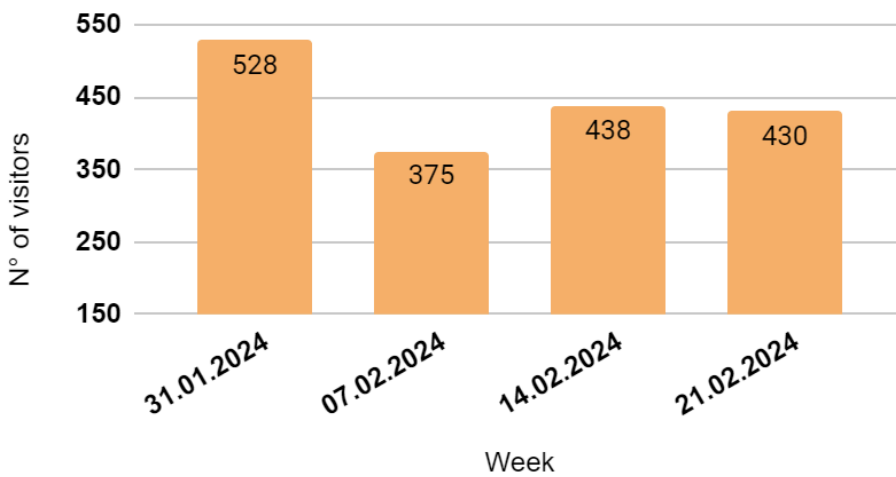


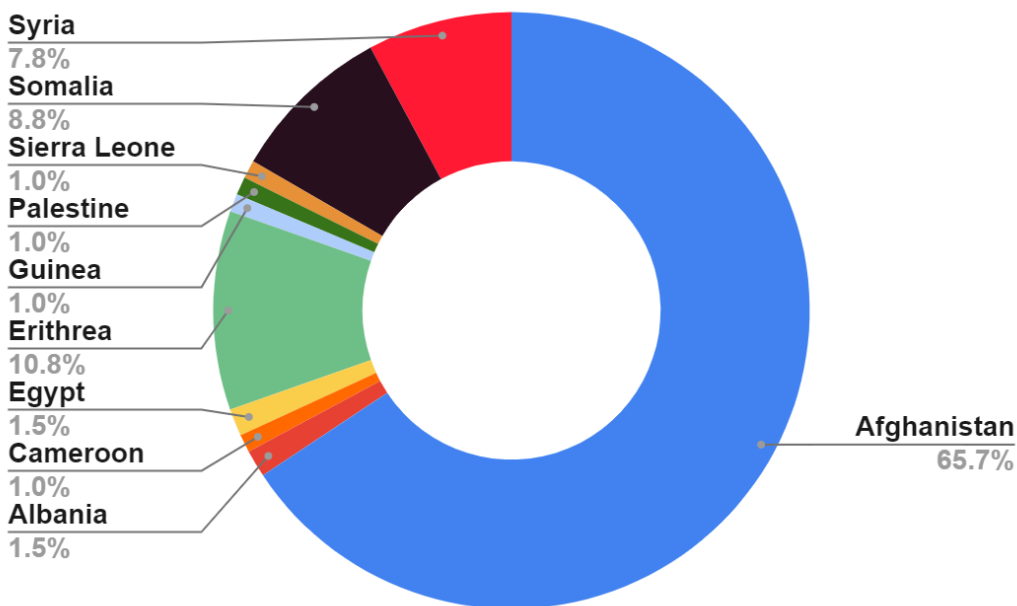
## FEBRUARY 2024 REPORT

### Number of visitors in February



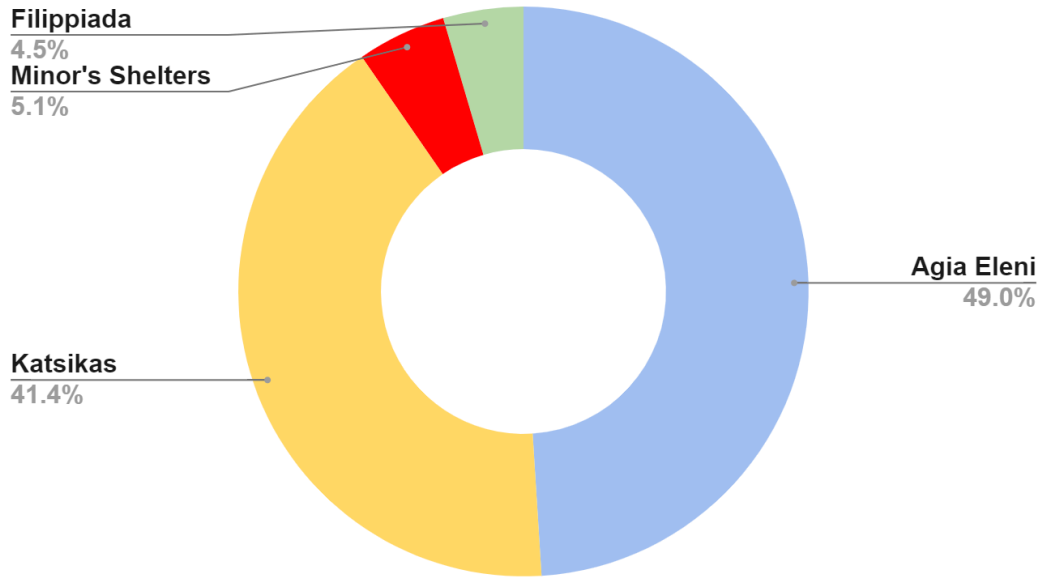
Registrations in February

The 206 new participants registered at the Community Centre are from:

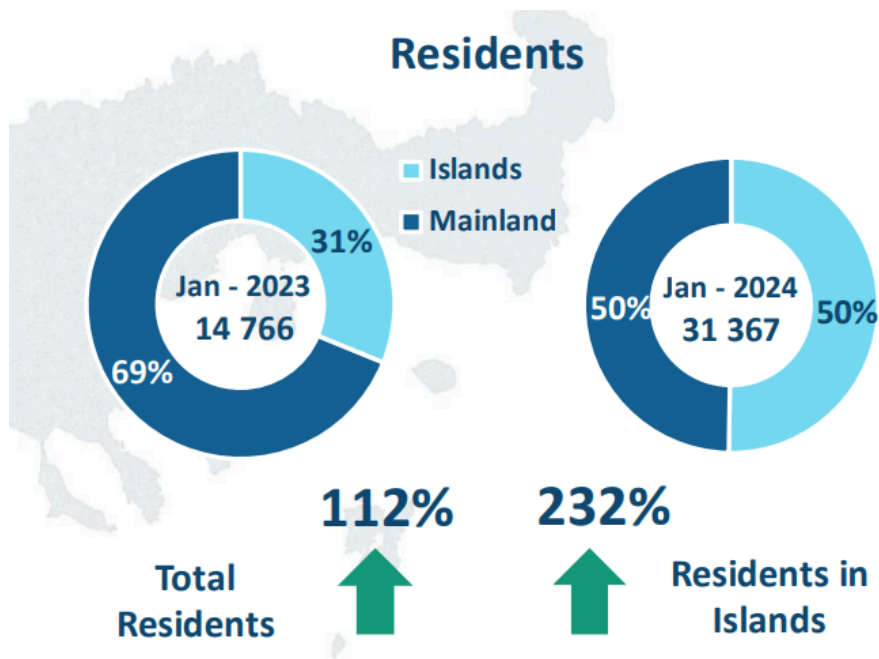


Pakistan (1), Greek (1)

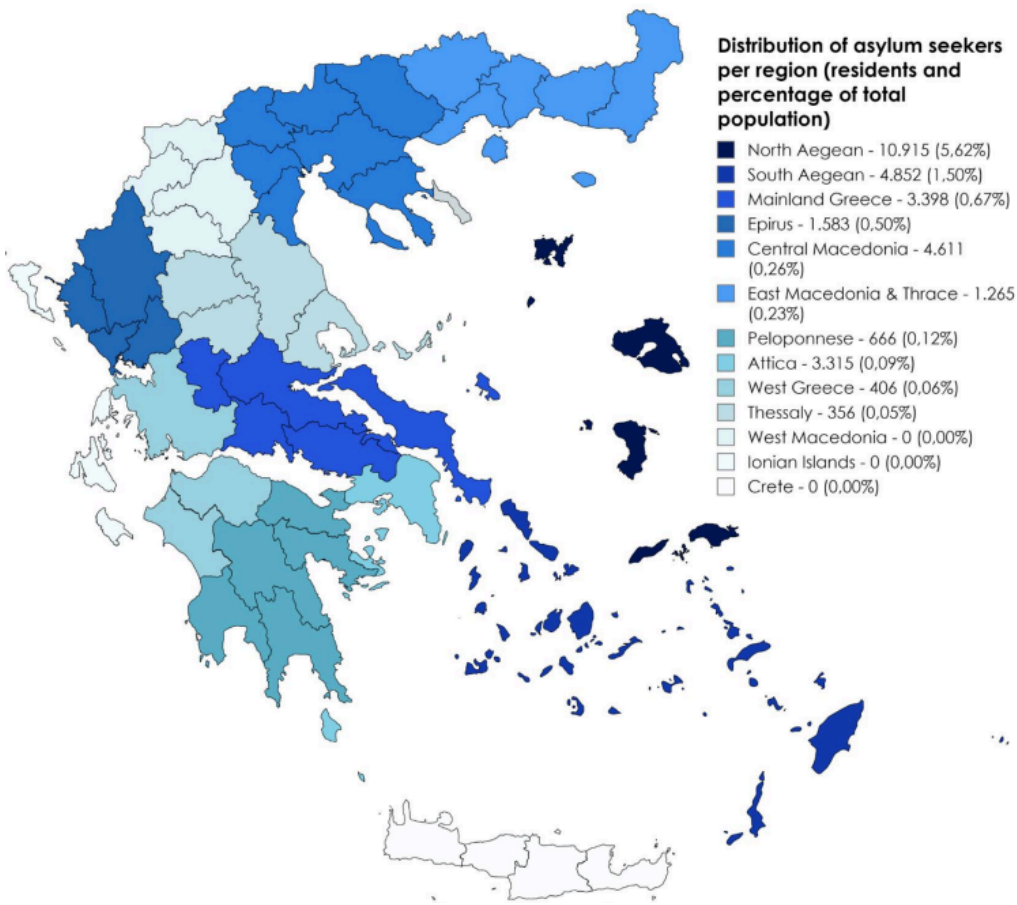
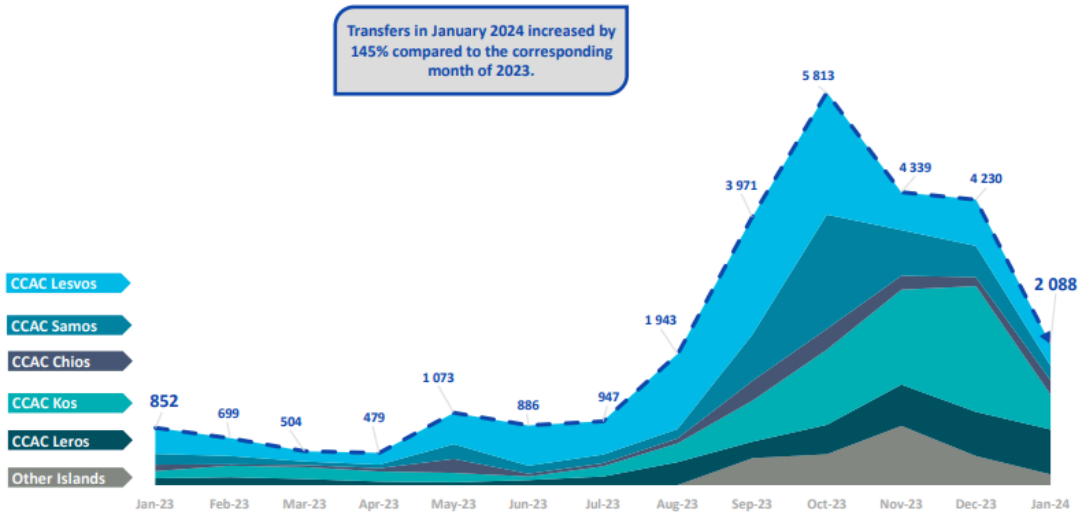
The 206 new registered are currently residing:



Some numbers about POM in the Greece and the Epirus region:



**2. Transfers of asylum seekers from the islands to the mainland**



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

Thanks to our renewed partnership with Carry The Future in 2024, we received our monthly delivery of diapers from Oikon diapers. As the number of participants and of babies in the Centre is growing, the need for diapers has increased. In order to fill this gap, our partner in Athens, Attika Warehouse, were able to deliver three pallets full of diapers to be distributed to all families with children aged between 0 and 3 years old.



### ★ The Free Clothes Shop



Our Free Clothes shop was busy as always with more than 800 participants visiting the shop this month. Thanks to another delivery from Attika Warehouse on the 17th of February, we received six pallets of clothes to completely re-stock the shelves and racks of the shop. Participants were especially pleased to see that we managed to procure shoes, winter jackets and even brand new Nike and Levis jumpers.

### ★ Sewing space



Luzia, one of our visiting volunteers from Switzerland had the wonderful idea of leading sewing workshops in the centre. This idea was primarily to teach people how to use the machines and some simple sewing techniques. That way, our participants could then be autonomous and use our Atelier for their personal





projects or to repair their clothes. Luzia started the first workshop on the 17th of February, and Natalie, another volunteer, fixed all the machines and took over.

We had one Sewing Workshop every Saturday since with approximately 10 to 15 participants each time.

### ★ The Community Kitchen

This month, Halimah, our new Community Volunteer from Kuwait, along with other volunteers, took the lead and prepared delicious vegetarian meals. Using her culinary magic, she even managed to make us some delicious desserts, bon appétit!

### ★ Education

Nikos, our volunteer teacher, came back to the community centre after a well deserved break and re-started teaching beginner and advanced English to his students. His classes now take place 3 times a week from 4 to 7. After a few requests from participants for Greek classes, Nikos, also an experienced Greek teacher, started to teach a class for Greek beginners twice a week.

### ★ Kids space



This month, as more volunteers joined our team, we could allocate more capacity to the kid's space. The big room in the Centre is as lively as ever. From one day to the other, activities varied from playing Marco Polo, to crafting paper garlands, making bracelets or even capturing a volunteer to paint her face red, green and yellow.



## Context & new development

### ★ New transfers

In February, a lot of the new participants were transferred from the camps of the North Aegean Islands (Samos and Lesvos mainly), As can be seen in the statistics from the Greek Ministry of Asylum, a majority came from Afghanistan with the rest coming from different countries in the Horn of Africa or the Middle East.

### ★ Camp populations

Location	Population <sup>1</sup>	Capacity <sup>2</sup>	Distance from the Community Centre	Type of accommodation
<b>Katsikas LTAS</b>	Approx 1000	1152 + 72	10 km	Iso-boxes (containers & two previously existing Rubhalls + one new Rubhall
<b>Agia Eleni LTAS</b>	Approx 450 (according to participants)	462	4 km	Buildings, with most of the basic amenities (toilets and showers) in communal spaces.
<b>Filippiada LTAS</b>	Approx 400 according to participants	737	60 km	Iso-boxes (containers)
	<b>Approx 1850</b>	<b>2423</b>		

<sup>1</sup> Figures estimates from end of September 2023

<sup>2</sup> 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. It stopped in November and resumed in February. Participants informed us that it is now a smaller bus (30 seats) only going to the hospital. When the bus is full, the other inhabitants of the Filippiada camp wanting to come to Ioannina have to pay for their commute via public transport (6€ for a one way ticket).

## Team Update

### ★ Coordination Team

Our team is still counting 4 coordinators: 2 full project coordinators and 2 project and fundraising coordinators. This month, we started the recruitment process to replace one of the project coordinators that will leave at the end of March.

In order to better accommodate our growing team on the ground, we've also just started renting a new apartment in the city centre of Ioannina, located 10 minutes by foot from the Community Centre.

### ★ Volunteer team

In February, our volunteer team also grew bigger. We welcomed Natalie on 14.02. from Switzerland, she has been our sewing space expert. Laura from France, arrived on 18.02. and will stay in the team for 4 months. And finally, Christelle & Mathieu arrived on the last days of February. Many thanks to all our volunteers for their work!

We are also lucky to have a few students of the University of Ioannina and some scouts of Ioannina helping us out for a few hours each week in the Centre.

