

## Active Refugees in the Community (ARC)

Programme Priority: P4 Skilled and socially inclusive region

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

Sub-programme: Central Baltic

Duration: 01.12.2017 - 30.11.2019

Total funding: 264.760 EUR

ERDF funding: 198.570 EUR ERDF

Project Summary:

The ARC project aims at engaging immigrants with refugee background in meaningful activities and interaction with the local community through providing them with systematic guidance in practical activities like building and farming, opportunities to cultural interaction and practicing language skills. This helps to prevent the negative effects of polarization and marginalisation.

Immigrants living in Finland and Sweden participate in the project to share their personal challenges and success stories via regular video blog, and thus also enable the local community to better understand the immigrants and their individual journeys. Interaction between Finnish and Swedish immigrants will provide them peer support and strengthen their sense of dignity and belonging. The project organizes study visits as well as develops joint recommendations on cost efficient methods for improving job creation skills of immigrants and integrating them into the society. The recommendations will be disseminated to local public sector and NGOs working with immigrants by local workshops and a joint seminar.

## Map of Partners

### Partners

Lead Partner

#### **Pirkanmaan Martat ry**

**Country:** FI

[www.martat.fi/pirkanmaa](http://www.martat.fi/pirkanmaa) [1]

**Partner budget:** 84.349 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 63.262 EUR ERDF

Project Partners

## **Pirkanmaan muotoilu- ja taideteollisuusyhdistys Modus ry**

**Country:** FI

<http://modus.fi/> [2]

**Partner budget:** 102.354 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 76.765 EUR ERDF

## **Institute of Swedish Safety & Security**

**Country:** SE

[www.isss.se](http://www.isss.se) [3]

**Partner budget:** 230 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 173 EUR ERDF

## **ISSS Resilience Centre**

**Country:** SE

[www.isss.se](http://www.isss.se) [3]

**Partner budget:** 77.827 EUR

**Amount of ERDF funding:** 58.370 EUR ERDF

Associated Partners

## **Tampereen kaupunki**

**Country:** FI

## **Sopimusvuorisäätiö sr**

**Country:** FI

## **Arbetsförmedlingen Norra Västmanland Heby**

**Country:** SE

## **Results**

## Expected results

## Achieved results

Project result in category - Improved community

## ARC - Engaging refugees in meaningful activities

ARC improved social inclusion of immigrants with a refugee background. During its implementation, the project found new and cost-effective methods to create meaningful activities for their target group.

The project implemented a variety of activities that included mostly gardening but also other type activities such as building small greenhouses, participation in running a radio station and language classes. Some of the activities provided participants with study credits, thus advancing their position in getting a degree and improving their chances on the labour market.

Feedback from participants was positive; they found meaningful activities in their local neighbourhood, got to know new people, and learnt Finnish and Swedish at the same time. Two participants were also hired via project activities.

In total, the project involved approximately 500 immigrants, thus exceeding its original goal of 100 with flying colours. The exact number may vary as some participants were involved more than one time.

Project page in database

[Active Refugees in the Community](#) [4]

At a glance

- Meaningful activities for immigrants with a refugee background
- Involvement of 500 immigrants

### Files



[Hiedanranta Edible Garden operating model](#) [5]



[New activating methods for immigrants](#) [6]



[Recommendation Report](#) [7]

### Tags

[Community integration and common identity](#) [8]

[Demographic change and immigration](#) [9]

## Project Visibility

### Social media links

[Webpage](#) [10]

[Facebook \(not working 2021\)](#) [11]

## **Other media visibility**

[Hiedanrantaan on rakentumassa kaikille avoin puisto ja viljelyalue \(2018\)](#) [12]

[Kaupunkiviljely yhdistää jälleen Hiedanrannassa](#) [13]

[Active Refugees in the Community project creates new practical activating methods for immigrants](#) [14]

[Shamalin tarina \(2018\)](#) [15]

## **Project videos**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=46Be2zrNQ10>

**Source URL:**<https://database.centralbaltic.eu/printview/74>

### Links

[1] <http://www.martat.fi/pirkanmaa> [2] <http://modus.fi/> [3] <http://www.iss.se> [4] <https://database.centralbaltic.eu/project/74> [5] [https://database.centralbaltic.eu/sites/default/files/Hiedanranta\\_Edible\\_Garden\\_Operating\\_Model.pdf](https://database.centralbaltic.eu/sites/default/files/Hiedanranta_Edible_Garden_Operating_Model.pdf) [6] [https://database.centralbaltic.eu/sites/default/files/New\\_activating\\_methods\\_ARC.pdf](https://database.centralbaltic.eu/sites/default/files/New_activating_methods_ARC.pdf) [7] [https://database.centralbaltic.eu/sites/default/files/Recommendation\\_report\\_ARC.pdf](https://database.centralbaltic.eu/sites/default/files/Recommendation_report_ARC.pdf) [8] <https://database.centralbaltic.eu/tags/community-integration-and-common-identity> [9] <https://database.centralbaltic.eu/tags/demographic-change-and-immigration> [10] <https://www.martat.fi/pirkanmaa/active-refugees-in-the-community-project/> [11] <https://www.facebook.com/ActiveRefugeesintheCommunity/> [12] [https://www.tampere.fi/tampereen-kaupunki/ajankohtaista/tiedotteet/2018/12/21122018\\_1.html](https://www.tampere.fi/tampereen-kaupunki/ajankohtaista/tiedotteet/2018/12/21122018_1.html) [13] [https://www.tampere.fi/tampereen-kaupunki/ajankohtaista/artikkelit/2018/10/10102018\\_1.html](https://www.tampere.fi/tampereen-kaupunki/ajankohtaista/artikkelit/2018/10/10102018_1.html) [14] <https://www.centrubalticum.org/uutishuone/blogi/active-refugees-in-the-community-project-creates-new-practical-activating-methods-for-immigrants.5532.blog> [15] <https://www.youtube.com/watch>