

# The Refugees Project

2019 - 2020



*YOUR VISION  
OUR FUTURE*

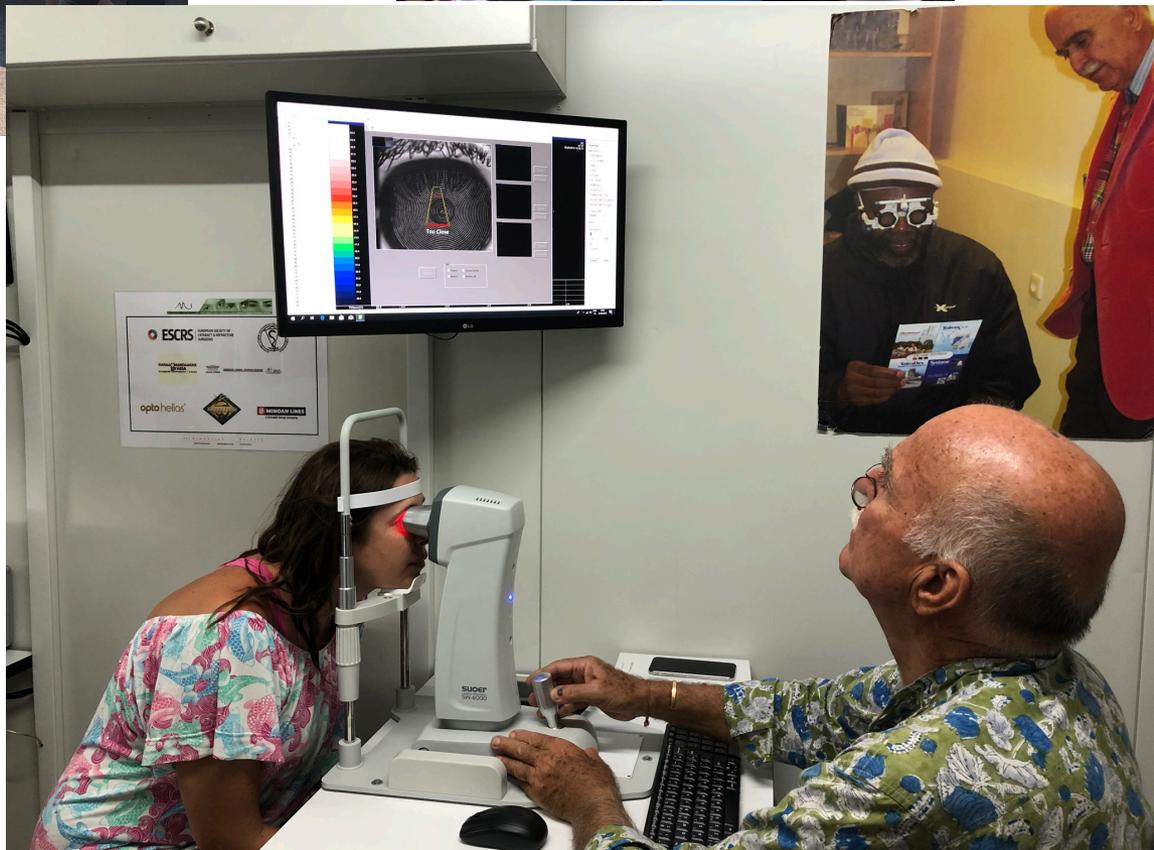
 University of the Mountains





February 2020

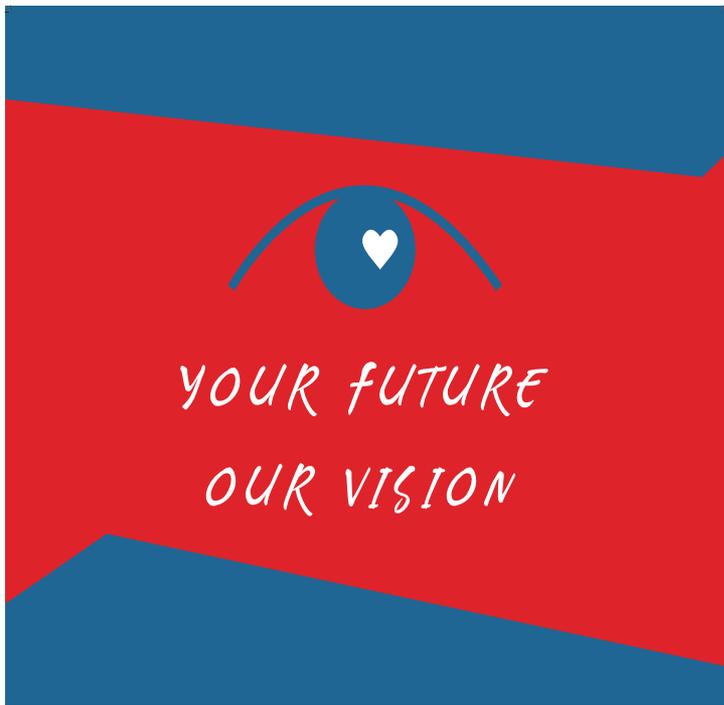
The University of the Mountains (UoM - <http://www.panoreon.gr/>) is a voluntary, non-profit Organization, member of the Mountain Partnership Food and Agriculture (FAO) Organization of the United Nations with its unique motivation the belief in universal values and the love for fellow man.



With the support of the European Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgeons (ESCRS) and the Hellenic Society for Intraocular Implant and Refractive Surgery (HSIOIRS), the University of the Mountains implemented a new initiative and voluntary action to provide free ophthalmological examinations to refugees hosted on our country's structures.



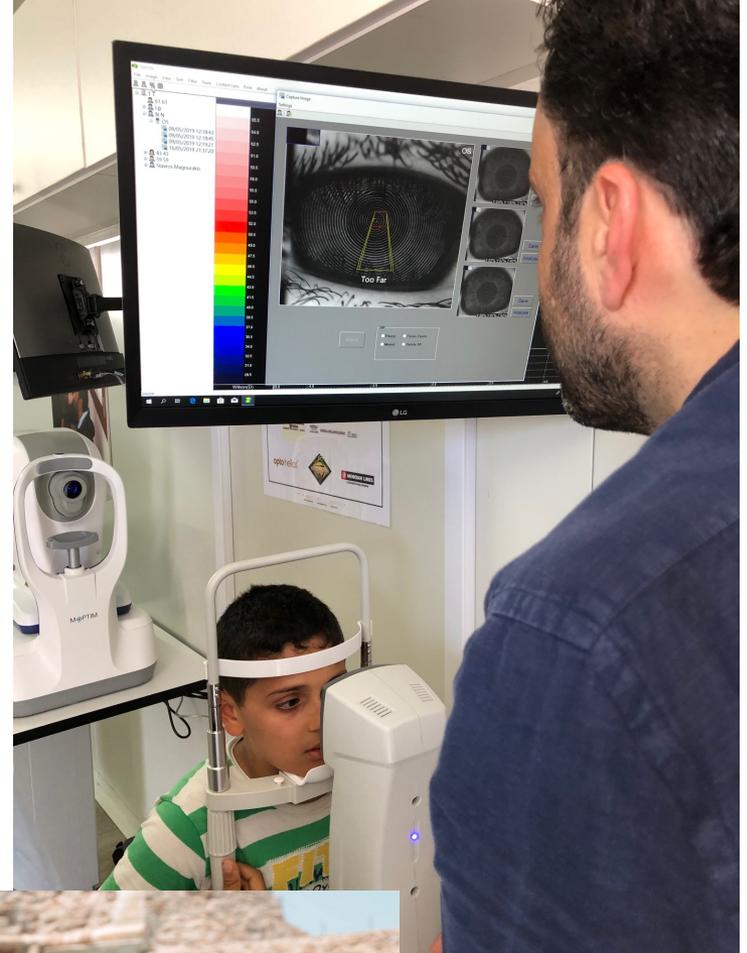
A mobile ophthalmological unit with a complete state of the art equipment was constructed, in order to proceed with specialized ophthalmological examinations and automatic digitalization of the medical data.



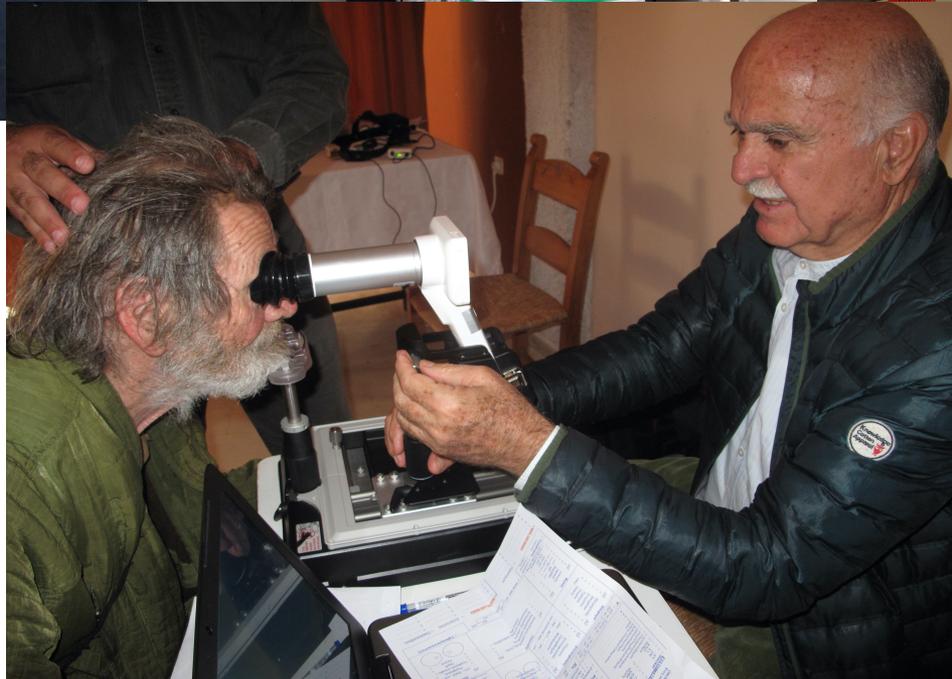
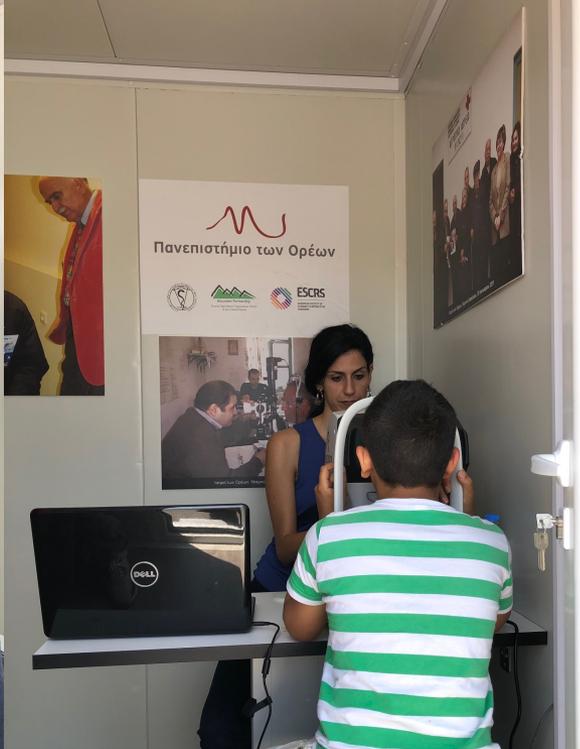
Πανεπιστήμιο των Ορέων



The official launching of the Refugees Project took place on June 2019 in Heraklion - Crete and till September 2019 we managed to examine a total number of **647** refugees hosted in different regions of Crete (Heraklion, Chania, Sitia, other).



During this 4 months' period in Crete, we had also the great opportunity to perform the pilot operation of the Ophthalmological Unit and evaluate all procedures as also as to check the good function of all equipment and tools.



From September 2019 to end of November 2019 we transported the Ophthalmological Unit to the islands, starting from Schinoussa and after to Samos and we implemented examinations approximately to another **340** people.

In addition during that time a private sector have provided the ophthalmological unit with a new pentacam.



Since mid December 2019 and due to the ongoing restructure of the refugees' camps in Greece and readjustments regarding the Refugees action plan, the operation of the Unit is on pause.

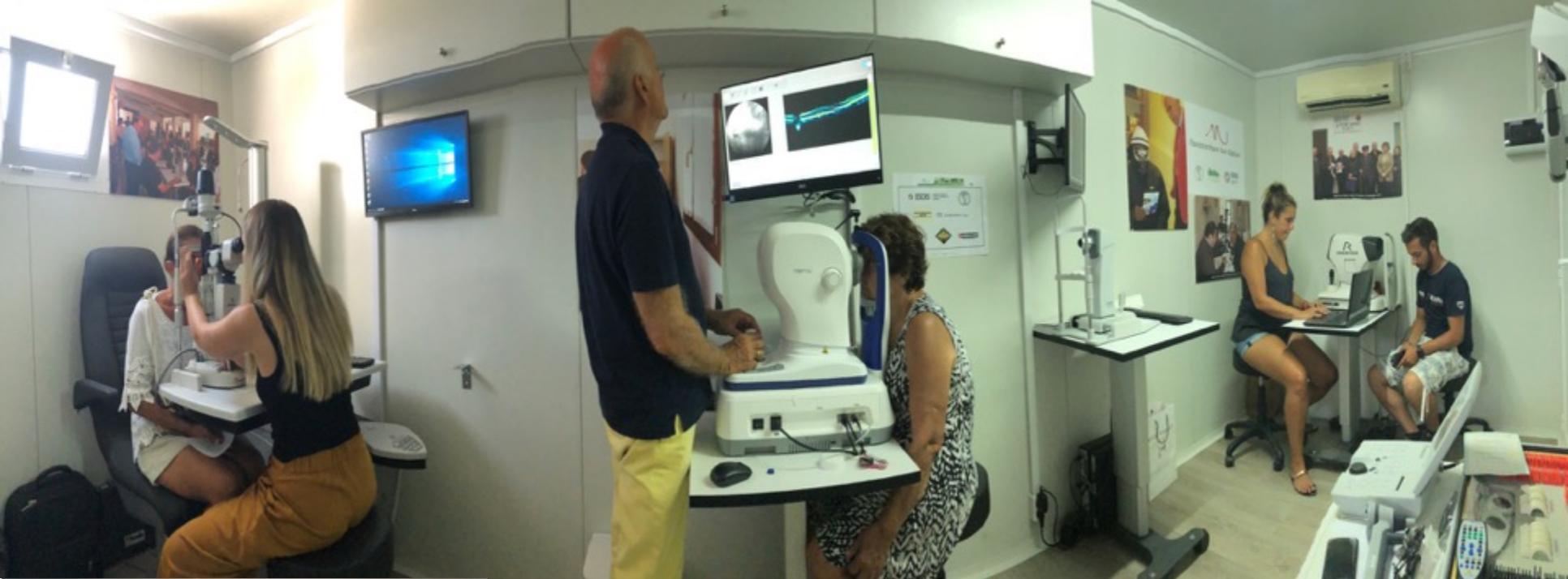


We are currently expecting for the Greek government to appoint updated permanent locations and accommodation facilities most probably around April 2020 in order to transport the Ophthalmological Unit there and keep on track once again.



In order for refugees to receive the best possible medical care, the Ophthalmological Unit should be staffed by volunteers' ophthalmologists and optometrists, both from Greece and Europe.

Therefore it is truly essential for them to get informed about Refugees project through the ESCRS webpage and get the opportunity to be part of this joint Action.





Knowledge without character, science without humaneness, wealth without work, pleasure without conscience, transaction without morality, worship without sacrifice, politics without principles, the roots of suffering.

M. Gandhi