



The action plan on integration and inclusion 2021-2027: *What's in it for the cities?*



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Main lessons learnt from the 2016 action plan

Positive aspects

More than fifty actions implemented successfully

Contribution/inspiration for development of national integration strategies

In some areas, Commission initiatives went beyond the action plan

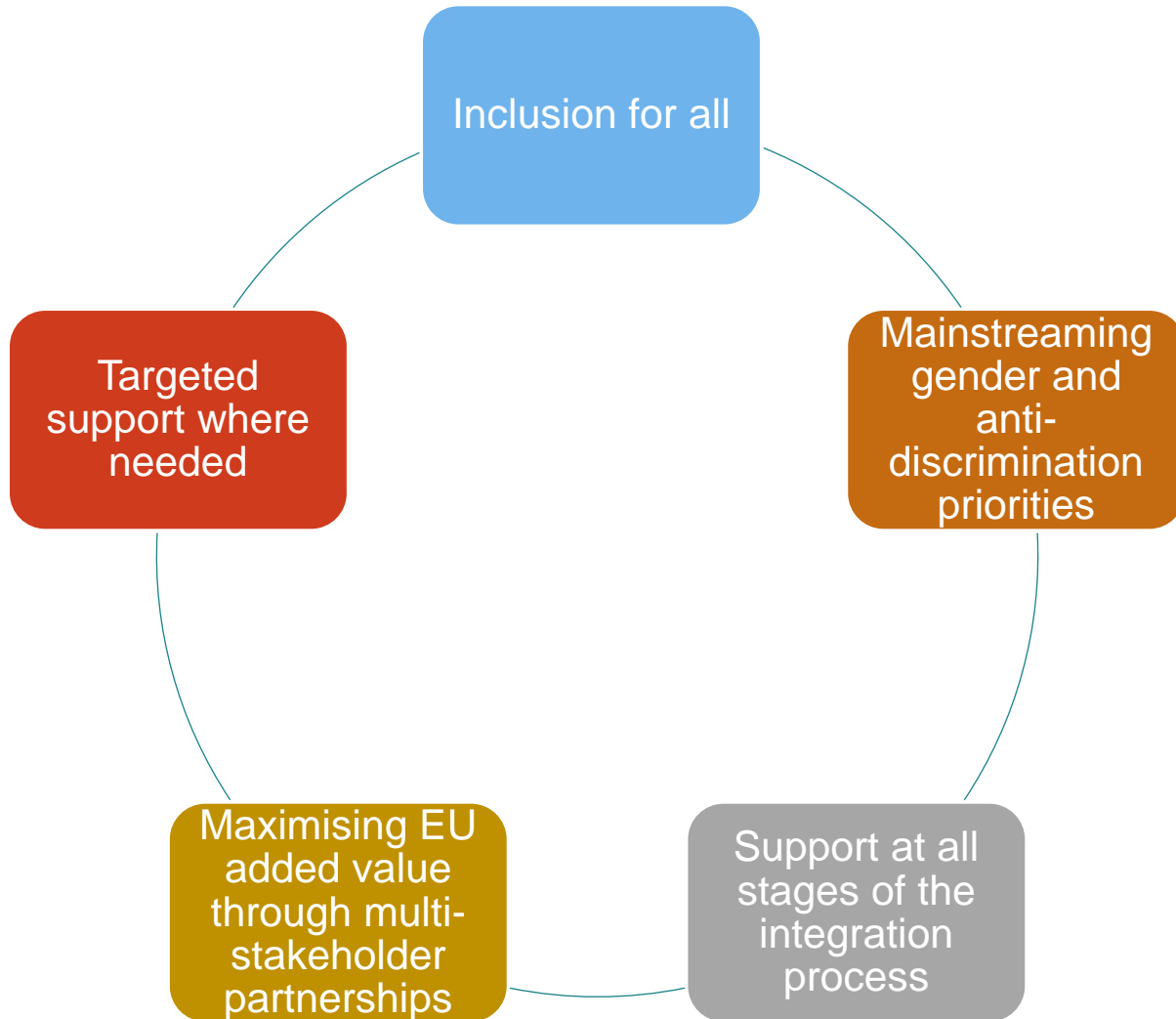
Areas of improvement

Scope limited to third country nationals

Stronger focus on women needed

Role of host society in the integration process

Main principles underpinning the Action Plan



Sectoral areas of action

Education and training

What do we encourage Member States to do?

- ✓ More migrant children in **early childhood education and care**
- ✓ **Teachers** are better equipped to manage multicultural and multilingual classrooms
- ✓ **Qualifications** acquired in non-EU countries are **recognised** faster and more easily
- ✓ Comprehensive **language training** and **civic orientation** programmes



How?

Toolkit, mutual learning and exchanges between Member States, funding, strengthening existing tools such as Europass & the European Qualification Framework

Employment and skills

What do we encourage Member States to do?

- ✓ Reinforce **anti-discrimination measures** in the recruitment process and workplace
- ✓ **Migrant entrepreneurs** receive more support
- ✓ More **migrant women** participate in the labour market
- ✓ Assessment of migrants' **skills** is more effective and faster (EU skills profile tool)
- ✓ More migrants participate in high-quality **vocational education and training**

How?

Work with social and economic partners, support employers through exchanges and peer-to-peer learning, support for migrant entrepreneurs under InvestEU, facilitate assessment and validation of skills, funding.



Health

What do we encourage Member States to do?

- ✓ Migrants are **informed about their rights** and have **equal access** to regular health care services, including mental health services
- ✓ Specific challenges faced by **migrant women**, including prenatal and post-natal healthcare for mothers, are fully considered
- ✓ **Health care workers** receive **training** on diversity management and the needs of specific groups



How?

Funding and exchanges between Member States on prevention and health promotion programmes and access to mental health

Housing

What do we encourage Member States to do?

- ✓ Facilitate migrants' access to **adequate and affordable housing**
- ✓ Provide **adapted and autonomous housing solutions** as **early** as possible for **refugees** and asylum seekers and enable a smooth transition to independent living for BIPs.
- ✓ Ensure an **integrated approach** and coordinate housing policies with policies on access to employment, education, healthcare and social services



How?

Funding, mutual learning, promote models of autonomous housing for asylum applicants, disseminate and scale up models of inclusive and affordable housing for beneficiaries of international protection

Horizontal actions

Building strong partnerships

Reinforce and develop partnerships with

- **National authorities** (European Integration Network)
- **Local and regional authorities** (Committee of the Regions, Urban academy)
- **Host communities** (capacity building, volunteering, mentoring)
- **Civil society**
- **Social and economic partners** (European Partnership on integration)



13 proposals for cities and regions

- Partnership with the **Committee of the Regions**
- **Urban Academy** on integration: comprehensive capacity building programme
- Support cities in **preventing radicalisation**
- Best practices through the **Radicalisation Awareness Network** to build trust among communities
- Strengthen cooperation between 'EU cities against **Radicalisation**' initiative and Integrating cities



Supporting local and regional authorities

- Integration happens locally
- Local and regional authorities should access resources
- 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework:
 - Access to funding will be facilitated for national programmes under shared management
- Webinars and toolkit on the use of EU funds for integration for 2021-2027
- One of the priorities of AMIF call 2020: developing and implementing local integration strategies



Building capacity of local authorities

- Involve local communities in the design and implementation of integration programmes
- Exchange of best practices and mutual learning
- Finance projects to promote volunteering actions co-designed by migrants and host communities



Partnership on the inclusion of migrants and refugees

- Under the **Urban Agenda**
- City of Amsterdam + DG HOME
- Since 2016 – extended to 2021
- Brings together cities, national authorities and the European Commission
- Develop recommendations and actions to improve inclusion of migrants



Increased EU funding opportunities

Supporting the use of EU funding for integration through:

- **Fostering exchanges and coordination** between managing authorities (AMF/ERDF/ESF+, ERASMUS+)
- **Information to beneficiaries:** webinars + toolkit
- **investment in the fields of education and training, social infrastructure** under investEU
- Develop **public-private partnerships**



Enhance the use of digital tools for integration and inclusion

- Support Member States in assessing **digital integration services**
- Projects on improving **digital skills** among migrants
- Purchase of **digital equipment** and e-learning applications and platforms for schools (Digital Education action plan)
- New EU **e-government action plan** promoting human-centric digital public services and engagement of migrants in the creation and delivery of digital public services



Fostering participation and encounters with the host society

- Involving migrants and migrant organisations in **decision-making processes**.
- **Community sponsorship** programmes for beneficiaries of international protection
- **Integration award** for schools, local communities, artistic and cultural organisations, and sports and youth clubs
- **Football festivals** / European football championship
- Projects to raise awareness on facts and figures and main trends of integration for **journalists**



Migrant Expert Group

- **24 experts** with a migrant background with outstanding knowledge and experience in migration, asylum and integration.
- Migrants organisations, migrant councils, civil society, academia, business and trade unions
- Open call for applications, selection internally in DG HOME - **396 applications**
- Call for proposals 2019 (AMIF): **Promoting the participation of migrants in the design and implementation of integration policies**



Monitoring progress: towards an evidence-based integration and inclusion policy

- Launch a new **Eurobarometer on integration**
- **Analysis of progress** and common challenges, based on common statistical indicators
- Explore with Member States the development of a joint **'scoreboard'** of integration policies
- Assess regularly research outputs and results on integration dynamics and propose policy options for policy making



Next steps

1. **Implementation of the actions** in close cooperation with other European Commission departments and Member States, local and regional authorities, civil society organisations, social and economic partners, the private sector, host communities, diaspora organisations and migrants.
2. **Interactive online platform** to monitor progress on the European Website for Integration
3. **Mid-term review** in 2024

Thank you!

- <https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/news/the-ec-presents-its-eu-action-plan-on-integration-and-inclusion-2021-2027>
- <https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/inclusion-migrants-and-refugees/urban-academy-integration>
- <https://ec.europa.eu/migrant-integration/>

