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MIG.EN.CUBE

Fostering MIGrant ENTrepreneurship inCUBation in Europe

Erasmus+ Strategic Partnership for Adult Education
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MIG.EN.CUBE – Fostering MIGrant ENTrepreneurship inCUBation in Europe is an Erasmus+ project led by the University of Bologna (Italy) (P.I. Dr. Daniela Bolzani), involving the University of Amsterdam (The Netherlands), Institut Supérieur de Gestion (France), Fondazione Grameen (Italy), Impact Hub Amsterdam (The Netherlands), Place Network (France), Impact Hub Company (Austria), and Migration Policy Group (Belgium).

MIG.EN.CUBE is set to take into account the current critical issues in fostering migrant entrepreneurship in Europe, characterized by a fragmentation of incubation programs targeting migrant entrepreneurs, the diversity of actors that provide incubation activities, a strong focus on the “demand side” (i.e., migrant entrepreneurs) but a lack of training opportunities and exchange of best practices for incubation professionals targeting this group, and the super-diversity of (would-be) migrant entrepreneurs.

The project thus seeks to **enhance the knowledge and competences of diverse incubation professionals dealing with super-diverse entrepreneurs or aspiring entrepreneurs**, so as to foster the opportunities for migrant entrepreneurs to learn and experience how to start and growth a successful business.



Specifically, MIG.EN.CUBE aims at:

- (1) increasing the **understanding of specific incubation needs of migrant entrepreneurs** and of the competences required for incubation professionals working with them;
- (2) **systematizing and sharing best practices for innovative incubation programs** for migrants across Europe, and in particular in France, Italy, and The Netherlands;
- (3) **providing incubation professionals with new, tried-and-tested materials and tools** for advising, training, performing, and assessing incubation for migrant entrepreneurs.

MIG.EN.CUBE is innovative in approach, because (1) it assumes that not only migrant entrepreneurs should be supported, but also the incubation professionals working with them (matching supply- to demand-side); (2) it works with a bottom-up logic, developing materials based on a scientific assessment of best practices and real training needs of targeted beneficiaries; (3) it is based on the collaboration between academic institutions, private companies, and civil society bringing complementary perspectives and competences.

MIG.EN.CUBE is innovative in methods, because it proposes the development of learning materials based on a bottom-up approach and interactive processes, and the use of methodologies focusing on the development of transversal competences and action learning.

The main results of the project will be the following:

- 1) “Synoptic Scan” Research Report (available September 2021): this report will identify the incubation services potentially or currently dealing with migrant entrepreneurs in France, Italy, and The Netherlands, carrying out a qualitative/quantitative research to map the characteristics of these incubation services, and collecting current practices to incubate migrant entrepreneurship in Europe.
- 2) “Training Needs’ Diagnostic Assessment” (available September 2021): this report will report evidence collected through qualitative/quantitative research to understand the training needs of incubation experts dealing with migrant entrepreneurs.
- 3) “Incubating Migrant Entrepreneurs” MOOC (available February 2023): this MOOC, which will be piloted and made available in Dutch, English, French, and Italian, will provide incubation professionals with theoretical understanding and practical tools and methods to serve the needs of diverse migrant entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs.
- 4) “Inclusive Incubator” Guidebook (available February 2023): this Guidebook, which will be piloted and made available in English, French, and Italian, will provide policy-makers and incubation professionals with theoretical understanding and practical tools and methods to serve the needs of diverse migrant entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs.

The project forecasts several dissemination activities and events, such as six multiplier events during the project’s lifetime in different countries – Belgium, France, Italy, and The Netherlands - the project website, social media, scientific and non-scientific articles. The impact of the project is expected to be significant both numerically and in terms of results from building capacity of the target group in the long term, also aided by a relevant Associate Partner (UNCTAD).

The project will strengthen the efficacy of support programs linking entrepreneurship and migration, focusing on the development of relevant high-quality knowledge and competences for operators in the supply-side and policy-makers.

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