

Development of inclusive socio-linguistic and cultural inclusive practices European Integration Fund 2013/14

2013 Development of inclusive socio-linguistic and cultural practices

Provincial statistical data shows that 42,522 foreigners from 136 different countries were resident in Bolzano province on 31st December 2012. The proportion of the total population made up of foreigners increased from 7.9 to 8.3% in 2012. Around 68% of these came from non-EU countries.

This is the target group of the courses co-funded by the European Fund for the Integration of Third Country Nationals and the Interior Ministry Development in the context of the new Development of inclusive socio-linguistic and cultural inclusive practices project which began in autumn 2013 and ended in late June 2014.

The education requirement identified involved the setting up of 45 Italian language (levels A1 and A2), 9 German language (levels A1 and A2) and 7 literacy courses for adults from outside the European Union, monitored via quality assessment for educational quality improvement purposes.

Courses are free and take place three times per week with times varying across the day to take account of participant needs.



The language levels and locations of the courses covering the whole province are identified in accordance with needs as they emerge. For courses to be approved, at least 12 participants must have signed up to them, with exceptions applying to peripheral areas.

As compared to the previous project, in this edition, for every standard L2 Italian course lasting 40 hours and German L2 course lasting 33 hours, 2 lesson units which can be used flexibly are planned (e.g. A2 Italian text preparation, help in filling in the test enrolment forms, civic type consultancy, etc.).

The objective of the courses is to develop all four language skills (listening, speaking, reading and writing) via educational methods which prioritise a communication approach. The language learning programme will be accompanied by socio-pedagogical type initiatives designed to foster and facilitate immigrants' access to the local framework, enabling them to immerse themselves in an authentic local life context.

Following on from positive experiences in last year's Italian courses for mothers of the Salerno primary school's children designed to offer them minimum support skills with which to accompany their children through school and also improve their understanding of organisational and administrative school practices, the scheme has been extended to other infant or primary schools. The schools chosen are Istituto Comprensivo della Bassa Atesina and Istituto Pluricomprendivo di Vipiteno. The language agency organising the course is: [CLS Bolzano](#).

To satisfy a need which emerged in earlier courses a baby sitting service will be offered to enable parents with underage children to attend.

The [Bolzano](#) and [Merano](#) Centri Multilingue will work alongside the language initiatives with material, online platforms and audio-visual resources as well as complementary [independent learning](#) and [individual language consultancy](#).

A file has also been published containing specific educational material for the preparation of the A2 Italian language test for long term residence permit issue (pursuant to DM 4/6/10) for third country nationals and Italian course teachers. The file contains 10 test simulations, a CD containing listening test dialogues and an answer key. [Transcriptions of the dialogues can be downloaded from this site](#).

A need has also emerged for educational material of a civic nature to supplement textbooks: a feasibility study for the creation of such material has been carried out which takes account of the specific features of the province (e.g. an explanation of the co-existence of three language groups, the school system, etc.).

A further objective of the course is to continue to offer teaching staff adequate professional training and refresher courses regarding the plurilingualism and trans-national phenomena, an indispensable requisite for professional work with this specific target. Four theoretical-practical meetings are planned, each lasting 8 hours (three for teachers of L2 Italian and one for teachers of L2 German): each meeting involves a theoretical presentation, a discussion and a practical work part (practical work: observation, analysis and [materials construction](#)).