



# di&di

## „More Diversity & Less Discrimination on the Labour Market“

Newsletter Issue 2

July 2014



The Di&Di Project „More Diversity & Less Discrimination on the Labour Market” is progressing. During the last six months, all project partners have been working on the specific tasks assigned to them (their so-called “work packages”) and met for their second European meeting in Berlin on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014, hosted by the partner bildungsmarkt e.v., to deepen their exchange and discussion. In this second newsletter, we would like to give you an insight into our European project work, the lessons learned and aims achieved during the last months.



### The topics of this newsletter are:

1. European Project Work: The European Perspective – Enriching and Challenging at Once
2. Launch of the National Steering Committees
3. Testimonies – Inspiring Insights

We hope you find our newsletter an interesting and stimulating read!

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions concerning the project Di&Di!

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## 1. European Project Work: The European Perspective – Enriching and Challenging at Once

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> European meeting of the Di&Di project team, the discussions focused on the balance that has to be found between the need to build a common European perspective through the use of common terms and concepts and the necessity to constantly refer to the specific contexts at the national and regional levels of the partners.

When working together in a European project, the European perspective often proves enriching and challenging at once. On the one hand, Europe is a reality itself. Beyond its conceptual significance, the “European idea” so to say, it is especially its institutionalised form, the European Union, which structures many topics on a supranational level and thus influences the daily lives of European and non-European citizens living in the EU.



When it comes to the project Di&Di, it is e.g. the topic of migration itself that can be seen as a European phenomenon. In this regard, the strategy of the EU towards migration and migrants – its policy on the supranational level – has to be taken into account by our project work. Hence, this meaning of the “European perspective” certainly shapes the contents of our project work.

And it is important to keep in mind also this abstract level when it comes to the second meaning of the “European perspective” implicated in our project work. Beyond its abstract meaning, there are, on the other hand, six partners from five different countries directly involved in the project work. And of course, this plurality of perspectives also shapes the discussions and the course of work.

### 2nd European meeting Berlin, 8-9 May 2014 Agenda

#### Thursday, 8 May 2014

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| <b>9h00- 10h00</b> | Welcome by Bildungsmarkt and presentation of the evaluation method (WP7)   |
| <b>10h00-11h00</b> | Point on administrative and financial aspects regarding the intermediary reports (WP1) by Enda Europe  |
| <b>11h30-12h30</b> | Questions/discussions about the administrative and financial aspects   |
| <b>14h00-17h30</b> | Presentation of the WP 2 and 3 and in-depth discussions about target-groups, contents, methodology   |
| <b>14h00-16h00</b> | Detailed Presentation by IRIV of the training module and in-depth discussion about the content among partners and in the perspective of experimentation, on the basis of the framework sent by IRIV (WP2)/Discussions<br>First presentation by Enda Europe of the mentoring (WP3): complementarity with the WP1, methodology, orientations/Discussions |
| <b>17h45-18h00</b> | Synthesis of the first day and presentation of the 2nd day by Bildungsmarkt  |

In order to achieve successful project outputs and outcomes, the project must rely on common definitions of key terms. Here, it is certainly necessary to draw on general terms and definitions used in the official EU context. In terms of sustainability and further exploitation of the project work, however, it is also essential to address concrete situations and practical needs in the various European countries.

During the discussion, it became clear, that the key terms used in the Di&Di project cover very diverse circumstances in the countries participating in the project: Their main groups of migrants may come from different countries, the knowledge and abilities of these migrants may vary, the labour markets are structured differently and offer

different kinds of vacancies, etc.. In this regard, it is a challenge to first of all understand and then to compare the different realities and thus to define a common “European core” but still to remain open towards single national particularities. In the discussions, it has been underlined, that is important to do both: to define the common criteria regarding the main topics of the project, but also to remain

**Friday, 9 May 2014**

<b>9h00-10h45</b>	Presentation by CII of the activities done under WP 5: launching of the steering committees. Sharing of experiences among partners, eventually on the basis of meetings already held, for instance in France.
<b>11h00-12h30</b>	Presentation of dissemination tools (WP6) by Enda Europe and IRIV: leaflets, website and weblogs in all 5 languages; questions and discussions
<b>14h -16h30</b>	Testimonies of two women, Colombian and Portuguese working in Berlin; questions and discussions
<b>16h30-17h30</b>	Synthesis and evaluation by Bildungsmarkt

flexible in their local interpretation. Especially the exchange on certain topics and the various perspectives that are thus taken into view help to enrich the overall European picture.

**2. Launch of the National Steering Committees meetings**

In the context of the second European meeting of the Di&Di project, the project partners reported on the successful launch of the national steering committee meetings. In general, the steering committees are formed by experts active in the fields of social and economic integration (e.g. representatives from associations, labour market authorities, and companies) who accompany the project and its development with their knowledge and experience. Furthermore, they of course have an important role in the dissemination of the project outcomes as stakeholders.

The steering committee meetings took different forms, were of diverse sizes and organised in various settings. Nevertheless, they all reached their aim to inform a wider public about the Di&Di project and to gather first feedback reactions.

Particularly valuable feedback was given in terms of the target groups addressed by the Di&Di project’s training programme. Experts from the field were able to give insights from their own work and hints concerning the question for which groups of migrants the training programme would be most valuable. In other words, due to their closeness to the field of unemployed migrants, the steering committee members of the first meetings were able to point out to whom the training programme should be addressed. These insights are very valuable for the further development of the project.

The next national steering committee meetings are scheduled to take place in autumn. At this occasion, the training programme, its structure and contents will be presented and discussed in depth.

**3. Testimonies – Inspiring Insights**

The project partners invited a Colombian woman living in Berlin to attend their meeting and to give testimony about her migration experience. The testimony was very inspiring as it helped to focus again on obstacles, but also on advantages deriving from a migratory experience with regard to the integration into the labour market.

In order to follow this very fruitful approach, the partners decided to invite guests also for the remaining partner meetings (October 2014: Forlí, Italy; May 2015 Biel/Bienne, Switzerland; September 2015: Sofia, Bulgaria) and ask for testimonies on the impact of the migratory experience in the search for an employment. This enables the partners to grasp a sense of the respective locality in terms of migration and labour market policies.