



# BEST PRACTICE IN ADULT EDUCATION FOR A JUST TRANSITION

## SOMRA

Entrepreneurship Model for  
Supporting Meaningful Occupations  
for Migrants

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Co-funded by  
the European Union

## SOMRA

### – Entrepreneurship Model for Supporting Meaningful Occupations for Migrants

#### Context and Initiative Details

Name of the initiative	<p><u>SOMRA - Supporting meaningful Occupations for Migrants, Refugees, and Asylum seekers using the Green Entrepreneurship Model</u></p> <p>SOMRA offers an innovative approach for tackling two major challenges of the 21st century, namely climate change and refugee crises, by engaging refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in meaningful occupations that transform them into environment role models with a sustainable impact in their new and previous home.</p> <p>The main idea of the SOMRA approach is to enable these main target groups to become true factors of change that influence positive environmental habits that are first established on a local and regional level, and eventually even beyond the borders of the EU.</p>
Geographical scope	European
Sources of funding	Erasmus +
Duration of the initiative	24 months (2020 –2022)
Target audience	Refugees, migrants, asylum seekers
Social justice focus area	Immigrant rights
Goals of the initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitating environmental change on local and regional level through grassroots activities organized by green NGOs and the SOMRA participants.</li> <li>Fostering common values and civic engagement of migrant communities in their new environment.</li> <li>Offering low-threshold learning opportunities related to environmental measures that increase the employability by strengthening key competences for migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.</li> </ul>

#### Good Practices Description

##### Stakeholder engagement in the process

Stakeholders were engaged at different stages of the project life-cycle, e.g.

elaboration process of the SOMRA products, national pilots & national Multiplier Events. This will encourage them to act as local project advocates, promoting the outputs achieved within their peer groups.

##### Methodology used (if available)

The methodology involved the development of the below:

1. The SOMRA Holistic Study Report, which provides a reliable reference instrument for professionals working with low-qualified migrants, refugees and asylum seekers as it combines relevant information on supporting meaningful occupations in the environmental sector, legal restrictions and obligations for migrants in accessing the labour market and participating in civic life as well as motivation and perspectives of the target group themselves.

2. The SOMRA Green Entrepreneurship Model handbook, which provides crucial facts, strategies and calls for action that supports low-qualified migrants, refugees and asylum seekers to take charge and either participate in or even found their own green NGO properly and sustainably. Additionally, an online media library with green hack videos, testimonials and a short film documentary about the SOMRA project will be available and continuously updated.
3. The SOMRA Green Entrepreneurship Training. This is a modular blended-learning course featuring tiny learning bits in form of challenges on topics relevant for becoming a green entrepreneur, founding and sustaining an NGO, organising eco-friendly grassroots activities and occasions to get in contact with the social and civic environment in their region.

The above material, trainings and tools require an in-depth desk research, use of qualitative and quantitative research, and implementation of training to the target groups.

#### Teaching approaches (if available)

Blended- learning training, combining face-to-face lessons and online self-directed learning

### Challenges and outcomes

#### Key factors contributing to success

Key factors contributing to the success include robust stakeholder engagement, diverse methodologies, and a steadfast commitment to sustainable outcomes.

#### Encountered difficulties and challenges

Accessing the target population

#### Recommendations

Co-design projects with the target group in addressing their needs and interests more effectively and thus support meaningful occupations, using the Green Entrepreneurship Model

#### Impact

The project has a triple impact: 1) giving these persons meaningful occupations in their host countries that improve their employability while they are waiting for their official work permit, 2) enhancing their settling down process and their perception by the host community, sparking environmental changes on regional/local level and facilitating positive encounters between the host and migrant community and 3) if these persons decide to return to their origin countries at any point in the future - for example during a visit or for a permanent change of residence - they take their newly acquired knowledge, skills and competences as well as their internalised European values with them and become multipliers of a green movement even beyond the EU. As they will improve crucial "learning-to-learn" competences as well as digital literacy, they will be able to adapt to other legal requirements and to estimate environmental challenges on their own in a new context. This means that the competences acquired in the SOMRA project are transversal and sustainable, preparing participants to flexibly tackle challenges of an uncertain future.