



Focus Group Discussion / GROWTH

Focus group participants sought for research on refugee welcome

IRC and More in Common, in partnership with other organisations, are conducting a three-year project funded by the European Commission, to strengthen refugee welcoming efforts.

Purpose

We are seeking volunteers from the UNICORE and Bridge Trust programmes willing to participate in focus groups as part of the initial research phase. The goal of these focus groups is to gain a detailed picture of volunteers in these programmes, their motivations for engaging, and their reflections on their experiences.

The results of these focus groups, together with quantitative research on a national level, will be distilled into insights and recommendations to be used by civil society and government organisations, with the aim of improving volunteer experience and attracting more volunteers in future.

The GROWTH Project

The GROWTH Project (EU-funded, AMIF, 2024-2027), coordinated by Consorzio Communitas, aims at supporting the growth of community sponsorship schemes in Italy, Ireland,



Germany and across European Union (EU) Member States. It will:

- develop evidence-based sponsor recruitment and retention strategies, to increase the number and diversity of sponsors
- implement sponsor recruitment and retention strategies through country-tailored communication campaigns and messages
- analyze and apply innovations including alternative housing solutions
- support the scaling of Community Sponsorship Programs and strengthen their capacity to respond to crises, by identifying potential adaptations to policy framework, developing a sponsor support model and training resources.

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IRC is responsible for ensuring quality monitoring and evaluation of the project and supporting the implementation of activities in Italy.

Format

The focus group discussion will take place on **5th November 2024**, on campus (Università degli Studi della Tuscia di Viterbo) and will last approximately 90 minutes. It will be moderated by Elisabetta Bianchin and Tessa Piccinin of IRC Italia, in consultation with More in Common, which is the lead research partner.

Through a questionnaire, they will lead a discussion with participants about their motivations and experiences. No preparation is required on the part of participants.

The focus group will be recorded for internal research purposes only, so that it can be transcribed and analysed. Participation in focus groups and everything said in them will be strictly confidential.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Daniela Vitiello at daniela.vitiello@unitus.it.

Thank you in advance for your support!