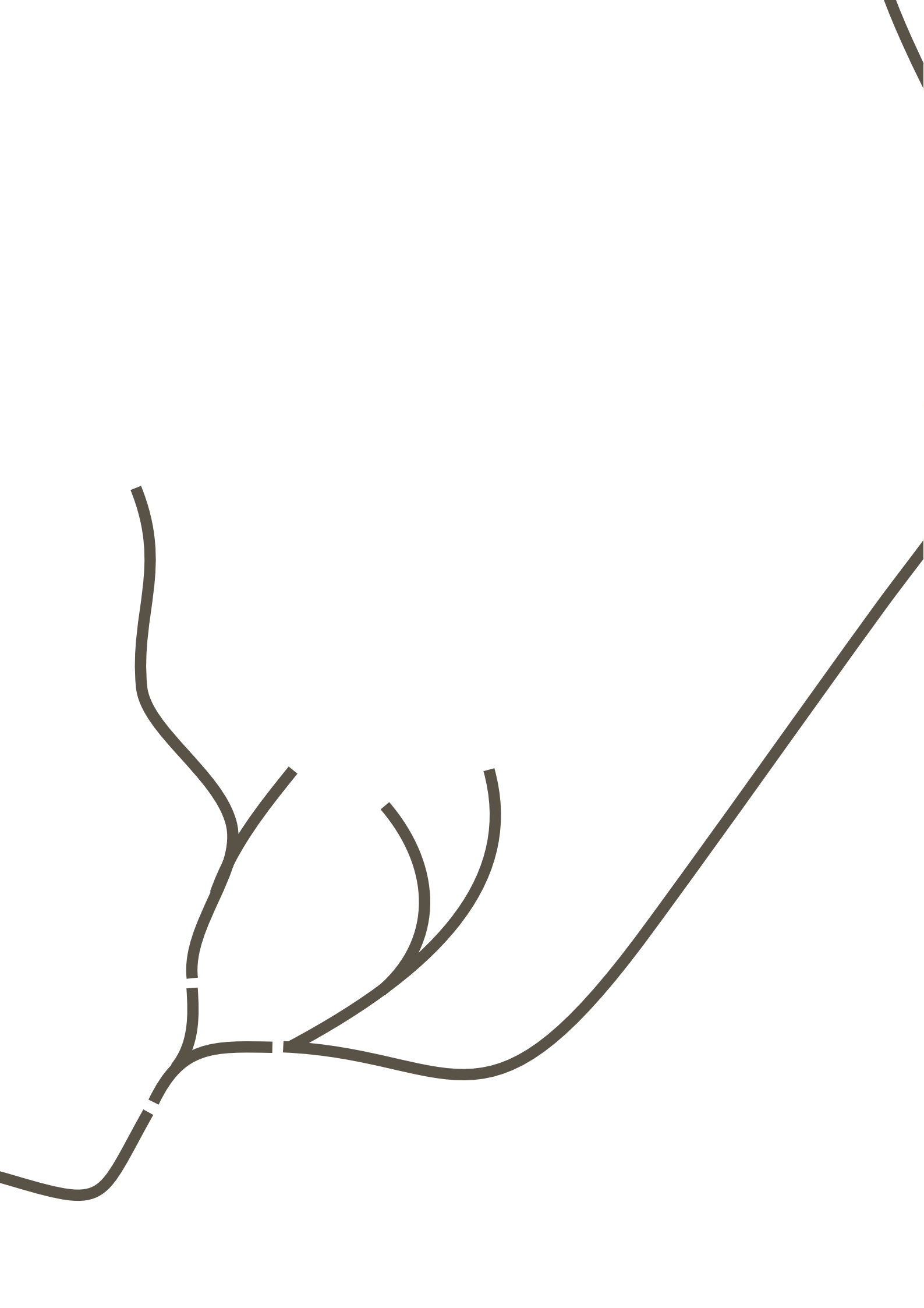


# Working Plan on Immigration 2008-2011

Barcelona City Council  
October 2008







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# 1

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## Context

**In** 2001, the **Commission on Immigration Policy** was set up by the Barcelona City Council, chaired by the Mayor and including the leaders of all the political parties with representation on the City Council and the people responsible for immigration policies.

The aim of this entity is to agree upon and monitor the city's immigration policies, and it was within the framework of this Commission that in 2002 the **Municipal Immigration Plan (PMI)** was approved unanimously by all the political parties.

During the last mandate, the Municipal Immigration Plan has become a genuine "route map" in terms of the City Council's immigration policies.

The main objective of the Plan is to *achieve the genuine integration of immigrants at every level of civic life in Barcelona and in Catalan society.*

The Barcelona City Council's PMI encompasses the following **principles** which are worth reiterating here given that they have served as a guideline for the City Council's immigration policy:

**EQUALITY**, in the sense that people should be treated equally by the law in exercising their rights and obligations, and have equal access to resources and social opportunities, regardless of their origin or the social group to which they belong.

**CULTURAL DIVERSITY**, in the sense that people, as a whole, must be free to express themselves and develop culturally in freedom, from a standpoint of knowledge and respect for other cultures in the city, within the limits imposed by public order and the "rules of coexistence".

**LIVING TOGETHER** (as opposed to coexistence), this being understood as a shared area of participation and intercultural coexistence, focusing on dialogue, interaction and reciprocity as the mechanisms for mutual accommodation between different collectives. The aim is not to promote the coexistence of parallel worlds in our city, but for there to be a minimum common denominator for every citizen, regardless of their origin.

Amongst other things, this entails education, tolerance, and common rules for living together and dealing with disputes.

**SOCIAL COHESION**, in the sense that regardless of their origin or other social labels, people should feel a bond with the place where they live and feel an integrated part of it, with equal opportunities to take part in joint projects with the rest of the population.

A feeling of belonging, of pride in living in a particular district and in the city, is the best foundation for coexistence.

**NORMALISATION** is a basic principle which refers to looking after people within the framework of existing services without creating parallel structures. Citizens of immigrant origin should thus be attended to by the services, facilities and programmes directed at the population as a whole. This policy aims to avoid the creation of specific 'windows' for immigrants.

The exception to this is **initial immigrant reception policies**. The reception period is temporary and aims to facilitate the integration of new arrivals, and for this reason specific policies are necessary at this initial phase to facilitate this process.

**TRANSVERSALITY**, the **Barcelona** City Council's immigration policy, is not implemented by the Department of Immigration but rather by every department in the Council. The Municipal Immigration Plan is a transversal plan whose aim is to find the best possible way of managing the organisation so the different parts that make up the whole can jointly tackle the situations deriving from the immigration phenomenon.

**AND PARTICIPATION**. The participation of all social stakeholders is an essential element in developing the Immigration Plan. Municipal leadership needs to be supported by dialogue and collaboration with the city's associations as a whole: not only with the social entities that work directly with immigrant collectives, but also, and very importantly, with the collaboration and involvement of neighbourhood associations, business associations, trade unions, schools, and healthcare, sports, religious and leisure centres, etc. Citizen participation is one of the key ways of guaranteeing the success of immigration policies and one of the key driving forces that should allow us to manage change within diversity.

From 2002 until now there have been amendments to the immigration law, some of which have had an impact on municipal competences.

On 7 February **2005 the Immigration Law went into force** which implemented Organic Law 4/2000 of 11 January 2000 on the rights and freedoms of foreign nationals living in Spain and their social integration.

This law entailed a change in the involvement of Local Administrations in managing immigrant flows.

Basically, it had an impact on family regrouping and social integration.

- A** the City Council has to issue **Housing Availability reports** for foreign residents who wish to regroup family members (in 2007 there were 6,943 applications for housing reports)
- B** the City Council also has to issue a **Social Integration report** for people who want to apply for a residence permit due to exceptional circumstances (in 2007 there were 5,195 of these applications)

To deal with these new legal responsibilities, the City Council set up an **Immigration Board** in February 2005.

At the same time as this new legislation went into force, the Spanish State set up an **Immigrant Reception and Integration Fund** whereby part of the resources are specifically earmarked for municipalities.

This fund from the Ministry of Employment and Social Affairs (MTAS) is managed in Catalonia by the Immigration Secretariat of the Generalitat. In 2005, the City Council was granted the sum of 4 million euros which was increased to 4.4 million in 2006 and 2007.

In recent years, resources have been directed at strengthening the specific lines of action on immigration and the normalisation services that have the greatest impact.

Highlights include:

- 1** With regard to services geared towards the population as a whole, 20 social workers were recruited for the Social Services Centres. Funds available for family grants have been increased by 600,000 euros every year since 2005 to address the increase in demand.
- 2** In conjunction with the network of organisations, the Immigrant Reception Guidelines for Barcelona have been drawn up. In this respect, specific projects are being instigated to strengthen and support the reception networks in the city's various districts (legal support and advice, occupational insertion, local knowledge, rights and obligations, language knowledge, etc.).
- 3** The agreement with the associations managed by the SAIER has been strengthened, as has the funding of the Intercultural Mediation Service.
- 4** A whole series of immigrant reception and integration projects has been put into action and followed up in the city's different districts (reception and coexistence plan in Ciutat Vella; the 'new neighbours' programme in Horta-Guinardó and Nou Barris; projects in Poble Sec in the district of Sants and in Gràcia, and a public space mediation campaign in Trinitat Vella in the district of Sant Andreu)
- 5** In collaboration with the Language Normalisation Centre in Barcelona (CNL), a new Language Reception Centre has been set up (CAL) in Plaça de Catalunya, and a new focus has been placed on the type of basic Catalan courses designed specifically for foreigners to start learning our language. This new approach has entailed the CNL increasing its teaching staff by 40% and guaranteeing enrolment at any time during the year. This guarantees that Catalan for Foreigners classes can be started during any week of the year. A total of 21,900 people enrolled for these basic level courses in 2007.

In terms of the Catalan political context, it is worth highlighting the approval of the **Statute of Catalonia** which gives the Generalitat certain powers with regard to immigration policies.

It is also worth noting the draft **National Immigration Agreement** of Catalonia, which should provide the global framework within which to agree the general lines of immigration policies and the model of Catalan integration. The Agreement is currently in the process of being discussed and negotiated by the different stakeholders involved. It is expected to be approved during the final quarter of 2008.

Meanwhile, it is also very important to highlight the production of the **Immigrant Reception Law of Catalonia**, which should define the framework for policies in this area. This law is currently undergoing the formalities prior to its approval by the Government. It is expected to go before Parliament at the end of 2008, so its final approval, if applicable, will take place in 2009.

**Municipal immigration policies will need to be very mindful of the final contents of both the National Agreement and the Immigration Reception Law.** Through its Department of Immigration, the City Council has taken an active role in both these processes, either as part of the group of experts working on one of the sections of the initial document of the National Agreement or contributing various ideas to the draft Immigrant Reception Law.

Finally, the envisaged approval at the end of the year of the new **Law on places of worship** will provide a regulatory framework to help standardise and regulate these facilities.

In terms of promoting and managing municipal immigration policies, it is worth highlighting that when the new government team was formed in June 2007, the position of **Commissioner for Immigration and Cultural Dialogue** was created -Daniel de Torres- which is attached to the Department of Education, Culture and Welfare headed by first deputy mayor, Carles Martí.

Finally, it should be reiterated that **immigration policies are transversal** and therefore go above and beyond the specific policies that relate to immigration legislation, immigrant reception and the Municipal Immigration Council; immigration policies concern every single department in the City Council. The departments of education, healthcare, security, social services and economic promotion, amongst others, must all take on board and adapt to the new social realities of the city in order to address our new challenges and needs.

The fact that the new Commissioner is devoted exclusively to immigration policies will allow us to strengthen coordination between the different government departments to make the most of this transversality, in both sectoral and regional terms, as **cooperation with the different districts** is now a key element of these immigration policies.

During this mandate **it is very important to continue basing our work on the consensus of every political party.** It is obvious that immigration has continued to increase since 2002 and that today there is a need to update and adapt some of the priorities and lines of action envisaged by the Plan to the current situation. Despite this, the main theories and the global framework it set forth are still valid and pertinent today, and for this reason we do not believe it is necessary to draw up a new Plan from scratch, but rather to base our work on defining priorities and specific actions within the framework of a Working Plan for the mandate.

It is also worth noting that at the Commission on Immigration Policy held in February 2006, the **Follow-up and Evaluation Report** on the Municipal Immigration Plan was presented.

There are currently numerous projects and actions underway that reflect the spirit of the Plan and also the city's **Immigration Reception Guidelines**, which were drawn up in 2006 after an intensive and participative process with the leading organisations and associations that work with immigrant reception in the city.

What we need now is to define a specific framework of action based on the current situation and future trends that translates to a **practical, unanimously-agreed working plan that specifies the main lines of action.**







# The evolution of immigration in Barcelona

# 2

**As** a result of the migratory process, over the last 10 years there has been a huge sociodemographic change which has radically altered the social, economic and cultural landscape of our city.

The number of foreign residents registered in the city of Barcelona as of 1st January 2008 was **280,817**, representing **17.3%** of the total resident population in the city.

## Evolution in the number of foreign residents registered with the Barcelona City Council

Year	Foreign residents	Increase on previous year	Percentage of total resident population	Interannual growth rate
March 2000	53,428	12,525	3.50%	30,60%
January 2001	74,019	20,591	4,90%	38,50%
January 2002	113,809	39,790	7,60%	53,80%
January 2003	163,046	49,237	10,70%	43,30%
January 2004	202,489	39,443	12,80%	24,20%
January 2005	230,942	28,453	14,60%	14,10%
January 2006	260,058	29,116	15,90%	12,60%
January 2007	250,789	- 9,269	15,60%	-3.60%
<b>January 2008</b>	<b>280,817</b>	<b>30,028</b>	<b>17,3%</b>	<b>11,97%</b>

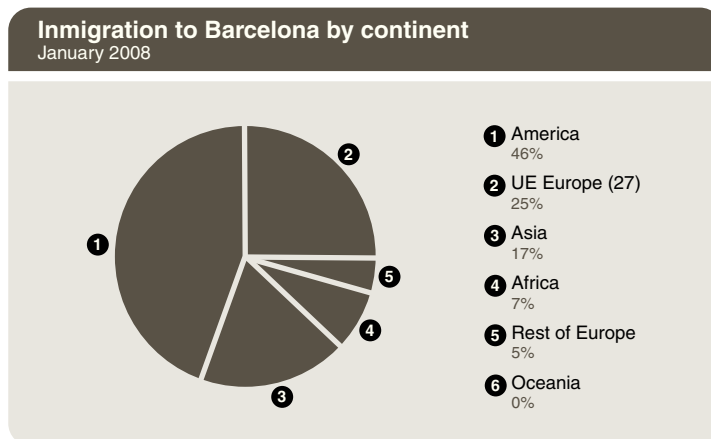
Source. Department of Statistics Barcelona City Council

The number of residents of foreign origin **increased in 2007 by 30,028**. The interannual increase in the number of foreign residents in the city in 2007 was 11.97% (the lowest increase since 2000, not counting the anomaly of 2006).

**As indicated above, 2006 should be regarded as an anomaly**, given that the drop in registered residents was essentially due to the effect of the ruling on how long residents from outside the EU without permanent residence permits could remain on the official register, which led to more than 33,000 names being 'deregistered'.



In terms of continents, almost **half are from America (46%)**, specifically **South America**, while 25% are from the EU of-27. To a lesser extent, immigrants come from Asia (17%) and Africa - mainly North Africa (7%). Finally, 5% come from the rest of Europe.



**In terms of nationality, the ranking is headed by Ecuador with 22,943 people, followed by Italy, Bolivia, Pakistan Peru, Morocco, Colombia, China and France.** All these nationalities add up to over 10,000 residents.

It is interesting to note that as of 1st January 2004 there were 32,946 Ecuadorians in Barcelona 32,946. This drop of 10,000 residents of Ecuadorian origin in four years is due to a slowdown in arrivals combined with an increase in the number of nationalizations and people moving out to other metropolitan municipalities.

**Main Nationalities**

Country	Name
Ecuador	22,943
Italy	20,843
Bolivia	18,759
Pakistan	15,966
Peru	15,240
Morocco	13,998
Colombia	13,032
China	12,938
France	12,557
Argentina	9,922
Brazil	9,007
Dominican Republic	7,101
Germany	7,070
Philippines	7,023
Romania	6,733
United Kingdom	5,993

Source. Department of Statistics Barcelona City Council

In 2007 the biggest increases in terms of nationality were Italy (3,287), Pakistan (2,873), Bolivia (2,407), Brazil (2,021), Romania (1,996), China (1,843) and Paraguay (1,264).

There was also a notable increase in the number of residents from Central American countries such as Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that the arrival of people from Sub-Saharan Africa is barely relevant in the city of Barcelona, given that the main Sub-Saharan nationality is Nigerian, at 44th position on the list with just 951 residents, followed some way further down by the Senegalese, with 761 residents.

## Profile of foreign residents in Barcelona

By gender, **52.7% of foreigners are men and 47.3% are women**. Communities with the highest number of men are from Central Asia (75%) and Sub-Saharan Africa (69%). In contrast, the group with the highest number of women is from Central America (60% are women)

**This is a young collective**. By age group, half of them are in the 25-39 segment. Only 2% of foreign residents are aged over 65. Taking the city as a whole, 21% of all residents are over 65.

Immigration brings the city considerable human capital, given that **28% of foreign residents over the age of 16 have attended higher education** (the city's average is 19.2%)

### Immigration by district

The current situation **of immigration is that it is becoming more evenly distributed** across all the city's districts.

**In 2001, Ciutat Vella was home to 21% of all foreign nationals living in the city, and today houses 14.8%**. Other districts such as the Eixample, Nou Barris, Sant Martí, Sants Montjuïc and Sant Andreu have seen their immigrant populations increase, balancing out the percentages between all the districts.

**For the fourth year running, the Eixample is the district with the highest absolute numbers of foreign residents (45,825)** moving further away from Ciutat Vella in second position (41,572) and Sants, in third (34,546).

In absolute figures, notable increases include the Eixample (3,932), Sant Martí (3,787), Ciutat Vella (3,592), Sants (3,432) and Nou Barris (3,322).

	January 2006	January 2007	January 2008	% of city total
1. Ciutat Vella	40,952	37,980	41,572	14,8%
2. Eixample	44,366	41,893	45,825	16,3%
3. Sants-Montjuïc	32,717	31,114	34,546	12,3%
4. Les Corts	9,359	8,582	9,165	3,3%
5. Sarrià-Sant Gervasi	16,318	15,297	16,244	5,8%
6. Gràcia	17,156	16,426	18,108	6,4%
7. Horta-Guinardó	18,998	18,765	21,166	7,5%
8. Nou Barris	22,812	23,631	26,953	9,6%
9. Sant Andreu	16,433	16,350	18,546	6,6%
10. Sant Martí	29,745	29,509	33,296	11,9%
Not given	11,202	11,242	15,396	5,5%
<b>BARCELONA</b>	<b>260,058</b>	<b>250,789</b>	<b>280,817</b>	<b>100,0%</b>

The districts that have experienced the biggest increase in the number of foreign residents are Nou Barris, Sant Andreu, Sant Martí and Horta-Guinardó, confirming the trend towards **greater settlement of foreign residents in the north-eastern districts of the city**.

Meanwhile, the district with the highest percentage of foreign residents is Ciutat Vella (39%), followed by Sants Montjuïc (19%) and the Eixample (17.2%). The city average is 17.3%.

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grups polítics

	January 2007	January 2008	% of foreign residents over total	Increase in absolute figures	% increase
1. Ciutat Vella	37,980	41,572	<b>39,70%</b>	3,592	9,50%
2. Eixample	41,893	45,825	<b>17,20%</b>	3,932	9,40%
3. Sants-Montjuïc	31,114	34,546	<b>19,00%</b>	3,432	11,00%
4. Les Corts	8,582	9,165	<b>11,10%</b>	583	6,80%
5. Sarrià-Sant Gervasi	15,297	16,244	<b>11,40%</b>	947	6,20%
6. Gràcia	16,426	18,108	<b>14,80%</b>	1,682	10,20%
7. Horta-Guinardó	18,765	21,166	<b>12,50%</b>	2,401	12,80%
8. Nou Barris	23,631	26,953	<b>16,00%</b>	3,322	14,10%
9. Sant Andreu	16,350	18,546	<b>12,80%</b>	2,196	13,40%
10. Sant Martí	29,509	33,296	<b>14,70%</b>	3,787	12,80%
Not given	11,242	15,396		4,154	37,00%
<b>BARCELONA</b>	<b>250,789</b>	<b>280,817</b>	<b>17,30%</b>	<b>30,028</b>	<b>12,00%</b>

## Evolution of family regroupings

An analysis of applications for housing availability reports for regrouping families gives us information on the settlement patterns of new arrivals in Barcelona. This concerns non-EU residents, whose papers are in order, who have to fulfil a series of requirements such as having a decent home, a job contract and sufficient income to guarantee they can support the family members they wish to bring into the country.

This therefore relates to people who have decided to make a firm personal commitment to settle in our city and consequently want to bring their closest family members over from their country of origin to join them.

The data on the evolution of the number of applications for housing availability reports for family regroupings since 2005 is as follows:

	Year 2005	Year 2006	Year 2007
Applications received	4,459	5,764	6,943
Notarised notifications received	576	114	705
Positive reports issued	3,576	5,346	5,117
Files closed/rejections	151	249	497
Files currently under review/files pending a decision	156	55	624

### Profile of applicants for family regrouping

The average number of people wishing to regroup in each application is **1.69**. 55% of applications are to bring over just one family member.

In terms of the profile of applicants, **52.4% are men and 47.6% are women**. The nationalities that submit the most requests for regrouping are Ecuadorians, Chinese, Peruvians and Pakistanis.

The main family relationship in regroupings is parent/child. **45% of applicants wish to bring over their children**. An additional 15% wish to bring over their children and spouse.

With regard to the districts of residence of applicants, **Sants-Montjuïc** is at the top for the first time, with 1,159 applications (16.7% of the total) followed by Nou Barris (16.4%) and Ciutat Vella (14.9%).

## Evolution of social integration

With regard to the evolution in the number of **social integration report**, requests by people seeking a residence permit for exceptional circumstances, it is worth highlighting **the significant increase during 2007**. It is worth remembering that this procedure is directed at people in an irregular situation who fulfil certain requirements: three years of continued residence in Spain, a means of earning a living (e. g., a job offer of one year or other duration), and the ability to demonstrate a certain degree of integration in the host society.

The evolution in the number of applications for social integration reports in Barcelona is as

	2005	2006	2007	2008 (January - April)
Applications received	817	2,951	5,195	3,510
Positive reports	209	1,249	2,598	1,357
Non-appearances, withdrawals and rejections	192	834	1,409	503
Being processed as at 31st December	416	868	1,188	1,650(*)

## Mixed-nationality births

An interesting way of assessing the true impact of immigration on Barcelona in the long term is an analysis of the number of children born to foreign parents. These changes show that the number of children born **to two foreign parents in 2006 came to 18.2% of all births**.

The most notable figure, which is indicative of the relationships that are becoming more and more common between natives and foreigners, is **the number of children born to couples where one is foreign and the other is Spanish**. In this case, these represented **14.5% of all births in 2006**.

Year	1996	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Both parents Spanish	11,245	11,028	10,576	10,524	10,598	10,432	10,212	10,026
Both parents foreign	467	880	1,291	1,734	2,071	2,412	2,622	2,711
One Spanish partner and one foreign partner	905	1,240	1,315	1,556	1,673	1,805	1,952	2,167
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,617</b>	<b>13,148</b>	<b>13,182</b>	<b>13,814</b>	<b>14,342</b>	<b>14,649</b>	<b>14,786</b>	<b>14,904</b>

Year	1996	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
% both parents Spanish	89,1%	83,9%	80,2%	76,2%	73,9%	71,2%	69,1%	67,3%
% both parents foreign	3,7%	6,7%	9,8%	12,6%	14,4%	16,5%	17,7%	18,2%
% One Spanish partner and one foreign partner	7,2%	9,4%	10,0%	11,3%	11,7%	12,3%	13,2%	14,5%



## Catalan language courses

**The number of students of foreign origin enrolled on Basic Catalan language courses has continued to grow since 2005**, when the Language Reception Centre was set up in Plaça Catalunya.

In terms of the integration report, it has been agreed to give people without accreditation of Catalan language knowledge a type of certificate based on attendance on the course rather than enrolment on it.

	Number of enrolments on the Basic B1 course	Number of enrolments on B2 and B3	Total enrolments on basic courses
2005	9,778	3,886	13,664
2006	11,905	5,173	17,078
2007	14,085	5,953	20,038
2008(*)	19,500	8,100	27,600

Source: CNL  
(\*) estimated

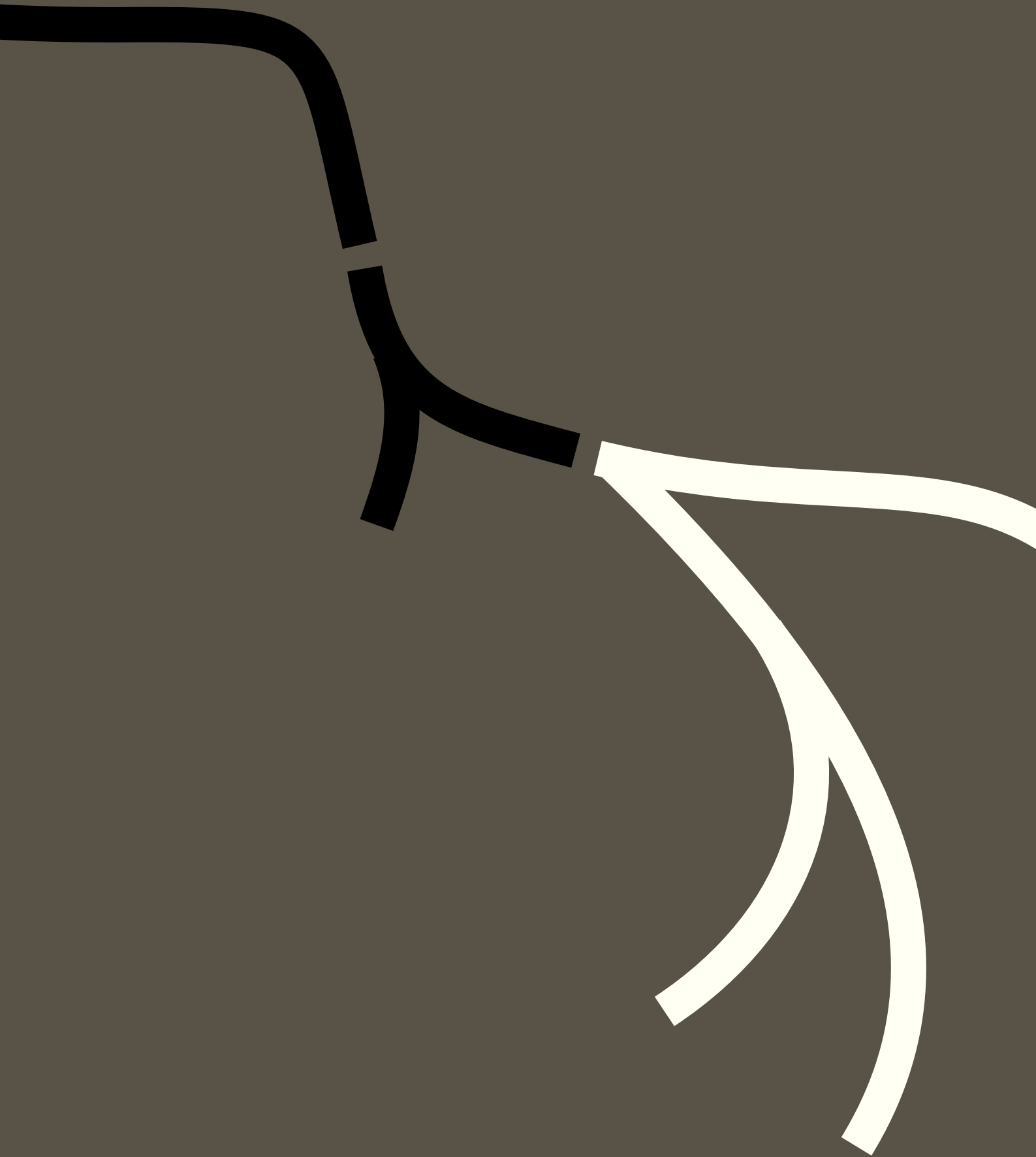




## To guarantee social cohesion and coexistence in the city

### Specific goals:

- To gain a more in-depth understanding of this new situation
- To strengthen immigrant reception strategies
- To avoid segregatory processes (whether physical, social, cultural or educational) and the emergence of new inequalities and risks of exclusion.
- To promote dialogue, exchanges and positive interaction between citizens in the context of greater socio-cultural diversity
- To provide access to Catalan as a factor for integration and social cohesion
- To prioritise actions in specific districts where there is a greater risk of urban segregation due to the origin of their residents
- To integrate young people (from family regroupings and second generations)
- To prevent and regulate conflicts (in communities, regarding the use of public space, etc.)
- To facilitate settling-in in less favourable economic conditions
- To facilitate a link between the supply and demand of jobs in the city
- Occupational integration in family regroupings
- Promoting equal conditions for social mobility
- Avoiding competition for the resources aimed at the most needy people (school lunch grants, family subsidies, etc.)
- Specific treatment for special collectives (homeless drug addicts, illegal street vendors, etc.)
- Ensuring that everyone is aware of and complies with regulations equally
- Combating the rumours and clichés that distort reality and make integration more difficult
- Managing religious plurality: places of worship, festivals, etc.
- Strengthening gender equality policies
- Combating discrimination, racism, etc.



# Main areas of action

# 4

**Our** starting point is recognising that the significant increase in the city's socio-cultural diversity can be either a source of opportunities or problems, and that the prevalence of one over the other depends on how we interpret and manage them.

Although most immigration management policies exceed municipal competences, the government of Barcelona has a huge responsibility for guaranteeing social cohesion and coexistence in the city. For this reason, there is a need to implement active policies and channel municipal resources in collaboration with other administrations yet at the same time requiring them to face up to their responsibilities.

In line with our goal of maximising opportunities and minimising any difficulties, our remit is based on three pillars and five areas of action:

- **Guaranteeing equal rights and obligations** and social opportunities to people within a framework of a state of law built upon the principle that every person is equal in the sight of the law, and based on fundamental democratic values.

In this context, legislation must be the basic principle of immigration policy so it can be implemented in an orderly way within the framework of the law. This is the best way of preventing the violation of people's rights and situations of abuse and exploitation, and also of facilitating the integration processes.

In this process of moving towards equal rights and obligations, it is worth mentioning the importance of being able to put into effect **the right to vote** in municipal elections for non-EU foreign nationals living here in line with the terms and conditions specified by current legislation.

- **The quantitative and qualitative adaptation of municipal services** to address the new socio-demographic situation, avoiding the emergence of imbalances between supply and demand that might give rise to tensions and competition for resources, and demanding that other administrations take the same approach based on a firm commitment to upholding and strengthening the welfare state.
- **Recognising cultural diversity yet at the same time placing an emphasis on the common aspects** that unite us, strengthening bonds and positive interaction between people based on the cultural heritage of the host society and the principle of interculturalism.

The process of integration should be understood as a two-way process that involves both new arrivals and the people who have been living in our city for some time. The former need to make a genuine effort to integrate, which amongst other things entails learning the language, understanding the socio-cultural context of the host society, and respecting and complying with legislative and community frameworks. But it also involves the local inhabitants, who need to recognise and accept this new situation and facilitate the process of integration by breaking down barriers.

#### The main areas of action:

- **Furthering and disseminating information about migration**
- **Strengthening and adapting the city's immigrant reception strategy**
- **Dealing with municipal responsibilities relating to immigration**
- **Addressing interculturalism and promoting participation to guarantee full integration**
- **Guaranteeing transversality and an integral approach to immigration**







# Areas for intervention and actions

# 5

## Furthering and disseminating information about migration

The speed, intensity and complexity of the migratory phenomenon in our city over the last few years make it essential to further our knowledge of the characteristics and consequences of this process. This is important for us to be able to better understand the current situation, identify the challenges and thus define the most appropriate policies, while at the same time preventing certain perceptions that do not reflect reality from taking hold.

In this respect, we need to make an effort to obtain a complete overview of the impact of immigration and follow up the process of integration.

**KEY MEASURES:**

- 1 Identifying and compiling of a series of indicators** that provide a global overview of immigration in the city (an “X-ray” of the current situation with information from every sector and department in the city council)
- 2** Drawing up a system of indicators (**indicator panel**) that allows us to monitor the process of integration and the efficiency of immigration policies over time.
- 3** Preparing **materials for disseminating information** on the situation of immigration in the city.
  - Basic handbook on immigration (statistics and trends)
  - A mini-dossier on immigration (data and city council policies)
  - A manual to dispel rumours and clichés
- 4** Organising **annual seminars** to examine important issues in-depth
 

The Department of Immigration will be responsible for organising these seminars. The first ones will be held in autumn 2008 on the subject of family regrouping.
- 5** Preparing **of studies and reports**

Based on the identification of key issues such as family regrouping, studies will be drawn up to examine settlement and integration processes in order to gain greater knowledge of how this ever-changing situation is evolving and help us to better define, improve and evaluate our policies.
- 6** Creation of a **new citizens’ website**

This website, which is currently under production, will facilitate access to information on municipal services and immigration policies, demographic statistics, association networks, various immigrant reception materials, and provide an area for communicating with the municipal council for immigration, etc.

**RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION:** Department of Immigration

## Strengthening and adapting the city’s immigrant reception strategy

The Government of Catalonia is driving through a Migrant Reception Law with the aim of defining and specifying the global framework and thus the policies that the City Council needs to enshrine and adapt to the contents of the future Law.

The city’s immigrant reception strategy is network-based and combines the services of SAIER, the city’s main public reception organisation, with the work of the 80 entities that make up the Reception Network, along with the projects driven directly by the Department of Immigration and the different reception programmes coordinated by the districts.

It is worth noting that other areas and sectors are also involved in reception policies, such as the social services, the educational system, the health service and the city’s different social and cultural facilities (civic centres, libraries, etc.).

Between October 2005 and October 2006 the city’s **Immigrant Reception Guidelines** were drawn up with the wide-ranging participation of a series of organisations and associations that work in immigrant reception.

These guidelines represent a consensus on concepts and objectives and give an overall consistency to the city's immigrant reception strategy. It also involved the creation of the **Reception Network** which currently consists of around 80 organisations of every kind, which the Department of Immigration supports through a series of grants for reception projects, which was set up in 2005.

Immigrant reception, as stated in the draft document of the future Law, is the first stage in which the immigrant person embarks on the process of integrating in our society.

Reception policies and services must guarantee access to basic information and training for new arrivals on the context of the host society, services, regulations, etc. to guarantee their personal autonomy and social integration.

Training will give them the language and occupational skills and knowledge of the laws, the city and the Catalan host society that they will need to progress. This concerns knowledge of social, cultural, geographical, recreational and linguistic aspects.

Reception policies should continue adapting and being updated, and in this respect **we now need to move further forward** in certain key areas:

- defining **what information should be given and how**, at the point of arrival of new foreign residents who register in our city, which represents the beginning of their reception journey
- specifically tackling the **reception process of family regroupings**
- examining the **transversality of reception policies** in order to involve more stakeholders and guarantee coordination
- underlining the fact that municipal reception policies should be **completely aligned with the global framework that is finally established in the future Law**, so their content needs to be adapted and updated.

All these aspects as a whole should allow the creation of reception circuits that encourage the integration of new residents of foreign origin, taking into account the heterogeneous nature of their profiles and needs.

#### KEY MEASURES:

##### 1 Implementation throughout the city of a **system of informative group sessions for new residents**

These are informative sessions aimed at people who have recently arrived in our city with the intention of living here. These sessions will provide basic information on the city and the host society, its socio-cultural context, citizens' rights and obligations, language learning, the rules of coexistence, information on services, local traditions, etc. In short, the aim is to provide basic information to help people integrate in our city.

At present these sessions are being carried out in the Sants district as a pilot scheme, combining fixed, on-site sessions at the district headquarters with other itinerant sessions at various facilities and associations within the neighbourhood.

A common system will be developed for the city as a whole, extending these sessions to every district so they can be held at every OAC in the city, motivating people to attend from the moment they register officially with the council, and ensuring sessions are compatible with working hours.

## 2 Preparing **reception material on the city for new residents**

Preparation of welcome material for all new arrivals to the city, which includes basic information on the city and the host society, services, regulations, etc.

The aim is to provide **general, uniform city-wide information** for new arrivals from other countries who register with the council. This material will come in different formats depending on the context (basic information at the time of registering, available at numerous points around the city, ranging from OAC to libraries, associations, etc., to more detailed information in the group information sessions)

## 3 Developing a **support programme for regrouping families** in every district in the city.

This refers to a programme of support for families who are regrouping, which starts months before the actual regrouping and continues after the arrival of the new family members.

Based on the information from the housing availability reports drawn up by the City Council's Department of Immigration for family regrouping applicants, we can make contact with communities of regrouping families and thus **begin working on the reception process before the regrouping actually takes place.**

A pilot scheme is currently underway in the district of Horta, and during this mandate it should be extended to every district in the city with the aim of reaching **some 7,000 families a year.**

The subjects addressed include: basic information, language knowledge, getting into the labour market, joining the educational system, legal aspects, prevention of gender-related violence, etc.

## 4 **Strengthening and adapting the SAIER** (Immigrant and Refugee Welfare Service) to new demands and realities. Extending the agreement with the five organisations that manage the specific welfare services for foreign nationals.

## 5 Formalising and consolidating **the city's Reception Network.**

Formalising and consolidating the existing Reception Network, made up of some 80 associations of all kinds in the city which represent significant added value.

In the past year, the group of organisations that make up the network have been involved in more than 40,000 different actions with users (legal advice, language courses, occupational insertion, etc.)

An annual Plenary will be established for the network to take stock of the work carried out over the year and present future lines of work.

The network is structured into three main working groups:

- Coordinator of language organisations
- Network of legal advice organisations
- Occupational insertion network (as part of the social and occupational insertion network of Welfare and Barcelona Activa)

Other projects:

- Occupational insertion programme for young regrouping immigrants aged 16-18 (instigated by the Generalitat)
- Collaboration with the Government delegation to share information and speed up the amendment of residence to work permits
- Collaboration with the Trade Confederation of Catalonia to help regrouped family members join the labour market
- Instigating a working group of the organisations that work on approving qualifications
- Preparing **specific reception material within the framework of the Network:**

For Reception professionals

- Updating the content of the **Reception Procedural Manual**
- **Internal Network guide** (identifying each member and describing their activities)

Specific Reception materials:

- Guide to healthcare access
- Employment guide...
- Resources guides for the 10 districts
- other material

- 6 Maintaining the **line of subsidies for immigrant reception organisations**: around 80 organisations, to a total of 450,000 euros

Consolidating the line of subsidies and strengthening their technical capacity for monitoring projects

- 7 Continue to promote **language learning**

Learning the language or languages of the host society is one of the main priorities for genuine integration to take place. For this reason, strongly incentivising language learning is one of the pillars of our immigrant reception policies.

This requires:

1. Strongly incentivising **Catalan language learning based on** collaboration with the **Language Normalisation Consortium**.

- Highlighting the importance of learning the language at the start of the reception process (in the informative sessions, in reception material, etc.)
- Guaranteeing training and the means to learn basic skills in the Catalan language, adapting to the criteria finally established by the Migrant Reception Law.
- Directing people to courses from every reception point and service entity
- Promotion of Catalan course and materials by professional sectors (home help and senior citizens' homes, etc.)
- Promoting specific courses and materials for certain collectives (such as the Chinese and Pakistani communities)

## A reminder of the progress of Catalan courses

	Number of enrolments on the Basic B1 course	Number of enrolments on B2 and B3	Total enrolments on basic courses
2005	9,778	3,886	13,664
2006	11,905	5,173	17,078
2007	14,085	5,953	20,038
2008(*)	19,500	8,100	27,600

Source: CNL  
(\*) estimated

## 2. Providing support to **organisations that offer training** for language learning.

Supporting the reception organisations that offer Catalan and Spanish courses

Supporting the preparation and publishing of material in Spanish for new arrivals, including a 90-hour course, students' material, a teacher's guide and educational modules that are closely related to the immigrant situation in Barcelona.

For Catalan courses, there is very comprehensive material available from the CNL that is adapted to the city's context (getting to know the city at the same time as the language)

However, the organisations did not have quality, context-driven material available in Spanish. This material has been developed by the organisation Espai Inclusiu del Casc Antic.

### RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION:

Department of Immigration (2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.5, 2.6, 2.7.2.)

Social Action (2.4)

Language Normalisation Consortium (CNL) (2.7.1)

## Dealing with municipal responsibilities relating to immigration

Responsibilities relating to immigration that were transferred to municipal councils in 2005 made it necessary to set up a technical management structure to put in action and coordinate the new services. These services entailed the production of two reports:

- a **social integration report** for applicants for work and residency permits for exceptional reasons
- a **housing availability report** for applicants for family regrouping

Dealing with these two reports gives access to some very useful information, based on which we can gain a better understanding of the current situation and trends, which also helps us to develop other actions and projects such as **support for family regrouping and control over housing over-occupancy**.

It should be mentioned that one of the main challenges facing municipalities when it comes to handling these competences is moving forward towards the **definition of common, shared criteria** for drawing up these reports to avoid any disparities that may lead to situations of inequality and cause people to move around between municipalities.

**KEY MEASURES:****1 Housing availability reports.**

People who want to bring over a family member from their country of origin **have to fulfil a series of conditions** for their application to be accepted. These include demonstrating that they have sufficient financial resources and a decent home to house the family member/s they wish to bring over.

It is the City Council's remit to draw up the housing report, while the Government delegation is responsible for ensuring compliance with every requirement and finally granting the regrouping permit.

- Procedures and submission deadlines for the reports will be maintained and improved upon
- the Department of Immigration will inspect the homes of applicants for family regrouping (some 7,000 homes per year, depending on the volume of applications)
- The Department of Immigration will coordinate with the Department of Housing, the city Districts, the city police and other municipal departments in cases where possible irregularities are identified (over-occupancy, slum conditions or illegal business operations) so the administrative, legal and social measures necessary to deal with these situations can be adopted.

**RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION:** Department of Immigration

**2 Social integration reports**

This is the procedure whereby the Government delegation authorises residence due to exceptional circumstances to foreign nationals who can prove they have lived in Spain continually for 3 years, have a job contract and sufficient financial resources, and can demonstrate a certain level of social integration.

The City Council has to draw up a social integration report which should state:

The amount of time the person in question has lived at that address; his/her disposable income; his/her level of language knowledge; involvement in local social networks; social and occupational insertion programmes of public or private institutions in which he/she has participated, and any other circumstances that may determine the level of integration. The City Council can recommend that a particular person is exempted from having a job contract so long as they can demonstrate they have enough income to live on.

As a result of the fact that people who were not able to access the normalisation process in 2005 are now free to apply for this process, the number of applications has increased substantially.

- The response to the increase in applications for social integration reports will be properly addressed and solutions found
- The team of professionals responsible for issuing the reports will be enlarged, having already gone from 5 people in January 2008 to 14 in June 2008.
- Efforts will be made to increase uniformity of criteria between municipalities.
- The service will also be used to steer applicants towards language courses and local knowledge sessions to strengthen their bonds with the host society

**RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION:** Department of Immigration

**3** The **use of official registration regulations** will be upheld to guarantee residents' rights and prevent any infringement of these rights.

- conveying the message that registration is an obligation, as stated by law, and that apart from guaranteeing access to certain rights it also gives municipalities a valuable and up-to-date record of their demographic situation
- amongst other things, implementing the registration regulations requires people to submit certain legal identity documents: national ID card, passport or residence permit.
- strengthening the campaign for non-EU foreign nationals without residence permits to renew their registration
- complying with the procedure that makes it mandatory to de-register registrations that have not been renewed within the legally stipulated time
- establishing the necessary controls to prevent irregular registrations and strengthen the warning system in the event of over-registration

**RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION:** Local Population Register

## Working on interculturalism and promoting participation to guarantee full integration

To facilitate integration processes and guarantee social cohesion, it is essential **to avoid formal and informal processes of segregation** of new arrivals, whether for socio-economic or cultural reasons, in the educational system, at work or in local associations.

For this reason, and based on an acknowledgement of cultural diversity, we believe that **we need to go much further than simply celebrating this diversity.**

The idea of interculturalism is based on contact as an essential aspect of integration.

Interculturalism implies the systematic and gradual promotion of areas and processes of positive interaction which generate relations of trust, mutual recognition, effective communication, dialogue and debate, learning and exchanges, peaceful resolution of conflicts, cooperation and coexistence.

However, intercultural relations take place in a specific milieu and context. For this reason, **the cultural heritage of the host society and its language are the essential foundations upon which interculturalism should be approached.** A heritage that will become further enriched over time as a result of the contributions of new arrivals, just like what has happened historically.

In this sense, language knowledge is the first essential element because it leads to this interaction.

And another factor that has become essential, because it leads to a genuine process of integration, is **full citizen participation.**

Foreign nationals living in the city must have the opportunity to develop as political and social stakeholders. We need to work towards including every form of diversity within the existing networks of citizen participation: cultural and sporting organisations, neighbourhood associations, parent-teacher associations, shopkeepers' guilds, trade unions, business associations, etc.

To facilitate the integration of new arrivals in existing networks of participation and stimulate positive interaction, strengthening common, shared aspects, we need specific policies, and all municipal policies need to bear these objectives in mind.



**KEY MEASURES:**

- 1 Adhesion to the **European Year of Intercultural Dialogue**. Programme of activities during 2008
- 2 Preparation of the **municipal programme for interculturalism**. End of 2008 and first quarter of 2009
- 3 Extension of the **intercultural mediation services to every district**
- 4 Creation of a new **line of subsidies for organisations with intercultural projects**. From 2009

This new line of subsidies, which complements the line for reception activities, will be directed at organisations which develop projects to facilitate positive interaction between citizens in a context of greater cultural diversity.

- 5 **Promoting and supporting specific initiatives to encourage new arrivals to join the existing networks and channels for participating in the** city's associations: residents' communities, sports clubs, social and cultural associations, shopkeepers' associations, parent-teacher groups, consumer associations, etc.
- 6 Encouraging **immigrant organisations to join** the city's network of associations, fostering contacts and bonds between the different entities.
- 7 Disseminating information on and encouraging new residents to participate in the **city's calendar of festivals and activities** (the Mercè, Carnival, Cavalcade of the Three Kings, annual district festivals, etc.)
- 8 Driving forward and boosting the work of the **Municipal Immigration Council (CMIB)** based on executing the Council's Working Plan for the coming years as the main organ of participation and consultation for the city's immigrant associations and for discussing sector-based actions relating to immigration.

Consolidating **the Migrants' Day festival** held at the Moll de la Fusta on 18th December as a festival open to everyone in the city, not only involving immigrants' associations but also other organisations in the city that work in the field of immigration.

**RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTION:**

ICUB: 4.1; 4.7

Social Action:4.3

Department of Immigration:4.2; 4.4; 4.5; 4.6; 4.8

Other departments: participation, districts, women, youth, cooperation 4.4 and 4.5

## Guaranteeing transversality and an integral approach to immigration

Immigration policy is made by every department in the City Council and for this reason it is important that the Commissioner for Immigration **collaborates closely with the different sectoral and regional departments** to give the City Council's overall immigration policy strategy sufficient consistency and efficacy.

This transversality is achieved by taking advantage of existing working bodies (government commission, executive committee, political, technical and regional councils, etc.) and by establishing permanent, bilateral and permeable contacts between the Immigration Department and the other departments at the City Council.

There are many different issues where it is necessary to share information, strategies and/or specific actions, and in most sectors stable collaboration systems have already been set up which are driving forward various initiatives.

Even so, it was considered necessary to create a **Transversal Board** to tackle immigration policies as a specific issue.

### MEASURES:

#### 1 Transversal Immigration Board

This was established in autumn 2008 and is made up of representatives from various sectors in the City Council. Its aim is to guarantee the smooth coordination of immigration policies and strengthen interdepartmental and district cooperation.

#### 2 SECTORS:

##### Education

##### Reception:

- Equipping the city's public education centres with immigration reception classes, local educational programmes and new specific programmes for newly arrived students with particular educational needs, under the auspices of the City Council's competences and its participation in the Education Consortium with the collaboration of the Generalitat.
- Aiming to consolidate the **immigrant reception classes** in the city's schools (there are currently 194)
- Looking to create **temporary immigrant reception classes** at certain schools in the city for newly arrived students aged 12-16 who are joining in the last term of an academic year and need total language immersion and local knowledge to ensure they receive proper schooling.

##### Schooling

- Directing **information tools** towards families in general and immigrant families in particular with regard to the rights and obligations of their children's schooling.

- Ensuring compliance with regulations for pre-enrolling and schooling that **promote the internal social heterogeneity** of every school and social homogeneity between educational centres.
  - reducing ratios at high-risk schools without vacancies.
  - enlarging and reducing ratios simultaneously to achieve a balance in the percentage of newly arrived students throughout the term at the different schools in a particular area.
  - providing support for educational boards and schooling commissions.
  - providing support and resources for subsidised schools that take in students of foreign origin.
- Developing measures directed at **combating the educational segregation of new immigrant students** and promoting a fair and balanced ratio of new immigrant students among all schools supported by public funds in the same educational zone without prejudice to the type school in question.
- Ensuring that every child in the city completes compulsory education, and working to combat truancy and absenteeism with the help of the **Absenteeism Commission of the City of Barcelona**, with a special emphasis on students at risk of exclusion. Systemisation and consensus when it comes to gathering data on truancy and absenteeism will enable us to put together more accurate measures to address a very complex problem.
- Promoting and supporting projects for harmony and mediation in schools, especially in those where there is a higher number of foreign students, to encourage integration, harmonious coexistence and educational performance.

**Support for educational success and further studies after compulsory education.**

- Acting decisively to encourage educational success. In this respect it is worth bearing in mind the specific needs of new students in the city's general programmes, such as the **Programa Èxit** (Success Programme), with the aim of guaranteeing that students complete compulsory education and feel motivated to go on to further education with the aid of support procedures.
- **School lunch grants:** Reinforcing the grants so that no student who meets the requirements, regardless of their origin, is left without this support, and promoting the expansion of its coverage.

	2006/7 academic year	2007/8 academic year	2008/9 academic year
Number of grants awarded	6,405	7,869	11,864
Funds for School Lunch grants	3.962.078	4.621.115	7,021,115*

\*forecast

**Facilitating the transition for education to employment**

- Strengthening education>employment transition programmes within the framework of the City Council's competences and its participation in the Education Consortium, as well as the support and extension of these programmes by the BCN Vocational Training Foundation and Barcelona Activa.
- **Youth Training-to-Employment Plan** Examining the suitability of the service to address the new situation and new student profiles

This entails taking an in-depth look at the service's hands-on management and personalised attention to improve the training and opportunities for entering the job market for students with difficulties

- Updating the guide: **“Training and Employment for Young Foreigners”**

#### **Citizen participation actions**

- **Consolidating and activating the actions of the Education and Immigration Forum** of the City of Barcelona's Educational Project as an entity that promotes socialisation and the exchange of knowledge and experiences among the city's social and educational agents.

#### **Social Action**

- As part of the process of universalising social services and strengthening the basic social services network as a whole, putting a special emphasis on **increasing the budget for aid aimed at the most needy families**, to guarantee that everyone has the right to access these resources, regardless of their origin.
- Strengthening and adapting the **Immigrant and Refugee Welfare Service (SAIER)** to new demands and realities. Extending the agreement with the five organisations that manage the specific welfare services for foreign nationals.
- Enlarging the **Intercultural Mediation Services**. Increasing mediation services in every area: interpersonal, in the field of social services, the community, neighbourhoods and their social dynamics.
- Expansion of the **Social Insertion Service (SIS)** so it is also equipped to deal with newly arrived immigrants in the city in a vulnerable situation. In this respect, the **Social Inclusion Programme for itinerant families** will be strengthened, with a significant presence of families of foreign origin.
- Strengthening the **Identification and Welfare Service for Unaccompanied Migrant Minors (MEINAS)** and structuring other social or educational services for unprotected minors.
- Strengthening programmes and actions of intercultural coexistence as part of the existing Community Development Plans in the city

#### **Civil Rights**

- Drawing up the Barcelona **Citizens' Charter**
- Drawing up a **local awareness-raising and educational plan** on citizens' rights
- Reinforcing the **Anti-Discrimination Office** so that differences do not become a factor of either discrimination or social exclusion

#### **Economic promotion:**

- The strategy of improving employment and combating unemployment will take into account the special needs of unemployed immigrants, with a particular emphasis on their occupational and social insertion.
- Putting together specific measures to promote access to **vocational and lifelong training** adapted to foreign workers, especially those who are unemployed or at risk of losing their jobs.

- Upgrading **the range of vocational training and occupational insertion programmes to the new profiles** and economic situation of the city, reducing the range in sectors such as construction and increasing initial and ongoing training for the immigrant population in the local services sector and taking care of other people.
- Creating the position of **reception agent** in Barcelona Activa to help monitor the occupational insertion of new arrivals who do not yet speak the language well or know enough about their surroundings.
- Promoting access to, or a return to, formal educational systems as well as vocational training and occupational insertion programmes, or, in their absence, the accreditation of basic knowledge within the framework of employment programmes for newly arrived young immigrants without the minimum recognised qualifications.
- Promoting the creation of enterprises by new arrivals as a driving force for revitalising the economy, transforming the city's neighbourhoods and as an element of integration
- Promoting initiatives whereby shops run by new arrivals join the existing shopkeepers' and neighbourhood associations to encourage their integration in the social dynamics and systems of the city
- Calling upon and collaborating with the competent institutions to:
  - promote the mechanisms for regular recruitment of foreign workers at source in collaboration with the accredited private sector.
  - introduce amendments to the Immigration Law to allow regrouped family members of legal age to work, establishing the mechanisms and instruments necessary to promote their access to the labour market
  - fight against the underground economy and irregular recruitment, increasing work inspections and cooperation between the different agents involved
  - getting highly-qualified members of the population into the system by speeding up the procedures for approving qualifications, recognising professional experience - once these skills have been transferred - and creating the mechanisms for occupational insertion in qualified sectors.
  - Reviewing the catalogue of jobs that are difficult to fill in order to facilitate access to the local labour market of professionals who are of strategic interest to Barcelona's economy
  - Promoting the mechanisms to help attract talent, whether these are working professionals (by deploying the European Blue Card system) or postgraduate students in collaboration with the city's universities and business schools

#### **Culture:**

- Development of **the Barcelona Intercultural Dialogue Programme** to promote interaction between the different cultures living in the city and providing new arrivals with access to and knowledge of the host culture
- Promoting **a new planning approach** to the different cultural entities in the city so they can incorporate **the artistic creativity of immigrant collectives in their programmes**
- **Working with new audiences**, strengthening communications addressed at specific collectives to gradually bring them into the city's cultural programme

- Placing an emphasis on the **city's festival programme** to promote the participation of people of immigrant origin and add their contributions and ideas to the civic calendar of festivals and events
- **Increasing library collections** and cultural programmes and ideas to continually promote their use as a gateway to the city and its culture

### Housing:

Housing is a key factor in strengthening social cohesion and promoting integration, regional balance and coexistence.

In the framework of the new **Barcelona Housing Plan 2008-2016**:

- Definition and implementation of the **Plan against over-occupancy and slum conditions**

This Plan falls within the framework of the implementation of Law 18/2007 on the right to housing which promotes housing policies geared towards eradicating situations of over-occupancy and taking action against the causes and the people directly responsible for these situations.

The Plan should include **integral and protocol-led intervention in every action** in terms of the situations identified by the different **sources of information**.

#### a. Control over over-registration

Implementation of maximum living-area standards and housing occupancy thresholds established by the relevant legislation, in accordance with Law 18/2007 on the Right to Housing.

*(a Decree is currently in the process of being approved on housing conditions and the "cèdula d'habilitat" (certificate of fitness for habitation), which will repeal Decree 259/2003)*

Regular inspections of properties where the per person living-space standards established in Catalonia as a condition of habitation are being exceeded

- b. **Inspection of the turnover index** in every property with 10 or more movements per year.
- c. Prioritising and guaranteeing a rapid response to **complaints from neighbours**
- d. **Inspection of the homes** of applicants for family regrouping

It was forecast that the team of inspectors from the Department of Immigration would make between 7,000 and 8,000 housing inspections during 2008. A protocol will be established for coordinated action to identify apartments with a high likelihood of over-occupancy and those where there are indications of underground business activities.

- e. **Cooperation agreements will be established with the associations and professional guilds** operating in the real estate sector.

- f. Control of slum conditions

Regular checks on the local register of premises being used for a purpose other than a home. A protocol will be established to take coordinated action to identify slum conditions

g. The Plan will be assigned the human and material resources necessary to take action in situations of irregular use of housing. In this respect it will be necessary to strengthen the inspection teams, specialising them and coordinating them with other services that might be involved depending on the situation, such as the local police, welfare services and mediation services, amongst others.

#### Health:

- Disease prevention and health promotion.
  - Promoting programmes on **sexual and reproductive health** geared towards new arrivals
  - Ongoing **vaccination plan**, paying particular attention to people whose vaccination situation is unclear
- Food surveillance and control
  - Drawing up specific educational material for **food handlers**
  - Establishing specific information and follow-up programmes for the proper procedures for opening and operating **restaurants or food establishments** that may have certain peculiarities.
- Epidemiological surveillance and control.
  - Strengthening **the monitoring** of specific contagious diseases that are more common in certain countries of origin.
- Mediation services:
  - Establishing a new team of **Health Agents** reporting to the Public Health Agency to carry out mediation tasks (outside health centres)
  - In collaboration with the Barcelona Health Consortium, reinforcing the position of **mediators** in Primary Healthcare Centres and Hospitals in Barcelona. 39 health mediators

#### Safety and prevention

- Conducting specific programmes and actions **to provide information on the regulations** and guidelines governing civic behaviour and coexistence in public and community spaces. The local police will guarantee compliance with these regulations.
- Implementing actions to **prevent conflicts** by strengthening and coordinating the different municipal **mediation teams**
- Within the framework of Barcelona's public safety system, **collaboration with the police forces** of the Generalitat of Catalonia and Spain in the **fight against networks** involved in falsifying documentation, trafficking people and exploiting and abusing minors.
- Collaboration with the State Administration in detecting and reporting **irregular economic activities** with a knock-on effect, **promoting regular employment** and preventing illegal recruitment and situations of exploitation.
- Promoting campaigns to **guarantee compliance with regulations** relating to business licences and premises used by the general public.
- Specific interventions in the case of illegal activities such as street selling which can put people using public spaces at risk.

**Women:**

- Including the **gender perspective** in all immigration policies as a whole, highlighting the importance of women's role as active agents in integration processes and working to prevent all kinds of discrimination.
- Promoting migrant women's access to the **resources and services** aimed at all women in the city, placing a special emphasis on the specific resources for the **prevention of spousal abuse**
  - Guaranteeing access to resources by making them known, especially to specific collectives, and ensuring that no woman is discriminated against
  - Adapting the services and resources of the mechanisms against gender-related violence to the needs of migrant women
  - Inviting migrant women in the city to join the Pact for a Barcelona free from violence against women
- Encouraging the **participation of migrant women** in existing social networks
  - encouraging discussions and exchanges on the subject of migratory processes and the feminisation of migrations
  - facilitating the participation of women of foreign origin in the Municipal Council of Women

**Sports:**

- Promoting and supporting **specific actions** to strengthen the role of sport as a key element of integration

**International Cooperation:**

- Driving forward **co-development** initiatives, getting immigration organisations involved in tackling cooperation actions in the countries of origin.
- Stimulating cooperation between immigrant organisations and development cooperation entities to undertake joint cooperation actions.

**Youth:**

- Putting a special emphasis on the **process of socialising and integrating newly arrived young immigrants**, through actions that foster bonds with the host society, including them in existing areas of participation, encouraging them to join associations and facilitating access to the services and resources aimed at this collective.
- Undertaking measures to support, guide and mentor them to ensure that young people with particular occupational insertion problems get access to the labour market.
- **Promoting the “Jove Referent Jove” programme (Youth-to-Youth)** This programme provides reception and support for newly-arrived young immigrants who are joining the secondary education system late.

**Training:**

- **Establishing an ambitious training programme** aimed at all municipal employees concerning the context and characteristics of the current migratory situation, the challenges it poses, the increase in cultural diversity, the policies that are being implemented, etc.



### 3 REGIONAL SCOPE

Immigrants are dispersing across the whole city, in such a way that the percentages of foreign residents are balancing out between the different districts. However, it is obvious that the settlement of new immigrants is not happening uniformly in the same way across the whole city, as each district and **each neighbourhood has their own differences** and peculiarities.

Close **coordination and cooperation** between the different districts is essential. In this respect there are policies that need to be generalised for the whole region and others that are specific to each district or neighbourhood.

#### 1. Strengthening **the role of district councils** in immigrant reception and integration policies.

- Providing financial and technical support for the different **immigrant reception and coexistence plans** in the districts
  - Plan to promote coexistence and civic behaviour in the Sants district;
  - Plan for immigrant reception and integration in the Ciutat Vella district;
  - Reception plan for newly-arrived immigrants in the Gràcia district;
  - Citizenship, coexistence and immigration plan in the Horta-Guinardó district; (the Horta 'new neighbours' project).
  - The different reception and coexistence plans being promoted in every district...
- Bringing in an expert to the Department of Immigration who will be exclusively devoted to liaison and coordination tasks with the city's districts. This reinforcement will guarantee a better exchange of information and project follow-up and will encourage criteria that are common to every district to be established.
- As part of the roll-out of the Support Programme for Regrouping Families, there will be a project coordinator for each city district.
- Priority will be given to coordinating immigration policies and cooperation with the different districts by their presence on the Transversal Immigration Board as well as by regularly monitoring the policies in the existing coordination entities such as the Regional Committee and the Government Commission.

#### 2. Promoting **specific projects within the framework of integral strategies** in certain specific neighbourhoods with higher percentages of new immigrants to avoid and prevent concentrations that might lead to segregation, and to ensure satisfactory standards of coexistence.

These integral strategies include urban development actions and greater investment in facilities and services, as well as specific projects for risk prevention, community work and mediation:

Examples of projects:

- Project to support residents' communities in the Ciutat Meridiana neighbourhood
- Support for mediation in the public sphere in the Trinitat Vella neighbourhood

In this context, it is important to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Generalitat's **Neighbourhood Law** to support these integral strategies aimed specifically at neighbourhoods.



**The** City Council's Department of Immigration is technically responsible for fulfilling most of the objectives in the working plan. However, the importance of the transversal measures makes it necessary to set up an interdepartmental coordination entity to monitor the execution of the working plan from a global perspective.

This newly-created body is the **Transversal Immigration Board**, which was set up in the autumn of 2008.

Specific monitoring will be carried out for each of the measures in the working plan:

- drawing up a **record** for each measure, detailing:

- 1 The objective
- 2 A detailed description of the objective/measure (including more specific measures)
- 3 Identifying the people responsible for executing it
- 4 The implementation schedule
- 5 Budget
- 6 Follow-up indicators

Meanwhile, under the auspices of the City Council's **Immigration Policy Commission**, regular meetings will be set up with the people responsible for immigration in each party in order to make a **detailed follow-up of the progress of the working plan and its level of compliance**.

The Policy Commission meetings (second level) will be held **every quarter**.

The Mayor's Commission for Immigration and Cultural Dialogue will submit an **annual follow-up report on the Working Plan**.



The budget detailed below includes an estimate of the different measures included in this plan. Many of these measures are driven by different council departments, and often do not concern specific policies aimed at the immigrant collective but rather general policies aimed at the population as a whole, but which, due to various circumstances, are either particularly important to, or have a significant effect upon, newly-arrived immigrants.

Due to the importance of immigration and integration policies in our city, we believe it is necessary for other administrations to increase the resources destined for these policies and to bear in mind the hugely important role that local governments play in this process.

	2008	2009	2010	
Enlarging upon and disseminating information on immigration in the city	100,000	103,000	106,090	109,273
Strengthening and adapting the city's reception strategies.	1.876.750	2.117.013	2.327.323	2.419.143
Municipal management of migration issues	580,000	626,500	645,295	664,654
Interculturalism and strengthening participation	1.210.000	433,600	437,308	441,127
Transversality and an integral approach				10.835.807
Transversal sectors and areas	8.605.370	10.318.038	10.575.896	867,286
Territorial area	757,500	817,500	842,025	<b>15.337.289</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13.129.620</b>	<b>14.415.650</b>	<b>14.933.937</b>	

This budget is an initial estimate which will be completed in more detail when the specific records for each measure in the Working Plan have been drawn up.