

Introducing Practices

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Education and Culture DG

Who are we?

Project Partners

- Finnish Theatre Information Centre (TINFO), Finland
- Kunstenloket, Belgium
- SICA, Netherlands
- Arts Council of Wales/ Wales Arts International, Wales, United Kingdom
- Interarts Foundation for International Cultural Cooperation, Spain
- Fondazione Fitzcarraldo, Italy
- Pearle*, Europe
- **European Association of Conservatories (AEC)**
- European League of Institutes of the Arts (ELIA)
- European Citizen Action Service (ECAS)
- International Network of Contemporary Performing Arts (IETM)
- Network of European Museum Organisations (NEMO)

Why PRACTICS?

Project Objectives

1. To develop and pilot EU Cultural Mobility Contact Points (**Mobility Infopoints**) to stimulate mobility and help overcome existing obstacles
2. To promote coordination and networking to ease mobility
3. To deepen the sector's capacity to enhance and support mobility
4. To identify key factors stimulating mobility and to present recommendations how to overcome obstacles to mobility

What do we do?

Project Actions

- Conceptualise and pilot Mobility Infopoints
- Staff exchange and exchange of best practices
- Training of artists, cultural operators
- Evaluation and recommendations

PRACTICS in practice...

Infopoints

- National "Cultural Mobility Contact Points"
- First entry points for mobile cultural workers
- Providing advice and administrative support
- Offering training

PRACTICS in practice...

The 4 Infopoints

Kunstenloket, Belgium

SICA, Netherlands

Interarts Foundation for International Cultural
Cooperation, Spain

Arts Council of Wales ACW / Wales Arts
International, Wales, UK

PRACTICS in practice...

Objective of the Infopoints

*To provide information and support
for incoming and outgoing cultural mobility
to cultural professionals in the field*

(all sub-sectors: **performing arts, audiovisual, literature,
heritage, visual arts, music**)

PRACTICS in practice...

Mobility Information Topics

- Regulatory issues (tax, social security visas...) for incoming cultural workers & for "returning" cultural workers / artists
- National funding / opportunities to finance mobility
- Country profile
- Local job and employment market

PRACTICS in practice...

Target Groups

- Individual artists (self-employed, employed)
- Other cultural workers (all sub-sectors of cultural sector)
- Students
- Companies of all sizes (SME, micro, bigger companies)
- Venues, museums, galleries, concert halls etc.

PRACTICS in practice...

Strategic Partners

- National, local, regional administrations
- Collecting societies
- Cultural Contact Points
- Professional organisations (incl. trade unions, employers' organisations, etc.)
- Unemployment office
- Institutions for professional and vocational training

PRACTICS in practice...

Project Period: Dec. 2008 – Dec. 2011

Phase 1: Conceptualising the Infopoints

December 2008 – October 2009

Setting a common framework for the Infopoints:

- Identifying mobility information topics
- Setting up strategic partnerships at national level (with national administrations, professional organisations, etc.)
- Developing communication levels at European level with partner organisations
- Design a “charter of quality principles” for users

PRACTICS in practice...

Phase 2: Piloting Infopoints

November 2009 – end of project

- Increase the capacity of Infopoints (training, staff exchange)
- Develop competences to deal with mobility inside the sector (training for professionals, providing information tools)

Phase 3: Evaluating the Infopoints and developing the PRACTICS network

November 2009 – end of project

- Permanent evaluation and monitoring
- Develop recommendations to OMC
(together with other mobility pilot projects):
March 2010
- Think of the future:
 - Mapping of possible future Infopoints in Italy and Finland

PRACTICS in practice...

AEC conference – Warsaw November 2010

Debate :

How to best prepare graduates of art schools for cross-border mobility in their future professional lives?

What are the benefits of mobility for conservatories beyond 'promotion'?

How can professionals best transfer the knowledge and know-how they have gained on mobility to students and conservatories?



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Practices Infopoint Spain

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Context

- Infopoint based at Interarts, Barcelona

Challenges:

- Scarce formalisation of cultural sector – information often scattered and/or not publicly available
- Decentralisation of competences adds complexity
- Connections with other continents (e.g. Latin America) – mobility needs often related to this

Activities

1. Provision of information tools: info sheets, etc.
2. Response to queries on mobility: employment, funding, networking, legal issues, etc. (by e-mail, phone, in person)
3. Awareness-raising and training
4. Networking with other relevant agents (e.g. professional bodies, public authorities, etc.)

Examples of info needs

1. Internships

- Visual arts student (mosaic, fresco), based in France
- *'I would like to carry out an internship in Spain, preferably in Barcelona – I'm looking for companies, artisans, artists, workshops'*

→ Response: sending a list of relevant organisations, schools, etc. in this field

Examples of info needs

2. Employment and professional development

- Young Spanish cultural manager, specialised in cultural communication/marketing, based in Belgium
 - *'I would like to go back to Spain to work in the field of cultural management and web communications – do you know where I can look for information?'*
- Response: referring him to major websites on cultural employment + presentation of Practics Infosheet on cultural employment in Spain

Examples of info needs

3. Legal issues in other countries

- Spanish dance company, often touring abroad
- *'We are interested in contracts, social security issues and working permits in other EU countries (France, Belgium, UK, Germany) and elsewhere; relevant networks in France; and EU funding opportunities'*
 - Response: personal meeting, addressing specific issues, providing some information tools, analysing relevance of project to existing funding programmes

Examples of info needs

4. Networking opportunities

- Lithuanian circus company, looking for partners / venues in Spain
- *'We are interested in taking part in cultural events in Europe'*
 - Response: referring them to relevant network of venues and promoters, and to Practics infosheets on cultural reality in Spain and funding opportunities



Thanks!

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