



Youth Empowerment and Self-reliance Program 18 - 23
IRC Athens - Thessaloniki



Our aim:

to empower young adults to cultivate the necessary competencies for a successful transition to adulthood, setting the basis for their social empowerment and economic self-reliance and preventing marginalization, exploitation and homelessness

Target group

- Youth and unaccompanied children who reached adulthood*, aged between **18 – 23 years old** with a **refugee or asylum seeker status**, regardless of gender and country of origin.

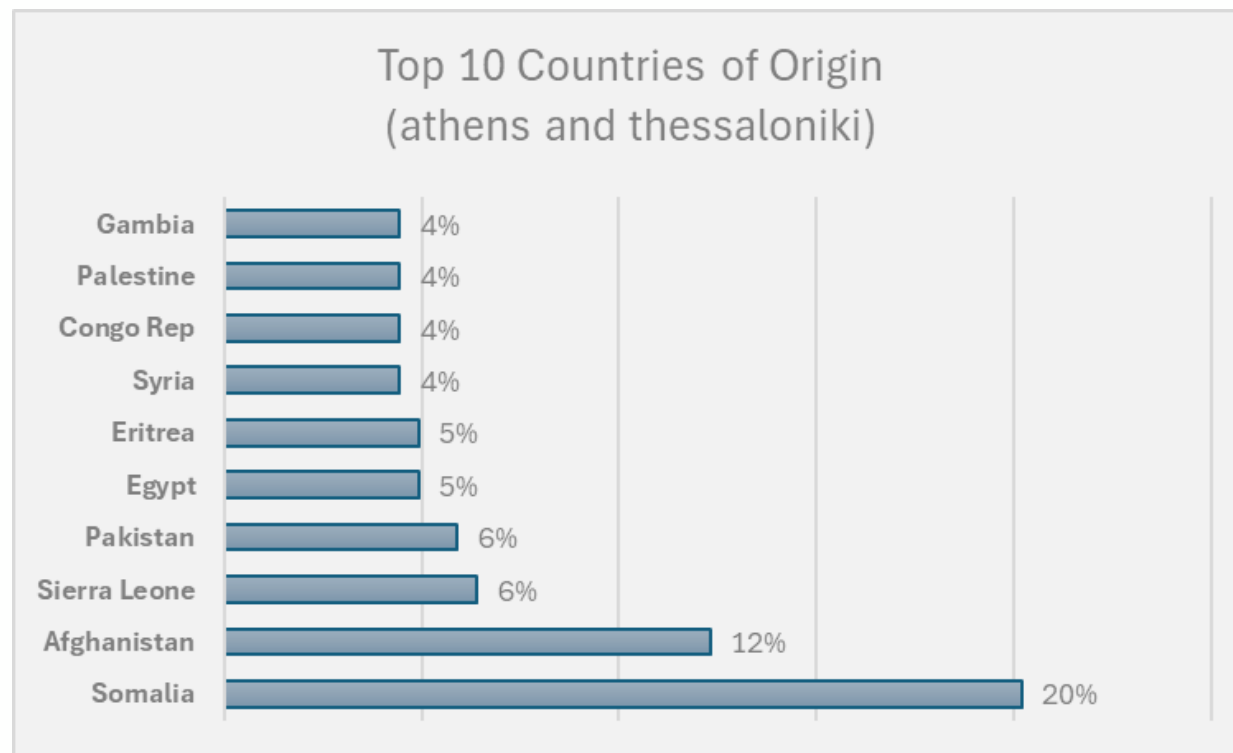
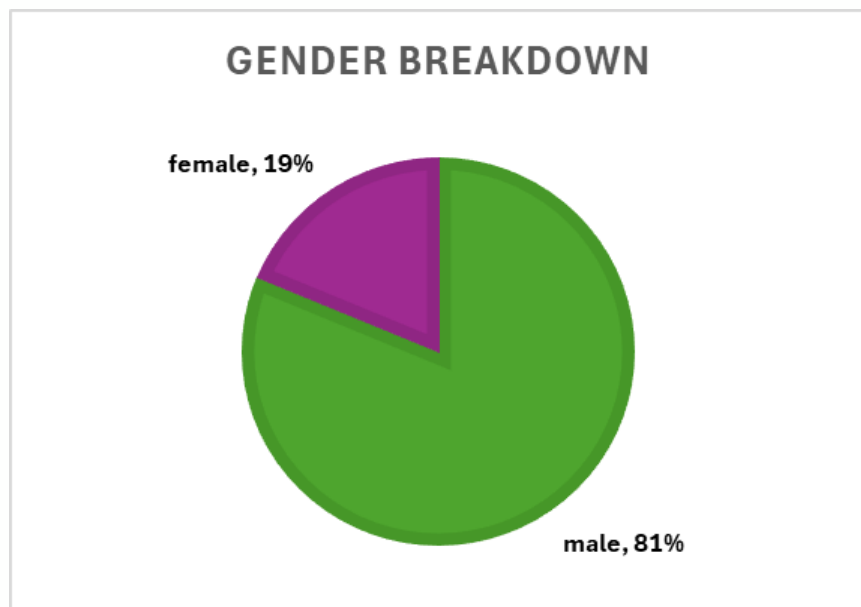
*young adults **in the broader area of Athens and Thessaloniki** who are **self-accommodated**, are **homeless** or **live in precarious conditions**, as well as those **residing in shelters** for unaccompanied children, **Supported Independent Living apartments**, **emergency accommodation shelters**, and **other types of facilities**.

One program, two locations

- Athens program initiated in January 2023 and is located in **Kypseli Center**, part of IRC Livelihoods
- Thessaloniki program commenced in August 2023 and is hosted at the Migrant Integration Center of the Municipality of Thessaloniki (**KEM**).

Data overview

203 unique clients 18-23 yo benefitted from the IRC - UNHCR project



- 20 people with disabilities
- 18 in precarious living conditions (guest at friend, temporary guest, homeless)

Intervention Axes



Psychosocial support

- ✓ One on One sessions with a Social Worker
- ✓ Referrals to services as needed (legal, medical, psychological needs, basic needs, support with Greek bureaucracy etc.)
- ✓ Psychoeducation sessions
- ✓ Accompaniments as needed

Psychoeducation sessions and protection trainings: stress and conflict management, info sessions on health-related topics (HIV, STDs), human trafficking, etc.

Greek language lessons (Athens)

- ✓ **12 weeks of intensive Greek language lessons** focusing on everyday communication, work Greek public services related vocabulary
- ✓ Identification of **educational pathways** and opportunities in **formal** and **non-formal** education systems (enrolment to the second chance school or DYPA's vocational school, registration to other language and/or digital literacy courses and support with applying for scholarships in tertiary education etc).



95 people enrolled in Greek classes in Athens

Support in navigating the housing market

- ✓ Adaptation of existing available resources
- ✓ Group housing support sessions (steps for house search, tenants' rights etc.)
- ✓ Individual sessions as needed
- ✓ Establishment of peer support
- ✓ Referrals to existing accommodation schemes, when available

➤ We aim to explore, **propose** and **advocate** for more sustainable housing solutions, always in collaboration with the relevant national authorities.

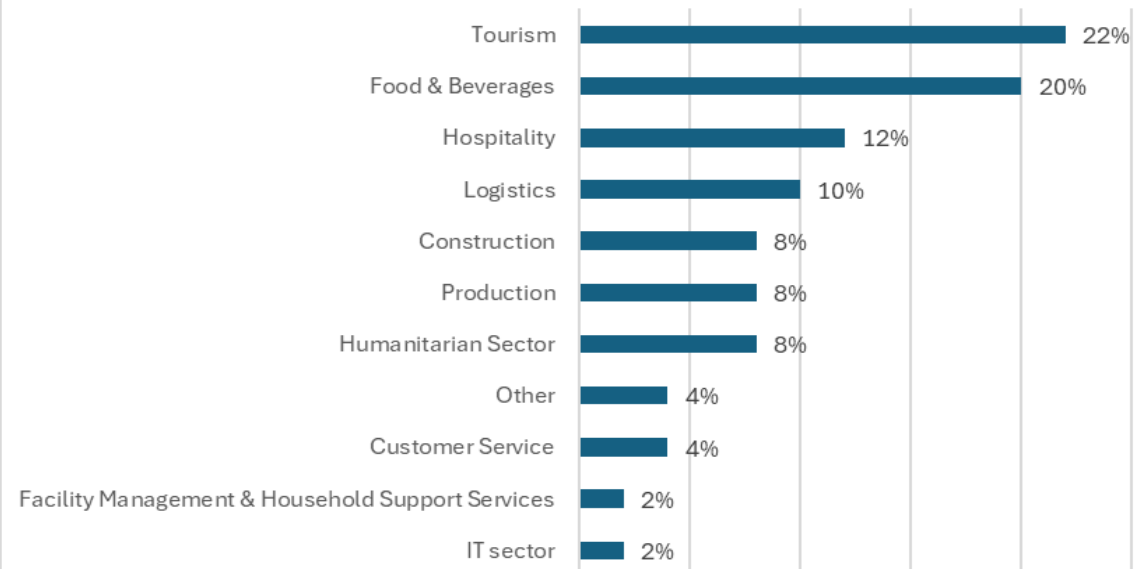
- 45 people attended at least one housing info session

Job counseling

- ✓ One-on-one job counselling sessions (action plan, job readiness assessment, cv creation, interview preparation, support with bureaucratic procedures, etc.)
- ✓ Job Readiness Trainings (labor rights, financial education, work culture in Greece etc.)
- ✓ Job placement (through IRC's employers' network, Adama platform, other job finding platforms, Job Fairs, etc.)

- **169** people have attended at least one group or individual employability session
- **39** people found **formal job** during or post program exit
- **32** people found **non-formal job** during or post program exit
- **8** people were enrolled in Adama platform
- **3 companies** from IRC network were added in Adama platform

Employment Sectors in formal employment



Job counseling - Best Practices

- ✓ Networking with collaborative companies
- ✓ Participation in Job fairs
- ✓ Remote support
- ✓ Undocumented employment risks: Raising awareness
- ✓ Access to educational opportunities (formal & non-formal)



New holistic integration and empowerment program for youth:

- 18-23 years old
- recognized refugees &
- asylum seekers

Priority will be given to unaccompanied minors reaching adulthood



Services:

- Greek language lessons
- Psychosocial support and referrals to health and legal services
- Job counseling, CV creation and connection with potential employers
- Guidance on house search and leasing procedures

Supported languages:

- English
- French
- Farsi
- Arabic
- Ukrainian
- Somali

Limited spots available



Scan here to apply



For more information:

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Thank you!

