

# TRAINING WORKSHOPS AND LANGUAGE COURSES

## *IN PORTUGAL*

Two training workshops took place in Portugal on 17-18 March and 24-25 March 2014 with 41 participants. They found the training workshops "exceptionally" appropriate and innovative and recognised them as particularly good in helping them improve language skills and knowledge on specific topics and vocabulary on healthcare issues. The methodology used was focused on collaborative and active learning and interaction between the participants. They were divided into groups to discuss real scenarios, chart out ideas and come up with ways and solutions for overcoming language barriers. They also developed activities based on the contents of the Healthcare Language Guide. All participants evaluated the workshops as an excellent opportunity to share experiences and knowledge with associations and professionals of other areas developing activities with immigrants.

Three language courses took place in Portugal (April – June 2014) with about 60 participants from 10 countries: Italy, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, India, Guinea-Bissau and Guinee-Conakri. All participants expressed their strong interest, participated actively in the courses and gained more self-confidence when speaking the local language. The most useful resources pointed out were the Phrase Book and the Medical Route. At the end everybody was unanimous making references to the friendly atmosphere during the courses and the excellent opportunity for creating personal contacts and exchange of experiences.