



mentorNET

Summary of mentorNET Strategy

www.mentor-network.eu



The presented Strategy is primarily a manual on how to create, organise, sustain and promote a self-sustaining network of mentors for migrants. It also provides basic information about a tool that supports networking, namely the mentorNET application. It is the result of the innovative project mentorNET - Mentoring by extended networks to organise volunteer resources carried out by an international consortium under the Erasmus Plus programme. The essence of the Strategy is expressed in its practical values, the best example of which is the description of the networking tool developed by the team involved in the project implementation, i.e. the mentorNET App, or practical tips on how to build and promote networks. The Appendix, which lists the organisations and networks involved in supporting migrants, is also of practical use. Thanks to it, it is easy to find an organisation with which contact can be established.

The key moment in establishing the network is the organisation's decision to run a mentorNET MOOC session. Once completed the MOOC graduates are invited to access the App to form the basis of a network based on mutual trust and defined goals that the participants of the network will strive to achieve.

In the organisational phase, it is important to formalise the roles within the network, especially that of the Meta-Mentor. At this stage, it will also be important to determine the rules for communication within the network and the possible establishment of a network office and the conclusion of an agreement between network members. The mentorNET application will be the communication tool between network members, starting from the network initiation phase. Apart from MOOC graduates and the organisation initiating the creation of the network, which will indicate the Meta-Mentor, the network may be joined by people who have experience as mentors.

The real challenge is for the established network to exist over a longer period of time. This requires network members to, inter alia, communicate with each other on a regular basis, support each other where necessary in their individual mentoring roles, and work towards achieving the assumed goals that guided the establishment of the network. The network is a constant interaction between individual mentors (both novice and experienced) and the supporting organisation, which is why the flow of information between network members, the exchange of ideas and experiences, and the development of common resources are so important. Underpinning all this is the mentorNET application which provides the networking and communication platform.

The next phase is related to "going outside", that is, promoting and growing the network. Promotion of the network will be a way of potentially expanding it by getting other mentoring organisations, or organisations that help migrants, interested in running their own MOOC and setting up either their own network or joining the existing network. This may result in the creation of a large network or the creation of many, smaller networks.

The mentorNET strategy can be summarised in the form of the roadmap given below, which presents the interactions between the organisation creating the network, the individual mentors who are graduates of the mentorNET MOOC and the activities aimed at creating and sustaining the network.

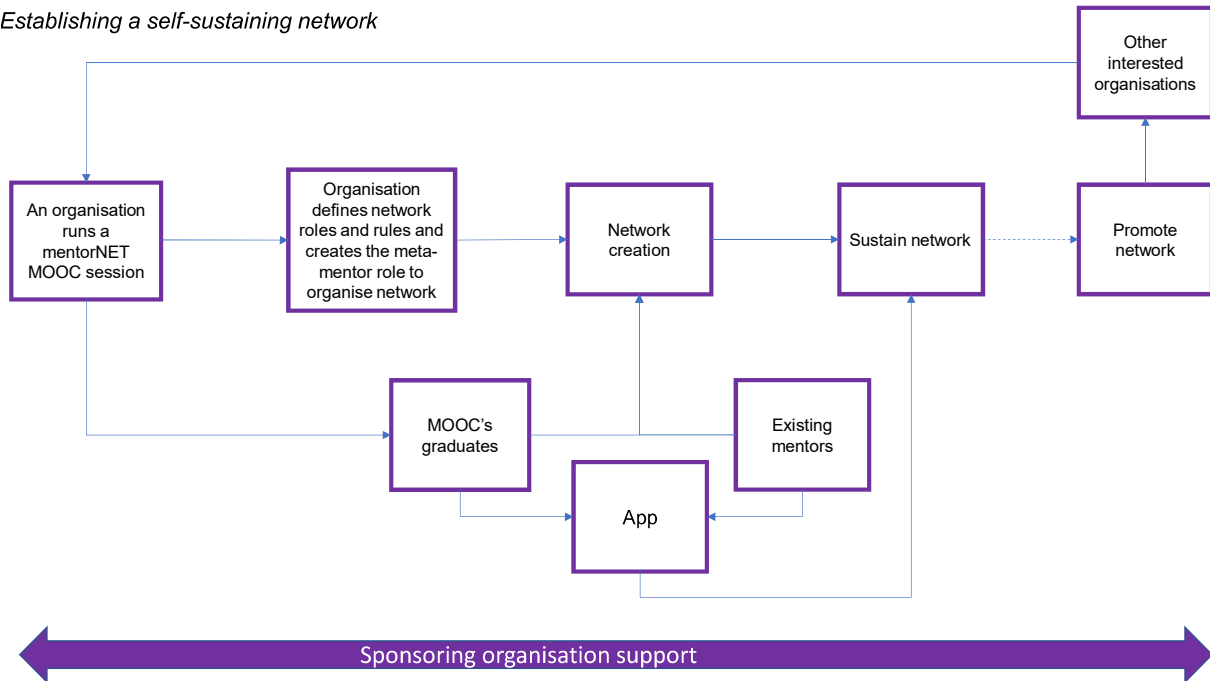
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Mentoring by extended networks to organise volunteer resources
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mentorNET roadmap: ROADMAP

Establishing a self-sustaining network



Source: mentorNET 2021.

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