



*No Skills to Waste: Diversity Makes the Difference*

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## Newsletter

Issue no 7, September 2008

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KMOP newsletter, published tri-monthly, contains news on a variety of issues and regions where we are active, including relevant international developments.

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## KMOP News

### Key Highlights

Entrepreneurship/Employability

New development project in Iran

Public Health

Start of new European project on nutrition

Youth & Education

Lifelong Learning project kicks off

Multiple

New KMOP Centre for activities

### Summary of Progress

Mental Health

PoD project enters its 2<sup>nd</sup> year

Social Inclusion

Closure of nation-wide employability project

### Upcoming Event

World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse

### General News

EuropeAid upcoming Calls for Proposals “Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development”

### *Did you know that...*

*The European Development Days, organized by the DG Development of the European Commission, will be held on 15-17 November 2008 in Strasbourg*

## KMOP News

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### Key Highlights

#### Entrepreneurship/Employability

Capitalising on its experience in developing employability skills and entrepreneurship among vulnerable population groups, KMOP will transfer key expertise in a community empowerment project in southern Iran. Financed by EuropeAid, under the budget line “Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development – Actions in partner countries”, the intervention will focus on the city of Bam that was struck by a powerful earthquake in 2003. The aim of the project is to stimulate social and economic development in the most impoverished districts of the city, by facilitating wider participation of the local population in economic activity and providing for sustainable income generation opportunities.

#### Public Health

At a time when public health issues assume greater proportions, with the growing problem of obesity among European populations, a project that places nutrition in focus was recently approved under the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme. The initiative, which now enters its first phase of implementation, seeks to assess the amount of products that contain nutrition information on labels in EU countries, and what type of information they provide. The aim with this is to determine how nutrition information on food labels can affect dietary choices, consumer habits and food-related health issues. Guidelines will be developed on the use of nutrition information on food labels for EU policy and the food industry. In

parallel, the project will also evaluate public health nutrition campaigns across Europe. KMOP is responsible for covering the Greek market.

#### Youth & Education

A new two-year project dealing with parental and family education enters its implementation phase in October 2008. Titled *CAFÉ – Comment Accompagner les Familles en Europe*, this European partnership aims to develop the skills of professionals and volunteers alike, who provide support to parents in the upbringing of their children. Exchange of good practices on family and parenthood among the partners will be key in building up a methodology and improved tools, applicable on a European level.

#### Multiple

KMOP recently acquired new facilities in a location south of Athens, near the port town of Piraeus. In an area experiencing high levels of social exclusion, easily accessible by public transportation, this new site will host our Day Care Centre and school drop-out prevention programme. In addition to featuring a shop selling items of handicraft, made by KMOP Group House patients, the new location will offer new possibilities for projects targeting children and youth.

### Summary of Progress

#### Mental Health

The ongoing PoD project that aims to design, develop and implement a new training tool in digital format for family members, in order to help stimulate and educate persons with Down Syndrome (DS), has now come

half way through implementation. Having completed the in-depth analysis of the needs of families of persons with DS, covering the areas of health, socio-affective development, autonomy, education, socio-economic resources, social involvement and sexuality, the six European partners are now developing the contents for the DVD. The results from the first phase have been revealing, with contrasting, but also some similar results from parallel research carried out in Spain and Romania. The Greek reality proved to be striking in its lack of information on everything from health and education, to awareness of legal issues and rights to grants and financial assistance. The DVD will reflect the research done and respond to the established needs. For more information about ongoing work, please visit

<http://www.parentsofdown.com/>

### Social Inclusion

A large-scale national project that has been in operation since 2006, focused on developing employability skills

aimed at facilitating entry into the increasingly competitive Greek labour market, is now coming to an end. The provision of support services to socially vulnerable persons that has been carried out in close cooperation with the local and regional offices of the state employment agency OAED has reached beneficiaries in all of the country's main regions, including the islands of the Aegean Sea. KMOP expects to undertake further work in the coming year for the promotion of equal opportunities for disadvantaged population groups.

### **Upcoming Event**

19 November is marked as the *World Day for Prevention of Child Abuse*. The World Day campaign aims to raise visibility, mobilise participation and help make prevention of child abuse a global priority. KMOP aims to make the 13-19 November a 'Child Abuse Prevention week', where we will raise awareness of the issue as part of our ongoing activities.

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## General News

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### European Institutions

The Calls for Proposals for EuropeAid's thematic programme "Non-State Actors and Local Authorities in Development" will be launched before the end of the year, in November/December 2008. The launch will include five Calls for Proposals; namely In-Country Actions, Multi-Country Actions NSA, Multi-Country Actions LA, Development Education and Networking. There are

also some 70 EC delegations preparing to launch their local calls. The EuropeAid website will provide an overview of all centralised and local NSA and LA Calls, scheduled to go online in October. KMOP is interested in entering European partnerships for these Calls. For more information, visit [http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/worldwide/civil-society/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/where/worldwide/civil-society/index_en.htm)