

B+ Barcelona International Region



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The city of Mataró cooperates with Berlin, Vienna and Amsterdam on a project to train volunteers



The project *Protect* has brought Mataró, Berlin, Viena and Amsterdam together in order to exchange experiences and define good practices in training immigrants. These immigrant people are trained in order to be able to help civil protection services in emergency situations, facilitating communication with new immigrants.

The city of Mataró is located on the coast of the Mediterranean, well communicated and only just over 18 miles north of Barcelona. With almost 124,000 inhabitants, Mataró is the capital of the Maresme Region and boasts a notable trajectory in the promotion of local integration policies for immigrants as a key strategy for social cohesion. Mataró City Council decided to participate in the international project, *Protect*, with a view to exchange and share its experience and practices in this area.

This project is part of the EU Grundtvig programme, which provides life long learning for adults and aims to train immigrants so that they collaborate in civil protection services as volunteers. The project was approved in July, 2011 for a period of three years and is lead by German International Development Cooperation Agency, BGZ.

Within the framework of *Protect*, Mataró promotes the project "Form@cción en servicio a la ciudadanía" (Training and action serving citizens) which is aimed at members of an immigration organisation or association. The project is coordinated by Mataró City Council in collaboration with the local Red Cross organisation and receives aid and collaboration from various entities and security corps that have an active role in providing training. Those who pass the course receive a certificate that allows them to work as a volunteer for the Red Cross.

The project is coordinated between the city members. Most recently, Mataró hosted a visit from the representatives of Berlin, Vienna and Amsterdam to discuss the progress of the project.

- [Mataró City Council](#)
- [Grundtvig Protect project](#)

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