



Cooperazione per lo Sviluppo
dei Paesi Emergenti



COSPE: MediActive – Empowering migrants in the media sector

Impact on the advancement of the issues

The main result achieved by project's activities has been the establishment of the **National Association of Intercultural Press (ANSI)**. This association appears among the Specialization Centers composing of the National Federation of Italian Press (FNSI), which is the trade union for Italian journalists. This recognition is fundamental, it cannot only be defined as a simple social formation aiming at the promotion of intercultural dialogue and at opposing xenophobia, which it also is. On the contrary, it is characterized by the following objectives: representation of rights and defence of interests according to project's purposes. In this perspective, ANSI recognizes the necessity of equal opportunities for foreign origin citizens (who haven't obtained Italian citizenship) to obtain access to the Journalists' Order.

Impact on the final beneficiaries

ANSI has already achieved some meaningful outcomes. Members have participated in relevant public events and debates at the local and national level:

- *“Engaging the media to foster Integration - Good Practices from NGOs & Regional Authorities”* - Brussels, March 2011;
- *“Ecritures – issues de la migration en Italie – Toulouse 2011;*
- *“Il Jornada de Periodistes de aquí i d'allà”* - Barcelona July 2010;
- *“Covering Immigration: An International Media Dialogue”* - Miami, May 2010.

Moreover ANSI is becoming recognised as a stakeholder in this issue and is involved in consultations. The profile and contacts are in the 2011 edition of “Journalist Agenda”, and is involved in the activities of the Observatory of the Charter of Rome (the code of ethics on the portrayal of migrants and refugees in the Italian media) and a project for the development of the association has been approved by the Open Society Institute.

Impact on strengthening your NGO or the CSOs sector and its capacities/learning

This project has been particularly important for our NGO because it gave us the opportunity to work on one of our main goals : the immigrant's participation to the public life. Moreover a high visibility has been reached thanks to publication of the book *Nuove lettere persiane*. It is an editorial operation that uses literary language and the style of an epistolary collection paying homage to Montesquieu's *Lettere persiane*. Also in this case, the project follows the intent of offering to beneficiary populations the opportunity to propose a “new perspective” in order to describe Italian reality, following the example of the French philosopher who prospected «an external view on the world in which he lived ».

Impact on partnership/networking/collaboration among NGOs and with other stakeholders

The networking activity has adapted to the identification, stimulation and valorisation of relations between beneficiaries (first and second generation migrants engaged in communication) and the different kinds of actors who contribute to the accreditation of specific professional skills. The collaboration with FNSI has affected the inclusion and recognition of the communication and professional skills of involved subjects, in particular the ability in articulating a “diverse” point of

view, practicing pluralism and opinion diversity in daily journalist work, creating and stimulating new communication forms by using a specific language. We should also notice the ability in affecting the changes in productive routines that negatively influence journalists' representations of migration and multiculturalism in the Italian society. Similarly, we should underline the vitality that has been demonstrated by the territorial and local intervention that efficiently involved different subjects and built long lasting relations on the job. Such relations can affect the change process of those less desirable practices (lack of or insufficient professional recognition, scarce representation of different voices, "self-ghettoization" in "ethnic" publishing, etc.) and the empowerment of individuals involved. The local dimension (local media) seems to be very significant for the experimentation of different forms of collaboration and for the real ability in realizing inclusion and proactive participation in the reference context.