



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR



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Welcoming programme for newly arrived immigrants – the Estonian experience

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Why a welcoming programme?

- Adapting to a new living environment can be both interesting and complicated.

Adaptation is a process whereby new arrivals who have (re)located to a country adjust to the new environment and the host society.



- Acquiring knowledge related to living conditions, state and behavioural norms etc. and the skills that help a person settle in quickly and efficiently can take both effort and time.
- When aiming to attract and retain certain types of immigration merely making legislative changes will not suffice.
- When aiming to foster adaptation and further integration, suitable support services are needed.



About the programme

- The aim - to support the migration and subsequent integration of newly arrived immigrants by providing them information on the functioning of the state and society, daily life, working, studying and family matters, and by facilitating the acquisition of Estonian language skills.
- The concept - based on research, international experience and stakeholder participation, including:
 - a planning process involving multiple ministries, agencies and over 35 social partners
 - a topic-specific study - Adaptation of newly-arrived immigrants in Estonia: Policy options and recommendations for a comprehensive and sustainable support system – conducted in 2014
- Provision – by outsourcing service provision to non-governmental service providers with prior experience in the field
- Funding - European Social Fund, Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund



Target groups

The programme is aimed at foreign nationals who have legally resided in Estonia for **less than 5 years** and are one of the following:

- foreign nationals who have been granted temporary residence permit;
- citizens of the European Union who have acquired the temporary right of residence in Estonia;
- family members of citizens of the European Union who have been granted the temporary right of residence in Estonia.

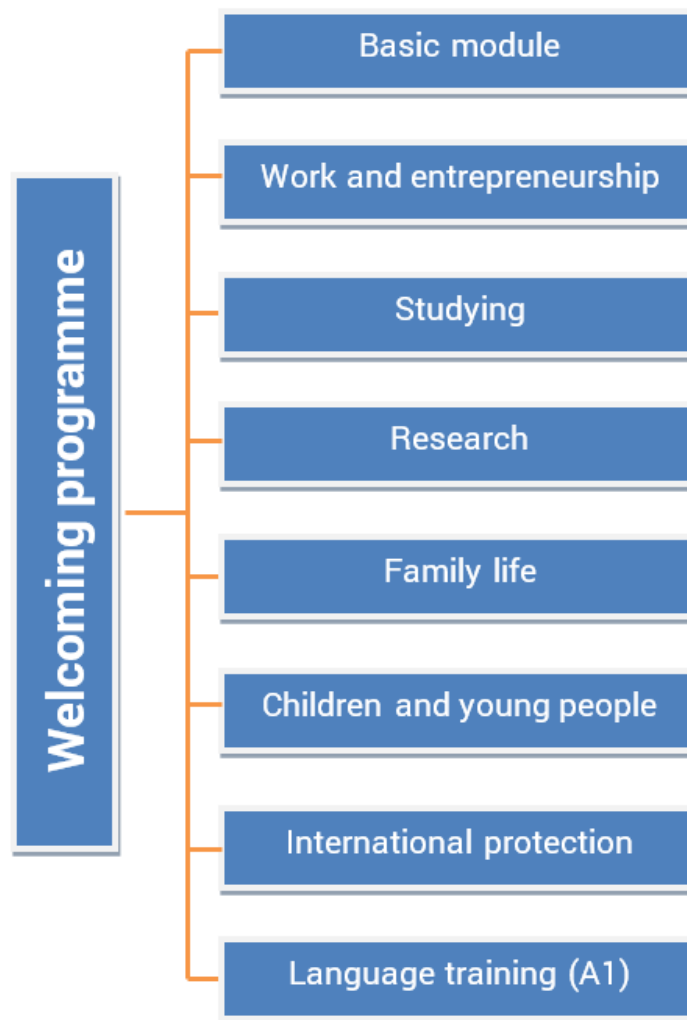
Thus including both EU and third country nationals and also beneficiaries of international protection.



Content

The programme consists of:

- various informative and interactive training modules
- language training (level A1)
- specific modules for children and young people under the age of 15 and for beneficiaries of international protection



Provision of the programme

Duration of the programme

- the modules last for aprox. 8 hours
- the language training lasts for aprox. 80 academic hours

All trainings are provided

- in English and Russian
 - in three of the biggest cities (Tallinn, Tartu and Narva)
 - free of charge
-
- The international protection module is provided also in French and Arabic and when needed elsewhere in Estonia.
 - The programme is not mandatory, except for beneficiaries of international protection.



How are people enrolled into the programme?

New arrivals are referred to welcoming programme by the Estonian Police and Border Guard Board (PBGB).

The PBGB issues a notification of enrolment into the welcoming programme when:

1. notifying a foreign national of the decision to grant or extend their temporary residence permit;
2. notifying an European Union citizen of having been issued an identity card;
3. notifying a family member of an European Union citizen of the decision to grant or extend their temporary right of residence.

After obtaining a referral, registration *via* www.settleinestonia.ee



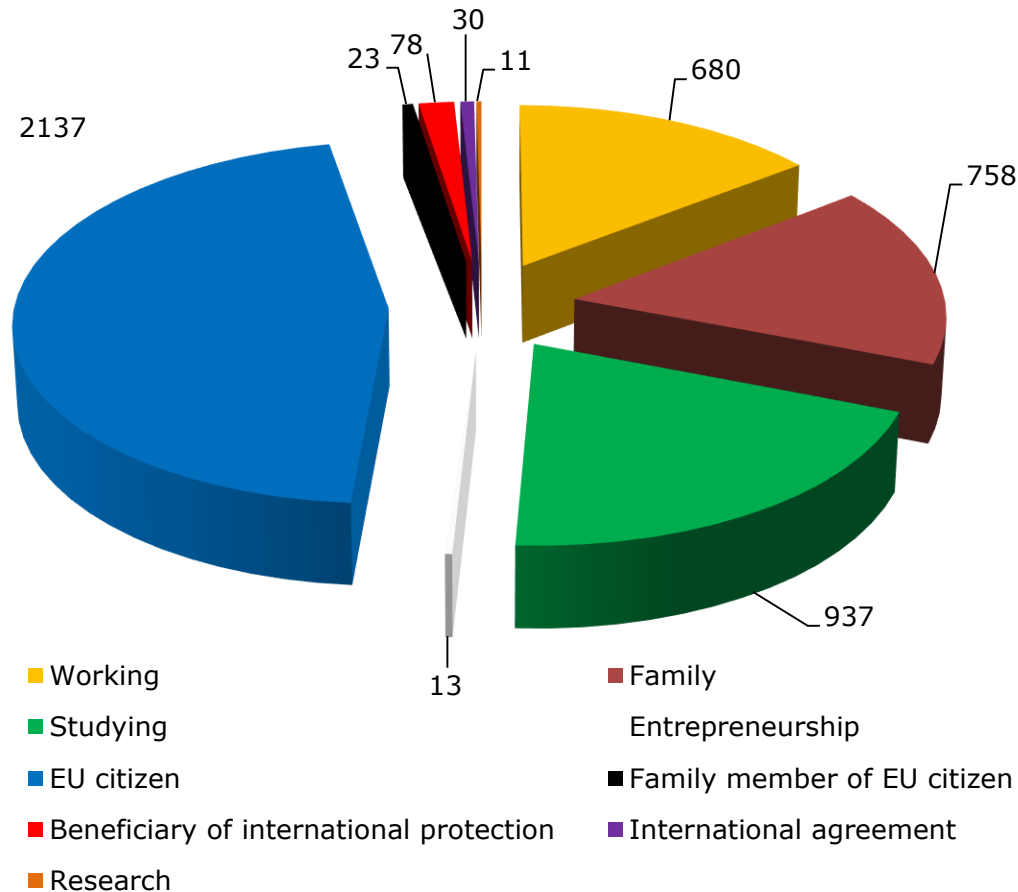
Who have been enrolled into the programme?

4 680 foreign nationals between 01.08.2015 - 29.02.2016

EU citizens and their family members – 46,2%
Third country nationals – 53,8%

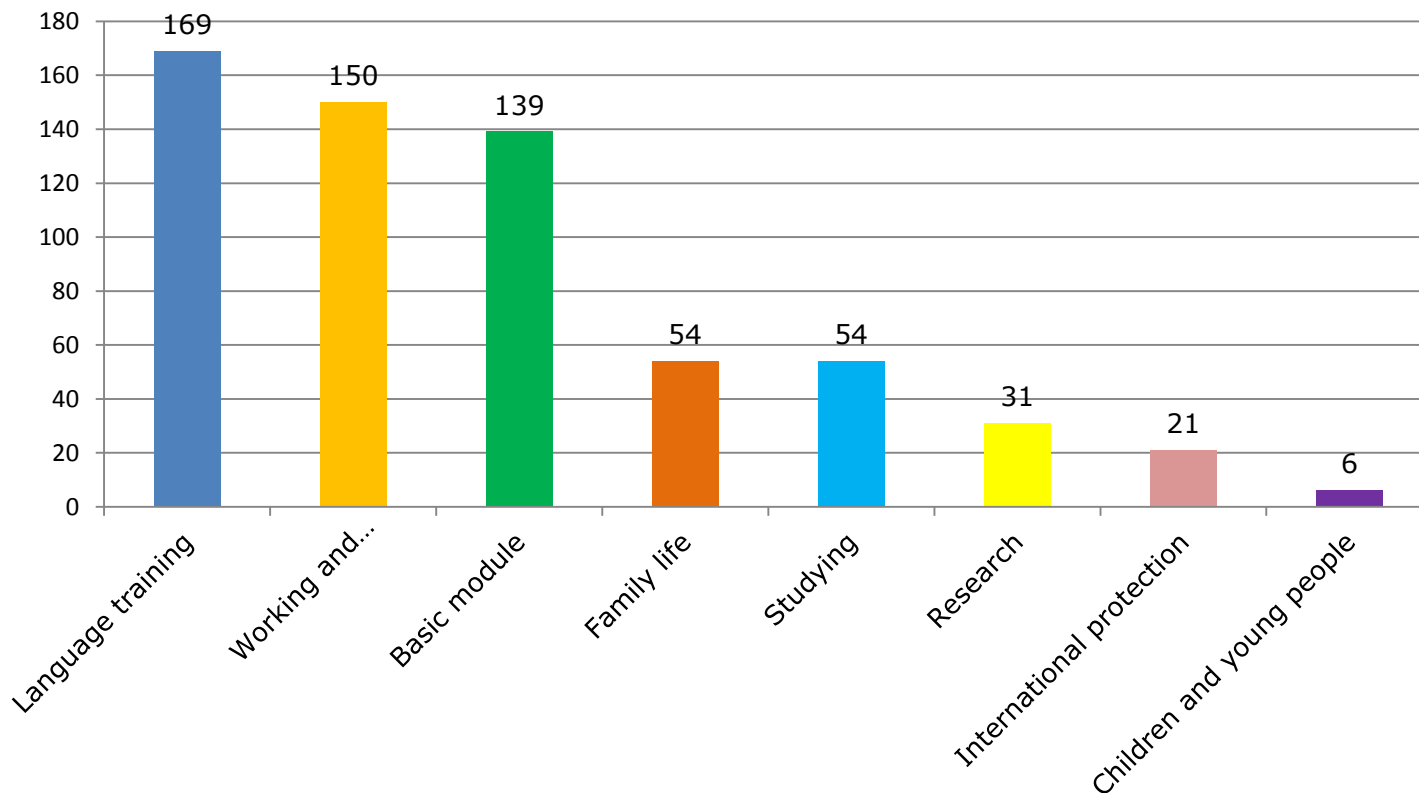
Top 10 countries

1. Ukraine
2. Russia
3. Finland
4. Germany
5. Latvia
6. France
7. Italy
8. Nigeria
9. Spain
10. United States



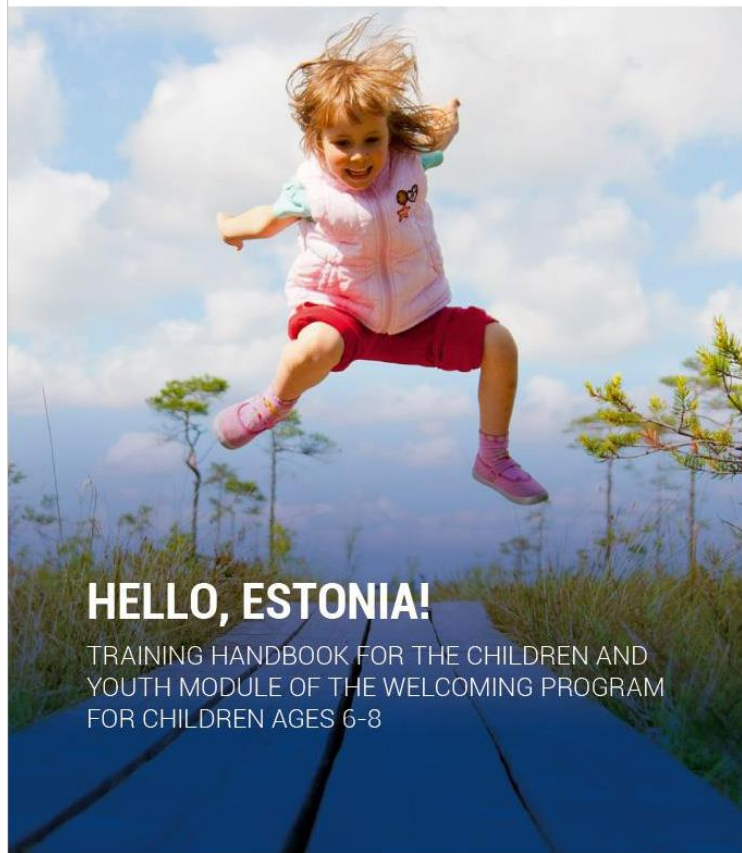
What trainings have been provided?

47 trainings were provided to
624 trainees
between 01.08.2015 - 29.02.2016





SISEMINISTERIUM



HELLO, ESTONIA!

TRAINING HANDBOOK FOR THE CHILDREN AND
YOUTH MODULE OF THE WELCOMING PROGRAM
FOR CHILDREN AGES 6-8



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Thank you!

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