

#### **NEWSLETTER** IOM GREECE

September - October 2023

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## Ministry of Migration and Asylum and IOM: Closing Event

Refugees took part in a disaster risk training including fire extinguishing and identification of victims of trafficking exercises, marking the completion of the first phase of the first EU Refugee Training Program in situations of Emergency which took place at the Ministry of Migration and Asylum through the Recovery Fund.

IOM and the Ministry of Migration & Asylum celebrated the successful completion of the EU integration project with a closing event in which the key achievements were presented.

The action is implemented in the framework of National Recovery and Resilience Greece 2.0 with the funding of the European Union – NextGenerationEU.



### First Annual Meeting of the Swiss - Greek Cooperation Programme

IOM welcomed the Swiss Delegation and presented the key achievements and progress of the project "Emergency Accommodation Facilities". The visitors had the opportunity to visit one of the facilities, where they discussed with the multidisciplinary teams on the field, aspects of the targeted Child Protection support which is being provided, the daily challenges faced and the best practices of this

important pillar of the National Emergency Response Mechanism.

The project is supported by the Swiss contribution to reducing economic and social disparities in the EU and by the Ministry of Migration & Asylum. The IOM emergency accommodation facilities are coordinated by the General Secretary for Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection.





#### The Includ-EU Team Organized a Twoday Conference within the Framework of the Includ-EU Project, which Takes Place in Brussels

The Includ-EU final conference, jointly organized by the Assembly of European Regions - AER and IOM, showcased the achievements and findings of the three-year action while also providing opportunities to develop further collaborations for the sustainability of the action. Includ-EU is an EU-funded project that worked towards building more inclusive and cohesive European societies by fostering transnational knowledge transfer, experience sharing, cooperation, and partnerships between local and regional authorities. The project implemented and assessed seven pilot projects to promote the integration of third-country nationals and people with a migration background, at the regional and local level. It also developed an informal network of regions and local authorities with different levels of expertise, thus capitalizing on the diversity of territorial approaches, policies and practices on integration.

## Online Training on Digital Marketing

HELIOS project organized an online training addressed to Beneficiaries of Temporary Protection who wanted to enrich their skills and knowledge on digital marketing and explore their potentials.

The online training was an initiative of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and IOM Greece via HELIOS Project. HELIOS Project is implemented by the International Organization for Migration and funded by the Ministry of Migration and Asylum.



# EU Solidarity can Change Life for the Better Since the beginning of the project Voluntary Solidarity Mechanism more than 3,400 people, families with children included, have been relocated to EU Member States and associated countries. We will continue to work with our partners to support migrants in need, making migration work for all. The project is implemented with the support of the European Commission and DG Home.

#### Raising Awareness, Working Together

The Deputy Minister for Migration and Asylum, Sofia Voultepsi, the General Secretary for Vulnerable Persons and Institutional Protection, Heracles Moskoff, and the Chief of IOM Mission in Greece, Gianluca Rocco, opened a 2-day training, focused on raising awareness and information provision about trafficking.

The training targeted frontline field workers and interpreters, who are in everyday contact with victims or potential victims of trafficking.

The action is implemented in the framework of National Recovery and Resilience Greece 2.0 with the funding of the European Union - NextGenerationEU.





## Implementation of Assisted Voluntary Returns and Reintegration Measures as well as Operation of Accommodation Center for Applicants of Voluntary Return

During the reporting period – September / October 2023 - 394 migrants were assisted to return to their home countries under the project "Implementation of Assisted Voluntary Returns and Reintegration Measures as well as Operation of Accommodation Center for Applicants of Voluntary Return". Amongst them, 81 % were from Georgia, following 5% from Pakistan, 3% from Iraq, 2% from Lebanon, and 9% from various other countries. The project, which began in September 2023, is expected to assist in the voluntary return of 17,000 third-country nationals to their countries of origin, to provide in kind reintegration assistance to 1,700 returnees and to accommodate 1,700 assisted voluntary return applicants in the Open Centre. The project is being implemented through the Home Affairs Funds with the co-funding by the European Union.