

# Interim report

<b>Name of the project</b>	CAST YOUR VOICE		
<b>Name of your organisation</b>	Nandu Trägerverein e.V.		
<b>Grant agreement number</b>	TMF2018/002		
<b>Project dates</b>	From: 20/07/2018	To:	15/01/2019
<b>Name of person compiling the report</b>	Julia Mehr, Ronny Röwert		
<b>Email Address</b>	<a href="mailto:julia.mehr@outlook.com">julia.mehr@outlook.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:ronny.roewert@posteo.de">ronny.roewert@posteo.de</a>		
<b>Date submitted</b>	14/10/2018		

## Summary

**Looking back at your experience so far, write a one paragraph summary of progress that could be shared with stakeholders and donors.**

The successful and sustainable integration of newcomers to society needs to go hand in hand with political participation. The project CAST YOUR VOICE aims to co-develop pathways and tools with newcomers in order to better raise their voice in public discourses and reach politically relevant participation. With a pioneer group of 11 newcomers studying at German universities, the project was able to develop, pilot and reflect approaches and tools for newcomers to raise their interests in public discourses and thus become more politically engaged in their host countries. Within the frame of three successful and empowering workshop weekends in August and September 2018 being hosted in Berlin, the group of newcomers from all over Germany not only learned about opportunities to be politically active but also already developed their own very concrete intervention ideas to make a difference in the political public space – be it a video or podcast based peer-to-peer information platform for newcomers, a soap opera film project portraying the reality and daily challenges of newcomers or a meetup café for newcomers and other society members to exchange on current political issues. After the successful piloting of a workshop weekend series to foster the political participation of the group of newcomers, the project team is aiming to disseminate the major project outcomes such as a handbook on conducting political participation workshops with refugees as well as to offer this workshop format to other civil society organisations within Germany in order to multiply the outcomes.

# Activities

In the table below, provide a list completed by a description of the activities and/or steps implemented so far.

	Activity or step	Objective	Progress – include implementation dates if applicable
1.	Target group communication and formation	1) Outreach to target group 2) Collection of individual interest	<b>1) Finished 10.08.18:</b> 13 workshop participants registered <b>2) Finished 15.08.18:</b> workshop participants sent answers to preparatory question “What are political topics and discussion points that you would like to discuss in the group?”
2.	Joint project content focus and outcome(s) formulation	1) Workshop-Weekend 1 2) formulation of joint understanding of project outcome	<b>1) Finished 18./19.08.2018:</b> First workshop weekend hosted in Berlin <b>2) Finished 19.09.2018:</b> Participants defined the topics they would like to focus discourse interventions on
3.	Development of discourse intervention ideas	1) Formulation of discourse interventions 2) feedback loops with participants individually	<b>1) Finished 31.08.2018:</b> Participants filled out discourse intervention worksheets <b>2) Finished 07.09.2018:</b> Individual phone calls with participants to discuss intervention ideas
4.	Reflection of discourse interventions	1) Workshop-Weekend 2 2) Documentation of learnings from exchange with participants	<b>1) Finished 08./09.09.2018:</b> Participants filled out discourse intervention worksheets <b>2) Finished 14.09.2018:</b> All learnings were documented in a handbook
5.	Finalisation of documentation and dissemination kick-off	1) Dissemination kick-off event with sdw 2) Publishing Website 3) Publishing Publication on website	<b>1) Finished 22./23.09.2018:</b> Gründer-und Unternehmerforum took place and intervention ideas were part of a barcamp session <b>2) Finished 30.06.2018:</b> Website was published: <a href="https://cast-your-voice.de/">https://cast-your-voice.de/</a> <b>3) In Progress:</b> Handbook on conducting political participation workshops with refugees
6.	Further dissemination and train-the-trainer idea	1) Outreach to partner organisations 2) Social media dissemination 3) Follow-Up with Participants	<b>1) Not yet started as it is connected to prolongation proposal</b> <b>2) Not yet started as it is connected to prolongation proposal</b> <b>3) In Progress:</b> We are regularly in touch with the participants via telegram and had already five mentoring phone calls/meetings for following up on ideas after workshop weekends

### Did you bring any changes to the planned activities, and why?

As most projects that are highly tailored to participants needs, our project as well adapted changes based on the dynamic needs of the target group.

1. Instead of one overarching topic for all discourse interventions, the participants chose four different topics to reflect the broadness of their individual interests.
2. Instead of facilitating an official workshop on the Gründer-Unternehmerforum, participants opted for the individual choice of every participant to present his/her ideas during the barcamp session and to reflect on ideas during individual talks with the participants of the foundation on that weekend. The reason for this was, that participants preferred informal conversations about their ideas to an official workshop because the community that was present on the weekend was still too unfamiliar and the threshold thus too high.
3. Participants decided to not follow-up with every individual discourse intervention but to build teams in order to have a higher motivation to continue their work.

## Results

What kind of concrete results can you observe already? Please refer to the expected results as listed in your project application, analysing how you are progressing.

### 1. Participants in workshops:

- 13 registered participants
- 11 participants in total (2 drop-outs)
- 8 participants in workshop 1
- 9 participants in workshop 2
- 8 participants in workshop 3

### 2. Discourse intervention teams:

- **Voice of Refugees:** Youtube channel to answer legal and every-day questions of refugees (5 people)  
→ **current status:** conducted a user survey in facebook to find out about questions of refugees that should be addressed.
- **Refugee Cast:** Twitter for voice messages with quotes from refugees (3 people)  
→ **current status:** group stopped activities and focused on Kangow wings.
- **Art Café:** Meet-up of different cultures to do art together and discuss political topics (2 people)  
→ **current status:** outreach for team members at university.
- **Refugee Filmproject:** Youtube channel with videos of refugee stories (2 people)  
→ **current status:** outreach for team members at university.
- **Syrian Youth Assembly Germany:** Group of young Syrians that organizes and advocates other young Syrians to get influence and involvement in the Syrian peace process. One member joined the workshop and want to start the German branch of the assembly.  
→ **current status:** currently working on founding an association in Germany.

Three projects are currently applying for funding and do not want to publish their names at the time of this report:

- **Project name not public:** Creating work opportunities for refugees (1 person)
- **Project name not public:** Shared economy approach for air transport with positive impact on climate change (2 people)
- **Project name not public:** Connecting people at university via food-sharing (2 people)

### **3. Increased perceived self-efficacy:**

The means of self-efficacy increased from  $m=3.515$  to  $m=3.741$  on a 5-point Likert scale. The perception of political activity from  $m=3.121$  to  $m=3.333$ .

### **4. Handbook for conducting workshops on political participation with refugees**

The train-the-trainer handbook is designed for all organizations or individuals that are interested to conduct CAST YOUR VOICE workshops as well. It will be published within the next week on our homepage: <https://cast-your-voice.de/the-project/>.

### **5. Active telegram group**

Even after the two workshop weekends the group that we created on telegram for communicating with all participants is still very active. At least once a week a bigger discussion about a political topic arises, ideas are shared or participants invite each other to political events. There are personal messages, updates and general chats on an almost daily basis.

## **Partners & Stakeholders**

**Describe your collaboration with relevant partners and stakeholders – including refugees and asylum seekers – involved in the project. Which steps did you take to fully involve them, and what are the results of your collaboration?**

Partner / Stakeholder	Description of the collaboration
<b>Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft (sdw) (Foundation)</b>	Outreach to scholars with refugee background, funding for location, workshop for refugees
<b>Adopt a revolution</b>	Input at second workshop weekend free of charge
<b>Heinrich-Böll Stiftung (Foundation)</b>	Outreach to scholarship holders with refugee background
<b>Several restaurants in Berlin</b>	Reduced prices for catering

# Challenges & Learning points

Did you face any difficulties/unforeseen challenges in this first half of the project? How did you overcome them and what have you learnt in the process?

Challenges	Solutions / learning points
<b>Low email-responsiveness</b>	Setting up a telegram group and always communicating the same information via several channels.
<b>Finding the right balance between interactive methods and head-on presentations</b>	We highly involved participants in the second workshop weekend and they picked the head-on presenters and increased frequency of alternating head-on presentations and interactive methods.
<b>Political discussions take their time and can lead to agenda changes</b>	Keeping the agenda very flexible and letting participants decide which topics they want to leave out if the time was not sufficient anymore.

## Timeline

Explain any changes and/or delays to the approved timeline. If necessary, attach an updated timeline.

Changes / delays
<b>Publishing a handbook on conducting political participation workshops with refugees:</b> The handbook is currently in the feedback loop and will be published on our homepage within the next week ( <a href="https://cast-your-voice.de/the-project/">https://cast-your-voice.de/the-project/</a> ).
<b>Outreach to partner organisations and social media dissemination:</b> As we want to include the offer of a train-the-trainer workshop program (see prolongation request) into our partner outreach and into our social media dissemination, we did not start this activity yet. We plan to do this activity until December 2018.
<b>Producing a print publication:</b> As the print publication should serve as material for our train-the-trainer workshop program, we would like to adapt the publication for this use case and make it more professional (see prolongation request).

Next steps to focus on
As our major project deliverables are successfully finished but we still have residual financial resources left, we aim to make use of it in order to achieve further outcomes. Therefore, we request a prolongation and change of financial resources. For more information, please refer to the attached prolongation request.

# Visibility

Share with us in attachment photos and/or media documenting the project implementation, as well as any visible outputs of the project. Provide a short description of the materials you share.

- **Pictures** of the workshop weekends (no faces except of trainers because of privacy reasons)
- **Handbook** on conducting workshops on political participation with refugees available within the next week here: <https://cast-your-voice.de/the-project/>.
- **Website:** <https://cast-your-voice.de/>

# Budget

Provide an overview of expenditure until now, using the available Excel template, here below and please, explain any discrepancies or changes to the budget.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1DstYmeS1pZrchOE2mIWz771ycVHHg41QSIBGRU5aGBU/edit?usp=sharing>

# Interim Financial Report

Fill in the following template based on the Approved Budget (Annex III of the Grant Agreement)

If using a different currency, please report the corresponding sums in EUR as indicated in the Grant Agreement

	Budget heading	Description	Budgeted (Annex III - Grant)	Expenditure in other		Expenditure in EUR
I	Name of Activity: Joint project content focus and outcome(s) formulation			Currency	Expense	
1	Travel to workshop		€ 1.500,00			€ 611,01
2	Accommodation		€ 500,00			€ 259,16
3	Catering		€ 540,00			€ 325,07
4	Workshop material		€ 100,00			€ 8,01
	<i>subtotal</i>		€ 2.640,00		0	€ 1.203,25
II	Name of Activity: Reflection of discourse interventions					
1	Travel to workshop		€ 1.500,00			€ 766,34
2	Accommodation		€ 500,00			€ 429,38
3	Catering		€ 540,00			€ 414,19
4	Workshop material		€ 100,00			€ 18,77
	<i>subtotal</i>		€ 2.640,00		0	€ 1.628,68
III	Name of Activity: Finalisation of documentation and dissemination kick-off					
1	Printing of publication		€ 330,00			€ 0,00
2	Shipping		€ 200,00			€ 0,00
3	Website hosting		€ 50,00			€ 60,00
4	Travel to sdw Berlin workshop		€ 1.500,00			€ 866,42
5	Accommodation		€ 500,00			€ 296,94
6	Catering		€ 540,00			€ 436,00
7	Workshop material		€ 200,00			€ 4,00
	<i>subtotal</i>		€ 3.320,00		0	€ 1.663,36
	<b>TOTAL (I+II+III+...)</b>		<b>€ 8.600,00</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>€ 4.495,29</b>

Currency exchange rate(s)
1 EUR =

## Prolongation request

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### *Dissemination and multiplication of proven empowerment workshops for political participation of newcomers in 2019*

The implementation of all foreseen project activities of „CAST YOUR VOICE“ could already be completed by the present moment. All three workshop weekends with the goal of fostering the political participation of newcomers were successfully carried out in the months of August and September 2018.

Based on the successful project implementation of „CAST YOUR VOICE“ and the very positive feedback of participants and other organisations and experts of the migration and integration community as well as the fortunate situation of residual financial resources, we would like to request the prolongation of the project in order to reach new milestones.

#### **Background**

With regards to the initially outlined sustainability of project outcomes, we are lucky to see that participants do follow up on the ideas of public discourse interventions after the series of workshop weekends finished. Newcomer participants especially present their ideas in formats within their local environment and hand in proposals to acquire financial and conceptual support for their ideas at funding organisations. Furthermore, the project was set up with a train the trainer (TTT) approach so that participants themselves as well as other interested civil society organisations can further multiply the training. We received the feedback from the workshop participants that most of them are very eager to host workshops in order to multiply the acquired skillset and experiences. For example, some participants are motivated to hold the workshop in Arabic, others would like to give the workshop to senior newcomers in local communities. However, even though being very motivated to make use of their train the trainer skills, CAST YOUR VOICE participants, now trainers, prefer to conduct new multiplication workshops with the support of the two project coordinators, Julia and Ronny. Therefore, and to further facilitate the broadly based realisation of workshops for other newcomers in other contexts and communities interested in raising their public relevance, we would like to use the residual resources to conduct more workshop weekends all over Germany within the year of 2019.

#### **Requested activities and outcomes: tandem-based multiplication workshops**

All upcoming proposed activities to further strengthen the voice of newcomers in public discourse pursue a two-step approach.

In a first phase, the project coordinators in close cooperation with the newcomer trainers will reach out to other migration and integration oriented civil society organisations all over Germany in order to offer two possibilities of making use of the training potential of CAST YOUR VOICE, outlined further below. After first talks to interested German youth organisations such as those of the German Green Party and various foundations, we are encouraged to reach out to organisations all over Germany in order to offer them the conduction of workshops for their newcomer or newcomer oriented network members. For the outreach we will use the newly founded #unteilbar network<sup>1</sup>. #unteilbar is a German wide network for an open and free society with all major civil society

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<sup>1</sup> For more information regarding the #unteilbar network, see: [https://www.unteilbar.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/A5\\_flugblatt\\_unteilbar\\_NEU\\_ENG\\_B.pdf](https://www.unteilbar.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/A5_flugblatt_unteilbar_NEU_ENG_B.pdf)

organisations such as religious actors, political parties and NGOs in Germany being active within, that was able to activate 242.000 people in Mid-October to rally against racism in Berlin.

We will offer various German NGOs the opportunity to host a workshop conducted by us coordinators together with one or two newcomer trainers (former CAST YOUR VOICE participants) at each time. We will reach out to NGOs in Germany until December 2018 in order to offer two different workshop possibilities to be conducted between January and December 2019. This outreach to many German civil society organisations will also have the positive side effect that publications, news and results of the CAST YOUR VOICE project will be disseminated broadly. Within the major outreach until the end of this year we will offer the two following workshop possibilities:

- a. A training workshop weekend on ways to participate politically, similar to those being held within the first completed phase of CAST YOUR VOICE. On the basis of our preparation for the already conducted workshop weekends together with the developed workshop materials, we will design a workshop of 1-2 days that will make participants better understand political participation opportunities, especially for newcomers, and encourage them to design and plan the implementation of their own ideas to shape the public discourse. It will be of main importance that each workshop will be 1) prepared and conducted in a tandem-like setup together with past CAST YOUR VOICE workshop participants and 2) that each and every workshop is customised to the specific requirements and needs of the organisation and its participants that asked to host the workshop. Organisations hosting the political participation training workshop can choose from the different agenda elements outlined in the CAST YOUR VOICE handbook. Potential modules can be: expressing opinions and working in teams, formal & informal political participation, reflecting future pathways for integration, taking and presenting opinions, etc.
- b. A train the trainer workshop for NGOs on how to facilitate workshops about political participation for newcomers based on the developed solutions and material of the CAST YOUR VOICE project. On the basis of our preparation for the already conducted workshop weekends together with the developed workshop materials, we will take the content and programmes of the already conducted CAST YOUR VOICE workshops and condense it from several workshop weekends to a workshop weekend of one or two days. Organisations hosting the political participation training workshop can choose from the different agenda elements outlined in the CAST YOUR VOICE handbook. Potential modules can be: How to recruit participants, guidelines for organising political participation workshops, guidelines for working with newcomers, role of the facilitator next to the content of the workshop weekend.

We aim to conduct 6 workshops until December 2018, being hosted from several civil society organisations throughout Germany. Therefore, we request to utilise the residual financial resources to be used for one workshop every two months between January 2018 and December 2019. Additionally, we got the feedback that our preliminary handbook on learnings for workshops for the political participation of newcomers would receive more attention if we improve the design. Thus, we would like to request commissioning a semi-professional designer who would layout the main project publication, the handbook, until January 2019.

**TOGETHER, MOVING FORWARD****BUDGET CHANGE PROPOSAL**

Project title

*CAST YOUR VOICE*

Length of project (months)

*November 2018 to December 2019*

Budget item	Type of Unit	Unit cost	Number of Units	Number of People	Total Cost	Comments
	Outcome: Workshop weekends		6			
1 Travel to and from workshop of trainers	return trip	150,00€	6	3	2.700,00€	
2 Accommodation for trainers	1 overnight stay	30,00€	6	3	540,00€	
3 Catering for trainers	daily meal lump sum	15,00€	12	3	540,00€	
4 Workshop material	sum	25,00€	1		25,00€	
	Outcome: Designed handbook					
1 Workload of freelance designer	salary of designer	300,00€	1		300,00€	
<b>Total income (= same as total cost)</b>					<b>4.105,00€</b>	