

New channels for the integration of Third Country Nationals
in the local community

Νέοι δρόμοι για την ένταξη Υπηκόων Τρίτων Χωρών
στην τοπική κοινωνία



Discussion Forum of the Network of Cooperation involving immigrant organisations, NGO's and Local Authorities titled "**The contribution of immigrants towards achieving the goals of sustainable waste management in Cyprus: The role of effective information and involvement at the level of the local community**"

Held at Visual Arts Cyprus Centre - Nicosia Municipal Garden
on Sunday 23, October.

The Agenda included presentations and discussion:

Presentations

- **Nicosia's policies in relation to waste management: Framework for Programming Period 2014-2020**, by Mr. Michalis Lagos Municipal Inspector of Sanitation, Municipality of Nicosia.
- **Presentation of the Information and Sensitisation Campaign on Waste Reduction, Reuse and Recycling, in the framework of the European programme "RETHINK"**, by Mr. George Kirkos, Project Manager of "RETHINK".
- **Presentation of short sensitisation video clips on waste management**

Discussion

Following the presentations participants engaged in an open dialogue. Main issues discussed include:

The collection process of recyclable materials Plastic Metal and Tetrapak Containers (PMD) is made in one container of bag to provide options for separate. Participants in the forum raised the possibility to collect PMD in separate containers so that NGOs can facilitate their own sensitization campaigns on waste management but also to get an opportunity to support social protection structures of their choice. As it was explained by forum speakers, the recycling policy is based on the principle that the



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Nicosia Municipality



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PROJECT CO-FUNDED BY THE ASYLUM, MIGRATION AND INTEGRATION FUND AND THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS



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cost for recycling PMD can exceed economic and environmental benefit. The current collection practice of PMD provides the needed balance of cost vs benefit. However, it was noted that Green Dot in cooperation with local authorities should examine ways to facilitate the implementation of NGO action that support clean cities and a range of social causes.

There needs to be better sensitization of the Reduce-Reuse-Recycle (RRR) principle for decision makers in regards to product standardization and packaging. The less hard-to-recycle or reuse material used in the product packaging the better it is for the waste management.

Educational programmes in schools are very crucial to sensitize youth in relation to appropriate attitudes and practices in waste management, therefore specially designed curricula are necessary.

In congested residential / commercial areas within the city where it is hard to place containers for PMD recycling, the Municipality of Nicosia has made appropriate arrangements for more frequent collection of garbage and recycling material.



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