

CITIES NETWORK for Integration

Driven by their common vision for socially inclusive local communities, Municipalities across Greece join forces to promote the effective integration of refugees and migrants in Greek Cities.

## **WHAT IS CNI**

The **Cities Network for Integration (CNI)** is an inter-municipal network of Greek municipalities working together to organize and implement coordinated activities and interventions at local and national level, aimed at promoting social integration of migrants and refugees and strengthening social cohesion.

The CNI launched its operation in January 2018, based on a memorandum of understanding between the municipalities of Athens and Thessaloniki, that paved the way for a common framework for cooperation. To date, 18 municipalities have joined the CNI: Athens, Chania, Delta, Agios Dimitrios, Heraklion, Thessaloniki, Ioannina, Kalamaria, Karditsa, Katerini, Larissa,

Livadia, Neapoli - Sykees, Nea Filadelfeia / Nea Chalkidona, Piraeus, Telos, Trikala and Tripoli.

Since April 2020, the Cities Network for Integration (CNI) is supported by the **UNHCR Greece** and the **IOM Greece** on the basis of a **trilateral cooperation** with the **Municipality of Athens**.





## **CNI IN PRACTICE**

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**Collects** experience, knowledge, and proposals from its members, acting as a living source of understanding and promoting the priorities of local government in the field of refugees' social integration.



**Connects** municipalities with each other and with other key - actors to enable know - how exchange and collaboration.



**Plans** common initiatives aimed at strengthening municipal structures and raising awareness.

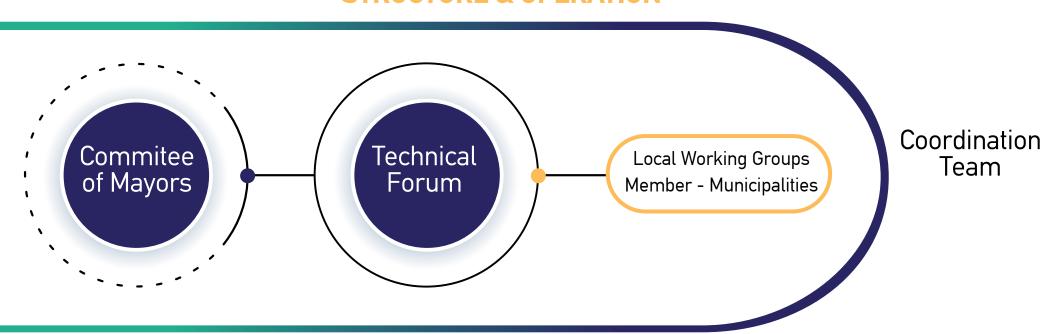


**Promotes** policies at local, national, and European level through consultation.



Empowers the voice of the Municipalities by disseminating good integration practices.

## **STRUCTURE & OPERATION**



- The Committee of Mayors (political part)
- Mayors and elected representatives
- Provides CNI with strategic directions of the CNI
- The Coordination Team
- © Connects CNI members to achieve common goals
- The Technical Forum & The Local Working Groups (technical part)
- Municipal staff with experience in the field of social integration of vulnerable groups
- © Contributes towards planning and implementing common initiatives