



International Protection Integration Fund (IPIF) 2022 Final Project Report

Section 1: Basic Information

- 1.1 Name of Organisation: Africa Solidarity Centre
- 1.2 Name of grant-supported project: Facilitating International Protection Applicants' Understanding of the Asylum Process and Host Initiatives Supporting their Integration
- 1.3 Project Start Date: __01__ / __12__ / __2022__
- 1.4 Project End Date: __30__ / __09__ / __2023__

Section 2: Project Activities

- 2.1 Provide a brief description of the project activities that were completed:

The project supported International Protection Applicants (IPAs), third-country nationals, and other migrants including newly arrived Europeans in Ireland to support their integration process. The project was undertaken through workshops at selected accommodation centres, community visitations, walk-ins into our offices, and telephone support in the following areas, namely; Dublin, Waterford, Limerick, Carrickmacross, Longford, Cork, and Galway. Materials on the International Protection processes and integration were developed for the International Protection Integration Fund (IPIF) project.

The participants were taken through a four-session workshop in their respective Centres. The participants were workshopped around who an asylum seeker is, the difference between an asylum seeker and a refugee, the five main grounds to seek international protection, the decision-making bodies in the asylum process, the concept of the single procedure, and the asylum processes in Ireland. The workshops also enlightened participants about the length of the asylum process,

the rights of the applicants, the duties and responsibilities of IPAs, the appeal processes and IPAT, and about the concept of prioritization, withdrawal, and voluntary return.

Moreover, participants were taken through the exercises of Who are you, styles and tools for effective communication, strengths and weaknesses in communication, and conflict negotiations and resolutions. We also explored the concept of identity and the factors that shape it, techniques for self-reflection, and self-discovery, guided art activities focusing on expressing and exploring personal identity, and exercises in self-discovery using neurography. The IPAs were also trained about how to share and reflect on personal artwork, bibliotherapy exercises using selected resources on self-discovery, and introduction to the concept of "composition of self".

2.2 How did these activities benefit International Protection applicants?

IPAs have been informed, equipped, trained, and empowered to understand the international protection application processes, and their rights and responsibilities. Training on emotional mapping as a technique has helped individuals identify, explore, and manage their emotions by creating visual representations of their feelings.

The IPIF program benefited the IPA in the following manner:

1. Provided an overview of the IPA processes
2. Trained on the rights and responsibilities of the IPAs
3. The appeal procedures
4. Withdrawal and Voluntary Return processes
5. Provided a tool for self-exploration and self-awareness
6. Helped identify and manage difficult emotions related to the refugee experience
7. Provided a means of communication and expression of complex emotions
8. Helped reduce anxiety and stress
9. Encouraged self-reflection and self-care
10. Promoted a sense of agency and control over emotional experiences
11. Fostered a sense of community and connection through shared experiences of emotional mapping
12. Understanding the Irish political system
13. Assisting applicants to complete various forms for social services

2.3 How did these activities contribute to community Integration?

The integration program has strengthened the relationships and the sense of solidarity among members of the communities and has increased the social capital in the communities in which the workshops were conducted. The program provided information to all participants to be involved in community events, either bringing their children to attend plays and outdoor games or how to access schools. Refugees and participants were encouraged to attend community events and make friends. We supported adults to attend English classes and colleges to further their studies as a means of community integration. IPAs were encouraged to take on employment or start their own businesses. Those who were without labour market access were encouraged to take up volunteering jobs.

Our activities helped the youths and participants to gain personal development, social, and competencies in dealing with their day-to-day lives and challenges. The participants were workshoped about the available social support systems accessible to them to deal with alcohol, drugs, and family breakdown issues and challenges.

Section 3: Project Beneficiaries

3.1 Approximate Number of participants in programme: 520

How have you determined the number of participants?

The size and the number of residents in a particular accommodation centre were considered in the attendance determination. Most of the accommodation centres had bigger meeting room space to accommodate a large number of participants. With the exception of Dublin City West and Limerick accommodation centres where they had a seating capacity of only 15 people, most of the centres had bigger meeting spaces with over 30 seating capacities. Those with small seating capacity required pre-arranged grouping of participants in order to run several workshops on a particular day.

Some of the participants in the project were walk-ins who did not have any pre-arranged and scheduled appointments with our office. Moreover, telephone calls were also received on an ongoing basis in a free-wheeling manner with no predeterminations whatsoever.

3.1.1 Number of International Protection applicants involved: 512

Section 4: Project Expenditure

4.1 Please submit any photographs / images / videos to support the reporting of the funded project.



Event at Limerick



Event at Carrickmacross



Event at City West -Dublin



Event at Cork





Event at Longford





Event at Galway



Event at Redcow Hotel - Dublin

Section 5: Project Expenditure

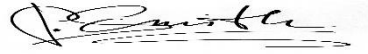
- 5.1 Provide a breakdown of how your organisation used the funding to support the project activities.

Expenditure Item	Cost
Community Engagement Officer - Remuneration	33,750.00
Travel Expenses	2,685.00
Designing and printing 1000 A3 posters and A5 leaflets	1,350.00
Psychotherapy sessions	6,500.00
Updating and hosting of Africa Centre website to share posters, flyers, and information booklets	750.00
Rent	3,240.00
	€Total 48,275.00

Section 6: Declaration

- 6.1 I hereby confirm that the IPIF 2022 grant was used solely to meet the necessary costs of the approved IPIF Project and that the Terms and Conditions of the Grant Agreement were complied with at all times.
- 6.2 I further confirm that all records and documents regarding the project and the expenditure, including receipts for all expenditure items charged to the project, are held by (...Africa Solidarity Centre....) and are available for inspection by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth and/or its auditors in accordance with sections 5 and 6 of the aforementioned Grant Agreement.
- 6.3 In accordance with section 5.5 of the grant agreement I confirm that permission has been obtained by the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth for the publication, including on-line publication of the images /photographs submitted with this report.

6.4 Signed on behalf of (*name of organisation*)



Name	Daniel Antwi
Position in Organisation	Programmes Manager
Date*	20/09/2023

**Note: In accordance with Section 5.4 of the Grant Agreement signed by your organisation, this report must be submitted within 2 calendar months of the end of Project activities.*