

Newsletter n° 04

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NEWS

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The co-design of a reception service at Palazzo San Gervasio, the creation of Social Hubs, and the work of the Steering Committee hosted in Maratea

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SU.PR.EME.2 takes shape in Calabria: autonomy, networking, and trust are built in social hubs

Many tools have been implemented, from language learning to personalised and multidimensional support for workers

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Campania, "roads to dignity: a feasible path from unlawful recruitment to rights"

The Campania Regional Table relaunches shared governance in the fight against exploitation

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Integrated Social Hubs and Work Corridors: more services and tools for the inclusion of migrant workers in Apulia

As part of the Su.Pr.Eme.2 Program, the Region has launched new actions to combat labour exploitation

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The network against labour exploitation is growing in Sicily: Su.Pr.Eme.2's ongoing actions

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Project activities are in full swing in Basilicata

The co-design of a reception service at Palazzo San Gervasio, the creation of Social Hubs, and the work of the Steering Committee hosted in Maratea



The Su.Pr.Eme.2 initiatives in Basilicata promote inclusive housing, protection of migrant workers, intercultural mediation, legal and healthcare guidance, safe transportation, social agriculture, and the creation of Social Hubs for integration and the fight against labour exploitation. Basilicata also hosted the project's Steering Committee meeting in Maratea on June 19th and 20th. The governance body met to define shared strategies and operational actions to combat the exploitation and marginalisation of legal foreign workers.

Among the most significant actions undertaken in recent months is the Region's publication of a Public Notice addressed to Third Sector organisations for the co-design and management of a **reception service in the former tobacco factory of Palazzo San Gervasio**. The goal is to provide dignified and safe housing to 220 third-country nationals, often seasonal migrants, by providing accommodations and a series of integrated services.

These services include intercultural mediation to facilitate communication and integration, legal support to protect guests' rights, healthcare counseling, and transportation to work to encourage active and safe participation in the agricultural sector. Additionally, outreach activities and social agriculture pilot projects are promoted, with a portion funded by the ESF+ fund with the aim of fostering entrepreneurship and socioeconomic inclusion.

The project submitted by ARCI, which came first in the evaluation, was selected from the call for proposals

which ended on June 4th. Co-design sessions and technical inspections are currently underway to set up the organisation of services and planned activities prior to operational launch. The funding allocated for this project amounts to €854,000.

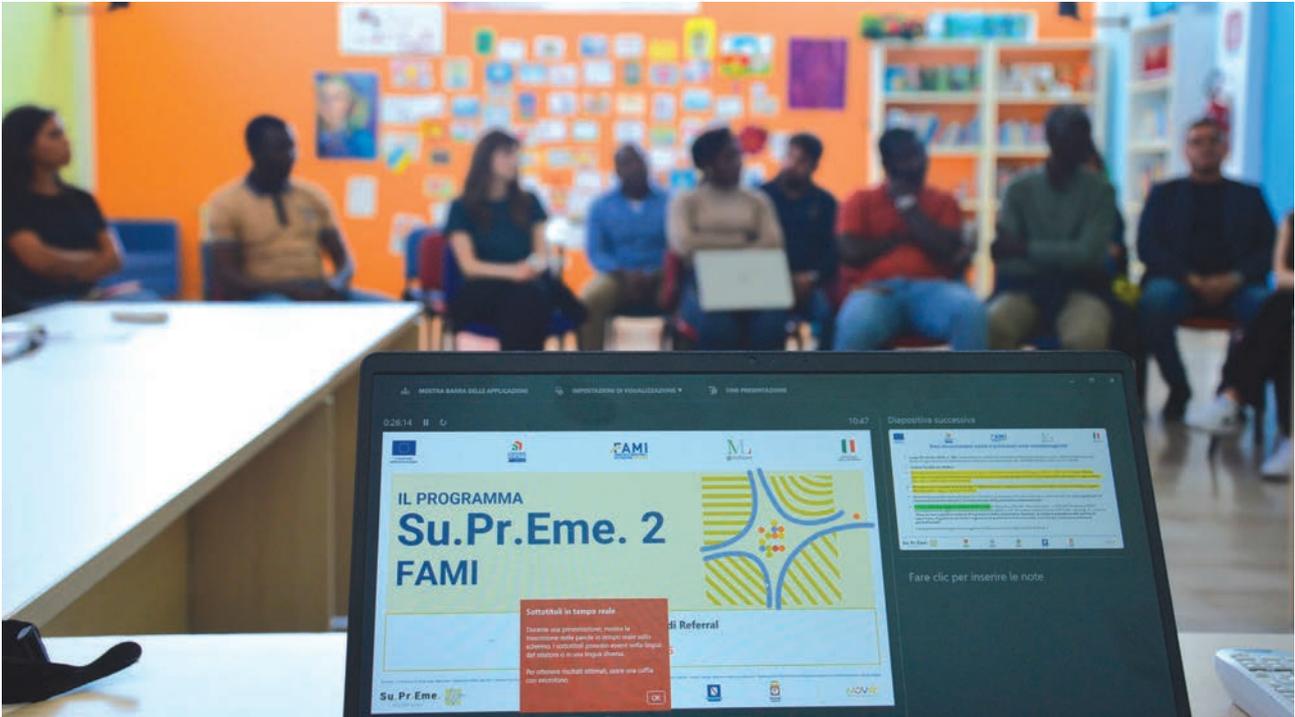
Another important aspect of the project involves the creation of Integrated Social Hubs in the Lavello (Vulture-Alto Bradano) and Policoro (Metapontino) areas. These hubs serve as multidimensional support centres for at least 1,000 vulnerable seasonal migrants at risk of labour exploitation. The hubs offer a full range of services, from cultural and linguistic mediation to career guidance and support for independent living. Special attention is paid to case management through integration budgets, which allows for the implementation of personalised inclusion programs. Furthermore, the Social Hubs are required to develop a strategic territorial plan defining operational procedures for actively engaging employers, particularly agricultural businesses, through an interactive mapping of the businesses participating in the **Relaq network**. This work will be carried out by dedicated interdisciplinary teams, who will focus on *engagement*, facilitation, and mentoring in order to build a synergistic and sustainable network between municipalities, social services, employment centres, and agricultural businesses. The total budget allocated for this project is €934,170. The awarding body is still being finalised, but upcoming co-design sessions are already scheduled to begin the project.

A specific intervention has been launched for Montalbano Jonico as part of Work Package 3 of the project, dedicated to building an ecosystem for integration. It includes an integrated package of *outreaching* measures, language mediation, transportation, and housing inclusion through independent living programs.

The Montalbano guesthouse was created with a dual purpose: first, to provide decent, regular, and safe housing for seasonal workers who play a vital role in the Metaponto agricultural harvest each year. Second, to prevent marginalisation, insecurity, and exploitation, which still exist in some areas characterised by informal settlements and precarious housing conditions. The project was entrusted to the La Mimosa social cooperative, which is managing the operations and implementing the activities. Funding for this measure is €419,000.

SU.PR.EME.2 takes shape in Calabria: autonomy, networking, and trust are built in social hubs

Many tools have been implemented, from language learning to personalised and multidimensional support for workers



A new energy is sweeping across the **Gioia Tauro and Sibari plains** in Calabria. After months of preparation and coordination, the **Integrated Social Hubs** of the Su.Pr.Eme.2 program are fully operational. Concrete pathways are being implemented to **manage, guide, and support** third-country nationals to restore their dignity and afford them real prospects in the areas most exposed to the vulnerabilities of labour exploitation and marginalisation.

At the heart of this work are the services that day after day are facilitating proximity and trust thanks to the collaborative efforts of Third Sector organisations and municipal administrations. The goal is ambitious but clear: **to empower people to be independent, informed, and protected** by building a solid and accessible network around them.

The first tool is **language learning**, which has already begun at the hubs with good participation levels. Speaking Italian isn't just a skill: it's what allows one to build relationships, navigate services, defend oneself from abusive situations, and make more informed choices.

At the same time, a **referral mechanism** has been implemented, enabling a **personalised and multifaceted approach**. Each person who actively collaborates in emergence from situations of labour exploitation is supported along a process that may include obtaining a new residence permit, access to housing, educational support for their children, healthcare counseling, and legal and administrative assistance. Work is also underway on **targeted financial support initiatives** to remove practical obstacles and initiate genuine paths to independence and integration.

Dialogue with other active projects in the area is a priority. A cooperation agreement is currently being finalised with the "ALT Caporalato" interregional project, which will strengthen the network to combat exploitation by integrating approaches and intervention tools in rural contexts.

Campania, “roads to dignity: a feasible path from unlawful recruitment to rights”

The Campania Regional Table relaunches shared governance in the fight against exploitation



As part of the **Su.Pr.Eme.2** program, the Campania Region’s **Regional Table for the Fight against Unlawful Recruitment (TRcC)** is proposing a new, structured and shared approach: **“Roads to Dignity: A Feasible Path from Unlawful Recruitment to Rights.”**

The program represents the natural evolution of a process that had already begun in the previous programming period, maintaining coherence and continuity with what was achieved within the **Su.Pr.Eme. Italia** program, and strengthening multilevel governance based on the active involvement of local communities.

“With this new path, the Campania Region renews its commitment to ensuring dignified, inclusive, and safe working conditions,” stated **Mario Morcone**, Regional Councilor for Legality, Security, and Immigration. “Roads of Dignity is not just an evocative title, but a method: a concrete path towards rights, built through collaboration and shared responsibility. Each step reflects a collective commitment to building tools, networks, and solutions to protect the dignity of work.”

Built on **four conceptual pillars - Tracing Synergies, Opening Pathways, Marking Directions, and Strengthening Connections** - the program promotes a shared vision in which the fight against unlawful recruitment is integrated with the promotion of the dignity of work, social inclusion, and the empowerment of local communities.

Each stage is an **operational metaphor**, a way to understand the challenges, build responses, and consolidate alliances between institutions, Third Sector organisations, trade unions, and employer organisations:

1. **Tracing Synergies** is a space for **capitalising on results and building new perspectives**. Thematic aspects include the sharing of innovative tools for prevention and enforcement, the role of institutions, businesses, and the Third Sector in outlining effective policies, and the mapping of different forms of illegality.
2. **Opening pathways to effective emergence from exploitation** through concrete tools of protection and justice: a multi-faceted discussion involving the issues of residence permits, assistance and job reintegration measures, safety nets, and pathways to independence while also considering the production system's commitment to promoting quality work.
3. **Marking Directions to facilitate access to tools of protection and inclusion** with insights into the right to health and safety in the workplace, legal support pathways, and social and work-related empowerment for those escaping exploitation.
4. **Strengthening Connections** focuses on consolidating the **referral system for the emergence and management of victims of exploitation**, promoting more structured coordination between social, health, inspection, and labour services, and exploring local governance models and best practices that emphasise the role of civil society and the community in integration policies.

“The right path”, the slogan of the Su.Pr.Eme.2 program, thus translates into concrete action: a shared path toward real rights and social inclusion, built on the strength of cooperation among all stakeholders.

For **Catello Formisano**, Director of the U.O.D. Programming and Design of Inclusion Pathways in the Field of Immigration, «the Table to Combat Unlawful Recruitment represents one of the most solid and structured experiences of multilevel governance. “Roads of Dignity” continues the work begun in recent years with Su.Pr.Eme., and this new phase maintains its coherence and continuity, capitalising on the skills acquired and strengthening the network of stakeholders involved in the field».

The **establishment of the TRcC** and the ongoing dialogue with local communities have allowed the Campania Region to develop more effective and participatory policies regarding immigration and the fight against exploited labour. **Shared governance** and **operational integration between institutional levels and local realities** remain the cornerstones of an approach that, thanks to the contribution of all stakeholders, aims to fully pursue the right path: that of rights, dignity, and inclusion.

Integrated Social Hubs and Work Corridors: more services and tools for the inclusion of migrant workers in Apulia

As part of the Su.Pr.Eme.2 Program, the Region has launched new actions to combat labour exploitation



Strengthening inclusion policies is an essential priority in a social and economic context marked by growing inequalities, structural migration, and new vulnerabilities in the labour market. Within the Su.Pr.Eme.2 Program, the Apulia Region has taken a concrete and strategic step to guarantee dignity, rights, and prospects for migrant workers in the region.

With this in mind, a press conference presenting the **Integrated Social Hubs in Apulia** was held on June 24th. It was a significant opportunity to illustrate the launch of the new local activities envisaged by the program. The meeting provided an opportunity for discussion between institutions, Third Sector organisations, and professionals committed to ensuring accessibility, legal support, intercultural linguistic mediation, and job placement assistance for migrants at risk of exploitation.

The Integrated Social Hubs were conceived as multifunctional local centres for the provision of low-threshold services, organised into three macro-areas (north, center, and south) and operating in the six provinces of Apulia. They include social, legal, and employment services, mobile units for intervention in informal settlements, shuttles for transportation to and from workplaces, and cohousing spaces to promote independent living. The goal is to build an **extensive network of low-threshold support services** integrated with public services and aimed at those experiencing vulnerability related to employment, healthcare, housing, and lack of protection.

Each Social Hub is managed by a network of Third Sector Entities (ETS), selected by the Apulia Region through public co-planning notices, composed as follows: **13 ETS for the province of Foggia** (Siniscalco Ceci Emmaus Foundation as leader, supported by the partners Aranea Consortium, Arcobaleno Soc. Coop., Le radici e le ali Soc.Coop., Più servizi - agricoltura ambiente e territorio Soc. Coop., Caritas Incontro Ody, Anolf Puglia APS, Charlie fa SURF Soc.Coop., Servi inutili ODV Association, Paser ODV, Comunità sulla strada di Emmaus Association, Mestieri Puglia Consortium of Soc. Coop.,and Fatoma Yaiw Association), **8 ETS for the province of Bari and BAT** (Matrix Consortium, Global Care Service, Social Care Cooperative, Invos Association, Ad Astra Cooperative, Sanità Sociale Cooperative, Xenia Cooperative and Sociale Extè Cooperative) and **7 ETS for the provinces of Lecce, Taranto and Brindisi** (CIR - Italian Council for Refugees ETS, Innovamenti, Homa Società Cooperativa S.p.a., Aeos Onlus, Italian Red Cross - Lecce Committee, ARCI Brindisi and Babele APS).

Alongside these tools, **Su.Pr.Eme.2** has also envisioned the development of **regular work corridors**, which are a cornerstone of the strategy to combat unlawful recruitment. These are traceable, transparent, and guaranteed pathways designed to facilitate the legal matching of labour supply and demand, particularly in seasonal sectors such as agriculture, construction, and tourism. The goal is to **create safe access channels**, preventing the use of illicit intermediaries, exploitation, and housing marginalisation.

Through work corridors, **ethical labour supply chains** are supported, in which the stakeholders involved, businesses, local authorities, the Third Sector, and employment centres, work together to develop sustainable employment paths accompanied by training internships, career guidance tools, access to housing, and skills recognition. With the activation of the Integrated Social Hubs and the strengthening of work corridors, the Apulia Region has confirmed its role in combating exploitation and promoting an inclusive and regional welfare model that combines legality, social cohesion, and participation.

The network against labour exploitation is growing in Sicily: Su.Pr.Eme.2's ongoing actions

The implementation of coordinated measures continues: from the team's activities supporting the Labour Inspectorates to the network of Integrated Social Hubs, the synergistic work between public bodies, social workers and regional institutions is being strengthened.



In Sicily, the Su.Pr.Eme.2 program continues to promote an integrated and systemic approach to combating labour exploitation with multi-level actions involving institutions, the Third Sector and local organisations. The goal is to combat unlawful recruitment and other serious forms of exploitation of foreign workers more effectively.

One of the key actions is the work of the Territorial Labour Inspectorates' support teams, which launched in January and are operating across Sicily. The teams are composed of legal professionals and linguistic and intercultural mediators engaged in outreach activities in the most vulnerable contexts - from informal settlements to first and second reception centres - to raise workers' awareness of their rights and collect reports of irregularities. From the beginning of the year until June 15th, **43 activities** were carried out locally reaching **800 people** including over 200 potential victims of exploitation. This was complemented by 22 inspections conducted jointly with the Inspectorates. Operational liaison with the Inter-Institutional Helpdesk against Unlawful Recruitment and the Integrated Social Hubs ensures timely and coordinated management of emergence cases.

The Integrated Social Hubs operate in the nine Sicilian provinces and comprise of a network of **21 fixed and 4 mobile hubs**, designed to ensure proximity, accessibility, and coverage throughout the region for third-country nationals who are victims or potential victims of labour exploitation. The Integrated Social Hubs ensure a logical and functional connection with other project activities and with existing local services, strengthening

the care and effectiveness of cultural mediation, career guidance, language support, socio-legal support and assistance in actively seeking employment or housing. This takes place through teamwork involving social workers, lawyers, and cultural mediators with a personalised approach that responds to different levels of vulnerability. On a regional scale, almost a thousand cases have been taken on to date, confirming the central role of the Hubs within the Su.Pr.Eme.2 program. In continuation with the work already in progress, co-design sessions between the Sicilian Region and the hubs are underway to define two experimental actions: housing first and housing-led interventions for migrant workers and safe transportation to work. Both measures are funded under the 2021-2027 ESF+ Inclusion and Fight against Poverty National Program with the aim of testing models that can be replicated at the regional level.

On the governance front, the Regional Committee for Combating Severe Labour Exploitation and Unlawful Recruitment coordinated by the Sicilian Region is continuing to consolidate operational strategies. The latest session focused on the National Guidelines for the Identification, Protection, and Assistance of Victims of Exploitation in Agriculture with a proposal for formal implementation at the regional level. At the same time, a pilot program was launched to adopt a regional referral mechanism aimed at networking services and expertise. The process involved conducting provincial focus groups prefaced by a mapping exercise using questionnaires.



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