



Education and Culture DG

Lifelong Learning Programme

INTERNATIONAL PROJECT FOR MIGRANT WOMEN „Steps“ forward Europe

The innovative project “PreQual Steps” (European dimensions within the intercultural qualification for migrant women entering the health and care sector) recently started within five European countries. It is a project within the European projectline Leonardo da Vinci (Transfer of Innovation), conceived and promoted in all its editions by the migrant women self-organisation maiz - situated in Linz, Austria.

PreQual steps aims to support migrant women to enter the formal labor market within the health and care sector by implementing the course “Prequalification for migrant women in the health and care sector” in further European countries: Czechia, Greece, Hungary and Spain. As during the last three years the course has been successfully implemented and tested in Austria, Germany and Italy within the previous PreQual project. (www.prequalonline.org).

In Austria the course is already in its third edition now through the financial support of the regional government.

Through the implementation of PreQual Steps, the concepts of PreQual will be expanded by new European aspects concerning female migration, the labor market and the health and care sector. After this two-year project period, the implementation and evaluation of the concept will be in the position to take into consideration national aspects of 9 European countries.

PreQual steps and the protagonism of migrant women: a functioning educational model

The continuance and the sustainability of the project are based on the innovative character of the principles commonly developed by all partners and which include the understanding of education as a political (social, economic, critical and historical), reality-changing process. It focuses on the utilization of participative pedagogic methods and the involvement of migrant woman as protagonists – and not as spectators or consumers – of the process of construction/realization of the whole project.

The PreQual project intends to match the labour market needs with those of migrant women and to provide a future-oriented and innovative solution. The present concept aims furthermore to be enlarged through an innovative IT-based platform, which – following the principle of participation - offers possibilities for exchange among experts and secures the transparency of the results.

The diverse national and international partners have culminated into this partnership manifesting widespread competencies, experiences as well as their range of contacts to the various target groups and their range of spheres of influence. The partnership of PreQual Steps consists of the promoting organisation “Verein maiz” (Austria), Antigone (Greece), Network of Immigrant Women in Northern Greece (Greece), Iepala (Spain), Vuste Envis (Czech Republic) and DemNet (Hungary).