



Welcome...

Welcome to the third edition of our Enabling Female Migrant Entrepreneurs (EMINENT) project newsletter. Inside our third edition you will gain an insight into project output updates, resources developed and exciting case studies from the partners involved.

EMINENT is an EU Erasmus+ Project that is being implemented under the framework of the Erasmus+ Programme- KA2 Strategic Partnerships for vocational education and training and is funded by the European Commission.

The project is led by East Belfast Enterprise who is the local Enterprise Agency for East Belfast in Northern Ireland

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Welcome Back...

Welcome back to the latest edition of our *Enabling Female Migrant Entrepreneurs (EMINENT)* project newsletter.

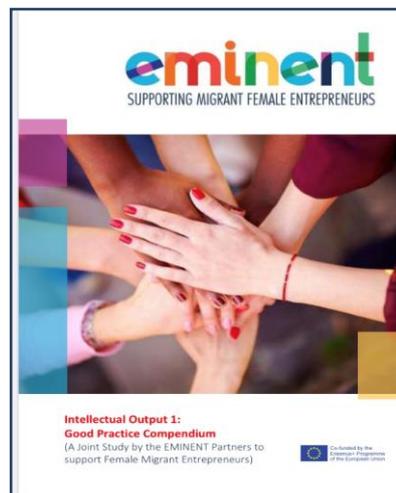
We hope that you are all keeping well during this dreadful global pandemic that we are all currently experiencing. Now more or so than ever we have had to adapt to a new working norm in society that involves online learning, virtual meetings, remote working and following new social distancing guidelines.

The EMINENT team like so many other project partnerships have had to adapt quickly in order to achieve progress and continue to make an impact. Unfortunately, we were not in a position to host our second official project meeting in Roscommon, Ireland but instead we used virtual meetings to stay connected and realise project goals

We want to remind all our readers and enthusiasts to continue to follow our progress on project website and various social media pages. Thank You!



Launch of Compendium of Best Practice



“A Guide to Supporting and Promoting Female Migrant Entrepreneurship”

We are pleased to announce that we have just finished production of the EMINENT project’s first output, which was to develop a Compendium of Good Practice, presenting EU experience of engaging with women from minority groups and culturally appropriate and effective pedagogical techniques. In order to achieve this, each partner looked at support for migrants in their geographical area, support for female entrepreneurs and whether there are any ‘focused’ intervention for female migrants. Each partner carried out detailed desk and field research to get a better understanding of barriers to enterprise among the specific group.

In summary, the publication identifies many common challenges (*see section on “Key barriers for female migrants”*) that this cohort of people face in their new countries, but more importantly it gathered and profiled exciting information on real working solutions that are actively working to help engage and ignite female migrant entrepreneurship. The compendium will now serve as a valuable research support for developing Intellectual Output 2, The EMINENT Curriculum and Classroom Course, ensuring this development provides a pathway to support female migrants, into successfully launching their own venture.

Click the link below to read our in-depth findings and recommendations (79 pages of content), from this in-depth study on female migrants entrepreneurship and the key barriers faced, by this demographic.

<https://www.eminentproject.eu/good-practice-compendium/>

Challenges that Female Migrants face when starting a business....

Through the development of the EMINENT Compendium of best practice, we learned many challenges that female migrant entrepreneurs face. We have put together the following infographic detailing these key barriers.

KEY BARRIERS FOR FEMALE MIGRANTS...

...to Start-Up Their Business!



Knowledge of Business Language.

Cashflow / P & L / Margins

How best to converse in a small business with other entrepreneurs, customers, government and professional support organisations.



Childcare & Caring Responsibilities.

Time Commitment

How can I start my business around my current caring responsibilities and manage both...simultaneously, without burning out?

Benefits Trap.

Government Supported Living Allowances

Can I afford to start my own business if it reduces what I need for my family and what I can get from Government? Can I make sure it is worth the effort to launch?



Cultural Barriers & Language.

Our uniqueness makes us different

Operating a business in a new country often requires the need to understand and communicate in the local language. The culture may also be different from what you are used to.



Access to Finance.

Banks / Loans / Overdrafts

What is the right type of finance for my business and where can I access funding from? How much do I need to really give this start-up a go?

Access to Local Contacts and Business Networks.

Support / Events / Trading

What business support is available locally, what business networks can I access and who do I need to speak to...in order to get started?



Case Study: Exploring social & sustainable initiatives by women in Groningen

Author: Eva Hoitzing-Noorderpoort

Exploring female entrepreneur's initiatives in the city of Groningen! This week I visited the colourful and lively business of 'Van Hulley', where women from different migrant background get the opportunity to work and learn at the same time. They follow a one-year course at Noorderpoort college to get their diploma (to access the labour market and do follow-up courses), they improve their Dutch language skills, and they get to work in the coolest clothing 'factory' of Groningen!

Van Hulley, started by female entrepreneur Jolijn Creutzfeld, started 8 years ago with producing boxershorts for men, made of old shirts. Both a social and sustainable business, Van Hulley has now 6 employees, and trained over 80 women, giving them a way out of unemployment. Van Hulley not only makes boxershorts, they also receive old company clothing from all sorts of businesses, turning these into fashionable bags, laptop cases and now masks as well.

When asked what the most important features of a successful entrepreneur are, Jolijn says: "You need to have guts, you need to be curious, and you need to have grit!"

Van Hulley definitely has all these things, and we are sure to see a lot more of them.



Course Update

Work is well underway on the development of the EMINENT course curriculum, a bespoke training programme which will enable immigrant women to get closer to self-employment. The key focus of the course is to boost the self-confidence and entrepreneurial spirit of immigrant women and provide educator with fresh new learning of direct relevance to immigrant women.

The course aims to tackle the multiple challenges faced by migrant woman in becoming self-employed. Many female immigrants feel they are locked out or under-utilised by the formal job market so "becoming self-employed is an important means of pursuing ambitions for social mobility." (Centre for Entrepreneurs/Duedil, Migrant Entrepreneurs Report). While it is true that immigrants are more likely to engage in entrepreneurial activity than nationals (GEM UK Report), this statistic relates primarily to men; the proportion of female immigrants engaging in enterprise is significantly lower and immigrant women have lower rates of employment, many working in jobs inferior to their educational attainment. (Hinds, Women on the Edge).

The accessible EMINENT curriculum and lesson plans will also serve as a "train the trainer" resource, enabling entrepreneurship education providers to become more informed of the need for inclusive education and providing them with the practical tools to improve the effectiveness of their education and improve learning outcomes for female immigrants that they train.

The course places a strong emphasis on unlocking the power of cultural background as a source of business ideas.

Keep in Touch

To keep up to date on project activities follow us on...

Website

www.eminentproject.eu

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<https://www.facebook.com/EMINENTprojecteu/>

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<https://twitter.com/eminentproject>

LinkedIn

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/enabling-female-migrant-entrepreneurs>

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