

# NICOSIA REGION INTERCULTURAL NETWORK MEETING

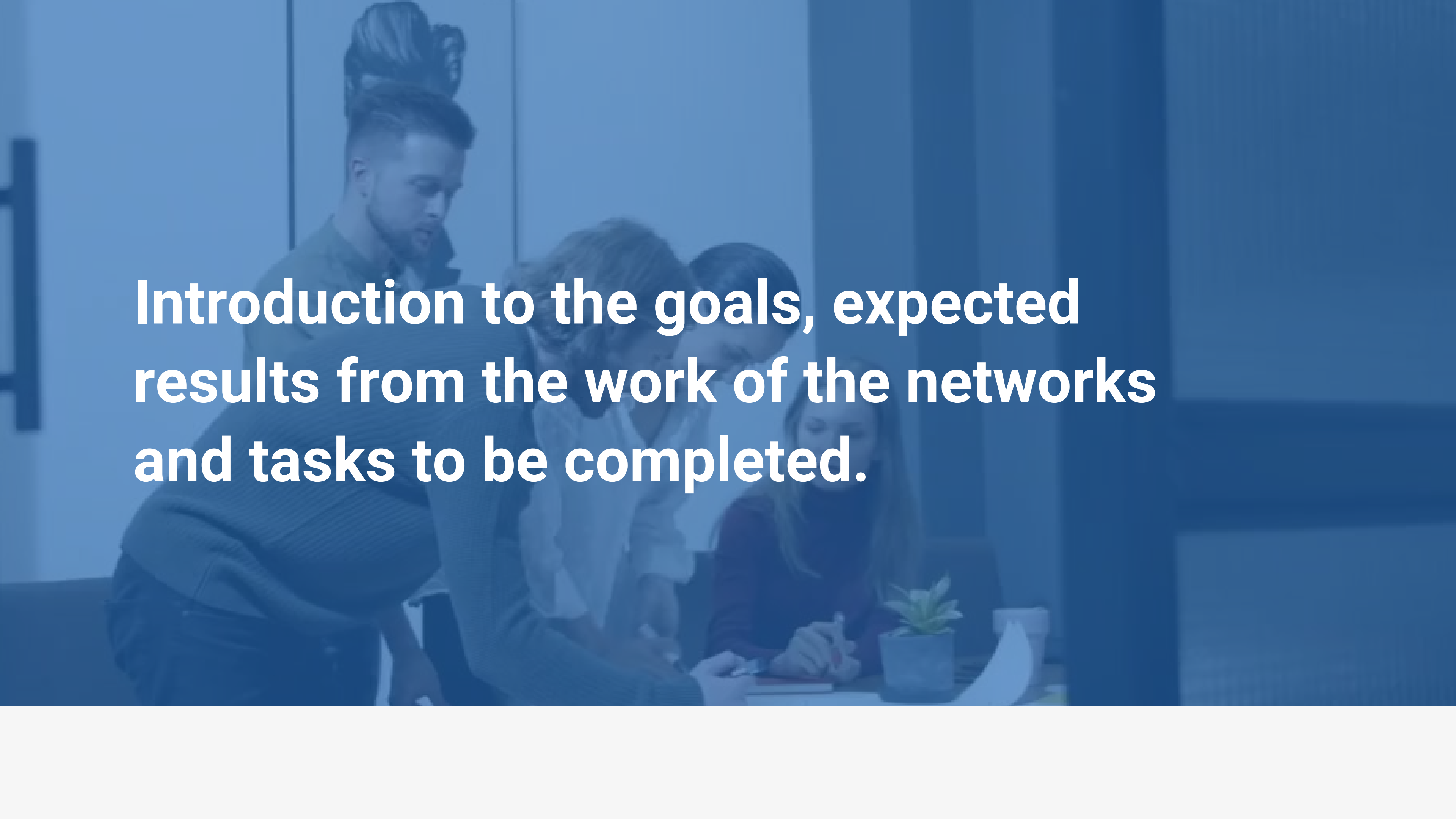
March, 2024

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A group of four business professionals (three men and one woman) are gathered around a table in a meeting room, looking at documents. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text is centered and reads: 

**Introduction to the goals, expected results from the work of the networks and tasks to be completed.**



# Nicosia District

- Nicosia District is the largest city out of all the six districts of Cyprus with more than 200 thousand residents.
- The District of Nicosia has 14 Municipalities, but 2 Municipalities are in the occupied areas of the island however, they still have representation within the Republic of Cyprus acting as legal entities in their own right.
- It is estimated that non-national residents of the District account for 34.1% or (58,130). According to the Asylum Service of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Cyprus (2017- 2020), the number of refugees/asylum seekers in the city of Nicosia is estimated at 10,849.
- As of 1 January 2022 there were approximately 75 900 third-country nationals (representing 8.4% of the population) and another 94 200 EU citizens (10.4%) living in Cyprus at the time (Eurostat).



# Intercultural Networks

- Our common target: To create a group of organisations and individuals interested in contributing to building more diverse cities, towns and villages



# Intercultural Networks

An Interdisciplinary Membership Scope:

- Migrants and civil society organisations
- Diplomatic and consular bodies
- Public sector bodies including local authorities, municipalities and communities, public service organisations
- Educational and social stakeholders, schools, universities, religious organisations etc and persons working in them)
- Labour unions, business and employers' associations
- Media
- Private organisations, businesses of any kind and size
- Informal groups and individuals interested in promoting migrant integration and intercultural issues, urban development as well as all related themes.





# Goals & Aims

## Responsibilities and Duties of the Regional Coordinator (CIP)

1. Point of contact
2. Encourage the review of their city's policies and the development of intercultural strategies
3. Gather and share good practices, policy approaches, and future plans from within the city
4. Lead the process of completing the ICC Index Questionnaire.

## Contribution of the Network's Stakeholders

1. Attend committee meetings.
2. Participate in the visibility, dissemination, and promotion of the values and activities of the network.





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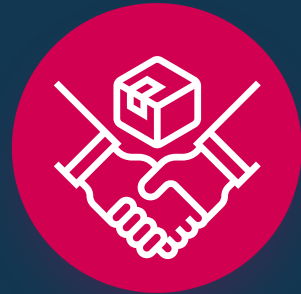


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# ICC Nicosia Pillars

## 1. COMMITMENT



City authorities must publicize commitment to intercultural principles like diversity and equality, involving residents in policymaking.

## 2. MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION



Media shapes attitudes on diversity. City authorities can promote positive intercultural relations by highlighting contributions of migrants and partnering with local media.

## 3. INTERCULTURAL INTELLIGENCE AND COMPETENCE



In intercultural cities, officials possess a mindset to understand and adapt to cultural differences, seen as essential skills.

## 4. PUBLIC SPACES



Public spaces and facilities are crucial for diverse encounters. Well-designed and managed, they foster comfort and understanding among residents.

## 5. EDUCATION



Education, particularly technical skills and language training, is crucial for integrating migrants into the labor market effectively.

# Commitment

## Description:

Examines the way in which the city coordinates and effectively delivers various support measures.

## Goals:

### Unified Local Government Commitment:

- Signatures from mayors symbolise a united front.

### Optimising Municipal Websites for Outreach:

- CIP to provide guidelines to municipalities for dedicated intercultural integration sections.

### Communication Material Templates and Media Outreach:

- CIP to create templates for newsletters, press releases, and social media content.
- Collaboration with local media outlets to facilitate engagement and dissemination.





# Media and Communication

## Description:

In its communication, an intercultural city constantly highlights the positive contribution of people with migrant/minority backgrounds to the social, cultural and economic development of the city.

## Goals:

### Action1:

- Booklet outlining guidelines for ethical news monitoring training. Aims to enhance media literacy, fostering responsible reporting and nuanced perspectives.

### Action2:

- Establish a two way communication between the Municipalities' press offices and local Media that have as underlying principle the promotion of Intercultural aspect of Nicosia.

### Action3:

- Course for officials in policy development and migration services. Customisation addresses specific needs, enhancing skills.



# Public Spaces

## Description:

These are spaces that citizens are sometimes obligated to use, thereby increasing the chances of encounters among strangers. The goal is to create spaces that facilitate encounters between individuals with different backgrounds while excluding those who foster isolation, fear, or hostility.

## Goals:

- Prepare a document with specific guidelines that foresees the adoption of interculturalism when organising events.
- Consult local and migrant populations when developing or reconstructing public spaces to align with their preferences.
- Local stakeholders support events led by migrant groups, encouraging community participation.



# Intercultural Intelligence and Competence

## Description:

The ability to successfully communicate with people from other cultures. It refers to a person's capacity to capture and understand culture-specific concepts in perception, thinking, feeling and acting.

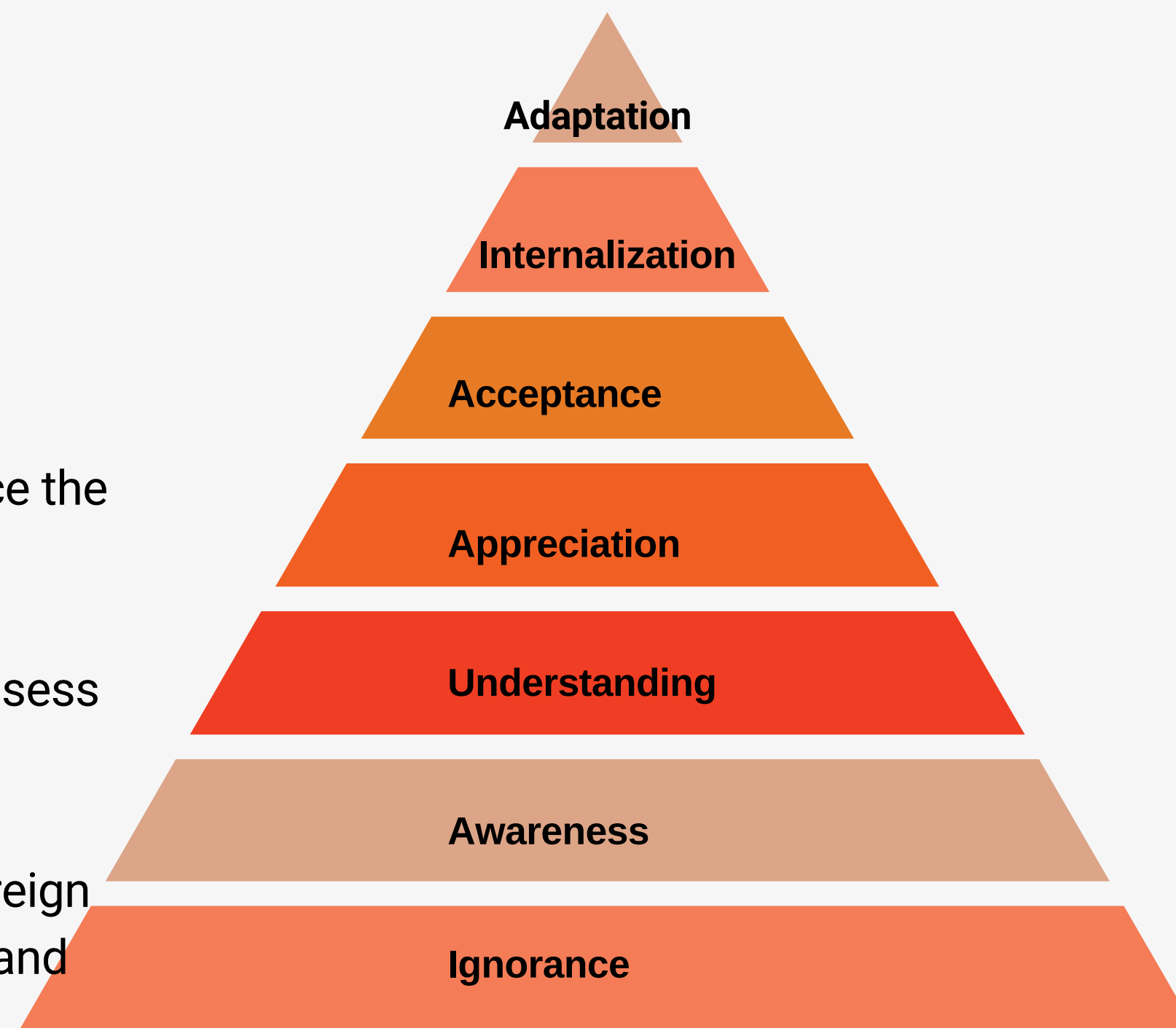
## Goals:

**Action 1:** Organize public consultations between Mayors, city councilors and Municipal officers AND diverse populations in which they can discuss and recommend solutions for region specific issues, related to how they experience the city.

**Action 2:** Engage migrants and locals in Nicosia through a questionnaire to assess their needs and desires for city involvement.

**Action 3:** Organize intercultural city tours in the city of Nicosia, highlighting foreign contributions to its history and development, promoting historical awareness and unity.

Examples of similar activities: [Video 1](#), [Video 2](#)





# Education

## Description:

- Education has a powerful influence on how children will perceive diversity as they grow up.
- Intercultural schools also consider parents of pupils with migrant/minority backgrounds on an equal basis.

## Goals:

### Action 1:

- Empowering Migrants through VET Sessions.

### Action 2:

- Addressing Language Barriers for Well-Educated Migrants.



# Benefits for Municipalities and Participants

- **Participation** - having your say and having your voice amplified through the networks bodies and activities including its projects, events, meetings with the local authorities, communication and awareness-raising actions etc.
- **Networking** - deepen your connections and relationships with the migrant communities living in your district, as well as with other civil society organisations and volunteers.
- **Advocate** - for your own causes supported by the variety of people from different countries with whom we share the joy of living together in our city.
- **Get Support** - for your projects by having access and outreach to a variety of target groups and authorities.
- **Change** - participate in the intercultural branding of our city/region
- **Develop** - jointly work on improving local and national policies towards migration and diversity issues
- **Offer** - have the opportunity for targeted charity work
- **Representation** - propose your representative to participate in the intercultural networks' future bodies such as thematic committees

**Think about your currently running actions** or your recently scheduled actions that are going to take place in the upcoming six months.

Can you take two minutes to list them on a piece of paper? (2-3 actions)

**Where are these actions going to take place?** (e.g. in public spaces, in main squares, in historical buildings that represents the city's intercultural character)

**What is the main purpose/ goal of the actions?** (Educational, research-oriented, cultural, entertaining, political, networking, multiple purposes)

**-Who is going to deliver these actions?** (educators/ trainers/ researchers/ project managers (for EU-funded projects)/ Ministry officers/ public servants).

**Do these actions promote interculturalism in any way?**

-Are they inclusive for diverse populations?

-Do they promote intercultural education, cultural sensitivity, and awareness?

-Do they take place in public spaces or in any other place which is designed and managed to promote social interaction among diverse groups? Are they inclusive towards ethnic minorities/ do they foster a sense of belonging to the community?

-Has any of the staff members/ service providers/ educators/ officers who are going to deliver these actions received training related to intercultural competence, intercultural communication skills and cultural sensitivity to better serve diverse clientele?

-Has your organization designed or applied any communication strategy that ensures a positive representation of the intercultural character/ cultural diversity of the foreseen actions by the local and national media?



# THANK YOU!

March 15, 2024

