

The Impact of COVID-19 on Migrants, Migration and Development

Response from Cyprus

Title of policy/ action and main partners:

The Asylum Service continued its operation during the first wave of COVID-19, either through working in shifts or through the implementation of asylum interviews via tele-conference (a practice also adopted by EASO case workers). The option of working from home was also offered especially to vulnerable persons, so that there is no interruption in the work flow. Operation of Reception Centres for Asylum Seekers continued as usual with no interruption, implementing all necessary protection measures for the residents and the employees. Asylum seekers or beneficiaries for international protection who may have been affected by the pandemic (e.g. by losing their jobs), could for the relevance allowance from the competent Ministry of Labour, Welfare and Social Insurance, as provided in the Cyprus Refugee law.