



## 4th International Encounter in Newry (UK)



### Encounter objective:

#### **Identifying Good Practice in EU Mobility/Migration**

The 4<sup>th</sup> International Encounter took place in Newry, Northern Ireland from 30 November to 3 December 2016. It was attended by 19 international participants representing project partners from Spain, Portugal, Italy, Poland and Slovakia.

During their 4-day visit the participants took part in project meetings, a roundtable, good practice visits and a seminar with local stakeholders and target group representatives.

During the project transnational meeting the participants discussed project activities and tasks and the next international encounter in Petrosino, Italy. During the roundtable, each partner presented the results of their work with local stakeholders in relation to the needs, challenges and good practice in the partner countries.

Sixty eight delegates attended the seminar entitled "EU Mobility in Rural Europe – A Northern Irish Perspective." The seminar was chaired by the independent broadcaster and journalist Jim Fitzpatrick and key speakers included the Mayor of Vimianzo (Spain) Manuel Antelo Pazos, Dr Lucy Michael from the University of Ulster, Dr Conor Patterson, Chief Executive of Newry & Mourne Co-operative and Enterprise Agency and Mary Kerr from the Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership. Opening the seminar, Cllr Gillian Fitzpatrick, Chairperson of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, commented: "Seminars such as this one promote social and cultural integration and provide opportunities for local and international stakeholders to network, paving the way for future collaborative working."

In the afternoon the participants took part in good practice visits and cultural activities.