



IOM Successfully Completed the AVRR Project

IOM successfully completed the AVRR project, which started in September 2019 and ended in August 2023 and announced the opening of new programme, which will run for 52 months starting from 01 September 2023. A project which was realized thanks to the valuable contribution and support of the Ministry of Citizen Protection, the Ministry of Migration and Asylum, collaborating with Embassies, National and Diplomatic authorities.

The initiative has enabled returnees to reach levels of economic self-sufficiency, social stability within their

communities, and psychosocial well-being for sustainable reintegration.

IOM stands ready to continue supporting Greece in the implementation of assisted voluntary returns, which have proven to contribute to effective, humane and orderly migration management, benefiting both migrants and society at large.

The Implementation of Assisted Voluntary Returns including Reintegration Measures and Operation of Open Center in the Prefecture of Attica was co - funded 75% by European Funds and 25% by National Funds.

IOM, EU, and National Authorities Joined Forces to Upgrade First Reception Infrastructures in Cyprus

With the aim to improve first reception and living conditions in the “Pournara” First Reception Center and to better respond to the migratory pressure of recent years, the IOM, the EU, and the competent authorities joined forces in undertaking the necessary construction and maintenance works, to ensure safe and dignified temporary accommodation for migrants arriving in Cyprus but also to upgrade the pace of first reception procedures.

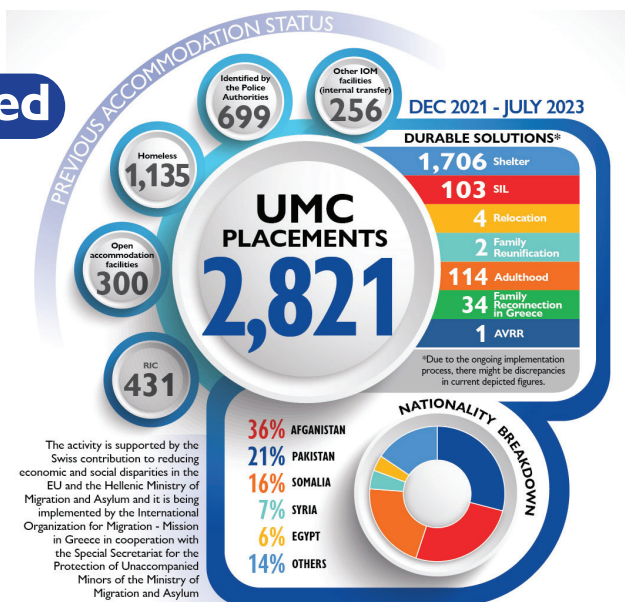
Aligned with EU standards, up to 1,240

accommodation places are foreseen, through the installation of prefabricated units ensuring adequate living and sanitary conditions, the necessary infrastructure for the screening, identification, and registration of newly arrived migrants, and communal spaces for activities aimed to improve the short stay of the center’s residents. The Action, “Upgrade of the First Reception Centre in Cyprus (POURNARA 2023),” is funded by the Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME).



IOM Teams Have Supported More Than 2,800 Unaccompanied Children Hosted in Emergency Shelters

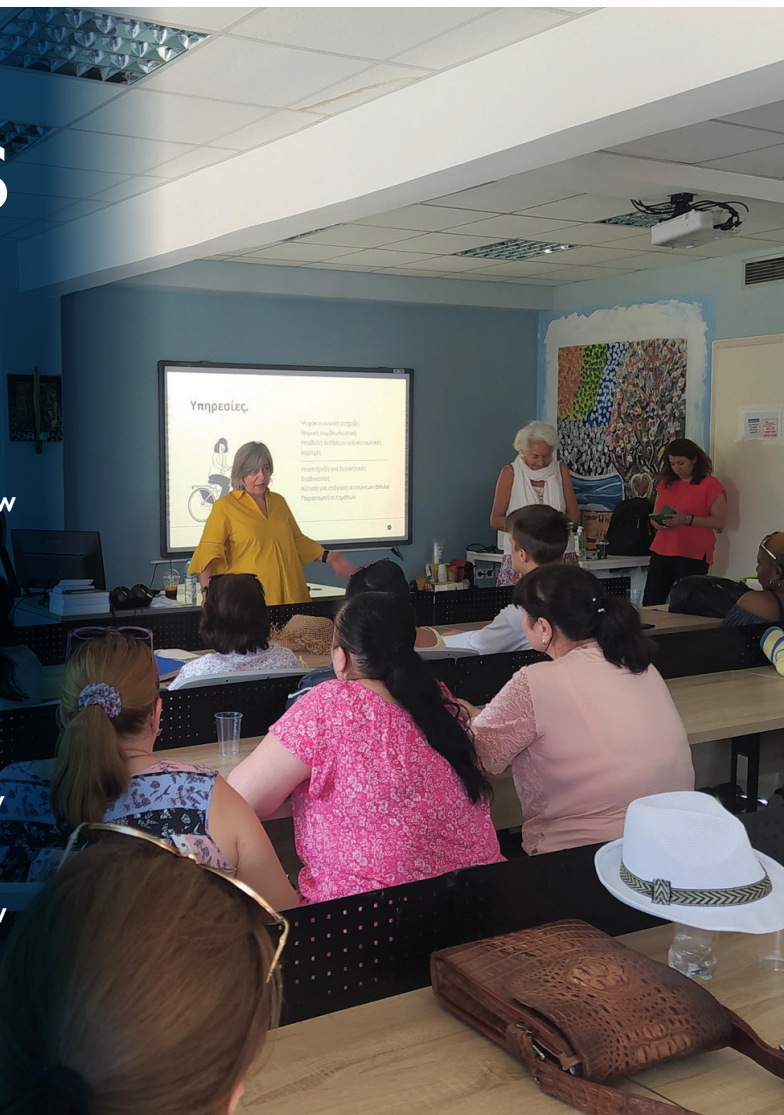
IOM is responsible for operating up to 240 places in Emergency Accommodation Facilities in mainland Greece and provides safe and dignified accommodation to UMC and other vulnerable migrant groups in Greece, ensuring a quick and efficient roll-out of the respective activity and its implementation in accordance with children’s best interest. The project is supported by the Swiss contribution to reducing economic and social disparities in the EU and the Ministry of Migration and Asylum.



From December 2021 up to February 2023, the activity was funded by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum from the donation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark in the framework of the Action of Development Engagement "Support to unaccompanied refugee and migrant children in the Hellenic Republic"

Info-Session under HELIOS Project

HELIOS Project students from Ukraine and Africa, visited the KEM of the Municipality of Athens in an ongoing effort to facilitate access to the services provided in Greece. People attending the info-session learned how they can benefit from the KEM's specialized services, the Greek, English and IT courses, as well as the career counseling for adults, and the intercultural activities for children and adolescents. The visit was welcomed by Mrs. Melina Daskalaki, Special Advisor to the Mayor of Athens for Migrants and Refugees and President of the Reception and Solidarity Center of the Municipality of Athens. The visit took place in coordination with the Integration Learning Centre of SolidarityNow in Athens and the Sensitization Component of the HELIOS Project, implemented by IOM Greece with funding from the Ministry of Migration and Asylum.



Ensuring the Well-being and Safety of Vulnerable Individuals

IOM Greece has supported 396 unaccompanied migrant children under the "MERIMNA II: Supporting Unaccompanied Migrant Children at the Greek Borders" project, funded by Switzerland, the Czech Republic, and the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The initiative involves the deployment of five dedicated teams across the islands of Lesvos, Chios, Samos, Leros and Kos to provide vital child protection assistance.





IOM Georgia Hosted Monitoring Delegation from Greece

Under the framework of AVRR, in July 2023, IOM Georgia welcomed a delegation consisted of 6 members (3 from IOM Greece and 2 from the Ministry of Citizen Protection-EDPMA), in order to conduct a reintegration monitoring visit in the capital of Georgia, Tbilisi as well as in the region Kakheti,

with the aim to monitor the progress of implemented reintegration plans of returnees who were assisted through IOM AVRR Reintegration unit. The project was co-funded 75% by European Funds (Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund) and 25% by Greek National Funds.



Training on Migration Mental Health Care in Athens, Crete and Thessaloniki

The IOM Greece staff under the Includ-EU project organized workshops on Migration Health Care, providing valuable inputs on the most frequent barriers that migrants face in accessing health.

The workshops were provided by Mr. Nikos Gionakis, MSc Psychologist, Scientific Associate of Babel Day Centre, MHPSS Consultant and Trainer and took place in Athens, Crete and Thessaloniki.

Includ - EU project is funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund of the European Union.