



**National Consultative
Committee on Racism
and Interculturalism**

NCCRI

About the NCCRI

The NCCRI was established in 1998 as an independent expert body on racism. It is a partnership body which brings together government and non-government organisations to develop initiatives and to provide expertise in tackling racism and promoting interculturalism.



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In 2004 the National Consultative Committee on Racism and Interculturalism (NCCRI) secured funding for the Synergy initiative under European Union's INTERREG IIIA Programme focusing on building an intercultural approach into service provision in the border region and Northern Ireland. The Regional Development Unit is based in Dundalk, Co. Louth.



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Anticipated Impact

The anticipated impact of Synergy is to significantly enhance the socio-economic inclusion of Black and minority ethnic groups, including the Traveller community, in the border area and Northern Ireland, with a particular focus on their participation in the planning, implementation and delivery of culturally competent service provision.

Overall Approach

The overall approach is to seek to work in partnership with key statutory service providers and broader civil society, in particular non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working closely with minority ethnic groups, with a strong focus on participation at all levels of the initiative.

The initiative will provide a unique opportunity to facilitate the development of cross border structures of participation for minority ethnic groups, through a series of cross border networks and participation in an intercultural policy forum.

Key Aims

1. Participation

Synergy will build / enhance the capacity of NGOs working closely with minority ethnic groups, to engage with the planning, implementation and review of key public services on a North / South basis with a particular focus on the border region.

2. Provision

Synergy will seek to ensure that service providers are more understanding and receptive to the needs of Black and minority ethnic groups, including the Traveller community, in designing policy and implementing service provision on a North / South basis, with a particular focus on the border region.

3. Inclusion

Synergy will develop targeted strategies for the inclusion of particularly marginalised groups including Travellers, refugees, asylum seekers and migrant workers, with a particular focus on workplace and social cohesion strategies.