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research

Labour integration of asylum seekers and the role of social networks - the case of South Tyrol

Ingrid Kofler & Anja Marcher
Institute for Regional Development

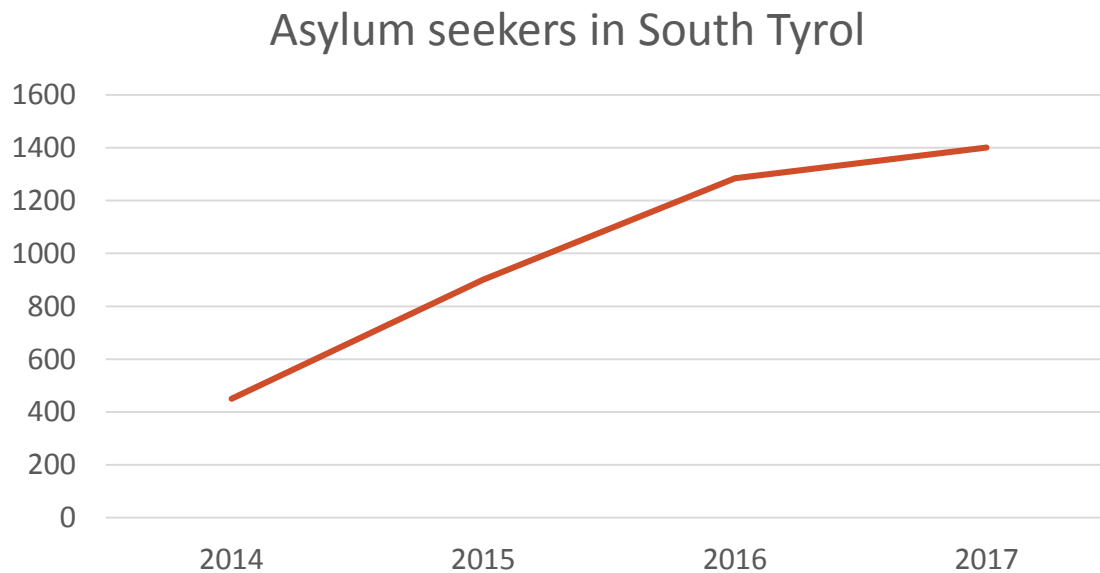


Agenda

1. Introduction: asylum seekers in South Tyrol
2. Theoretical background: importance of labour integration and social networks
3. Labour integration in South Tyrol
4. Networks and multi-level governance of labour integration
5. Major problems

1. Introduction: asylum seekers in South Tyrol

South Tyrol has to accommodate **0,9 %** of the asylum seekers (national distribution key)



No official data available, but rapid increasing number (Italy 83.970 in 2015 and 123.600 in 2016):

2012-2013: mean 170-175

2014: ca. 450

2015: ca. 900

december 2016: 1284

April 2017: ca. 1400

Source: Sozialstatistik 2014 and 2016; Autonomos Province of Bolzano

1. Introduction: asylum seekers in South Tyrol

The growing numbers led to the creation of new reception centres located in decentralized **rural areas**:



1. Introduction: asylum seekers in South Tyrol

- initial reception in Bolzano and then **relocation in different reception facilities** (2nd reception)
- the reception centres are foremost in **provincial domain** or rented
- administrated by **Caritas** or **Volontarius** – the 2 NGO´s working on this issue
- after some initial, urgent, relocation, the province based their redistribution at the inter-municipal level (Bezirksgemeinschaften)

2. Importance of labour integration

Early integration strategies supported by the EU

- Importance of **labour market integration** for **successful integration**
- multifaceted process
- Involvement of a variety of actors at different levels
- contribution to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth – and **resilience for rural areas**

2. Social networks and labour integration

Cheung and Phillimore (2013) find out that refugees or asylum seekers:

- in contrast to other foreign migrants, who can choose where to settle down, **don't have any social network** in the community of arrival.
- without social networks **fare worst in accessing employment**.
- with no networks or contacts suffer from **weaker employment prospects and poorer health**.

Positive role of social capital in the acquisition and accumulation of other forms of capital (Palloni et al. 2001) and in general for the whole integration process.

social capital, including familial social networks and friendship networks, among immigrants **is positively related to labor force participation, hours worked** as well as **job tenure** (Chou and Chow, 2009)

→ **social capital and social networks have a positive effect on labour integration.**

3. Labour integration in South Tyrol

Italy: Art. 22 Decret Nr. 142, 18. august 2015: **legal work starting 60 days after asylum request**; it is not necessary to register to the employment agency; all kind of employment contract are permitted, as forseen for italians

South Tyrol:

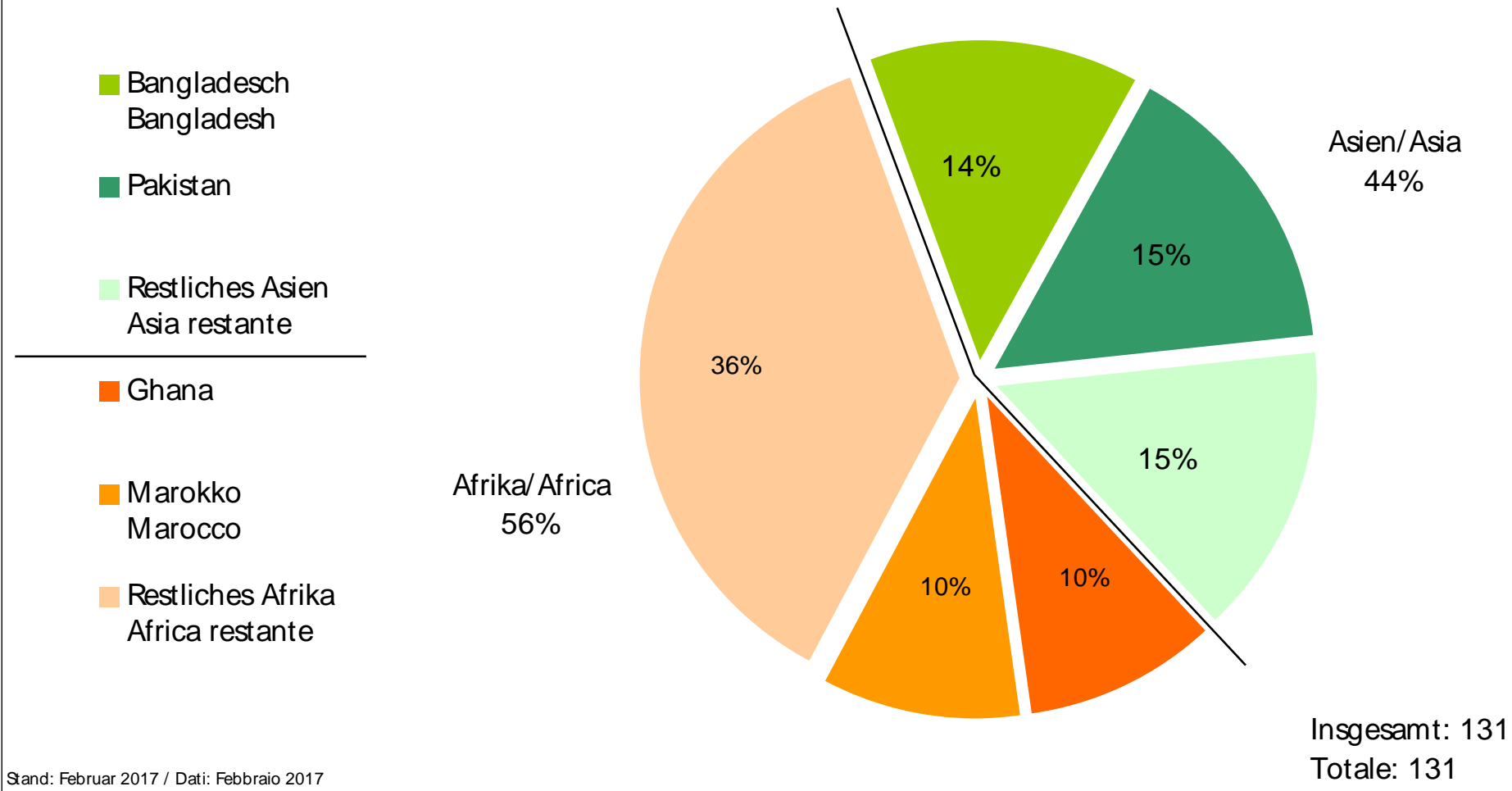
Unpaid voluntary work for public interest:

- Agreement between Province, municipalities, districts, gouvernement commissariat and NGO
- Possible also before 60 days

Trainings (internship for orientation or training)

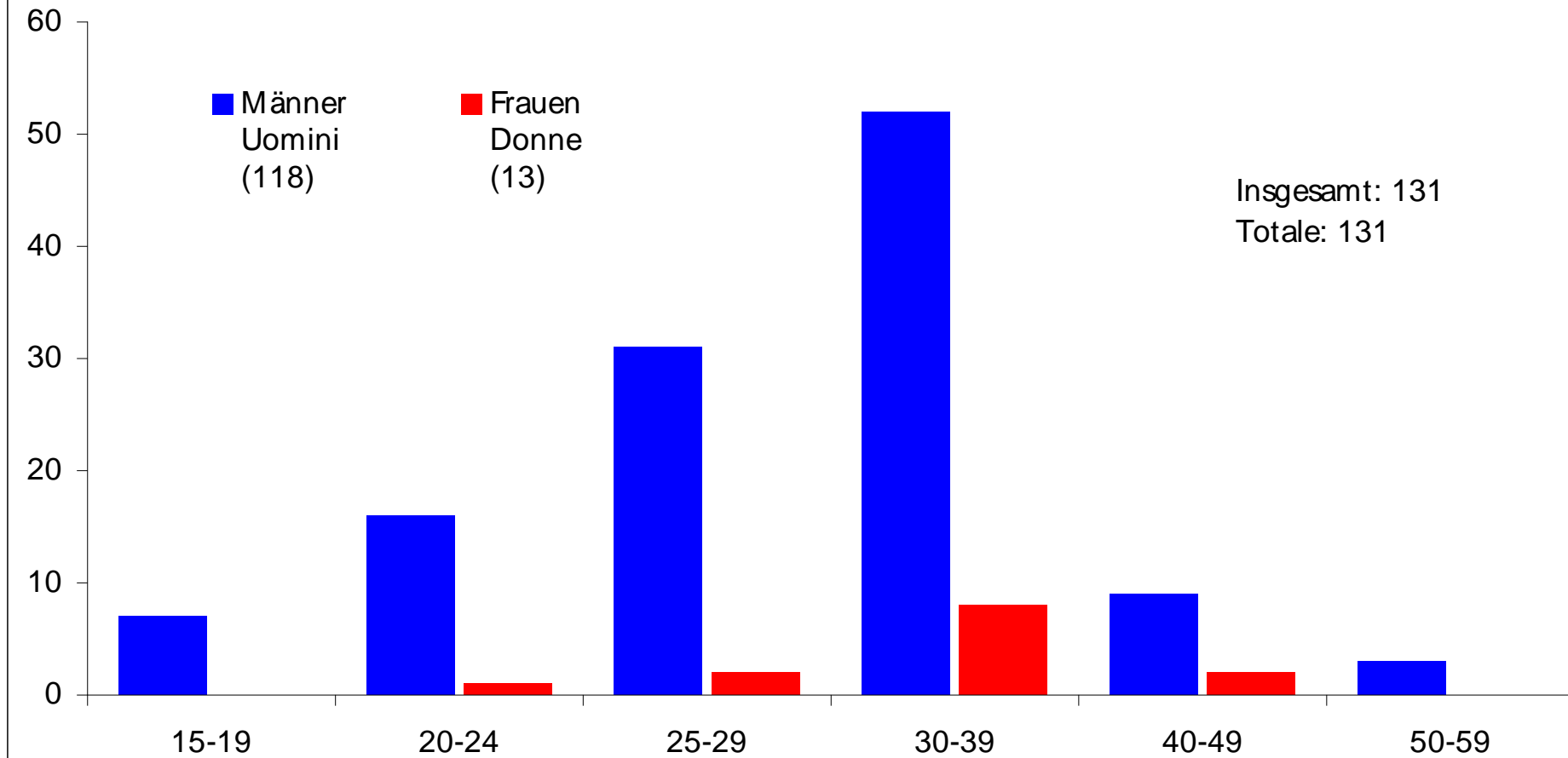
- Vocational training (berufliche Bildung) → Berufsbildung (130)
- Labour Departement (to find employment) → AVZ (30)

Die Staatsbürgerschaft der beschäftigten Flüchtlinge aus Asien und Afrika La cittadinanza dei profughi occupati dall'Asia e dall'Africa



Stand: Februar 2017 / Dati: Febbraio 2017

Beschäftigte Flüchtlinge aus Asien und Afrika nach Geschlecht und Alter Profughi occupati dall'Asia e dall'Africa per sesso e età

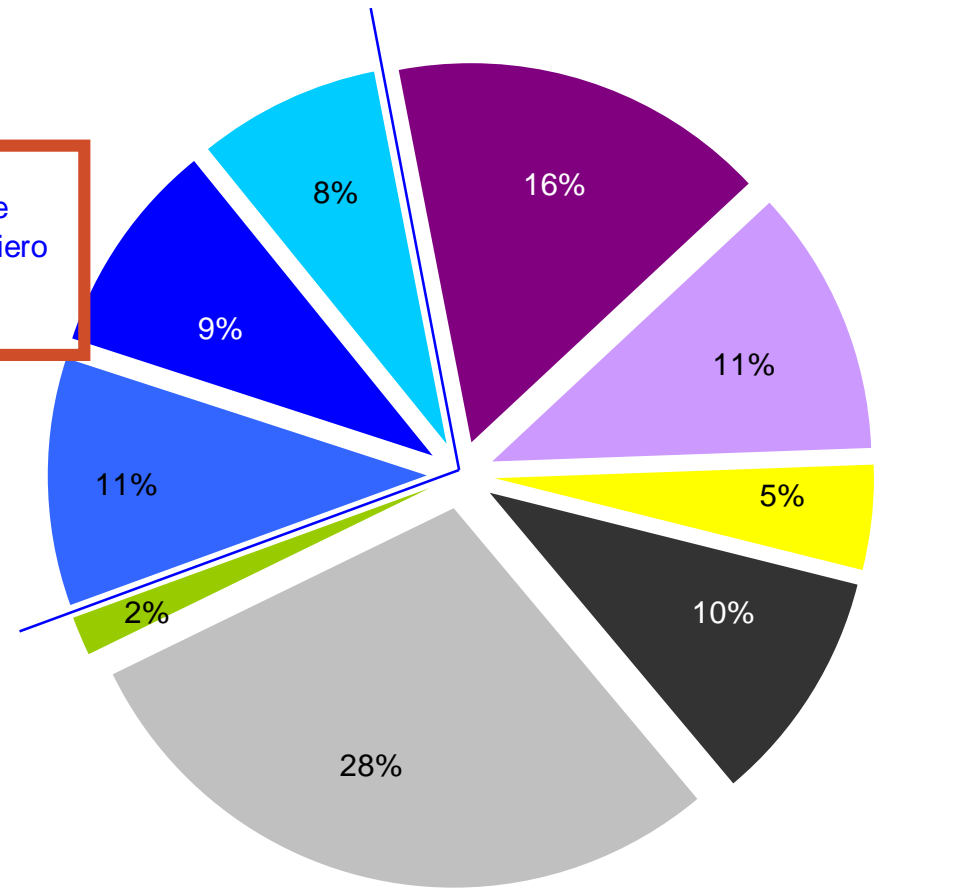


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Beschäftigte Flüchtlinge aus Asien und Afrika nach ausgeübtem Beruf Profughi occupati dall'Asia e dall'Africa per professione svolta

- Andere Berufe
Altre professioni
- Tagelöhner / Erntehelfer
Giornaliero agricolo
- Kochgehilfe
Aiuto cuoco
- Hilfskraft im Gastgewerbe
Personale nel settore alberghiero
- Tellerwäscher
Lavapiatti
- Reinigungskraft
Adetto/a alle pulizie
- Hausmeister / Nachtwächter
Facchino / Guardia notturna
- Magazineur / Verkaufsgehilfe
Magazziniere / Aiuto commesso
- Allgemeiner Hilfsarbeiter
Operaio generico

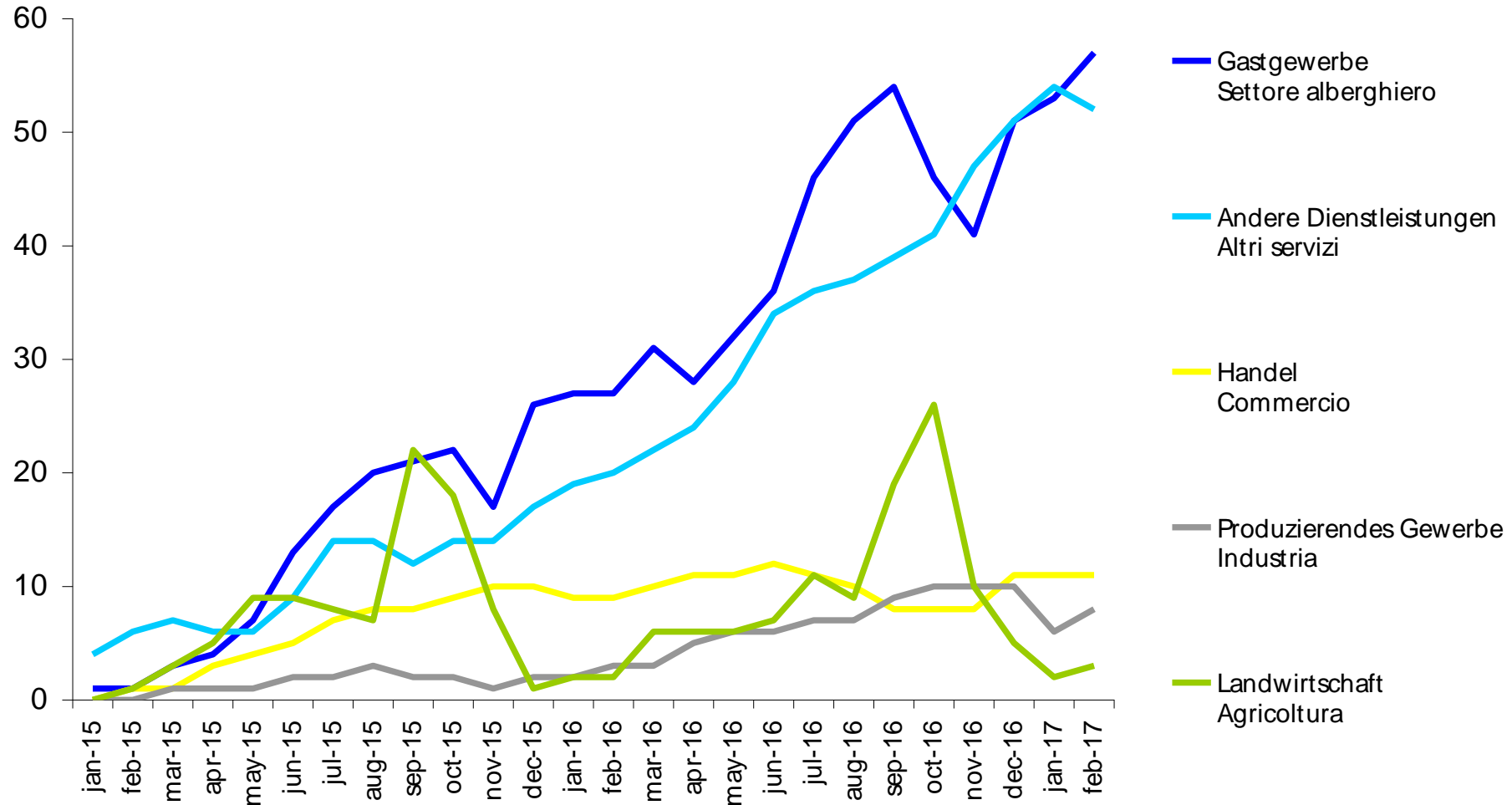
Gastgewerbe
Settore alberghiero
27%



Insgesamt: 131
Totale: 131

Abteilung Arbeit
 Ripartizione Lavoro
 Quelle: Amt für Arbeitsmarktbeobachtung
 Fonte: Ufficio osservazione mercato del lavoro

Beschäftigte Flüchtlinge aus Asien und Afrika nach Wirtschaftssektor Profughi occupati dall'Asia e dall'Africa per settore economico

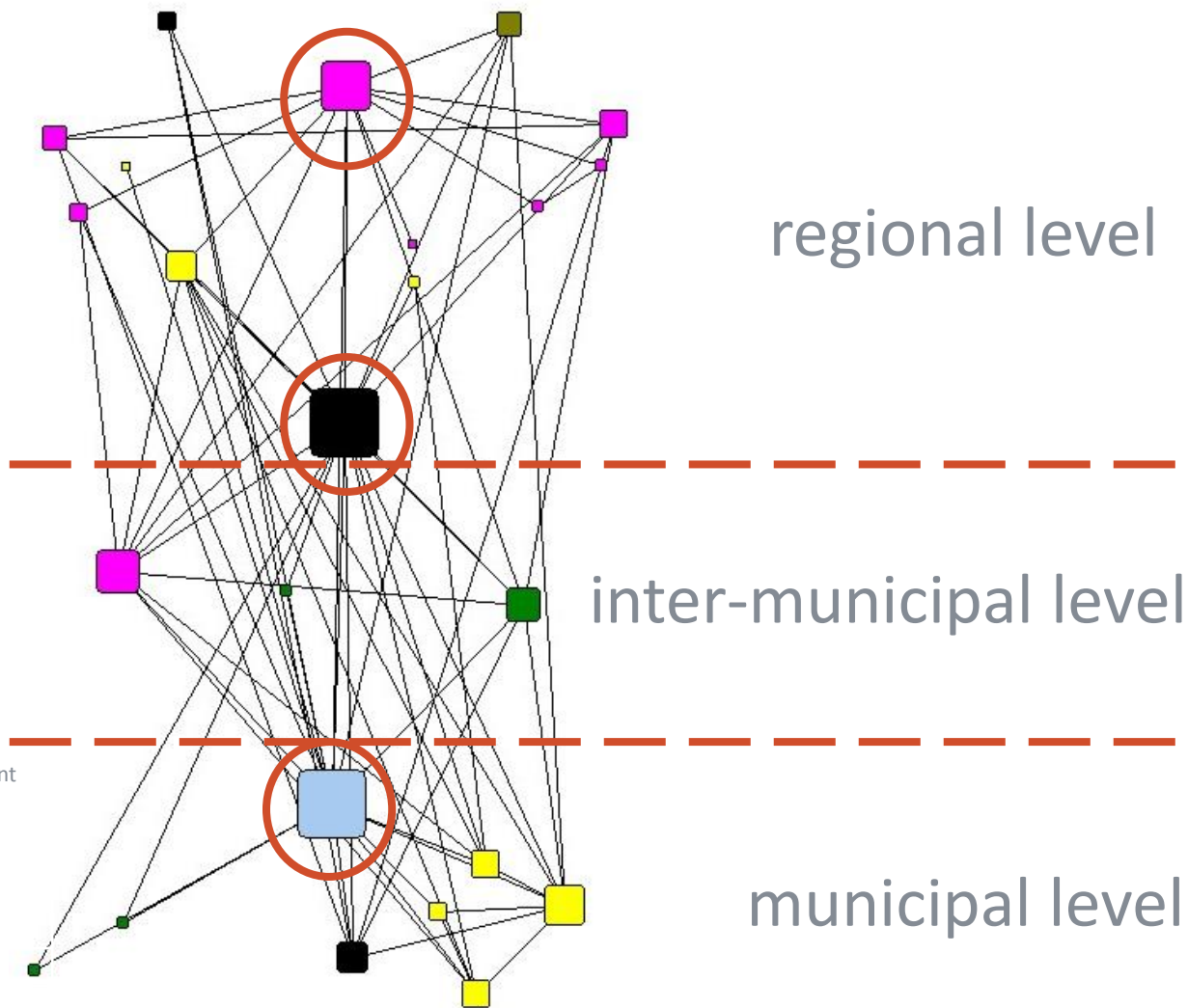


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4. Networks and multi-governance

- the „refugee crisis“ is managed by **different actors**, from civil society to the departmental offices (to the national offices)
- High **complexity** and risk of difficulties in governance processes (not very flexible nor reformable) (Benz, 2007)
- Different **effects of networks**: relational effect (dyads) or structural effect (the whole relations - influence indirectly the actions) – quick communication and information, but risk of overembeddedness (Wald, Jansen, 2007)
- **Social capital** positive if trust, norms and behaviour, but also negative as reproduction of social inequality.

4. Networks and multi-governance



Source: own elaboration UCInet and NetDraw

- 3 main actors:**
- Regional departement for social affairs
 - NGO´s
 - Municipalities

Network data:

Density: 1

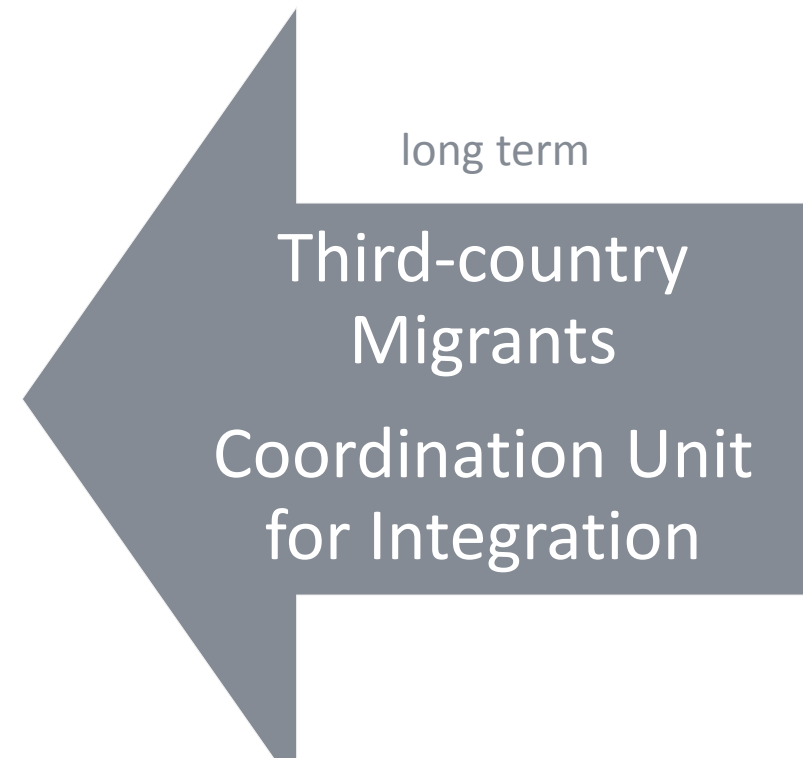
Nr. of ties 138

E-I Index (3 levels): 0,130

Avg. Degree: 5,520

5. Major problems: regional level

integration act in 2011 and guidelines for integration policies in 2016 including the role of municipalities – but missing coordination between competences:

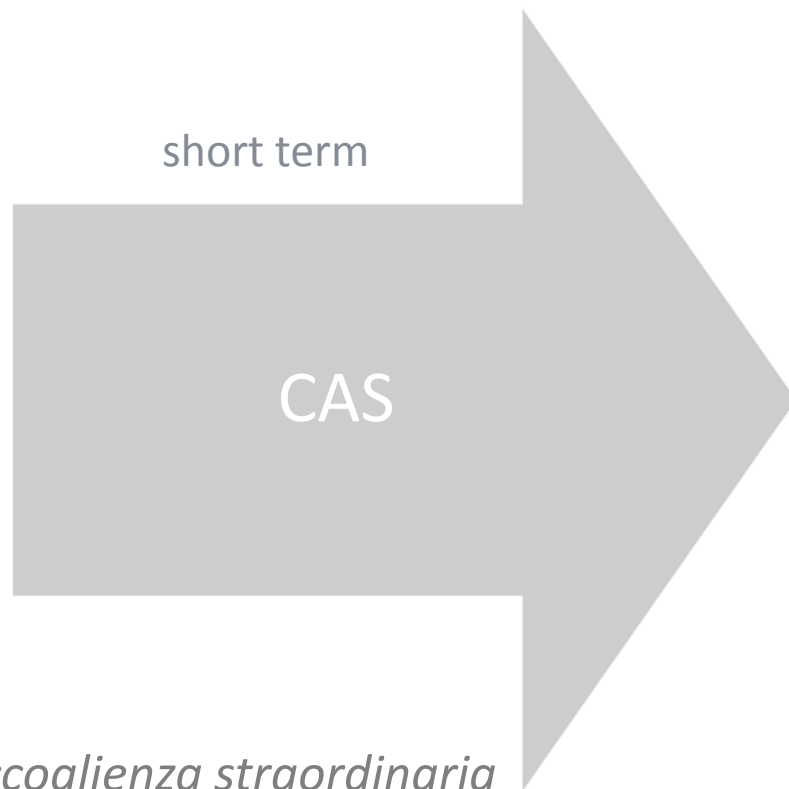


Regional Department of health, sport,
social affairs and labour (Martha Stocker)

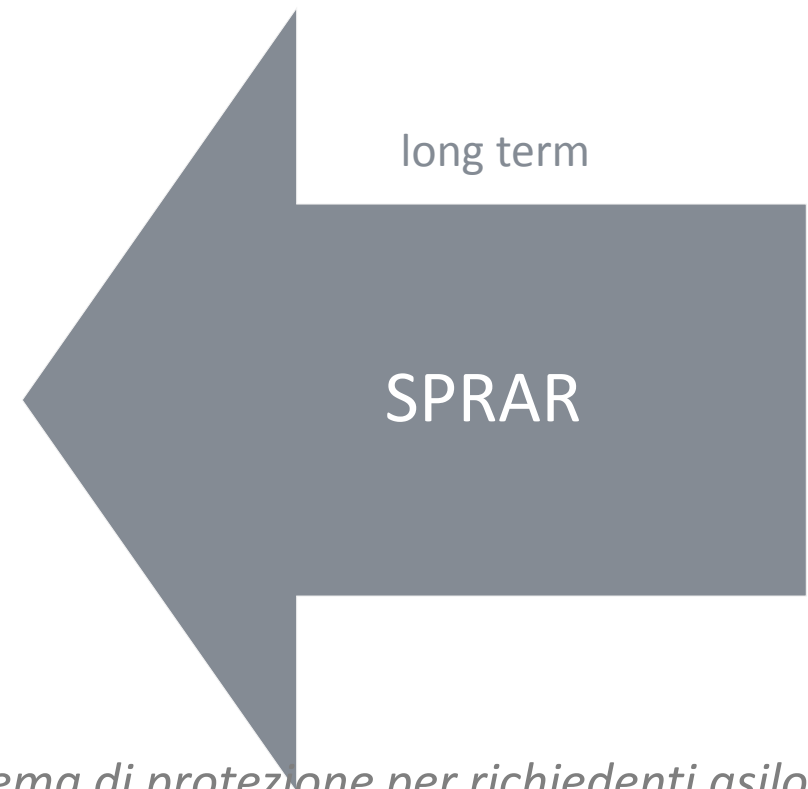
Regional Departement of education, german
culture and integration (Philipp Achammer)

5. Major problems: inter-municipal level

New perspectives in 2017:



Centri di accoglienza straordinaria
(actual solution) Managed by the province



Sistema di protezione per richiedenti asilo e rifugiati
National program: inter-municipal strategy

5. Major problems: municipal level

→ *main role of the municipalities and the civil society*

- the majority of asylum seekers finds work through the civil society and the volunteers
- social capital can be a risk to reproduce social inequality and underline social exclusion

Municipal level: the example of Ortisei and Malles

Thank you for your attention!

