Seven Key Principles for a successful 'Together, Moving Forward' project

1. Know your context

Get familiar with welcome and integration policies and discover other existing small- or large-scale initiatives targeting refugees' needs. It will help you contextualise your work, identify clear needs and suggest relevant ways forward

Have you asked refugees themselves for their own opinion? What are official data or what data is still missing? Also, you might want to keep an eye open for ESU's study on the issue of recognition of qualifications

Students and universities are already active on some of the issues we want to address. A list of old or ongoing projects is on the ESU website. Meanwhile, take a look at the Refugees Welcome Map (European University Association)

2. Build on good practices or try something new

ESU supports initiatives that are part of ongoing projects, allowing them to continue or grow in scale, as well as new projects or new approaches to longstanding issues. As long as they provide a quality answer to the issues you want to target!

3. Be sustainable

Be ready to take ownership of the project and to maintain the results and impact beyond the duration of the specific project and partnership. Set up your activities having in mind how the project's' results and impact will continue after the end of the project.

Are you trying to build a lasting partnership? Do you foresee the project to develop further in the future? Can you use the knowledge gathered to spark up further change or advocacy plans? How, how? - we're all ears...

Have you thought how this project helps you enlarge your scope of action? Tell us how you are going to attract people's attention through your communication strategy, use of media, choice of project?

4. Go for wider audiences

The 'Together, Moving Forward' projects can help student unions reach out to new students and local unions, as well as the wider public. Projects should be able to engage the public, reflect community needs, and bring together various stakeholders.

5. Promote equality and inclusion

Equality and inclusion are the way forward. Go for diversity and gender balance in teams and beneficiary groups, address gender issues within the main topic of refugee inclusion and participation, set up non gender-biased activities etc. Keep in mind LGBT+, disability and minority rights and address related issues.

We are interested in your commitment to equality and inclusion at all levels of the project: how did it influence the project proposal? Also, do you remember the famous "Nothing about us without us?"

Why is the partnership you built a good - actually the best - basis for action? Who's doing what is also quite helpful for us to know...

6. Explore partnerships

When developing your projects, consider partnerships. Increase your know-how by reaching out to new partners or organisations, especially refugee- or migrant-led ones. You can also connect with organisations and Student Unions from other geographical areas or with different skill levels.

7. Fund yourself

Co-funding is not necessary but welcome. We are open to applications from organisations and partnerships with multiple donors and supportive stakeholders. More money, larger scope?

Do you have access to other sources of money, public or private, local or international? Show it in the proposed budget.

Selection Criteria

✓ **Eligibility check**	Are you eligible and is your project in line with the programme's objectives?
✓ **Quality of needs assessment**	Do you have a good knowledge of the context, such as refugees' needs, other initiatives addressing them, policy addressing integration in the host-country?
✓ **Cooperation with refugee-led formal or informal groups**	How are refugee or asylum seekers (students or not) involved in the project design and implementation?
✓ **Relevance of the approach proposed**	Is the initiative effectively answering to the needs it aims to address? *For international grants - is the international component really an added value?*
✓ **Inclusion of relevant stakeholders**	Why is this partnership the best for this project, and what are partners' strengths and roles?
✓ **Impact and sustainability of your project**	What change is the initiative bringing about and can you build on it once the project is over?
✓ **Quality of project design**	Are the objectives, results, budget and timelines realistic and measurable?
✓ **Inclusion of diversity and gender equality**	Are gender and diversity considerations visibly incorporated at all levels of your project?
✓ **Appropriate use of media for visibility and dissemination**	How well will the dissemination strategy increase and ensure the dissemination of information and the visibility of the project?
✓ **Organisational capacity**	What do the organisational size, experience and internal organisation tell us about the ability to manage the logistical and financial implications of this project?