

CDC for refugee learners

Greece

DESCRIPTION

In the 2023-24 school year, a **VET school in Egaleo accepted refugee learners from a shelter for unaccompanied minors** for the first time. In order to make the school more inclusive, the school participated in the “**Schools for all**” **project**, which applies CDC in school life. To apply their new knowledge on inclusion, **teachers and learners decided to create links with a nearby special education school**. Starting with the self-presentation of learners and their culture, they planted an **olive tree as a symbol of friendship and co-operation between the schools**. To present the activities of the agriculture sector of the VET school, **learners of both schools decided to plant fruits and vegetables in the special school garden and care for them together**. The need to cooperate led to the creation of a table with everyday words in the languages of all learners. **They also taught each other words and phrases**. But they didn't need to teach songs as many were already known and shared across cultures. In time, **the teachers took an advisory role in the initiative and the learners took over the whole project**. Due to the positive evaluation of the project in both schools in the first year, **learners and teachers proposed continuing the project for a second year, involving more teachers and learners and expanding the activities**. School visits became regular, followed by invitations to common lessons, mostly in the laboratories. New project ideas were created. The deal to continue into the 2024-25 school year was sealed with a common meal, made using products from the garden, cooked according to traditional recipes from different countries.