



Emerging Private Sponsorship Programmes in Europe: a new partnership between government and local communities

ITALY- Case Study

23 February 2017

ERN+ Webinar

HUMANITARIAN CORRIDORS 1

- A private sponsorship program called “Humanitarian Corridor” project is currently implemented and financed by the Community of Sant’Egidio, Evangelic Churches Federation and Waldensian Church in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Interior and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, based on a Memorandum of Understanding which was signed in December 2015.
- 1000 people in need of international protection will be transferred to Italy in 2 years.
- Third Countries of departure: Lebanon and Morocco

HUMANITARIAN CORRIDORS 2

- Under the “Humanitarian Corridor” program, a new project has been recently launched, financed by the Community of Sant’Egidio and Caritas/Bishops Conference in collaboration with the Italian Ministry of Interior and the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, based on a Memorandum of Understanding which was signed in January 2017.
- 500 people in need of international protection will be transferred to Italy in 1 year.
- Third Countries of departure: Ethiopia

HUMANITARIAN CORRIDORS CRITERIA

- Selection is carried out by the sponsor on the basis of the following criteria:
- a) persons who are recognized, at least prima facie, refugees by UNHCR and/or
- b) persons with proved vulnerabilities because of age, personal or health situation;

In addition the following criteria can be taken into account:

- c) Persons who can benefit from support in Italy, offered by individuals, churches or associations,
- d) persons with family or social links in Italy.

HUMANITARIAN CORRIDORS PROCEDURE

- On the basis of the abovementioned criteria, a list of beneficiaries is identified by the sponsors through the selection of people who can be potential beneficiaries of international protection, according to the Italian asylum system;
- Security checks by the Ministry of Interior;
- Visa issued by the Italian Embassy;
- Travel arrangements, accommodation and other services are provided by the sponsors, including legal support during the asylum procedure in Italy; socio-cultural integration measures; language and job training, with the aim of avoiding secondary movements.

HUMANITARIAN CORRIDORS

VISA AND STATUS

- Limited territorial validity visa is issued by the Italian embassy.
- Beneficiaries apply for asylum when they arrive in Italy.
- After the interview carried out by the Territorial Commission for the recognition of international protection, they are granted the refugee status.

HUMANITARIAN CORRIDORS MONITORING AND INFORMATION SHARING

- MONITORING GROUP
- MEETINGS AMONG PARTNERS
- REPORTS

RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM

- 1,989 REFUGEES TO BE RESETTLED, UNDER THE COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS 20 JULY 2015
- COUNTRIES OF DEPARTURE:
LEBANON, TURKEY, SUDAN, JORDAN

ITALIAN RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM: THE PROCEDURE

- **SELECTION:** carried out by the “resettlement Unit” of the Ministry of Interior on the basis of UNHCR dossiers (no selection missions)
- **PRE-DEPARTURE AND TRAVEL:** arrangement with IOM
- **ACCOMMODATION AND INTEGRATION:** SPRAR (System for the Protection of Asylum Seekers and Refugees)

ITALIAN RESETTLEMENT PROGRAM: STATUS

- Refugee status is granted, at national level, by the Territorial Commission for the recognition of international protection, upon arrival at the airport and without interview

SECURITY CHECKS

- Pre-identification procedure of potential beneficiaries has been established and it is carried out at the Italian Embassy both for resettlement and for humanitarian corridors

Thank you for your attention

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