

### Dissemination materials availability

There are different types of materials being distributed at present. **Brochures** supporting the project are in English as well as in local languages. If you are a training centre, state, charity or NGO co-operating with migrants as well as a company that wishes to facilitate the procedure of selecting candidates for recruitment ask us to send you our brochures. If you are planning a **conference** concerning questions of migrants, please inform us. It will be a pleasure to present our project. No less important is the **website** which is available in English and all the languages of project partners. We encourage you to visit the project website where you can find more information.

[www.migrantsplus.info](http://www.migrantsplus.info)



### MIGRANTS+ ON THE CONFERENCE OF THE BEQUAL PROJECT

The **MIGRANTS+** project was presented by the **Greek Federation of Industrial Workers' Unions** (OBES) during the opening conference of the **BEQUAL** project (**BENCHMARKING TOOL FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IN VET**, Agreement no: 142211-LLP-1-2008-1-GR-LEONARDO-LMP) that took place in Athens (Hotel Golden City) on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

The conference was attended by more than 80 people, the majority of members were of the Greek Federation of Industrial Workers' Unions, as well as representatives of the **BEQUAL** project partnership.

The **MIGRANTS+** project was well accepted by the participants of the conference who showed a great interest for the project and its results.

The interested parties will be informed by OBES and IDEC about the progress of the project and will be asked to give their feedback about the results of the project.

### MIGRANTS+ & GRUNDTVIG



The coordinator of the **MIGRANTS+** project (IDEC) participated in the large scale event "**Projects' meeting for centralised Socrates and LLP projects – GRUNDTVIG**" that took place in Brussels

on the 19th and 20th of February 2009 and it was a great opportunity to disseminate the projects results. A large number of the project's brochures were distributed during the event. Especially, IDEC participated in the thematic group **«Culture, Intercultural E-learning and Diversity»** and we had the chance to exchange our views with the other project's coordinators.

### Prague hosted the 2nd Partners' Meeting

The 2nd Partners' meeting of the **Migrants+ project** took place in Prague on 28th and 29th May 2009. All 9 partners of the project attended. The meeting was very effective and allowed us to approve the next steps of the project.



## DO MIGRANTS HAVE A REAL CHANCE?

**A report conducted by Dr Claudia Schneider and Dr Deborah Holman**

Faculty of Health and Social Care Anglia Ruskin University, January 2009

### **Migrant workers or European citizens?**

Whilst public, political and often academic discourses label people who have arrived from Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Estonia, Hungary, Slovenia, Romania and Bulgaria as 'migrant workers', interviewees did not identify with this concept (or the concept of East European). Instead, a large number perceive themselves as European citizens (in combination with their national identity). This finding appears to underpin the normalization of living and working in another country, considered as unexceptional as working in a major city in the home country for some interviewees.

### **Relevance of political and social factors in countries of origin**

There is currently an overemphasis in the migration literature and in the public debate on the economic situation in countries of origin. The political and social situations in

these countries are often neglected in discussions on length of stay. Although economic, social and political issues are interlinked our research shows that migrants' perceptions of the social and political situations in countries of origin are very important for their decision making processes.

### **'The Good, the Bad and the Ugly'**

The possibility for career fulfillment and self-actualization feature very highly in the 'positives' (the good) of living and working in the UK. A trust in political and legal institutions, effective bureaucratic processes and unanticipated social protections were also positive features noted as were some excellent employers and letting agents/landlords who, respectively, recognize and reward skills and treat tenants fairly. Private landlords and employers however also feature in the bad experiences cited (as do some supervisors and co-workers). Poor quality housing, being asked to move at short notice (sometimes to make way for higher paying tenants), and discovering that prior information about tenure, quality and cost of rental does not correspond to the housing situation once in the UK were some of the experiences recounted. Unfair treatment, direct and indirect discrimination in the workplace were also noted; for example, the most anti-social shifts reserved for migrant labor, illegal deductions made from migrants' payslips, and Polish names suspected as enough to invalidate the skills and qualifications listed on CVs.

Some participants were quite demoralized by the tenor of press coverage and thought that it contributed to bullying and uneasiness in the workplace, with coverage focusing on a few 'bad apples' making it 'more difficult for those who want to integrate and have a decent life'.

Access to the full report is available via:

[http://www.eeda.org.uk/files/ARU\\_interim\\_report.pdf](http://www.eeda.org.uk/files/ARU_interim_report.pdf)

## BCD has established the cooperation

BCD in consultation with the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Ankara has decided to ask the services of two NGOs expert in the field of immigrants in Turkey, **The Human Resource Development Foundation (HRDF)** in Istanbul and **Association for Solidarity with Asylum-Seekers and Migrants (ASAM)** in Ankara. These NGOs are closely cooperating with UNHCR and involved in several national and international projects related with migrants.

Both NGOs having close contacts with the world of the migrants in Turkey and will help BCD in the pilot implementation of the MIGRANTS+ software and contribute to the Turkish version of the content. ASAM is also considering using the software tool in Arabic and Persian, since most of the immigrants lack the knowledge of English and Turkish.



## M&J Consulting cooperates with RFA MI

MJC started to co-operate with the **Refugee Facilities Administration of the Ministry of Interior** of the Czech Republic (RFA MI). Organisations came to an long term agreement which is established on pilot application run.



This project has been funded with support from the European Commission.

This publication reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

## BRIEF PRESENTATION OF ALL PROJECT PARTNERS



OBES was founded in 1979 by six Trade Unions. Today, OBES is a major player the Greek Trade Unions and one of the main voices to express the interests of industrial workers and employees.



idec is a training and consultancy company based in Piraeus, in the port of Athens. The main areas of activity are training and management consulting, ISO-9001, software and multimedia development, internet application etc.



M&J CONSULTING is a management consulting company specialized in the field of HR development, management consulting, training and recruitment. The company concentrates on the delivery of their customized solutions especially to private and public sectors.



Kolping-Bildungswerk is an important provider in the field of education, further education and vocational training in Germany. The institution is employing a total of almost 200 members of staff. Furthermore Kolping substantiates the European idea through the engagement in European projects.



ITINÉRAIRES is a training and consultancy organisation based in Paris since 1986. Their activities cover careers consulting, advising, ICT training, project engineering and are supported by French professional networks in the fields of employment and training.



CENTRO INFORMAZIONE E EDUCAZIONE ALLO SVILUPPO is a non-governmental organisation working in the non profit sector. The organisation was founded in 1983 by a group of educators and people working in the area of international development cooperation.



AHE is one of the largest private institutions of higher education in Poland with our 20 thousand students studying at 10 departments. It employs numerous outstanding scientists, academics and experts—practitioners. The Academy has vast experience in pilot projects.



BCD Business Consulting & Development has been established in order to support companies (small and large) in Turkey to develop their strengths to cope with global competition. The areas of expertise vary from project management, organizational restructuring, process management, performance management, change management and capacity building.



Academy of Learning is a private sector company working extensively with the development needs of SMEs and Public sector organisations on national and international basis. The core business of AOL is developing learning materials and learning models supporting management, personal development and development of Business processes.



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