



Kúkylos

2023
review

2023

The year that KYCLOS managed to:

- 1) **maintain activities** that were first initiated in 2017, when the organisation was set up, and constitute its core activities
- 2) continued to provide **entrepreneurial activities/ workshops**
- 3) **strengthen all three new programs** that began in 2022.

CORE ACTIVITIES

Language Courses: Courses of the Greek and English Language that take place daily for minors and adults. The lessons are given from the refugees' mother tongue to the foreign languages and they are of all levels (beginners, intermediate and advanced). Also, lessons for illiterate beneficiaries exist.

Social Services: Provided to all beneficiaries and are related to their needs (eg. registration of refugee children to greek public school, issue of social insurance number, issue of tax attestation number). Escorting of refugees to the Greek public services is included when needed.

Empowerment Sessions and Psychological Support: In Empowerment sessions beneficiaries are divided into groups according to their age and gender and psychological support is provided individually

Job Counselling and Work Settlement: Is provided to all adult beneficiaries. It includes job counselling (cv, preparation for interview), mediation and networking between employers and employees, escorting refugees to their work, supervision, and assistance to issue of all legal documents necessary for work.

Accommodation Program: Is addressed to all adults and families beneficiaries who have all legal rights to rent a house. It included counselling, finding a home and mediation and escorting in all necessary bureaucratic procedures.

Language lessons (for minors and adults Greek and English)

Eymad is from Egypt. He has been in Greece for the last 10 months. In KYCLOS he studies Greek. It is the first language in which he can actually write, as in his country he had never been to school.



Social Services (for all ages)

Fatimeh is a young mother from Afghanistan. Her husband has been in Greece for the past 16 years. She came two years ago and here, she gave birth to her son. In KYCLOS she has found new friends, she learned and still is learning Greek and she issued through our organisation all necessary documents for her everyday life (tax attestation number, social security number, unemployment card, transportation card and a bank account). Also, she was assisted in enrolling her son to the public kindergarten.



Empowerment Sessions and Psychological Support (for men, women, unaccompanied children and young boys and girls)

A. is from Iran. She used to be in Greece with her husband and her daughter. A. is a survivor of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV survivor). Through women's empowerment sessions of KYCLOS she made trust in the group and was able to share her situation. Our organisation reacted accordingly and today, with the assistance of the suitable actors, she lives in a safe environment with her daughter and also she has taken full custody.



Job counselling and work settlement (for adult men and women)

Ahab is from Egypt. He came to Greece a year ago. At KYCLOS he is learning Greek. Also, he was supported by the organisation's social services and legal counselling. Through that, he was able to issue legal documents. When KYCLOS' specialists thought that Ahab was in the proper life stage, integrationally wise, they mediated and brought him into contact with a local employer. Today, the refugee is working as a plasterboard assistant.



Accommodation Program (for all families and adults)

Yonki's family from Indonesia was staying without a contract at a small basement. Today, they stay legally, at the Exarchia area close to KYCLOS in a two bedroom apartment. As a result, their son can come to the organisation by himself. Also, KYCLOS' accommodation team has arranged for all necessary documentation and has been mediating between the family and the house owner so that everything is typical and each side feels safe and self confident.



ENTERPREUNERIAL ACTIVITES/ WORKSHOPS

- COMMUNAL KITCHEN
- OIL PRODUCTION
- SOAP MAKING

Communal kitchen (for KYCLOS' members and the local community)

We arrange communal meals and through them, refugees and locals have the chance to meet and interact better. We create strings amongst each other and also, unaccompanied minors that grow up far from their families, get to learn how to cook and be self independent.



Oil production

Despite the fact that this year throughout Europe, olive trees had no fruit, KYCLOS continued its cooperation with three owners of abandoned olive fields that in total included 990 trees. Unfortunately, the harvest was not very good but at least the team collected 400kilos of olives.



Soap making

Several times during the year, KYCLOS' beneficiaries take part in soap making seminars. Through them, they cover their need for hand soap, they create new skills and on several occasions, they sell soap in bazaars and they make a small income.



Programs that were initiated in 2022
and that were **developed during 2023:**

Public school support classes (for refugee children that are enrolled into public primary and high school)

The activity is addressed both to refugee children that recently came to Greece and to refugee children that have been in the country for several years and they have trouble following the public school because their parents do not speak Greek or they cannot assist them. Therefore, KYCLOS takes this role.

San is from Iraq. Since this year, he is enrolled in the 4rth year of Greek high school. He studies Greek in KYCLOS and he takes part in the school support classes.



Counselling Seminars for parents

KYCLOS provided counselling **sessions for 18 parents associations** of the Attica region. Today, parents face difficulties in responding to their role as changes in everyday life are very quick and very different from the time that they were children. Multicultural schools, cyber communication, new approaches on gender issues, bullying, and so many other issues. Therefore, KYCLOS initiated seminars that would empower parents (Greeks and foreigners) and make them come together to share their difficulties.



After the seminars parents told us:

"We came as different persons and we leave now as others"

"Finally, we realize that we all face the same problems and that we need to meet and share"

"I learned that I have to make time and space so as to learn from my children".

Tailoring seminars for women that aim in skills building and job settlement

Women that learn Greek in KYCLOS, and peer coach unaccompanied children in cooking lessons, learn also how to sew. They create ornaments for their house, dolls for their children, scrunchies for their hair and purses. When possible they sell some of their creations in bazaars to gain a small income.



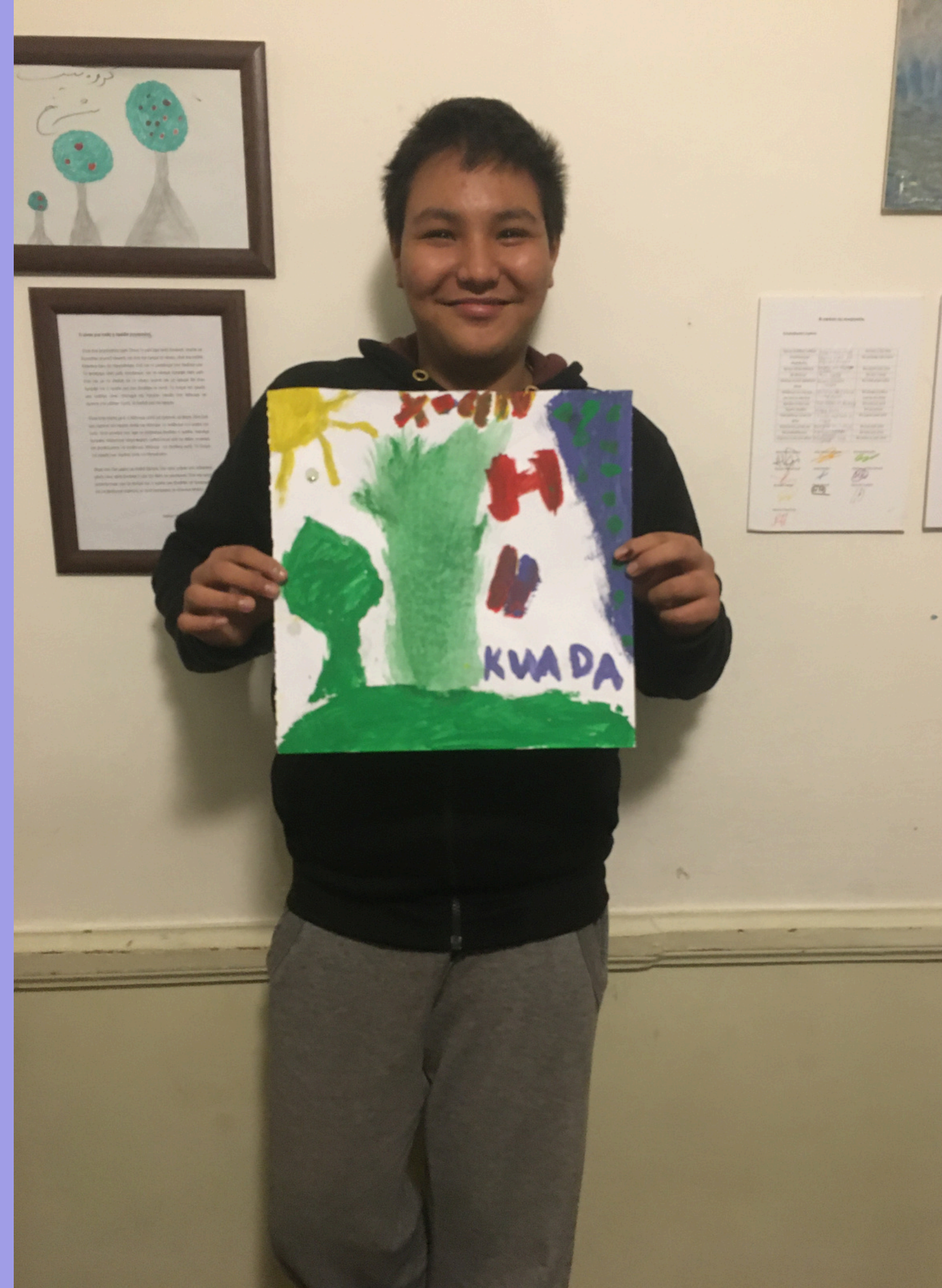
COLLABORATIONS

KYCLOS maintained its collaborations with other organisations such as with the Athenian Institute of Anthropos (AKMA) and with INNOAID NGO in Denmark and also created new with:

- the "**WHITE TIGER**" Muay Thai school
- the **40th Scouts Association**
- **new private employers** that would like to hire KYCLOS ' beneficiaries.

The "WHITE TIGER" Muay Thai school

Hussain is from Afghanistan and he is 15 years old. He has been a KYCLOS' beneficiary for the last two years. While growing up he expressed the will to learn martial arts. Our specialists encouraged his idea to get involved in sports where he could learn about creative competition, self defence and team work while at the same time he would make new friends in a safe environment. KYCLOS, obtained a scholarship for him and also for three other refugee children in collaboration with the "White Tiger".



The 40th Scouts Association

Muradi children from Afghanistan have been KYCLOS beneficiaries since 2018. At the time they were 10 and 11 (twins) years old and accordingly today they are 15 and 16. They are members of a single headed household without a father. KYCLOS' group of psychologists suggested to their mother and their adult brothers that we refer them to new youngsters' groups where they could socialize and interact with more Greek children and be at the same time occupied creatively. Therefore, KYCLOS, obtained three scholarships at the 40th Scouts Association. This way, Muradi children found new friends, new interests and they got to go on several excursions around Greece and also summer camp.



A HIGHLIGHT OF THE YEAR

Three refugees from Afghanistan who are KYCLOS beneficiaries that were invited by the Athenian Institute of Anthropos as presenters at a training seminar of psychologists. Refugees spoke in Greek and were asked to share their stories and teach psychologists about how to deal with and approach people coming from different cultures.

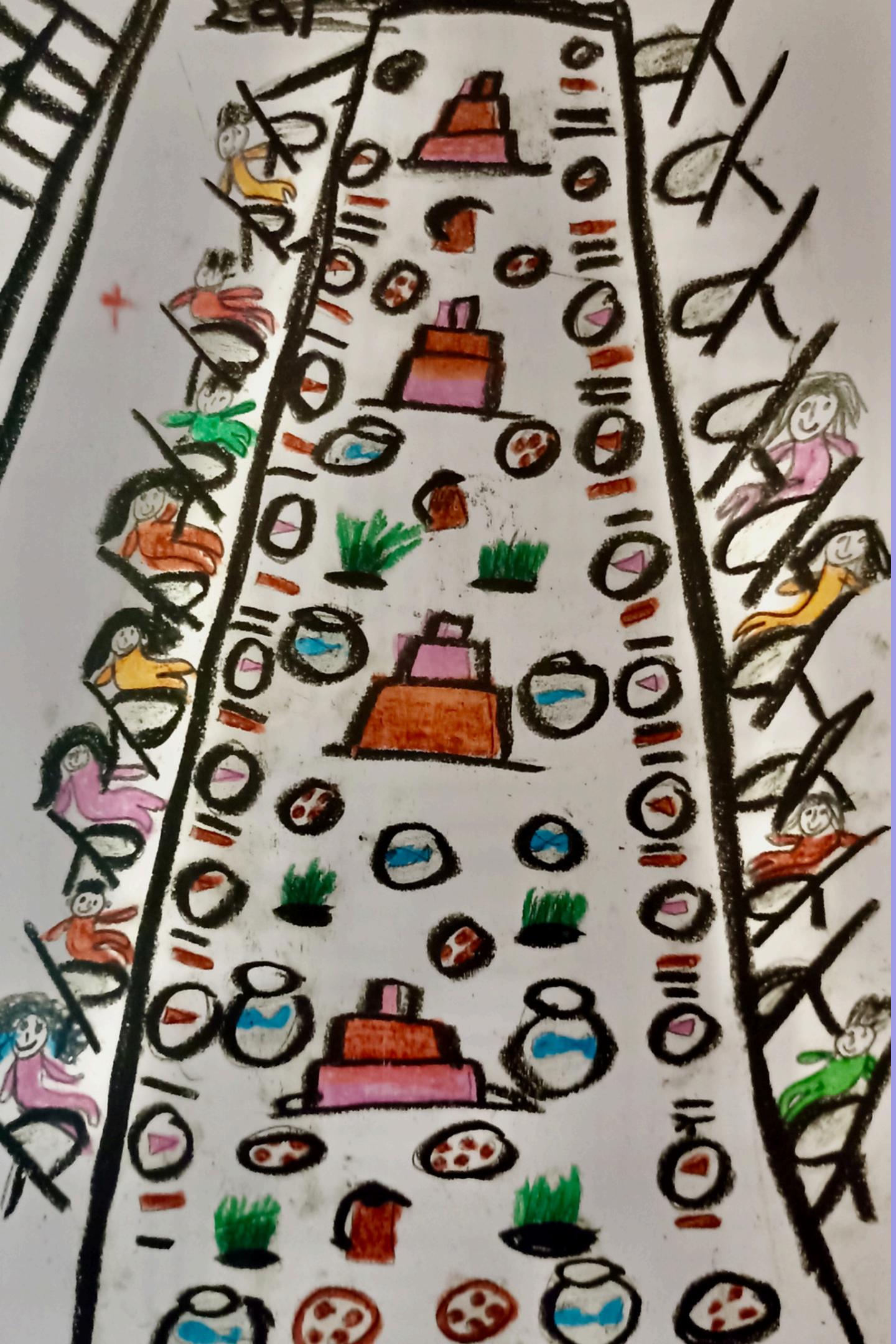


As the Greek psychologists stated:

- "It has been a once in a life experience"
- "We as social scientists need to self-reflect on how we approach and how we talk about other cultures with which we are not familiar".

And the refugees claimed that:

- "This has been a healing process, having all these specialists understanding our experience the way we feel about it and leaving their opinions aside".



Küklos

kyclosorg@gmail.com

<https://kyclos.org>

