**Amsterdam-Athens Capacity Building Programme for Initiatives Supporting Refugees**

**Athens, 26 October 2017**

In the context of the ongoing framework of collaboration in the form of a Memorandum of Understanding between the [City of Amsterdam](https://www.iamsterdam.com/en/our-network/municipal-government/city-government) and the [City of Athens](https://www.cityofathens.gr/en/) and the excellent relationship between the two cities, the City of Amsterdam is supporting local and small initiatives working for the wellbeing of refugees in Greece, through funding capacity building activities.

The [Bodossaki Foundation](https://www.bodossaki.gr/en/) is implementing this project, through [Social Dynamo](http://www.socialdynamo.gr/), an initiative to build the capacity of Greek civil society, which the Bodossaki Foundation has set up in partnership with [synAthina](http://www.synathina.gr/el/) of City of Athens.

The activities of this project are based on a needs analysis conducted with NGOs and informal initiatives currently supporting refugees in Greece.

**Description of activities**

**Activity 1: 3-day intensive training in Athens**

Staff/volunteers from NGOs and/or informal groups - initiatives currently active in supporting refugees in Greece will be selected, through the open call, to participate in an intensive training at Social Dynamo in Athens, conducted by experts from the [Dutch Council for Refugees](https://www.vluchtelingenwerk.nl/english), one of the largest and most experienced NGOs working with refugees in Europe. A maximum of two representatives from each initiative can participate.

Applications will be made by completing the short application form. Participants will be selected in accordance to the following selection criteria:

1. Relevance of the activities of the organisation/group to meeting the current needs of refugees in Greece
2. Positive impact of the activities of the organisation/group to date
3. Innovation of the activities of the organisation/group
4. Commitment of the organisation/group to developing its capacity in order to improve its effectiveness and/or scale up its work
5. Good English language skills of the proposed participants (as the training will be conducted in English)

The training workshops will take place in the training facilities of Social Dynamo (Karneadou 25, near metro station Evangelismos) in the center of Athens. For participants representing organizations based outside Attica, the cost of travel and accommodation will be covered (a maximum of 10 participants from organisations/groups based outside of Attica will be selected and the remaining 10 places will be filled by organisations based in Athens/Attica.).

**Training Programme**

**Friday 24 November: Fundraising techniques & proposal writing**

Trainers:

**Mrs. Annette Bombeke**, Coordinator International Programme at Dutch Council for Refugees (DCR)

**Mrs. Ingrid van den Elsen,** Senior project developer at Dutch Council for Refugees

**Saturday 25 November: Campaigning and advocacy skills**

Trainer:

**Mrs. Aase Kretschmar,** Senior Campaigning Officer at Dutch Council for Refugees

**Sunday 26 November: Volunteer management & approaches to volunteer burnout**

Trainers:

**Mrs. Karin Nogossek,** Manager at Dutch Council for Refugees regional office

**Mrs. Anne-Els Jansen**, Manager at Dutch Council for Refugees regional office

**Trainers’ Bios**

**Mrs. Annette Bombeke**, Coordinator International Programme at DCR Headquarters, Amsterdam

Annette studied International and European law at the University of Leiden and has gained extensive experience with international project management. After graduation she started working as a legal advisor at a law firm, and since 2005 has worked for the DCR and the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE). In 2007 she became the coordinator of the DCR´s International Programme.

**Mrs. Ingrid van den Elsen,** Senior Project Developer at DCR Headquarters, Amsterdam

Ingrid studied Anthropology and Urban Sociology of Developing Countries at the University of Leiden and has extensive work experience related to project development. After having worked for 11 years at the Foundation for Refugee Students (UAF), which supports and counsels highly skilled refugees in the Netherlands, she started working at the Dutch Council for Refugees in 2011. After having been project leader and setting up a project related to labor market participation of refugees, Ingrid started working as senior project leader and developer and has extensive experience with writing successful proposals and securing funding from both larger and smaller institutional funds.

**Mrs. Aase Kretschmar,** Senior Campaigning Officer at DCR Headquarters, Amsterdam

Aase studied Journalism and Strategic Communications Management at the University of Applied Sciences in Amsterdam. After graduation she started working at War Child Holland, an organization which empowers children and young people in conflict areas by providing psychosocial support, stimulating education and protecting children from the effects of war. She then worked at WOMEN Inc. (women rights organization) and Partos (membership body for organizations working in international development) as (senior) communications manager involved with setting up campaigns, and in 2016 started working at the Dutch Council for Refugees as Senior Campaigning Officer.

**Mrs. Karin Nogossek,** Manager at DCR regional office, Utrecht

Karin studied Social Sciences and shortly after started working at the DCR at an asylum centre in 2001, first as a volunteer and then as team leader. In 2005 she became a legal advisor and became involved in project development. She continued working at DCR until becoming regional manager in the city of Utrecht.

**Mrs. Anne-Els Jansen**, Manager at DCR regional office, Utrecht

Anne-Els has been working at the DCR for many years, working her way up the ranks until becoming a regional manager. She has extensive experience in working with volunteers and coordinating their efforts to maximize results while not overburdening them.

**Activity 2: Study trip to Amsterdam**

Participants who have completed the 3-day training of Activity 1 will be invited to apply for a place on a 3-day study trip to Amsterdam, where they will have the opportunity to visit and conduct meetings with various NGOs or other organizations which have developed good practices in working with refugees. The detailed programme for the study trip shall be identified after consultation with the selected initiatives, in order to ensure maximum relevance. They will be accompanied on the study strip by one Bodossaki Foundation staff member.

6 participants will participate in the study trip to Amsterdam, selected on the basis of a simple application procedure following the completion of the 3-day training. The selection criteria for participation in this activity will be the following:

1. The clarity of the organizations’ aims in participating in the study trip.
2. The potential of the organization to benefit from the study trip.

**Activity 3: Micro grants**

Provided that they are legally registered in Greece as a non-profit entity, the organisations that participated in the 3-day training of Activity 1 will be able to enter a competition to receive a micro grant of 2500 EUR, in order to conduct further capacity building activities within their own organisation, putting into practice what they have learned from the training.

3 organisations will be selected to receive the micro grant on the basis of the following criteria which will be assessed through a short application:

1. Relevance of the activities of the organisation/group to meeting the current needs of refugees in Greece
2. Positive impact of the activities of the organisation/group to date
3. Innovation of the activities of the organisation/group
4. Clarity of the organisation’s proposal for using the microgrant to implement capacity building activities within the organization
5. Potential of the proposal capacity building activities to be beneficial to the development of the organization.

The 3 selected organisations will also receive free mentoring and consultancy from Social Dynamo. They will have to provide a report on what they did, and present the results of their participation in a final dissemination event.

**Who can participate?**

Anyone involved in an NGO or informal citizens’ group currently active in supporting refugees in Greece can apply to participate in Activity 1, either as individuals or in a team of up to 2 people.

20 participants will be selected in the initial training on the basis of the following criteria:

1. Relevance of the activities of the organization/group to meeting the current needs of refugees in Greece
2. Positive impact of the activities of the organisation/group to date
3. Innovation of the activities of the organisation/group
4. Commitment of the organisation/group to developing its capacity in order to improve its effectiveness and/or scale up its work
5. Good English language skills of the proposed participants (as the training will be conducted in English)

**How to apply?**

Download the short application form, complete in English and submit electronically to

eleni.karakitsiou@bodossaki.gr  by **17.00, 9 November 2017.**

**For any enquiries please contact:**

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