



European
Municipalities
Network



Migration and Integration: The Role of Local Authorities – The Cyprus Case

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OUTLINE

- The Cypriot Context
- Governance challenges
- Local Authorities and immigrants' integration
- The way forward for Cyprus



THE CYPRIOT CONTEXT

- Proper legal framework in terms of international conventions, EU acquis and national legislation
- Cyprus has experienced radical changes politically, socially and economically during the last 40 years
- Appropriate migration policy and security control
- Limited implementation of social inclusion policies



LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND IMMIGRANTS' INTEGRATION

- Local authorities are in the front line with regard to the implementation of immigration and integration policies and are the first ones to react to the economic and social impact of migratory flows in their areas.
- However, they hold no legal mandate in social policy making and provision of social services
- Lack of targeted and sustained services to immigrants



GOVERNANCE CHALLENGES

- Fragmentation of policies
- Centralisation of statutory services
- Lack of coordination and
mainstreaming



THE WAY FORWARD

7 key areas to invest in the future:

1. Protect and promote the Human Rights of migrants
2. Provide access to services and ensure equality for all
3. Representative democracy through participation of all communities



THE WAY FORWARD

4. Celebrate cultural diversity as a source of exchange and dialogue
5. Foster tolerance and fight against discrimination and racism
6. Mitigate ethnic, cultural and religious tensions and conflicts of interest within urban communities
7. Foster social cohesion and shared belonging



THANK YOU...

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