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## **PROJECT 'IMMENSITY'** **Ref. No. 5D016**

### **IMMIGRANT'S ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SOCIO- ECONOMIC COHESION AND IMPROVEMENT OF LIVING STANDARDS**

<b><u>Work Package 3:</u></b>	<b>Establishment of Pilot Structures - Development/Integration of Services &amp; Systems for Information, Consulting &amp; Training</b>
<b><u>Action 3.2:</u></b>	<b>Portal Development: Analysis of Existing Systems, Services and Infrastructures, in terms of available infrastructure, processes and consulting/ training services already provided to the target groups.</b>
<b><u>Deliverable 3.2.1.1:</u></b>	<b>Portal Development: Analysis of Existing Systems, Services and Infrastructures, already provided to the target groups in the Region of Central Macedonia</b>

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**Part 1:**  
**IDENTIFICATION SHEET**

## Part 1: IDENTIFICATION SHEET

<b>Ref. No</b>	<b>5D016</b>
<b>Project acronym</b>	<b>IMMENSITY</b>
<b>Project full title</b>	<b>Immigrant's Entrepreneurship for Socio-Economic Cohesion and Improvement of Living Standards</b>

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<b>Keywords</b>	Migration, Immigrants, Entrepreneurship, Existing systems & services, available infrastructure, correlation
<b>Abstract (for dissemination)</b>	This report aims at identifying all the existing systems and services are available in the Region of Central Macedonia with regard to migration and immigrants' support. The General Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Migration is an important service of the Regional Authority of Central Macedonia with regard to migration management. The IMMENSITY Pilot Structure is act as a supportive tool to the already existing service through offline and online Information, Consulting and Training services to the specified target groups of the project on a multilingual environment.

**Part 2:**  
**INTRODUCTION**

## Part 2: INTRODUCTION

Action 3.2 constitutes the first phase of the Pilot Portal development. As described in the Application Form of the IMMENSITY project, the on-line Portal will be developed along Actions 3.2-3.8 with the aim to offer **electronically** the same services as the Pilot Structures (Information, Consulting & Training), to economic immigrants as most of them have inadequate knowledge of ICT use or no access to such equipment and infrastructure.

The Online Portal will be integrated in the website of the project and all partners will have access to Administrators' Interface. The development will be based on the following phases:

- **Analysis of Existing Systems, Services & Infrastructures**, in terms of available infrastructure, processes & Consulting / training services already provided to the target groups
- Analysis of Functional & Technical Requirements
- System design
- System Development and Implementation
- Content Collection, Adaptation and Development
- Content translation and Integration
- Portal Pilot Test – Fine Tuning Training of Administrators - Launching

All participating regional partners will contribute to action 3.2, while RCM will elaborate the synthetic report on 'Existing Systems, Services & Infrastructures offered to the target groups in each regional authority. Within this context, the support and contribution of each participating regional authority is essential in order to set up the content of the final synthetic report. Each region is requested to fill-in the following sections of the present sub-report, concerning the following issues:

- *Existing Systems in the region that relate with or concern immigration management.*
- *Available Services that are offered to immigrants by the regional authority.*
- *Existing Infrastructures that are set up or used for immigration issues within the regional authority.*

Afterwards, the data and information identified by the regional authorities will be synthesized in a synthetic report, which will help to formulate the overall context of function and operation of the online Portal for the benefit of all regions.

## **Part 3**

# **ANALYSIS OF EXISTING SYSTEMS, SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURES**

## **Part 3: ANALYSIS OF EXISTING SYSTEMS, SERVICES & INFRASTRUCTURES**

### **3.1. EXISTING SYSTEMS & SERVICES**

#### **3.1.1. Identification of Existing Systems & Services Available at the Region of Central Macedonia**

The department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Immigration (or General Department of Immigration Issues) of the Region of Central Macedonia was established according to the P.D. 72/02 (Gazette 53/A/ 19-03-2002). The main aim of the Department is to contribute to the smoothest social integration of immigrants, repatriators, refugees and expatriators to the Greek society. The General Department of Migration is divided into seven (7) sub-departments:

- Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Immigration of Thessaloniki, being responsible for the Prefecture of Thessaloniki
- Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Immigration of Thessaloniki, being responsible for the Prefecture of Imathias
- Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Immigration of Thessaloniki, being responsible for the Prefecture of Kilkis
- Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Immigration of Thessaloniki, being responsible for the Prefecture of Pellas
- Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Immigration of Thessaloniki, being responsible for the Prefecture of Pierias
- Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Immigration of Thessaloniki, being responsible for the Prefecture of Serres
- Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Immigration of Thessaloniki, being responsible for the Prefecture of Chalkidikis

Moreover, the General Department of Migration includes a Control Department with responsibilities for the Region of Central Macedonia as a whole, the Social Inclusion Department and the Department of Secretariat of the General Department of Migration which is responsible for supporting the General Department, the Control Department and the Social Inclusion Department. Last but not least it is mentioned that there is a number of Supportive Secretariat Offices for the abovementioned seven sub-departments of the General department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Migration.

The headquarters of the General Department of Migration of the Region of Central Macedonia are located in Kalamaria in Thessaloniki. Mr. George Sarigiannidis is regarded as the Head Officer of the Department.

The main responsibilities of the General Department are presented in the following points:

- Implementation of the current regulation for all procedures are necessary for the Region to follow so as to distribute residence permits and occupation licenses to immigrants from third countries according to Law 3386/05 by replacing the previous Law 2910/01.
- Examination of all aspects being relevant to gaining Greek Nationality according to the Greek regulation (Law 2790/2000, article 1, § A' 24), which refers on issues relevant to all necessary procedures have to be followed by repatriators so as to regain Nationality. Moreover, Law 2910/2001, Articles 58 (A' 91) give the General Secretaries all necessary responsibilities for controlling denization of immigrants as well as the responsibilities of the General Secretaries' duties.
- Ascertainment that immigrants asking for Greek nationality underlie to the Greek regulation according to Law 2910/2001, Article 69, §3 and Law 2647/1998 Article 1, §1 A' 1.
- Implementation of programmes and initiatives for the social inclusion of immigrants, refugees and repatriators in the society.

Refugees, repatriators and immigrants of third countries are considered as the beneficiaries of the relevant service of the Region of Central Macedonia.

With regard to the activities and initiatives it undertakes, it is mentioned that for the year 2006 a great number of activities implemented successfully even more than the executive board of the Region and the General Department. According to the review of 2006 the following actions were implemented:

1. thousands of residence permits to beneficiaries originated from third countries as well as they were included in the electronic files of the Department with separate protocol numbers,
2. all illegal immigrants stayed in the Region were obliged to follow the guidelines and prohibitions of the Region and the Department of Migration according to Law 3386/2005 article 91,
3. a number of seasonal and subject to dismissal immigrants, originated from third countries and looked for dependent annual employment, fell under the rules of the Region and the Department of Migration according to Law 3386/05 articles 14 & 15,

4. a number of about 20.000 application forms for residence permits were rejected due to the fact that those persons had not all necessary papers and justifications for receiving the permits,
5. a number of application forms for denization of repatriators and expatriators were approved in the relevant year by the respective department of the Region,
6. subsidy rent and loan subsidy was given to beneficiaries of the social inclusion programme while a number of loan files was available also on an electronic format so as the Authority to reduce the possibilities of those beneficiaries asking subsidies twice,
7. a number of statistical data for the number of immigrants in the Region, the number of residence permits, number of permits in force, number of permits in request etc is available in the Authority as well as on the website of the region ([www.pkm.gr](http://www.pkm.gr)),
8. the regulation for Migration is also available on the website,
9. "Immigrant's Guide" is also available on the site and accessible by any person in need. The Guide is a document including information for all aspects of immigrants (residence permits, legal permission and staying in the country, regulations with regard to their insurance and health-care system etc).

### **3.1.2. Analysis of possible benefits, advantages, malfunctions, limitations of the systems and services**

#### ■ Benefits & Advantages

This paragraph aims at describing the benefits and advantages of the aforementioned described existing service of the Region of Central Macedonia with regard to migration issues and policies. The following points can be included in this section:

- Enhance the smooth social inclusion of immigrants,
- Offer trustworthy information to foreigners,
- Cooperation with IMEPO (Institute for Migration Policy) for collecting (statistical) data and information referring to migrants,
- Conformity to the EU regulations for the conservation of human rights,
- Availability of statistical data for migration in the Region of Central Macedonia,
- Well-serviced & well-structures so as to cover the needs of immigrants of the whole Region,
- Formulation of a well-structured "Immigrants' Guide" with information for all issues immigrants are interested in,
- The target groups of the project can be assisted by the relevant service,
- Pretty well-structured legislative framework for migration.

#### ■ Limitations & Malfunctions

This part focuses on illustrating a number of limitations and malfunctions that the existing service of General Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Migration presents. The following points can be included in this part:

- More information on the website of the region is needed,
- The General Department of Migration does not own a separate webpage,
- The primary statistical data is not accessible through the website of the region.

#### ■ Improvements and/or additions/ proposals

This section focuses on suggesting few proposals could be used for the Region to improve its existing services and systems with regard to migration issues. The following suggestions are presented:

- A separate website/portal of the General Department of Migration should be promoted by the Region of Central Macedonia,
- Statistical data and information should be given when asked for,
- Further promotion of the services the Region offers should be enhanced,

- A network of cooperation between the service of the Region and other services on national and/or European focused on Migration issues level should be promoted for exchanging experiences and gaining knowledge on Migration management issues,
- Immigrants' Entrepreneurship should be promoted and enhanced through Region's funding and the restructuring of the services it offers.

## 3.2. ANALYSIS OF AVAILABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

### 3.2.1. Identification and analysis of available infrastructure in the Region of Central Macedonia

*Please describe the available infrastructure in the region that is used or has been set up for immigration management issues. i.e. hardware, software, telecommunications, human resources, information repositories, which have been attributed to the support (consulting, information services or other) of economic immigrants*

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### 3.2.2. Overall evaluation of the infrastructure identified

*Please give a short evaluation of the infrastructure previously identified: are they adequate in relation to their function and purpose? What are their benefits based on results so far? Are any improvements required? Are they easy-to-use?*

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### **3.3. IDENTIFICATION OF INTERACTION BETWEEN EXISTING SYSTEMS / SERVICES AND THE 'IMMENSITY' PILOT STRUCTURE**

As it was mentioned in the analysis above, the Region of Central Macedonia has developed a service for dealing with Migration issues and foreigners living and activating in the region's territory. The General Department of Urban Situation & Foreigners and Migration is a special service with 7 more sub-departments distributed to the prefectures of the Region which contribute to the best controlling and management of the migration flows and movements to and from the region.

Due to its well-structured formulation, it is believed that there is a strong correlation between the existing service of the Region and the "IMMENSITY" pilot structure (Immigrant Entrepreneurs' Reception Office).

The existing service can give feedback to the formulation of the services and operations the Pilot Structure is going to develop. The new Pilot Structure should be not be regarded as a supplement for the General Department of Migration of the region but as a supportive tool (since it will embodied the existing service) which aims at enhancing migration issues and take advantage of past experiences and know-how and exploit synergies, ensuring economies of scale and produce concrete and targeted results.

The new structure is about to support the existing service through offline and online Information, Consulting and Training services to the specified target groups of the project on a multilingual environment. The new structure will include the same information as the previous ones regarding legislative framework for legal and illegal immigrants and additionally, it will include information for funding, entrepreneurship etc.