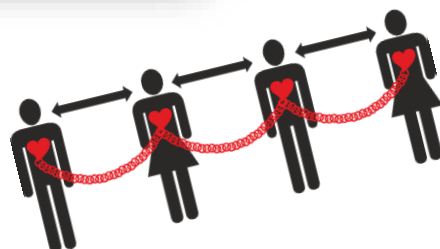


# RIAC PROJECT: AGILITY AND LESSONS LERNEAD DURING THE PANDEMIC



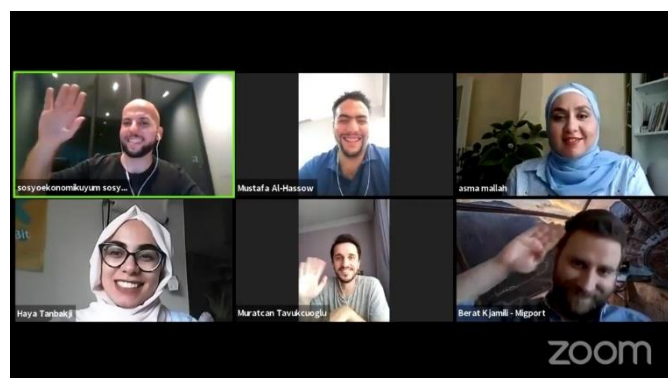
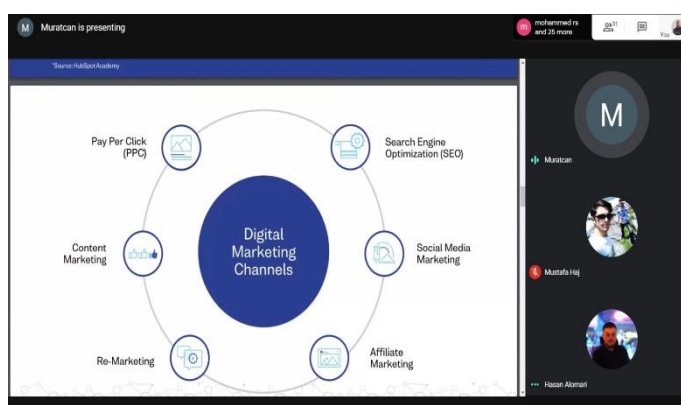
The Coronavirus pandemic is facing our individual and social behaviours with new challenges. The partners of the RIAC project respond effectively and creatively to issues related to communication, training and information, remaining at the side of the participants with innovative tools that allow the maintenance of physical distance but not relational one. In this newsletter you can see some of the most significant experiences of these practices.

## Habitat Association

The epidemic impact accelerated the aim to establish digital transformation of the activities prompting the Remote work concept. Online workshop about the most-needed skills of remote work as freelancers like Cyber security, Facebook advertising, UX writing 101, Digital marketing Fundamentals and Blockchain and Bitcoin Introduction and others are held.

By the beginning of this year the RIAC Network was launched supporting the creation of a safe community including technology, Freelancing and social cohesion enthusiasts.

RIAC Network Slack workspace and WhatsApp group are the main channels used alongside with emails, SMS, and direct phone calls.



## KIZ

KIZ is reachable for the RIAC participants also in this challenging time and is constantly working on new solutions to help them in this exceptional situation. On the website you can find bundled information updated daily on the following topics:

**Emergency Aid, News & Information:** The latest information on emergency aid, grants and other support services.  
**Helpful tips and links for the self-employed:** Promotional loans, advisory support, tax breaks, special regulations and much more.

Useful input to stay (economically) on the way.

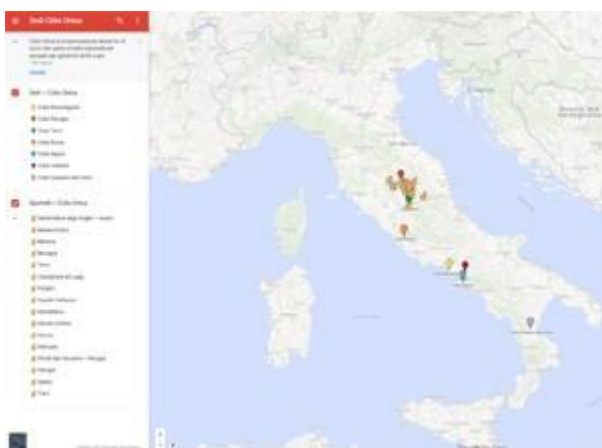
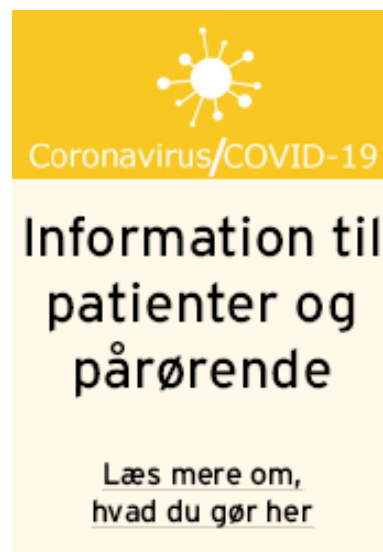
Participants can send their questions to: [Together@kiz.de](mailto:Together@kiz.de) at anytime.

## Esbjerg

Esbjerg Municipality is taking all the necessary steps to make sure to follow the new governmental recommendations to stop and limit the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

The town continuously updates its website with new information in various languages <http://www.ouh.dk/wm486604>.

Because of national measures linked to COVID-19 Esbjerg Municipality had to reschedule the RIAC activities. In Denmark, employment-focused efforts have been suspended in the period March 12th to May 27th, and although the country is gradually opening, under great control, the partner is beginning to work actively with the target groups. The cancelled events in this spring have been rescheduled starting from June 2020.



## CIDIS Onlus

During the emergency COVID-19 CIDIS concentrates its efforts on information and orientation for foreign citizens and free advice on regularization.

All foreign citizens who can enjoy the regularization of their seasonal employment contract can contact CIDIS Onlus and receive assistance electronically or request an appointment at one of the closest Cidis offices in compliance with the rules relating to social distancing and the use of gloves and masks.

## IGAM

The association continues the activities with RIAC participants via Whatsapp groups since most of them don't have laptops or internet connection. Language trainers, job trainers, mentors and speed managers communicate with them through WhatsApp, phone calls, text messages and occasionally via Skype. Due to lack of internet access online training tools cannot be used so far.

As online information tools the partner implements RIAC and IGAM web sites, social media accounts and IGAM TV.

The project team calls all the participants regularly, visits them from time to time to see their working conditions and tries to make sure all is well.





## IGAM

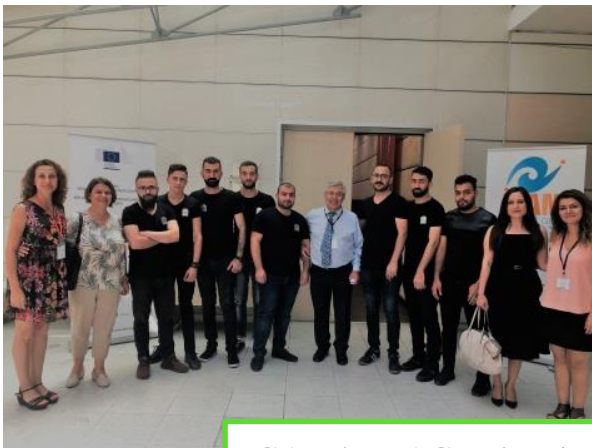
*The Research Center on Asylum and Migration / İltica ve Göç Araştırmaları Merkezi (İGAM) is a young dynamic NGO founded on 12 June 2013 in Ankara, the capital of Turkey by a group of academics, researchers, journalists and humanitarian workers to fill the gap of nonexistence of an independent research center on asylum and migration issues.*

*İGAM's mission is to undertake research, advocacy and proactive action in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, European Convention of Human Rights and other human rights instruments in order to build and increase public awareness in the field of asylum and migration.*

*İGAM and its President Mr. Metin Çorabatır have been announced by the Malala Fund as "Gulmakai Education Champion". This means that İGAM will be part of Malala Fund's global campaigns for "no lost generation".*

*NGO Committee on Migration under the Economic and Social Council of UN have chosen İGAM as one of eight "good practices countering xenophobia and discrimination against refugees and migrants" in 2018.*

*İGAM, as the term president of the Turkish Refugee Council, initiated with its international partners, the International Refugee Congress 2018 in İstanbul with the participation of 160 delegates representing 70 NGOs from 27 most refugee hosting countries.*



IGAM's RIACs take place in the Ankara region where a total of 100.000 refugees live. The most of this people come from Syria.

The partner's goal is to implement 4 RIACS.

Two of them with Focus on jobs in the service sector (hairdressing), one in the manufacturing and one specifically addressing women.

## EVENTS



**The photographic exhibition “Immigrants. Change your look!” was inaugurated on 24-10-2019 in Perugia by our partner Alisei.**

The initiative was motivated by the opportunity to clarify the real situation of refugees and asylum seekers and consequently stimulate reflections and objective evaluations, especially by those who tend to build barricades on the immigration issue.

The exhibition developed around a series of images documenting the 32 job placements concerning a group of refugees and asylum seekers and achieved thanks to the RIAC project.

On March 12<sup>th</sup> 2020, stakeholders from the public and private sectors as well as volunteers and people with a refugee or migration background met at Ostpol in Offenbach. As a collaborative initiative of KIZ SINNOVA gGmbH, RIAC, The Human Safety Net of Generali Deutschland AG and M-UP, a **barcamp** had been organized on the subject: **Integration of people with a flight and migration background: opportunities, achievements- challenges- new paths?**

**“Self-Employment and Accelerating Regional Cohesion of Refugees”** Conference has been conducted on November 5<sup>th</sup> 2019 in Istanbul organized by **Habitat** with the participation of RIAC project international partners and a number of active civil society Organisation working directly with Refugees and Representatives of General Migration directorate as well.

4 Panels were conducted in the concern of discussing the importance of Self-Employment into integration and participation of women and inter-sectoral cooperation.



### RIAC PROJECT

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