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**NEWSLETTER** 

**IOM GREECE** 

July - August 2022

## IOM Pledges Integration, Employability Support for Ukrainian Nationals in Greece

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Greek Ministry of Migration and Asylum, together with the Embassy of Ukraine in Greece, announced the inclusion of Ukrainian nationals within the IOM HELIOS project, extending critical integration and employability support to recognized refugees and beneficiaries of international protection in Greece. IOM will provide them with accommodation support that includes rental subsidies for 12 months and assistance finding homes in Greece.

Read more: https://www.iom.int/news/iom-pledges-integration-employability-support-ukrainian-nationals-greece

HELIOS Project is implemented with the funding of the Ministry of Migration and Asylum.



## Training of refugees in Samos facility by Fire Service experts

The first team of recognized refugees, trained for responding to emergencies was formed during August. The goal is population's capacity building and their inclusion in a holistic response to the Civil Protection. The action is implemented in the framework of National Recovery and Resilience Greece 2.0 with the funding of the European Union – NextGenerationEU.





#### EU Relocation & Solidarity can change lives for the better

Since the beginning of relocation project IOM has supported 4,960 voluntary relocations from Greece 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.

# Summer camps for children from Ukraine

IOM in collaboration with the Ministry of Migration and Asylum supported more than 500 children from Ukraine with 92 escorts who travelled with them. The children were hosted in summer camps in Greece during August. IOM offered essential services – including transportations inside the country:

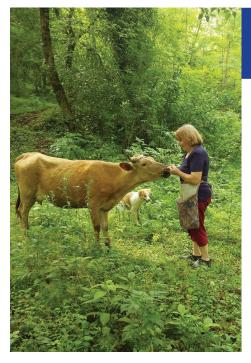
• 38 buses for the transfer and the return of children from the summer camps

• IOM bus escorts were appointed

• More than 500 linen and bedding items were delivered The initiative was coordinated by the Deputy Minister for Migration and Asylum in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine in

Greece after also the initiative of the Panhellenic Union of Private Initiative Camp Operators, (PELK) and was implemented with the support of CEB Social development bank for Europe.





## Over 8,000 migrants assisted with voluntary return from Greece in last 3 years: IOM

Lena Beradze from Georgia is among the people who received reintegration support after choosing to return to her home country under the AVRR programme.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) has supported the voluntary return of some 8,000 people from Greece to their home countries since the September 2019 launch of the current Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration (AVRR) programme. Through the programme over 1,200 migrants in situations of vulnerability - including migrants with health needs, victims of human trafficking, unaccompanied and separated migrant children, the older people, and single-parent families – were able to return to their home countries, according to international principles, in safety and dignity.

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



#### It's all Greek to me

IOM Greece is organizing Greek lessons and art workshops for the children residing in facilities in Greece, as part of the non-formal education activities. 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.

## AntetokounBros Academy welcomed young athletes

Children from Malakasa open accommodation facility had a blast during their training at AntetokounBros Academy. The kids along with the other young athletes of the academy became part of a wider team reflecting solidarity and social fellowship, unlocking their potential to become better athletes. IOM is part of the initiative conducted by NIKE, Eurohoops Greece and Onassis Foundation. IOM operates in the facilities with the support of the European Commission - DG HOME.





### INCLUD-EU project's journey across Europe continues

A pilot project was implemented under INCLUD-EU in the Region of Crete. The initiative aimed at ensuring the provision of inclusive health services: social workers and cultural mediators facilitate the exchanges between patients with a migration background and medical staff, the Personal Health Record aims at enhancing knowledge amongst stakeholders about refugees' and migrants' health needs.

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