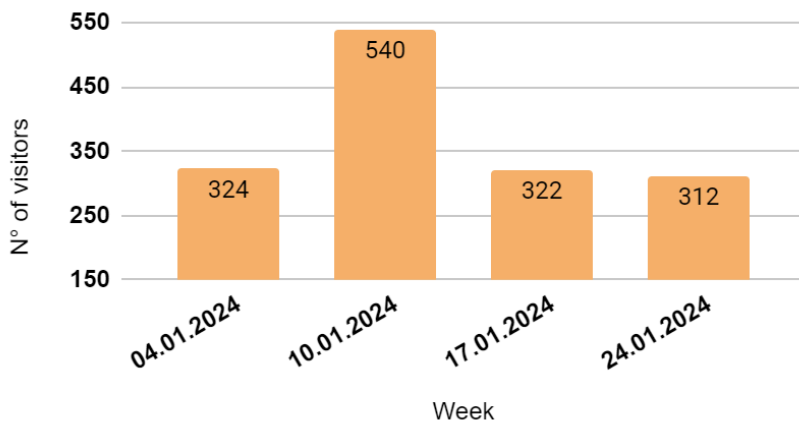


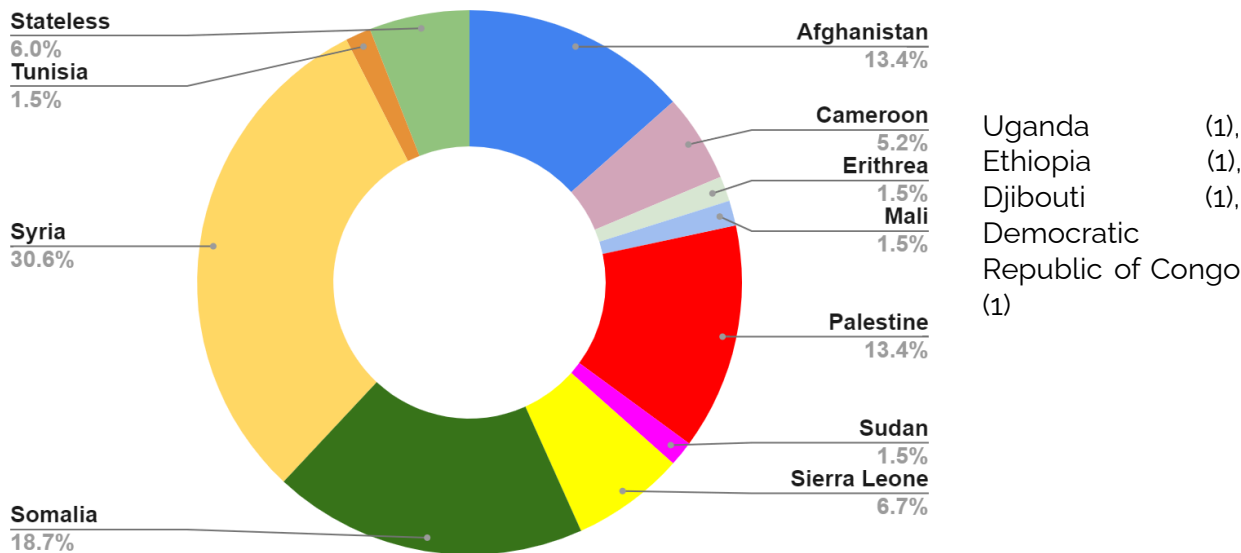
JANUARY 2024 REPORT

Number of visitors in January

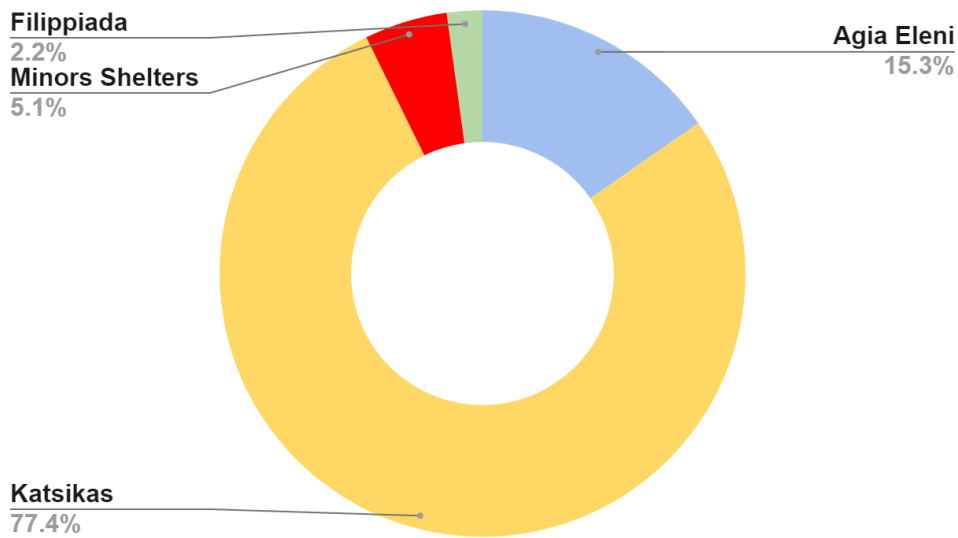


New registrations in January

The 138 new participants registered at the Community Centre are from:

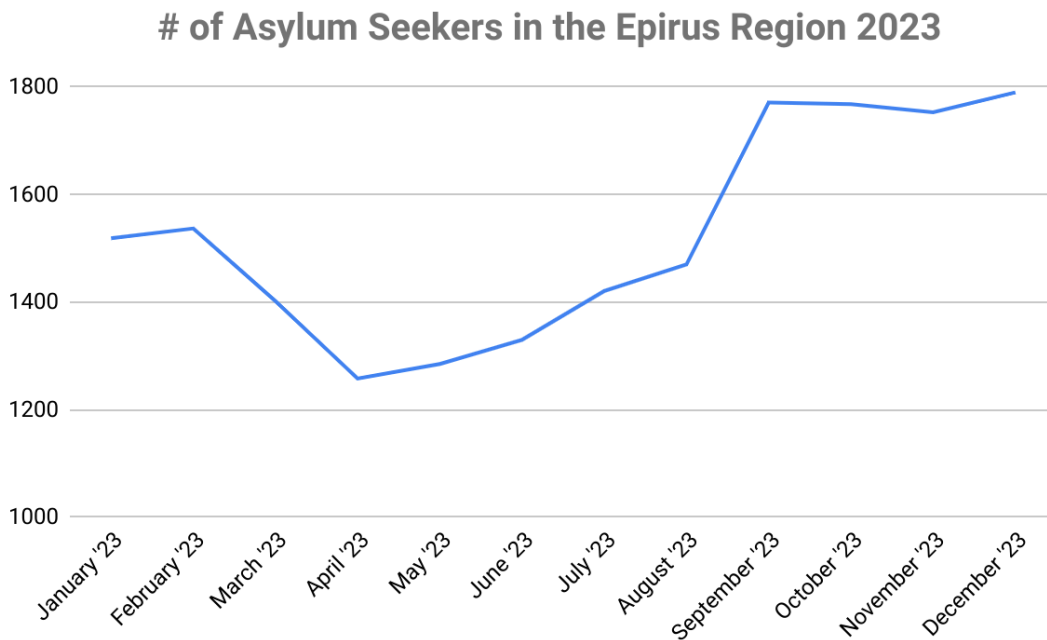


The 138 new registered are currently residing:



Detailed information & context on mentioned refugee camps can be found below.

The number of POM in the Epirus region:



Number of asylum seekers in the Epirus region in the last 12 months. N.B. These figures only include people in the asylum process, and not recognised refugees, or undocumented people. Source [MAM](#)

Update on services & events

★ Diapers distribution



Be Aware And Share started cooperating with Carry The Future (CtF) in 2022. After communicating the numbers of pieces and sizes needed, CtF redirects the order to a local company - Oikon Diapers -, who deliver to the Centre. This January, a new grant agreement was signed with CtF for the year 2024. This grant allows us to support approximately 65 babies on a weekly basis. The need for diapers is very high and keeps on increasing as the number of new registered participants at the Centre including children (0-3 years old) remains high.

★ The Free Clothes Shop



January was a very busy month in the Free Clothes Shop. 757 participants visited the Clothes shop to choose their 4 monthly items. We received three big deliveries in the middle of December from Attika warehouse, IHA and from REFY & Sonnenhaus from Switzerland. The shop was then fully restocked with winter clothing.



★ The Community Kitchen

Halimah, our newest community volunteer, started with us this month. She has taken on a lot of responsibility in the Community Kitchen, organising and cooking delicious meals four days per week!



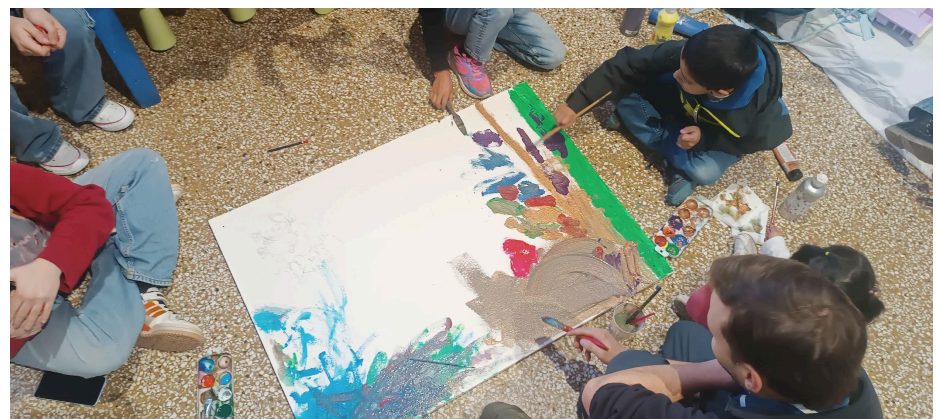
★ Education

After the holidays break, the English classes resumed at the Community Centre with teacher Nikos, twice a week for different levels of English. This month we had more requests for Greek classes. Nikos plans to start a Greek beginners class in February.

★ Kids space

The kids room is a very busy area with 20 children of all ages on average everyday. Board games, paint, instruments and different crafts material are available in this room.

The scouts of Ioannina have a "Wall of Kindness" project ("Τοίχο Καλοσύνης"), in which they will place colourful wooden boards all over the city, where people can leave essential items for others to take. Together with the children, some of the scout members painted one of these boards at the Centre.



Context & new development

- *Positive New Three-Year Residency Permit Law*

A new law passed in December 2023 means that if people can prove they have lived in Greece for three or more years before 30 November 2023, without a residency permit can now apply for a three year residency permit.

The system is not yet online, but is expected to be operational by the end of March. People will need to have a job offer declaration from an employer in order to qualify for this scheme. This law will apply until the end of 2024 ¹

- *Asylum Seekers can now legally work 60 days after applying for asylum*

Asylum seekers are now eligible to legally work in Greece 60 days after registering their asylum claim. Previously it was only possible for asylum seekers to legally work 6 months after they made their initial asylum claim. ²

- *New developments in Agia Eleni camp*

Around Agia Eleni camp, an approximately three metre high concrete wall is nearing completion. This is the same 'prison-like' design as already completed around Katsikas camp, pictured below and other camps throughout Greece. There will also be enhanced security including turnstiles at the entrance of Agia Eleni.

¹Source Mobile Info Team <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=774553184716440&set=a.482609677244127>

² Source Mobile Info Team <https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=783263847178707&set=a.482609677244127>



- Camps population

Location	Population ³	Capacity ⁴	Distance from the Community Centre	Type of accommodation
Katsikas LTAS	Approx 1000	1152 + 72	10 km	Iso-boxes (containers & two previously existing Rubhalls + one new Rubhall)
Agia Eleni LTAS	Approx 450 (according to participants)	462	4 km	Buildings, with most of the basic amenities (toilets and showers) in communal spaces.
Filippiada LTAS	Approx 400 according to participants	737	60 km	Iso-boxes (containers)

³ Figures estimates from end of September 2023

⁴ All figures from IOM (March 2022)

- Filippiada shuttle service

The MMA were providing a fixed scheduled bus service to Ioannina on Tuesday and Friday mornings, for people to attend asylum and hospital appointments, for most of this quarter. We were informed in late November that the bus service was to be paused for a few weeks. Yet in January, the bus service was still not running in January. People had to purchase their own ticket, costing about 13.20€ per person for a round trip to Ioannina.

Recommended reading:

- Border Violence Monitoring Network report on violence against asylum seekers within Greece's borders [Violence Within State Borders: Greece - BVMN](#)
- Fenix Legal Aid report on [Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking of Forcibly Displaced Persons in Greece and Türkiye](#)

Team Update

★ Coordination Team

There are now four coordinators in Ioannina, two project co-coordinators and two project & fundraising co-coordinators. Ulysse Gallardo, from France, joined us in Ioannina on 22. January as one of our project & fundraising co-coordinators. He has been a great addition to the team, welcome Ulysse!



★ Volunteer team

We had quite a small volunteer team in January. Nikos, our long-term volunteer, is still volunteering until March. Nadia from Switzerland joined for the month of January and Luzia, also from Switzerland arrived at the end of January.

Our team now also counts two new community volunteers! Laila is volunteering two hours everyday and helps with general tasks around the Centre, and Halimah, volunteering full time, mainly running the community kitchen.

Local & Erasmus Students in Ioannina are also coming very regularly to the Community Centre to support our team when their schedule allows.