

## Report

### Portuguese Network of Intercultural Cities

#### July – September 2023

### Summary

During the third quarter of 2023 RPCI's work focused mostly on managing projects and other initiatives. The cooperative RPCI, created in 2021 to support the Network, maintains two member cities (Oeiras and Loures) and is currently managing 3 projects: one funded by the Council of Europe (one annual RPCI grant named "Intercultural Ecosystems") and two funded by the European Commission ("NET-IDEA" and "DiverCities"). In total, six different cities are actively engaged in these projects, one of them being engaged in more than one project.

### Network coordination

RPCI's coordination was ensured based on regular contact with the member cities via email (around three emails were sent to all member cities) and bilateral phone calls, emails or meetings when needed.

As part of the coordination activities, messages with information on how to join RPCI were sent to new cities. Support was provided on request, via phone calls or online meetings, including questions about filling in the INDEX, participating in projects managed by RPCI, information about the RPCI network and ICC programme (for ex. to Vila Nova de Gaia), events and seminars, and others.

**RPCI advertised all the ICC initiatives and news**, such as the Call for Applications for the Communication and Media Training and two Portuguese cities enrolled.

Negotiations are being held with Barcelos for the hosting of an RPCI meeting in February 2024.

### Activities

RPCI coordination led the activities of 3 projects. Besides, oversaw and had an active role in all the activities developed within the Network and the RPCI cooperative, such as:

#### Intercultural Ecosystems project

This project was built collaboratively, arising from the brainstorming meeting held in 2022 with RPCI cities, and has the goal to foster intercultural competencies among city staff and strategic partners. Since May 2023 the project has had monthly consortium meetings, composed of RPCI staff and representatives of the cities of Cascais, Loures, and Lisboa.

Following the survey applied to all cities and respective partners, three main issues were selected for the webinars and another three for podcast episodes (Roma communities, Access to Health and Welcoming refugees). The consortium prepared and hosted three webinars, respectively:

- **"Communication and Interculturalism"** on the 30th of May with the presentation of the DiversITy project (Ana Pessoa, Aga Khan Foundation); "Communication initiatives" (Lisbon municipality) and "Mygra Myths project" (Cyntia de Paula, Casa do Brasil) – 46 people attended

*The opinions expressed in this document are the responsibility of Carla Calado, Coordinator, Portuguese Network of Intercultural Cities and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of the Council of Europe.*

*This document is published as it was submitted to the secretariat.*



- “Intercultural Communication”, on the 27<sup>th</sup> of June with interventions by Mab Marques (RPCI), Sónia Matos (Activist, AMUCIP - ROMA association), and Mafalda Fernandes (Activist, Influencer) - 26 people attended

- “Intercultural Project Management” on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September, with practical activities to learn how to develop Intercultural Projects. As speakers we had Filipa Bolotinha (Renovar a Mouraria), Carla Calado and Mab Marques (RPCI) - 19 people attended

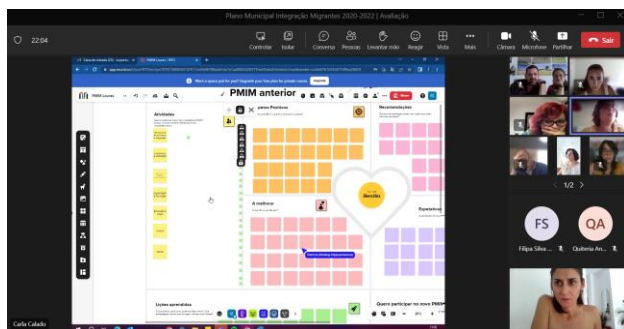
Two new podcast episodes were recorded, focusing on [Roma Communities](#) and [Welcoming Refugees](#) and are online on Spotify. With these two we now have completed the three episodes predicted under this project.

## NET-IDEA project

NET-IDEA is a European-funded project, coordinated by ICEI in partnership with RPCI, RECI, the Swedish Network of Intercultural Cities, and the cities of Lublin and Erlangen. This project has the goal to develop local Intercultural Strategies, by fostering Intercultural competencies in cities. The project started in May 2022, and, in Portugal, three cities are engaged in this project: Vila Verde, Braga, and Santa Maria da Feira. RPCI is responsible for WP4 and WP5, respectively designing and testing and Intercultural Competencies Training in all sixteen cities and fostering Communities of Practice (CoP) at international and national levels. An **evaluation survey** was applied to all the participants testing the course. Meetings have been held with the Portuguese cities to prepare and host an intercultural football tournament (an idea coming from the young people themselves) that took place on the 9<sup>th</sup> of September in Vila Verde with 18 young people from diverse origins. Several meetings were also held with young people to prepare these **local awareness-raising activities**. A European Youth Summit was prepared among the several partners and three young people from Portugal were enrolled to take part in this event, taking place in Lublin on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> October. These three youngsters showed interest in all activities and integrated very well with the international crowd of youngsters and adults (circa 60pax).



## DiverCities project



DiverCities is an European-funded project, coordinated by ICEI in partnership with RPCI and RECI and engaging the cities of Logrono, Castello de La Plana and Zaragoza (Spain), Modena and Pontedera, Reggio-Emilia (Italy), Ioannina (Greece). The city of Loures participates in this project which started on the 1st of November 2022. A strategy for the implementation of participatory activities around the Migrant Integration Plan of the municipality is now being implemented with

Loures' staff and partners. A meeting was held on 14th July - the 2nd of a set of meetings with Loures staff and partners - to evaluate the 2022 Migrant Integration Plan and start preparing the next plan, aiming to implement participatory actions. A participatory assessment was conducted between August and September: fifty-four people from diverse origins and living in several parts of the city were interviewed and the results will be presented in a meeting held on the 9th October. The intermediate report was written and delivered to the coordination of the project.



## Communication

During this quarter, 4 new original articles were published:

- One article was published to advertise the podcast about access to healthcare by migrant people: [Acesso à Saúde por Pessoas Migrantes](#)
- One article with the summary of the annual project with the RPCI cities, called “Intercultural Ecosystems” where we also promoted the workshops: [Competências Interculturais: o projeto Ecossistemas Interculturais](#)
- One article was published about the World Day Against Human Trafficking: [Dia Mundial Contra o Tráfico de Pessoas](#)
- Finally, RPCI posted an article with a round-up of the awareness raising activities organised with youngsters as part of the NetIDEA project: [Projeto Europeu Cria Fórmula para uma Sociedade mais Inclusiva](#)

Regarding social media, RPCI maintained the existing Facebook, LinkedIn and Instagram pages with regular posts. Below is a summary of the main activities and reach of each channel, for the relevant period (July-September):

- **Facebook**  
Reach (average): 596  
Visits: 152  
New likes: 12  
Publications: 33
- **Instagram**  
Reach: 309  
Visits: 78  
Stories: 20  
Publications: 1  
New followers: 43

- Website “Cidades Interculturais”  
Views (average): 188  
Articles/ posts: 4 original articles
- Linkedin  
Page Visits: 14  
New Followers: 14  
Average impressions: 120  
Total Posts: 2
- Podcast Channel “Portugal Plural”  
New episodes: 3  
Average play per episode: 3  
Followers: 35  
Total reproductions: 156 (mostly women from Portugal and Brazil)
- **YOUTUBE @redeportuguesadecidadesint2259**  
All time: 15 subscribers | 11 videos | 319 views

## Other activities



RPCI coordinator was present in a training held for city officers from several Polish cities in Lublin, Poland.



RPCI coordinator started to review the best practices published at ICC website by Portuguese cities.

The ICC “Intercultural Checklist” was translated and published in Portuguese at the RPCI website and ICC website.

## Next steps

During the next quarter we will resume the learning activities of the “**Intercultural Ecosystems**” project. A guide for Intercultural Competencies will be published, with recommendations and best practices.

Regarding “**NET-IDEA**”, the awareness-raising activities will continue and training for young people in Braga will be held. The national community of practice will continue with the participants of the training sessions, to foster practice sharing and further learning, and a public awareness campaign will be prepared jointly with the remaining cities that are part of the consortium. A report of the training testing will be produced by RPCI and submitted as a deliverable to the E.U. One podcast episode will be recorded, interviewing the three young people that attended the Youth Summit.

For “**DiverCities**”, meetings will continue to follow up on the implementation of participatory activities with migrant communities. It is expected that several local assemblies occur during this period, to continue collecting needs, concerns and ideas, and engaging communities is problem-solving. A practice-sharing event for RPCI cities will be promoted on the same subject and a podcast episode will be prepared with interviews to participants in the local intercultural assemblies.

Regarding **Communication**, three new articles are being prepared, and a new page on RPCI’s website will be published, advertising RPCI’s training and consultancy offers. A new campaign to





invite more cities as members of the RPCI Cooperative is also predicted and advertisement of RPCI activities, such as the webinars and podcasts, will also be a priority for next quarter.