# Seven Key Principles for a successful 'Together, Moving Forward' project

**1. Know your context**

Knowing what kind of welcome and integration policies are in place as well as being familiar with other existing small- or large-scale initiatives targeting refugees' needs will help you contextualise your work, identify clear needs and suggest relevant ways forward.

*Have you asked refugees themselves for their own opinion? Also, you might want to keep an eye open for ESU's study on the issue of recognition of qualifications, coming soon!*

*Students and universities are already active on some of the issues we want to address. A list of ongoing projects will gradually be compiled. Meanwhile, take a look at the Refugees Welcome Map (European University Association)*

**2. Build on good practices or try something new**

ESU supports initiatives that are part of ongoing projects, allowing them to continue or grow in scale, as well as new projects or new approaches to longstanding issues. As long as they provide a quality answer to the issues you want to target!

**3. Be sustainable**

Be ready to take ownership of the project and to maintain the results and impact beyond the duration of the specific project and partnership. Clearly address in the application how the project's' results and impact will continue after the end of the project.

*Are you trying to build a lasting partnership? Do you foresee the project to develop further in the future? can you use the knowledge gathered to spark up further change or advocacy plans? How, how? - we're all ears...*

*Have you told us how you are going to attract people's attention through your communication strategy, use of media, choice of project?*

**4. Go for wider audiences**

The 'Together, Moving Forward' projects can help student unions reach out to new students and local unions, as well as the wider public. Projects should be able to engage the public, reflect community needs, and bring together various stakeholders.

**5. Promote equality (gender, disability, minorities)**

Equality is key. Mainstream gender throughout your activities: go for gender balance in teams and beneficiary groups, address gender issues within the main topic of inclusion of refugees, set up of non gender-biased activities etc. Also, keep in mind LGBT+, disability and minority rights and address related issues.

*We are interested in your commitment to equality and inclusion at all levels of the project: did it influence the project proposal? is it one of the main topics? How were leadership roles assigned?*

*Why is the partnership you built a good - actually the best - basis for action? Who's doing what is also quite helpful for us to know...*

**6. Explore partnerships**

When developing your projects, consider partnerships. Increase your know-how by reaching out to new partners or organisations, especially refugee- or migrant-led ones. You can also connect with organisations and Student Unions from other geographical areas or with different skill levels.

**7. Fund yourself**

Co-funding is not necessary but welcome. We are open to applications from organisations and partnerships with multiple donors and supportive stakeholders. More money, larger scope?

*Do you have access to other sources of money, public or private, local or international? Show it in the proposed budget.*

# Selection Criteria

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| ✓ **Eligibility check** | Are you eligible and is your project in line with the programme's objectives? |
| ✓ **Quality of needs assessment** | Do you have a good knowledge of the context, such as refugees' needs, other initiatives addressing them, policy addressing integration in the host-country? |
| ✓ **Relevance of the approach proposed** | Is the initiative answering to the needs it aims to address?<br>*For international grants - is the international component really an added value?* |
| ✓ **Impact and sustainability of your project** | What change is the initiative bringing about and can you build on it once the project is over? |
| ✓ **Quality of project design** | Are the objectives and results realistic and measurable, is the budget balanced and cost-effective, is the timeline realistic? |
| ✓ **Gender equality and inclusion of diversity** | Are gender and diversity considerations visibly incorporated at all levels of your project? |
| ✓ **Appropriate use of media for visibility and dissemination** | How well will the dissemination strategy increase and ensure the dissemination of information and the visibility of the project? |
| ✓ **Organisational capacity** | What do the organisational size, experience and internal organisation tell us about the ability to manage the logistical and financial implications of this project? |
| ✓ **Quality of the partnership (if any)** | Why is this partnership the best for this project, and what are partners' strengths and roles? |
| ✓ **Cooperation with refugee-led formal or informal groups** | How are refugee or asylum seekers (students or not) involved in the project design and implementation? |