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

Νέοι δρόμοι για την ένταξη Υπηκόων Τρίτων Χωρών στην τοπική κοινωνία

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## Nicosia Municipality Multifunctional Foundation at the side of groups of immigrants -TCNs for their religious celebrations

The Nicosia Municipality Multifunctional Foundation, as a member of the consortium of partners implementing the Integration Program by Local Authorities "New Channels for the integration of third country nationals in the local community", with Nicosia Municipality as the Final Beneficiary, was present at the religious celebration organised by the "Sri Lankan Buddhist Association" on Sunday, April 17, 2016 at the Municipal Garden of Nicosia.

The event was supported by Nicosia Municipality, following a request by the "Sri Lankan Buddhist Association" to hold their annual "New Year" festivities at the Municipal Garden of Nicosia. The ceremony included hoisting the flags of Cyprus, Sri Lanka and Europe and migrant children performing the National Anthem of Cyprus and Sri Lanka. The festivities continued with dancing and other religious performances.

Nicosia Municipality Multifunctional Foundation's associates informed concerned participants about the services they can receive at the *Information Office for Immigrants* and at the same time had the opportunity to be informed about the needs of immigrants and other third country nationals.

The Nicosia Municipal Multifunctional Foundation has been providing support to third country nationals through various actions/projects consistently over a number of years. The aim of these projects is to assist the integration of immigrants in the local society through the provision of psychosocial, cultural and wider support services. Encouraging and supporting the free expression of cultures and customs of different groups of immigrants and other third country nationals is a vital part of the integration process; it sends a strong message of acceptance and respect of difference, unity in diversity and multiculturalism, while enriching local culture.

The Integration Programme of Third Countries by Local Authorities "New Channels for the Integration of Third Country Nationals in the Local Community" is implemented for the fifth consecutive year in cooperation with municipalities of greater Nicosia. The current project is implemented by the Municipalities of Nicosia, Ayios Dhometios, Lakatamia and Engomi, the Nicosia Municipal Multifunctional Foundation and the consultants «NVK Advent Consulting Ltd» and «Losadeal Ltd».

## By Nicosia Municipality Multifunctional Foundation

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