

Share SIRA

Regional Trainings - Spain

From October 2021 to February 2022, Share SIRA project partners organised several regional online and offline training sessions in several European countries, enabling more than 230 stakeholders active in rural integration to benefit from capacity building in intercultural communication and local community engagement, as well as in migrant participation and co-creation.

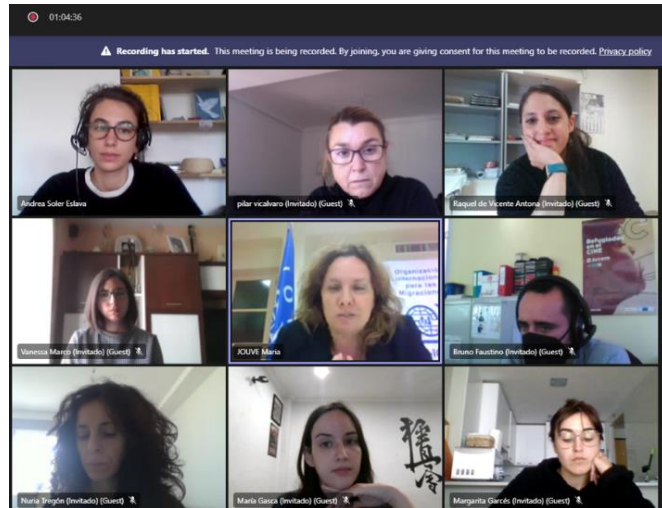
A needs assessment had been conducted by the Share Network during the first months of the [Share SIRA](#) project, so that the trainings drawing from the **Share “Welcoming Communities”** and **IOM “Admin4All”** training curricula would specifically answer the differing needs of the stakeholders in each region. Initially, 10 regional trainings were to be held in each of the regions participating in the Share SIRA project. Due to Covid19 restrictions however, trainings in Spain were transferred online, whereas those in Greek and Polish regions could take place as in person events. In France, the trainings were delivered in hybrid manner. Each training programme was uniquely developed to meet the learning needs of each regional partnerships. Click [here](#) to find out more about these regions!

Regional trainings for migrant and refugee integration in Guadalajara, Soria, and Teruel, Spain

In Spain, trainings were divided into several modules lasting two hours each that were proposed in **October and November 2021**, reaching around **60 participants in total**.

The first part of the trainings in Spain focused on introducing the phenomenon of migration and intercultural competence and communication. A common basic understanding of contemporary push and pull factors as well as main migration routes as well as legal statuses was established thanks to the presentation of key data.

Then, participants reflected on the complexity of the concept of culture and offering concrete tools for improving intercultural communication. Participants exchanged on possible barriers that can be found in the attention and interaction with migrants, such as stereotypes, prejudices, fear of the unknown, or ambiguous messaging. Another aspect in which there was participation was the reflection on videos presented, on prejudices and on diversity. In this sense, it highlights the opinions of avoiding ethnocentrism in the interaction with migrants, promoting the learning of other cultures and of open attitude tools such as empathy and active listening. Finally, one of the participants pointed out that it is essential for professionals in the intervention with migrants, and other direct care services, the ability to overcome and go beyond the emergencies of day to day, to develop continuous improvement.



The second part of the Spanish trainings sought to more practically increase the intercultural skills of participants. IOM Spain introduced resilience as a tool in intervention and work with migrants in difficult situations. The aim is to promote support and the development of resilience as a tool for both professionals and migrants with whom they interact and work.



The third and last part of the Spanish trainings addressed the challenges and opportunities in interactions with local communities in integration work. On the one hand, IOM Spain reflected on the role of expectations and how to work with them: managing the expectations of professionals who offer services to the migrant population, as well as trying to understand the expectations of the migrants with whom we work. On the other hand, different conceptions of conflict management were reviewed to offer tools to analyse and face them proactively looking for their best management.

In general, participants appreciated to receive new theoretical insights and learned to manage stereotypes and prejudices. Participants also valued the practically oriented part of the trainings, which despite the online format created new connections among local actors.

