

NEWSLETTER IOM GREECE

January - February 2023

For media inquiries and other information, please contact the IOM Greece Media Department on iomathensmedia@iom.int











Awareness Raising Activity by a Team of Recognized Refugees

A team of recognized refugees, with the support of volunteers and representatives of the Greek Government officials, implemented an awareness-raising action for the protection of the environment at Schisto Open Site. The participants cleaned the forecourts of the facility and the surrounding outdoor areas. The event was graced with the

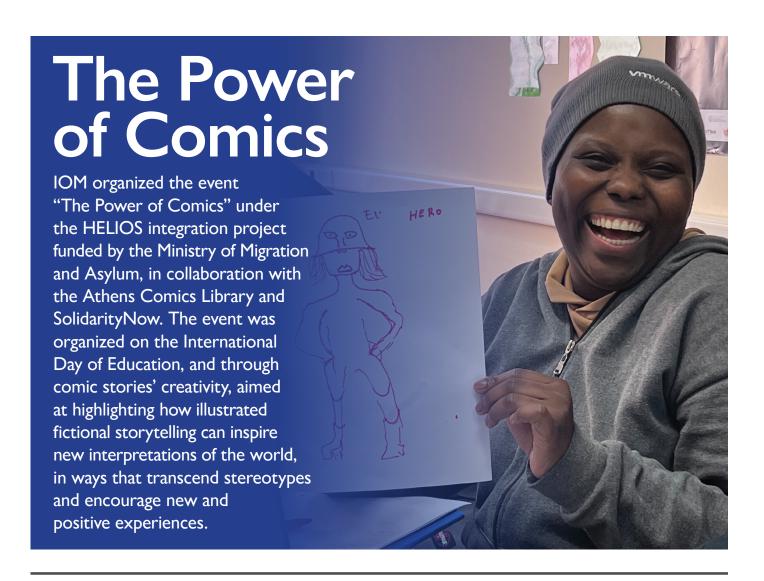
presence of the Deputy Minster of Migration & Asylum and the Minister of Environment and Energy, Sophia Voultepsi and Georgios Amyras, and the Chief of IOM Mission in Greece, Gianluca Rocco. The action is implemented in the framework of National Recovery and Resilience Greece 2.0 with the funding of the European Union - #NextGenerationEU.

Survey: Mobility and Employment of Refugee Populations in the Greek Region



Aiming at building bridges between the local community and the refugee population, IOM supported the production of a survey on the employment of related populations in the Greek Region written by Dr Apostolos Kapsalis - an expert on Labour Migration and lecturer in migration policy and industrial relations at Panteion University.

This survey has been funded by the International Organization for Migration (IOM), under the framework of support provided together with UNHCR Greece to the Cities Network for Integration (CNI) on the basis of a trilateral agreement with the City of Athens. The CNI, currently consists of 18 Municipalities and operates based on a memorandum of cooperation between the Municipalities of Athens and Thessaloniki. Download & Read the survey.





AVRR Projects Continue to Support Migrants to Return Home with Safety and Dignity

This family has finally managed to return to their home country, Iraq, with safety and dignity. Under the AVRR programme, they were provided with counselling, travel arrangements as well as administrative, logistical and financial support. More than 9,800 migrants have returned to their home country, since September 2019. IOM is currently implementing an AVRR project since September 2019, which is co-funded 75% by European Funds (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund) and 25% by National Funds. Moreover, since September 2022, IOM Greece is implementing the project "Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration of Migrants in situations of vulnerability" under the programme "Asylum and Migration" (Addressing urgent needs for the reception and screening of asylum seekers and for the accommodation of vulnerable groups) of the EEA Grants.



Since the beginning of the relocation project, IOM has reached 5,059 voluntary relocations from Greece to other European countries, making migration work for all. 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.



Meeting with EUAA

The Chief of IOM Mission in Greece, Gianluca Rocco held a meeting with the European Union Agency for Asylum Executive Director (EUAA), Nina Gregori, to discuss ways to strengthen Organizations' cooperation and to help those most in need. IOM Greece works closely with the EUAA in Greece to support asylum seekers, including protecting minors and facilitating relocations to other European countries.



IOM organized the clothing exhibition "Weaving Moments" 'which' was attended by more than 1,000 locals, migrants and refugees in the city of Kavala. The initiative arose from the need of migrant women to create and raise their voices and was the result of the Tailoring and Embroidering Group that IOM

has been organizing for the past year in the Kavala accommodation facility.

IOM operates in the facility under the Harmonizing Protection Practices in Greece (HARP) project, with the support of the European Commission - DG Home.



Supporting Children in Need

IOM teams have supported more than 2,000 unaccompanied children through the operation of emergency shelters, operate under National Emergency Response Mechanism. The IOM emergency accommodation facilities operating under the National **Emergency Response Mechanism** for unaccompanied minors are coordinated by the SSPUAM with the funding from the Ministry of Migration & Asylum through a donation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (up to February 2023).