



## Pathways to Work completes Pilot Testing

Following on from the Training Needs Analysis (TNA) compiled by the Polish partner, The University of Szczecin and the Quick Check Report facilitated by the Spanish partner, Fundacion Laboral del Metal in 2010 the Pathways to Work project has now completed the Pilot Test phase of the project.

The pilot tested the five modules devised for the project and involved a minimum of one teacher/facilitator and 10 migrants from the 5 partner countries. The five modules tested were:

- Building Personal Confidence and Self Awareness;
- Developing Teamwork and Communication Skills;
- Know your Employment Rights;
- Career Preparation; and
- Job Search Skills and Interview Techniques.

Pilot testing commenced on January 15 and was completed on April 4, 2011. Fundacion Laboral del Metal will once again analyse the submitted data and compile a report to be published in April 2011 based upon each partner's findings.

The findings from this pilot test will enable the partnership to further adapt the training materials and e-learning course for young migrants.



## Upcoming Events & Training

**Crosscare: Policy Working Group Volunteers (Dublin)**

## Website – multilingual functions

Hopefully you have already visited the site but if not or you have not been in a while we are continuing to update and improve upon the service through valued feedback from our testing and migrants who have visited the site.

In addition to an exciting and FREE training programme we are now pleased to offer the website for country specific use in the 5 core partner countries: United Kingdom and Ireland, Italy, Poland and Spain. Thanks to a Google Translate™ function the site can also now be translated into over 50 languages, which assists with translating everything from Afrikaans to Yiddish. This function will allow a higher volume of people with different languages to access the training course and the different modules.

The website contains full details of the programme and the various modules which have been tested. The website can be accessed at: [www.pathwaystowork.eu](http://www.pathwaystowork.eu).

## New visa rules put cap on migrant workers

The UK's coalition government last week formalised a cap on economic migration for non-EU migrants for 2011/12. Under the overhaul, employers in the UK will be limited to bringing in 20,700 from outside the EU to work in skilled professions under Tier 2 of the system.

A further 1,000 UK visas will be made available to people of "exceptional talent" and the Conservative-led government has

### **Are you a non-EU citizen who would like to contribute to migration & integration policy actions?**

Crosscare Migrant Project is an information and advocacy project for migrants. They also aim to affect positive change in migration related policy. They are looking for non-EEA nationals to become part of a 'Policy Working Group'. This voluntary working group is part of a 3 year European Integration Fund project: 'Migrant-led integration – participation, representation & action'.

In conjunction with the CMP Policy Officer the group will develop fresh and innovative participatory actions with the aim of making a real and positive change to the situation of migrant integration in Ireland. The group meets regularly and provides input to CMP's policy work between meetings. Suitable applicants will have a keen interest in or experience in migration/integration related policy.

The group has 4 to 8 participants. This project is co-financed by the European Commission under the European Integration Fund and is supported by the Office of the Minister for Integration and Pobal.

If you are interested in applying please send an e-mail application and your CV to the provided e-mail address. Or if you have any questions contact Joe O'Brien at [jobrien@crosscare.ie](mailto:jobrien@crosscare.ie) or 01-8732844. For further information about our work visit their websites: [www.migrantproject.ie](http://www.migrantproject.ie) and [www.livinginireland.ie](http://www.livinginireland.ie)

### **Taste of Polska (Belfast)**

Saturday 7th May, 12pm-5pm

Saint Anne's Square, Belfast

Part of V Polish Cultural Week

A '**Taste of Polska**' returns to Cathedral Quarter as part of the fifth annual Polish Cultural Week. Organised in partnership with ArtsEkta, the proud organisers of the Belfast Mela and recent Festival of Colours, this event is a great family day out and will feature food, music, dance, and workshops from Poland and other cultures.

Saint Anne's Square will come alive with the sounds, sights and smells of Polish and other cultures and will feature a show-stopping, jam-packed schedule of music and dance. Headlining the event is ethno-electro group 'GOORAL' from Poland who blend electro, dub-step and drum 'n' bass with traditional Polish songs for a truly unique sound experience. Local artists from Indian, Chinese, African and Irish backgrounds will also take to the stage.

There will be a fantastic Polish BBQ and an opportunity to sample a variety of cuisines from across the globe sure to get your taste buds going. They will also be holding special interactive craft, music and dance workshops for all ages.

For more information on all the events in the V Polish Cultural Week visit [www.polishculturalweek.com](http://www.polishculturalweek.com)

### **Equality and Diversity Forum conference: Who's still missing? Refugees, migrants and equality (London)**

17 May 2011 - 10:30 - 14:15, Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre, 108 Stamford St, SE1 9NH

The Equality and Diversity Forum is pleased to invite you to a conference to consider how to promote equality for refugees and migrants. The conference is the culmination of a project supported by the Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fund and the Trust for London to identify the inequalities experienced by refugees and migrants and consider how the new equalities framework and measures in the Equality Act 2010 might be used to address them.

ensured that anyone earning over £150,000 a year will not be subject to the limit.

The new restrictions follow years of debate and controversy. The cap was initially introduced as an interim measure last summer by Home Secretary Theresa May. However a legal challenge to it was upheld, with the High Court ruling that it was introduced "unlawfully", and that ministers had "sidestepped" Parliamentary scrutiny.

Some experts have argued that immigration provides a net profit to the UK economy, and that the UK's aging population cannot afford to discourage young, skilled immigrants from contributing to the country's fragile economy.

Immigration Minister Damian Green has said: "We have made clear that as the recovery continues, we need employers to look first to people who are out of work and who are already in this country. We are overhauling all routes of entry to tackle abuses, make the system more effective and bring net migration back down to the tens of thousands."

Critics question the effectiveness of the cap, given the majority of the UK's migrant intake comes from within the European Union, for whom the cap does not apply.

---

### **About the Project**

Research has shown immigrants face specific barriers in the labour market, including: prejudice and xenophobia, discrimination by employers, difficulties obtaining recognition of qualifications and prior learning, cultural differences in working practices and communication skills, and lack of awareness of national support structures relating to employment and training.

These barriers place migrants at a significant disadvantage in comparison with local workers, meaning that they can end up in jobs below their skills level; are more vulnerable to job instability and experience many difficulties in terms of mobility in the labour market.

The Pathways to Work project focuses on young immigrants' needs and aims to enable them to compete with other job seekers on a "level playing field" by equipping them with practical tools in terms of job search and transition skills.

The report of the research commissioned by EDF as part of this project will be launched at the event and there will be an opportunity to hear from equality, refugee and migrant specialists before opening up to debate with participants on how we can ensure that the equality framework supports *all* individuals – including refugees and migrants.

This is a free event, taking place at the Coin Street Neighbourhood Centre, London SE1. Registration is on a first-come-first served basis and they may need to restrict places to one per organisation. A small amount of funding to cover travel expenses for refugee and migrant community organisations is also available. Please contact [info@edf.org.uk](mailto:info@edf.org.uk) to ask about travel bursaries.

If you would like to attend, please send your details by email or using the booking form by **Friday 29 April**. Confirmation, venue details and the final agenda will be circulated to participants a week before the event. Booking Form: [DraftConferenceAgenda170511\\_2.doc](#)

It involves undertaking a detailed training needs analysis and customising existing training materials to suit the needs of young immigrants, aged between 18 and 30.

By increasing this group of young people's skills and adaptability and enabling them to obtain jobs which recognise and utilise those skills, they will be better placed to fulfil their potential in the labour market, enjoy greater personal growth and social integration.

This will help improve their employment options and, more importantly, help overcome socio-economic disadvantage.

