

Project details	
DP name	ATLAS Scotland
Lead partner:	Glasgow City Council
Geographical focus:	GB National
Regions covered:	Scotland
Summary:	<p>The overall aim of the ATLAS DP will be to undertake integration work with a focus on developing models of good practice. ATLAS activities will cover the point of arrival of an asylum seeker in Scotland, access to appropriate information, orientation programmes, ESOL, educational opportunities and employability schemes.</p> <p>Glasgow City Council is the lead partner and other key partners include Scottish Enterprise Glasgow, Colleges of Further Education, Scottish Refugee Council, SQA, voluntary and community groups.</p> <p>The DP will work with five transnational partners to jointly develop new products, engage in staff exchanges and share the experience and lessons.</p>
Project description	<p>The ATLAS DP will oversee a programme of activity aimed at integrating asylum seekers, in accordance with the overall objective of Theme I. The DP will operate on a Scottish-wide basis, although the vast majority of the activity takes place in Glasgow. The target group for the DP is all asylum seekers in the region as the programme of activity covers a range of different needs as interests. The City Council is the lead partner and other key partners include Scottish Enterprise Glasgow, Colleges of Further Education, Scottish Refugee Council, SQA, voluntary and community groups.</p> <p>The DP is needed because around 12,000 asylum seekers have been dispersed to Glasgow and dispersal will continue for a further 15 months. A number of research reports and the experience of the DP under round 1 have highlighted the integration needs of asylum seekers and in particular their desire to work. The rationale for the ATLAS DP is to develop appropriate models of integration so that asylum seekers are well positioned to seek employment, should they become eligible. The overall aim therefore will be to undertake integration work with a focus on developing models of good practice that can then be rolled out and mainstreamed to enhance capacity for integration. This will entail delivering a programme of activity which covers the spectrum of asylum seekers needs, from the point of arrival of an asylum seeker in Scotland and covering access to appropriate information, orientation programmes, ESOL, educational opportunities, employability schemes. The key</p>

outputs will include new educational and guidance models to young asylum seekers, new mentoring, volunteering and befriending schemes, citizenship modules, capacity building models, orientation programmes and a new ESOL framework and qualifications. An abbreviated version of the DP's strategic objectives is as follows:

- ? Increase opportunities for young asylum seekers.
- ? Pilot new ways of targeting the support needs of women and families.
- ? Develop mentoring, volunteering and befriending.
- ? Promote citizenship amongst asylum seekers.
- ? Develop links to the labour market appropriate to asylum seekers.
- ? Build the capacity of asylum seekers and indigenous communities.
- ? Promote positive images of asylum seekers.
- ? Develop new ESOL framework and qualifications.
- ? Develop orientation programmes.

The DP will satisfy the leading principle of equal opportunities by eliminating discrimination and encourage participation by disadvantaged groups in partners' employment practices and service delivery. Innovation will be achieved through the development of new models products and models of service delivery or by adding value to existing activities. The DP will empower asylum seekers, partners and indigenous communities. Partnership will be achieved through the wide range of partners involved in activities and by involving other stakeholders in the delivery of key activities. Mainstreaming will involve disseminating information about ATLAS activities through key local, regional, national and transnational networks and contacts.

The DP will work with five transnational partners to jointly develop new products, engage in staff exchanges and share the experience and lessons as each partner delivers its programme of activities.