



# MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 2022

# GENERAL UPDATES

## Update about the situation in Greece

We are severely impacted by what is happening in the world, both in terms of what is coming in and the rise in expenses we have to make to keep the organization running. Many NGOs have had to reduce or stop their activities here in Greece, and that is very painful to see. The people here in Greece still really need our support and the situation is getting worse.

Even though there is no attention for this in the media, this doesn't mean that the influx of asylum seekers is reducing, actually it is rather increasing. From January to May this year there were 86,420 crossings entries at the EU's external borders - 82% more than in the same period of last year.

Illegal pushbacks continue, which stop people from being provided a fair chance of requesting asylum.

The numbers in the camps are going down, but the camps are turned into closed camps, basically prisons with limited ability to enter or exit for the people inside.

Due to a lack of resources, many housing projects in Greece have been forced to stop their operations, leaving many people without shelter.

For refugees without papers the situation is especially dangerous. Greece engages in systematic detention of asylum seekers, imprisoning people simply for the reason that they don't have papers. There are many examples of members of our community who are, or have been, imprisoned for this reason.

To make matters worse, Turkey has recently been declared a safe country for refugees from Afghanistan, Syria, Somalia, Pakistan and Bangladesh, leading to more efforts to return refugees to these countries, even though the situation there is extremely dangerous.

Greece provides passports to many people, knowing that many individuals will try to leave Greece after they receive papers as fast as possible. France and Germany on the other hand deport these individuals back to Greece on the grounds of the Dublin convention. This results in a torturous and draining "ping pong game" with the lives and dignity of refugees.



During the month of June there has been an increase of arrivals in the islands, while illegal pushbacks continue happening with impunity in the Aegean sea on daily basis. Currently there are 1351 people in Lesvos and still 1187 people living in the camp. In this context, the 20th of June was the International day of Refugee people, and different activities and events were organised during a week in the island in order to share solidarity with the people. The team in Lesvos keeps working everyday in order to support our community, fighting for dignified and fair conditions, and advocating towards a change of the situation in the camps and necropolitics in the borders.

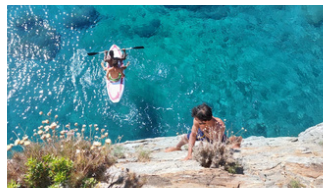
## In the project

The good weather and arrival of the summer gave us the opportunity to organise and enjoy outdoor activities and events: cycling, swimming, climbing, have been very popular during this month. However, despite the high temperatures and extra sweaty atmosphere at the Gym, our students did not stop joining the classes.

Out of the regular schedule, we started June organising some activities together with our partners at Parea. Our volleyball coach Ali organised a tournament for the special Circus&Sports Day at the community centre. At the end of the month we also celebrated the Refugee week with all our community and partners. YSR provided support and a special Salsa class. After the success of this event, we have a new Salsa activity at the gym. Dancing is coming back this month to the schedule, with a variety of women dance, contemporary or Salsa!

At the end of the month we had a special visit from Maikai Projects, who supported the team on the ground, putting special focus on the climbing activity. They organized an outdoor party at Mytilini Castle, to introduce bouldering to the community, where we also enjoyed with some QiGong, acroyoga, dinner and of course, dancing. Moreover, they took us on a one-day-trip to the beautiful nature of Plomari, where we tried rock climbing and enjoyed kayaking and swimming at the beach. And now, we also have new routes in our climbing wall in the gym. Thank you guys!

This month we also had the pleasure of meeting Sara Tulivu, who organised special Taiji and Qi Gong classes and workshops in different spots of Mytilini.



One-day-trip to the beautiful Plomari



Outdoor climbing with Maikai Projects

## Teachers

Left last month

- Arvin
- Jawad
- Mahmoud
- Mustafa
- Mohammad Q

Still in Lesvos

- Ali K.
- Ali N.
- Mohammad
- Fatima
- Amanollah
- Zaher

## Coordinators

- Toryalay
- Miren
- Katerina

## Volunteers

- Marof
- Pascal
- Redine
- Kieran
- Naia
- Daniella
- Basil
- Nefeli
- Kaja
- Brooke
- Miri and Tabea





## In Athens

In Athens it was very hot and many people from the refugee as well as the Greek community are working on the islands. The city seems calmer than usual.

There have been rumors of deportations from the north of Europe to the camps here in and around Athens. Furthermore unequal treatment between the Ukrainian and other refugees, wherein Ukrainian refugees are said to have privileges have been reported. The food insecurity is rising and many NGO's are stopping their work due to a lack of funds.

## In the project

This month has been again a full month of changes and experiences.

We finally got our own office space, which we took from OHF! We can't wait to have it fully furnished and nice - it's a work in progress.

We started to collaborate with Red SOS Refugiados Europa, they support us with sanitary items for the monthly teacher packages. Also, we had support from different teams of about 10 people over the course of the month from International Sports Federation (ISF). They took shifts, flyer hand out actions and helped us plan the teacher days.

Coaches Across Continents was in Athens for one week to support us in the teacher days and strategy days. In which we did team building and worked on different subjects for the projects.

Nina and Claude taught their first Empowerment and Self Defense Training in SafePlace Greece.

We taught Zumba as part of the Refugee Week Event in the Victoria Community Center and we were part of the broader Refugee Week Greece Event with many of our classes listed.

Four of our long term volunteers left this month - we are grateful to have had them as a part of our wonderful team and thank them deeply for their effort, love and energy that they put in! We wish you the best: Mirre, Mercedes, Una and Declan.

The new office in progress



What a team!

## Teachers

17 in total

New

- Somaya women volleyball

## Coordinators

- Aref
- Fateme
- Claude

## Volunteers

9 in total:

- Una
- Mirre
- Declan,
- Yasir
- Ste
- Shane,
- Mercedes,

# HSR IOANNINA

YOGA  
AND  
SPORT  
WITH REFUGEES

## In Ioannina

New organisations have begun operations in Ioannina, which is good news for people living here. Be Aware and Share are taking over the Refugee Support Community Centre, and we will continue to try and support them with sport activities for their programme. Otherwise, it is the same as the other recent reports, lots of people are leaving, very few people are arriving, and there is no plan from the government as to when or who will be relocated to Ioannina in the near future

## In the project

We had a really busy month in June.

Angel and David from Maika'i organised an incredible climbing competition where lots of Greek locals got involved and loved our gym!

Our women volleyball competition was such a success! Fereshte and Ari organised a women's trip. More than 50 women and children came together for a really fun day in the park, playing sports, eating together, and having a good time. Since this event, we have seen a huge increase in women at our activities. Now, every Friday at women only volleyball practice, we have a little picnic, to continue making the community feel stronger. For the first time, we have had more women than men attending our activities this month!

Our dear Coordinator Marta left the project for a new opportunity in Sierra Leone. We miss her a lot but wish her the best for her future. Zainab, our yoga and volleyball teacher, and community volunteer, also left the project and has been reunited with her brother in France after 8 years apart!

Our running team is growing! 6 weeks ago, 2-3 people were attending running. Now, as part of our Couch to 5km programme, we have more than 10 women running at 7am three times per week.

We went on an overnight trip with all of our teachers and volunteers. We had a really amazing time, and the team feels closer, more supported and motivated. Check out our Instagram to see some of the best photos from the trip.

Claire Lalande came to visit Ioannina for the first time. We were so happy to have her here, and show her our amazing project. We are looking forward to working with her as the new Director of YSR.



Women event



Climbing competition

## Teachers

8 teachers in total.

New:

- Hamid (Climbing)

## Coordinators

- Maeve
- Marta
- Fereshte

## Volunteers

In total 5:

- Ari
- Sergio
- Zainab
- Yeganah
- Hamid

# THE PROJECTS IN NUMBERS

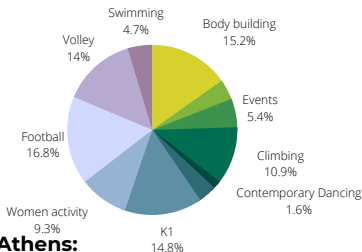


## Lesvos:

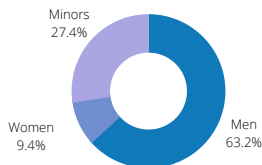
Number of activities  
Number of teachers  
Number of visits  
Total amount of students

14 (-2)  
7 (-+1)  
1286(-285) change for july  
321(-71) change for july

Division of students over the different projects:



Number of men/women/kids in the projects:

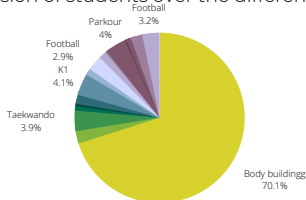


## Athens:

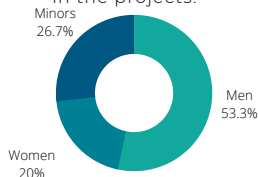
Number of activities  
Number of teachers  
Number of visits  
Total amount of students

16  
17  
1320 (-110)  
380

Division of students over the different projects:



Number of men/women/kids in the projects:

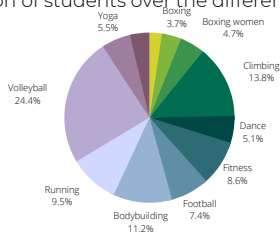


## Habibi and Sport with Refugees Ioannina

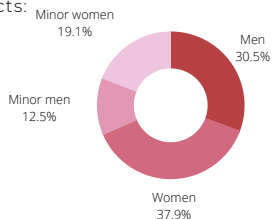
Number of activities  
Number of teachers  
Number of visits  
Total amount of students

12  
8  
750 (+79)  
187 (+20)

Division of students over the different projects:



Number of men/women in the projects:



# GENERAL FINANCES



**We are 100% funded through independent donations**

## Income

Total donations (cash): 7532,06

(+3903,06)

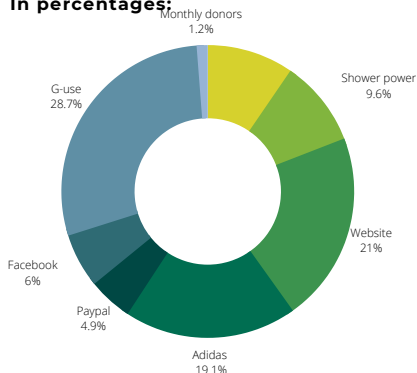
Total donations (income): 14.062,06

(+3903,06)

### Income per category:

- Adidas fund for football Lesvos 1000
- G-use via Guus 1500
- Concert via KONFRONT 500

### In percentages:



### Other forms of support

- 9 pallets of equipment from Green Hill, supported by KONFRONT and Less Talk Athletics

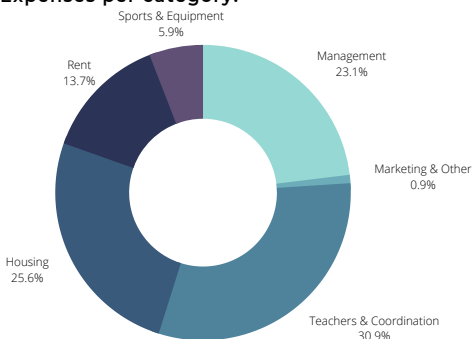
## Expenses

Total expenses: 16.678,64 (+3895,64)

### Expenses per project:

- Lesvos: 5717 (+512)
- Athens: 3077 (+643)
- HSR: 1252,03 (-713,97)
- General: 3228 (+50)

### Expenses per category:



### General Fundraising Update

We are continuously working on fundraising, prioritizing structural support for our core running costs, since that is lacking the most at the moment. Unfortunately we got a no from both Lululemon and the Zivile Seenotrettung, which are both major setbacks. On the other hand we will receive some Choose Love support again starting in July, which is a good start.

### Explanation of Expenses

We are trying to cut back on unnecessary expenses as much as possible, and really stick to only spending for the core costs. A very specific expense has been the teacher and coordinator training this month. This was covered by a special fund from Souter Trust.

# COMMUNITY & OUTREACH

## Publications

Paris 2024 : "En France, tout ce que je veux c'est continuer de courir", rêve Mahmood Alizada, réfugié afghan

*(Paris 2024: "In France, all I want it's to continue running", dreams Mahmood Alizada, Afghan refugee)*

Video published in France Info Sport, Louise Le Borgne, June 29th.

Paris 2024 : depuis le camp de Lesbos, Mahmood Alizada, réfugié afghan, court après son rêve olympique.

*(Paris 2024: from the camp on Lesbos, Mahmood Alizada, Afghan refugee, runs after his Olympic dream.)*

Article in France Info Sport, written by Louise Le Borgne, June 28th.

## Social media

### Facebook (YSR)

Total likes: 3.434 (+20)  
Total followers: 3.706 (+25)  
Total posts: 11 (+1)

### Instagram (YSR)

Total followers: 3.982 (+61)  
Total posts: 20

### Facebook (YSR Athens)

Total likes: 713 (+0)  
Total followers: 51(+0)  
Total posts: 4 (-4)

### Instagram (YSR Athens)

Total followers: 1122 (+20)  
Total posts: 7 (-4)

### Facebook (HSR Ioannina)

Total likes: 37 (+4)  
Total followers: 37 (+2)  
Total posts: 1 (-4)

### Instagram (HSR Ioannina)

Total followers: 831 (+30)  
Total posts: 6 (-4)

## Message from our community

**Yeganeh: Women climbing teacher and community volunteer**

"I am still waiting for the decision of my asylum interview, and for a while I was quite disappointed and depressed, until I went to Habibi and Sport. There are many classes there that I love and I started exercising. It's a lot of fun for me and it gives me energy and good spirits to forget my sorrows."





# UPDATE ON POLICY PRIORITIES



From the 22nd until the 24th of July we had the strategy days with all the coordinators in Athens. It was 3 intense days in which we discussed what happened in the last 6 months and where we want to be by the end of the year. Taking into account the difficult financial situation, we defined the following priorities for the next 6 months:

- 1.Improve the teacher support
- 2.Work on community feeling & inclusion of community
- 3.Assess meaningful participation in our organization
- 4.Review of our safeguarding procedures
- 5.Finalize the impact analysis and create an always up to date dashboard with impact numbers
- 6.Positive advocacy & ambassadors
- 7.A stable financial situation

The strategy days were supported by Coaches Across Continents and we are super thankful for their help and creative input to teach us skills through playing games!





# WITH THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS:



Free  
movement  
skateboarding



MVI



MSF



FENIX



HH4H



KONFRONT



LessTalkAthletics



Spanos



HABIBI



ONE TEAM



VidMob



IPF



Choose Love



Zaporeak



One Happy Family



Indigo



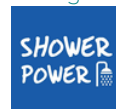
Three Peas



INTERSONS



CAC



ShowerPower



KOIZ



GAME



MWF



SOF



LKTBF



forRefugees  
ForRefugees