

Foundation for Solidarity

PARTNERSHIP DATA SHEET

1. The partnership

Question 1 is designed to elicit an explanation of the nature of your partnership in concrete terms and of the factors which led you to form this partnership.

What was the starting point for the partnership?

The “Werkstadt” of Graz was looking for a way to integrate immigrants, because they felt confronted with them. Therefore they were searching for values, which immigrants could contribute to Austrian society, then they came up with the idea to produce beverages based on African recipes.

With which immigrants do you currently have contact or relations?

Mostly African immigrants. Werkstadt is an art institution, beside the “beverage project” they started another project, a restaurant combining art and cuisine, managed by African immigrants.

What led you to take an interest in these immigrants?

The “Werkstadt” felt that there was a need to deal with immigrants, as they were confronted with them.

What is the social situation of these immigrants?

They have problems to integrate themselves in Austrian society. They don't have much money and it's hard for them to find jobs.

What is the legal status of these immigrants?

The immigrants have a legal status.

Has the historical background of the host country influenced the situation of these immigrants?

Don't know.

How would you define the partnership?

There are three partners. “Werkstadt” started the project, the first partner was AAI (Afro-Asian Institute) and then “Eine Welthandel AG” (fair trade products) joined them.

Who are the players in the partnership?

Werkstadt and Eine Welthandel AG.

When did the partnership start (date)?

3 years ago Werkstadt started this project. The AAI joined this project last year within the frame of their own project “Crossing cultures”, aiming to bring forward the cultural exchange. So one of the themes is “Bavodo Cucha Sito”, the project of Werkstadt (= the production of three African beverages).

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The process of conceptioning the drinks took a long time, and when finished, Werkstadt needed another partner to distribute the drinks. They found “Eine Welthandel AG” as a third partner.

When is the partnership scheduled to end?

That depends on the financial future of Werkstadt. AAI supported this project with money, but this was a singular payment. (AAI got the money from the Styrian government.) For the future Werkstadt has to find more resources for the continuation of this project (it depends of the success of the drinks too).

Why did you launch the partnership?

The “Werkstadt” of Graz was looking for a way to integrate immigrants, because they felt confronted with them. Then they came up with the idea to produce beverages based on African recipes. They already worked on this project for about two years, but they needed more help: financial support and a partner for distribution. That’s why they launched the partnership.

How did you launch the partnership?

Werkstadt knew the AAI before. Then the AAI started the project “Crossing cultures” and Werkstadt came up with the idea to integrate their project in the AAI’s. The AAI accepted and so the two became partners. After starting to produce the drinks, Werkstadt got “Eine Welthandel AG” as the second partner to distribute the drinks.

Explain how the partnership operates?

Werkstadt is working with the immigrants on the beverages, AAI is supporting them financially and they help to make this project public. Eine Welthandel AG is distributing the beverages in their stores all over Austria.

List the activities you have developed within the framework of the partnership?

The development of recipes of three African drinks, producing and advertising them as well as distributing them all over Austria. The immigrants are involved in the process of development and production.

What aims are you seeking to achieve in launching the partnership?

Werkstadt wants to help immigrants to integrate themselves, therefore they started a project. In order to achieve their goal they need support, that means they need partners to support them, in order to achieve the goals.

Do you have an operating budget for the partnership?

Werkstadt has their own funds, but they don’t have much money. In addition to that, AAI supports them with money.

Have you received any public and/or private funding for the partnership?

AAI is supporting Werkstadt, but AAI themselves got the money from the Styrian government within the frame of their project “Crossing Cultures”.

How many people are working on the partnership?

About 5 people.

How may people are involved in the partnership?

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Next to the 5 people others are involved like from AAI, Eine Welthandel AG, and there are the immigrants of course. But it is hard to tell how much there are of them.

Have you set up monitoring procedures to evaluate the partnership?

No, as this is a small project and there are not too many people working on it, it is not necessary.

Is there any other important information not covered by the previous questions which you think should be mentioned? (Please answer yes / no and provide an explanation where necessary):

No.

2. Details of the initiator of the partnership project

Question 2 is designed to elicit details of the individual/organisation whose idea it was to launch the partnership and which has been the driving force behind it from the outset.

Full name: werkstadt graz
Address: sporgasse 16, A-8010 Graz
Telephone: 0316-818306-0
Email: werkstadt@mur.at

3. Details of the other partners involved in the partnership

Question 3 is designed to elicit details of the individuals/organisation who accepted the initiator's invitation to join the partnership and to illustrate the basic principle which underlies this difference between the partnership project initiator on one hand and the other partners on the other.

Name: Eine Welthandel AG
Address: Turmgasse 52, A-8700 Leoben
Telephone: 03842 / 83468
Email: office@eine-welt-handel.at

Name: Afro-Asiatisches Institut
Address: Leechgasse 22, A-8010 Graz
Telephone: 0316/324434
Email: office@aai-graz.at

4. Sector in which the initiator of the partnership project operates

Question 4 is designed to establish the economic and social sector in which the initiator of the partnership project operates?

Does the initiator of the partnership project operate in the primary / secondary / tertiary sector? (Please underline as appropriate and provide details):

Werkstadt = Secondary Sector

Does the initiator of the partnership project operate in the third sector. If so, in which area?

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NGOs.

Is there any other important information not covered by the previous question which you think should be mentioned? (Please answer yes / no and provide an explanation where necessary):
No.

5. Sectors in which the other partners in the partnership operate

Question 5 is designed to establish the economic and social sectors in which the other partnership project partners operate.

Do the other partners in the partnership project operate in the primary / secondary / tertiary sector? (Please underline as appropriate and provide details):

AAI = Third Sector

Eine Welthandel AG = Secondary Sector

Do the other partners in the partnership project operate in the third sector? If so, in which areas?

NGOs.

Is there any other important information not covered by the previous question which you think should be mentioned? (Please answer yes / no and provide an explanation where necessary):
No.

6. Special characteristics of the initiator of the partnership project

Question 6 is designed to establish whether any factors either related or external to the launch and operation of the partnership - economic and financial situation, employment situation, geographical location - have influenced the launch and operation of the partnership project for and by the project initiator.

Do you think that the initial economic and financial situation of your organisation influenced your decision to form this partnership?

Yes, in the beginning Werkstadt wanted to do the project, so they launched it without partners. But they are a very small institution and don't have much money, so after a while they realised, that they needed money and ideal support too, so they formed a partnership.

Have you received funding? If so, from whom?

From AAI.

Is external funding an important factor in the operation of our organisation?

Yes.

Is external funding an important factor in the launch and operation of the partnership project?

No, Werkstadt launched the project because they wanted to help immigrants. Now they know, that they need financial support – mostly for the production of the beverages.

Has the employment profile of your organisation - number of staff, nationality, age range, gender, employee status - influenced the launch and operation of the partnership project?

No.

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Outline the profile of your organisation in terms of number of staff, nationality, age range, gender and employee status.

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Do you think that the geographical location of your organisation - urban/rural location, area of high/low population density, high/low immigrant density - has influenced the launch and operation of the partnership project?

No.

Outline the geographical profile of your organisation indicating whether it is located in an urban/rural location or in an area of high/low population density or high/low immigrant density.

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7. The socio-political environment of the initiator of the partnership project

Question 7 is designed to establish whether any aspects of the socio-economic situation of the initiator of the partnership project favour or promote the development of the partnership project in terms of the integration of immigrant populations and the fight against negative discrimination. Question 7 is broad and general in its scope.

Do you believe that there are conditions which control access to the employment market? If so, what are they?

Yes, there are skills required and there are cultural aspects. For immigrants often the problems are not having enough language skills or not being integrated in social life, it can be hard for them to understand the culture of the “new” country. Of course there are natives too, who don’t see the values, immigrants can contribute to society.

Have these conditions which control access to the employment market affected the partnership project?

Yes. The aim of the project is to show people, that immigrants can contribute something to Austrian society. People should get aware that they are different, but they have skills too and they can be integrated.

Is there a national, regional or local framework which shapes the fight against negative discrimination?

Anti discrimination law.

Have you had recourse to this legal framework which shapes the fight against negative discrimination in launching and funding the partnership project?

No.

Is there a regional or local framework which promotes the integration of immigrant populations?

Don’t know.

Have you had recourse to this legal framework which promotes the integration of immigrant populations in launching and funding the partnership project?

No.

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Are there any political, social, cultural or media factors which led you to launch this partnership project?

Mostly it is the cultural factor, as Werkstatt is an art institution. But of course another goal is to make the project public, that people will buy the drinks.

Have you developed a social responsibility policy?

No.

What do you understand by a social responsibility policy?

Don't know exactly, not easy to describe.

Have you developed a social label, a code of good practice, social audits, a gender equality policy, etc.?

No.

Do you take part in social and economic benefit programmes at European, national, regional or local level?

No.

Do the other partners in the partnership project inhabit a different socio-political environment to yours?

Don't know.

Have your partners in the partnership project developed a social responsibility policy?

Yes, probably Eine Welthandel AG has.

Have your partners in the partnership project developed a social label, a code of good practice, social audits, a gender equality policy, etc.?

Yes, probably Eine Welthandel AG has.

Do your partners in the partnership project take part in social and economic benefit programmes at European, national, regional or local level?

Don't know.

8. Benchmarking

Question 8 is designed to measure social, economic and environmental performance in terms of the integration of immigrant populations and the fight against negative discrimination.

Do you think that this partnership project for the integration of immigrant populations and the fight against negative discrimination has changed your social and economic environment?

This is hard to tell, Werkstatt hopes that they change things in a better way, but they are not able to tell how effective they are.

Do you think that this partnership project for the integration of immigrant populations and the fight against negative discrimination has changed the social and economic environments of your partners in the partnership?

Don't know.

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Have you introduced or changed your social responsibility policy as a result of the launch of this partnership project?

No.

Have your partners in the project introduced or changed their social responsibility policy as a result of the launch of this partnership project?

Probably not.

Has this partnership project raised awareness of the issues involved in public authorities at European, national, regional or local level?

Yes, at local and regional level.

9. Social responsibility in business

Question 9 is designed to establish, where applicable, the extent to which economic entities actually support the principle of “social responsibility in business”. This question is addressed primarily to organisations, irrespective of whether they are businesses, unions or NGOs and whether they operate in the private or the third sector, who have elected to embrace this new political trend – social responsibility in business – which does not simply equate to the notion of work in the social sector, particularly in the field of the integration of immigrant populations and ethnic minorities and the fight against negative discrimination. If this is not the case, the project initiator should simply answer the first two questions.

Are you familiar with the principle of “social responsibility in business”?

No.

Have you already started to integrate this principle into the management of your business or organisation?

No.

Is social responsibility in business one of the strategic aims of your business or organisation? If so, why?

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Have you undertaken to carry out a social and environmental audit of your business or organisation dealing, or example, with issues such as working conditions, gender equality, anti-discrimination policy, the integration of immigrant populations, continuing training and development, energy consumption, water consumption, etc.?

No, Werkstadt is that small this is not necessary.

Have you defined a set of social responsibility in business policies and set targets for improving the social and environmental conditions in your business or organisation? If so, what are they?

No.

Have you broadened the scope of your social responsibility in business policies to include your employees, suppliers, clients, shareholders, NGOs, local residents, etc.? If so, how have you done this?

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No.

Are you sensitive to the notion of “fair trading”?

Yes, as Eine Welthandel AG is one of our partners. We are selling the drinks in their stores.

Do you think than initiatives designed to promote the integration of immigrant populations and to fight negative discrimination are important elements of social responsibility in business?

Yes.

How do you see your initiative with respect to these two areas (integration of immigrant populations and to fight negative discrimination)?

The project we have may not be that big, but we know, that we help immigrants and we are sure of doing an important work.