

Identification and Establishment of the Communities of Practice Members

What is a Community of Practice in the INFORMER project?

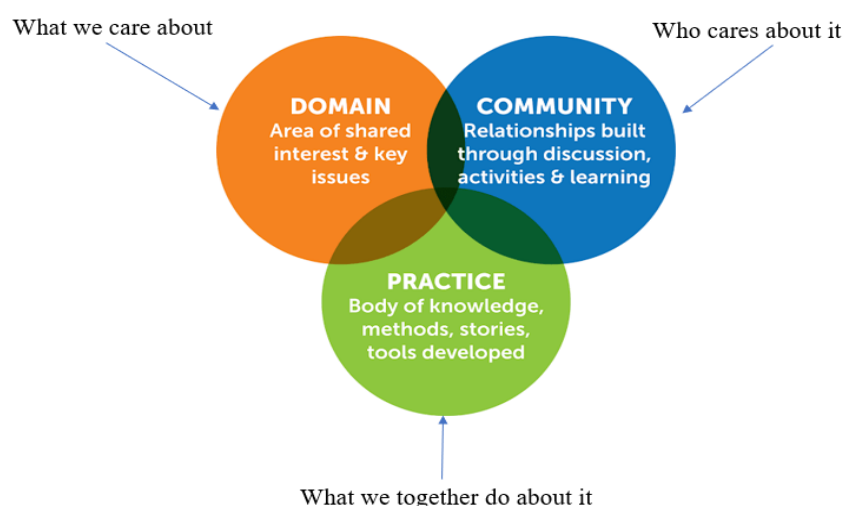


A Community of Practice (CoP) is a group of people who share a common concern, a set of problems, or an interest in a topic (concerning the integration of migrant women) who come together to fulfill both individual and group goals.

Communities of Practice focus on sharing best practices and creating new knowledge to advance a domain of professional practice (supporting-female migrant integration). Interaction on an ongoing basis is an important part of this.

There are three crucial characteristics of the Community of Practices being developed by the INFORMER project:

1. **Domain** - a common interest that connects and holds together the community; In INFORMER, the common interest is the integration of female migrants (and their descendants) into the labour market, as well as supporting social and economic integration and assistance in their socio-political life at the local level;
2. **Community** - a community is bound by the shared activities they pursue (for example, meetings, discussions) around their common domain;
3. **Practice** - members of a Community of Practice are practitioners; what they do informs their participation in the community; and what they learn from the community affects what they do.

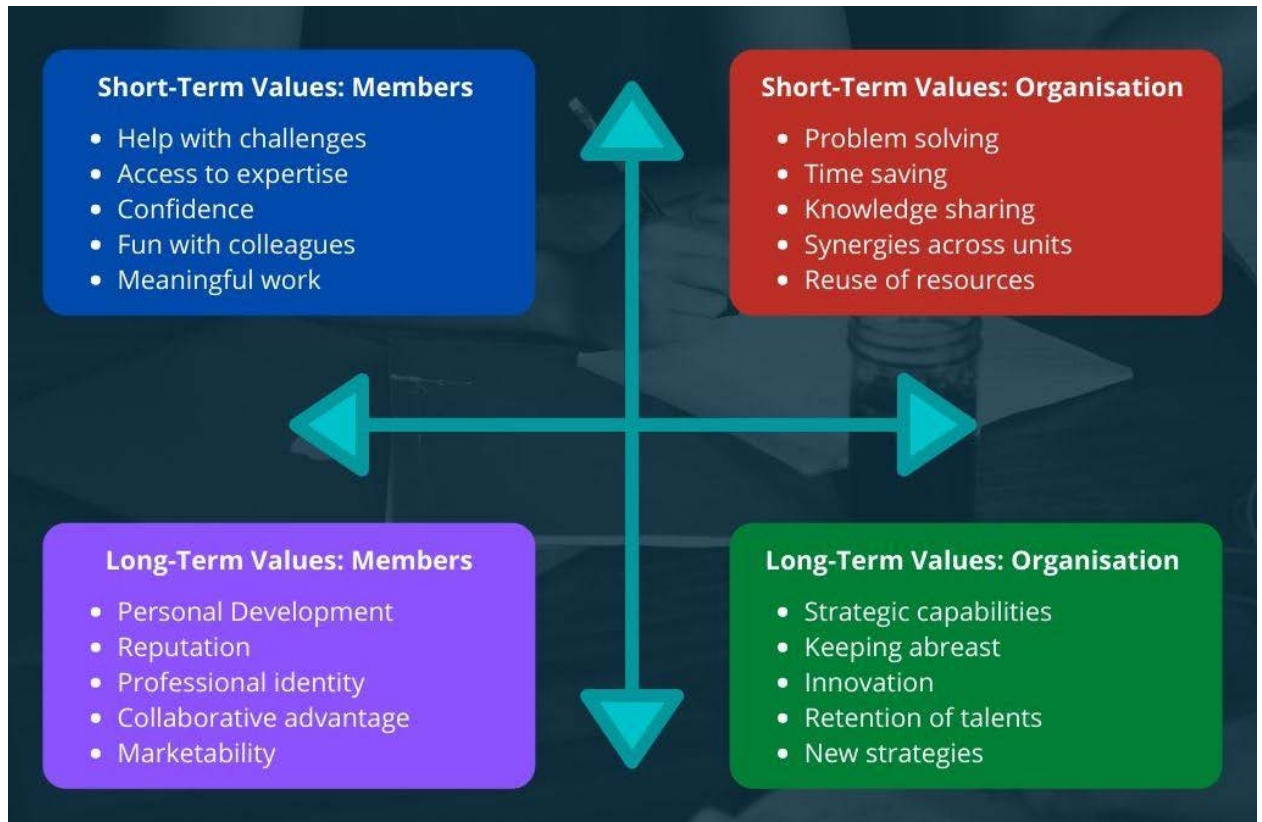


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Communities of Practice are important as a professional learning strategy, because they have the potential to:

- Connect people who might not otherwise have the opportunity to interact, either as frequently or at all.
- Provide a shared context for people to communicate and share information, stories and personal experiences in a way that builds understanding and insight.
- Enable dialogue between people who come together to explore new possibilities, solve challenging problems, and create new, mutually beneficial opportunities related to integration topics.
- Capture and share existing knowledge to help people/organisations improve their practice by providing a forum to identify solutions to common problems and a process to collect and evaluate best practices concerning the integration of migrant women.
- Introduce collaborative processes to groups and organisations to encourage the free flow of ideas and exchange of information.
- Help people organise around purposeful actions that develop tangible results in female migrant integration topic.
- Generate new knowledge to help people transform their practice to accommodate changes in integration needs.

The value of a Community of Practice in the INFORMER project



Skills and expertise requirements of the Community of Practice members in the INFORMER project

To obtain comprehensive and in-depth information regarding the integration of female migrants, it is proposed to involve 5 experts (recruited by each partner organisation) working in various fields of integration and obtain from them the most necessary information for the further development of the project. This will give partners the opportunity to gain a broad view and understanding of the current state of RAV women's integration (refugee) in the context of different areas and across partner countries.

It is proposed to involve experts in such areas as:

1. Social protection for female refugees, asylum seekers and vulnerable migrants:
 - Promoting awareness of European legal rights and assist marginalised individuals and those in vulnerable circumstances to assert those rights
 - Providing a framework for examining the main issues associated with the reality of being a RAV woman in one of the partner countries
 - Raising awareness of refugee issues and support refugees in a practical way in their local communities by campaigning for their rights

2. European approaches to the right of access to health and therapeutic services for migrants
 - Providing practical and emotional assistance to vulnerable refugees and asylum seekers in partner countries
 - Providing medical assessments, counseling, group therapy and ongoing support to RAV women

3. Integration in the labour market for migrants:
 - Offering information and guidance on employment for refugees (help to find a job)
 - Providing courses and training to improve the skills and knowledge of migrants that are relevant to the labour market

4. Educational diversity and lifelong education:
 - Granting learning courses and training to the most vulnerable female migrants and refugees
 - Providing access to education and life skills programmes for refugees and vulnerable migrants

5. Access to a place of residence and sources of income for asylum seekers, refugees and vulnerable female migrants:
 - Providing legal advice and representation to asylum seekers in the partner countries
 - Access to night shelters and day centres for asylum seekers, offering food, clothing and shelter as well as language classes and legal and health advice

In addition, experts could have:

- Migration specific expertise (practical and/or academic knowledge)
- Knowledge of English
- Experience in working with government counterparts

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- Experience in working with EU projects
- Experience in providing expert and independent assessment of the quality and value of developed documents, methods and ways of working with the target group and project development in general

Expert participation



Experts will be engaged in the project outputs during piloting phases to provide expert insight and guidance on initiative and actions to be taken during the project that will help sustain and grow the activities at local level beyond the project lifetime.

1

¹ Sage on stage is a teaching method where an expert imparts knowledge by lecturing to their audience.