

PRESS RELEASE

The design and implementation process for the three fully equipped containers of the project “**Integrated Operations Center for Providing Humanitarian Assistance – HELP**” has been successfully tackled by the project partners under the coordination of the lead beneficiary International Hellenic University (IHU). The development process initiated after IHU and the project beneficiary Centre for Development of the South-East Planning Region Strumica launched each a tender procedure for the procurement of the units with a total budget of €479.000.

The operations center consists of two similar container units for the supply of telecommunications services (**Command Center Container | C4i**) and one container unit for the support of basic medical needs (**Medical Treatment Container | MED**). All containers are fully equipped with the necessary means for the provision of humanitarian assistance and for crisis management and response. The containers can be transferred and developed in any area for on-site response to natural disasters, risks and hazards (earthquakes, floods, fires, etc).

The two mobile C4i units have foldable sides and when they are stationed, they are expandable in width. They have been designed to include all modes of communication (landline, satellite, GSM, radio, microwave) and bonding technology for the interconnection between systems. Each C4i unit can operate as a command and communication center for operational units in emergency cases, by providing space to conduct operational meetings. The MED container includes a fully equipped operating room with the necessary medical supplies for micro-surgery. It can also provide care services for injured people in two large inflatable tents with foldable beds that can serve as short-term nursing beds, until any patients need possible transportation to the closest hospital.

One of the C4i containers and the MED container have been delivered to the local authorities in Greece and the second C4i container has been delivered to the local authorities of the Republic of North Macedonia. Partners have attended remote and on-site training sessions for the proper usage of the incident management software system that is included in the C4i units as well as for the demonstration of the equipment. The consortium is currently informing the affiliated national governmental and local authorities of each country for the cooperation

the affiliated national and local governing bodies and authorities on the grounds of a national and cross-border cooperation, with the objective that the citizens of both states can benefit from the full utilization of the project results.

More information: <http://www.project-help.eu> | projecthelp@teicm.gr



Figure 1: The fully deployed C4i unit in the Serres campus of IHU, Greece



Figure 2: The interior of the MED unit in the Serres campus of IHU, Greece

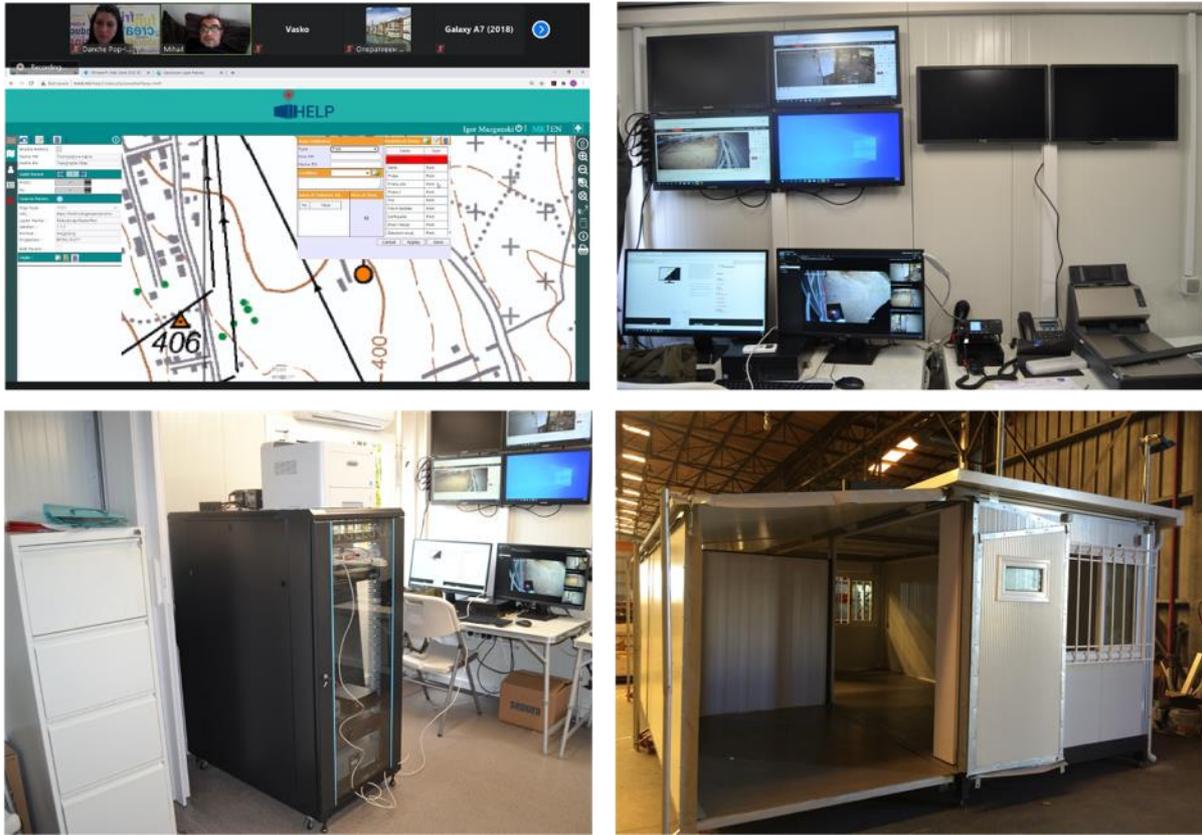


Figure 3: The fully deployed C4i unit in Strumica, Republic of North Macedonia

The project is co-funded by the European Union and by National Funds of the Countries participating in the Interreg IPA CBC Programme “Greece –Republic of North Macedonia 2014-2020” and is implemented by the International Hellenic University, The Hellenic Ministry of Interior (Sector Macedonia- Thrace), the Center for Development of the South - East Region, the Hellenic Rescue Team and the Crisis Management Center.

The views expressed in this Press Release do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union, the participating countries and the Managing Authority.