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Raising Capacity for
Inclusive People engaged
in private sponsorship

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PRESS RELEASE

TITLE: TRAININGS AND LOCAL INITIATIVES OF THE RaCIP PROJECT

In the framework of the RaCIP project funded by European funds of the AMIF programme in 2019, the RaCIP consortium designed and carried out trainings for prospective mentors for migrants and mentees, as well as local initiatives.

During the summertime, the RaCIP project partners designed and implemented the training programmes for mentors and for mentees, and started the mentorship framework in their countries. At the end of each course, each category of citizens accompanies the migrants in their integration pathway, supporting them in the aspects of housing, work integration, study support and, in general, integration into society.

More specifically:

CVI: For module 1, CVI decided to share with both groups (mentors at work and stakeholders) some essential notions on the Italian reception system, legal and social assistance, and about the different services that are provided within local territory.

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SECOND TREE
Planting Social Change



**Réfugiés
BIENVENUE**



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As for module 2, the mentors at work focused their attention on the Italian labor and economic system as well as on the formal and informal skills required by the local markets. Organisations and stakeholders shared their experiences with the Italian integration system, focusing their attention on common problems and foreseeing ideas for sustainable solutions.

Glocal Factory: The organization chose not to refer to it as training, preferring to call it 'experience sharing'. This ensured that the participants were able to share their own experiences on the topic from the trainers' perspective and that relationships were already beginning to form within the group.

SYNTHESIS: During the training, the mentors proposed holding joint activities as a means of encouraging the social integration between mentors and mentees. Some ideas included organising a movie night, a cultural exchange event and trips to the beach, among others. The first gathering between the mentors and the mentees took place on the 6th and 7th of July 2022 at the offices of HUB Nicosia and it was an opportunity for the pairs to meet each other and to facilitate the upcoming activities. During this meeting, the mentoring pairs discussed their expectations from the program and from each other; they established boundaries and planned out a mentoring agreement. A WhatsApp group for mentoring support was also created.

Second Tree: Participants acquired knowledge about the refugee situation in Greece and what problems they can support refugees with - information that is often not known by people with a non-migrant background. The training allowed participants to acquire the knowledge and skills to establish a dialogue with the refugee

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community to support them in tackling the obstacles they face in their daily life in Greece.

Municipality of Ioannina: Stakeholders - Theoretical topics were developed (the meaning of words and phrases such as "refugee", "mentor and mentee", "empathy and empowerment", "needs and abilities of the target group", "legal framework for refugees, asylum seekers, migrants", etc. Moreover, applied practices (experiential activities) but also people's stories (success stories of integration) were presented and provided the participants with the necessary cross-cutting knowledge and skills that mentors should have to support one or more mentees in the effective management of their everyday life, the adversities, and challenges they face when integrating into a new culture and a new socio-economic environment.

Réfugiés Bienvenue: Over the course of 10 days, with the help of 14 experts in the fields of sociology, law, history, psychology and pedagogy, the organisation Réfugiés Bienvenue trained hosts, students, and stakeholders. The trainees learned more about the context of migration in France and the legal framework of the asylum process. They were able to meet and discuss with people having gone through the asylum process and with other volunteers. The participants also took part in group discussions that aimed to reframe the underlying theoretical concepts and vocabulary commonly used when talking about migration. Finally, trainees were able to spend time learning how to identify resources and best practices to better support refugees, as well as how to regulate power imbalances in a supporting relationship.

JRS: Meetings with families take place bimonthly, each semester with all the families of the cities and there is also a yearly national encounter. The initiatives cover the life

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of the families: Health service accompaniments; School enrolment; cultural activities; Know how to buy; Women at work.

A few words about RaCIP:

RaCIP aims to demonstrate that integration paths are favored when we create an informal support network around the migrant, managed by citizens, who are engaged in private sponsorship of the person, building bonds of mutual trust with them.

The project involves families that host one or more migrants, families who support them, workers and employers who introduce the migrant(s) to the local working culture, university students who support young migrants in their studies, and finally CSOs and citizens.

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SECOND TREE Planting Second Chances



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