

Good Practice template

- All Good Practices identified by an Interreg Europe project and reported in the progress reports have to be submitted to the Programme.
- In order to submit a practice, you will have to register in the Interreg Europe website. Online submission will be available the first semester of 2017.
- NB: in orange: 2 optional fields. All other fields are compulsory.

1. General information	
Title of the practice	Local Network of Domestic Kindergartens in Abruzzo Region
Does this practice come from an Interreg Europe Project	No

In case 'yes' is selected, the following sections appear:

Please select the project acronym	Drop down menu with all acronyms
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Specific objective	Drop-down list of the 6 specific objectives <i>[Technical: In case a project is selected, the specific objective is automatically completed]</i>	
Main institution involved	Rete Locale di Asili Domiciliari in Abruzzo	
Location of the practice	Country	Italy (ITALIA)
	NUTS 1	SUD
	NUTS 2	Abruzzo
	NUTS 3	Pescara

2. Detailed description	
Detailed information on the practice	<p>The idea of the Local Network of Domestic Kindergartens comes from the analysis of a local community's need: the necessity for several families to find a place where they could leave their children until the age of 3 while working, without needing to pay expensive fees and not being forced to modify their working time according to public nursery schools' opening hours.</p> <p>The overall objective of the project is to create an extended local social network, which is capable of satisfying the needs of a great number of families, helping them to improve their quality of life through the diffusion of an appropriate work-life balance, education and free time. In these terms, the aim of this Local Network is not to compete with public institutions, but to integrate the existing nurseries without generating any further cost to the public sector.</p> <p>The project includes the entire process of Domestic Nursery from the selection of professionals who assist the children to their training and upskilling their professional profile. Thanks to crowdfunding campaigns, the Local Network is able to sustain administrative costs and external expertise.</p> <p>The professionals host up to 5 children in their own houses, offering the maximum time flexibility for parents and the most comfortable environment for the children where they can play and learn during the day. The approach of the kindergartens is professional, flexible, welcoming, involving and focused on the promotion of child development and wellbeing.</p>
Resources needed	NA

Timescale (start/end date)	June 2014 – onwards
Evidence of success (results achieved)	<p>The lack of Nursery Schools is a problem affecting the entire country of Italy: there are less public structures available than the global request at national level, and waiting lists cannot satisfy the needs of all families. Private Kindergartens, which give total flexibility to the parent's needs, offer an alternative solution but their access fees are expensive and not all the families can afford these costs. The Local Network of Domestic Nursery School in Abruzzo Region is a start up in the social sector who has been able to produce an innovative model of social innovation through the analysis of already existing experiences. It has been able to include a reasonable amount of families at local level and deliver them a service they could not receive from the national and regional institutions. The Local Network of Domestic Nursery School in Abruzzo Region has succeeded in opening quite a large number of home kindergartens. The growing interest shown toward such an innovative model in Abruzzo influenced local and regional policy-makers in defining and implementing new political decisions on social innovation and on Domestic Nursery School.</p>
Difficulties encountered/ lessons learned	<p>Although recent times have seen a slowdown of the project's activities, the Local Network of Domestic Nursery School in Abruzzo Region has succeeded in promoting a socially innovative model for the children assistance, which has been able to respond to one of the most urgent need of modern Italian families. It has been able to integrate a public service without public funding and realise a model suitable for other context and able to give a high quality service in complete autonomy.</p> <p>The project presents evident geographical limits: the inclusion of just two provinces of the region influenced its capacity of a more diffused promotion of its activities and also its financial capacity, even if a widespread penetration of the network at regional scale would have required a major investment of resources.</p>
Potential for learning or transfer	<p>The idea of a Local Network of Domestic Kindergartens derives from the observation of Nursery School systems in other European countries: facilities like home Kindergartens are a stable reality in Sweden and Denmark (in Northern Europe in general), but also in Germany and in The Netherlands. Education and care systems for young children (from birth to compulsory school age) vary in different countries; however, early childhood education and care can lay the foundations for later success in life in terms of education, well-being, employability, and social integration.</p> <p>Since maternity leave is shortening in all countries, the need for flexible, cheap and professional nursery schools is going to be growing soon if local regulations do not restrict the laws in a way that would make their operation impossible.</p>
Further information	www.asilidomiciliariabruzzo.it
Contact details <i>[Technical: the contact details will be visible only to "Policy Learning Platforms registered members"]</i>	
Name	Local Network of Domestic Kindergartens in Abruzzo Region
Organisation	Rete Locale di Asili Domiciliari in Abruzzo
Email	info@asilidomiciliariabruzzo.it
Expert opinion	<i>[500 characters]</i> [Technical: to be filled in by the Policy Learning Platforms experts]