



GOVERNMENT
OF MALTA



AMIF.SO1.03

**Provision of Psychological Services for Beneficiaries of
International Protection and Asylum Seekers**

The Agency for the Welfare of Asylum Seekers (AWAS) is entrusted with the implementation of national legislation and policy concerning the welfare of refugees, persons enjoying international protection and asylum seekers. This project is being proposed to serve as continuation to the same project implemented by AWAS, under the 2014 – 2020 AMIF Programme. This previous project started in 2019 and over 3,500 migrants were assisted through psychosocial assistance throughout these years. Malta has always been at the forefront in meeting the basic needs of all asylum-seekers, including through the provision of health care services and the project we are proposing through this application will ensure that this continues to take place.

Asylum Seekers flee their country of origin for various reasons; they seek refuge, long for protection and hope to find a sense of belonging. Not to mention the issues they would have encountered throughout their lives, the journey they must endure is difficult with their safety being at stake daily. Many Asylum Seekers and holders of International Protection, experience trauma and need support to heal their scars.

The project aims to provide psychosocial services to asylum seekers and holders of international protection in order to address their mental health issues, improve their well-being, and facilitate their integration into society.

This project aims also in assisting children, who are considered the most vulnerable among asylum seekers. To cater to their needs, a specialized counsellor for children and a play therapy room with an outdoor area for both children and adults were also included in the project.

The recruitment of mental health professionals, such as Psychologists, Psychology Practitioners, Counsellors, Assistant Psychology Officers and Welfare Officers-Cultural Mediators forms a crucial part of this project. These professionals will assess the mental state of asylum seekers and provide intervention as necessary.



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By addressing mental health issues, the project seeks to enhance the chances of successful integration for asylum seekers and contribute to their overall well-being.

The benefits of this project are expected to extend beyond the individuals directly receiving support. It is anticipated that the project will have positive outcomes at the national and international levels. By providing assistance and support, asylum seekers and holders of international protection will have the opportunity to make a better contribution to society. Furthermore, the project's focus on this specific group will enhance the expertise of professionals in the field and reduce waiting lists for psychological services, benefiting the broader community as well.

Overall, the project aims to provide comprehensive psychosocial services, improve mental health outcomes, and promote the integration of asylum seekers and holders of international protection into society.

The total cost of the Project is EUR2,569,124.18 (incl. eligible VAT)



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