



Reinforcing Integration through Sponsorship Enhancement

BE | IT | LT

Project information sheet 2024 - 2026

“It Takes a Community to Build a Home”

The “RISE” project responds to the **housing needs of beneficiaries of international protection**, through the finetuning, development and piloting of **community sponsorship (CS) programs** in **Belgium, Italy and Lithuania**. Through this project, public and private stakeholders from diverse European contexts and with different expertise in integration and housing, will **enhance transnational knowledge and cooperation**. The project is structured around **accessibility to housing as a key element to integration**, consistent with the EU Action Plan on Integration and Inclusion 2021-2027.

Community sponsorship is a **solidarity initiative** where host country residents play an active role by offering **social, practical and emotional support** in refugees’ integration journey, including helping them find housing and **settle in their new societies**, complementary to **integration** measures provided by the state.

In Belgium, sponsor groups are usually composed of **five committed citizens** willing to provide reception assistance and further accompaniment to resettled individuals and/or families, with the help of a partner organisation and the government. The **support** normally lasts for a period of **one year**.

Objectives



Increasing the availability and access to housing options



Expanding the implementation of Community Sponsorship (CS) programs in EU Member States



Strengthening knowledge and capacity for implementing innovative housing schemes within the context of CS models

Geographical coverage



Implementing partners

Odisee
UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

ROMA
TRE
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI

Dipartimento di
SCIENZE DELLA
FORMAZIONE

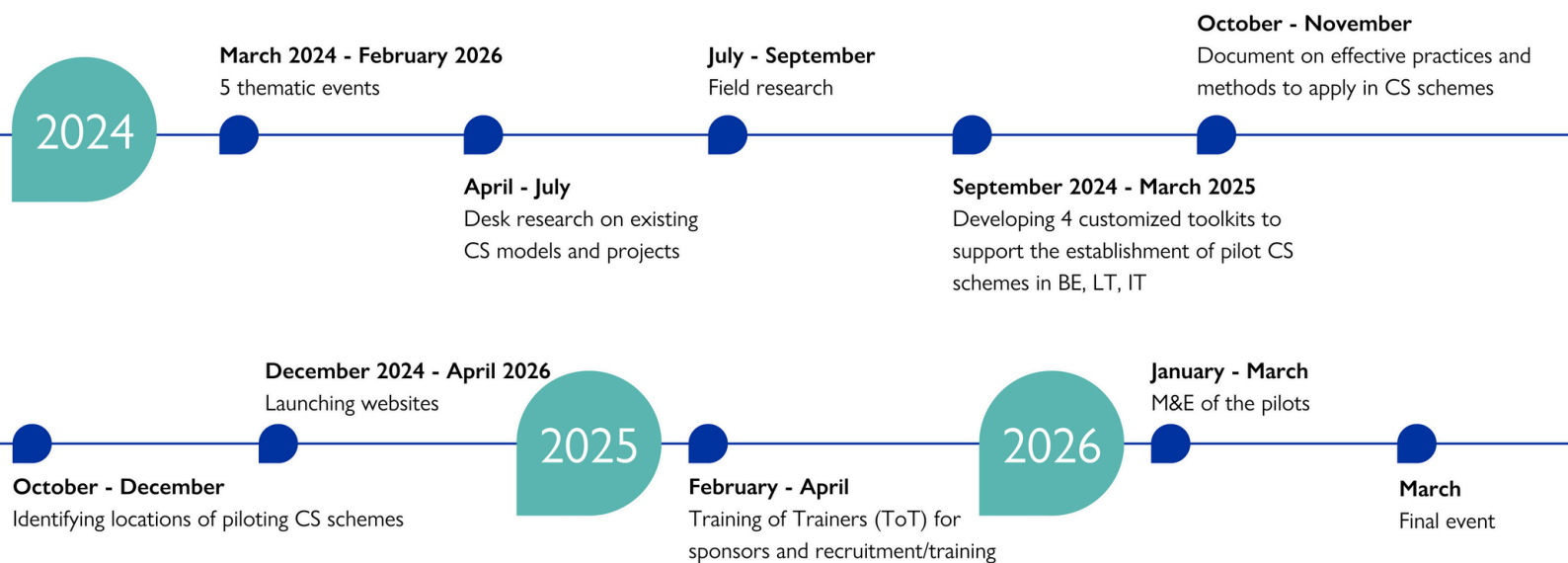
**PRIEMIMO IR INTEGRACIJOS
AGENTŪRA**



Funded by
the European Union

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Timeline of the project



“Housing at the Centre” approach

The project follows the "Housing at the Centre" approach, which recognizes access to affordable and accessible housing as a fundamental human right and essential for building sustainable communities. This approach acknowledges the need to address systemic barriers that prevent persons from accessing quality housing, tackling issues related to discriminatory lending practices. Through this approach, it seeks to generate a positive momentum towards greater housing equality. The project’s methodology involves evidence and capacity building, pilots, and knowledge management. These components guided by a thematic framework around five key areas, including engagement of key stakeholders, recruitment and selection of sponsors, training and support for sponsors, effective matching criteria, as well as availability and verification of housing.

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This project supports the implementation of the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

