

Meaningful intercultural interaction – Indicator 2: Interaction and working in partnership

An intercultural city cannot work alone and needs the support of allies including on encouraging intercultural interaction. Consider joining local, regional, or national forums to find different partners, or learning more from other cities from the Intercultural Cities network. Sometimes it is also easier to include value-based criteria in overall programmes rather than one specific project or when funding a specific proposal. For example, an art commissioning programme could have a programmatic objective to be diverse and increase interaction but not necessarily each individual artwork within the programme. However, it is always useful to check where a city can do this and where events, funding and reporting criteria can be used to increase interaction or understanding on interaction and its barriers. See more inspiration from our cities below.

Inspiration from other cities

[Dublin City Council](#), Ireland, in partnership with the Immigrant Council of Ireland, the Equality Authority of Ireland and partners in public transport have been working hard towards an inclusive public transport service. This project developed with the “One City One People” campaign to assure passengers and staff travelling on Dublin public transport, that racism and discrimination would not be tolerated. The project has evolved with improved transit and outdoor advertising campaigns, staff training, recording of racist incidents and awareness of interculturalism for the whole city.

In [Donostia/San Sebastian](#), Spain, the city works on partnership with SOS Racismo, which develops educational projects and awareness-raising activities, a good part of which is supported by the municipality, including: the Berdin project used to identify areas in which discrimination happens, such as housing rentals, labour market, etc.; anti-rumours campaigns and trainings (in cooperation with the municipality), including targeting local police officers; bizilagunak, a yearly initiative aimed at bringing together families (by two, accompanied by a facilitator), to exchange their culture and gastronomy; urretxindorra (mockingbird) project, to mentor youth in need of social support to overpass languages obstacles, social isolation, etc. University students accompany and provide support and advice to these young people during a year (15 pax); “Kumunikation”, a project aimed at educating for media literacy; awareness-raising activities addressing the local police and administration officers regarding hate crimes; as well as their actions such as an exhibition about the Holocaust or a project on Islamophobia. Similarly, SOS Racismo provides support and information for complainants to denounce discrimination, as well as support to specific groups (such as women in care services) to get to know and be able to claim their rights.

[Sabadell](#), Spain, in particular the Department of Civil Rights and Gender, includes the intercultural dimension as a criterion when allocating grants and funds to associations and initiatives. Other municipal departments also include the intercultural criterion when granting projects and initiatives, namely in education (summer outdoor activities), culture (dissemination of ideas and cohesion; dissemination of traditional and popular culture), and participation (neighbours associations projects). In addition, the city

regularly organises awareness raising campaigns and debates on the subject of cultural diversity and living together. Discussions have been held with the local and public press to reflect on the treatment of diversity in the media and the effect of the spread of rumours and prejudices. In addition, the city supports local organisations in their activities and campaigns on cultural diversity (dissemination, logistic). The city also has the Human Rights Programme - a series of activities, with the collaboration of around fifty organisations, to get to know, reflect on and vindicate people's rights. Sabadell considers that the city is a key space for the implementation and real guarantee of these rights and, in this sense, municipalism is working in a network towards the construction of tools to defend and guarantee people's rights. As a result, the European Charter for the Safeguarding of Human Rights in the City was signed by Sabadell in 2000. This programme offers more than 30 proposals of activities from November to December to deepen the knowledge and shared commitment in the defence of Human Rights in Sabadell and everywhere. They include cinema, games for children, photo exhibitions, seminars, theatre, and concerts.

[Dublin City Council](#), Ireland, encouraged citizens' participation and involvement in the city through access to public grants for community projects. Community Development is a process where community members come together to take collective action and generate solutions to common problems. Dublin City Council aims to support community groups with their activities and projects by promoting participation and involvement in the city through the community grants scheme, which is run on an annual basis. Under the scheme, community and voluntary groups may apply for grants for activities which benefit the local community. The criteria required to receive support from this grant fund is that groups are locally based and contribute significantly to the local community development and relate to at least one key priority area which include integration and social inclusion.

This is an extract from the guide "[How intercultural is your policy or project](#)". For all indicators, checklists, and good practice, please see the full guide.