

ANNUAL REPORT 2020



2020 IN A NUTSHELL

Dear Friends and Supporters,

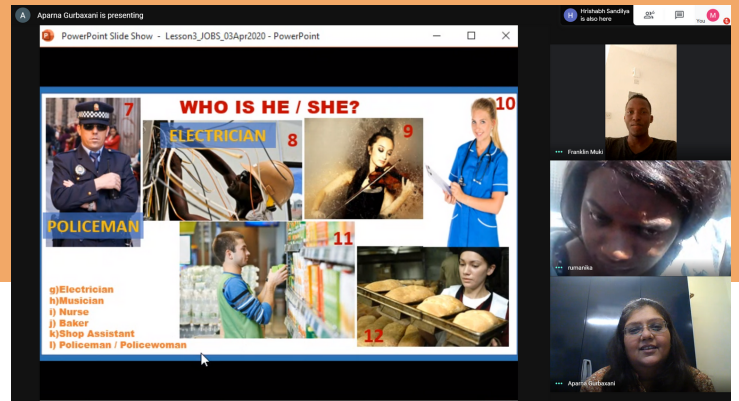
As we all know 2020 was an interesting year, to say the least. It was the year we launched many of our projects and started working with our Fellows, but we were soon faced with all the restrictions COVID-19 brought with it. We realized that in order to continue working, we had to adapt and adjust everything we did to working online, and so we created online programs that would allow us to continue supporting our community in Cyprus.

Although it was born out of necessity, it helped us understand better that even in normal times many in the community we serve can be better supported through hybrid off/online programs.

Throughout 2020 you have helped us to realize everything we achieved, either through your financial contributions or your advice, support and friendship.

From all of us at Project Phoenix, THANK YOU!

PROJECT: SURVIVAL ENGLISH CLASSES



During the first lockdown of the COVID-19 pandemic in Cyprus, many of the services for education and training for refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers (RMAs) in Cyprus had to shut down. Together with Caritas Cyprus and curriculum development with the teachers from India, our pilot program, “Survival English Classes” was created. The group lessons focused on learning basic English skills for everyday life and emergencies. Students could participate in a small-scale virtual classroom environment from the safety of their homes, with the help of their smartphones. Teachers engaged with a core group of 15 students, in 60 to 90 minute sessions, four times a week. The first round proved to be a success*, and we were eager to continue the program. Find out more here.

Our second round of online English classes has been adapted to weekly professional English classes in student pairs, taught by ELT professionals in India and bi-weekly mentoring sessions including job market orientation and preparation, with our Training and Development Lead Holly.

This program is funded by the European Students’ Union program, Together Moving Forward. This has allowed us to purchase SIM cards with internet data for students, which has eliminated connectivity issues. It is clear that the demand for this program is very high, and we hope to continue with additional professional mentoring and skill-based programs for RMAs in the near future. Find out more here.

PROJECT: ZERO FOOD WASTE CYPRUS



Each week, volunteers go to the Oxi market in Nicosia, Cyprus and rescue fruit and vegetables that would ordinarily be thrown away and distributing it to people in need.

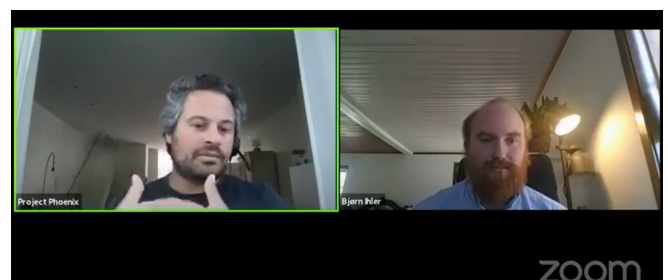
Zero Food Waste Cyprus was launched in January 2020 through a collaboration with Alexia Kalourkoti, the founder of Taste Earns. We helped rebrand Taste Earns to the catchy Zero Food Waste Cyprus, acquired and created marketing materials such as t-shirts and caps. Throughout the year, we launched and built a new website for the project, created and supported a new Facebook page for the project (with more than a 1000 likes). ZFWC was featured on Cyprus TV and in the Cyprus Mail.

We provided strategic support on future expansion and development, collaborated on a number of joint grant applications for the US Embassy and other funders and produced and directed a joint video about our collaboration and the Saturday Aftermarket project with Caritas Cyprus, which you can see here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTyvom2SBCo>

As a continuation of this project, a series of Cooking Across Diversity videos were created in collaboration with the NGO *Friends of the Earth*.

EVENTS: PHOENIX TALKS

Phoenix Talks are weekly conversations about migration, entrepreneurship, sustainability, activism, and community, available to the public over Zoom or the live-stream on our Facebook page. Our goal is to put a human face on migration issues and encourage insightful discussions about positive solutions related to migration and social and economic integration. Our guests are typically individuals with a migrant background, as well as practitioners who work closely with migrant communities. Phoenix Talks have included topics such as female migrant entrepreneurship, positive psychology, art therapy as part of mentoring strategies, and asylum seeker policy in a COVID-19 world. We will continue to invite relevant speakers who can help us expand on these topics.



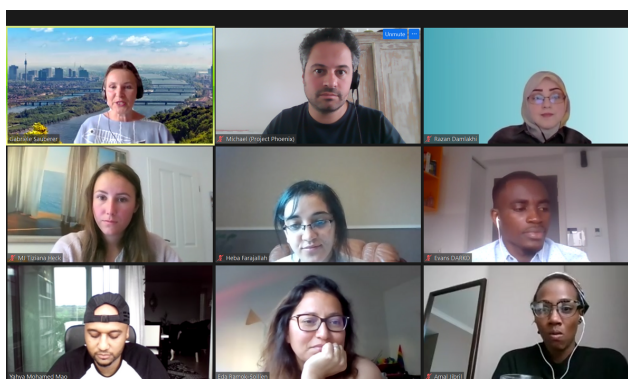
EVENTS: MIGRATION JAM



MIGRATIONJAM

Unprecedented times call on us to utilise our creativity in order to continue doing what we believe in. Last year, Migration Jam had its debut with a physical conference in Istanbul. Refugees and migrants came together to share their stories and their experiences with an international audience, on stage and in open discussion rounds.

This year, our team at Project Phoenix supported Amal Jibril, the founder of Migration Jam, in moving the conference online to Zoom video rooms for intimate online panel discussions and workshops. This year's speakers were nothing short of insightful and inspiring in the sharing their stories and engaging the audience in their online discussions, centered around issues that arose with the global COVID-19 outbreak.



PROJECT: COVID-19 RESEARCH

Project Phoenix, in collaboration with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung and the Justice Project, has conducted a three-part systemic analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on refugees, migrants and asylum seekers (RMAs) in Cyprus. Part I of the project offers a timeline based overview of the pandemic and its effects on RMAs. Part II is based on a detailed multi-city survey and interviews with RMAs and offers in-person insight into the magnitude and personal effects of these impacts, while Part III consists of a white paper on potential solutions to ameliorate these impacts. See our Publications page for more information.

You can download the full report here:

<http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/zypern/16685.pdf>



PROJECT: CONSTELLATION

Project Phoenix is launching "Constellation", a unique social innovation lab and entrepreneurship space co-created with the refugee community in Nicosia, Cyprus. The space will serve as a workspace and community space for refugee-led projects to develop and sell their products. In addition to providing a entrepreneurial hub and safe space, Constellation will organize mentoring and coaching sessions, workshops and events. In the future we plan to add a community kitchen, a cafe and more.

Through co-creation between Project Phoenix and our Fellows (refugee entrepreneurs), Constellation will serve as a social innovation lab, a coaching/mentoring hub, a workspace and a pop-up store for refugee-led, entrepreneurial projects. It will provide refugee entrepreneurs a place to work, access the internet, meet their mentors, and allow more energy for developing new ideas and pay it forward by becoming mentors to others. Beyond a place to work, it will provide a safe community space.

In December we held a fundraiser through the GlobalGiving platform, and raised over 10 000 EUR! You can find the fundraiser here: <https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/social-innovation-lab>

FELLOW: JUSTINE'S FACE MASKS

Thanks to your generous support, Justine was able to make over 500 face masks and distribute them to those at risk in the migrant community.



Justine Nda, a Project Phoenix Fellow from Cameroon approached us in March 2020 saying she would like to start making face protection masks to distribute for free in her community to those at risk. We thought her initiative to be very important, and offered to help her to launch a fundraiser to make it possible. Together we raised 721 EUR in only a few days. The funds were used to support Justine in making 500 re-usable masks. In addition to supporting Justine in her project, the funds were spent on materials, transport and equipment needed for the production and distribution. The masks were handed out for free at various shops all over the city and given to Caritas Cyprus for distribution to their beneficiaries.

FELLOW: APHROGEE BY LAETITIA

In 2020 our Fellow Laetitia Ngue launched "Aphrogee", a clothing brand that produces original T-shirts and hoodies mixed with African patterns, as well as accessories that express African culture and their feelings through clothes.

Aphrogee helps to share African refugees' stories and culture through their entire business strategy, and a percentage of their sales goes to support refugees in need as well as to develop their talents and facilitate their integration. The campaigns on social media help locals to have a better knowledge about refugees.



In 2020, Project Phoenix supported Laetitia with her business plan, branding, social media marketing and connecting her to potential clients and media outlets to promote her initiative.

OUR TEAM IN 2020



Holly McCamant - Training and Development Lead



Hrishabh Sandilya - Co-Founder and Head, Cyprus



Michael Göcken - Co-Founder and Head, Global



Tiziana Heck - Projects Lead



Sarah Morsheimer - Research Lead



Filip Koprčina - Nicosia Operations Lead

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Expenses

Administrative expenses (logistics, transportation, rent, communication)	12 505 EUR
Staff Salaries	0 EUR
Project related expenses (Fellows,...)	750 EUR

Income

Crowdfunding campaigns and individual donations	11 556 EUR
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The funds raised through the crowdfunding campaign for Constellation at the end of the year was included in this overview, but no expenses were made from this budget yet in 2020.

GET INVOLVED!

