



LOCAL MAPPING TEMPLATE

City	VENICE
Department/ Organisation	CITY OF VENICE, Direzione Politiche Comunitarie VENETO REGION, Direzione regionale Sicurezza e Flussi migratori
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Summarise the current situation and main issues related to migration in your city supported by figures and breakdowns by age, gender and ethnicity/nationality (1 to 3 pages maximum)

In the last decade, Veneto has become the second Italian region for immigrant people. This is due to two factors: the first one, and the most relevant in a first phase, concerns the wide opportunities to find a job offers by the Veneto's production system and by the families' needs of care (62% of the residence permits); the second one, that has become more relevant in the last years, concerns the need of families re-union (32% of the residence permits). In the region of Veneto the immigration is a long term structural phenomenon and therefore it is considered in this way by policies at local and at regional level.

The overall level of immigration to Veneto and to Venice has grown particularly during the last decade. In particular, after the new Immigration Law in 2002 (National Law n. 189 - July 30, 2002 - as known as "Bossi-Fini Law") a wide part of illegal immigration was legalized. Before the law, only 133,674 workers were legal present in the region of Veneto. After the law the workers increased to 190,610. In 2005 the total number of workers was 203,435. In the same year the resident migrants were 320,793 (46.6% women, 24.1% minors), 6.8% of the total resident population (national average 4.5%), with an increase of 33,061 migrants (+11.5%) related to 2004. In 2005 in the city of Venice the resident migrants were 14,769 (50.7% women, 24.4% minors), 5.5% of the total resident population, with an increase of 2,190 migrants (+17.4%) related to 2004.

The distribution of migrants by nationalities is very different between Veneto and city of Venice. In Veneto the 53.5% of the total resident migrants is related to these six mother countries: Morocco (13.6%), Romania (13.4%), Albania (10.4%), Serbia and Montenegro (6.7%), China (5.1%), Macedonia (4.3%). In Venice the following six mother countries reach 53.0%: Bangladesh (16.3%), Moldova (10.6%), Ukraine (7.8%), Romania (6.2%), China (6.2%), Albania (5.9%). The highest demand for families re-union is related to the same mother countries that represent the most important countries in terms of quantity of migration: Bangladesh, Moldova, Ukraine, Albania and Morocco.

In order to answer to this increasing migrants' demand, but considering the long term situation and the necessity to develop a policy of integration and social inclusion, the main issue related to our city (and also to our region), and one of the most important topics in the local policies, is aimed to support the migrants at the same level of the Italian people, because the main policy is to give the same opportunity to all the people, without difference between Italians and migrants. This policy is developed mainly supporting:

- training course for the employment of the migrants;
- social housing programmes;
- a better social relationships;
- inclusion programmes for a better scholarship;



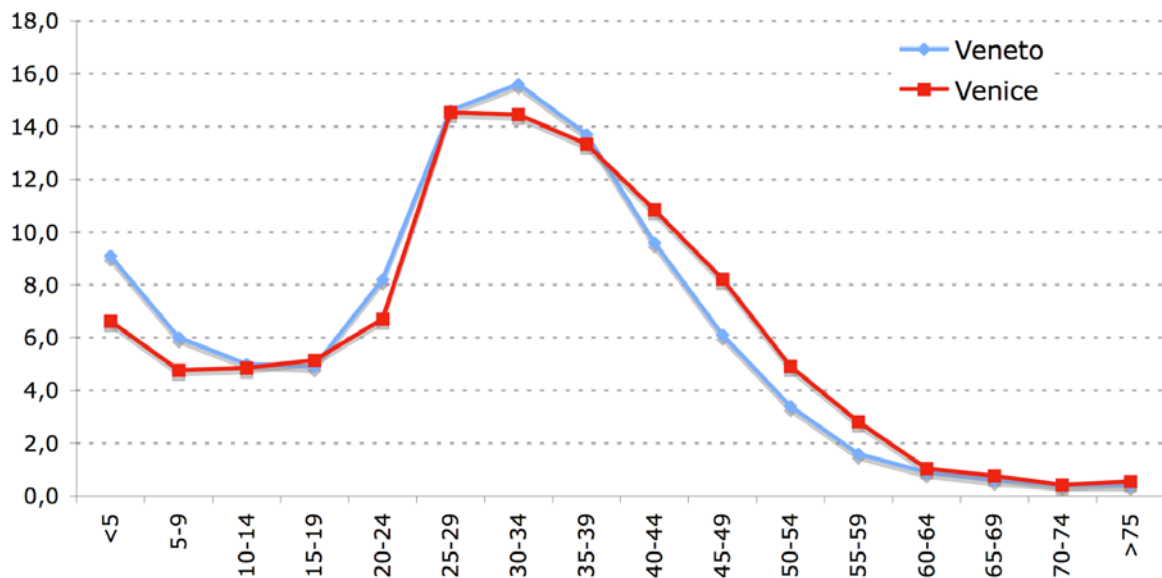
- development programmes for new entrepreneurships.

In the next figures are presented several data collected from our observatories on immigration.

Number of immigrants

	2002	2003	2004	2005
Veneto	184,000	240,000	287,732	320,793
var. %		30.4	19.9	11.5
Venice	6,771	10,334	13,008	14,769
var. %		52.6	25.9	13.5
% Venice/Veneto	3.7	4.3	4.5	4.6

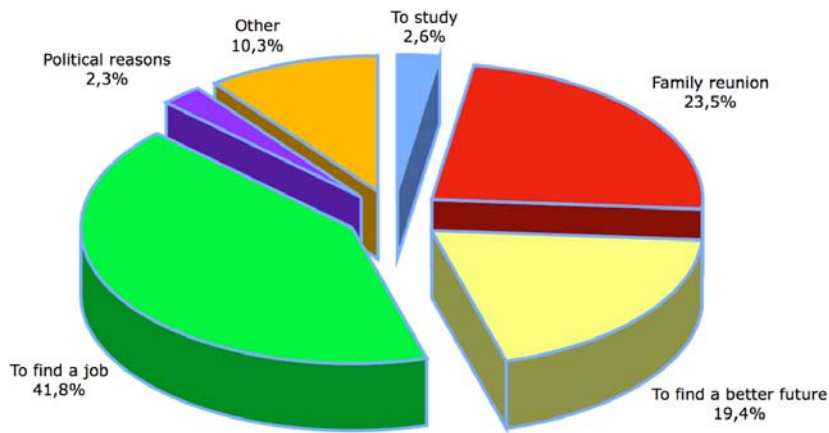
Age distribution of the migrants in Veneto and in Venice – 2005



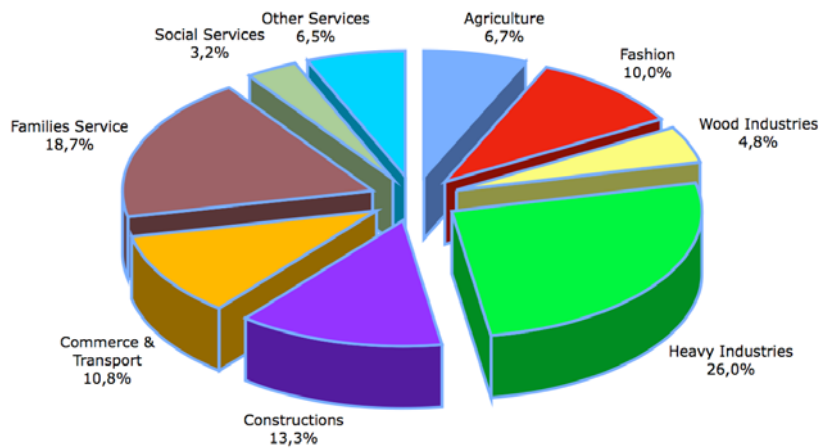
Housing condition of the migrants in Veneto – 2001/2003

	Coses Report 2001		Ismu Report 2003
	Arrival	After 5 years	
Rental	35%	62%	69%
Ownership	4%	9%	11%
Temporary	53%	24%	19%
- guest	49%	17%	15%
- hotel	1,3%	0,7%	1%
- welcome centre	3%	6%	3%
Precarious	7%	5%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%

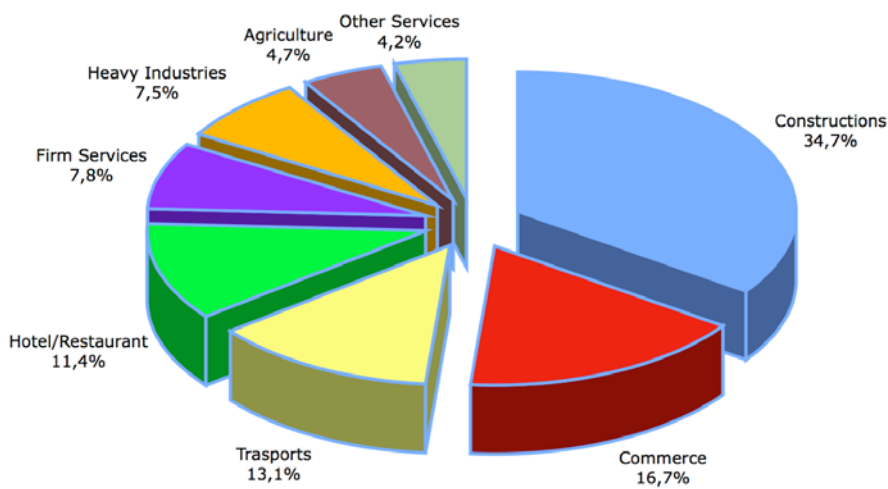
Migration reasons in Venice

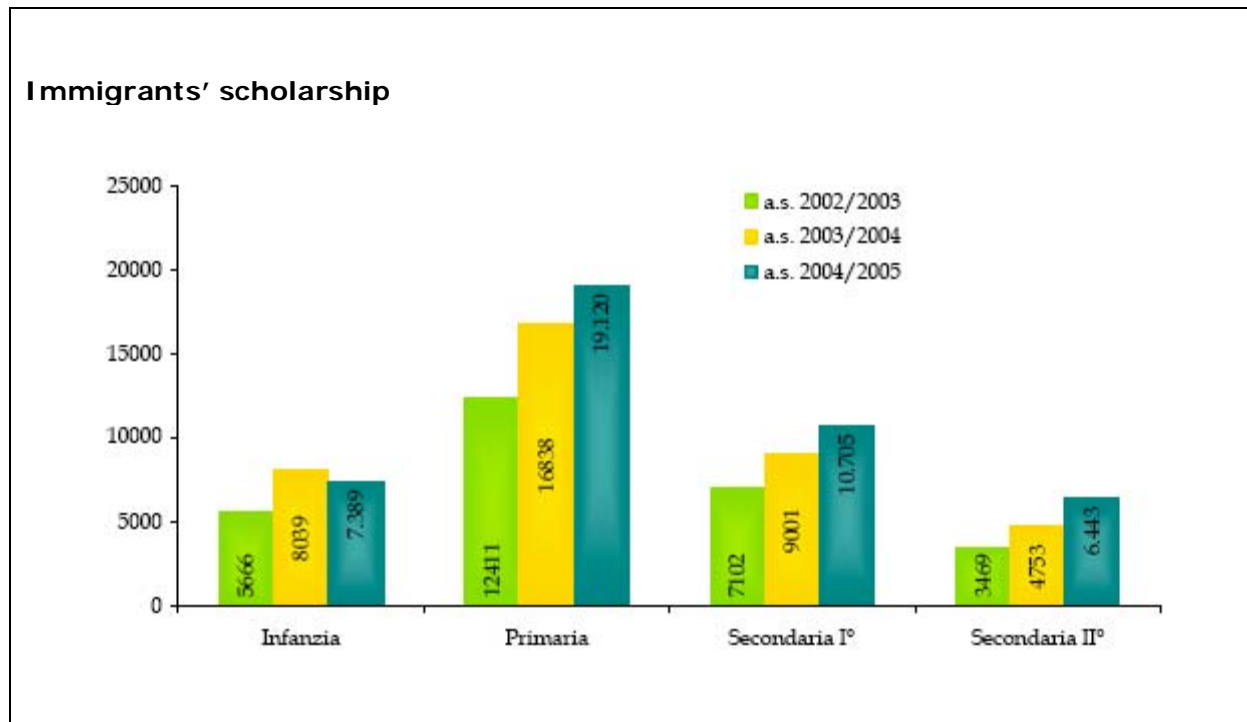


Immigrant workers by sector



Immigrant entrepreneurs by sector







Theme 1: *Enterprise development for ethnic minorities*

Business support (financial): in terms of the availability of credit for ethnic minorities and whether finance meets the varied needs in diverse client groups

What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?

- There isn't particular business supports or financial facilities in terms of the availability of credit for migrants and ethnic minorities. This is due to a general policy towards migrants and the ethnic minorities, that has as main core to promote a system of equal opportunity for all people (natives and migrants).
- Therefore the financial facilities and the availability of credit are those regulated from the national laws.
- The only available financial facilities regard "microcredit", used only in particular cases (drawback situations) or in presence of disadvantage persons. Most of all these measures are intended for all people and not only for migrants.

What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?

- Main priorities do not regard the financial system, but the information network and, still before the information, as making business and creating enterprises.
- Detailed information networks with several language translation, in order to support the entrepreneurs into comprehending the procedures, the rules, the laws, the opportunities of financing, the monitoring systems.

Theme 1: *Enterprise development for ethnic minorities*

Business support (non-financial): what kind of business support systems are available and if they meet the needs of ethnic minorities

What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?

- In the field of the non-financial services, there are many entrepreneurial associations that supply support services, also for the enterprises with migrant owner.
- The number of the enterprises with migrant owner are rapidly increasing (4.2% of the total enterprises in the region of Veneto, 7.5% in the city of Venice).
- The support's actions regard the way to open and to manage an enterprise
- There are several training courses arranged by entrepreneurial associations, for aspirants entrepreneurs and also for migrants.
- In the constructions' sector (where 10% of the entrepreneurs and 50% of the workers are migrants) the professional associations arrange several training courses, combined with Italian language courses.

What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?

- The first one priority is to build up a databank of the professional associations and related training courses in order to supply detailed informations about opportunities of training for the enterprises.
- The second one priority regards a support's action on the system of the multiservices supply by the professional associations, with the realisation of a web portal in cooperation with Veneto Region and the Work Market Observatory



Theme 1: *Enterprise development for ethnic minorities*

Measures to access wider markets: There is plenty of evidence that ethnic entrepreneurs tend to be “ghettoised” into narrow markets and thus they tend to remain small. What steps, if any, have been taken to help the promotion of such entrepreneurs to access wider markets?

What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants’ needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?

- Within Veneto region there is a productive environment that fosters the development of small enterprises, often a family-owned business, and in fact the small dimension of the enterprises in Veneto is a structural condition of the production system and doesn’t represent a negative point, but an opportunity to have a better operating flexibility, in particular for the enterprises engaged in production districts. Often migrant entrepreneurs run this kind of enterprise, particularly in the particular production sectors.
- In Veneto region there are many factors that ease the creation of small enterprises within some economic sectors to which the migrants refer to (textile, construction, transport and cleaning services). Within this large number of small enterprises, there are also a few that still work in the black economy.
- In order to access wider markets, there are many opportunities to promote enterprises in cooperation with the Veneto Region, the Venice Chamber of Commerce and the Trade Show System. These opportunities are not addressed in a specific way only to migrants’ enterprises but refer to the entire regional entrepreneur system.
- Anyways, migrants’ enterprises have a rather local importance and are well inserted in the different productive chains of veneto’s economy.

What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?

- To develop a greater culture of enterprise, in order to build up aggregations and collaborations within enterprises and a good network system, that can act locally but compete globally.
- Increase data about the presence, dimension and structure of the migrants’ enterprises on the territory, over all in relation with the need of checking the employment policies, the respect of rules and workers’ rights.

Theme 1: *Enterprise development for ethnic minorities*

Changing the enterprise culture: in terms of the importance of intervening at an early stage to create the “mindsets” and conditions required for opening up entrepreneurship to a wide public

What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet these needs and what are the results obtained so far?

- In Veneto there is a regional law addressed to develop a better network system of enterprises. It supports specifically the aggregation and the collaboration within enterprises to build up productive districts.
- Within this law and a specific measure of the ROP programme 2000-2006, in the last month has been activated a training programme addressed only to new enterprises, called "Obiettivo2= Impresa". The aim of this programme is to promote a wide enterprise culture within the disadvantage territory included by Ob. 2 (2000-2006). A part of the territory of the city of Venice (the former dDistrict 2) is included in this area and is therefore eligible for these training



actions.
What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No priorities to be underlined.
<p>Theme 2: <i>Active inclusion in the labour market</i> <u>Active inclusion</u> is a comprehensive approach combining three elements:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a link to the labour market through job opportunities or vocational training; income support at a level that is sufficient for people to have a dignified life; better access to services that may help remove some of the hurdles encountered by some individuals and their families in entering mainstream society, supporting their re-insertion into employment (through, for instance, counselling, healthcare, housing, child-care, lifelong learning, ICT training, psychological and social rehabilitation)
<p>Theme 2: <i>Active inclusion in the labour market</i> New comers</p>
What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet these needs and what are the results obtained so far?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong informative fragmentation reduces the possibility for the new comers to approach the information. This creates social exclusion and doesn't pursue the equal opportunity policies introduced by Region of Veneto and at the same time promoted by City of Venice and the other territorial local agencies. The actions undertaken in this field regard the realization of training courses, which obviously are opened to all and therefore not only to immigrants.
What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strong informative fragmentation reveals the necessity to create multifunctional front offices for inclusive actions in the labor market at a local level (i.e. a local front office for inclusive actions in the labor market in the city of Venice and a regional office to organise the cooperation within partners). Training courses with cultural mediation
<p>Theme 2: <i>Active inclusion in the labour market</i> Early school leavers</p>
What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opening information offices addresses to young people (<i>Informagiovani</i>) Specific inclusion programmes for boys (age 15-19)
What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To comprehend the amount of the phenomenon, by means of analysis and monitoring of the problem To connect the data banks of the city of Venice (in particular the Observatory on



<p>the scholastic suspension) and the Observatory on the obligation formative of the Province of Venice</p>
<p>Theme 2: <i>Active inclusion in the labour market</i> Single parents</p>
<p>What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main problem is related to the pregnant women that need to give birth their sons and that need social support. The city of Venice has a specific support programme but is sufficient to help women only during the first months.
<p>What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Better coordination within the different institutional and non institutional services. To promote the families re-union, particularly concerning the male single parents. To improve the specific support programme for the young mothers.
<p>Theme 2: <i>Active inclusion in the labour market</i> Women migrants</p>
<p>What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plans of social inclusion for colf and health keepers within Veneto Region, city of Venice and Caritas (NGO) Opening a specific front office for women migrants Specific training courses for women migrants The "Re-union project"
<p>What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote actions in order to develop the microcredit
<p>Theme 2: <i>Active inclusion in the labour market</i> Roma community</p>
<p>What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report on the Roma and Sinti situation in the province of Venice, in order to deepen the knowledge, to establish collaborations, to favor concerted policies, to organize and to optimize the resources and the capabilities of the territory Social inclusion actions (particularly elimination of the nomadic fields)
<p>What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To favor integration, in order to develop the sense of affiliation of this minority to the society in which the minority itself lives, and in order to emphasize the diversity and to stimulate an attitude of active and responsible citizenship



- The main priority is reported to the scholastic inclusion of the children

Theme 3: *Cultural diversity, economic development and social cohesion*

Tourism and cultural diversity: the Autumn 2006 ESPON Report acknowledges that culture-based development might become a driver for territorial cohesion. EU countries are rich in cultural assets and the potential benefit of them is especially high in some regions where GDP currently is below average. Examples might be the construction of a creative cluster around the heritage, development of cultural tourism and raising the awareness and appreciation of the local population about the region's cultural heritage.

What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?

- Veneto is the first Italian region for tourist presences and the tourism is an important resource for the city of Venice in terms of GDP (1.5 billion euro only in Venice). The cultural diversity is part of this system of supply: **historically, Venice has always been open to cultural exchanges and to receive other population over all from the Mediterranean. This feature of the city is** also today an example of the potentiality of the intercultural dialogue, as shown in the several cultural interchange programmes. **The cultural life of the city is, in fact, characterized by different events: big ones like the Biennale of art, Biennale of architecture and Cinema Festival, important international meetings (to which the Strategic Planning dedicates an entire session) and ethnic and world music festivals.**
- Migrants take part to these events both with their artistic contribution and by working with the staff of the organizers that often are cultural associations.
- Another important element that contributes to this integration is the presence of a strong and wide University system and in a particular way the Faculty of Oriental languages. Within this framework are organized intercultural exchanges, open to the entire community.
- The cultural diversity is part of the system of tourism's services due to the fact that Venice receives 20 millions of tourists per year to whom is given a diversified tourist offer.
- A significant example of this characteristic is the realization of the "Multicultural Woman Center" project in collaboration with associations, cooperatives and services of the third sector (NGOs).

What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?

- To consider the cultural diversity in term of integration (and not in term of differentiation) is the general priority for the Veneto Region and for the city of Venice.

Theme 3: *Cultural diversity, economic development and social cohesion*

New media, new technology and cultural diversity: Increasingly, young adults from ethnic minority groups and others have begun to use new media and new technology in relation to promoting cultural diversity, eg through music , videos, etc.

What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?

- New media and new technologies are equally accessible to every person and represent a strong potentiality to develop a good multicultural dialogue. There are



<p>significant related activities in Venice (music, art, video, etc.) and at the same time there are newspapers in native language and radio broadcasting in different languages as English, Italian, Arabian, etc.</p>
<p>What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To decrease the digital divide and to promote the use of personal computer to allow the access to internet.
<p>• Theme 3: Cultural diversity, economic development and social cohesion <i>Intercultural dialogue: How and in what way have mechanisms or events been organised to encourage mutual understanding and also challenge negative stereotypes of migrant groups.</i></p>
<p>What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The programme 2006 of the Conference of the Mayors previews the introduction of comparison's practices with the immigrant communities present on the territory. Since many years in the city of Venice is carried out a tightened dialogue between Italians and Muslims, with the collaboration of the migrant associations present at local level. In year 1990, Veneto Region has approved a regional law (LR n. 9/90) dedicated to the development of a regional network on immigration and today fosters the free association system, with the aim of building strong relationships between migrants and local population. There is also a regional register of migrants' associations.
<p>What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creation of the databank of the associations with the collection of the statutes at local level.
<p>Theme 4: Access to services <i>Housing</i></p>
<p>What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Until year 2004 Veneto region has implemented a specific policy for the solution of the housing emergencies for migrants. Nevertheless, in the evolution of regional programs, the housing for migrants is a problem part of the wider context of social housing; at the date there aren't therefore any specific actions related to "housing for migrants". Presence of specific initiatives of the third sector (NGOs) destined to underprivileged segments of the market demand
<p>What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote a strong investment policy in the social housing at regional and local level
<p>Theme 4: Access to services <i>Education</i></p>



What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?

- Connection of the initiatives for the improvement of integration of the migrants through the Plans of Zone, promoted by the Conference of the Veneto's Mayors, with the involvement of the migrants' associations: **the Plans of Zone aim at realizing a planning process and at programming the offer of social and health services following the regional guidelines. A great value is given to the involvement of institutions, the managers of the services and the stakeholders.**
- In a particular way, it is foreseen for all the children coming from migrants' families to go to compulsory school; this policy includes also the children of irregular migrants.
- The school policies foresees the fact that the children have to be inserted into classes that correspond to their age and not to their level of schooling.
- The Veneto Region gives a financial support to projects related with the teaching of Italian language to foreigners; also the City of Venice has lately started different kind of actions of this kind.
- During year 2006 more than 250 courses (Italian language and linguistic and cultural mediator) have been activated over the entire regional territory, the biggest part of which have taken place inside the Permanent Territorial Centres dedicated to adult training
- Some training courses took place in the migrants' countries of origin; around 650 workers have completed them while other 400 are still following the classes.

What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?

- Integration cultural projects within the schools, **where the un-knowledge of the Italian language is the most difficult obstacle.**

Theme 4: Access to services

Health

What are the actions undertaken/services provided to meet migrants' needs in relation to this theme and what are the results obtained so far?

- **There is a lack of tools for culture mediation within the health services such as, for example, in the case of emergency hospitalisation for migrants that don't speak Italian language and/or belong to culture or profess religions that need specific diagnostic approaches. Up to the date the City of Venice is called to intervene with its mediators in case of need.**
- The City of Venice is active in offering services of cultural mediation and in plans of integration to the migrant women and children (age 0-3).
- The Veneto Region promote the overtaking of the traditional vision based on the migrant status.

What are the priority needs not met by these services/actions?

- The Health Service doesn't have a system of interpreting and not even of cultural mediation.
- **There is a lack of official tools for the involvement of cultural and linguistic mediators on a regional base and therefore the services are today covered with the help of the City's mediators**
- **Necessity of more resources to support these actions, also in terms of quantity in order to give a response to the strong demand that is still not satisfied yet**



- The priority is to activate resources in order to give an answer to the increasing demand of cultural mediation, in particular in the Hospitals. **Veneto Region is today working in favour of these actions by increasing the financial resources and by building an organized and coordinated system for the supply of services.**

Other comments

- Immigration in Veneto and in the city of Venice is a long term topic.
- The first emergency phase is finished.
- The needs of migrants can sometimes be similar to the needs of the disadvantage people.
- Anyway the aim of the social and economic policies in Veneto and in the city of Venice is to give the same opportunities to all the people, without difference between Italians and migrants.

Sources

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¹ A secret language as native land. Roma and Sinti in Venice's Province.