

RETHINKING MIGRATION IN EUROPE
Athens, 19-26 September 2022
Evaluation Report

In partnership with Kairos Europe, UK and Itaka Training, Italy and in the context of the three separate Erasmus+ KA1 projects:

- REMI: Rethinking the Environment and Migrant Inclusion
- CURVE Cultivating Understanding of Refugees and Vulnerable Environments
- Migration in Europe: building an inclusive and tolerant society

Inter Alia hosted the Professional Development Training "Rethinking Migration in Europe", which saw the participation of 28 participants from Italy and the UK.

The overall aim of the Training was to provide the participants with information about the current local status quo, as well as to launch a multilateral dialogue on potential futures for migrant populations in Europe.

The participants were asked to evaluate their overall experience both during the training, at the end of every day and on the last day of the course through a structured non-formal activity, as well as through a questionnaire after their departure.

The vast majority of the participants evaluated their experience very positively (66,7% as exceptional, 29,6% as good), with the lectures, workshops and speakers invited being particularly appreciated. The multi-layered and interactive approach were mentioned as strong points, although some participants would have been even more satisfied if certain on-field visits were arranged.

Concerning the logistics (food, accomodation, local travel), 51,9% of the participants rated the quality of the services as exceptional, 29,6% as good and 14,8% as average. One thing that was pointed out was the hotel arrangement, since some accommodations were further from the training location than others, and this caused discomfort to some of the participants. On the other hand, the budget for food was appreciated as a right means to allow equality within the group.

Regarding the sessions, the collaboration with the hosts/guests/surrounding community was considered exceptional by 77,8% of the participants, and good by 18,5%. Diversity was considered a key player, as it allowed to create an open space for meaningful discussion and exchange.

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The participants rated the overall quality of the guest lecturers (style, knowledge, experience, expertise) as exceptional (74,1%), good (18,5%) and average (7,4%). Interventions from the speakers were especially appreciated for being stimulating and having provided participants with a deep insight on the local context of migration.

The space for participation was evaluated inclusive and generally safe, since the majority of participants considered that their opinion was valued throughout the whole training (77,8%) or some of the times (22,2%). Activities in small groups allowed more freedom to those who felt intimidated or hesitant to participate or intervene in large groups.

63% of participants were highly satisfied with the structure and style of the training programme, while 29,6% were averagely satisfied. With respect to the duration, the training was considered not long enough by 37%, too long by 7,4% and about right by 55,6% of participants. Generally, as the topic was of great interest, many participants would have enjoyed a longer training to deal better with it and allow personal time for “digestion” of all information delivered.

Among all activities, the World Café - which foresaw an informal and interactive meeting with representatives of different migrant communities in Athens - was the most appreciated one, as it allowed a direct contact with migrants and a true opportunity for exchange and understanding.

With respect to suggestions for improvements, more outdoor activities were requested, and some logistic aspects have been pointed out.

92,6% of participants said that they will be able to put into practice what they learned. The networking opportunity was relevant in order to plan partnerships for projects, but also events in their respective organisations. Since many participants were students/academics, the training was considered extremely useful also for their future research.