

## 11th MEETING OF THE PORTUGUESE NETWORK OF INTERCULTURAL CITIES

17 May 2019

**Venue:** Espaço Gnraton, Praça Conde de Agrolongo, 123, 4700-312 Braga

**Schedule:** 10h30 - 17h

**Attendance:**

RPCI Coordination: Carla Calado

CM Braga: Cristina Palhares; Fernanda Oliveira, Cláudia Igreja

Cm Viseu: Fernanda Santos, Ricardo Pais

CM Cascais: Umera Assanali, Filomena Oitaven, Isabel Luz

CM Amadora: Ana Mendes

CM Coimbra: Carla Sá, Rita Fernandes

**Order of business:**

10:30 a.m. - RPCI meeting:

- General information
- Policy lab review and next steps

14.30 - Presentation of the project "Rewriting our Neighborhood";

15.30 - Presentation of the "Human Library" project;

15.45 - Presentation of APP Bragalncoming;

16.30 - Presentation of the "Community Mediators" project;

17.00 - Closing.

### Summary of the RPCI meeting

1. After a brief presentation of those present, several pieces of information were provided, in particular:
  - a. Event in Turin under the theme "Fighting discrimination and hate speech: Is interculturalism the solution?" on June 18 and 19, (having already sent information via e-mail) that awaits registration from the Portuguese Network.

The importance of cities taking advantage of these moments, which are open to cities in national networks, has been reinforced, as they are generally only for cities in the international network, especially when there is support for travel and stays. In these events it is possible to learn about the practices of cities all over the world, and to network with other municipalities and experts.

b. Creation of the Portuguese Association for Diversity and Inclusion (APPDI): this association was created by several members of the Portuguese Charter for Diversity (EDP, Crescer, Clube Intercultural Europeu, L'oreal, Grafe, Ex-Aequo network, PWC, CerciOeiras, Geoclube, Animar, LYD and StoneSoup). This association aims to promote Diversity and Inclusion in organizations and society in general, promoting various projects beyond the letter (e.g. engineering project for 1 day, in partnership with the office of Mrs. Sec. State Citizenship and Equality, CIG, IS Technical and Order of Engineers). It was noted that some municipalities in the PRCI belong to the charter at the same time (Braga, Lisbon, Amadora and Oeiras) and that this could be a solution to 'incubate' the PRCI. Some fears were raised, such as the possible loss of identity of the project, but also the difficulties we would have in creating an association only for RPCI (not all municipalities would easily be able to be associated or pay quotas and sustainability would be fragile). It was also mentioned that it would be important for RPCI to create a greater union and external recognition (as it is little known) before taking this step.

As an example, reference was made to the association created by the Spanish network where the experts hired by the association provide support to the cities in the implementation of plans and projects, in their evaluation, in the training of technicians, in the completion of INDEX, etc.

Find out more about the letter and the APPDI: [www.cartadiversidade.pt](http://www.cartadiversidade.pt)

c. INDEX: some clarifications were given regarding INDEX, namely that there is a new version of it, which will soon be available in Portuguese version (only to facilitate completion, as it should be delivered in English) it should be completed every 2 years by all cities in the network. When this happens, the city will receive a free visit and advice from an expert hired by the Council of Europe. Usually this support takes the form of a one-day field visit, followed by a half-day meeting (with opening by the presidents and the executive) with the presence of partners from the municipality where the INDEX results are returned in order to provoke debate about them. At the end a report is delivered with the results and main recommendations, as well as an analysis of the evolution of the municipality over the years.

The importance of the way INDEX is filled was emphasized. More than collecting information, INDEX is a process of reflection and an opportunity to put in touch and promote debate between departments and divisions of the CM that generally do not meet. When this does not happen often the scores are damaged and do not reveal the true essence of everything that is done and its quality in the field.

d. Partnership with ISCTE/ CRIA (Prof. Cristina Santinho): it was mentioned that there was a meeting with Prof. Cristina Santinho (who was with us at the policy lab) for a possible partnership in order to enhance the evaluation of the impacts of the measures implemented by the different municipalities. The direction of the ICC programme considered it important and that all cities should be involved. In order to make this investment possible, we will have to think about financing solutions. Cities, at first sight, have generally considered this initiative to be in their interest.

e. RPCI members were also informed that we were again offered around €8,000 to follow up projects between cities, which could be invested for example in travel to learn about other practices

of cities in the international network that are relevant to what we decide to do together, to hire experts to provide training, etc.

### Policy lab swing and next steps

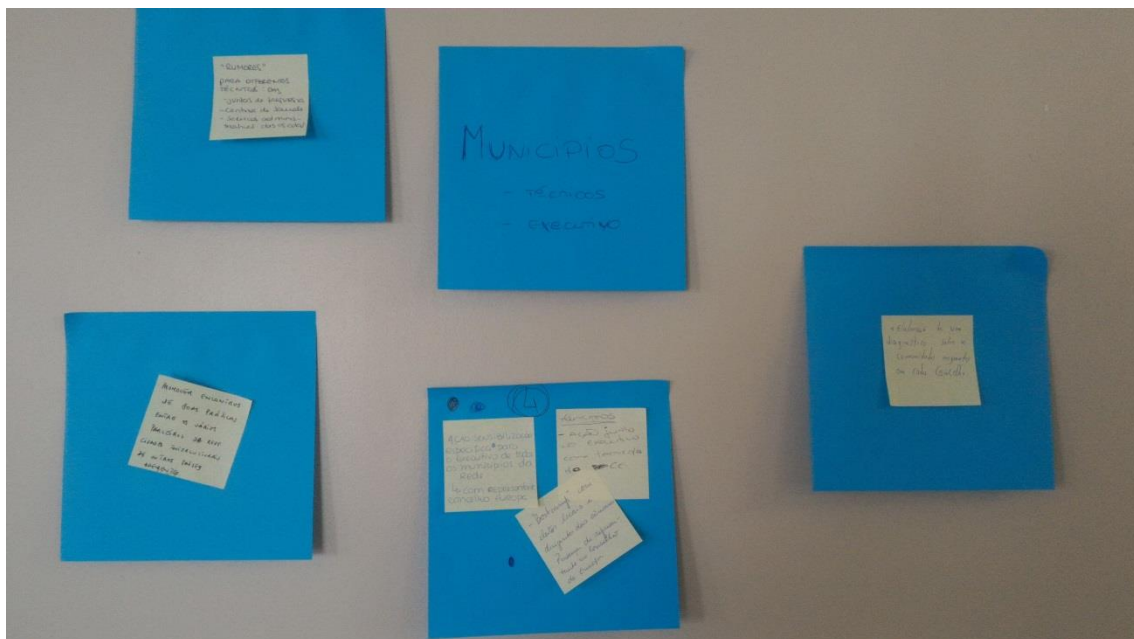
a. In general, the evaluation of the Policy Lab is positive, namely due to the presence of many entities from different geographies and typologies, which generated a very rich debate and sharing of ideas.

Two essential points were mentioned with regard to the next steps: 1. Promote greater involvement of executives and 2. Promote concrete actions resulting from the Policy Lab that have an impact on how public policies are implemented on the ground.

After some brainstorming, and following the suggestions already made during the event, each participant in the meeting was asked to identify their main suggestions according to 5 target groups: 1. municipalities (technical and/or executive); 2. government (services and/or politicians); 3. citizens in general; 4. migrant and minority people; and 5. people with disabilities. Employers' and non-profit organizations.

Below are some suggestions that can be analyzed:

After a vote by those present, 3 priority interventions were elected for RPCI, which will be promoted by working groups to be set up (see annex): 1. Implement the APP Braga Incoming in other municipalities; 2. Promote Inclusive employment and 3. To simplify and facilitate the processes of integration and reception into public services.



# GOVERNO

- SERVIÇOS
- POLÍTICAS

ORGANIZAÇÕES  
- SERVIÇOS PÚBLICOS

REVISÃO DE CASOS

Política - superação do Lei 2 (Associação para o desenvolvimento econômico)

5

3

Associação para o desenvolvimento econômico

Política - superação do Lei 2 (Associação para o desenvolvimento econômico)

Associação para o desenvolvimento econômico

Política - superação do Lei 2 (Associação para o desenvolvimento econômico)

4

SUBSIDIARIEDADE DE UMA EMPRESA

SE FALTA O FINANCIAMENTO COMO FALTA O MANTENIMENTO DA ATIVIDADE

Desenvolvimento de projetos sobre o desenvolvimento econômico

# ORGANIZAÇÕES

- EMPREGADORES
- ONG'S

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MUNICÍPIOS

AÇÃO MUNICIPAL

A CARTA DA DIVERSIDADE

E

ELABORAÇÃO WORKSHOP

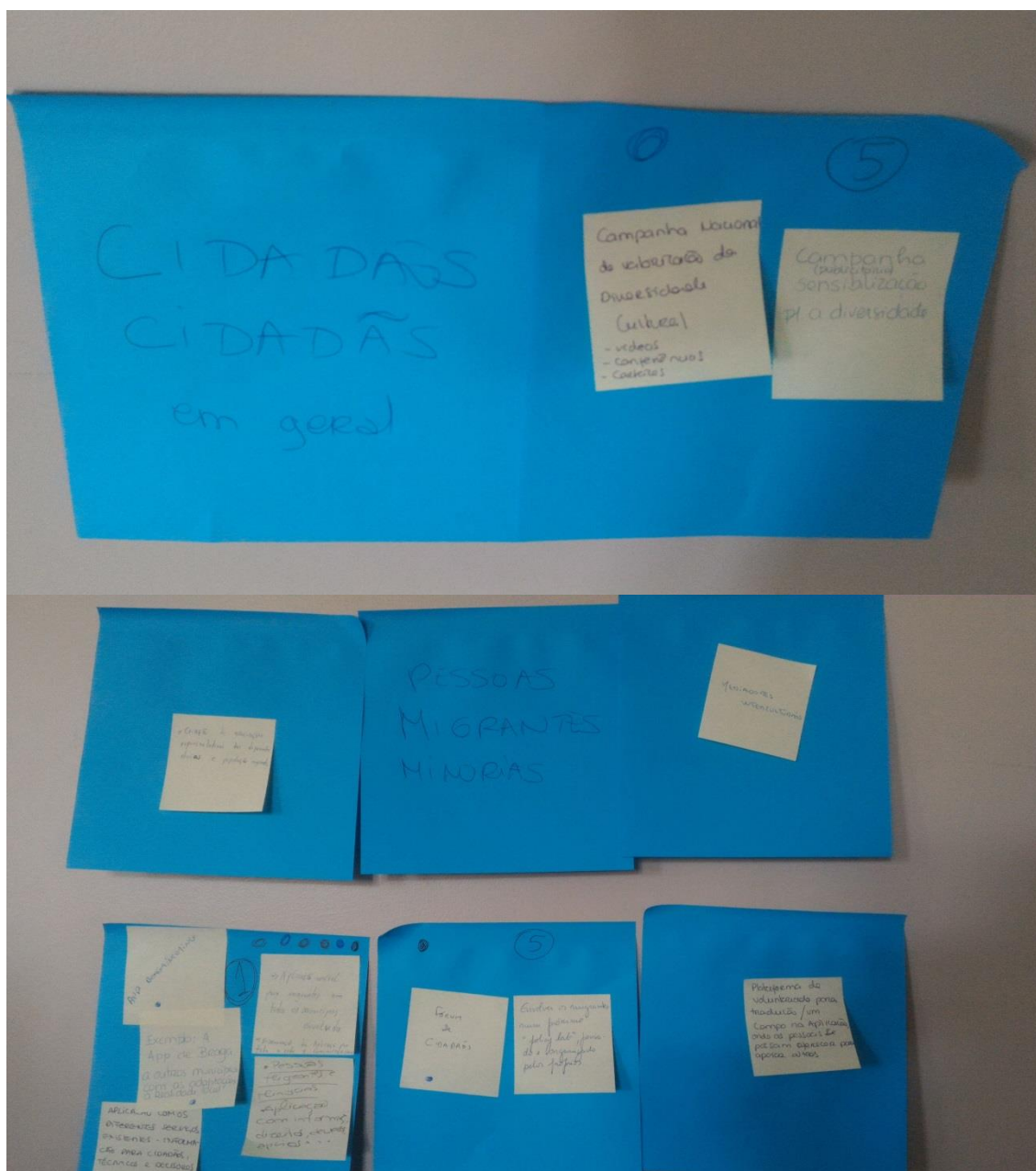
D) EMPREENHORES

Ações formação e sensibilização com Associações empresariais + Empresas/empregadores + juristas (especialidade contratação) + SEF + Segurança Social + Autoridade Tributária

organizações

- Ação com empregadores

workshops para empregadores com a participação dos SEF's (tanto como speakers como participantes)



### Presentation of projects developed by the City of Braga

Finally, presentations were made of the following projects developed by CM Braga:

#### "Rewrite our Neighborhood"

Within the scope of this project, interventions were carried out with the Roma communities of Braga, namely aimed at urban requalification, use of public space, identity and belonging, and social cohesion. Attached is the power point with a presentation of the project. The resulting publication and children's book can be downloaded at: <http://reescreveronossobairro.cm-braga.pt/PT/agenda/20170627-lancamento-do-projeto-reescrever-o-nosso-bairro/> where videos can also be viewed and audio recordings made can be heard. The presentation was made by Daniel Duarte Pereira.



### "Human Library"

Vinicius Góis, Master's student in intercultural education and mediation, presented this project, which consists of an adaptation of the existing project at international level. It aims to collect life stories (or "books") of migrant people in Braga that will be later presented to the public (the "readers") in sessions open to registration.

When they arrive, the "readers" find the synopses of the available books and choose which one they want to "read", being recommended a maximum of 6 people per "book". These sessions are interactive and in them both "readers" and "books" find common ground, share episodes of their lives and can ask questions, stimulating mutual recognition and personal growth of all. It also promotes awareness of the difficulties associated with migration routes. After the activity, an evaluation

questionnaire is applied. They are considering thematic sessions, for example with "books" entrepreneurs, students, etc.

Learn more about this methodology: <https://www.direitodeaprender.com.pt/artigos/uma-biblioteca-humana> and about the initiative in Braga: <https://www.blcs.pt/portal/evento.aspx?eid=4155>

### Presentation of APP BragalIncoming

Manuel Crispim from BSB PT presented this application which was created by the company through the initiative of CM Braga. The app provides information in 5 languages (more can always be added if necessary) on services, rights and duties, tourist sites and activities promoted by CMB and partners, local transport, etc.

It is primarily targeted at migrants, but can be used by anyone, allowing for the collection of e-mails from users who are subsequently used to send information (e.g. PT cursps etc.), allowing reaching people who would not otherwise arrive. It can also be used to apply questionnaires and other types of information can be added, depending on partnerships being established with other entities. A focus group with some users of the app was recently held to collect suggestions for improvement.



More information: <http://www.viverembraga.com/blog/app-braga-incoming/36/>

Learn more: <https://www.cm-braga.pt/pt/0502/municipio/camara-municipal/instrumentos-de-gestao/item/item-1-9033?q=mediators>

### "Community Mediators"

Rômulo Barreto Jr presented this project from CM Braga, as a local mediator. The group of mediators, made up of people of Brazilian, Senegalese, Ukrainian and Gypsy nationality, coordinated by a CMB technician (José Alves). A presentation of this project can be found in the annex.

## Conclusions and next steps

- ❖ The summary of this meeting will be sent to all cities;
- ❖ Each city will be invited to position itself in one of the working groups, according to its interest and availability by the end of May;
- ❖ The working groups will start work on the proposals presented here, proposing a work plan and budget that will be presented to the Council of Europe for consideration. The work plans should be submitted by the end of June, so that the initiatives start in September.



## ANNEX I

### Table of working groups

No.	Description	Votes	Cities with interest in the working group
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Digital reception:</b> Implement APP Braga Incoming in other municipalities of the Network (see power point for more info), with the necessary adaptations. APP with information on existing services, rights, obligations, support, transport, etc., which also allows data to be collected and notifications to be sent to registered persons.</p>	6	Viseu, Braga and Amadora
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Inclusive Employment:</b> Awareness raising of employers in each municipality on the hiring of migrants and minorities (holding workshops with ACMs and examples of employers who have hired people in an irregular situation, etc.), through the adherence of municipalities to the Charter for Diversity. Partnerships with business associations, jurists, SEF, Seg, Social and Finance, etc.</p>	5	Amadora
<b>3</b>	<p><b>“Simplex” integration:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Raise awareness of integration issues among executives and politicians (through sessions with C. Europe representatives);</li> <li>❖ Sensitize service technicians;</li> <li>❖ Collect concrete information on existing barriers to integration and failures in services (collaboration with university), creating a dossier with quantitative and qualitative data.</li> <li>❖ Presentation of the dossier to the executives and later to the national governments, as a way to influence national solutions for a more effective implementation of the legislation, as well as its simplification and greater accessibility (in terms of content), avoiding multiple interpretations.</li> </ul>	5	Coimbra