

CONCEPT NOTE

A project to support migrants passing through Kos Island, Greece

1. Title of the project : Support to the local mobilisation for refugees passing through the island of Kos.

2. The organisation carrying the project:

AMEL France is an association created in 2015 under the law of 1901. It emanates from the associative movement carried by Dr Kamel Mohanna and Amel association International (an NGO created in Lebanon in 1979).

AMEL France is a civil and medical organization aiming to support and reinforce the civil society with the aim to claim/assert the rights and needs of the population touched/affected by a crisis. For AMEL France, the importance of the role given to the civil society is primordial/paramount and is at the heart of each of its undertakings. Its engagement remains true to Amel Association International's principles: non-profit, non-confessional, and complying with the humanitarian principles of impartiality, neutrality, humanity, independence and unity.

The activities of the association pursue the following goals:

- To promote the social, economic, civic, and cultural rights of all;
- To enable the equal access for all to quality services (health, education, etc.) by implementing programmes supporting associative and humanitarian initiatives.

Programmes implemented by AMEL France promote a continuous action between emergency and development logics /aim to a sound evolution from a logic of emergency to a logic of development while working with and for the populations. This implies a close cooperation between the associations/actors of the civil society and the media of countries of the South/southern countries.

3. Context and justification:

During the year 2015, the number of migrants crossing the Mediterranean sea has exploded/increased as a consequence of the war in Syria, and the political and security context of some countries (Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia, and Eritrea). Moreover, fluxes have been reoriented towards Greece to the detriment of Italy. Owing to the war in Syria, the political and security context in countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Somalia and Eritrea, the year 2015 has seen the number of migrants crossing the Mediterranean sea increased.

This situation has result (ed) in an unprecedented migration crisis that is unfolding in the Hellenic Republic (that is) already facing an important economic crisis.

In 2015, of the 715.704 people that have crossed the Mediterranean sea, 60% are Syrians, 24% are Afghans, and 8% are Iraqis. Most of them passed/transited through the island of Lesbos (417.383

arrivals), followed by the islands of Chios (91.993 arrivals), Samos (87.768 arrivals) and Kos (54.010 arrivals).

This situation is bound to continue as armed conflicts are lasting. According to different sources (MSF, IRSNK), between 1 and 2 million people are waiting to cross the Mediterranean sea.

AMEL France has decided to lead/carry out an exploratory mission in the Dodecanese islands after the stay of Guy Causset (doctor and member of the administrative council of Amel France) in August 2015 on the island of Kos, an island that has been witnessing a massive influx of refugees. According to the UNHCR reports, the number of arrivals has varied/varies between 5.000 and 50.000 between January and the end of October 2015.

Hence, a first contact was established with Kos Solidarity, an association arose from a civic movement created in mars 2015 to help refugees.

This young association is composed of an administrative council of 7 people and relies on a large network of local and foreign volunteers. It also benefits from a partnership with a German association "Flying Help" that is providing them with human and material supports.

The exploratory mission was conducted by Charlotte DOMERGUE (nurse) and Marie-Justine DELMAS (coordinator) from October 8 to November 2015.

A summary of the exploratory mission was realised, allowing the analysis of the context into which this initiative takes place and the identification of the needs, the present actors, the existing actions and the challenges to take up. The results of this mission have led to potential opportunities of action and to the elaboration of a project proposal, in a will to favour and prioritise the initiatives of the local civil society.

Despite the presence of several actors on the islands non-covered needs remain important/numerous. In a fluctuating context, supporting an existing association that is bound to remain/continue its activities on the island seems to be a stable approach. The action of AMEL France is thus oriented towards the support of Kos Solidarity, taking into account the existing links, and the will of AMEL France to position itself as a support to the local mobilisation.

- The actors of the international solidarity present on the island of Kos :

Organisations	Missions
UNHCR	Protection, information, distribution of covers and wheelchairs, mats and PAM biscuits. Coordination of the associations and training of the volunteers.
IOM	Follow-up of migration movements, of people missing and dead at sea, provision of water to Kos Solidarity, assistance in voluntary return, and organisation of night patrols to welcome refugees.
MSF	Primary health care, psychological support, and distribution of hygiene kits, tents and sleeping bags.
HELLENIC RED CROSS	Distribution of hygiene kits
GLOBAL MEDIC	Distribution of hygiene kits.
KOS SOLIDARITY	Distribution of meals (breakfast, lunch and dinner), preparation of sandwiches, distribution of shoes, clothes and backpacks at ferry departures. Welcoming of refugees at night, distribution of bottles of water and PAM

	biscuits, clothes and shoes, and referral for housing.
PRAKSIS	Protection of unaccompanied minors: housing and transfers to Athens. Primary health care services to all.
FLYING HELP	Support to Kos Solidarity through the weekly sending of volunteers and the donations of equipment (a van and a car).
APOSTOLI MKO	Missions changing according to the needs of the local associations.
METACTION	Translation in partnership with the UNHCR.
MERCY CORPS	Distribution of warm meals everyday at 8pm, housing project in partnership with UNHCR undergoing. Installation of an internet connection and a website dedicated to accompany refugees and help them to find food and housing. A cash assistance project is in the course of finalisation.
KOS REFUGEES NEED YOUR HELP	Meals distribution everyday at 1.30pm.
BOAT REFUGEE FONDATION	Distribution of fruits and water twice a day. Association gone since January. Their actions is undergoing on the island of Leros.
OSCAR	Housing of refugees in hotels through a prepaid system, and participation to the distribution of meal organised by Mercy Corp.
CHAINE DE L'ESPOIR	
KOS KINDNESS	Distribution of clothes, shoes, hygiene products, and sleeping bags in the hotels, and animation for children.

- Needs identified in collaboration with Kos Solidarity:

Needs concerning the internal functioning of the association:

- Human resources -> a large network of volunteers (locals and foreigners) are contributing to the activities but there is a rapid and systematic turn-over. Address training and supervision of the volunteers to improve their know-how and attitudes/
- The general management of the organisation -> specific knowledge on the functioning of an association needs to be enhanced/reinforced (logistics, administration, coordination, communication, etc.) which impacts the good implementation of activities.

The fragile management in the association has also an impact on the coordination of its activities with the other actors present on the island of Kos (ex. The regular request of the UNHCR on the state of the stocks, and the management of orders and purchases are not effective in Kos Solidarity).

Moreover, during the night shifts, the referral of vulnerable people for a specific accompaniment is still difficult (medical emergencies such as hypothermia and heart attacks cases are still not being identified/need to be identified).

Needs concerning the welcoming system of refugees:

- During the night shifts -> some shifts are not being covered by any medical actor;
- Volunteers' skills -> volunteers present at the welcoming points do not necessarily have medical qualifications or adapted knowledge for the identification of vulnerable people.

Other needs have been observed:

- The information system for refugees need to be readapted as it seems that refugees are little or not informed on the presence of humanitarian actors and services available despite a posting system put into place by NGOs.
- Paediatric care is not effective. The number of available paediatrician is low or inexistent despite a high number of sick children.

Within the framework of this first project on the Greek islands, Amel France has decided to focus on the needs of Kos Solidarity in terms of reinforcing its general functioning and improving the welcoming of refugees through the night shifts.

4. Objectives of the project :

General objective :

To support local actions helping refugees passing through the island of Kos.

Specific objectives:

To reinforce Kos Solidarity's functioning capacities in order to optimize the implemented actions;

To bring medico-social skills to improve the welcoming system of refugees.

5. Expected results:

1. The functioning and the management of the association have improved;
2. The association's members have been trained and have knowledge and experience in medico-social welcoming;
3. A medical team is put into place and operational for the night shifts.

6. Strategy:

The strategy should allow the capacity building of the local partner organization – Kos Solidarity – through two main axis enabling the development of both the association's autonomy and structural and technical skills.

Axe 1 : functioning of the organization

To structure the life of the association and reinforce the skills of its members through:

- ▶ Training units for several members of Kos Solidarity, that will bring basic skills in the following domains:
 - Administration and logistics: stock management, control of the inventory, the use of follow-up and evaluation tools, fundraising and writing of institutional subsidy requests, budget management, and activity report writing.
 - Human resources: management of volunteers, establishment of a code of ethics, creation of an organizational chart, and partition of tasks.
 - Internal and external communication: definition of a communication strategy, creation of internal communication procedures between volunteers and Kos Solidarity members.
 - Internal and external communication: the use of tools for internal coordination, the guarantee of the role of Kos Solidarity and its representation within the humanitarian response on the island.

- ▶ The specific training of an identified person for the occupation/position of an admin-log position within Kos Solidarity (with the financial support of Amel France during 9 months, 3 months allowances and 6 months salary, and in order to prepare for the self-financing of the job).
- ⇒ Means to be used: and admin-log trainer mandated by Amel France for the facilitation of the collective training units and the specific training of the admin-log; the financial support to the creation of and admin-log position.

Axe 2 : medico-social aid

To bring basic medical knowledge and skills through training units and the setting up of a medico-social team:

- ▶ Training of Kos Solidarity members to first aid techniques, referral methods, and intercultural communication.
- ▶ The setting up of a mobile medico-social team during the night shifts and identification of vulnerable people (with referral protocols and follow-up, orientation and information tools for refugees).
- ⇒ Means to be used: the recruitment and financing of a medico-social team composed of two nurses and two cultural mediators for 11 months (with the idea of the self-financing of these positions after a year); training units provided by the medico-social team.

This project intends to be flexible in case of emergency on the islands surrounding Kos. Amel France commits itself to put into place in a transversal manner a lookout system of the humanitarian situation in the Dodecanese islands in order to mobilize, if needed and in a punctual way, a team in support to the other actors present on the other islands.

7. Beneficiaries

-Direct beneficiaries:

- Kos Solidarity's members and volunteers.

-Indirect beneficiaries:

- Kos Solidarity's beneficiaries, i. E. the refugees passing through the island of Kos.

-Other potential beneficiaries:

- The other actors present on Kos and wishing to participate to the training units provided by the medico-social team.
- The other actors present on the surrounding islands and in case of emergency and/or specific requests (Axe 1 and Axe 2).

8. Project duration

Total duration of the project : 12 months.

Intervention of an admin-log trainer: 6 months.

Financing of the admin-log position: 9 months (allowances 3 months and salary 6 months)

Intervention of the medico-social team: 11 months.

9. Provisional budget

€ 145 000

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