



Member Initiated Project

2017 Final Report of the INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY Project

GENERAL INFORMATION

| | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Project Name: | INTERCONTINENTAL MOBILITY |
| Project Leader: | CREVAT GÉRALDINE |
| Reported Period: | from 2017 January to 2018 February |
| Date: | 2018 March 26th |

SHORT OVERVIEW

In a more and more economically connected and globalized world, the number of expatriates is in constant rise.

Going abroad to pursue a professional career, to follow a spouse or to upgrade a diploma can be sometimes a motivating challenge; most of the time it can be very enriching and always a valuable experience.

But it stays a real challenge!

The aim of the *INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY project* is to make known the expatriation issues and recurrent risks to BPW members all over the world.

HOW TO MAKE A CAREER ABROAD AND ASSESS RISKS

- ☞ support during the **preparation of an expatriation** project (challenges, benefits and minimization of the risks associated with expatriation)
- ☞ strengthening the support to **expatriate women** during expatriation (psychologist aspect, information about laws, visas etc.)
- ☞ improving women integration when they come **back from expatriation**

MISSION

Watch in order to:

- ☞ to counsel members about the issues of different visas and to collect information about international mobility
- ☞ to save expat women from being isolated



Member Initiated Taskforces and Projects

Final Report of the International Mobility Task Force

- ☞ to encourage BPW members to participate to the "INTERCONTINENTAL ONLINE MEETINGS" in order to extend the BPW cross-culturing network

RESULTS

- ☞ Promotion to make BPW Network aware of current international mobility issues - federations/ clubs
- ☞ WATCH: Using of BPW Network to inform/guide expat women towards the institutions which are able to accompany them in host countries (equivalence of diplomas, recognition and assessment of work experience and skills)

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITY

1st challenge:

To establish a data base for members in a situation of international mobility and share it with all BPW federations

2nd challenge:

To enlist BPW worldwide members:

- To set up a Network and to create a special opportunity in each BPW federation to attract women in a situation of international mobility – sharing experiences, helping women for social rights in their host country, empowering women to pursuit and foster their professional career in a changing society and world of global immigration; advocacy for equivalence of diplomas, rights in terms of maternity leave, divorce, children's education and school benefits; work permit for spouses, duration of visas, pensions etc.

OPPORTUNITY

To suggest a BPW international think tank about a more and more important worldwide challenge: how to make a career abroad, assessing risks.

GOALS FOR NEXT PERIOD

I- Communication:

The Task Force is currently known from word of mouth

Proposal: advertisement on the BPW international web site to encourage women who are used to travel all over the world to join BPW.

Goal: to get a real support from all BPW federations in the world in order



Member Initiated Taskforces and Projects

Final Report of the International Mobility Task Force

- to enrich a database about expatriation conditions and, thus,
- to help members to avoid administrative or legal risks,
- to fight against seclusion - linking women in the same situation to prevent psychosocial risks, i.e. problems related to loneliness and sometimes family remoteness
- to solve the problematic of official equivalence of diplomas
- to transcend the cultural brakes for women living far from their native country

II- Students and young BPW:

- ☞ to help students who are in a situation of International Mobility to create BPW unit on campus all around the world.

III- Think-tank

It is very important to warn against the complication of international mobility and to take care of women who have chosen to make a career abroad. The concerns of expat women are currently not taken into account by BPW International- laws, uses, and mentalities.

Proposal to ask them to become members: The International Mobility Taskforce is able to coordinate some regional virtual groups via skype - BPW Africa, BPW Asia-Pacific, BPW Europe, BPW South-America and BPW North-America - in order to create an internal expat Network.

CONCLUSION

The International Mobility Taskforce suggests meeting the expectations of non-sedentary women and encourages expat women from all over the world to join BPW.

It is a way to be in touch with more potential members, especially youngest. Failing that, BPW international loses expat's subscription.