

June 2024 **MONTHLY**
REPORT



SITUATION UPDATE

GREECE

On 17 June, the [BBC](#) published an investigation into the Hellenic coastguard's violence and abuse against people on the move. It alleged that between May 2022 and May 2023, 15 incidents took place, resulting in 43 deaths. In some cases, individuals reported being abducted, beaten up and thrown into the sea by Greek authorities. In other cases, individuals explained that they were hunted down by Greek authorities after landing on Greek islands and before they could register as asylum seekers. Others reported that they tried crossing on inflatable rafts without engines, which appeared to be deflating or punctured, and left to drift by the Greek authorities.

On 27 June, Refugee Support Aegean released a report titled the [Greek asylum procedure in figures in 2023](#). This report stated that in 2023, 57,783 initial asylum applications were lodged, mainly on the islands. The report highlighted that the Asylum Service and the RIS registered 64,084 asylum seekers last year, a significant increase from the 2022 total of 37,362 registrations. Regarding inadmissible applications, subsequent applications without new elements are the primary ground for inadmissibility, with 4,254 inadmissibility decisions. Whilst the "safe third country" concept is the second key ground of inadmissibility, with 3,444 inadmissibility decisions, and 95.7% of these are applied to Türkiye.

On June 14, the National Public Health Organisation (EODY), announced that its [emergency health program will be withdrawn from Greek camps at the end of June, one month earlier](#) than initially planned. Meaning that people on the move residing in camps will be without medical services, and approximately 400 medical workers will be jobless.

June 14 also marks the anniversary of the incident that occurred off the coast of Pylos. Human Rights Watch [reports](#) how, after one year, investigations over the responsibility of the Greek coast guard have not yielded great results. Amnesty International pushes on the importance of giving justice to victims' families - we still recall that out of 750 people, only 104 survived the shipwreck. Last month we saw that the Kalamata court dismissed the case against the nine survivors, but Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch were concerned about the fairness of the trial, since the investigations on Hellenic authorities' role are still open.

FRANCE

France has woken up to a dramatic political decision when, after a high score of 30% of the extreme right in the European elections, the president decided to risk everything by opening unprepared elections for the French parliament. A big part of the country and especially those supporting minorities are under massive pressure. The left wing has grouped to resist. Yet people fear to wake up to a country partly lead by the extreme right, opening the doors to the rise of racism and attacks on minorities. The finite answer will only be announced on July 7th.

At the same time, with the preparation of Olympic games, buses are trying to bring displaced people out of the capital and far into the regions, with no decent and long term solutions, in order to preserve the image of Paris. We will continue to fight for the dignity of refugees.

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMUNITY

IFMA SENIOR WORLD MUAY THAI CHAMPIONSHIPS

From the 31st of May until the 10th of June, our two fighters Rahmat from Paris and Akbar from Lesvos and coaches Estelle from Lesvos and Ali from Athens, spent a full week in Patras and took part in a the senior world Muay Thai championships.

Our two fighters Rahmat and Akbar went on the ring with a positive spirit of fair play to show the beauty of Muay Thai!

Ali and Estelle also got the opportunity, thanks to IFMA, to take a Muay Thai coaching course for which they got certified.

The day before the finals all fighters, coaches, staff were taken on an excursion to Olympia, the birth place of the Olympics! What an amazing experience it was to see this historical place and to feel its energy.

On the day of the finals, we witnessed many beautiful matches and felt very hopeful that next time we will also be on the highest podiums.

This event was a great opportunity for all our team to network and to get to know different athletes and coaches from all over the world.



Our team at the competition



Our Team at Olympia

“FOR SO MANY PEOPLE YSR GYM IS THEIR SAFE SPACE WHERE THEY CAN LAUGH, HAVE FUN AND ENGAGE WITH PEOPLE THAT UNDERSTAND THEM.”

When I go to the gym to train, I feel very refreshed. It really changes my mind and inner feeling. That's why I became very interested in training and especially in bouldering and rock climbing.

Yoga and Sport club is where you can help each other. For those who want to learn, they really learn something, they enjoy from the coach advice. That's why it's important to make a good environment and atmosphere in the class, so that my students are always happy. I am also very happy every time I see their improvement, and that they are happier coming to exercise.



Ata
Climbing coach Lesvos

TEAM UPDATES

Welcome to the Team



Sarah
Volunteer Paris

My name is Sarah and I am a volunteer at YSR Paris. I always thought I was not a sports person, until I understood sport is not only about performances but mainly about feeling. I started my sport journey with dance and then I became a Yoga Teacher a year ago.

With YSR, I have the chance to teach Oriental Dance and Yoga. For me, those two activities are a great way to learn to rediscover your body and develop a closer relationship with it. This is my goal in volunteering at YSR, I like sharing my practice and helping others to grow within themselves. We share beautiful and soft moments all together and this is the main aspect I am looking for.

Life is about sharing with others and learning together. Everytime I teach at YSR, I meet incredible people that I help understand and feeling better in their bodies but they also help me and fill my heart with happiness and gratitude. I am very grateful for my experience with YSR and can't wait for everything that is coming !

#STRONGERTOGETHER

PARIS



Coaches:

Amadou
Rahmat
Mahmood
Mohammad Lowal
Mory Kone



Staff:

Lola, Yadullah



Volunteers:

Selen, Tom, Norah,
Francesca, Alice,
Besma, Sarah and
Sarah

ATHENS



Coaches:

David, Ali, Abbas, Sara,
Ruvi, Fabiano,
Hooman, Raffael,
Solene, Ina, Dida,
Dariush, Malamati



Staff:

Malamati, Delphine,
Ali, Charlotte, Solene,
Mathilde, Harry,
Maria, Violaine,
Mathilde, Lisa



Volunteers:

Marika, Tamara, Ahmad,
Iman, Dlveen, Noemie,
Mathilde, John, Eoin,
Katerina, David, Penelope,
Haseer, Patrick, Jeronimo

LESVOS



Coaches:

Ali, John, Safdar, Zahra,
Akbar, Atta, Aziz, Arian,
Abebe, Alice, Estelle,
Becky, Elliot, Claire



Staff:

Katerina, Renia, James,
Estelle, Laila



Volunteers:

Norman, Manon, Louiza
Serena, Bes, Elliot, Dave,
Mason, Dana, Sylvester,
Clara, Barbara, Kate,
Lisa, Aude, Rachel, Kim,
Alice, Margot, Rainer ,
Michael, Julianna,
Osman, Maïke

IOANNINA



Coaches:

Zahra, Paiman,
Rabi, Sadejeh,
Jamshid, Mahdi



Staff:

Irene, Svenja



Volunteers:

Dowa, Fatima,
Madeleine, Circe,
Mina, Diana

PARIS

In Paris, the upcoming Olympics can be felt, as the city is dressing in Olympic colors and police presence is increasing. In front of the town hall, there are Olympic promotion events, but also homeless families protesting, as they are in dire need of shelters. The contrast is eerie. With the upcoming elections, and the rise of extreme right, fear is growing within society. Many organisations have already declared, that they will not put into place potential new harmful policies.

In the project

We are happy we were able to start our Yoga sessions at the minor girl shelter Utopia 56, given by our "softness and flexibility" volunteer coach Alice. It gives the girls a chance to be present and enjoy a moment fully to themselves. To breathe and for a brief moment, get their minds off the difficulties connected to being a woman in exile. This month, the girls had an extra opportunity to enjoy themselves, as Sarah offered a dance class.

In mid-June, we participated in the Reillefugies Festival organised by our partner La Fourmiliere. We spent a full day of sport fueled by endorphins as our coach Rahmat did boxing, we had a Yoga class with Besma and got moving with Ismail as he taught us west African dance.

On World Refugee Day, we joined hands with other organisations in La Cité Fertile, where organisations could meet and people could find much needed services. It felt good to see shared solidarity in action.

On another note we joined a 5k race with Parisian runners and our partners MMSports. Our running coach Mahmood supported us through the race with his good vibes!

Our boxing and running coach are in the South of France for two weeks, with a project named Yama, where they take part in workshops about the environment, solidarity and interculturality and also teach sport classes daily.

We joined the Swim For Good in Paris and swam 12,025km with a team of 15 swimmers in 2h45. Raising awareness about the crossing of asylum seekers. With a team of professional, amateur and beginner swimmers, we accomplished the distance as a team, knowing that we are always Stronger Together!



6 SPORTS

6 Coaches

2 Coordinators

8 Volunteers

ATHENS



In June in Athens, we experienced the first intense heatwave. On June 14, a massive memorial march for the Pylos shipwreck took place, which unfortunately was once again attacked by the police. On June 15, the Athens Pride took place with massive participation. Due to the unprecedentedly high temperatures in June, there were many fires within Attica. A very hot summer is forecasted, and Greece will be in a constant state of emergency due to potential wildfires.

In the project

June in Athens was busy with excitement and events for our team! We kicked off the month with our annual YSR Olympic games at the beach, where around 70 participants competed in teams in volleyball, footvolley, beach tennis, and tug of war. It was a day filled with fun and community.

We bid farewell to our running and HIT coach Dhia, but we happily welcomed Dida and Ina, who joined us as hip hop coaches. Abbas, our Parkour coach, introduced a new Taekwondo class, which was enthusiastically received by our students.

In terms of events, we took part in the Refugee Week Greece event alongside twelve other organizations, where we offered boxing and parkour, which drew a large turnout and received much positive feedback.

Following the success of the YSR Olympics, we continued organizing beach gatherings and tournaments, such as weekly beachvolley and footvolley tournaments at Edem beach, coordinated by our intern Harry. Edem beach was also the venue for our Swim For Good event, where 11 brave swimmers undertook a 12km relay challenge, contributing to a meaningful cause.

Furthermore, we participated in educational workshops, including one hosted by the Olympic Truce Committee on Inclusion Activism in Sports, attended by twelve of our students, and another conducted by IRC on Equity and Inclusion attended by our volunteers and coaches.

On a lighter note, we're pleased to announce the installation of a new door for our gym's restroom, a small but significant improvement for our space.

June was certainly a month filled with accomplishments, growth, and community spirit for our team in Athens!



Swim For Good



Muay Thai in the park



Refugee Week Greece

11 SPORTS

13 Coaches

3 Coordinators

23 Volunteers

LESVOS

The population of the camp has decreased to less than 2,000 on Lesbos, mainly due to the high number of transfers of the people to the camps in mainland Greece. With the heat rising and the summer fully present, there are also more tourists on the Island. However, for our students living in the camp, the temperature increase results in lower attendance, especially during mid-day hours.

In the project

In June we held two community building events with full attendance. We organized a cultural dinner, where everyone brought a dish from their country that we communally shared as a picnic by the sea, and we planned an energetic basketball night with our passionate players.

Furthermore, every Wednesday, we started a social night outside of the Klubu clubhouse, where our community can relax and connect over board games and soda. Our coaches also took an opportunity to grow closer as a team as they spend a day on Eressos to swim, play games and enjoy time together.

However, we kept busy as we organized a race for the World Refugee Day, in collaboration with the UNHCR and many other organisations. With over 150 participants ranging from locals, to asylum seekers, refugees and tourists, the day was a big success. The day ended with a concert in the center of Mytilene, enabling us to stand in solidarity and raise positive awareness about the situation for displaced people in Greece.

Moving on to more events, our ambassador Alice visited us on Lesbos teaching women's only and mixed Yoga classes for two weeks. Her classes were very popular and at the end of her stay we took the opportunity to hand out Yoga certificates to our students and come together for a goodbye party for our beloved climbing coach Atta.

Of course, Alice took a splash with us and participated in the Swim For Good on Lesbos, as one of the 54 swimmers. We were honored to swim the 12km alongside Yusra Mardini and her swim coach Sven Spannekrebs. We are especially proud of the students who joined after just recently reconnecting with water and learning how to swim in our fantastic swimming classes.

Lastly, our on the ground team stayed educated with a legal training provided by Phoenix legal aid about Asylum procedures, and one about push-backs and border violence.



Running event for the refugee week



Basketball team-building event



Atta's goodbye party

13 SPORTS

14 Coaches

3 Coordinators

24 Volunteers

IOANNINA



People from our community living in the camps reported, that after 6 months, camp residents no longer received monetary support on their cash cards, regardless of their positive or negative decision. They also shared stories, that they were no longer allowed to have guests in the camp. These reports from individuals worry us, as they signal hardened restrictions, further isolating our community.

In the project

As expected, the summer heatwaves brought with them a drop in attendances. With an aim of ensuring the accessibility of our sports, we changed the hours of many activities. Now we run activities such as Women's Fitness and Volleyball during the early mornings and late into the evenings, avoiding the peak heat of the day. We are further trialing indoor Volleyball in the city, which have proven highly popular.

We are thrilled to see many use our bodybuilding gym (Linda) regardless of the hot weather. Throughout the day, there's a constant buzz of music at Linda and team members hear chatting and laughter emerging from the space.

Once again we had to bid farewell to an amazing team member. This month we said goodbye to dynamic Diana. We are truly grateful for her work in introduce the Women's Fitness classes. Yet we are happy to announce our new women's coach Sajedah to the team, who now daily runs the 7am classes. Additionally, we held our first Women's Fitness Breakfast, which was a great success.

Our team is growing as we welcomed Drake as a Mixed Fitness Coach and a new volunteer. Further, we are thrilled that to our Volleyball Coach Zahra has been promoted to a Senior Coach.

We are eager to see the feedback from Laila, our M&E Manager, after she visited us at HSR and concluded surveys with our community.

As always we gave our best to plan special events and organized a Sport's Movie Night, where we watched 14 Peaks. We also got together as a team to enjoy an ice cream and games of billiard together. Overall, despite the heat, we find ways to keep doing sports and events together!



Movie Night in the gym



Daily early bird Women's Fitness at 7 AM



Volleyball Tournament in the city

8 SPORTS

6 Coaches

2 Coordinators

6 Volunteers

THE PROJECT IN NUMBERS

Indicator of the month: % YES on "Feel safe in the gym"

Target	Target	Achieved
Lesvos	95%	95%
Athens	95%	86%
Ioannina	95%	96%

This month, we introduced a new layout, showcasing our data differently and highlighting our progress and achievements. One key addition is the "Indicator of the Month", which is based on surveys conducted this month across all Greek locations. For June, the indicator is the percentage of students who answered to feel safe in the gym. Our target for the year is to have at least 95% of our students feel safe in the gym. In Lesvos and Ioannina, we achieved the target, while Athens has not achieved the target yet.

Further, we added a section on the favorite sport by location. A special mention this month goes to the swim classes on Lesvos, which are gaining popularity fast, with 112 Participants in June.

of registered Visits

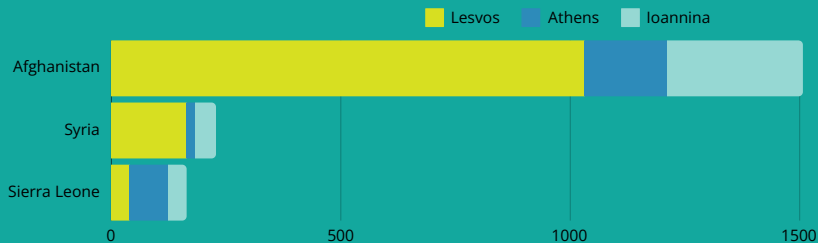
(deviation to previous month)

TOTAL	3.261 (-618)
Lesvos	1.486 (-238)
Athens	1.399 (+62)
Ioannina	376 (-442)

attendance of most popular sports per location

total number of visits per sport

Lesvos	Athens	Ioannina
Bodybuilding: 698	Bodybuilding: 1326	Volleyball: 167
Football: 193	Boxing: 134	Women Fitness: 93
Boxing: 124	Kickboxing/Muay Thai/ MMA: 77	Climbing: 65



% Adults

% Minors

% Male

% Female

Average	85%	15%
Lesvos	93%	7%
Athens	80%	20%
Ioannina	81%	19%

Average	73%	26%
Lesvos	88%	12%
Athens	88%	9%
Ioannina	42%	58%

GENERAL FINANCES

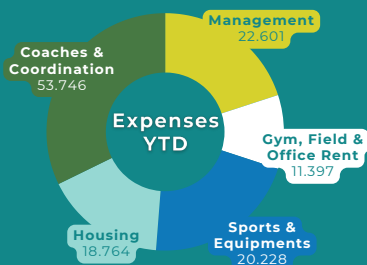
General Explanation of expenses

As mention in May's monthly report, we had two important events at the beginning of June: our internal strategy days and the Senior World Muay Thai Championship, both had expenses falling into June.

In Greece the sun is shining and all of our teams have been making the most of the pleasant mornings and warm evenings. In Ioannina they have been enjoying many women events, from breakfasts to picnics; in Athens they also attended a picnic for Refugee Week where we offered snack and beverage to those who joined us

The renovation in Athens is still underway and this month we bought new boxing and parkour equipment.

TOTAL	27.176 (+5.695)
General	10.558 (-2.772)
Lesvos	5.818 (+2.034)
Athens	5.848 (+1.711)
Ioannina	2.929 (+723)
Paris	2.023 (-1-545)



General Fundraising updates

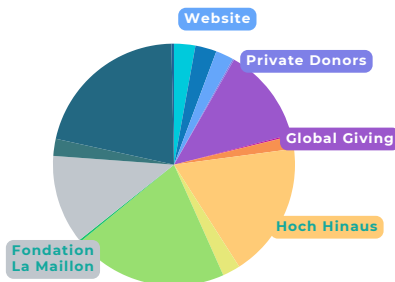
We are 100% funded through independent donations.

The month we are incredibly grateful to ON Running Inc. who donated \$25.000 to support with operating costs. Thank you!

At the weekend we held our Swim for Good event, which has raised over €5.000 so far. Thank you to everyone who has already donated and if you haven't yet, please consider donating on July 10th, **July Bonus Day**, as all donations maybe via GlobalGiving are match funded until funds run out!

We also want to thank the undergraduate students at St John's College who donated 3,600€.

Total donations received for June



MEDIA & EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION

CHECK OUT THE NEW YSR MERCHANDISE...

To celebrate our Swim for Good 2024 campaign success, we are excited to launch our new YSR **exclusive merchandise**. Check out the (1) super cool YSR embroidered baseball cap, (2) YSR beach towel and (3) colourful YSR one-piece women's swimsuit! Jump to our site and get your limited edition Merch!



Purchase your own exclusive merchandise [here!](#) (or look for the [SHOP](#) button on the website)

Instagram

Global	987 (+79)
Lesvos	5.341(+122)
Athens	2.331 (+34)
Ioannina	1.302 (+16)
Paris	857 (+35)

Facebook

Lesvos	3.834(+9)
Athens	997 (+6)
Ioannina	75 (-1)
France	5 (-)

Global Platforms

TikTok	1.558(-10)
LinkedIn	828(+84)
YouTube	52 (-)

SWIM FOR GOOD

IMPACT

The Swim For Good is a solidarity swim of 12km, representing the distance between Türkiye and Lesvos. This year we were thrilled to have **four Olympians** (Yusra Mardini, Sabine Hazboun, Jamie Yeung and Anne-Sophie Thilo) jump in the water with us, as well as **Bordeaux Break Borders, Copenwater.DK** and the **Yusra Mardini Foundation** support the cause.

We were ecstatic to have the chance to swim alongside Yusra Mardini and her trainer Sven Spannekrebs on Lesvos. We swam a total of **84km, in 7 locations and with over 110 swimmers!**



The Swim For Good raises awareness about the mentally and physically tough as well as dangerous journey in the Mediterranean.

In 2024, over 13.000 people landed on Lesvos coming from Türkiye. Yet 354 boats have been pushed back on that same route.



WITH THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS



HABIBI.WORKS



Zaporeak



COMMON GOAL



Game



#LeaveNoOneBehind