



## Welcome: Hospitality Career Week

More than 350 participants had the chance to be interviewed for some 180 positions in hotels and other tourism-related enterprises which are seeking employees for the upcoming season, under Welcome: Hospitality Career Week. The initiative was organized by IOM under HELIOS Project, in collaboration with ACCMR. The project is implemented by IOM Greece and is funded by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum. IOM cooperates with the government as well as with international and local organizations for the promotion of integration, based on the culture and legislation of the country, creating opportunities for the benefit of local communities and local labor markets.



## Relocation: A new chapter for 84 people

During the reporting period 84 people relocated from Greece to European countries who participate in the "Voluntary relocation scheme from Greece to other European Countries". Among them 15 unaccompanied children, 40 asylum seekers and 29 beneficiaries of international protection. "The only word that came into my mind as soon as we landed, is restart," said one of the children.

So far 4,730 people were supported by the project and relocated to other European countries. The action is implemented by IOM with the funding of the European Commission & the support of the Greek Government, the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, the Special Secretary for the protection of UMC and the General Secretary of Migration Policy. In partnership with European Asylum Support Office - EASO, UNHCR and UNICEF.

## The story of Erfan: A mix of talent, creativity, and lots of photos

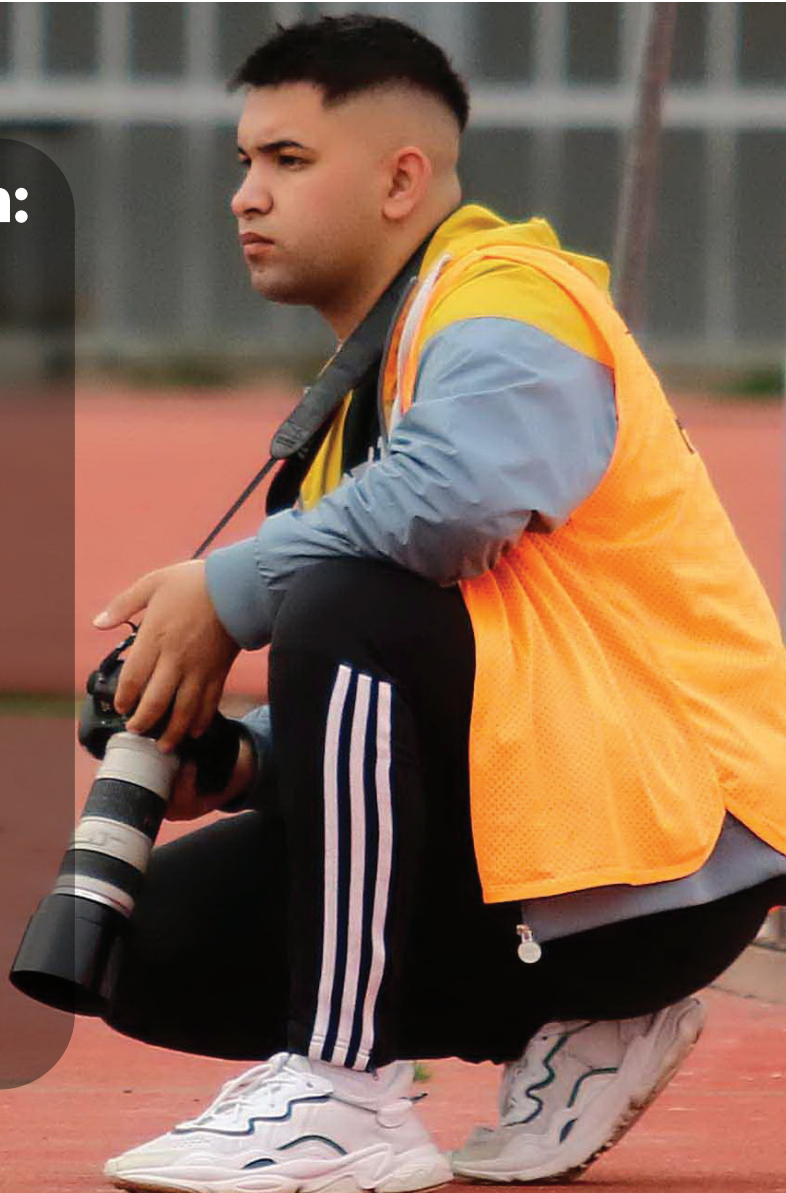
Erfan a 20-year-old Iranian who is currently staying in Kavala accommodation facility, participated in the Journalism workshop organized by IOM Greece, where he met professional journalists and photographers.

"It was the first time after a long time that I did something important for myself!"

After the workshop Erfan was offered the opportunity to enter the Municipal Stadium of Kavala in the official football game of Super League 2 (AO Kavala - Pierikos) as a photo reporter!

"I am excited, it was a unique experience! I wish Kavala had won the game... but still it was perfect. I had the chance to meet the coach of the team, who is Iranian like me! I can't wait for the next game!"

IOM operates in the facility with the support of the European Commission - DG Home.



**More than 3,500 citizens - amongst them vulnerable populations - have accessed and received healthcare services from the Social Clinic in the Municipality of Katerini.**



The Social Clinic was equipped through a project of the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) implemented by IOM and provides valuable primary health care services to vulnerable population and people residing in the Municipality of Katerini.

IOM, through the funding of The Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), supported

municipalities across Greece in improving the quality and accessibility of services for local and refugee populations. The reception and integration of migrants has been facilitated by implementing targeted interventions, which included small-scale reconstruction of medical facilities and the purchase of additional equipment for local facilities.

# Foster Family and Unaccompanied Migrant Children

IOM under U-CARE project created a series of videos about foster care. The goal of the initiative is to create awareness and engage potential foster families.

The videos are focused on simple questions, such as:

Who is an unaccompanied child?

What is the profile of unaccompanied migrant children?

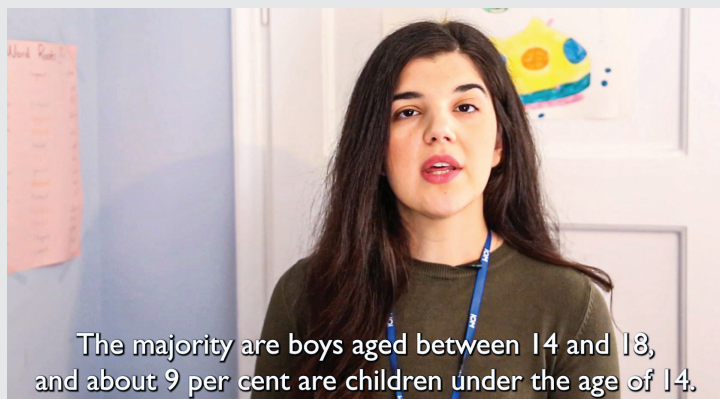
What is foster care?

Who can foster?

How could I become a foster parent?

Why should someone become a foster carer?

This project is funded by the European Commission, DG HOME.



## AVRR information visit to Thessaly

IOM Greece, accompanied by EU and Ministry of Asylum and Migration representatives conducted an information visit to Thessaly in the Open site of Koutsochero and met with the Camp Manager, Mr. Papaparis Apostolos. IOM Greece is informing about voluntary returns and reintegration in various locations in Greece, intending to expand the network of collaboration with various entities and maximize the dissemination of information on the project's procedures and benefits to potential beneficiaries.

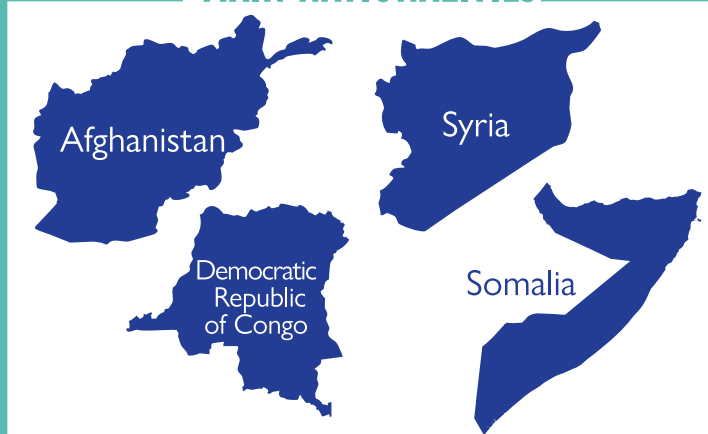
During the reporting period 404 migrants were assisted to return to their home countries. Meanwhile, the total number since the beginning of the project (September 2019 -February 2022) accounts to 6,657 voluntary returns. Amongst them, 28 % were from Pakistan, following 24% from Georgia, 17% from Iraq, 5% from Iran and 26% from various other countries. The implementation of assisted voluntary returns including reintegration measures and operation of Open Center in the Prefecture of Attica for applicants of voluntary return (AVRR/OCAVRR) is funded 75% by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund of the European Union (AMIF) and 25% by National Funds.

IOM does not support voluntary returns to the Syrian Arab Republic, Afghanistan and Ukraine at this stage.\*

# 2,225 unaccompanied migrant children were supported by MERIMNA project

2,225 unaccompanied migrant children who have lived in the safe areas of the Reception and Identification Centers on Greek islands, have received targeted assistance, under IOM Greece's MERIMNA project which began in March 2019. With the support of the European Commission - DG Home.

## MAIN NATIONALITIES



## 5 Safe Areas are operating on five islands

- Chios
- Samos
- Kos
- Lesvos
- Leros

8,960  
NFI KITS

were distributed  
to UMC in SAs

1,887  
PERSONAL  
HYGIENE KITS

were distributed  
to UMC outside of SAs

2,466  
PERSONAL  
HYGIENE KITS

were distributed  
to UMC in SAs

1,405  
UMC

were transferred from SAs  
to shelters in Greece

20%  
female

80%  
male



## Sports as a Tool for Inclusion and Social Change

The meeting between the 30-year-old Mohammad with the Paralympic champion, physician and president of "Περπατώ - Perpato", Alexander Taxildaris, is the proof that sport is a powerful tool to include refugees with disabilities in the society. The athlete discussed with Mohammad new opportunities through sports and the possibility of joining the Refugee Paralympic Team. Mohammad is currently staying at Kavala accommodation facility and is determined to follow Alexandros' example. "These athletes exemplify how change starts with sport," stated an IOM staff member. IOM operates in the facility with the support of the European Commission - DG Home.