



FORM BEST PRACTICES CONTEST

Municipality **Falköping Borough Council**

Country **SWEDEN**

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Name project

Language buddy

Category Certification Criteria: mark the category of your project

- Energy and environmental policies (politiche energetiche e ambientali);
- Infrastructure policies (politiche infrastrutturali);
- Quality of urban life policies (politiche per la qualita' urbana);
- Agricultural, touristic and artisan policies (politiche agricole, turistiche, artigianali);
- Policies for hospitality, awareness and training (politiche per l'ospitalita, la consapevolezza e la formazione);
- Social cohesion** (coesione sociale).

Summary project

The aim of the project is to create opportunities for foreigners, especially newly arrived refugees, to practice the Swedish language and learn about the Swedish society by chatting with a native speaker. Every refugee/migrant that participates in the project is assigned an individual/personal language buddy. The project is also arranging monthly meeting places where Swedes and refugees may come together to talk, eat, to do sports and socialise.

Goal project

To contribute to social cohesion in Sweden's only Cittaslow
To combat stigmatisation of 'The Other', the migrants
To welcome migrants into our community
To support migrants in their language development
To support integrations
To facilitate collaboration between the Borough Council and the civil society, for example sport clubs, churches, study associations and the Red Cross.

Result project

Approximately 130 match making events has taken place (300 persons actively involved)



Monthly meeting places that reached 2.000 persons (Swedes and migrants) last year.

Finance (costs and benefits)

96 500 Euros

Staff (staff involved and use of time)

1 person full-time, 40 hours per week

Additional information (if necessarily)

After last year's success, we're expanding this project with an extra project assistant half-time (50%).

Links to presentation videos with English subtitles:

Language buddy Violeta:

https://youtu.be/jPRPEY-pUdM?list=PLslZqp7nnN_wpKDpBnrA6MhzL3eMETFVi

Language buddy Tommy and Ibrahim:

https://youtu.be/YGq43_6boI8?list=PLslZqp7nnN_wpKDpBnrA6MhzL3eMETFVi

Link website
(if available)

Once filled in this form please send it to: info@cittaslow.net

- Participation Deadline 15 May 2016 -