

CALL FOR MASTER STUDENTS

We are looking for master students for our research on the **sexual and reproductive health (SRH) needs of refugee women of reproductive age in Greece.**

What?

For successful implementation of comprehensive SRH services, we aim to perform an in-depth situation analysis including perceptions of refugees themselves to unveil SRH needs, health-seeking behaviour, barriers to and availability of services. The study involves refugees as co-researchers in a convergent mixed-methods design. The participatory design helps identify (A) refugees' needs and perspectives (demand-side) through: a quantitative household survey among women and focus group discussions, and (B) supply-side factors through: assessments of primary and secondary SRH services and in-depth interviews with healthcare providers and key informants such as local and international non-governmental programme leads, SRH focal points, influential workers, government officials and community representatives. Stakeholder dissemination workshops result in co-created recommendations.

Which specific project can I contribute to?

This call is for an internship opportunity to answer the first research question:

What is the SRH status of refugee women?

Method: household survey

Sites: 1) RIC Mavrovouni on Lesbos; 2) Camp Malakasa on mainland Greece; 3) City of Athens

When?

Preliminary timeline (24 weeks):

April:	Development of the research tool (in the Netherlands)
Mid May:	Finetuning of the research tool with the co-researchers and training of the research team (in Greece)
June – August:	Primary data collection (in Greece)
September:	Analysis of the results and writing of the thesis (in the Netherlands)

Who are we looking for?

- Master students global health, medicine, anthropology, social sciences etc.
- Availability of 6 months from (tentatively) April – September 2023
- Excellent written English skills
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- A proactive and creative attitude
- A balanced ability to oscillate between teamwork and working independently
- Previous experience with quantitative research is an advantage
- Previous experience with participatory research is an advantage
- Previous experience with research with people living in vulnerable situations and/or professional experience in refugee camps is an advantage

What do we offer?

- Opportunity to contribute to research with societal impact
- Opportunity to conduct participatory research (we will be working closely with co-researchers from the refugee community)
- Opportunity to publish in a scientific journal
- Financial compensation: maximum of €1000 for the entire research internship to cover for flights and accommodation.

Excited? Please email Jamilah Sherally at j.sherally@vu.nl with 1) your CV, 2) a motivation letter, and 3) a recent piece of English academic writing before the **20th of March**. Interviews with potential candidates will take place in the last weeks of March 2023.

Research team:

Netherlands:

Drs. Jamilah Sherally, PhD candidate Athena Institute VU University Amsterdam
Prof. dr. Thomas van den Akker, Athena Institute VU University Amsterdam
Prof. dr. Maria van den Muijsenbergh, Radboud University Nijmegen
Dr. Marielle le Mat, KIT Royal Tropical Institute Amsterdam

University of Athens:

Professor Emmanouil Pikoulis, Dean of the School of Health Sciences, University of Athens
Dr. Agis Terzidis, University of Athens
Dr. Evika Karamagioli, University of Athens
Eleni Panagiota, University of Athens