



DESK RESEARCH

Dear Colleagues,

we are happy to start the first step of the EMILL Project, a desk analysis on Practices of Integration of Third-Country Citizens at Local and Regional Level.

The following questionnaire envisages on the one hand, the Draft European Modules on Integration published by DG Home Affairs - European Commission in July 2011, recalling similar tools appointed by the Committee of Regions in the Survey on Practices of Integration of Third-Country Citizens at Local and Regional Level in the European Union. On the other hand, the questionnaire expresses the research experiences carried out by Ismu Foundation on the issue.

The main objective of the assignment is to collect and analyze information on policies and projects implemented by Local and Regional Authorities in EMILL partners countries, in order to develop a methodology for the monitoring and the benchmarking of integration practices.

Indeed, emphasis shall be set on the European Modules on migrant integration; namely, “Introductory and Language and Courses” and “Strong Commitment of the Receiving Society”.

More precisely, each partner is asked to find information on 4 different practices¹: 2 regarding language course, 2 regarding access to services (one of these should concern health assistance).

Please, refer to the proposed questionnaire, structured as follows, to overcome the task:

- ✓ Part 1: The local context. Integration policies pursued by national and regional authorities
- ✓ Part 2: Factsheet on integration practices and projects in cities and regions

With the view to the first EMILL meeting that will be held in Milan on the 19th October 2012, we would very much appreciate your inputs to the desk research. If you have any questions about the content of the questionnaire, please contact **Daniela Carrillo**: d.carrillo@ismu.org ; **Guia Gilardoni** g.gilardoni@ismu.org., or **Marina D’Odorico** m.dodorico@ismu.org - tel. 0039 2 678779279;

Milan, 20th Sept 2012

¹ The practices can be referred to projects conducted by non-institutional organizations

Part 1: the local context – Integration policies pursued by local and regional authorities

Reference Territory:

- National level [BE; IR; PT; SK; **WALLONIA/BRUSSELS FEDERATION** = FRENCH SPEAKING PART OF BELGIUM]
- Regional level [IT (Lombardia, Campania, Umbria); DE (Hessen); ES (Tenerife); B (some cities of the French speaking part of Belgium)]

Notes of Altay Manço, IRFAM, Belgium

Question 1.1

How many Third Country migrants are there in your city/region and what percentage of the total population do they represent?

Please, specify date and source

- Number
- Percentage of overall population

Near 11 million people living in Belgium in 2012. Ca. 40 % are in the French speaking part of the country (4,5 millions)

In 2009, 1057666 foreigners living in the country = 10 % of the population

342.545 of them are **Third Country migrants** = **1/3 of the population from abroad and only 3 % of the whole population of Belgium.**

62% of the foreign population of Belgium living in the French speaking part of the country.

Source : Rapport SOPEMI, Brussels, 2012 (see the excel annex)

Question 1.2

Demographic composition of migrant population legally present

- Distribution for Age

SOPEMI, 2009	Belgians	Non-nationals	EU nationals	non-UE nationals	Proportion of non-EU
Less than 15 ans	1.688.663	143.571	88.004	55.567	16
15-24	1.194.426	116.924	68.240	48.684	14
25-54	3.938.630	576.209	377.531	198.678	58
55-64	1.214.780	106.543	88.042	18.501	5
More than 65 ans	1.745.740	114.419	93.304	21.115	7
	9.782.239	1.057.666	715.121	342.545	100%

- Citizenship (indicate the first 10)

Non-EU nationals in Belgium	2009	In comparison with 2008
1. Morocco	81.943	3,2%
2. Turkey	39.551	0,0%
3. Congo (Kinshasa)	18.056	7,3%
4. Russia	12.813	8,7%
5. USA	11.333	-0,4%
6. Algeria	8.984	6,6%
7. Former Yugoslavia	8.206	-5,9%
8. Others (Pakistan, Rwanda, Afghanistan, India, China, Brasil, Tunisia...)	197.750	9,6%
Total non-nationals	1.057.666	4,4%
<i>Total of non-EU nationals</i>	342.545	6,3%

Source : DGSIE, SOPEMI, 2012

- Reasons of Residence permits

BELGIUM	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total entries of non-nationals	83.433	93.387	106.012	102.714	
<i>EU-Nationals entries</i>	45.717	57.973	67.108	61.369	
NON-EU entries	37.716	35.414	38.904	41.345	
Asylum seekers	11.587	11.115	12.252	17.186	19.941
Part of A. S./ N-EU entries	31 %	31 %	31 %	42 %	
Refusal of Asylum	5.600	6.428	5.819	5.919	9.597
	Source : DGSIE	SOPEMI 2012			

- Education level

Population by professional qualification level

2010	Low	Average	High	
Belgian nationals		21,4%	39,5%	39,1%
People born in Belgium		20,6%	40,0%	39,4%
Non-EU nationals		27,2%	33,0%	39,8%
People born in EU		26,6%	32,3%	41,0%
Non-EU nationals		40,6%	30,8%	28,7%
People born in non-EU countries		37,2%	31,6%	31,2%

Source : DGSIE (EFT), SOPEMI, 2012

- Activity position (% of : workers, employees, unemployed persons, inactive)

2010	Activity rate	Unemployment rate	Workers	Employees	Self-employees
Belgians	67,9%	7,5%	25,4%	60,9%	13,7%
Males	73,3%	7,3%	32,8%	50,7%	16,5%
Females	62,5%	7,7%	16,6%	72,9%	10,5%
EU nationals	70,0%	11,0%	29,8%	52,3%	17,9%
Males	76,6%	10,6%	33,1%	44,4%	22,5%
Females	63,0%	11,4%	25,6%	62,6%	11,8%
Non-EU nationals	55,1%	30,6%	57,7%	32,0%	10,3%
Males	70,0%	28,2%	59,1%	29,1%	11,8%
Females	40,8%	34,5%	55,2%	36,0%	8,8%

Source : DGSIE (EFT), SOPEMI, 2012

Question 1.3

Legislative and institutional framework regarding the entering of Third Country Nationals

Access to the country and the refugee status are under the sole jurisdiction of the Belgian Federal Government. The Federal Government has in this respect different "bodies" to carry out its policy on asylum and immigration. These include the Ministry of Interior, the Foreign Office, the public agency responsible for the reception of asylum seekers (FEDASIL) or the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons. The policies of immigration and integration are not completely independent. It is obvious that the immigration policy at the federal level has an impact on integration policies by the Communities and Regions.

INSTITUTIONS

The **Immigration Office** manages access to Belgian territory. The Office investigates cases for a decision to grant or not the stay, except for the application for asylum (it receives the request and forwards it to the General Police Department for Refugees and Stateless Persons - CGRA). In all cases, it is the Office that grants, renews or withdraws residence permits, except certain documents issued by the CGRA to persons recognized as refugees (birth and marriage certificate, certificate of recognition of status). It is also the Office that decides on expulsion measures.

The **CGRA** is the body that takes care of refugees in Belgium: it is the only one that can make a decision on refugee status or subsidiary protection. The CGRA summons the asylum seeker who may be accompanied by his counsel or by a trusted person. The CGRA verifies that the applicant enters the conditions of asylum (fear of personal persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinions or belonging to a particular social group) or subsidiary protection (serious threats in a country at war). In case of negative decision, an appeal may be lodged to the Litigation Council for Foreigners (CCE).

The **CCE** is an independent legal body that examines appeals. A negative decision of the CGRA or Immigration Office can be appealed. The procedure is written and the intervention of a lawyer is necessary because an appeal is subject to strict conditions. Depending on circumstances, this appeal will be suspensive (the decision is "suspended" until the CCE decides) or not (the Order to Leave the Territory issued without awaiting the decision of the CCE).

The **Council of State**. This is a legal body that checks only if the procedure was properly treated, it does not comment on the merits. Therefore at this stage there is no longer question to tell one's story or provide new arguments. The lawyer comes alone to this court after setting a file as complete as possible. The Council of State will first decide quickly on the admissibility of the request and then will examine the file. It may order the cancellation or suspension of the last received decision. An appeal to the State Council is never suspensive. The Order to Leave the Territory remains in application.

ACTS

The **right of residence** is a complex matter, mainly governed by the Act of 15 December 1980 on access to territory, residence, establishment and deportation of aliens.

The **application for asylum and subsidiary protection**. The Geneva Convention (1951) provides protection to anyone personally threatened in his country for political, racial, religious, nationality or belonging to a social group reasons. The application is lodged at the border or at the Immigration Office within 8 days from arrival (or before the expiration of the stay, if it is a long stay): the file is made up and forwarded to the CGRA, that receives the person, reviews the evidence of threat and decides on granting the refugee status. At the same time the CGRA examines the possibility of protection called "subsidiary" for which, in certain specific cases, evidence of a personal threat may be replaced by an appreciation of a temporary global threat.

The application for **regularization on humanitarian grounds (9bis)**. Any request for permission to stay longer than three months must be made within the country of origin, to the Belgian embassy or consulate. 9bis is therefore an exception of the rule: an alien who is already present in the territory, if he has a passport, may, in exceptional circumstances, apply for regularization to the Municipal Administration, which transmits it to the Immigration Office. However, as he has not received a positive response to his request, he remains in an irregular situation, that is to say illegal.

The **application for regularization for medical reasons (9ter)**. This procedure can be started at the Immigration Office for an alien residing in Belgium, who has an identity document and who has an illness causing a risk to his life or physical integrity, a risk of inhuman treatment while there is no adequate treatment in his country of origin. The request must be sent by registered mail directly to the Immigration Office.

The trade of Human Beings. If the person considers himself a victim of human trafficking (operating through a network of organized trafficking or by any other exploiter), there is a special welcome in exchange for his cooperation to dismantle networks. The procedure is complex and requires the lodging of a complaint to the judicial authorities. The application for residence is lodged at the office MINTEH to the Immigration Office.

The family reuniting. The procedure is submitted to the embassy or consulate in the country of origin or, in some cases, at the Municipal Administration. A foreign national of a third country that has an unlimited residence (Article 10) gives the rights to certain family members (spouse, registered partner, minor child, his handicapped dependent child of more than 21 years old, parent of a recognized refugee or benefiting from subsidiary protection) to join him, provided that he can prove a stable, regular and adequate income, as well as sufficient housing, health insurance, a medical certificate and absence of criminal record. The person asking for reunification comes then with a D visa (long stay) and receives, after controlling for positive residence, a limited stay (Card A). After three years, the person may request an unlimited residence (Card B) at the Municipal Administration, which transmits it to the Immigration Office. If there is a separation or loss of income during the three years, the residence Card is withdrawn, unless there is an exceptional reason (e.g. domestic violence). A suspensive appeal against such decisions may be lodged to the Litigation Council for Foreigners (CCE). The conditions are the same for reunification with a foreign national of a third country that has a limited stay (art.10bis) except that the limited stay (Card A) cannot exceed the validity of residence permit of the person who reunites. A foreign national of a third country who is a family member of a citizen of the European Union or European Economic Area (Article 40bis) can come to Belgium for a short stay of less than 3 months: he has to report his arrival in the Municipality within 10 days from his arrival. If he wants to settle longer, he must apply for permission to stay in his Commune of residence before the expiry of his visa. We are then in the context of family reunification, subject to conditions of income, housing and health insurance. If the family connection is established (spouse, registered partner, minor child, his handicapped dependent child of more than 21 years old, parent of a recognized refugee or benefiting from subsidiary protection), after a positive controlling for residence, the person receives a certificate of registration for six months. He has then three months to complete his file. If the right of residence is recognized, the Commune issues a Card F. After three years, the stay can become final (Card F+). In case of refusal, an appeal is possible to the Litigation Council for Foreigners.

Short stay. A foreign national of a third country who arrives in Belgium with a short stay visa or visa-exempt must present himself to the Commune and make there a statement of arrival. He then receives an appendix 3 in which the duration of his stay is mentioned.

Question 1.4

Legislative and institutional framework regarding the staying of Third Country Nationals

Access to school and University.

If under the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC, November 20, 1989), signed and ratified by Belgium, every child has the right to education and if primary education is compulsory and free for all (article 28: "Regardless of any consideration of race, color, sex, language, religion, political opinion or other of the child or his parents or his legal guardian, of their national, social or ethnic origin, of their wealth status, disability, place of birth and other status"), then education is compulsory from age 6 to 18 in Belgium, regardless of the child's status. This implies in particular that a school cannot refuse to register a child in compulsory education, even if he/she is illegal in Belgium (Decree of June 30, 1998 to ensure all students equal opportunities for social emancipation, including the implementation of positive discrimination, Article 40). In Belgium, a federal state, education is a regional matter, run in the south of the country by the French Community and in the North by the Flemish community. The compulsory education in the FC is organized in two parts: basic education (from age 3 to 12, in theory) and secondary education (from age 12 to 18, in theory). University education is not compulsory. Alien people from abroad need to provide evidences of a sufficient degree of knowledge in the language of education, as well as a secondary school degree comparable to the Belgian one. They have also people or grants that can guarantee the costs of the stay and the social insurance during the university stage.

- **Access to labor market (seasonal employment, self employment...).**

PERMITS

The employment of foreign workers is regulated by the Act of April 30, 1999 and by the Royal Decree of June 9, 1999 (regarding employees). The rules on access to an employment market for foreign workers, as well as the rules for obtaining a residence permit, are complex. There are three categories of work permits.

The A permit: unlimited duration, valid for all salaried professions and for all employers. An employer who hires a person with an A permit is not subject to any formality.

The B Permit: 12 month fixed term, limited to the occupation with a single employer, limited to one region (Walloon, Brussels and Flemish). It is granted only if it is not possible to find a suitable worker among workers already presented in the labor market.

The C permit: limited duration, not exceeding one year, renewable, valid for all salaried professions and for all employers, for all regions of the country. It concerns certain categories of foreigners because of their residence permits. It becomes invalid when the holder loses his right of residence, except during the consideration of an appeal against the Order to Leave the Territory submitted to the CCE.

To be self-employer. Any person who does not have Belgian nationality must obtain a business card in the Federal Public Service – Economy - Middle Class- PME (SME) - Energy. Certain categories of foreigners are exempted:

- The nationals of 25 countries of the European Union and some of their family members who move in with them;
- The recognized refugees and holders of permanent residence;
- The nationals of countries with which Belgium has signed agreements;
- The spouse of a Belgian and some members of his family who settle with him;
- The people who help their spouses in its self-employment;
- The people on business trips, speakers, journalists, sportsmen and artists if the duration of stay does not exceed three consecutive months;

- The foreign students who do a training course as part of their studies; ...

For an activity requiring registration of trade or craft, you have to prove the management knowledge. If necessary, you can take an exam at the Ministry of Middle Classes. Some professions require the proof of professional competence and / or diplomas. For most foreign degrees, the equivalence must be recognized and therefore requested from the Department of Equivalence of the French Community. Administrative requirements must be met, mainly:

- To join a social insurance fund (contributions payable quarterly).
- To request a business number in a window of approved companies.
- To request a registration in the Trade Register. (except for certain professions: free-market professions, farmers, ...).
- To report the activity to VAT (to complete a declaration and pay the due amounts each quarter (except for certain activities: actors, singers, models, DJs, free-market professions ...)).
- To open a specific account number for the self-employed activity.
- To maintain an accounting properly. It is advisable to surround oneself with the services of an accountant.
- To join a mutual insurance company.
- To pay taxes, based on an annual declaration.

SITUATIONS

The recognized refugee is exempt from the work permit obligation.

The beneficiary of subsidiary protection can work under the C permit. If his stay becomes unlimited, he doesn't need any work permit.

The asylum seeker can work under C permit if, six months after submitting his application for asylum, he has not received a reply from the CGRA.

An alien who applied for regularization on humanitarian grounds (9bis) that was declared admissible can get a refugee recognition limited to one-year, renewable under conditions, or a permanent stay. If he receives a limited stay, he can work under the C permit if the renewal of his stay is subject to the condition of employment. If the stay is unlimited, he is exempt from the work permit. As long as his application has not been answered, he is still in an illegal stay and therefore not entitled to work.

An alien who applied for regularization on medical grounds (9ter) cannot work as long as he is in period of admissibility. If he gets a limited stay, it can work under the C permit. If he gets an unlimited stay, he is exempt from the work permit.

A family member national of a third country with indefinite residence (Article 10) may receive a registration certificate during the examination of his case, then a limited stay, renewable, which can become unlimited after 3 years. With a registration certificate or a limited stay, he/she can work under the C permit. In an unlimited stay he is exempt from the work permit procedure. The family member national of a third country with a limited stay (art. 10bis) receives a limited stay of one year or not exceeding the validity of residence permit of joined alien can work under the C permit.

An alien who has a legal residence and requests a change of status (for example, a student who is getting married) receives a certificate of registration for 6 months to be extended twice for 3 months. If the right of residence is acknowledged, he gets a recognition limited to one year, renewable. After three years, the stay becomes final. Under registration certificate or limited stay, the alien may work under the C permit. Under unlimited stay, he is exempt from any work permit demand.

A national of a third country, a family member of a citizen of the European Union or European Economic Area (Article 40bis) is exempt from any work permit demand. However, a descendant of more than 21 year-old or an ascendant must be supported by the EU citizen to obtain this exemption.

A foreign national of a third country with a short stay visa or visa-exempt has none right to work.

▪ Citizenship and Right to vote

One way of acquiring Belgian nationality is the naturalization procedure. Naturalization is a concessionary measure granted by the House of Representatives. In contrast to the declaration procedure or the normal choice of nationality, in this case foreigners have no right to Belgian nationality, but the House may nevertheless grant Belgian nationality as a concession. You must have had your main place of residence in Belgium for three years in order to be naturalized. Stateless persons and recognized refugees need only to have had their main place of residence in Belgium for two years. You can either apply for naturalization directly to the House of Representatives, or through the Registrar in the municipality where you have your main place of residence or in a Belgian Embassy or Consulate. These services will then forward the application to the House of Representatives. A stay abroad may be equated with a stay in Belgium, but in that case you must provide evidence that you had 'genuine links' with Belgium during the required period.

Nationals of non-Member States of the European Union resident in Belgium can become voters at the municipal level, but not eligible, after 5 years of legal residence, and provided they register to vote and sign a document in which they undertake to respect the Belgian Constitution and the laws of Belgium state as well as the European Convention on human Rights.

▪ Cultural and social Mediation

Several services provide this kind of help. One of them is The local "**Youth Rights**" service. They inform young people about their rights and help them to be respected regarding school, work, welfare, youth aid and legislation on foreigners. They are mandated to fight against social exclusion and promote access to the autonomy of young people and families. Their services are free and are held on weekday's permanence.

The **social real estate office** It is chain of local associations that promotes access to housing by providing services and guarantees for owners as much as for tenants. It also serves as an intermediary between owners who want to be reassured and tenants with low incomes. It offers a personalized support to each prospective tenant. There are 28 of them in Wallonia, for example.

The **discrimination** is prohibited and punishable by the Law. Nevertheless, this is not enough to eradicate the stereotypes and prejudices that

characterize certain mentalities. It is therefore prudent to be prepared to confront such situations. When the discrimination is proven, it may be denounced. The Centre for Equal Opportunities and Fight against racism is an independent public service, which has a statutory role to promote equality and fight against discrimination...

Question 1.5

What sort of measures does your city/region have in place to promote Introductory and language courses for Third Country Nationals? (see Module 1)

Please, indicate if and how the following aspects are covered separately for legislation indication (a), and normal practice (b)

To enable the integration of foreigners, the governments of the Federation Wallonia / Brussels think it is necessary to build an integration plan, to ensure the social, professional and cultural integration of aliens, but also to act against discrimination. With the contributions of existing initiatives, it is planned to implement in 2014, a newcomers welcoming plan who will aim to provide people the necessary support and information to conduct their life in Belgium. This program must combine French courses, an initiation module to citizenship and a socio-occupational orientation module. Meanwhile, it is expected to generalize social interpretation services, to improve the supply of French courses, to encourage municipalities to develop local integration plans. Persons involved in the integration process are foreign nationals settled permanently in Belgium without having yet a definitive residence for more than three years. The integration plan is for newcomers - under a contract of employment, family reunification or studies -, as well as for asylum seekers, refugees and undocumented migrants.

▪ Pedagogic Schemes for Language Tuition

a) Learning French for adults. To be integrating into the new environment, immigrants should make an effort to learn the language of the region. To help those people, the state offers French courses. It is important that associations and adult schools can offer courses tailored to the diverse needs of immigrants and their availability. The varied offer will be coordinated after 2014. Validation of competences persons providing courses will be unified. At the end of learning, a test will be realized among learners.

b) Meanwhile the program announced by the regional governments for 2014, the non-French speaker public is hosted for years in literacy classes if it cannot read and write. If it has scholar degrees, it is oriented towards French courses for foreigners. These courses are given by adult schools to promote social inclusion and by official bodies to enhance the integration on the labor market. A part of this language courses are proposed by continuing education associations as the Lire et Ecrire federation. According to this federation, despite some efforts, supply of these courses has stagnated since 2005 and is insufficient to meet demand. Volunteering is important among the actors. Geographical coverage is very uneven and some publics are not touched.

▪ Introductory Courses

- a) The Walloon Government will establish an information curriculum for newcomers for 2014. The Brussels government follows a similar plan. The Walloon plan notes that Wallonia is a democratic and pluralistic society based on law. It is proposed in the form of a program of varied information on the status of living, housing options, health facilities, education, employment, social security, taxes and insurance schemes, etc. The program will be implemented thanks to the associative bodies and the 8 regional integration centers.
- b) Currently, the welcoming and information initiatives are provided by local associations, particularly in connection with French lessons, driving courses and employability courses (ex. Sima in Verviers). But these actions are not coordinated, not organized in a continuous manner and suffer of a lack of regular means and sometimes of professionalism.

▪ Incentive Structure

In 2014, the first stage of the "Walloon Newcomers Welcoming Plan" will be mandatory: an extensive and standardized 2-hours interview with a social worker called "Premier contact" to define the needs of the migrant family and to help it in its access to relevant social or educational services.

Question 1.6

What sort of measures does your city/region have in place to promote a strong commitment by the receiving society within ensuring equal access to public services? (see Module 2, Component 2)

Please, indicate if and how the following aspects are covered separately for legislation indication (a), and normal practice (b)

- **Intercultural and sector specific trainings for employees of service providers**

a) **In the field of the fight against discrimination.** The Government of the Walloon Region remembers that each Minister has a responsibility and must incorporate into its policy objectives and managing its administration with elements of a "comprehensive plan to equal opportunities." To do this, each department will identify initiatives it intends to take to meet the goals of equality of opportunity. This comprehensive plan will be accompanied by a "Charter of citizenship" proposed in all public places, the rights and duties of each. At local level, the social participation of foreign persons is encouraged by the local integration plans.

- **Mainstreamed Services: action plans on integration**

b) The local integration plan (PLI) is proposed to serve field operators in the domain of migrant's insertion. Its main task is to perform on a given territory demographic, economic and social diagnosis of the positions of migrants. It uses quantitative and qualitative methods to establish an inventory, in the various areas of life, of both existing actions and needs of the population and services. It develops participative strategies to identify and perform collectively relevant actions to ensure a greater complementarily, coordination and coherence in the use of available resources and in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of actions. For this device to be effective, all local public and private actors are involved, district-by-district, in the identification of integration resources and needs.

- **Information and services through one-stop-shops**

Let's develop the example of SADA (Service d'aide aux demandeurs d'asile, Centre public d'aide sociale de la Ville de Liège), the coordination of different local public services in Liege having to deal with the problems of the reception and management of foreign people living in precarious situations. This integrated service is unique in Wallonia and even in Belgium. It aims to promote a better integration of the foreign population and prevent any form of racism. More generally, the example serves to adapt public services in other municipalities face the same problem of reception. It serves to develop new partnerships. In Liege, the initiative led to the organization of the Advisory Municipal Council on "precarious live conditions". The SADA also supports various issues related to the right to stay, medical aid, housing, etc. The service aims to draw the contours of a new politic of newcomers.

Question 1.7

What sort of measures does your city/region have in place to improve the public perception of migration and migrants? (see Module 2 , Component 4)

Please, indicate if and how the following aspects are covered, separately for legislation indication (a) and normal practice (b)

- **Guidance to and training of professionals working with migrants**

a)

b).....

- **Intercultural meetings**

a)

b).....

- **Surveys & researches**

a) **Evaluation and statistics.** The IWEPS (Walloon Institute of Statistics) is responsible for making recommendations and suggest avenues for future work based on the available statistics in the matters covered by the reception and integration of migrants. An interim report will be realized two times a year. This report will point out strengths and weaknesses of existing systems, propose ways to achieve the goals that have been previously formulated by a steering committee. Other government partners to assess regional integration policy are: the Walloon Commission for the integration of foreigners, municipalities, regional integration centers and universities.

Question 1.8

Does your country, region or city organize any consultations in the framework of the general integration policy?

- Yes [X]
- No [...]

If Yes – please provide examples

“Commission wallonne de l’intégration des personnes étrangères ou d’origine étrangère”, since 2009

“Assises de l’interculturalité” thanks to the federal government in 2010

Etc.

Question 1.9

Indicate the importance for your city or region of different ways to promote the integration of Third Country Nationals

Please, rank the following factors by order of priority, from 1 (lowest priority) to 5 (highest priority) giving reasons of your marks (fill max 10 lines for each item)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Employment schemes 	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
.....	
.....	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational and training 	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
.....	
.....	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing 	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
.....	
.....	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health services 	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
.....	
.....	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social welfare measures 	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
.....	
.....	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promoting migrants’ culture 	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
.....	
.....	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Language training 	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
.....	
.....	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Other, please specify (.....) 	[1] [2] [3] [4] [5]
.....	
.....	

Question 1.10

Which of the dimensions of integration do local policies mostly refer to?

Please, rank from 1 (least developed) to 5 (most developed)

▪ Legal/political measures	[1] [2] [x] [4] [5]
▪ Socio-economic measures	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
▪ Cultural measures	[x] [2] [3] [4] [5]
▪ Other, please specify (.....)	[1] [2] [3] [4] [5]

Question 1.11

What are the main challenges to integration faced by Third Country Nationals in your country/region?

Please, rank the following factors by order of priority, from 1 (lowest priority) to 5 (highest priority) separately for “newly arrived migrants” and “long term residents”

▪ Newly arrived migrants	
a) Difficult finding a job	[1] [2] [3] [4] [x]
b) Poor educational qualifications	[1] [2] [x] [4] [5]
c) Language barriers	[1] [2] [3] [x] [5]
d) Housing and community facilities	[1] [2] [3] [x] [5]
e) Difficulties accessing public services	[1] [2] [x] [4] [5]
f) Other, please specify (.....)	[1] [2] [3] [4] [5]
▪ Long term residents	
a) Difficult finding a job	[1] [2] [3] [4] [x]
b) Poor educational qualifications	[1] [2] [3] [x] [5]
c) Language barriers	[1] [2] [x] [4] [5]
d) Housing and community facilities	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
e) Difficulties accessing public services	[1] [x] [3] [4] [5]
f) Other, please specify (.....)	[1] [2] [3] [4] [5]

Question 1.12

What are the main challenges faced by your country/region in dealing with integration of Third Country Nationals in your country/region?

Please, rank the following factors by order of priority, from 1 (lowest priority) to 5 (highest priority), separately for “newly arrived migrants” and “long term residents”

▪ Newly arrived migrants	
a) Lack of resources	[1] [2] [x] [4] [5]
b) Lack of specialist know-how	[1] [2] [x] [4] [5]
c) Not enough political support	[1] [2] [3] [4] [x]
d) Housing and community facilities	[1] [2] [3] [4] [x]
e) Lack coordination among relevant services	[1] [2] [3] [4] [x]
f) Other, please specify (.....)	[1] [2] [3] [4] [5]

▪ **Long term residents**

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| a) Lack of resources | [1] [2] [x] [4] [5] |
| b) Lack of specialist know-how | [1] [2] [x] [4] [5] |
| c) Not enough political support | [1] [2] [3] [4] [x] |
| d) Housing and community facilities | [1] [2] [x] [4] [5] |
| e) Lack coordination among relevant services | [1] [2] [3] [4] [x] |
| f) Other, please specify (.....) | [1] [2] [3] [4] [5] |

Question 1.13

What sort of assistance is provided to Third Country National migrants in the access to public services?

- Education
- Employment
- Health service
- Housing
- Other

All items together:

Social translation/interpretation. The overall objective of the social interpretation services is to facilitate communication between stakeholders and public services, in the one hand, and the population of foreign origin does not speak French, in the other hand. Communicate properly with these people is an inescapable every day reality to enhance their integration into the global society. The need is to help and to guide them. In Wallonia, mainly the association SETIS Wallon organizes the translation services. So that these people can receive legal aid, understand the asylum procedure, a doctor or a psychologist, heard that the center or school psychology or their children’s teacher have to say. Or, they can communicate with the social assistance center, with the nurse of the maternal health consultation, etc. It is important for the government to sustain the actions of the SETIS Wallon and developing the social interpretation in Wallonia. This structure has a sister body who is currently in development also in Brussels.

Question 1.14

How effectively do policies carried out in your country/region with regard to the integration of Third Country Nationals address the challenges you have identified above?

Please, rank the effectiveness of different policies from 1 (not effectively at all) to 5 (very effectively indeed)

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| ▪ Legal/political measures | [1] [2] [X] [4] [5] |
| ▪ Socio-economic measures | [1] [X] [3] [4] [5] |
| ▪ Cultural measures | [X] [2] [3] [4] [5] |

What information is available to support your assessment?

See the documents in annex.

Explain what would be needed to help tackle the challenges more effectively

More coordination between existing services. More participation of associations of migrants and local professional associations involved in the integration matters in the definition, coordination and assessment of local actions.

Use this space for any other comments on integration policies in your city or region

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Part 2: Factsheet on integration practices and projects in cities and regions

With reference either to sharing methods and instruments used for the monitoring and evaluation of integration practices and/or interventions, either to the operational levels covered by the project, the following analysis are suggested.

Collect (if possible on electronic support) and make available two different kind of materials:

Material - A

Good Practices Evaluation Systems concerning project's interest fields
(i.e.: *formalized devices made of integrated instruments, tools, procedures, use indications, reference framework,* : "evaluation systems" can have the form of models, guidelines, manuals, short-guides or other)

These systems:

- ✓ must be dated after 2002;
- ✓ may have been both "on-the-field" tested (and therefore implemented) or designed without being tested or applied;
- ✓ may have been produced by both public and private organizations;
- ✓ may be in ordinary use or remained at a prototypical state;
- ✓ may have been officially published or "grey materials" (i.e. unpublished).

In general, we consider *Good Practices Evaluation Systems* those systems which are **explicitly** defined and labeled in this way: the number of such a system to be collected by each Partner depends on the specific context situation.

Material - B

4 cases (having the form of 4 short reports) of **interventions** (or services or activities) and respective **monitoring or analysis reports** (the presence of both reports is compulsory).

Monitoring or analysis reports should be chosen using the following criteria:

- ✓ dated after 2005;
- ✓ able to give evidence either to the main and qualifying processes and to the final/short term results of the intervention;
- ✓ based upon strong and scientifically sound data collection and analysis methods and techniques.