

BILBAO: GOOD PRACTICE CASE STUDY 3

The Follow-up by Anti-Rumour Agents

'Anti-rumour agents' in the district of Deusto, after having completed their C4I training sessions, are demonstrating a strong commitment to the development of further activities in their respective areas of activity.

Each is developing a set of activities and awareness workshops in their specific area designed to reach large numbers of people, therefore hoping to instigate a 'snowball effect'. With the support of the coordination team, group meetings are being held for agents to co-define interventions for the neighbourhood. A total of sixteen attended the first in November 2014.

Among the activities implemented so far are the following:

October 23. ALDAIKA Association

ALDAIKA, an association that promotes coexistence and a culture of peace through dialogue and the effective management and positive transformation of conflicts, organized a talk on October 23 to present the anti-rumour campaign to social educators, in order to share ideas but also to motivate and involve people with whom the association works i.e. children and young adults. The target audience for this one-hour event, given at the Municipal Center Bidarte, was a group of social educators from EISECO (educational & community socio Intervention team) from District 1 of Bilbao.

October 27. Elkarbanatuz Association

The Elkarbanatuz association, in Baikaba (socio Centre Child and family), organized a talk for 12 students and their teachers in 3rd year of ESO in Colegio La Salle. The objectives were to:

- Reflect on social exclusion and excluded people
- Explore prevailing social discourses regarding immigrants
- Raise awareness of our own attitudes and positioning against immigrants
- Combat negative stereotypes and rumours against foreigners.

November 11. Anti-rumour Agent Maria Giulia Di Carlo

On November 11 an anti-rumour agent Maria Giulia Di Carlo organized a dynamic workshop on stereotypes and discrimination. 28 people attended with the aim of working with stereotypes and discrimination towards immigrants to Bilbao and, more specifically, to the district of Deusto. The two-hour workshop was aimed at undergraduates from the University of Deusto.

December 3. ALDAIKA Association

The ALDAIKA association also organized a meeting with a group of people in the neighbourhood of Ibarrekolanda (located in District 1 of Bilbao) in order to present the anti-rumour strategy and to enable participants to acquire tools for their day to day anti-rumour actions. Participants are all active members of their own groups promoting social initiatives in the neighbourhood, and the goal was to extend the C4I initiative within these groups. The event was attended by seven people.

December 9. ALDAIKA Association

On December 9, the Amedaki Association, organized a talk/discussion for an hour and a half aimed at retired women. The goal was to explain the project and discuss its relationship with foreign people, and to understand how they perceive the rumour.

December 26. AMEKADI Association

The AMEKADI Association, aiming to reflect and discuss stereotypes and rumours regarding immigration and cultural diversity, also recorded a short "Do not give me stories" video and organized a World Café at which it was presented (see <http://vimeo.com/115828648>).

January-February 2015. Association MATIZ

The Matiz Association teaches a course on "Managing cultural diversity in professional environments." This is an online programme, comprising three modules of two weeks each. It is aimed at university students in their final year and at professionals. The course provides specific training on the main elements of relationships and intercultural harmony in the workplace, and skills development for addressing practical aspects of managing diversity in professional and business fields.

February 23. KCD. Culture Communication Development

On February 23, KCD (Culture Communication Development), an NGO for development cooperation, launched a six-hour workshop on the responsible management of audiovisual tools using mobile phone, targeted at high school students of the Institute of Ibarrekolanda. The idea is that students can become agents of awareness and change through media creation on social issues.

26 to 30 January. Anti-rumour agent Cesar Olartua

Coinciding with the week of Peace, at Colegio La Salle the anti-rumour agent Cesar Deusto Olartua, professor of ESO, organized workshops in his tutorials with 1st and 2nd ESO students - a total of 180 students aged 12 to 14 years. Aspects such as integration and acceptance of foreigners in society in general and in the district of Deusto in particular were discussed. It also reflected on the rumours currently circulating.

During February and March a survey will be undertaken of how anti-rumour agents have perceived the process.