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# STRATEGIES FOR REFUGEES

# NEWSLETTER

By KBM Consultants

## **Guide of Best Practices for Refugees' Integration:**

The Guide of Best Practices for Refugees' Integration is the result of a collaboration between eight international European organizations, which undertook the Erasmus Plus project titled Strategies for Refugees to learn, teach and spread awareness about the conditions faced by refugees and asylum seekers around Europe. The countries involved in the project are United Kingdom, Spain, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Poland and Romania. All the participating organizations from these countries met frequently over a course of two years in different countries, sharing information, training and ideas based on how refugees and asylum seekers have been helped to settle down and restart their lives. We are now sharing the gist of our learning with this guide so that we can promote the best and proven ways in which refugees can be helped, not just in Europe, but in any country around the world. The guide of 15 best practices was compiled by Asociatia Millenium (Romania).

It contains best practices from the partner organizations' countries and involve lots of efforts, coordination and teamwork with the main objectives to:

- Help the social service providers and organizations working with migrants to scale up their activities relevant to the migrants integration.
- Support training and skills development to enable more practitioners to improve their capacity building on diversity and identity management.
- Increase cooperation between organizations working with the mission of social and cultural inclusion.

### **Fourth Transnational Project Meeting:**

The fourth TPM was held in Sassari, Italy during the dates of 26th – 29th July, 2019. The hosting organization was MV International. The participating organization which attended the fourth TPM were Euro-Net (Italy), Aenao (Greece), KBM Consultants (UK), Academia Postal3 (Spain), Kirsehir Valiligi (Turkey), Spoleczna Akademia Nauk (Poland) and Asociatia Millenium (Romania).

During the Final Meeting were discussed mainly the following points:

- Project outputs
- Dissemination strategy
- Financial aspects
- Follow-up activities



The guide of best practices and comic strip was uploaded on the website and it was translated in all the partner languages. For the dissemination process all partners were asked for sharing their posts on their own social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram) with the coordinator and to boost the dissemination process, all partners will share the website link on various social media channels. Regarding the Final report each partner will collect and describe all activities firstly implemented from April to July 2019, secondly from August to September of the same year.



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### **C3 Joint Staff Training Event:**

The C3 Joint Staff Training Event occurred in Warsaw, Poland during the dates of 14th - 16th June, 2019. This C3 Joint Staff Training Event was organized by Spoleczna Akademia Nauk. The participating organizations which attended the C3 JSTE were Euro-Net (Italy), Aenao (Greece), KBM Consultants (UK), Academia Postal3 (Spain), Kirsehir Valiligi (Turkey), MV International (Italy) and Asociatia Millenium (Romania).

On 14th June, the participants met at the University of Social Sciences, which was the meeting point and then slowly walked towards the NGO, then visited the Polish Migration Forum - for foreigners and about foreigners in Poland. Then the participants had a lunch break in a restaurant conducted by migrants and refugees. The participating organizations had a press conference in which they discussed about the agenda of the project and also briefed the media about the project progress. On the last two days, the participants attended the workshops.



### By Postal 3 - Spain

The Strate.Gees project ended with the last meeting that took place in July 2019. It was held in Sassary. We know the importance of continuing to work in the field of integration and we will collaborate and coordinate efforts with all interested parties to push the project objectives beyond the deadline. All partners are interested in developing a new proposal for future calls in Erasmus +, therefore, it is likely that we will be able to meet again with more ideas for social and cultural integration.



The project website: <https://www.strategiesforrefugees.com/>

It will be open and active for 3 years after the end of the activities and will be an open window to the documents and results that we achieved in those more than twenty months of intensive work on the objectives of the Strategies.

During the last 6 months (from April 19 to October 19), Postal3 had several meetings in the office with colleagues involved in the project. At these meetings, tasks, deadlines and general information about the project were discussed. Now, we are ready to continue working and developing new opportunities for collaboration in the field of integration. We hope to meet you in our future projects.



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## By MV International - Italy

### **Social Change and Networking**

In the frame of the project "Strategies for Refugees", MV International held 2 focus groups with refugees and organizations working with them.

During these events, our organisation had a pleasure to meet some migrants who have been able to become an integral part of the community and even managed to work as operator to help other migrants and refugees who are coming to our island, Sardinia (Italy).

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These focus groups were very fruitful. Firstly, they allowed MVI to have a clearer picture of the difficulties that migrants are facing every day. Secondly it was useful to underline operators' point of view about refugees and migrants' integration. Thirdly, a larger network of migrants and refugees and also associations that are working with them has been created. Last but not least, it helped to reinforce the connection among MV International, stakeholders and local community in Sassari.

On 20th June of the same year for celebrating the World Refugees Day, MV International organized "The Festival of Cultures" in Sassari. One of Sassari's main squares, piazza Santa Caterina, became a wonderful, multicultural spot where migrants, refugees and locals had the chance to spend time together in a peaceful atmosphere. In this occasion, MVI shared all projects carried out with European projects, emphasising the ones focused on social inclusion, tolerance and diversity.

Since June 2018, MVI has gradually begun to involve more migrants in the various European projects in which MVI is partner or coordinator.

In addition, Mine Vaganti NGO, founder of the MV International network, thanks to the new connections developed during the years, has been involving more migrants and refugees in its local activities.

MV International really cares about youngest and their future and especially about those who find

themselves in situations of fewer opportunities. For the "European Youth Foundation", MVI started various social campaigns focused on "No Hate Speech", many young migrants and refugees have been taking part in local activities and abroad. These activities have contributed to getting migrants and refugees out of the comfort zone and making them understand that they are an integral part of the community.

One group of female migrants, who own a business and/ or were interesting in developing their entrepreneurial competences in the Fashion, were involved in the Training Course of the KA2 project "Migrant in Fashion". The Training Course took place in Sassari from 17th July to 29th July 2019.



Of course, these are only some examples and can be considered the first steps towards a better future based on social inclusion and tolerance.

### By Kirsehir Valiligi - Turkey



### Turkey hosts 3.6M Syrians under temporary protection

More than 3.6 million Syrians under temporary protection constitute the majority of foreigners living in Turkey, an official said on Sept. 24.

Turkey hosts a great number of foreigners from Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan and Central Asia, as well as Syria, Mehmet Sinan Yıldız, vice president of the Directorate General of Migration Management, said at a conference on effective implementations in the field of migration.

Turkey is rapidly trying to fulfill the security and basic humanitarian needs of Syrians who flee their land, Yıldız said. Turkey also aims to provide them a space where they can live by maintaining their cultural and historical ties, he added. Turkey has been the main route for refugees trying to cross into Europe, especially since the beginning of the Syrian civil war in 2011. Some 268,000 irregular migrants were held in Turkey in 2018, according to the Interior Ministry. Syria has been gripped by conflict since 2011 when demonstrations seeking democratic reforms were fiercely cracked down on by the Syrian regime.



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More than half a million people have died in the ensuing conflict and millions more have been displaced as large swaths of Syria have been reduced to rubble.

\*<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/turkey-hosts-3-6m-syrians-under-temporary-protection-146852>

### **Peace corridor to solve Syria migrant crisis: Erdoğan to UN General Assembly**

A peace corridor on Turkey's Syria border will enable the resettlement of 3 million Syrians from Turkey, Europe and other countries if it is extended to the Deir ez Zor-Raqqqa line, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan said on Sept. 24.



Addressing the U.N. General Assembly in New York, Erdoğan said "efficient functioning" of the Constitutional Committee is "critical for political and territorial unity of Syria."

Turkish and U.S. military officials agreed Aug. 7 to set up a safe zone in northern Syria and develop a peace corridor to facilitate the movement of displaced Syrians who want to return home.

Erdoğan also called on U.N. members to back Turkey's efforts to ensure security in Syria's Idlib to avoid mass migration and massacres and he added international community "losing the ability to find lasting solutions" to challenges such as terrorism, hunger, misery and climate change.

Turkey is "the most generous country" with humanitarian aid, hosting 5 million displaced people fleeing conflict, starvation.

\*<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/peace-corridor-to-solve-syria-migrant-crisis-erdogan-to-un-general-assembly-146850>



### **'Istanbul Photo Awards' exhibit opens in Ankara**

State-run Anadolu Agency presents an exhibition in the central train station in the capital Ankara where award-winning news photographs of the international Istanbul Photo Awards 2019 are exhibited.

The exhibition provides by-passers with an opportunity to take a glance at the most successful images of the international photography contest, which has been held annually since 2015 with the participation of a total of some 100,000 entries.

"As the Culture and Tourism Ministry, we welcome such efforts and works and see [exhibitions] as a significant part of our cultural life," said Deputy Culture and Tourism Minister Serdar Çam.

The photographs, which depict various events and incidents such as migration, natural disasters, and people's struggles across the world, were meaningful and the exhibition selection was a total success, he added.

The winner of this year's the Photo of the Year award was a photograph taken by Agence France-Presse's Ahmad Gharabli, where he depicted a Palestinian woman retaliating an Israeli soldier's act to take her photo during protests against the U.S. decision to move its embassy to Jerusalem.

\*<http://www.hurriyetaidailynews.com/istanbul-photo-awards-exhibit-opens-in-ankara-146730>





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### **Turkey: Life without hope is no life**

They survived a genocide. They fled from radical Islamists, leaving everything they had behind. Now they are stuck in a Turkish city. They can neither return to Iraq nor could they live a normal life in Turkey.

They lack basic rights, they cannot work legally under the Turkish ban and their children are not allowed to go to school. They are forgotten by world leaders, not being eligible for visas or asylum. They rely on food coupons that the local churches provide them, when those are available.

They are Iraqi Christians living in Kirsehir in Turkey.

The Governorship assisting the refugees for the basic needs and for next steps to deport into the countries they wish. The report tells the real stories of those awaiting their resettlement while trying not to lose faith seeing little or no progress in their application processes. It urges the international community to fill in the void where those refugees are currently trapped.

\*<https://minorityvoices.org/news.php/en/5264/turkey-life-without-hope-is-no-life-stories-of-christian-syriacassyrianchaldean-refugees>.

The Strate.Gees project ended with the last meeting that took place in July 2019. It was held in Sassari. We know the importance of continuing to work in the field of integration and we will collaborate and coordinate efforts with all interested parties to push the Project objectives beyond the deadline. All partners are interested in developing a new proposal for future calls in Erasmus +. The governorship have presented the activities run in the region and benefitted from the Project to enrich the services and provide a better environment for the refugees.

The proposed mobilities and activities are completed by the Kirşehir Governorship and respective Project outcomes will be shared on our website.

The project website: <https://www.strategiesforrefugees.com/>

**By AENAO - Greece**

## **Refugees in Greece : building foundations for integration**

### **The European Migrant crisis started in 2015**

and more than 1 million refugees and migrants arrived in Greece that year. In May 2018, the number of refugees and migrants in Greece stood at more than 60,000, including about 14,000 on the islands. Over half are women and children.



However, since 2017, once the overwhelming of the situation overcome, organizational and financial supports are allowing to better handle the crisis and address the needs for inclusion and integration.

**The Financial aid of the European Union** covers some 70 to 80 percent of costs related to asylum seekers and migrants who live in Greece. To support the Greek authorities as well as international organisations and NGOs operating in Greece in managing the refugee and humanitarian crisis, the Commission has awarded over €816.4 million in emergency assistance since the beginning of 2015. The emergency funding comes on top of the €613.5 million already allocated to Greece under the national programs for 2014-2020 (€328.3 million from AMIF and €285.2 million from ISF).

All these local and international partners are working together to offer a better tomorrow to all the refugees.



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The Accommodation scheme provides rented housing to vulnerable asylum-seekers and refugees in Greece. Urban accommodation helps restore a sense of normalcy and provides better access to services, including education and health. By the end of August 2019, UNHCR had created



25,404 places in the accommodation scheme as part of the ESTIA programme, in 14 cities and 7 islands across Greece. In total, since November 2015, 60,175 individuals have benefitted from the program. 21,616 people were accommodated as of the end of August 2019, 7,350 of whom are recognized refugees.



**A third of the immigrants and refugees arriving in Greece are children and giving them Formal Education and Non-Formal Education** is an important part of social inclusion, giving a sense of normality and belonging. At the end of 2017, the UNHCR estimated that around

8000 refugee and asylum seeking children were enrolled in Greek schools. By the end of 2018, that number had risen to 11,000. The government has also launched afternoon classes for refugee and asylum seeking children older than 15 to learn enough Greek to access formal education opportunities.

The GNESW Group has notice a positive tendency towards the number of children enrolled to schools.

It is estimated that Greece's population of asylum seekers will surpass the 90,000 by the end of 2019 at current rates. It is important than the cohesion between the different partners, local authorities, NGO and the European Union carries on and expands.

By SPOLECZNA AKADEMIA NAUK - Poland



## 1-Aim of the Training

The training had three main aims:

- To raise awareness about citizenship education in general and global citizenship education in particular by exploring the concepts, their dimensions and their contemporary meanings;
- To raise awareness about the refugee issue as one of the important topics in global citizenship education, as it is one of the issues affecting interaction and connectedness of communities at local, national and global levels;
- To use the principles of marketing communication and persuasion to effectively influence targeted audiences and create social marketing campaigns, which could be the key drivers for change in the local community attitudes towards refugees.

## 2-Training Learning Outcomes:

- Understand the idea of citizenship education in general and global citizenship education in particular (based on UNESCO methodology);
- Understand the importance of the refugee issue in global citizenship education;
- Explain the scope of social marketing and how it relates to other areas of marketing;
- Summarise how effective social marketing campaigns achieve desired social objectives;



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- Understand why behaviour change is often difficult and the need to invest in long-term strategies;
- Develop an understanding of persuasion and the role it plays in our world;
- Use the principles of marketing communication and persuasion in order to effectively influence targeted audiences (tailoring messages to specific audiences) and achieve objectives;
- Understand the ways the effectiveness of campaigns can be measured and explain the difficulties that may be encountered;
- Adapt, adopt and implement marketing for social change to present solutions for social problems to the market;
- Create a successful social marketing campaigns aimed at the awareness of refugees among the local community.

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### **Lexicon**

AMIF: Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund

ISF: Internal Security Fund

ESTIA: Emergency Support to Integration and Accommodation

GNESWG: Greece National Education Sector Working Group



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