



www.lets-digital.eu



National Study Report

Spain

SEPTEMBER 2021



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



LET'S **Digital**

National Study Report

Spain

SEPTEMBER 2021

Author

I BOX CREATE, SOCIEDAD LIMITADA, SPAIN

ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA PROMOCIÓN Y GESTIÓN DE SERVICIOS SOCIALES GENERALES Y ESPECIALIZADOS (PROGESTIÓN), SPAIN

Contributors

EUROCIRCLE ASSOCIATION, FRANCE

I BOX CREATE, SOCIEDAD LIMITADA, SPAIN

CENTER FOR KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT, NORTH MACEDONIA

ASOCIACIÓN PARA LA PROMOCIÓN Y GESTIÓN DE SERVICIOS SOCIALES GENERALES Y ESPECIALIZADOS (PROGESTIÓN), SPAIN

PROGRAMMA INTEGRA SOCIETA COOPERATIVA SOCIALE, ITALY

FRANCAIS POUR L'INSERTION SOCIALE ET PROFESSIONNELLE EN EUROPE, FRANCE



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International License. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/> or send a letter to Creative Commons, PO Box 1866, Mountain View, CA 94042, USA.

1 INTRODUCTION AND METHOD

In Spain today there are a range of challenges, including racism and violence, that confront migrant women. These challenges come from negative social attitudes, institutional discrimination and a legal framework that fails to protect migrant women's rights.

The foremost of the laws that migrant women identify as problematic is the Immigration Law. It imposes several conditions on women to reside in Spain within the law. To get a temporary residence permit for arraigo, or social integration, you need a valid identification document and proof of living continuously in Spain for three years. However, it is not always easy to be registered as resident, especially for those with no formal address to be registered at.

For the development of this research, we focused on reports and statistics published by different stakeholders: social organizations, NGOs such as CEAR, Nantk Lum, La Rueca, organizations that have a large experience working with migrants and refugees, and some of them, especially with migrant women. We also consulted official data published by public institutions as the Ministry of Social Affairs.

The organization we consulted are based in several geographical points of Spain: Madrid, Valencia, Valladolid and Pamplona, where we created a network of professionals that are willing to contribute with us in the creative process of this project.

2 MIGRANTS' WOMEN AND REFUGEES' WOMEN IN YOUR COUNTRY / REGION

The first of January 2020, the reference date for the most recent definitive resident population figures, marks a threshold before the closure of international borders and the significant population figures, marks a threshold before the closure of international borders and the significant reduction of air traffic required by the COVID-19 pandemic. Air traffic reduction necessitated by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is easy to anticipate the break of the migration trend observed in Spain since 2015.

According to the UN, **6,104,203 immigrants live in Spain**, which is **12.9%** of the population of Spain (as of 2019). **Female immigration is higher than male**

immigration, with 3,190,456 women, representing 52.26% of the total number of immigrants, compared to 2,913,747 male immigrants, which is 47.73%.

In the immigration ranking we see that it is the 46th country in the world by percentage of immigration.

Immigrants in Spain come mainly from **Morocco, 11.66%, Romania, 10.20% and Ecuador, 6.80%**. In recent years, the number of immigrants living in Spain has increased by 157,097 people, 2.64%.

Migrant women arrive in Europe for different reasons, some of them are economic migrants, specialised employees, seeking reunion with family members or humanitarian protection. The diversity of their backgrounds require different intervention methods.

It is often true that women migrant face major obstacles in the labour market exactly because they are women and migrants. This status represents a disadvantage for them since it affects negatively their employment outcomes, especially when combined with childcare responsibilities.

In the EU Member States, migrant women have the same share of tertiary-educated of native-born women and migrant men, but migrant women are more likely to be overqualified or unemployed. One obstacle they face is that it is difficult to get their qualifications recognised. These women are also disadvantaged because of the kinds of sectors and work they tend to work in, which are usually low paid, low skilled or informal with fewer workers' rights.

The vulnerability of migrant women is often reflected on their children in fact the integration of a migrant woman is decisive for the integration outcomes of their children. An OECD study reports that it is more difficult for refugee women to get into the labour market if compared with male refugees.

As we stated before, migrant women must face several obstacles, social, political and legal. One of the barriers is the necessity to prove that the applicant does not have a criminal record. This is often not easily to get from the woman's country of origin and is even often out of date by the time the application is considered.

They need to have a pre-work contract signed by a potential employer at the time of the application. The contract must be for full-time work for a minimum of a year and at an official minimum wage – something few employers are prepared to provide. As well as all this documentation, an applicant has to provide evidence of family ties or submit a report on the status of their social integration. All these demands need to go between three levels of authority that do not necessarily prioritise the wellbeing of the applicants. Only after five years of

continuous residence is it possible to reach the security of a long-term permit. There are very many pitfalls that can easily result in the immigration status becoming ‘irregular’.

2.1 Amount of the newly arrived and countries of origins

As of 18 Jul 2021, the total arrivals in Spain in 2021 have been 14,937. 14,323 of these arrivals were made by sea, while 614 from land.

The nationality of arrivals by land and sea between January 2020 and September 2020 were from:

- Algeria (7.644, 39.5%)
- Morocco (3.925, 20,3%)
- Mali (2.436, 12.6%)
- Guinea (1.464, 7.6%)
- Côte d'Ivoire (1.282, 6,6%)
- Others (996, 5,1%)
- Senegal (924, 43,8%)
- Tunisia (279, 1,4%)
- Syrian Arab Rep. (258, 1,3%)
- Cameroon (147, 0,8%)

Migration to Spain has always existed, but it was not until 1990 that it has become an important demographic and economic phenomenon. Immigration in Spain is not homogeneous but is dominated by the precedence of regions with a similar culture; such is the case of the European Union, Latin America and North Africa. The countries of origin of most migrants are Romania, Morocco, Ecuador and Colombia, followed by residents from Great Britain, Italy, Bulgaria, China and Bolivia.

The main autonomous communities of destination are Cataluña, Madrid and Andalucía (mostly Barcelona, Madrid and the Mediterranean coast).

Taking into consideration the age of foreigners living in Spain, more than 55 per cent are between 25 and 44 years old, which is the working-age population.

The economic crisis has seriously affected Spain; the country has an unemployment rate of 24.63 per cent (EPA 2T 2012,) one of the highest among the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries. This rate has affected productive sectors such as services and construction which employ migrants, resulting in a **high unemployment rate among them**.

The actual economic and social situation in Spain establishes then its migration focus on voluntary assisted return and reintegration programmes for those in social exclusion situations.

Valencian Community:

- Tot. Inhabitants: 5,045,885 people (semester 1 of 2021)
- emigrants: 19,449 people (semester 2 of 2020), which represents a variation of -9.13% with respect to the same period of the previous year
- Immigrants: 31,494 people (semester 2 of 2020), which represents a variation of -38.13% with respect to the same period of the previous year

Community of Madrid

- ROMANIA 19.13
- MOROCCO 13.65%
- CHINA 13.87
- COLOMBIA 8.87
- ECUADOR 9.52%
- ITALY 4.97%
- VENEZUELA 5.19%
- PERU 6.58%
- DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 4.35%
- PARAGUAY 4.26%
- SUB-SAHARAN AFRICANS 5.29
- OTHER COUNTRIES 4.32

	2020	2019	2018
Oficial population	6.779.888	6.663.394	6.578.079
Male	3.243.793	3.187.312	3.147.872
Female	3.536.095	3.476.082	3.430.207

2.2 Integration Programs offered from day of arrival

The immigrant integration policy implemented by the Secretary of State for Migration, through the Directorate General for Inclusion and Humanitarian Attention, aims to promote the full integration of foreigners into Spanish society, within a framework of coexistence of diverse identities and cultures, with no limits other than respect for the Constitution and the law.

Within this regulatory framework and with the main objective of strengthening social cohesion, work is underway to draw up a new Strategic Plan for

Citizenship and Integration. The Plan, which is aimed at citizens as a whole, follows in the wake of the previous Plans: the PECEI 2007-2010 and PECEI 2011-2014 and their guiding principles: equality, citizenship, interculturality and inclusion. The Plan will constitute a programmatic framework to promote the integration of immigrants, applicants, and beneficiaries of International Protection.

In addition, the Directorate General for Inclusion and Humanitarian Attention calls annually for the awarding of grants to non-profit social entities, aimed at financing actions of general interest in the field of foreigners, aimed at promoting coexistence and social cohesion, co-financed with European Union funds.

Programs:

The Directorate General for Inclusion and Humanitarian Attention annually announces the awarding of subsidies for the development of actions of general interest in the field of foreigners, aimed at favouring coexistence and social cohesion, co-financed by European Union funds, which cover various projects:

Projects for the empowerment of foreigners with comprehensive care needs, to provide resources and tools to migrants, which favour their access to standardised protection systems.

Projects co-financed by the European Social Fund in the framework of the operational programme "Social Inclusion and Social Economy", in the field of employment, to encourage the incorporation of quality systems as well as for the training and improvement of professionals and volunteers and to raise awareness and promote equal treatment and non-discrimination in the workplace.

Projects co-financed by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund, such as those aimed at acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to function in Spanish society (information, guidance and advice on the host society, in particular, projects for learning Spanish and, where appropriate, co-official languages), projects promoting equality in different areas (education, health, women), projects aimed at promoting equal treatment and non-discrimination in society, research projects, for the identification of experiences and good practices, as well as those promoting awareness against racism, xenophobia and related intolerance.

Funds and grants:

These are projects aimed at acquiring the knowledge and skills necessary to function in Spanish society (information, guidance and advice on the host society,

in particular, projects for learning Spanish and, where appropriate, co-official languages), projects that promote equality in different areas (education, health, women), projects that seek to promote equal treatment and non-discrimination in society, research projects to identify experiences and good practices, as well as those that promote awareness of racism, xenophobia and related intolerance.

Beneficiary entities:

- Non-governmental entities, third sector organizations, associations and NGOs
- Recipients of the projects

Projects will be aimed at third-country nationals who are legally resident or, where appropriate, are in the process of obtaining legal residence. To the extent necessary for the effective implementation of the projects supported, projects may include their direct family members. Certain activities aimed at fostering dialogue between the said third-country nationals and the host society and promoting their acceptance by the host society may be addressed to the general population.

In most of the EU Member States there is still a lack of integration policies focused on migrant women or gender issues. It is mostly the civil society which has filled this policy vacuum by offering help to migrant women or by campaigning for their rights.

The evidence collected among the countries which have implemented specific support to integrate migrant women shows that they have introduced early integration measures. Those include language learning and social orientation courses.

Till 1994, the Spanish migration policies have been dominated by the regulation of immigration. Integration was not among the top migration political priorities until local actors at regional, municipalities and civil society level brought the attention of the State to the growing immigrant population and need to integrate them.

Three main moments can be witnessed at Spanish policy level:

- 1) Plan of Social Integration of Migrants (1994),
- 2) GRECO (2000), and
- 3) PEGI (2006).

The first plan introduced integration policies at the national level. It also represented the acknowledgement that integration was among the national

policy priorities. The GRECO plan did not undertake any specific measure and it was not backed by any financial allocation. It was not until 2004 that the first real national framework policy was pushed up the national political agenda. The social pressure and the politicisation of the topic of integration shed light on the promotion of equality of immigrants which brought to the Programme for Citizenship and Integration (known as PEGI). This was the first framework backed by the financial commitment of an allotted budget. PEGI was in place during a period of time characterised by an economic crises and a greater inflow of migrants. Notwithstanding the public cuts affecting all residents, the government maintained all the commitments to the integration of migrants.

The second PEGI covered the period 2011-2014. It included 11 policy tools in different areas of intervention (education, health, social services, inclusion) with a strong emphasis on labour market intervention and educational attainment of children.

Integration is a complex topic in Spain because of the division of policy areas and responsibility among the regional, local and State actors. Education, health, social assistance and labour-market related policies are regional competencies. This is the reason why many autonomous communities (regional governments) have their own regional integration plans independent from the national ones. The national government needs to coordinate these funds and fund the regional programmes.

The early 2000s were characterised by the economic boom in Spain which has led to a surge in immigration but also to a less labour-market integration effort. Spain has usually allocated more resources to passive labour market measures and employer subsidies than to proactive training and guidance. This approach has been detrimental for native and immigrant job seekers. In those years, migrants did not encounter many obstacles to finding work and public employment services had limited role in job matching as most migrants found a job thanks to their own networks. Language courses were not a priority either as many new arrivals spoke Spanish and vocational courses were very rare.

The economic crisis has unveiled all these gaps in the policy framework of the Spanish context, in fact, there was the need to invest more in measures to support workers in long-term, high-quality work. During the same period, the crisis hit hardest the migrant workers because they were employed in informal and temporary jobs.

After the economic crisis the Spanish Government launched a series of labour market reforms which included the employment services and the training and

credential systems. The reforms targeted all the vulnerable groups and the migrant population stood among the main target groups.

[https://extranjeros.inclusion.gob.es/ficheros/redeuropeamigracion/Informe Anual Politicas/doc 2020/es 2020emn country factsheet en.pdf](https://extranjeros.inclusion.gob.es/ficheros/redeuropeamigracion/Informe%20Anual%20Politic%20de%202020/es_2020emn_country_factsheet_en.pdf)

3 Mapping Stakeholders

Stakeholders involved in work with migrant women in Italy operating at local, regional and national level are as follows:

List of associations that deal with immigrants and refugees in Spain:

- Comisión Española de Ayuda al Refugiado- CEAR - Red de Organizaciones de Mujeres Inmigrantes (<http://redormiga.org/>)
- ACCEM (Asociación Comisión Católica Española de Migraciones)
- CEPAIM (Fundación CEPAIM)
- Cruz Roja Española
- FADEMUR (Federación De Asociaciones De Mujeres Rurales)
- SOS Racismo

Stakeholders involved in supporting entrepreneurs are as follows:

Valencia:

- Asociación Con Valores (<https://cvalores.org/>)
- CEPAIM Emprende

Stakeholders involved in supporting entrepreneurship for migrant women are as follows:

The Fundación Tomillo has been supporting people in difficulty who want to start up a business by providing them with free business advice, specific training, mentoring and support in the search for financing for 34 years.

Last year they accompanied more than 800 entrepreneurs and supported the creation of 111 new businesses through their programmes. One of them, Entrepreneurship and Integration, offers support to immigrants as a way of obtaining their own stable and continuous employment. This programme, financed by the Ministry of Employment and Social Security, the Directorate General for Migration and the European Social Fund, is aimed at immigrants from outside the European Union who have a work or residence permit in Spain.

4 BARRIERS AND NEEDS OF REACHING THE TARGET GROUP

According to our enquiries with professionals that work directly with target group, we have defined these barriers:

- -Language barrier: Not knowing Spanish is a first barrier that migrants and refugees have to face in their inclusion process. When a migrant person reaches an organization where they can have any kind of counselling, the biggest barrier is the language.
- In some critical situations, professionals can hire a translator to mediate, specially when offering legal counselling. However, usually there are no means to have a translator while counselling on labor market insertion nor psychosocial attention.
- -One of the biggest obstacles professionals have to deal with is the high level of absenteeism of migrant population. For women, the situation is very hard when they have to attend and take care of minor children or elderly people. This reality makes the critical situation experienced by migrant women in relation to the issue of labour market insertion even more difficult.
- The lack of understanding of how public administrations work in our country, as well as the lack of culture of carrying out administrative formalities, makes the task of communicating with public entities, such as the ministry of social affairs, the employment application office, etc., very complex.

4.1 Barriers & Needs for Labor Market Integration of Women Migrants

The same as above, professionals and migrant women face the same obstacles to be able to meet.

4.2 Recommended Solutions

- Language courses adapted to the real needs of migrant women. Courses adapted to real life and to labour field.
- Innovative methods to teach language that put the migrant student in an active role, participating in their learning process. (Versus the

traditional model of teacher-student). More andragogical methods that consider the idiosyncrasy of migrant women.

- Inclusive learning spaces: most of teaching spaces don't allow migrant women to bring their children with, and this is a reason for them not to attend the lessons. Mixed spaces, where migrant women could learn language while their children could have a leisure/practice time, e.g. children library, tutoring lessons, etc.

5 METHODOLOGY / METHOD FOR WORKING WITH MIGRANT WOMEN

5.1 Provision of Entrepreneurial Training

Most organizations identified these steps they implement while providing entrepreneurship counselling that includes motivational activities, training, advice and visits to businesses to facilitate their consolidation and growth. They support entrepreneurs by carrying out a viability study of their projects, focusing on the person, their resources, needs, skills and talents, in order to advise them on the start-up and consolidation of their projects.

Some of the free services they offer for recently created entrepreneurs or those with businesses already up and running are:

- Training
- Individual counselling
- Access to financing
- Support for the growth of businesses already created.
- Registration of the business project at the PAE point (Entrepreneur Service Point to register with the Tax Office and Social Security). In this field, they also offer advice on tax obligations for entrepreneurs.
- Advice on foreigners to obtain work permits.
- Personalised mentoring when the project is already underway.

For more information, please check out the “Basic guideline for entrepreneurship” edited by Movimiento por la Paz: <http://www.mpdl.org/sites/default/files/180117-guia-basica-emprendimiento.pdf>

In the North African Spanish enclave of Melilla, the Women's Information and Guidance Centre (Centro de Información y Asesoramiento de la Mujer) aims at increasing social and labour market insertion of the most vulnerable women, hence fighting poverty and discrimination. In most cases, these women are victims of gender violence, in a situation of social emergency and/or migrants/with a migration background. Since its beginning in 2014, Melilla's Women Information and Guidance Centre assisted over 470 women. Throughout the whole programming period, the centre should assist more than 1 200 women.

Association Nantik Lum: <https://nantiklum.org/>

The main objective of the M.I.C.R.O. - Migrants Ideas Converted Into Real Opportunities project is to promote microfinance as a tool for the eradication of poverty and the fight against social exclusion.

The Migrants Ideas Converted Into Real Opportunities project focuses on the training of technical staff at European level for entrepreneurship and access to microcredit for migrants in Europe. M.I.C.R.O. analyses the situation faced by migrants in Europe when starting a business. These difficulties include not finding professionals to guide and support them in the development of their business initiative and the need to develop their entrepreneurial skills. On the other hand, the problem of access to finance will be addressed through the promotion of microfinance.

Most of the organizations that deal with entrepreneurship take the approach of the Micro-financing .

5.2 Recommended Training Topics and Methods

- Profiling the skills, capabilities and experiences of migrants and refugees, in order to understand the potential for entrepreneurship.
- To understand the potential for entrepreneurship.
- Identify industries and sectors that offer potential opportunities for entrepreneurship.
- To elaborate on the implications for the social support and integration process of migrants and refugees who start a business, and consider enabling them to participate in initiatives and refugees starting a business, and consider the possibility of enabling them to participate in entrepreneurship initiatives and activities while receiving social initiatives and activities while receiving social support, ensuring that

such support does not disincentivise entrepreneurial activities or discourage entrepreneurial or livelihood activities.

6 Materials and Tools for migrants

Existing educational materials for work dealing with interculturality and Gender equality can be found at the following links:

https://www.aecid.es/Centro-Documentacion/Documentos/Publicaciones%20AECID/GUIA_DIVERSIDAD_CULTURAL_2020_v.2.pdf

<file:///C:/Users/Admin/Downloads/Dialnet-EducationGenderAndCulturalDiversityConvivialityOrC-5335700.pdf>

Existing educational tools of distance learning cover the following:

1) **Zoom**

A cloud-based video conferencing service used to meet virtually with others, either by video, audio or both. All while conducting live chats. It also allows you to record those sessions for later viewing.

2) **VoiceThread**

Tool that allows you to hold conversations around multimedia content (photographs, videos, presentations...) on a single web page. It has a specific section for education (classroom): Ed.Voice Tread, which promotes the autonomous work of students, both inside and outside the classroom.

3) **Bubbl.us**

Tool for creating mind maps, diagrams or brainstorming. With the option of adding maps from the web and/or exporting images. Allows collaborative creation.

4) **Genially**

The tool for creating interactive presentations, infographics, gamification experiences and more.

5) **Let's talk about education**

Education podcast. Thirty-minute interviews with Latin American education professionals and experts. Topics such as digital competences, educational resources, the future of ICT and educational innovation are discussed.

6) **The Virtual Lab**

Software that allows you to select hundreds of standard chemical elements and reagents and manipulate them virtually, in a way that resembles a real laboratory.

7) **DocenteLAB**

A training platform in digital competences and skills for educators at any level.

8) **Goformative**

This is a free platform that allows you to create real-time formative assessments, lessons and assignments.

9) **CanopyLAB**

It is a learning management platform (LMS) built on a social network structure to facilitate communication between students and teachers. The teacher can create assessments and assign assignments with deadlines.

REFERENCES

1. Datos Macro, Immigration España, 2019, [España - Inmigración 2019 | datosmacro.com](https://datosmacro.com)
2. European Social Fund - European Commission, April 2021
<https://ec.europa.eu/esf/>
3. Operational Data Portal, Refugee References from SPAIN, September 2020,
<https://data2.unhcr.org/en/country/esp>
4. Organizacion Internacional para las Migraciones, January 2021,
<https://spain.iom.int/>
5. Comunidad Valenciana - Población: inmigrantes, emigrantes y otros datos sobre los habitantes de cada comunidad autónoma, Epdata, September 2021, <https://www.epdata.es/datos/poblacion-inmigrantes-emigrantes-otros-datos-habitantes-cada-comunidad-autonoma/2/comunidad-valenciana/299>
6. Encuest Regional de Inmigracion, Comunidad de Madrid, 2019,
[https://www.comunidad.madrid/sites/default/files/aud/servicios-sociales/presentacion_definitiva_eri_2019 .pdf](https://www.comunidad.madrid/sites/default/files/aud/servicios-sociales/presentacion_definitiva_eri_2019.pdf)
7. Informe de la Población extranjera empadronada en la Comunidad de Madrid, January 2021
https://www.comunidad.madrid/sites/default/files/informe_de_poblacion_ext_ranjera_enero_2021_0.pdf
8. Área de integración de inmigrantes, Ministerio de Inclusion, Seguridad Sociale y Migraciones, Gobierno de España, July 2020
https://extranjeros.inclusion.gob.es/es/Subvenciones/anos_anteriores/area_integracion/2020/integracion_emigrantes/index.html



PROJECT PARTNERS



www.lets-digital.eu



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Let's Digital Project Is co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.