

Annual Report 2021

Moniheli ry: Annual Report 2021

Text: Moniheli ry

Images: Moniheli ry, Think Africa, Suomi-Armenia-

yhdistys, Kulttuurikeskus Ninho ry, LIIDF ry

Edit: Moniheli ry

Introduction

Abdirahim Hussein, Executive Director

The second decade of Moniheli begun smoothly. Our network grew by 17 new member associations in 2021. It's great to see our community growing. This growth is also reflected in the number of representation activities. In 2021, I attended an average of 15 meetings a week, and had 260 representations in total. One of our big successes was the election of Moniheli to the Advisory **Board** for Social Health and Organisations until 2025.

The corona pandemic strongly affected Moniheli's year. 80% of our work went online, and we learned to work effectively online, both in terms of internal communication and the organisation of events. When communicating the official corona information to the immigrant population, we learned that the messenger matters. It took a lot of translation work and grassroots advocacy to get the message to spread.

We also reached out to foreign-language speakers in February, at the Ministry of Justice-funded Kaikkien Vaalit campaign. The main objective of the campaign was to increase the turnout of foreign-language voters in Finland. The Ministry of Justice also supported us in producing an Anti-Racism Handbook for organisations. The handbook will help multicultural organisations in their anti-racist work.



guidelines for recognising encountering mis- and dis-information in Finnish. This posed challenges for Moniheli's target group, as a large number of our member organisations missed the guidelines. In June, however, the situation eased when Moniheli's new DigiUp project was project was very launched. The welcome, as the corona pandemic had highlighted the divide in digital skills between migrants and the native population, and thus widened the gap in accessibility of services between different segments of the population. The DigiUp project provided our member associations with concrete help and advice on going online and using digital services.

Thank you to the staff, board and partners of Moniheli for your efforts that made this great year possible!

Index

Greetings from the President	5
Board of Directors 2021	6
Moniheli's year 2021 in figures	7
Strategy work	8
The Association	9
Advocacy work	12
Kaikkien Vaalit and Guide to Confronting Racism	13
The Moniheli Grant	14
Network's achievements	15
Projects and programs	17
Katto program	18
OmaPolku	20
Terkku	23
DigiUp	26

Greetings from the President

Emmaculate Tamankag

The year 2021 was marked by the ongoing deadly covid 19 virus that forced each one of us to step out of our comfort zones. The unrest in the world further exacerbated situation creating fear. tension. other discrimination, and societal problems in the immigrant communities. Moniheli as one of the key players on integration issues in Finland had a huge responsibility in creating solutions to some of these problems. The organization saw

the need for developing its operational activities which led to the development of a new strategy that took into consideration the current and future trends. Moniheli also became a part of renowned organizations and institutions both nationally and internationally representing immigrants in Finland

and sharing expertise on integration.

As the largest network of multicultural associations in Finland, diversity is on of Moniheli's biggest strengths, but also a challenge when dealing with issues confronting member associations and their communities. As the board, we have tried to be sensitive in our pronouncements on issues happening around the world and in Finland, and have continuously ensured that decisions made by the board are culturally sensitive and reflect some of our core values such as equality and fairness.

During the autumn general assembly meeting of 2021, Moniheli elected new

board members. The diversity of the current board is not just in terms of nationality, but also in the type of associations they represent and their area of expertise. The board consistently met once every month to deliberate and make a decision on key issues that will steer the organization in the right direction. An example of such a decision is on the new projects, which led to an increase in the operational budget of the organization.

> The administrative regulation and financial administrative regulation have also been reviewed and accepted by the board, pending acceptance by the General Assembly.

> > As Moniheli navigates its

way through the rough waters, we acknowledge the importance of effective collaboration with our partners in dealing with integration issues, to ensure that member associations and the communities they represent feel a strong sense of belonging in a globalized Finland.

I want to thank all the members of the Board for the selfless service they have offered the organization, the Executive Director for his passion and vision exhibited in the day to day running of the organization, the staff members for their dedication and high level of professionalism, to our collaborating partners for believing in Moniheli's mission and vision, and to member associations for helping to project a positive image of the organization.

our



The Board 2021

Emmaculate Tamankag, Heed Association Finland ry (President)

Shefali Arora, Suomi-Intia-Seura ry

Josephine Atanga, Women Designed for Success ry

Simone Santo Baldi, SAMHA ry

Liban Hassan, Tieto on Valtaa ry

Mediatrice Nyiramugisha, Lappeenranta International Intercultural Democratic Forum ry

Marja Pentikäinen, Fokus ry

Pauliina Shilongo, Suomi-Namibia-Seura ry

Alec Thurnham, Familia ry

Fatima Usman, AFAES ry

Heidi Alander, Suomi uutena kotimaana ry

Deputy Members:

Sandra Imran Alsouse, Mirsal ry Sanal Edamaruku, Familia ry

Moniheli's year 2021 in figures

124 member associations

380 event participants

16 member letters

28 learning and networking events

10 news letters

Perceived usefulness of services and activities

91%

18 expert level commentations

18 new partnerships for member associations provided by Moniheli

1515

encounters in support activities

Strategy work

In 2021, Moniheli worked on its strategy for the next three years. The strategy was prepared in workshops, where Moniheli's member associations had the opportunity to influence the content of the strategy in cooperation with the Board's Strategy Working Group. The final product was a three-pointed strategy that will guide Moniheli's work from 2022 to 2024.

Strategic priorities for 2022-2024

We activate the network

- 1) We organise opportunities for cooperation and meetings within the network, both live and online.
- 2) We create ways for network members to make their voices heard, by theme.
- 3) We ensure that members are more familiar with the Moniheli.

We strengthen equality

- 1) We communicate in an accessible, understandable and clear way to reach the different target groups.
- 2) We will carry out planned, long-term advocacy work in an efficient and precise manner.
- 3) We influence the structures of the Finnish society in relation to the integration, well-being and inclusion of immigrants and their communities.

We invest in partnership

- 1) We build primarily joint projects with member associations and other stakeholders.
- 2) Strengthen the capacity of member associations to produce active and effective action.
- 3) We support cooperation both between member associations and between member associations and stakeholders.



The Association

In 2021, Moniheli has continued its role of supporting the development and activities of multicultural organisations and promoting cooperation within the network and between its members and others. As in previous years, activities included advisory services, online and face-to-face learning and networking events, producing materials and maintaining communication channels. Skills development themes during the year included fundraising (presented at the Funding Info 2.0 webinar) and project planning in the Ideas to Projects peer learning group online.

THE POWER OF COMMUNITIES

The importance of community-based communication has become more visible during the pandemic, when vital information was effectively communicated to foreign-language speakers living in Finland through their own networks and channels.

At Moniheli, we recognise the potential of community-based communication. We harnessed it in the Kaikkien Vaalit campaign, supported by the Ministry of Justice, where key people from different communities received training from media and civic experts and passed on information about the 2021 municipal elections in different languages and in many different ways.

In another project supported by the Ministry of Justice, the skills of organisations were also developed through a cooperation with anti-racism advocacy experts, resulting in an anti-racism guide for associations. Moniheli member associations and other multicultural organisations were also key partners in various Moniheli projects, organising peer groups in different languages with the OmaPolku project or providing information on noncommunicable diseases to their members in cooperation with students from the Polytechnic of Applied Sciences in the Terkku project.

CHANGING PATTERNS OF ACTION

The long-awaited return to normality after the social withdrawal did not happen in 2021, but the adaptation to the new norm has continued, including use of increasingly through the sophisticated digital tools. Moniheli organised the largest networking event in its history, the Cooperation Fair, at Wonder.me platform in spring 2021. 90 participants of the Cooperation Fair got to know each other and discussed different topics during the afternoon. Participants ranged from Rovaniemi to Helsinki and from small migrant associations to ministries.

After a year of organising online events, it was also time to evaluate their effectiveness. The association clubs gave way to the Moniheli dates, where instead of speeches and presentations, participants discussed challenges and solutions in a workshop format. While the Moniheli meetings worked best face-to-face, the online tools seem to lend themselves well to question-and-answer meetings that took place during the year on a range of topics from financial management to meeting with the Moniheli Executive Director.

NEW DIMENSIONS IN PARTNERSHIP

The Cooperation Fair, the most important partnership event of the year for Moniheli, was a success due to a combination of factors. A major role was played by the cooperation with students of the Project Management Innovation course at the DIAK University of Applied Sciences and the Partnership programme, which helped marketing. The cooperation in the field of multicultural associations' action and extended development was deepened in 2021. The Fundraising Info 2.0 webinar, which has become a tradition, in cooperation with the Järjestöhautomo and the ry, provided fundraising tips for more than 120 participants.

The partners included range of ministries, municipalities, organisations of all sizes and the Finnish Police. The partnership of two years was crowned by Moniheli becoming a member organisation of the Civic Forum, which opened up a new range of support and grants for learning-related activities for Moniheli's member associations, as well as cultural activities.

47 96 Työterveysloitos EU:lta **128**

participants in **Fundraising Info** 2.0 Webinar

HIGHLIGHTING THE VOICES **OF MULTICULTURAL ASSOCIATIONS**

One of the principles of Moniheli is to highlight the voices of multicultural associations and share good practices. The purpose of this activity is to raise the profile of multicultural associations in our field and to give them the opportunity to influence the issues that concern them. This principle has been applied in the spring Association's Club and in the Fundraising Info 2.0 webinar, where different organisations shared their experiences of different forms of fundraising through short interviews.

A key event in the strategy work of the Moniheli was an online workshop with organisations, which was member attended by a significant number of members. network During the workshop, representatives of member associations shared their expectations and hopes for the future of Moniheli, which were complemented by the strategy team from an organisational perspective.

Advocacy Work

Moniheli's advocacy work has been strengthened in 2021, although the advocacy-focused training and the creation of an advocacy plan as an output of the training has been postponed to 2022 due to the long preparation of the strategy.

The Executive Director plays an active role in advocacy work and represents Moniheli in several working groups and networks. The representatives on the Board are also actively involved in Moniheli's advocacy work. Members of our network are also given the opportunity to influence on behalf of their own organisation.

Moniheli has been asked to give a record number of expert speeches and interviews in 2021, including Universities of Applied Sciences, ministries, foreign actors (including the development of the EU's CERV grant programme), the Finnish Parliament's working group on restrictions on banking services for associations, and the Suomen Pakolaisapu inclusion act of the Year Council. In addition, Moniheli, with the help of Ministry of coordinated the lustice, national Kaikkien vaalit campaign and created a set of municipal election goals that support the network's mission.

MONIHELI PRESENT AT 20 INSTITUTIONS

- Osaamiskeskusohjelma (OSKE), Ministry of Employment
- Sosiaali- ja terveysjärjestöjen avustusasioiden neuvottelukunta, Ministry of Social Affairs and Health
- Valtakunnallinen Etnisten suhteiden neuvottelukunta (ETNO), Ministry of Justice
- Monikieliset suomalaiset ja maahan muuttaneet yhteiskunnallisina vaikuttajina -työryhmä, Ministry of Justice
- Kansalaisyhteiskuntapolitiikan neuvottelukunta (KANE), Ministry of Justice
- Digi arkeen -neuvottelukunta, Ministry of Finance

- Uusimaa Regional Cooperation Group
- Uudenmaan kumppanuusohjelman sparrausryhmä (UUDELY)
- Sote-muutostuki-verkosto (HyTe ry)
- The Espoo Multicultural Advisory Board
- City of Helsinki Inclusion and Interaction Advisory Board
- European Commission Expert Group
- Selkokielen neuvottelukunta
- Fingo ry
- Safe Helsinki network
- Hilma network, the Finnish Disability
 Forum
- Sujuvat siirtymät, National Agency for Education
- Security Committee, Finnish Red Cross
- Monikielinen koronaviestintä, Finnish Red Cross
- Paperittomat network, Finnish Red Cross



The aim of the Kaikkien Vaalit 2021 campaign was to encourage foreign-language speakers to vote in local elections and to explain how to vote safely in the event of a global pandemic. The project aimed to disseminate information about voting and elections to communities with foreign backgrounds through various communication channels in their mother tongues. The project's remote election panels also provided opportunities for interaction between election candidates and communities of non-nationals. The events made use of the Moniheli network. The campaign was carried out in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice and the Advisory Board on Ethnic Relations (ETNO).

The events were largely organised on Zoom in the form of meetings and webinars. The events were often streamed live on Facebook or YouTube to reach a wider audience.

28 EVENTS, NUMBER OF VIEWS 14 074



ANTI-RACISM WORK

HANDBOOK FOR ASSOCIATIONS

coordinated Moniheli an anti-racism project funded by the Ministry of Justice, which ended in August 2021, with the overall aim of strengthening the capacity of organisations to work against racism. The project provided anti-racism and nonalternation trainings for partner organisations. In turn, partner organisations conducted workshops with bicultural families and young people on how to confront racism. The project also resulted in the publication of an antiracism handbook for organisations in English and Finnish.



The project involved five partner organisations: AFAES ry, Ad Astra ry, Mirsal ry, Peace and Welfare Organisation ry, and Cultural Centre Ninho ry.

The Moniheli Grant

85047,51 €

23 associations

The Moniheli Grant offers network's member associations the opportunity to experiment and learn project design, develop their understanding of application processes, and implement small-scale activities for migrants and their communities or pilot new ways to promote integration in Finland.

We support our member associations in the application process by offering a range of training and sparring opportunities to ensure as equal opportunities as possible. In 2021, we redesigned our grant distribution process. These reforms have been introduced for the 2022 call.

Due to the pandemic, a large number of projects that received a Moniheli Grant in 2020 were implemented in 2021.

The Moniheli Grant has enabled activities which have provided invaluable support to target groups significantly affected by the pandemic. The activities took into account the consequences of the corona pandemic in terms of loneliness, social exclusion and physical condition.

Over the past year, the recipients of the Moniheli Grant made up a significant proportion of the recipients of the Ministry of Employment and

Economy's association grant. The grant is intended for associations with limited resources for their activities. Among the recipients of previous Moniheli Grants, at least one has also received a project grant from STEA at the beginning of this year and another a project grant from TEM. The process of applying for a Moniheli Grant and developing one's own skills with this small grant is one factor that has enabled the continuation of valuable activities with a different donor.





Network's achievements

In 2021, the members of the Moniheli Network implemented a number of successful projects and activities, some with the support of the Moniheli Grant. Here are the best bits!

Mirsal ry

Mirsal was one of the four Moniheli member organisations that received a grant from the Ministry of Finance (VM) to develop their activities for 2021.

In 2021, Mirsal ry used the Moniheli Grant to implement the One Hand project, which trained Arabicspeaking organisations on how to operate in the Finnish field and how to participate in Finnish society. Mirsal ry actively encouraged Arabicspeaking Finns to vote in municipal elections, in cooperation Moniheli's Kaikkien Vaalit campaign. At the end of 2021, VM awarded a project grant for one year to Mirsal ry's Father is Important project.

Think Africa

Think Africa was part of the Finnish Changemaker Map produced by Ashoka Nordic, which identified actors who are making a difference. The publication was produced in collaboration with Sitra. The organisation also received funding from the VM.



15

Suomi-Armenia Yhdistys

With the support of Moniheli, the association's Valo group produced a performance "Eristyksissä" with the Q Theatre. The performance combined Finnish and Armenian poetry and song.

Kulttuurikeskus Ninho ry

The Kolibrí Festival, organised by the Kulttuurikeskus Ninho, remains one of the most multilingual meeting places for children's culture, inviting many voices and a wide range of artists and cultural workers, and offering quality programming for families of different origins and backgrounds from Helsinki and the Helsinki Metropolitan Area. In 2021, limited due to the pandemic, Kolibrí offered a total of 35 events during the week, the full programme included. More than 600 people attended the event.

In 2021, Ninho ry organised two pop-up workshops with the Ministry of the Interior on "What kind of immigration policy does Finland need?"

Ninho ry also runs the Lukupesä activity. Lukupesä is a comprehensive programme of Kulttuurikeskus Ninho ry, which aims to support immigrant parents to maintain multilingual reading practices in their families and promote the preservation of traditional languages.





LIIDF ry

With the support of Moniheli, LIIDF ry organised a discussion forum where residents of Lappeenranta with immigrant and native backgrounds could share their experiences of korona restrictions, and other effects of corona in their lives.

HOUSING 719

DIGITALISATION

Advocacy Work has reached

90 associations and actors

Clients reached

M©NIHELI 2021

of training attendees got new, useful information HEALTH

630

parents have attended Peer Groups

KOULUTUS

Projects and Programs

In 2021, a new DigiUp project was launched at Moniheli, working on digitalisation themes. Our well-established activity, Katto Program, and the Terkku and OmaPolku projects also continued their work. All Moniheli's projects and activities promote integration, equality and inclusion of migrants and foreign language speakers in Finnish society.



Katto program

The aim of the Katto program is to prevent homelessness and housing problems experienced by migrants. We help people to find accommodation and answer questions about housing in Finnish, English and Arabic. 2021 was Katto's sixth year of operation.

Forced by the corona pandemic, we continued to work most of the year through electronic work tools using WhatsApp, Teams and Zoom. Through remote access, Katto managed to reach more individual work clients and participants in housing information sessions. We also did a lot of advocacy work.

Katto program was also invited as a speaker at, for example, Isännöitsijäpäivät, a national seminar on housing and a seminar on homelessness development at the University of Tampere.

In 2021, 218 new clients contacted the Katto program and 46 clients at risk of homelessness were followed up with longer-term client work, of whom 40% found a new home. There were 235 individual sparrings.

Katto program carried out 36 housing information sessions in Finnish language groups, peer-to-peer activities and in cooperation with different associations. Through the information sessions, 501 people were reached and informed about basic housing issues.

PUBLICATIONS ON THE SITUATION OF MIGRANTS IN THE HOUSING MARKET

Katto program and Y-foundation organised the Katto-talkoot event for housing, homelessness and integration actors in Helsinki, Vantaa and Espoo.

Based on the talks, a report "How to eliminate homelessness among immigrants by 2027?" was compiled, bringing together the results of the work and research information.

In autumn, a survey was carried out with the Sininauhasäätiö, VVA ry and the Finnish Landlords' Association on factors affecting tenant selection. We received 364 responses to the survey, which resulted in the report "Factors influencing tenant selection and the position of immigrant applicants in the private rental market."

WORKING TOWARDS HALVING HOMELESSNESS

Katto program worked closely with other organisations working on tackling homelessness and housing for migrants.

We continued to work as part of the operational for the Five team and Municipalities Y-Foundation project to halve homelessness and were invited to join a homelessness advocacy network for associations, with whom we wrote а background information pack on ending homelessness, which was delivered to all councillors in the major cities.





OmaPolku

OmaPolku is a three-year (2020-2022) STEA-funded project by Moniheli. The main aim of the project is to help young people with a migrant background to better find a secondary education path that matches their own strengths and interests after basic education and to get the support they need in choosing their educational path.

The project will strengthen the capacity of immigrant parents to support their children in choosing an educational path. It also promotes interaction and cooperation between parents and guidance counsellors at the stage when the youth is planning and choosing their secondary education path.

The main target groups of the project are immigrant parents who have moved to Finland as adults and have children of secondary school age or leaving primary school, and study counsellors in upper primary school who work with youth with an immigrant background and their families in guidance work.

The project's activities include peer groups in the mother tongue for immigrant parents, pilot training for study counsellors on culturally sensitive guidance, and cooperation forums where all project stakeholders jointly discuss solutions to challenges.



THE COOPERATION FORUM

The purpose of the cooperation forums is to encourage immigrant parents or guardians and study counsellors to develop their own cooperation and communication for the benefit of young people. In 2021, OmaPolku organised two cooperation forums. The forums brought together immigrant parents or guardians, young people, study counsellors and other stakeholders involved in developing active cooperation and communication between home and school.

PILOT TRAINING FOR STUDY COUNSELLORS ON CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

A pilot training for study counsellors was executed in collaboration with Ohjausosuuskunta Ote. The content of the culturally sensitive guidance pilot training was tailored to promote the awareness of one's own background and culture, and how they affect student counselling. In particular, the pilot emphasised the significance training cultural sensitivities and challenged to question one's own cultural stereotypes -in the work of study counselling, as well as in the school community as a whole.

Study counsellors
participated in a pilot
training on cultural
sensitivity counselling



Cooperation Forums



Association partners



Immigrant parents or guardians were reached in 65 Peer Groups



Terkku

The Terkku project aims to prevent the development of non-communicable, chronic diseases among migrants from Africa and the Middle East. The project develops culture-sensitive models of outreach work in cooperation with Moniheli member organisations and DIAK and Laurea University of Applied Sciences.

The project also does advocacy work among social and healthcare professionals to promote culturally sensitive working practices. In 2021, the project's themes were also discussed at a cooperation forum with 22 participants.

In 2021 the Terkku project reached:

227 immigrants

health organisations and actors

immigrant and multicultural associations

social and healthcare professionals



OUTREACH WORK

In 2021, the Terkku project carried out its first experimental outreach course, in which nursing, health and service interpreting students worked together with Moniheli's member associations to design, test and evaluate different culturally sensitive outreach models.

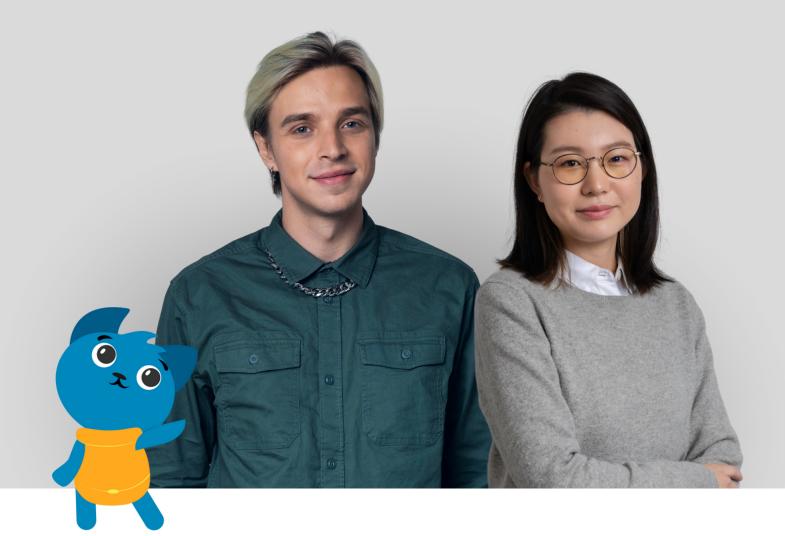
COOPERATION FORUM

The Terkku project's annual cooperation forum considered a working model for health promotion that reaches migrants. In particular, it looked at the future of outreach work and the hybrid model. The material collected from the forum will serve as a basis for the development work of the Terkku project.

CULTURAL MEDIATOR TRAINING

Cultural mediator training is a continuing education programme for social and healthcare professionals with an immigrant and multicultural background. It gives participants the means to use their own multicultural background and skills in their work. In 2021, the Terkku project organised two cultural mediation trainings in cooperation with HEED Association Finland ry. A total of 16 participants attended the trainings.





DigiUp

DigiUp is Moniheli's three-year (2021-2023) STEA-funded project, the first six months of which have been spent mapping the digitalisation situation of multicultural organisations, organising training and providing digital support.

We will also build a volunteering model that will enable volunteers to support organisations in their digital support tasks. We are also doing advocacy work to ensure that the development of digital support takes multicultural organisations and migrants in account better.

The project started in June and we spent the first two months planning the project's infrastructure and activities. Thanks to the Moniheli Network, the project got off to a flying start and from August we were able to organise training sessions and events and start our main activity of providing digital support to associations.



The DigiUp project has supported our association by providing digital learning for members. It has been much needed with using digital services.

THE MONIDIGI MAPPING

In the MoniDigi mapping, we examined the state of digitalisation, digital competence, communication and digital support in multicultural associations. The survey was conducted in seven languages and sent to more than 200 associations whose clients are target groups belonging to linguistic and cultural minorities. 43 associations responded to the survey. A publication event was held in December in the form of an online event with the participation of 32 experts.

The purpose of the MoniDigi mapping is to make the perspective of migrants and the current challenges and needs of associations visible as part of the digitalisation and development of society. The information will be used to develop the project's training, volunteering and digital support.



EXTENSIVELY INVOLVED IN THE FIELD OF DIGITAL SUPPORT FROM THE VERY FIRST PROJECT PERIOD

We have worked closely with a wide range of actors in the digital support field, including Moniheli's member associations, the Digital and Population Data Services Agency (DVV) and the Selkokeskus. We have been involved in various networks, such as the Uusimaa Digital support network and the Digi Arkeen-neuvottelukunta.

As part of the Digital Week in August 2021, we organised a panel discussion on multilingual digital support. Five experts from different fields took part in the discussion: the DVV, associations and representatives of the cities of Espoo and Helsinki. The experts discussed ways to strengthen the digital equality of foreign-language speakers and their associations and how existing multilingual services can reach foreign-language speakers.

We also organised four "MoniDigiavaimet" training sessions for professionals in the digital support field. The trainings covered tools and practices to include, take into account and promote the digital inclusion of migrants and linguistic and cultural minorities.

Digital support for multicultural associations

2 Training sessions to strengthen digital skills

% of associations that
have received digital
support or training intend
to use what they have
learned in their activities

18 associations used the digital support services

DIGITAL SUPPORT AND TRAINING TO STRENGTHEN THE DIGITAL SKILLS OF ASSOCIATIONS

We started our digital support in August 2021. At the beginning of the project, support was available two days a week and our project coordinator, Yuri, was immediately available for three hours. There was demand for support from day one.

The digital support needs of the organisations are different, but the organisations received support in areas such as using Microsoft software, getting information about the re-direction sites and designing a website. We also organised two training sessions in cooperation with Mirsal ry and Nicehearts ry's Neighbourhood Mothers project.

Advocacy work

Participations in events to develop digital support

Associations participated in a digitalisation survey of multicultural organisations

Training sessions to strengthen digital support skills

% of those developing digital support feel that they are better able to take migrants into account in their work