

Pilots and initiatives guidance towards paid work



1 Almere Pilot 'Towards employment'

Purpose and target group

Guide at least 50 asylum seekers and status holders (who are allowed to work and are linked to the municipality of Almere) to work.

Collaboration

Employment agency Randstad assists residents (on site at the asylum seekers' centre) in finding paid work, including a job coach.

Network 'Baangericht Almere' (part of WSP Flevoland) informs COA and employment agency Randstad about vacancies, job fairs and other events/opportunities with regard to obtaining a job.

COA informs residents on laws and regulations regarding paid work. Coordinates with municipality, liaises with employment agency Randstad and municipality of Almere.

Results

By the end date of the pilot (31-12-2023), 60 residents had been matched to an employer, of which 46 residents worked at least one day.

Funding

By the Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment (instead of employment agency Randstad and COA).

2 North East Brabant Pilot 'Faster integration and participation'

Purpose and target group

Preparing statusholders (linked to the municipalities in North East Brabant and still living in COA centres) for work.

Collaboration

Municipalities and the North-East Brabant Employer Service Point (WSP) select participants for the pilot.

COA informs and encourages status holders about the possibilities (via case managers during counselling in reception, and via the participation desk).

The local learn & work desk (LWL) does a comprehensive intake with the participants and takes a language test. Participants with the right motivation start with a vocational language module by external partner Bworkz (for six months). During this period, the LWL looks for suitable employers and arranges practical issues such as transport, childcare, paperwork etc before participants start working.

Results

Cooperation takes place with locations azc Grave, Schijndel, Oisterwijk, Rosmalen/Den Bosch, Uden, Oss, Gilze Rijen, Nijmegen and a number of surrounding municipalities. The following municipalities participated in the pilots: Municipality of Meierijstad, Den Bosch, Bernheze, Maashorst, Land van Cuijk, Sint Michielsgestel and Boxtel.

- 1st pilot started May 2023: 13 candidates: 10 apprenticeships / 2 full-time school / 1 discontinued
- 2nd pilot started November 2023: 19 applications, 13 started: 7 apprenticeships / 6 still in placement
- 3rd pilot starts April 2024: 49 applications

Funding

By WSP North East Brabant and regional mobility team.

3 Utrecht Pilot 'Jobhunting'

Purpose and target group

Learning about what is needed to get status holders and asylum seekers into work early. All six COA locations in Central Utrecht are participating.

Collaboration

COA informs and selects residents (through case managers and at the participation desk). Selection is also done through integration counsellors of municipalities or by residents applying themselves.

Municipality engages with participants (through jobhunters) and mediates them to mainly practical skilled work (+/- 30 employers in the pool).

Results

- 170 interviews conducted
- 85% asylum seekers in procedure, 15% permit holders
- 18 started work and 20 still waiting for work permit
- 21 stopped
- 111 still in mediation

Duration until 31 December 2024

Funding

By the regional mobility team, the employer service point Central Utrecht, and the Utrecht municipality.

4 Veldhoven Pilot 'From refugee to employee'

Purpose and target group

Assisting status holders who have been linked to municipalities in the North East Brabant labour region and are still living in the COA reception centre in Veldhoven to find sustainable employment in the region.

Collaboration

COA informs residents. Makes UnitedWork part of on-site support and guidance. Coordinates with municipalities at case level.

The NGO United Work guides and matches jobseekers with employers in the region.

Results

32 placements from June to December 2022.

Funding

By Start Foundation. Funding has since been taken over by the 21 municipalities.



Sector-specific initiatives and other pilots



Ithaka Academy. All locations in South Holland. Entry-level IT job, financed through a fund.
Target group permit holders.



Newcomers UMCG. All locations in Friesland, Groningen and Drenthe. Job as care assistant or surgery assistant, funding from UMCG.
Target group permit holders with nursing background.



Green industry region North in cooperation with Dolmans Landscaping. In Assen, Balk, Sint Annaparochie and Goutum. Workplace in green industry, funding from Dolmans and COA region North.
Target group asylum seekers and permit holders.



Pilot municipality of Hoeksche Waard and UWV. With additional commitment from municipality, UWV, COA in kind.
Target group permit holders.



Pilot to work at AZC Drachten. Additional commitment by Smallerland municipality and COA in kind.
Target group azc residents.



Pilot RefugeeWork in Zaanstad. RefugeeWork is a job posting platform initiated by the Dutch Council for Refugees (VluchtelingenWerk - VWN) and StartFoundation.
Target group all residents allowed to work. Additional commitment VWN and COA.



Pilot AZC Heerhugowaard with Zaffier, additional commitment Zaffier and COA in kind.
Target group azc residents.