

Taste of Home culinary/cultural/language cooperative







refugees

integration

Economic emancipation

competence

multiculturalism

Social care

Health care



interculturalism

creativity

education

future

The context

Where we are?

The world

- 65,3 million people forcibly displaced worldwide (by the end of 2015)
- 21, 3 million refugees
- 10 million stateless people
- 51% children, under age of 18
- 1,3 million European countries

Croatia

- Around 5000 asylum requests, 309 approved (2004-2017)
- Croatian "Act on international and temporary protection" refugees have the right to:
- Residence
- Freedom of movement
- Appropriate material reception conditions
- Health care
- Elementary & secondary education
- Information, legal counselling and free legal assistance
- Freedom of religion
- Work

The reality - neglected segments on the state level

ASYLUM PROCESS

- Long duration- 6 month plus additional 9 and more
- Many of them leave during this period because of uncertainty
- Opposite to the law legislative, financial assistance during the procedure is not enabled to everyone and regularly

EDUCATION

- LANGUAGE -no systematic course of Croatian language
- Available only in NGO's and with volunteers
- PRESCHOOL- children are not enroled
- HIGHSCHOOL- free for minors but no preparatory course; teachers & professors are not trained for the specific needs
- UNIVERSITIES- hardened envolvement to universities -high tuitions, no scholarships

HEALTH CARE

- Limited health care
- General medical practicioners refuse to take refugees as their patients "they don't know the code for a certain health service"
- Poor medical care in shelters for asylum seekers
- No systematic psycho-social and rehabilitation programs for mental care, especially for refugees with trauma

SOCIAL WELFARE & ACCOMMODATION

- Financial support: 13 Euros during the process, 106 Euros when granted protection (for unemployed and acommodated outside the asylum shelter)
- Insufficient quality of accommodation for the first 2 years of integration
- Xenophobic attitudes with landlords
- After granted protection refugees wait for accommodation several months in the asylum shelters

COMMUNICATIONS AND UNDERSTANDING THE ENVIRONMENT

- No translation in everyday communication with the institutions, during the doctors appointments etc.
- Poor information about history, culture and the society

OWNERSHIP

Refugees with permanent residency don't have the right of owning property

UNACCOMPANIED REFUGEE CHILDREN

- poor accommodation during the process of granting protection and after
- accommodation in institutions for children and youth with behavior dissorders

QUALIFICATIONS AND LABOUR MARKET

- no developed system of recognition of educational qualifications of refugees based on different educational systems and standards of competences
- Closed labour market- towards employment and professional training
- In 2015- 92 unemployed persons with granted protection (77 men, 15 women) according to Croatian employment office
- 2 employed
- Most of the working experience is temporary

The conclusion + discrimination report

- Integration is non-functional
- In fact there is no comprehensive integration policy on state level- the new Action Plan for integration of refugees was suppose to be presented in June 2016
- No intersectoral cooperation between health, educational and status matters institutions
- Poor awareness on refugees rights in legal institutions
- Poor inclusion in local communities
- Rise of discrimination reports towards refugees and immigrants
- According to Ombudsman report for 2016: 30% of official complaints were on racial, ethnical, skin color and national identity basis (531 cases)
- 63 % of youth in higshools consider immigrants shouldn't enter Croatia
- These numbers do not represent the real presence of discrimination which is certainly higher but not reported and recorded

So, if the authorities don't care- who does? -how we started-

During the CPS program course: Migrations and asylum" & "Emancipation of cultural pluralism in the times of exile" in cooperation with the group of volunteers interested in asylum policy system in Croatia the question appeared:

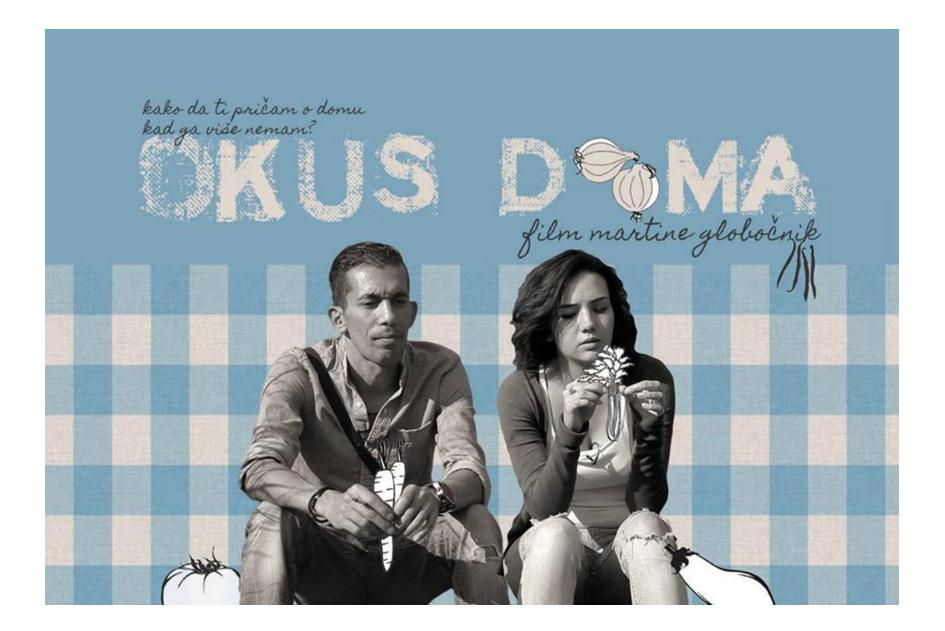
"What would be the easiest way of communication with refugees and which model of socialization would be acceptable for them in the first place?"

THEM = THE PEOPLE IN SEARCH FOR SAFETY AND HAPPINESS

- tastes of home, stories about food they ate last in their countries, about recipes, occasions when they eat certain food... ways of preparation, the family circle, sharing the food, street food
- through the story about food they began to tell their stories ...
- The doors were open and so was the path towards trust

The book of stories & recipes





2014 project: Qualitative steps towards integration of refugees

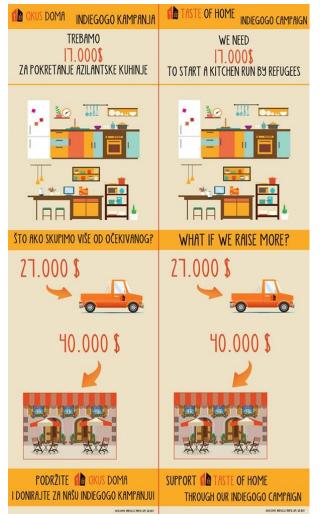
- Civil organizations & Associations:
- CPS, CEDRA, NESsT, Izazov & Iskra educational workshops for informing and empowering refugees
- FADE IN produces a documentary movie Taste of Home, radio jingle: "Integration starts with understanding", video spot: The origin of food "We have accepted the food, why not people"

https://vimeo.com/118005009

- European union- IPA fund , Croatian Office for Cooperation with NGO's , Heinrich Boll Stiftung Taste of Home book of recipes, web page: www.okus-doma.hr/eng
- European Social Fond: "Investment for the future", Croatian Office for Cooperation with NGO's
- ✓ February 24, 2015- Presenting the results of the campaign and introducing the idea for establishing a culinary/language Cooperative



Crowdfunding campaign on Indiegogo platform – october 2015

















February 2016- registered Cooperative 16 Co-founders: Syria, Ethiopia, Senegal, Nigeria, Kosovo, Albania, Iraq, Croatia

Culinary activities

- Catering services foR business conferences, events & parties
- Culinary workshops & courses
- Books of recipes
- Food festivals, public presentations & degustations
- Other culinary exchanges

Cultural-language activities

- Language courses: arabic, farsi, albanian, english, french...
- Translations of booklets and articles from croatian and into croatian
- Translations in conferences, seminars & lectures
- Organisation of cultural events- literature, film, language...



About

Good food is the foundation of genuine happiness

Auguste Escoffier

- Economic emancipation of refugees and individuals with migrant background
- Inclusivity & active participation in cultural, economic & everyday social life in Croatia
- Support in education & improving proffesional competences
- Senzibilisation of Croatian public about refugees needs
- Opening the labour market towards vulnerable groups in our society

Comprehensive approach of ToH

Social entrepreneurship

- Cooperative form
- Horizontal governing
- Colaborating & sharing power and responsability
- Gender equality
- Equal wages
- Space for creativity
- Soft skills upgrade
- Building confidence
- safe environment

Senzibilization

- Social impact
- Bringing awareness on nondiscrimination to the community
- Connecting & sharing culture
- Connecting to media
- Public advocacy

















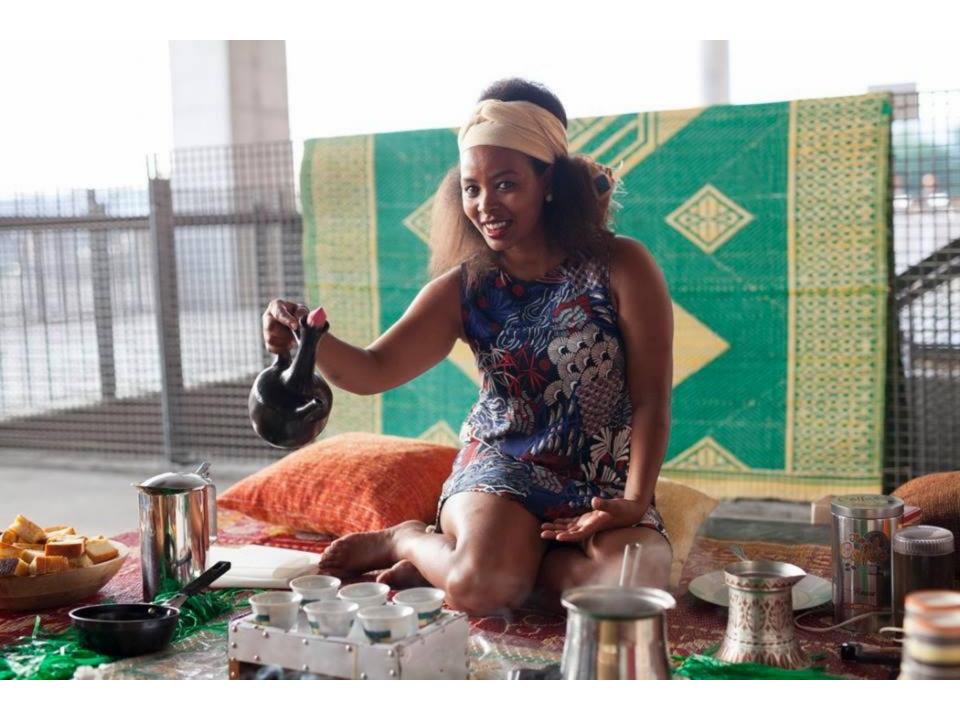














We came with the taste and we found a home