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EU Infopoint Newsletter June 2020 Issue: 59

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The European Commission delivered crucial equipment and supplies for the Turkish Cypriot community

The European Commission, in close partnership with UNDP in Cyprus, has successfully completed two deliveries of crucial equipment and supplies to the Turkish Cypriot community to fight against COVID-19.

On 25 June, laboratory equipment worth more than EUR 250,000 and financed by the EU Aid Programme, has successfully arrived. This equipment has more than doubled the coronavirus testing capacity of the laboratory in the community. The list also includes laboratory equipment to fully automate sample preparation and analysis workflow and increase the laboratory's throughput, as well as kits for sample preparation and sealed reagent, it can be used for multiple purposes beyond testing the presence of coronavirus.

In the second delivery on 30 June, an additional 10 ventilators have successfully arrived. Previously, 30 ventilators were also delivered within the framework of the EU Aid Programme.





To pave the way for reunification, the Aid Programme aims to bring the two

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Education to boost skills

Towards a reunited Cyprus

Since 2006, the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community allocated nearly €40 million to boost skills through education.

To read more about how the EU is investing in education and boosting employability, thereby contributing to social and economic development and providing opportunities to bring the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities closer together, please click here.

Funded by the European Union



To pave the way for reunification, EU support aims to bring the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities closer together.

One of the fundamental principles of the EU project is the free movement of people, goods, and services across its Member States. As such, the EU sets out the rules under which people, goods, and services can cross the Green Line in 2004.

To read more about how the Green Line Regulation facilitates people-to-people contact and trade in Cyprus, please <u>click here</u>.



Webinar on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the LGBTI+ community

The European Commission highlighted the "Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the LGBTI+ community and EU Action" at a webinar on 1 June, organised by the EU Infopoint in cooperation with ILGA-Europe, Queer Cyprus, and Accept Cyprus.

The aim of the webinar was to draw attention to the advancement of LGBTI+ rights in Europe, in the Turkish Cypriot community and in the Greek Cypriot community, and how the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted this work.

The webinar hosted keynote speaker, Belinda Dear, Advocacy Officer at ILGA-Europe whose main area of work includes advocacy and developing policy strategies at the European level to bring about legal, political and social change for LGBTI people, with a focus on Enlargement countries, family policy and rule of law processes. Doğukan Gümüşatam and Erman Dolmacı from Queer Cyprus Association together with Christiana Papadaki and Monica Panayi from Accept Cyprus also took part in the webinar presenting their work in their communities and reflecting the local angle in both the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot communities.

As part of the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community many projects have been funded to address discrimination against LGBTI people. This includes Queer Cyprus Association's "LGBTI+ in Freedom from Exploitation (LifE)" Project, and the UNSPOKEN Project: Creating Dialogue on LGBTI Rights in the Turkish Cypriot Community by Cyprus Community Media Centre and Queer Cyprus.

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Wednesday, 24 June 2020 18:30 - 20:00 EU Infopoint Zoom Event

"How can we contribute to the family budget, economy and the protection of our environment by using energy efficiently?"

Energy Efficiency webinar organised during the EU Sustainable Energy Week

The European Commission highlighted the benefits of using energy efficiently for the family budget, the economy and our island's environment during an "Energy Efficiency" webinar organised in cooperation with the Chamber of Electrical Engineers, Chamber of Architects, Cyprus Turkish Electrical Contractors Association and Union of Licensed Electricians Cyprus. The webinar, held on 24 June coincided with EU Sustainable Energy Week and highlighted the European Green Deal, which promotes sustainable growth to improve people's lives.

During the webinar, which was also broadcast live on the EU Infopoint Facebook page, Görkem Çelik, the President of KTMMOB Chamber of Electrical Engineers talked about energy efficiency, EU standards and the current local situation. After his presentation, Osman Asilzade, the supervisor of Cyprus Turkish Electrical Contractors Association (KTEMB) and Dr. Stylianos Hirodontis, trainer of the Union of Licensed Electricians Cyprus who jointly run the EU funded Electrical Field Project, presented their project and highlighted the role, importance, and constraints of energy efficiency and the electricity labour market in Cyprus. Finally, Kozan Uzunoğlu, the president of KTMMOB Chamber of Architects delivered a presentation on the improvement of existing buildings for energy efficiency. The event was moderated by Associate Professor Dr. Murat Fahrioğlu who is an academic in the field of electrical and electronics engineering.

As part of the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community, a EUR 11.44 million programme on energy efficiency was implemented between 2008

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Acquisition (SCADA) system. The programme also included the construction of a solar power plant to demonstrate the high-potential renewable energy resource in Cyprus. The EU funded Electrical Field Project jointly run by Cyprus Turkish Electrical Contractors Association (KTEMB) and the Union of Licensed Electricians Cyprus also aims to highlight the role, importance, and constraints of energy efficiency and the electricity labour market in Cyprus.

Çocuklara Yönelik Online Eğitim Programları

#ABMeraklıÇocuklar #ABYeşilDüzen

Enerji Verimliliğini Öğreniyorum

(5+ yaş grubu)

Online Eğitim serisi 6 bölümden oluşmaktadır. Eğitimlere katılan çocuklara sertifika verilecektir.

Online Education Series for Children: Energy Efficiency

As part of the EU Sustainable Energy Week activities, the EU Infopoint organised short educational videos for children focusing on how to use the energy efficiently. "Let's learn energy efficiency" online training series consisted of 6 educational videos and one animation video produced within the scope of the EU-funded Energy and Environment Conscious Children Project. The videos were published on the EU Infopoint Facebook page from 29 June to 11 July.

COVID-19 public information campaign to raise awareness in the Turkish Cypriot community

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in June as part of the Covid-19 information campaign in partnership with the Turkish Cypriot Doctors' Association in order to raise awareness about the virus and to ensure that accurate and up to date information is accessible to the community.



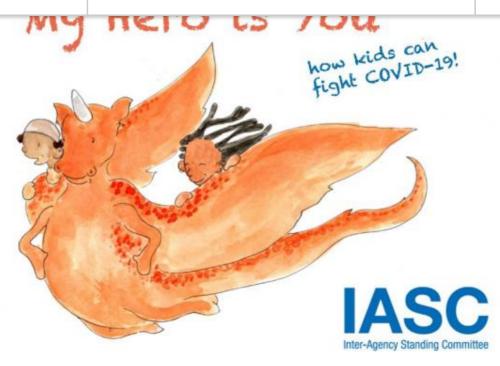


The wide-reaching campaign included many elements such as infographics and text messages, that are distributed via social media, EU Infopoint website, local TV stations, newspapers, and online news sites with an aim to raise awareness about COVID-19 and to share practical information on how to stay safe as well as dispel any myths about the virus.

You may access the information campaign materials in <u>English</u> and <u>Turkish</u> at the COVID-19 section of the EU Infopoint website.

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The EU Infopoint organised an online book reading for children which was premiered on the EU Facebook page on 3 June. The book, "My Hero is You" was written and published for children around the world affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is a project developed by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support in Emergency Settings (IASC MHPSS RG) and was supported by global, regional and country-based experts from Member Agencies of the IASC MHPSS RG, in addition to parents, caregivers, teachers and children in 104 countries. The book reading session gathered more than 50 viewers live and it has been viewed by more than 500 people to date.



With the support of the European Commission, the World Bank organised a webinar series on tackling the economic crisis during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eight (8) online consultation meetings were held from 21 May to 11 June, with the contribution of experts with international experience. These meetings aimed to propose a short-term action plan to start addressing some systemic weaknesses and urgent reforms identified in the Vision 2035. The action plan will initially focus on supporting private sector development (including agriculture and access to electricity), and selected aspects of labour and social welfare.

Under the Young Entrepreneurs Technical Assistance Project funded by the European

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and Development Centre (GİGEM) continued its activities with online training programmes in June. The first event which focused on company establishment procedures took place in two sessions on 5 and 18 June. The second online event, which was organised on 19 June on the topic of Corporate Communications, focused on communication models for new business ideas and effective communication methods in different business environments. You can visit GİGEM's Facebook Page for upcoming webinars and online training programmes.





The EU-funded Innovative Entrepreneurship project invites visitors to visit its new website which was published in June. The user-friendly website contains useful information that concerns all entrepreneurs who are interested in the "Into Business" programme which offers a free business support programme available to anyone planning to start a business in the Turkish Cypriot community. The programme, which was also announced with a billboard campaign provides business mentoring and guidance for new businesses startups along with workshops to help new business owners on the key aspects of business management, including market research, pricing, selling, cash flow, accounts, innovation and ideation.

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The recent economic crisis, the increased unemployment rates, and the limited opportunities in traditional jobs have worked as a driving force for the creation of new alternative approaches to employment that can lead to creative, sustainable jobs. Social Entrepreneurship is the engine for social innovation and can play a crucial role in generating new job opportunities for the unemployed.

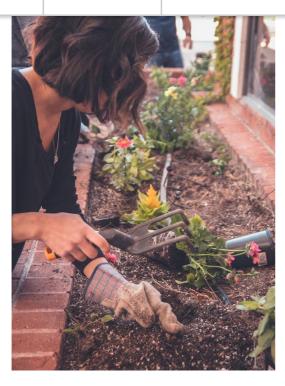
In addition to the online events which were held in May, the EU-funded GoSocialCy project organised another series of online introductory and advanced workshops for people who are interested in exploring alternative ways of employment that benefit society and the environment. The workshops, which took place in the second half of June, provided information on the initial steps and further actions on social entrepreneurship.

Please visit the GoSocialCy website for more information.

In recent weeks, Pusula was looking for impactful ideas that will benefit people across the whole island. A total of

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the most support from the public. As a result of the public voting, "Gardens of the Future", promoting urban sustainable farming through a network of gardens received the most votes and became the winner of the first call.

The Call for Expression of Interest (EOI) for vendors to implement the winning idea of the first campaign (Gardens of the Future) was closed on 26 June. As the next step, short-listed vendors will be submitting full proposals. Now, it's time to get one step closer to make the winning idea (Gardens of the Future) a reality.

Learn more about the campaign <u>here</u>.

Online Activities in July and August

European Jazz Workshop 2020

23, 24, 27 and 28 July @ Zoom

European Green Deal Campaign Energy Efficiency Campaign

Check out the campaign infographics:

https://bit.ly/32GNWLZ https://bit.ly/39mpcu2 https://bit.ly/2ONRzYC

European Green Deal Campaign
Webinar on Forest Fire Prevention

29 July 11:00 - 12:30 @ Zoom & EU Infopoint Facebook Live

European Green Deal Campaign – Farm to Fork Strategy
Webinar on the Impact of Pesticides on Public Health and Environment &
Control and Strategies for Reduction of Their Use

International Youth Day
Webinar on Green/Blue Jobs and Digital Transition

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The EU Infopoint aims to increase public knowledge, awareness and understanding of the European Union, its values, policies and programmes as well as the EU Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community. The EU Infopoint is a project funded by the European Union under the Aid Programme for the Turkish Cypriot community with the aim to bring the Turkish Cypriot community closer to the EU.

Any Questions? Ask Us!











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