



# **Synergies between institutional actors and civil society**

## **Portuguese Red Cross experience**

06/10/2016

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# PORTUGUES RED CROSS: Timeline

Portuguese Red Cross joined the Working Group on the European Agenda For Migration on November 2015.

- December 2015: PRC hosted the first group of 5 refugees
- September 2016: 60 refugees; 15 local PRC branches

# PORTUGUES RED CROSS: Characterization

63% refugees from Eritrea (18% Syria; 8% Iraq)

73% refugees are male

85% refugees are under 35 years old

78% refugees travel alone (14% are women)

76% refugees relocated from Italy (24% Greece)

Less than 10% are already working

2 refugees are going to study at university

# PORTUGUES RED CROSS: Methodology

## Reception

Reception centre near the airport

RFL – Safe and Well Phone Calls

Group information session

Psychosocial support

Health assessment

# PORTUGUES RED CROSS: Methodology

## Relocation

15 local branches

Training for PRC teams

Work with community (Sensitisation)

Matching refugee's profile with local PRC branches (Areas of Portugal and local opportunities)

Psychosocial support to PRC teams

# PORTUGUES RED CROSS: Methodology

## Integration

Work with local communities

Individual integration plan

Involve refugees in PRC's local activities,  
as volunteers for community engagement

Portuguese language classes

# PORTUGUES RED CROSS: Best Practices

RFL – Safe and Well Phone Call

Psychosocial Support for PRC's teams –  
Protocol with Psychosocial Professional  
Association

Initial Health assessment

Use of PRC volunteering activities to  
facilitate local integration processes

# PORTUGUES RED CROSS: Challenges

RFL to all refugees

Housing capacity

Job Market availability

Local public services understanding the procedures,  
ensuring refugees access to them

Managing expectations: refugees, teams and  
community

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# PORTUGUES RED CROSS: What we have been learning

Expectations start to build up when the decision of leaving country of origin is made;

Pre-conceived ideas of destination countries and conditions do not change once refugees arrive to a safe country, even with basic needs met;

Work with host community is as important as to work refugees integration

# Last Update

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