

Varsinais-Suomen Viro-keskus ry

Country: FI

www.viro-keskus.fi

Partner budget: 63.697 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 47.772 EUR ERDF

Itämeren alueen Terveet Kaupungit ry

Country: FI

www.marebalticum.org

Partner budget: 15.054 EUR

Amount of ERDF funding: 11.291 EUR ERDF

Results

Expected results

Main results of the REGI project are: 1. improved wellbeing of Estonian people working in Finland and their families in both countries as a basis of creating stronger communities around them; 2. new and universal methods reaching and supporting target families in both countries; 3. more competent support network of professionals (i.e. social workers, doctors, school personnel) with increased knowledge and understanding on the situation and needs of Estonian workers and their families both in Finland and in Estonia; 4. deeper and more comprehensive cultural and social consciousness in both countries to promote positive attitudinal change on work-migration in broader context; 5. established active and fruitful cooperation between target groups, relevant NGOs, public institutions and educational institutes promoting wellbeing and integration of Estonian families in both countries; 6. publication targeted for children and families about life of Estonian people in Finland. REGI's emphasis is on families which by nature are the cornerstones of communities. Successful implementation and execution of project activities will improve the wellbeing of families and their members on grassroot-level, thus inevitably improving wellbeing and wholesomeness on community-level as well. Wellbeing of migrant families has direct benefits for neighborhoods since the trust and community support are increased, and for employers since their employees are more productive. Group activity and training methods developed in the project will be tested and carried out in practice already during the project and will be in full use when the project ends. The number of communities with improvements will still rise when the piloted methods and practices are disseminated and adopted throughout Estonia and Finland. While concrete in practice, the methods developed will be universal and transferable on the general level and can be used in training respective professionals.

Achieved results

Project Visibility

Social media links

[Webpage](#)

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