

FOR-IN

Final conference

Socio-economic Inclusion on the Ground: from Myriad Contemporary Practices to a Future Systematic Approach

During the past ten years, Baltic states have continuously improved integration policies by developing specific national level programmes and action plans as well as have started to capacitate local authorities with relevant knowledge and capacities. Ukraine refugee situation response in these countries further consolidated relevant resources to build policies further; though, differences across municipalities remain in terms of capacities, knowledge and available tools.

Project For-In has been built on wide regional and country-specific partnerships aiming to capitalize on existing initiatives in the Baltic countries and extensive experiences in the Nordic countries by further strengthening capacities of local authorities, civil society, refugee and immigrant communities and other integration actors.

The **aim of the final For-In conference** is to exchange the knowledge relevant to ensure that holistic integration policies at the local level are in place. The conference is built on three thematic areas: a) local level integration planning coordination and partnership; b) involvement of immigrants and refugees in policy planning, co-design, and co-implementation; c) research and evidence-based policy making. It will take stock of what has been achieved and will look into the near future in terms of upcoming priorities of national integration/local authorities: communication, mental health and psychosocial support, language programmes and the promotion of intercultural cities.

PROGRAMME

→ 20th February @ Pirklių klubas

Socio-economic Inclusion on the Ground: from Myriad Contemporary Practices to a Future Systematic Approach

Hosted by **Darius Matas**

Journalist and radio host at Lithuanian National Radio and Television

12:00 – 13:00 **REGISTRATION, LUNCH AND COFFEE**

13:00 – 13:20 **WELCOME REMARKS**

Monika Navickienė, Minister, Ministry of Social Security and Labour

Helén Nilsson, Director, Nordic Council of Ministers Office in Lithuania

Yolande Ditewig, Deputy Representative, UNHCR Representation for the Nordic & Baltic countries

13:20 – 13:50 **KEYNOTE SPEECH.**

NAVIGATING DIVERSITY: PROGRESS IN IMMIGRANT INTEGRATION AND THE PATH AHEAD

Ave Lauren, Migration Policy Analyst, The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

13:50 – 14:20 **COFFEE BREAK**

1 SESSION LOCAL LEVEL INTEGRATION PLANNING, COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIP

Moderator: **Karolis Žibas**, Integration Officer, UNHCR Representation for the Nordic and Baltic countries

14:20 – 15:20 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

Anna Kotka-Bystedt, Head of Integration Services, The Integration Services in the Jakobstad Region / Town of Jakobstad, Finland

Christina Engström, Head, Integration and labor market unity, Municipality of Mark, Sweden

Kaisa Üprus-Tali, Head of unit, Tallinn Welfare and Health Care Department, Estonia

Egija Straujuma, Project coordinator, Riga Support Center for Ukrainian residents, Latvia

Simona Bieliūnė, Vice Mayor, Vilnius City Municipality, Lithuania

Discussion, Q&A

2 SESSION WHY AND HOW TO TRANSFORM RESEARCH TO EVIDENCE-BASED LOCAL LEVEL POLICY MAKING?

Moderator: **Dārta Pelse**, Policy analyst in migration and integration, PROVIDUS, Latvia

15:25 – 15:40 **Drawing on research to guide policy**

Christopher Jamil de Montgomery, Assistant professor, PhD, Department of Public Health, Danish Research Centre for Migration, Ethnicity and Health, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

15:40 – 15:55 **Refugee Response Plan and Multi-Sector Needs Assessment: Results from the Baltic Countries**

Anastasia Ilieva, Associate Information Management Officer, UNHCR Representation for the Nordic and Baltic Countries

15:55 – 16:10 **Leveraging Estonian Integration Monitoring for Informed Policy Decisions**

Olga Sõtnik, Head of Cultural Diversity Department, Ministry of Culture, Estonia

16:10 – 16:25 **Data, migration and integration issues in Lithuania**

Vadimas Ivanovas, Head of State Data Governance Information System Division at State Data Agency (Statistics Lithuania), Lithuania

16:25 – 16:40 **From integration indicators to local policy-making - A case from Norway**

Regine Meland Leksen, Analyst, The Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi), Norway

16:40 – 17:00 **Discussion, Q&A**

PROGRAMME

→ 21st February @ Pirklių klubas

Socio-economic Inclusion on the Ground: from Myriad Contemporary Practices to a Future Systematic Approach

Hosted by **Darius Matas**

Journalist and radio host at Lithuanian National Radio and Television

08:30 – 09:00 **COFFEE AND NETWORKING**

09:00 – 09:30 **KEYNOTE SPEECH. THE IMPORTANCE OF LANGUAGE ACQUISITION.
AN EMOTIONAL AND PRACTICAL MATTER**

Prof. Grete Brochmann, University of Oslo, Norway

3 SESSION COOPERATION, INCLUSION AND SUSTAINABILITY AT NATIONAL, LOCAL AND GRASSROOT LEVEL

Moderator: **Karolis Žibas**, Integration Officer, UNHCR Representation for the Nordic and Baltic countries

09:30 – 10:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION**

Peter Kariuki, Senior specialist / Secretary General ETNO, Ministry of Justice, Finland

Suvi Lindén, Head of Migrant and Integration Services, Vantaa Municipality

Miles Rutendo Tanhira, Founder and Co-chair, Queerston Media, Sweden

Akhtar Mohammad Akhgar, Programs Coordinator, Refugee Council of Lithuania, Lithuania

Eugenija Kovaliova, CEO, Ukreate Hub, Lithuania

Discussion, Q&A

10:30 – 11:00 **COFFEE BREAK**

4 SESSION MENTAL HEALTH, WELL-BEING AND INTEGRATION

Moderator: **Karilė Levickaitė**, Director, Mental Health Perspectives, Lithuania

11:00 – 11:15 **Mental Health and Psychosocial Support: A Framework for Well-Being and Integration**

Sofia Casas, Regional MHPSS Officer, Regional Bureau for Europe, UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency

11:15 – 11:30 **Mental well-being as a key to integration**

Antti Klemetilä, Psychologist, Psychotherapist, Migration and Cultural Diversity Team, Development Manager, Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, Finland

11:30–11:45 **Mental Wellbeing and Integration of Refugees and Migrants and policy planning, co-designing and co-implementing at a local and national level. Examples from MHPSS, Education and Protection programmes.**

Sarah Harrison, Head of MHPSS Technical Unit, IFRC Reference Centre for Psychosocial Support, Denmark

11:45 – 12:00 **Discussion, Q&A**

12:00 – 12:05 **CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE**

Concluding remarks, Project continuation

Helén Nilsson, Director, Nordic Council of Ministers Office in Lithuania

12.05 – 13.00 **LUNCH AND NETWORKING**